

(DRAFT) Playing Pitch Strategy **2016-2019** 

| Contents  | Page   |
|---|--|
| Executive Summary   | 3  |
| 1.1 Introduction  | 4  |
| 1.2 Approach to developing the strategy   | 4  |
| 1.3 National Context  | 4  |
| 1.4 Local Context   | 6  |
| 2.0 Assessment Findings   | 7  |
| 2.1 Football 2.2 Cricket 2.3 Rugby Union 2.4 Hockey 2.5 Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) 2.6 Bowls 2.7 Tennis 2.8 Netball 2.9 Educational establishments  3.0 Supply and Demand | 7<br>9<br>12<br>14<br>15<br>16<br>18<br>19<br>20 |
| 4.0 Development   | 24   |
| 4.1 Vision  | 24   |
| 4.2 Key priorities and objectives   | 24   |
| 4.3 Action Plan   | 26   |
| 5.0 Review, monitoring and updating   | 28   |
| 6.0 Appendices  |  |
| Appendix 1: Team Generation Rates and potential change in team numbers  | 29   |

#### **Executive summary**

The Playing Pitch Strategy will provide a focus for three key areas:

- Sustainable long term management of outdoor sports facilities
- Evidence of need and priorities to support funding bids for continued improvement of facilities
- Provision of new facilities through the development process where a need has been identified.

The strategy focuses on the following sports:

Football Cricket Rugby Hockey Bowls Netball Tennis

Preparation of the strategy has included the following:

- Review of previous Playing Pitch Strategy (adopted 2013)
- Mapping of facilities and analysis of the current level of pitch provision within the District
- Non-technical assessments of pitches
- Consultation with clubs and educational establishments
- Consultation with Sport England and relevant sports' national governing bodies (NGBs)

From analysis of the information gathered during the preparation of the strategy the following key priorities have been identified:

- 1. ACCESS & PROVISION To protect existing sports facilities and provide new facilities where there is current or future anticipated demand
- 2. QUALITY & MANAGEMENT To improve the quality of facilities and support effective management and club development

These priorities will be achieved through: adoption of the Local Plan; implementation of the strategy Action Plan with site specific projects incorporated into the Locality plans for the four main areas of the District (Hucknall, Kirkby, Sutton and the Rurals) and through support to clubs through the Club accreditation scheme, Ashfield Club Forum etc.

#### 1.1 Introduction

The strategy provides an overview of provision for the following sports: Football, Cricket, Rugby, Hockey, Bowls, Netball and Tennis. The strategy details the requirements for each sport in terms of facilities required and identifies priorities for improvements. The following preparatory work was undertaken to inform the strategy:

- Review of previous Playing Pitch Strategy (adopted 2013)
- Mapping of facilities and analysis of the current level of pitch provision within the District
- Non-technical assessments of pitches
- Consultation with clubs and educational establishments
- Consultation with Sport England and relevant sports' national governing bodies (NGBs)

The Playing Pitch Strategy will be used for the following:

- Provide a supporting document for the Council's Local Plan to:
- a) Ensure the most efficient use of developer contributions and Section 106 agreements
- b) Provide a basis for establishing new pitch requirements arising from housing development
- Support sports development planning
- Provide robust evidence to support capital funding applications.

## 1.2 Approach to developing the strategy

The strategy has been developed through a steering group and project team, following the guidance in Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance (October 2013). The steering group included representatives from the National Governing Bodies (NGBs) of the sports included. The NGBs were given the opportunity to check and challenge the information gathered through the pitch assessments and club surveys and establish priorities for their sport.

A non-technical pitch assessment was undertaken at all identified sites, an overview of the results is provided at Appendix A. The assessments included all council owned facilities, private non-professional clubs and educational establishments where there was established community use or potential for community use. Assessments for district managed football pitches were carried out by the IOG (Institute of Groundsmanship) in 2015. All other assessments for football as well as rugby, AGPs and tennis were carried out by Neil Allen Associates during January and February 2016 with bowls and cricket assessments carried out in late April/ early May.

82 clubs were identified as being based in Ashfield and all were contacted and asked to complete the club survey, 69 responses were received. The results of the surveys and assessments were analysed within the four sub-areas of the district Hucknall, Kirkby, the Rural area (Jacksdale, Selston and Underwood) and Sutton and have been used to inform the priorities and objectives.

## 1.3 National context

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) provides a framework for the development of local and neighbourhood plans, reflecting the needs and priorities of local communities. The NPPF states that Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs and that 'access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. 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. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. Information gained from the assessment should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision is required' (Paragraph 73).

The NPPF states that existing open space, sports and recreation sites, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- $\cdot$  an assessment has been undertaken, which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or
- the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
- the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.' (Paragraph 74).

## **Sport England**

Sport England is a statutory consultee on planning applications affecting playing pitches and has an established policy on retention. ('A Sporting Future for the Playing Fields of England').

Sport England will oppose the granting of planning permission for any development which would prejudice the use of whole or part of a playing field, unless an assessment has been carried out which confirms that there is an excess in playing field provisions in the catchment area and that the site has no special significance to the interests of sport. In addition the following criteria need to be met:

- The proposed development is ancillary to the principal use of the site as a playing field or playing fields, and does not affect the quantity or quality of pitches or adversely affect their use
- · The proposed development affects only land incapable of forming, or forming part of, a playing pitch, and does not result in the loss of or inability to make use of any playing pitch
- · Lost playing fields would be replaced by a playing field or playing fields of an equivalent or better quality and of equivalent or greater quantity, in a suitable location and subject to equivalent or better management arrangements, prior to the commencement of development
- · The proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor sports facility, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss of the playing field or playing fields.

Sport England advises that local authorities must have an up to date (within the last three years) assessment of need and a strategy.

Sport England's strategy: **Towards an Active Nation (2016-2021)** sets out how the organisation will invest £250 million over four years to combat inactivity which causes 1 in 6 deaths in England.

As well as continuing to support people who already play sport, there is a much greater emphasis on groups who are typically much less active such as women, disabled people and those from lower-socio-economic backgrounds. The strategy will help deliver against the five health, social and economic outcomes set out in the Government's Sporting Future strategy and focus on the following:

•Dedicated funding to get children and young people active from the age of five, including a new fund for family based activities and training to teachers in secondary schools to help them better meet the needs of all children, irrespective of their level of sporting ability

- •Working with the sport sector to put customers at the heart of everything they do, and using the principles of behaviour change to inform their work
- •Piloting new ways of working locally by investing in up to 10 places in England a mix of urban and rural areas
- •Investing up to £30m in a new volunteering strategy, enabling more people to get the benefits of volunteering and attracting a new, more diverse range of volunteers
- •Helping sport keep pace with the digital expectations of customers making it as easy to book a badminton court as a hotel room
- •Working closely with governing bodies of sport and others who support people who already play regularly, to help them become more efficient, sustainable and diversify their sources of funding.

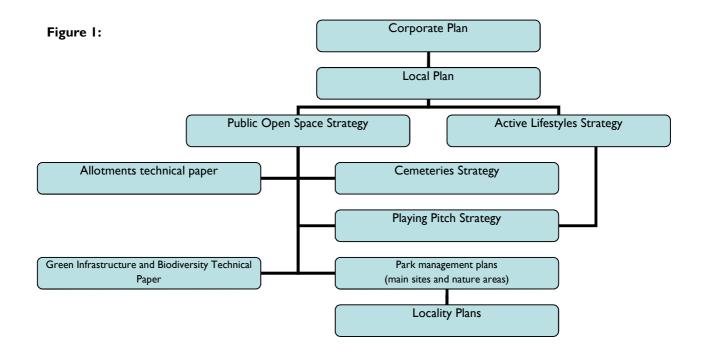
#### 1.4 Local Context

#### **Ashfield Local Plan**

The Council is preparing a 15 year Local Plan, which will guide development across Ashfield up to 2032. By this time the district population is projected to increase by around 13,000 with 480 new homes a year required to meet housing needs. This strategy forms part of the evidence base for the Local Plan.

The Local Plan provides the basis for delivering the spatial planning strategy of the district and guides future development. The key policy influencing the provision of sport and recreation in The Local Plan is Policy EV5. This policy states how the open spaces and recreation facilities identified on the Policies Map will be protected by restricting development and how new development will contribute to the provision of sports facilities, in particular the establishment of multi pitch sports hub sites in Kirkby and Sutton.

The Playing Pitch Strategy replaces the Council's existing Playing Pitch Strategy of 2013, figure 1 below shows how the strategy fits into the Council's strategic plans.



## 2.0 Assessment findings

Analysis of the club, educational establishment and provider survey results, pitch assessments and national governing bodies' strategies for each sport is summarised below. This information has been used to form the vision and priorities and objectives which have been incorporated into an action plan to implement the strategy.

#### 2.1 Football

## Provider/ user consultation

There were over 50 clubs in Ashfield playing in the 2015/16 season. The main youth league is Kickstart which uses pitches at Kingsway Park and the Summit Centre in Kirkby, as well as several sites in Mansfield, playing on Sundays. For the 2016/17 season there will be approximately 130 teams in the league, across the 7-10 age group, a 22% increase on the previous season. Kickstart provides central venues with referees. The Mansfield CHAD youth League plays on Saturdays for under 7s to under 10s and some teams from the area play in Nottingham's Young Elizabethan league.

#### Pitch assessments

Site visits were undertaken in two phases, ADC owned pitches were assessed by the IOG advisor for the area, with all other pitch assessments undertaken by Neil Allen Associates (naa) in January and early February 2016. There were found to be a wide range of facilities with some good pitches and ancillary facilities and also some very poor facilities with no ancillary facilities. The quality of the pitches and facilities are variable, but all of the pitches surveyed were compacted. A summary of the main sites is provided below.

## **Private/ Trust sites**

## HUCKNALL

#### **Rolls Royce Sports and Leisure Complex**

Provides a base for a large club with many teams. In order to sustain the quality of the pitches intensive maintenance will need to be undertaken. The pitches score well because they are looked after. The AGP is small and if it was extended it could be used for more of the youth and adult games which would take the pressure off the grass pitches and help to preserve their longevity through the season.

## **Hucknall FC**

Pitches and ancillaries are serviceable. Compaction is an issue with the main pitch which is not being alleviated by slitting or spiking and the pitch needs further more intensive treatment to deal with it. However the club is due to move to a new ground which is under construction.

#### **KIRKBY**

## **Bentinck Miners Welfare**

Two pitches have been slit to aid aeration and drainage but the football pitches were still showing compaction, the facilities here are housed mainly in portacabins and could do with a more permanent suite of facilities. Well used site.

#### **The Summit Centre**

The ancillary facilities, stand and dug outs are all substantial but would benefit from some cosmetic updating and the pitch is undulating and uneven and needs some intensive maintenance. As there is an AGP at this site though small, it could be utilised for training purposes. The site is used by the Kickstart league.

#### **RURALS**

## Friezeland (Bracken Park)

The site has potential with a modern building with facilities but the pitches need improvement with fertilizer and decompaction. The bottom pitch is particularly wet and the drainage to this pitch needs improvement.

## **SUTTON**

## **Mansfield Hosiery Mills**

Pitches were in good condition for the time of the season but the main pitch is still compacted, uneven and the goal mouths are sanded to mitigate the loss of grass sward. The pitch looks as if it has been slit or spiked but the water is not getting away very quickly leaving the surface muddy and slippery. The ancillary facilities are excellent.

## **Pretty Polly Sports Ground**

The site has potential, providing the maintenance to the pitches is improved and some improvements made to the ancillary facilities. The facilities are adequate but could be updated and the car parking area resurfaced. The pitches need decompaction, fertilizer and sand to improve their condition.

#### **Teversal Trust site**

The site has potential, with good facilities, but only one pitch used for a number of matches each week. The pitch is well maintained and had been aerated but showing signs of stress and also compacted and uneven.

#### **Public sites**

#### **School sites**

Schools are major providers of pitches and generally have better pitches than some of the other sites. Ashfield, Holgate, Sutton Community Academy and Quarrydale are important providers and have further potential. Sutton Community Academy pitches at the Lawn are particularly poor and need improvements to drainage and general maintenance to ensure the sustainability of the pitches.

The facilities need to be maintained or improved at these sites and agreements for community use sought (if not already in place) to ensure the sustainability of community use into the future.

## Local authority sites

There are 15 adult, 4 junior and 7 mini pitches on 14 ADC sites across the District, with a further 3 adult and 3 junior pitches due to be provided at two sites at Papplewick, Hucknall. There are two pitches owned by Selston Parish Council.

ADC pitches have not been adequately maintained for several years and all were in poor condition. With a grant of 16k from the Football Foundation and support from the F.A. and IOG, 38k of equipment has been purchased, including a verti drain, disk and fertilizer spreaders and overseeder. An intensive maintenance programme has been undertaken in 2016 on the main ADC sites which has resulted in significant improvements to the quality of pitches.

Of the 14 ADC sites, 8 are single pitch sites. Many sites need significant investment and it will not be possible to invest in all of these sites. The number of sites needs to be consolidated in order to maximise investment.

The Football Association strategic priorities are currently being developed, with short and long-term goals to support and grow grassroots. The priorities will build on The FA's previous strategic vision **The FA National Game Strategy (2011 – 2015)** which identified the following main issues facing grassroots football:

- Growth and retention (young and adult players)
- Raising standards and behaviour
- Better players

- Running the game
- Workforce
- Facilities

The strategy identifies the need to provide affordable, new and improved facilities in schools, clubs and on local authority sites where over 80% of football is played. Cuts to local authority budgets and the loss of playing fields are identified as major threats to the game at a local level.

The growth of the commercial sector in developing custom built five-a-side facilities has resulted in a significant growth in the number of five-a-side teams in recent years with high quality, modern facilities being provided by for example Powerleague, Goals and playfootball.net.

The FA National Facilities Strategy (2013 – 2015) sets out the FA's long term vision for development of facilities to address the needs of nonprofessional football. One of the biggest issues raised from 'the Big Grassroots Football Survey' by 84% of respondents was poor facilities. The FA's vision is to build, protect and enhance sustainable football facilities by:

- Building new facilities and pitches in key locations to FA standards in order to sustain existing participation and support new participation
- Protecting playing pitches and facilities for the benefit of current and future participants
- Investing in existing facilities and pitches, ensuring that participation in the game is sustained as well as expanded.

Over £150m will be invested into facility improvements through priorities for natural grass pitches improved, a network of new and refurbished AGPs, new and improved changing facilities and toilets on selected sites, as well as small grants for club facilities and goalposts.

| Findings and key issues                            | Recommendations                                   |
|--|---|
| Poor maintenance of pitches, many compacted        | ADC equipment such as verti drain could be        |
|  | hired out to clubs                                |
| Many changing rooms in poor condition              | Identify priority sites, support funding bids for |
| Lack of funding to bring facilities up to standard | improvements                                      |
| Oversupply of adult pitches and undersupply of     | Change pitch types to better meet demand          |
| junior and mini pitches                            |   |

## 2.2 Cricket

### Provider/ user consultation

The consultation identified a lack of playing space for the number of teams. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> teams were playing on local park sites with associated issues such as quality of greens and lack of suitable ancillary facilities.

## **Pitch assessments**

There are six cricket clubs in Ashfield, all play on their own grounds, Hucknall CC and Mansfield Hosiery Mills play their third and fourth teams on Titchfield Park, Hucknall and Kingsway Park, Kirkby. The club grounds are mainly good with excellent facilities and off pitch social opportunities. Schools tend to have an artificial wicket(s) and no permanent cricket square. Holgate Academy publicise their cricket pitch for hire. Indoor cricket nets are provided in Kirkby at Kirkby College (1

lane), in Sutton at the Lammas Leisure Centre (2 lanes) and Quarrydale School (2 lanes) in the Rurals at Selston Leisure Centre (4 lanes), there is no indoor provision in Hucknall.

A new cricket ground is due to be provided at Larwood Park, on the northern side of Kirkby, near Sutton as part of a Section 106 agreement to provide a £1.4 million rugby facility for Ashfield Rugby Club. This will provide a new facility for cricket in the district with clubhouse and parking adjacent to the pitch. It is anticipated that one of the existing cricket clubs in the district will use the Larwood site as a second home ground.

#### **HUCKNALL**

#### **Hucknall CC**

A very good pitch in a good location out of town, good facilities on and off the pitch. Free draining soil and good maintenance regime.

## Titchfield Park, Hucknall

The ground is good but the artificial wicket needs replacing. The outfield is undulating with some broadleaved weeds and needs weed kill and fertilizer. A problem with drainage at the outer reach of one side of the outfield is being addressed through aeration.

#### **KIRKBY**

## **Kingsway Park**

The pitch had been vandalised by cars driving over it, the grounds staff were repairing the damage. The outfield was badly damaged in one area and muddy and wet. The cricket square has 16 wickets this seems excessive and it may be beneficial to reduce the number of wickets to reduce the area being intensively maintained in the park and possibly increase the quality of the reduced number of wickets. The facilities in the park are limited for cricket- there is a public café close to the pitch.

## **Kirkby Portland CC**

A nice ground in a good location, slightly sloping pitch with some drainage problems which the club are trying to resolve. The recent wet weather had brought debris and silt onto the artificial wicket. Good after match facilities. The wicket and outfield are in good condition and there are covers. The artificial practice lanes are serviceable but will need refurbishment soon. The club would ideally like to buy/lease an adjacent field to the club but is also in discussion with Ashfield School to enhance the facilities at the school and to use the pitch for their third team which currently play away all season.

## **RURAL**

#### **Selston CC**

Next to the parish hall, there is parking at the hall and also a dedicated car parking area off the main road through the village. The pavilion is shared with bowls and football. There are no permanent artificial nets but one mobile net. The wickets are in reasonable condition and the outfield is shared to some degree with football. Extra maintenance, fertilizer and weedkill would benefit the outfield. The pavilion is in reasonable condition.

## **Underwood Miners Welfare Cricket Club**

Ground next to road, the welfare is on the other side of the road. Nice ground but the outfield is wet at one end and uneven. There are drainage problems that need to be resolved as they will impede play. Sightscreens, no covers tarpaulins. No junior section at the moment. The artificial wicket needs replacing and the artificial lanes- there are 2 lanes one is unusable and the other needs replacing. The ground is serviceable but needs some investment sooner rather than later and development of the game is required.

#### **SUTTON**

## **Mansfield Hosiery Mills CC**

The ground is part of a thriving sports club with football and cricket. Under 7s play football on the outfield which impacts on the quality of the outfield. The groundsman was in the process of rectifying the compaction caused by this.

## **Teversal CC**

No artificial wicket and a small square. The ground has some drainage problems but the club is in the process of addressing them. The outfield is wet at the bottom of the field where the ground slopes away. The outfield needs to be decompacted as the grass is not growing well, due to lack of aeration. The wickets are in reasonable condition.

**England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Champion Counties Strategic Plan 2014 –2017** vision is to deliver successful England teams at all levels, produce a vibrant domestic game and increase participation.

The plan will take advantage of local partnerships and support local delivery of priorities through the County network. It targets operational excellence to maximise the use of resources and facilities with four pillars; Effective Governance, Vibrant Domestic Game, Enthusing Participation and Successful England teams to support a number of priorities, the most relevant to this strategy are;

- Increase in participation
- Increase in cricket volunteers
- Increase the number of female and disabled players
- Complete a Community Engagement programme with all First Class Counties and MCC
- For each £1 provided in facility grants through the 'Sport England Whole Sport Plan Grant Programme' ensure a multiplier of three with other funding partners
- Provide interest-free loan fund to community clubs of £10 million
- Expand the number of coaches who have received teacher level 1, 2 or 3 qualifications
- Provide a fund of £2 million for community clubs to combat the impact of climate change.

In 2013 there were 155 clubs affiliated to Nottinghamshire Cricket Board, 43 of which were the core 'Focus Clubs' – key partners for development and Youth cricket provision, with 'Clubmark' accreditation with the ECB. In Ashfield Mansfield Hosiery Mills CC, Hucknall CC and Kirkby Portland CC have Focus Club status.

## Nottinghamshire Cricket Board Ltd Facilities Strategy 2013-2017

The strategy identifies a number of priorities focused on the following:

- Increase quality and availability of match and practice pitches
- Encourage and support Focus Clubs to improve existing Clubhouses / Pavilions
- Assist Focus Clubs with tenure issues
- Improve ancillary ground facilities; sightscreens, covers and digital scoreboards
- Improve indoor facilities, establish 3 district centres and ensure each local authority area has a leisure centre with indoor nets.

| Key findings and issues  | Recommendations                                     |
|--|---|
| From NCB- gap analysis, 2013   | Clubs to continue to make improvements              |
| Hucknall CC- Only 9 strips on main ground rather than 10, No practice facilities on 2nd ground | where possible. ADC to support funding applications |

| Kirkby Portland CC- Single ground. Groundsmen currently have no qualifications, NTP 11 years old (in 2013), Small changing rooms, Scoreboard requires digital upgrade  Mansfield Hosiery Mills - high levels of usage on main ground, no NTP on main ground, No practice facilities on 2nd ground, Small changing rooms on both main & 2nd grounds, No scoreboard on either ground, no sightscreens or covers on 2 <sup>nd</sup> ground | Clubs to continue to make improvements where possible. ADC to support funding applications   |
|---|--|
| Kirkby Portland CC currently do not have 2nd ground.  | NCB priority to help Clubs identify and develop opportunities to acquire tenure to a 2nd ground. The NCB will assist in identifying potential grounds — either redundant grounds capable of being brought back into use, or through identifying opportunities to develop new grounds through Section 106 Agreements. Potential for use of new Larwood Park site. |
| Mansfield Hosiery Mills CC report usage rates of higher than the equivalent of 6 senior games per fine turf strip per season.   | Clubs encouraged to manage usage of their grounds carefully, to ensure that the Games to Pitch ratio is kept, wherever possible to less than 5 per season.   |
| Priority for good non-turf pitches. These are relatively cheap to install (approximately £10,000), and capable of sustaining heavy use and taking the pressure off fine turf pitches.   | Clubs to continue to make improvements where possible. ADC to support funding applications   |

# 2.3 Rugby Union

## Provider/ user consultation

Ashfield Rugby Club and the RFU are working with a housing developer to provide £1.4 million of facilities at the Larwood Park site in Kirkby which will provide two full size pitches, pavilion and car park. The pitches should be in use for the 2017/18 season.

#### Pitch assessments

Ashfield Rugby Club is the only club in the district with 17 teams. The club currently plays at two sites, the Swans Ground in Kirkby and the Pretty Polly site in Sutton. The Larwood Park development is near to the Swans Ground and together the sites will provide 4 full size pitches.

## **KIRKBY**

#### **The Swans Ground**

Two adult rugby pitches which are naturally drained and were in reasonable condition for the time of the season. The pitches are uneven and compacted and will need improving with fertilizer, weed eradication and decompacting in the short term.

## **SUTTON**

## **Pretty Polly Ground**

One adult pitch and one junior pitch/adult pitch area used flexibly with small floodlit training area, changing and club house with associated sports bar adjacent to the ground. The pitch is uneven

and the training area heavily used. The pitches are in good condition for the time in the season but will need to be intensively maintained to ensure their longevity. In the short term fertilizer, decompaction and some weed eradication will be needed to boost the sward.

#### **School sites**

Ashfield and Quarrydale schools both have rugby pitches, (Quarrydale has one dedicated rugby pitch and one shared with football) and is prepared to hire out rugby pitches.

The Rugby Football Union National Facilities Strategy (2013-2017) - The strategy provides a framework for the development of high-quality and well-managed facilities that will help to strengthen member clubs and grow the game in communities around them.

The strategy sets out the broad facility needs of the game and identifies investment priorities recognising the need to invest in community club facilities in order to:

- Create a platform for growth in club rugby participation and membership
- Ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of rugby clubs, including capacity to generate revenue through a range of activities and partnerships

#### Priorities for investment are:

- Increase the provision of integrated changing facilities that are child- friendly and can sustain concurrent male and female activity at the club
- Improve the quality and quantity of natural turf pitches, including support for enhanced pitch maintenance programmes
- Improve the quality and quantity of floodlighting
- Increase the provision of artificial grass pitches that deliver wider game development outcomes

The following are also high priorities:

- Social, community and catering facilities, which can support diversification and the generation of additional revenues
- Facility upgrades, which result in an increase in energy-efficiency, in order to reduce the running costs of clubs
- Pitch furniture, including quality rugby posts and pads.

| Key findings and issues                  | Recommendations                        |
|--|--|
| Development of new site at Larwood Park, | Support club to develop new facilities |
| Kirkby                                   |  |
| Potential loss of school pitches         | Club engagement with schools           |

## 2.4 Hockey

#### Provider/ user consultation

There are 4 hockey clubs which play in Ashfield, three of which are based in the north of the district; Mansfield Hockey Club, Ashfield Aztecs Hockey Club (1 adult, 1 junior female teams) and Meridian Ladies Hockey Club. The Aztecs previously played at Kingsway Park but due to the condition of the previous pitch surface moved their matches for adults to Goosedale in Nottingham. The juniors play on Kingsway. Woodthorpe Ladies (1 adult team) play at the National Academy in Hucknall.

#### Pitch assessments

There are only two AGPs in Ashfield which are suitable for hockey, at Kingsway Park in Kirkby and the National Academy in Hucknall.

## **Kingsway Park AGP**

Home of Ashfield Juniors and Mansfield Hockey Club. The AGP is about a year old and is in excellent condition, sand based, astroturf, good quality with good markings. The pitch is also used for football training and five a side.

Some issues with the maintenance contract (sand levels, weed growth etc) in the past year which are being addressed

#### **National Academy**

AGP fullsize, floodlit, with weldmesh fencing, marked up for football and hockey

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

The aims of the strategy are:

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

## **England Hockey Facilities Strategy 2016 (Draft)**

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

As a result of club and player research in 2014 and 2016 the strategy focuses on the provision of appropriate full-sized hockey artificial grass pitches with appropriate ancillary facilities recognising that this is critical to growth and improvement of the sport.

The introduction of Long Pile (Third Generation / 3G) pitches has caused issues for hockey provision in some areas as it is not the preferred surface for hockey and is being invested in by the FA and RFU. EH and the FA are working together to ensure that sites suitable for hockey are not lost where there is demand.

The strategy has 3 key objectives and 4 principles to help retain existing players and attract new players:

## **Objectives**

- 1. PROTECT: To safeguard existing hockey provision
- 2. IMPROVE: To improve the existing facilities stock both at grassroots and elite level
- 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.

## **Principles**

- 1. The right pitches are required in the right places
- 2. The sport must retain its geographical reach particularly in more rural areas.
- 3. Appropriate ancillary facilities are required as they are a critical part of the playing experience
- 4. The local Playing Pitch Strategy needs to identify the hockey provision (if in place).

Nationally hockey is a growing sport, with a 63% growth in the number of Under 16 players and 8% increase in adult players since 2010/2011.

| Key findings and issues                           | Recommendations                               |
|---|---|
| Availability of suitable AGPs – only two full     | Monitor usage of AGPs, ensure sufficient time |
| sized pitches in the district suitable for hockey | available for hockey use                      |
| - Kingsway Park and National Academy              |   |

## 2.5 Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs)

#### Provider/ user consultation

Some football clubs cited lack of availability/ high cost of AGPs for training.

#### **Pitch assessments**

There are a number of AGPs in Ashfield which vary in size and construction, with a mixture of rubbercrumb and sand filled. All pitches were rated as standard, except Quarrydale School which was rated as poor.

## **HUCKNALL**

#### **National Academy**

AGP full size, floodlit, with weldmesh fencing, marked up for football and hockey.

#### **Rolls Royce**

AGP built on old tennis courts, base not properly made and artificial surface is prone to flooding and is damp. Full size, marked up as adult football pitch and 2x 5 aside. Weldmesh fencing and floodlighting.

#### **Titchfield Park**

Sand based AGP, small pitch, floodlit with markings for 5 aside football, tennis and netball.

## KIRKBY

## **Kingsway Park**

Home of Ashfield Juniors and Mansfield Hockey Club. The AGP is about a year old and is in excellent condition, sand based, astroturf, good quality with good markings. The pitch is also used for football training and five a side.

Some issues with maintenance contract (sand levels, weed growth etc) in past year which are being addressed.

## The Summit Centre

Rubbercrumb small AGP with floodlights. The fence is weldmesh with timber lower panels to the access road side of the AGP. Marked up for 5 aside football.

#### **RURAL**

### **Selston Leisure Centre**

Attached to Selston Leisure Centre, sand filled, 40 x 60m marked out for 5 aside football. Has lower concrete walls and weldmesh fence.

#### SUTTON

#### **Ashfield School**

AGP with rubbercrumb surface - potential for use as a pitch is limited by its size as it is slightly too small.

#### **Priestsic School**

Half size pitch with no community use, marked up for 5 aside with weldmesh fencing no floodlighting.

#### **Quarrydale School**

Very old AGP which is not hired out at present and is in a very poor state, it has floodlighting but no fencing. The AGP needs replacement at the earliest opportunity.

## **Sutton Community Academy, Sutton Lawn**

Rubbercrumb, astroturf 3G which is in reasonable condition, some weeds growing through the pile near the gate, issues with water running off the car park onto the pitch. The pitch is accredited by the FA for fixture play. The site is very well used by the school and community with community bookings Saturday and Sunday between 9.45 and 16.45 and five evenings per week from 6pm onwards. There are also occasional community bookings during the day when for example Mansfield Town use the site for training.

| Key findings and issues          | Recommendations                         |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Cost of pitch hire               | Review costs                            |
| Maintenance issues and long term | Development of sinking funds. Review of |
| sustainability                   | maintenance arrangements.               |

#### 2.6 Bowls

## Provider/ user consultation

Nine of the 13 greens in Ashfield are managed by the District and Parish Councils. There are 50 teams across the District, the table below shows the average number of teams per green. Well used greens have up to 10 teams whereas some of the District Council owned greens are underused, Titchfield Park, Kirkby has one team, Sutton Lawn number 2 green has one team and Huthwaite Welfare No. 2 doesn't currently have a team/ club.

| Area     | Number of greens | Number of teams | Average no. teams |
|----------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
|          |                  |                 | per green         |
| Hucknall | 2                | 15              | 7.5               |
| Kirkby   | 3                | 3               | 1                 |
| Rural    | 1                | 10              | 10                |
| Sutton   | 7                | 22              | 3.1               |
| Total    | 13               | 50              |                   |

#### Pitch assessments

Overall bowling greens are in reasonable condition, those that are maintained at private clubs are generally in better condition.

## **HUCKNALL**

#### **Rolls Royce**

The ground needs more intensive maintenance to bring it up to a good standard, the pavilion needs upgrading. Members are in talks with the management of the leisure club to maintain the green themselves.

#### **Titchfield Park**

The green is very wet, the drainage problem is linked to a similar problem on the cricket outfield. The council is investigating but it seems to be a collapsed drain that is causing these problems, The green has some moss and thatching and would benefit from spring and summer maintenance. The pavilion and the paths are in reasonable condition and there is some seating provided around the green.

#### **KIRKBY**

## **Kingsway Park**

Two greens both in reasonable condition with well-maintained sand gutters and boards - a lick of paint to the boards would be useful and the greens were ready for moss and weed removal and fertilising.

#### **Titchfield Park**

There are major problems on this green with rabbit scrapes all over it. The green is thatched and needs some intensive maintenance to sustain it. The porta cabin pavilion is shared with football and is very basic and run down. Rabbits need to be deterred, suggest covering the top in pea or similar plastic netting, when not being played or chicken wire fence around the green with a removable section.

#### **RURALS**

#### **Selston Parish Hall**

The green is in need of investment. The gutter boards are missing and the concrete paths are outdated and need refurbishment. The pavilion is shared with cricket and football.

## **SUTTON**

#### **Sutton Lawn**

There are two greens, the top green which has a pavilion and a lower green which has a portacabin and some storage. The upper green was showing some thatching and would benefit from verticutting. Spring and summer maintenance would be beneficial to the greens here.

#### **Huthwaite Welfare Park**

Two greens, both in reasonable condition but the second green near Columbia Street is shaded by trees and has a bare patch where users step onto the green. There is a pavilion and the greens were just cut at the time of visit. The second green is not in use by a team/club and there is an opportunity to develop bowling by using the green for junior or casual use or for a club to have their own dedicated green.

## **Polly Bowls (formerly Pretty Polly Bowling club)**

Private club, CIC, very well organised with good facilities on and off the pitch. The maintenance is done by members and the pitch is in excellent condition. The club would benefit from a tarmac surfaced car park.

## **Teversal Grange Bowling club (Teversal Trust site)**

A well- supported club, neat and tidy and the green is in good condition. The pavilion is small but the space can be supplemented with the café in the visitor centre if required.

#### **Welfare Institute**

Little information about this site, maintained, but club not registered with Bowls England.

**Bowls England Strategic Plan 2014-2017-** Recruitment and retention of members was identified as the top priority for clubs and the plan identifies three themes:

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

## Strategic priorities:

• To increase participation in the sport of outdoor flat green bowls

- To support County Associations and Clubs- Development Officer and County Development Plan to be in place by March 2017
- To provide strong leadership and direction.

| Key findings and issues                      | Recommendations                               |
|--|---|
| Cost of maintaining greens and usage levels  | Review maintenance operations                 |
| Poor quality club houses at Titchfield Park, | Identify any funding opportunities to upgrade |
| Kingsway Park, Kirkby and Sutton Lawn        | facilities where identified need              |

## 2.7 Tennis

#### Provider/ user consultation

There are 11 public courts and 15 courts within 3 schools sites in Hucknall and Sutton. Sutton Tennis Club has exclusive use of four public courts on Sutton Lawn, with a further two provided for public use. Some courts in schools are available to the community but not for casual lettings.

#### **Court assessments**

| HUCKNALL                            |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Holgate School                      |  |
| 3 courts, 2 over marked for netball |  |
| National School                     |  |
| 6 courts, 4 over marked for netball |  |
|                                     |  |

#### Titchfield Park, Hucknall

The tennis courts are three savannah marked on the floodlit, sand based AGP, only one court had equipment at the time of visit and the courts are overmarked by football and netball. In good condition and the markings are well defined.

## **KIRKBY**

## **Kingsway Park**

Two tennis courts, tarmac, overmarked for netball and without equipment.

## Titchfield Park, Kirkby

Two tennis courts overmarked with netball, area is floodlit and the courts are marked up in red. The tarmac has some debris on it. The chainlink fence is intact. There was no equipment on the courts.

## **RURALS** – no provision

#### **SUTTON**

## **Quarrydale School**

6 courts, 4 over marked for netball

## **Huthwaite Welfare Park**

There are two marked tennis courts on tarmac but the fence has been removed next to the skate park, the court nearest the skate ramp has been damaged by fire. The courts have no equipment and the surface of the court is slippery. The courts will require surface refurbishment if they are to be brought back into use.

## **Sutton Lawn**

There are six courts on the park, four courts are fenced off for use by Sutton Tennis Club.

The club courts are floodlit, there is some patching on the tarmac, the lines are fairly well defined and there is a pavilion. The courts would benefit from investment with acrylic non slip surfacing and refurbishment. The pavilion and the small practice wall also need refurbishment, Two public courts are next to the private club these need refurbishing as well, the tarmac is covered in debris and the equipment needs replacing.

The **2015-2018 British Tennis Strategic Plan** aims to get more people playing tennis more often, through the following focus:

## 1. Deliver great service to Clubs

- a) Provide great support for clubs of all sizes by sharing best practise learning
- b) Apply greater focus on clubs seeking to grow the game in their club and community
- c) Help clubs achieve management excellence.

## 2. Build partnerships in the community:

- a) Develop strong local park and other community tennis venue partnerships to deliver inclusive tennis provision for all
- b) Invest in great people delivering great experiences in parks
- c) Targeted investment in "welcoming "park facilities for people to socialise and play.

## 3. Enhance tennis offer in education

- a) Further strengthen schools offer, while introducing new secondary school programme
- b) Provide support to develop more effective links between schools and other places where tennis is played
- c) Maximise playing opportunities and help build a future workforce in colleges and universities.

There are 18 participation drivers, the most relevant to this strategy are:

- a) Support the delivery of recreational competition for adults in parks
- b) Reinvigorate LTA loans and grants scheme for clubs.

| Key findings and issues  | Recommendations   |
|--|---|
| Low participation at public sites, court are not always accessible and nets up | Review provision of courts on park sites and install permanent steel nets at dedicated public tennis courts |
| Sutton Lawn  | Review lease agreement with club  |

## 2.8 Netball

#### Provider/ user consultation

The number of netball clubs in Ashfield has reduced over recent years, falling from five to three and the Ashfield League has closed. Cobra Netball Club has one adult team and plays in the Chesterfield and District League. There are two Hucknall based teams playing in the Nottingham League and training at National School, Hucknall; Hucknall Town Netball Club and Hucknall Torkard Netball Club. The venue for matches is chosen by Nottingham Netball Association (NNA). Hucknall Town Netball Club has 9 squads, ranging from Tots (under 9's), young adult development squad to adult squads.

#### **Court assessments**

There are a number of netball courts within the district; Titchfield Park, Kirkby has two, Kingsway Park, two and there are also courts within schools sites, including four at National Academy and five

| Key findings and issues                | Recommendations   |
|--|---|
| Loss of netball league within Ashfield | Limited opportunities or need to re-establish an Ashfield league. Support clubs where necessary |

on the Holgate campus. Given that there is no league in Ashfield and that netball is usually an organised sport there appears to be no demand for the provision of courts on public sites such as parks.

| HUCKNALL  |
|---|
| Holgate School  |
| 2 courts over marked for tennis                         |
| National School   |
| 4 courts over marked for tennis                         |
| KIRKBY  |
| Ashfield School   |
| 3 courts over marked with basketball and tennis         |
| Kingsway Park   |
| 2 courts over marked for tennis                         |
| Titchfield Park   |
| 3 floodlit courts, 2 over marked for tennis, not in use |
| SUTTON  |
| Quarrydale School                                       |
| 4 courts over marked for tennis                         |

## **England Netball - Your Game, Your Way**

England Netball has 4 strategic goals:

- 1. Grow participation by an average of 10,000 per annum
- 2. Deliver a first class member and participant experience
- 3. Establish England as the no.1 team in the world by winning the World Netball Championships
- 4. Lead an effective and progressive infrastructure enabling all involved in the netball experience to collaborate as one team aligned behind one dream.

## 2.9 Educational establishments

The main school/ academy providers of community use of outdoor sports facilities are Holgate and National Schools in Hucknall, Ashfield School, Kirkby, Quarrydale School and Sutton Academy (Sutton Lawn), Sutton and Selston High School, Rurals. Kingsway Primary is the only primary school site with current community use, Leen Mills Primary, Hucknall and Orchard Primary and Nursery, Kirkby offer pitches but they currently do not have community use.

| Key findings and issues             | Recommendations  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Access after school hours and costs | Work with education establishments to establish secure community use on sites. |

## 3.0 Supply and Demand

Current supply and demand for pitches has been calculated as per the guidance provided by Sport England. Team Generation Rates (the ratio between the number of teams within a defined area and the total population within a given age group for that area) have been established and used to predict future demand for pitches using estimated future changes in the population (linked to planned housing areas). The predicted increase or decrease in demand for pitch types to 2026 are shown in the tables below.

#### 3.1 Football

| Sub area | Ratio<br>of<br>home<br>games | No. of teams | No. of pitches available | Surplus/<br>deficit | Temporal<br>demand | Peak<br>demand/<br>surplus<br>deficit | No. teams - future | Future<br>peak time<br>demand<br>2026 |
|----------|------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Adult    |                              |              |                          |                     |                    |                                       |                    |                                       |
| Hucknall | 0.5                          | 13           | 10*                      | +3                  | 62%                | +6                                    | 13                 | +6                                    |
| Kirkby   | 0.5                          | 5            | 9                        | +6                  | 80%                | +7                                    | 5                  | +7                                    |
| Rural    | 0.5                          | 7            | 8                        | +5                  | 57%                | +6                                    | 7                  | +6                                    |
| Sutton   | 0.5                          | 23           | 17                       | +5                  | 59%                | +10                                   | 23                 | +10                                   |
| Total    |                              | 48           | 44                       | 19                  |                    | 29                                    | 48                 | 29                                    |
| Youth    |                              |              |                          |                     |                    |                                       |                    |                                       |
| Hucknall | 0.5                          | 20           | 6*                       | -4                  | 77%                | -2                                    | 23 (+3)            | -3                                    |
| Kirkby   | 0.5                          | 7            | 8                        | +4                  | 57%                | +6                                    | 8 (+1)             | +6                                    |
| Rural    | 0.5                          | 11           | 0                        | -6                  | 50%                | -3                                    | 13 (+2)            | -3                                    |
| Sutton   | 0.5                          | 16           | 6                        | -2                  | 81%                | 0                                     | 18 (+2)            | -2                                    |
| Total    |                              | 54           | 20                       | -8                  |                    | +1                                    | 62                 | -2                                    |
| Mini     |                              |              |                          |                     |                    |                                       |                    |                                       |
| Hucknall | 1.5                          | 5            | 0                        | -2                  | 60%                | -1                                    | 5                  | -1                                    |
| Kirkby   | 1.5                          | 13           | 5                        | +1**                | 100%               | +1                                    | 13                 | +1                                    |
| Rural    | 1.5                          | 5            | 0                        | -2                  | 80%                | -2                                    | 5                  | -2                                    |
| Sutton   | 1.5                          | 6            | 7                        | +5                  | 100%               | +5                                    | 7                  | +5                                    |
| Total    |                              | 17           | 12                       | -31                 |                    | -28                                   | 30                 | +5                                    |

<sup>\*\*</sup> All Ashfield based Kickstart League teams which play at Kingsway Park and Summit Centre

The figures for Hucknall don't include the three adult and two youth pitches which are being provided on the new Papplewick housing estate and which are due to come into use in the 2017/18 season, subject to the pitches being ready for adoption by the Council.

There is an undersupply of youth football pitches in Hucknall, the Rurals and Sutton and an undersupply of minis in the Rurals, these shortfalls could potentially be met by converting adult pitches as there is an identified significant oversupply of this type of pitch across all of the four areas. No other issues with supply of football pitches have been identified.

## 3.2 Cricket

| Sub area | Ratio of<br>home<br>games | No. of teams | No. of pitches | Surplus/<br>deficit | Temporal<br>demand | Peak demand/ surplus deficit | No. teams<br>- future | Future<br>peak time<br>demand<br>2026 |
|----------|---------------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Hucknall | 0.5                       | 6            | 2              | -1                  | 50%                | 0                            | 6                     | 0                                     |
| Kirkby   | 0.5                       | 10           | 2              | -3                  | 56%                | -1                           | 10                    | -1                                    |
| Rural    | 0.5                       | 10           | 2              | -3                  | 40%                | 0                            | 10                    | 0                                     |
| Sutton   | 0.5                       | 15           | 2              | -6                  | 40%                | -1                           | 15                    | -1                                    |

There is a current and future undersupply of one pitch in both Kirkby and Sutton. This can potentially be met by the new ground at Larwood Park, Kirkby (bordering Sutton) which is due to open in 2017 which will be leased/ hired out by Ashfield Rugby Club. No other issues with supply of cricket pitches have been identified.

## 3.3 Rugby Union

| Sub area | Ratio<br>of<br>home<br>games | No. of teams | No. of pitches | Surplus/<br>deficit | Temporal<br>demand | Peak<br>demand/<br>surplus<br>deficit | No. teams<br>- future | Future<br>peak time<br>demand<br>2026 |
|----------|------------------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Hucknall | 0.5                          | 0            | 0              | 0                   | 0                  | 0                                     | 0                     | 0                                     |
| Kirkby   | 0.5                          | 17           | 3              | -6                  | 59%                | -2                                    | 18                    | -2                                    |
| Rural    | 0.5                          | 0            | 1              | 1                   | 0                  | 1                                     | 0                     | 1                                     |
| Sutton   | 0.5                          | 0            | 4              | 4                   | 0                  | 4                                     | 0                     | 4                                     |
| Total    |                              | 17           | 8              | -1                  |                    | 3                                     | 18                    | 3                                     |

There is a current and predicted future peak time deficit of two rugby pitches in Kirkby, this will be met when the new facility at Larwood Park opens for the 2017/18 season. No other issues with supply of rugby pitches have been identified.

## 3.4 Hockey

| Sub area | Ratio<br>of<br>home<br>games | No. of teams | No. of pitches | Surplus/<br>deficit | Temporal<br>demand | Peak<br>demand/<br>surplus<br>deficit | No. teams<br>- future | Future<br>peak time<br>demand<br>2026 |
|----------|------------------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Hucknall | 0.5                          | 0            | 1              | 1                   | 0                  | 0                                     | 0                     | 0                                     |
| Kirkby   | 0.5                          | 4            | 1              | -1                  | 75%                | -1                                    | 4                     | -1                                    |
| Rural    | 0.5                          | 0            | 0              | 0                   | 0                  | 0                                     | 0                     | 0                                     |
| Sutton   | 0.5                          | 0            | 0              | 0                   | 0                  | 0                                     | 0                     | 0                                     |
| Total    |                              | 4            | 2              | 0                   |                    | -1                                    | 4                     | -1                                    |

There is a current and predicted future peak time deficit of one hockey pitch in Kirkby, but Ashfield Aztecs play matches at Goosedale in Nottingham and do not want to move, no other issues with supply of hockey pitches have been identified.

## 3.5 AGP - 3G for football

The FA standard has been used to review current demand for 3G Football Turf pitches. The table below shows that additional training slots are required in Hucknall (38), Kirkby (13) and Rurals (23). There are 48 additional training slots available in Sutton.

| Area     |         | affiliated<br>teams | 3G per LA -<br>56 teams<br>per pitch | Full sized<br>3G<br>(Community | 3G Stadia pitches | full size<br>Pro Club | Commercial |   | 3G |   |          | Additional<br>number of<br>training<br>slots to<br>meet<br>current<br>demand |
|----------|---------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------|---|----|---|----------|--|
| Ashfield | 121,600 | 119                 | 2.1                                  | 1                              | 0                 | 0                     | 0          | 1 | 0  | 0 | £750,000 | 26   |
| Hucknall | 32,832  | 38                  | 0.7                                  | 0                              | 0                 | 0                     | 0          | 0 | 0  | 0 | £0       | 38   |
| Kirkby   | 27,968  | 13                  | 0.2                                  | 0                              | 0                 | 0                     | 0          | 0 | 0  | 0 | £0       | 13   |
| Rurals   | 13,376  | 23                  | 0.4                                  | 0                              | 0                 | 0                     | 0          | 0 | 0  | 0 | £0       | 23   |
| Sutton   | 47,424  | 45                  | 0.8                                  | 1                              | 0                 | 0                     | 0          | 1 | 0  | 0 | £750,000 | -48  |
|          |         |                     |                                      |                                |                   |                       |            |   |    |   |          |  |

<sup>\*(</sup>Historical & proposed 3G Football Turf values as follows; New FS 3GFT = £550k, Resurfaced FS 3GFT = £300K, New 60x 40 3GFT = £250k, Resurfaced 60 x 40 3GFT = £100K, New < 60 x 40 3GFT = £150K, Resurfaced <60 x 40 3GFT = £75K, New FS Stadia 3GFT = £350K, Resurfaced FS Stadia 3GFT = £300K, New indoor 60 X 40 3GFT = £800K, New Pro-Club 3GFT - £800K, Pro-Club Resurface = £300k, Commercial 5-a-side 3GFT facilities = £500k

## 4.0 Development

A vision and associated aims and objectives have been developed to deliver the strategy, as well as sport specific objectives which are detailed below.

## 4.1 Vision

To ensure adequate distribution of good quality facilities across the district to support and increase participation in sport and improve health and wellbeing.

## 4.2 Key priorities and objectives

Priority 1. ACCESS & PROVISION - To protect access to existing sports facilities and provide new facilities where there is current or future anticipated demand

## **Objectives**

- 1. Ensure that sports facilities are protected through planning policy
- 2. Secure tenure and community access to private and educational sites, including community use agreements
- 3. Identify opportunities to provide additional facilities to meet current and future demand
- 4. Maximise community use of facilities.

Priority 2. QUALITY & MANAGEMENT - 2. To improve the quality of facilities and support effective management and club development

## **Objectives**

- 1. Develop and improve the quality of facilities
- 2. Support club and educational establishment development
- 3. Promote good design and management practice



# 4.3 Action Plan

| Objective  | Action   | Lead            | Timescale     |
|--|--|-----------------|---------------|
| Aim 1: To protect existing sports faci   | lities and provide new facilities where there is current or future anticipate  | ed demand       |               |
| 1. Ensure that sports pitches are protected through planning policywhere there is established need         | All sites identified and protected within new Local Plan   | ADC (LCE)       | 2016-<br>2017 |
| 2. Secure tenure and community access to private and educational sites, including community use agreements | Identify issues from club survey and support clubs where necessary   | ADC (LCE)/ NGBs | 2016-19       |
| 3. Identify opportunities to provide additional pitches to meet current                                    | <b>FOOTBALL:</b> Develop Hub sites: Papplewick, Hucknall, Kingsway and Titchfield Parks, Kirkby and Sutton Lawn  | ADC (LCE)/ NCC  | 2016-<br>2019 |
| and future demand  | Kingsway Park – Develop site to accommodate more pitches   | ADC (LCE)       | 2016-<br>2018 |
|  | Titchfield Park, Kirkby - Negotiate additional land and pitches, and new pavilion through development process, develop junior/ mini pitch on former bowling green and surrounding land | ADC (LCE)       | 2016/17       |
|  | Sutton Lawn – Support Nottinghamshire County Council to develop site to increase number of pitches/ improve changing rooms. Redevelop former shale pitch                               | NCC/ ADC (LCE)  | 2016-<br>2019 |
|  | Review pitch types - convert from adult to junior/ mini to better meet demand  | ADC (LCE)       | 2016-17       |
| 4. Maximise community use of facilities  | <b>TENNIS:</b> Investigate partnership with Tennis for Free to develop district courts   | ADC (LCE)       | 2016-17       |
|  | Install steel nets at designated tennis sites  | ADC (LCE)       | 2016-17       |
|  | Review lease arrangement with tennis club at Sutton Lawn   | ADC (WE)        | 2017          |
|  | <b>BOWLS:</b> Investigate opportunities for pay and play at ADC sites to increase usage  | ADC (WE)        | 2016-17       |

| Objective                             | Action   | Lead                 | Timescale |
|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------|-----------|
| Aim 2: To improve the quality of faci | lities and clubs and support effective management                                |                      |           |
| 1. Develop and improve the quality    | FOOTBALL: Develop Hub sites at: Papplewick, Hucknall, Kingsway and               | ADC (LCE)            | 2016-19   |
| of facilities                         | Titchfield Parks, Kirkby and Sutton Lawn   |                      |           |
|                                       |  |                      |           |
|                                       | FOOTBALL/ BOWLS/ TENNIS: Improve the quality of changing rooms/                  | Clubs/ ADC (LCE)     | 2016-19   |
|                                       | facilities at ADC sites, working with clubs to access funding                    |                      |           |
|                                       | CRICKET: Support Focus Clubs to improve facilities                               | Clubs/ ADC (LCE)     | 2016-19   |
|                                       | Reduce overplay through access to additional pitches and work to                 |                      |           |
|                                       | increase the quality of existing provision                                       |                      |           |
|                                       | RUGBY: Support Ashfield Rugby Club with development plans                        | Club/ ADC (LCE)      | 2016-17   |
|                                       | HOCKEY: Support clubs at Kingsway Park   | Clubs/ ADC (LCE)     | 2016-19   |
|                                       | ALL SPORTS:  | ADC (LCE)            | 2016-19   |
|                                       | <ul> <li>Promote leasing of Local sites to enable clubs to access</li> </ul>     |                      |           |
|                                       | funding/ develop their own ground/ pitch   |                      |           |
|                                       | <ul> <li>Support sports clubs to access funding to improve facilities</li> </ul> |                      |           |
| 2. Support club and educational       | ALL SPORTS: Promote Active Ashfield accreditation scheme/ National               | ADC (LCE)            | 2016-19   |
| establishment development             | Governing Body/ClubMark accreditation  |                      |           |
|                                       | <b>RUGBY:</b> Support secondary schools to ensure that rugby is played           | RFU/ Club/ ADC (LCE) | 2016-19   |
| 3. Promote good design and            | Work with NGBs and clubs to improve pitch maintenance                            | ADC (WE)/ clubs      | 2016-19   |
| management practice                   | Undertake pitch assessment every 3 years   | ADC (LCE)            | 2016-19   |
|                                       | Investigate potential self-management/ leasing of Local sites                    | ADC (LCE)            | 2016-19   |

## 5.0 Review, monitoring and updating

Annual monitoring of the strategy action plan will be undertaken by Ashfield District Council which will be reported to the NGBs. The steering group will operate as a 'virtual' group, having the opportunity to make suggestions and provide updates throughout the year.

A review and update will need to be carried out within three years of the Playing Pitch Strategy being approved by the NGBs, in order to be recognised as up to date by Sport England.

The annual review will highlight:

- Progress against the action plan
- Any changes to sites and/or clubs and other supply and demand information
- Any development of a specific sport or particular format of a sport
- Any new or emerging issues and opportunities.

The council will maintain the data within the Playing Pitch Database on a regular basis.

# **6.0 Appendices**

# Appendix 1: Team Generation Rates and potential change in team numbers

# Hucknall

| Sport and Age Groups                  | Number of<br>teams in age<br>group | Current<br>population in age<br>group | Future<br>population in<br>age group | Current<br>TGR | Population<br>Change in<br>Age Group | Potential<br>Change in<br>Team<br>Numbers |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Football Adult Men 11v11 (16-45yrs)   | 13                                 | 6208                                  | 6299                                 | 478            | 91                                   | 0.2                                       |
| Football Adult Women 11v11 (16-45yrs) | 0                                  | 6553                                  | 6458                                 | 0              | -95                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Football Youth Boys (10-15yrs)        | 16                                 | 1122                                  | 1278                                 | 70             | 156                                  | 2.2                                       |
| Football Youth Girls (10-15yrs)       | 4                                  | 1119                                  | 1280                                 | 280            | 161                                  | 0.6                                       |
| Football Mini Soccer Mixed (6-9yrs)   | 5                                  | 1612                                  | 1754                                 | 322            | 142                                  | 0.4                                       |
| Cricket Open Age Mens (18-55yrs)      | 4                                  | 8223                                  | 7884                                 | 2056           | -339                                 | -0.2                                      |
| Cricket Open Age Womens (18-55yrs)    | 0                                  | 8679                                  | 8178                                 | 0              | -501                                 | 0.0                                       |
| Cricket Junior Boys (7-17yrs)         | 4                                  | 2152                                  | 2368                                 | 538            | 216                                  | 0.4                                       |
| Cricket Junior Girls (7-17yrs)        | 0                                  | 2054                                  | 2303                                 | 0              | 249                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Rugby Union Senior Men (19-45yrs)     | 0                                  | 5619                                  | 5706                                 | 0              | 87                                   | 0.0                                       |
| Rugby Union Senior Women (19-45yrs)   | 0                                  | 5992                                  | 5880                                 | 0              | -112                                 | 0.0                                       |
| Rugby Union Youth Boys (13-18yrs)     | 0                                  | 1164                                  | 1226                                 | 0              | 62                                   | 0.0                                       |
| Rugby Union Youth Girls (13-18yrs)    | 0                                  | 1123                                  | 1211                                 | 0              | 88                                   | 0.0                                       |
| Rugby Union Mini/Midi Mixed (7-12yrs) | 0                                  | 2305                                  | 2606                                 | 0              | 301                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Hockey Senior Men (16-45yrs)          | 0                                  | 6208                                  | 6299                                 | 0              | 91                                   | 0.0                                       |
| Hockey Senior Women (16-45yrs)        | 0                                  | 6553                                  | 6458                                 | 0              | -95                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Hockey Junior Boys (11-15yrs)         | 0                                  | 941                                   | 1067                                 | 0              | 126                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Hockey Junior Girls (11-15yrs)        | 0                                  | 931                                   | 1059                                 | 0              | 128                                  | 0.0                                       |

# Kirkby

| Sport and Age Groups                  | Number of<br>teams in age<br>group | Current population in age group | Future<br>population in<br>age group | Current<br>TGR | Population<br>Change in<br>Age Group | Potential<br>Change in<br>Team<br>Numbers |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Football Adult Men 11v11 (16-45yrs)   | 5                                  | 5103                            | 5178                                 | 1020.6         | 75                                   | 0.1                                       |
| Football Adult Women 11v11 (16-45yrs) | 0                                  | 5375                            | 5297                                 | 0              | -78                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Football Youth Boys (10-15yrs)        | 7                                  | 963                             | 1097                                 | 137.57         | 134                                  | 1.0                                       |
| Football Youth Girls (10-15yrs)       | 0                                  | 935                             | 1070                                 | 0              | 135                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Football Mini Soccer Mixed (6-9yrs)   | 1                                  | 1351                            | 1470                                 | 1351           | 119                                  | 0.1                                       |
| Cricket Open Age Mens (18-55yrs)      | 6                                  | 6879                            | 6595                                 | 1146.5         | -284                                 | -0.2                                      |
| Cricket Open Age Womens (18-55yrs)    | 0                                  | 7215                            | 6799                                 | 0              | -416                                 | 0.0                                       |
| Cricket Junior Boys (7-17yrs)         | 4                                  | 1814                            | 1996                                 | 453.5          | 182                                  | 0.4                                       |
| Cricket Junior Girls (7-17yrs)        | 1                                  | 1792                            | 2010                                 | 1792           | 218                                  | 0.1                                       |
| Rugby Union Senior Men (19-45yrs)     | 3                                  | 4587                            | 4658                                 | 1529           | 71                                   | 0.0                                       |
| Rugby Union Senior Women (19-45yrs)   | 1                                  | 4840                            | 4749                                 | 4840           | -91                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Rugby Union Youth Boys (13-18yrs)     | 4                                  | 1024                            | 1079                                 | 256            | 55                                   | 0.2                                       |
| Rugby Union Youth Girls (13-18yrs)    | 3                                  | 1009                            | 1088                                 | 336.33         | 79                                   | 0.2                                       |
| Rugby Union Mini/Midi Mixed (7-12yrs) | 6                                  | 1927                            | 2179                                 | 321.17         | 252                                  | 0.8                                       |
| Hockey Senior Men (16-45yrs)          | 1                                  | 5103                            | 5178                                 | 5103           | 75                                   | 0.0                                       |
| Hockey Senior Women (16-45yrs)        | 1                                  | 5375                            | 5297                                 | 5375           | -78                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Hockey Junior Boys (11-15yrs)         | 1                                  | 799                             | 906                                  | 799            | 107                                  | 0.1                                       |
| Hockey Junior Girls (11-15yrs)        | 1                                  | 790                             | 898                                  | 790            | 108                                  | 0.1                                       |

# **Rurals**

| Sport and Age Groups                  | Number of<br>teams in age<br>group | Current<br>population in age<br>group | Future<br>population in<br>age group | Current<br>TGR | Population<br>Change in<br>Age Group | Potential<br>Change in<br>Team<br>Numbers |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Football Adult Men 11v11 (16-45yrs)   | 7                                  | 2108                                  | 2139                                 | 301            | 31                                   | 0.1                                       |
| Football Adult Women 11v11 (16-45yrs) | 0                                  | 2120                                  | 2089                                 | 0              | -31                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Football Youth Boys (10-15yrs)        | 10                                 | 404                                   | 460                                  | 40             | 56                                   | 1.4                                       |
| Football Youth Girls (10-15yrs)       | 1                                  | 435                                   | 498                                  | 435            | 63                                   | 0.1                                       |
| Football Mini Soccer Mixed (6-9yrs)   | 5                                  | 508                                   | 553                                  | 102            | 45                                   | 0.4                                       |
| Cricket Open Age Mens (18-55yrs)      | 6                                  | 2942                                  | 2821                                 | 490            | -121                                 | -0.2                                      |
| Cricket Open Age Womens (18-55yrs)    | 0                                  | 2958                                  | 2787                                 | 0              | -171                                 | 0.0                                       |
| Cricket Junior Boys (7-17yrs)         | 4                                  | 782                                   | 861                                  | 196            | 79                                   | 0.4                                       |
| Cricket Junior Girls (7-17yrs)        | 0                                  | 776                                   | 870                                  | 0              | 94                                   | 0.0                                       |
| Rugby Union Senior Men (19-45yrs)     | 0                                  | 1850                                  | 1879                                 | 0              | 29                                   | 0.0                                       |
| Rugby Union Senior Women (19-45yrs)   | 0                                  | 1896                                  | 1861                                 | 0              | -35                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Rugby Union Youth Boys (13-18yrs)     | 0                                  | 471                                   | 496                                  | 0              | 25                                   | 0.0                                       |
| Rugby Union Youth Girls (13-18yrs)    | 0                                  | 439                                   | 473                                  | 0              | 34                                   | 0.0                                       |
| Rugby Union Mini/Midi Mixed (7-12yrs) | 0                                  | 790                                   | 893                                  | 0              | 103                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Hockey Senior Men (16-45yrs)          | 0                                  | 2108                                  | 2139                                 | 0              | 31                                   | 0.0                                       |
| Hockey Senior Women (16-45yrs)        | 0                                  | 2120                                  | 2089                                 | 0              | -31                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Hockey Junior Boys (11-15yrs)         | 0                                  | 347                                   | 393                                  | 0              | 46                                   | 0.0                                       |
| Hockey Junior Girls (11-15yrs)        | 0                                  | 362                                   | 412                                  | 0              | 50                                   | 0.0                                       |

# **Sutton**

| Sport and Age Groups                  | Number of<br>teams in age<br>group | Current<br>population in age<br>group | Future<br>population in<br>age group | Current<br>TGR | Population<br>Change in<br>Age Group | Potential<br>Change in<br>Team<br>Numbers |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Football Adult Men 11v11 (16-45yrs)   | 22                                 | 8920                                  | 9051                                 | 405            | 131                                  | 0.3                                       |
| Football Adult Women 11v11 (16-45yrs) | 1                                  | 9124                                  | 8992                                 | 9124           | -132                                 | 0.0                                       |
| Football Youth Boys (10-15yrs)        | 16                                 | 1664                                  | 1895                                 | 104            | 231                                  | 2.2                                       |
| Football Youth Girls (10-15yrs)       | 0                                  | 1552                                  | 1776                                 | 0              | 224                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Football Mini Soccer Mixed (6-9yrs)   | 6                                  | 2256                                  | 2455                                 | 376            | 199                                  | 0.5                                       |
| Cricket Open Age Mens (18-55yrs)      | 9                                  | 11895                                 | 11405                                | 1322           | -490                                 | -0.4                                      |
| Cricket Open Age Womens (18-55yrs)    | 0                                  | 12127                                 | 11427                                | 0              | -700                                 | 0.0                                       |
| Cricket Junior Boys (7-17yrs)         | 6                                  | 3107                                  | 3419                                 | 518            | 312                                  | 0.6                                       |
| Cricket Junior Girls (7-17yrs)        | 0                                  | 2932                                  | 3288                                 | 0              | 356                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Rugby Union Senior Men (19-45yrs)     | 0                                  | 7991                                  | 8115                                 | 0              | 124                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Rugby Union Senior Women (19-45yrs)   | 0                                  | 8269                                  | 8114                                 | 0              | -155                                 | 0.0                                       |
| Rugby Union Youth Boys (13-18yrs)     | 0                                  | 1788                                  | 1884                                 | 0              | 96                                   | 0.0                                       |
| Rugby Union Youth Girls (13-18yrs)    | 0                                  | 1648                                  | 1777                                 | 0              | 129                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Rugby Union Mini/Midi Mixed (7-12yrs) | 0                                  | 3241                                  | 3664                                 | 0              | 423                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Hockey Senior Men (16-45yrs)          | 0                                  | 8920                                  | 9051                                 | 0              | 131                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Hockey Senior Women (16-45yrs)        | 0                                  | 9124                                  | 8992                                 | 0              | -132                                 | 0.0                                       |
| Hockey Junior Boys (11-15yrs)         | 0                                  | 1390                                  | 1575                                 | 0              | 185                                  | 0.0                                       |
| Hockey Junior Girls (11-15yrs)        | 0                                  | 1303                                  | 1482                                 | 0              | 179                                  | 0.0                                       |