



NEWARK & SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

ASSESSMENT REPORT SEPTEMBER 2023

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third Generation (artificial turf)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
ANOG	Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance
AP	Active Partnership
BC	Bowls Club
BCGBA	British Crown Green Bowling Association
CC	Cricket Club
CFA	County Football Association
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FE	Further Education
FF	Football Foundation
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GMA	Grounds Management Association
HE	Higher Education
HC	Hockey Club
IRB	International Rugby Board
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LFFP	Local Football Facility Plan
LMS	Last Man Stands
LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
LP	Local Plan
NCCC	Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club
NSDC	Newark and Sherwood District Council
NCFA	Nottinghamshire County Football Association
NGB	National Governing Body
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
ONS	Office for National Statistics
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PPOSS	Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sports Strategy & Outdoor Sports Strategy
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RFL	Rugby Football League
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
S106	Section 106 agreement
TC	Tennis Club
TGR	Team Generation Rate
U	Under
WR	World Rugby

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PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

1.1: Introduction

Knight, Kavanagh & Page Ltd (KKP) was appointed by Newark & Sherwood District Council (NSDC) to undertake an assessment and strategy covering formal playing pitch and outdoor sport facilities across the District to assist it to strategically plan for the future.

This is the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sport Strategy (PPOSS) Assessment Report for Newark & Sherwood. It presents a supply and demand assessment of playing pitch and outdoor sports facilities in accordance with Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) Guidance (for playing pitch sports) and Sport England's Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide (ANOG) for "non-pitch" sports. The PPS Guidance details a 13-stepped approach, separated into 5 distinct sections:

- ◀ Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach (1, 2 & 3).
- ◀ Stage B: Gather information and views on the supply of and demand for provision (4 & 5).
- ◀ Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views (6, 7 & 8).
- ◀ Stage D: Develop the strategy (9 & 10).
- ◀ Stage E: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date (11, 12 & 13).

ANOG guidance follows a similar process to the Sport England PPS guidance, and this is split into three formal stages which are:

- ◀ Stage A – Prepare and tailor the approach.
- ◀ Stage B – Gather information on supply and demand.
- ◀ Stage C – Assessment – Bringing the information together.

Stages A to C are covered in this report, with Stage D covered in the subsequent strategy document. This Assessment and subsequent Strategy will run to 2033, in line with the Local Plan, subject to annual monitoring and review taking place. The lifetime of the Strategy is proposed to be a minimum of three years from 2023 to 2026 or otherwise recommended by Sport England through consultation with NGB's.

1.2: Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach

The primary purpose of the PPOSS is to provide a strategic framework which ensures that the provision of outdoor playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities meets the local and community needs of both existing and future residents across Newark and Sherwood. The Strategy will be produced in accordance with national planning guidance and will provide a robust and objective justification for future sporting provision.

One of the core planning principles of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all, and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs. Paragraph 98 discusses the importance of access to a network of high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity that can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.

For the full national context, including for each of the sports covered please refer to Appendix 1.

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Why the PPS is being developed

The PPOSS will form part of the evidence base for the Local Plan. It will provide a strategic framework to ensure that the provision of outdoor playing pitches meets the needs of residents (both existing and future) and visitors to the Newark and Sherwood Council area. It will also support those organisations, including the Council, involved in the delivery, provision and protection of outdoor sports facilities in the District. The Strategy will be produced in accordance with Sport England guidance and provide robust and objective justification for future playing pitch provision and enhancement throughout Newark and Sherwood.

In addition to this, the other key drivers for a new strategy are to:

- ◀ Improve our resident's health and wellbeing and increasing participation in sport;
- ◀ Support sports development programmes and changes in how the sports are played;
- ◀ Inform the development and implementation of planning policy linked to the National Planning Policy Framework (Paragraphs 98 and 99);
- ◀ Assess planning applications, ensuring there is sufficient outdoor sports facilities and playing pitches provided on and off site as deemed appropriate;
- ◀ Monitor potential changes to the supply and demand due to capital programmes e.g., for educational sites;
- ◀ Identify and prioritise budgetary pressures to ensure the most efficient management and maintenance of playing pitch provision;
- ◀ Develop a priority list of deliverable projects which will help to meet any current deficiencies; provide for future demands and feed into wider infrastructure planning work;
- ◀ Assist in the prioritisation of internal capital and revenue investment;
- ◀ Provide evidence to help secure internal and external funding.

Local Plan context

The Newark and Sherwood Local Plan currently comprises the Amended Core Strategy (adopted 2017) and the Allocations and Development Management DPD (adopted 2013). These documents set out proposals for the use of land and policies to guide future development to help to deliver sustainable growth in Newark and Sherwood for the period up to 2033. Newark and Sherwood District Council is currently undertaking a Plan Review. This will:

- ◀ Allow for the consideration of updated information on development needs within the District;
- ◀ Reflect changes to national policy and local strategies. Provide a plan which will help to support growth and maintain local control over planning decisions during the period to 2033.

Maintaining an up-to-date Local Plan, will ensure that the allocations and policies in the Core Strategy and Allocations and Development Management DPD continue to be appropriate, up-to-date and effective.

The PPOSS will be an evidence base document for the Local Plan and will ensure that existing facilities are the most appropriate in terms of quantity, quality and location and consider how best to meet the additional needs generated by the planned housing and economic growth. Infrastructure priorities for the Local Plan are identified through the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP).

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Management arrangements

A project team from the Council has worked with KKP to ensure that all relevant information is readily available and to support the consultants as necessary to ensure that project stages and milestones are delivered on time, and to the required quality standard to meet Sport England guidance.

Further to this, a Steering Group is and will continue to be responsible for the direction of the PPS from a strategic perspective and for supporting, checking and challenging the work of the project team. The Steering Group is made up of representatives from NSDC, Sport England, Active Notts and National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs).

It will be important for the Steering Group to continue once the PPOSS has been finalised and adopted for several reasons, including a continuing responsibility to:

The responsibilities of the Steering Group include:

- ◀ Setting a strategic framework.
- ◀ Ensuring that the process is robust and meets the methodology requirements of the PPS guidance as currently available.
- ◀ Preparing and signing off project management documents e.g., the project plan and project brief.
- ◀ Establishing the context and tailoring the approach.
- ◀ Setting club survey response targets.
- ◀ Assisting in the identification and engagement of those who should be consulted to gather the supply and demand of information.
- ◀ Check and challenge key finding, issues, solutions, recommendations and actions.
- ◀ Reviewing draft documents.

Scope

The following are the key outdoor sports in Newark and Sherwood and as such are included within the scope:

- ◀ Football
- ◀ Rugby union
- ◀ Rugby league
- ◀ Cricket
- ◀ Bowls
- ◀ Hockey
- ◀ Netball
- ◀ Tennis
- ◀ Athletics

Note, that whilst rugby league is within the scope of work, the sport is not identified as taking place within the District and no demand has been identified. As such it does not feature within the Assessment Report.

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Extent of the study area

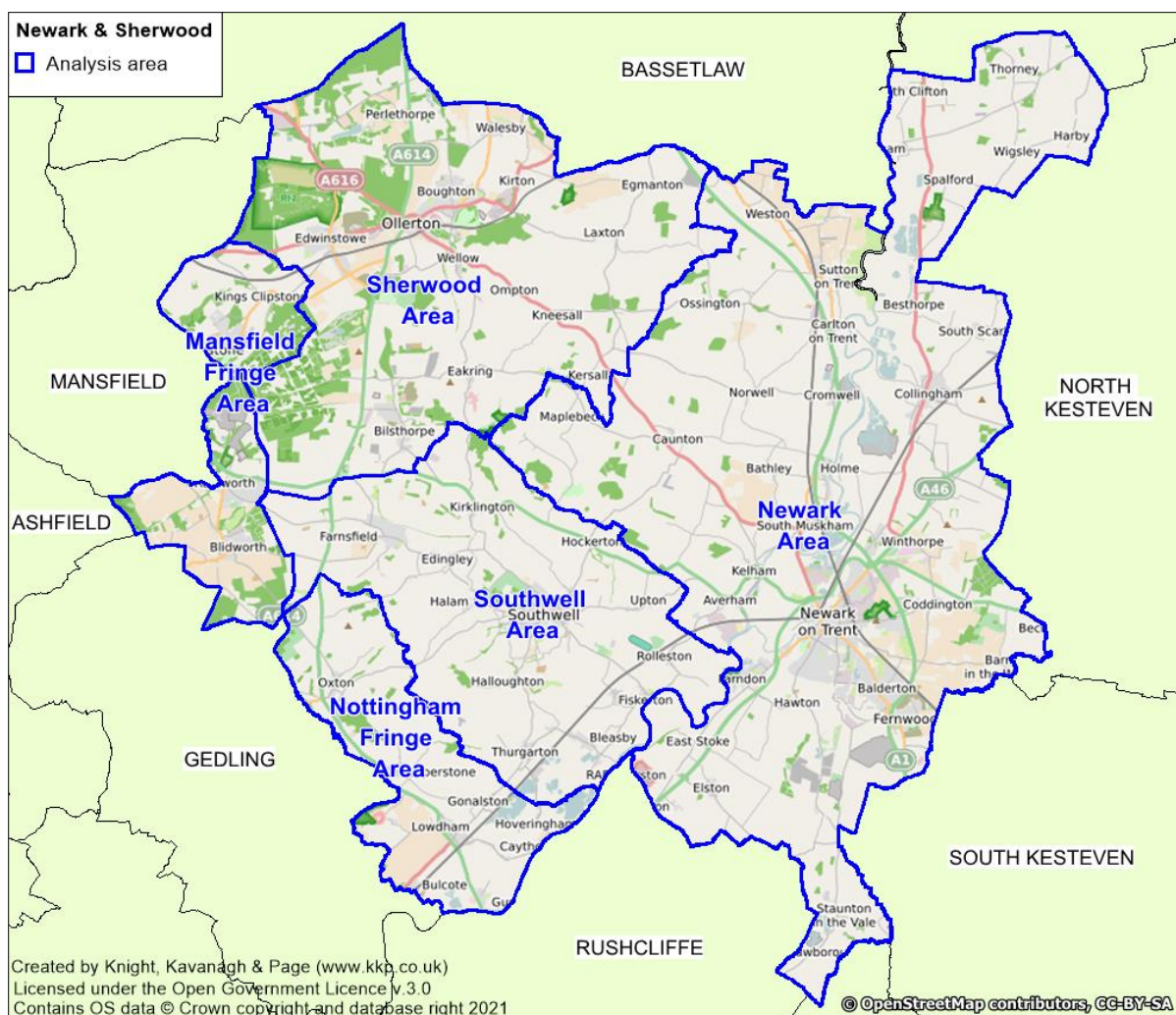
The study area is the Newark and Sherwood District Council administrative area.

Due to the size of the District, the array of influences acting upon it and the diverse and dispersed nature of its settlements there are a great variety of issues facing its communities. In order to establish a policy approach, appropriate to meeting these differing needs it is necessary to sub-divide the District. This sub-division is based upon the presence of common characteristics, including the prevailing economic, social, and environmental conditions and the existence of connections to, and the influence of, surrounding areas and centres. As a result of this process 5 distinct and internally cohesive areas within the district have been identified as follows:

- ◀ Newark Area
- ◀ Sherwood Area
- ◀ Southwell Area
- ◀ Mansfield Fringe Area
- ◀ Nottingham Fringe Area

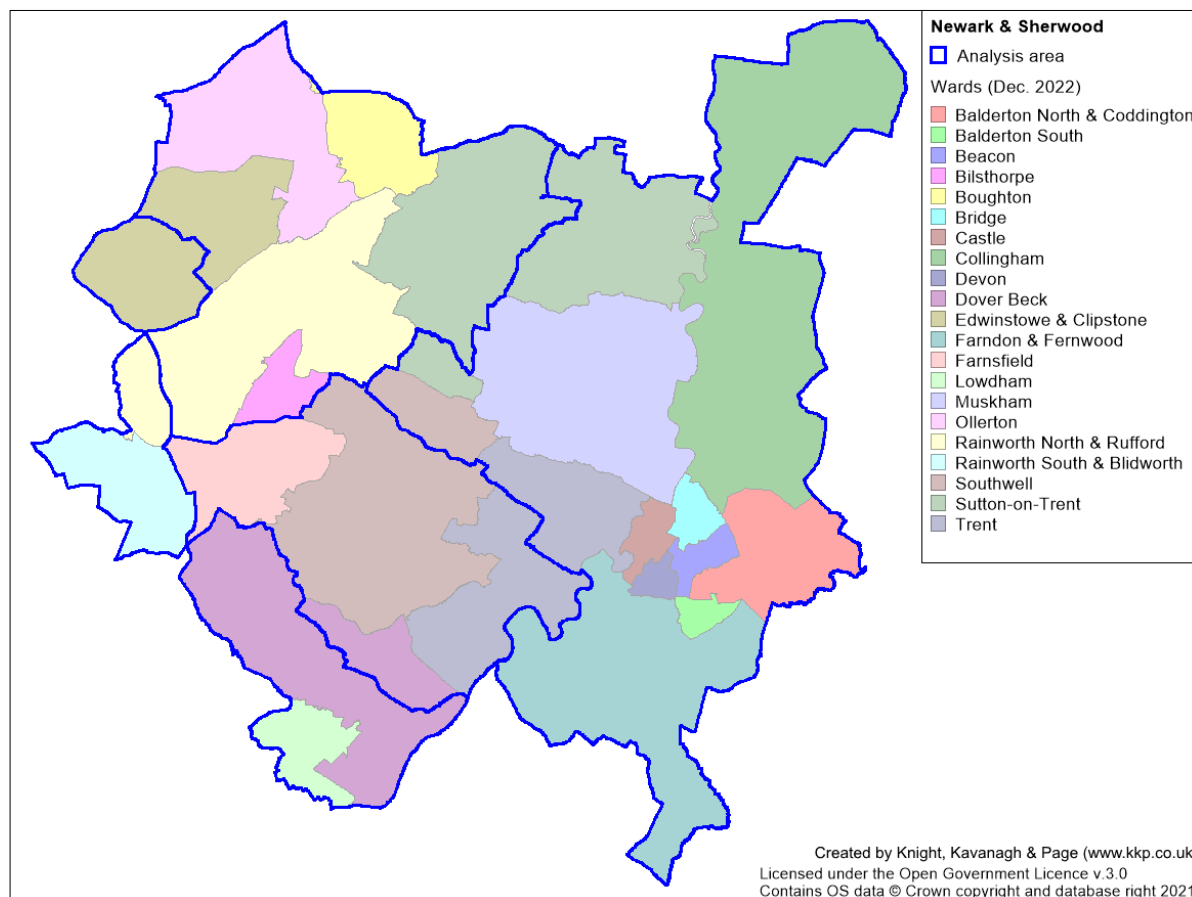
Cross boundary issues have been explored to determine the level of imported and exported demand, recognising, for example, that people travel to and make use of strategic facilities irrespective of administrative boundaries.

Figure 1.1: Map showing analysis areas



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Figure 1.2: Map showing analysis areas and wards



Cross boundary issues have been explored to determine the level of imported and exported demand, recognising, for example, that people travel to and make use of strategic facilities irrespective of administrative boundaries.

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

A clear picture of supply and demand for outdoor sports facilities in Newark & Sherwood needs to be provided to include an accurate assessment of quantity and quality. This is achieved through consultation with key stakeholders to ensure that they inform the subsequent strategy. It informs current demand, adequacy, usage, future demand and strategies for maintenance and investment for outdoor sports facilities.

Gather supply information and views – an audit of playing pitches

Sport England's PPS guidance uses the following definitions of a playing pitch and playing field. These definitions are set out by the Government in the 2015 'Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order'.¹

- ◀ ***Playing pitch*** – a delineated area which together with any run off area, is of 0.2ha or more, and is used for association football, rugby, cricket, hockey, lacrosse, rounders, baseball, softball, American football, Australian football, Gaelic football, shinty, hurling, polo or cycle polo.
- ◀ ***Playing field*** – the whole of a site which encompasses at least one playing pitch.

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

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Although the statutory definition of a pitch is one that meets a minimum size of 0.2ha, this PPS takes into account smaller size pitches that contribute to the supply side, for example, a site containing a mini 5v5 football pitch. This PPS counts individual grass pitches (as a delineated area) as the basic unit of supply. The definition of a playing pitch also includes artificial grass pitches (AGPs).

As far as possible the assessment report aims to capture all of the outdoor sports facilities within Newark & Sherwood s; however, there may be instances, for example, on school sites or private sites where access was not possible and has led to omissions within the report. Where pitches have not been recorded within the report, including those which are disused or lapsed, they remain as pitches and for planning purposes continue to be so. Furthermore, exclusions of a pitch does not mean that it is not required from a supply and demand point of view.

Quantity

Where known, all outdoor sports facilities are included irrespective of ownership, management and use. Sites were initially identified using Sport England's Active Places web based database, with the Council and NGBs supporting the process by checking and updating this initial data. This was also verified against club information supplied by local leagues.

For each site, the following details were recorded in the project database (which will be supplied upon completion of the project as an electronic file):

- ◀ Site name, address (including postcode) and location.
- ◀ Ownership and management type.
- ◀ Security of tenure.
- ◀ Total number, type and quality of outdoor sports facilities.

Accessibility

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

- ◀ **Community use** - facilities in public, voluntary, private or commercial ownership or management (including education sites) recorded as being available for hire and currently in use by teams playing in community leagues.
- ◀ **Available but unused** - facilities that are available for hire but are not currently used by teams which play in community leagues; this most often applies to school sites but can also apply to sites which are expensive to hire.
- ◀ **No community use** - facilities which as a matter of policy or practice are not available for hire or used by teams playing in community leagues. This should include professional club pitches along with some semi-professional club pitches, where play is restricted to the first or second team.
- ◀ **Disused** – provision that is not being used at all by any users and is not available for community hire either.

Quality

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

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

The quality of all outdoor sports facilities identified in the audit and the ancillary facilities supporting them are assessed regardless of ownership, management or availability. Along with capturing any details specific to the individual facilities and sites, a quality rating is also recorded within the audit for each. These ratings are used to help estimate the capacity to accommodate competitive and other play within the supply and demand assessment.

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

Gather demand information and views

Presenting an accurate picture of current demand for outdoor sports facilities (i.e. recording how and when provision is used) is important when undertaking a supply and demand assessment.

Demand for outdoor sports facilities in the District tends to fall within the following categories:

- ◀ Organised competitive play
- ◀ Organised training
- ◀ Informal play

Current and future demand for outdoor sports facilities is presented on a sport by sport basis within the relevant sections of this report.

In addition, unmet, latent, imported and exported demand for provision is also identified within each section. Unmet demand is known to currently exist but is unable to access sports facilities; latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better quality provision. Exported and imported demand refers to those sports users who are playing outside of their local authority of choice.

A variety of consultation methods were used to collate such demand information. Firstly, face to face consultation was carried out with key clubs from each sport, thus allowing for the collection of detailed demand information and an exploration of key issues to be interrogated and more accurately assessed. For all remaining clubs, an online survey (converted to postal if required) was utilised.

Local sports development officers, county associations and regional governing body officers advised which of the clubs to include in the face to face consultation and Sport England was also included within the consultation process prior to the project commencing. Issues identified by clubs returning questionnaires were followed up by telephone or face to face interviews.

As key providers and users of outdoor sports facilities, educational establishments were also consulted. This involved face to face meetings with secondary schools and colleges and an online survey being sent to primary schools.

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Future demand/population growth

The current resident population in the Newark & Sherwood s is 125,362 (2018 MYE). By 2033 (the period to which this assessment projects population based future demand, in line with the Local Plan) the Newark & Sherwood's population is projected to increase 6.2% according to ONS data.

The PPS Strategy & Action Plan (Stage D) will also contain housing growth scenarios to test what additional demand will be generated throughout the Local Plan period.

Future demand

Alongside current demand, it is important for the PPS to assess whether the future demand for playing pitches can be met. Using ONS population projections, as well as likely participation growth informed through consultation, an estimate can be made of the likely future demand for playing pitches.

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

Future demand for pitches is calculated by adding the percentage increases to the population increases in each analysis area. This figure is then applied to the team generation rates and is presented on a sport by sport basis.

Other information sources that were used to help identify future demand, especially for non-pitch sports (where team generation rates are not applicable) include:

- ◀ Recent trends in the participation.
- ◀ The nature of the current and likely future population and their propensity to participate.
- ◀ Feedback from clubs on their plans to develop additional teams/attract additional members.
- ◀ Any local and NGB specific sports development targets (e.g. increase in participation).

1.4: Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views

Supply and demand information gathered is used to assess the adequacy of playing pitch provision in Newark & Sherwood s. It focuses on how much use each site could potentially accommodate (on an area by area basis) compared to how much use is currently taking place.

Understand the situation at individual sites

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

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

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

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As a guide, the FA, RFU and the ECB have set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without adversely affecting its quality.

Table 1.1: Capacity of playing pitches

Sport	Pitch type	No. of match equivalent sessions		
		Good	Standard	Poor
Football	Adult pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Youth pitches	4 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Mini pitches	6 per week	4 per week	2 per week
Rugby union	Natural Inadequate (D0)	2 per week	1.5 per week	0.5 per week
	Natural Adequate (D1)	3 per week	2 per week	1.5 per week
	Pipe Drained (D2)	3.25 per week	2.5 per week	1.75 per week
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	3.5 per week	3 per week	2 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	4 per season	0 per season
	One synthetic wicket	60 per season	60 per season	0 per season
Hockey AGPs	One AGP	4 matches per day	4 matches per day	0 matches per day

For non-pitch sports, capacity is not linked to the number of matches taking place but rather the number of members (and other users) attracted to a site. For example, for tennis, a hard court with sports lighting is said to have capacity for 60 members, whereas a hard court without sports lighting has capacity for 40 members (this varies for grass courts). For bowls, the capacity of a green is thought to be 60 members, although this can vary depending on how active the membership is and how many teams are fielded.

Develop the current picture of provision

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

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

Identify the key findings and issues

By completing Steps 1-5 it is possible to identify several findings and issues relating to the supply, demand and adequacy of outdoor sports provision in Newark & Sherwood. This report seeks to identify and present the key findings and issues prior to development of the Strategy and Action Plan for Newark & Sherwood.

Develop the future picture of provision (scenario testing)

Modelling scenarios to assess whether existing provision can cater for unmet, latent, exported and future demand is made after the capacity analysis. This will also include, for example, removing sites with unsecured community use to demonstrate the impact this would have if these sites were to be decommissioned in the future. The scenario testing generally occurs in the Strategy report that follows on from this document and therefore does not form part of the Assessment Report.

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PART 2: FOOTBALL PITCHES

2.1: Introduction

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

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

Local Football Facility Plans (LFFPs)

To support in delivery of both the current and superseding FA National Game Strategy (NGS), the FA commissioned a nationwide consultancy project. A Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) has now been produced for every local authority across England.

The LFFP is strategically aligned to the National Football Facilities Strategy (NFFS); a 10-year plan to change the landscape of football facilities in England. The NFFS represents a major funding commitment from the national funding partners (The FA, Premier League and DCMS) to inform and direct an estimated one billion pounds of investment through the Football Foundation into football facilities over the next ten years.

Each LFFP builds upon PPS findings (where present and current) regarding the formal and affiliated game, to also include strategic priorities for investment across small sided football (recreational and informal including indoors). LFFP's also incorporate consultation with groups outside of formal football, as well as underrepresented communities. This includes those which may be key partners with regards to football for behavioural change and groups which may be key drivers of FA NGS priorities around participation in the likes of women and girls' football, disability football and futsal.

LFFPs identify key projects to be delivered and act as an investment portfolio for projects that require funding. As such, around 90% of all national football investment through the funding partners will be identified via LFFPs.

It is important to recognise that an LFFP is an investment portfolio of priority projects for potential investment - it is not a detailed supply and demand analysis of all pitch provision in a local area. Consequently, it cannot be used in place of a PPS and is not an accepted evidence base for site change of use or disposal.

The Newark & Sherwood LFFP² was completed in 2019 and identifies 15 potential projects for investment which are outlined in this section and the 3G pitch section of the report. The subsequent Strategy will go on to recommend any changes/update to these project lists.

²<https://localplans.footballfoundation.org.uk/local-authorities-index/newark-and-sherwood/newark-and-sherwood-local-football-facility-plan-2/#tab-section-appendix-a-priority-project-list>

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Consultation

There is a total of 46 football clubs identified as playing in Newark & Sherwood. The larger clubs in the District were offered an opportunity to engage in face-to-face consultations to allow them to provide feedback in greater detail on issues relating to supply and demand. The remaining clubs were issued an online survey which was distributed by KKP and Nottinghamshire County FA. The following clubs were consulted with face to face or via virtual meetings:

- ◀ Clipstone Miners Welfare FC
- ◀ Collingham FC
- ◀ Newark and Sherwood United FC
- ◀ Newark Brazil FC
- ◀ Newark Town FC
- ◀ Southwell City FC

Through both face-to-face interviews, survey responses and phone calls, a 77% team response rate (215/278 teams) has been achieved having consulted with 16/46 (27%) of clubs. The difference in percentages is caused by consultations prioritising clubs that have the higher number of teams, such as Southwell City which has 38 teams identified as playing within the District.

The following clubs completed online surveys or were consulted with through telephone calls:

- ◀ AFC Warriors
- ◀ Blidworth Miners FC
- ◀ Blidworth Welfare FC
- ◀ Lowdham Colts FC
- ◀ Muskham Cougars FC
- ◀ Newark Brazil JFC
- ◀ Rainworth WM FC
- ◀ Robin Hood Colts FC
- ◀ Walesby FC
- ◀ Winthorpe and Coddington FC

2.2: Supply

The audit identifies a total of 125 grass football pitches in Newark & Sherwood across 62 sites. Of the pitches, 96 are available, at some level, for community use across 40 sites. Unavailable pitches are located at education sites. The staff of Dukeries Academy Ollerton confirm it shall be looking to open its pitches to community use in the near future.

As presented in the table below, the Newark Analysis Area contains the most football pitches in Newark & Sherwood with 50 identified (equating to 39% of overall provision). In contrast, the Nottingham Fringe Analysis Area contains the least provision with 15 pitches identified (12% of overall provision).

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Table 2.1: Summary of all grass football pitches

Analysis area	Number of pitches					Total
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
Mansfield Fringe	7	1	2	3	4	17
Newark	12	9	11	14	4	50
Nottingham Fringe	1	5	1	4	4	15
Sherwood	11	2	5	6	2	26
Southwell	4	1	3	5	4	17
Total	35	18	22	32	18	125

Of available pitches, 29 (21% of all available provision) are adult size which is, in part, due to youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches. This is not ideal for youth players at U13-U16 and is not in line with the FA Youth Review.

Table 2.2: Summary of grass football pitches available to the community

Analysis area	Number of pitches					Total
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
Mansfield Fringe	7	1	2	2	3	15
Newark	11	9	6	10	4	40
Nottingham Fringe	1	5	1	2	4	13
Sherwood	6	2	4	2	1	15
Southwell	4	1	3	3	2	13
Total	29	18	16	19	14	96

Of available pitches, 18 are of a youth 11v11 size representing 19% of the available supply, which is low in relation to the proportion of youth teams (86 teams – 30% of all teams) which should be playing matches on this size pitch. This issue often results in teams fast tracking youth sides to play on adult pitches given the relatively recent introduction of youth 11v11 pitches within football in the UK.

In accordance with the FA Youth Review, U17 and U18 teams can play on adult pitches. The FA's recommended pitch size for adult football is 100x64 metres. Please refer to the table below for more detail.

Table 2.3: FA recommended grass/3G pitch sizes

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

Of the 43 pitches located at 28 education sites in Newark and Sherwood only 14 across five sites are open to community use. This means that only 18% of schools allow community use of their pitches.

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The following schools do not allow community access to their respective pitches:

- ◀ Barnby Road Academy Newark
- ◀ Bilsthorpe Flying High Academy
- ◀ Bleasby C of E Primary School
- ◀ Blidworth Oaks Primary School
- ◀ Chuter Ede Primary School (Balderton)
- ◀ Coddington C of E Primary and Nursery School
- ◀ Dukeries Academy Ollerton
- ◀ Farnsfield St Michaels C of E Primary School
- ◀ Gunthorpe C of E Primary School
- ◀ Halam C of E Primary School
- ◀ John Hunt Primary and Nursery School Balderton
- ◀ Kirklington Primary School
- ◀ Kneesall C of E Primary School
- ◀ Lowdham Primary School
- ◀ St Joseph's Catholic Primary and Nursery School
- ◀ St Mary's C of E Primary School
- ◀ St Peter's Cross Keys C of E Academy
- ◀ The Python Hill Academy Rainworth
- ◀ The Sir Donald Bailey Academy Newark
- ◀ The William Gladstone Primary Academy Newark
- ◀ Walesby C of E Primary School
- ◀ Wellow House School

In most cases the sites do not allow community use due to the small quantity of pitches provided meaning it would not be worthwhile opening up the whole site. Furthermore, many of the schools listed do not have any other sporting provision that is open to community use so it is not used to hiring a lettings department or having its site team manage out of hour bookings.

Disused sites/pitches

Playing field sites which have previously accommodated formal pitches are categorised as disused. A disused site is not being used at all by any users and is not available for community hire either. In the case of Newark & Sherwood there are four known disused sites across the District as follows.

The Lilley and Stone School site has been disused since its closure in 2016. The school formerly provided one adult football pitch, along with additional grid markings and a full size, sand based AGP.

Newark Flowserve Sports and Social Club is the former home of what is now known as Newark and Sherwood United FC. The Club relocated from the site several years ago due to its lease expiring and the landowner looking to use the site for alternate purposes. It is now ground sharing with Collingham FC (Newark Area).

A playing field located on Elm Avenue (Newark) formerly provided playing pitch provision that was accessed by local senior teams. This site was closed to sport some years ago following damage to the changing rooms, the site has recently been sold for housing development.

Unmarked pitches

A playing field located on Elm Avenue (Newark) formerly provided playing pitch provision that was accessed by Newark Town FC. Consultation with the Club states it relocated from the site in 2004, with it now left as open space.

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Newark and Sherwood District Council confirm the British Sugar site located off the A616 formerly provided an adult pitch. The land is now left as open grass space.

Lincoln Road Sports Facility formerly provided seven football pitches of varying scales. Non-technical site assessments confirm the pitches are no longer marked, however, there are plans in place to re-instate the provision in the near future. A housing masterplan of the site proposes a property development on part of the unmarked pitches, which shall result in a net loss of provision for the site and improvements to the pitches to be re-instated.

Potential future provision

Newark and Sherwood FC has ambitions of developing a new stadia site within the District. Following its departure from Newark Flowserve Sports and Social Club, the Club ground shared with Basford United FC for a season before investing into Collingham FC as to allow the site to be Step 5 compliant. The Club has since ground shared with Collingham FC but has ambitions to install its own site for its own use.

Consultation with Newark and Sherwood FC identifies a grass space off the A46 roundabout near the Air and Space institute. It believes this potential plot of land can accommodate the Club. Its ambition is to have a small-scale stadia site situated closer to the town centre, that would be able to be of a sufficient size to meet future ground grading requirements³.

Walesby Lane Ollerton (Ollerton) is in the process of having additional sports pitches installed to the northwest of the step compliant pitch at the site to service Ollerton Town FC following a housing development nearby. The proposed plans are for the housing developers to install at least two sports pitches to the site along with ramped and staired access. It is undetermined if the provision shall include rugby pitches along with the football pitches as to service Ollerton RFC, something that is discussed further in the rugby section of the report.

Consultation with Clipstone Miners Welfare FC confirm the club's plans to relocate to a brand-new site within Clipstone as to progress its growth plans. The Club has freehold ownership of its stadia, adult, and small sided pitches, as well as the cricket square which it is considering selling to Welbeck Estates for a housing development. It then intends to use the capital receipt to mitigate the loss of its current site, and potential grant funding towards developing a brand-new site located on the large grass space next to the Power House Clipstone. Initial plans include installing a Step 3 compliant stadia pitch, along with additional grass pitches, a cricket square, a small sided 3G pitch a new clubhouse and parking.

Consultation with Walesby FC state it is struggling for capacity at Walesby Village Sports Association and has ambitions to further increase in teams. This has led the Club to highlight the need for additional pitches to use for fixtures.

Kelham Road form has been identified by Newark and Sherwood District Council as a potential site for new pitches to be installed. The land lies next to Newark CC and is a site Newark Town FC has an ambition of taking over a lease to use as a base for its women's and girls' teams.

Winthorpe and Coddington FC play at David Sillery Sports Ground Coddington with a 25-year lease agreement in place. Given the number of teams within the Club, it expresses a need for more pitches for its future growth ambitions and is exploring opportunities with local landowners.

There is a full-size pitch provision at Fernwood however, due to quality of the playing surface the goals have been relocated on the site and only informal recreational football can now be

³ <https://www.thefa.com/get-involved/player/ground-grading>

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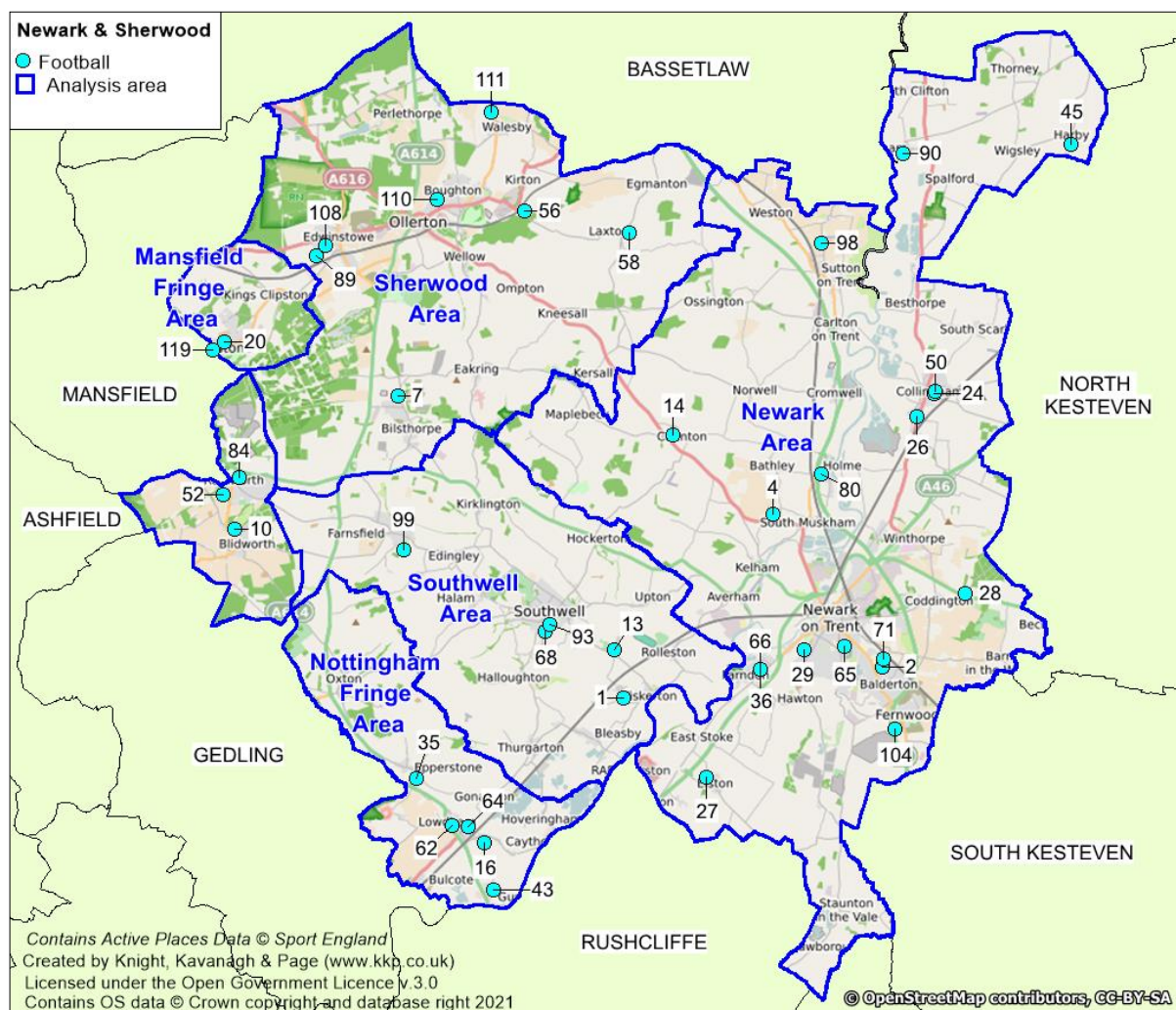
played. However new provision is proposed in Fernwood as part of the Greater Fernwood housing development scheme.

A plot of land located next to Newark CC is outlined to have football pitches installed. The Council state that the site is also planned to have additional changing rooms fitted in accompaniment to the new provision. Newark Town FC would like to take on a lease for the pitches and would base its junior girls set up at the site.

Finally, there is further sports pitch provision allocated in the master plan for land south of Newark and provision will come forward as the housing development progresses.

Figure 2.1 and Figure 2.2 overleaf identifies all football pitches servicing Newark & Sherwood. For a key to the map, see Table 2.18.

Figure 2.1: Football pitch locations



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Pitch quality

The quality of football pitches across Newark & Sherwood has been assessed via a combination of site visits (using non-technical assessments as determined by the FA) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

The percentage parameters used for the non-technical assessments were as follows: Good (>80%), Standard (50-80%), Poor (<50%).

Pitch quality primarily influences the carrying capacity of a site; often pitches lack the drainage and maintenance necessary to sustain levels of use. Pitches that receive little to no ongoing repair or post-season remedial work are likely to be assessed as poor, therefore limiting the number of games they are able to accommodate each week without it having a detrimental effect on quality.

Conversely, well maintained pitches that are tended to regularly are likely to be of a higher standard and capable of taking a number of matches without a significant reduction in surface quality.

The table below summarises the quality of pitches that are available for community use. In total, seven pitches are assessed as good quality (7%), 55 as standard (58%) and 34 (35%) as poor.

Table 2.4: Pitch quality assessments (community use pitches)

Analysis area	Adult pitches			Youth pitches			Mini pitches		
	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor
Mansfield Fringe	2	2	3	0	1	2	0	1	4
Newark	0	8	3	0	9	6	0	9	5
Nottingham Fringe	0	1	0	0	5	1	0	5	1
Sherwood	1	5	0	0	4	2	1	2	0
Southwell	1	2	1	2	1	1	0	0	5
Total	4	18	7	2	20	12	1	17	15

Poor quality scores are generally a result of issues relating to natural drainage problems, and basic maintenance regimes. Poor quality pitches available to the community are located at sites listed below. In some instances, sites listed also provide standard and good quality pitches.

- ◀ Clipstone Miners Welfare (Church Road Site)
- ◀ Devon Park Newark
- ◀ Harby Playing Field
- ◀ John Blow Primary School Collingham
- ◀ Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth
- ◀ Lowdham Village and Playing Fields
- ◀ Magnus Academy Newark
- ◀ Newark Academy
- ◀ Rainworth Miners Welfare Sports Club
- ◀ Sherwood Fields Edwinstowe
- ◀ Southwell Memorial Ground

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- ◀ The Acres Field Farnsfield
- ◀ The Suthers School Fernwood

Of the 31 pitches located at unavailable education sites, 84% (26 pitches) are poor quality. This is due to the sites providing basic maintenance regimes (aligned to limited budgets) which broadly consist of general grass cutting and line marking as appropriate throughout the curricular year. When accounting for curricular use, extracurricular use and community demand, obvious signs of wear and tear become apparent.

Consultation with Newark Town FC raised frustrations with the quality of the pitches provided at Devon Park Newark. The Pitch Power report findings highlight that all of the provision at the site is of a poor quality, with issues including the playing surface being very bumpy, frequent small stones, lots of bare areas and a sandy root zone at 200mm's. The goals on the youth 11v11 pitch are also slanted and warped and require replacement sockets for the goals and new posts fitting. Bingham Town FC reportedly has replacement goals that can be fitted to the site but would need transporting and cleaning.

Collingham FC has standard quality provision at its site. Consultation with the Club raises that its 20-year-old mowing equipment is faulty, very heavy and needs replacing. It is also exploring the possibility of installing a bore hole at the site for better managed irrigation over summer months, following the dry summer of 2022.

Newark Brazil FC currently access Claypole Recreation Ground and Magnus Academy for its home fixtures. The Club state that the maintenance undertaken by Claypole Parish Council at the recreation ground as being basic. The pitches are assessed as poor quality in this report.

The provision at Magnus Academy is also described as of a poor quality with the Club stating that the pitch maintenance undertaken by Nottinghamshire County Council is not to the standard it would like. When asked to have the goal mouths to be filled with earth as to level it with the pitch, the Club state the school made an attempt to fill in the land, however, it only worsened the pitches overall quality.

Clipstone Miners Welfare FC has poor quality pitches provided at Clipstone Miners Welfare (Church Road Site), following a Pitch Power assessment submitted in August 2022. The Clubs stadia pitch Clipstone FC (The Lido Ground) is of a good quality with its maintenance regime including seeding, aerating, fertilising and verti draining its pitches.

AFC Warriors access Newark Academy for its home games and describe the pitches as of a poor quality. The issues raised include rabbit holes on the pitches and some boggy areas. The Club recently funded rolling and seeding some of the worse affected areas of the site as to improve the quality.

Robin Hood Colts FC access Sherwood Fields for its home fixtures. A Pitch Power assessment of the site returned that the pitches are of a varying quality. The Club undertakes the maintenance of the site using its own equipment. It currently cuts, lines and seeds the pitches and is looking into aerating moving forwards.

Southwell City FC accesses Brinkley Centenary Sports Ground Southwell Southwelland Southwell Memorial Sports Ground for its home fixtures. The Club describe that the Brinkley Centenary Sports Ground Southwell Southwellwas formerly an open field however through Club investment it has been converted to now provide an adult, one youth 11v11 and one 9v9 pitch, all of which, are of a good quality. It has also reconfigured the layout of the pitches at Southwell Memorial Sports Ground to better accommodate its large junior demand.

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Walesby FC state the quality of the pitches at Walesby Village Sports Association is of a varying quality from good to standard. The Club stress its dedicated sports lit training area is heavily overused and in need of additional maintenance to improve its quality.

Winthorpe and Coddington FC play at David Sillery Sports Ground Coddington for its home fixtures. The Club confirm the site is fenced and is flat but the grass itself requires lots of maintenance to address its patchy areas and high percentage of weeds. Comparatively Blidworth FC undertake its own maintenance of its site at Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre which includes aerating, fertilising and seeding the pitches. The Club state its equipment is very old and in need of replacement to further improve the pitches quality.

The FA's Pitch Improvement Strategy

The FA has a general pitch improvement strategy which has been developed in partnership with the Grounds Management Association (GMA) to develop a grass pitch maintenance service that can be utilised by grassroots clubs with the aim of improving knowledge, skills and therefore the quality of pitches. The key principles behind the service are to provide clubs with advice/practical solutions in a range of areas, with the simple aim of improving playing surfaces. The programme is designed to help clubs on sites that they themselves manage and maintain but can also be used to advise council-maintained sites.

In addition, the FA's Strategy also aims to focus on developing improved maintenance with local authorities that can be utilised at local authority-maintained sites.

Further to the above, the Football Foundation and the FA has recently developed a new pitch maintenance grant fund that allows clubs and sports organisations to apply for funding for maintenance assistance, consumables and/or equipment. Local authorities are currently ineligible applicants through this fund; however, clubs, leagues and or charitable organisations using local authority sites can apply provided they have security of tenure and/or a proforma is in place.

Grass Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP)

With quality of grass pitches becoming one of the biggest influences on participation in football, the FA has made it a priority to work towards improving quality of grass pitches across the country. This has resulted in the creation of the Football Foundation Grass Pitch Improvement Programme. As part of this, grass pitches identified as having quality issues undergo a pitch inspection from a member of the Grounds Management Association (GMA, formerly Institute of Groundsmanship).

PitchPower Assessment Tool

The football funding partners (Premier League, The FA, Sport England, and Department for Culture, Media and Sport) are increasing efforts to improve the quality of grass pitches in England with the launch of the PitchPower app. Launched in 2020 alongside the Football Foundation Pitch Preparation Fund, The app is a new digital self-assessment tool to allow reports and recommendations to be made more quickly and easily once submitted for review by GMA regional pitch advisors.

The tool across mobile app and desktop is open to access by all providers, for example clubs, schools and local authorities. Following a PitchPower Assessment Report, organisations can work towards the recommended dedicated maintenance regime identified to improve the quality of their pitches.

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The PitchPower assessments use the new five step Performance Quality Standard rating system developed by the Grounds Management Association (GMA), with the Football Foundation and Sport England agreeing alignment with the capacity guidance within the existing PPS guidance.

Alignment was agreed as follows:

Table 2.5: Equivalent PPS quality rating for pitch Performance Quality Standard ratings.

PQS rating	PPS quality rating
Poor	Poor
Basic	Standard
Good	Good
Advanced	Good
High	Good

The following sites have received an existing PitchPower report, the equivalent PPS Quality Ratings for which have been accepted and applied within the PPS audit and analysis.

- ✦ Clipstone Miners Welfare (Church Road Site)
- ✦ Devon Park Newark
- ✦ Sherwood Fields Edwinstowe
- ✦ Walesby Village Sports Association

Table 2.6: PitchPower report results

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	PitchPower rating
20	Clipstone Miners Welfare (Church Road Site)	Adult x 2	Poor
20	Clipstone Miners Welfare (Church Road Site)	Mini 5v5 x 2	Poor
29	Devon Park Newark	Adult x 1	Poor
29	Devon Park Newark	Youth 11v11 x 1	Poor
29	Devon Park Newark	Youth 9v9 x 1	Poor
29	Devon Park Newark	Mini 7v7 x 1	Poor
29	Devon Park Newark	Mini 5v5 x 1	Poor
89	Sherwood Fields Edwinstowe	Youth 11v11 x 1	Poor
89	Sherwood Fields Edwinstowe	Youth 9v9 x 1	Poor
89	Sherwood Fields Edwinstowe	Mini 7v7 x 1	Basic
89	Sherwood Fields Edwinstowe	Mini 5v5 x 1	Good
111	Walesby Village Sports Association	Youth 11v11 x 1	Good
111	Walesby Village Sports Association	Youth 9v9 x 1	Basic
111	Walesby Village Sports Association	Mini 7v7 x 1	Basic

Football Foundation Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund⁴

Following a Grass Pitch Assessment Report, clubs can work towards the recommended dedicated maintenance regime identified to improve the quality of their pitches. Clubs can also utilise the report as an evidence base to acquire potential funding streams to obtain the relevant maintenance equipment.

⁴ <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/grant/grass-pitch-maintenance-fund>

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Once a Grass Pitch Assessment Report has been produced for the site, clubs are then eligible to apply for funding through the Football Foundation through the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (GPMF), a fund offering six-year tapered grants to help clubs enhance or sustain the quality of their grass pitches. The fund is a key part of the Football Foundation's Grass Pitch Improvement Programme - an ambition to deliver 20,000 quality grass pitches by 2030.

If a site is categorised as 'poor' or 'basic' then clubs can apply for funding to enhance pitch quality, whilst clubs with good or standard quality pitches can also apply for a lower level of funding to sustain quality.

All applicants must have the required security of tenure and have received a PitchPower Pitch Assessment Report, with the fund currently open to football clubs, leagues, National League System Clubs at Steps 1-6 and charities (with an annual turnover of under £500,000). Local authorities are not currently eligible applicants, however, clubs, leagues and charitable organisations using local authority sites can apply provided they have security of tenure.

Newark & Sherwood Local Football Facility Plan

The LFFP for Newark & Sherwood identifies six sites for targeted pitch improvements. Prioritisation of these sites was based on a rationale of selecting sites with large numbers of pitches which are in poor condition; thus, optimising impact on capacity. The six sites are; Brinkley Centenary Sports Ground Southwell, Devon Park Newark, Newark Academy, Newark Flowserve Sports and Social Club, Southwell Memorial Ground, Southwell Road (new site).

The forthcoming PPS Strategy & Action Plan will determine if the list of priority sites in the LFFP requires amendment and whether there is a case to include new sites or remove sites based on assessed demand.

Ancillary facilities

Similar to football pitches, the quality of ancillary facilities in Newark & Sherwood has been assessed via a combination of site visits and user consultation.

The ancillary facility rating is primarily influenced by the type of amenities which are available on a site accompanied by their quality, such as a clubhouse, changing rooms, showering provision, car parking, dedicated official and spectator facilities and boundary fencing.

The table overleaf presents a quality summary of provision at sites which provide dedicated changing rooms and pavilions. Education sites are not included in the list.

Table 2.7: Summary of ancillary facility quality

Site ID	Site name	Management	Ancillary facility quality
1	Arthur Radford Sports Ground Fiskerton	Council	Standard
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Parish Council	Standard
4	Beckett Field Little Carlton	Parish Council	Poor
7	Bilsthorpe Sports Ground	Sports Club	Standard
10	Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre	Sports Club	Standard
13	Brinkley Centenary Sports Ground Southwell	Sports Club	Standard
20	Clipstone Miners Welfare (Church Road Site)	Sports Club	Poor
24	Collingham Football Club	Sports Club	Good

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Site ID	Site name	Management	Ancillary facility quality
26	Dale Field Collingham	Council	Good
28	David Sillery Sports Ground Coddington	Private trust	Standard
29	Devon Park Newark	Council	Standard
36	Farndon Recreation Ground	Parish Council	Poor
45	Harby Playing Field	Parish Council	Standard
58	Laxton Sports and Recreation Field	Council	Poor
62	Lowdham Village Hall and Playing Fields	Council	Standard
64	Magna Meadows Playing Field Lowdham	Council	Standard
80	North Muskham Village Hall and Playing Field	Parish Council	Good
84	Rainworth Miners Welfare Football Club	Sports Club	Standard
89	Sherwood Fields Edwinstowe	Sports Club	Poor
90	South Clifton Sports Field	Council	Standard
93	Southwell Memorial Ground	Sports Club	Standard
98	Sutton-on-Trent Village Sports and Community Centre	Parish Council	Standard
99	The Acres Field Farnsfield	Parish Council	Poor
107	Thoresby Sporting Trust Edwinstowe	Charitable trust	Standard
110	Walesby Lane Ollerton	Sports Club	Standard
111	Walesby Village Sports Association	Private	Standard
116	Clipstone Village Hall	Sports Club	Standard
119	Clipstone FC (Lido Ground)	Sports Club	Standard

Sites which are listed as poor quality are all dated and have clear evidence of wear and tear throughout. Each requires modernisation to ensure it remains fit for usage in the future.

Table 2.8: List of sites providing poor quality ancillary provisions

Site ID	Site name	Ancillary provision quality	Clubs and number of teams accessing
4	Beckett Field Little Carlton	Poor	Un-used
20	Clipstone Miners Welfare (Church Road Site)	Poor	-Clipstone Welfare FC (4 teams)
36	Farndon Recreation Ground	Poor	-Newark FC (one team) -Newark Town FC (one team)
58	Laxton Sports and Recreation Field	Poor	-Laxton Athletic FC (one team)
89	Sherwood Fields Edwinstowe	Poor	-Robin Hood Colts FC (11 teams) -Warsop Athletic FC (2 teams)
99	The Acres Field Farnsfield	Poor	-Farnsfield Villa FC (2 teams)

Newark and Sherwood Local Football Facility Plan

The LFFP for Newark & Sherwood identifies eight sites which require refurbishment or replacement to suitably accommodate high levels of affiliated football demand, as listed in Table 2.9 below.

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Table 2.9: Summary of sites identified in the LFFP for changing room improvements

Site ID	Site name	Ancillary provision quality	Comments
13	Brinkley Centenary Sports Ground Southwell	Standard	Southwell City FC enhanced the ancillary provision as to reach Step 6 ground grading requirements in 2021.
29	Devon Park Newark	Standard	Clubhouse was installed in 2004 and Newark Town FC would like to enhance both the social space and boiler.
64	Magna Meadows Playing Field Lowdhams	Standard	The LFFP identified a new site for a clubhouse and pitches on Southwell Road. Magna Meadows Playing Field Lowdhams has since been developed
71	Newark Academy	Poor	AFC Warriors use a portacabin with changing rooms at the site. The Club state it adequately caters its demand.
89	Sherwood Fields Edwinstowe	Poor	Club wants to improve the changing rooms and requires a new boiler. It is also considering installing solar panels.
93	Southwell Memorial Ground	Standard	Four changing rooms with one communal shower space. Southwell City FC would like to enhance the provision
115	YMCA Newark and Sherwood Sports Community and Activity Village	Good	Good quality facility with changing rooms, a café and a large carpark.
110	Walesby Lane Ollerton	Standard	Rationale in LFFP is to enhance the ancillary provision provided as to help Step 6 Club Ollerton FC better accommodate women's and girls demand.

In addition to the sites covered within the LFFP, consultation with clubs across the District raised the following points regarding ancillary provision.

Collingham FC has four changing rooms, referee changing and a second floor bar and social space overlooking the first team pitch. The Club is looking into securing funding to install solar panels to the South facing roof as to improve the energy efficiency of the site. It would long term also like to develop a balcony overlooking the stadia pitch.

Clipstone Miners Welfare FC is looking to install a new clubhouse as part of its relocation to a new site as a means of progression. The Club state its current changing rooms are basic, with no heating and a social space with a capacity of 20 people. As part of its relocation, it is planning to develop a clubhouse with four changing rooms, two officials changing spaces, a physio room and a much larger function room.

Blidworth FC access Bildworth Miners Welfare Social Centre for its home fixtures. The site provides two changing rooms and a small bar area that is currently being extended and enhanced through Club funding. The Club outline that since starting the clubhouse extension issues with the roof is causing damp to the building, as well as adding costs to the project. It is now in need of funding as to support the completion of its clubhouse extension that shall go towards improving the social offering of the site.

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Security of tenure

Most teams in Newark & Sherwood access pitch provision associated with the District Council or town and parish councils. The tenure of these sites is classified as secure, i.e., unless known otherwise, there is a guarantee that pitches will continue to be provided over the lifespan of the PPOSS. An exception to this is usually found at schools and academies which although may allow community use, are able to terminate community access at any time, unless a written community use agreement is in place.

In the case of schools and academies which may allow community use, the provider is able to terminate community access at any time, unless a written community use agreement is in place. As an example, in Newark & Sherwood, John Blow Primary School Collingham is a site which is used for affiliated football through an agreement of good will, but as there is no long-term agreement in place with the site user Collingham FC, it could in theory, be asked to vacate the site at short notice.

Of education sites in the District, five are used for competitive football, and one site for rugby. The six education sites accessed are John Blow Primary School Collingham, Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth, Magnus Academy Newark, Minster School Southwell, Suthers Academy and Newark Academy.

In total, affiliated football use at education sites equates to 35 teams from nine clubs as detailed in Table 2.10 overleaf.

Table 2.10: Affiliated football demand at education providers

Site ID	Site	Club accessing	Tenure position
50	John Blow Primary School Collingham	-Collingham FC	No formal tenure but both parties are on good will with one another and allow access to each others facilities.
52	Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth	-Rainworth JFC -Blidworth Bengals FC -Annesley FC	Rainworth JFC and Woodhouse Colts FC are the two partner clubs for the sites 3G pitch. Tenure for grass pitches is unknown.
65	Magnus Academy Newark	-Newark Brazil FC -Rose & Crown FC	Neither Club operates with any form of tenure.
68	Minster School Southwell	-Nottingham Trent University FC (Mens 5 th team)	School did not refer to any tenure agreement with the University during consultations.
71	Newark Academy	-AFC Warriors	School did not refer to any tenure agreement with AFC Warriors during consultations.
104	Suthers Academy, Fernwood	-Newark Brazil FC -Newark Town FC	NSDC confirm the school is likely to a 125- year lease for the site. The tenure for each sports Club is unknown.

Outside of education settings, RHP Sports and Social Club FC has a five-year lease for its weekly 3G pitch allocation at YMCA Newark. This lease agreement applies to the club's usage for both training and fixtures.

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Newark Town FC has been accessing Devon Park Newark for home fixtures since relocation from Elm Avenue in 2004. The Club confirm having nine years remaining on its lease for the pitches and clubhouse on site. It is looking to extend this agreement by a further 10 years in the near future.

Newark and Sherwood United FC has a two-year lease agreement with Collingham FC to ground share at the site. The Club is one year into its agreement with both parties in agreeance to extend if required. Newark and Sherwood United FC's ambition is to develop its own site for home fixtures but is aware that it may need to extend its existing lease with Collingham FC before a purpose-built site can be identified and developed.

Newark Brazil FC operate without any security of tenure whilst accessing Magnus Academy Newark and Claypole Recreation Ground. The Club stress it would like a longer-term lease as opposed to a rolling 12-month agreement for its access to Claypole Recreation Ground.

Winthorpe and Coddington Tigers FC access David Sillery Sports Ground Coddington on a 25-year lease agreement with a local trust. The Club state it has roughly seven years remaining and will look to extend this agreement when required.

Clipstone Miners Welfare FC has freehold ownership of its site Clipstone Miners Welfare (Church Road). As for Robin Hood Colts FC, the Club has a 99-year lease agreement for its access to Sherwood Fields Edwinstowe. Similarly, Rainworth MW FC has a 100-year lease to Rainworth Miners Welfare Social Club.

Southwell City FC use both Southwell Memorial Sports Ground and Brinkley Centenary Sports Ground Southwell Southwellfor home fixtures. The Club did not know the length of its lease agreements in place but guaranteed it had long term arrangements for both sites. Finally, Walesby FC has a 60-year lease agreement with a private landowner for its access to Walesby Village Sports Association. This applies to both the pitches and clubhouse on site.

As for the clubs that have failed to respond to consultation attempts, in most cases they access provision that is owned and managed by either Newark and Sherwood District Council or a town or parish council. In such instances, it is safe to assume that the access to these sites is secured over the lifespan of the PPS.

Football pyramid demand

The football pyramid is a series of interconnected leagues for adult men's football clubs in England. It begins below the Football League (the National League) and comprises of six steps and a regional feeder league, there are with various leagues at each level and more leagues lower down the pyramid than at the top. The step system has a hierarchical format with promotion and relegation between the steps, allowing even the smallest club the theoretical possibility of rising to the top of the system.

Clubs playing within the National League System (NLS) must adhere to ground grading requirements set out by the FA. The higher the level of football being played the higher the requirements. Clubs cannot progress into the league above if the ground grading requirements do not meet the correct specifications. Please refer to the FA website⁵ for the full specifications for each.

In Newark & Sherwood, there are seven clubs which compete in the NLS which can be seen in the table below.

⁵ <http://www.thefa.com/get-involved/player/ground-grading>

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Table 2.11: Non-league football teams in Newark & Sherwood:

Team	League	Level
Newark and Sherwood FC	United Counties League Premier Division North	Step 5
Blidworth Welfare FC	United Counties League Division One	Step 6
Clipstone FC	United Counties League Division One	Step 6
Newark Town FC	United Counties League Division One	Step 6
Ollerton Town FC	North Counties East League – Division One	Step 6
Rainworth MW FC	United Counties League Division One	Step 6
Southwell City FC	United Counties League Division One	Step 6
Collingham FC	Central Midlands Football League North Division	<i>Regional Feeder League</i>

The general principle for clubs in the football pyramid is that they must achieve the appropriate ground grade by March 31st of their first season after promotion, which therefore allows a short grace period for facilities to be brought up to standard.

It is important to note that from a ground grading perspective, the jump from a regional feeder league to Step 6 is significant and that as a minimum, sites require a sports lit pitch with hardstanding areas for fans, turnstiles for fan entry and therefore clubs currently at this level in ordinarily require a serious overhaul of their existing sites to meet the relevant criteria. In the case of Newark and Sherwood, Collingham FC is the only regional feeder league club in the District.

As the club's site is Step 5 compliant following investment from Newark and Sherwood Utd FC for the Club to use the site as a groundshare, there is no additional work required if Collingham FC were to be promoted to Step 6.

Consultation with Blidworth FC confirm that it failed ground grading assessment to play at Step 6. The Club require a concrete walkway, a fixed barrier around the pitch and upgraded sports lighting.

Clipstone FC currently meets ground grading requirements for its site. The Club state that it would like to have a ground that is Step 3 compliant when relocating to its new site. As shown in table 2.11 the Club currently competes at Step 6, with its existing site compliant for Step 5 football.

Rainworth MW FC has a Step 4 compliant site at Rainworth Miners Welfare Sports Club, meaning the Club does not have difficulties with ground grading requirements.

Finally, Southwell City FC used club reserves and grant funding from the Football Foundation to make Brinkley Centenary Sports Ground Southwell Southwell Step 6 compliant. The Club confirm it is not yet pursuing investment as to make the site meeting Step 5 ground grading regulations.

Women's National League System

Correspondingly there is a Women's National League System (WNLS) similar to the adult men's system which provides structure to the women's game. As seen in the table below this ranges from Tier 1 to Tier 7 with each tier requiring differing ground grading requirements.

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Table 2.12: Summary of ground grading for women's football

Level	League	Grading category
Tier 1	FA Women's Super League	Step S1
Tier 2	FA Women's Championship	Step S2
Tier 3	FA Women's National League Premier Division (Northern and Southern)	Step W1
Tier 4	FA Women's National League Division 1 North / Midlands / South East / South West	Step W2
Tier 5	Regional Premier Division	Step W3
Tier 6	Regional Division One	-
Tier 7	County Leagues	-

Although women's clubs within the WNLS still require ground grading requirements set out by the FA, these differ from the men's NLS. Ratings range from Step S1 to W3 each with differing minimum requirements. Step S1 and S2 in the WNLS is akin to Step 3 and 4 of the men's NLS, however, not identical. The system is also a hierarchical format with promotion and relegation between the levels, allowing even the smallest club the theoretical possibility of rising to the top of the system.

In 2017, the FA announced plans to restructure the women's league for the highest performers in the football pyramid. The changes were implemented from the start of the 2018-19 season and saw the top league, FA Women's Super League Tier 1, expand from ten clubs to 14 and the creation of a new national league established at Tier 2 for a maximum of 12 teams.

In the case of Newark & Sherwood, there are no clubs competing in the WNLS.

2.3: Demand

Through the audit and assessment, 283 teams from 46 clubs are identified as playing in Newark & Sherwood. This consists of 70 adult men's, three adult women's, 117 youth boys', 19 youth girls' and 74 mini mixed teams.

The Newark Analysis Area provides for the highest number of teams by a large margin, with a total of 127 teams. The Analysis Area with the fewest number of teams is Nottingham Fringe, with 28 teams identified.

Table 2.13: Summary of competitive teams currently playing in Newark & Sherwood:

Analysis area	Number of teams					Total
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
Mansfield Fringe	12	11	4	5	5	37
Newark	30	37	27	17	16	127
Nottingham Fringe	6	9	5	3	5	28
Sherwood	13	18	7	4	5	47
Southwell	12	11	7	7	7	44
Total	73	86	50	36	38	283

Youth 11v11 football is the most prominent format of play, whilst mini 7v7 has the fewest number of teams.

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Women's and girls' demand

There are 22 dedicated women/girls' teams across six clubs playing in Newark & Sherwood, representing 8% of the total number of teams. These are provided at the following clubs:

- ◀ Blidworth Welfare Colts FC
- ◀ Clipstone FC
- ◀ Lowdham Colts FC
- ◀ Newark Town FC
- ◀ Rainworth Juniors FC
- ◀ Southwell City FC

The FA currently has a drive to increase women's and girls' participation by 50%. As such, it is imperative that sufficient facilities become suitable for female access, particularly in relation to toilets and appropriate changing facilities.

With the success of the 2022 UEFA Women's Euros and legacy plan of the event paired with the upcoming 2023 Women's World Cup, women's and girls' football is outlined to significantly develop across the country. Nottinghamshire FA will be working to use this event as a catalyst for an increase in localised participation in Newark & Sherwood.

Exported demand/imported

Exported demand refers to teams that are currently accessing pitches for home fixtures outside of the study area, despite being registered in Newark & Sherwood. Likewise, imported demand is demand from neighbouring authorities accessing pitches in Newark & Sherwood to play competitive matches.

In total, there are two clubs and six teams accessing provision outside of Newark & Sherwood for matchday purposes, those being Lowdham Colts FC and Newark Brazil FC. Lowdham Colts FC has three teams accessing East Bridgeford CC (Rushcliffe Borough Council). Whilst Newark Brazil FC has three mini teams using Claypole Recreation Ground (South Kesteven District Council).

Regarding imported demand, both FC Mansfield and Mansfield Rangers FC import demand into the District when accessing Bilsthorpe Sports Ground and the Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth 3G pitch.

Latent demand

Latent demand refers to potential demand; clubs that would like to field more teams but currently do not do so. This can be for a variety of reasons including a lack of pitches, appropriate facilities, and qualified coaches. Clubs that report latent demand relating to facilities and the reasons provided for this latent demand can be seen below.

Table 2.14: Latent demand summary

Club	Need for more match pitches	Need for more/better training facilities	Need for better/more appropriate changing provision
Blidworth FC	X	X	
Clipstone FC	X	X	X
Collingham FC	X	X	
Lowdham FC	X	X	X
Newark and Sherwood Utd FC	X		X

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Club	Need for more match pitches	Need for more/better training facilities	Need for better/more appropriate changing provision
Newark Brazil FC	X	X	X
Newark Town FC	X		X
Robin Hood Colts FC			X
Southwell City FC	X	X	X
Walesby FC	X	X	
Winthorpe and Coddington FC	X	X	

As can be seen in the table above, the greatest issue identified is the need for additional match pitches located within Newark & Sherwood, with ten clubs stressing this as a problem. Several clubs also made reference to the need for greater access to 3G pitch training and poor ancillary provision impacting upon the possibility of expanding.

Unmet demand

Unmet demand is existing demand that is not getting access to pitches. It is usually expressed, for example, when a team is already training but is unable to access a match pitch, or when a league has a waiting list due to a lack of pitch provision, which in turn is hindering the growth of the league. No unmet demand was expressed by responsive clubs.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and by using population forecasts.

Participation increases

There are nine clubs which report aspirations to increase the number of teams they provide. In total, these potential demand increases would lead to the creation of 31 teams (if aspirations are realised).

Table 2.15: Potential team increases identified by clubs

Club	Analysis area	Future demand	Pitch size	Match equivalent sessions ⁶
AFC Warriors	Newark	2 x U7 mixed	Mini 5v5	1
Blidworth FC	Mansfield Fringe	1 x Adult mens	Adult	0.5
Blidworth FC	Mansfield Fringe	1 x U9 mixed	Mini 7v7	0.5
Blidworth FC	Mansfield Fringe	1 x U7 mixed	Mini 5v5	0.5
Clipstone FC	Mansfield Fringe	2 x U9 mixed	Mini 7v7	1
Clipstone FC	Mansfield Fringe	2 x U7 mixed	Mini 5v5	1
Lowdham FC	Nottingham Fringe	1 x U9 mixed	Mini 7v7	0.5
Lowdham FC	Nottingham Fringe	1 x U7 mixed	Mini 5v5	0.5
Newark and Sherwood Utd FC	Newark	1 x Adult mens	Adult	0.5
Newark and Sherwood Utd FC	Newark	1 x Adult women's	Adult	0.5

⁶ Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, 0.5 pitches can therefore be seen in the table where there is latent demand for one team.

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Club	Analysis area	Future demand	Pitch size	Match equivalent sessions ⁶
Newark and Sherwood Utd FC	Newark	1 x U11 girls	Youth 9v9	0.5
Newark and Sherwood Utd FC	Newark	1 x U9 mixed	Mini 7v7	0.5
Newark and Sherwood Utd FC	Newark	2 x U7 mixed	Mini 5v5	1
Newark Brazil FC	Newark	1 x Adult mens	Adult	0.5
Newark Brazil FC	Newark	1 x U11 girls	Youth 9v9	0.5
Newark Brazil FC	Newark	1 x U7 mixed	Mini 5v5	0.5
Newark Town FC	Newark	1 x Adult mens	Adult	0.5
Newark Town FC	Newark	1 x U11 boys	Youth 9v9	0.5
Newark Town FC	Newark	1 x U9 mixed	Mini 7v7	0.5
Newark Town FC	Newark	2 x U7 mixed	Mini 5v5	1
Robin Hood Colts FC	Sherwood	1 x Adult mens	Adult	0.5
Robin Hood Colts FC	Sherwood	1 x Adult women's	Adult	0.5
Southwell City FC	Southwell	1 x U9 mixed	Mini 7v7	0.5
Southwell City FC	Southwell	1 x U7 mixed	Mini 5v5	0.5
Winthorpe and Coddington FC	Newark	1 x U9 mixed	Mini 7v7	0.5
Winthorpe and Coddington FC	Newark	1 x U8 mixed	Mini 5v5	0.5

Future demand aspirations have been aggregated by analysis area and pitch format and are detailed in the table overleaf.

Table 2.16: Potential increases by analysis area

Analysis area	Future demand (match equivalent sessions)					Totals
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
Mansfield Fringe	0.5			1.5	1.5	3.5
Newark	2		1.5	1.5	4	9
Nottingham Fringe					1	1
Sherwood	1					1
Southwell				0.5	0.5	1
Total	3.5	-	1.5	3.5	7	15.5

In the case of both Newark and Sherwood Utd FC and Clipstone FC, the future demand ambitions outlined above are dependent upon securing additional match pitches through relocating both clubs to new sites.

Population increases

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

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ONS population growth is applied to the TGRs to identify a predicted number of teams that will be generated. As such, TGRs are used below as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future based on population growth up to 2033 (in line with Newark & Sherwood Local Plan timeline).

Table 2.17: Team generation rates (2033)

Age group	Team generation rate	No. of new teams generated by the new population	No. of new teams generated by the new population - rounded figure	Match equivalent session per week ⁷
Adult Mens (18-45)	1:296	4.41	1	0.5
Adult Women's (18-45)	1:6889	0.19	0	0
Youth Boys (12-17)	1:40	4.64	4	2
Youth Girls (12-17)	1:263	0.68	0	0
Youth Boys (10-11)	1:38	2.59	2	1
Youth Girls (10-11)	1:190	0.49	0	0
Mini Mixed (8-9)	1:81	2.29	2	1
Mini Mixed (6-7)	1:75	2.41	2	1

As seen above, based on ONS projections, it is forecasted that there will be an increase in football demand equivalent to one adult team, six youth boys and four mini teams.

As team generation rates cannot be broken down by analysis area, they are applied to the District as a whole.

Notwithstanding the above, it must be noted that this predicted level of growth is exclusively based on future population forecasts and does not account for societal factors or changes in the way people may wish to play sport.

Similarly, they cannot account for specific targeted development work within certain areas or focus towards certain groups, such as NGB initiatives or coaching within schools. For example, there is a focus on developing female participation within Newark & Sherwood and nationally which, as mentioned previously, is likely to lead to more women's and girls' teams in the future and therefore increase demand for pitches.

Outside of women's and girls' increases, given the large amounts of future demand identified through population forecasts, it is considered unlikely that aspirations from clubs will happen exclusively of population growth. Instead, it is thought that the ambitions will be absorbed within the increases.

FA Wildcats centres

FA Wildcats centres work with County FA qualified coaches to deliver local weekly sessions, which provide opportunities for girls aged five to 11 to develop fundamental skills and experience football in a safe and fun environment.

In Newark & Sherwood, Wildcat centres are run by Clipstone FC, with 30 members within the Club attending its sessions. Newark Town FC state it delivers its own version of the Wildcats programme.

In the case of Newark Brazil FC and Winthorpe and Coddington FC both clubs have ambitions to start delivering wildcats sessions but require the coaches to do so.

⁷ Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, one team accounts to 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week on their relevant pitch type.

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In light of The FA's aspirations to increase female participation in football by 50% (Game Changer Strategy) and the establishment and foreseen future effect of the Wildcats programme, it is likely that the growth in affiliated women's and girl teams may exceed that shown through population growth. However, this is not able to be quantified through the Wildcats programme due to it being dependent on the localised success of the programme.

Future demand summary

Future demand in this report will be applied via the application of team generation rates. This equates to the growth of one adult team, six youth boys and four mini teams.

The growth in teams outlined through club aspirations will be scenario tested in the forthcoming Strategy, equating to 31 additional teams through the ambitions of 10 clubs.

The Strategy will also contain a housing growth scenario that will estimate the additional demand for football arising from housing development.

2.4: Capacity analysis

The capacity for pitches to regularly provide for competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of a pitch affect the playing experience and people's enjoyment. In extreme circumstances, it can result in the inability of a pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off peak times. As a guide, The FA has set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without it adversely affecting its quality.

The following ratings were used in Newark & Sherwood:

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

Table 2.18 applies the above pitch ratings against the actual level of weekly play to determine a capacity rating as follows:

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

Education sites

To account for curricular/extra-curricular use of education pitches it is likely that the carrying capacity at such sites will need to be adjusted. The only time this would not happen is when a school does not use its pitches at all and the sole use is community use. The adjustment is typically dependent on the amount of play carried out, the number of pitches on site and whether there is access to an on-site AGP.

In some cases, where there is no identified community use, there is little capacity to accommodate further play. Internal usage often exceeds recommended pitch capacity, which is further exacerbated by basic maintenance regimes that may not extend beyond grass cutting and line marking.

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In Newark & Sherwood, one match equivalent session per week of demand has been attributed to each pitch based at school sites to account for curricular demand. This is based on consultation and the expectation that all pitches are in use, as well as experience of how school sites use pitches from other strategies both locally and nationally. In instances where a school site is already overplayed or the inclusion of one match equivalent session from curricular demand would create overplay it has been discounted.

Informal use

Most football pitches in the area are located within open access sites. As such, these pitches are subject to informal use in the form of dog walkers, unorganised games of football and exercise groups. Informal use is not accounted for in the capacity analysis on the basis that it cannot be quantified on a site-by-site basis. However, it can be expected at popular sites such as Devon Park Newark, that there will be a higher level of demand on each pitch (from informal use) over and above that identified.

Peak time

It is important to understand what the peak time for football pitch access is, to accurately understand the supply and demand balance for football pitches. Peak time access translates to when the high demand is for pitch access during a week. In Newark & Sherwood, the peak time for adult football is Saturday afternoon and for all other formats of football it is Sunday mornings.

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Table 2.18: Football pitch capacity analysis

Site ID	Site	Clubs accessing site	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch size ⁸	No. of pitches	Quality rating	Current play (match sessions)	Pitch capacity ⁹ (match sessions)	Overused, at capacity or spare capacity	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
1	Arthur Radford Sports Ground Fiskerton	-Southwell Outlaws FC -Bramley Apple FC -Wheatsheaf Utd FC	Southwell	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	-Elston Utd FC -Fernwood Foxes FC -Holy Trinity FC -Rose & Crown FC	Newark	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult	1	Standard	3	2	1	0	Overplay of 1 MES.
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	-Fernwood Foxes FC	Newark	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	2	2	-	0	Site is accessed to capacity.
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	-Fernwood Foxes FC	Newark	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	1	2	1	0	No actual spare capacity.
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	-Fernwood Foxes FC	Newark	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini 5v5	1	Standard	1	4	3	0	No actual spare capacity.
4	Beckett Field Little Carlton	-	Newark	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES.
7	Bilsthorpe Sports Ground	-FC Mansfield -Woodhouse Colts FC	Sherwood	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	1	Standard	2	2	-	0	Site is accessed to capacity.
7	Bilsthorpe Sports Ground	-Woodhouse Colts FC	Sherwood	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	2	2	-	0	Site is accessed to capacity.
7	Bilsthorpe Sports Ground	-Woodhouse Colts FC	Sherwood	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	1	2	1	0	No actual spare capacity.
7	Bilsthorpe Sports Ground	-Bilsthorpe Utd FC	Sherwood	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES
10	Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre	-Blidworth Miners FC -Blidworth Welfare FC	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	1	Good	2	3	1	0	No actual spare capacity.
10	Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre	-Blidworth Welfare FC	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	1	2	1	0	No actual spare capacity.
13	Brinkley Centenary Sports Ground Southwell	-Southwell City FC	Southwell	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	1	Good	3.5	3	0.5	0	Overplay of 0.5 MES.
13	Brinkley Centenary Sports Ground Southwell	-Southwell City FC	Southwell	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth 11v11	1	Good	5	4	1	0	Overplay of 1 MES.

⁸ Pitch sizes in brackets denotes overmarked pitches.

⁹ Based on pitch quality The FA recommends a maximum number of match equivalent sessions to be accommodate per pitch type. Please refer to Section 2.4 for the full breakdown.

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Site ID	Site	Clubs accessing site	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch size ⁸	No. of pitches	Quality rating	Current play (match sessions)	Pitch capacity ⁹ (match sessions)	Overused, at capacity or spare capacity	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
13	Brinkley Centenary Sports Ground Southwell	-Southwell City FC	Southwell	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth 9v9	1	Good	1	4	3	0	No actual spare capacity.
14	Caunton Cricket Club	-	Newark	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini 7v7	1	Standard	0	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES.
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	-Lowdham FC -Old Vol Veterans FC	Nottingham Fringe	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	2	2	-	0	Site is accessed to capacity.
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	-Lowdham FC	Nottingham Fringe	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	3	2	1	0	Overplay of 1 MES
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	-Lowdham FC	Nottingham Fringe	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini 7v7	1	Standard	1	4	3	0	No actual spare capacity.
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	-Lowdham FC	Nottingham Fringe	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini 7v7	1	Standard	0.5	4	3.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES.
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	-Lowdham FC	Nottingham Fringe	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini 5v5	1	Standard	1	4	3	0	No actual spare capacity.
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	-Lowdham FC	Nottingham Fringe	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini 5v5	1	Standard	1	4	3	0	No actual spare capacity.
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	-Lowdham FC	Nottingham Fringe	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini 5v5	1	Standard	0.5	4	3.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES.
20	Clipstone Miners Welfare (Church Road Site)	-Clipstone Welfare FC	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	1	2	1	0	No actual spare capacity.
20	Clipstone Miners Welfare (Church Road Site)	-Clipstone Welfare FC	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	1	2	1	0	No actual spare capacity.
24	Collingham Football Club	-Collingham FC -Newark and Sherwood Utd FC	Newark	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	1	Standard	3	2	1	0	Overplay of 1 MES.
24	Collingham Football Club	-Collingham FC	Newark	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	3	2	1	0	Overplay of 1 MES.
26	Dale Field Collingham	-	Newark	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini 7v7	1	Standard	0	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES.
27	Darwin Park Elston	-	Newark	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini 7v7	1	Standard	0	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES.
27	Darwin Park Elston	-Elston Utd FC	Newark	Yes	Council	Unsecure	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES.
28	David Sillery Sports Ground Coddington	-AFC Coddington -Winthorpe & Coddington Tigers FC	Newark	Yes	Private trust	Secure	Adult	1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	0	Overplay of 0.5 MES.
28	David Sillery Sports Ground Coddington	-Winthorpe & Coddington Tigers FC	Newark	Yes	Private trust	Secure	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES.
28	David Sillery Sports Ground Coddington	-Winthorpe & Coddington Tigers FC	Newark	Yes	Private trust	Secure	Mini 7v7	1	Standard	1	4	3	0	No actual spare capacity.

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Site ID	Site	Clubs accessing site	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch size ⁸	No. of pitches	Quality rating	Current play (match sessions)	Pitch capacity ⁹ (match sessions)	Overused, at capacity or spare capacity	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
29	Devon Park Newark	-Newark Town FC -White Heart FC	Newark	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	1	Poor	3	1	2	0	Overplay of 2 MES.
29	Devon Park Newark	-Newark Town FC	Newark	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth 11v11	1	Poor	3	1	2	0	Overplay of 2 MES.
29	Devon Park Newark	-Newark Town FC	Newark	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	2.5	1	1.5	0	Overplay of 1.5 MES.
29	Devon Park Newark	-Newark Town FC	Newark	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	2.5	2	0.5	0	Overplay of 0.5 MES.
29	Devon Park Newark	-Newark Town FC	Newark	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini 5v5	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
35	Epperstone Playing Fields	-Lowdham Colts FC	Nottingham Fringe	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES
35	Epperstone Playing Fields	-	Nottingham Fringe	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES
36	Farndon Recreation Ground	-Newark Town FC -Newark FC	Newark	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult	1	Standard	1	2	1	0	No actual spare capacity.
43	Gunthorpe Playing Field	-Lowdham Colts FC	Nottingham Fringe	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
45	Harby Playing Field	-Harby FC	Newark	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
50	John Blow Primary School Collingham	-Collingham FC	Newark	Yes	School	Unsecure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	2	2	-	0	Used at capacity.
52	Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth	-Blidworth Bengals FC -Mansfield Rangers FC -Rainworth JFC	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	School	Unsecure	Adult	1	Poor	1	1	-	0	Used at capacity.
52	Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth	-Rainworth JFC	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	School	Unsecure	Adult	1	Poor	1	1	-	0	Used at capacity.
52	Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth	-Annesley FC -Rainworth JFC	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	School	Unsecure	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
52	Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth	-Rainworth JFC	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	School	Unsecure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
52	Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth	-Rainworth JFC	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	School	Unsecure	Mini 5v5	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
56	Kirton Brickworks Football Club	-Kirton Brickworks FC	Sherwood	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES
58	Laxton Sports & Recreation Field	-Laxton Athletic FC	Sherwood	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES
62	Lowdham Village Hall and Playing Fields	-Lowdham Colts FC	Nottingham Fringe	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth 11v11	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
62	Lowdham Village Hall and Playing Fields	-	Nottingham Fringe	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini 5v5	1	Poor	0	2	2	0	No actual spare capacity.
64	Magna Meadows Playing Field Lowdham	-Lowdham Colts FC -R5 Rangers FC	Nottingham Fringe	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	0	Overplay of 0.5 MES.

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65	Magnus Academy Newark	-Rose & Crown FC	Newark	Yes	School	Unsecure	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
65	Magnus Academy Newark	-Newark Brazil FC	Newark	Yes	School	Unsecure	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
65	Magnus Academy Newark	- Newark Brazil FC	Newark	Yes	School	Unsecure	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	1.5	1	0.5	0	Overplay of 0.5 MES.
65	Magnus Academy Newark	-	Newark	Yes	School	Unsecure	Mini 7v7	1	Standard	0	4	4	0	No actual spare capacity.
66	Marsh Lane Playing Fields (Farndon Cricket Club)	-FC Curry's	Newark	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES
68	Minster School Southwell	-Nottingham Trent University	Southwell	Yes	School	Unsecure	Adult	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
68	Minster School Southwell	-	Southwell	Yes	School	Unsecure	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	0	2	2	0	No actual spare capacity.
71	Newark Academy	-AFC Warriors YFC	Newark	Yes	School	Unsecure	Youth 11v11	1	Poor	2	1	1	0	Overplay of 1 MES.
71	Newark Academy	-AFC Warriors YFC	Newark	Yes	School	Unsecure	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
71	Newark Academy	-AFC Warriors YFC	Newark	Yes	School	Unsecure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	0.5	2	1.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
71	Newark Academy	-AFC Warriors YFC	Newark	Yes	School	Unsecure	Mini 5v5	1	Poor	1	2	1	0	No actual spare capacity.
80	North Muskham Village Hall and Playing Field	-Muskham Cougars FC	Newark	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
80	North Muskham Village Hall and Playing Field	-Muskham Cougars FC	Newark	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES
80	North Muskham Village Hall and Playing Field	-Muskham Cougars FC	Newark	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini 7v7	1	Standard	0.5	4	3.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES
84	Rainworth Miners Welfare Sports Club	-Rainworth MW FC	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	1	Standard	2	2	-	0	Used at capacity.
84	Rainworth Miners Welfare Sports Club	-Rainworth MW FC	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	1	Poor	1	1	-	0	Used at capacity.
84	Rainworth Miners Welfare Sports Club	-	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini 5v5	1	Poor	0	2	2	0	No actual spare capacity.
89	Sherwood Fields Edwinstowe	-Robin Hood Colts FC -Warsop Athletic FC	Sherwood	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth 11v11	1	Poor	4	1	3	0	Overplay of 3 MES.
89	Sherwood Fields Edwinstowe	-	Sherwood	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	0	1	1	0	No actual spare capacity.
89	Sherwood Fields Edwinstowe	-Robin Hood Colts FC	Sherwood	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini 7v7	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
89	Sherwood Fields Edwinstowe	-Robin Hood Colts FC	Sherwood	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini 5v5	1	Good	1.5	6	4.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
90	South Clifton Sports Field	-	Newark	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	1	Standard	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES

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93	Southwell Memorial Ground	-Southwell City FC	Southwell	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	2.5	1	1.5	0	Overplay of 1.5 MES.
93	Southwell Memorial Ground	-Southwell City FC	Southwell	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	2	2	-	0	- Used at capacity.
93	Southwell Memorial Ground	-Southwell City FC	Southwell	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
93	Southwell Memorial Ground	-Southwell City FC	Southwell	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini 5v5	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
93	Southwell Memorial Ground	-Southwell City FC	Southwell	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini 5v5	1	Poor	2	2	-	0	Used at capacity.
98	Sutton-on-Trent Village Sports and Community Centre	-Sutton-on-Trent Tornados FC	Newark	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES
98	Sutton-on-Trent Village Sports and Community Centre	-	Newark	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini 7v7	1	Standard	0	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity of 1 MES
98	Sutton-on-Trent Village Sports and Community Centre	-Sutton-on-Trent Tornados FC	Newark	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini 5v5	1	Standard	0.5	4	3.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES
99	The Acres Field Farnsfield	-Farnsfield Villa FC	Southwell	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult	1	Poor	1	1	-	0	Used at capacity.
99	The Acres Field Farnsfield	-	Southwell	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	0	2	2	0	No actual spare capacity.
104	The Suthers School Fernwood	-Newark Town FC -Newark Brazil FC	Newark	Yes	School	Unsecure	Adult	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
104	The Suthers School Fernwood	-Newark Town FC Newark Brazil FC	Newark	Yes	School	Unsecure	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	1	2	1	0	No actual spare capacity.
108	Thoresby Welfare Sports Ground Edwinstowe	-Robin Hood Colts FC	Sherwood	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	1	Standard	2	2	-	0	Used at capacity.
110	Walesby Lane Ollerton	-New Ollerton FC -Ollerton Town FC	Sherwood	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	1	Standard	2	2	-	0	Used at capacity.
111	Walesby Village Sports Association	-Walesby FC	Sherwood	Yes	Private	Secure	Adult	1	Good	3	3	-	0	Used at capacity.
111	Walesby Village Sports Association	-Walesby FC	Sherwood	Yes	Private	Secure	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	2	2	-	0	Used at capacity.
111	Walesby Village Sports Association	-Walesby FC	Sherwood	Yes	Private	Secure	Mini 7v7	1	Standard	1.5	4	2.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
119	Clipstone FC (Lido Ground)	-Clipstone Welfare FC	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	1	Good	1.5	3	1.5	0	No actual spare capacity.
119	Clipstone FC (Lido Ground)	-Clipstone Welfare FC	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	1	Standard	2	2	-	0	Used at capacity.
119	Clipstone FC (Lido Ground)	-Clipstone Welfare FC	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini 5v5	1	Standard	1	4	3	0	No actual spare capacity.

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3	Barnby Road Academy Newark Newark	-	Newark	No	School	Unsecure	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
6	Bilthorpe Flying High Academy	-	Sherwood	No	School	Unsecure	Mini 5v5	1	Poor	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
9	Bleasby C of E Primary School	-	Southwell	No	School	Unsecure	Mini 5v5	1	Poor	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
11	Blidworth Oaks Primary School	-	Mansfield Fringe	No	School	Unsecure	Mini 5v5	1	Poor	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
19	Chuter Ede Primary School (Balderton)	-	Newark	No	School	Unsecure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
23	Coddington C of E Primary And Nursery School	-	Newark	No	School	Unsecure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
30	Dukeries Academy Ollerton	-	Sherwood	No	School	Unsecure	Adult	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
30	Dukeries Academy Ollerton	-	Sherwood	No	School	Unsecure	Adult	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
30	Dukeries Academy Ollerton	-	Sherwood	No	School	Unsecure	Adult	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
39	Farnsfield St Michaels C of E Primary School	-	Southwell	No	School	Unsecure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
42	Gunthorpe C of E Primary School	-	Nottingham Fringe	No	School	Unsecure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
44	Halam C of E Primary School	-	Southwell	No	School	Unsecure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
51	John Hunt Primary and Nursery School Balderton	-	Newark	No	School	Unsecure	Adult	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.

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51	John Hunt Primary and Nursery School Balderton	-	Newark	No	School	Unsecure	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
55	Kirklington Primary School	-	Southwell	No	School	Unsecure	Mini 5v5	1	Poor	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
57	Kneesall C of E Primary School	-	Sherwood	No	School	Unsecure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
61	Lowdham Primary School	-	Nottingham Fringe	No	School	Unsecure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
95	St Josephs Catholic Primary and Nursery School Boughton Boughton	-	Sherwood	No	School	Unsecure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
96	St Marys C of E Primary School Edwinstowe	-	Sherwood	No	School	Unsecure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
97	St Peters Cross Keys C of E Academy Farndon Farndon	-	Newark	No	School	Unsecure	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
102	The Python Hill Academy Rainworth	-	Mansfield Fringe	No	School	Unsecure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
103	The Sir Donald Bailey Academy Newark Newark	-	Newark	No	School	Unsecure	Mini 7v7	1	Standard	1	4	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
105	The William Gladstone Primary Academy Newark Newark	-	Newark	No	School	Unsecure	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
105	The William Gladstone Primary Academy Newark Newark	-	Newark	No	School	Unsecure	Youth 9v9	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
105	The William Gladstone Primary Academy Newark Newark	-	Newark	No	School	Unsecure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
109	Walesby C of E Primary School	-	Sherwood	No	School	Unsecure	Mini 7v7	1	Poor	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.

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113	Wellow House School	-	Sherwood	No	School	Unsecure	Adult	1	Standard	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
113	Wellow House School	-	Sherwood	No	School	Unsecure	Adult	1	Standard	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
113	Wellow House School	-	Sherwood	No	School	Unsecure	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	1	2	-	-	1 MES of demand attributed to curricular use. Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.

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Spare capacity

To determine 'actual spare capacity', each site with 'potential capacity identified in Table 2.18 has been reviewed. A pitch is only said to have 'actual spare capacity' if it is available for community use and available at the peak time for that format of the game. Any pitch not meeting this criterion has consequently been discounted.

Pitches that are of a poor quality are not deemed to have actual spare capacity due to their already low carrying capacity. Any identified spare capacity should be retained in order to relieve the pitches of use, which in turn, can aid the improvement of pitch quality.

Unless tenure is considered secure through the operator, school sites that are currently available for community use but unused are also not considered to have actual spare capacity as the full availability of these pitches cannot be relied upon in the long term.

The table overleaf identifies actual spare capacity by site and pitch type across Newark & Sherwood. It totals 13.5 match equivalent sessions per week and is identified across 20 pitches at 14 sites.

Table 2.19: Summary of actual spare capacity

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (sessions)
4	Beckett Field Little Carlton	Newark	Youth 11v11	1	1
7	Bilsthorpe Sports Ground	Sherwood	Youth 9v9	1	0.5
14	Caunton Cricket Club	Newark	Mini 7v7	1	1
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	Nottingham Fringe	Mini 7v7	1	0.5
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	Nottingham Fringe	Mini 5v5	1	0.5
26	Dale Field Collingham	Newark	Mini 7v7	1	1
27	Darwin Park Elston	Newark	Mini 7v7	1	1
27	Darwin Park Elston	Newark	Youth 11v11	1	0.5
28	David Sillery Sports Ground Coddington	Newark	Youth 9v9	1	0.5
35	Epperstone Playing Fields	Nottingham Fringe	Youth 11v11	1	0.5
35	Epperstone Playing Fields	Nottingham Fringe	Youth 11v11	1	1
56	Kirton Brickworks Football Club	Sherwood	Adult	1	0.5
58	Laxton Sports & Recreation Field	Sherwood	Adult	1	0.5
66	Marsh Lane Playing Fields (Farndon Cricket Club)	Newark	Youth 9v9	1	0.5
80	North Muskham Village Hall and Playing Field	Newark	Youth 9v9	1	0.5
80	North Muskham Village Hall and Playing Field	Newark	Mini 7v7	1	0.5
90	South Clifton Sports Field	Newark	Adult	1	1
98	Sutton-on-Trent Village Sports and Community Centre	Newark	Youth 11v11	1	0.5

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (sessions)
98	Sutton-on-Trent Village Sports and Community Centre	Newark	Mini 7v7	1	1
98	Sutton-on-Trent Village Sports and Community Centre	Newark	Mini 5v5	1	0.5

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

Table 2.20: Summary of actual spare capacity

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (match equivalent sessions per week)				
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
Mansfield Fringe	-	-	-	-	-
Newark	1	2.5	1.5	4.5	0.5
Nottingham Fringe	-	1	-	0.5	0.5
Sherwood	1	-	0.5	-	-
Southwell	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	3.5	2	5	1

In addition to the above, it is worthy of note that ten match equivalent sessions per week of potential spare capacity at community use sites has been discounted due to either sites having unsecure tenure or poor pitch quality.

Overplay

Overplay occurs when there is more play accommodated on a site than it can sustain (which can often be due to reduced quality). Once pitches become overplayed, their ability to accommodate match fixtures deteriorates due to issues relating to wear and tear and a difficulty in recovering after match play.

In total, 16 pitches across 11 sites are identified as being overplayed. Total overplay equates to 18.5 match equivalent sessions per week. There is no overplay identified on mini 5v5 pitches.

Table 2.21: Summary of overplay

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (sessions)
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Newark	Adult	1	1
13	Brinkley Centenary Sports Ground Southwell	Southwell	Adult	1	0.5
13	Brinkley Centenary Sports Ground Southwell	Southwell	Youth 11v11	1	1
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	Nottingham Fringe	Youth 9v9	1	1
24	Collingham Football Club	Newark	Adult	1	1
24	Collingham Football Club	Newark	Youth 11v11	1	1
28	David Sillery Sports Ground Coddington	Newark	Adult	1	0.5
29	Devon Park Newark	Newark	Adult	1	2
29	Devon Park Newark	Newark	Youth 11v11	1	2

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (sessions)
29	Devon Park Newark	Newark	Youth 9v9	1	1.5
29	Devon Park Newark	Newark	Mini 7v7	1	0.5
64	Magna Meadows Playing Field Lowdham	Nottingham Fringe	Adult	1	0.5
65	Magnus Academy Newark	Newark	Youth 9v9	1	0.5
71	Newark Academy	Newark	Youth 11v11	1	1
89	Sherwood Fields Edwinstowe	Sherwood	Youth 11v11	1	3
93	Southwell Memorial Ground	Southwell	Youth 9v9	1	1.5

Table 2.22: Summary of overplay by analysis area

Analysis area	Overplay (match equivalent sessions per week)				
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
Mansfield Fringe	-	-	-	-	-
Newark	4.5	4	2	0.5	-
Nottingham Fringe	0.5	-	1	-	-
Sherwood	-	3	-	-	-
Southwell	0.5	1	1.5	-	-
Total	5.5	8	4.5	0.5	-

2.5: Supply and demand analysis

Having considered supply and demand, the tables below identify the current demand and future demand balance (i.e. spare capacity taking away overplay) in each of the analysis areas for each pitch type, based on match equivalent sessions per week.

Total future demand in Newark & Sherwood accounts for population growth. As a reminder, growth from population increases equates to one adult, six youth boys' and four mini teams. Future demand from club ambitions of 31 teams from 10 clubs will be included as a scenario in the forthcoming Strategy.

Adult pitch analysis

On a districtwide basis, there is a currently an insufficient capacity of adult provision to accommodate for both existing and future demand. However, with the Sherwood Analysis Area shows spare capacity for both current and future demand, with all four remaining analysis areas having insufficient capacity.

Table 2.23: Supply and demand balance of adult pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹⁰	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Mansfield Fringe	-	-	-	-	-
Newark	1	4.5	3.5	-	3.5
Nottingham Fringe	-	0.5	0.5	-	0.5
Sherwood	1	-	1	-	1
Southwell	-	0.5	0.5	-	0.5
Total	2	5.5	3.5	0.5	4

¹⁰ In match equivalent sessions

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Youth 11v11 pitch analysis

Table 2.24: Supply and demand balance of youth 11v11 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹¹	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Mansfield Fringe	-	-	-	-	-
Newark	2	4	2	-	2
Nottingham Fringe	1.5	-	1.5	-	1.5
Sherwood	-	3	3	-	3
Southwell	-	1	1	-	1
Total	3.5	8	4.5	2	6.5

The current picture is that there is an insufficient supply of provision of youth 11v11 pitches in Newark & Sherwood to accommodate existing demand. This is largely caused sites such as Devon Park Newark and Sherwood Fields Edwinstowe contributing to a combined five match equivalent sessions per week of overplay. This shortfall is exacerbated to 5.5 match equivalent sessions per week once future demand from population growth is considered.

Youth 9v9 pitch analysis

Table 2.25: Supply and demand balance of youth 9v9 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹²	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Mansfield Fringe	-	-	-	-	-
Newark	1.5	2	0.5	-	1.5
Nottingham Fringe	-	1	1	-	1
Sherwood	0.5	-	0.5	-	0.5
Southwell	-	1.5	1.5	-	1.5
Total	2	4.5	2.5	1	3.5

There is insufficient supply of youth 9v9 pitches in Newark & Sherwood to accommodate current demand due to 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week of overplay being identified. When considering future demand, this shortfall increases to 3.5 match equivalent session.

Mini 7v7 pitch analysis

Table 2.26: Supply and demand balance of mini 7v7 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹³	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Mansfield Fringe	-	-	-	-	-
Newark	4.5	0.5	4	-	4
Nottingham Fringe	0.5	-	0.5	-	0.5
Sherwood	-	-	-	-	-
Southwell	-	-	-	-	-
Total	5	0.5	4.5	1	3.5

¹¹ In match equivalent sessions

¹² In match equivalent sessions

¹³ In match equivalent sessions

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The table above shows that there is a sufficient supply on mini 7v7 pitches in Newark & Sherwood to accommodate current and future levels of demand. There is current actual spare capacity of 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week, a figure that decreases to 3.5 sessions once future demand is considered.

Mini 5v5 pitch analysis

Table 2.27: Supply and demand balance of mini 5v5 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹⁴	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Mansfield Fringe	-	-	-	-	-
Newark	0.5	-	0.5	-	0.5
Nottingham Fringe	0.5	-	0.5	-	0.5
Sherwood	-	-	-	-	-
Southwell	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1	-	1	1	0

The table above shows that there is sufficient supply on mini 5v5 pitches in Newark & Sherwood to accommodate current levels of demand. Future demand from population growth resulted in two additional teams meaning 5v5 pitches become played at capacity once this is considered.

2.6: Conclusion

Having considered the supply and demand position for each football pitch type, it is evident that the overall position is broadly an insufficient supply of grass pitches in the District.

Currently, adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitch formats have a shortfall of provision, whilst both mini 7v7 and 5v5 pitches have actual spare capacity. When accounting for future demand of 5.5 match equivalent sessions per week, no new shortfalls emerge but existing shortfalls on adult, youth 11v11 and 9v9 pitches are exacerbated. Actual spare capacity on mini 7v7 pitches remain whilst mini 5v5 pitches become used to capacity.

Table 2.28: Summary of supply and demand in Newark & Sherwood

Pitch format	Actual spare capacity ¹⁵	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult	2	5.5	3.5	0.5	4
Youth 11v11	3.5	8	4.5	2	6.5
Youth 9v9	2	4.5	2.5	1	3.5
Mini 7v7	5	0.5	4.5	1	3.5
Mini 5v5	1	0	1	1	0

¹⁴ In match equivalent sessions

¹⁵ In match equivalent sessions

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Football – grass pitch summary

- ◀ The current supply of football provision is broadly sufficient in accommodating football demand on mini pitches.
- ◀ Comparatively, adult, youth 11v11 and 9v9 pitches are showing a combined shortfall of 10.5 MES.
- ◀ Future demand through team generation rates creates a further 5.5 MES of demand which exacerbates existing shortfalls on adult, youth 11v11 and 9v9 pitches whilst making mini 5v5 pitches used at capacity.

Grass football pitch supply:

- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 125 grass football pitches across 62 sites. Of these, 96 are available, at some level, for community use across 40 sites. All unavailable pitches are located at education sites including the provision at Dukeries Academy Ollerton.

Grass football pitch quality:

- ◀ Of the 96 pitches which offer community use, 7 pitches are assessed as good quality, 55 as standard quality and 34 as poor quality. The identified good quality pitches are located at five sites, those being Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre, Brinkley Centenary Sports Ground Southwell, Sherwood Fields Edwinstowe, Walesby Village Sports Association and Clipstone FC (Lido Ground).

Affiliated football demand:

- ◀ Through the audit and assessment, 283 teams from 46 clubs are identified as playing in Newark & Sherwood. This consists of 70 adult men's, three adult women's, 117 youth boys', 19 youth girls and 74 mini mixed teams.
- ◀ Future demand equates to the growth of one adult, six youth boys' teams and four mini mixed teams based on team generation rates. Club growth ambitions of 31 teams have been discounted.
- ◀ The PPS Strategy & Action Plan will contain a housing growth scenario that will estimate the additional demand for football arising from housing development.

Supply vs demand analysis conclusions:

- ◀ There is broadly a sufficient supply of provision in Newark & Sherwood to accommodate demand on mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitch types.
- ◀ There are existing shortfalls on adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches.
- ◀ Future demand exacerbates shortfalls on adult, youth 11v11 and 9v9 pitches and makes mini 5v5 pitches played at capacity, to give an overall picture of 14 MES of overplay for the District.
- ◀ There is spare capacity for mini 7v7 pitches both now and in the future.

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PART 3: THIRD GENERATION TURF (3G) PITCHES

3.1: Introduction

Third generation (3G) artificial grass pitches utilise longer fibres with a combination of rubber and sand infill to offer heightened performance. They are predominately used for football matches but most commonly for football training. They can also be used for rugby matches dependent upon being constructed to World Rugby Regulation 22.

Competitive football can take place on 3G artificial grass pitches that have been FIFA or International Matchball Standard tested and approved by the FA for inclusion on the FA Pitch Register¹⁶. As such, a growing number of 3G artificial grass pitches are now used for competitive match play, provided that the performance standard meets FIFA Quality (previously FIFA One Star), as well as for training purposes. Football training does, however, take place on hockey suitable artificial grass pitches (please refer to Part 6: Artificial grass pitches for greater explanation on pitch specifications) but is not the preferred option.

World Rugby produced the 'Performance Specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby'¹⁷, more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. The artificial surface standards identified in Regulation 22 allows matches to be played on surfaces that meet the standard, meaning full contact activity, including tackling, rucking, mauling and lineouts, can take place.

The specification includes a rigorous test programme that assesses ball/surface interaction and player/surface interaction and has been modified to align the standard with that of FIFA. Any 3G artificial grass pitch used for any form of competitive rugby or contact training must comply with this specification and must be tested every two years to retain compliance.

England Hockey's Artificial Grass Playing Surface Policy (updated June 2018)¹⁸ advises that third generation artificial grass pitches should not be used for hockey matches or training and that they can only be used for lower level hockey (introductory level) as a last resort when no sand-based or water-based artificial grass pitches are available.

Table 3.1: 3G type and sport suitability

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

It should be noted that the FA generally refers to 3G pitches as 3G football turf pitches, though this term is not adopted in this PPS as 3G pitches can be and are used for other sports including rugby union, rugby league, lacrosse and American football, amongst others.

¹⁶ [Football Foundation | 3G Pitch Register](#)

¹⁷ <https://www.world.rugby/handbook/regulations/reg-22/>

¹⁸ [Deliver - Developing Your Project | England Hockey](#)

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3.2: Current provision

A full size 3G pitch is considered by the FA to measure at least 91 x 57 metres; however, for the purposes of this report, all pitches measuring this size and above will be considered as full size. Pitches of this size threshold are able to accommodate competitive adult football. Anything measuring below than this is considered small sided due to its inability to accommodate such activity.

On the above basis, there are four full size 3G pitches provided in Newark & Sherwood located at three sites, those being HMP Lowdham Grange, Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth and YMCA Newark and Sherwood Community Sports and Activity Village. The YMCA site features two full size 3G pitches. As the pitch at HMP Lowdham Grange is not open to community use, the District is serviced by three accessible full size 3G pitches.

There are a further six small sided 3G pitches within the District across as many sites.

A breakdown of the supply is below.

Table 3.2: 3G pitch supply summary

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Community use?	Pitch size	Surface type	Number of pitches	Sports lit?
Full size							
47	HMP Lowdham Grange	Nottingham Fringe	No	100m x 60m	Short Pile 3G (40mm)	1	Yes
52	Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	104m x 60m	Short Pile 3G (40mm)	1	Yes
115	YMCA Newark and Sherwood Sports Community and Activity Village	Newark	Yes	106m x 70m	Short Pile 3G (40mm)	2	Yes
Small sided							
8	Bishop Alexander L.E.A.D Academy Newark	Newark	Yes	40m x 20m	Short Pile 3G (40mm)	1	Yes
17	Center Parcs (Sherwood Forest)	Sherwood	No	30m x 20m	Short Pile 3G (40mm)	1	Yes
24	Collingham Football Club	Newark	Yes	60m x 40m	Medium Pile 3G (55-60mm)	1	Yes
92	Southwell Leisure Centre	Southwell	Yes	33m x 20m	Short Pile 3G (40mm)	1	Yes
100	The Parkgate Academy Ollerton Ollerton	Newark	No	60m x 40m	Short Pile 3G (40mm)	1	No
103	The Sir Donald Bailey Academy Newark Newark	Newark	No	60m x 45m	Short Pile 3G (40mm)	1	No

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Of existing full size 3G pitches in Newark & Sherwood, both Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth and YMCA Newark are available for community use and are accompanied by sports lighting, whilst HMP Lowdham Grange has no community use.

Three of the six sites that provide small sided provision are open to community use and have sports lighting, those being Bishop Alexander L.E.A.D Academy, Collingham FC and Southwell Leisure Centre.

Management

The management and availability of sites is summarised in the table below.

Table 3.3: 3G pitch operator and opening times breakdown

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Community use?	Pitch size	Operator	Opening times
Full size						
47	HMP Lowdham Grange	Nottingham Fringe	No	Full size	HM Prison Service	-
52	Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	Full size	School	17:00-22:00 midweek 09:00-16:00 on weekends
115	YMCA Newark and Sherwood Sports Community and Activity Village	Newark	Yes	Full size	Community Organisation	07:00-22:00 midweek 09:00- 17:00 weekends
Small sided						
8	Bishop Alexander L.E.A.D Academy Newark	Newark	Yes	40m x 20m	Active4Today	18:00 – 21:00 midweek
17	Center Parcs (Sherwood Forest)	Sherwood	No	30m x 20m	Private	-
24	Collingham Football Club	Newark	Yes	60m x 40m	Sports Club	17:30-22:00 midweek 09:00- 16:00 weekends
92	Southwell Leisure Centre	Southwell	Yes	33m x 20m	Active4Today	06:30- 22:30 midweek Saturday 08:30-20:00 Sunday 08:00-21:00
100	The Parkgate Academy Ollerton Ollerton	Newark	No	60m x 40m	School	-
103	The Sir Donald Bailey Academy Newark Newark	Newark	No	60m x 45m	School	-

Potential future provision

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Newark & Sherwood LFFP

The Newark & Sherwood LFFP identifies five potential investment projects for the District; three full size 3G pitches, resurfacing an existing full size 3G and installing several small size 3G pitch pens. It identifies Newark Academy and Southwell Leisure Centre and YMCA as the three sites outlined for the installation of new 3G provision.

Given that the LFFP is a live document informed by an up-to-date PPS, it may need to be re-assessed following the findings and recommendations of this study.

The validity of these projects will be assessed in the Strategy & Action Plan with recommendations around portfolio inclusions or expulsions.

Table 3.4: Rationale and update on sites discussed in LFFP

Site ID	Site name	LFFP rationale	Comments
30	Dukeries Academy Ollerton	3G pitch conversion of the full sized AGP that is the same surface since being installed in 2003	School commissioned a week long rejuvenation of the AGP in April 2021, meaning it is a standard quality pitch. Lettings department of the Dukeries School is in favour of a 3G pitch conversion as to increase revenue and usage of the facility.
52	Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth	Re-surfacing of the existing full sized 3G pitch on site.	Project has been delivered and pitch was resurfaced in 2019.
71	Newark Academy	Install a full sized 3G pitch, undertake grass pitch improvements and improve the changing rooms.	Newark and Sherwood District Council is looking at possibilities within the Newark Analysis Area for a third 3G pitch, with Newark Academy shortlisted as a potential site.
92	Southwell Leisure Centre	Install a full sized WR22 3G pitch as to service Southwell City FC and Southwell RFC.	Both Southwell City FC and Southwell RFC stress the need for 3G pitch training as to service its high demand. Newark and Sherwood District Council is exploring the possibility of installing a WR22 3G pitch on the senior rugby pitch at Minster School Southwell as to service both clubs and prevent the loss of the AGP at the site used by Southwell Brincliffe HC.
115	YMCA Newark & Sherwood Sports Community and Activity Village	Install three 5v5 3G pitches, two MUGA's and changing room improvements.	The site is progressing with installing three 5v5 3G pitches. It has also installed two MUGA's and has finished its changing rooms. As such the project has been delivered.

The validity of these projects will be assessed in the Strategy & Action Plan with recommendations around portfolio inclusions or expulsions.

In addition to the LFFP potential 3G pitch developments, the following were identified through club consultation as part of the PPOSS.

Clipstone Miners Welfare FC Relocation

Clipstone Miners Welfare FC is in the process of looking to relocate to a new site within the town. The Club is hoping for a step compliant adult pitch, additional grass pitches for junior

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fixtures and a small sided 3G pitch to accommodate its training demand. It states it would also look to partner with Kickstart if a 3G pitch were to be installed, which is looking for additional sites to operate within.

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Collingham FC

Collingham FC has a small sided 3G pitch provided at its Step 5 compliant site alongside its grass pitches. The small sided 3G pitch provided is of a poor quality and is in need of replacement in the near future. The community use of the 3G pitch comes solely from Collingham FC, meaning whilst it saves the Club money from not having to hire 3G slots, it is not able to let out any allocation as to raise funds itself. A consideration should be made for the Club to self-charge its teams as to financially support raising a sinking fund for the pitch.

The Club has since expressed an ambition to convert the grass youth 11v11 pitch to a 3G pitch as to better support training demand and also gain revenue. It is concerned as to whether the site will have room for a full size pitch, however, it remains an ambition.

Newark Analysis Area

Newark and Sherwood District Council confirm it is looking at possibilities within the Newark Analysis Area for a third 3G pitch to be installed as to better support the large demand for midweek training. Both Newark Academy and Suthers Academy have been shortlisted as possibilities, with both schools falling under the NOVA trust.

Newark Academy provides several grass pitches accessed by Warriors FC. The rationale for the site in the LFFP was to install a full size 3G pitch, as well as refurbish the changing rooms and undertake grass pitch improvements. Consultation with the school raised that conversations were being held about installing a full size 3G pitch at the loss of the senior rugby provision, however, covid stalled the potential developments. In the case of Suthers School the site is a smaller set up that is yet to offer community use of its facilities, however, it is an ambition for the 2023/24 academic year.

Blidworth FC

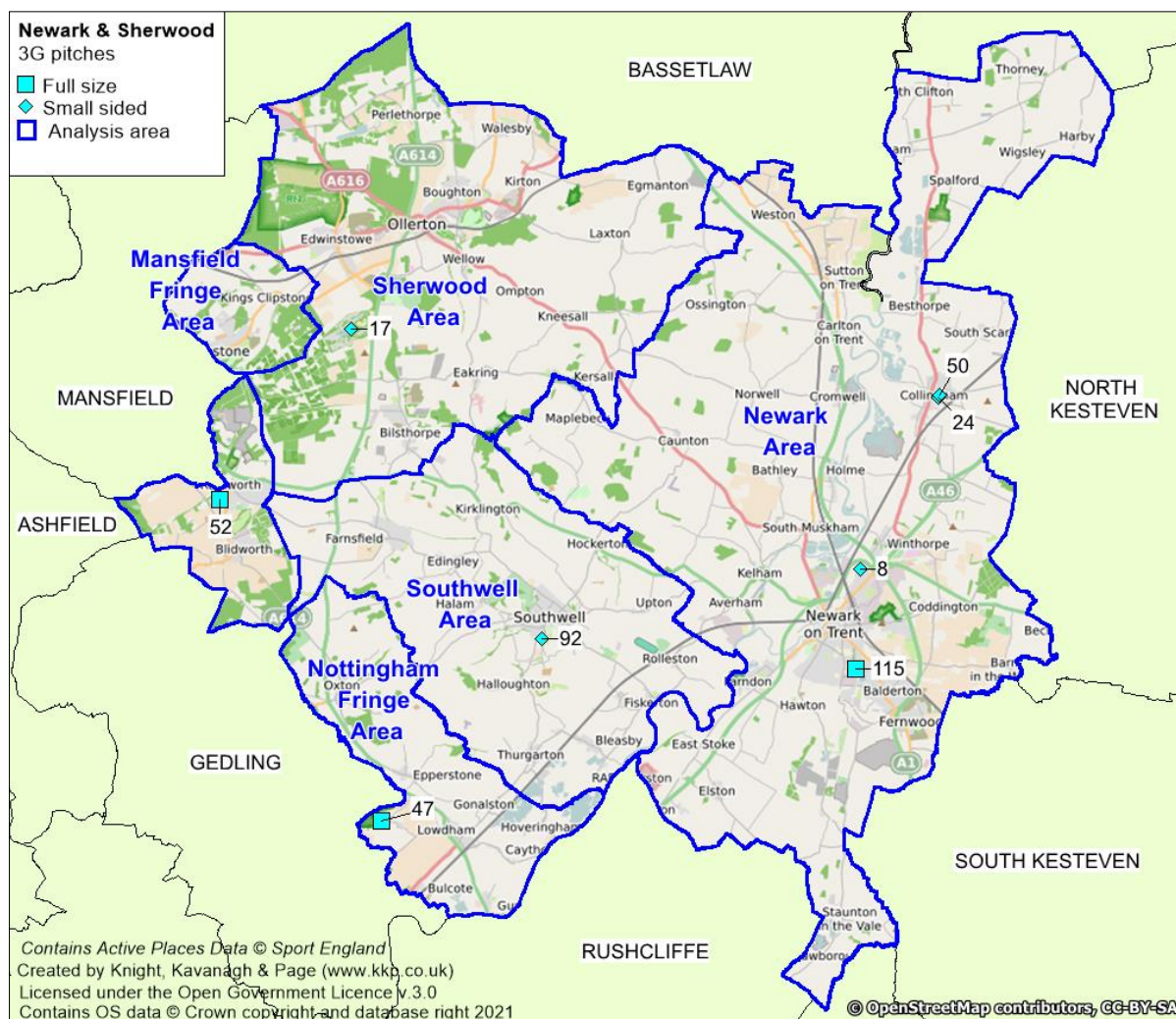
Blidworth FC confirm having a small plot of unused playing field that it would like to convert to a small sided 3G pitch to use for midweek training. The Club state it does not yet have funding for this development, but it continues to be an ambition.

Given that the LFFP is a live document informed by an up-to-date PPS, it may need to be re-assessed following the findings and recommendations of this study.

Figure 3.1 identifies all 3G pitches servicing Newark & Sherwood. For a key to the map, see Table 3.3.

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Figure 3.1: 3G pitches servicing Newark & Sherwood



FA Pitch Register

In order for competitive matches to be played on 3G pitches, the pitch should be FIFA or IMS tested and approved and added to the FA Pitch Register, which can be found at: <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/3g-pitch-register>

In the case of Newark & Sherwood, the two outdoor 3G pitches at YMCA are on the FIFA register. The site will require a retest to retain its accreditation prior to June 2023 for one of its pitches, whilst the second pitch has its accreditation until 2025. Finally, the pitch at Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth shall also require a retest prior to June 2024 to retain its accreditation.

Table 3.5: Accreditation of provision:

Site ID	Site	Accreditation type	Accreditation expiry
52	Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth	FA approved	31/05/24
115	YMCA Newark and Sherwood Sports Community and Activity Village	FIFA approved	31/05/25
		FIFA approved	31/05/23

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World Rugby (WR) compliant pitches

To enable 3G pitches to host competitive rugby union matches, WR has developed the Rugby Turf Performance Specification.

This is to ensure that the surfaces replicate the playing qualities of good quality grass pitches, provide a playing environment that will not increase the risk of injury and are of an adequate durability.

The specification includes a rigorous test programme that assesses ball/surface interaction and player/surface interaction and has been modified to align the standard with that of FIFA. Any 3G pitch used for any form of competitive rugby and contact training must comply with this specification and must be tested every two years to retain compliance.

In the case of Newark & Sherwood, there are no WR compliant 3G pitches within the District.

Quality

Depending on use, it is considered that the carpet of a 3G pitch usually lasts for approximately ten years and it is the age of the surface, combined with maintenance levels, which most commonly affects quality. It is therefore recommended that sinking funds be put into place by providers to enable long-term sustainability, ongoing repairs and future refurbishment beyond this period.

Taking the above into account, the quality of third generation artificial grass pitches across Newark & Sherwood have been assessed via a combination of site visits (using non-technical assessments as determined by the FA) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

The percentage parameters used for the non-technical assessments were as follows; Good (>80%), Standard (60-79%), Poor (<60%). The quality ratings assigned to the sites also consider the user quality ratings gathered from consultation.

The full size 3G pitch provided at Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth is of a good quality, having first been installed in 2007 and had its carpet replaced in 2019. In the case of YMCA, the site has two good quality 3G pitches that were both installed in 2018. Finally, the non-accessible pitch at HMP Lowdham Grange is of a poor quality and is the same surface as it was installed in 2006.

In particular, the YMCA 3G pitches are of a high standard with its pitches frequently bushed and maintained well.

Of the sites providing small sided provision, there are two good, one standard and three poor quality pitches within Newark and Sherwood.

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Table 3.6: Age and quality of 3G pitches in Newark & Sherwood

Site ID	Site	Pitch type	Year installed or resurfaced	Quality
47	HMP Lowdham Grange	Full size	2006	Poor
52	Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth	Full size	2007/ 2019	Good
115	YMCA Newark and Sherwood Sports Community and Activity Village	Full size	2018	Good
		Full size		
Small sided				
8	Bishop Alexander L.E.A.D Academy Newark	40m x 20m	2010	Poor
17	Center Parcs (Sherwood Forest)	30m x 20m	2005	Poor
24	Collingham Football Club	60m x 40m	2014	Poor
92	Southwell Leisure Centre	33m x 20m	2017	Standard
100	The Parkgate Academy Ollerton Ollerton	60m x 40m	2019	Good
103	The Sir Donald Bailey Academy Newark Newark	60m x 45m	2020	Good

Ancillary facilities

The ancillary facilities provided at YMCA Newark are of a good quality with the building having opened in July 2021. The site provides two good quality changing rooms, a public café a large car park and meeting rooms accessible to the general public.

Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth has two changing rooms for its sports hall and two located near its squash courts. The sports hall changing rooms, are accessed by users of the 3G pitch and are of a poor quality with the boiler reportedly an occasional issue.

3.3: Demand

The following table summarises the availability of all 3G pitches in Newark & Sherwood which are available for community use. In addition, it records the availability of provision within the peak period. Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM) applies an overall peak period for AGPs of 34 hours a week (Monday to Thursday 17:00-21:00; Friday 17:00-19:00; Saturday and Sunday 09:00-17:00). This equates to a peak time midweek available usage of 18 hours and a peak time weekend usage of 16 hours.

Table 3.7: Availability and capacity of provision summary:

Site ID	Site	Management	Total hours available during peak period	Comments
52	Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth	Sports Club	Site has four hours of availability midweek and from 14:00-16:00 on Saturdays and Sundays	17:00-22:00 midweek 09:00-16:00 on weekends
115	YMCA Newark and Sherwood Sports Community and Activity Village	Community Organisation	Site is at 77% capacity. Majority of free slots are from 21:00 – 22:00 midweek	07:00-22:00 midweek 09:00- 17:00 weekends

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The 3G pitch located at Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth is open to the general public from 17:00 to 22:00 from midweek and 09:00- 16:00 on weekends. The site is accessed frequently by Rainsworth Juniors FC and Woodhouse Colts FC which both have partnership status in the pitch giving them priority access. The School confirms it is operating very near capacity with only four hours of available slots midweek from 21:00-22:00 which are commonly unpopular times especially for junior football and another four hours across the weekend.

YMCA pitches are open from 07:00 to 22:00 midweek and from 09:00 to 16:00 on weekends. Newark Town FC and RHP Sports and Social Club FC, with the former using the Step 5 compliant pitch as to meet FA ground grading requirements.

Consultation with the operator of the site highlights that it has to turn down bookings on Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 17:00 and 21:00, however, it has several free slots in the less favourable hours of 21:00 to 22:00.

Football

The FA considers high quality 3G pitches as an essential tool in promoting coach and player development. The pitches can support intensive use and as such are great assets for football use. Primarily, such facilities have been installed for social use and training, however, they are increasingly used for competition, which The FA wholly supports.

Training demand

Getting access to good quality, affordable training facilities is a problem for many clubs throughout the country. In the winter months, midweek training is only possible at sports lit facilities.

Of the 16 responsive football clubs, eight report that they require additional training facilities and specifically mention demand for 3G pitches, which equates to 130 teams combined. Some teams currently access indoor sports halls, whilst others use the 3G pitch provided within Newark and Sherwood or export demand outside of the District for 3G training slots. In some instances. Clubs that express a need for more 3G pitches are listed in the table overleaf.

Table 3.8: Latent demand for 3G pitches

Club	Number of teams	Analysis area	Need for more/better training facilities
Blidworth FC	6	Mansfield Fringe	✓
Clipstone FC	11	Mansfield Fringe	✓
Collingham FC	24	Newark	✓
Lowdham FC	26	Nottingham Fringe	✓
Newark Brazil FC	5	Newark	✓
Southwell City FC	38	Southwell	✓
Walesby FC	13	Sherwood	✓
Winthorpe and Coddington FC	7	Newark	✓
Total	130	-	-

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Football supply and demand analysis

The FA's long-term ambition is to provide every affiliated team in England the opportunity to train once per week on a sports lit 3G surface, together with priority access for every England football accreditation club through a partnership agreement. In order to calculate the number of football teams a 3G pitch can service for training, peak time access is considered to be from 18:00 until 22:00 Tuesday-Thursday resulting in an overall peak period of 12 hours per week. Mondays and Fridays are not included within this calculation as it is considered that most teams do not want to train in such close proximity to a weekend match (although these times slots are often popular as a recreational offer).

To ensure the current supply and any future supply is of a good enough standard to accommodate demand, providers are encouraged to put sinking funds in place to ensure long-term sustainability. This will allow for re-surfacing to take place when required and will ensure that FA certification remains in place.

Full size 3G pitches are divided into thirds or quarters for training purposes meaning they can accommodate either three or four teams per hour and either 36 or 48 teams per week (during the peak training period). Based on an average of these numbers, it is estimated that 38 teams can be accommodated on one full size 3G pitch for training.

Given the above, with 277 teams currently accessing playing provision within Newark & Sherwood, there is a theoretical need for seven full size 3G pitch equivalents (rounded down up from 7.3) to accommodate all affiliated training demand.

As there are currently three full size pitches open to community use across the District, there is a theoretical need for an additional four full size pitches to accommodate football training demand. This total does not include the three community accessible sports lit small sided pitches.

The table below considers the number of full size 3G pitches required if every team was to remain training within the analysis area in which they play. As can be seen, there are existing shortfalls of provision in four of the five analysis areas.

Table 3.9: Current demand for 3G pitches in Newark & Sherwood (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Analysis area	Current number of teams	Full size 3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Theoretical shortfall
Mansfield Fringe	37	1	1	-
Newark	127	3.5	2	1.5
Nottingham Fringe	28	0.75	-	0.75
Sherwood	47	1.25	-	1.25
Southwell	44	1.25	-	1.25
Total	283	7.5	3	4.5

As can be seen above the Newark Analysis Area accommodates for 45% of all teams within the District, and therefore has a significant amount of demand to accommodate.

In addition to the 283 teams, there are a further six teams affiliated to Newark & Sherwood that access provision outside of the District. Including these teams does not increase the shortfall.

The table below examines what the need for 3G pitches is based on future demand identified in the football section of this report (Part 2: Football Pitches). Future demand is based on ONS projections which equates to the growth of a further 11 teams.

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Table 3.10: Future demand for 3G pitches in Newark & Sherwood (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Analysis area	Future number of teams ¹⁹	Full size 3G requirement ²⁰	Current number of 3G pitches	Theoretical shortfall
Mansfield Fringe	37	1	1	-
Newark	127	3.5	2	1.5
Nottingham Fringe	28	0.75	-	0.75
Sherwood	47	1.25	-	1.25
Southwell	44	1.25	-	1.25
Total	294	7.75	3	4.75

Based on the above, the overall shortfall increases to 4.75 full size sports lit 3G pitches (rounded up from 7.73). This is based on future demand through ONS projections of 11 teams. Increases of facility from ONS projections cannot be broken down by analysis areas and have therefore been applied to the entire district.

The number of additional teams identified through club ambitions is 11 teams. Combining both ONS projections and club ambitions gives a total potential future demand of 42 additional teams. The forthcoming Strategy & Action Plan will explore how future demand through club ambitions impacts the need for more 3G pitches.

Football match play demand

Improving grass pitch quality is one way to increase the capacity at sites but given the cost of doing such work and the continued maintenance required (and associated costs), alternatives need to be considered that can offer a more sustainable model for the future of football. The substitute to grass pitches is the use of 3G pitches for competitive matches, providing that the pitch is FA approved, sports lit and available for community use during the peak period, and the location does not have an impact on other pitch sports.

The forthcoming Strategy & Action Plan will explore scenarios for the 3G pitch requirement for competitive match play. This will include a focus on accommodating both mini and youth football.

3.4: Conclusion

In conclusion, there is an insufficient supply of full size 3G pitches to meet current and anticipated future football training demand based on the FA training model, in Newark & Sherwood. As such, it is determined that an increase in provision is required, with the most explicit need identified in the Newark Analysis Area.

¹⁹ Future demand based on participation increases and TGRs as per the football section of the report.

²⁰ Figure rounded up to the nearest whole number.

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3G summary

Supply:

- ◀ There are three full size 3G pitch within Newark & Sherwood, located at Newark YMCA and Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth. All three pitches are serviced by floodlights and open to community use. There is an additional full size 3G pitch located at HMP Lowdham Grange that is not open to community use.
- ◀ There are also six small sided 3G pitches, three of which are open to community use.
- ◀ The full size 3G pitches at YMCA Newark are on the FIFA register meaning it can accommodate competitive matches. The site accommodates Step 6 Newark Town FC and is capable of reaching Step 5 ground grading stipulations. The site is scheduled to lose its FIFA certification for one of its pitches in June 2023.
- ◀ Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth has an FA accreditation that is also scheduled to expire in June 2023.
- ◀ There are no World Rugby compliant 3G pitches in Newark & Sherwood.

Quality:

- ◀ All three full-size pitches located within Newark and Sherwood are of a good quality, with Joseph Whitaker receiving a replacement surface in 2019. In the case of YMCA Newark, despite having been installed in 2018 and having the same surface, the site has a thorough maintenance regime of its provision thus resulting in a good quality rating. Of the six small sided pitches, two are good quality, one is standard and three are poor quality.
- ◀ The ancillary provision provided at YMCA Newark is of a good quality and accessible to members of the public accessing outdoor provision. The site provides two good quality changing rooms, a café, a large car park and public meeting rooms. Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth has two good quality and two poor quality changing rooms provided at the site.

Supply vs demand analysis:

- ◀ With 283 football teams currently affiliated to Newark & Sherwood, there is a need for 7.5 full size pitch equivalents to service current levels of demand. Future demand from ONS projections increases this requirement to 7.75 pitches.
- ◀ With three full size pitches within Newark & Sherwood, there is the need for a further 4.5 of such pitch equivalents to be built. This shortfall does not include the small sided provision within the District.
- ◀ When studying demand by analysis area, shortfalls are apparent in four of the five PPS analysis areas, with the Mansfield Fringe Analysis Area adequately catered for. Both the Sherwood and Southwell analysis areas have shortfalls of 1.25 pitches, whilst the Newark Analysis Area has a theoretical shortfall of 1.5 pitches despite already providing two pitches. At YMCA Newark.

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PART 4: RUGBY UNION PITCHES

4.1: Introduction

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) is split into four areas across the country with a workforce team that covers development, coaching, governance and competitions, of which Newark and Sherwood falls into the midlands region.

The RFU governs a variety of formats and programmes, including 15-a-side, 10-a-side, 7-a-side and Tag rugby as well as the Touch Union. Its aim is to increase and retain participation within the game, with facilities needing to be appropriate, affordable and accessible in order to enable this.

The rugby union playing season operates from September to May, with senior men's fixtures being held on Saturday afternoons whilst ladies, juniors and mini fixtures are held on Sundays.

Consultation

There are three rugby union clubs based in Newark & Sherwood. All three clubs were responsive to consultation attempts, giving a response rate of 100%. All consultation was undertaken via face to face meetings.

Table 4.1: Summary of consultation

Club name	Responded?
Newark RFC	Yes
Ollerton RFC	Yes
Southwell RFC	Yes

4.2: Supply

Rugby union in England (as specified by the RFU) is played in the following formats and as such these references are used throughout this section to refer to supply (pitch types) and demand (team types)

Table 4.2: Rugby union age group and pitch format definitions

Team reference	Age group	Team type	Max dimensions (metres)
Senior men	Over 18 years old	Senior	100x70 (with posts at either end)
Senior women	Over 18 years old	Senior	100x70 (with posts at either end)
Age Grade Boys	U13s – U18s	U13s*, U14s, U15s, U16s, U18s (as dual age band w/U17s)	100x70 (with posts at either end) *90x60 (with posts at either end)
Age Grade Girls	U12s – U18	U12 (Single age band) U14s (as dual age band w/U13s), U16s (as dual age w/U15s), U18s (as dual age band w/U17s)	100x70 (with posts at either end)

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For age grade mixed rugby (for children aged between U7 through to U12) there is no requirement for rugby posts to be provided for competitive play. However, in most cases nationally, play of this type takes place on senior pitches which are overmarked for such activity. The audit only identifies dedicated, line marked pitches with accompanying posts. The dimensions for age grade mixed rugby are detailed in the table below.

Table 4.3: Rugby union pitch dimensions

Team type (ages)	Team reference	Maximum pitch dimensions (metres) ²¹
Under 7	Age grade mixed	20 x 12
Under 8	Age grade mixed	45 x 22
Under 9	Age grade mixed	60 x 30
Under 10	Age grade mixed	60 x 35
Under 11	Age grade mixed	60 x 43

Based on the above criteria, there is a total of 16 rugby union pitches identified within Newark & Sherwood across nine sites. This consists of 14 senior and two junior pitches. This is a slight increase from the 2017 PPS in which 15 pitches were identified across four sites. The previous PPS did not identify provision at Dukeries Academy Ollerton, Magnus Academy Newark, Minster School Southwell, Newark Academy and Wellow House School.

Of the total supply, four pitches are unavailable for community use. All unavailable provision is located at education sites including Dukeries Academy Ollerton (Dukeries Academy Ollerton), as detailed in Table 4.5.

Table 4.4: Supply of all rugby union pitches by analysis area

Analysis area	Number of senior pitches	Number of junior pitches	Number of community accessible pitches
Mansfield Fringe	-	1	0
Newark	7	1	7
Nottingham Fringe	-	-	-
Sherwood	4	-	2
Southwell	3	-	3
Total	14	2	12

Most provision is situated within the Newark Analysis Area, where a total of eight pitches are identified (this includes pitches which are unavailable for community use). Comparatively, the Sherwood Analysis Area has four pitches. No pitches are identified in the Nottingham Fringe Analysis Area. A site-by-site breakdown of identified provision can be found in the table overleaf.

²¹ Recommended run off area for all pitch types requires five meters each way and a minimum in-goal length of six metres.

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Table 4.5: Supply of all rugby union pitches

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Community accessible?	No. of senior pitches	No of junior pitches
12	Boughton Sports Field	Sherwood	Yes	2	-
30	Dukeries Academy Ollerton	Sherwood	No	1	-
52	Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth	Mansfield Fringe	No	-	1
65	Magnus Academy Newark	Newark	No	1	-
68	Minster School Southwell	Southwell	Yes	1	-
71	Newark Academy	Newark	Yes	1	-
75	Newark Rugby Club	Newark	Yes	5	1
94	Southwell Rugby Club	Southwell	Yes	2	-
113	Wellow House School	Sherwood	No	1	-

Note that rugby posts are provided on one of the junior pitches (mixed age grade) at Newark Rugby Club and the pitch at Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth.

One junior pitch located at Newark Rugby Club has posts on its 60x40m pitch which accommodates for its U11 and U12s rugby. The site also provides a further two junior pitches and four mini pitches (mixed age grade) all of which do not have accompanying posts. Given the RFU regulations that pitches are only accounted for if they have accompanying posts, these pitches have been discounted from the total supply. Despite being discounted it should be stressed that the additional pitches without accompanying posts equate to a substantial amount of playing field which accommodates a high amount of demand. Further detail regarding this shall be discussed later in the report.

Sports lit training areas

Sports lit training areas are dedicated sections of playing field which are used for the specific purpose of accommodating midweek training demand away from formal pitches (which allows them to retain exclusive use for match purposes).

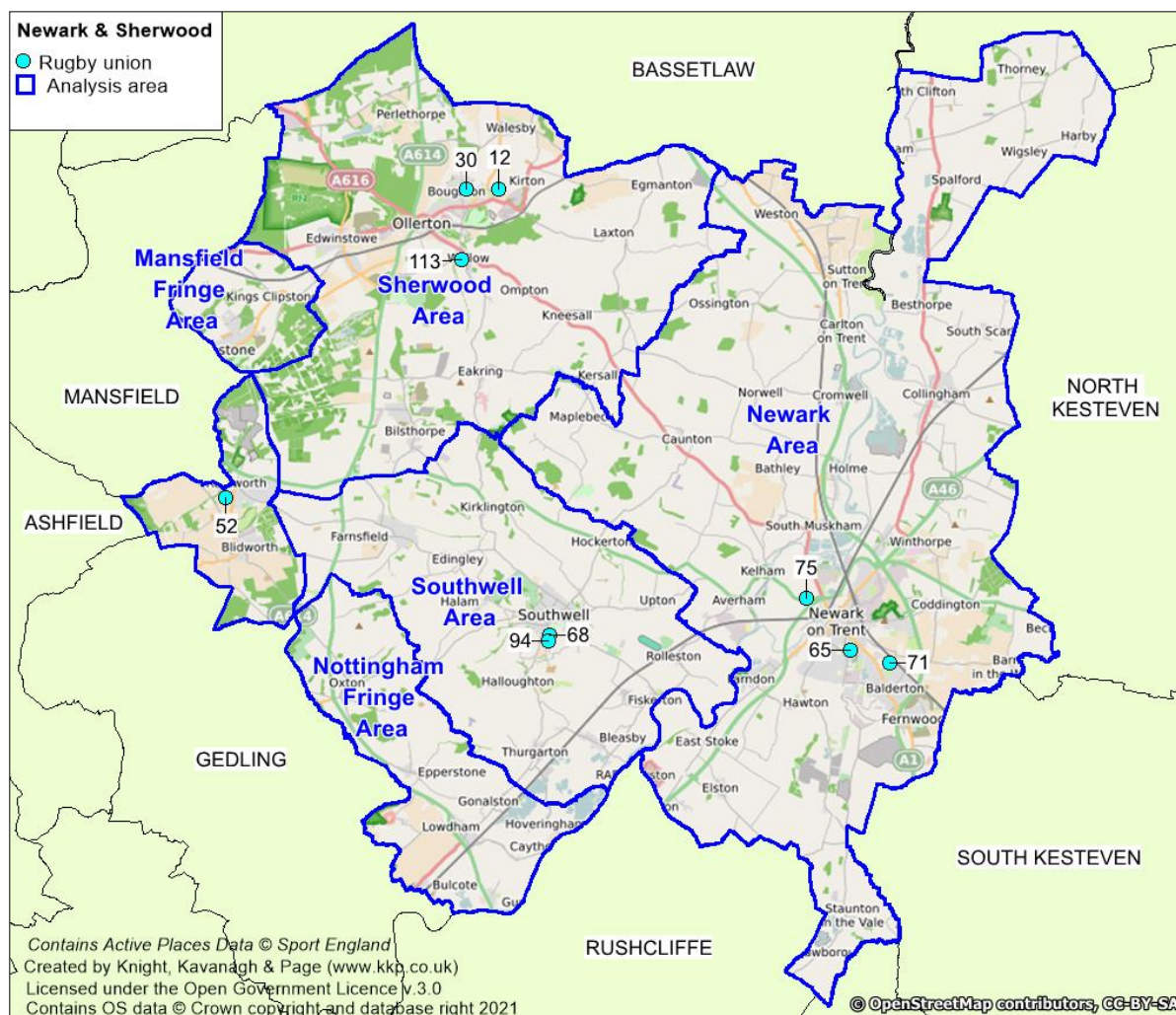
These areas constitute formal playing field, despite not accommodating any formal pitches, and are important for accommodating demand from clubs. Ollerton RFC confirm having a dedicated sports lit training area at Boughton Sports Field, located between its storage unit and the most Northern pitch on the site. For the remaining two clubs; Southwell RFC and Newark RFC, training predominantly takes place on grass pitches with sports lighting.

Changes to supply

Southwell RFC confirm it has an ambition to increase the total number of pitches at its site, with the farmers land to the South a long term goal for acquisition. Newark RFC also has an ambition of acquiring additional land near its site owned by Kelham Estates as to increase its total supply of pitches. If the land was to be acquired, it would use the space for mini (mixed age grade) and junior pitches. Both clubs, however, state these are long term aspirations and not something currently being pursued.

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Figure 4.1: Rugby union pitches



Security of tenure

Security of tenure refers to the rights of occupation on playing field and infrastructure. Clubs and stakeholders generally fall into the bracket of owner-occupier, tenant or licensee.

The table below identifies the current tenure position of each rugby union club based on information collated during the consultation. The tenure position of both Newark RFC and Southwell RFC is that both clubs are operating with security of tenure. In the case of Ollerton RFC, the Club rents both its pitches and access to its clubhouse on a weekly basis with the Boughton Village Hall. The Club is willing to begin negotiations as to sign a longer-term agreement, however, it is interested as to what potential funding possibilities this would enable it to access.

Table 4.6: Rugby union clubs security of tenure

Club	Tenure arrangement	Secure?
Newark RFC	The Club has freehold of the entirety of its site.	Yes
Ollerton RFC	The Club is based at Boughton Sports Field and rents its access to the pitch and clubhouse from the Boughton Village Hall committee on a weekly basis. The Club would like a longer term agreement for its clubhouse and pitches as to enable better access to funding to improve the site.	No

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Club	Tenure arrangement	Secure?
Southwell RFC	The Club has freehold of its first team pitch, clubhouse and parking. The pitch nearer to Southwell Leisure Centre is on a long term lease from Nottinghamshire County Council.	Yes

Pitch quality

The quality of rugby pitches has been assessed via a combination of site visits (using non-technical assessments as determined by RFU) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

The methodology for assessing rugby pitch quality looks at two key elements: the maintenance programme and the level of drainage on each pitch. An overall quality based on both drainage and maintenance can then be generated. The agreed rating for each pitch type also represents actions required to improve pitch quality. A breakdown of actions required based on the ratings can be seen below:

Table 4.7: Definition of maintenance categories

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

Table 4.8: Definition of drainage categories

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

Table 4.9: Quality ratings based on maintenance and drainage scores

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

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

Based on the above criteria, of those pitches available for community use, two are good quality, six are standard and three are poor quality senior pitches. The one available junior pitch located at Newark Rugby Club is standard quality.

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From a community club perspective, there is a mixture of quality ratings. Newark RFC and Southwell RFC has comprehensive maintenance programmes which consist of pitch aeration, sand dressing, weed killing and post season pitch seeding.

In the case of Newark and Sherwood, all three clubs have completed a pitch advisory service report. This provides the RFU with greater analysis into the soil profile of a clubs pitches to then enable more accurate assessments as how to improve its quality.²²

The quality of pitches within Newark and Sherwood have been determined through a combination of non-technical site assessments, consultation with clubs regarding its maintenance regimes and quantity of usage and a further informed by the RFU pitch assessment reports.

Newark RFC provides the best quality provision within the District, with its first and third pitch both of a good quality. The remaining pitches at the site are of a standard quality. An RFU pitch assessment confirmed the sites maintenance programme consists of aerating, decompaction, fertilising, selective herbicide spraying and top dressing. A recommendation as to further improve the quality is to increasingly scarify the provision.

Comparatively, Southwell RFC has two standard quality pitches, and accesses the one senior pitch at Minster School Southwell which is also of a standard quality. The Club confirm it installed a French drain surrounding the first team pitch to reduce the water that flows down the hill onto the provision. It has its own mower and tractor and has a long-term goal of buying the machinery for vertidrainage as to save costs long term by not renting the equipment.

An RFU assessment of the site confirmed the pitches are graded as basic on the PQS calculator due to grass coverage being below the 70% threshold. A recommendation for the site is to reduce the thatch layer across the pitches, overseed and repair high wear and tear areas, reduce standing water and improve on water filtration through the playing surface.

Finally, Ollerton RFC has two poor quality pitches that are maintained by the Club. The maintenance regime involves cutting and lining with consultations confirming it has recently invested £1,000 towards seeding both pitches. An RFU assessment outlines the pitches having a high concentration of weeds and that the pitches should be sprayed with herbicide. The Club should also look to aerate and scarify its pitches as well as introducing a robust winter maintenance regime.

Please refer to Table 4.10 overleaf for a breakdown of pitch quality.

²² <https://thegma.org.uk/who-we-are/research-and-funding/pitch-advisory-service>

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Table 4.10: Site quality ratings at rugby union sites

Site ID	Site name	Club	Analysis area	Number of senior grass pitches	Number of junior grass pitches	Number of mini (mixed age grade) grass pitches	Sports lighting?	Non-technical assessment score	Quality rating
Club sites									
12	Boughton Sports Field	Ollerton RFC	Sherwood	2	-	-	No	M0/D1	Poor
68	Minster School Southwell	Southwell RFC	Southwell	1	-	-	No	M1/D1	Standard
71	Newark Academy	-	Newark	1	-	-	No	M1/D0	Poor
75	Newark Rugby Football Club	Newark RFC	Newark	3	1	-	Yes (2 fully and 2 partial)	M1/D1	Standard
				2	-	-		2 x M2/D1	Good
94	Southwell Rugby Club	Southwell RFC	Southwell	2	-	-	Yes both	M1/D1	Standard
Non club sites									
30	Dukeries Academy Ollerton	-	Sherwood	1	-	-	No	M1/D0	Poor
52	Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth	-	Mansfield Fringe	-	1	-	No	M1/D0	Poor
65	Magnus Academy Newark	-	Newark	1	-	-	No	M1/D0	Poor
113	Wellow House School	-	Sherwood	1	-	-	No	M1/D0	Poor

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Ancillary facilities

The term ancillary facility relates to built facility infrastructure at sites. Typically, this includes (but is not limited too) clubhouses, changing rooms, showers, car parking and toilet facilities. The table below summarises the position of each rugby club and highlights current issues and long-term requirements. This is based on consultation feedback as well as non-technical audits of each site.

Table 4.11: Ancillary provision feedback

Club	Ancillary position	Overall rating
Newark RFC	<p>The Club has a good quality large clubhouse that was redeveloped in 2019 following grant funding from the RFU. The building provides six RFU specification changing rooms each with internal showers and toilets. It also provides a bar and sizeable social room.</p> <p>The Club is investing into improving the air-conditioning and heating of the building, and state it would like to replace its old boiler that it still uses from the previous clubhouse.</p> <p>It also invested into building a small first aid hut at pitch level near the first team pitch.</p> <p>Storage is an issue at the site, with the Club saying it requires additional containers for its equipment.</p>	Good
Ollerton RFC	<p>The Club access the poor-quality pavilion at Boughton Sports Field. The clubhouse has two small changing rooms with a communal shower space servicing both teams, a small kitchen area and front facing doors leading onto the pitch.</p> <p>The Club would like to increase the scale of the changing rooms to an RFU specification, as well as increasing the social offering provided.</p> <p>The outdated boiler is in need of replacing, with the Club stating it would be eligible to a lottery regeneration loan if it had security of tenure to its site. It would also like to install CCTV to the building.</p>	Poor
Southwell RFC	<p>The Club has a good quality large clubhouse that was re-developed in 2017 through grant funding from Nottinghamshire County Council and interest free loans from the RFU and Greene King Brewery.</p> <p>The site provides four RFU spec changing rooms, a bar and social room with outdoor seating from a raised viewpoint overlooking both senior pitches.</p> <p>The Club state the ventilation of the changing rooms is an issue as it does not have any windows fitted.</p>	Good

4.3: Demand

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

Competitive play

There are three rugby union clubs in Newark & Sherwood which in total generate demand equating to 35 teams. As a breakdown, this consists of eight senior men's, two boy's colts, eight junior boys, two junior girl and 15 mixed age grade teams. There are no senior ladies' teams currently playing in Newark and Sherwood, however, Newark RFC has a residual amount of demand which currently train midweek with the view of developing this into a team in the future.

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Table 4.12: Demand summary

Club	Senior men's	Senior women's	Colt boys (U17/U18)	Junior boys (U16-U13)	Junior girls (U18-U13)	Mixed age grade (U7-U12)
Newark RFC	3	-	1	4	2	6
Ollerton RFC	2	-	-	-	-	3
Southwell RFC	3	-	1	4	-	6
Total	8	-	2	8	2	15

Training demand

Throughout the Country, many rugby teams train at its home ground on match pitches. As a result, usage is concentrated which reduces the capacity for match play on these pitches and means they are more likely to be overplayed. A key factor in determining the extent of training on match pitches is the presence of sports lighting.

Full details of each of the club's training schedules are detailed in the table below. The match equivalent sessions for training relates to the demand which takes place on grass pitches only, unless otherwise stated.

Table 4.13: Training demand summary

Club	Midweek training requirements	Match equivalent sessions (MES) on match pitches
Newark RFC	Tuesdays mens 1 st and 2 nd team training is on pitch two from 19:00-21:00. Tuesdays U13 and U14 boys train on the partially floodlit pitch three from 19:00-20:00. Wednesdays U15, U16 and colts train on pitches two and three from 19:00-20:00. Ladies members train on pitch 4 from 19:00-20:00 also on Wednesdays. Thursdays mens 1 st and 2 nd team training is held again from 19:00-21:00 on pitch one. All junior teams from U14 and below train on pitches 2 and 3 from 19:00-21:00. Two junior girls' teams train on pitch 4 from 19:00-20:00.	6 MES total 3 MES from senior mens and ladies 3 MES from junior teams Pitch 1= 1 MES Pitch 2= 3 MES Pitch 3= 1 MES Pitch 4= 1 MES
Ollerton RFC	Senior mens training is held from 18:30 to 20:30 on Wednesdays on additional sports lit training area. Juniors train on Thursdays from 18:00-19:00.	0 MES. Training on dedicated sports lit training area.
Southwell RFC	Senior mens and colts training is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 19:00- 21:00. Junior and mini training is held on Thursdays from 18:00-19:00.	4 MES total 3 MES senior teams 1 MES junior teams

World Rugby (WR) compliant pitches

To enable 3G pitches to accommodate competitive rugby union matches, WR has developed the Rugby Turf Performance Specification. This is to ensure that the surfaces replicate the playing qualities of good quality grass pitches, provide a playing environment that will not increase the risk of injury and are of an adequate durability.

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The specification includes a rigorous test programme that assesses ball/surface interaction and player/surface interaction and has been modified to align the standard with that of FIFA. Any 3G pitch used for any form of competitive rugby must comply with this specification and must be tested every two years to retain compliance. The compliance standard is known as to as WR Regulation 22 (WR22).

There are no WR22 compliant pitches located within Newark & Sherwood.

Use of artificial pitches

Nationally, clubs identify the use of 3G pitches for training as a method of protecting the match pitches and providing a high-quality surface for full contact practice. Competitive play continues to take place on grass pitches for the most part, however, the use of 3Gs for the fulfilment of competition fixtures does take place regularly in some areas if suitable provision is available, particularly on sites where Rugby 365 pitches have been provided. Further detail on use of 3G pitches can be found in Part 3: Third Generation Artificial Pitches.

In the case of Newark & Sherwood none of the three clubs made any reference to accessing WR22 compliant pitches (outside of the District) for training or match play purposes or similarly, to any form of artificial grass pitch access altogether for fitness or skill based training sessions.

Touch

To actively encourage participation in rugby union clubs may provide alternative offers to traditional club competition. Touch rugby is one possible format which clubs can use; touch rugby is non-contact rugby sessions, during which participants compete in teams to score tries, following similar laws to traditional rugby union formats. Clubs, schools or community organisation can establish their own touch rugby sessions or can become hosts of Touch Union²³ sessions.

Touch Union sessions are 90 minutes long and combine music, fitness and rugby skills. Sessions are of mixed gender, ability and age and are based on touch rugby being a social activity. Newark RFC deliver touch rugby sessions during summer months, it states it is increasing its focus to develop its touch rugby section to be comparable to the full contact teams the Club currently provides. Neither Ollerton RFC nor Southwell RFC deliver touch rugby sessions.

Walking rugby

Walking rugby is a slower game of touch rugby that is accessible for disability groups and older participants, generally aged 55 years and above.

The game is less physical than traditional rugby, but the general aim remains the same, with passing and scoring laws applying; and tackling involves a two-handed touch to the waist or below. Sessions for over 55's are an opportunity for participants to become physically active and for others to re-engage with rugby at a less strenuous pace.

At present, none of the three clubs deliver walking rugby sessions.

²³ <https://www.englandrugby.com/participation/playing/ways-to-play/the-touch-union>

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Exported/imported demand

Exported demand refers to existing demand which is transferred outside of the study area; whilst imported demand refers to any demand from neighbouring local authorities that accesses facilities in Newark & Sherwood due to a lack of available facilities in other local authorities where such team or club is based. Locally, there is no known cases of either imported or exported demand, with all clubs accommodating demand at their respective sites.

Unmet/latent demand

Unmet demand is existing demand at clubs which is not able to access sufficient supply of pitches for match play or training. It is usually expressed, for example, where a team is already training but is unable to access a match pitch or where a league or club operates a waiting list. Consultation did not highlight any potential unmet demand.

Latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision. In the case of Southwell RFC, the Club suggests that it is at a point in which it requires additional sports lit provision in order to continue to grow due to capacity constraints at its current site.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and using population forecasts.

Participation increases

During consultation with the district's rugby union clubs, each were asked how they would like to grow over the next three to five years (over the lifespan of the PPS). Details of aspirations are below.

- ◀ Newark RFC: Growth equating to one senior ladies team.
- ◀ Ollerton RFC: Growth equating to one senior men's team.
- ◀ Southwell RFC: Growth equating to one senior ladies' team and a second colt boys' team.

Population increases

Team generation rates are used below as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future based on population growth (2033).

Table 4.14: Team generation rates (2033)

Age group	Team generation rate	No. of new teams generated by the new population	No. of new teams generated by the new population	Peak time	Match equivalent session per season ²⁴
Senior Mens (19-45)	1:2308	0.5	0	Saturday	-
Senior Womens (19-45)	1:0	0.0	0	Sunday	-
Junior Boys (13-18)	1:426	0.63	0	Sunday	-
Junior Girls (13-18)	1:2096	0.12	0	Sunday	-
Mini Mixed (7-12)	1:604	0.94	0	Sunday	-

²⁴ 2 teams require 1 pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, 1 team accounts to 0.5 match equivalent sessions on their relevant pitch type.

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Based on future projections, it is forecast that there will be no growth in demand for rugby through population increases to 2033.

It is important to note that population growth is exclusively applied to current team numbers and does not account for specific targeted development work within certain areas or focused towards certain groups, such as coaching activity within schools linking to local clubs or specific RFU targets.

The RFU is focused on actively exploring opportunities to assist with the transition between late junior years and senior rugby with a specific focus on growing the senior game with the addition of adult teams (both men's and women's). This area has a strategic focus from the RFU and is being facilitated by encouraging casual play and midweek senior matches, along with touch rugby and cross pitch 7s. The RFU recognises the pressures on participation in the traditional forms of the game at this time and by offering alternative match times and formats then clubs may be able to retain a larger number of players.

With the Women's Rugby World Cup scheduled to be held in England in 2025, there is an expectation that there shall be a growth in women's and girls' demand within Rugby in the build up to the event. This shall be followed by a large push from the RFU to increase demand in women's and girls' rugby as a legacy for hosting the event. As such the expected growth in senior ladies' demand from the two more established clubs within Newark and Sherwood is in line with events within the sport.

Future demand summary

Future demand will be based on club aspirations of two senior ladies', one senior mens and one colts boys' team. As team generation rates result in no overall growth, there shall not be a scenario included in the forthcoming Strategy & Action Plan exploring the impact of growth set through ONS projections.

The Strategy & Action Plan Report will also contain a housing growth scenario that will estimate the additional demand for rugby union arising from housing development.

4.4: Capacity analysis

The capacity for pitches to regularly accommodate competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of a pitch affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of playing rugby. In extreme circumstances, it can result in the inability of a pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off-peak times. To enable an accurate supply and demand assessment of rugby pitches, the following assumptions are applied to site by site analysis:

- ◀ All sites that are used for competitive rugby matches (regardless of whether this is secured community use) are included on the supply side.
- ◀ Use of school pitches by schools increases demand by one match equivalent session, unless school activity levels are known.
- ◀ All competitive play is on senior size pitches (except for where age grade specific pitches are provided).
- ◀ U13 teams generally play on a 90 x 60m pitch and play 13 vs 13.
- ◀ From U14 upwards, teams generally play 15 v15 and use a full pitch.
- ◀ Mini teams (U6-U12) play on half of a senior pitch i.e. two teams per senior pitch or a dedicated mini pitch. See RFU Age Grade Rugby Guidance for more details.
- ◀ For senior and youth teams the current level of play per week is set at 0.5 for each match played based on all teams operating on a traditional home and away basis (assumes half of matches will be played away).

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- ◀ For mini teams playing on a senior pitch, play per week is set at 0.25 for each match played based on all teams operating on a traditional home and away basis and playing across half of one senior pitch.
- ◀ Senior men’s rugby generally takes place on Saturday afternoons.
- ◀ Senior women’s rugby generally takes place on Sunday afternoons.
- ◀ Junior rugby generally takes place on Sunday mornings.
- ◀ Mini rugby generally takes place on Sunday mornings.
- ◀ Training that takes place on club pitches is reflected by the addition of match equivalent sessions to current usage levels.

As a guide, the RFU has set a standard number of matches that each pitch should be able to accommodate, set out below.

Table 4.15: Pitch capacity (matches per week) based on quality assessments

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

Capacity is based upon a basic assessment of the drainage system and maintenance programme ascertained through a combination of the quality assessment and consultation. This guide, however, is only a very general measure of potential pitch capacity. It does not account for specific circumstances at time of use and it assumes average rainfall and an appropriate end of season rest and renovation programme.

The peak period

In order to fully establish actual spare capacity, the peak period needs to be established for all types of rugby. For senior teams, it is Saturday PM, as all senior men’s teams play at this time, with senior women’s teams playing on Sunday afternoons. Peak time for mini and junior rugby is Sunday AM.

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Table 4.16: Capacity table for senior rugby union pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Security of tenure	Number of pitches	Non-tech score	Quality rating	Sports lit?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Training equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch Capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
Club sites (including off site access)													
12	Boughton Sports Field	Sherwood	Yes <i>Ollerton RFC</i>	Unsecure	2	M0/D1	Poor	No	1.75	1.25	3	-	Site is used at capacity.
68	Minster School Southwell	Southwell	Yes <i>Southwell RFC</i>	Unsecure	1	M1/D1	Standard	No	1.5	-	2	0.5	The single pitch accommodates two junior and two mini teams from Southwell RFC.
75	Newark Rugby Football Club	Newark	Yes <i>Newark RFC</i>	Secure	1	M2/D1	Good	Yes	1	1	3	1	Clubs training pitch is overplayed by 2 MES. Remaining pitches show spare capacity. 1.5 MES from of six mini teams has been discounted. This is due to teams accessing additional unposted marked mini (mixed age grade) pitches on the site.
75	Newark Rugby Football Club	Newark	Yes <i>Newark RFC</i>	Secure	1	M2/D1	Good	Partial strip	1	1	3	1	Clubs training pitch is overplayed by 2 MES. Remaining pitches show spare capacity. 1.5 MES from of six mini teams has been discounted. This is due to teams accessing additional unposted marked mini (mixed age grade) pitches on the site.
75	Newark Rugby Football Club	Newark	Yes <i>Newark RFC</i>	Secure	1	M1/D1	Standard	Yes	1	3	2	2	Clubs training pitch is overplayed by 2 MES. Remaining pitches show spare capacity. 1.5 MES from of six mini teams has been discounted. This is due to teams accessing additional unposted marked mini (mixed age grade) pitches on the site.
75	Newark Rugby Football Club	Newark	Yes <i>Newark RFC</i>	Secure	1	M1/D1	Standard	Partial strip	0.5	1	2	0.5	Clubs training pitch is overplayed by 2 MES. Remaining pitches show spare capacity. 1.5 MES from of six mini teams has been discounted. This is due to teams accessing additional unposted marked mini (mixed age grade) pitches on the site.
75	Newark Rugby Football Club	Newark	Yes <i>Newark RFC</i>	Secure	1	M1/D1	Standard	No	0.5	-	2	1.5	Clubs training pitch is overplayed by 2 MES. Remaining pitches show spare capacity. 1.5 MES from of six mini teams has been discounted. This is due to teams accessing additional unposted marked mini (mixed age grade) pitches on the site.
75	Newark Rugby Football Club	Newark	Yes <i>Newark RFC</i>	Secure	1 (junior)	M1/D1	Standard	No	1	-	2	1	Clubs training pitch is overplayed by 2 MES. Remaining pitches show spare capacity. 1.5 MES from of six mini teams has been discounted. This is due to teams accessing additional unposted marked mini (mixed age grade) pitches on the site.
94	Southwell Rugby Club	Southwell	Yes <i>Southwell RFC</i>	Secure	2	M1/D1	Standard	Yes	4	4	4	4	Site is overplayed by 4 MES per week. This is broadly due to midweek training. The pitches are used for senior and junior fixtures and training.
Non club sites													

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Security of tenure	Number of pitches	Non-tech score	Quality rating	Sports lit?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Training equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch Capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
Club sites (including off site access)													
30	Dukeries Academy Ollerton	Sherwood	No	Unsecure	1	M1/D0	Poor	No	1	-	1	-	Pitch at capacity with curricular demand.
52	Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth	Mansfield Fringe	No	Unsecure	1 (junior)	M1/D0	Poor	No	1	-	1	-	Pitch at capacity with curricular demand.
65	Magnus Academy Newark	Newark	No	Unsecure	1	M1/D0	Poor	No	1	-	1	-	Pitch at capacity with curricular demand.
71	Newark Academy	Newark	Yes Un-used	Unsecure	1	M1/D0	Poor	No	1	-	1	-	Pitch at capacity with curricular demand.
113	Wellow House School	Sherwood	No	Unsecure	1	M1/D0	Poor	No	1	-	1	-	Pitch at capacity with curricular demand.

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Mini (mixed age grade) pitch analysis

Mini (mixed age grade) pitches are accessed by Newark RFC, which has been discounted from its capacity balance as the site has four mini pitches due to the demand being accommodated on the unposted pitches provided on site. For reference, demand expressed by mixed age grade teams, on mixed age grade pitches, equates to 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week (as opposed to 0.25 when expressed on senior pitches).

In the case of Ollerton RFC and Southwell RFC both clubs' access senior pitches for its junior and mini teams.

Actual spare capacity (senior pitches)

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

Table 4.17: Summary of spare capacity on senior pitches

Site ID	Site	No of pitches	Potential Spare capacity (MES)	Actual Saturday Spare capacity (MES)	Comments
75	Newark Rugby Football Club	1	1	-	No actual spare capacity due to being in use on Saturdays.
75	Newark Rugby Football Club	1	1	-	No actual spare capacity due to being in use on Saturdays.
75	Newark Rugby Football Club	1	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity for one senior team on Saturdays.
75	Newark Rugby Football Club	1	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity for one senior team on Saturdays.

When reviewing all potential spare capacity on senior pitch types. It is evident that actual spare capacity exists on two senior pitches at Newark RFC in the Newark Analysis Area. No other pitches, at any site, have spare capacity at peak time.

Overplay

Two sites and three pitches are overplayed as detailed in the table below. Overplayed pitches are based in the Newark and Southwell analysis areas.

Table 4.18: Summary of overplay (senior pitches)

Site ID	Site	Analysis Area	No of pitches	Overplay (MES)
75	Newark Rugby Football Club	Newark	1	2
94	Southwell Rugby Club	Southwell	2	4

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In total, overplay equates to six match equivalent sessions per week, with shortfalls deriving from three pitches.

4.5: Supply and demand analysis

Having considered supply and demand, the tables below identify the overall spare capacity in each of the analysis areas for senior rugby union pitches based on match equivalent sessions per week.

The analysis is undertaken for play on senior pitches only. In the instance of the Newark & Sherwood, the analysis results are the same for the peak time modelling for Saturday afternoons (senior men's rugby peak time) and Sundays (when it is the peak time for mixed aged grade rugby and junior/colts' teams). This is due to an overall limited amount of spare capacity for additional play throughout the District.

Future demand is based on club ambitions, as a reminder, this equating to two senior ladies, one senior men's and one colt boys' team.

Table 4:19: Summary of supply and demand balance on senior rugby union pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ²⁵	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Mansfield Fringe	-	-	-	-	-
Newark	1	2	1	0.5	1.5
Nottingham Fringe	-	-	-	-	-
Sherwood	-	-	-	0.5	0.5
Southwell	-	4	4	1	5
Total	1	6	5	2	7

The table above shows that there is an insufficient supply of provision to accommodate existing demand, with shortfalls equating to five match equivalent sessions per week. Shortfalls predominantly originate from concentrated midweek training demand and the sheer quantity of demand.

When considering future demand shortfalls increase to seven match equivalent sessions per week.

Lastly, as a reminder, there is no actual spare capacity or overplay identified within Newark and Sherwood for junior pitches, with the one pitch at Newark RFC used at capacity during the peak period.

4.6: Conclusion

Based on the supply and demand analysis, it is evident that there is insufficient supply of senior pitches in Newark & Sherwood to accommodate for both current and anticipated future levels of demand. The main issues are centred around pressures on midweek training opportunities as well as the volume of demand at Southwell RFC.

The priority for rugby union in Newark & Sherwood (which will be further explored in the forthcoming Strategy & Action Plan) is to ensure that pitches are of suitable quality for demand, sufficient sports lighting is available and ancillary infrastructures are of a good quality which supports the long term development of rugby union across the local area.

²⁵ In match equivalent sessions

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Lastly, it is acknowledged that the installation of sports lighting to the senior pitch at Minster School Southwell would noticeably reduce the identified shortfalls for Southwell Rugby Club. This will be further explored in the forthcoming Strategy & Action Plan.

Rugby union summary

- There is insufficient level of senior rugby union provision in Newark & Sherwood to accommodate current and future demand.

Pitch supply:

- There is a total of 16 rugby union pitches in the Newark & Sherwood s across nine sites. This consists of 14 senior pitches and two junior pitches. Of these, four pitches are located at education sites and are unavailable for community use.
- There are no WR compliant 3G pitches located within Newark & Sherwood.
- Southwell RFC has an ambition of develop new provision to the South of its site. Newark RFC is also hoping to increase its total supply of pitches, however for both clubs this is a long term ambition.

Pitch quality:

- In terms of quality of senior pitches, there are two good quality, six standard quality and three poor quality pitches which are available for community use. There is also one standard quality junior pitch at Newark RFC that is also available for community use.
- From a community club perspective, poor quality pitch provision is an issue for Ollerton RFC.

Ancillary provision quality:

- Of the three clubs in the District, Newark RFC hosts a combination of good and standard quality pitches. Southwell RFC has two standard quality pitches, whilst Ollerton RFC hosts poor quality pitches.
- Ollerton RFC has plans to improve its ancillary offer but requires security of tenure to its site as to access external funding opportunities. The Club would like to extend both changing rooms, improve the social space offering and replace its outdated boiler.
- Both Newark RFC and Southwell RFC have recently improved its ancillary provisions and provide good quality clubhouses.

Demand:

- There are three rugby union clubs in Newark & Sherwood which in total generate demand equating to 35 teams. As a breakdown, this consists of eight senior men's, two boy's colts, eight junior boys, two junior girls and 15 mixed age grade teams.
- Future demand from Club ambitions equates to two senior ladies', one senior mens and one colt boys' team.

Supply and demand analysis:

- There is an overall insufficient supply of provision to cater for both current and future demand.

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PART 5: ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCHES (HOCKEY)

5.1: Introduction

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

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

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

In addition to the above pitch types, EH reports that it is currently trialling a different multi-sport surface in order to better accommodate lower levels of hockey demand on a pitch that is also suitable for other sports such as netball and tennis. The surface type, known as Gen 2²⁶, is a versatile surface that will ensure that the sports do not need to compromise on the playing experience; it will be a sand dressed synthetic turf with a compatible shock pad. The concept is designed to provide facilities, including schools, with a dynamic surface which reduces the amount of space required and enables the provision to be utilised to its full potential.

For senior teams, a full-size pitch for competitive matches must measure at least 91.4 x 55 metres excluding surrounding run-off areas, which must be a minimum of two metres at the sides and three metres at the ends.

²⁶ [Deliver - Developing Your Project | England Hockey](#)

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EH's preference is for four-metre side and five-metre end run offs, with a preferred overall area of 101.4 x 63 metres, though a minimum overall area of 97.4 x 59 metres is accepted.

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

Club consultation

There are two hockey clubs in the Newark & Sherwood, those being Newark HC and Southwell Brincliffe HC. Both clubs were consulted with either via telephone interview or completion of an online survey.

Table 5.2: Summary of consultation

Club name	Responded?
Newark Hockey Club	Yes
Southwell Brincliffe Hockey Club	Yes

5.2: Supply

There are three full size hockey suitable artificial grass pitches in Newark & Sherwood located across as many sites. All three sites are serviced by sports lighting and are open to community use.

Table 5.3: Summary of full-size hockey suitable AGPs

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Quantity of provision	Size (metres)	Sports lit?
30	Dukeries Academy Ollerton	Sherwood	Yes	One pitch	101m x 63m	Yes
65	Magnus Academy Newark	Newark	Yes	One pitch	100m x 60m	Yes
68	Minster School Southwell	Southwell	Yes	One pitch	100m x 63m	Yes

There are also a further three small sided AGPs provided at Lovers Lane Primary School, Lowdham Primary School and Muskham Primary School. Only the pitch at Muskham Primary School is open to community use, however the pitch does not have sports lights. As none of the three pitches have sports lighting, a community use agreement and is an appropriate scale they serve no purpose to accommodating hockey demand within Newark and have been discounted from the following section. Given the small scale of the Muskham Primary School pitch and its lack of sports lights it is discounted from the section.

Table 5.4: Summary of small-size hockey suitable AGPs

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Quantity of provision	Size (metres)	Sports lit?
60	Lovers Lane Primary School Newark	Newark	No	One pitch	30m x 18	No
61	Lowdham Primary School	Nottingham Fringe	No	One pitch	46m x 26m	No
70	Muskham Primary School	Newark	Yes	One Pitch	19m x 40m	No

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Future supply

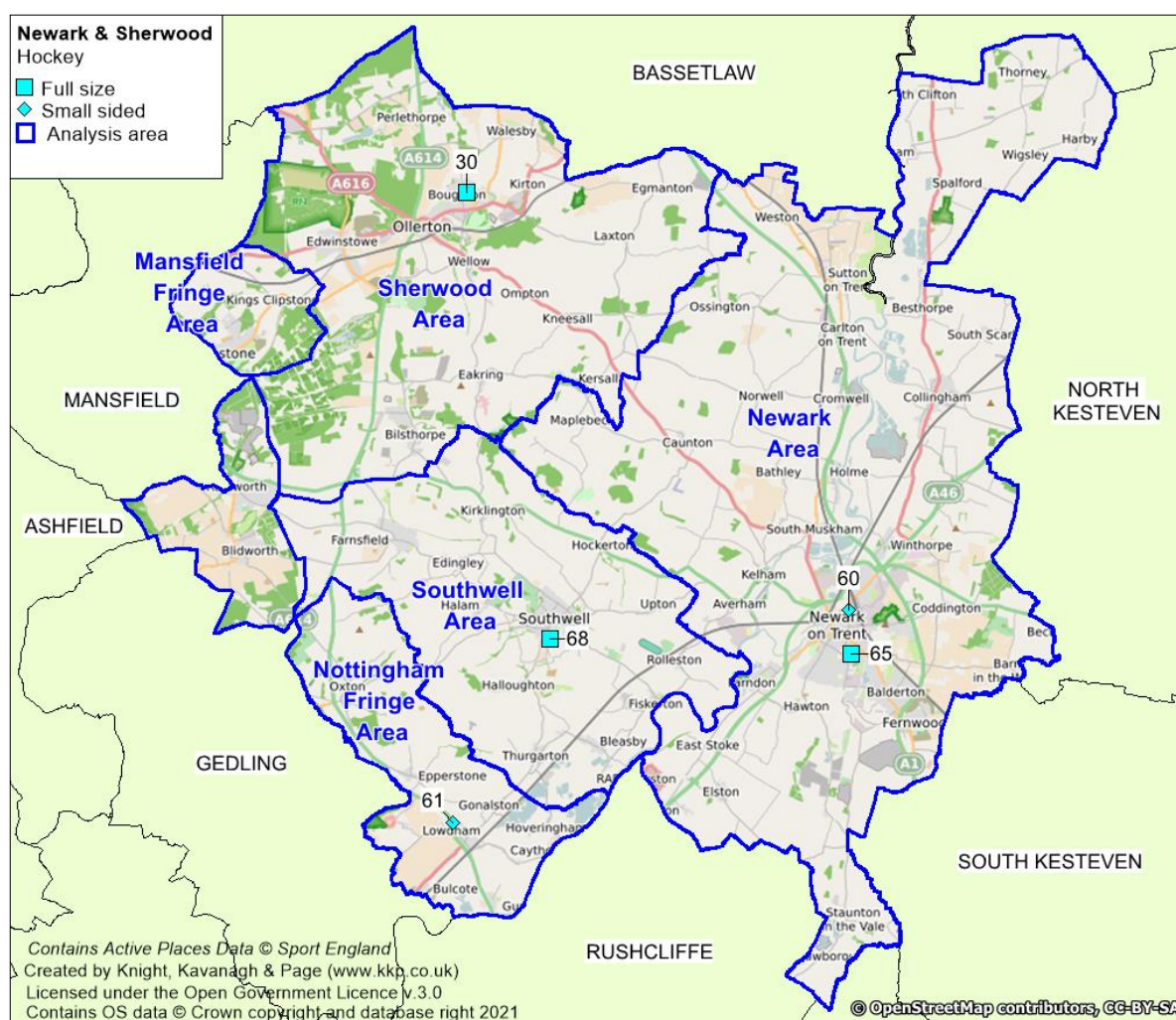
Consultation with the school operators within Newark and Sherwood failed to raise any potential developments for additional AGP pitches in the District.

Disused supply

Lilley and Stone School, located within the town centre of Newark has been disused since 2016. The site formerly provided a non-sports lit 100m x 57m AGP. The pitch is now in a disused condition and is unfit to accommodate any demand.

A map of hockey provision is provided in Figure 5.1

Figure 5.1: Location of full size AGPs



Management and availability

Sport England’s Facilities Planning Model applies an overall peak period for artificial grass pitches of 34 hours per week (Monday to Thursday 17:00-21:00; Friday 17:00-19:00; Saturday and Sunday 09:00-17:00).

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The table below identifies the full availability of AGP provision which is available for community use. As can be seen both Magnus Academy Newark and Minster School Southwell open its facilities for the full 34 hours per week in line with the Sport England Facilities Planning Model. In the case of Dukeries Academy Ollerton, the AGP is only open to community use during the week, with the lettings department not opening the pitch on weekends.

Table 5.5: Management and availability (full size pitches)

Site ID	Site name	Management	Availability	Total hours available in peak period
30	Dukeries Academy Ollerton	School	17:00-22:00 midweek No use on weekends	18
65	Magnus Academy Newark	Active4Today	18:00-22:00 midweek 09:00-18:00 weekends	34
68	Minster School Southwell	School	17:00-22:00 midweek 08:00-17:00 weekends	34

Security of tenure

Southwell Brincliffe HC access The Minster School Southwell for both training and match play on a yearly rental agreement. The Club does not get access to the site during school holidays and as such is unable to deliver pre-season training or school holiday sessions as to promote recruitment.

Newark HC accesses Magnus Academy Newark for both training and fixtures. The Club has a rolling 12 month agreement with the school and Active4Today for its access.

Quality

Taking the above into account, the quality of hockey suitable artificial grass pitches have been assessed via a combination of site visits (using non-technical assessments as determined by EH) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

The percentage parameters used for the non-technical assessments were as follows; Good (>80%), Standard (60-79%), Poor (<60%). The quality ratings assigned to the sites also consider the user quality ratings gathered from consultation.

In addition, depending on use, it is considered that the carpet of an artificial grass pitch usually lasts for approximately ten years and it is the age of the surface, combined with maintenance levels, which most commonly affects quality. The table overleaf summarises the quality of artificial grass pitches in Newark & Sherwood.

Table 5.6: Summary of quality

Site ID	Site name	Surface type	User	Quality rating	Built/resurfaced
30	Dukeries Academy Ollerton	Sand filled	-	Standard	2003
65	Magnus Academy Newark	Sand dressed	Newark HC	Good	2001 / 2022

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Site ID	Site name	Surface type	User	Quality rating	Built/resurfaced
68	Minster School Southwell	Sand filled	Southwell Brincliffe HC	Poor	2008

Provision provided at Magnus Academy Newark is of a good quality with the site replacing its AGP in 2022. Funding for the surface replacement was provided by Newark and Sherwood District Council.

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The AGP at Minster School Southwell is in a poor condition. Consultation with the school confirms it has not received a surface replacement since its instalment in 2008. The School state it has financially planned around a sinking fund and is currently stretching the lifespan of the pitch for as long as possible before being deemed unfit for use, at which point it states it shall fund a surface replacement. Southwell Brincliffe HC state the pitch is of an adequate quality but has become slightly poorer since the 2021/22 season, with the surfaces age causing it to freeze during colder months and flood easily during heavy rainfall. The equipment at the site is rated as good by Southwell Brincliffe HC, which own the goals on the pitch outright.

Finally, Dukeries Academy Ollerton offers a standard quality pitch despite being the same surface since it was installed in 2003. The School confirm it has a thorough maintenance contact in place with six visits per year from Replay Maintenance Ltd. In April 2021, the School commissioned a weeklong rejuvenation of the pitch which involved decontamination and compaction of the surface, removal of any contaminated infill from the carpet and re-sanding the pitch. This thorough maintenance regime has resulted in the pitches standard quality rating despite its age.

Ancillary facilities

The term ancillary facilities relates to built facility infrastructures at sites. Typically, this includes (but is not limited too) clubhouses, changing rooms, showers, car parking and toilet facilities.

Magnus Academy Newark provides four changing rooms, two of which are of a good quality and two standard. The school site team staff confirm two were recently refurbished hence the difference in quality. The Club state that the boiler has been a frustration for the 2022/23 season, and that the changing rooms are not in a very good condition.

Comparatively Minster School Southwell has two changing rooms, each with internal showers that are no longer open to community use due to vandalism the roof to the boy's changing rooms which are outlined to be re-fitted during 2023. Southwell Brincliffe HC now accesses the changing rooms at Southwell Leisure Centre located next to The Minster School Southwell.

Finally, Dukeries Academy Ollerton provides poor quality changing rooms that the Lettings Manager reports are open to community use but are unused. As the school is going under a re-build, it hopes that improvements to the changing rooms can be provided in the new building design.

5.3: Demand

Competitive play

Newark HC resembles the largest club within the District with four senior ladies teams, three senior mens and 168 junior members of varying ages. The Club access Magnus Academy Newark from 09:00 to 17:00 on Saturdays and 09:00 to 15:30 on Sundays. Training sessions are held on Tuesdays from 18:30- 21:00 and Wednesdays from 18:30 to 21:30.

Southwell Brincliffe HC has three senior ladies and three mixed junior teams. All teams access The Minster School Southwell for fixtures from 09:30 to 14:00 on Saturdays and train on Wednesdays from 18:00 to 20:30.

There is no known Back to Hockey and walking hockey sessions held in the District.

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Imported demand

Imported demand refers to teams which originate outside of the Newark & Sherwood, accessing facilities within the area for its home fixtures and/or training needs, normally because its pitch requirements cannot be met, which is usually because of pitch supply, in some cases quality issues or stipulated league requirements for access to certain facilities.

In the case of Newark & Sherwood, Newark HC imports lots of members from the Mansfield and Grantham regions, however, there are no affiliated teams that import demand into the District.

Exported demand

Exported demand refers to teams which originate within the Newark & Sherwood, accessing facilities outside the area for its home fixtures and/or training needs, normally because its pitch requirements cannot be met, which is usually because of pitch supply, in some cases quality issues or stipulated league requirements for access to certain facilities.

In the case of Newark & Sherwood there is no identified exported demand from either club.

Training demand

Access to artificial grass pitches for midweek training is important to sustain and grow all formats of hockey.

Newark HC access Magnus Academy Newark from 19:00- 20:30 on Tuesdays and 18:30 to 09:30 on Wednesdays for Club training. On weekends the Club also accesses the site on Sundays from 09:00- 15:30 for junior training sessions.

Southwell Brincliffe HC use Minster School Southwell from 18:00 to 20:30 Wednesdays for club training, which accommodates all its senior and junior demand. The Club confirms it does not have current demand to increase the number of hours used for training, nor would it expect to increase in teams if granted a greater weekly allocation.

Future demand

Growing participation is the number one aim within EH's Strategic Plan and key drivers include working with clubs, universities and schools, regional and local leagues, developing opportunities for over 40s and delivering a quality programme of competition. Growth in participation will not only come from the traditional 11 a side game but from the informal, recreational ways to play hockey such as small-sided hockey, which can be played at any time during the week or at weekends.

There remains a desire from EH to increase participation within the club/ league-based game, not all future demand may be realised entirely as new formalised teams playing at peak time. Some clubs may decide to offer pay and play opportunities to participants or offer small-sided formats such in a bid to increase participation and club memberships by providing a different hockey offer.

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Increased demand from new participants will lead to a requirement for increased capacity on available artificial grass pitches at peak time, but also midweek and on Sundays to deliver other formats of hockey activity. At present, it is not necessarily clear as to what format this may take or when it is likely to take place, however, it is clear that there will be a requirement for access to increased capacity on artificial grass pitches across the area. This should be considered when assessing demand for artificial grass pitches in the future, as not only will they be needed for peak match play times and midweek training to accommodate increased participation within the formalised hockey environment, but also throughout the week and at non-peak times to offer wider opportunities for play.

Unlike other pitch sports, EH do not use team generation rates to determine future demand and instead likes to understand growth by participation, rather than dedicated teams. As such, team generation rates have not been used to calculate future growth for hockey in Newark & Sherwood s. However, the forthcoming Strategy & Action Plan will include the use of the Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator which will forecast additional demand for hockey arising from new housing developments.

From a club perspective (the traditional 11 a side game), Southwell Brincliffe HC states it does not have any plans to increase the number of teams in the near future. As for Newark HC, it hopes to regain a fourth senior mens team.

EH Player Pathway

The Player Pathway (PP) is the junior talent development pathway. It encompasses the whole of the hockey landscape which includes club and school activity as well as the PP Development Centres (DCs). The purpose of the PP is to provide development opportunities for young people, which is fair, equitable and consistent. It is to ensure that a suitable level of coaching and competition is offered for people at the appropriate stage of their development and to maximise the chance they have of fulfilling their potential whether that potential is as a club or international player, coach or official. The PP can be accessed by playing at school, a local club or attending one of the local centres. There is one entry point into the PP centres which is at DC level. The first time a player accesses the player pathway they must enter at DC level.

To enter an Academy Centre (AC) players must be nominated by their DC coaches, school or must display a consistent high performance at club level. This is a PP into higher performance hockey.

Development Centres (DCs) and Academy Centres (ACs)

DCs and ACs are local training centres for the U13 to U17 age groups. DCs are open to any hockey player who has been nominated by their club, school or coach, with ACs open to any player who has been nominated by a DC coach. After attending a DC, an AC is the next step on the player pathway. Included in the DCs/ACs are Goalkeeper (GK) Academies, which provide specific coaching sessions for goalkeepers.

There are no England Hockey DC or AC sites located within Newark & Sherwood with the nearest centre for the District located at the Nottingham Hockey Centre.

Peak time demand

Most men's and women's hockey teams currently play matches on a Saturday which is therefore the peak time for use of artificial grass pitches for competitive play.

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5.4: Supply and demand analysis

The PPS Guidance suggests that a sports lit pitch is able to accommodate four match equivalent sessions on a Saturday with teams playing in a home and away format, as such this equates to one artificial grass pitch being able to cater for eight “home” teams. Teams play matches on home v away formats and therefore one team requires 0.5 match sessions per week on its “home” artificial grass pitch. On this basis, a pitch can cater for eight teams from a home club (with four playing away on the home vs away rotation) with each pitch considered to have a total capacity equating to four MES in the peak period.

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Table 5.7: Supply analysis of peak time (Saturday) pitch access

Site ID	Site name	Number of pitches	Site user	Current use in peak period (MES)	Spare capacity?	Comments
30	Dukeries Academy Ollerton	1	-	<i>No community use on weekends</i>	No	Site is not open to community use on weekends. Consultation with the Lettings Manager states it is considering opening to community use on weekends in the future.
65	Magnus Academy Newark	1	-Newark HC	3.5 MES	Yes	Site is accessed by Newark HC from 09:00 to 17:00 for fixtures meaning it has the allocation for four push backs. With seven teams the site has capacity for one additional team on a home and away basis before being accessed to capacity. The Club also uses the pitch on Sundays from 09:00 to 15:30 for junior training and fixtures.
68	Minster School Southwell	1	-Southwell Brincliffe HC	2 MES	No	Site is accessed by Southwell Brincliffe HC from 09:30 to 14:00 meaning it can accommodate its demand of three senior teams. Consultation with the school staff confirm the pitch is not used for football after 14:00 meaning there is availability for additional demand should it be needed. However, given the age of the surface the site should not be outlined to accommodate additional demand.

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Newark HC access Magnus Academy Newark from 09:00 to 17:00 for its seven senior teams, meaning the site has spare capacity for one additional team on a home and away basis. The club's future demand ambitions of a fourth senior mens team can be accommodated at the site, at which point it will be accessed at capacity. The Club also hires the pitch on Sundays from 09:00 to 15:30 meaning junior training sessions are held on Sundays. Therefore, it is using the maximum possible weekend allocation to accommodate its current demand.

In the case of Southwell Brincliffe HC, the Club uses two match equivalent sessions per week with its current allocation. The School staff confirm it is not used for football after 14:00 meaning there is availability for additional demand should it be needed. With no future demand ambitions or need for additional pitch access expressed, the allocation will likely remain unchanged from a hockey perspective. Furthermore, given the age of the surface, there should not be a recommendation to increase the amount of demand on the site.

Finally, Dukeries Academy Ollerton does not open its AGP to community use on weekends, meaning the site has no scope to accommodate any demand for match play. The School lettings manager however states it is considering opening to community use in the future.

5.5: Conclusion

With three usable full size AGPs within the District, two of which offering community use across weekends, Newark & Sherwood is currently well catered for from a provision perspective. However, the age of provision found at Minster School Southwell is an issue with the site nearing the stage where a replacement pitch must be provided before being deemed unfit for play.

Newark HC currently provides seven senior teams, meaning its allocation of four match allocation slots based on teams playing home and away on a Saturday can be accommodated. Its future demand ambitions of a fourth senior mens team can be accommodated, at which point the site shall be accessed to capacity.

Therefore, there is the need to provide a surface replacement at the Minster School Southwell in order to preserve the current picture for hockey across the District. Consultation with the School's finance department state it does not explicitly have a sinking fund in place for the pitch, however it does have financial reserves set aside for the future preservation of the site.

With the Local Football Facility Plan identifying a potential project of resurfacing the AGP provided at Dukeries Academy Ollerton to a 3G pitch, there is the potential loss of one of the three hockey suitable AGPs within the District. As the site does not accommodate any formal demand on weekends and has no partnered hockey Club, it would not directly impact upon formal hockey demand. However, if the pitch were to be converted to 3G, the remaining pitches at Magnus Academy Newark and Minster School Southwell should be protected as to ensure the long term survival of hockey in the District.

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Hockey summary

- ◀ There is sufficient supply of hockey suitable pitches in Newark & Sherwood from a programming perspective to accommodate current levels of peak time demand.
- ◀ Future demand of one senior mens team at Newark HC can be accommodated with current provision from a programming and quality perspective.
- ◀ With the AGPs provided at the Minster School Southwell nearing end of life, there is the need to provide a pitch replacement at the site in order to accommodate existing and future hockey demand of Southwell Brincliffe HC.

Pitch supply:

- ◀ There are three full size hockey suitable AGPs in Newark & Sherwood located across as many sites. Two of these pitches are open to community use on weekends with the AGP at Dukeries Academy Ollerton only operating during the week, and therefore has no partnered hockey club.

Pitch quality:

- ◀ The full-size pitch at Magnus Academy Newark resembles the only good quality playing provision within the District, with the AGP receiving a carpet replacement in 2022.
- ◀ Provision found at Minster School Southwell is of a poor quality with the provision being the same surface as in 2008. The condition of the pitch is now at a point where a replacement surface shall be required during the lifespan of the PPS.
- ◀ Finally, the pitch at Dukeries Academy Ollerton is of a standard quality despite being the same surface since installed in 2003. The thorough maintenance contract which included a week long rejuvenation of the pitch in April 2021.

Affiliated demand:

- ◀ There are two hockey clubs within Newark & Sherwood, those being Newark HC and Southwell Brincliffe HC.
- ◀ Newark HC has three senior mens teams, four ladies teams and 168 junior members, whilst Southwell Brincliffe HC has three senior ladies teams and three mixed junior teams.
- ◀ Newark HC access Magnus Academy Newark for home fixtures and training, whilst Southwell Brincliffe HC plays at the Minster School Southwell.
- ◀ Southwell Brincliffe HC state it has no future demand ambitions to increase in the number of teams it fields. In the case of Newark HC, the Club hopes to gain a fourth senior mens team.

Supply and demand analysis conclusions:

- ◀ Based on current levels of demand, there is a sufficient supply of provision to accommodate existing demand, however, if necessary, pitch replacements are not undertaken at the Minster School Southwell, the pitch shall reach a point of condemnation during the lifespan of the PPS.
- ◀ Future demand can be accommodated with existing provision, with Newark HC hoping to regain a fourth senior mens team.

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PART 6: CRICKET PITCHES

6.1: Introduction

Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club (NCCC) is the main governing and representative body for Cricket within Newark and Sherwood. Working closely with the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), NCCC is responsible for the management and development of every form of recreational cricket for men, women and children. NCCC is currently working with the ECB on delivering its Strategy, 'Inspiring Generations', which has been live since 2020.

For adult cricket in Newark and Sherwood there are three main offerings: Saturday, Sunday and midweek cricket. The youth league structure tends to be club-based matches which are played mid-week, although some matches are also played on Sundays.

County Facilities Strategy (CFS)

In 2022, to build upon the ECB's Inspiring Generations Strategy, the ECB has started the process of producing County Facilities Strategies (CFS). A CFS will be produced by each county cricket board and will be unique to its geographical area as well as being diverse in its representation.

The CFS will be a 'long-term' plan with county boards ensuring the CFS provides a 10-year view of facility needs. The county cricket boards will establish key stakeholders (clubs, leagues, county sports partnerships, county pitch advisors & Sport England etc) within its locality to consult during the development of the County Facilities Strategy.

Each county cricket board will utilise an up to date PPS or PPOSS to support the development of the CFS, utilising the findings as a 'high-quality' evidence base. The CFS will look at a range of facilities which support cricket across its region, with the ECB setting out guidelines to ensure that the following facilities are considered throughout the development of the CFS:

Types of facility

- ◀ "Traditional" outdoor facilities
 - ◀ Pitches and Outfields
 - ◀ Pavilions
 - ◀ Practice
- ◀ "Non-traditional" facilities
 - ◀ Multi Use Games Areas
 - ◀ Tapeball/softball spaces
 - ◀ Courts or cages
- ◀ Indoor facilities
 - ◀ Practice (multi use halls)
 - ◀ Performance (cricket specific)
 - ◀ Matchplay (6 or 8 a side)

Each CFS will be used to shape investment decisions and priorities, particularly how each county cricket board will use the devolved budget within the County Grants Fund and prioritise larger scale strategic projects.

Notwithstanding the above, it is important to recognise that the CFS is a portfolio of priority projects for potential investment; it is not a detailed supply and demand analysis of all pitch provision in a local area.

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Consequently, it cannot be used in place of a PPS or PPOSS and is not an accepted evidence base for development proposals that need to be judged against the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Field Policy.

Consultation

In total, 19 cricket clubs are identified as playing within Newark and Sherwood, of which, 15 responded to consultation requests, equating to a 79% response rate. Club responses are listed in the table below.

Table 6.1: Cricket club response rate

Club name	Club response?
Balderton CC	Yes
Blidworth Colliery Welfare CC	Yes
Caunton CC	Yes
Caythorpe CC	Yes
Clipstone & Bilsthorpe CC	No
Coddington & Winthorpe CC	Yes
Collingham & District CC	No
Edwinstowe Community CC	Yes
Farndon CC	Yes
Farnsfield CC	Yes
Fiskerton & Thurgarton CC	Yes
Hoveringham CC	Yes
Lowdham CC	No
Newark Ransome and Marles CC	Yes
Oxton CC	Yes
Southwell CC	No
Thoresby Colliery CC	Yes
Thoresby Park CC	Yes
Upton CC	Yes

6.2: Supply

In total, there are 25 natural turf cricket squares (across 22 sites). There are also three separate standalone non-turf pitches in Newark and Sherwood. All squares are available for community use other than the provision at Wellow House School (Wellow Dam) which services curricular demand only.

The 2014 PPS identified 34 grass wicket squares, 33 of which were open to community use, meaning there has been a loss of eight squares over the nine years. Instances of clubs folding and squares falling out of use has caused the decline in number of squares provided in the District (this is detailed further in the report).

Table 6.2: Summary of grass wicket cricket sites

Analysis area	No. of sites	No. of squares
Mansfield Fringe	2	2
Newark	6	8
Nottingham Fringe	4	5
Sherwood	4	4
Southwell	6	6
Newark and Sherwood	22	25

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The Newark Analysis Area provides the highest number of squares with eight (32% of all provision), whilst the Mansfield Fringe Analysis Area has the fewest squares with only two (8%).

Non-turf pitches (NTPs)

There are three standalone NTPs across as many sites in Newark and Sherwood. Each site contains one NTP each and all three are not open to community use.

- ◀ Chuter Ede Primary School (Balderton)
- ◀ Dukeries Academy Ollerton
- ◀ Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth

There are also non-turf wickets accompanying natural turf cricket squares at seven sites. All of which are available for community use, in line with the position of the natural turf squares. The NTPs in question are located at:

- ◀ Arthur Radford Sports Ground Fiskerton
- ◀ Clipstone FC (Lido Ground)
- ◀ Coddington and Winthorpe Cricket Club
- ◀ Edwinstowe Cricket Club
- ◀ Farnsfield Cricket Club
- ◀ Newark Ransome and Marles Cricket Club
- ◀ The Priory Ground Thurgarton (Fiskerton & Thurgarton Cricket Club)

NTPs, particularly when located at club sites, can also aid with training and practice, and can help reduce overplay on grass wickets when used for matches. The ECB highlights that NTPs which follow its TS6 guidance on performance standards are suitable for high level, senior play. NTPs are also frequently used for junior matches across the country, and there are some instances of this in Newark and Sherwood.

From a school perspective, NTPs provide a reliable cricket offer, without the need for specific cricket preparation to be taken on natural turf playing field. In many instances, schools do not have the resource or expertise to prepare natural turf wickets so NTPs provide a resource to ensure cricket can remain a key element of curricular sport.

Disused provision

Playing fields which have previously accommodated formal pitch provision are categorised as disused. A disused site is a playing field which is not being used at all by any users and is not available for community hire either. In Newark and Sherwood there are both disused sites that are in an overgrown condition and unused cricket sites/provision that still actively accommodate alternative sporting provision (i.e., football is still played on the site). A number of squares have fallen out of use due to clubs folding since the previous 2014 PPS, such as Weston CC and Norwell CC.

Wellow House School has an unused square that is an open grass space no longer marked for cricket. The playing field is still used for alternate sports such as football; however, it does not have any wickets prepared or any line markings on the square. The School continues to provide a square at Wellow House School (Wellow Dam), located 0.3 miles from the unused square.

Walesby Village Sports Association has an unused grass square that no longer has wickets prepared. The site continues to provide football pitches accessed by Walesby FC.

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The previous 2014 Playing Pitch Strategy also identified South Clifton Sports Field and Beckett Field Little Carlton as formerly providing grass wicket squares. Both sites are no longer prepared for cricket but still accommodate football demand.

Kelham Hall has also had a grass wicket square fall out of use, with the land now open grass space for users of the hotel. Newark Flowserve (Lowfields) formerly provided a grass wicket square which was lost during the development of a step compliant adult football pitch at the site.

The British Sugar site formerly hosted a grass wicket square. The site is now open grass space. Finally, Weston CC has a disused square that is now long overgrown grass, with a poor-quality wooden clubhouse on site. NCCC also confirm that Bilsthorpe Sports Ground (Bilsthorpe CC) and Walesby Lane Ollerton (Ollerton CC) both formerly provided grass wicket squares but are now both only used for football demand.

In addition to the unused squares, there is one site that has become disused entirely. Norwell CC has a disused square that is now a generic playing field. It is serviced by a poor quality old wooden clubhouse.

Table 6.3 outlines the provision that has been lost since the last PPS was written. The Newark Analysis Area has seen seven squares fall out of use since 2014, whilst four squares in the Sherwood Analysis Area are no longer prepared for play.

Table 6.3: Loss of natural turf squares since the previous 2014 Playing Pitch Strategy

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of squares formerly provided
4	Beckett Field Little Carlton	Newark	1
7	Bilsthorpe Sports Ground	Sherwood	1
53	Kelham Hall	Newark	1
73	Newark Flowserve (Lowfields)	Newark	1
90	South Clifton Sports Field	Newark	1
110	Walesby Lane Ollerton	Sherwood	1
111	Walesby Village Sports Association	Sherwood	1
113	Wellow House School	Sherwood	1
123	Weston Cricket Club	Newark	1
124	Norwell Cricket Club	Newark	1
127	British Sugar Site Newark	Newark	1

Potential future supply changes

Consultation with Caythorpe CC raises an ambition to install a third square at its site. The site currently has two squares, however, as the Club has five Saturday teams it also accesses Woodborough Village Playing Fields for its fifth Saturday team. It approached the landowner of the field to the north of its site about the prospect of installing a new square and football pitches onto the field.

Hoveringham CC has a small outfield at its site. The Club has approached a local farmer for the prospect of purchasing a small strip of land next to the site to increase the size of its outfield. It is only looking to purchase a small strip of the field; however, the farmer is only willing to sell an entire field.

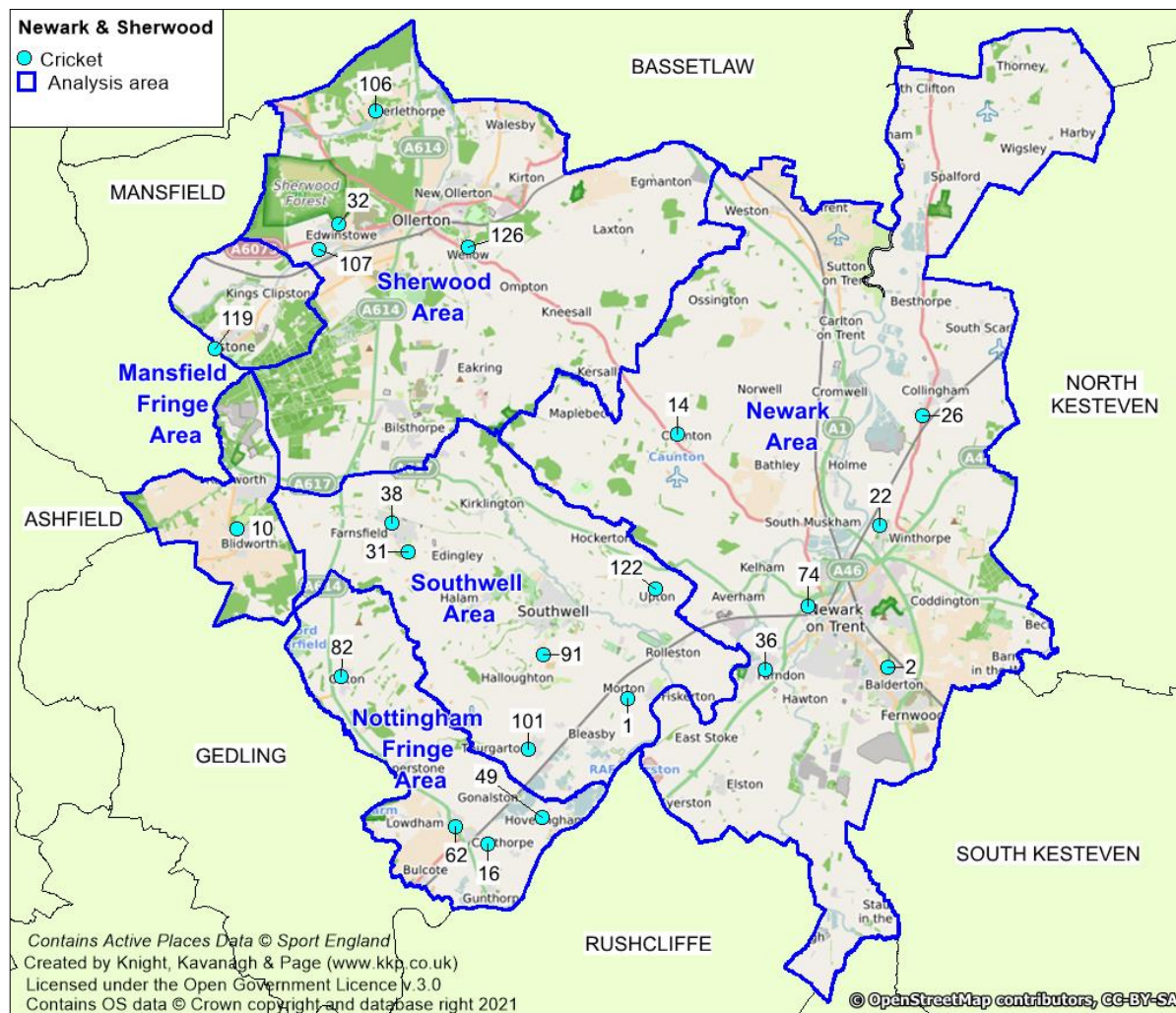
NCCC confirm that new sporting provision is being installed in Fernwood which will potentially include a standalone NTP. It also states that the South of the Local Authority is outlined for gaining a form of cricket provision in line with a new housing development taking place.

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No other potential changes to supply were raised during consultations.

The map below shows the location of all cricket squares currently servicing Newark and Sherwood. For a key to the map, see Table 6.4.

Figure 6.1: Location of grass cricket squares within Newark and Sherwood



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Table 6.4: Key to map of grass cricket squares (community accessible)

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of squares	No. of wickets	No. of NTPs
1	Arthur Radford Sports Ground Fiskerton	Southwell	Yes	1	14	1
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Newark	Yes	1	13	-
10	Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	1	13	-
14	Caunton Cricket Club	Newark	Yes	1	10	-
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	Nottingham Fringe	Yes	1	15	-
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	Nottingham Fringe	Yes	1	11	-
22	Coddington and Winthorpe Cricket Club	Newark	Yes	1	8	1
26	Dale Field Collingham	Newark	Yes	1	14	-
26	Dale Field Collingham	Newark	Yes	1	9	-
31	Edingley Cricket Club	Southwell	Yes	1	5	-
32	Edwinstowe Cricket Club	Sherwood	Yes	1	12	1
36	Farndon Recreation Ground	Newark	Yes	1	12	-
38	Farnsfield Cricket Club	Southwell	Yes	1	9	1
49	Hoveringham Cricket Club	Nottingham Fringe	Yes	1	9	-
62	Lowdham Village Hall and Playing Fields	Nottingham Fringe	Yes	1	11	-
74	Newark Ransome and Marles	Newark	Yes	1	9	1
74	Newark Ransome and Marles	Newark	Yes	1	11	-
82	Oxton Playing Fields	Nottingham Fringe	Yes	1	7	-
91	Southwell Cricket Club	Southwell	Yes	1	17	-
101	The Priory Ground Thurgarton Thurgarton	Southwell	Yes	1	11	1
106	Thoresby Hall Hotel Leisure Spa	Sherwood	Yes	1	13	-
107	Thoresby Sporting Trust Edwinstowe Edwinstowe	Sherwood	Yes	1	12	-
119	Clipstone FC (Lido Ground)	Mansfield Fringe	Yes	1	12	1
122	Upton Cricket Club	Southwell	Yes	1	6	-
126	Wellow House School (Wellow Dam)	Sherwood	No	1	5	-

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Security of tenure

Table 6.5 outlines the tenure agreement of cricket clubs across Newark and Sherwood. Where provision is owned by town/parish councils and either rented or leased to clubs, unless otherwise known, it is considered that this provision is secure and will be provided over the lifespan of the PPOSS.

The broad position is that most clubs have secure tenure at its respective grounds and will therefore be able to service cricket for the foreseeable future (and as a minimum over the lifespan of the PPOSS). This is detailed club-by-club in the following table.

Table 6.5: Summary of club tenure arrangements

Club	Site	Tenure	Security of tenure	Management
Balderton CC	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Club leases from Balderton Parish Council	Secure	Sports Club
Blidworth Colliery Welfare CC	Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre	Freehold ownership to the Blidworth Welfare	Secure	Sports Club
Caunton CC	Caunton Cricket Club	Club has an open-ended lease agreement with the private land owners.	Secure	Sports Club
Caythorpe CC	Caythorpe Cricket Club	Club has freehold ownership	Secure	Sports Club
Clipstone & Bilsthorpe CC	Clipstone FC (Lido Ground)	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
Coddington & Winthorpe CC	Coddington and Winthorpe Cricket Club	Club has a 99-year peppercorn rental agreement with Coddington Parish Council	Secure	Sports Club
Collingham & District CC	Dale Field Collingham	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
Edwinstowe Community CC	Edwinstowe Cricket Club	Club has a lease agreement to 2035 with Thoresby Estates	Secure	Sports Club
Farndon CC	Farndon Recreation Ground	Club has a 50-year lease with Farndon Parish Council	Secure	Sports Club
Farnsfield CC	Farnsfield CC	Freehold ownership	Secure	Sports Club
Farnsfield CC	Edingley CC	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Unknown</i>	Farnsfield CC
Fiskerton & Thurgarton CC	The Priory Ground Thurgarton Thurgarton	Club has a 24-year lease agreement with the neighbouring Estate owner	Secure	Sports Club
Hoveringham CC	Hoveringham CC	Freehold ownership	Secure	Sports Club
Lowdham CC	Lowdham Village Hall and Playing Fields	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Unknown</i>

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Club	Site	Tenure	Security of tenure	Management
Newark Ransome and Marles CC	Newark Ransome and Marles CC	Freehold ownership	Secure	Sports Club
Oxton CC	Oxton Playing Fields	Club has 20 years remaining on a 25-year lease with Oxton Estate	Secure	Sports Club
Southwell CC	Southwell Cricket Club	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
Thoresby Colliery CC	Thoresby Sporting Trust Edwinstowe Edwinstowe	25-year lease with CISWO	Secure	Sports Club
Thoresby Park CC	Thoresby Hall Hotel Leisure Spa	Rented under license from the Thoresby Estate	Secure	Sports Club
Upton CC	Upton Cricket Club	Club has a 30-year lease agreement with a local farmer	Secure	Sports Club

All clubs consulted with have deemed to have security of tenure. The position of the four unresponsive clubs is unknown.

Pitch quality

The quality of cricket pitches has been assessed via a combination of site visits (using non-technical assessments as determined by the ECB) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

The percentage parameters used for the non-technical assessments were as follows; Good (>80%), Standard (50-79%), Poor (<49%).

Maintaining high pitch quality is the most important aspect of cricket; if the wicket is poor, it can affect the quality of the game and can, in some instances, become dangerous. As an example, if a square is poor quality, a ball can bounce erratically on a wicket and become a danger to players.

The quality of a cricket square is assessed by considering factors such as evidence of the wicket being rolled, the wicket being correctly cut, evidence of cover usage, evidence of maintenance and the presence of line markings. Comparatively, an outfield is assessed on the provisions grass length, quantity of weeds, evenness of the surface, level of undulations, damage to the surface and evidence of dog fouling.

With regards to maintenance of provision, all clubs consulted with confirm they have maintenance responsibility for their pitches.

The audit of community available grass wicket cricket squares in Newark and Sherwood found eight to be good quality (32%), 14 to be standard quality (56%) and three to be poor quality (12%).

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With regard to outfield quality, 16 are assessed as good quality (64%), seven as standard (28%) and two as poor (8%). The site-by-site breakdown of this is shown in the table overleaf.

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Table 6.6: Quality ratings for community available grass wicket squares

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Square quality	Outfield quality
1	Arthur Radford Sports Ground Fiskerton	Southwell	Good	Standard
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Newark	Standard	Good
10	Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre	Mansfield Fringe	Good	Good
14	Caunton Cricket Club	Newark	Standard	Good
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	Nottingham Fringe	Good	Good
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	Nottingham Fringe	Good	Good
22	Coddington and Winthorpe Cricket Club	Newark	Standard	Poor
26	Dale Field Collingham	Newark	Good	Standard
26	Dale Field Collingham	Newark	Standard	Good
31	Edingley Cricket Club	Southwell	Poor	Standard
32	Edwinstowe Cricket Club	Sherwood	Standard	Good
36	Farndon Recreation Ground	Newark	Standard	Standard
38	Farnsfield Cricket Club	Southwell	Standard	Good
49	Hoveringham Cricket Club	Nottingham Fringe	Good	Good
62	Lowdham Village Hall and Playing Fields	Nottingham Fringe	Standard	Standard
74	Newark Ransome and Marles	Newark	Standard	Good
74	Newark Ransome and Marles	Newark	Standard	Good
82	Oxton Playing Fields	Nottingham Fringe	Poor	Standard
91	Southwell Cricket Club	Southwell	Good	Good
101	The Priory Ground Thurgarton	Southwell	Standard	Good
106	Thoresby Hall Hotel Leisure Spa	Sherwood	Standard	Good
107	Thoresby Sporting Trust Edwinstowe	Sherwood	Good	Good
119	Clipstone FC (Lido Ground)	Mansfield Fringe	Standard	Good
122	Upton Cricket Club	Southwell	Standard	Standard
126	Wellow House School (Wellow Dam)	Sherwood	Poor	Poor

The broad position at most clubs is that provision is standard quality 56%, eight squares are assessed as good quality (32%) and three squares are of a poor quality (12%). The three poor quality squares are located at Oxton Playing Fields, Edingley CC and Wellow House School (Wellow Dam).

Wellow House School (Wellow Dam) provides a poorly prepared square that has little evidence of cover use or rolling. The outfield is also sloping and has weeds throughout. Oxton CC has a poor quality square that is uneven and has little evidence of rolling. The site has a basic set of covers for its provision. Finally, Edingley CC has a poor square that has had limited maintenance over recent years as a result of it being a secondary site for Farnsfield CC and this it not having the ability to fully maintain a secondary site.

Following Edingley CC folding the square will have been left unprepared. The site is now being used by Farnsfield CC as tis second site, who is also responsible for the maintenance of the provision. The Club confirm it does not have any covers for the square and that it is looking to invest into better maintenance equipment for the site in the future.

There are two poor quality outfields provided in Newark and Sherwood located at Coddington and Winthorpe CC and Wellow House School (Wellow Dam). Coddington and Winthorpe CC has an outfield with frequent rabbit holes and rabbit droppings throughout. Wellow House School (Wellow Dam) has a very sloping outfield with lots of weeds.

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Table 6.7: Pitch quality club consultations findings

Site ID	Site name	Club	Consultation feedback
10	Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre	Blidworth Colliery Welfare CC	Blidworth Colliery Welfare CC confirm it replaced its covers during the 2023 season.
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	Caythorpe CC	Caythorpe CC highlights that grass football pitches are marked on its outfield and used by Lowdham FC which damages the outfields quality for cricket demand. It is considering removing the top layer of the square as to make it level with the outfield. It also wants another set of covers.
31	Edingley Cricket Club	Farnsfield CC	Edingley CC is maintained by Farnsfield CC which access the site for its third senior mens Saturday team. It states it does not have a set of covers for the square, and the roller is over 50 years old and in need of replacement. It is looking to invest into better maintenance equipment for the site in the future.
32	Edwinstowe Cricket Club	Edwinstowe Community CC	Edwinstowe CC provides a standard quality square and good quality outfield. It has a full-time groundsman for the site, and it purchased a new lawn mower in 2022. It has an issue with the starter motor of its roller which it is hoping to address.
36	Farndon Recreation Ground	Farndon CC	The Club state it does not have a set of covers for the square and the site is open space which negatively affects its quality. It states it has been promised financial contributions from National Highways Agency towards a set of covers however the funding is yet to be provided. The outfield is also used by Newark Town FC and Newark FC which again worsens its quality. Long term it hopes to increase the number of wickets on the square and flatten its outfield.
74	Newark Ransome and Marles	Newark Ransome and Marles CC	Newark and Ransome Marles CC has two standard quality squares with good outfields. It confirms that the first square is prone to flooding which can have long term effects on its quality.
82	Oxton Playing Fields	Oxton CC	Oxton CC state the square has improved in quality in recent years through greater funding going towards putting more loam on the square.
101	The Priory Ground Thurgarton	Fiskerton & Thurgarton CC	The Priory Ground Thurgarton has a standard quality square and good outfield. Fiskerton and Thurgarton CC state the quality of the square has slightly improved since the previous season.
107	Thoresby Sporting Trust Edwinstowe	Thoresby Colliery CC	Thoresby Sporting Trust Edwinstowe has a good quality square and outfield. It confirms hosting Nottinghamshire CC junior fixtures from U10 through to U18's due to the quality of the square.

In relation to the remaining squares across the District, quality is either standard or good.

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Of the NTPs all provision at club sites is in an adequate and useable condition.

Ancillary facilities

Ancillary provision refers to the accompanying building to a site that is accessed as changing facilities and a social space if applicable. All sites were assessed during non-technical site assessments and further evidenced was gained via consultation. Quality ratings were determined by assessing matters such as the condition of the building, the quantity and quality of changing rooms and the social space offering.

Table 6.8: Quality ratings for community available ancillary facilities

Site ID	Site	Club	Analysis area	Ancillary provision quality
1	Arthur Radford Sports Ground Fiskerton	Fiskerton & Thurgarton CC	Southwell	Good
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Balderton CC	Newark	Good
10	Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre	Blidworth Colliery Welfare CC	Mansfield Fringe	Good
14	Caunton Cricket Club	Caunton CC	Newark	Standard
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	Caythorpe CC	Nottingham Fringe	Good
22	Coddington and Winthorpe Cricket Club	Coddington & Winthorpe CC	Newark	Poor
26	Dale Field Collingham	Collingham & District CC	Newark	Standard
31	Edingley Cricket Club	Farnsfield CC	Southwell	Poor
32	Edwinstowe Cricket Club	Edwinstowe Community CC	Sherwood	Good
36	Farndon Recreation Ground	Farndon CC	Newark	Good
38	Farnsfield Cricket Club	Farnsfield CC	Southwell	Good
49	Hoveringham Cricket Club	Hoveringham CC	Nottingham Fringe	Good
62	Lowdham Village Hall and Playing Fields	Lowdham CC	Nottingham Fringe	Standard
74	Newark Ransome and Marles	Newark Ransome and Marles CC	Newark	Standard
82	Oxton Playing Fields	Oxton CC	Nottingham Fringe	Standard
91	Southwell Cricket Club	Southwell CC	Southwell	Good
101	The Priory Ground Thurgarton	Fiskerton & Thurgarton CC	Southwell	Standard
106	Thoresby Hall Hotel Leisure Spa	Thoresby Park CC	Sherwood	Standard
107	Thoresby Sporting Trust Edwinstowe	Thoresby Colliery CC	Sherwood	Standard
119	Clipstone FC (Lido Ground)	Clipstone & Bilsthorpe CC	Mansfield Fringe	Standard
122	Upton Cricket Club	Upton CC	Southwell	Standard
126	Wellow House School (Wellow Dam)	-	Sherwood	Poor

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All clubs in Newark and Sherwood have access to ancillary provision, of which, there is a varying level of quality. Most provision is either good or standard quality; however, this is not the case at all sites. Wellow House School (Wellow Dam) has a poor quality small wooden dated building that does not appear to be used very frequently. Coddington and Winthorpe CC has a poor quality ancillary provision with a very basic small wooden pallet building provided. Edingley CC has a small tin building with no showers and a basic social seating area.

Table 6.9: Ancillary provision quality club consultation findings

Site ID	Site name	Club	Consultation findings
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Balderton CC	Balderton CC access the good quality ancillary provision at Balderton Village Hall Playing Field which has a large brick building in good condition. It states the toilet facilities are of a poor quality.
10	Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre	Blidworth Colliery Welfare CC	Blidworth Colliery Welfare CC has a good quality clubhouse with two changing rooms, an umpire's changing space, two sets of toilets, internal showers for each changing rooms a bar and a social area. It is looking to upgrade its sight screens in 2024.
14	Caunton Cricket Club	Caunton CC	Caunton CC has a standard quality ancillary provision at its site. It states its changing rooms are in good condition and that its social space is of a poor quality.
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	Caythorpe CC	Caythorpe CC has a clubhouse solely used as a bar and function room and storage and a separate changing room block with four changing rooms that was re-furbished 10 years ago. It has a long-term aspiration to knock down the function room, bar and garage and develop a large two-storey brand new clubhouse that can sit between both squares at the site. It is also looking to replace its front electronic scoreboard in the future, as well as putting solar panels onto the changing block.
22	Coddington and Winthorpe Cricket Club	Coddington & Winthorpe CC	Coddington & Winthorpe CC has a poor quality ancillary provision. at its site. The site has a small basic clubhouse with two changing rooms each with one internal cubicle shower, a very small kitchen suitable for refreshments but not food and a small social space. The Club has submitted planning permission to extend the storage space of the pavilion as to allow it to purchase and store its own maintenance equipment at the site. Currently maintenance is undertaken by an external contractor. The Club is looking to do the maintenance itself, however, it requires a space to store its mower before this can occur. It is also looking to purchase a second set of sight screens to prevent the need to move the screen if the bowler is bowling over or around the wicket.
31	Edingley Cricket Club	Farnsfield CC	Edingley CC has a poor quality tin shed building, which features two small changing rooms and a tearoom. There are no showers provided at the site, and the social offering is very limited given the size of the building.

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Site ID	Site name	Club	Consultation findings
32	Edwinstowe Cricket Club	Edwinstowe Community CC	<p>Edwinstowe CC has a good quality clubhouse that was built in 2003. The site has two large changing rooms, a bar and social area and a garage for storage.</p> <p>It has ambitions to slightly extend the clubhouse to have more storage, build a small outdoor bar area and convert some showers into urinals in the changing rooms.</p>
36	Farndon Recreation Ground	Farndon CC	<p>Farndon CC has developed a brand new two storey clubhouse through an anonymous source of external funding which has opened during the 2023 season. The site has two changing rooms, two officials changing rooms, a disabled changing space, a large downstairs bar and social area and a second-floor social room. All internal work for the building is completed and it is now adding decorative touches and landscaping the entrance to the car park.</p> <p>It will demolish its old clubhouse on the site in 2024 following the completion of the new building. It is also waiting for a roller shutter to finish installing its new electronic scoreboard.</p>
38	Farnsfield Cricket Club	Farnsfield CC	<p>Farnsfield CC has a good quality clubhouse with two changing rooms and a covered outdoor seating area.</p> <p>It is looking to install two additional changing rooms to the building as to better accommodate women's demand within the Club.</p>
49	Hoveringham Cricket Club	Hoveringham CC	<p>Hoveringham CC has a good quality clubhouse that was enhanced in 2019 and has since been extended again.</p> <p>The pavilion has two changing rooms, an umpire's space, a viewing balcony, and outdoor seating. The site is located next to the Reindeer Pub which is often used for post-match teas.</p>
74	Newark Ransome and Marles	Newark Ransome and Marles CC	<p>Newark Ransome and Marles CC has a standard quality clubhouse with two changing rooms, a bar, social area and outdoor seating. Upon being relocated from the YMCA Newark & Sherwood Sports Community and Activity Village, it had a second square and new changing room block provided as to account for the loss of provision at the YMCA site.</p> <p>The changing block was built in 2021 and has four changing rooms each with internal showers and an umpire's changing space. It confirms the electrics, utilities, flooring, showers and furniture is all yet to be completed as the funding initially agreed as part of the development is no longer available.</p> <p>It has an old scoreboard that is currently out of use and needs repairing.</p>
101	The Priory Ground Thurgarton	Fiskerton & Thurgarton CC	<p>Fiskerton and Thurgarton CC access the standard quality ancillary provision at The Priory Ground Thurgarton, which is a small wooden building that is well maintained.</p>

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Site ID	Site name	Club	Consultation findings
			It confirms the condition of its changing rooms are standard quality, with a communal shower space provided for both teams.
106	Thoresby Hall Hotel Leisure Spa	Thoresby Park CC	Thoresby Park CC confirms the clubhouse, toilets, changing rooms and social area are all standard quality.
107	Thoresby Sporting Trust Edwinstowe	Thoresby Colliery CC	Thoresby Colliery CC has a standard quality clubhouse. The site has two standard changing rooms, toilets and a social area with a bar. It has plans to convert its garage into two additional changing rooms as well as installing solar panels onto its clubhouse. It confirms it does not yet have the funding for this development. It is also looking to replace its sight screens in the near future.
122	Upton Cricket Club	Upton CC	Upton CC has a standard quality clubhouse that is a fairly large wooden building with a social space between each changing room. It confirms that both changing rooms have internal showers, however, it does not have a dedicated officials changing space.

A total of four clubs describes being able to accommodate separate men's and women's changing facilities within the peak period, those being Newark Ransome and Marles CC, Thoresby Colliery CC, Thoresby Park CC and Upton CC.

Only Balderton CC and Thoresby Colliery CC report experiences of vandalism at their sites. Balderton CC state that youths have damaged the covers in the past. Thoresby Colliery CC referred to historic vandalism, however, it has since installed new fencing surrounding the perimeter of the site. The Club would like to re-build a more secure fence near the car park to make the site more secure.

Ball strike issues

During consultations no ball striking issues were identified and no clubs have any issues meeting league requirements/stipulations. Oxton CC state that it considers its outfield to be undersize, however given its rural location this does not result in any ball striking issues. Farndon CC state it already has ball stopping nets installed at the site.

Training facilities

Access to cricket nets is important, particularly for pre-season/winter training. In Newark and Sherwood, Farndon CC, Newark Ransome and Marles CC, Thoresby Park CC and Caunton CC state there are no fixed nets at its home sites, resulting in portable nets being rolled onto the square for training sessions.

There are four clubs which state there is also demand for additional training facilities at their home sites, those being Farndon CC, Newark Ransome and Marles CC, Fiskerton and Thurgarton CC and Balderton CC.

Table 6.10: Club training facility needs consultation findings

Site ID	Site name	Club	Consultation findings
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Balderton CC	Balderton CC raise the need for an NTP installed on its square.

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Site ID	Site name	Club	Consultation findings
36	Farndon Recreation Ground	Farndon CC	Farndon CC has recently signed a 50-year lease agreement with Farndon Parish Council for a disused bowling green at its site. It has since mowed the green into a useable condition and set up basic ball stopping nets for practicing. It is looking to install a two-lane fixed practice net, however, it requires additional funding.
74	Newark Ransome and Marles	Newark Ransome and Marles CC	Newark Ransome and Marles CC currently uses two portable nets on its square. It is wanting to install a two-lane practice net at the site; however, it requires additional funding.
101	The Priory Ground Thurgarton	Fiskerton & Thurgarton CC	Fiskerton and Thurgarton CC state it has demand for additional training facilities but does not go into detail to describe what it requires. The Priory Ground Thurgarton has a set of poor quality fixed practice nets.

Indoor facilities

Whilst the PPOSS only considers outdoor playing pitches, a cricket training programme includes accessing indoor net facilities over winter months in preparation for the start of the season. As such indoor training facilities are discussed below.

In total, 13 clubs report accessing indoor provision for winter net pre-season training sessions, with sites such as Dukeries Leisure Centre, Barnby Road Academy Newark, Cuckney CC (Bassetlaw) and The West Bridgford School (Rushcliffe) being accessed.

Caythorpe CC, Edwinstowe CC and Fiskerton and Thurgarton CC all confirm that finding availability to indoor training facilities is a challenge.

6.3: Demand

There are 19 clubs in Newark and Sherwood which collectively provide 105 teams. When broken down this equates to 56 senior men's, nine senior women's, 39 junior boys and one junior girls' team. Of clubs, nine are relatively large and consist of both senior and junior sections, whilst three smaller clubs feature one senior team each.

The 2014 Newark and Sherwood PPS identified 116 teams playing within the District, with a breakdown of 79 senior mens teams and 37 junior boys' teams. This equates to a significant decline in demand for cricket since 2014. This is largely caused by the number of clubs declining from 32 in the previous 2014 PPS to 19 clubs in 2023.

The following clubs have folded since the previous PPS was written:

- ◀ Claypole CC
- ◀ Edingley CC
- ◀ Epperstone CC
- ◀ Laxton CC
- ◀ Nelson's Ashes CC
- ◀ Norwell CC
- ◀ Ollerton Colliery CC
- ◀ Vodafone Newark CC

Finally, Bilsthorpe CC has merged with Clipstone CC and Thurgarton CC has merged with Fiskerton CC since the previous PPS.

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There has, however, been a growth of nine women's teams and one junior girls' team across five clubs which illustrates the success of women's and girls' participation programmes.

Table 6.11: Summary of teams by club

Club	Analysis area	Number of teams			
		Senior male	Senior female	Junior boys'	Junior girls'
Balderton CC	Newark	2	-	-	-
Blidworth Colliery Welfare CC	Mansfield Fringe	3	-	2	-
Caunton CC	Newark	1	-	-	-
Caythorpe CC	Nottingham Fringe	9	2	7	-
Clipstone & Bilsthorpe CC	Mansfield Fringe	2	-	1	-
Coddington & Winthorpe CC	Newark	3	-	3	-
Collingham & District CC	Newark	3	3	4	1
Edwinstowe Community CC	Sherwood	1	-	2	-
Farndon CC	Newark	3	1	4	-
Farnsfield CC	Southwell	5	1	3	-
Fiskerton & Thurgarton CC	Southwell	4	-	3	-
Hoveringham CC	Nottingham Fringe	2	-	-	-
Lowdham CC	Nottingham Fringe	2	-	-	-
Newark Ransome and Marles CC	Newark	5	2	4	-
Oxton CC	Nottingham Fringe	2	-	-	-
Southwell CC	Southwell	3	-	3	-
Thoresby Colliery CC	Sherwood	5	-	3	-
Thoresby Park CC	Sherwood	1	-	-	-
Upton CC	Southwell	1	-	-	-
Total		56	9	39	1

As seen in the table below, the Newark Analysis Area accommodates the most demand with 39 teams identified. The area with the least amount of cricket demand is the Mansfield Fringe Analysis Area with eight teams.

Table 6.12: Summary of teams by analysis area

Analysis area	No. of competitive teams			
	Senior men	Senior women	Junior boys	Junior girls
Mansfield Fringe	5	-	3	-
Newark	17	6	15	1
Nottingham Fringe	15	2	7	-
Sherwood	7	-	5	-
Southwell	12	1	9	-
Newark and Sherwood	56	9	39	1

Participation trends

There are seven clubs which report that demand has increased in some form over the previous three years, those being Oxton CC, Newark Ransome and Marles CC, Fiskerton and Thurgarton CC, Thoresby Colliery CC, Caythorpe CC, Edwinstowe CC, Farndon CC.

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Edwinstowe CC confirm that it nearly folded in 2016, however, it then prioritised junior demand and has since re-grown over the last three years.

None of the clubs consulted with describe declining in number of teams in recent years. Therefore, the decline in senior men's teams from the 2014 PPS mostly relates to the number of clubs also decreasing from 32 to 19 in 2023 notwithstanding Edwinstowe CC which has seen a reduction in teams as mentioned above. The decline in number of clubs has also seen the number of senior mens teams decrease from 79 to 56 teams.

Imported/exported demand

Exported demand refers to teams that are currently accessing pitches for home fixtures outside of the study area, despite being registered in Newark & Sherwood. Likewise, imported demand is demand from neighbouring authorities accessing pitches in Newark & Sherwood to play competitive matches.

The only instance of exported demand for competitive fixtures is Caythorpe CC access Woodborough Village Playing Fields (Gedling) for its fifth mens Saturday team. The Club share the site with Ravenshead CC and has a 12-month rolling agreement to access the site. It states that it would like an NTP installing on the site as it does not have a set of covers, so the quality of the square is limited.

Imported demand is identified at Caunton CC. It accommodates Nottingham Tigers CC (Nottingham), and Edwinstowe CC which host Madni CC (Gedling).

Additional activity

The ECB run several initiatives across the Country which results in additional cricket demand and use of cricket facilities. Whilst these do not generally utilise grass wickets, they can impact upon availability when sessions are being held due to use of cricket outfield, making squares unusable during these periods. The most relevant initiatives currently being delivered are detailed below.

All Stars cricket

In partnership with the ECB and Chance to Shine, cricket clubs can register to become an ECB All Stars Cricket Centre. Once registered, a club delivers programmes which introduce cricket to children aged from five to eight. Subsequently, this may lead to increased interest and demand for junior cricket at clubs. The programme seeks to achieve the following aims:

- ◀ Increase cricket activity for five- to eight-year-olds in the school and club environment.
- ◀ Develop consistency of message in both settings to aid transition.
- ◀ Improve generic movement skills for children, using cricket as the vehicle.
- ◀ Make it easier for new volunteers to support and deliver in the club environment.
- ◀ Use fun small-sided games to enthuse new children and volunteers to follow and play the game.

Dynamo's cricket

A key development area for the ECB in delivering on the outcomes of 'Inspiring Generations' will be the Dynamos programme for 8–11-year-olds. It plans on building on the significant growth of the All-Stars programme and will develop the pathway to retain juniors which progress.

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Where All Stars seeks to engage children in cricket activity and learning the skills, Dynamo's seeks to engage children in learning how to play, introducing a modified softball format as competitive progression with a view to eventual transition through to hardball cricket.

The programme will be strongly linked to The Hundred, a short format competition which also launched in 2022. The table below details the 2023 participation figures.

Table 6.13: Summary of All Stars and Dynamos participation

Club	All Stars participation figures (2023)	Dynamos participation figures (2023)
Balderton CC	16 participants	16 participants
Blidworth CC	25 participants	-
Edwinstowe CC	44 participants	65 participants
Farndon CC	30 participants	20 participants
Fiskerton and Thurgarton CC	25 participants	18 participants
Hoveringham CC	10 participants	-
Newark Ransome and Marles CC	25 participants	25 participants

There are seven clubs currently delivering All Stars and five delivering Dynamos sessions. The highest level of All Stars and Dynamos participation can be seen at Edwinstowe CC with a total of 44 All Stars participants and 65 Dynamos participants.

Softball cricket

Softball is an ECB initiative aimed at women and girls to increase female participation in cricket.

The aim of softball cricket sections is enjoyment and participation, without pads, a hardball, a heavy bat and limited rules. Sessions are generally played on the outfield of a square and follow a festival format with each session running for a maximum of 2 and half hours, shorter than traditional formats.

In Newark and Sherwood seven clubs run women's softball sessions as detailed below.

Table 6.14: Summary of women's and girls' softball participation

Club	Women's and girls' softball participation figures (2023)
Caythorpe CC	44 participants
Edwinstowe CC	40 participants
Farndon CC	22 participants
Farnsfield CC	15 participants
Fiskerton and Thurgarton CC	25 participants
Hoveringham CC	8 participants
Newark Ransome and Marles CC	15 participants
Thoresby Colliery CC	18 participants

In the case of Caythorpe CC, it has four junior softball teams (two boys and two girls). Newark Ransome and Marles CC also confirm having one mini mixed softball team and one ladies team. Edwinstowe CC has a U11 and U9 softball team, whilst Farndon CC also confirm having two softball teams. Thoresby Colliery CC has formed a ladies softball team as of the 2023 season and has an U9 softball team. Hoveringham CC state it is hoping to increase in women's demand as to run a women's team for the 2024 season.

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Chance to Shine

Chance to Shine is a national charity that aims to give all children the opportunity to play, learn and develop through cricket. It believes that cricket can help to develop the personal, social and physical skills of the 500,000 children that are worked with every year.

It works in schools to provide children with their first experience of cricket, whilst it has also developed Chance to Shine Street. This is a format of the sport played with a tapeball, targeting children and young adults in inner-city areas and with matches lasting just 20-minutes. The following 16 schools have received a whole school chance to shine programme:

- ◀ Barnby Road Academy Newark
- ◀ Bleasby C of E Primary School
- ◀ Blidworth Oaks Primary School
- ◀ Elston All Saints Anglican Methodist Primary School
- ◀ Halam C of E Primary School
- ◀ Holy Trinity School Newark Newark
- ◀ John Blow Primary School Collingham
- ◀ John Hunt Primary and Nursery School Balderton
- ◀ King Edwin Primary School Edwinstowe
- ◀ Kirklington Primary School
- ◀ Lake View Primary and Nursery School Rainworth
- ◀ Lovers Lane Primary School Newark
- ◀ Lowes Wong Junior School Southwell
- ◀ Samuel Barlow Primary Academy Clipstone Clipstone
- ◀ St Mary's C of E Primary School Edwinstowe
- ◀ St Peter's Cross Keys C of E Academy Farndon

Other usage

There are four clubs locally which feature squares of a good enough quality to be used as an out ground for Nottinghamshire County CC: Blidworth Colliery Welfare CC, Caythorpe CC, Newark Ransome and Marles CC and Farndon CC.

Edwinstowe CC also confirm hosting an U13s international tournament in the summer of 2023 with teams from Zimbabwe, the United Arab Emirates and the United States of America participating.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through club ambitions and using population forecasts. In addition, the Strategy that follows this report will contain housing growth scenarios that will estimate the additional demand for cricket arising from housing development plans within Newark and Sherwood.

Population growth

Based on population projections to 2033 (the period to which this assessment projects population based future demand), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator (PPC) can estimate the likely additional demand for grass football pitches that will arise from any growth.

Using the current and future populations in each of the relevant age groups together with the current team numbers, team generation rates (TGRs) have been established to understand how much growth is required to establish one new team.

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For reference total current population in 2022 of 123,127 will increase to 133,194 by 2033. The table below shows the number of new teams generated by the new population and the requisite match equivalent sessions.

Table 6.15: Summary of population growth

Age group	Current population per sport age group	Team generation rate	No. of new teams generated by the new population	No. of new teams generated by the new population	Peak time	Average games for age group	Match equivalent session per season ²⁷
Men (18-55yrs)	27,525	1:491	3.51	3	Saturday	12	36
Women (18-55yrs)	27,861	1:3113	0.56	0	Sunday	12	0
Boys (7-18yrs)	8,644	1:229	2.45	2	Midweek	6	12
Girls (7-18yrs)	8,298	1:8584	0.06	0	Midweek	6	0

The total amount of future growth is anticipated to equate to three senior men's and two junior boys' teams. As these figures cannot be accredited to any one analysis area, they will be added onto the overall supply and demand total for each pitch type.

Participation growth

Through consultation many clubs express the desire to increase the number of teams they field. In total, eight clubs in Newark and Sherwood have plans to increase the number of teams they currently provide, by a total of 14 teams. Details of a breakdown of this potential growth is listed in the table below.

Table 6.16: Future demand expressed by clubs (in teams)

Club	Analysis area	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys	Junior girls
Balderton CC	Newark	-	-	1	-
Blidworth CC	Mansfield Fringe	-	-	1	-
Coddington CC	Newark	1	-	-	-
Edwinstowe CC	Sherwood	2	1	-	-
Fiskerton and Thurgarton CC	Southwell	1	1	1	1
Hoveringham CC	Nottingham Fringe	-	1	1	-
Newark Ransome and Marles CC	Newark	1	-	-	-
Thoresby Colliery CC	Sherwood	-	1	-	-
-	Total	5	4	4	1

Future demand summary

In summary, future demand is calculated using ONS population forecasts equating to three senior men's and two junior boys' teams. A scenario exploring how future demand through club ambitions will impact the supply and demand analysis will be included in the forthcoming Strategy.

²⁷ 2 teams require 1 pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, 1 team accounts to 0.5 match equivalent sessions on their relevant pitch type.

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Peak time demand

An analysis of match play identifies that peak time demand for senior cricket in Newark and Sherwood is Saturday, although several teams also play on a Sunday including senior women's teams. As such, both are considered within the supply and demand analysis later in the section. For junior cricket, peak time is midweek.

6.4: Capacity analysis

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

The capacity of a square to accommodate matches is driven by the number and quality of wickets. This section of the report therefore presents the current pitch stock available for cricket and illustrates the number of competitive match equivalent sessions per season per square that is available and that currently takes place.

For good quality squares, capacity is five matches per grass wicket per season, whilst for a standard quality square, capacity is four matches per wicket per season. For poor quality squares, no capacity is considered to exist as such provision is not deemed safe for play.

The number of matches played by each team has been derived from consultation with the clubs. Where consultation was not possible, or where the level of play was not made clear, an assumption has been made that all senior teams play between 10 and 12 home matches per year and all junior teams play between four and eight matches per year depending on their age and level of competition.

The above is used to allocate capacity ratings as follows:

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

The capacity analysis assumes that all clubs rotate their wickets evenly. However, this may not be the case at all sites, with central wickets potentially used more commonly than outer wickets that are closer to a boundary, especially for senior matches. The idea of this is to showcase what the capacity is or could be if best practice is followed for the whole square, rather than doing it on a wicket-by-wicket basis.

Please note that NTPs have been discounted from the analysis by means of not distorting the findings. This is because no NTPs are currently being used more than their recommended capacity, which is 60 match equivalent sessions per season (0 match equivalent sessions when poor quality). With no NTPs being overused, this translates to overall actual spare capacity for junior play.

However, this is not considered to be actual spare capacity for senior weekend cricket due to league requirements generally not allowing usage.

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With regard to midweek capacity, a maximum capacity rating of 36 match equivalent has been set for one square. This is calculated on the understanding that a square is to be rested at least two days during the week in order to enable necessary maintenance and reduce overplay. Therefore, on a home and away basis of three nights a week, a square has been set the capacity of six sessions per week for midweek play, multiplied by six (the average number of matches a junior team plays). Any square showing potential spare capacity for midweek demand shall be allocated six match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity, due to the fewer number of fixtures within a junior calendar.

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Table 6.17: Capacity analysis of community available grass cricket squares

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Club users	No. of squares	Square quality	No. of grass wickets	Capacity (MES per season)	Actual play (MES per season)	Capacity rating (MES per season)	Potential spare capacity for senior cricket? (Saturday)	Potential spare capacity for senior cricket? (Sunday)	Potential spare capacity for junior cricket? (Midweek)
1	Arthur Radford Sports Ground Fiskerton	Southwell	Fiskerton & Thurgarton CC	1	Good	14	70	12	58	Yes	Yes	Yes
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Newark	Balderton CC	1	Standard	13	52	30	22	No	Yes	Yes
10	Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre	Mansfield Fringe	Blidworth Colliery Welfare CC	1	Good	13	65	58	7	No	No	Yes
14	Caunton Cricket Club	Newark	Caunton CC	1	Standard	10	40	25	15	Yes	Yes	Yes
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	Nottingham Fringe	Caythorpe CC	1	Good	15	75	81	6	No	No	No
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	Nottingham Fringe	Caythorpe CC	1	Good	11	55	67	12	No	No	No
22	Coddington and Winthorpe Cricket Club	Newark	Coddington & Winthorpe CC	1	Standard	8	32	45	13	No	No	No
26	Dale Field Collingham	Newark	Collingham & District CC	1	Good	14	70	49	21	Yes	Yes	Yes
26	Dale Field Collingham	Newark	Collingham & District CC	1	Standard	9	36	27	9	No	No	Yes
31	Edingley Cricket Club	Southwell	Farnsfield CC	1	Poor	8	0	15	15	No	No	No
32	Edwinstowe Cricket Club	Sherwood	Edwinstowe Community CC Thoresby Colliery CC Madni CC	1	Standard	12	48	36	8	No	No	Yes
36	Farndon Recreation Ground	Newark	Farndon CC	1	Standard	12	48	51	3	No	No	No
38	Farnsfield Cricket Club	Southwell	Farnsfield CC	1	Standard	9	36	35	1	No	No	No
49	Hoveringham Cricket Club	Nottingham Fringe	Hoveringham CC	1	Good	9	45	35	10	No	No	Yes
62	Lowdham Village Hall and Playing Fields	Nottingham Fringe	Lowdham CC	1	Standard	11	44	18	26	No	Yes	Yes
74	Newark Ransome and Marles	Newark	Newark Ransome and Marles CC	1	Standard	9	36	30	6	No	No	Yes
74	Newark Ransome and Marles	Newark	Newark Ransome and Marles CC	1	Standard	11	44	45	1	No	No	No
82	Oxton Playing Fields	Nottingham Fringe	Oxton CC	1	Poor	7	0	20	20	No	No	No
91	Southwell Cricket Club	Southwell	Southwell CC	1	Good	17	85	45	40	No	Yes	Yes
101	The Priory Ground Thurgarton	Southwell	Fiskerton & Thurgarton CC	1	Standard	11	44	50	6	No	No	No
106	Thoresby Hall Hotel Leisure Spa	Sherwood	Thoresby Park CC	1	Standard	13	52	11	41	Yes	Yes	Yes

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Club users	No. of squares	Square quality	No. of grass wickets	Capacity (MES per season)	Actual play (MES per season)	Capacity rating (MES per season)	Potential spare capacity for senior cricket? (Saturday)	Potential spare capacity for senior cricket? (Sunday)	Potential spare capacity for junior cricket? (Midweek)
107	Thoresby Sporting Trust Edwinstowe	Sherwood	Thoresby Colliery CC	1	Good	12	60	60	-	No	No	No
119	Clipstone FC (Lido Ground)	Mansfield Fringe	Clipstone & Bilsthorpe CC	1	Standard	12	48	28	20	No	Yes	Yes
122	Upton Cricket Club	Southwell	Upton CC	1	Standard	6	24	12	12	Yes	Yes	Yes

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Actual spare capacity

Although a large amount of spare capacity is identified, it is not as simple as to aggregate this into a general oversupply of cricket squares. Despite 15 squares displaying some form of spare capacity, only five are available for further senior cricket activity on a Saturday, whilst nine sites are available for further Sunday play, as shown below.

Table 6.18: Site by site breakdown of spare capacity (Saturday and Sunday demand)

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Spare capacity (MES)	No. of teams that could be accommodated on Saturday	No. of teams that could be accommodated on Sunday
1	Arthur Radford Sports Ground Fiskerton	Southwell	58	1 team	2 teams
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Newark	22	-	1 team
14	Caunton Cricket Club	Newark	15	1 team	1 team
26	Dale Field Collingham	Newark	21	1 team	1 team
62	Lowdham Village Hall and Playing Fields	Nottingham Fringe	26	-	2 teams
91	Southwell Cricket Club	Southwell	40	-	1 team
106	Thoresby Hall Hotel Leisure Spa	Sherwood	41	1 team	2 teams
119	Clipstone FC (Lido Ground)	Mansfield Fringe	20	-	1 team
122	Upton Cricket Club	Southwell	12	1 team	1 team
-	-	Total	255	5 teams	12 teams

For both Saturday and Sunday demand, total spare capacity equates to 255 match equivalent sessions per season. When applying this to Saturday peak time cricket, Saturday actual spare capacity total 60 match equivalent sessions per season. This is calculated by using the average number of matches played per season by senior teams (12) multiplied by the number of additional teams that can be fielded at peak time (two teams per square that is available). The entirety of the spare capacity at each site is not used as this number of matches may not be able to be accommodated at peak time.

Actual spare capacity is identified across three of the five analysis areas, with the Newark and Southwell analysis areas accommodating most actual spare capacity each totalling 24 match equivalent sessions per season.

Table 6.19: Actual spare capacity for senior cricket (Saturday) by analysis area

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (MES per season)
Mansfield Fringe	-
Newark	24
Nottingham Fringe	-
Sherwood	12
Southwell	24
Newark and Sherwood	60

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All remaining squares are used to capacity on Saturdays, either because two teams are already assigned to them as a home venue or because the level of spare capacity is insufficient to accommodate an additional team without overplay being created or exacerbated (at least 12 match equivalent sessions per season of spare capacity is required).

For Sunday cricket, actual spare capacity is provided on nine squares, as can be seen by Table 6.20, totalling 144 match equivalent sessions per season, with all five analysis areas showing some level of actual spare capacity. This is highest in the Southwell Analysis Area as shown below.

Table 6.20: Actual spare capacity for senior cricket (Sunday) by analysis area

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (MES per season)
Mansfield Fringe	12
Newark	36
Nottingham Fringe	24
Sherwood	24
Southwell	48
Newark and Sherwood	144

Sunday capacity provides capacity for additional senior men's demand to be accommodated outside of the peak period but still within a competitive format. Moreover, it provides peak time availability for senior women's cricket (both hardball and softball) and for some junior demand, particularly older age groups.

For junior midweek cricket, 14 squares have actual spare capacity. Working on the basis that a square can accommodate six midweek teams, and where actual spare capacity is present, six match equivalent sessions per season is accounted for, using this methodology, it can be calculated that 204 match equivalent sessions if actual spare capacity is present which can accommodate the growth of a further 37 junior teams.

Table 6.21: Site by site breakdown of spare capacity (Midweek demand)

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Spare capacity (MES)	No. of teams that could be accommodated midweek
1	Arthur Radford Sports Ground Fiskerton	Southwell	58	6 teams
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Newark	22	3 teams
10	Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre	Mansfield Fringe	7	1 team
14	Caunton Cricket Club	Newark	15	2 teams
26	Dale Field Collingham	Newark	21	3 teams
26	Dale Field Collingham	Newark	9	1 team
32	Edwinstowe Cricket Club	Sherwood	8	1 team
49	Hoveringham Cricket Club	Nottingham Fringe	10	1 team
62	Lowdham Village Hall and Playing Fields	Nottingham Fringe	26	4 teams
74	Newark Ransome and Marles	Newark	6	1 team
91	Southwell Cricket Club	Southwell	40	3 teams

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Spare capacity (MES)	No. of teams that could be accommodated midweek
106	Thoresby Hall Hotel Leisure Spa	Sherwood	41	6 teams
119	Clipstone FC (Lido Ground)	Mansfield Fringe	20	3 teams
122	Upton Cricket Club	Southwell	12	2 teams
-	-	Total	295	37 teams

Table 6.22: Actual spare capacity for junior cricket (midweek) by analysis area

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (MES per season)
Mansfield Fringe	24
Newark	60
Nottingham Fringe	30
Sherwood	42
Southwell	66
Newark and Sherwood	222

The reason for midweek capacity being higher than the capacity for weekend cricket is because fixtures can be split across numerous days. Actual spare capacity for midweek demand is calculated by using the average number of matches played per season by juniors' teams (six) multiplied by the number of additional teams that can be fielded at peak time (two teams per day for three days of play per square that is available).

The entirety of the spare capacity at each site is not used as this number of matches may not actually be able to be accommodated at peak time. Clubs with a significant junior membership base tend to struggle for capacity, such as Southwell CC.

Overplay

Overplay translates to a site accommodating more demand than it can sustain. While it is possible to sustain certain minimal levels of overplay providing that a regular, sufficient maintenance regime is in place, a resolution is recommended to ensure that there is no detrimental effect on quality over time.

There are eight squares across seven sites identified as being overplayed in Newark and Sherwood as detailed in the table overleaf.

Overplay totals 76 match equivalent sessions per season. The highest amount of overplay is located in the Nottingham Fringe Analysis Area with 38 match equivalent sessions per season. Both the Mansfield Fringe and Sherwood analysis areas have no identified overplay.

The identified overplay at Edingley CC and Oxtun CC is due to both sites having poor quality squares, meaning any demand taking place is immediately contributing towards overplay. The remaining five sites are overplayed due to the quantity of demand being accommodated on the squares, with clubs such as Caythorpe CC and Coddington and Winthorpe CC having high demand levels to accommodate.

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Table 6.23: Summary of overplay

Site ID	Site name	Club	Analysis area	Overplay (MES per season)
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	Caythorpe CC	Nottingham Fringe	6
16	Caythorpe Cricket Club	Caythorpe CC	Nottingham Fringe	12
22	Coddington and Winthorpe Cricket Club	Coddington & Winthorpe CC	Newark	13
31	Edingley Cricket Club	Farnsfield CC	Southwell	15
36	Farndon Recreation Ground	Farndon CC	Newark	3
74	Newark Ransome and Marles	Newark Ransome and Marles CC	Newark	1
82	Oxton Playing Fields	Oxton CC	Nottingham Fringe	20
101	The Priory Ground Thurgarton	Fiskerton & Thurgarton CC	Southwell	6
-	-	-	Total	76

Table 6.24: Summary of overplay by analysis area

Analysis area	Overplay (MES per season)
Mansfield Fringe	-
Newark	17
Nottingham Fringe	38
Sherwood	-
Southwell	21
Newark and Sherwood	76

Although it is possible to sustain certain, minimal levels of overplay providing that a regular, sufficient maintenance regime is in place, a reduction in play is recommended on overplayed squares to ensure there is no detrimental effect on quality over time.

6.5: Supply and demand analysis

Consideration must be given to the extent to which current provision can accommodate current and future demand for both senior and junior cricket. This section therefore looks at actual spare capacity on grass wicket squares considered against overplay and identified future demand. Match equivalent sessions for future demand are calculated using the average number of matches played per season (12 matches for senior teams and six matches for junior teams).

As previously presented, future demand is calculated using population forecasts and team generation rates (using Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator). On this basis, it has been forecast that Newark and Sherwood will see growth of three senior men's and two junior boys' teams between now and 2033.

When applied in match equivalent sessions, this equates to 36 per season for Saturday demand and 12 per season for midweek demand. As detailed earlier, total future demand has been equated to the entirety of Newark and Sherwood.

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Senior cricket supply and demand analysis (Saturday)

The table below looks at the supply and demand balance during the peak period for senior men's cricket (Saturday). For actual spare capacity, please note that this is converted from the number of match equivalent sessions identified above to the number of match equivalent sessions that could feasibly be utilised by a growth in demand (shown in Table 6.17). This is calculated by using the average number of matches played per season by senior teams (12) multiplied by the number of additional teams that can be fielded at peak time (two teams per square that is available).

Table 6.25: Supply and demand analysis of cricket squares for senior cricket (Saturday)

Analysis area	Demand (MES per season)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Mansfield Fringe	-	-	0	-	0
Newark	24	17	7	-	0
Nottingham Fringe	-	38	38	-	0
Sherwood	12	-	12	-	0
Southwell	24	21	3	-	0
Newark and Sherwood	60	76	16	36²⁸	52

As seen in the table above, there is current overplay equating to 16 match equivalent sessions per season. When considering future demand of three additional senior teams by 2033, total actual spare capacity is exacerbated to 52 match equivalent sessions per season.

Senior cricket supply and demand analysis (Sunday)

The table below looks at the supply and demand balance for Sunday cricket, which is peak time for senior women's demand but also relevant to some senior men's and junior teams.

Table 6.26: Supply and demand analysis of cricket squares for senior cricket (Sunday)

Analysis area	Demand (MES per season)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Mansfield Fringe	12	-	12	-	0
Newark	36	17	19	-	0
Nottingham Fringe	24	38	14	-	0
Sherwood	24	-	24	-	0
Southwell	48	21	27	-	0
Newark and Sherwood	144	76	68	-	68

There is overall current spare capacity amounting to 68 match equivalent sessions per season, with only the Nottingham Fringe Analysis Area showing a shortfall. No future demand is identified through population growth, meaning no change takes place to the future capacity analysis.

²⁸ Future demand is based on the growth of three senior men's team identified through the Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator.

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Junior cricket supply and demand analysis (midweek)

For the junior supply and demand analysis, actual spare capacity equates to the total number of additional junior teams that could be fielded on each available square (on the assumption that one square can accommodate six midweek teams), multiplied by six (the average number of matches a junior team plays). This is because junior demand at peak time is not limited to one day, although some capacity should be reserved for activity such as All Stars and Dynamos cricket.

Table 6.27: Supply and demand analysis of cricket squares for junior cricket

Analysis area	Demand (MES per season)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Mansfield Fringe	24	-	24	-	-
Newark	60	17	43	-	-
Nottingham Fringe	30	38	8	-	-
Sherwood	42	-	42	-	-
Southwell	66	21	45	-	-
Newark and Sherwood	222	76	146	12²⁹	134

There is currently overall spare capacity for midweek cricket amounting to 146 match equivalent sessions per season, with most of the actual spare capacity being present in the Southwell Analysis Area. When accommodating for future demand, the growth of two junior teams by 2033 reduces actual spare capacity to 134 match equivalent sessions per season.

6.6: Conclusion

In summary, the broad position in Newark and Sherwood is there is insufficient capacity for current demand across Saturday cricket. This is a consequence of the 76 match equivalent sessions per week of overplay identified across seven sites.

Overplay is caused by a combination of poor quality provision at sites such as Edingley CC, and sheer quantity of demand at clubs such as Caythorpe CC.

There is, however, a sufficient amount of provision to accommodate all current Sunday and midweek demand that has been identified, notwithstanding the isolated shortfalls in the Nottingham Fringe Analysis Area.

Future demand worsens shortfalls for Saturday cricket; however, actual spare capacity remains for both Sunday and midweek demand in the future.

The Strategy will consider the role in which disused provision could potentially play in accommodating demand and alleviating current / future shortfalls.

A scenario exploring how future demand, through club aspirations of five senior men's, four senior women's, four junior boys' and one junior girls' team will affect the future capacity analysis will be included in the proceeding Strategy document.

²⁹ Future demand is based on the growth of two junior boys' team identified through the Sport England Pitch Calculator.

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Cricket – supply and demand summary

- ◀ The broad position in Newark and Sherwood is there is an insufficient stock of supply for peak time senior men's cricket, with all remaining formats also able to be accommodated.
- ◀ Overplay of 16 match equivalent sessions per season is present on a Saturday. This is exacerbated to 52 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity per season when taking into account future demand from population growth.
- ◀ Sunday and Midweek demand continues to display actual spare capacity once future demand is accounted for.
- ◀ Eight squares across seven sites are overplayed: Caythorpe CC, Coddington and Winthorpe CC, Edingley CC, Farndon Recreation Ground, Newark Ransome and Marles, Oxtan Playing Fields and The Priory Ground Thurgarton. Total overplay equates to 76 match equivalent sessions per season.

Cricket – supply summary

- ◀ In total, there are 25 active grass wicket squares in Newark and Sherwood all of which are open to community use other than the square at Wellow House School (Wellow Dam).
- ◀ In total there are 25 grass wicket squares across 22 sites of which all are available for community use, other than the square at Wellow House School (Wellow Dam) which only services curricular demand.
- ◀ There are NTPs accompanying grass wicket squares at seven sites, as well as three standalone NTP's identified, all of which are at school sites and are not available for community use.
- ◀ Five clubs in Newark and Sherwood have freehold ownership of its sites, eight have lease agreements in place and two rent sites. The remaining clubs either have verbal agreements or are merely on good terms with the landowners. The tenure position of the four unresponsive clubs is unknown.
- ◀ The audit of community available grass wicket cricket squares found eight to be good quality, 14 to be standard quality and three to be poor quality, located at Edingley CC, Oxtan CC and Wellow House School (Wellow Dam).
- ◀ Both Coddington and Winthorpe CC and Farnsfield CC (Edingley CC) access poor quality ancillary facilities.
- ◀ Coddington and Winthorpe CC, Thoresby Colliery CC, Newark Ransome and Marles CC, Edwinstowe CC, Caythorpe CC and Farnsfield CC have all expressed a desire to develop its ancillary provision offering.
- ◀ Four clubs identify demand for additional training facilities at its home sites.
- ◀ There are four disused squares (former grass pitch) within Newark and Sherwood, those being Wellow House School, Walesby Village Sports Association, Norwell CC and Weston CC.

Cricket – demand summary

- ◀ There are 19 clubs in Newark and Sherwood which collectively provide 56 senior men's, nine senior women's, 39 junior boys' and one junior girls' team.
- ◀ Seven clubs within Newark and Sherwood currently offer the All Stars program, whilst five clubs deliver Dynamos sessions.
- ◀ Eight clubs confirm delivering women's and girls' softball sessions which bring total participation figures of 187.
- ◀ Through population growth, future demand equating to the growth of three senior men's and two junior boys' teams is identified by 2033.
- ◀ Club aspirations equate to the potential growth of five senior men's, four senior women's, four junior boys' and one junior girls' team.
- ◀ Caythorpe CC resemble the only Club that exports demand outside of the District when accessing Woodborough Village Playing Field (Gedling) for home fixtures, whilst Caunton CC accommodates imported demand from Nottingham Tigers CC, and Edwinstowe CC who host Madni CC.

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PART 7: TENNIS COURTS

7.1: Introduction

The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) is the organisation responsible for the governance of tennis. It has recently restructured its strategic approach to target several national focus areas, with a priority on developing the sport at park sites and removing key barriers to participation in park and club sites.

In Newark and Sherwood, the LTA is working with Newark and Sherwood District Council to improve access to provision in parks. More detailed information on the LTA's ClubSpark, Rally and Gate Access are set out later in the report.

Consultation

In total, there are five tennis clubs in Newark and Sherwood. Of these, all five responded to consultation requests, resulting in a response rate of 100%. The table below outlines club responses.

Table 7.1: Consultation responses

Club name	Club response?
Caunton Tennis Club	Yes
Collingham Tennis Club	Yes
Farnsfield Tennis Club	Yes
Newark Tennis Club	Yes
Southwell Lawn Tennis Club	Yes

7.2: Supply

There are 72 tennis courts identified in Newark and Sherwood across 21 sites. Of these, 48 courts are categorised as being available for community use, located at 14 sites and 24 courts are identified as unavailable for community use, located at seven sites.

Note that courts are classified as being available for community use provided that they are deemed to be easily accessible to the general population, either via pay and play or through a membership at a club (or a combination of both). All remaining courts identified as being unavailable are located at school sites, Center Parcs (Sherwood Forest) or Kelham Hall Hotel.

The Newark Analysis Area contains the highest number of courts available to the community (31), whereas the Mansfield Fringe and Sherwood analysis areas have no community accessible tennis courts, as shown in the table below.

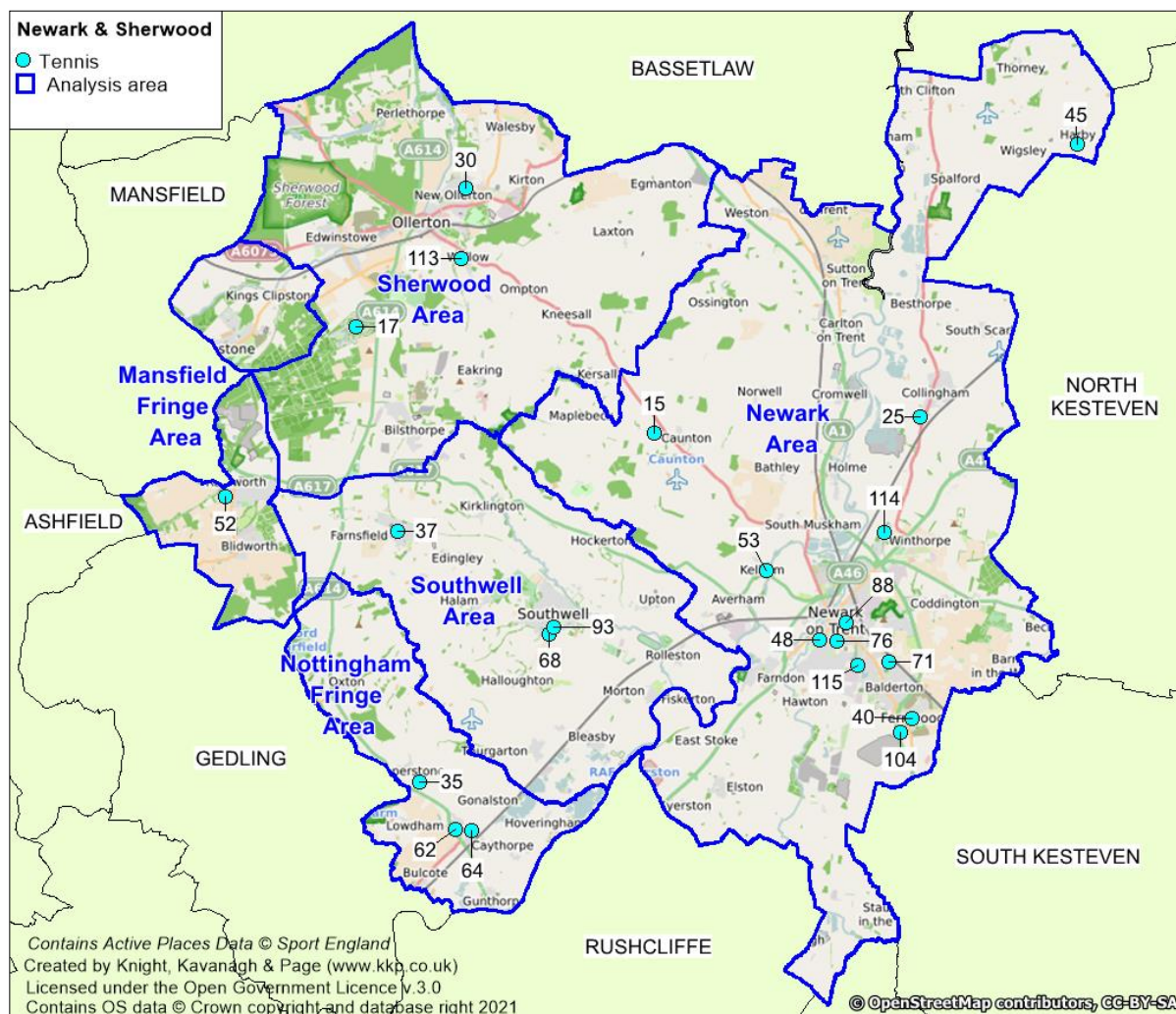
Table 7.2: Summary of the number of courts by analysis area

Analysis area	No. of courts available for community use	No. of courts unavailable for community use
Mansfield Fringe	-	6
Newark	31	6
Nottingham Fringe	4	-
Sherwood	-	12
Southwell	13	-
Newark and Sherwood	48	24

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Figure 7.1 below shows the location of the courts servicing Newark and Sherwood, regardless of community use. For a key to the map, see Table 7.3.

Figure 7.1: Overview of tennis court locations



Disused provision

There is one site within the District featuring disused tennis courts. Newark Academy (Lilley and Stone) provides two disused tarmac courts and is located directly next to Newark TC.

Potential future changes to supply

Caunton TC has ambitions to install additional courts to its site. The Club is currently struggling to balance its current membership figures with seven sports lit courts and does not have any future demand ambitions before increasing the number of courts at the site. The site has a plot of grass in the northwest corner of the site which it would like to install two sports lit courts and four mini courts. It confirms it shall require external financial support as to enable this development.

Newark TC has an ambition to install grass courts to its site in the future. The site currently provides two standard quality grass courts; however, it has the space for additional courts to be prepared and it appeared (during non-technical assessments) as though the land had previously had more grass tennis courts in the past.

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Table 7.3: Summary of tennis courts in Newark and Sherwood

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Ownership	Community use?	No. of courts	Sports lighting?	Court type	Court quality
15	Caunton Tennis Club	Newark	Sports Club	Yes	7	Yes	Macadam	Standard
17	Center Parcs (Sherwood Forest)	Sherwood	Private	No	4	2 Yes	Macadam	Good
25	Collingham Tennis Club	Newark	Sports Club	Yes	4	Yes	Macadam	Good
30	Dukeries Academy Ollerton	Sherwood	School	No	5	Yes	Macadam	Standard
30	Dukeries Academy Ollerton	Sherwood	School	No	2	Yes	Tarmac	Poor
35	Epperstone Playing Fields	Nottingham Fringe	Parish Council	Yes	2	Yes	Artificial Turf	Good
37	Farnsfield Bowling & Tennis Club	Southwell	Parish Council	Yes	4 (one junior)	Yes	Macadam	Standard
40	Fernwood Village Hall	Newark	Parish Council	Yes	3	No	Macadam	Poor
45	Harby Playing Field	Newark	Parish Council	Yes	1	No	Tarmac	Standard
48	Holy Trinity School Newark	Newark	School	No	1	No	Tarmac	Standard
52	Joesph Whitaker School	Mansfield Fringe	School	No	6	No	Macadam	Poor
53	Kelham Hall	Newark	Private	No	3	No	Macadam	Standard
64	Magna Meadows Playing Field Lowdham	Nottingham Fringe	Parish Council	Yes	2	Yes	Artificial Turf	Good
68	Minster School Southwell	Southwell	School	Yes	6	Yes	Macadam	Standard
71	Newark Academy	Newark	School	Yes	3	Yes	Macadam	Good
76	Newark Tennis Club	Newark	Town Council	Yes	4	No	Macadam	Good
76	Newark Tennis Club	Newark	Town Council	Yes	2	No	Grass	Standard
88	Sherwood Avenue Park Newark Newark	Newark	Town Council	Yes	3	Yes	Macadam	Standard
93	Southwell Memorial Ground	Southwell	Parish Council	Yes	3	Yes	Macadam	Good
104	The Suthers School Fernwood	Newark	School	No	2	No	Macadam	Good
113	Wellow House School	Sherwood	School	No	1	No	Tarmac	Standard
114	Winthorpe Community Centre	Newark	Parish Council	Yes	2	No	Macadam	Standard
115	YMCA Newark & Sherwood Sports Community and Activity Village	Newark	Community Organisation	Yes	2	No	Macadam	Good

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Management

The table below highlights the management of tennis courts within Newark and Sherwood.

Table 7.4: Tennis courts by management type (all courts)

Community use?	No. of club	No. of NSDC, town/parish council courts	No. of education courts	No. of other
Available	11	26	9	2
Unavailable	-	-	17	7
Total	11	26	26	9

There is an even split of available courts that are operated by NSDC or parish/town councils (26). And courts at education sites (26). Although only nine are available for community use, located at Minster School Southwell and Newark Academy.

Security of tenure

The table below outlines the current tenure position for the five clubs across Newark and Sherwood. This helps understand the long-term security of clubs and informs its ability to access various grants.

Table 7.5: Summary of club tenure arrangements

Site ID	Site name	Club	Management	Tenure
15	Caunton Tennis Club	Caunton TC	Club	Freehold
25	Collingham Tennis Club	Collingham TC	Club	Freehold
37	Farnsfield Bowling & Tennis Club	Farnsfield TC	Club	Clubs has a 24-year lease agreement that is being reviewed in 2024.
76	Newark Tennis Club	Newark TC	Club	Clubs current lease agreement has expired and is being re-negotiated with NSDC. It is being offered a 25-year lease; however, it is wanting a 50-year lease.
93	Southwell Memorial Ground	Southwell LTC	Club	Club has a long-term lease agreement with Southwell Town Council for its access to the site.

Court type

The most common outdoor tennis court surface in Newark and Sherwood is macadam, with 61 courts identified across 16 sites. Of the remaining 11 courts, a tarmac surface is the most prominent with five courts across four sites, followed by artificial turf surface with four courts identified across two sites. Finally, there are two grass courts identified at Newark TC.

The estimated lifespan of a macadam court is 10 years, depending on the levels of use and maintenance regimes. To ensure courts can continue to be used beyond this time frame, it is recommended that a sinking fund is put into place for eventual refurbishment. This is also the case for artificial turf courts.

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There are no known air dome courts in Newark and Sherwood.

Sports lighting

Courts with sports lighting enable use throughout the year and are identified by the LTA as being a key priority for growing participation nationally. The LTA reports that sports lighting allows for a 35% increase in available court time on an annual basis.

In Newark and Sherwood, 41 of the 72 tennis courts are serviced by sports lighting, representing 57% of the provision. The courts with sports lighting are located at:

- ◀ Caunton TC (seven courts)
- ◀ Center Parcs (Sherwood Forest) (two courts)
- ◀ Collingham TC (four courts)
- ◀ Epperstone Playing Fields (two courts)
- ◀ Farnsfield Bowling & TC (four courts)
- ◀ Magna Meadows Playing Field Lowdham (two courts)
- ◀ Minster School Southwell (six courts)
- ◀ Newark Academy (three courts)
- ◀ Sherwood Avenue Park Newark (three courts)
- ◀ Southwell Memorial Ground (three courts)

Access to sports lighting enables clubs to accommodate more members and can therefore be beneficial. In Newark and Sherwood four of the five clubs have access to sports lit courts at its respective sites. Newark TC provides four non-sports lit macadam courts and two non-sports lit grass courts. The Club has a long-term ambition to add sports lighting to its macadam courts, as its members currently access Sherwood Avenue Park Newark during winter months due to the lack of sports lighting at its home site.

Collingham TC is looking to enhance its current sports lights to LED as part of its development plan. The Club applied to a waste management company for funding however nothing has yet progressed. Caunton TC recently upgraded four of its courts to LED sports lights and is planning to enhance the remaining three courts to LED at the end of the 2023 summer. Southwell LTC is looking to upgrade its sports lights to LED in the long-term future. Farnsfield TC is also looking to upgrade its sports lights to LED in the next five years.

Overmarking

Tennis courts, particularly within schools, are often over marked by netball, basketball and/or football markings. Courts which are over marked tend to receive higher levels of use which can be detrimental to quality over time, as well as creating capacity issues if there is community demand from more than one sport.

Overmarking of tennis courts is identified at 10 sites, as seen below. When broken down there are seven education sites showing overmarking, two playing field sites at Harby Playing Field and Magna Meadows Playing Field Lowdham and the courts at YMCA Newark. All overmarked courts are lined with netball markings, other than Magna Meadows Playing Field Lowdham which is overmarked with junior hockey.

- ◀ Dukeries Academy Ollerton
- ◀ Harby Playing Field
- ◀ Holy Trinity School Newark
- ◀ Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth
- ◀ Magna Meadows Playing Field Lowdham
- ◀ Minster School Southwell
- ◀ Newark Academy

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- ✦ The Suthers School Fernwood
- ✦ Wellow House School
- ✦ YMCA Newark & Sherwood Sports Community and Activity Village

Quality

The quality of tennis courts has been informed through non-technical site assessments and consultation with providers to assign each court a rating of good, standard or poor. Key aspects informing the findings include surface quality, grip underfoot, line marking quality, evenness and evidence of any inappropriate use (e.g., vandalism and/or littering).

The table below outlines the quality of all tennis courts in Newark and Sherwood, regardless of availability.

Table 7.6: Summary of quality of tennis courts

Community use?	No. of good courts	No. of standard courts	No. poor of courts
Available	20	25	3
Unavailable	6	10	8
Total	26	35	11

In total, 26 courts are assessed as good quality (36% of all provision), 35 as standard quality (49%) and 11 as poor quality (15%).

As a further breakdown, quality at sites available for community use is presented on a site-by-site basis in the table below.

Table 7.7: Summary of quality at sites available for community use

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of courts	Court type	Court quality
15	Caunton Tennis Club	Newark	7	Macadam	Standard
25	Collingham Tennis Club	Newark	4	Macadam	Good
35	Epperstone Playing Fields	Nottingham Fringe	2	Artificial Turf	Good
37	Farnsfield Bowling & Tennis Club	Southwell	4	Macadam	Standard
40	Fernwood Village Hall	Newark	3	Macadam	Poor
45	Harby Playing Field	Newark	1	Tarmac	Standard
64	Magna Meadows Playing Field Lowdham	Nottingham Fringe	2	Artificial Turf	Good
68	Minster School Southwell	Southwell	6	Macadam	Standard
71	Newark Academy	Newark	3	Macadam	Good
76	Newark Tennis Club	Newark	4	Macadam	Good
76	Newark Tennis Club	Newark	2	Grass	Standard
88	Sherwood Avenue Park Newark	Newark	3	Macadam	Standard
93	Southwell Memorial Ground	Southwell	3	Macadam	Good
114	Winthorpe Community Centre	Newark	2	Macadam	Standard
115	YMCA Newark & Sherwood Sports Community and Activity Village	Newark	2	Macadam	Good

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Of all community accessible courts, only Fernwood Village Hall provides poor quality provision. Issues recorded during site assessments include poor grip underfoot, the presence of moss, worn line markings and loose gravel.

Fernwood Parish Council confirm the courts provided at Fernwood Village Hall are owned and managed by the property developer, FirstPort. The Parish Council has been working with the developer to transfer ownership.

Caunton TC provides standard quality provision, with it confirming its courts were last re-surfaced six years ago. The Club has a ten-year re-surfacing plan meaning it shall look to resurface its courts in 2027. It is also looking to re-paint three of its courts in 2024 as to improve the presence of line markings.

Farnsfield TC provides standard quality courts. The Club is looking to re-surface its courts within the next five years as part of its development plan.

Improving park court sites is a current national priority for the LTA, with a focus on suitable sites that cater for high levels of recreational demand or that have the potential to do so. This is especially the case if the provision is serviced (or could be serviced) by changing facilities and sports lighting, whereby a sustainable tennis programme could be supported.

Improving the quality, offer and experience of tennis in parks is a strategic priority for the LTA to open up tennis. It reports that the biggest barriers to participate in tennis are:

- ◀ Not knowing where the closest courts are.
- ◀ Not knowing how to book or play on the courts.
- ◀ Poor quality playing surfaces.

Park tennis courts can be opened up in a variety of ways to ensure greater use by local residents. This can range from booking courts to offering coaching programmes. The LTA has three products for local authorities to use to remove the barriers and open tennis up to all of the residents in their area; ClubSpark, Rally and Gate Access (further explained in the demand section).

Renovation fund⁶⁰

The LTA has secured a £22 million investment fund to be put into public tennis courts across Britain, together with an £8.5 million investment from the LTA. This will see thousands of public park tennis courts that are in poor or unplayable condition improved for the benefit of local communities.

The LTA's ambition is to drive participation across park tennis sites, as well as ensuring the future sustainability of these facilities. As well as paying for the refurbishment of public park courts, the new investment will also pay for the implementation of sustainable operating models for the facilities, with specialist programmes and support to ensure courts are both affordable and utilised.

Ancillary provision

Ancillary provision refers to the accompanying building to a site that is accessed as changing facilities and a social space if applicable. All sites were assessed for its ancillary provision quality during non-technical site assessments and further evidenced by consultation responses. Quality ratings were determined by assessing matters such as the condition of the building, the quantity and quality of changing rooms and the social space offering.

³⁰[Link to investment plans](#)

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Table 7.8: Ancillary quality breakdown

Club	Analysis area	Facility as a whole	Changing facilities	Car parking
Caunton TC	Newark	Good	Adequate	Good
Collingham TC	Newark	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate
Farnsfield TC	Southwell	Adequate	Adequate	Poor
Newark TC	Newark	Adequate	Adequate	Good
Southwell TC	Southwell	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate

Caunton TC has a good quality clubhouse with a kitchen, changing facilities, a small reception and a social space with a balcony overlooking its courts. The site also has a second small building which has table tennis, a small seating space and a sink for filling water bottles. It confirms the roof of the second building has a leak which has resulted in turning off the electrics to the building until it is addressed.

Collingham TC has applied for funding from a waste disposal company towards developing its new clubhouse. It describes its facilities, changing rooms and parking as adequate, but in need of improvement.

Newark Town TC has standard quality ancillary provision which it describes as being very old but in okay condition. It would like to enhance the clubhouse; however, it does not have the funding to do so.

Southwell LTC has a standard quality clubhouse which has two changing rooms each with internal showers. It has a long-term ambition of enhancing its clubhouse to increase the amount of social space provided.

Farnsfield TC has a small wooden basic clubhouse which has a limited offering for members in the Club. The sites parking is also fairly small and is shared with the bowls club also located on the site. The Club confirms it is looking to provide better disabled access and is applying for funding to support this next year. It has also applied to an extension to its clubhouse to Farnsfield Parish Council. The Club describes its toilets and social space as in good condition.

For non-club courts, ancillary provision is generally considered to be problematic. Whilst most of the other sites do provide changing facilities and/or toilets, they are not specific for tennis and are generally too far away from the courts to be used. Often, the facilities predominately service football/cricket pitch users and therefore are not readily available or suited to tennis court users. In some instances, quality is also poor.

However, in contrast to the above statement, some sites do provide a good recreational tennis offer. Epperstone Playing Fields is located next to a good quality village hall and has ample parking for users and Harby Playing Field has a good quality clubhouse with a large brick building with a bar and social space.

Insight from the LTA indicates good quality ancillary facilities such as toilets, changing rooms and cafes encourage players to visit community available provision and stay for extended periods of time. Therefore, a potential way to increase usage of such provision would be to invest in suitable ancillary amenities nearby tennis courts.

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7.3: Demand

Competitive tennis

There are five tennis clubs in Newark and Sherwood, with membership numbers known for all five clubs. Total known membership figures equate to 948, consisting of 559 senior and 389 junior members.

In terms of size, Caunton TC is the largest club, with 399 members, whilst Southwell LTC has the smallest membership figures with 90 members. This is summarised in the table below.

Table 7.9: Summary of tennis club demand

Club	Analysis area	No. of members	
		Senior	Junior
Caunton TC	Newark	180	219
Collingham TC	Newark	104	71
Farnsfield TC	Southwell	84	50
Newark TC	Newark	120	30
Southwell LTC	Southwell	71	19
Total		559	389

The 2014 PPS identified nine clubs. As such, four clubs have folded in the last nine years, These are Fernwood TC, Lowdham TC, Epperstone TC and Winthorpe TC. All four of the sites formerly used by the four clubs still continue to provide community accessible courts and have not fallen into disuse.

Latent demand

Latent demand for tennis nationally is reported to be high by the LTA, which has an insight tool that suggests that 18% of the five million players that pick up a racket each year would play more often if key barriers such as poor promotion of opportunities to get on court, unclear booking journeys (especially those that are 'offline') and low-quality facilities were addressed.

On this basis, there is a potential opportunity in Newark and Sherwood for the District Council and other providers to understand if such barriers exist locally and if so, address such barriers, whilst also bettering understanding of court usage.

Sport England's Segmentation Tool³¹ enables analysis of the percentage of adults that would like to participate in tennis but 'are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies latent demand of 2,149 people within Newark and Sherwood resembling 1.75% of the District's population. As a comparison, the national average for people wanting to play tennis but are not currently doing so is 1.75%, putting Newark and Sherwood directly in line with the national figures.

The highest latent demand is 'settling down males' which equates to 247 people wanting to play tennis that currently are not.

Caunton TC report having latent demand with it stating it is operating at capacity for its seven sports lit courts. As such it does not have any future demand ambitions before installing additional courts at the site. Following this it shall once again look to increase in members.

³¹ [Sport England Segmentation Information](#)

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Future demand

Three clubs report future growth aspirations, with total future demand amounting to 45 potential additional members (15 senior and 30 junior). All clubs hoping to increase in membership outlined future growth figures as seen in Table 7:10.

Table 7.10: Summary of future tennis club demand (in members)

Club	Analysis area	No. of members	
		Senior	Junior
Caunton TC	Newark	0	0
Collingham TC	Newark	10	10
Farnsfield TC	Southwell	0	0
Newark TC	Newark	5	5
Southwell LTC	Southwell	0	15
Total		15	30

Informal tennis

It is considered that all local authority courts available for community use in Newark and Sherwood have spare capacity for a growth in demand, although this is difficult to quantify as use is not always recorded due to the open access nature of many sites. Most of the current use is assumed to take place throughout the summer months although it is also accepted that many courts are accessed unofficially for activities unrelated to tennis.

The LTA has developed a package of support for local authorities to grow the use of tennis courts by removing key barriers to participation. The three initiatives are ClubSpark, Rally and Gate Access, which are further detailed below. In Newark and Sherwood, Caunton TC, Southwell LTC and Newark TC are utilising some of the initiatives such as ClubSpark but they are not in place at any local authority venues.

In relation to education providers, none report any regular demand from the community for tennis. It is believed by many that a lack of demand is a direct result of quality issues and/or a lack of sports lighting, as well as other courts being available for free. This results in the community being less likely to pay a hire charge for its provision.

ClubSpark – Improving the booking process

ClubSpark is a flexible and simple venue management platform with multiple products and applications to help venues, local authorities and coaches manage their sport. ClubSpark is a tool that is offered for free as part of LTA venue registration and allows administrators to manage all functions at their venue(s), including:

- ◆ Managed website - create and manage a mobile friendly website tailored to LA/club requirements to promote events and activities.
- ◆ Managed coaching – set up coaching lessons and courses online.
- ◆ Membership management - improve membership engagement by making it easier for the venue and for members to pay, renew and keep in touch (includes online payments, direct debits and the monitoring of revenue streams; membership modules can also be used to take season ticket payments for venues operating a non-traditional annual facility fee).
- ◆ Organise payments - set the way payments are taken, whether it's immediate pay and play, or bookable as part of a membership package.
- ◆ Court bookings – reduced administration for managing bookings; give staff, coaches, members and the general public access to book and pay for courts, classes or other resources online.

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- ◀ Scheduling - set unique booking and price rules to suit the venue and enable lights to switch on/off automatically when linked to the LTA Premium Gate Access system.
- ◀ Book and pay remotely - customers can make bookings and payments for a venue anytime, anywhere via the real-time booking app.
- ◀ Reporting - ClubSpark allows administrators to view reports highlighting income, court usage, revenue and number of members and season ticket holders; this allows for identification of trends and patterns and evidence to demonstrate participation levels and impact.

RALLY

Rally is an aggregator that collects all booking and coaching information via ClubSpark pages and displays it for participants in one easy to view page. It allows players to search for venues close to them and provides booking options, removing the barriers of not knowing where courts are or how to book.

Rally provides a helpful customer journey, with a personal profile to review and manage bookings, and helpful reminders. Courts can be set to book for free of charge or at a fee agreed by the provider. The LTA confirm that it has improved its Rally and ClubSpark book a court features, with it now being accessible on the LTA website thus being easier for users to book a court and tennis class.

Gate Access

The LTA has developed two gate access systems that work in association with ClubSpark to secure courts and to allow access to booked customers only. Members of the public can book a court online (making payment if required) and receive a 4-digit access code via email to enter using a courtside keypad. The gate access system then allows entry for the time booked if a correct code is entered.

There are two gate options available: SmartAccess Premium and SmartAccess Lite. The demands and needs of users plus the setup of the venue determines the most appropriate system for each site.

Nationally, the LTA report that in the last three years, sites with a gate access system installed have attracted 64,841 unique players, leading to 609,671 courts being booked. This has generated income of over £1 million.

In Newark and Sherwood, Caunton TC, Southwell LTC and Newark TC all currently have Gate Access technology, through ClubSpark, in place at its sites.

LTA Big Tennis Weekend

The LTA Big Tennis Weekend is an LTA initiative which all registered venues can access. Clubs and venues have the ability to sign up to host open days, which are free of charge, and create a relaxed and welcoming environment for those new to tennis to participate. This in turn can potentially lead to the clubs attracting new members.

The LTA hosts three dedicated weekends a year (in May, July and September) that are the UK's biggest public tennis events. Furthermore, venues are able to run additional events outside these dates and will benefit from their events being promoted on the national LTA campaign website. All clubs running an open day are asked to promote a follow-on offer to all attendees, such as a reduced rate introductory membership or a number of free coaching sessions, to encourage people to continue playing after the event.

There are no known LTA Big Tennis Weekend sessions within Newark and Sherwood.

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LTA Youth

LTA Youth has superseded the former initiative of Mini Tennis as the new LTA flagship delivery programme. The initiative is tailored towards delivering a fresh, fun approach to coaching tennis for kids aged 4-18.

The programme is made up of an LTA Youth Start introductory course, followed by five stages that give young players the chance to practice and develop at an appropriate level. The five stages can be seen below:

- ◀ Blue Stage: Children improve balance, agility and co-ordination through fun games. This stage teaches the fundamental basics of tennis.
- ◀ Red Stage: Children practice overarm serves, volleys and learn how to serve. Play takes place using soft ball and on small courts.
- ◀ Orange Stage: Children are taught tactics, problem solving and guides to sportsmanship and leadership.
- ◀ Green Stage: Children play on a full-sized court. Sessions are spent fine tuning and developing techniques.
- ◀ Yellow Stage: Children play on a full-sized court using regular tennis balls. Players are encouraged to explore different play styles allowing them to choose their own approach.

Mini tennis courts can be found at Collingham TC, which has 71 junior members, and Dukeries Academy Ollerton which accommodates curricular demand.

Padel tennis

Padel is a form of tennis that is easy to play, fun and sociable. It is played mainly in a doubles format on an enclosed court about a third of the size of a tennis court and can be played in groups of mixed ages and abilities as it is not power dominant. The rules are broadly the same as tennis, although players serve underhand and the walls are used as part of the game, with the ball allowed to bounce off them.

One of the fastest growing sports across continental Europe, it has gained increasing popularity over recent years. As of 2021, there are around 6,000 active paddle tennis players across Great Britain, with 107 courts provided at 52 clubs. This is predicted to grow substantially in future years.

There are currently no padel tennis courts in Newark and Sherwood, meaning no demand is being catered for. During consultation with clubs and the LTA no ambition has been raised to install padel provision in Newark and Sherwood.

7.4: Supply and demand analysis

Club tennis

The LTA suggests that a non- sport lit hard court can accommodate 40 members whereas a hard court with sports lighting can accommodate 60 members.

Using the above figures, the table below analyses whether or not courts currently in use by clubs are sufficient to meet current and future demand. However, it must be noted that this should only be used as a guide as capacity can vary from site to site depending on how the demand operates and the programmes of use in place. Some clubs can comfortably operate over capacity guidance, whilst others may have pressures without theoretically being over capacity.

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Table 7.11: Capacity analysis (club courts)

Site ID	Site	Club users	Current demand (members)	Future demand (members)	No. of courts	Sports lighting?	Capacity (members)	Current capacity balance	Future capacity balance
15	Caunton Tennis Club	Caunton TC	399	0	7	Yes	420	21	21
25	Collingham Tennis Club	Collingham TC	175	20	4	Yes	240	65	45
37	Farnsfield Bowling & Tennis Club	Farnsfield TC	134	-	4	Yes	240	106	106
76	Newark Tennis Club	Newark TC	150	30	4	No	160	10	-
93	Southwell Memorial Ground	Southwell TC	71	19	3	Yes	180	90	75

As identified in the table above, none of the five clubs have current theoretical capacity issues with existing membership figures, with both Collingham TC, Farnsfield TC and Southwell LTC currently operating comfortably within the recommended guidelines.

Future demand through club ambitions from Newark TC shall make the Club operate at capacity with the current stock of provision if anticipated growth is achieved. In the case of Caunton TC, the Club is not looking to increase in number of members until it can install additional provision to its site as it does not want to reduce opportunities for existing members to get suitable court access. Should the Club in fact take on additional members, with its current capacity balance it would be expected that the site would become overcapacity.

Both Collingham TC and Southwell LTC will continue to operate within LTA capacity guidelines if future demand ambitions are to be realised. In the case of Farnsfield TC, the capacity balance of the unresponsive club is unknown, however, with four sports lit courts it is unlikely it will be operating close or over its capacity based on comparative clubs in the area. Newark TC is looking to install sports lighting to its four courts which shall increase the clubs capacity balance to 90 members within LTA guidelines. The remaining three responsive clubs are looking to enhance its existing sports lights.

Non-club tennis

As no non-club courts are identified as having any capacity issues, priority should be placed on improving quality of non-club courts to an adequate standard for promoting and increasing informal play, particularly at publicly available sites accommodating multiple courts and adequate ancillary facilities. Linked to this, the utilisation of LTA schemes at suitable sites should also be considered, as should the establishment of the other various initiatives supported by the NGB. Efforts should also be made to provide community accessible provision in the Mansfield Fringe and Sherwood analysis areas.

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7.5: Conclusion

To conclude, when pairing the findings from the supply and demand analysis for club courts with the large number of community available park courts, it can be deemed that Newark and Sherwood is serviced by sufficient provision to accommodate both the current and future demand.

However, there are still isolated shortfalls and areas for investment within the District, such as increased community accessible courts in the Mansfield Fringe and Sherwood analysis areas, as both do not provide any community accessible provision. The provision at Dukeries Academy Ollerton and Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth resemble potential sites to open accessibility of its courts.

The latent demand identified by Caunton TC caused by wanting to increase in the number of courts provided at the site should also be viewed as a potential project to address by the LTA and relevant stakeholders, with the Club confirming it is no longer looking to increase in members before gaining additional courts.

With the LTA's current goal of enhancing the offering for non-club park courts, sites such as Fernwood Village Hall could be prioritised for park court investment as to improve the quality of park courts in the District. The accompanying strategy report shall explore scenarios as to how to improve the tennis offering in Newark and Sherwood.

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Tennis – supply and demand summary

- ◀ There are two tennis clubs within Newark and Sherwood currently operating with potential capacity issues, those being Caunton TC and Newark TC. In both instances the clubs are operating marginally within the LTA recommended guidelines.
- ◀ If future growth ambitions were achieved, Newark TC shall be accessed to capacity, whilst Caunton TC has not expressed any future demand as to not worsen its current capacity balance.
- ◀ When pairing the findings from the supply and demand analysis for club courts with the large number of community park courts available, it can be considered that Newark and Sherwood is serviced by sufficient provision to accommodate both the current and future demand. However, club based capacity pressures are still present at the more heavily accessed sites such as Caunton TC and Newark TC.

Tennis – supply summary

- ◀ There are a total of 72 tennis courts identified in Newark and Sherwood across 21 sites, with 48 courts categorised as being available for community use at 14 sites.
- ◀ Most community accessible courts are operated by town and parish councils, 100% of which are available for community use.
- ◀ The most common court surface is macadam, with 65 courts identified, followed by a tarmac surface of which there are five courts. There are four artificial turf courts and two grass courts. No clay courts were identified.
- ◀ In total, 41 of the 72 tennis courts are serviced by sports lighting, representing 57% of the provision.
- ◀ Of the community available courts, 20 are assessed as good quality (42%), 25 as standard quality (52%) and three as poor quality (6%).
- ◀ There are no air domed or padel courts within Newark and Sherwood.
- ◀ Four clubs within Newark and Sherwood have standard quality ancillary provisions, one club has a good quality clubhouse and there are no poor-quality ancillary provisions.
- ◀ Caunton TC has a clubhouse with two changing rooms, a kitchen, a social space and a balcony overlooking its courts. It also features a second small building with a seating area, table tennis and a sink. The second building has a leaking roof, something the Club is looking to address.
- ◀ Caunton TC, Newark Town TC, Farnsfield TC and Southwell LTC have ambitions to enhance its ancillary provision provided.
- ◀ Caunton TC is looking to increase the number of courts at its site, whilst Newark TC has a long-term ambition to increase the number of grass courts provided and install sports lighting to its macadam courts.

Tennis – demand summary

- ◀ There are five tennis clubs in Newark and Sherwood which collectively cater for 948 members, consisting of 559 senior and 389 junior members.
- ◀ Three clubs consulted report future growth aspirations, with total future demand amounting to 45 potential additional members (15 senior and 30 junior).
- ◀ Away from clubs, it is considered that all local authority courts available for community use in Newark and Sherwood have spare capacity for a growth in demand, although this is difficult to quantify as use is not always recorded due to the open access nature of many sites.

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PART 8: NETBALL COURTS

8.1: Introduction

England Netball is the governing body for the sport across England. Levels of participation are quickly increasing, with over 100,000 affiliated members and at least 1 million women and girls playing during a typical week. Its aim is to provide its members and partners with the best possible service and experience in sport.

Consultation

In total, three netball clubs are identified as playing within Newark and Sherwood, of which, Newark NC has been consulted with giving a 33% response rate. Consultation with England Netball and Newark Academy also took place as to inform this section of the report.

Table 8.1: Netball club response rate

Club name	Club response?
Newark Castle Keepers Netball Club	No
Newark NC	Yes
Southwell Netball Club	No

8.2: Supply

In total, there are 53 outdoor netball courts located across 30 sites in Newark and Sherwood. Of these, 18 courts across six sites are open to community access, representing 34% of all outdoor courts. Tables 8.2 and 8.3 below, outline the total supply of provision within Newark and Sherwood with these mapped in Figure 8.1.

The Newark Analysis Area provides 12 community use courts, whilst the Southwell Analysis Area offer six courts. The remaining three analysis areas do not feature any community accessible courts.

Table 8.2: Summary of the number of courts by analysis area

Analysis area	No. of courts available for community use	No. of courts unavailable for community use
Mansfield Fringe	-	7
Newark	12	18
Nottingham Fringe	-	1
Sherwood	-	6
Southwell	6	3
Newark and Sherwood	18	35

Table 8.3: Summary of supply

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	No. of courts	Floodlit?	Court type
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Newark	Yes	Parish Council	1	No	Tarmac
3	Barnby Road Academy Newark	Newark	Yes	School	3	No	Tarmac
6	Bilsthorne Flying High Academy	Sherwood	No	School	1	No	Tarmac

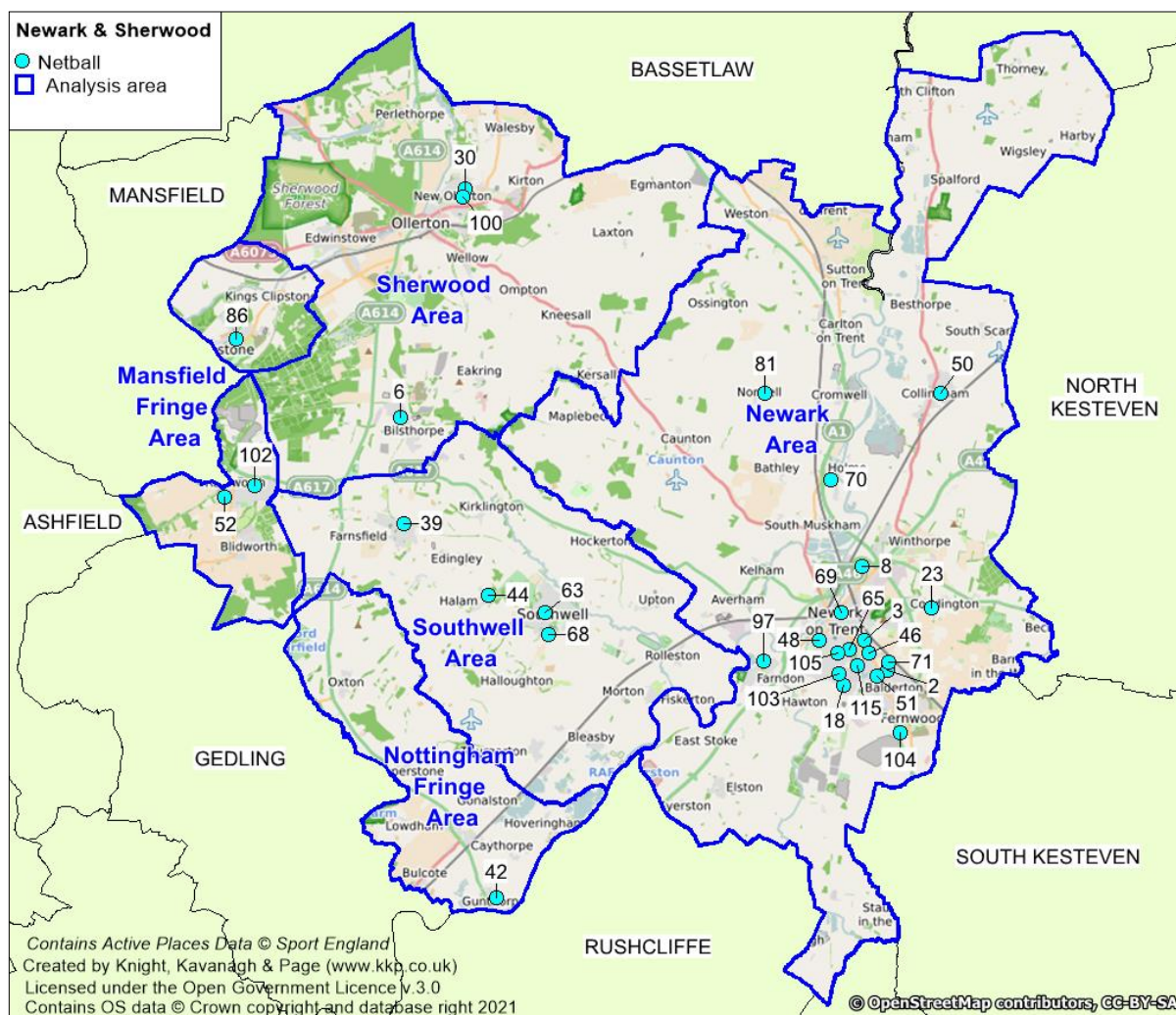
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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	No. of courts	Floodlit?	Court type
8	Bishop Alexander L.E.A.D. Academy Newark Newark	Newark	No	School	1	No	Tarmac
18	Christ Church C of E Primary School (Middlebeck) Newark	Newark	No	School	1	No	Tarmac
23	Coddington C of E Primary and Nursery School	Newark	No	School	1	No	Tarmac
30	Dukeries Academy Ollerton	Sherwood	No	School	2	No	Tarmac
30	Dukeries Academy Ollerton	Sherwood	No	School	2	Yes	Tarmac
39	Farnsfield St Michaels C of E Primary School	Southwell	No	School	1	No	Tarmac
42	Gunthorpe C of E Primary School	Nottingham Fringe	No	School	1	No	Tarmac
44	Halam C of E Primary School	Southwell	No	School	1	No	Tarmac
46	Highfields School Newark Newark	Newark	No	School	2	No	Macadam
48	Holy Trinity School Newark	Newark	No	School	2	No	Tarmac
50	John Blow Primary School Collingham	Newark	No	School	1	No	Tarmac
51	John Hunt Primary and Nursery School Balderton	Newark	No	School	1	No	Tarmac
52	Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth	Mansfield Fringe	No	School	5	No	Tarmac
63	Lowes Wong Junior School Southwell	Southwell	No	School	1	No	Tarmac
65	Magnus Academy Newark	Newark	No	Active4Today	2	No	Artificial Turf
68	Minster School Southwell	Southwell	Yes	School	6	Yes	Tarmac
69	Mount C of E Primary and Nursery School	Newark	No	School	1	No	Tarmac
70	Muskham Primary School	Newark	Yes	School	1	No	Tarmac
70	Muskham Primary School	Newark	Yes	School	1	Yes	Artificial Turf
71	Newark Academy	Newark	Yes	Active4Today	2	Yes	Macadam
71	Newark Academy	Newark	Yes	Active4Today	2	No	Tarmac
81	Norwell C of E Primary School	Newark	No	School	1	No	Tarmac
86	Samuel Barlow Primary Academy Clipstone	Mansfield Fringe	No	School	1	No	Macadam

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	No. of courts	Floodlit?	Court type
97	St Peters Cross Keys C of E Academy Farndon	Newark	No	School	1	No	Tarmac
100	The Parkgate Academy Ollerton	Sherwood	No	School	1	No	Tarmac
102	The Python Hill Academy Rainworth	Mansfield Fringe	No	School	1	No	Tarmac
103	The Sir Donald Bailey Academy Newark	Newark	No	School	1	No	Tarmac
104	The Suthers School Fernwood	Newark	No	School	2	No	Tarmac
105	The William Gladstone Primary Academy Newark	Newark	No	School	1	No	Tarmac
115	YMCA Newark & Sherwood Sports Community and Activity Village	Newark	Yes	Community Organisation	2	No	Macadam

Figure 8.1: Netball court locations



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Disused provision

Newark Academy (Lilley & Stone) has two disused netball courts overmarked by tennis that have been disused since its closure in 2016. The site is located centrally in Newark and neighbours Newark Tennis Club.

Future supply

Consultation with YMCA (Newark) confirms the site is in the process of installing sports lighting to its new cycling pump track. The management staff are hoping that the backlighting for the cycling track will partially illuminate the netball courts making them possible to be used over winter months.

The Suthers School Fernwood also confirm it is considering installing sports lighting to its two courts and opening the provision to community use.

There are no other known changes to supply in Newark and Sherwood.

Overmarking

Whilst it does help with usage levels and sustainability, an issue for netball nationally is that many of its courts are dual use tennis courts. This limits accessibility (especially during the summer when tennis nets are often permanently in place) and can impact on quality due to higher levels of wear and tear. A majority of courts in Newark and Sherwood are overmarked with tennis markings and multi-use facilities. However, the courts provided at the following sites are not overmarked:

- ◀ Christ Church C of E Primary School (Middlebeck) Newark
- ◀ Farnsfield St Michaels C of E Primary School
- ◀ Halam C of E Primary School
- ◀ Holy Trinity School Newark (one court)
- ◀ John Blow Primary School Collingham
- ◀ Lowes Wong Junior School
- ◀ Mount C of E Primary and Nursery School
- ◀ Muskham Primary School (two courts)
- ◀ Newark Academy (two tarmac courts)
- ◀ Norwell C of E Primary School
- ◀ St Peters Cross Keys C of E Academy Farndon
- ◀ The Sir Donald Bailey Academy Newark
- ◀ The William Gladstone Primary Academy Newark Newark

Surface type

Across Newark and Sherwood, 41 have a tarmac surface, seven have a macadam surface and three courts have an artificial turf surface.

The estimated lifespan of a macadam court and an artificial court is 10 years, depending on levels of use and maintenance levels.

Management

The table below highlights the management of netball courts within Newark and Sherwood.

Table 8.4: Netball courts by management type (all courts)

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Community use?	No. of club courts	No. of NSDC, town/parish council courts	No. of education courts	No. of 'other' courts
Available	-	1	11	6
Unavailable	-	-	33	2
Total	0	1	44	8

Most available courts are operated by education sites, although only 11 are available for community use. The remaining nine courts are located across five sites and are all managed by Parish councils, Active4Today and YMCA (Newark), all of which, are open to community use other than the courts at Magnus Academy Newark. Consultation with the site staff team confirm the non-sports lit courts are not open to community use.

Security of tenure

With regards to security of tenure, none of the three clubs are known to operate with any security of tenure, something that is common for most clubs based at education or local authority sites.

Quality

The quality of netball courts across Newark and Sherwood has been assessed via a combination of site visits (using non-technical assessments) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

The percentage parameters used for the non-technical assessments are as follows: Good (>80%), Standard (70-80%), Poor (<70%).

Maintaining high court quality is an important aspect of netball and therefore the non-technical assessment (and consultation agreements) assesses several factors which evidence court quality. The criteria for the non-technical assessment consists of; court surface grip underfoot, damage to a court surface, line markings, evidence of moss/lichen, slope of courts, disability access, fencing and courts being of an appropriate size.

As can be seen in the table below, most netball provision in Newark and Sherwood is poor quality. However, of the 18 accessible courts, four are good quality (21%), 11 are of a standard quality (62%) and three poor quality courts (17%). The poor quality courts provided are deemed so due to issues such as poor grip underfoot, damaged surfaces and a general need for surface replacements.

Table 8.5: Quality summary

Site ID	Site name	No. of courts	Community use?	Sports lighting?	Quality
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	1	Yes	No	Standard
3	Barnby Road Academy Newark	3	Yes	No	Standard
6	Bilthorpe Flying High Academy	1	No	No	Poor
8	Bishop Alexander L.E.A.D. Academy Newark	1	No	No	Standard

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Site ID	Site name	No. of courts	Community use?	Sports lighting?	Quality
18	Christ Church C of E Primary School (Middlebeck) Newark	1	No	No	Good
23	Coddington C of E Primary and Nursery School	1	No	No	Poor
30	Dukeries Academy Ollerton	2	No	No	Poor
39	Farnsfield St Michaels C of E Primary School	1	No	No	Poor
42	Gunthorpe C of E Primary School	1	No	No	Poor
44	Halam C of E Primary School	1	No	No	Poor
46	Highfields School Newark Newark	2	No	No	Standard
48	Holy Trinity School Newark	2	No	No	Standard
50	John Blow Primary School Collingham	1	No	No	Standard
51	John Hunt Primary and Nursery School Balderton	1	No	No	Poor
52	Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth	5	No	No	Poor
63	Lowes Wong Junior School	1	No	No	Poor
65	Magnus Academy Newark	2	No	No	Standard
68	Minster School Southwell	6	Yes	Yes	Standard
69	Mount C of E Primary and Nursery School	1	No	No	Poor
70	Muskham Primary School	1	Yes	No	Poor
70	Muskham Primary School	1	Yes	Yes	Standard
71	Newark Academy	2	Yes	Yes	Good
71	Newark Academy	2	Yes	No	Poor
81	Norwell C of E Primary School	1	No	No	Poor
86	Samuel Barlow Primary Academy Clipstone	1	No	No	Standard
97	St Peters Cross Keys C of E Academy Farndon	1	No	No	Poor
100	The Parkgate Academy Ollerton	1	No	No	Poor
102	The Python Hill Academy Rainworth	1	No	No	Poor
103	The Sir Donald Bailey Academy Newark	1	No	No	Poor
104	The Suthers School Fernwood	2	No	No	Good
105	The William Gladstone Primary Academy Newark	1	No	No	Poor
115	YMCA Newark & Sherwood Sports Community and Activity Village	2	Yes	No	Good

Consultation with Newark Academy confirms the good quality courts provided are maintained regularly and are accessed by the Play Netball league and Newark Castle Keepers NC.

The staff at YMCA Newark confirms its netball provision is somewhat underutilised, however, the staff is very receptive towards the prospect of delivering more sessions and is wanting to accommodate more netball demand in the future.

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8.3: Demand

Newark and Sherwood has three clubs as detailed in Table 11.1, Newark Castle Keepers NC, Newark NC and Southwell NC. Consultation with England Netball confirms that Newark and Sherwood is not a priority area for netball, with lots of demand taking place in neighbouring regions Lincoln and Nottingham.

Newark NC is a new club formed in the summer of 2023. It comprises of junior only members and has formed following a successful group of junior members aged 10-11 at Barnby Road Academy Newark in a similar age group. The Club had 29 members attend its trial day in July and is looking to establish at least one team in September 2023. It is looking to enter festivals and local league fixtures in the 2023/24 season should it have enough interest from school members.

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Leagues

The Nottinghamshire County Netball Association is a well-established league based in Nottingham. The league accesses the provision at Nottingham University Samworth Academy (NUSA), and delivers fixtures as part of a Winter League, a Summer League and a Sunday League. The league has 30 clubs competing in its leagues with clubs in and around Nottingham.

The Lincolnshire County Netball Association has three adult divisions with 20 teams in total, as well as five junior divisions with affiliated 43 junior teams. Fixtures are held at Yarborough Leisure Centre and take place on Tuesday evenings from 19:00-21:00.

England Netball confirm that a high amount of demand is exported out of the District to clubs competing in both the Nottinghamshire County Netball Association and the Lincolnshire County Netball Association.

Club demand

Newark NC accesses the provision at Barnby Road Academy Newark with the Club consisting entirely of students from the school and its coach being a teacher at the school.

Newark Castle Keepers NC has training sessions on Wednesdays from 20:00-21:00 at Newark Academy.

Southwell NC accesses play in the Nottinghamshire County Netball Association. It accommodates senior demand and trains at Southwell Leisure Centre.

Play Netball

Play Netball is Britain's largest social netball league provider and arranges fixtures, league tables, umpires, netballs and bibs so players can focus on playing. People can join as individuals to find a team, a group to join the same team or produce their own team of 7 or 10 people.

Play Netball fixtures within Newark and Sherwood are held at Newark Academy on the two good quality, sports lit macadam courts. The league has one division with eight teams, and fixtures take place on Tuesday evenings from 19:00. It accommodates senior demand and has between eight to 14 weeks during a season dependent upon how many clubs are in each division.

Back to Netball and walking netball

Back to Netball sessions are running across England and provide women of all ages a welcoming re-introduction to the sport. Sessions cover the basics of the game including passing, footwork and shooting and finish with a friendly game. Since its creation in 2010, over 60,000 women have taken part.

There is no Back to Netball sessions delivered in Newark and Sherwood, however sessions are held locally at Hammond Hall Sports Centre (North Kesteven), Toot Hill Comprehensive School (Rushcliffe) and Carlton Le Willows Academy (Gedling).

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Walking netball has evolved from a growing demand of walking sports e.g., walking football. It is a slower version of the game and has been designed so that anyone can play regardless of age and fitness level and therefore offers opportunities for older adults to participate and enjoy. England Netball confirms that Walking Netball has historically been delivered at Newark Academy, however sessions are not currently running. The nearest known sessions are delivered at One NK Leisure Centre (North Kesteven), Meres Leisure Centre (South Kesteven) and Carlton Le Willows Academy (Gedling).

Unmet/latent demand

Unmet demand is existing demand that is not getting access to pitches. It is usually expressed, for example, when a team is already training but is unable to access a match pitch, or when a league has a waiting list due to a lack of pitch provision, which in turn is hindering the growth of the league.

Sport England's Segmentation Tool enables analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in netball but 'are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies significant latent demand amounting to 345 people (0.29%) within Newark and Sherwood. As a comparison, the national average shows 1.29% of the population would like to participate in netball but is not currently doing so, making Newark and Sherwood somewhat below the national average.

England Netball identify that Newark and Sherwood does not have as much demand for netball as other regions and that the few number of teams is a reflection of the amount of demand for the sport in the District.

Outside of the Sport England segmentation tool, there is no other applicable way to quantify perceived latent demand by clubs or England Netball.

Imported/exported demand

Imported demand is teams entering Newark and Sherwood to access facilities for netball, whilst exported demand is clubs choosing to access provision outside the area. Locally, there are no known examples of imported demand for netball.

England Netball confirm that there is exported demand from residents within Newark and Sherwood accessing established leagues in Nottingham and Lincolnshire through the Nottinghamshire Netball Association and Lincolnshire County Association.

Future demand

As Newark NC is a newly formed club it is still in the process to establish how many teams it shall look to field in the 2023/24 season. It does confirm having lots of interest from younger age groups meaning it may increase in demand throughout the season. The future demand ambitions of the two unresponsive clubs are unknown.

8.4: Supply and demand analysis

Table 8.7: Summary of existing sports lit community use supply

Site ID	Site name	No. of courts	Community use?	Sports lighting?	Quality
68	Minster School Southwell	6	Yes	Yes	Standard
70	Muskham Primary School	1	Yes	Yes	Standard
71	Newark Academy	2	Yes	Yes	Good

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As can be seen in Table 8.7 there are only nine community use netball courts within Newark and Sherwood, provided at Minster School Southwell, Muskham Primary School and Newark Academy. Of these, all have sports lighting and there are two good quality courts and seven standard quality courts. As such there is a low supply of community accessible sports lit netball provision which is in keeping with the low identified demand for netball across the District.

8.5: Conclusion

There is limited identified demand for netball in Newark and Sherwood, with all competitive demand exported into Lincoln and Nottingham. There is also a limited recreational offer for netball across the authority area.

The District provides nine sports lit community accessible courts all of which have limited netball use, outside of curricular need. It is, however, important to note that there are no community accessible courts in the Mansfield Fringe, Nottingham Fringe and Sherwood analysis areas, which may contribute to a lack of uptake in the sport across the District.

Netball – supply and demand summary

- ◀ Given that there is limited demand for netball and there are nine sport lit community accessible facilities it is determined that there is an adequate supply of netball provision in Newark and Sherwood.

Netball – Supply summary:

- ◀ In total, there are 53 outdoor netball courts located across 30 sites in Newark and Sherwood. Of this total provision, 18 courts across six sites are community accessible.
- ◀ Of the 18 available courts, four are good quality, 11 are standard and three are poor quality.
- ◀ Good quality provision is located at both Newark Academy and YMCA (Newark). These courts are accessed by the Play Netball League.

Netball – Demand summary:

- ◀ Three clubs have been identified as playing in Newark and Sherwood, those being Newark Castle Keepers NC Newark NC and Southwell NC.
- ◀ England Netball confirms that a large amount of members based demand is exported into Nottingham and Lincoln for both the Nottinghamshire Netball Association and the Lincolnshire County Association.
- ◀ England Netball, and Sport England's Segmentation Tool outlines that there is somewhat low levels of unmet demand for Newark and Sherwood with only 0.29% of the District identified as wanting to participate but not currently doing so.
- ◀ Newark NC is in the process of establishing itself as a club and is hoping to field one team in festivals and fixtures for the 2023/24 season. Future demand from the two unresponsive clubs is unknown.

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PART 9: ATHLETICS

9.1: Introduction

As a Governing Body, UK Athletics is responsible for developing and implementing the rules and regulations of athletics, including everything from anti-doping, health and safety, facilities and welfare, to training and education for coaches and officials as well as permitting and licensing.

Locally, the sport is governed through England Athletics, which is the development and membership body for athletics and running clubs in England. It has a National Head of Clubs and Participation as well as a team of five Club support managers across the Country, with one of these covering activities in Newark and Sherwood as part of the midlands region.

Consultation

In total, there are four athletics and running clubs in Newark and Sherwood. Of these, three responded to consultation requests, resulting in a response rate of 75%. The table below outlines club responses.

Additionally, wider consultation with YMCA (Newark) and Dukeries Academy Ollerton also took place as well as an assessment of Needs and Opportunities report provided by England Athletics as to further inform the following section.

Table 9.1: Consultation responses

Club name	Club response?
Newark Athletics Club	Yes
Newark Striders Running Club	Yes
Notfast Running Club	No
Southwell Running Club	Yes

9.2: Supply

There are two formal athletics tracks provided in Newark and Sherwood across two sites. YMCA Newark provides a fully sports-lit, community accessible six lane 400-metre track with an eight lane 110-metre straight. Dukeries Academy Ollerton provides a six lane 400m cinder track which is open to community use but is non-sports lit.

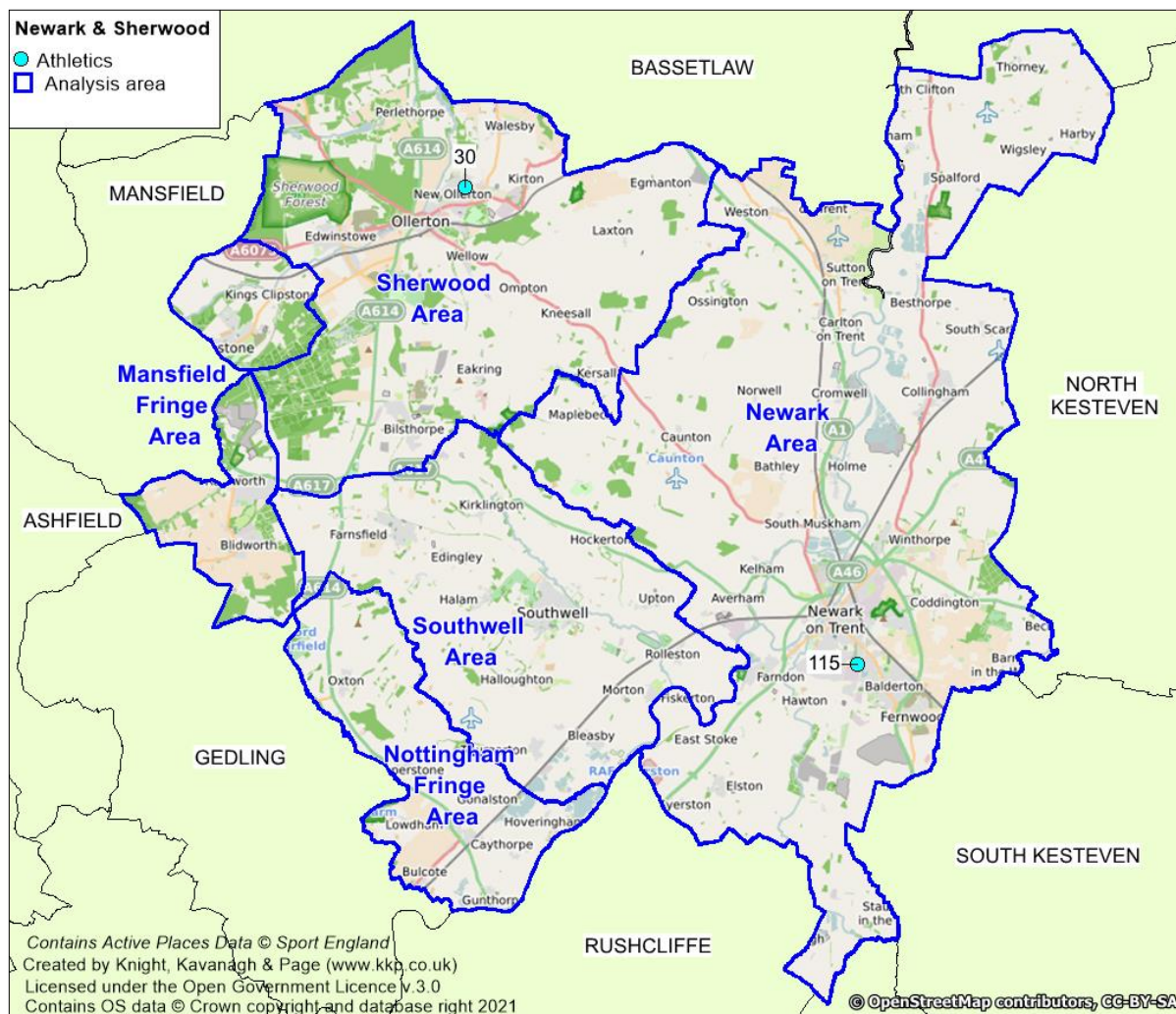
Table 9.2: Summary of athletics tracks in Newark and Sherwood

Site ID	Site	Surface	Analysis area	Length	Sports lighting?	Community use?
30	Dukeries Academy Ollerton	Cinder	Sherwood	400 metres	No	Yes
115	YMCA Newark & Sherwood Sports Community and Activity Village	Synthetic	Newark	400 metres	Yes	Yes

Please see figure 9.1 for a map highlighting the location of the provision within Newark and Sherwood.

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Figure 9.1: Location of athletics tracks in Newark and Sherwood



Management

The athletics provision located at YMCA (Newark) is managed by the YMCA charitable organisation, whilst the provision at Dukeries Academy Ollerton is managed inhouse by the School.

Quality

Key factors impacting upon the quality ratings include the condition and age of the track surface, the prominence of the line markings and any signs of wear and tear or unofficial use.

The track at the YMCA (Newark) was built in 2018 and is of a good quality. Consultation with the site staff team confirms the track is deep cleaned and sprayed each year and regularly washed as to preserve its quality. Newark Athletics Club confirm the site is excellent quality.

An England Athletics assessment of the site in 2023 identified areas of improvement being to paint markings that identifying open and closed positions for hammer and discus throwing in the throwing cage, as well as installing safety signage for the throwing cage.

As the good quality track was first installed in 2018, by the end of the lifespan of the PPOSS the quality will have deteriorated to standard and an assessment should be made if the track will require a respray.

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The 400m cinder track at Dukeries Academy Ollerton is of a poor quality having first been built in 1961. It is an ambition of England Athletics to upgrade the cinder track to a macadam or low-cost synthetic surface as to create a better-quality community running facility.

TrackMark

TrackMark is UK Athletics' quality assurance scheme for outdoor track and field athletics facilities. A venue that achieves TrackMark is recognised by UK Athletics as having well managed, compliant facilities that are accessible to participants of all abilities. From 2021, venues that actively choose not to pursue accreditation are not eligible to apply for a competition licence at any level.

In Newark and Sherwood, the track at YMCA Newark recently retained its TrackMark accreditation having passed an assessment of the track, field, ancillary, operations, sports lighting and competition grading criteria. The track at Dukeries Academy Ollerton has not been through a TrackMark audit, however, it is anticipated it would not pass any of the unit criteria for accreditation due to quality concerns.

Ancillary facilities

YMCA (Newark) is serviced by a state-of-the-art large leisure centre with good quality changing rooms, a café, a social seating area and a large car park. No quality issues were identified during a consultation with the staff of the site.

Dukeries Leisure Centre has poor quality changing facilities that are open to community use but are not commonly used. As the School is going under a re-build, it hopes that improvements to the changing rooms can be provided in the new building design.

Alternative provision

England Athletics is adopting a new approach to facility planning that can enable local councils to install new athletics provision at a much more affordable cost than a traditional 400m synthetic track.

The alternative designs to athletics provision are a 'PlayTrack,' a 'CompactTrack,' a 'MiniTrack' and an 'ActiveTrack.'

What is a PlayTrack?

- ◀ Visually animated hardstanding areas

Where is a PlayTrack suitable?

- ◀ School playgrounds (KS1 and KS2)
- ◀ Parks and play areas

Who is a PlayTrack targeted for?

- ◀ Children aged 4-11

Why is a compact track suitable?

- ◀ Affordable
- ◀ Strong visual impact

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- ◀ Encourages participation through challenging environments
- ◀ Promotes independent learning and skills development
- ◀ PE National Curriculum at KS1 and KS2

The second alternative provision choice is a 'CompactTrack'.

What is a CompactTrack?

- ◀ An affordable entry-level athletics facility
- ◀ Sprint straight (minimum: 4 lanes and 40m length)
- ◀ Multiple long jump runways and landing pit
- ◀ Painted shot put circles and landing area

Where is a CompactTrack suitable?

- ◀ School/ education settings (KS1-KS4)
- ◀ Community and club settings

Who is a CompactTrack targeted for?

- ◀ Children aged 4-16
- ◀ The wider community: local athletics and running clubs, triathlon clubs, outdoor exercise classes.

Why is a CompactTrack suitable?

- ◀ Affordable option.
- ◀ Makes the best use of space.
- ◀ Complements existing sport and play provision.
- ◀ Helps deliver the fundamental athletic skills of running jumping and throwing.
- ◀ Accessible environment for junior clubs.

The third alternative design is a 'MiniTrack.'

What is a MiniTrack?

- ◀ An synthetic oval track (minimum 100m/ maximum 200m)
- ◀ Sports lit
- ◀ Flexible infield options: mini football, basketball, netball, volleyball, hockey quick sticks/ hockey 5's, tennis/ padel, parkour, BMX pump track, skate parks, outdoor gym/ fitness spaces and Play Zones.

Where is a MiniTrack suitable?

- ◀ School or community settings

Who is a MiniTrack targeted for?

- ◀ Young people and adults taking their first steps into running and athletics.
- ◀ Walking for health and mobility programmes

Why is a MiniTrack suitable?

- ◀ Financially viable
- ◀ Multi-sport, year-round usage

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- ◀ Age-appropriate layout
- The final alternative design is an 'ActiveTrack³²'.

What is an ActiveTrack?

- ◀ An all weather perimeter fitness trail (macadam or synthetic surface)
- ◀ Multi-use: walking, jogging, running and cycling.
- ◀ Length of track tailored to spatial requirements.
- ◀ Optional sprint straight
- ◀ Low level solar lighting columns or built in 'cats eye' reflectors.

Where is an ActiveTrack suitable?

- ◀ Parks, open space and new build housing estates

Who is an ActiveTrack targeted for?

- ◀ A facility for everyone
- ◀ Attracts users of all ages and abilities across a wide variety of activities (runners, joggers, walkers (particularly the elderly), cyclists and wheelchair users.

Why is an ActiveTrack suitable?

- ◀ Capital and revenue costs.
- ◀ Fully accessible
- ◀ Encourages communities and families to participate in sport and movement.
- ◀ Flexible design to complement existing infrastructure (e.g. playing pitches)
- ◀ Environmentally sympathetic to benefit local biodiversity and ecology.

These four designs present alternative approaches to athletics provision as to offer more affordable and feasible means of creating athletics tracks.

Consultation with England Athletics reveals that it is looking to install alternative athletics provision within Newark and Sherwood in line with any future housing developments as a more affordable means of increasing the supply within the District. This could be installed within potential parks and open spaces suitable for installing athletics provision.

There are currently no play, compact, mini, or active tracks identified within Newark and Sherwood.

9.3: Demand

For the purposes of this study, athletics demand is considered to come in various forms, rather than just traditional track and field activity. As such, running clubs are also considered, as are organised running events and various running initiatives, some of which are governed by England Athletics. It is also acknowledged that recreational running forms a large part of demand, although this is difficult to measure.

³² <https://www.englandathletics.org/news/thirsk-and-sowerby-harriers-benefit-from-a-new-activetrack-for-all-the-community/>

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Southwell Running Club

Southwell Running Club is a non-track based running club with 64 members (32 male, 32 female).

It raises frustrations with not being able to access YMCA Newark on Tuesdays and Thursdays when the Club has its training sessions (due to an existing full programme of use). It also proposes the need for a Parkrun in Southwell.

Newark Striders Running Club

Newark Striders Running Club is based at YMCA (Newark) and has 115 members (60 female, 55 male). The Club state its membership figures have remained the fairly static in recent years. It accesses YMCA (Newark) for one hour a week and describes the quality as excellent.

Newark Athletics Club

Newark Athletics Club is a track and field and off track club which currently provides 114 members. It is affiliated to England Athletics and is partnered with YMCA (Newark) where it accesses the site for two hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The Club offers specific training sessions for junior and senior members, as well as throwing sessions on Thursdays. It has 100 senior members split evenly between male and female and 100 junior members which has remained the same in recent years. It has future demand ambitions of hoping to gain a further 20 junior members and would like to deliver more sessions at YMCA (Newark), however, it is limited by the number of coaches it has.

Notfast Running Club

Notfast Running Club is an open friendly running club which caters to all abilities and experience aged 18 and above. Members are given the opportunity to compete in races or merely run socially when joining.

The Club has 60 members and meets twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursday at Devon Park Newark.

Finally, Witham Runners (Lincolnshire) imports demand to the YMCA Newark track on Monday evenings for two sessions over a six week period. The Club accesses the site as it is cheaper priced than the facilities provided in Lincoln.

ParkRun

ParkRun is a series of 5k runs held on Saturday mornings in areas of open space around the UK, with 768 events now operating across the Country. They are open to all, free, and are safe and easy to take part in. Runners must first register online in order to access a printed barcode which gives them access to all ParkRun events.

In Newark and Sherwood, two ParkRun events are held each week. The events are known as Newark Park Run and Sherwood Pines ParkRun. Details of which are outlined in the table below.

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Table 9.3: Newark and Sherwood ParkRun statistics

Park Run	No. of times held	Average attendance
Newark	459	187
Sherwood Pines	323	228

Southwell Running Club identified the demand for a third parkrun in the District located nearer to Southwell. Currently the Newark event is 10.6 miles from Southwell and the Sherwood Pines event is 13.5 miles from the town.

Run Together

Run Together is an official England Athletics recreational running project which aims to get the whole nation running. Its aim is to provide fun, friendly, supportive and inclusive running opportunities for everyone, regardless of ability and availability. It believes that running is more fun and easier to become part of a lifestyle when shared with others.

In Newark and Sherwood, Newark Striders delivers Run Together sessions twice a week. A key focus for England Athletics is increasing demand for participation in initiatives such as Run Together, meaning this could be further targeted moving forward, especially given the number of other clubs that could be involved.

Other running events

Newark and Sherwood host several annual running events such as the Sherwood Pines Forest Runner and the DB Wood Newark Half Marathon.

Another annual running event that takes place in neighbouring authority Nottingham is the Race for Life 10k, which is an event organised by Cancer Research UK. The event utilises Victoria Embankment within Nottingham and takes place in June.

The Race for Life is a series of runs across the Country that gives people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities the chance to come together to help beat cancer. There are more than 150 held across the UK.

The Sherwood Pines Forest Runner is held in Sherwood Pines offers both a 5k and 10k race through forest trails. The event is scheduled to take place in October 2023. The DB Wood Newark Half Marathon took place on the 13th of October 2023 and had 704 members complete the race. Starting in Newark on Hawton Road, the event looked to deliver an excellent road race for runners of all abilities, promote Newark as a town and give local businesses the opportunity to promote themselves and act as a means to raise money for local charities.

Couch to 5k

Couch to 5k is a national health initiative promoted by the National Health Service (NHS) to encourage absolute beginners get into running as part of establishing and maintaining an active and healthy lifestyle including regular exercise.

The plan consists of three runs per week and a day of rest in between, with a different schedule for each of the nine weeks to completion. It starts with a mix of running and walking, to gradually build up fitness and stamina, in order to create realistic expectations and a sense of achievability to encourage participants to stick with it. The end goal of the plan is for the participant to be able to run 5k.

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Through the Couch to 5k plan the NHS particularly promotes the health benefits of running and regular exercise which underpin the initiative, such as improved heart and lung health, weight loss and possible increases in bone density which can help protect against bone diseases such as osteoporosis. This also includes mental benefits of running through goal setting and challenge setting, which can help boost confidence and self-belief. Furthermore, running regularly has been linked to combating depression.

It is believed that an increase in people running through the Couch to 5k plan may increase interest and possibly have a knock-on effect of leading to increased demand at running groups and clubs as people may wish to continue develop their running further.

In Newark and Sherwood, YMCA (Newark) members of staff deliver Couch to 5k programmes at its site.

Latent demand

Sport England's Segmentation Tool enables analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in athletics but 'are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies significant latent demand amounting to 2,504 people (3.14%) within Newark and Sherwood. As a comparison, the national average shows 3.04% of the population would like to participate in athletics but is not currently doing so, making Newark and Sherwood slightly above the national average.

Notwithstanding the above, Newark AC express latent demand and confirms it has a waiting list of 15 members in place (due to a need for more coaches). The remaining responsive clubs do not have waiting lists in place and each club open to new members, suggesting that anyone wanting to participate can do so via the clubs and facilities that are in place.

It is therefore likely that other barriers are preventing participation, rather than provision or a lack of capacity.

England Athletics optimisation mapping technology has also identified the need for some form of track and field provision to service the populations north of Newark in the Sherwood Analysis Area, suggesting that the region has some latent demand. As such the consideration of one of the previously discusses alternative provisions should be considered as to increase the stock of supply for the north regions of the District.

Future demand

Newark Striders expresses an aspiration to grow membership of a further 25 male runners and 30 female runners in the next few years, whilst Newark Athletics Club has future demand ambitions for a further 20 junior members.

9.4: Supply and demand analysis

With two dedicated athletics facility in Newark and Sherwood, that being the good quality track at YMCA (Newark) and the dated cinder track at Dukeries Academy Ollerton supply is sufficient as to meet the identified demand in the District.

Minimal quality improvements such as respraying and cleaning the surface may be required in the future to ensure the quality of the YMCA (Newark) track is sustained as long as possible. Efforts should also be considered to enhance the quality of the cinder track at Dukeries Academy Ollerton in line with the identified intentions by England Athletics to enhance the site.

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9.5: Conclusion

With two existing full size athletics track within Newark and Sherwood, it can be determined that area is adequately catered for to accommodate the existing levels of demand. With the 400m track at YMCA (Newark) having first been installed in 2018, this position will likely remain unchanged for the lifespan of the PPOSS.

As the facility provided at Dukeries Academy Ollerton is of a poor quality and there are four athletics clubs within Newark and Sherwood, there is the demand to resurface the poor-quality track as provide formal opportunities to clubs which don't have sufficient access to YMCA Newark at peak times.

It is worth highlighting the ambition of England Athletics to install a form of alternative provision in the North of the District as a means of increasing the supply of provision. With the Sherwood Pines ParkRun attracting high levels demand on a weekly basis, there is a lot of demand for athletics and running in the north of the District.

As a lot of residents in the north of the local authority fall in the longest drive time catchment bracket to a facility of 30 minutes to YMCA (Newark), there is the argument for additional provision to accommodate the demand to the North of the District.

Away from the YMCA (Newark) and Dukeries Academy Ollerton track, priority should also be placed on supporting activity being accommodated by the various running clubs in Newark and Sherwood and the events that are being held.

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Athletics – supply and demand summary

- ◀ The supply of dedicated athletics facilities is sufficient to meet demand.
- ◀ Considerations should be made towards enhancing the quality of the cinder track provided at Dukeries Academy Ollerton as well as installing a form of alternative provision as a means of increasing the total supply.
- ◀ Priority should also be placed on supporting activity being accommodated by the various running clubs in Newark and Sherwood and the events that are being held.

Athletics – supply summary

- ◀ There are two purpose-built athletics track in Newark and Sherwood, provided at YMCA (Newark) and Dukeries Academy Ollerton.
- ◀ YMCA (Newark) provides a 400m track with six lanes; it has a synthetic surface, is serviced by floodlighting and is open to community use.
- ◀ The track is of a good quality having first been installed in 2018 and is deep cleaned and sprayed annually.
- ◀ YMCA (Newark) is serviced by good quality ancillary facilities.
- ◀ Dukeries Academy Ollerton has a poor-quality cinder track that was first built in 1961. England Athletics has an ambition to upgrade the facility to a macadam or low-cost synthetic surface.

Athletics – demand summary

- ◀ Four clubs have been identified that have a current focus on athletics and/or running activity, with only Newark Athletics Club and Notfast Running Club having a requirement for a purpose-built facility.
- ◀ None of the clubs consulted with have a waiting list in place and all clubs are open to gaining new members.
- ◀ The Couch to 5K programme is delivered in Newark and Sherwood by the staff at YMCA (Newark).
- ◀ There are two Park Run events held each week at as many venues across Newark and Sherwood.

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PART 10: LAWN BOWLS

10.1: Introduction

Outdoor bowls in Newark and Sherwood is played almost entirely on flat greens, with a typical season running in the Summer from May until September. Bowls England is the NGB with overall responsibility for ensuring effective governance of the sport.

Crown green bowling is another version of bowls played in England, governed separately by The British Crown Green Bowling Association (BCGBA). This format of the sport is played predominately in the North of England and there is a no presence of this locally.

Consultation

There are 12 bowls clubs identified as currently using outdoor bowling greens in Newark and Sherwood. Of these, nine responded to consultation requests, equating to a response rate of 75%. Unresponsive clubs been contacted via email and telephone on several occasions.

Table 10.1: Summary of consultation

Club name	Club response?
Balderton Bowls Club	Yes
Bilthorpe Bowls Club	No
Blidworth Bowls Club	Yes
Clipstone Bowls Club	Yes
Collingham Bowls Club	Yes
Farnsfield Bowls Club	No
Flowserve Bowls Club	Yes
Lowdham Bowls Club	Yes
Newark Northern Bowls Club	Yes
Newark Town Bowls Club	Yes
Ollerton Bowls Club	No
Southwell Town Bowls Club	Yes

10.2: Supply

There are a total of 13 bowling greens identified in Newark and Sherwood across 12 sites. Most provision is in the Newark Analysis Area with five greens provided (38% of all provision) whilst the Nottingham Fringe Analysis Area has the least provision with one green (8% of provision).

Table 10.2: Summary of the number of greens by Analysis area

Analysis area	No. of greens
Mansfield Fringe	2
Newark	5
Nottingham Fringe	1
Sherwood	3
Southwell	2
Newark and Sherwood	13

Figure 10.1 shows the location of all bowling greens currently in Newark and Sherwood. For a key to the map, see Table 10.3.

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Figure 10.1: Location of bowling greens in Newark and Sherwood

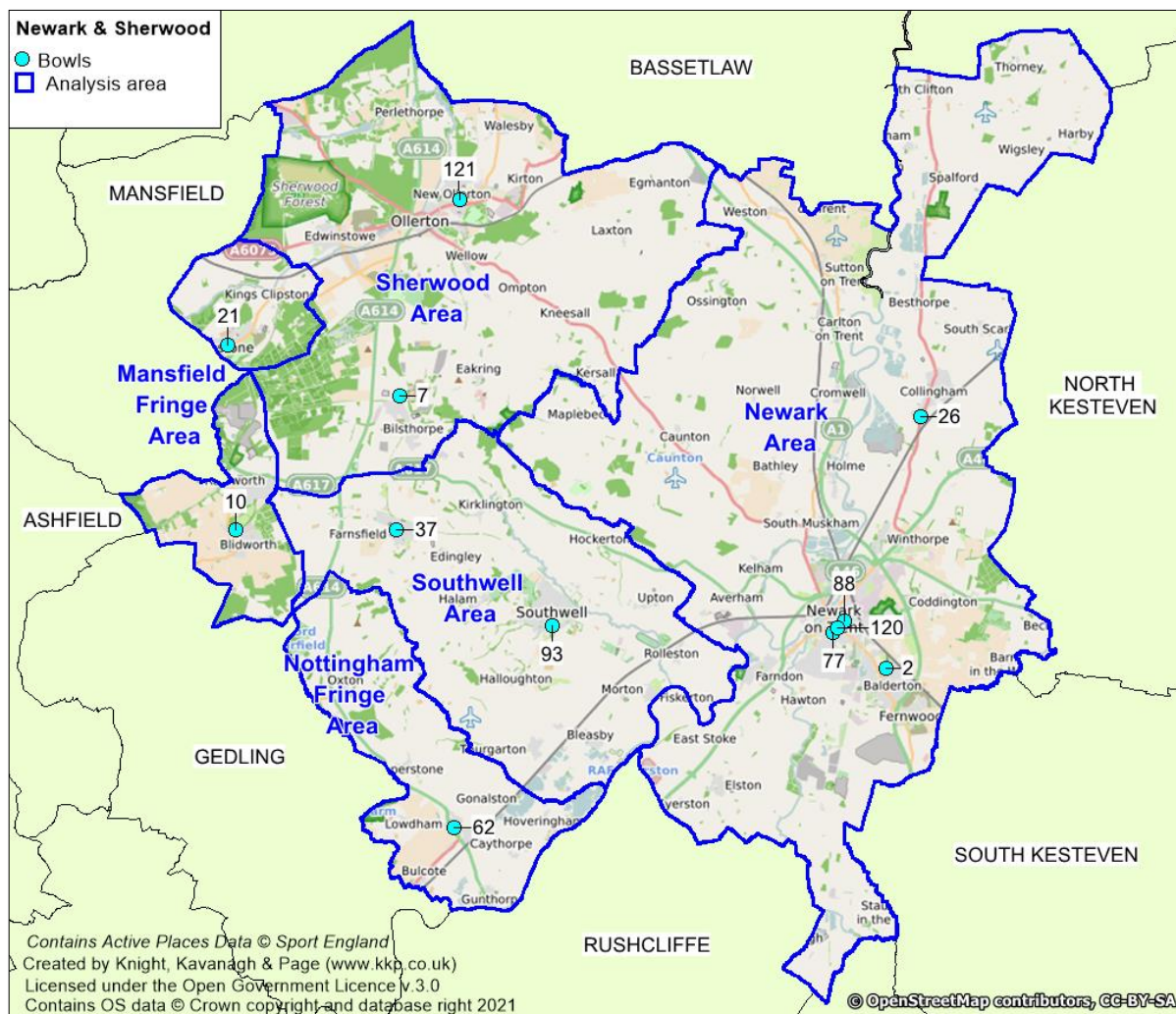


Table 10.3: Location of all bowling greens

Site ID	Site name	Associated Club	Analysis area	No. of greens
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Balderton BC	Newark	1
7	Bilthorpe Sports Ground	Bilthorpe BC	Sherwood	2
10	Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre	Blidworth BC	Mansfield Fringe	1
21	Clipstone Miners Welfare Bowls Club	Clipstone BC	Mansfield Fringe	1
26	Dale Field Collingham	Collingham BC	Newark	1
37	Farnsfield Bowling and Tennis Club	Farnsfield BC	Southwell	1
62	Lowdham Village Hall and Playing Fields	Lowdham BC	Nottingham Fringe	1
77	Newark Town Bowls Club	Newark Town BC	Newark	1
88	Sherwood Avenue Park Newark	Newark Northern BC	Newark	1
93	Southwell Memorial Ground	Southwell Town BC	Southwell	1
120	Beaumont Gardens Newark Newark	Flowserve BC	Newark	1
121	Ollerton Bowls Club	Ollerton BC	Sherwood	1

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Disused provision

There are six disused bowling greens within Newark and Sherwood located across the following five sites:

- ◀ Farndon Recreation Ground (one green)
- ◀ Fourth Avenue Bowling Green (one green)
- ◀ Harby Playing Field (one green)
- ◀ Newark Flowserve FC (Lowfields) (two greens)
- ◀ Rainworth Miners Welfare Sports Club (one green)

Rainworth Miners Welfare Sports Club formerly hosted Dukeries BC which folded in 2020 and has since led to the site falling out of use. The small brick clubhouse bordering the site is in adequate condition, and the green is also serviced by a large welfare sports club located next door which is accessed by Step 6 football club Rainworth MW FC.

Fourth Avenue bowling green has a disused green that is in a poor condition and is overgrown. The site also has a poor quality clubhouse and a small space for dedicated parking next to the green. Harby Playing Fields has a disused green that fell out of use in 2022 following the closure of Harby BC. The green is currently in an acceptable condition when compared to other disused sites, as is the ancillary provision.

Farndon Recreation Ground has a disused green formerly accessed by Farndon BC. Consultation with Farndon CC confirms it signed a 50-year lease for the green which it is looking to develop into a fixed lane practice nets facility and additional storage.

Finally, Newark Flowserve FC (Lowfields) has two disused bowling greens that are overgrown and accompanied by a large, closed down, clubhouse. The provision fell into disuse following the sports club lease expiring several years ago and the landowner looking to use the site for alternate purposes. The Club has since been relocated to the provision provided at Beaumont Gardens Newark, meaning it has gone from using a two greens to just one.

Security of tenure

The table below highlights the tenure position of clubs which have responded to consultation. In the main, clubs have secure tenure, with most having either long term lease arrangements in place with Newark and Sherwood District Council, town and parish councils, or private landowners.

Table 10:4: Summary of club tenure arrangements

Site ID	Site	Club	Tenure
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Balderton BC	It has an annual rental agreement with Newark and Sherwood District Council.
7	Bilthorpe Sports Ground	Bilthorpe BC	Bilthorpe Welfare Trust has freehold ownership of the site.
10	Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre	Blidworth BC	The site is under freehold ownership of the Blidworth Miners Welfare Complex.
21	Clipstone Miners Welfare Bowls Club	Clipstone BC	The site is under freehold ownership to the Clipstone Miners Welfare Social Club.
26	Dale Field Collingham	Collingham BC	Freehold ownership.

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Site ID	Site	Club	Tenure
37	Farnsfield Bowling and Tennis Club	Farnsfield BC	<i>Unknown</i>
62	Lowdham Village Hall and Playing Fields	Lowdham BC	The site is owned by the Lowdham Village Hall Playing Fields Association which, with the Club, has a long-term lease agreement.
77	Newark Town Bowls Club	Newark Town BC	Freehold ownership.
88	Sherwood Avenue Park Newark	Newark Northern BC	It has a 10-year lease agreement with Newark Town Council scheduled to expire in 2026.
93	Southwell Memorial Ground	Southwell Town BC	The Club has a lease agreement with Southwell Town Council.
120	Beaumont Gardens Newark	Flowserve BC	It has a yearly rental agreement with Newark and Sherwood District Council.
121	Ollerton Bowls Club	Ollerton BC	<i>Unknown</i>

Of the three unresponsive clubs, the current tenure position is unknown.

Quality

The quality of bowling greens across Newark and Sherwood have been assessed via a combination of site visits (using non-technical assessments) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

For bowling greens, the non-technical assessment considers several attributes of the site including the surrounding hard surfaces to the green, disability access, evenness, grass coverage and signs off unofficial use.

Table 10.5: Summary of bowling green quality

Site ID	Site name	Club	No. of greens	Quality
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Balderton BC	1	Good
7	Bilsthorpe Sports Ground	Bilsthorpe BC	1	Good
7	Bilsthorpe Sports Ground	Bilsthorpe BC	1	Standard
10	Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre	Blidworth BC	1	Standard
21	Clipstone Miners Welfare Bowls Club	Clipstone BC	1	Good
26	Dale Field Collingham	Collingham BC	1	Good
37	Farnsfield Bowling and Tennis Club	Farnsfield BC	1	Good
62	Lowdham Village Hall and Playing Fields	Lowdham BC	1	Good
77	Newark Town Bowls Club	Newark Town BC	1	Good
88	Sherwood Avenue Park Newark	Newark Northern BC	1	Standard
93	Southwell Memorial Ground	Southwell Town BC	1	Good
120	Beaumont Gardens Newark	Flowserve BC	1	Good
121	Ollerton Bowls Club	Ollerton BC	1	Good

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The overall stock of bowling green provision in Newark and Sherwood is good quality, with 10 greens (77% provision) assessed as such, whilst three are standard quality (23%), and no poor quality greens identified. In the case of the standard quality provision, instances of highly worn patches and slight undulations were present.

Seven clubs state their greens are maintained by members of the club as outlined below:

- ◀ Blidworth BC
- ◀ Clipstone BC
- ◀ Collingham BC
- ◀ Lowdham BC
- ◀ Newark Northern BC
- ◀ Newark Town BC
- ◀ Southwell Town BC

Only Flowserve BC and Balderton BC confirm that the Council maintains its greens.

Blidworth BC confirm its green has declined in quality in recent years due to the hot summer experienced in 2022, as well as the Club changing its ground staff. It confirms it is working towards bringing the green back to a good quality.

Newark Northern BC state its green is much better in quality in comparison to the 2022 season due to an increase in the level of off-season remedial work which was undertaken.

Bilsthorpe BC provides one good quality and one standard quality green. The standard quality green at the site did not appear to be used for lawn bowls during the non-technical site assessments where the Club appeared to be using the provision for a children's play area.

All remaining clubs confirm its greens have stayed the same quality from the previous season.

Ancillary provision

Most clubs which responded to consultation have access to some form of clubhouse/pavilion on site or through an adjoining public house. The quality of these range from purpose built brick pavilions to basic wooden huts and shelters. Five sites are accompanied by good quality facilities, a further five sites have standard quality ancillary provision. Both Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre and Ollerton BC provide poor quality ancillary provisions.

The table below outlines the quality of ancillary provision for each club site.

Table 10.6: Summary of club ancillary provision

Site ID	Site name	Club using site	Analysis area	Quality
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Balderton BC	Newark	Good
7	Bilsthorpe Sports Ground	Bilsthorpe BC	Sherwood	Standard
10	Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre	Blidworth BC	Mansfield Fringe	Poor
21	Clipstone Miners Welfare Bowls Club	Clipstone BC	Mansfield Fringe	Good
26	Dale Field Collingham	Collingham BC	Newark	Standard
37	Farnsfield Bowling and Tennis Club	Farnsfield BC	Southwell	Standard
62	Lowdham Village Hall and Playing Fields	Lowdham BC	Nottingham Fringe	Standard

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Site ID	Site name	Club using site	Analysis area	Quality
77	Newark Town Bowls Club	Newark Town BC	Newark	Good
88	Sherwood Avenue Park Newark	Newark Northern BC	Newark	Good
93	Southwell Memorial Ground	Southwell Town BC	Southwell	Good
120	Beaumont Gardens Newark	Flowserve BC	Newark	Standard
121	Ollerton Bowls Club	Ollerton BC	Sherwood	Poor

Blidworth BC and Ollerton BC provide very small old wooden clubhouses which offer a basic form of ancillary provision for the associated clubs. Blidworth BC has one small room with a sink, some tables and a storage space. The Club confirm the clubhouse roof needs repair, however, it was quoted a price that it cannot afford.

Collingham BC has a standard quality clubhouse which has a social space, kitchen and toilet facilities but no changing rooms. It recently invested into enhancing the interior of its clubhouse towards re-carpeting, painted, re-wiring and fitting new windows to the building. It says it received a sizeable sum of funding from tarmac landfill communities fund.

Lowdham BC has a standard quality basic small wooden clubhouse with two toilets, a small kitchen and an outdoor changing block.

Southwell Town BC has a good quality clubhouse with changing rooms, a kitchen toilet and a social seating area. It states the parking at the site is a difficulty as it must share the available spaces with football and tennis users.

Clipstone BC has a good quality clubhouse with changing rooms, a kitchen, and a large social club next to the site. It confirms that since 2021 it has installed a new roof and new patio doors to the ancillary provision of the site.

Newark Town BC has a good quality clubhouse with a two-storey brick building with a kitchen and social space provided. It states the on-site parking is too small for the number of members it hosts.

Flowserve BC has a standard quality clubhouse at Beaumont Gardens Newark. It however considers the building to be of a poor quality and state the changing and clubhouse facilities at the site are poor.

Newark Northern BC has a good quality clubhouse with good quality changing facilities, toilets and a social space.

Balderton BC has a good quality modern brick clubhouse with a kitchen, toilets and a storage space. It states the toilets and interior of the clubhouse needs enhancing.

Sports lighting

None of the greens provided in Newark and Sherwood are serviced by sports lighting, and no clubs expressed any interest in fitting sports lighting during consultation.

Greens with sports lighting offer opportunities to access provision for training and matches during evenings outside of the summer months. However, they are relatively uncommon across the Country, meaning the levels identified in Newark and Sherwood are comparative to the national picture of sports lighting supply and should not be of any particular concern.

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10.3: Demand

There are 12 bowls clubs in Newark and Sherwood. Of the nine clubs that have responded to the consultation, the total membership equates to 391 members. This comprises 258 senior male, 130 senior female and three juniors (mixed gender) members.

The average membership across clubs is 43 members. The highest membership figures are at Southwell Town BC, with 70 members, whilst the lowest known figures are found at Clipstone BC and Flowserve BC both of which have 28 members. The low membership figures at Flowserve BC are likely as a result of the clubs relocation from its former site which provided two greens and a large clubhouse.

Pay and play

Pay and play refers to the opportunity for residents to turn up to existing facilities and access them on a casual, commitment free basis. Locally, only Southwell Town BC and Newark Northern BC offer pay and play to residents. All remaining clubs (which were responsive to consultation) do not offer pay and play with the general rationale being that there is nobody on site able to collect fees.

Blidworth BC lies next to a large social club which operates separately to the bowls Club. During consultation the Club state it is considering making its members join the social club as to attract more members.

Play Bowls and Bowls Bash

Play Bowls³³ is a new product designed to assist clubs in attracting more casual, pay and play participants. Clubs are now able to sign up to the scheme, with booking slots for access then able to be secured and paid for via the Play Bowls website. The aim is for this to help the sport become much more accessible whilst making it easy for clubs to evolve and manage the demand from the casual audience. Bowls Bash³⁴ offers a shortened format normally played in teams of two, with players delivering 30 bowls each per match.

Both schemes are being delivered across the country as a means of growing participation for lawn bowls.

Table 10.7: Summary of club membership

Club name	Site name	Analysis area	No. of members			Total
			Men	Women	Juniors	
Balderton BC	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Newark	30	14	1	45
Bilsthorpe BC	Bilthorpe Sports Ground	Sherwood	-	-	-	-
Blidworth BC	Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre	Mansfield Fringe	20	15	-	35
Clipstone BC	Clipstone Miners Welfare Bowls Club	Mansfield Fringe	18	10	-	28
Collingham BC	Dale Field Collingham	Newark	22	20	-	42

³³ <https://play-bowls.com/>

³⁴ <https://www.bowlsengland.com/bowlsbash/>

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Club name	Site name	Analysis area	No. of members			Total
			Men	Women	Juniors	
Farnsfield BC	Farnsfield Bowling and Tennis Club	Southwell	-	-	-	-
Flowserve BC	Beaumont Gardens Newark	Newark	23	5	0	28
Lowdham BC	Lowdham Village Hall and Playing Fields	Nottingham Fringe	35	15	0	50
Newark Northern BC	Sherwood Avenue Park Newark	Newark	47	12	1	60
Newark Town BC	Newark Town Bowls Club	Newark	23	9	1	33
Ollerton BC	Ollerton Bowls Club	Sherwood	-	-	-	-
Southwell Town BC	Southwell Memorial Ground	Southwell	40	30	-	70
Total			258	130	3	391

Latent demand

Latent demand refers to potential demand; clubs that would like to gain more members but currently do not do so. This can be for a variety of reasons including a lack of provision, appropriate facilities, and qualified coaches. Unmet demand is existing demand that is not getting access to provision. It is usually expressed, for example, when a team is already playing for a club but is unable to access a match green, or when a league has a waiting list due to a lack of pitch provision, which in turn is hindering the growth of the league.

Sport England's Segmentation Tool enables analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in bowling' but 'are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies latent demand of 204 people or 0.17% within Newark and Sherwood. As a comparison the national average shows that 0.16% of the population is looking to play lawn bowls but is not currently doing so.

Notwithstanding the above, all clubs report that existing membership can be accommodated on the current level of provision available and that no potential members are being turned away due to capacity issues. As such, no clubs report any latent or unmet demand, with the majority are actively trying to recruit new members.

Future demand

For bowls it is more appropriate to consider population changes for persons aged 65 and over. Office of National Statistics population projections (2018-2033), identify that the number of persons aged 65 and over living in Newark and Sherwood is likely to increase continuously from 26,480 in 2018 to 35,322 in 2033, representing an increase of 33.4%.

Due to this age band being the most likely to play bowls, it can be said that demand for bowling greens in Newark and Sherwood is likely to increase with additional pressure placed on the existing stock of provision. In addition, consultation identifies six clubs which aspire to increase their existing memberships. Details of this are provided in the table below. Total future demand identified across six clubs equates to 66 new members.

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Table 10.8: Future demand aspirations

Club	Site name	Analysis area	Future demand aspiration (members)	Method to increase membership
Balderton BC	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Newark	20 senior and 10 junior members	Host open days, bowls England big bash days and deliver coaching sessions.
Blidworth BC	Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre	Mansfield Fringe	10 members	Host an open day in line with Bowls England
Clipstone BC	Clipstone Miners Welfare Bowls Club	Mansfield Fringe	Five members	Did not specify
Collingham BC	Dale Field Collingham	Newark	Ten members	Host open days in line with Collingham CC
Flowerserve BC	Beaumont Gardens Newark	Newark	No future demand expressed	-
Lowdham BC	Lowdham Village Hall and Playing Fields	Nottingham Fringe	Five members	Word of mouth and advertising
Newark Northern BC	Sherwood Avenue Park Newark	Newark	Six members	Club delivers open day competitions
Newark Town BC	Newark Town Bowls Club	Newark	No future demand expressed	-
Southwell Town BC	Southwell Memorial Ground	Southwell	No future demand expressed	-

10.4: Supply and demand analysis

The capacity of a bowling green is very much dependent on the leagues and the day that they operate. A green may have no spare capacity in the afternoon or evening when a popular league operates but may be underused for the rest of the week.

However, in many cases, greens are used during the afternoons by club members which bowl socially, with access a potential issue during peak times if membership is particularly high.

Bowls England has no specific guidance on bowling green capacity, stating that it can vary from site-to-site and from club-to-club. However, as a guide, it states that any green used by at least 20 members is generally considered to be sustainable, whilst any green operating with a membership of over 60 may need additional resource to ensure that it is meeting its required level of demand.

Therefore, capacity ratings for bowling greens in Newark and Sherwood are classified as follows:

Within capacity range	Membership ensures green is sustainable without capacity issues
Outside capacity range	Membership is below or above the recommended capacity range

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Following this, the table below highlights the level of usage each green in Newark and Sherwood receives, where the information is known. Where no membership information is known, further communication is required with clubs to fully understand their needs and any potential capacity or sustainability issues.

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Table 10.9: Bowling green supply and demand analysis (where membership figures are known)

Site ID	Site name	Club name	No. of greens	Analysis area	Total membership	Current capacity (members)	Future capacity (members)
2	Balderton Village Hall Playing Field	Balderton BC	1	Newark	45	15	15
10	Blidworth Miners Welfare Social Centre	Blidworth BC	1	Mansfield Fringe	35	25	15
21	Clipstone Miners Welfare Bowls Club	Clipstone BC	1	Mansfield Fringe	28	32	27
26	Dale Field Collingham	Collingham BC	1	Newark	42	18	8
62	Lowdham Village Hall and Playing Fields	Lowdham BC	1	Nottingham Fringe	50	10	5
77	Newark Town Bowls Club	Newark Town BC	1	Newark	33	27	27
88	Sherwood Avenue Park Newark	Newark Northern BC	1	Newark	60	-	6
93	Southwell Memorial Ground	Southwell Town BC	1	Southwell	70	10	10
120	Beaumont Gardens Newark	Flowserve BC	1	Newark	28	32	32

The table above shows that seven clubs are operating within a “sustainable” capacity range. Southwell Town BC is the only club operating above Bowls England guidelines. Southwell Town BC did not specifically mention a need for an additional bowling green as a means of accommodating existing or further demand, suggesting that the theoretical overuse is manageable.

When factoring in future demand, Balderton BC, Newark Northern BC and Southwell Town BC are all also forecast to go above its capacity threshold.

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10.5: Conclusion

Overall, with no clubs reporting any capacity issues, it is considered that there is a sufficient supply of provision of bowling greens in Newark and Sherwood. It is therefore considered that there is not a need for an increase in the supply of bowling greens in the District.

For clubs which are operating over Bowls England sustainability guidelines, none note a need for increased access to provision, albeit these should be monitored to ensure that they remain to have sufficient capacity in the future as the typical demographic of user increases in line with population estimates.

Alongside this there are additional areas for improvement for active sites within Newark and Sherwood such as the need for ancillary provision improvements at Blidworth BC and Ollerton BC as well as improving the green quality at Blidworth BC.

Bowls – supply and demand summary

- There is a sufficient supply of bowling greens in Newark and Sherwood to accommodate current demand; however, some shortfalls do appear if future demand from Club ambitions are to be realised. It is also clear that the current level of provision requires protection.

Bowls – supply summary

- There are 13 bowling greens in Newark and Sherwood provided across 12 sites, with two greens provided at Blisthorpe Sports Ground.
- There are six disused bowling green within Newark and Sherwood, across five sites with two greens formerly prepared at Newark Flowserve FC (Lowfields).
- All clubs that have responded to consultation attempts are deemed to have security of tenure.
- There are no greens in Newark and Sherwood that are serviced by sports lighting.
- Of the bowling greens in active use, 10 are good quality, three are standard quality and none are of a poor quality.
- Ancillary provision across Newark and Sherwood is varied, five clubs accessing good quality clubhouses, five accessing standard quality and two poor quality ancillary provision identified at Blidworth BC and Ollerton BC.

Bowls – demand summary

- There are 12 clubs using bowling greens in Newark and Sherwood: where membership is known it equates to 391 members.
- The average membership across all of the identified clubs is 43 members.
- Due to a predicted increase in persons aged 65 and over (to 2033), demand is likely to increase for greens over the coming years.
- Six clubs report future demand to increase membership by a combined total of 66 members, with methods of increasing numbers such as recruitment via coaching, localised advertisement and open days in line with Bowls England.
- All clubs report that existing membership can be accommodated on the current level of provision and that no potential members are being turned away, suggesting that there is no latent or unmet demand.

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PART 11: RUGBY LEAGUE

11.1: Introduction

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

Most community club rugby league is played throughout the summer season (from February to October). However, rugby league is considered as a winter season sport within schools, colleges and universities and therefore pitch provision for matches and training is also required throughout the winter months.

Consultation

Consultation with Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth took place as to inform this section of the report (due to being the sole pitch provider in the District).

11.2: Supply

There is one rugby league pitch in Newark and Sherwood located at Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth. Consultation with the School confirms the pitch is open to community but is, however, of a poor quality due to being on a slope and surface issues due to rabbit and mole mounds. It therefore only accommodates curricular demand.

11.3: Demand

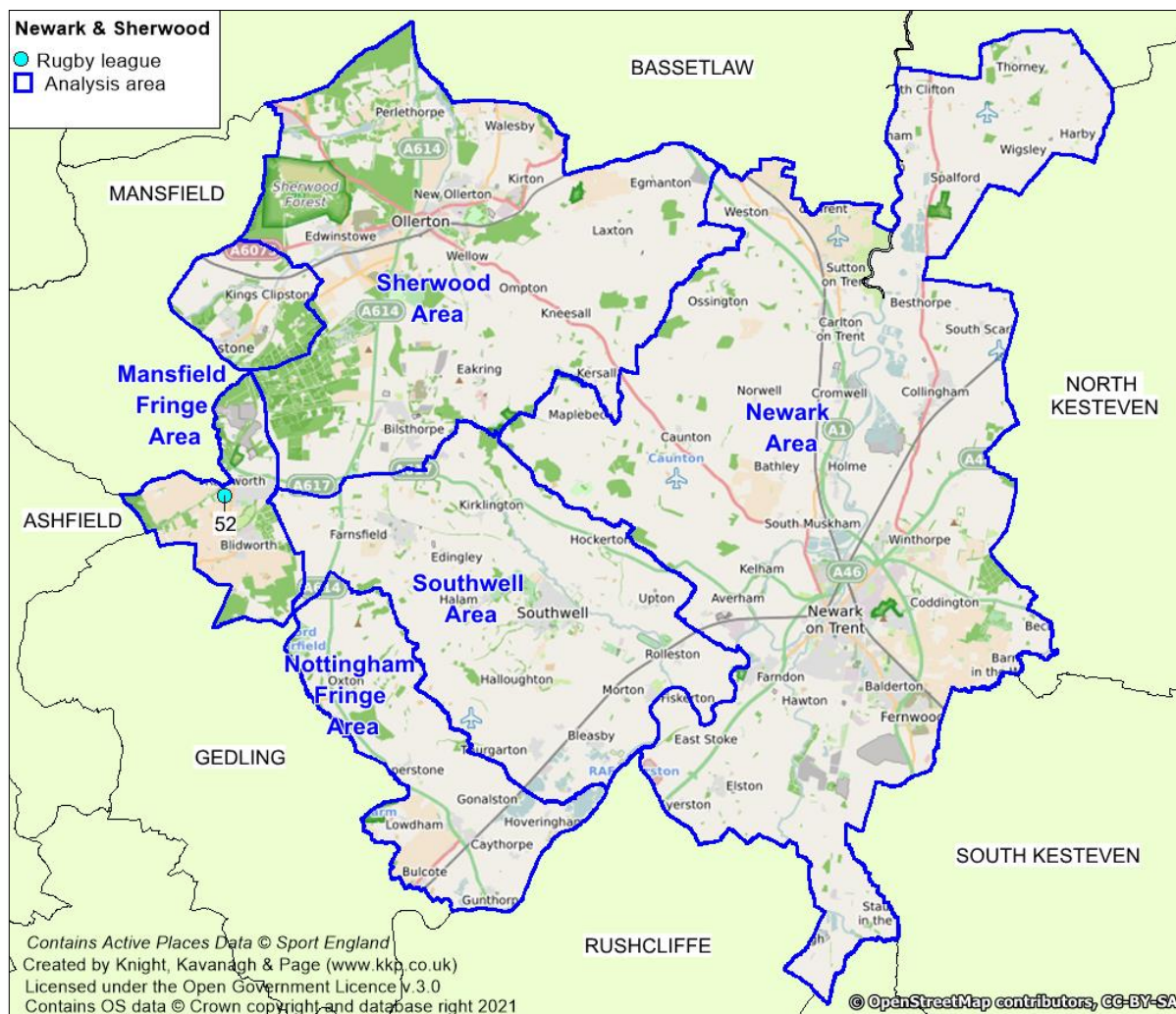
No demand has been identified for community rugby league in Newark and Sherwood itself. In effect, any residual demand for the sport is unlikely to be sufficient for a club to be created, with individuals instead likely to travel to form part of Bassetlaw Bulldogs RLFC based in neighbouring Bassetlaw or Lincolnshire Lions RFL (City of Lincoln).

Bassetlaw Bulldogs RLFC is a junior based rugby league club for members aged between 5-15 years old. It is based in East Markham and has fixtures and training sessions on Saturdays. Lincolnshire Lions RFL is based at Ruston's Sports and Social Club (City of Lincoln). It trains on Tuesdays and has fixtures on Saturdays.

With two established clubs in two nearby local authorities to the North of Newark and Sherwood, it can be determined that any residual demand is exported into either Bassetlaw Bulldogs RFL or Lincolnshire Lions RFL.

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Figure 11.1: Location of rugby league pitches in Newark and Sherwood



11.4: Supply and demand analysis

As no formal demand is identified within Newark and Sherwood, the pitch at Joesph Whitaker School should be retained as to accommodate curricular use for as long as the demand exists to do so.

11.5: Conclusion

To conclude with one pitch provided at Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth and no demand identified, it can be determined that Newark and Sherwood is adequately catering for rugby league within the District.

If any demand does exist, if not already, should be signposted to Bassetlaws Bulldogs RFL and Lincolnshire Lions RFL.

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Rugby league – supply and demand summary

- ◀ Demand for rugby league is met outside of Newark and Sherwood, with opportunities in Lincoln and Bassetlaw.

Rugby league – supply summary

- ◀ There is one rugby league pitch in Newark and Sherwood located at Joseph Whitaker School Rainworth. The pitch is open to community use and is of a poor quality.

Rugby league – demand summary

- ◀ No demand has been identified for rugby league in Newark and Sherwood.
- ◀ Neighbouring authority Lincoln hosts Lincolnshire Lions RFL, which accesses Ruston's Sports and Social Club for home fixtures and training. Bassetlaws Bulldogs RLFC resembles the other neighbouring club, which accommodates only junior demand.
- ◀ Any residual need is unlikely to be sufficient for a club to be created, with individuals instead likely to travel to form part of the clubs outside of the District.

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APPENDIX 1: SPORTING CONTEXT

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

National context

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

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

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

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

Sport England: Uniting the Movement 2021

Sport and physical activity has a big role to play in improving the physical and mental health of the nation, supporting the economy, reconnecting communities and rebuilding a stronger society for all. From this notion, Sport England has recently released its new strategy, Uniting the Movement, its 10-year vision to transform lives and communities through sport and physical activity.

It seeks to tackle the inequalities long seen in sport and physical activity. Providing opportunities to people and communities that have traditionally been left behind, and helping to remove the barriers to activity, has never been more important.

There are three key objectives to the Strategy:

- ◀ Advocating for movement, sport and physical activity.
- ◀ Joining forces on five big issues
- ◀ Creating the catalyst for change

In particular, the five big issues are identified where the greatest potential is seen for preventing and tackling inequalities in sport and physical activity. Each one is a building block that, on its own, would make a difference, but together, could change things profoundly:

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Recover and reinvent: Recovering from the biggest crisis in a generation and reinventing as a vibrant, relevant and sustainable network of organisations providing sport and physical activity opportunities that meet the needs of different people.

Connecting communities: Focusing on sport and physical activity's ability to make better places to live and bring people together.

Positive experiences for children and young people: Unrelenting focus on positive experiences for all children and young people as the foundations for a long and healthy life.

Connecting with health and wellbeing: Strengthening the connections between sport, physical activity, health and wellbeing, so more people can feel the benefits of, and advocate for, an active life.

Active environments: Creating and protecting the places and spaces that make it easier for people to be active.

The specific impact of the Strategy will be captured through programmes funded, interventions made, and partnerships forged. For each specific area of action, a set of key performance indicators will be developed. This hybrid approach will help evidence the overall progress being made by all those involved in supporting sport and physical activity.

National Planning Policy Framework (2021)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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The FA National Football Facilities Strategy (2018-28)

The Football Association's (FA) National Football Facilities Strategy (NFFS) provides a strategic framework that sets out key priorities and targets for the national game (i.e., football) over a ten-year period.

The Strategy sets out shared aims and objectives it aims to deliver on in conjunction with The Premier League, Sport England and the Government, to be delivered with support of the Football Foundation.

These stakeholders have clearly identified the aspirations for football to contribute directly to nationally important social and health priorities. Alongside this, the strategy is clear that traditional, affiliated football remains an important priority and a core component of the game, whilst recognising and supporting the more informal environments used for the community and recreational game.

Its vision is: *"Within 10 years we aim to deliver great football facilities, wherever they are needed"*

£1.3 billion has been spent by football and Government since 2000 to enhance existing football facilities and build new ones. However, more is needed if football and Government's shared objectives for participation, individual well-being and community cohesion are to be achieved. Nationally, direct investment will be increased – initially to £69 million per annum from football and Government (a 15% increase on recent years).

The NFFS investment priorities can be broadly grouped into six areas, recognising the need to grow the game, support existing players and better understand the different football environments:

- ◀ **Improve 20,000 Natural Turf pitches**, with a focus on addressing drop off due to a poor playing experience;
- ◀ **Deliver 1,000 3G AGP 'equivalents'** (mix of full size and small sided provision, including MUGAs - small sided facilities are likely to have a key role in smaller / rural communities and encouraging multi-sport offers), enhancing the quality of playing experience and supporting a sustainable approach to grass roots provision;
- ◀ **Deliver 1,000 changing pavilions/clubhouses**, linked to multi-pitch or hub sites, supporting growth (particularly in women and girls football), sustainability and providing a facility infrastructure to underpin investment in coaching, officials and football development;
Support access to flexible indoor spaces, including equipment and court markings, to support growth in futsal, walking football and to support the education and skills outcomes, exploiting opportunities for football to positively impact on personal and social outcomes for young people in particular;
- ◀ **Refurbish existing stock to maintain current provision**, recognising the need to address historic under-investment and issues with refurbishment of existing facilities;
- ◀ **Support testing of technology and innovation**, building on customer insight to deliver hubs for innovation, testing and development of the game.

Local Football Facility Plans

To support in delivery of both the current and superseding FA National Game Strategy (NGS), the FA commissioned a nationwide consultancy project. A Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) has now been produced for every local authority across England. Each plan is unique to its area as well as being diverse in its representation.

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The LFFP is strategically aligned to the National Football Facilities Strategy (NFFS); a 10-year plan to change the landscape of football facilities in England. The NFFS represents a major funding commitment from the national funding partners (The FA, Premier League, DCMS, Football Foundation) to inform and direct an estimated one billion pounds of investment into football facilities over the next ten years.

Each LFFP will build upon PPS findings (where present and current) regarding the formal and affiliated game, to also include strategic priorities for investment across small sided football (recreational and informal including indoors). The LFFP will also incorporate consultation with groups outside of formal football, as well as underrepresented communities. This could include those which may be key partners with regards to football for behavioural change and groups which may be key drivers of FA NGS priorities around participation in the likes of women and girls' football, disability football and futsal.

LFFPs will identify key projects to be delivered and act as an investment portfolio for projects that require funding. As such, around 90% of all national football investment through the funding partners will be identified via LFFPs.

It is important to recognise that a LFFP is an investment portfolio of priority projects for potential investment - it is not a detailed supply and demand analysis of all pitch provision in a local area. Consequently, it cannot be used in place of a PPS and is not an accepted evidence base for site change of use or disposal. A LFFP will, however, build on available/existing local evidence and strategic plans and may adopt relevant actions from a PPS and/or complement these with additional investment priorities.

The FA: Time for Change Strategy (2020-24)

The FA launched its new National Game Strategy in January 2021 which aims to 'unite the game and inspire the nation'. It will do this in two ways, by 'changing the game to maximise its impact' and by 'serving the game to deliver football for all'.

To achieve this, the strategy will focus on six Game Changer objectives, to change the fabric of the game and tackle long-term issues, to make the largest possible impact in the years ahead:

- ◀ Win a major tournament
- ◀ Service > two million through a transformed media platform
- ◀ Ensure equal opportunities for every girl
- ◀ Delivery of 5,000 quality pitches
- ◀ A game free of discrimination
- ◀ Maximise the appeal and revenue of the FA cups and BFAWSL

These are underpinned by eight Serve objectives, ensuring maintenance of brilliant business-as-usual services to support the growing and evolving needs of the game:

- ◀ Trusted, progressive regulation and administration
- ◀ Safe and inclusive football pathways and environment
- ◀ Personalised and connected learning experiences
- ◀ Maximum investment into the game
- ◀ Diverse, high-performing workforce and inclusive culture
- ◀ World class venues and events
- ◀ Strong reputation and clear brand identity
- ◀ Technology enabled and insight driven

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The sustainable football facilities should provide support to an agreed portfolio of priority projects that meet National Football Facility Strategy (NFFS) investment priorities.

England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Inspiring Generations (2019-2024)

“Inspiring Generations” is the new ECB participation strategy which was announced in January 2019. It builds on the strong foundations laid by Cricket Unleashed and supports the growth of cricket in England and Wales between 2020 and 2024. At the heart of this strategy is a single unifying purpose, which gets to the core of what the game can do for society both on and off the field to ensure that cricket is in an even stronger position that it is in 2019.

Inspire Generations has six key priorities and activities including transforming women’s and girls’ cricket to increase the representation of women in every level of cricket by:

- ◀ Growing the base through participation and facilities investment.
- ◀ Growing the base through participation and facilities investment.
- ◀ Launching centres of excellence and a new elite domestic structure.
- ◀ Investing in girls’ county age group cricket.
- ◀ Delivering a girls’ secondary school programme.

The Rugby Football Union Strategic Plan 2021 onwards

The RFU has released its new strategic vision for rugby in England. The strategy is based on four main elements which are; Protect, Engage, Grow and Win. It covers all elements of rugby union ranging from elite rugby to grassroots, although the general relevancy to the PPS is centred around growing the game.

The RFU exists to promote and develop rugby union in England and ensure the long-term sustainability of clubs by growing player numbers and retaining them across all age groups. Responding to wider market influences, work will continue on developing new ways to take part in all forms of the game, without comprising the sports traditions. This will ensure a lasting legacy from elite success by attracting new players and encouraging current male and female adult players to play.

England Hockey Strategy

England Hockey’s Facilities Strategy can be found [here](http://www.englishockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=2075§ionTitle=Facilities+Strategy).
<http://www.englishockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=2075§ionTitle=Facilities+Strategy>

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

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

The 3 main objectives of the facilities strategy are:

1. PROTECT: To conserve the existing hockey provision

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

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

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

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

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

The intention is to:

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

England Netball

In November 2021 England Netball launched a 10-year 'Adventure Strategy' for the game with a new brand identity for the organisation.

England Netball's 'Adventure Strategy' shares a purpose-led ambition for the game, to build on the momentum the sport has seen in recent years and take it to new heights for the decade ahead.

The 'Adventure Strategy' outlines the intention to:-

- ◀ accelerate the development and growth of the game at every level, from grassroots to the elite,
- ◀ elevate the visibility of the sport, and
- ◀ lead a movement to impact lives on and beyond the court.

At the heart of its purpose, England Netball, with its proud and unique female foundations, will remain dedicated to increasing opportunities for women and girls to play the game as a priority, working tirelessly to address the gender participation gap in sport that has widened since the global pandemic.

Underpinned by years of engaging with and delivering netball for female communities, the organisation pledges to understand, support and nurture women and girls more deeply at every life stage, at every age.

The organisation is also committed to opening the sport to new audiences in every community, so netball better represents the rich diversity of the country it proudly represents, and ensures the sport continues to evolve and adapt to thrive in the future, helping to create a truly inclusive sport for all where everyone can belong, flourish and soar. A recent partnership announcement with England Men's and Mixed Netball Association (EMMNA) to help develop and grow male participation in the game, supports this commitment as England

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Netball pledges to promote difference and embrace the opportunity to make the sport a possibility within everyone's reach.

Transforming netball for children and young people is a strategic priority to protect the future of the sport. Working with schools and policy makers to extend physical literacy within, and after the school day with a focus on netball specific provision will pave the way for greater community participation. The organisation will accelerate the expansion of its Bee Netball programme for young children, whilst supporting teens and young women to stay in the game to keep them physically active and in the game for life.

Facility Development

The facility development aspirations stated within the Strategy are to:-

- ◀ Take a fresh look at the spaces required to support the sport, creating accessible places in every community to allow netball to be incorporated into how and where women and girls live their lives;
- ◀ Protect, enhance, and extend the network of homes that house the sport at a local and regional level;
- ◀ Develop an elite domestic professional competition that supports full time athletes underpinned by a world class infrastructure and environments.
- ◀ For England Netball to achieve its ambitions to make the game accessible to wider audiences and in every community, it encourages Local Authorities to adopt policies within Playing Pitch Strategies and Built Facilities Strategies that:-
- ◀ Facilitates informal netball activity within neighbourhood multi use games areas for example by installing combined outdoor basketball and netball goals and art courts in Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play (NEAPs).
- ◀ Incorporates the cultural and health needs of women and girls within any designs for improved or new facilities.
- ◀ Protects and enhances netball facilities within all Primary and Secondary School environments so they offer a positive first experience of the sport for students and the wider community during out of school hours.
- ◀ Supports the installation of floodlights on outdoor courts to increase all year-round use.
- ◀ Facilitates the development of netball growth programmes, club training and competition within public leisure centres.
- ◀ Where appropriate, supports the development of netball homes and performance environments that enable local women and girls to pursue a career in netball as an elite athlete, official, coach or administrator.

Tennis in Britain - LTA Strategy

The LTA's vision for 2019 – 2023, Tennis Opened Up includes seven strategies relating to three objectives which are built around its mission 'to grow tennis by making it relevant, accessible, welcoming and enjoyable'.

Objectives

- ◀ Increase the number of fans on our database from [623,602] to [1,000,000] by 2023.
- ◀ More people playing more often;
 - Increase the number of adults playing tennis each year from [7.7% (4,018,600)] of the population to [8.5% (4,420,460)], and the frequency of adults playing tennis twice a month 2.5% 1,311,800 to 1.9% 1,500,000 by 2023.
 - The number of children playing tennis once a week from 550,000 to 700,000 (7.9% to 10% of the population) by 2023.
- ◀ Enable 5 new players to break into the top 100 by 2023 and inspire the tennis audience.

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Strategies

1. Visibility -Broaden relevance and increase visibility of tennis all year round to build engagement and participation with fans and players.
2. Innovation - Innovate in the delivery of tennis to widen its appeal.
3. Investment - Support community facilities and schools to increase the opportunities to play
4. Accessibility - Make the customer journey to playing tennis easier and more accessible for anyone
5. Engagement - Engage and collaborate with everyone involved in delivering tennis in Britain, particularly coaches and volunteers to attract and maintain more people in the game.
6. Performance - Create a pathway for British champions that nurtures a diverse team of players, people and leaders.
7. Leadership - Lead tennis in Britain to the highest standard so it is a safe, welcoming, well-run sport.

British Crown Green Bowling Association

Please note there is no current facility guidance provided by British Crown Green Bowling Association responsible for crown green bowls in England.

<https://www.bcgba.org.uk/>

Bowls England: Fit for the Future (2021-2026)

Bowls England's Strategy; 'Fit For The Future' frames an exciting course for the sport. The five-year plan has been designed with the ultimate goal of getting more people playing & enjoying bowls. It sets out its vision for the sport, how it plans to achieve its objectives and what success looks like in 2026. The priorities that will get it a the target of 1 million bowls experiences per year by 2026 are:

- ◀ Building the brand of bowls by increasing focus on international & top domestic bowls, and utilizing opportunities such as Birmingham 2022 to achieve larger media coverage;
- ◀ Ensuring the sport is truly accessible to all by offering different formats of the game which suit all time constraints, as well as driving more people to clubs in new ways;
- ◀ Creating positive playing experiences for everyone who steps on the green, both for casual and competitive players, as well as growing our events calendar and introducing a Performance Pathway
- ◀ Putting volunteers first, as the lifeblood of our sport, by increasing our support for clubs in order to empower them to thrive;
- ◀ Leading the sport with purpose by developing our Governance structures, diversifying our revenue streams, and work collaboratively with all the sport's key stakeholders.

England Athletics Strategic Plan – Athletics & Running: for everyone, forever – 2017 and beyond

This plan sets out England Athletics' mission, vision and strategic priorities that will direct how they work as an organisation during the coming years: what they do and how they will do it.

Vision: Make athletics and running the most inclusive and popular sport in England, led by a network of progressive clubs and organisations and supported by a sustainable, respected and trusted governing body.

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For England Athletics to achieve this vision, they will focus on three values:

- Pride – taking pride in their work and demonstrating to athletes that they recognise the importance of their role in bettering athletics.
- Integrity – demonstrate integrity to earn respect and to build effective partnerships.
- Inclusivity – promote inclusivity in all their actions.

Mission: To grow opportunities for everyone to experience athletics and running, to enable them to reach their full potential.

In order to achieve their mission, England Athletics will have three strategic priorities.

1. To expand the capacity of the sport by supporting and developing its volunteers and other workforce. The target is to achieve a 6% increase every year of licensed leaders, coaches and officials.
2. To sustain and increase participation and performance levels in our sport. To achieve this, England Athletics’ current targets are to increase the number of club registered athletes from (149,000 to 172,000), engage 135,000 people through the RunTogether programme and to increase athlete performance levels across all events and disciplines by 1% every year.
3. To influence participation in the wider athletics market. Their target here is to increase the number of regular athletes or runners by at least one million.

England Athletics Facility Strategy (2018 – 2025)

The purpose of this document is to set out our long term vision for athletics facilities in England. Facilities form a vital component of the overall England Athletics strategy.

The development, protection and enhancement of facilities will support our strategic plan and help England Athletics contribute to the delivery of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport’s Sporting Futures: A New Strategy for Sport and Sport England’s strategy Towards an Active Nation. Appropriate facilities help to attract and inspire new participants and provide the foundation and focus for a significant proportion of the England Athletics family.

The England Athletics Strategic Plan notes that the sport increasingly needs to become financially sustainable and that a business-like and innovative approach is a vital component of its future success. Facilities are fundamental, but they are also expensive to create and to maintain. The sport therefore faces a significant challenge to develop, improve and maintain facilities, most of which are currently operated and funded by third parties.

This strategy sets out a challenge to all those involved with the delivery of the sport to be innovative and business like in the operation and development of facilities at a time of financial challenge, as it aims “To create an innovative and inspiring network of sustainable athletic facilities, with the capacity to meet both current and future demand across England”.