

CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL

OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION
ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGIES

Part 3:
Playing Pitch Strategy
Executive Summary

October 2018



Nortoft Partnerships Limited
The Old Barn, Nortoft Cottage, Nortoft, Guilsborough, Northamptonshire, NN6 8QB
Tel: 01604 586526
Email: info@nortoft.co.uk Web: www.nortoft.co.uk

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APPENDIX 1 SUMMARY BY SITE

INTRODUCTION

The Playing Pitch Strategy forecasts the future needs for sport and recreation up to 2031 and takes into account the housing requirements identified in the adopted Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031 (Part 1) (Cherwell District Council, 2015) and the draft requirements of the Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031 (Part 1) Partial Review - Oxford's Unmet Housing Need Proposed Submission Plan.

It forms Part 3 of the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment and Strategies with the other parts being:

Part 1: Background and Local Policy Context

Part 2: Sports facilities Strategy

Part 4: Open Space and Play Areas Strategy

It forms part of an evidence base to support and inform planning policy documents, development management decisions, infrastructure planning, funding bids and investment decisions.

SECTION 1: A PITCH STRATEGY FOR CHERWELL

- 1.1 The Playing Pitch Strategy follows the Sport England methodology set out in their Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance 2013 (Sport England, 2013), and focusses on those sites with community use. Sites which do not currently allow, and are not interested in encouraging community use, are therefore excluded from the audit and assessment.
- 1.2 Cherwell is a predominantly rural district, with two towns, Banbury in the north and Bicester in the south east, and a third urban centre at Kidlington, a large village in the south of the district immediately north of Oxford.
- 1.3 Most of the planned growth in Cherwell district is adjacent to Banbury and Bicester, though the Submission Partial Review of the Cherwell Local Plan Part 1 (2011-2031) – Oxford’s Unmet Housing Need also proposes more development in the Kidlington area. The scope of this strategy is Cherwell district, but it takes into account the influence of facilities in adjacent local authority areas where appropriate.
- 1.4 The primary sports considered in the Strategy are football, cricket, rugby and hockey. Polo is the only other significant pitch sport taking place in the district, with one club based at Kirtlington Park. The formalised playing pitch strategy process is not relevant to polo, though the site is noted in the Site by Site table in Appendix 1.
- 1.5 The strategy considers the demand and supply for the pitch sports at a sub area level up to 2031 and recommends a mechanism for assessing the amount of demand generated by each individual housing scheme. The Site by Site table provides detail on the provision and use of each site, and recommendations for action where appropriate.

Sub areas for the strategy

- 1.6 The district was divided into two sets of sub areas for the purposes of the Playing Pitch assessment, reflecting the practical experiences of the pitch sports. For football and cricket the travel time to home clubs tend to be shorter, and most people play relatively close to where they live. For this reason, the urban areas of Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington are treated separately from their rural surroundings. Rugby Union often has a travel time to the home club of up to 20 minutes and hockey can be up to 30 minutes. The strategy sub areas for rugby and hockey therefore include both the urban area and the rural surroundings.

The protection of playing pitches

- 1.7 All of the playing field sites in the district are required to be protected in accordance with paragraph 97 of the National Planning Policy Framework (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, 2018) which states:

Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

- 1.8 Playing fields are an important facility across education at primary, secondary and many special schools as well as at colleges and universities, and they are protected under the NPPF, whether or not they are currently used by the community.
- 1.9 There were three playing field sites that technically have secure community use in the district but appeared to be unused for any sport or are disused. These are the playing fields in the villages of Begbroke (no pitch markings, site disused) and Horton-cum-Studley (no pitch markings, site disused) in the Kidlington and Kirtlington Rural sub area, and Hethe (single pitch marked out for adult football but unused) in the Bicester sub area.
- 1.10 Pitches were considered to be unused if they were marked out but no use was apparent either from the site visit or from club, league or national governing body records. Pitches were considered disused if, at the time of the site assessment, no formal pitch markings were present for a sport, although it was known that the site had been used in previous years.
- 1.11 Unused and disused sites may still be used informally for kick-about and other recreational uses, but the key question addressed in this playing pitch strategy is whether formal pitch use is required to be retained, in the short or longer term.

Multi-pitch sites, and ancillary facilities

- 1.12 Multi-pitch sites with more than one sport sharing the clubhouse and ancillary facilities, and potentially some pitch space, are often the most sustainable and financially viable models of pitch sport provision. Wherever possible and realistic, a multi-sport venue should therefore be considered as a preferred option for new provision.
- 1.13 Football and rugby clubs require multi-pitch sites which can meet the needs of a range of age groups. An area of two adult pitches for these sports is usually considered to be a minimum size, even if the playing field area is then marked out for other age groups.

- 1.14 Cricket and hockey (played on artificial pitches) often have only one pitch per site. However, the best sites with the most successful clubs and best sports development opportunities have two adjacent pitches.
- 1.15 The requirement for and expectations in relation to the ancillary facilities for each sport varies, and where a site is providing for more than one sport, the clubhouse facilities will need to reflect the needs of the sports being played and whether there are grass and/or artificial grass pitches being serviced. Sport England has detailed generic guidance on clubhouse design (Sport England, 2016), and the individual pitch sports' national governing bodies have published detailed guidance.
- 1.16 All pitch sites should have adequate car parking available to meet their needs at peak time plus accessible car parking, cycle and motorcycle parking, coach and mini-bus parking, and possibly a "drop off" point. Access to playing pitch sites by public transport, and by walking and cycling on safe routes are a high priority and is in accordance with Cherwell District Council's planning policies on sustainable transport.

SECTION 2: ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCHES

2.1 Artificial grass pitches (AGPs) are becoming an increasingly important element of pitch sport provision and although each sport has its own preferred surface, there are significant levels of cross-over between the sports and the surfaces that they use, particularly where there is only a limited availability of 3G football turf pitches. For this reason, this section of the strategy provides an overview of artificial grass pitch provision across the authority, with more detailed consideration being given to these types of pitches within the individual sports sections of the report. The sports specific sections also provide a summary of the AGP requirements in each area of the authority.

The demand for AGPs

2.2 AGPs are seen as a major benefit for schools, both in the public and independent sectors. Many schools therefore have aspirations for AGPs as do the higher and further education sectors.

2.3 The majority of community demand for AGP time comes from football training and the small-sided senior game. Some of the small-sided game is unaffiliated and run independently from the Football Association, either on full sized pitches which have been divided up, or on small sized pitches. Of the two, the small sided pitch complexes can be more attractive to adult players, particularly where they are supported by high quality ancillary and social facilities.

2.4 Where there is limited access to 3G AGPs, football training often takes place on a short pile hockey pitch. If a new 3G pitch is then made available, the training demand for football switches to the new site, which can have a significant impact on the revenue generation at the original site but has the advantage of increasing programming time for hockey.

2.5 With the FA's desire to have many more 3G pitches available for community football, and the relatively low participation by hockey in many areas, pitch providers often consider switching sites from a hockey surface (which was previously the most common type) to a 3G surface when the facility needs re-carpeting.

2.6 Due to these pressures, the FA and England Hockey (EH) have agreed, as part of this strategy process, which sites should be retained for hockey, and which could be re-carpeted to 3G. The outcome of these agreements appears in the site-by-site recommendations in Appendix 1.

2.7 A change in the type of carpet at an existing AGP site constitutes development, and planning permission must now be sought for such a change. Sport England is consulted as a statutory consultee on these planning applications, and will usually consult with the national governing bodies, and also refer to the playing pitch strategy recommendations, prior to responding.

- 2.8 If new AGPs are proposed to be built on existing grass pitches, the loss of the grass pitches and the impact upon the grass playing field stock should also be given detailed consideration, both in relation to summer and winter sports.

Current supply of AGPs

- 2.9 Within Cherwell there are currently 12 artificial grass pitches of various types and sizes which are made available to the community. The feedback from the site audits suggest that most sites available to the community are relatively well used, but a number have some spare capacity during the peak period. There is however no spare capacity for Banbury Hockey Club or Bicester Hockey Club at peak match time, on Saturdays. A key issue in the PPS is the future of the older sites, and whether their carpets should be resurfaced with the current type, or changed to provide for a different sport.
- 2.10 Although there are some AGPs over the borders of the authority, these do not provide a significant resource to the residents of Cherwell other than in the areas of the district within easy travel time of the pitches in Oxford, Buckingham and Brackley.
- 2.11 There are a number of potential AGPs being considered across Cherwell but none are confirmed and cannot therefore be definitely included in the assessment process at this time. Progress on these proposals will need to be kept under review.
- 2.12 Details of the existing network of provision and future needs are identified within the sports specific sections of the report.

SECTION 3: FOOTBALL

- 3.1 This assessment applies to community football, which is a significant sport in Cherwell. During the 2016-17 season there were 256 affiliated community teams playing football in the following forms of the game: mini soccer 5v5 and 7v7; 9v9 youth football; 11v11 youth football; adult football; and the football pyramid Steps.
- 3.2 The rate of football participation amongst adults nationally has decreased over recent years, and this has been mirrored in Cherwell, with a decrease of 18 teams since 2008. There has been a slight fall in the number of youth football teams, but a growth in the mini age groups. Nationally most players are male (92%) and aged under 45 years, and this appears to be reflected at the local level.
- 3.3 The following questions are taken from the Sport England Guidance and provide a useful summary of the current and future provision for football in Cherwell. An overview of the current situation and requirements is provided in Figure 2.

Current supply and demand

What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?

- 3.4 The largest number of football teams arise from the Banbury Town sub area, with the second most from Bicester Town. The pattern of participation is similar to the county and national picture, with most players being male across all of the age groups and the majority of teams are in the mini and youth age groups. Girls football is increasing, but most play in mixed teams.
- 3.5 100% of matches at the mini soccer levels take place at the same time, meaning that there is a high peak demand for match pitch space. For 9v9 football, over 90% of matches occur at the same time. The youth 11v11 and demand for senior pitches is more evenly spread, with around 60-65% of matches at peak times.
- 3.6 Over 50% of football training takes place on AGPs, however due to the current lack of full sized 3G AGPs within the authority this primarily takes place on sand based/dressed pitches.
- 3.7 There is one full size FA Register pitch in the district, the Whitelands Farm Sports Ground pitch at Bicester, which is also a rugby specification pitch. The authority has undertaken a market testing exercise to determine the hire prices for this pitch. As the Whitelands Farm Sports Ground pitch is also designed for rugby, the actual level of use for football is yet to be established.
- 3.8 There are three current major stadium issues in the district:
- The relocation of Banbury United Football Club due to the current site being allocated for redevelopment in the adopted Cherwell Local Plan Part 1.

- The replacement provision of the stadium pitch at Oxford Road, Bicester, if lost to development.
- The provision of a new site for Easington due to floodlighting constraints on their existing site.

3.9 In relation to these stadium issues, there is a proposal to re-provide for Banbury United FC at the Banbury 12 allocated site, but as yet there is no confirmation of what will be provided, when and how. There are also concerns being raised by the Rugby Football Union in relation to the potential negative impact of the relocation of Banbury United FC on Banbury Rugby Club, as the allocated site lies adjacent to Bodicote Park.

3.10 No agreed options have yet been identified to address the stadia requirements of Easington Sports FC.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?

3.11 There is just sufficient provision of grass pitches in secure community use for most of the age groups across most of the district, but there is little in the way of spare capacity, especially for mini and youth pitches. Senior pitches have the highest amount of spare capacity. There is not a full complement of pitches in each sub area.

3.12 No AGPs are used for football matches, but this may change for the season 2018-19 because of the opening of Whitelands Farm Sports Ground. However as this pitch is shared with rugby, the actual level of use by football will need to be reviewed as part of the annual review (Stage E) of this strategy.

3.13 The determining factor for pitch space is the peak demand.

3.14 The total amount of full size 3G pitch space which the FA would wish to be provided to enable all teams to train on a 3G surface, the actual amount of provision, and the shortfall is summarised in Figure 1. A summary of overall pitch provision and current need is given in figure 2.

Figure 1: Current football training demand on 3G pitches

Area of district	Number of teams in 2016/17 = number of hours required on 3G pitches	Hours available on 3G pitches	Shortfall (number of full size 3G pitches @ 42 hours per full size pitch)	Comment
Banbury Town/Banbury Rural area	123	0	2.9	Some training taking place on hockey surface pitches, particularly at North Oxfordshire Academy
Bicester Town/Bicester Rural area	94	45	1.2	Whitelands Farm Sports Ground full size and 2 small size pitches available but Whitelands Farm Sports Ground also booked for rugby. Some training use of sand pitch at The Cooper School.
Kidlington and Kirtlington and Rural area	39	0	1	Some training taking place on hockey surface pitch at the leisure centre.

Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?

- 3.15 There is a lack of secure mini 7v7 provision in Banbury Rural and Bicester Rural sub areas. However, this lack of provision could be accommodated by the spare capacity of 7v7 pitches in Bicester Town and Banbury Town.
- 3.16 All other pitch types have a sufficient provision, except for the following for which there is no provision:
- 9v9 in Kirtlington and Kidlington
 - Youth 11v11 in Kirtlington
- 3.17 The agreed pitch quality for the majority of the pitches is “Standard”. There are a smaller number of pitches which are “Good”, and three “Poor” pitches at Bicester Community College, Robinsons Close Recreation Ground Steeple Aston, and Gosford School Sports Ground Kidlington.

Future requirements

What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?

3.18 There is expected to be additional teams in all sub areas. However, this is mostly concentrated within Bicester, Banbury and Kidlington. The Banbury Rural and Bicester Rural sub areas will face lower increases in team numbers. Team numbers in Kirtlington and Rural will remain relatively stable, with only one additional adult team by 2031.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?

3.19 There is a need for the following additional grass playing field space in the towns for football. This assumes that most of the training is remains on grass, but the requirement should be reviewed if additional 3G pitch provision is made available in each of the urban areas.

- Banbury: 8 ha
- Bicester: 8 ha
- Kidlington: 4 ha

3.20 The planned grass pitch provision, if delivered, may provide sufficient playing field space to meet future demand, but this depends upon:

- All the existing sites being retained and maintained at least at standard quality, both pitches and ancillary facilities.
- Remarking of some pitches from adult to other sizes.
- All training taking place off the grass pitches.
- Delivery of all of the 3G pitches required to enable all training demands to be met.

3.21 However, given that the delivery cannot be guaranteed, all housing should provide additional pitch provision, either on or off-site, as appropriate. The requirements should be identified using the Playing Pitch Calculator which is based on the Sport England template, using the team generation rates from this strategy and the population for the relevant sub areas.

What actions may be required to ensure provision can meet both the current and future demand?

3.22 The recommended priorities are:

- Ensure the planned provision of grass pitches are delivered.
- Provide either additional grass pitches in association with each development or off-site equivalent contributions towards the improvement of accessible pitches and ancillary facilities or towards new planned off-site provision. The scale of the provision or contribution should be determined using the Playing Pitch Calculator, and for off-site investment, the site should be within approximately 10 minutes drive.
- Ensure the provision of the proposed replacement stadia pitch for Banbury United FC to meet the ground grading requirements for a Step 3 club. This must be fully in use prior to the loss to development.
- Ensure the replacement of a Step 5 stadia pitch to meet the ground grading requirements of the FA should the Oxford Road, Bicester stadia pitch be lost to development. This must be fully in use prior to the loss to development.
- Cherwell District Council and the FA to provide advice to Bicester Town FC in securing a stadia pitch to meet the FA's ground grading requirements for a Step 5 club, and work with the club to support its development.
- Provide advice to Easington Sports FC in securing a stadia pitch to meet the FA's ground grading requirements for a Step 6 club, and work with the club to support its development.
- Provide additional 3G pitch space in each of Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington, with the priority being in the Banbury Town area.
- Ensure that the existing planning obligations at North Oxfordshire Academy and Banbury Academy are fulfilled, resulting in two new 3G AGPs.

Summary of current situation and future requirements

3.23 Figure 2 provides an overview of the current situation for football in each of the sub areas and the needs by 2031.

Figure 2: Football pitch space summary of deficiencies and needs up to 2031

Banbury town

	Current needs and provision	2031 needs and provision
Grass football pitches	<p>Sufficient pitch space across all pitch sizes for matches, but due to lack of artificial grass pitches for training, almost all pitches used at full capacity, or overused.</p> <p>No current deficiency.</p>	<p>IF training moved to artificial grass pitches:</p> <p>approx 5 ha additional playing field area required, with additional pitches across all sizes.</p> <p>IF AGPs not developed which can meet training needs:</p> <p>approx 8 ha additional playing field area, with pitches provided across all sizes.</p> <p>Need for investment in existing sites to improve pitches and ancillary facilities.</p>
Artificial grass pitches	<p>No 3G artificial grass pitches in Banbury. Some use of hockey surface pitches e.g. at North Oxfordshire Academy.</p> <p>Current shortfall of 2 full size 3G pitches.</p>	<p>Total provision of 3 full size 3G football turf pitches required assuming some continued use of hockey surface pitch(es) at North Oxfordshire Academy, Banbury Academy and Blessed George Napier Academy.</p>
Stadia pitches	<p>Banbury United FC proposed to be relocated to site Banbury 12. Details and delivery still to be confirmed.</p>	<p>Banbury United FC requires site with stadia pitch with appropriate ancillary facilities at a level which meets the FA's Ground Grading requirements (Step 3), plus some community pitches.</p>
	<p>Easington Sports FC have floodlighting restrictions on their stadia pitch. Require replacement site with additional pitch space for community pitches.</p>	<p>Easington Sports FC requires site with stadia pitch with appropriate ancillary facilities at a level which meets the FA's Ground Grading requirements (Step 6), plus some community pitches.</p>

Banbury Rural

	Current needs and provision	2031 needs and provision
Grass football pitches	<p>Sufficient pitch space across all pitch sizes for matches, but due to lack of accessible artificial grass pitches for training, some pitches are used at full capacity, or overused.</p> <p>New pitches plus pavilion being provided at Milton Road, Adderbury in association with housing development.</p>	<p>No additional playing field area required.</p> <p>Need for investment in existing sites to improve quality of pitches and ancillary facilities.</p>
Artificial grass pitches	<p>There are no 3G artificial grass pitches in Banbury Rural area. Current total shortfall across the sub area as a whole is approximately 0.8 full size pitch.</p>	<p>No provision required but there may be an opportunity to resurface the pitch at the Windmill Centre to 3G.</p> <p>Most of the training needs expected to be met in the long term by 3G pitches in the Banbury town sub area as this is the most accessible location. Level of demand likely to be unchanged.</p>
Stadia pitches	<p>No stadia issues identified.</p>	<p>No additional provision required.</p>

Bicester Town

	Current needs and provision	2031 needs and provision
Grass football pitches	<p>No spare capacity for matches or training. Sites at full capacity, or overused. Bicester Sports Assn site at Chesterton in Bicester Rural area provides a number of pitches for minis and youth.</p> <p>No current deficiency.</p>	<p>IF training moved to artificial grass pitches:</p> <p>approx 5 ha additional playing field area required, with additional pitches across all sizes.</p> <p>IF AGPs not developed which can meet training needs, then:</p> <p>approx 8 ha additional playing field area, with pitches provided across all sizes.</p> <p>Need for investment in existing sites to improve pitches and ancillary</p>

		facilities.
Artificial grass pitches	<p>One full size 3G artificial grass pitch and two small size pitches in Bicester. Some use of hockey surface pitches e.g. at the Cooper School.</p> <p>Pitches in Bicester Town also expected to meet demands from Bicester Rural sub area.</p> <p>Current shortfall of 1 full size 3G pitch to meet all training needs.</p>	Provision of a total of three full size 3G football turf pitches in Bicester. Sites to be confirmed.
Stadia pitches	<p>Bicester Town FC currently playing at Ardley FC but needs to return to Bicester.</p> <p>Stadia pitch (Step 5) at Bicester Sports Association, Oxford Road, currently in poor condition but used by colts team. The site owners have aspirations to redevelop.</p>	<p>Bicester Town FC requires site with stadia pitch with appropriate ancillary facilities at a level which meets the FA's Ground Grading requirements (Step 5), and ideally some community pitches.</p> <p>Oxford Road should be retained for football use unless its loss can be mitigated by a suitable replacement site. If football is to be retained on site, a long term lease is essential in order to secure external investment.</p>

Bicester Rural

	Current needs and provision	2031 needs and provision
Grass football pitches	Sufficient pitch space across all pitch sizes for matches, but due to lack of accessible artificial grass pitches for training, some pitches are used at full capacity, or overused.	<p>No additional playing field area is required.</p> <p>Need for investment in existing sites to improve pitches and ancillary facilities.</p>
Artificial grass pitches	<p>There are no 3G artificial grass pitches in Bicester Rural area, but training may take place on pitches in Bicester Town.</p> <p>Demand is for 0.8 full size 3G pitch.</p>	No provision required.
Stadia pitches	No stadia pitch issues identified.	No additional provision required.

Kidlington

	Current needs and provision	2031 needs and provision
Grass football pitches	<p>There are no 9v9 pitches.</p> <p>Other pitch sizes have a small surplus of match provision, but a lack of access to AGPs for training mean that most are running at full capacity.</p>	<p>IF training moved to artificial grass pitches:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 ha of new playing field area for football plus investment into existing sites to improve quality of pitches and ancillary facilities. <p>IF AGPs not developed which can meet training needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 ha additional playing field area, with pitches provided across all sizes, plus investment into existing sites to improve quality of pitches and ancillary facilities.
Artificial grass pitches	<p>There are no 3G artificial grass pitches in the area. Any pitches in Kidlington would be expected to meet the demand from the Kirtlington and Rural area.</p> <p>The current shortfall is 1 full size 3G pitch to meet all training needs.</p> <p>It is assumed that some teams travel either to Bicester or out of the district to access training space.</p>	<p>The provision of a total of 2 full size 3G pitches (including current shortfall).</p> <p>Site options may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> subject to a feasibility study, a 3G pitch at Stratfield Brake. resurfacing of the small size pitch at Kidlington and Gosford Leisure Centre, subject to the relocation of the hockey club to a new (shared) hockey surface pitch at Bicester.
Stadia pitches	No known stadia issues.	No investment needs identified.

Kirtlington and Rural

	Current needs and provision	2031 needs and provision
Grass football pitches	<p>There are no 9v9 or 11v11 Youth pitches in this sub area.</p> <p>For the minis and adults there is sufficient pitch space for matches, but due to lack of accessible artificial grass pitches for training, some pitches are used at full capacity, or overused.</p>	<p>IF training moved to artificial grass pitches and 1 of the adult pitches can be remarked to provide for the smaller pitches, no additional playing field area is required.</p> <p>Need for investment in existing sites to improve pitches and ancillary facilities.</p>

Artificial grass pitches	There are no 3G artificial grass pitches in Kirtlington and Rural area. Approximate demand of 0.2 full size 3G pitch. Level of shortfall insufficient to justify new pitch.	Level of demand unlikely to increase from 2017. No provision required.
Stadia pitches	No stadia pitch issues identified.	No additional provision required.

Recommendations for football

It is recommended that the Council and relevant stakeholders consider the following to address football provision in the district:

Protect

- 3.24 Protect all existing playing field sites in Cherwell and maintain the pitches and ancillary facilities at least at standard quality.
- 3.25 Seek mitigation for any loss of playing fields.

Enhance

- 3.26 Address site by site needs as identified in the sites table, see Appendix 1.
- 3.27 Require off-site contributions from housing developments where on-site provision is not required. These contributions should be based on the Playing Pitch Calculator, but with an additional allowance for the wider playing field area, ancillary facilities and land costs. The contributions to be targeted at sites within the accessible travel time and the contributions should seek to improve the quality of the pitches or the ancillary facilities, or go towards new planned provision.

Provide

- 3.28 Provide additional playing field space for football grass pitches to meet the forecast need up to 2031:
- Banbury: 8 ha
 - Bicester: 8 ha
 - Kidlington: 4 ha
- 3.29 Provide on-site grass pitch provision from housing developments where appropriate, using the Playing Pitch Calculator to assess the amount of provision

required to meet the demand from the development, but also with an additional allowance for the wider playing field area, ancillary facilities, and land given for free.

3.30 Provide full size 3G artificial grass pitches, with the priorities being:

- Banbury
 - North Oxfordshire Academy, as S106 planning obligation
 - Banbury Academy, as S106 planning obligation
 - Banbury United FC new site (Banbury 12)
- Bicester
 - 2 x full size 3G pitches, sites to be confirmed
- Kidlington
 - 2 x 3G pitch, potentially at:
 - Stratfield Brake, subject to feasibility study
 - By re-carpeting of pitch at Kidlington and Gosford Leisure Centre, subject to both a feasibility assessment and relocation of hockey club to Bicester to a shared new site.

3.31 Ensure that all new provision fully meets the quality guidance from the Football Association, the Football Foundation and Sport England, both in relation to the pitches and ancillary facilities.

3.32 Football stadia sites designed to meet the appropriate requirements of the Football Association Ground Grading criteria at the relevant Step level for each club:

- Banbury United FC, Step 3, proposed on site Banbury 12 of the adopted Local Plan Part 1
- Easington Sports FC, Step 6, site to be agreed
- Bicester Town FC, Step 5, site to be confirmed

3.33 Re-mark some of the existing pitch stock in Kidlington and Kirtlington and Rural areas to provide a full range of pitch sizes in order to meet the needs of all age groups. Re-marking to be with the agreement of the local clubs and leagues as well as the pitch providers.

SECTION 4: CRICKET

- 4.1 This assessment refers to community cricket. In summer 2016 there were 13 cricket clubs with 63 teams arising in the district. All teams played at venues located within the district.
- 4.2 The Sport England Active People Survey (Sport England , 2016) research suggests that there has been a slight decline in participation over recent years. This trend has also been seen in Cherwell, as the 2008 Playing Pitch Strategy recorded a total of 77 teams. There are now 36 senior teams compared to 46 in 2008, and 27 junior teams age U18 and below compared to 31 in 2008.
- 4.3 Many of the cricket clubs in the district run more than one team, and 7 of the clubs run junior teams as well as adult teams. There are however some smaller clubs with only one adult team and no juniors: Broughton and North Newington, Chesterton, Fringford, and Middleton Stoney CC. There does not appear to be much casual or “pop up” cricket in the district.
- 4.4 The following questions are taken from the Sport England Guidance and provide a useful summary of the current and future provision for cricket in Cherwell. An overview of the current situation and requirements is provided in Figure 2.

Current supply and demand

What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?

- 4.5 The sport has seen a fall in the number of teams since 2011, both in seniors and juniors.
- 4.6 There is a good geographical spread of cricket pitches across the district.
- 4.7 There are intensively used sites, but the site which appears to be most under pressure is Horley Cricket Club, which does not have either junior wickets or an artificial strip.
- 4.8 Across the authority as a whole there were nine either unused or disused cricket sites. These sites exist in every sub area other than Banbury Town and Bicester Town.
- 4.9 The new pitch at Whitelands Farm Sports Ground in Bicester is located away from the car parking and pavilion facilities. This severely restricts its use for league matches and formal training by ECB and OCB. Utilities have now been provided for the pitch site so it can support the proposed delivery of a clubhouse.
- 4.10 The lack of pitch space in both Banbury and Bicester means that the towns largely rely on pitch provision in their rural hinterland.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?

- 4.11 Only one cricket team used a pitch that did not have secure community use; Middleton Stoney at Middleton Park, but the club did not have matches in 2016. In addition, two pitches are available for hire at The Warriner School in Bloxham, but use of these has not been taken up by community teams.
- 4.12 There is surplus capacity in all areas of the district with the exception of Banbury and Bicester Town sub areas.

Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?

- 4.13 The agreed quality of the cricket pitches which are in use is either “good” or “standard”.

Future requirements

What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?

- 4.14 There is expected to be a significant increase in the number of teams playing cricket in the district in the period up to 2031, concentrated within the urban sub areas of Bicester and Banbury. More teams will also be expected at Kidlington if the housing proposed in the Local Plan Partial Review goes ahead.
- 4.15 There are no known risks to any site at present. However, a number of previous cricket pitches are currently not used.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?

- 4.16 In practice, the rural hinterlands of each of the towns provide for much of the cricket activity, and there appears to be sufficient capacity to meet the future demand, with the exception of Bicester and Banbury.
- 4.17 If the Whitelands Farm Sports Ground site is brought into full use by the provision of a clubhouse and car parking close to the cricket pitch, then this pitch can provide for part of the unmet demand in Bicester, although a further pitch will also be required to meet the projected demand. This is proposed to be located at NW Bicester, where a site should be identified which can be extended in the long term to provide a second pitch.
- 4.18 In the Banbury area, the priorities are to provide an additional pitch for Banbury Cricket Club adjacent to their current site, and to improve / provide new pavilions at Cropredy Cricket Club and Horley Cricket Club. Horley also requires additional car parking.
- 4.19 Kidlington has sufficient pitches to meet the long term needs of this sub area.

4.20 At Kidlington and elsewhere the priorities are therefore to invest in the existing used cricket pitches and ancillary facilities to maintain them at a high quality.

What actions may be required to ensure provision can meet both the current and future demand?

4.21 The existing used sites should generally be retained and enhanced where needed.

4.22 Pitches that are currently unused or disused within Cherwell appear to be unlikely to be needed even in the long term, so could be more intensively used for other sports or retained as public open space.

Summary of current situation and future requirements

4.23 Figure 3 provides an overview of the current situation for cricket in each of the sub areas and the needs by 2031.

Figure 3: Cricket pitch space summary of deficiencies and needs up to 2031

Banbury Town

Current needs and provision	2031 needs and provision
Requires 5 pitches at peak time to meet current needs, but with only 2 available, there is an export of demand equivalent to 3 pitches across sites in the Banbury Rural area. Horton View and Banbury Twenty sites both fully used at peak time.	There will be an increase in demand and a total of 6 pitches will be required to meet demand at peak time. There is no spare capacity on the town sites to meet this demand, so the current reliance on sites in the Banbury Rural area will continue, and one new pitch will be required here. The existing sites at Horton View and Banbury Twenty should be retained and maintained at high quality.

Banbury Rural

Current needs and provision	2031 needs and provision
Sites close to the Banbury Town sub area boundary are at capacity, in particular Banbury Cricket Club and Horley Cricket Club. Cropredy Cricket Club has recently developed a second ground, but this requires a pavilion.	The sub area will continue to meet the need of Banbury town and there is a need to increase capacity to do so. The needs are for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banbury Cricket Club – second pitch adjacent to the current site. • Cropredy Cricket Club – pavilion to serve newly developed 2nd pitch.

<p>There are a number of sites previously used for cricket. Where there is intensive use for football and the pitches overlap, it is unlikely that high level league cricket could be re-established.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horley Cricket Club – replacement or refurbishment of pavilion. Increase in capacity of pitch. Increased car parking. <p>There is no requirement to retain sites which are now unused for cricket for cricket use at Bodicote and Wroxton.</p>
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Bicester Town

Current needs and provision	2031 needs and provision
<p>Requires 3 pitches at peak time to meet current needs, but there are no pitches in the town. The new Whitelands Farm Sports Ground pitch opened in 2017 but lacks the adjacent clubhouse facilities which are required for league matches and ECB training sessions.</p> <p>All of the current demand is exported to sites in the Bicester Rural area.</p>	<p>There will be an increase in demand and a total of 5 pitches (including current deficiency) will be required to meet demand arising from the town at peak time.</p> <p>The priority is to provide a clubhouse/pavilion and car parking at Whitelands Farm Sports Ground to enable the cricket pitch to be brought into full use.</p> <p>The current reliance on sites in the Bicester Rural area will continue, although new provision should be made at NW Bicester – one pitch in the medium term, plus one pitch in the longer term.</p>

Bicester Rural

Current needs and provision	2031 needs and provision
<p>The population of the sub area requires 2 pitches at peak time, but the area meets much of the demand from Bicester and there are 4 pitches in secure use plus one which is insecure in the area (Middleton Park). There is also one pitch which was unused in 2016 (Finmere Recreation Ground).</p>	<p>There will be no increase in demand from the sub area itself but it will continue to meet the needs of Bicester Town.</p> <p>The existing used pitches should be retained and maintained at good quality.</p>

Kidlington

Current needs and provision	2031 needs and provision
<p>The population of the sub area requires 2 pitches at peak time to meet current needs and there are 3 available and used, including 2 pitches at Stratfield Brake.</p>	<p>There will be an increase in demand and a total of 3 pitches (including current deficiency) will be required at peak time.</p> <p>There is sufficient capacity to meet the demand within Kidlington on the currently used sites, so no additional provision required.</p> <p>The priority is for investment into used cricket sites to improve quality and increase capacity.</p> <p>The site at Begbroke is not required to be retained for cricket.</p>

Kirtlington and Rural

Current needs and provision	2031 needs and provision
<p>There are two pitches in the area but the current population requires less than one pitch.</p>	<p>There will be no significant increase in demand from the sub area so no new provision is required.</p> <p>There is no requirement to retain sites which are now not used for cricket at: Charlton-on-Otmoor, Horton-cum-Studley, and Kirtlington.</p>

Recommendations for cricket

It is recommended that the Council and relevant stakeholders consider the following to address cricket provision in the district:

Protect

- 4.24 Protect all existing used community cricket playing field sites in Cherwell and maintain the pitches and ancillary facilities at least at standard quality.
- 4.25 Seek mitigation for any loss of playing fields.

Enhance

- 4.26 Address site by site needs as identified in the sites table, see Appendix 1. These include as priorities:
- Clubhouse/pavilion and, if possible car parking, to serve the cricket pitch at Whitelands Farm Sports Ground, Bicester
 - Pavilion to serve second pitch at Cropredy
 - Refurbishment/replacement of pavilion at Horley
- 4.27 Require off-site contributions from housing developments where on-site provision is not required. These contributions should be based on the Playing Pitch Calculator, but with an additional allowance for the wider playing field area, ancillary facilities and land costs. The contributions to be targeted at sites within the accessible travel time.

Provide

- 4.28 Provide additional playing field space for cricket:
- 1 pitch adjacent to Banbury Cricket Club
 - 1 pitch in NW Bicester, with space for second pitch in long term.
- 4.29 Ensure that all new provision fully meets the quality guidance from the England and Wales Cricket Board and Sport England, both in relation to the pitches and ancillary facilities.

SECTION 5: RUGBY UNION

- 5.1 There are four community rugby union clubs in Cherwell with a total of 48 teams. There is also one touch team playing in the summer months only at Stratfield Brake, and although this does not impact upon the main rugby demand calculations, the use affects how the pitches recover over the growing season.
- 5.2 There has been a slight increase in participation in rugby amongst people aged 14+ years since 2012-13. Research from Sport England (October 2009), showed that around 95% of participants are male. The sport is mainly played by younger people, with about 84% being under the age of 34 years. There are also high rates of club membership for this sport. These national findings are similar to the trends in Cherwell.
- 5.3 The following questions and their answers are taken from the Sport England Guidance and provide a useful summary of the current and future provision for rugby in Cherwell.

Current supply and demand

What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?

- 5.4 There are four rugby clubs in Cherwell, three large clubs, one each in Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington, and a single-team adult club, Alchester RFC based at Fritwell.

Bicester

- 5.5 The long term sustainability of rugby in Bicester is of major concern to the RFU and Bicester RFC. Bicester RFC are split across two sites; Bicester Sport Association Oxford Road Bicester and Bicester Sports Association at Chesterton. The RFU strongly recommends that the long term objective should be for the club to operate at a single location. The owners of the Oxford Road site have aspirations to redevelop it (but have not sought or been given planning approval), and there is no security of use of this two-pitch site. The minis and juniors use the Bicester Sports Association site at Chesterton, but there is no spare capacity on the site, and the pitches are not floodlit.
- 5.6 Previous proposals for additional pitch provision at the Chesterton site have been refused by Cherwell District Council because of the rural location of the site, and in particular the traffic issues (as the site is not readily accessible by pedestrians, cyclists and public transport) which could potentially worsen around the site at peak times.
- 5.7 A new Regulation 22 AGP has been developed at Whitelands Farm Sports Ground, and it is also on the FA 3G register, so can be used by both football and rugby. The AGP and grass pitches are managed by a contractor, who will retain the profits

from the clubhouse. The Whitelands Farm Sports Ground site currently has one grass rugby pitch. The use of both the AGP and grass rugby pitch by the club will need to be kept under review.

Kidlington

- 5.8 The Stratfield Brake site is used by Gosford All Blacks RFC, and is now managed by a leisure operator. Some pitch improvement works were undertaken in 2017 as they were poor quality during the season 2016-17, primarily due to a limited maintenance regime. Gosford All Blacks RFC has been very concerned about the potential impact of the change to a leisure operator on their club finances. Cherwell DC supported the club financially on a transitional basis for the season 2017-18.
- 5.9 The RFU and Sport England also have a legal interest in the Stratfield Brake as they provided grant aid towards its development and subsequent improvements. These organisations are also concerned to ensure that the terms of this grant aid are met and community rugby and format such as Touch 7's continue to grow in Kidlington.

Banbury

- 5.10 If Banbury RFC is able to have long term secure use of the area of Bodicote Park which is currently owned by Cherwell District Council, then this will meet the needs of the club up to 2031.

Fritwell

- 5.11 There are no known issues on this site, which is used by the single adult team club, Alchester RFC.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?

- 5.12 None of the clubs report any waiting lists, so there does not appear to be any latent demand.
- 5.13 Overall there is potentially sufficient current provision to meet current demand for community rugby, but there are significant issues at all of the larger clubs. If the sites providing for these clubs change, then both future and potentially even current demand could not be met.

Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?

- 5.14 All of the sites would benefit from improved pitch drainage and maintenance.

Future requirements

What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?

5.15 There will be growth in the number of teams up to 2031 across each of the age groups and both male and female. This is expected to lead to about 2 extra matches per week for the seniors and 1.5 extra matches for boys' youth teams.

5.16 The future needs of rugby are summarised below and in Figure 4.

Banbury

5.17 Banbury Rugby Club potentially has sufficient pitch capacity long term, but this depends on the remaining area of Bodicote Park which is owned by Cherwell District Council continuing to be available for rugby use. The Club would therefore like to secure the additional area of land not in its ownership to provide certainty.

5.18 The club has recently renegotiated its lease for the changing facilities, which are now secure long term.

Bicester

5.19 The increase in future demand will have the most pronounced impact for Bicester where the additional demand equates to 3.25 matches per week and cannot be met by the existing grass pitch provision. In the long term the club will require the equivalent of 4 pitches plus clubhouse facilities which are vital for the club's sustainability.

5.20 The two senior pitches at Oxford Road are unsecure and the Bicester Sports Association has aspirations for its redevelopment. The Whitelands Farm Sports Ground site is both too small for the club to move to as a single location, and would not be an appropriate facility as the club requires clubhouse provision through which it can generate significant levels of income.

5.21 There is currently no identified alternative single site to which the Bicester RFC can move. Until a single alternative site is identified and secured, and the replacement facilities and pitches provided, then the existing pitches and clubhouse at Oxford Road will need to be retained.

5.22 There are no known issues at Fritwell impacting upon the Alchester RFC.

Kidlington

5.23 The pitch quality at Stratfield Brake has been improved by Cherwell DC and it is expected that these improvements will continue to take place, which will be needed to meet the expected extra demand from rugby up to 2031. If other sports

use of the pitches are proposed, then this should only take place if the new use would not reduce the pitch quality for rugby.

- 5.24 The primary concern for Kidlington is the ability to retain community club rugby use and other formats of Rugby Union such as Touch 7's at the Stratfield Brake site, following changes to the management arrangements.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?

- 5.25 Although there is potential for sufficient provision, there are major issues which need to be addressed at each of the three larger club sites at Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington.
- 5.26 At Banbury, Banbury RFC uses and will continue to need in the future, the area of Bodicote Park which is currently owned by Cherwell DC. There will be insufficient pitch space without this.
- 5.27 At Bicester, Bicester RFC's senior teams currently use Bicester Sports Association's Oxford Road site for the seniors, and Bicester Sports Association's Chesterton site for their minis and juniors. To meet its long term needs, the club requires a site with a minimum of four grass pitches plus clubhouse which can support the club revenue generation.
- 5.28 In Kidlington, the future of community rugby is largely linked to the sustainability of a resident rugby club at a sustainable Stratfield Brake venue.

What actions may be required to ensure provision can meet both the current and future demand?

- 5.29 There is a need to:
- Resolve the rugby provision at Bicester for Bicester RFC with the objective of achieving a financially sustainable club on a single site with 4 grass pitches, or 3 grass plus Regulation 22 3G AGP and clubhouse.
 - Ensure that community club rugby continues in the long term at Stratfield Brake, with improved pitches, access to the clubhouse, and a financially sustainable arrangement.
 - Retain the community rugby use of the area of Bodicote Park owned by Cherwell District Council.
 - Retain the single pitch at Fritwell.

Summary of current situation and future requirements

- 5.30 Figure 4 provides an overview of the current situation for rugby in each of the sub areas and the needs by 2031.

Figure 4: Rugby pitch space summary of deficiencies and needs up to 2031

Banbury

Current needs and provision	2031 needs and provision
<p>Banbury RFC site at Bodicote has 6 senior pitches plus junior pitches. There is sufficient capacity to meet demand although the club would like additional floodlit training space.</p> <p>The changing room provision is on a secure long term lease.</p>	<p>There is potentially sufficient pitch capacity to meet the forecast demand for rugby in the Banbury area provided the additional pitch area at Bodicote Park which is not currently in the club’s ownership remains available to rugby.</p> <p>The Cherwell DC land at Bodicote Park should be sold to Banbury RFC to provide long term certainty for rugby playing field use.</p> <p>It should be ensured that the relocation of Banbury United FC to site Banbury 12 is achieved without adversely impacting on rugby at Bodicote Park.</p>

Bicester

Current needs and provision	2031 needs and provision
<p>Bicester RFC uses grass pitches at Bicester Oxford Road and Chesterton, both owned by Bicester Sports Association. There is no security of use of the Oxford Road site which is used by seniors and is the only floodlit grass pitch space suitable for mid-week training.</p> <p>Bicester Sports Association has aspirations to develop its Oxford Road site.</p> <p>The BSA Chesterton site is used for minis and juniors and is already used intensively. There is no spare space on the site for relocated senior pitches, and there is no floodlighting.</p> <p>Bicester RFC also hire Whitelands Farm Sports Ground Regulation 22 pitch for some training. The hire costs are high</p>	<p>Bicester RFC will require 4 grass pitches on a single home site with clubhouse where the club can generate sufficient income to cover its costs. Ideally the club would have access to the AGP at Whitelands Farm Sports Ground for training and matches, for all age groups, but this needs to be financially sustainable for the rugby use.</p> <p>The site issues at Oxford Road in Bicester, Chesterton and Whitelands Farm Sports Ground require resolution.</p> <p>Oxford Road in Bicester should be retained for rugby use unless its loss can be mitigated by a suitable replacement site. If rugby is to be retained on site, a long term lease is essential in order to secure external investment.</p>

<p>compared to similar pitches owned and managed by the RFU. There are also 1-2 grass rugby pitches available on site, but these are not used by Bicester RFC.</p> <p>The Whitelands Farm Sports Ground site is operated commercially and is also available for football hire.</p>	
<p>The rugby pitch at Fritwell Playing Fields should be retained.</p>	<p>Retain rugby pitch at Fritwell Playing Fields.</p>

Kidlington and Kirtlington and Rural

Current needs and provision	2031 needs and provision
<p>Stratfield Brake has 4 rugby pitches but low level of pitch maintenance in 2016-17 meant that the capacity of the pitches was reduced. The pitch quality for 2017-18 was improved, but the pitches may require further investment to further improve their quality.</p> <p>The site operation has recently moved to a commercial operator and the rugby club has concerns about its ability to both generate income and meet the higher pitch and pavilion charges.</p> <p>The RFU, Sport England and Football Foundation have a legal interest in the site because of earlier grant aid.</p> <p>The priority is to establish a management and hire arrangements which maximise the use of the site whilst supporting the sports clubs, including rugby.</p> <p>The pitches require sustained increased levels of maintenance.</p>	<p>There is sufficient capacity for rugby up to 2031 so long as the pitches are maintained at high quality (RFU standard D3/M2).</p> <p>The priority is to resolve the management related issues to ensure continued community rugby club and other Rugby Union use of the site, such as Touch 7's.</p> <p>Other priorities are pitch and clubhouse improvements.</p>

Recommendations for rugby

It is recommended that the Council and relevant stakeholders consider the following to address rugby provision in the district:

Protect

- 5.31 Protect rugby provision used by community rugby clubs at:
- Banbury RFC, Bodicote
 - Bicester RFC
 - Bicester Sports Association, Oxford Road
 - Bicester Sports Association, Chesterton
 - Whitelands Farm Sports Ground Regulation 22 artificial pitch and grass pitches
 - Gosford All Blacks RFC, Stratfield Brake
 - Alchester RFC, Fritwell Playing Fields
- 5.32 Maintain the pitches and ancillary facilities at a minimum of standard quality.
- 5.33 Seek mitigation for any loss of playing fields or ancillary facilities.

Enhance

- 5.34 Address site by site needs as identified in the sites table, see Appendix 1.

Banbury

- Seek to provide additional training area away from pitches.
- Ensure changing and clubhouse provision for Banbury RFC is secure and adequate to meet future needs. Extend clubhouse and changing rooms if required.
- Ensure proposed relocation of Banbury United FC to proposed Local Plan site Banbury 12 avoids negative impacts on Bodicote Park and its use for rugby. Secure the sale of the Bodicote Park land owned by Cherwell DC to Banbury RFC for their long term development.

Bicester

- Partners to work together to identify the best long term option to meet the needs of Bicester RFC, and to enable the club to be hosted on a single site with a minimum of 4 grass pitches.
- Seek to maximise the use of the Regulation 22 artificial grass pitch at Whitelands Farm Sports Ground for rugby training and matches.

Kidlington

- Partners to work together to identify the best long term option to meet the needs of community rugby club and other Rugby Union formats such as

Touch 7's at Stratfield Brake Sports Ground.

- Continue to improve the quality of the pitches and clubhouse at Stratfield Brake.

5.35 Require off-site contributions from housing developments. These contributions should be based on the Playing Pitch Calculator, but with an additional allowance for the wider playing field area, ancillary facilities and land costs. The contributions to be targeted to support the closest community rugby site.

5.36 Ensure that all new/replacement provision fully meets the quality guidance from the Rugby Football Union and Sport England, both in relation to the pitches and ancillary facilities.

SECTION 6: HOCKEY

- 6.1 This assessment applies to community hockey. There are three hockey clubs in the district; Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington Ladies. During the season 2016-17 there were about 690 hockey players in Cherwell, which made up 12.5 men's teams, 13.5 women's teams, 3 junior boys and 3 junior girls teams.
- 6.2 There has been a 6% growth in membership across Cherwell between the 2015-16 and 2016-17 season, with most of the additional members occurring at the junior level. This growth has not however been even across the clubs, as Banbury HC has seen a major growth in membership since the 2013-14 season, whilst Bicester HC has seen a slight fall in membership. The small Kidlington Ladies HC has kept one team.
- 6.3 The following questions and their answers are taken from the Sport England Guidance and provide a useful summary of the current and future provision for hockey in Cherwell.

Current supply and demand

What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?

- 6.4 The hockey clubs, particularly the larger ones, attract players from a wide area, and 20-30 minutes travel time is not unusual, particularly for the senior players at the larger clubs. Some of the higher level players will travel significantly further to their home club. Most of Cherwell has access to a hockey club within 20 minutes travel time. In the Kidlington area and southern part of Cherwell, this may also be to a club in Oxford.
- 6.5 There are only two hockey surface pitches which are good quality, open for community use at match time at the weekends and meet the minimum dimensions as a match pitch for community hockey; North Oxfordshire Academy (Banbury) and The Cooper School (Bicester). These pitches were both resurfaced by Cherwell District Council in 2017 and the sites are managed by the Council on a joint use basis.
- 6.6 There is one other site used for community hockey, an undersized pitch at Kidlington and Gosford Leisure Centre which is managed by Parkwood Leisure and is used by a single team club.
- 6.7 There are other hockey surface pitches on academy sites, but these are aging and do not have any community use.
- 6.8 Bloxham School which is independent has two non-floodlit hockey pitches and runs a number of school teams. The school also hosts England Hockey's development centres. The school is currently considering developing a further pitch, but its deliverability and availability for community use is uncertain. The lack of floodlights

on the site also restricts community use because the pitches are effectively not available during evenings.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?

- 6.9 In the Banbury area, the club size has exceeded the capacity of the home site, and some of the senior matches are being held elsewhere (the Vets are playing in Brackley, South Northants). The main club home site, North Oxfordshire Academy, has secure community use, but the site at Brackley is the independent Winchester House School, which is unsecure. The club has access to a clubhouse at North Oxfordshire Academy (under Cherwell District Council control) but this is shared with the Banbury Harriers athletics club. Ideally the hockey club would like more control and more use of this clubhouse facility.
- 6.10 Bicester Hockey Club uses The Cooper School across the weekend and also for 15 hours during the week. The site has a joint use agreement. The club is at its maximum size because there is no spare capacity for hockey at The Cooper School. Further hockey growth can therefore only be achieved if there is additional pitch space. The lack of any social facilities for the Bicester Hockey Club restricts its ability to create a strong club on site, and also the club's ability to drive income.
- 6.11 There is a single ladies team based at the Kidlington and Gosford Leisure Centre, which has a formal community use agreement. This pitch is smaller than the minimum size required by England Hockey for club matches and is of poor quality.

Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?

- 6.12 The pitches at both North Oxfordshire Academy and The Cooper School were resurfaced in 2017. The pitch at Kidlington and Gosford Leisure Centre was resurfaced in 2016.

Future requirements

What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?

- 6.13 England Hockey anticipates a high growth rate in participation in hockey, as this sport has grown rapidly in the last few years. If this rate of provision is achieved, then there will be a number of additional teams both for seniors and juniors. The number of senior teams are expected to rise from 25 to 48 teams, and from 7 to 18 junior teams.
- 6.14 Based on a need of one pitch per 8 senior teams, this suggests that the district will require a total of 6 hockey pitches by 2031. The short-medium term priorities are for additional pitches in Banbury and Bicester, as the large Oxford Hawks Hockey Club will be attracting players from the Kidlington area and from the south side of Cherwell.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?

6.15 There will be a need for three additional hockey pitches by 2031 across the district as a whole.

What actions may be required to ensure provision can meet both the current and future demand?

6.16 The priority actions relate to:

- The confirmation of deliverability and long term sustainability via a feasibility study of an England Hockey Category 2 level match pitch with ancillary facilities including clubhouse at Graven Hill, Bicester.
- The development of a second England Hockey Category 2 match pitch in Banbury at either a school site or a multi-sport hub.

6.17 There should also be policy support to the development of an additional hockey pitch at Bloxham School and the provision of floodlighting for all of the pitches (subject to acceptability in planning terms), with encouragement that the pitches should then be made available for community hockey use, particularly on Sundays and mid-week evenings.

Summary of current situation and future requirements

6.18 Figure 5 provides an overview of the current situation for hockey in each of the sub areas and the needs by 2031.

Figure 5: Hockey pitch space summary of deficiencies and needs up to 2031

Banbury

Current needs and provision	2031 needs and provision
One hockey surface pitch of sufficient quality and size for matches, at North Oxfordshire Academy. Fully used for matches on Saturdays, and no spare capacity. Joint use site.	Require before 2021 one additional England Hockey Category 2, with appropriate changing facilities either on a school site or at a multi-sport hub site. Site and deliverability to be confirmed.
Other hockey surface pitches exist at Banbury Academy and Blessed George Napier poor quality. Not used by community.	By 2031, provide one further additional England Hockey Category 2, with appropriate changing facilities either on a school site or at a multi-sport hub site. Need, site and deliverability to be confirmed at next full strategy review.
Bloxham School pitches not available for community use on Saturdays because fully used by school. A lack of	Encourage Bloxham School to provide more

<p>floodlights also means that the pitches are not available for evening use.</p> <p>Current deficit of 0.75 match quality hockey pitch.</p>	<p>community use. Additional pitch proposal is understood to be primarily for school use. Floodlighting of all pitches would be valuable if linked to community use.</p>
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Bicester

Current needs and provision	2031 needs and provision
<p>One hockey surface pitch of sufficient quality and size for matches at The Cooper School. Fully used for matches on Saturdays and no spare capacity. Joint use site.</p> <p>Current deficit of 0.6 match quality hockey pitch.</p>	<p>Require 1 additional hockey surface pitch by 2021. Proposed at Graven Hill. Should be England Hockey Category 2, with appropriate changing and clubhouse facilities. However this development should be subject to detailed feasibility study to confirm deliverability and long term sustainability.</p> <p>If Graven Hill is not confirmed for hockey, alternative sites for a second hockey match pitch should be explored at secondary schools or multi-sport hubs in Bicester.</p> <p>By 2031, provide one further additional England Hockey Category 2, with appropriate changing facilities either on a school site or at a multi-sport hub site. Site and deliverability to be confirmed. Need, site and deliverability to be confirmed at next full strategy review.</p>

Kidlington and Kirtlington and Rural

Current needs and provision	2031 needs and provision
<p>One hockey surface pitch at the Kidlington and Gosford Leisure Centre. Dimensions too small for England Hockey match pitch.</p> <p>One single team club. Other hockey demand is met either at Bicester or in Oxford.</p> <p>Site close to major hockey club in Oxford.</p>	<p>If Graven Hill or alternative pitch developed in Bicester, relocate club to Bicester.</p> <p>Retain existing facility at the Kidlington and Gosford Sports Centre for hockey until a new hockey match pitch has opened in Bicester and made available for the relocated club.</p> <p>If hockey successfully relocated to Bicester, re-carpet existing AGP to 3G football turf.</p>

Recommendations for hockey

It is recommended that the Council and relevant stakeholders consider the following to address hockey provision in the district:

Protect

- 6.19 Protect hockey provision used by community hockey clubs at:
- North Oxfordshire Academy, Banbury
 - The Cooper School, Bicester
- 6.20 Maintain the pitches and ancillary facilities at a minimum of standard quality.
- 6.21 Protect hockey provision at Kidlington and Gosford Leisure Centre until club can be relocated to new (shared) site at Bicester.
- 6.22 Seek mitigation for any losses of pitches or ancillary facilities.

Provide

- 6.23 Provide one new England Hockey Category 2 pitch in Banbury either at a school site or at a multi-sport hub.
- 6.24 Subject to confirmation via a feasibility study, provide one new England Hockey Category 2 pitch at Graven Hill together with appropriate changing and clubhouse facilities. To be provided by developer as part of planning obligation. If not confirmed via feasibility study, seek provision at alternative site at a secondary school or multi-sport hub in Bicester.
- 6.25 Require off-site contributions from housing developments. These contributions should be based on the Playing Pitch Calculator, but with an additional allowance for the wider playing field area, ancillary facilities and land costs. The contributions to be targeted to support the closest community hockey site in Bicester or Banbury.
- 6.26 Ensure that all new/replacement provision fully meets the quality guidance from the England Hockey and Sport England, both in relation to the pitches and ancillary facilities.

SECTION 7: DELIVERING THE STRATEGY

- 7.1 The study is intended to inform not only planning documents and development management decisions but also recreation infrastructure planning and information to support funding bids by both the Council and other providers. All sources of funding and other means of delivery will be required to deliver the facilities needed.
- 7.2 As the responsibility for provision of sport and recreation facilities is shared between the District, Town and Parish Councils, sports clubs and associations, delivering the strategy will require partnership working.
- 7.3 The strategy has identified a number of occasions where there is cross-boundary movement of participants over the boundaries. These include the export of hockey players to Oxford, and the import of rugby players from Oxford to Cherwell. The part of the district where there appears to be most movement is the Kidlington sub area.
- 7.4 The strategy recommendations are based on the expected population growth and changes up to 2031 within the authority itself, including the impact of the new housing proposed in the Partial Review. In effect these recommendations assume that there will be no significant changes in the cross-boundary movement of participants in the individual sports, either from new housing growth just across the boundary, or because there are new sports facilities provided within the adjacent authorities which are easily accessible to Cherwell residents.
- 7.5 However, in view of the possibility that proposals for new housing development outside of the district but close to Kidlington might exacerbate the cross-boundary movement, a joint study is recommended to look at specific strategic needs, to ensure that the sports facility provision both meets the needs of the expanding community and is provided in the most cost-effective way.

Securing provision of sport through development

- 7.6 A key output from the strategy is the securing of sports provision through development. This can include on-site provision through master-planning and planning obligations, and securing developers' contributions to off-site provision. It is recognised that the shortfall in funding for specific facilities will need to be met by other funding sources, for example grant aid from the National Governing Bodies of sport, lottery funding, private funding, and housing infrastructure funds.

SECTION 8: PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

8.1 The Strategy includes an Action Plan and recommends that the Council use it as a basis for liaising with key stakeholders to determine how the strategy recommendations are best achieved.

Figure 6: Action Plan for playing pitches

Proposal / Facility	Action required	Lead organisation	Key partners	Date for action
Forward and development planning				
Sport and recreation strategy review	Review and confirm the proposals in this strategy once the Partial Review is complete (to ensure the assumed amount and location of growth to meet Oxford's unmet need remains unchanged).	CDC		Year 1
Major new housing developments in Cherwell	Ensure that major new housing sites have policies for pitch provision, on or off site as appropriate.	CDC	Sport England	On-going
Planning policies on sport and recreation	Update planning policies on sport and recreation through the Local Plan process to reflect strategy findings	CDC		Year 2-3
Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document	Update the Supplementary Planning Document as policy guidance on the delivery of playing pitches and ancillary facilities for new developments.	CDC		Year 2-3
Planning applications	Respond to planning applications for development to ensure that the necessary provision is achieved. If a sport and recreation site has become disused, consideration should be given to other sport, recreation or open space use, having regard to deficiencies identified in the assessments and strategies.	CDC	Sport England	On-going
Cross boundary working with West Oxfordshire and Oxford	Work with West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxford City to identify if there are options for strategic provision of pitch facilities, and ways in which they can be funded.	CDC	West Oxfordshire District Council Oxford City Council	Year 1-2
Key sites with urgent issues				

Bicester Sports Association, Chesterton and Oxford Road, Bicester	Agree future of site for cricket, football and rugby. This will be resolved through the development management process and timing will be dependent on if/when a planning application is submitted.	CDC	Bicester Sports Assn Clubs RFU FA ECB/OCB	Year 1
Banbury United FC relocation	Ensure re-location of Banbury United FC to the Local Plan allocation Banbury 12 is achieved. Retention of exiting stadium site at Canalside until replacement is available for use. Avoid negative impact on rugby's use of the adjacent Bodicote Park.	CDC	Club Sport England FA	On-going
New provision and investment				
Community use agreements on school sites	Ensure that any public investment, and where relevant, planning permission for sports facilities on school sites is linked to formal community use agreements, the terms of which should reflect the size of the investment and the identified need for those facilities in the catchment of the site i.e. small levels of capital investment would usually be expected to have less onerous conditions and over a shorter period than major investment.	CDC OCC	Schools	Linked to specific projects
Sports development and other actions				
Community use agreements on school sites	Seek to develop community use agreements on school sites where there is not one in place but the school acts as an important community sports facility.	CDC OCC (where relevant)	Schools	On-going

Funding

- 8.2 It is important to ensure that all of the available resources are carefully targeted and tailored to meet the needs of the whole community so that any initial capital investment and long term revenue commitments can be fully justified.
- 8.3 The proposals arising from the strategy are likely to be funded and supported by a range of partners and new facility provision might be via a mix of public and private sources. There are some major projects planned in this strategy which will require significant capital funding. Funding sources and programmes vary significantly over time, and therefore as each facility is considered, all available options for funding should be explored by the Council, the stakeholders and potential developers of each project.

Procurement and management

- 8.4 The nature and process of the procurement of the facilities covered by this strategy and their long term management will fundamentally depend upon the type and scale of facility.

Review and monitoring

- 8.5 The final stage in the strategy is its delivery and making sure that it is kept up to date. Sport England recommends that a process should be put in place to ensure regular monitoring of how the recommendations and action plan are being delivered. Understanding and learning lessons about how the strategy has been applied is also a key component of monitoring its delivery. This should be an on-going role of the steering group, which it is recommended, should meet on an annual basis as Stage E in the methodology of Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance.

APPENDIX 1: SUMMARY BY SITE

- 8.6 This appendix brings together the sport specific summaries above on a site by site basis.
- 8.7 Several of the specific projects are at relatively early stages of feasibility assessment, and therefore the costs and deliverability are still to be confirmed. The estimated capital costs in the table are taken from the Sport England Facilities Costs of Second Quarter 2017 (Sport England, 2017). It should be noted that these exclude lifecycle costs of facilities, on which Sport England provides separate guidance.

Notes and key for the site summary table

Site control

This column shows the organisation responsible for the site. This will usually be the site owner unless it is on a long term (5 years plus) lease e.g. to a sports club.

Acad	Secondary school academy
Club	Sports club
Comm	Commercial organisation
Ind Sc	Independent school
PC	Parish Council, local playing field association, village hall charity or similar
School	Primary school
TC	Town Council
Op	Leisure Centre operator

Security of use

- S Site with secure community use
 UnS Site without security of use

Quality of changing

The quality of the changing facilities/clubhouse. Usually relevant to whole site.

	Good
	Standard/adequate
	Poor
	No changing/clubhouse on site

Pitch size and type

Football:	as FA pitch sizes
Cricket:	number of natural turf strips within the square, or 1 if AGP only
Rugby:	as RFU pitch sizes, or actual size if smaller
AGP:	dimensions in metres, surface type and floodlit (Yes/No)
	SD Sand dressed
	SF Sand filled
	3G 3G surface

Pitch quality, and cricket nets quality

Based on the agreed pitch quality from: site audit, user clubs, NGB, authority and pitch providers.

	Good quality pitch/nets
	Standard quality pitch/nets
	Poor quality pitch/nets

Spare capacity across the week/season by matches

Grass pitches

This shows how much spare capacity there is across the week/season by number of matches. This calculation takes into account all identified uses of each individual pitch across the week, both matches and training. Where there is more than one pitch of the same size on a site, the assessment is the total spare capacity across those pitches.

The numbering indicates how many additional matches/training sessions could be held on a grass pitch without seriously impacting on the pitch quality, based on the pitch's current agreed quality.

AGPs

The AGP percentage spare capacity relates to the availability of the AGP across the whole week's peak time for the hours that the pitch is available.

	Site could provide for at least 1 extra training session or match in the week. For AGPs, has more than 20% spare capacity.
	Site has very limited spare capacity, the equivalent of 1 training session/match every fortnight. For AGPs, site has 10-20% spare capacity, or there are known restrictions on use.
	Pitches have no spare capacity or are overused. For AGPs, spare

	capacity is at less than 10%.
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Peak time balance

8.8 This shows the number of additional matches which could be hosted on a pitch at peak time. For AGPs with a hockey surface, this is for hockey. For AGPs with 3G surface, this is for football.

	Pitch could provide for at least 1 extra match each week i.e. it could be the home site for 2 or more extra teams.
	Pitch could provide for one extra match per fortnight i.e. it could be the home site for 1 extra team.
	Pitches have no spare capacity, or are overused. AGPs not available for matches or are unsuitable.

8.9 The priorities for the specific projects are identified as High, Medium and Low. These are defined as:

High priority (H)	Facility or project essential for meeting the current and future projected needs of the community across Cherwell, particularly for the sports/facilities with high levels of participation, for example football. High priority is also given to projects which will attract those less active, or sited in areas with deprivation.
Medium priority (M)	Facility or project which will help to meet the current and future projected needs of the community across Cherwell for the sports/facilities with moderate levels of participation, for example hockey.
Low priority (L)	Facility or project which will help to meet the current and future projected needs of the community across Cherwell but where the sport/facilities have low levels of participation for example polo, or where the project's aims are already partially addressed by other projects in the area identified at higher levels of priority.

8.10 The phasing of the project investment needs follows the Cherwell Infrastructure Delivery Plan approach:

St	Short term	2018-2021
Mt	Medium term	2021-2026
Lt	Long term	2026-2031

Site by site summary table

BANBURY TOWN AND BANBURY RURAL EXISTING SITES

Site Name	Site Control	Security of Use	Quality of changing	Football Pitch Size	Cricket no of grass Strips Senior and (Junior)	Rugby Pitch size	AGP size, surface, floodlit	Grass Pitch Quality	AGP/AGP cricket pitch quality	Cricket net quality	Spare capacity across the week (no matches) / season for cricket	Peak time balance	Key issues/comments	Proposal	Priority And Phasing	Estimated capital cost (£000's)	Main delivery partners
Adderbury Recreation Ground	PC	S	Yellow	11v11				Yellow			1	0	Site is fully used at peak time for senior football. Only limited spare capacity on 9v9 pitch.				
				9v9				Yellow			1.5	0.5					
Ardley Playing Field	PC	S	Green	11v11				Green			1.5	0	Site is fully used at peak time for senior football and 7v7 mini soccer. Only limited spare capacity for 5v5 mini soccer.				
				5v5				Green			5.5	0.5					
				7v7				Green			5	0					
				7v7				Yellow			2.5	-0.5					
				9v9				Yellow			3.5	1					
Banbury Academy	Acad	S	Grey				60x100, SF, yes		Red		60%	2	Site is over used at peak time. AGP surface in need of replacement. AGP too small for England Hockey matches. School site so no assumed spare capacity of the grass pitches across the week. School has S106 commitment to delivery of full size 3G football turf pitch (though delivery may be approx 2026), plus sports hall, grass pitches and tennis courts for community use.	Ensure that the S106 commitment to the full size floodlit 3G pitch is delivered by 2026. Resurface existing pitch to support hockey training and/or consider extension to full size hockey pitch.	H Mt	n/a (S106)	Academy/ Developer
				5v5				Yellow			0	0					
				7v7				Yellow			0	-1					
Banbury Cricket Club	Club	S	Green		22			Green		Green	40	0	Site is used to capacity at peak time. Limited scope to use adjacent	Develop second pitch adjacent to current site.	H Mt	£270,000 plus site costs	Club CDC ECB

Site Name	Site Control	Security of Use	Quality of changing	Football Pitch Size	Cricket no of grass Strips Senior and (Junior)	Rugby Pitch size	AGP size, surface, floodlit	Grass Pitch Quality	AGP/AGP cricket pitch quality	Cricket net quality	Spare capacity across the week (no matches) / season for cricket	Peak time balance	Key issues/comments	Proposal	Priority And Phasing	Estimated capital cost (£000's)	Main delivery partners
													Kingsfield Recreation Ground due to intensive use for football.				OCB
Banbury Twenty Club	PC	S			18						30	0	Site is used to capacity at peak time.				
Banbury United Football Club	Club	S		11v11							0.5	0.5	Stadia site proposed to be re-developed under adopted Local Plan Policy Banbury 1.	Relocate club to the site identified in adopted Policy Banbury 12 (or other agreed site) with provision of required stadia meeting the FA Ground Grading requirements, plus ancillary facilities and car parking. Contributions to be secured from developers of Banbury Canalside.	H St	tbc	Developer Club FA
Blessed George Napier Catholic School (The Monsi Sports Centre), Banbury	Acad	S					60x100, SF, Yes				25%	2	Site is over used at peak time for mini soccer. AGP surface re-sanded January 2018. School site so no spare capacity for grass pitches across the week. Easington Sports FC uses school site and has been exploring option for resurfacing of AGP to 3G.	Keep need/ justification/ delivery options for 3G pitch on site under review.			
				11v11 Y					0	0							
				5v5				0	-1								
				9v9				0	0								
				Other grass pitches not used													
Bloxham C of E School Playing Field	Sch	UnS		7v7							0	0.5	School site so no spare capacity across the week.				
Bloxham Recreation	PC	S		11v11							3	1	Site is over used at peak time for mini				
				11v11													

Site Name	Site Control	Security of Use	Quality of changing	Football Pitch Size	Cricket no of grass Strips Senior and (Junior)	Rugby Pitch size	AGP size, surface, floodlit	Grass Pitch Quality	AGP/AGP cricket pitch quality	Cricket net quality	Spare capacity across the week (no matches) / season for cricket	Peak time balance	Key issues/comments	Proposal	Priority And Phasing	Estimated capital cost (£000's)	Main delivery partners				
Ground				5v5							2.5	-0.5	soccer.								
Bloxham School (Dewey Sports Centre)	Acad	UnS					97x61, SF, No				45%	2	AGPs not generally available at weekends as used by school. School considering developing further pitch. AGPs not floodlit so not available evenings.	Support pitch proposal if linked to community use on Saturdays for matches.	L St	n/a	School				
							92x54, SF, No			52%	2										
				Other grass pitches not used																	
Bodicote Rugby Ground (Banbury RFC)	Club	S									4.5	3	Club will require remaining area of Bodicote Park not in its ownership for continued use of pitches to meet future demand. Club keen to purchase land from CDC.	Ensure Banbury RFC is not negatively impacted by relocation of Banbury United. CDC to consider selling remaining area of Bodicote Park to Banbury RFC.	H St	n/a	CDC Club				
Broughton and North Newington Sports & Social Club, North Newington	Club	S			10						30	0.5	Site is fully used at peak time for football and has limited spare capacity for cricket.								
										1	0										
Christopher Rawlins C of E Primary School, Adderbury	Sch	UnS		7v7							0	0.5	School site so no spare capacity across the week.								
Croprey Recreation Ground (Croprey Cricket Club)	PC	S			14						0	0	Site is fully used at peak time	Provide new changing pavilion to serve 2 nd pitch.	H St	£245,000	PC Club ECB				
										1	0	New pitch adjacent to existing. No pavilion.									
Deddington C of E Primary	Sch	UnS		5v5							0	0.5	School site so no spare capacity across the week								
				7v7						0	0.5										

Site Name	Site Control	Security of Use	Quality of changing	Football Pitch Size	Cricket no of grass Strips Senior and (Junior)	Rugby Pitch size	AGP size, surface, floodlit	Grass Pitch Quality	AGP/AGP cricket pitch quality	Cricket net quality	Spare capacity across the week (no matches) / season for cricket	Peak time balance	Key issues/comments	Proposal	Priority And Phasing	Estimated capital cost (£000's)	Main delivery partners	
School																		
Deddington Sports Club	Club	UnS		11v11							-1	-1	Site is over used at peak time. AGP is of poor quality. Club would like to resurface AGP and extend. Not FA priority for investment.					
				11v11 Y					2	1								
				7v7					3	0								
							35x22, SD, No			45%	2							
				10							30	0						
Easington Park, Banbury	TC	S		11v11 Y							1.5	1.5						
				11v11 Y														
				9v9														
				9v9						2.5	0.5							
Easington Sports and Social Club, Banbury	Club	S		11v11							1	-0.5	Site is over used at peak time. Football club uses a number of sites but has too little capacity. Site restricted for floodlights. Poor changing provision.	Seek new deliverable site for relocation of club which is suitable for stadia pitch, floodlighting, community grass pitches, clubhouse and car parking.				
Hanwell Fields Sports Pitch, Banbury	TC	S		11v11							1	0.5	Site suffers from waterlogging, leading to cancellations. Pitch quality therefore reduced to reflect.					
				11v11														
Hillview Park, Banbury	TC	S		5v5							4	1	No changing facilities. Site unused.					
Hook Norton Sport &	Club	S			12						58	0	Site is fully used at peak time, for cricket,	Re-surface AGP.	H St	£100,000	Club Parish	
				11v11								-0.5						0

Site Name	Site Control	Security of Use	Quality of changing	Football Pitch Size	Cricket no of grass Strips Senior and (Junior)	Rugby Pitch size	AGP size, surface, floodlit	Grass Pitch Quality	AGP/AGP cricket pitch quality	Cricket net quality	Spare capacity across the week (no matches) / season for cricket	Peak time balance	Key issues/comments	Proposal	Priority And Phasing	Estimated capital cost (£000's)	Main delivery partners									
Social Club				11v11									senior football and 9v9 football. AGP surface in need of replacement.				Council									
				5v5						3.5	0.5															
				7v7						7	1															
				7v7						1	0															
				9v9						1	0															
						22x36, SF, Yes					36%	1														
Horley Cricket Club	PC	S			12								Site fully used at peak time and across the week. Poor quality clubhouse. Serious lack of car parking provision causing safety concerns.	Explore ways of increasing site capacity.	H St	Tbc	Club ECB OCB PC									
														Refurbish/replace clubhouse.	H St	Tbc										
														Provide additional car parking.	H St	tbc										
Hornton Recreation Ground	PC	S		11v11																						
Horton View Sports Ground, Banbury	TC	S			8								Site is over used at peak time. Pitches overmarked. Site also used for tennis (covering of courts within the town being considered) and bowls.	Setting up Community Network Partnership												
																		11v11							20	0
																		11v11							0	-0.5
																		7v7						7	1	
Kingsfield Recreation Ground, Bodicote	PC	S		11v11									Site is fully used at peak time for 11v11 football.													
				9v9							1	0														
											1.5	1														
					6													Unused for cricket in 2016 but some limited use in 2018. Site adjacent to Banbury Cricket Club, but not suitable for increased cricket use due to intensive use for football.								

Site Name	Site Control	Security of Use	Quality of changing	Football Pitch Size	Cricket no of grass Strips Senior and (Junior)	Rugby Pitch size	AGP size, surface, floodlit	Grass Pitch Quality	AGP/AGP cricket pitch quality	Cricket net quality	Spare capacity across the week (no matches) / season for cricket	Peak time balance	Key issues/comments	Proposal	Priority And Phasing	Estimated capital cost (£000's)	Main delivery partners
North Oxfordshire Academy (Drayton Pavilion), Banbury	Acad	S					55x100, SD, Yes				10%	-3	Pitch is currently overused at peak time, and has very limited spare capacity across the week. School has S106 commitment to develop full size floodlit 3G AGP plus pavilion, but not yet started. AGP and athletics track and shared clubhouse managed by CDC.	Delivery of the S106 commitment for the AGP.	H St	n/a S106	Acad CDC
South Newington Road Recreation Ground	PC	S		11v11 Y							1	1	Site is fully used at peak time for mini soccer.				
				5v5						3	0						
Tudor Hall School (Private Use)	Ind Sc	Private use					61x98, SF, Yes				0	0	No community use				
				Other pitches not used													
Wardington Playing Fields	PC	S		11v11							0.5	1	Site is over used at peak time for 7v7 mini soccer. Unused for cricket in 2016 but low level league cricket reintroduced in 2018. Football pitches and cricket outfield overlap.				
				7v7						1.5	-1.5						
					4					20	1						
Warriner School	Acad	Us	No community use of pitches														
Wroxton Sports Club	Club	S			9						45	1	Site is fully used at peak time for senior football. Unused for cricket. Football and cricket pitches substantially overlap. Unrealistic to reintroduce cricket on site except possibly for				
				11v11						0.5	0						
				7v7													

Site Name	Site Control	Security of Use	Quality of changing	Football Pitch Size	Cricket no of grass Strips Senior and (Junior)	Rugby Pitch size	AGP size, surface, floodlit	Grass Pitch Quality	AGP/AGP cricket pitch quality	Cricket net quality	Spare capacity across the week (no matches) / season for cricket	Peak time balance	Key issues/comments	Proposal	Priority And Phasing	Estimated capital cost (£000's)	Main delivery partners
													occasional friendly use.				
Wroxton Friars Hill	PC	S		11v11 Y							2.5	0.5	Site is over used at peak time for 7v7 mini soccer.				
				11v11 Y													
				5v5						6.5	0.5						
				5v5													
				7v7							2.5	-0.5					

BANBURY TOWN AND BANBURY RURAL NEW SITES

Site Name	Site Control	Proposal	Key issues/comments	Priority and Phasing	Estimated capital cost (£000's)	Main delivery partners
Banbury 12	Developer	<p>Site for relocation of Banbury United FC, stadia pitch replacement with ancillary facilities.</p> <p>May provide grass pitch space for community use.</p> <p>Potential site for new secondary school.</p> <p>Potential site for joint use full size 3G football turf pitch</p>	<p>There is concern that the full delivery of the stadia pitch with its necessary ancillary facilities may not be provided, and if it is, whether this is prior to the loss of the existing stadia site.</p> <p>Too little grass pitch space for effective community use.</p> <p>No funding identified for 3G pitch proposal or anything other than the like for like replacement of the stadia (pitch and ancillary facilities).</p> <p>If school developed on site, consequence likely to be insufficient capacity of grass pitches to cater for community use.</p> <p>Adverse impact of Banbury 12 development on the rugby use of Bodicote Park needs to be avoided</p>	H St	<p>Stadia pitch and ancillary facilities: £ developer S106</p> <p>Full size 3G football turf pitch with floodlights: £935,000</p>	<p>Developer CDC Banbury United FC Oxfordshire County Council Football Assn</p>
Longford Park	Developer	1 adult and 2 youth football pitches with pavilion and MUGA	Delivery date to be confirmed	M St	£ developer S106	Developer CDC
Salt Way	Developer	2 separate playing field areas with a total of 2 adult and 2 youth football pitches	Two areas of pitch provision have been agreed, including changing facilities/pavilion.	H St	£ developer S106	Developer CDC
North of Hanwell Fields	Developer	1 youth football pitch	Single youth pitch with no ancillary facilities. Not valuable for organised football use, only as informal kick about open space.	L	£ developer S106	Developer CDC
Adderbury, Milton Road	Developer	2 adult football pitches, multi use games area and sports pavilion	Delivery by developer	M St	£ developer S106	Developer CDC

BICESTER AND BICESTER RURAL

Site Name	Site Control	Security of Use	Quality of changing	Football Pitch Size	Cricket no of grass Strips Senior and (Junior)	Rugby Pitch size	AGP size, surface, floodlit	Grass Pitch Quality	AGP/AGP cricket pitch quality	Cricket net quality	Spare capacity across the week (no matches) / season for cricket	Peak time balance	Key issues/comments	Proposal	Priority And Phasing	Estimated capital cost (£000's)	Main delivery partners	
Arncott Recreation Ground	PC	S		5v5							0.5	-0.5	Site is over used at peak time for mini soccer. Limited spare capacity for 9v9 football.					
				7v7						2.5	-0.5							
				9v9						3.5	1							
Bicester School	Acad	UnS		11v11							0	0						
Bicester Field Sports Pitches	TC	S		11v11							4.5	1.5	Site is over used at peak time for youth football.					
				11v11														
				11v11 Y						-1	-1.5							
Bicester Leisure Centre	Op	S					35x17, 3G, Yes				37%	1	Future of pitches to be considered as part of Leisure Centre Feasibility Study					
							35x17, 3G, Yes			37%	1							
Bicester Sports Association (Oxford Road), Bicester	Club	UnS				Snr					-3	0	Future use of the site is uncertain at present as the owners have aspirations for redevelopment. Football stadium pitch was unused in 2016 but used by Bicester Town Colts in 2017 for both matches and training. Site used for Bicester RFC senior teams.	Retain site unless off site mitigation provides suitable alternative provision, both for rugby and football (stadia pitch).				
						Snr					0	0.5						

Site Name	Site Control	Security of Use	Quality of changing	Football Pitch Size	Cricket no of grass Strips Senior and (Junior)	Rugby Pitch size	AGP size, surface, floodlit	Grass Pitch Quality	AGP/AGP cricket pitch quality	Cricket net quality	Spare capacity across the week (no matches) / season for cricket	Peak time balance	Key issues/comments	Proposal	Priority And Phasing	Estimated capital cost (£000's)	Main delivery partners			
Bicester Sports Association (Green Lane), Chesterton	Club	S	Green			Snr		Yellow			5	2	Site has significant spare capacity in all pitch types apart from cricket, and 9v9 Y football. Lack of floodlighting restricts training use during winter evenings.	BSA, clubs and Cherwell District Council to identify and agree if further development is necessary, acceptable in planning terms, and deliverable. Likely to be linked to any proposal for development of Oxford Road.	H St	tbc	BSA Developer Clubs RFU ECB FA CDC			
						Snr		Yellow												
						Jnr		Yellow												
						Jnr		Yellow												
						Jnr		Yellow												
						Jnr		Yellow												
					10		Green											22	0.5	Senior rugby pitches overmarked but not used by senior teams.
					8 (1)		Yellow													
				11v11			Green											4.5	1	BSA considering extending site as part mitigation for development of Oxford Road. Cherwell DC previously objected to further development on a number of planning grounds including traffic issues.
				11v11			Green													
				11v11 Y			Green											9.5	2.5	
				11v11 Y			Green													
				11v11 Y			Green													
				9v9			Green											9.5	0.5	
				9v9			Green													
				5v5			Green													
5v5			Green																	
5v5			Green							23	3									
Bicester Keble Road Recreation Ground,	TC	S	Grey	5v5				Yellow			3.5	0.5	No changing facilities	Provide basic wash facilities.	L Mt	£60,000	TC			
				7v7				Yellow										4	1	
Bicester Pingle Drive Recreation Ground	TC	S	Green	11v11				Yellow			2	1	Site is fully used at peak time for youth football (9v9 and 11v11 Y). Limited spare capacity of mini soccer. Adjacent to Oxford Road BSA.	Retain site as unable to be replaced within town.						
				11v11 Y				Yellow										1	0	
				5v5				Yellow										6.5	0.5	
				5v5				Yellow												
				7v7				Yellow										6.5	0.5	
				7v7				Yellow												
9v9				Yellow						1	0									
Bicester St Edith's Way Sports Ground	TC	S	Yellow	11v11				Yellow			0.5	0	Site is fully used at peak time for 11v11 football.							
				11v11 Y				Yellow										1	1	
				7v7				Yellow										4	1	

Site Name	Site Control	Security of Use	Quality of changing	Football Pitch Size	Cricket no of grass Strips Senior and (Junior)	Rugby Pitch size	AGP size, surface, floodlit	Grass Pitch Quality	AGP/AGP cricket pitch quality	Cricket net quality	Spare capacity across the week (no matches) / season for cricket	Peak time balance	Key issues/comments	Proposal	Priority And Phasing	Estimated capital cost (£000's)	Main delivery partners
Bicester Sunderland Drive Recreation Ground,	TC	S	Yellow	11v11							1	0.5	Site is over used at peak time for 7v7 mini soccer. Has limited spare capacity on all other pitch types.				
				11v11 Y					1.5	0.5							
				5v5					3.5	0.5							
				7v7					2.5	-0.5							
Bicester The Cooper School, Bicester	Acad	S	Yellow				64x102, SD, Yes	Green			20%	-1.5	Pitch re-carpeted in 2017.				
				Grass pitches not used													
Bicester, Whitelands Farm Sports Ground	Op	S	Green				68x100, 3G Reg 22 and FA Register, Yes	Green					Site opened in September 2017. Meets RFU Regulation 22 and FA 3G register specifications.		H St	n/a	CDC Trust RFU Clubs
				tbc				Yellow				Grass pitch mix yet to be confirmed but to date limited take up by local clubs.					
						tbc			Green			Grass pitch mix yet to be confirmed. Changing good quality but use arrangements for clubhouse not appropriate for rugby club.					
					6-8				Yellow			Cricket pitch in place but lack of adjacent clubhouse/pavilion and car parking severely limits use. Utilities now in place to enable delivery of clubhouse subject to funding.	Provide 2 team changing clubhouse and additional car parking to service pitch.	H St	£245,000 plus car parking tbc	CDC	

Site Name	Site Control	Security of Use	Quality of changing	Football Pitch Size	Cricket no of grass Strips Senior and (Junior)	Rugby Pitch size	AGP size, surface, floodlit	Grass Pitch Quality	AGP/AGP cricket pitch quality	Cricket net quality	Spare capacity across the week (no matches) / season for cricket	Peak time balance	Key issues/comments	Proposal	Priority And Phasing	Estimated capital cost (£000's)	Main delivery partners	
Chesterton Community Centre	PC	S		11v11 Y							3	0.5	Site is over used at peak time for 11v11 Y football and used to capacity at peak time for 7v7 mini soccer.					
				5v5						6	1							
				7v7						5	0							
Chesterton Playing Fields	PC	S			8						22	0.5						
Finmere Recreation Ground	PC	S		11v11							1	0	Site is fully used at peak time for Senior football. Artificial wicket is in poor condition. No use for cricket.					
					4 (1)					76	1							
Fringford Cricket Club	PC	S			10						40	1						
Fritwell C of E Primary School	Sch	UnS		9v9							0	0	School site so no spare capacity across the week.					
Fritwell Playing Field	PC	UnS				Snr					0.5	0.5	Used by adult rugby club with one team. Not floodlit so no weekday training possible.	Retain site.				
Hethe Recreation Ground & Playing Pitches	PC	S		11v11							2	1	Site unused.					
Keble Road Recreation Ground, Bicester	TC	S		5v5							3.5	0.5	No changing facilities.	Provide basic wash facilities.	L Mt	£60,000	TC	
				7v7						4	1							
Launton Recreation Ground	PC	S		11v11							0.5	0.5	Site is over used at peak time for 7v7 mini soccer and 9v9 football.					
				11v11														
				7v7						2.5	-0.5							
				9v9						0	-1							

Site Name	Site Control	Security of Use	Quality of changing	Football Pitch Size	Cricket no of grass Strips Senior and (Junior)	Rugby Pitch size	AGP size, surface, floodlit	Grass Pitch Quality	AGP/AGP cricket pitch quality	Cricket net quality	Spare capacity across the week (no matches) / season for cricket	Peak time balance	Key issues/comments	Proposal	Priority And Phasing	Estimated capital cost (£000's)	Main delivery partners
Lower Heyford Sport & Social Club Playing Field	Club	S		11v11							1	0	Site is fully used at peak time				
Middleton Park, Middleton Stoney	Private	UnS			8						30	1					
Souldern Football Ground	PC	S		11v11							1.5	0.5					
Steeple Aston Robinsons Close Recreation Ground	PC	S		11v11							0	0	Site is fully used at peak time. Pitch is in need of maintenance works				
Upper Heyford Cricket Pitch	PC	S		11v11							1.5	0.5					

BICESTER AND BICESTER RURAL NEW SITES

Site Name	Site Control	Proposal	Key issues/comments	Priority and Phasing	Estimated capital cost (£000's)	Main delivery partners
Graven Hill	Developer	Proposed full size AGP with clubhouse and ancillary facilities. Surface to be confirmed.	Hockey lacks match pitch space and this may provide the opportunity for a home site for the Bicester Hockey Club. Requires feasibility study to confirm surface and business plan.	H St Feasibility Study Mt Delivery of AGP and facilities	£ developer S106	Feasibility study: CDC England Hockey Bicester Hockey Club Developer Delivery: Developer
	Developer	2 adult and 2 youth football pitches	Facility mix to be confirmed	H Mt	£ developer S106	Developer CDC
Wretchwick (South East Bicester)	Developer	4.05 ha of outdoor sports provision	No agreement to date on pitches or ancillary facilities to be provided. S106 negotiations still underway	H Mt	£ developer S106	Developer CDC
North West Bicester	Developer	14 ha of outdoor sports provision	Large area of identified playing field space. Uses to be confirmed. Ancillary facilities and delivery to be confirmed. Whole area may not be required in the period up to 2031 for pitch sports, but is required to help meet the open space needs generated by the development, and should therefore be protected for outdoor sports and retained for future demand.	H St Determine sports, pitches and facility mix	£ developer S106 May require additional depending on sports provided.	Developer CDC

KIDLINGTON AND KIRTLINGTON RURAL

Site Name	Site Control	Security of Use	Quality of changing	Football Pitch Size	Cricket no of grass Strips Senior and (Junior)	Rugby Pitch size	AGP size, surface, floodlit	Grass Pitch Quality	AGP/AGP cricket pitch quality	Cricket net quality	Spare capacity across the week (no matches) / season for cricket	Peak time balance	Key issues/comments	Proposal	Priority And Phasing	Estimated capital cost (£000's)	Main delivery partners
Begbroke Playing Field	PC	S	Disused										No pitch markings. Site disused.	Retain as playing field/public open space.			
Bletchington Playing Fields	PC	S		11v11							2.5	0.5	Limited spare capacity at the site for senior football and mini soccer. Site is used to capacity at peak times for cricket.				
				5v5						5.5	0.5						
Charlton on Otmoor Playing Fields	PC	S	Disused	11v11							1	0	No formal pitch markings for cricket.				
Horton-cum-Studley	PC	S	Disused										No formal pitch markings. Disused.				
Islip Recreation Ground	PC	S			5						10	0.5					
Kidlington Exeter Hall,	TC	S		11v11							1.5	1					
Kidlington FC	Club	S		11v11							0.5	0	Site is fully used at peak time				
Kidlington Gosford Hill School Sports Ground	Acad	UnS		11v11							0	0	School site so no spare capacity across the week				
				Other grass pitches not used													
Kidlington and Gosford Leisure Centre	Op	S					55x97, SF, Yes				22%	3.5	Pitch too small for matches. Hosts one small ladies team.	If new hockey pitch developed in Bicester, re-surface to 3G following relocation of hockey club.	L Mt	£200,000	School CDC Trust
Kidlington Littlemarsh Playing Field, Yarnton	TC	S			6						24	1					
				11v11					2	0							
				11v11 Y					2	-0.5							

Site Name	Site Control	Security of Use	Quality of changing	Football Pitch Size	Cricket no of grass Strips Senior and (Junior)	Rugby Pitch size	AGP size, surface, floodlit	Grass Pitch Quality	AGP/AGP cricket pitch quality	Cricket net quality	Spare capacity across the week (no matches) / season for cricket	Peak time balance	Key issues/comments	Proposal	Priority And Phasing	Estimated capital cost (£000's)	Main delivery partners				
Kidlington Orchard Recreation Ground	TC	S		11v11 Y							-1.5	0	Site is fully used at peak time for youth football.								
				11v11 Y																	
				5v5					4	1											
				7v7					4	1											
Kidlington Ron Grove Park	TC	S		11v11							2	1	Site is fully used at peak time for mini soccer. Changing provision poor.	Refurbish/replace changing provision.	H St	tbc	TC				
				11v11 Y						2	2										
				11v11 Y																	
				5v5					3	0											
				7v7					3	0											
Kidlington Stratfield Brake Sports Ground	Op	S			10						105	0	No spare capacity for cricket at peak time. Rugby pitches were relatively poor quality in 2016-17. Site is over used at peak time for mini soccer.	CDC, NGBs, Sport England and operator to review management arrangements to ensure long term security and success of the clubs on site.	H St	n/a	CDC SE RFU FA ECB Clubs Op				
					7 (1)																
						Snr															
						Snr															
						Snr															
						Snr															
															2	1	Recent pitch quality improvements have been undertaken on the site.	Improve quality of rugby pitches to increase capacity.	H Mt	tbc	Op
														6	0						
											11.5	-0.5	Site recently moved to leisure operator. Potential impact of this change of concern to the rugby club, RFU and Sport England.	Improve pavilion to increase attractiveness and use by clubs and other hirers.	H St	tbc	Op				
													Site developed with grant aid including lottery funds, and there is still external legal interest in the site linked to its development.								

Site Name	Site Control	Security of Use	Quality of changing	Football Pitch Size	Cricket no of grass Strips Senior and (Junior)	Rugby Pitch size	AGP size, surface, floodlit	Grass Pitch Quality	AGP/AGP cricket pitch quality	Cricket net quality	Spare capacity across the week (no matches) / season for cricket	Peak time balance	Key issues/comments	Proposal	Priority And Phasing	Estimated capital cost (£000's)	Main delivery partners
Kirtlington Park	Private	Us		Polo ground									7 boarded polo grounds (pitches). Good quality. Available to outside groups for hire.				
Kirtlington Sports Ground				11v11							1.5	0.5	No formal pitch markings for cricket. Disused for cricket.				
				7v7						3.5	0.5						
					Disused												
Merton Playing Fields	PC	S		11v11							1.5	1					
Yarnton Playing Fields	PC	S		5v5							7	1	Site is fully used at peak time for 7v7 mini soccer.				
				5v5													
				7v7													
				7v7						5.5	0						

KIDLINGTON AND KIRTLINGTON RURAL NEW SITES

Site Name	Proposal	Key issues/comments	Priority and Phasing	Estimated capital cost (£000's)	Main delivery partners
Partial Review site PR7a	The provision of 21.5 hectares of land to provide formal sports facilities for the development and for the wider community and green infrastructure within the Green Belt. Site immediately opposite Stratfield Brake.	PPS estimated demand for pitch sports addresses demand only from Cherwell's proposed growth and indicates a possible need for an additional 4 ha of football pitch provision to 2031. The findings of the PPS can help to inform the make-up of the open space provision to be contained within the 21.5 ha site.	H St strategic assessment	Tbc	CDC Developers Sport England

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GLOSSARY

AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
APP	Active Places Power
CASC	Community Amateur Sports Club
CC	Cricket Club
CDC	Cherwell District Council
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy
CIPFA	Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	The Football Association
FC	Football Club
FIFA	Federation Internationale de Football Association
FIH	International Hockey Federation
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
MOD	Ministry of Defence
NGB	National Governing Body
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
ONS	Office for National Statistics
OXB	Oxfordshire Cricket Board
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
RFC	Rugby Football Club
RFU	Rugby Football Union
SE	Sport England
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document
SUE	Sustainable Urban Extension
TGR	Team Generation Rate

Definitions relating to demand

Expressed demand

The clubs and teams playing in the authority area, usually affiliated to the county body or national governing body for the sport.

Displaced demand

Displaced demand relates to play by teams or other users of playing pitches from within the study area which takes place outside of the area, both matches and training.

Unmet demand

This includes:

- teams able to play matches but have nowhere to train, or vice versa.
- a lack of pitches of a particular size or type.
- where poor quality pitches or ancillary facilities fall below the standard required for play, or the appropriate league requirement.

Latent demand

This is demand that may exist in the area, should there be access to more or better provision. This is usually evidenced by clubs reporting that they have waiting lists for particular age groups.

Demand trends

Local and national demand trends for the sport, including the views of the potential growth by the national governing body.

Definitions for cricket facilities

Ground/pitch

The whole pitch area including the cricket square and outfield.

Square/table

The fine turf area which is specially mown and managed to give a high quality set of strips (often 6, 9 or 12 strips).

Strip

Single strip of natural turf or artificial turf on which the wickets are placed at either end for a single match.

Wicket

The collective name for the 3 stumps and the bails placed at each end of the strip.

Site

The ground plus ancillary facilities such as the club house/pavilion, car parking etc.



Nortoft Partnerships Limited
The Old Barn, Nortoft Cottage, Nortoft, Guilsborough, NN6 8QB
Tel: 01604 586526
Email: info@nortoft.co.uk Web: www.nortoft.co.uk