

**LAMBETH COUNCIL**

**OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND  
ACTION PLAN**

**2015 to 2020**

**DRAFT STRATEGY**

**January 2015**

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## STRATEGY VISION AND OBJECTIVES

***“To create a high quality and sustainable outdoor sports facility offer which meets community need, increases participation in sport, and provides accessible and inclusive activities for all Lambeth citizens as part of an active lifestyle.”***

The Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy has been developed and will be delivered with our community and partners, working together to achieve our overall Active Lambeth: Physical Activity and Sports strategy vision of:

*“All people in Lambeth are physically active in their daily lives”*

- ◀ Everyone has the confidence and capability to be physically active.
- ◀ The built and natural environment contributes to a culture of people being active in their daily lives.
- ◀ Residents live within 20 minutes walk of an exciting and accessible opportunity to be physically active and play sport.
- ◀ Lambeth Council and its partners are supporting a thriving economy of community groups, social enterprises and businesses are working together to help people be active.

The vision for the outdoor sports strategy builds upon the priorities identified in the Assessment Report (September 2014). It seeks to provide a clear and coherent way forward for the provision of outdoor sports facilities in Lambeth in order to ensure that residents have easy access to leisure facilities of which they can be proud and which ultimately leads to increases in the levels of regular participation in sports and physical activity across the borough.

The strategy aims to create a more vibrant and healthy place to live and work, by providing local opportunities for people to get active, get healthy and get involved. The main aims are to:

- ◀ Improve access to and participation in sport and physical activity for Lambeth residents including the most deprived communities supporting the creation of safer, stronger and healthier communities.
- ◀ Develop a strong club/group network and wider partnerships which provide access to good quality and accessible sport and physical activity.
- ◀ To support the improved management of all sports facilities in Lambeth.

Work to develop the strategy has informed the Lambeth Parks and Open Spaces Capital Investment Plan 2015 – 2020 which includes needs based requirements for outdoor sport facilities in parks.

### **Partners**

In order to ensure that physical activity and sports is embedded as part of everyday life the draft strategy has been developed through on-going engagement with a range of key partners including Sport England, Sports national governing bodies, Lambeth schools, Lambeth sports clubs and Lambeth citizens.

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## **Strategic objectives**

The three main themes of the strategy have been created with reference to Sport England's planning objectives.

The main themes for the Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy are:

### **OBJECTIVE 1 – Protect**

To protect outdoor sports facilities where they are needed to meet demand, or provide clear evidence for their relocation

### **OBJECTIVE 2 – Enhance**

To enhance outdoor sports facilities through improving quality, access and management of sites

### **OBJECTIVE 3 – Provide**

To invest in the new sports facilities where needed to meet current or future needs

Through successful completion of the strategic objectives the outdoor sports facility infrastructure will be in place to assist the delivery of the overarching vision for Physical Activity and Sport in Lambeth.

The strategy has been developed to ensure investment is prioritised in those Outdoor Sports Facilities that have potential to best meet demand, have the best access for those that need it; to ensure that the impacts on health of inactivity are reduced and to support local groups meet wider community outcomes.

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## STRATEGY CONTEXT

This strategy forms part of our overall Active Lambeth: Physical Activity and Sports Strategy, which sets out the partnership outcomes we will achieve through physical activity and sport.

Key aims for this strategy are:

1. **Right facilities in the right places:** Establish the need for the boroughs current and future sporting assets for both individuals, clubs and other organisations
2. **Financial:** Deliver a leisure offer which is affordable to the Council and maximises provision in line with need, targeting a cost neutral approach and re-investment of surplus to sustain assets and the wider community offer
3. **Planning and decision making:** Provide a strategic link to the Council's Planning process to direct future planning and external investment decisions through this process
4. **Sustainability:** Identify the sustainable delivery of our leisure assets, including viability assessment of facilities, including options such as asset transfer
5. **Maintenance:** Consolidate information regarding asset condition and lifecycle maintenance
6. **Platforms for growth:** Identify funding and investment options and align our approach to support Sport England and sports National Governing Bodies objectives, identifying funding opportunities such as asset transfer options for current and future facilities with private and third sectors
7. **Action Plan:** Produce recommendations and a prioritised action plan to deliver these recommendations to generate surplus and a sustainable service, including management options

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**LAMBETH ASSESSMENT REPORT DATA**

The assessment report provides an overview of the demographic information for the borough which has been considered in the development of the strategy and action plan for outdoor sports facilities.

The London Borough of Lambeth is located in the centre of Greater London, and covers an area of approximately 28.62 square miles. Lambeth's 21 wards are grouped into seven Council Areas for the administration of council services, which are North Lambeth, Stockwell, Clapham, Brixton, Streatham, Norwood and Waterloo. The Borough also includes the towns of Brixton, Clapham, Herne Hill, Kennington, Norwood, Stockwell, Stratham, Vauxhall and Waterloo. Lambeth has a diverse and vibrant area with a population of around 310,000 and it is one of the most densely populated boroughs in London.

**Census data**

Data from the 2011 national census tells us the following:

- ◀ There are estimated to be around 130,000 households in the Borough.
- ◀ Around 67% of households live in rented accommodation, and 30% own their own home. Just under one in five households rent from the Council.
- ◀ The number of households in Lambeth is projected to grow by on average 1.4% per year, from 130,000 in 2011 to 160,000 in 2031.
- ◀ There are approximately 29,200 people of working age in Lambeth who are disabled. This represents 14.9% of the working age population, in line with the London average (15.3%) and slightly lower than England (18.0%).
- ◀ Over a third of Lambeth residents (36%) are from traditional ethnic minority groups, in line with inner London (also 36%). Lambeth's largest non-white ethnic group is black African (11.5%), followed by black Caribbean (9.8%). Lambeth has the third largest proportion of black Caribbean people in London (9.8%). Only 7.8% of Lambeth residents are from Asian backgrounds (including Chinese).
- ◀ The total population, from the 2012 mid-year estimate, in Lambeth was 310,200 (males = 154,780 and females = 155,420).
- ◀ There is a significantly higher percentage of 25-29 olds living in Lambeth than in London as a whole. It should be noted that this age group has a higher propensity to participate in sport and physical activity which impacts on the demand for sports facilities.
- ◀ If trends continue, Lambeth's population is projected to grow by just over 1% per year for the next five years, and the borough will continue to have a majority of young working age people (20-44).

**Population density**

- ◀ Densely populated areas in Lambeth are concentrated in the North of the Borough in Clapham, Brixton and Stockwell. There is a large proportion of Lambeth that is more sparsely populated, which is most prominent around West Dulwich and Tulse Hill. It is also clear that the very north of the Borough, along the Thames, is less densely populated, but is a key area of business and commerce.

### ***Deprivation***

- ◀ The Borough is the 14<sup>th</sup> most deprived in England (a relative worsening of position since 2008 when it was considered the 19<sup>th</sup> most deprived), but, similar to other inner London boroughs.
- ◀ 4.5% of LB Lambeth's population live in areas within the bottom 10% most deprived parts of the country.
- ◀ 64.1% are in the next two cohorts; consequently, 68.6% of Lambeth's population are in the 'lowest' three bands compared to a national average of 29.8%
- ◀ Conversely, despite a generally similar pattern, comparison of figures 2.6 and 2.7 highlights a noticeably lower level of health deprivation than that of multiple (causes of) deprivation. This is borne out by the comparative rates which show 50.8% of Lambeth's population to be in the lowest three bands compared to 29.7% nationally.

### ***Health data***

- ◀ In 2011 there were 4,784 live births in Lambeth; there were also 1,335 deaths; consequently there were 3,429 more births than deaths in 2011. Population change combines these factors alongside internal and international migration statistics.
- ◀ In keeping with patterns seen alongside higher levels of health deprivation, life expectancy in Lambeth is lower than the national figure; the male rate is currently 78.2 compared to 79.2 for England, and the female equivalent is, however the same at 83.0 years

### ***Weight and obesity***

- ◀ Obesity is widely recognised to be associated with health problems such as type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease and cancer. At a national level, the resulting NHS costs attributable to overweight and obesity are projected to reach £9.7 billion by 2050, with wider costs to society estimated to reach £49.9 billion per year. These factors combine to make the prevention of obesity a major public health challenge.
- ◀ Lambeth obesity rates in Lambeth are above the national and regional averages for adults and children.
- ◀ Obesity rates increase significantly between the ages of 4 and 10. Just over 1 in 9 (11.3%) of children in Lambeth are obese in their Reception Year at school and 12.2% are overweight; by Year 6 these figures have risen to just over 2 in 9 (23.4%) being obese and 15.3% being overweight. In total, by Year 6, just under 2 in 5 (39.3%) are either overweight or obese.

### ***Health costs of physical inactivity***

- ◀ The British Heart Foundation (BHF) Promotion Research Group has reviewed the costs of avoidable ill health that it considers are attributable to physical inactivity. Initially produced for the Department of Health report 'Be Active Be Healthy' (2009) the data has subsequently been reworked for Sport England.
- ◀ The illnesses included within the BHF research includes cancers such as bowel cancer and breast cancer, type 2 diabetes, coronary heart disease and cerebrovascular disease e.g. stroke. The data indicates a similar breakdown between these illnesses regionally and nationally.
- ◀ The annual cost to the NHS of physical inactivity in Lambeth is estimated at £4,861,940.

- ◀ When compared to regional and national costs per 100,000 Lambeth (£1,662,594) is 8.52% below the national average (£1,817,285) and 6.41% (£1,776,346) below the regional average.
- ◀ There are pockets of deprivation throughout the Borough which can be seen in the South, a swathe around Brixton and in the North West of the Borough. This is not mirrored by similar levels of health deprivation with the pockets of high deprivation much smaller, especially around the area of West Norwood.

### **Crime**

- ◀ During the 12 months to September 2013 the rate for recorded crimes per 1,000 persons in Lambeth was 108.5; this is markedly higher than the equivalent rate for England and Wales as a whole which was 61.7. In both instances the recorded crime rate has fallen since 2010, by around -5% for Lambeth and -15% for England & Wales.

### **Economic activity and inactivity**

- ◀ Around 84.9% of Lambeth's 16-64 year olds are economically active (in or seeking employment - Sept 2013) compared to a national figure of 77.4%.
- ◀ The unemployment rate in Lambeth is 8.7%, which is the same as the London figure and slightly higher than the national rate (7.7%).
- ◀ Of the 15.1% who are economically inactive, over 2 in 7 are long term sick and similar proportions are students.

### **Income and benefits dependency**

- ◀ The median figure for full-time earnings (2013) in Lambeth is £33,550; the comparative rate for London is £34,200 (+2%) and for Great Britain is £26,926 (-20%).
- ◀ In February 2014 there were 9,218 people in Lambeth claiming Job Seekers Allowance (JSA); this represents a decrease of 3.5% compared to February 2006 (9,533). However, people claiming JSA only represent 32.5% of benefits claimants in Lambeth, a further 40.9% are claiming ESA<sup>1</sup> and incapacity benefits while 5.3% are carers.

### **Sports Participation**

- ◀ Participation - just over 2 in 5 (40.5%) adults participated in at least 1 x 30 minutes moderate intensity sport per week. This was above the national average (35.7%) and the regional average (37.2%). It was above all of its 'nearest neighbours' which ranged from 34.8% to 37.4%.
- ◀ Volunteering - around 1 in 50 (2.6%) provide at least 1 hour's volunteering to support sport in Lambeth each week. This is lower than the corresponding national and regional equivalents and is surpassed by all but one of its 'nearest neighbours'.
- ◀ Sports club membership - just over 1 in 6 (17.4%) are members of a sports club, based on the four weeks prior to the AP survey. This is below the national average (21.5%) and the regional rate (21.1%) and is around the mid-point of its 'nearest neighbours'.
- ◀ Sports tuition - just over 1 in 6 (18.1%) received sports tuition during the 12 months prior to the AP survey. This was below the regional and national averages and is around the mid-point of its 'nearest neighbours'.
- ◀ Competitive sport – under 1 in 10 (9.1%) adults had taken part in competitive sport in the previous 12 months, this was higher than the corresponding rates for any of Lambeth's

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'nearest neighbours and also lower than the national (12.6%) and regional (9.8%) averages.

***Population projections***

- ◀ Projections indicate a rise of 23.5% in Lambeth's population (72,814) over the 25 years from 2012 to 2037.
- ◀ The number of 0-15 year olds is projected to rise by 7,413 (13.3%) over the 25 years. This will place pressure on differing types of sporting, educational and cultural provision (facility and services) by age and gender for sub-groups within this cohort.
- ◀ There is a continuous increase in the numbers of persons aged 65+ and a need to consider varying sports offers for this age group. This represents an increase of 86.8% in numbers over the 25 years and is in fact greater than the overall increase across all ages (being offset by population loss in several other age groups).
- ◀ It should also be noted that while the age group represented 7.7% of Lambeth's population in 2012 it increases to 11.6% by 2037 – this is over 1 in 10 of the Borough's population.
- ◀ The population projections have a targeted increase in residential property of approximately 1,200 per annum; this is due to rise to around 1,600 units per annum for Lambeth, as set in the Further Alterations to the London Plan.

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## **METHODOLOGY**

The Lambeth Outdoor Facilities Sports Strategy presents the supply and demand assessment of facilities, assessed in accordance with Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance: 'An approach to developing and delivering a playing pitch strategy'. The strategy draws information from the demographic data collated in the assessment report.

### **Gather information and views on the supply of and demand for provision**

An audit of outdoor Sports Facilities and pitches, a delineated area which is used for sport, in Lambeth was completed. Each facility was assigned a level of accessibility and quality. A review of how and when they are currently used was produced, and presented in a sport by sport basis. Consultation with key clubs and users was conducted to further explore the levels of demand.

Demand is referenced as displaced, latent and future.

- ◆ Displaced demand refers to clubs and users who play outside of Lambeth due to lack of provision in the borough.
- ◆ Latent demand refers to the number of teams that would be catered for if there was suitable provision.
- ◆ Future demand reflects the needs of citizens with the levels of projected population growth.

### **Assess the supply and demand information and views**

Supply information was used to assess the playing provision in Lambeth, focusing on how much use each site could potentially accommodate compared to how much use is currently taking place. The quality of facilities was also considered when making this assessment.

Options were reviewed to establish the extent existing facilities could meet unmet demand. This included decommissioning of pitches, not whole sites, in the context of providing alternative provision, that better meet needs and in the context of providing facilities which are financially sustainable.

### **Develop the strategy**

The overall picture of supply and demand was produced across each sport. This has informed the creation of the local site action plans. Action plans provide recommendations based on the scenario testing and inline with the aims of the strategy.

### **Delivering the strategy**

The action plan will be delivered as part of the boroughs wider Active Lambeth: Physical Activity and Sport Strategy. The Outdoor Sports Facilities local action plans aim to contribute to the overall Active Lambeth: Sports and Physical Activity vision: ***"All people in Lambeth are physically active in their daily lives"***.

## **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

The objectives for the Strategy have been developed via the combination of information gathered during consultation, site visits and analysis. They reflect the key areas to be addressed over its lifetime. However, implementation must be considered in the context of financial implications and the need for some proposals to also meet planning considerations.

### **OBJECTIVE 1: Protect**

To protect outdoor sports facilities where they are needed to meet demand, or provide clear evidence for their relocation.

By meeting the 'protect' objective outdoor facilities that are needed by Lambeth citizens are prioritised and provision retained. Protecting these outdoor facilities will ensure they are in the right place to support improved health and wellbeing and increased participation. These facilities will need to be financially sustainable. To achieve this, the Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy will:

#### **Assist Planning and decision making for outdoor sports facilities**

The strategy provides an assessment of demand, and aims to protect the existing supply of sports facilities where it is needed for meeting current and future community demand. It will aid planning for future developments for outdoor sports provision. This includes the approach to securing sport and recreational facilities through new housing development that contribute to the wider sport and physical activity aspiration of the Council and its partners.

#### **Identify Outdoor Sports Facilities without need to decommission**

The strategy does not provide any recommendations to decommission existing sites. It does however recommend the decommissioning of facilities where there is no current or projected future demand identified. Any decommissioning of facilities is done in the context of providing alternative provision where need is identified, after the following has been considered:

- ◀ Is the facility surplus to requirements not only now but also in the future?
- ◀ Could the facility be used for another type of sport for which there is a need?
- ◀ Can current users be sufficiently accommodated at another appropriate site taking into consideration access, cost and locality?
- ◀ The quality of the facilities (including ancillary facilities).
- ◀ The long term sustainability of the facility.
- ◀ The level of current use and the impact on the spatial distribution of facilities across Lambeth of closing a facility.

Decommissioning existing facilities will be done in the context of generating investment towards creating strategic sites. Strategic sites have the potential to better meet demand as they are able to provide a wider offer of outdoor sports facilities on one site, whilst also requiring less revenue funding.

## **OBJECTIVE 2**

To enhance outdoor sports facilities through improving quality, access and management of sites

In order to meet the 'enhance' objective resources will be prioritised towards existing facilities where there is known demand and which will have the biggest impact on citizens health and sport outcomes. This will include addressing quality, access and management of sites. It will ensure management models are created that are financially sustainable. To achieve this, the Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy will:

### **Ensure financially sustainable facilities**

The strategy aims to ensure that all the borough's outdoor sports facilities are financially sustainable and will not require any revenue subsidy from the Council. This will include having a sink fund in place to ensure maintenance and facility lifecycle costs are met.

A market assessment of management options will be considered for each site, in order to identify options that best meets the strategic objectives. Through this process there may be opportunities for the transfer of assets. Transfer of assets would be in line with the policy set out within the Council's Community Asset Transfer Policy: 'Enabling community Asset Ownership and Management.' The strategy will continue to support community management and ownership of assets to community groups and trusts ensuring the continued provision of outdoor sports facilities, which align to the outcomes and actions. Where applicable, the Council will support and enable groups to generate sufficient funds to allow this.

The strategy provides recommendations for the creation of strategic sites. These sites are in areas of known demand and which have the potential to deliver a sustainable business plan whilst supporting community access for priority groups which support the delivery of the outcomes identified within the Active Lambeth: Physical Activity and Sport Strategy.

### **Improve pitch quality**

There are a number of ways in which it is possible to increase pitch quality, including for example, addressing overplay and improving maintenance. The strategy explores solutions in more detail below.

### **Address quality issues**

Given limited resources, the priority in the short term should be directed to overplayed and poor quality sites, with investment prioritised towards sites which fail to meet the proposed quality standard.

The Strategy will refer to pitches and ancillary facilities separately as Good, Standard or Poor quality. In Lambeth, for example, some good quality sites have poor quality elements i.e. changing rooms or a specific pitch.

Good quality refers to pitches that have, for example, good grass cover, an even surface, are free from vandalism, litter etc. In terms of ancillary facilities, good quality refers to access for disabled people, sufficient provision for referees, juniors/women/girls and appropriate provision of showers, toilets and car parking.

Standard quality refers to pitches that have, for example, adequate grass cover, minimal signs of wear and tear, goalposts may be secure but in need of minor repair. In terms of ancillary facilities, standard quality refers to adequately sized changing rooms, storage provision and provision of toilets.

Poor quality refers to pitches that have, for example, inadequate grass cover, uneven surface and damage. In terms of ancillary facilities, poor quality refers to inappropriate size of changing rooms, no showers, no running water and old dated interior.

### Address overplay

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

Sport	Pitch type	Age	Number of players	No. of matches
Football	Adult pitches	Over 18	11v 11	3 per week
	Youth pitches	Under 11 to Under 18	9v 9 11v 11	4 per week
	Mini pitches	Under 7 to Under 10	5v 5 7v 7	6 per week
Rugby Union	Adult			3 per week
Rugby League	Adult			3 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket			5 per season
	One synthetic wicket			60 per season

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

Whilst poor pitch condition is a symptom of pitches being over played, there is also a need to balance pitch improvements alongside the transfer of play to alternative pitch sites.

### Increase pitch maintenance

Standard or poor grass pitch quality may not just be a result of poor drainage. In some instances ensuring there is an appropriate maintenance for the level/standard of play can help to improve quality and therefore increase pitch capacity. In many cases pitch improvements can be made by improved maintenance regimes and are more cost effective. Sports National Governing Bodies are able to provide assistance with reviewing pitch maintenance regimes.

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### Enhance accessibility of outdoor sports facilities

The strategy aims to enhance access to facilities that currently exist, regardless of ownership, to ensure they best meet the demands identified. This includes access to education sites with outdoor facilities that could enhance sports provision if the level of community access could be improved. .

Facilities are classed as one of the following:

- ◀ **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. Security of tenure of the site is also recorded.
- ◀ **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 use by teams playing in community leagues.
- ◀ **Disused** – facilities that were formerly available but are no longer used for formal or informal sports use

In addition to providing an action plan for facilities that are currently accessible for community use, the strategy aims to assess the capacity of sites that are available but unused, with no community use and that are disused. These classifications of facilities are largely found in education sites and their use is reviewed to understand the extent demand can be met. It provides a recommended approach to coordinating community access to outdoor education facilities and a solution to multi site approach to bookings.

**OBJECTIVE 3 - Provide**

To invest in the new sports facilities where needed to meet current or future needs. This will ensure citizens have access to the best facilities to meet health and sports needs.

In meeting the 'provide' objective resources will be prioritised towards new facilities where there is known demand and which will have the biggest impact on the delivery of health and sport outcomes. Providing new outdoor facilities that are based on need will ensure that they are in the right place, that they support improved health and wellbeing and increased participation in sports. To achieve this, the Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy will:

**Rectify quantitative shortfalls in the current pitch stock**

It is important that the current levels of grass pitch provision are protected, maintained and enhanced to secure provision now and in the future. The strategy identifies the current demand for grass pitches and identifies the quantitative shortfalls in stock.

Where possible solutions to demand have been explored through a combination of:

- ◀ Improving pitch quality, improving their capacity to accommodate more matches.
- ◀ Providing additional pitches.
- ◀ Securing community use at school sites.

While maximising the use of existing pitches offers scope to address the demand for most sports, this is not the case for all sports. New provision may need to be identified to meet demand.

The strategy identifies priorities for investment to best meet pitch demands. Unmet demand, changes in sport participation and trends, and proposed housing growth are recognised and factored into future facility planning.

**Identify priority developments for future investment**

In order to address the community's needs, to target priority areas and to reduce duplication of provision, the strategy will provide the basis for the coordinated approach to strategic investment. The strategy will ensure appropriate funding is secured to improve outdoor sports and playing pitch provision and directed to areas of need. It will identify priority facilities for external funding: capital investment and revenue funded activities that support the delivery of priority outcomes.

Priority investment in new provision is identified in the local area action plan. The strategy seeks to direct and lead a strategic and co-ordinated approach to secure external funding from partners to contribute to the facility development costs. Please refer to Appendix Two for further funding information which includes details of the current opportunities, likely funding requirements and indicative project costs.

The strategy aims to identify and influence where developer contributions should be spent. Investments that will best serve need will be prioritised, whether that is providing new, or enhancing current facilities.

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**Identify opportunities to increase the number of playing pitches to accommodate both current and future demand**

The strategy can be used to assess the potential for meeting additional community needs following the closure of any school sites. Where schools are closed their outdoor facilities may be converted to dedicated community use to help address any unmet community needs.

**KEY ISSUES: SPORT BY SPORT**

The vast majority (96%) of pitch provision in Lambeth is provided by Lambeth Council. Sites are managed by Greenwich Leisure Limited. Cubs hire pitches on an annual or casual basis through Greenwich Leisure Limited (GLL) through its online booking service. There are no private sports clubs providing grass pitches and therefore clubs requiring a higher standard of pitch provision generally travel outside of the Borough.

There is limited provision of artificial turf pitches at education sites of which the majority are managed by the schools in house. One education site, Streatham & Clapham High School provides pitches which are available to the community but are currently unused.

The following sports have been identified as core sports for the borough as they have potential to meet strategic objectives and have National Governing Body support. Sport specific demand is reviewed and recommendations provided in order to shape local area action plans.

**Football**

***Demand***

- ◀ There are 25 grass football pitches in Lambeth, all provided by Lambeth Council and available for community use.
- ◀ Over 70% of all affiliated football matches are played at Clapham Common.
- ◀ Grass pitches are being overplayed, thereby reducing quality.
- ◀ 20 teams from Lambeth are currently playing outside of the Borough due to a lack of availability and good quality pitches.
- ◀ An extra 19 youth teams would play in Lambeth if there were enough pitches available.
- ◀ The total demand for football pitches is as follows:

<b>Pitch size</b>	<b>Number of pitches</b>	<b>Number of additional matches that could be played</b>
Mini	6	12
Youth	7	13.5
Adult	5	10

***Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) demand***

- ◀ The assessment report has identified that there is demand for seven additional AGP football pitches across the borough.

***Options***

The following options show how football demand could be met.

***Option 1: Addressing overplay on grass pitches-***

- ◀ Improving pitch quality is one way to increase the capacity at sites.
- ◀ If poor quality pitches were improved to good quality the overplay issues would be alleviated. Pitch capacity would increase by the following:

Pitch size	Additional matches per week
Mini	8
Youth	22
Adult	19

- ◀ Through increasing quality and exceeding the demand pitches could to be rested and rotated, protecting the quality of pitches. This is known as strategic reserve.

*Option 2: Addressing current and future demand with new AGPs*

- ◀ The shortfall in the demand of 18 pitches identified could be met by developing seven new full size 3G AGPs.
- ◀ Redgra pitches which are used informally and unofficially could be built on to meet demand for affiliated football.
- ◀ AGPs can be used for competitive matches by registering them with the Football Association (FA). Registration would help reduce the deficiency of youth and mini football grass pitches

*Option 3: Addressing demand by moving all football to AGPs*

- ◀ If all football teams within the Borough were moved to 3G pitches, 15 AGPs would be required.
- ◀ One dual use pitch for football and rugby would allow for potential programming of both sports to meet demand.

**Recommendations**

The following recommendations are carried through into site specific action plans in order to meet demand.

- ◀ Review the maintenance regimes of poor and standard quality pitches to improve the standard to good.
- ◀ Identify and prioritise sites for FA registration.
- ◀ Transfer football from overplayed pitches to those that are not at capacity and to pitches that are not currently available for community use.
- ◀ Work to accommodate demand on sites which are not operating at capacity or only incorporate unofficial use.
- ◀ Ensure that existing 3G pitches are being fully utilised and available for community use at peak times, including weekends
- ◀ Provide seven additional 3G AGPs in place of the Redgra pitches to meet demand.
- ◀ Create management arrangements at strategic sites and develop management plans to meet identified aims
- ◀ Maximise access to secondary schools and academies to meet demand for training and to develop school-club links.

## **Cricket**

### **Demand**

- ◀ There are five cricket pitches in the borough, which are all provided by Lambeth Council.
- ◀ Kennington Park and Clapham Common pitches are classified as available for community use.
- ◀ Brockwell Park, Streatham Common and Ruskin Park pitches are classified as available but are unused for affiliated cricket.
- ◀ Pitch quality is impacting play. Kennington Park is rated as poor and Ruskin Park and Clapham Common are rated standard.
- ◀ Kennington Park and Clapham Common cricket pitches experienced high levels of casual football use.
- ◀ The cricket pitches on Clapham Common are overplayed by the equivalent of 33 matches per season.
- ◀ West Indies United Cricket Club currently play outside of Lambeth as there are no natural turf pitches which meet the requirements of its league.
- ◀ There is a need for two additional artificial wickets to meet displaced demand and to address overplay at Kennington Park and Clapham Common.

### **Options**

#### *Option 1: Decommission Brockwell Park, Ruskin Park and Streatham Common*

- ◀ Decommissioning the cricket pitches at Brockwell Park, Ruskin Park and Streatham Common would have little impact on cricket as there is no formal activity currently taking place, nor is there any demand identified.

#### *Option 2, Improve pitch quality at Brockwell Park, Ruskin Park or Streatham Common*

- ◀ If pitch quality was improved at Brockwell Park, Ruskin Park or Streatham Common would allow increased usage for competitive fixtures.

#### *Option 3, Additional Cricket pitch at Clapham Common*

- ◀ If one additional dedicated cricket pitch was provided it would address overplay at Clapham Common.

#### *Option 4, Installation of natural turf wickets at Kennington Park*

- ◀ Installation of natural turf wickets at Kennington Park would meet the displaced demand from West Indies Utd CC.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Decommission Brockwell Park and Streatham Common cricket pitches, where there is no demand.
- ◀ Improve the pitch quality at Ruskin park to accommodate over play at Clapham common
- ◀ Provide one additional cricket pitch at Clapham Common to address overplay to meet demand
- ◀ Provide a new natural turf wicket at Kennington Park to meet demand.
- ◀ Ensure that site management plans support opportunities for women's and girl's competitive cricket.

### ***Rugby League and Rugby Union***

#### ***Demand***

- ◀ There is one designated rugby pitch in Lambeth at Stockport Road, which is disused due to drainage issues. As a result there are currently no suitable pitches in the borough for affiliated Rugby League or Rugby Union.
- ◀ Unaffiliated touch rugby is played at Clapham Common
- ◀ There is known demand to expand the Rugby Football Leagues Try Tag programme which runs on a Saturday morning to week nights in the summer
- ◀ There is demand for a minimum of one additional rugby pitch in order to meet demand in the Borough
- ◀ Brixton Bulls ARLFC currently play in Croydon as there are no pitches in Lambeth.
- ◀ Brixton Bulls have one junior team and there is demand for two additional junior teams if more pitches were available.
- ◀ Southwark RFC report that there is demand for Rugby Union provision within the Borough.
- ◀ Harlequins RFC would support proposals to accommodate rugby union in Lambeth. They would require a full size 3G IRB compliant surface for coaching and competitions.
- ◀ The demand equates to need for one additional rugby union pitch in the Borough.

#### ***Recommendations***

- ◀ Improve the drainage at Stockport Playing Fields to improve the quality of the pitch to good. A good standard pitch will allow community access and three matches to be catered for per week. This would adequately accommodate the displaced and latent demand expressed by Brixton Bulls RLFC capacity for three matches per week and support Southwark RFC meet known demand.
- ◀ Explore the feasibility of providing a pitch share arrangement between rugby league and rugby union at Stockport Road playing fields
- ◀ Develop one floodlit AGP to meet rugby league and union requirements, ensuring that competitive fixtures can be played
- ◀ Investigate touch rugby demand at Clapham Common as part of the wider review of summer sports pitches

## **Tennis**

### ***Demand***

- ◀ There are a total of 78 tennis courts identified in Lambeth across a range of sites including private sports clubs, parks and schools. Of these, 72% are categorised as being available for community use (either used competitively or available for recreational use).
- ◀ 20% of tennis courts are located at education sites, with the majority being available for community use, but are currently unused.
- ◀ Overall in Lambeth the supply of tennis courts appears to be at capacity particularly at member clubs. Therefore there is an opportunity to develop affiliated tennis programmes in parks as part of a balanced offer.
- ◀ Demand appears to be very high in the Streatham area with member clubs at capacity and limited provision at park sites.
- ◀ There is evidence to suggest there is demand for casual tennis at Clapham Common.

The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) is in the process of undertaking a facilities strategy for the sport, that will assess opportunities for growth as well as assessing all tennis sites. Tennis Coaches are required to hold a license in order to provide services at Lambeth tennis courts.

The network of coaches have created an LTA programme across sites which supports development of tennis players in the borough

### ***Floodlight demand***

- ◀ Increasing court capacity through floodlighting and/or increasing the quality tennis courts in parks could build in future capacity to accommodate growth. Of the 78 tennis courts across the borough, 36 (46%) are floodlit.
- ◀ A floodlit tennis court can be accessed for approximately four hours more than a court that does not have floodlighting. This equates to approximately 20 hours plus per week.
- ◀ If the 78 courts in Lambeth were floodlit, the capacity of tennis courts would increase by approximately 880 hours. For example demand for tennis is high in the Streatham Area. If all the non floodlit courts (eight) within Streatham had floodlighting installed, it would create an extra 120 hours of capacity per week.

### ***Recommendations***

- ◀ Prioritise investment for strategic sites which have been identified to best meet demand.
- ◀ Increase court capacity through installation of floodlighting at Clapham Common, Brockwell Park and Hillside Gardens to meet the demand.
- ◀ Improve the court quality of Ruskin Park and Rosendale Playing Fields.
- ◀ Develop a balanced programme at tennis sites, which include coached sessions, LTA programmes and pay and play tennis.
- ◀ Ensure teams can access the appropriate standard of courts to allow LTA competitions to be played.
- ◀ Ensure that tennis licensing is addressed as part of strategic sites management plans, in consultation with the tennis network coaches
- ◀ Enhance access to tennis courts in education sites

## **Bowls**

### ***Demand***

- ◀ There are five bowls greens in Lambeth. Three greens are in Lambeth Parks, two are at Clapham Common and one is at Brockwell Park. Two greens are at Temple Bowling Club in Brixton.
- ◀ The greens at Clapham Common and Brockwell Park are assessed as standard quality.
- ◀ The green in use at Temple Bowling Club is assessed as good quality.
- ◀ There are two main users of bowling greens in Lambeth, Brockwell Park Bowlers and Temple Bowling Club. Brockwell Park Bowlers indicate that it has experienced growth in the number of users and Temple Bowling Club indicates that its level of membership has remained static over the last three years.
- ◀ Most bowls sites in Lambeth have some spare capacity.

### ***Options***

#### *Option 1: Utilise bowls greens and increase usage*

- ◀ Address spare capacity and maximise the availability of bowling greens for pay and play in order to raise the profile of the game, increase levels of membership and the revenue generated by sites.

#### *Option 2: Decommission underutilised bowls greens*

- ◀ Decommission the underutilised bowls green at Brockwell Park, where no formal activity is played and explore relocating players to Temple Bowling club to meet the informal needs of players.

### ***Recommendations***

- ◀ Address spare capacity and maximise availability of bowling greens at Clapham Common.
- ◀ Increase levels of membership and the revenue generated by Clapham Common.
- ◀ Decommission Brockwell Park Bowls green with the view of supporting bowlers accessing the good quality facility at Temple Bowling club
- ◀ Provide Temple bowling Club with capacity building support to meet the needs of informal players from Brockwell Park.

## Hockey

### *Demand*

- ◀ Hockey is played predominantly on sand based/filled AGPs. Although competitive play cannot take place on 3G pitches
- ◀ There are two full sized AGPs in Lambeth all of which are sand based.
- ◀ The Sport England FPM has identified an additional one hockey AGPs are required to meet current unmet demand.
- ◀ Demand is highest within the Brixton and South Lambeth areas
- ◀ The only Council owned full size sand based AGP at Kennington Park does not currently support affiliated hockey with its programming.

### *Recommendations*

- ◀ Provide a new AGP in Brixton that meets competitive hockey requirements. Ensure that there is a sustainable management plan in place.
- ◀ Work with England Hockey to ensure priority hockey sites are protected and their quality is sustained.
- ◀ Work with providers to maximise access to AGPs to accommodate both hockey training and competitive play.
- ◀ The installation of floodlights on the AGP at Streatham & Clapham High School could potentially create an additional 18 hours of capacity per week in the peak period. This could be used to help meet displaced demand identified by London Wayfarers HC.
- ◀ Explore the feasibility of installing floodlights at suitable AGPs that could accommodate hockey training.
- ◀ Explore options to convert full size Redgra pitches into AGPs to meet demand.
- ◀ Ensure the programming of Kennington Park AGP prioritises affiliated hockey training and competitive fixtures.

## Non Core Sports

- ◀ Opportunities for non core outdoor sports facilities will be identified on the basis of need, that are financially sustainable and which have the ability to contribute to wider sports and physical activity outcomes

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**Key issues: Outdoor Sports Facilities**

Outdoor Sports Facility context and demand is reviewed and recommendations provided in order to shape local area action plans.

***Financially Sustainable Facilities***

- ◀ It is important that all facilities are financially sustainable, requiring no revenue subsidy from the Council with any surplus being re-invested to sustain assets.
- ◀ To achieve this, the strategy recommends the creation of strategic sites, which will be prioritised for capital investment.
- ◀ Strategic sites are those with a range of facilities, in areas with high levels of sporting demand and which have the greatest potential to deliver a sustainable service whilst meeting the aims identified in the Active Lambeth: Physical Activity and Sport Strategy.
- ◀ The strategic sites that have been identified are:
  - ◀ Brockwell Park
  - ◀ Ruskin Park
  - ◀ Clapham Common
  - ◀ Larkhall Park
  - ◀ Kennington Park
  - ◀ Archbishops Park
  - ◀ Norwood Park
- ◀ A market assessment of management options will be undertaken for strategic sites, in order to identify options that best meet the objectives. Through this process there may be the potential for the transfer of assets through the Councils Community Asset transfer policy. Submissions received through the Cooperative Parks Programme will be reviewed through this process.
- ◀ Any transfer of asset will be done in consultation with sport England and NGB's.
- ◀ There is potential for cafes and ancillary facilities to support well managed sustainable sports facilities
- ◀ The development of management plans for strategic sites will be required with the purpose of ensuring a number of aims are met:
  - ◀ Effective programming to protect community use, to support organisations development needs and the delivery of health and wellbeing outcomes.
  - ◀ Effective programming to support NGB affiliated programmes.
  - ◀ Good planning to ensure that overplay does not occur.
  - ◀ An offer that is affordable and maximises provision in line with need.
  - ◀ Maximise use of facilities to ensure all provision is accessible during peak periods.
  - ◀ Reduce match cancellations by following NGB guidelines for maintenance, match day assessment and cancellations.
- ◀ Additional sports demand will be assessed in the development of strategic sites. This may include facilities for netball, basketball or volleyball.
- ◀ Tennis and Physical Activity licensing will be reviewed to support the sustainability of strategic sites and meet the objectives of the Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy

### ***Changing and Ancillary facilities***

#### ***Demand***

- ◀ Changing and ancillary facilities have the potential to support community and club requirements at outdoor sports Facilities
- ◀ There is known demand from community groups for ancillary and changing facilities at the following strategic sites: Brockwell Park, Ruskin Park, Clapham Common and Norwood Park
- ◀ Improved changing provision at Clapham Common has previously been identified as a priority through the development of the Parks Capital Investment Plan.
- ◀ A cricket pavilion has been identified as a need for cricket groups and Surrey Cricket Club at Kennington Park
- ◀ Changing provision traditionally requires a revenue subsidy from the facility management, without providing revenue generating activities

#### ***Recommendations***

- ◀ Capital funding for changing facilities will be explored at strategic sites, where a viable business model is identified
- ◀ Explore opportunities for creative and flexible space for changing which can also host additional services with revenue generating capabilities.
- ◀ Explore the feasibility for changing facilities at strategic sites: Brockwell Park, Ruskin Park, Clapham Common and Norwood Park.
- ◀ Review the feasibility and the potential for a financially sustainable business model for the proposed sports pavilion at Kennington Park
- ◀ Develop the business case for the non strategic sites that have been identified for flexible changing space through the Parks Capital Investment Plan at Streatham Vale, Streatham Common and Valley Road playing fields.

### ***Outdoor sports facilities in education sites***

#### ***Demand***

- ◀ Demand has been identified for a number of sports across Lambeth which could be addressed with enhanced access to existing outdoor facilities at education sites.
- ◀ Many sites are underutilised, especially for competitive play for football.
- ◀ Community use is limited and often based on informal agreements between individual schools and clubs.
- ◀ There is no strategic guidance as to which clubs are allocated the use of playing pitch facilities (i.e. in accordance with a strategic need).
- ◀ There are a number of school sites where a community use agreement is in place but it is not clear whether the agreement is being upheld.

#### ***Recommendations***

- ◀ Develop a more coherent, structured relationship with the education sector to develop a strategic approach to enhancing community access to school outdoor sports facilities.
- ◀ A centralised booking system for community use of schools and colleges could be one way to minimise administration for schools and make access easier for the users.

- ◀ Schools to provide long-term agreements that secure community use to meet identified demand, but which does not impact on the needs of schools to deliver curricular and extracurricular activities.
- ◀ Establish a working group, led by a partner from the education sector but supported by a range of other sectors including sport and leisure to implement the strategic approach in relation to the increased/better use of school facilities. Broadly speaking, its role should be to:
  - ◀ To better understand current community use, practices and issues by 'auditing' schools.
  - ◀ Ensure community use agreements are upheld
  - ◀ Identify and pilot one school/club formal community use agreement with a view to rolling out the model across the area.
  - ◀ Ensure that funding to improve the quality of the facilities is identified and secured.
  - ◀ As part of any agreement secure a management arrangement for community access, which does not rely on existing school staff structures.
  - ◀ Ensure that pitch provision at schools is sufficient in quality and quantity to be able to deliver its curriculum. Once this has been achieved provision could contribute to overcoming deficiencies in the area.

### ***Outdoor Fitness Equipment***

#### ***Demand***

- ◀ There are over 68 Parks and open spaces in Lambeth which have the potential to support the delivery of health and wellbeing outcomes through informal activities such as walking and jogging
- ◀ Lambeth has purpose built fitness equipment, from trim trails to outdoor gyms in 8 of its parks. All facilities are free of charge.
- ◀ A number of commercial organisations deliver a range of physical activities across parks and open spaces in Lambeth. These organisations are required to hold physical activity licences.

#### ***Recommendations***

- ◀ Develop a strategic approach to the installation of outdoor fitness equipment and ensure that the maintenance of outdoor fitness equipment is considered as part of wider sustainable sports facility management arrangements.
- ◀ An enforcement programme for physical activity licensing to developed for strategic sites as part of the wider park management plans.

## LOCAL ACTION PLANS

### Introduction

The local action plans seek to address the issues identified in the Outdoor Sports Facilities Assessment Report and provides recommendations based on current levels of usage, quality and future demand, as well as the potential for improvement to sites.

### Overarching shortfalls

As well as addressing the key issues within each area across the borough, the Borough wide shortfalls in provision are also addressed within the Action Plan. These include:

- ◀ Grass football pitches overplayed by 15 adult, 8.5 youth and 5.5 mini matches per week
- ◀ Shortfall of seven additional full size 3G AGPs for football
- ◀ Shortfall of one additional full size sand based AGPs for hockey
- ◀ Shortfall of two additional non turf cricket wickets

Shortfall	Site	Impact	Outcome
Grass football pitch overplay: 15 adult matches 8.5 youth matches 5.5 mini matches	Increase quality of all sites from poor or standard to good to increase capacity	Overplay alleviated. Spare capacity (in match sessions) of: 4 adult 13.5 youth 2.5 mini	All overplay alleviated with some spare capacity retained for Strategic Reserve
7 full size 3G AGPs for football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Brockwell Park</li> <li>◀ Ruskin Park</li> <li>◀ Clapham Common (x2)</li> <li>◀ Norwood Park</li> <li>◀ Archbishops Park (9v9)</li> </ul>	Remaining shortfall of one 3G AGP	Remaining shortfall of one 3G AGP
2 full size sand based AGP for hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Clapham Common (x1)</li> </ul>	One additional full size sand based AGP	Remaining shortfall of one sand based AGP
2 non turf cricket wickets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Ruskin Park (Enhance existing wicket)</li> <li>◀ Clapham Common (1 new wicket)</li> </ul>	1 enhanced cricket wicket that can accommodate affiliated cricket 1 new non turf cricket wicket.	Supply meets demand

In addition to the impacts listed in the table above additional actions will help address shortfalls further. E.g. floodlighting on existing sand based AGPs and smaller sized 3G AGPs achieving FA registration to accommodate affiliated mini soccer.

## Partners

In order to deliver the actions set out within the action plan, the Council will work with Sports National Governing Bodies and other partners to identify sources of funding.

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

## Priority

Within the action plan the projects have been grouped into **strategic priorities** and **local priorities**.

The assessment report has identified seven strategic priority sites across the borough for investment. These sites will have the biggest impact in terms of addressing needs and delivering benefits to the local community. The sites identified are:

- ◀ Brockwell Park
- ◀ Ruskin Park
- ◀ Clapham Common
- ◀ Larkhall Park
- ◀ Kennington Park
- ◀ Archbishops Park
- ◀ Norwood Park

The 5 highest priority areas are identified within the local action plan.

## Timescales

The action plan has been developed to be delivered over a six year period. The timescales relate to delivery times and are not priority based.

Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-4 years); (L) - Long (5+ years).

## Cost

Where applicable, indicative costs have been identified against each action.

## Aim

The final column relates to the strategic objective the action is contributing towards: **Protect** **Provide** or **Enhance**. The Outdoor Facilities Strategy does not recommend any decommissioning of sites, only facilities that have been identified as having no demand.

**Brixton**

Brixton Hill, Coldharbour, Herne Hill and Tulse Hill Wards

**Sports facilities audit**

*The following outdoor sports facilities have been identified in the Brixton area:*

Site name	Sports facility	Accessibility level	Size	Booking fee	Number
Brockwell Park	Adult Football pitch	Community use	11v11	Y	1
	Mini Football pitch	Community use	7v7	Y	1
	Youth Football pitch	Community use	11v11	Y	1
	Youth Football pitch	Community use	9v9	Y	1
	Redgra	Available but unused	9v9	Y	1
	Cricket pitch	Available but unused		Y	1
	Tennis courts	Community use		Y	6
	BMX track	Community use		N	1
	Bowls green	Available but unused		Y	1
	Trim trail	Community use		Y	1
Ruskin Park	Mini Football Pitch	Community use	7v7	Y	1
	Youth Football Pitch	Community use	11v11	Y	1
	Youth Football Pitch	Community use	9v9	Y	1
	Tennis courts	Community use		Y	4
	Full size Redgra	Available but unused		Y	1
Brixton Recreation Centre*	AGP	Community use	5v5	Y	1
Evelyn Grace Academy	AGP	Community use	7v7	Y	1
Marcus Lipton	AGP	Community use	5v5	Y	1
Elam Street	Fitness equipment	Community use		N	1
Temple Bowling Club	Bowls Green	Private		Y	2

\*AGP has been included due to the potential to meet outdoor sports demand

**Key issues**

*Key issues have been identified for each sport in Brixton.*

**Football**

*Summary of pitches required to meet current and future demand*

	Actual spare capacity (match sessions)	Demand (match sessions per week)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Total (current)	Future demand	Total (future)
Adult pitches	-	-	-	-	-	-
Youth pitches	-	3.5	1.5	5	-	5
Mini pitches	-	1.5	1.5	3	-	3

- ◀ There is no actual spare capacity in the Brixton area to meet current demand.
- ◀ Youth pitches are being overplayed by 3.5 match sessions per week and mini pitches are being overplayed by 1.5 match sessions per week.
- ◀ There is demand for the equivalent of 1.5 youth pitches and 1.5 mini pitches per week to meet current and future demand.

#### **Cricket**

- ◀ There are two cricket pitches in the Brixton area at Brockwell Park and Ruskin Park. Neither site is used for competitive cricket but both are heavily used for casual cricket and have football pitches marked out on the outfields.
- ◀ There is potential to accommodate current overplay at Clapham Common at Ruskin Park

#### **Hockey**

- ◀ There is no suitable AGP provision in Brixton to accommodate competitive hockey, however there are two sites that accommodate full size redgra pitches that could be looked at as options for development into full size sand based AGPs to meet demand for the sport in Lambeth.
- ◀ The FPM shows that there is high demand for hockey in Brixton.

#### **Artificial Grass Pitches**

- ◀ There are three AGP's available for community use
- ◀ There are two full size redgra pitches located in the area that are identified as currently being used for informal sport only, which have potential to be converted to artificial grass pitches

#### **Tennis**

- ◀ There are 10 tennis courts in the Brixton area all provided by Lambeth Council, none of which are floodlit.
- ◀ Courts in the area experience high levels of use both officially and unofficially particularly at Brockwell Park.

#### **Bowls**

- ◀ Three of the three bowling greens located in the Brixton area.
- ◀ There is currently spare capacity identified on all greens.

### **Recommendations**

#### **Football**

- ◀ Improve pitch quality on all football pitches to good, in order to alleviate all overplay.
- ◀ Seek new provision within the area to meet unmet demand for youth and mini football pitches.
- ◀ Enhance or provide changing provision where demand is greatest at strategic sites

#### **Cricket**

- ◀ Decommission cricket pitches at Brockwell Park where there is no demand identified.
- ◀ Improve the pitch quality at Ruskin Park to accommodate overplay from Clapham Common

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***Artificial grass pitches***

- ◀ Appropriate sized 3G AGPs should be put forward for FA testing to see whether they are suitable for competitive football.
- ◀ AGPs should be programmed to incorporate affiliated football.
- ◀ Optimise the accessibility and usage of all AGPs for community use.
- ◀ Convert redgra pitches to 3G AGPs to meet Borough demand and shortfalls for football pitches.
- ◀ Consider the options for incorporating Hockey within any new provision.

***Tennis***

- ◀ Look at the options for floodlighting tennis courts within the area to increase capacity.
- ◀ Develop a balanced programme at tennis sites, which includes coached sessions, LTA programme and pay and play tennis.
- ◀ Ensure high levels of maintenance are applied in order to protect good quality tennis courts.

***Bowls***

- ◀ Decommission the bowls green at Brockwell Park and relocate bowlers to Temple Bowling Club.

**LAMBETH COUNCIL  
OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY**

Site	Sports Facility	Ownership	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Priority	Timescales	Objective	Cost										
Brixton Recreation Centre	AGP	LBL	GLL	There is one half size 5v5 3G AGP at the site.	Ensure the AGP is programmed to incorporate demand for affiliated football training.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ GLL</li> <li>◀ FA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Short	Enhance	N/A										
Brockwell Park (Strategic Site)	Football pitches	LBL	GLL	There is one mini, two youth and one adult pitch at the site.	<p>Investigate the feasibility to mark out additional pitches at the site and explore the opportunity to relocate some of the latent and displaced demand back into the area.</p> <p>If additional pitches are provided investigate the feasibility of providing changing provision to service teams and increase competitive play.</p> <p>Enhance football pitch quality to good.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ St. Matthews Project</li> <li>◀ Brockwell Park Community Partners</li> <li>◀ FA</li> </ul>	Strategic Priority 2	Medium	Provide	630,000										
	Cricket wicket			There is one poor quality cricket wicket.							Decommission the cricket wicket with the view to providing an alternative provision in the borough that meets demand. Explore alternative use for the space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Brockwell Park Community Partners</li> </ul>	Short	Enhance	N/A					
	Redgra pitch			There is a full size redgra pitch located at the site.							Pitch should be identified for potential development and installation of an AGP that could meet demand for both football training in the area and competitive football if the chosen surface was 3G.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ FA</li> <li>◀ St. Matthews Project</li> <li>◀ Brockwell Park Community Partners</li> </ul>	Medium	Enhance	600,000					
	Tennis courts			There are six standard quality tennis courts that are not floodlit at the site.												Investigate the feasibility of installing floodlighting on multiple courts to increase capacity of the site particularly in the winter season.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Lifetime Tennis</li> <li>◀ Brockwell Park Community Partners</li> <li>◀ LTA</li> </ul>	Medium	Enhance / Protect / Provide	90,000
				Tennis users cannot access the pavilion.																
Bowls green and pavilion	There is one standard quality bowling green that is owned by the LBL, maintained by Veolia with bookings	Decommission bowls green, with the view of relocating bowlers to Temple Bowling Club. Explore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Brockwell Bowling</li> <li>◀ GLL</li> </ul>	Medium	Enhance	N/A														
			Tennis coaches programming activity also note that there is substantial unofficial use of courts as court usage is not monitored.	Ensure programming prioritises affiliated tennis.																

**LAMBETH COUNCIL  
OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY**

Site	Sports Facility	Ownership	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Priority	Timescales	Objective	Cost
				managed by GLL.  Consultation indicates that Brockwell Bowlers play informally at the site. The Group does not compete in any leagues but instead organises games amongst themselves. Donations are made on a day by day basis and no hire fee is charged.	alternative use for the space.  Review use of ancillary facilities					
	BMX track	LBL	LBL	The Brixton BMX club use the track for training on a service level agreement.  The club have expressed interest in developing the track to host regional competitions, whilst taking greater responsibility for maintenance.	Continue to work with Brixton BMX club to support development aspirations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Brixton BMX Club</li> <li>◀ Access Sport</li> <li>◀ British Cycling</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Enhance	TBC
Ruskin Park (Strategic Site)	Football pitches	LBL	GLL	The site is currently being overplayed by the equivalent of 1.5 mini soccer and three youth match sessions per week. The pitches are all poor quality and experience high levels of unofficial use. There is also no changing provision on site.	Improving the quality of the pitches through an improved maintenance regime will increase capacity and at the site and alleviate some overplay.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ FA</li> <li>◀ Friends of Ruskin Park</li> <li>◀ Lambeth Tigers FC</li> </ul>	Strategic Priority 7	Medium	Enhance	15,000
	Cricket wicket			There is one poor quality cricket wicket which affects affiliated use. Evidence indicates lots of casual use.	Improve the quality of the wicket through an improved maintenance regime to increase capacity and at the site demand.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Friends of Ruskin Park</li> <li>◀ Last Man Stands</li> <li>◀ SCCB</li> </ul>		Short	Enhance	20,000
	Tennis courts			There are four tennis courts none of which are floodlit.	Investigate the feasibility of installing floodlights at the site to increase capacity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Friends of Ruskin Park</li> <li>◀ LTN</li> </ul>		Medium	Enhance	£60,000
	Redgra pitch			There is a full size redgra pitch located at the site that is heavily used for informal sport.  There is currently no changing provision on site to service any pitches	Pitch should be identified for potential development and installation of an AGP that could serve to meet demand for both football training in the area and competitive football if the chosen surface was 3G. Consider hockey in the development of AGP provision.  Optimise the accessibility and usage for community use.  Explore feasibility of providing changing provision on site and seek to find funding opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ FA</li> <li>◀ Friends of Ruskin Park</li> <li>◀ Lambeth Tigers FC</li> <li>◀ EHB</li> </ul>		Medium	Enhance	£600,000

**LAMBETH COUNCIL  
OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY**

Site	Sports Facility	Ownership	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Priority	Timescales	Objective	Cost
Marcus Lipton Youth Centre	AGP	LBL	GLL	There is one 5v5 3G AGP at the site.	Develop the programme of use for the AGP and designate time for affiliated football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ GLL</li> <li>◀ FA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Short	Enhance	N/A
Milkwood Road Open Space	General sports facilities	LBL	LBL	The site has been identified for an outdoor gym in the Parks Capital Investment Plan	Ensure facility enhancements are done in line with the Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ LBL</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Enhance	£40,000
Loughborough Park	General sports facilities	LBL	LBL	The site has been identified for improved sports and fitness facilities in the Parks Capital Investment Plan	Ensure facility enhancements are done consulting the OSFS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ LBL</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Enhance	£80,000
<b>Non London Borough of Lambeth owned Sports Facilities</b>										
Evelyn Grace Academy	AGP	School	School/ Go Mammoth	There is a good quality AGP with 3G surface. The AGP is identified as being at capacity at peak times. Social sport programmes run at peak times, with competitions for netball and football predominantly. Football clubs report it is unavailable to be booked for training at peak period.  The AGP is currently not on the FA register for and therefore cannot accommodate affiliated football.	Open up discussions with School, Social sport providers and the FA to look at the programme of use of the AGP and designate time for affiliated football teams to book the AGP for training.  AGP should be put forward for FA testing to see whether it is suitable for competitive football. Successful registration would allow mini 5v5 and 7v7 football to take place on it and meet demand.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ School</li> <li>◀ Social sport provider</li> <li>◀ FA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Short	Enhance	5,000
	Athletics track			Athletics track opened in 2010. Unable to analyse full extent of use of the facility.	Evaluate the full extent of use of the facility. Due to limited provision for the sport in the area it is imperative that this athletics track is fully utilised.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ School</li> <li>◀ Social sport provider</li> </ul>			Enhance	N/A
Temple Bowling Club	Bowls greens	Private	Club	There are two bowling greens at the site. The Club is responsible for managing and maintaining the greens, although one green is currently not maintained to a high standard due to lack of demand.  The site is identified as unavailable for community use due to the fact that it is not available for pay & play.  The Club is actively trying to increase membership.	Open up discussions with the Club as to the potential relocation of the Brockwell Park Bowlers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Temple Bowling Club</li> <li>◀ Brockwell Bowlers</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Short	Enhance	N/A

# LAMBETH COUNCIL

## OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY

### CLAPHAM

Clapham Common, Clapham Town and Ferndale wards

#### Sports facilities audit

The following outdoor sports facilities have been identified in the Clapham area:

Site name	Sports facility	Accessibility Level	Size	Booking fee	Number
Clapham Common	Adult Football pitch	Community use	11v11	Y	8
	Mini Football pitch	Community use	7v7	Y	1
	Youth Football Pitch	Community use	11v11	Y	1
	Youth Football Pitch	Community use	9v9	Y	2
	Redgra	Available but unused	11v11	Y	3
	Cricket wicket	Community use		Y	1
	Tennis Courts	Community use		Y	8 (5 floodlit)
	Bowls	Community use		Y	2
	Fitness equipment	Community use		N	2
	Basketball	Community use		N	1
	Netball	Disused		N	3
	Summer Sports Touch Rugby Rugby Netball Australian Rules Football Softball	Community use		Y	6
Ferndale Community Sports Centre	AGP	Community use	5v5	Y	4
	Tennis Courts	Community use		Y	2
Lambeth Academy	Tennis Courts	Community use		Y	3
Agnes Riley Gardens	MUGA	Community use	5v5	Y	1
	AGP	Community use	5v5	Y	1
Grafton Tennis Club	Tennis Courts	No community use		Y	8 courts (6 floodlit)

# LAMBETH COUNCIL

## OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY

### Key issues

#### Football

Summary of pitches required to meet current and future demand

	Actual spare capacity (match sessions)	Demand (match sessions per week)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Total (current)	Future demand	Total (future)
Adult pitches	-	10.5	-	10.5	1.5	12
Youth pitches	-	5	2	7	-	7
Mini pitches	-	4	1	5	1	6

- ✦ There is no actual spare capacity in the Clapham area to meet current demand
- ✦ There is demand for the equivalent of 12 adult pitches to meet current and future demand.
- ✦ There is demand for the equivalent of 7 youth to meet current and future demand.
- ✦ There is demand for the equivalent of 6 mini pitches to meet current and future demand.

#### Cricket

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating
17	Clapham Common	Clapham	Senior	1	+33

- ✦ There is one cricket pitch in Clapham located at Clapham Common. This is being overplayed by 33 games per season (the equivalent of 0.5 pitches).
- ✦ There is latent demand for approximately 60 games per season (one pitch).
- ✦ Total demand in the area equates to the need for 1.5 additional pitches.

#### Hockey

- ✦ There is no suitable AGP provision in Clapham to accommodate competitive hockey, however, there are three full size redgra pitches at Clapham Common that could be considered as options for development into full size sand based AGPs to meet demand for the sport in Lambeth.

#### Artificial Grass Pitches

- ✦ There are no small sized AGPs in the area suitable to be put forward for FA registering to meet demand for mini football or football training in Lambeth
- ✦ There are also no small sized sand based AGPs suitable to meet the demand for hockey training in Lambeth.

#### Tennis

- ✦ There are 19 tennis courts in the area, eight at Lambeth sites (5 are floodlit), eight at private club sites (6 are floodlit) and three at education sites.
- ✦ Clapham Common is a popular site for tennis and the good quality courts experience high levels of usage.

#### Bowls

- ✦ There are two bowling greens in the area, both located at Clapham Common.

# LAMBETH COUNCIL

## OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY

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- ◀ No demand has been identified for competitive bowls in the area, and Clapham Common is utilised for informal bowls only.

### ***Redgra pitches***

- ◀ There three full size 11v11 redgra pitches located at Clapham Common that are currently used only for informal sport

### ***Summer Sports***

- ◀ There is high demand for summer sports at Clapham Common. Space is allocated annually through consultation with clubs and social sports providers.

## **Recommendations**

### ***Football***

- ◀ Enhance the current provision of football pitches by improving the quality via increased pitch maintenance to increase playing capacity.
- ◀ Seek new provision within the area to meet unmet demand for adult, youth and mini football pitches.
- ◀ Enhance or provide changing provision where demand is greatest at Strategic Sites

### ***Cricket***

- ◀ Provide a new cricket pitch at Clapham Common to help meet the demand for two cricket pitches in the Borough.

### ***Hockey***

- ◀ Seek new full size provision for affiliated hockey at Clapham Common to meet demand from across the Borough.

### ***Artificial grass pitches***

- ◀ AGPs should be programmed to incorporate affiliated football and hockey.
- ◀ Optimise the accessibility and usage of all AGPs for community use.

### ***Tennis***

- ◀ Increase the number of floodlit tennis courts within the area to increase capacity.
- ◀ Develop a balanced programme at tennis sites, which include coached sessions, LTA programme and pay and play tennis.
- ◀ Ensure high levels of maintenance are applied in order to protect good quality tennis courts.

### ***Bowls***

- ◀ Review in more detail the need for bowling greens in the area, and explore the potential alternative uses.

### ***Redgra pitches***

- ◀ Enhance the redgra pitches and provide three full size AGP to meet unmet demand for affiliated football and hockey.

### ***Summer Sports***

- ◀ Review summer sport demand and pitch allocations

**LAMBETH COUNCIL  
OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY**

Site	Sports Facilities	Ownership	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Priority	Timescales	Aim	Cost (£)
Ferndale Community Sports Centre	Football pitches	LBL	GLL	There are four 5v5 3G AGPs at the site that are standard quality. The site is managed by GLL and consultation indicates that the site is at capacity at peak times. The site is also home to Ferndale FC which accesses the site for training as well as other programmes.	AGP should be put forward for FA testing to see whether it is suitable for competitive football.  Ensure the AGP is programmed to incorporate demand for affiliated football training in the peak period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ GLL</li> <li>◀ FA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Short	Enhance	5,000
	Tennis courts			There are two good quality tennis courts at the site which are both floodlit. Consultation indicates that the courts are heavily used for netball team social sport providers	Ensure that time for affiliated tennis and netball is prioritised in programming, to further the development of the respective sports in Lambeth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ GLL</li> <li>◀ LTA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Short	Enhance	N/A
Agnes Riley Gardens	MUGA/ AGP	LBL	GLL	The MUGA is currently requires resurfacing from routine maintenance budget.  AGP programme balanced between community groups and free play.	Review management plan for the site.  Explore user needs and requirements to inform the resurfacing of the MUGA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ GLL</li> <li>◀ Users</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Short	Enhance	N/A
Clapham Common (Strategic Site)	Football pitches	LBL	GLL	There is current demand for 10.5 adult, seven youth and five mini match sessions per week to meet overplay at the site.  There are eight adult pitches at the site which are a combination of standard and poor quality. There are three youth pitches of standard quality and one standard quality mini pitch.	Improving the quality of the pitches through an improved maintenance regime will increase capacity of the site and alleviate some overplay.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Clapham Common Management Advisory Committee</li> <li>◀ FA</li> </ul>	Strategic Priority 1	Medium	Enhance	40,000
	Cricket wicket			There is one standalone artificial cricket wicket that is overplayed by 33 matches per season. Overplay plus unmet and latent demand in the area equates to the need for two additional pitches in Lambeth.	Investigate the feasibility of installing another standalone artificial cricket wicket on the site to meet half of the demand for cricket within Lambeth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Clapham Common Management Advisory Committee</li> <li>◀ LMS</li> </ul>		Medium	Provide	35,000
	Tennis courts			There are eight courts at the site rated as good quality. Five of the eight courts are floodlit.  Consultation indicates that the courts are very popular and well used. Despite being rated as good quality users indicate that maintenance is deemed to be inadequate and toilet facilities are poor. There is also no changing accommodation however this is	Investigate feasibility of additional floodlighting on the three non floodlit courts to increase capacity of the site.  Maintain maintenance of the courts to ensure good quality ratings are sustained.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Lambeth Tennis Network</li> <li>◀ LTA</li> <li>◀ Clapham Common Management Advisory Committee</li> </ul>		Short	Enhance	45,000

**LAMBETH COUNCIL  
OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY**

Site	Sports Facilities	Ownership	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Priority	Timescales	Aim	Cost (£)
				not generally perceived to be an issue.						
	Bowls greens			There are two bowling greens on site both of which are assessed as standard quality. There is no club identified playing competitive fixtures out of the site however and the bowling activity is limited to informal play.	Further investigate demand for informal use of bowling greens. Potential site for bowling green rationalisation. Explore options for alternative uses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Clapham Common Management Advisory Committee</li> </ul>		Medium	Enhance	TBC
	Redgra			<p>The three full size redgra pitches in Clapham are all located at this site. They are heavily used for informal sport.</p> <p>Poor quality changing provision identified at the site which is unable to meet demand.</p>	<p>Explore the feasibility of converting all three redgra pitches into full size AGPs with floodlighting to meet total current and future demand for competitive hockey and football.</p> <p>Optimise the accessibility and usage for community use.</p> <p>Seek funding for investment into changing provision in order to improve quality and meet demand generated by AGP and other sports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Clapham Common Management Advisory Committee</li> <li>◀ FA</li> <li>◀ EHB</li> </ul>		Medium	Enhance	2,800,000
	Summer Sports pitches	LBL	GLL	There is significant demand for summer sports provision. Anecdotal evidence suggests demand significantly exceeds supply.	Review summer sport demand and pitch allocations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ GLL</li> <li>◀ Summer sport teams / providers</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Enhance	N/A
	Basketball/netball court	LBL	LBL	<p>There is one basketball court that is free to use and one netball court that is disused.</p> <p>The basketball and netball courts have been identified for resurfacing enhancement, in addition to providing 2 additional netball courts from S106 and marathon trust funding.</p>	<p>Ensure affiliated netball is supported.</p> <p>Optimise the accessibility and usage for community use.</p> <p>Investigate the feasibility of flood lighting the facility</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Clapham Common Management Advisory Committee</li> <li>◀ GLL</li> <li>◀ EN</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Short	Enhance/Provide	200,000
<b>Non London Borough of Lambeth owned Sports Facilities</b>										
Lambeth Academy	Tennis	Academy	3D Leisure	There are three courts at the site rated as standard quality none of which are floodlit. The courts are available for community use; however there are none of the courts are floodlit which limits the capacity of the site.	School to explore option to install floodlighting to increase capacity of the site to allow for increased community use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ School</li> <li>◀ 3D Leisure</li> <li>◀ LTA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Enhance	45,000
Grafton Tennis Club	Tennis	Private	Club	Private members club with no pay and play and therefore no community use. There are eight	Club to explore option to install floodlighting on the two courts which are not currently floodlit to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Club</li> <li>◀ LTA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Enhance	30,000

**LAMBETH COUNCIL  
OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY**

Site	Sports Facilities	Ownership	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Priority	Timescales	Aim	Cost (£)
				courts six of which are floodlit. The Club is running close to capacity at the moment.	increase capacity of the site.					

# LAMBETH COUNCIL OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY

## LARKHALL, STOCKWELL and VASSALL

The following outdoor sports facilities have been identified in Larkhall, Stockwell and Vassall wards:

Site name	Sports facility	Accessibility Level	Size	Booking fee	Number
Larkhall Park	Adult Football Pitch	Community Use	11v11	Y	1
	AGP	Community Use	6v6	Y	1
	MUGA	Community Use		N	1
	Tennis Courts	Community Use		Y	2
	Outdoor gym	Community Use		N	1
Myatts Field Park	AGP	Community Use	6v6	Y	1
	Tennis Courts	Community Use		Y	2
Platanos College	AGP	Community Use	7v7	Y	1
St Gabriel's College	Tennis	Community Use		Y	3
Durand Academy (Junior School)	AGP	Community Use	5v5	Y	1

### Key issues

#### Football

*Summary of pitches required to meet current and future demand*

	Actual spare capacity (match sessions)	Demand (match sessions per week)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Total (current)	Future demand	Total (future)
Adult pitches	-	2.5	0.5	<b>3</b>	-	<b>3</b>
Youth pitches	-	-	2.0	<b>2.0</b>	-	<b>2.0</b>
Mini pitches	-	-	1	<b>1</b>	-	<b>1</b>

- ⚡ There is no actual spare capacity in the Larkhall, Stockwell and Vassall areas to meet current demand.
- ⚡ There is demand for the equivalent of 3 adult pitches to meet current and future demand.
- ⚡ There is demand for the equivalent of 2 youth pitches to meet current and future demand.
- ⚡ There is demand for the equivalent of 1 mini pitch to meet current and future demand.

#### Hockey

- ⚡ There is no suitable AGP provision in the Area to accommodate competitive hockey
- ⚡ There is one sand based AGP with floodlighting at Platanos College that could be used to accommodate hockey training and reduce the borough wide unmet demand.

However current restrictions on floodlighting, makes the facility redundant for midweek hockey training.

### ***Artificial grass pitches***

- ◀ There are a number of small sized AGPs in the area that could be better utilised to meet demand for affiliated sport team training.

### ***Tennis***

- ◀ There are seven tennis courts spread over three sites in the area.
- ◀ Quality ranges from good to poor at these three sites and there are only the two courts at Larkhall Park that are floodlit.

## **Recommendations**

### ***Football***

- ◀ Enhance current provision of football pitches by improving quality via increased pitch maintenance to increase playing capacity.
- ◀ Seek new provision within the area to meet demand for adult, youth and mini football pitches.

### ***Hockey***

- ◀ Explore the planning restrictions with regards to floodlighting in conjunction with Platanos College.

### ***Artificial Grass Pitches***

- ◀ The appropriate sized 3G AGPs should be put forward for FA testing to see whether they are suitable for competitive football.
- ◀ AGPs should be programmed to incorporate affiliated football and hockey respectively.
- ◀ Optimise the accessibility and usage of all AGPs for community use.

### ***Tennis***

- ◀ Increase the number of floodlit tennis courts to increase capacity.
- ◀ Develop a balanced programme at tennis sites, which include coached sessions, LTA programme and pay and play tennis.
- ◀ Ensure high levels of maintenance are applied in order to protect good quality tennis courts.

**LAMBETH COUNCIL**  
**OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY**

Site	Sport facilities	Ownership	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Priority	Timescales	Aim	Cost
Larkhall Park (Strategic Site)	Football	LBL	GLL	There is one adult pitch at the site that despite being re-laid within the last two years is still poor quality. The pitch is being overplayed by 2.5 match sessions per week.  There is latent demand for youth and mini pitches in the area.	Improve quality from poor to good by improving maintenance to alleviate some of overplay.  Investigate the feasibility of marking out youth or mini pitches in surrounding areas on the site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ FA</li> <li>◀ Friends of Larkhall Park</li> </ul>	Strategic Priority 6	Short	Enhance	5,000
	AGP			There is a standard quality 5v5 3G AGP that is currently not on the FA register for and therefore cannot accommodate affiliated football.	AGP should be put forward for FA testing to see whether it is suitable for competitive football. Successful registration would allow 7v7 and 5v5 football to take place on it and meet demand.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ FA</li> <li>◀ Friends of Larkhall Park</li> </ul>		Short	Enhance	5,000
	Tennis			There are two good quality tennis courts at the site both of which are floodlit.	Ensure that maintenance is carried out to a high standard to ensure quality is retained.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ LTA</li> <li>◀ Friends of Larkhall Park</li> </ul>		Short	Protect	TBC
	General Sports Facilities			The site has been identified for improved sports and fitness facilities in the Parks Capital Investment Plan	Ensure facility enhancements are done consulting the OSFS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Friends of Larkhall Park</li> </ul>		Medium	Enhance	100,000
Myatts Field Park	AGP	LBL	GLL	There is a good quality 5v5 3G AGP that is currently not on the FA register for and therefore cannot accommodate affiliated football.	AGP should be put forward for FA testing to see whether it is suitable for competitive football. Successful registration would allow mini (5v5) football to take place on it and meet demand.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Myatt's Field Project Group</li> <li>◀ FA</li> <li>◀ Lambeth Tigers FC</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Short	Protect	5,000
	Tennis			There are two standard quality tennis courts on site that are not floodlit.  Users report that the court can become very slippery due to large amount of moss.	Explore option to install floodlighting to increase capacity of the site to allow for increased community use.  Improve quality of the courts by increasing the level of maintenance specifically to remove large levels of moss.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Myatt's Field Project Group</li> <li>◀ LTA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Enhance	60,000
Slade Gardens	MUGA	LBL	LBL	The site has been identified for a Multi Use Games Area in the Parks Capital Investment Plan	Ensure facility enhancements are done consulting the OSFS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ LBL</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Enhance	100,000
<b>Non London Borough of Lambeth owned Sports Facilities</b>										
St Gabriel's College	Tennis	School	In house	There are three poor quality tennis courts at the site. None of which are floodlit. The courts are available for community use however consultation with the School indicates that there is a lack of demand for the facility due to quality.	School to look at option of resurfacing the courts to improve quality and increase demand for and usage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ School</li> <li>◀ LTA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Long	Enhance	15,000
Durand Academy	AGP	School	In house	There is one small sized 3G AGP	Establish current usage and work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ School</li> </ul>	Local	Medium	Enhance	N/A

**LAMBETH COUNCIL  
OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY**

Site	Sport facilities	Ownership	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Priority	Timescales	Aim	Cost
(Junior School)				5v5 at the site.	with School to ensure that efforts are made to enhance community use of the AGP out of school hours		Priority			
Platanos College	AGP	School	In house	There is provision of one three quarter size 5v5 sand based AGP on site. The AGP is available for community use and has floodlighting, however planning restrictions mean that floodlights cannot be left on after 6pm.	<p>Seek to explore planning restrictions further in conjunction with the School.</p> <p>Ease of restrictions would increase capacity of the AGP in the peak period, which would alleviate some of the unmet demand for hockey training in the area and also some affiliated football training.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ School</li> <li>◀ EHB</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Enhance	N/A

# LAMBETH COUNCIL OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY

## NORTH LAMBETH

### Bishops, Princes and Oval wards

The following outdoor sports facilities have been identified in North Lambeth:

Site name	Sports facility	Accessibility Level	Size	Booking fee	Number
Kennington Park	Youth Football Pitch	Community use	9v9	Y	1
	Cricket	Community use		Y	1
	Full size sand based AGP	Community use	11v11	Y	1
	Tennis	Community use		Y	5
	Trim trail	Community use		N	1
Black Prince	AGP	Community use	5v5	Y	2
	AGP	Community use	6v6	Y	1
	70m Athletics track Pole vault Long jump	Community use		Y	1
Archbishop Sumner CE Primary School	AGP	Community use	5v5	Y	1
Lilian Baylis Technology School	AGP	Community use	6v6	Y	1
Vauxhall Park	Tennis courts	Community use		Y	2
	MUGA	Community use	5v5	N	1
Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens	MUGA	Community use	5v5	N	1

### Key issues

#### Football

- There is limited provision of grass football pitches in the area, with one poor quality adult football pitch at Kennington Park. The pitch receives high levels of informal use and is currently unused for affiliated football.

#### Cricket

Site ID	Site name	No. of pitches	Spare capacity (sessions per season)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
7	Kennington Park	1	-18	0	At capacity during peak period for LMS which cannot utilise the site any further. Pitch is also poor quality.

- There are no cricket pitches available in the peak period in the area.
- There is unmet demand identified in Lambeth which is derived from both the Kennington area and Clapham area.

# LAMBETH COUNCIL

## OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY

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### **Hockey**

- ◀ There is one full size sand based AGP in the area which is at capacity at peak times.
- ◀ There is unmet demand for hockey training and fixtures in the area from London Wayfarers HC and Battersea Wanderers HC.

### **Artificial Grass Pitches**

- ◀ There are number of small sized AGPs in the area that could be better utilised to meet the demand for affiliated sport team training.

### **Tennis**

- ◀ There are nine tennis courts in the area spread over three sites. The majority of courts (seven) are rated as good quality and all are floodlit.
- ◀ There are high levels of demand in the area particularly at Kennington Park.

## **Recommendations**

### **Football**

- ◀ Enhance current provision of football pitches by improving quality via increased pitch maintenance to increase capacity.
- ◀ Seek new provision within the area to meet unmet demand for youth and mini football pitches.

### **Cricket**

- ◀ Given limited provision of cricket pitches in the area of one poor quality non turf pitch, it is essential that the potential of the pitch is optimised for affiliated competitive cricket and training.
- ◀ Provide a grass wicket to meet displaced demand and support club development.

### **Hockey**

- ◀ Ensure the programming of sand based AGPs prioritises use for affiliated hockey training and competitive fixtures.

### **Artificial grass pitches**

- ◀ Appropriate sized 3G AGPs should be put forward for FA testing to see whether suitable for competitive football.
- ◀ AGPs should be programmed to incorporate affiliated football and hockey.
- ◀ Optimise the accessibility and usage of all AGPs for community use.

### **Tennis**

- ◀ Explore options to extend opening hours at Kennington park to meet demand
- ◀ Increase the number of floodlit tennis courts within the area to increase capacity.
- ◀ Develop a balanced programme at tennis sites, which include coached sessions, LTA programme and pay and play tennis.
- ◀ Ensure high levels of maintenance are applied in order to protect good quality tennis courts.

**LAMBETH COUNCIL  
OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY**

Site	Sports Facilities	Ownership	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Priority	Timescales	Aim	Cost
Kennington Park	Football pitch	LBL	GLL	There is one adult pitch that is rated as poor quality and is currently only used for informal football.	Improve the quality of the pitch through improved pitch maintenance.  Once quality is improved explore the options to relocate some overplay from a nearby area e.g. Larkhall, Stockwell, Vassall or some displaced demand.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ FA</li> <li>◀ GLL</li> <li>◀ Friends of Kennington Park</li> </ul>	Strategic Priority 5	Medium	Enhance	5,000
	Cricket wicket			<p>There is a standalone non turf cricket wicket that is at capacity at peak time (midweek).</p> <p>Plans to install natural turf cricket wickets alongside the non turf wicket at the site.</p> <p>There are two poor quality non turf training lanes located at the site. The training lanes are left open and experience high levels of informal use.</p> <p>Providing a sports pavilion has been identified in the Parks Capital Investment plan.</p>	<p>Installation of natural turf wickets will increase capacity of the site and allow for displaced demand expressed from West Indies Utd CC to relocate some of its fixtures back into the area.</p> <p>Evaluate the option of resurfacing the training wickets to allow use of the facility that would also alleviate some of the informal training currently taking place on the outfield of the cricket pitch.</p> <p>Explore the feasibility of providing the sports pavilion within the financial context of changing rooms and ancillary facilities.</p> <p>Address the casual football use of cricket pitch with the implementation of a successful management plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ GLL</li> <li>◀ Friends of Kennington Park</li> <li>◀ SCCB</li> </ul>		Short	Enhance	850,000
	AGP			<p>There is a full size sand based floodlit AGP rated as poor quality. The pitch is operating at capacity. Development plans are in place to resurface the AGP.</p> <p>The pitch is the only full size sand based AGP in Lambeth with secured community use suitable for hockey. Current community hockey users include London Wayfarers HC and Battersea Wanderers HC as well as use from Southbank University teams. Both clubs report that they have had their usage of the AGP reduced in the last three years.</p>	<p>Ensure that demand for affiliated hockey training and competitive fixtures are prioritised in the programming of the AGP, to ensure the continued development of the sport in Lambeth.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ EHB</li> <li>◀ GLL</li> <li>◀ Friends of Kennington Park</li> </ul>		Short	Enhance	N/A
	Outdoor fitness equipment			The site has been identified for outdoor fitness equipment in the Parks Capital Investment Plan	Ensure facility enhancements are done consulting the OSFS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Friends of Kennington Park</li> </ul>		Short	Provide	50,000
	Tennis courts			There are five floodlit tennis courts rated as good quality at the site. There are high levels of	Ensure that good quality is retained through continued maintenance of the courts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ LTA</li> <li>◀ GLL</li> </ul>		Short	Protect / Enhance	N/A

**LAMBETH COUNCIL  
OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY**

Site	Sports Facilities	Ownership	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Priority	Timescales	Aim	Cost			
				demand for this site. Users indicate that the Park opens at 7am but the courts don't open till 9am.	Explore the option to open tennis courts at 7am when the park opens to increase capacity of the site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Friends of Kennington Park</li> </ul>							
Vauxhall Park	Tennis courts	LBL	GLL	There are two standard quality tennis courts both of which are not floodlit.	Explore option to install floodlighting to increase capacity of the site to allow for increased community use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GLL</li> <li>LTA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Enhance	30,000			
	General sports facilities			The site has been identified for improved sports and fitness facilities in the Parks Capital Investment Plan	Ensure facility enhancements are done consulting the OSFS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LBL</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Enhance	200,000			
Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens	MUGA	LBL	LBL	The site has been identified for improved sports and fitness facilities in the Parks Capital Investment Plan	Ensure facility enhancements are done consulting the OSFS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LBL</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium					
<b>Non London Borough of Lambeth owned Sports Facilities</b>													
Archbishop Sumner C of E Primary School	AGP	School	In house	There is a small sized 5v5 sand based AGP that is available for community use	Work with the School to ensure that community use is maintained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Short	Protect	N/A			
Lilian Baylis Technology School	AGP	School	In house	There is one half sized 6v6 sand based AGP at the site that is available for community use.	Work with the School to ensure that community use is secured.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Protect	N/A			
Black Prince Community Hub	AGP	Black Prince Trust	GLL	There are two 5v5 3G AGPs and one 6v6 3G AGP at the site none of which are FA registered. Only the one 6v6 AGP would be able to accommodate mini football.	AGP should be put forward for FA testing to see whether it is suitable for competitive football. Successful registration would allow mini (5v5) football to take place on it and meet some displaced demand.  Programming at the site should include time for affiliated football training.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Black Prince Trust</li> <li>Community Action Zone</li> <li>FA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Short	Enhance	5,000			
	Tennis courts			There are two floodlit tennis courts at the site rated as good quality	Ensure that a high level of community use and quality is maintained.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Black Prince Trust</li> <li>Community Action Zone</li> </ul>					Short	Protect	N/A
	Athletics track			Provision of a good quality 70m running track. The facility is utilised predominantly by Herne Hill Harriers which uses it as its second site for additional training.	Continue to maintain a good quality track. Ensure that the site is identified for any future demand for athletics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Black Prince Trust</li> <li>Community Action Zone</li> </ul>					Short	Protect / Enhance	N/A

# LAMBETH COUNCIL

## OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY

### NORWOOD

#### Thurlow Park, Knight's Hill and Gipsy Hill wards

The following outdoor sports facilities have been identified in the Norwood area:

#### Key issues

Site name	Sports facility	Accessibility Level	Size	Booking fee	Number
Rosendale Playing Field	Youth football pitch	Unused	11v11	Y	2
	Tennis/ netball Courts	Community use		Y	6
Elmgreen School	Sandbased AGP	Community use	6v6	Y	1
St Martins in The Field Girls School	Tennis Courts	Community use		Y	1
Norwood Park	Macadam Court	Available but unused	11v11	Y	1
Norwood Park	Outdoor gym	Community use		N	1

#### **Football**

- ◀ The Norwood area has two poor quality youth (11v11) football pitches both located at Rosendale Playing Fields. There is no affiliated football currently accommodated at the site.

#### **Hockey**

- ◀ There is no suitable AGP provision in Norwood to accommodate competitive hockey in the area, however there is unmet demand for hockey in Lambeth that could be alleviated by the addition of a sand based AGP in the area.

#### **Artificial grass pitches**

- ◀ The macadam surface at Norwood Park fails to meet affiliated football requirements
- ◀ There is current provision of one half size sand based AGP in the area located at an education site which is available for community use.

#### **Tennis**

- ◀ Limited provision of one poor quality tennis court located at an education site which is available for community use.

### Recommendations

#### **Football**

- ◀ Enhance the current provision of football pitches by improving quality via increased pitch maintenance to increase playing capacity.
- ◀ Relocate affiliated teams to football pitches with informal use only to help reduce displaced demand
- ◀ Explore the feasibility of providing changing provision to meet demand at Norwood Park

#### **Hockey**

- ◀ Maximise the use of sand based AGPs for affiliated hockey through increasing accessibility of existing provision.

#### **Artificial grass pitches**

- ◀ Enhance the pitch at Norwood Park, resurfacing with a 3G AGP to meet the needs of affiliated football
- ◀ The appropriate sized 3G AGPs should be put forward for FA testing to see whether they are suitable for competitive football.
- ◀ AGPs should be programmed to incorporate affiliated football and optimise the accessibility for community use.

#### **Tennis**

- ◀ Ensure high levels of maintenance are applied in order to improve quality, or consider resurfacing poor quality courts.
- ◀ Develop a balanced programme at tennis sites, which include coached sessions, LTA programme and pay and play tennis.
- ◀ Ensure high levels of maintenance are applied in order to protect good quality tennis courts.

**LAMBETH COUNCIL  
OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY**

Site	Sports Facilities	Ownership	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Priority	Timescales	Aim	Cost
Norwood Park (Strategic Site)	AGP	LBL	GLL	Provision of a full size macadam pitch which is floodlit. The pitch is rated as poor quality and unsuitable for competitive sport.  The site is available for hire through GLL however consultation indicates that there are high levels of unofficial use due to open access which causes Norwood School issues when it accesses the pitch for curriculum use.	Explore the feasibility of converting the pitch into a full size 3G AGP with floodlighting with management options in order to meet total current and future demand for football in Lambeth.  Explore the feasibility of providing new changing provision in order to increase the capacity of the site, once the proposed AGP is installed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Norwood School</li> <li>◀ Friends of Norwood Park</li> <li>◀ GLL</li> <li>◀ FA</li> </ul>	Strategic Priority 3	Medium	Enhance	600,000
Rosendale Playing Fields	Football pitches	Dulwich Estate	LBL	There is provision of two poor quality youth (11v11) football pitches at the site. There is no affiliated football currently accommodated at the site. As a result of poor quality and informal football the pitches are identified as being played to capacity.	Investment in the pitch is required in order to improve the quality.  Relocate some displaced demand identified in Lambeth from affiliated football teams.  Review management options for the sports facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Open Play</li> <li>◀ Rosendale Community Interest Company</li> <li>◀ FA</li> <li>◀</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Enhance	20,000
Rosendale Playing Fields	Tennis Courts/netball courts	LBL	GLL	There are six poor quality courts- 4 tennis, 2 netball.	The site has been identified for resurfacing by the LTA. Investigate the feasibility of installing floodlighting on multiple courts to increase capacity of the site particularly in the winter season.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Open Play</li> <li>◀ Rosendale Community Interest Company</li> <li>◀ LTA</li> <li>◀ Lifetime tennis</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Long	Enhance	80,000
<b>Non London Borough of Lambeth owned Sports Facilities</b>										
Elmgreen School	AGP	School	(In house)	Provision of a half size sand based AGP at the site.	Site is potential location to accommodate unmet demand for hockey training. Explore options to increase hours of use to weekend morning use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ School England Hockey Board (EHB)</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Short	Enhance	N/A
St Martins in the Field Girls School	Tennis court	School	School (In house)	School has limited provision of one poor quality tennis court and one grass area. School has aspirations for a 3G AGP and is currently applying for funding.	If the School is successful in acquiring funds for an AGP, assess feasibility for planning and floodlighting. Ensure that community use is secured and programming includes allocated time for affiliated football training fixtures to work towards meeting overall demand in Lambeth.  The school will need to ensure high levels of maintenance are applied in order to improve quality or consider resurfacing the tennis court.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ School</li> <li>◀ FA</li> <li>◀ LTA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium / Long	Provide	N/A

# LAMBETH COUNCIL OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY

## STREATHAM

### Streatham Hill, St Leonards, Streatham Wells, Streatham South and Thornton Wards

The following outdoor sports facilities have been identified in the Streatham area:

Site name	Sports facility	Accessibility Level	Size	Booking fee	Number
Stockport Road Playing Fields	Rugby	Disused	15v15	Y	1
Valley Road Playing Fields	Youth Football	Community use	11v11	Y	2
Rookery Park	Tennis Court	Community use		Y	1
Hillside Gardens	Tennis Courts	Community use		Y	4
	MUGA	Community use	5v5	N	2
	Outdoor gym	Community use		N	1
Streatham Vale	Tennis Courts	Community use		Y	3
Streatham Common	Adult Football Pitches	Available but unused	11v 11	Y	2
	Cricket wicket	Available but unused		Y	1
Telford Park Tennis Club	Tennis Courts	Community use		Y	7 (5 floodlit)
Streatham & Clapham High School	Full Size Football pitch	Available but unused	11v11	Y	1
	AGP pitch	Community use	11v11	Y	1
	Tennis courts	Community use		Y	3
Streatham Wells Primary School	AGP	Community use	5v5	Y	

## Key issues

### Football

Summary of pitches required to meet current and future demand

	Actual spare capacity (match sessions)	Demand (match sessions per week)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Total (current)	Future demand	Total (future)
Adult pitches	3	-	-	-3	-	-3
Youth pitches	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mini pitches	-	-	-	-	-	-

# LAMBETH COUNCIL

## OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY

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- ◀ There is spare capacity of three adult pitches in the Streatham area. . No youth or mini pitches.
- ◀ There is no latent demand or future demand identified for football pitches within Streatham.
- ◀ Some spare capacity should be retained in order to protect quality and accommodate latent and future demand.

### **Cricket**

- ◀ There is only one cricket pitch in the area at Streatham Common that is unused; however, due to its location on the site it is unsuitable for competitive cricket.
- ◀ There is no demand identified for cricket in the area.

### **Hockey**

- ◀ There is one full sized sand based AGP in the area, at Streatham & Clapham High School which is accessed by London Wayfarers HC. Peak time usage both midweek and weekends however is limited due to the fact that there are no floodlights on the AGP.

### **Artificial Grass Pitches**

- ◀ There is one 5v5 3G AGP that is currently not on the FA register and therefore cannot accommodate affiliated football.

### **Tennis**

- ◀ Streatham has the largest number of tennis courts in Lambeth, which includes eight at park sites, 19 at private sites and three at education sites.
- ◀ Two of the three private clubs are operating significantly over capacity.
- ◀ Only five of the 15 tennis courts owned by Lambeth Council are floodlit, located at Telford Park Tennis Club site which is leased to the Club but is available for pay and play.

### **Rugby**

- ◀ The pitch at Stockport Playing Fields is currently unavailable due to issues with drainage at the site. However, the site does have new, good quality changing provision.

## **Recommendations**

### **Football**

- ◀ Enhance the current provision of football pitches by improving quality via increased pitch maintenance to increase playing capacity.

### **Cricket**

- ◀ Decommission the cricket wicket at Streatham Common and consider alternative uses for the cricket pitch

### **Hockey**

- ◀ Maximise the use of sand based AGPs for affiliated hockey through increasing accessibility of existing provision.

### **Artificial grass pitches**

- ◀ Ensure the 5v5 3G AGP at Streatham Wells are put forward for FA testing to see whether they are suitable for competitive football.
- ◀ AGPs should be programmed to incorporate affiliated football and hockey.
- ◀ Optimise the accessibility and usage of all AGPs for community use.

# LAMBETH COUNCIL

## OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY

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### **Tennis**

- ◀ Increase the number of floodlit tennis courts in the area in order to increase capacity.
- ◀ Develop a balanced programme at tennis sites, which include coached sessions, LTA programme and pay and play tennis.
- ◀ Ensure high levels of maintenance are applied in order to protect good quality tennis courts.
- ◀ Optimise the accessibility and usage of all tennis courts for community use.

### **Rugby**

- ◀ Improve the drainage and pitch quality to a good standard at Stockport Playing Fields. This will help accommodate the demand expressed by Brixton Bulls RLFC and Southwark RFU.

**LAMBETH COUNCIL  
OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY**

Streatham Common	Cricket wicket	LBL	GLL	There is one unused non turf cricket wicket located at the site, due to its size and location on the site.	Decommission the cricket wicket with the view of providing an alternative provision in the borough that meets demand. Explore alternative use for the pitch.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ GLL</li> <li>◀ Streatham Common Cooperative</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Enhance	N/A
	Football pitches			There are two football pitches on site that available for community use, but unused unofficially.	Relocate some displaced demand identified in Lambeth from affiliated football teams.  Provide changing rooms to support demand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ GLL</li> <li>◀ FA</li> <li>◀ Streatham Common Cooperative</li> </ul>				250,000
Streatham Vale	Tennis courts	LBL	GLL	Three good quality tennis courts that are not floodlit.	Develop a balanced programme at tennis sites, which include coached sessions, LTA programme and pay and play tennis.  Explore option to install floodlighting to increase capacity of the site to allow for increased community use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ GLL</li> <li>◀ LTA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Short / Medium	Enhance	150,000
Hillside Gardens	Tennis courts	LBL	GLL	Four good quality tennis courts that are not floodlit.	Develop a balanced programme at tennis sites, which include coached sessions, LTA programme and pay and play tennis.  Explore option to install floodlighting to increase capacity of the site to allow for increased community use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Friends of Hillside Gardens</li> <li>◀ GLL</li> <li>◀ LTA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Short / Medium	Enhance	60,000
	MUGA	LBL	LBL	There is a MUGA available for community use, but it does not require a booking	Include the developments of the MUGA in the wider strategic management plan to best meet the Physical Activity strategy outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Friends of Hillside Gardens</li> <li>◀ GLL</li> </ul>				N/A
Stockport Road Playing Fields	Rugby Union/ League pitch	LBL	GLL	Grass pitch provision that can accommodate competitive rugby league. Site is home to Brixton Bulls ARFLC	Improve pitch drainage and ensure the pitch achieves a good standard  Accommodate expressed demand from Woodmansterne school and Brixton Bulls RLFC and Southwark RFU.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Woodmansterne Primary School</li> <li>◀ Brixton Bulls ARFLC</li> <li>◀ Southwark RFU</li> <li>◀ GLL</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Short	Protect / Enhance	20,000
Valley Road Playing Fields	Football pitches	LBL	GLL	There is provision of two poor quality youth (11v11) football pitches at the site. There is no affiliated football currently accommodated at the site. As a result of poor quality and informal football the pitches are identified as being played to capacity	Improve the quality of the pitches through improved pitch maintenance to increase capacity of the site.  Relocate some displaced demand identified in Lambeth from affiliated football teams.  Changing rooms have been identified in the Parks Capital Investment plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Friends of Hillside Gardens</li> <li>◀ FA</li> <li>◀ GLL</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Enhance	10,000

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OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY**

Rookery Park	Tennis court	LBL	GLL	Single standalone tennis court rated as standard quality	Ensure quality is maintained at the site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Streatham Common Cooperative</li> <li>◀ LTA</li> <li>◀ GLL</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Protect	5,000
<b>Non London Borough of Lambeth owned Community Facilities</b>										
Woodfield Grove Tennis Club	Tennis courts	Private	Club	There are four floodlit tennis courts at the site which are not available for pay and play. The Club is currently operating significantly under capacity.	Open discussions with the Club to explore the option of pay and play use of the site in order to meet current demand in the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Club</li> <li>◀ LTA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Short	Enhance	N/A
Streatham & Clapham High School	Football pitch	School	In house	Provision of one good quality adult football pitch that is currently available for community use but unused.	Approach the School to explore options to relocate some displaced demand to the site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ School</li> <li>◀ FA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Short	Enhance	N/A
	AGP pitch			There is a full size sand based AGP at the site which is available for community use. The facility is accessed by London Wayfarers HC. Capacity of the AGP is limited as there is no floodlighting.	Work with the School to investigate the feasibility of the installing floodlights on the AGP to increase capacity at peak periods for unmet demand for hockey training and hockey fixtures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ School</li> <li>◀ EHB</li> </ul>				
Wigmore Tennis Club	Tennis courts	Wigmore Tennis Club		<p>There are three courts, two of which are standard quality and the third is poor quality.</p> <p>Wigmore Tennis Club is currently working in partnership with the School to deliver coaching and potentially relocate some of the Club's overplay to the School site.</p>	<p>Support the partnership between the School and the Club to increase usage of the courts and further development of the sport in the area.</p> <p>Improve the quality of courts to increase demand for the site.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ School</li> <li>◀ LTA</li> </ul>		Short / Medium	Enhance	15,000
Streatham Wells Primary School	AGP pitch	School	In house	There is a good quality 5v5 3G AGP that is currently not on the FA register for and therefore cannot accommodate affiliated football.	AGP should be put forward for FA testing to see whether it is suitable for competitive football. Successful registration would allow mini (5v5) football to take place on it and meet demand.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ School</li> <li>◀ FA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Enhance	5,000
Wigmore Tennis Club	Tennis courts	Private	Club	There are eight courts of which seven are floodlit. The site is currently operating over capacity and seeking alternative venues to access e.g. Streatham & Clapham Girls High School. The Site is not available for pay and play.	<p>Support the partnership between the School and the Club to increase usage of the courts and further development of the sport in the area.</p> <p>Investigate the option to install floodlighting on one remaining non floodlit court.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Club</li> <li>◀ School</li> <li>◀ LTA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Short / Medium	Enhance	15,000
Telford Park Tennis Club	Tennis courts	LBL	Club	There are seven standard quality courts, five of which are floodlit. The site is significantly over played (by 290 members).	Explore option to install further floodlighting to increase capacity of the site to alleviate some overplay.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Club</li> <li>◀ LTA</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Enhance	45,000

# LAMBETH COUNCIL

## OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY

### WATERLOO

The following outdoor sports facilities have been identified in the Waterloo area-

Site name	Sports facility	Accessibility Level	Size	Booking fee	Number
Archbishops Park	Tennis Courts	Community use		Y	2
	Full Size Redgra	Community use	11v11	Y	1
	Cricket nets	Community use		Y	2
	Fitness equipment	Community use		N	1
Hatfields Pitches	Tennis Courts	Community use		Y	2
	AGP	Community use	7v7	Y	2

- Provision in the area is limited to four standard quality tennis courts over two sites, one AGP and one full size redgra pitch at Archbishop's Park as well as 2 cricket nets.

#### Archbishops Park Development

- At the time of releasing the draft Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy plans are being developed for sports facilities at Archbishop's Park to meet demand. These developments include:
  - Enhancing the redgra pitch with: 1 x3G AGP that can cater for 9v9, 7v7, 5v5 affiliated football
  - Providing an additional tennis court
  - Providing an additional cricket net
  - Enhance changing provision

#### Recommendations

##### Artificial Grass Pitches

- The newly developed 3G AGPs should be built inline with FA specifications for competitive football and put forward for FA testing.
- The 3G AGPs at Hatfields should be put forward for FA testing to see whether they are suitable for competitive football.
- AGPs should be programmed to incorporate affiliated football.
- Optimise the accessibility and usage of all AGPs for community use.

##### Tennis

- Increase the number of floodlit tennis courts to increase capacity.
- Develop a balanced programme at tennis sites, which include coached sessions, LTA programme and pay and play tennis.
- Ensure high levels of maintenance are applied in order to improve quality, or consider resurfacing poor quality courts.

**LAMBETH COUNCIL**  
**OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY**

Site	Sport Facilities	Ownership	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Priority	Timescales	Aim	Cost
Archbishops Park (Strategic Site)	Tennis Courts	LBL	GLL	There are two standard quality tennis courts at the site neither of which is floodlit.  Developments include providing one additional tennis court, which will be available for netball hire.	Investigate the option to install floodlighting on the tennis courts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Friends of Archbishops Park</li> <li>◀ LTA</li> <li>◀ GLL</li> </ul>	Strategic Priority 4	Short	Enhance	30,000
	Redgra Pitches			Enhancements include the resurfacing of the redgra pitch to include 9v9, 7v7 and 5v5 football.	<p>Installation of a 3G AGP that could serve to meet demand for both football training in the area and competitive football (of various age groups) if the chosen surface was 3G.</p> <p>Work closely with FA to produce a programme of use for the site. Ensure designated time for affiliated team sport in the peak period.</p> <p>New changing provision will be required in order to increase the capacity of the site to service more teams and consequently more fixtures to take place, once the proposed AGP is installed.</p> <p>Ensure the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Friends of Archbishops Park</li> <li>◀ FA</li> <li>◀ Oasis Academy</li> </ul>		Short	Enhance	600,000
	Cricket nets			There are two cricket training nets that are mainly used for informal cricket training only and do not require a booking.  Developments include providing one additional cricket net, which will be available for netball hire.	When the facilities are redeveloped consider a booking requirement for the training nets and prioritise affiliated cricket training.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Friends of Archbishops Park</li> <li>◀ GLL</li> </ul>		Short	Enhance	N/A
Hatfields Pitches	Tennis Courts	LBL	GLL	There are two standard quality tennis courts at the site neither of which are floodlit	Explore option to install floodlighting to increase capacity of the site to alleviate some overplay.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ GLL</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Enhance	30,000
	AGP	LBL	Columbo Street	There are two 7v7 3G AGPs located at the site which are rated as good quality.	AGP should be put forward for FA testing to see whether it is suitable for competitive football. Successful registration would allow mini football to take place on it and meet demand.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Friends of Hatfields Green</li> <li>◀ Columbo Street</li> <li>◀ FA</li> </ul>		Short	Enhance	5,000
Lambeth Walk doorstep green	General sports facilities	LBL	LBL	The site has been identified for improved sports and fitness facilities in the Parks Capital Investment Plan	Ensure facility enhancements are done consulting the OSFS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ LBL</li> </ul>	Local Priority	Medium	Enhance	25,000

# LAMBETH COUNCIL OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY

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## ***Future investment***

The total identified investment is estimated at £8.3m over the life of the strategy.

The Council will need to explore a range of funding options to deliver the facility developments identified within the action plan. This will be likely to include a mix of funding partners including the Council, leisure operators, and developer led solutions.

The Council will need to identify the appropriate funding route to deliver each scheme and work closely with Planning to maximise investment in sports facilities from external parties through the planning process.

**The following table provides estimate total costs, London borough of Lambeth and Partner contributions, required to deliver the actions assigned to those facilities owned by the Council**

Total cost	London Borough of Lambeth contribution	Partner contribution
£8,310,000	3,832,700	4,497,300

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### Glossary

- ◀ 3G Third Generation (Artificial turf, suitable for playing affiliated Football and Rugby)
- ◀ Affiliated Sport recognised by National Governing Bodies
- ◀ AGP Artificial Grass Pitch
- ◀ ARLFC Amateur Rugby League Football Club
- ◀ BC Bowling Club
- ◀ CC Cricket Club
- ◀ ECB England and Wales Cricket Board
- ◀ EHB England Hockey Board
- ◀ EN England Netball
- ◀ FA Football Association
- ◀ FPM Facilities Planning Model (A computer model used by Sport England, which assesses the strategic provision of community sports facilities)
- ◀ GLL Greenwich Leisure Limited
- ◀ HC Hockey Club
- ◀ IRB International Rugby Board
- ◀ LA Local Authority
- ◀ LBL London Borough of Lambeth
- ◀ LTA Lawn Tennis Association
- ◀ MUGA Multi Use Games Area (Macadam surfaced games area)
- ◀ NGB National Governing Body of Sport
- ◀ OSFS Outdoor Sports Facility Strategy
- ◀ Redgra Gravel sports pitch, unsuitable for affiliated sport
- ◀ RFC Rugby Football Club
- ◀ RFU Rugby Football Union
- ◀ SCCB Surrey Cricket Board
- ◀ SE Sport England

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

#### ***Delivery***

The Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy seeks to provide guidance for maintenance/management decisions and investment made across Lambeth in the to 2020. By addressing the issues identified in the Assessment Report and using the strategic framework presented in this Strategy, the current and future sporting and recreational needs of Lambeth can be satisfied. The Strategy identifies where there is a deficiency in provision and identifies how best to resolve this in the future.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### APPENDIX ONE: STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The objectives within this Strategy have been developed via the combination of information gathered during consultation, site visits and analysis. They reflect key areas to be addressed over its lifetime. However, implementation must be considered in the context of financial implications and the need for some proposals to also meet planning considerations.

#### National context

The provision of high quality and accessible community outdoor sports facilities at a local level is a key requirement for achieving the targets set out by the Government and Sport England. It is vital that this strategy is cognisant of and works towards these targets in addition to local priorities and plans.

#### ***Sport England: A Sporting Habit for Life (2012-2017)***

In 2017, five years after the Olympic Games, Sport England aspires to transforming sport in England so that it is a habit for life for more people and a regular choice for the majority. Launched in January 2012 the strategy sets out how Sport England will invest over one billion pounds of National Lottery and Exchequer funding during the five year plan period. The investment will be used to create a lasting community sport legacy by growing sports participation at the grassroots level following the 2012 London Olympics. The strategy will:

- ◀ See more people starting and keeping a sporting habit for life
- ◀ Create more opportunities for young people
- ◀ Nurture and develop talent
- ◀ Provide the right facilities in the right places
- ◀ Support local authorities and unlock local funding
- ◀ Ensure real opportunities for communities

The vision is for England to be a world leading sporting nation where many more people choose to play sport. There are five strategic themes including:

- ◀ Maximise value from current NGB investment
- ◀ Places, People, Play
- ◀ Strategic direction and market intelligence
- ◀ Set criteria and support system for NGB 2013-17 investment
- ◀ Market development

The aim by 2017 is to ensure that playing sport is a lifelong habit for more people and a regular choice for the majority. A specific target is to increase the number of 14 to 25 year olds playing sport. To accomplish these aims the strategy sets out a number of outcomes:

- ◀ 4,000 secondary schools in England will be offered a community sport club on its site with a direct link to one or more NGBs, depending on the local clubs in a school's area.
- ◀ County sports partnerships will be given new resources to create effective links locally between schools and sport in the community.
- ◀ All secondary schools that wish to do so, will be supported to open up, or keep open, their sports facilities for local community use and at least a third of these will receive additional funding to make this happen.
- ◀ At least 150 further educational colleagues will benefit from a full time sports professional who will act as a College Sport Maker.

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- ◀ Three quarters of university students aged 18-24 will get the chance to take up a new sport or continue playing a sport they played at school or college.
- ◀ A thousand of our most disadvantaged local communities will get a Door Step Club.
- ◀ Two thousand young people on the margins of society will be supported by the Dame Kelly Holmes Legacy Trust into sport and to gain new life skills.
- ◀ Building on the success of the Places People Play, a further £100 million will be invested in facilities for the most popular sports.
- ◀ A minimum of 30 sports will have enhanced England Talent Pathways to ensure young people and others fulfil their potential.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### ***The FA National Game Strategy (2011 – 2015)***

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

- ◀ Growth and retention (young and adult players)
- ◀ Raising standards and behaviour
- ◀ Better players
- ◀ Running the game

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- ◀ Workforce
- ◀ Facilities

'The National Game Strategy' reinforces the urgent need to provide affordable, new and improved facilities in schools, clubs and on local authority sites. Over 75% of football is played on public sector facilities. The leisure budgets of most local authorities have been reduced over recent years, resulting in decaying facilities that do not serve the community and act as a disincentive to play football. The loss of playing fields has also been well documented and adds to the pressure on the remaining facilities to cope with the demand, especially in inner city and urban areas.

The growth of the commercial sector in developing custom built five-a-side facilities has changed the overall environment. High quality, modern facilities provided by Powerleague, Goals and playfootball.net for example, have added new opportunities to participate and prompted a significant growth in the number of five-a-side teams in recent years.

### ***The FA National Facilities Strategy (2013 – 2015)***

The recently launched National Facilities Strategy sets out the FA's long term vision for development of facilities to support the National Game. It aims to address and reflect the facility needs of football within the National Game. The National Game is defined as all non-professional football from Steps 1-7 of the National League System down to recreational football played on open public space. The role of facilities will be crucial in developing the game in England. One of the biggest issues raised from 'the Big Grassroots Football Survey' by that of 84% respondents, was 'poor facilities'.

The FA's vision for the future of facilities in England is to build, protect and enhance sustainable football facilities to improve the experience of the nation's favourite game. It aims to do this by:

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

The Strategy commits to delivering in excess of £150m (through Football Foundation) into facility improvements across the National Game in line with identified priorities:

- ◀ Natural grass pitches improved – target: 3,000
- ◀ A network of new AGPs built – target 100
- ◀ A network of refurbished AGPs – target 150
- ◀ On selected sites, new and improved changing facilities and toilets
- ◀ Continue a small grants programme designed to address modest facility needs of clubs
- ◀ On-going support with the purchase and replacement of goalposts

It also commits to:

- ◀ Direct other sources of investment into FA facility priorities
- ◀ Communicate priorities for investment across the grassroots game on a regular basis
- ◀ Work closely with Sport England, the Premier League and other partners to ensure that investment is co-ordinated and targeted

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### ***Grounds to Play – England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Strategic Plan (2010 – 2013)***

'Grounds to Play' continues to focus on the four pillars, as identified in the ECB's previous strategy: Building Partnerships. The pillars are:

- ◀ Energising people and partnerships to deliver national goals at local level:
  - ◀ Having streamlined the management of ECB and established County Cricket Boards, where feasible, services currently provided from the centre will be transferred to County Boards;
  - ◀ Enhance asset growth through continuing interest free loans to community clubs, expanding NatWest Cricket Force, seeking to support corporate or public sector cricket grounds under threat of closure through the England and Wales Cricket Trust, and seeking to expand partnerships for Indoor Cricket.
- ◀ Vibrant domestic game.
- ◀ Enhancing facilities, environments and participation:
  - ◀ The focus of this plan is on providing facilities to sustain participation levels rather than increasing participation;
  - ◀ The Cricket Foundation's 'Chance to Shine' programme has been an outstanding success in reintroducing cricket into state schools. ECB will prioritise investment in the programme;
  - ◀ To further expand club/ school links and position a cricket club at the heart of a community, ECB will provide £1.5 million per annum capital improvement grants to local clubs that make their club facilities available to its local community and to local schools.
- ◀ Successful England teams.

The following actions executed during the duration of Building Partnerships provide a strong base for this plan. Actions include:

- ◀ Streamlining ECB governance
- ◀ Building participation by more than 20% per annum (as measured through ECB focus clubs and County Cricket Boards)
- ◀ Developing women's cricket
- ◀ Attracting volunteers
- ◀ Expanding cricket's spectator base
- ◀ Introducing grants and loans to clubs
- ◀ Developing disabilities cricket

This plan therefore influences 'Grounds to Play' in the areas of facilities and coaches, which is where ECB investment will be focussed. Partnership funding and support will play a key role in the delivery of actions and maintaining the strength of the pillars.

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

The recently launched RFU National Facility Strategy 2013-2017 provides a framework for development of high-quality, well-managed facilities that will help to strengthen member clubs and grow the game in communities around them. In conjunction with partners, this strategy will assist and support clubs and other organisations, so that they can continue to provide quality opportunities for all sections of the community to enjoy the game. It sets out the broad facility needs of the sport and identifies investment priorities to the game and its key partners. It identifies that with 470 grass root clubs and 1500 players there is a continuing need to invest in community club facilities in order to:

- ◀ Create a platform for growth in club rugby participation and membership, especially with a view to exploiting the opportunities afforded by RWC 2015.
- ◀ Ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of rugby clubs, through supporting not only their playing activity but also their capacity to generate revenue through a diverse range of activities and partnerships.

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

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

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

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

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### ***The Rugby Football League Facility Strategy***

The RFL's Facilities Strategy was published in 2011. The following themes have been prioritised:

- ◀ Clean, Dry, Safe & Playable
- ◀ Sustainable clubs
- ◀ Environmental Sustainability
- ◀ Geographical Spread
- ◀ Non-club Facilities

The RFL Facilities Trust website [www.rflfacilitiestrust.co.uk](http://www.rflfacilitiestrust.co.uk) provides further information on:

- ◀ The RFL Community Facility Strategy
- ◀ Clean, Dry, Safe and Playable Programme
- ◀ Pitch Size Guidance
- ◀ The RFL Performance Standard for Artificial Grass Pitches
- ◀ Club guidance on the Annual Preparation and Maintenance of the Rugby League Pitch

Further to the 2011 Strategy detail on the following specific programmes of particular relevance to pitches and facility planning are listed below and can be found via the trust link (see above):

- ◀ The RFL Pitch Improvement Programme 2013 – 2017
- ◀ Clean, Dry and Safe programmes 2013 - 2017

### ***England Hockey (EH)***

*'The right pitches in the right places'<sup>2</sup>*

In 2012, EH released its facility guidance which is intended to assist organisations wishing to build or protect hockey pitches for hockey. It identifies that many existing hockey AGPs are nearing the end of their useful life as a result of the installation boom of the 90's. Significant investment is needed to update the playing stock and protect the sport against inappropriate surfaces for hockey as a result of the rising popularity of AGPs for a number of sports. EH is seeking to invest in, and endorse clubs and hockey providers which have a sound understanding of the following:

- ◀ Single System – clubs and providers which have a good understanding of the Single System and its principles and are appropriately places to support the delivery.
- ◀ ClubsFirst accreditation – clubs with the accreditation are recognised as producing a safe effective and child friendly hockey environment
- ◀ Sustainability – hockey providers and clubs will have an approved development plan in place showing their commitment to developing hockey, retaining members and providing an insight into longer term goals. They will also need to have secured appropriate tenure.

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<sup>2</sup>

<http://englandhockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=1143&sectionTitle=The+Right+Pitches+in+the+Right+Places>

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### APPENDIX TWO: FUNDING PLAN

#### Funding opportunities

In order to deliver the objectives of the strategy through the Action Plan external partner funding will be required. Although seeking developer contributions could go some way towards meeting deficiencies, other potential sources of funding will be investigated.

Below is a list of current funding sources that are relevant for developing community sports facilities.

Awarding body	Description
Big Lottery Fund <a href="http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/">http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/</a>	Big invests in community groups and to projects that improve health, education and the environment
Sport England : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvement fund</li> <li>• Sportsmatch</li> <li>• Small Grants</li> <li>• Protecting Playing Fields</li> <li>• Inspired Facilities</li> <li>• Strategic Facilities Fund</li> </ul> <a href="http://www.sportengland.org/funding.aspx">http://www.sportengland.org/funding.aspx</a> <a href="http://www.sportengland.org/funding/our-different-funds/strategic-facilities/">http://www.sportengland.org/funding/our-different-funds/strategic-facilities/</a>	Sport England is keen to marry funding with other organisations that provide financial support to create and strengthen the best sports projects. Applicants are encouraged to maximise the levels of other sources of funding, and projects that secure higher levels of partnership funding are more likely to be successful.
Football Foundation <a href="http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/">http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/</a>	This trust provides financial help for football at all levels, from national stadia and FA Premier League clubs down to grass-roots local development.
Rugby Football Foundation - The Loans Scheme <a href="http://www.rfu.com/microsites/rff/index.cfm?fuseaction=loans.home">http://www.rfu.com/microsites/rff/index.cfm?fuseaction=loans.home</a>	The Loans Scheme helps finance projects that contribute to the retention and recruitment of rugby players. Projects eligible for loans include: 1. Club House Facilities: General structural improvements, general refurbishment, storerooms and offices, kitchen facilities, training areas. 2. Grounds (other than pitches): Car parking facilities, ground access improvements, fencing, security measures.
Rugby Football Foundation - The Grant Match Scheme <a href="http://www.rfu.com/microsites/rff/index.cfm?fuseaction=groundmatch.home">http://www.rfu.com/microsites/rff/index.cfm?fuseaction=groundmatch.home</a>	The Grant Match Scheme provides easy-to-access grant funding for playing projects that contribute to the recruitment and retention of community rugby players. Grants are available on a 'match funding' 50:50 basis to support a proposed project. Projects eligible for funding include: 1. Pitch Facilities – Playing surface improvement, pitch improvement, rugby posts, and floodlights. 2. Club House Facilities – Changing rooms, shower facilities, washroom/lavatory, and measures to facilitate segregation (e.g. women, juniors). 3. Equipment – Large capital equipment, pitch maintenance capital equipment (e.g. mowers).
EU Life Fund	LIFE is the EU's financial instrument supporting

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Awarding body	Description
<a href="http://ec.europa.eu/environment/funding/intro_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/environment/funding/intro_en.htm</a>	environmental and nature conservation projects throughout the EU.
EH Capital Investment Programme (CIP)	The CIP fund is for the provision of new pitches and re-surfacing of old AGPs. It forms part of EH's 4 year Whole Sport's Plan.
National Hockey Foundation <a href="http://www.thenationalhockeyfoundation.com/">http://www.thenationalhockeyfoundation.com/</a>	The Foundation primarily makes grants to a wide range of organisations that meet one of our chosen areas of focus: Young people and hockey. Young people and sport in Milton Keynes. Enabling the development of hockey at youth or community level. Smaller Charities.