



MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

ASSESSMENT REPORT DECEMBER 2025

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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GLOSSARY

3G	Third Generation (artificial turf)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
ANOG	Assessing Needs & Opportunities Guide
ECB	England Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FF	Football Foundation
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
FIS	Football Investment Site
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
GMA	Grounds Maintenance Association
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GPMF	Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund
HC	Hockey Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LFFP	Local Football Facility Plan
MKCC	Milton Keynes City Council
MUGA	Multi use games area
NFFS	National Football Facilities Strategy
NGB	National Governing Body
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NLS	National League System
ONS	Office of National Statistics
PP	PitchPower
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
RFC	Rugby Football Club
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
U	Under
WNLS	Women's National League System

PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

1.1: Introduction

Knight Kavanagh & Page (KKP) has been commissioned by Milton Keynes City Council (MKCC) to undertake a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS). This will provide the necessary robustness and direction to inform decisions affecting relevant provision within the local authority area.

This report presents a supply and demand assessment of playing pitch and outdoor sport facilities across Milton Keynes. For playing pitch sports, it is delivered in accordance with Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) Guidance. This details five stages for the developing the study:

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

Stages A to C are covered in this report, with Stage D covered in the ensuing strategy document. Stage E references the ongoing work that will be required once the PPS has been approved and adopted.

1.2: Prepare and tailor the approach (Stage A)

Management arrangements

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

Further to this, a Steering Group is and has been responsible for the direction of the PPS from a strategic perspective. Its role is also to support, check and challenge the work of the project team. The Steering Group comprises representatives from the Council, Sport England and the relevant national governing bodies of sport (NGBs).

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

- ◀ Be a champion for playing pitch provision in the area and promote the value of the PPS.
- ◀ Ensure implementation of the recommendations and action plan.
- ◀ Monitor and evaluate the outcomes of the study and ensure that the PPS is updated.

Why the Strategy is being developed

The PPS will replace the existing study for Milton Keynes, which was originally completed in 2020. The lifespan of a PPS is three years, although this can be extended if it is kept regularly up to date.

The production of the PPS will provide the evidence required to help protect playing fields to ensure sufficient land is available to meet existing and projected future pitch requirements. Planning Policy and other relevant sport related corporate strategies must be based upon a robust evidence base to ensure planning, local policies and sport development criteria can be implemented efficiently and effectively.

More broadly, the PPS will ensure that Milton Keynes conforms to requirements set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). One of the core planning principles of this is to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs.

Local context

An updated PPS will form part of the evidence base to support the City's population up to 2031 (which is the plan period of the current adopted Local Plan) and the emerging Milton Keynes (MK) City Plan (2022-2050).

Adopted Local Plan - Plan:MK (2016-2031)

The currently adopted Local Plan, Plan:MK, sets out how the city will grow and develop up to 2031. It focuses on delivering at least 26,500 new homes to support a growing population, with a strong commitment to affordable housing and a variety of housing types to suit different needs. Alongside housing, the plan highlights the importance of sport, leisure, and recreation. It aims to protect and improve public open spaces, support new sports facilities, and make sure everyone has access to quality places to be active. The goal is to help people lead healthier lives and build stronger, more connected communities as the city continues to expand.

Emerging Local Plan - *Milton Keynes City Plan 2022-2050*

The emerging MK City Plan 2050 sets out a long-term vision and spatial strategy for well-planned and ambitious growth in Milton Keynes, to help make the city a more walkable, people-friendly and healthy place to live, work and enjoy. Overall, the plan seeks to provide 59,779 homes to ensure that local needs are met and to maximise the achievement of the city's growth aspirations. In line with the evidence base for the Milton Keynes City Plan 2050, and national planning policy, the plan seeks to maximise growth in the most sustainable locations and identifies the growth of around 20,500 new homes within the existing built-up area of Milton Keynes City. The plan places emphasis on ensuring infrastructure is in place early - like transport, links, schools and health care to support this planned growth. The aim is to create a healthier and more vibrant city.

The locations and types of new sports facilities are expected to be detailed further in supporting documents like the Milton Keynes Infrastructure Study and Strategy (MKISS) and future Infrastructure Delivery Plans (IDPs).

Sport England – Place Based Expansion

The Place-Based Expansion allows it and the Active Partnership to work with local communities to identify and address the specific barriers to physical activity they face. By collaborating with local leaders, organisations, and residents, the programme aims to co-create solutions that are tailored to each area's unique needs. This approach ensures that interventions are relevant, sustainable, and have a lasting impact on community health.

Milton Keynes is one of the selected areas benefiting from this initiative. In 2024, Sport England allocated an initial £273,000 to support 11 estates in Milton Keynes, including Stacey Bushes, Fullers Slade, Greenleys, Hodge Lea, Kilm Farm, Eaglestone, Fishermead, Springfield, Coffee Hall, Beanhill, and Netherfield. This funding is part of a 15-month discovery phase aimed at engaging with the community, understanding local challenges, and testing potential solutions.

The estates were selected based on their high levels of physical inactivity and social need, as determined by Sport England's Place Need Classification tool. The insights gained during this discovery phase will inform a full application to activate the programme further.

The following playing field sites in this PPS are based within these areas:

- ✦ Falconhurst School.
- ✦ Fishermead Sports Ground.
- ✦ Greenley's Junior School.
- ✦ Hodge Lea.
- ✦ Langland Community School.
- ✦ Milton Keynes Academy.
- ✦ Orchard Academy.

National Planning Policy Framework (2025)

One of the core planning principles of the NPPF is to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs.

Section eight of the NPPF deals specifically with the topic of healthy communities, stating that “planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate.”

Paragraph 104 sets three criterion that ensures existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

Paragraphs 106, 107, and 108 set the parameters for the designation of Local Green Space. Such spaces may include playing fields and outdoor sport facilities.

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In addition, Sport England is a statutory consultee on planning applications that affect or prejudice the use of sports facilities and requires an up-to-date PPS to help assess planning applications against its Playing Fields Policy. Sport England will object to proposals relating to developments impacting on playing field provision (and accompanying ancillary provision) unless at least one of its five policy exceptions is met.

The exceptions are:

- ◀ **Exception 1:** Excess of provision - a robust and up-to-date assessment has demonstrated, to the satisfaction of Sport England, that there is an excess of playing field provision in the catchment, which will remain the case should the development be permitted, and the site has no special significance to the interests of sport.
- ◀ **Exception 2:** Ancillary development - the proposed development is for ancillary facilities supporting the principal use of the site as a playing field and does not affect the quantity or quality of playing pitches or otherwise adversely affect their use.
- ◀ **Exception 3:** Land incapable of forming part of a pitch - the proposed development affects only land incapable of forming part of a playing pitch and does not:
 - ◀ reduce the size of any playing pitch;
 - ◀ result in the inability to use any playing pitch (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins and run-off areas);
 - ◀ reduce the sporting capacity of the playing field to accommodate playing pitches or the capability to rotate or reposition playing pitches to maintain their quality;
 - ◀ result in the loss of other sporting provision or ancillary facilities on the site; or
 - ◀ prejudice the use of any remaining areas of playing field on the site.
- ◀ **Exception 4:** Replacement provision of equivalent or better quality and quantity - the area of playing field to be lost as a result of the proposed development will be replaced, prior to the commencement of development, by a new area of playing field:
 - ◀ of equivalent or better quality, and
 - ◀ of equivalent or greater quantity, and
 - ◀ in a suitable location, and
 - ◀ subject to equivalent or better accessibility and management arrangements.
- ◀ **Exception 5:** New sports provision benefit outweighs the loss of the playing field - the proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor facility for sport, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss, or prejudice to the use, of the area of playing field.

For Sport England and National Governing Body sporting context, please refer to Appendix 1.

Study area

The study area is the whole of Milton Keynes City Council's boundary area. Further to this, analysis areas have been used to allow for a more localised assessment of provision and examination of playing pitch supply and demand at a local level.

The analysis areas are shown in the table below. They are based upon the grouping together of ward boundaries and have been agreed upon for use by the Steering Group as they further reflect how most people play and travel to play the sports included within the scope.

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Table 1.1: Agreed analysis areas

Analysis area	Wards included
North	Clifton Reynes, Cold Brayfield, Emberton, Lavendon, Newton Blossomville, Olne, Warrington.
North West	Castlethorpe, Gayhurst, Hanslope, Haversham-cum-Little Linford, Lathbury, New Bradwell, Ravenstone, Stantonbury, Stoke Goldington, Tyringham and Filgrave, Weston Underwood, Wolverton and Greenleys.
North East	Astwood, Chicheley, Hardmead, Moulsoe, Newport Pagnell, North Crawley Sherington.
Central	Bradwell, Campbell Park, Central Milton Keynes, Great Linford, Old Woughton, Simpson and Ashland, Woughton on the Green.
West	Abbey Hill, Calverton, Fairfield, Loughton & Great Hol, Shenley Brook En, Shenley Church End, Stony Stratford, Whitehouse.
East	Bow Brickhill, Broughton, Kents Hill, Monkston and Brinklow, Little Brickhill, Milton Keynes, Walton, Wavendon, Woburn Sands.
South	Bletchley and Fenny Stratford, West Bletchley.

A map of Milton Keynes and the analysis areas can be seen in Figure 1.1 overleaf.

Cross-boundary aspects are also recognised in regard to neighbouring local authorities to understand levels of imported and exported demand into and from Milton Keynes as well as key sites and developments that sit close to boundary lines. This therefore includes consideration of authorities such as Bedford, Buckinghamshire and West Northamptonshire.

Scope

The scope of the PPS will focus geographically on all local provision, regardless of ownership and management arrangements. Provision for the following sports will be included:

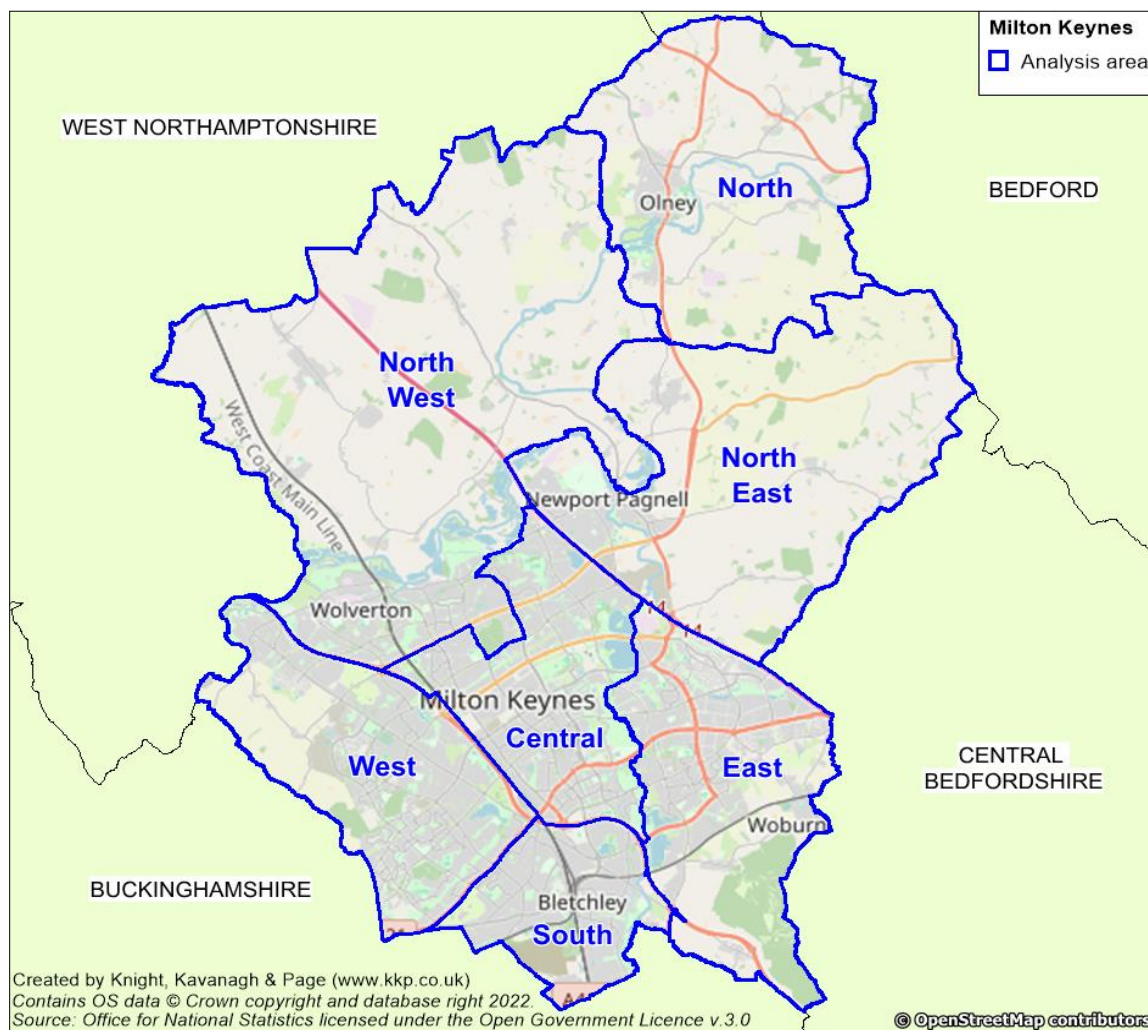
- ◆ Cricket.
- ◆ Football.
- ◆ Hockey.
- ◆ Rugby league.
- ◆ Rugby union.
- ◆ Other playing field-based sports as identified.

Furthermore, specific 3G pitch detail is included due to the range of sports that can be accommodated on this type of provision. This primarily pertains to football but can also be relevant to other grass pitch sports.

Sport England's PPS Guidance applies to all pitch sports including the most popular pitch sports of football, both rugby codes, cricket and hockey.

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Figure 1.1: Analysis area map



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

A clear picture of the supply of and demand for playing pitches and outdoor sport across Milton Keynes is required to enable an accurate assessment of quantity, quality and usage. This is achieved through site assessments and consultation with key stakeholders.

Gather supply information and views – an audit of provision

Sport England's guidance uses the following definitions of a playing pitch and playing field, as set out by the Government in the 2021 'Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order':

- ▶ ***Playing pitch*** – a delineated area which is used for association football, rugby, cricket, hockey, lacrosse, rounders, baseball, softball, American football, Australian football, Gaelic football, shinty, hurling, polo or cycle polo.
- ▶ ***Playing field*** – the whole of a site that encompasses at least one playing pitch.

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Although the statutory definition of a playing pitch sets out a minimum size, this PPS takes account of smaller sized pitches that contribute to the supply side. For example, a site containing a mini 5v5 football pitch is included despite it potentially being smaller than 0.2ha. The study counts individual grass pitches (as a delineated area) as the basic unit of supply, with the definition of a playing pitch also including artificial grass pitches (AGPs).

As far as possible, this report aims to capture all of the playing pitches and relevant outdoor sport facilities within the City; however, there may be instances that have led to omissions, such as unused school sites where access was not possible (although facilities at sites not accessed are still included within the study where provision is known to exist from other sources e.g., affiliation data or club/league consultation). Where provision has not been recorded within the report, it is still considered to exist for planning purposes and will continue to do so. Furthermore, any exclusion does not mean that the provision is not required from a supply and demand point of view.

Quantity

Where known, all outdoor sports facilities are included within the PPS, irrespective of ownership, management and use.

Sites were initially identified using the previous study and the subsequent review process, as well as through Sport England's Active Places web-based database. The Council and NGBs then supported this process by checking and updating this initial information as well as by supplying their own affiliation data.

Each site is added to the project database, with the following details recorded for the purpose of informing this study:

- ◀ Site name, address (including postcode) and location.
- ◀ Ownership and management type.
- ◀ Security of tenure.
- ◀ Community availability.
- ◀ Total number, type and quality of provision.
- ◀ Usage levels.

Accessibility

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

- ◀ **Community use** - provision in public, voluntary, private or commercial ownership or management (including education sites) recorded as being available for hire and currently in use by teams playing in community leagues.
- ◀ **Available but unused** - provision that is available for hire but are not currently used by the community or 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** - provision which as a matter of policy or practice is not available for hire or used by the community. This includes professional club sites along with some semi-professional club sites where play is restricted to the first or second team.
- ◀ **Disused** – provision that is not being used at all by any users and is not available for community hire either. Once these sites are disused for five or more years they will then be categorised as 'lapsed sites'.

In addition, there should be a good degree of certainty that provision will be available to the community for at least the following three year. If this is not the case, the provision is still included within the report but is noted as having unsecure tenure. A judgement is made based on the information gathered and a record of secured or unsecured community use put against each site.

Quality

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

The quality of all provision identified in the audit and the ancillary facilities supporting them are assessed as part of a PPS, regardless of ownership, management or availability. Along with capturing any details specific to the individual facilities and sites, a quality rating is also recorded within the audit for each.

These ratings are then used to help estimate the capacity (aligned to NGB guidance) to accommodate competitive and other play within the supply and demand assessment. To ensure accurate findings, site assessments for each sport are carried out during the playing season for that sport. As such, the site assessments for sports played in the winter are conducted between November and February, whilst the sports played in the summer have assessments carried out between July and September.

In addition to undertaking non-technical assessments (using the templates provided within the guidance and as determined by NGBs), users and providers have also been consulted on the quality. In some instances, the quality rating has been adjusted to reflect this (thus establishing an "agreed quality rating").

Furthermore, technical assessments have also been provided, where undertaken, such as those carried out by the Grounds Maintenance Association (GMA), which now provides technical assessments across football, rugby union, rugby league and cricket (known as PitchPower reports).

These have then informed the quality assessments for the PPS to ensure the findings align (unless there is a clear reason for a differential e.g., recent improvements).

Gather demand information and views

Presenting an accurate picture of current demand for playing pitches and outdoor sport facilities (i.e., recording how and when provision is used) is important when undertaking a supply and demand assessment. To that end, demand for provision in Milton Keynes tends to fall within the following categories:

- ◆ Organised competitive play.
- ◆ Organised training.
- ◆ Informal/recreational play.

Current and future demand for provision is presented on a sport-by-sport basis within the relevant sections of this report. In addition, unmet, latent, imported and exported demand for provision is also identified within each section (unless no such demand has been identified).

Unmet demand is existing demand that is not getting access to provision; it is usually expressed, for example, when a team is in training but is unable to access a match pitch, or when a league has a waiting list due to a lack of provision, which in turn is hindering the growth of the competition.

In comparison, latent demand is defined as the number of additional teams (or members) that could be accommodated if access to enough outdoor sports facilities (and ancillary provision) was available. Exported and imported demand refers to those that are playing outside of their local authority area of choice.

A variety of consultation methods have been used to collate demand information. Firstly, face-to-face consultation (normally via video call) has been carried out with key clubs and leagues (as identified by the Council and NGBs) from each sport, thus allowing for the collection of detailed demand information and an exploration of key issues to be interrogated and more accurately assessed. For all remaining clubs, telephone consultation or an online survey (converted to postal if required) has been utilised. Key providers and other users of provision have also been contacted, including all schools as well as further and higher education establishments.

Future demand

Alongside current demand, it is important for a PPS to assess whether the future demand for provision can be met. One method for calculating this is by using Office of National Statistics (ONS) population projections (2022 based) and proposed housing growth to provide an estimate of the likely future demand for relevant facilities.

Using this approach, additional shortfalls may arise depending on assumptions regarding whether existing provision can accommodate future growth. This is assessed through the application of team and membership generation rates, which consider whether increased demand can be met through existing facilities or whether new provision is required, and to what extent. This process involves applying current participation ratios to projected population growth to help estimate the potential change in demand for each sport in the future.

Other information sources used to help identify future demand include:

- ◀ Recent trends in the participation.
- ◀ Feedback from clubs on plans to develop additional teams and/or to attract additional members.
- ◀ Any local and NGB specific sports development targets e.g., women's and girls' activity.

All future demand projections within the PPS for Milton Keynes cover the period to 2047, which represents the latest projection horizon available from the ONS. The projections have been aligned as closely as possible with the Council's emerging Local Plan to 2050.

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

Supply and demand information gathered is used to assess the adequacy of playing pitch and outdoor sport provision in Milton Keynes and to identify key issues, challenges and aspirations. This forms the basis of this report.

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Understand the situation at individual sites

Qualitative ratings are linked to a capacity rating derived from NGB guidance and tailored to suit a local area. For playing pitch sports, the quality and use of each pitch is assessed against recommended capacity to indicate whether provision is being under or overplayed, or at capacity.

A capacity rating is then given. This is displayed (colour-coded) as follows:

Potential spare capacity: Play is below the level the pitch could sustain.	Green
At capacity: Play is at a level the pitch can sustain.	Orange
Overused: Play exceeds the level the pitch can sustain.	Red

As a guide, the NGBs for football, cricket, rugby union, rugby league and hockey have set a standard number of matches that each pitch type should be able to accommodate without adversely affecting its quality. Given how the sports operate, this is per week for football and the rugby codes, per day for hockey and per season for cricket.

Table 1.2: Capacity of playing pitches in match equivalent sessions

Sport	Pitch type	Good quality	Standard quality	Poor quality
Football	Adult pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Youth pitches	4 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Mini pitches	6 per week	4 per week	2 per week
Rugby union	Natural Inadequate (D0)	2 per week	1.5 per week	0.5 per week
	Natural Adequate (D1)	3 per week	2 per week	1.5 per week
	Pipe Drained (D2)	3.25 per week	2.5 per week	1.75 per week
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	3.5 per week	3 per week	2 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	4 per season	0 per season
	One synthetic wicket	60 per season	60 per season	60 per season
Hockey	One AGP	4 matches per day	4 matches per day	0 matches per day

Develop the current and future picture of provision

Once capacity is determined on a site-by-site basis, actual spare capacity is calculated for each sport on a City-wide and an area-by-area basis via further interrogation of peak time demand (i.e., the day/time demand is most likely to exist). This then identifies whether there is overall spare capacity on provision or whether there is a shortfall.

Although spare capacity may be identified at some sites and in some areas, it does not necessarily mean that there is surplus provision.

For example, spare capacity may not be available when it is needed (actual spare capacity) or a site may be retained in a 'strategic reserve' to enable rotation and to reduce wear and tear. There may also be a need to discount some capacity, for example at poor quality sites that should not be used until they are improved, or at unsecure sites where long-term access cannot be guaranteed.

Conversely, where a shortfall of capacity is identified, this does not necessarily mean there is a need for increased provision via new facilities. Instead, it may be possible for deficits to be overcome through better utilisation of the existing stock, such as via quality improvements or through improving community access. Once current capacity has been determined, future capacity can also be calculated via incorporating the future demand that has been identified as well as unmet, latent and exported demand.

Identify the key findings and issues

The Assessment Report, which is this document, is drafted and presented on a sport-by-sport basis, with data analysis undertaken on both a Council-wide and sub-area basis. This focuses on reporting research findings, consultation, site audit information and data analysis supported by detailed Geographical Information Systems (GIS) mapping. It is agreed and 'signed off' prior to moving on to the strategy and action plan development stages.

Each included section (from Part 2 onwards) summarises the local administration of the included sport (or facility type). Each provides a summary of the supply of and demand for provision, with key issues identified and an overall supply and demand analysis undertaken.

1.5: Develop the strategy (Stage D)

The Strategy follows the production of this Assessment Report, once it has been finalised and signed off by the Steering Group. It will feature:

- ◆ Headline findings.
- ◆ An overall vision and associated aims for the PPS.
- ◆ Sport-by-sport recommendations and scenarios.
- ◆ Strategic recommendations.
- ◆ A site-by-site and area-by-area action plan.
- ◆ Housing growth scenarios.

Additionally, it provides detail as to how to deliver the PPS and keep it robust and up to date (Stage E).

It should be noted that rugby league was included in the scope of this document with relevant consultation carried out with the RFL. As no dedicated demand or supply could be found within Milton Keynes it has not been included in the sport by sport analysis below.

PART 2: FOOTBALL

2.1: Introduction

The organisation primarily responsible for the development of football in Milton Keynes is the Berks & Bucks FA. It is also responsible for the administration, in terms of discipline, rules and regulations, cup competitions, development of clubs and facilities, volunteers, referees and delivering national football schemes.

Facility development for football is largely the responsibility of the Football Foundation (FF), which is a charity, linked to and funded by the Premier League, The FA and the Government (via Sport England). Working in partnership with the Berks & Bucks FA, they help communities improve their local football facilities through grant funding.

This section of the report focuses on the supply and demand for grass football pitches, where formal demand is generally defined through five formats of play and five pitch types, linked to the age of teams and players. Please refer to the table below for more detail relating to this.

Table 2.1: Football grass pitch formats

Format/pitch type	Age range	Recommended pitch size (metres)	Recommended pitch size including runoff (metres)
Adult	U17s+	100 x 64	106 x 70
Youth 11v11	U15s-U16s	91 x 55	97 x 61
Youth 11v11	U13s-U14s	82 x 50	88 x 56
Youth 9v9	U11s-U12s	73 x 46	79 x 52
Mini 7v7	U9s-U10s	55 x 37	61 x 43
Mini 5v5	U7s-U8s	37 x 27	43 x 33

Part 3 captures supply and demand for third generation artificial turf pitches (3G pitches), which is the preferred artificial surface type for football.

Local Football Facility Plans (LFFPs)

To support in delivery of both the current and superseding FA National Game Strategy, the FA commissioned a nationwide consultancy project which has now been completed. As part of this, a LFFP has been produced for every local authority across England, with each plan being unique to its area as well as being diverse in its representation.

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

Each LFFP builds upon PPS findings (where present and current) regarding the formal and affiliated game. The LFFP also incorporates consultation with groups outside of formal football, as well as under-represented communities. This includes those which may be key partners with regards to using football for behavioural change, plus groups which may be key drivers of FA priorities around participation in the likes of women and girls' football and disability football.

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An updated LFFP for Milton Keynes was published in July 2025. As it is a 'live' document it should be updated following the completion of this study as an up-to-date supply and demand assessment may present findings and recommendations that need to be incorporated for investment purposes. LFFPs identify key projects to be delivered and act as an investment portfolio for projects that require potential funding through the FF.

Notwithstanding the above, it is important to recognise that the LFFP is an investment portfolio of priority projects for potential FF investment; it is not a detailed supply and demand analysis of all pitch provision in a local area. Consequently, it cannot be used in place of a PPS and is not an accepted evidence base for site change of use or disposal. An LFFP does, however, build on available/existing local evidence and strategic plans.

Consultation

In total, there are 656 football teams across 74 clubs which originate from Milton Keynes. Of these, 612 teams across 71 clubs utilised grass pitches for matches across Milton Keynes during the 2024/25 season. The additional 44 teams comprise of walking football, futsal and disability teams which do not have a need to access grass pitches on a regular basis.

In addition to face to face and video consultation with key clubs, an electronic survey was sent to all football clubs playing in Milton Keynes, distributed/supported via the Berks & Bucks FA. A team response rate of 74% has been achieved, with 485 teams responding including the following clubs identified as being particularly key (based on participation levels) in the Authority:

- ◆ Aspley Guise.
- ◆ City Colts Youth.
- ◆ Milton Keynes City.
- ◆ Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust.
- ◆ MK United.
- ◆ MK Wanderers.
- ◆ Newport Pagnell Town.
- ◆ Olney Town Colts.
- ◆ Shenley FC.
- ◆ Stony Stratford Town.
- ◆ Tattenhoe.
- ◆ Tattenhoe Youth.
- ◆ Willen.
- ◆ Woburn & Wavendon.

2.2: Supply

The audit identifies a total of 279 grass football pitches across 90 sites in Milton Keynes. Of these, 243 (87%) pitches across 68 sites are identified as being available for community use at some level (although not necessarily used) as shown in the table below.

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Table 2.2: Number of grass football pitches available for community use by analysis area

Analysis area	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
Central	19	4	9	8	9	49
East	12	9	11	12	13	57
North	3	4	4	2	3	16
North East	5	5	2	2	3	17
North West	5	1	4	3	4	17
South	8	7	5	6	2	28
West	12	12	11	7	17	59
Milton Keynes	64	42	46	40	51	243

Most community available pitches can be found in the West Analysis Area with 59 pitches provided (25%). The Northern analysis areas provide the least number of community available pitches with 17 (7%) in the North West and North East and 16 (6%) in the North.

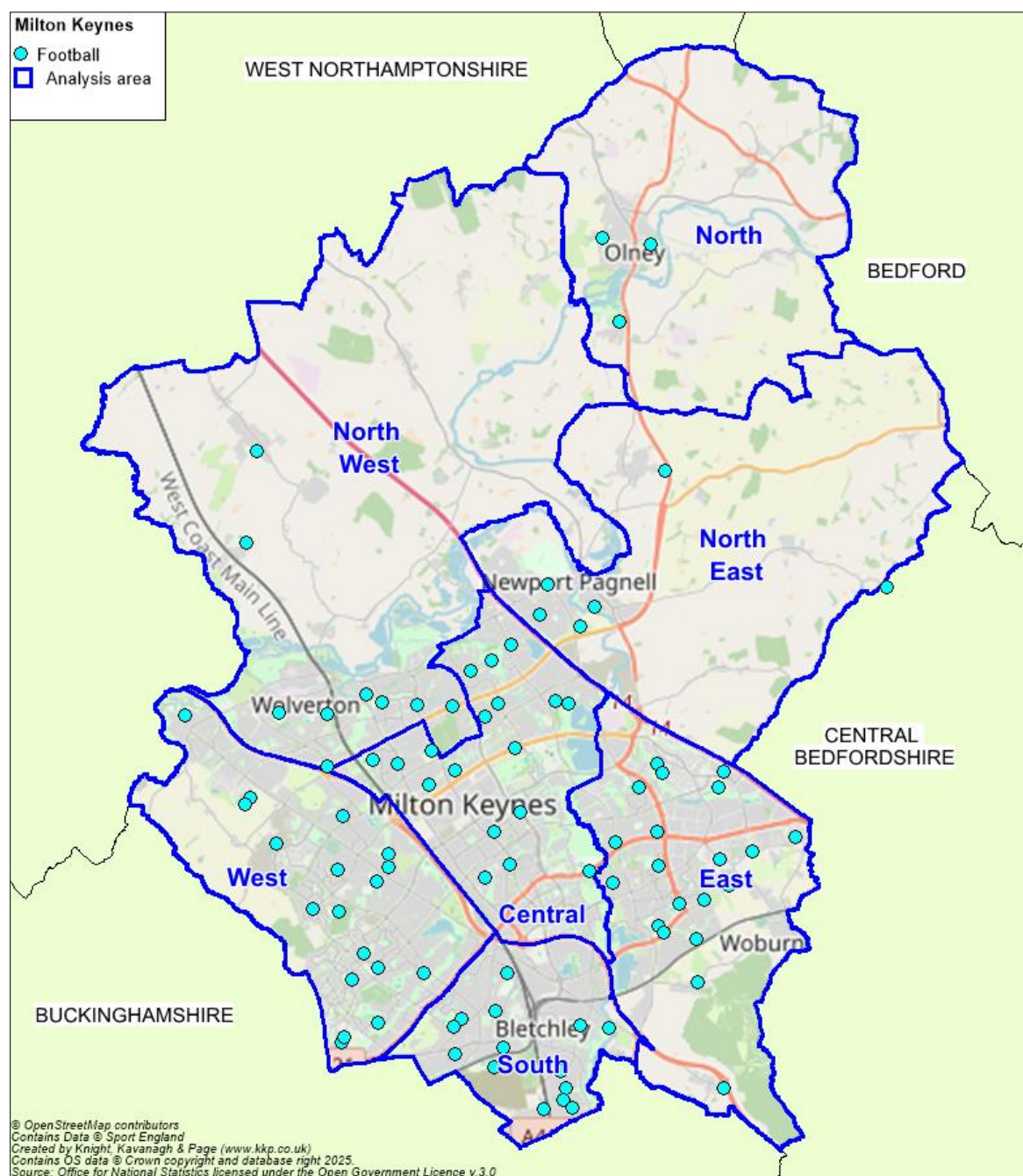
There are more adult pitches (64) identified when compared to other pitch sizes, which suggests high demand for adult football. However, demand for youth 11v11 football is higher, despite there being less youth 11v11 pitches. This is common nationally, with many youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches, although this can be due to a lack of dedicated provision rather than through preference.

In accordance with the FA Youth Review, u17s and u18s can play on adult pitches. The FA's recommended pitch size for adult, youth and mini pitches can be seen in Table 2.1.

Figure 2.1 identifies all grass football pitches currently servicing Milton Keynes, regardless of community use. For a key to the map, see Table 2.16.

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Figure 2.1: Map of sites with football pitch provision within Milton Keynes



Future supply

Bletchley Scot FC is in the process of configuring two additional pitches including a mini 5v5 and 7v7 on a farmer's field adjacent to Scots Sport and Social Club. The Club has a lease agreement with the farmer to provide the additional two pitches.

Newport Pagnell Town FC is in the process of undertaking a site expansion at Willen Road Sports Ground to provide three additional grass pitches including two youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch. The Club is hopeful that section 106 monies will be granted from the Milton Keynes East Strategic Urban Extension.

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Further to the above, which are expected to progress over the lifespan of the PPS it is known that the Milton Keynes City Plan (2050) emphasises an “infrastructure first” approach which includes leisure, sports and cultural facilities. This will mean that new sports provision (including playing pitches) will be provided over the lifespan of this plan. Further details of this be included within the Strategy & Action Plan.

Disused site/ unmarked provision

Disused pitches are those which are not available for community use and have come out of formal use for sport. These are inaccessible and currently sitting dormant. Unmarked provision is where existing playing field is available and can be accessed, but no formal playing pitches are currently marked.

The audit identifies seven pitches across seven disused sites that previously provided football pitches but no longer do so. Three of these sites are former education sites. In addition, 24 pitches across 12 sites have been identified where pitches are no longer marked out but the site continues to provide accessible playing field. Where pitches are no longer marked out on education sites, this is likely to reflect changes in curricular and extracurricular use rather than a response to community demand.

Table 2.3: Summary of disused sites/ unmarked provision within Milton Keynes

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Pitch formats	Comments
15	Broughton Sports Ground (Closed)	MK10 9HB	Adult	Disused site – Last provided <i>circa</i> 2022
26	Denbigh North Sports Ground (Closed)	MK3 6PU	Adult	Disused site – Last provided <i>circa</i> 2007
46	Gyosie School (Closed)	MK15 9JX	Adult	Disused site – Last provided <i>circa</i> 2007
57	Kiln Farm Football Pitch (Closed)	MK11 3LL	Adult	Disused site – Last provided <i>circa</i> 2007
59	Knowlhill Sports Ground (Closed)	MK5 8ND	Adult	Disused site – Last provided <i>circa</i> 2007
102	Sir Frank Markham Community School (Closed)	MK6 5EH	Youth (11v11)	Disused site – Last provided <i>circa</i> 2007
104	Slated Row School (Closed)	MK12 5NJ	Youth (11v11)	Disused site – Last provided <i>circa</i> 2007
4	Barleyhurst Park Primary School	MK3 7NA	Mini (5v5) Mini (7v7)	Unmarked pitch – Last provided <i>circa</i> 2021
19	Caroline Haslett Primary School	MK5 7DF	Youth (11v11)	Unmarked pitch – Last provided <i>circa</i> 2021
23	Cold Harbour Church of England School	MK3 7PD	Mini (7v7) Youth (9v9)	Unmarked pitch – Last provided <i>circa</i> 2022
38	Furzton Sports Ground	MK4 1HD	Adult x2	Unmarked pitch – Last provided <i>circa</i> 2022
39	Garthwaite Sports and Community Pavilion	MK5 7FB	Youth (11v11) Youth (9v9)	Unmarked pitch – Last provided <i>circa</i> 2024
49	Haversham Recreation Ground	MK19 7AL	Adult	Unmarked pitch – Last provided <i>circa</i> 2007

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Pitch formats	Comments
75	Monkston Community Centre and Sports Pavilion	MK10 9FJ	Mini (5v5) Youth (9v9) Youth (11v11)	Unmarked pitch – Last provided <i>circa 2024</i>
76	Monkston Primary School	MK10 9JA	Youth (9v9)	Unmarked pitch – Last provided <i>circa 2022</i>
79	New Chapter Primary School	MK6 5EA	Mini (5v5) x 2	Unmarked pitch – Last provided <i>circa 2022</i>
84	Oakgrove Secondary School	MK10 9JQ	Mini (5v5) Mini (7v7) x 2 Youth (9v9) Youth (11v11)	Unmarked pitch – Last provided <i>circa 2022</i>
89	Orchard Academy	MK6 3HW	Mini (7v7) x 2	Unmarked pitch – Last provided <i>circa 2022</i>
93	Portfields Primary School	MK16 8PS	Youth (11v11)	Unmarked pitch – Last provided <i>circa 2022</i>

Broken down, this equates to eight adult, seven youth 11v11, five youth 9v9, six mini 7v7 and five mini 5v5 pitches previously provided across Milton Keynes.

Management

Of the 237 community available pitches in Milton Keynes, 77 are managed by education providers (32%), 67 are managed inhouse by sports clubs (28%), 62 are managed by parish or town council's (27%), 25 pitches are managed by MK Dons Community Trust (11%) whilst six pitches (3%) are managed by a trust.

Table 2.4: Summary of pitch management (number of community available pitches)

Education	Council ¹	Sports Club	Trust	Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust
77	62	67	6	25

For additional information relating to the management of pitches within Milton Keynes, please see Table 2.16.

Security of tenure

Clubs are generally considered to have secure tenure where they have freehold, leasehold or formally secured use of their site/s (for example, through a community use agreement) for the next three or more years. Tenure of sites in Milton Keynes is generally secure, i.e., through freehold, long-term lease or a guarantee that pitches will continue to be provided over the next three years through formal rent agreement.

All community available sites which are classified as having unsecure tenure are located at schools. For example, Aspley Guise, Milton Keynes Athletic, Milton Keynes City, MK Gallacticos, MK Park Rangers, MK Royals, MK United, Walnut Tree FC and Walton MK all access education sites for matches.

¹ Includes City Council, community, parish and town councils

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In the main, education establishments are mostly able to state their own policies, therefore making them more likely to restrict levels of community use, unless they have access community use arrangements secured via planning condition as is the case at Leon Leisure Centre, Shenley Brook End School and The Hazeley Academy.

Pitch quality

The quality of football pitches across Milton Keynes has been assessed via a combination of site visits carried out in January 2025 (using non-technical assessments as determined by the FA), PitchPower reports (see below), and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating on a scale of good, standard and poor. For the full site assessment criteria, please refer to Appendix 2.

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

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

The table below summarises the quality of community available pitches in Milton Keynes. As seen, most pitches are assessed as standard quality with 130 (55%), whilst 69 pitches are rated as good quality (29%) and 38 pitches rated as poor quality (16%).

Table 2.5: Summary of pitch quality by pitch type (community available)

Pitch type	No. of good quality pitches	No. of standard quality pitches	No. of poor quality pitches
Adult	20	31	13
Youth 11v11	6	29	7
Youth 9v9	13	28	5
Mini 7v7	12	19	7
Mini 5v5	18	23	6
Total	69	130	38

As shown above, most pitches are rated as standard quality. This is largely due to a clause in the lease agreements at sites managed by Milton Keynes City Council, which stipulates that pitch quality must not fall below a basic/standard quality. In contrast, club sites typically receive more thorough maintenance, as they are reserved exclusively for football use although are likely to receive more uses. Public open spaces, on the other hand, often serve multiple purposes, which can limit the level of upkeep. Similarly, education sites tend to receive less maintenance because their playing fields are used for a variety of sports, as well as for both curricular and extracurricular activities.

For a full breakdown of quality ratings at each site, please refer to Table 2.16.

In terms of the good quality pitches, they are located at the following sites:

- ▶ Allotment Field.
- ▶ Bow Brickhill Playing Fields.
- ▶ Bradwell Sports and Social Club.
- ▶ Derwent Drive Playing Fields.

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- ✦ Emberton Playing Field.
- ✦ Glebe Farm School.
- ✦ Hodge Lea.
- ✦ Kents Hill Sports Ground.
- ✦ Long Meadow School.
- ✦ Milton Keynes Irish Centre.
- ✦ Newport Pagnell Youth Club.
- ✦ Newton Leys Pavilion.
- ✦ Open University (Walton Hall Campus).
- ✦ Priory Park Pavilion.
- ✦ Tattenhoe Lane Sports Ground.
- ✦ Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion.
- ✦ Walnut Tree Sports Ground.
- ✦ Wavendon Heights Playing Field.
- ✦ Wavendon Recreation Ground.
- ✦ Willen Road Sports Ground.

Of the sites listed above, it is understood that Milton Keynes Dons FC has applied to install underground drainage and irrigation systems, replacement irrigation tank, and to put security fencing to prevent the area being used by the public to improve overall quality and better enable it to be a training facility for a professional club. If approved, it will remove all options for the site to be used as a recreational site for informal and recreational activity.

Although the pitches at Allotment Field are rated as good quality, both Olney Town and Olney Town Colts report ongoing issues caused by dog walkers, which disrupt training and match days. The clubs have also noted recent incidents of anti-social behaviour at the site. Similarly, MK United has experienced problems with dog walkers at Hodge Lea. In response, the club has accessed the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (GPMF) to help improve the overall quality and usability of its pitches.

Milton Keynes City reports that, although the pitches at Derwent Drive Playing Fields and Tattenhoe Lane Sports Ground are rated as good quality, the club has experienced significant drainage issues at both sites. As a result, it has invested heavily in improvement works in addition to covering regular maintenance costs, placing considerable financial pressure on the club.

Woburn & Wavendon FC reports that the pitches at Wavendon Heights Playing Field are affected by persistent rabbit activity, which has resulted in numerous holes that are difficult to manage. The Club has also experienced challenges related to unauthorised use of the field by travellers, which has further impacted the condition and availability of the pitches.

City Colts and City Belles FC report that the youth 11v11 pitches at Brooklands Community Sports Pavilion are experiencing overuse, with some pitches hosting up to three matches per week. This high level of usage, combined with inadequate maintenance, has led to a noticeable decline in pitch quality. Attempts to address these issues have been hindered by ongoing communication challenges and landscaping delays involving Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust.

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In contrast, the poor quality pitches that have been identified are at:

- ✦ Abbeys Primary School.
- ✦ Ancell Trust Sports Ground.
- ✦ Brooksward School.
- ✦ Downs Barn Pavilion and Pitches.
- ✦ Fairfields Sports Hub.
- ✦ Hanslope Recreation Ground.
- ✦ Heelands Sports Ground.
- ✦ Marsh Drive Sports Ground.
- ✦ Monkston Primary School.
- ✦ Scot Sports and Social Club.
- ✦ Shenley Brook End School.
- ✦ St Marys Wavendon CE Primary School.
- ✦ St Pauls Catholic School.
- ✦ Willen Pavilion.
- ✦ Willen Road Sports Ground.

In the main, these pitches show significant signs of wear and tear, with many also having waterlogging problems. Most poor-quality pitches are operated by the education providers (13 pitches). Educational site maintenance programmes are often basic and consist only of regular grass cutting and line marking and post season remedial work. Elsewhere, the remainder of the pitches are operated by sports club, with overplay likely to contribute to the overall pitch quality.

Castlethorpe Rovers FC states that the pitches it uses at Willen Pavillion suffer from drainage issues which has contributed to multiple games being cancelled throughout the 24/25 season and in previous seasons, failure to complete the fixture schedule. Similarly, Heelands Rangers at Heelands Sports Ground also report that it has drainage issues linked to multiple burst water pipes.

Open University Veterans states that flooding is an issue the pitch at Open University (Walton Hall Campus) can be located is next to a river, which the Club states is essentially a flood plain.

Shenley Football Club's main venue is Shenley Brook End School, the facilities are shared with the School, resulting in heavy usage and significant wear on the pitches. Due to the overuse, the pitches have deteriorated, limiting their availability and quality. To address these issues, the club is actively seeking additional sites to support its activities and ensure sustainable use of facilities.

PitchPower

The FA has a Pitch Improvement Programme aimed at improving the standard of grass pitches across the Country. For provision included in the programme, clubs can utilise the services of the FF's PitchPower app to carry out a free on-site assessment of their pitches. This then provides the Grounds Management Association (GMA) with the detail needed to create a personalised, informative report to advise on how improvements can be made. Clubs then receive bespoke advice and support to help with any future actions, funding applications and equipment.

The web app is open to access by all providers, including clubs, schools and local authorities.

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Following a PitchPower report, organisations can work towards the recommended dedicated maintenance regime identified to improve the quality of their pitches. Applicants are required to submit a PitchPower assessment for each of their pitches as a condition of a grant funding application for FF grass pitch investment, such as the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (detailed later in this section).

PitchPower is less restricted by the seasonal window of in-season play than the non-technical assessments, instead being able to be undertaken at any time in the year, with assessments completed and submitted within one of three windows: July - October, November – March or April – June.

As well as the completion of other supporting information such as detail of volunteer training and what maintenance equipment is available, the assessment requires the taking of images and a single soil sample at each assessment site.

There are three assessment sites for adult and youth pitches at each goal area and the centre circle, whilst for mini pitches there are two sites at the centre circle and one goal area.

The PitchPower assessments use a new five step Performance Quality Standard (PQS) rating system developed by the GMA, with the FF and Sport England agreeing alignment with the capacity guidance within the existing PPS guidance. This alignment is shown in the table below.

Table 2.6: Agreed equivalent PPS quality rating for PQS ratings

PQS Rating	PPS Quality Rating
Poor	Poor
Basic	Standard
Good	Good
Advanced	Good
High	Good

In Milton Keynes, 89 pitches across 21 sites have received a PitchPower assessment. The findings of these in comparison to the PPS findings are shown in the table below.

Table 2.7: Summary of PitchPower findings compared to PPS quality ratings

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	PitchPower rating	PPS rating
2	Allotment Field	Adult	Good	Good
2	Allotment Field	Adult	Good	Good
2	Allotment Field	Mini 5v5	Good	Good
2	Allotment Field	Mini 5v5	Good	Good
2	Allotment Field	Mini 7v7	Good	Good
2	Allotment Field	Mini 7v7	Good	Good
2	Allotment Field	Youth 11v11	Good	Good
2	Allotment Field	Youth 11v11	Good	Good
2	Allotment Field	Youth 9v9	Good	Good
2	Allotment Field	Youth 9v9	Good	Good
2	Allotment Field	Youth 9v9	Good	Good
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	Adult	Basic	Standard
7	Bow Brickhill Playing Fields	Adult	Basic	Standard
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	Mini 5v5	Basic	Standard

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Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	PitchPower rating	PPS rating
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	Mini 7v7	Basic	Standard
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	Youth 11v11	Poor	Poor
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	Youth 9v9	Poor	Poor
7	Bow Brickhill Playing Fields	Mini 7v7	Advanced	Good
7	Bow Brickhill Playing Fields	Mini 7v7	Good	Good
8	Bradwell Sports And Social Club	Adult	Good	Good
8	Bradwell Sports And Social Club	Mini 5v5	Good	Good
28	Derwent Drive Playing Fields	Adult	Good	Good
28	Derwent Drive Playing Fields	Adult	Good	Good
28	Derwent Drive Playing Fields	Mini 7v7	Good	Good
28	Derwent Drive Playing Fields	Youth 9v9	Good	Good
29	Downs Barn Pavilion And Pitches	Adult	Basic	Poor
29	Downs Barn Pavilion And Pitches	Adult	Poor	Poor
31	Emberton Playing Field	Adult	Good	Good
35	Fairfields Sports Hub	Adult	Poor	Good
35	Fairfields Sports Hub	Adult	Poor	Good
35	Fairfields Sports Hub	Adult	Poor	Good
48	Hanslope Recreation Ground	Adult	Basic	Standard
48	Hanslope Recreation Ground	Mini 5v5	Poor	Poor
48	Hanslope Recreation Ground	Mini 7v7	Basic	Standard
48	Hanslope Recreation Ground	Youth 9v9	Poor	Poor
53	Hodge Lea	Adult	Good	Good
53	Hodge Lea	Mini 5v5	Good	Good
53	Hodge Lea	Mini 7v7	Basic	Standard
53	Hodge Lea	Youth 9v9	Good	Good
62	Long Meadow School	Adult	Good	Good
62	Long Meadow School	Mini 5v5	Good	Good
62	Long Meadow School	Youth 9v9	Good	Good
62	Long Meadow School	Youth 9v9	Good	Good
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	Adult	Poor	Standard
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	Adult	Poor	Standard
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	Adult	Poor	Standard
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	Youth 9v9	Basic	Standard
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	Mini 7v7	Basic	Standard
68	Medbourne Community Pavilion	Adult	Basic	Standard
68	Medbourne Community Pavilion	Youth 11v11	Basic	Standard
68	Medbourne Community Pavilion	Youth 11v11	Basic	Standard
68	Medbourne Community Pavilion	Youth 9v9	Basic	Standard
100	Shenley Brook End School	Mini 5v5	Basic	Standard
100	Shenley Brook End School	Mini 5v5	Poor	Standard
74	Milton Keynes Village Pavilion	Youth 11v11	Basic	Standard
99	Scots Sports and Social Club	Adult	Poor	Standard
99	Scots Sports and Social Club	Adult	Poor	Poor
100	Shenley Brook End School	Youth 11v11	Basic	Standard
100	Shenley Brook End School	Youth 11v11	Poor	Poor
100	Shenley Brook End School	Youth 11v11	Basic	Standard
100	Shenley Brook End School	Youth 9v9	Poor	Poor
117	Tattenhoe Lane Sports Ground	Adult	Basic	Good

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Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	PitchPower rating	PPS rating
117	Tattenhoe Lane Sports Ground	Mini 5v5	Good	Good
117	Tattenhoe Lane Sports Ground	Mini 7v7	Good	Good
117	Tattenhoe Lane Sports Ground	Youth 11v11	Good	Good
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion	Adult	Good	Good
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion	Adult	Good	Good
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion	Adult	Good	Good
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion	Mini 7v7	Good	Good
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion	Mini 7v7	Good	Good
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion	Youth 9v9	Good	Good
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion	Youth 9v9	Good	Good
125	Walnut Tree Sports Ground	Adult	Basic	Standard
125	Walnut Tree Sports Ground	Adult	Basic	Standard
125	Walnut Tree Sports Ground	Mini 5v5	Good	Good
125	Walnut Tree Sports Ground	Mini 5v5	Good	Good
125	Walnut Tree Sports Ground	Mini 5v5	Good	Good
125	Walnut Tree Sports Ground	Youth 11v11	Basic	Standard
135	Wavendon Recreation Ground	Adult	Advanced	Good
135	Wavendon Recreation Ground	Mini 5v5	Advanced	Good
135	Wavendon Recreation Ground	Mini 7v7	Advanced	Good
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	Adult	Poor	Poor
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	Adult	Basic	Standard
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	Adult	Basic	Standard
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	Adult	Good	Good
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	Mini 5v5	Basic	Standard
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	Mini 5v5	Poor	Poor
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	Mini 7v7	Poor	Poor
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	Mini 7v7	Poor	Poor
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	Youth 11v11	Basic	Standard
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	Youth 11v11	Poor	Poor

In the capacity analysis to follow, a mixture of PitchPower and PPS quality scores have been utilised. Where PitchPower reports are available for sites and are in date, these supersede the non-technical assessments carried out. Where PitchPower reports are out of date and there are discrepancies in quality, the PPS quality scores have been utilised as these are the most up to date assessments, however, it should be noted that these scores have still been cross referenced against previous PitchPower reports as well as club consultation feedback. In most cases, the ratings from PitchPower assessments are aligned with those from the non-technical assessments.

Football Foundation (FF) Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (GMPF)²

With quality of grass pitches becoming one of the biggest influences on participation in football, the FA has made it a priority to work towards improving quality of grass pitches across the country. This has resulted in the creation of the GPMF. As part of this, grass pitches identified as having quality issues by the GMA via PitchPower assessment can apply to access funding to improve pitches to good quality or sustain them at good quality.

² [Link to the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund](#)

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Once a PitchPower grass pitch assessment report has been produced for the site, eligible organisations can then apply for grant funding support through the FF Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund, a fund offering six-year tapered grants to help eligible organisations such as clubs and leagues enhance or sustain the quality of their grass pitches. The fund is a key part of the FF's Grass Pitch Improvement Programme - an ambition to deliver 20,000 quality grass pitches by 2030. If a site is categorised as 'poor' or 'basic' then organisations can apply for funding to enhance pitch quality, whilst clubs with good or standard quality pitches can also apply for a lower level of funding to sustain quality.

All applicants must have the landowner's permission (as a minimum) and have received a PitchPower Pitch Assessment Report, with the fund currently open to football clubs (excluding stadia pitches used for National League System play), leagues, education establishments and parish and town councils.

Ancillary facilities

Ancillary facility ratings are primarily influenced by the type of amenities which are available on a site accompanied by their quality, such as a clubhouse, changing rooms, car parking, dedicated official and spectator facilities. Good quality ancillary facilities are particularly important for football clubs as they can assist with income generation.

Furthermore, it is becoming increasingly important for the provision to be inclusive, particularly due to growing women's and girls' and overall youth demand. Although the size and configuration of ancillary provision may alter based on the sports using the provision, and the number of pitches it services, generally the same principles are recommended to allow for varied use from all demographics:

- ✦ Accessible changing areas which can be separated, or are private/self-contained, to allow for separate male/female/all gender or senior/junior separation.
- ✦ A private accessible changing room (with relevant changing and showering provision) for someone who requires assistance.
- ✦ Separate female / male / all gender toilet provision.
- ✦ Suitably designed and specified showering cubicles to all users to maintain dignity and privacy whilst showering.

Open planned changing, toilets and particularly showering facilities can provide a significant barrier to many people resulting in them either not taking part or having a poorer sporting experience.

As a result of the above, those ancillary facilities that do not meet the above criteria, cannot be rated anything higher than standard quality for the purposes of this document. Additional context behind the rationale is provided below.

For further information on inclusive facility guidance, please refer to information provided here: <https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/accessible-inclusive>

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Table 2.8: Ancillary provision of the clubs that responded to consultation

Site ID	Site name	Overall building quality	Changing room quality ³	Club user	Comments
2	Allotment Field	Standard	Standard	Olney Town Olney Town Colts	The Club has access to two changing rooms that include communal showers and toilets, as well as official changing. The Club states that it is currently lacking a social space for post-match alongside catering facilities which it states impacts fundraising and ability to run additional training sessions alongside community events. There are ongoing conversations with Olney Town Council to raise funds for a refurb a derelict building adjacent the existing changing rooms. It should also be noted that the Club are investigating the FF's new Huddle Programme ⁴ .
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	Standard	Standard	Stony Stratford Town	The clubhouse provided on site has two changing rooms with communal showers and toilets which the Club states is not sufficient, as well as officials changing. The clubhouse also includes a kitchen and social space. The Club state that the clubhouse is old and in need of refurbishment as well as being far from the pitches.
8	Bradwell Sports and Social Club	Standard	Standard	Old Bradwell United	Bradwell Sports and Social Club provides changing room facilities within its pavilion to support users of its sports pitches. Additional facilities include on-site toilets, a community space for events, a fully equipped kitchen and parking. These facilities support both sporting and community functions, enhancing the club's role as a local hub for recreation and events.
10	Brooklands Community Sports Pavilion	Good	Good	Brooklands & Broughton FC City Belles City Colts Youth	The supporting pavilion provides six changing rooms with showering and toilet facilities available for players and officials. In addition, a community hall is available for hire for events as well as meeting rooms. A sports hall is also included. Free parking is also available on site. There are ongoing conversations with Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust to provide City Colts and City Belles permanent access to the facilities. Brooklands & Broughton note some low pressure and heating issues with the showers but states that the overall quality is good.

³ Including changing areas, toilets and showering facilities.

⁴ A grant for Catering Units that helps grassroots clubs generate income, improve facilities, and enhance the matchday experience, funded by the Premier League, FA, and government

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Site ID	Site name	Overall building quality	Changing room quality ³	Club user	Comments
12	Broughton Community Sports Pavilion	Good	Good	-	Broughton Community Sports Pavillion provide a modern offering for clubs to access pre and post-match, including changing rooms with showering and toilet facilities, large social space and refreshment station.
16	Browns Wood Sports Ground	N/A	N/A	Aspley Guise Walton MK	N/A – no on-site provision
20	Castlethorpe Sports Ground	Standard	Standard	FC Castlethorpe Youth	The Club has access to two changing rooms onsite which it states are not adequate to accommodate the level of demand. Showers are not included within the changing rooms however communal toilets as well as officials changing rooms are provided.
24	Conniburrow Community Sports Pavilion	Good	Standard	MK Royals	The pavilion provides changing rooms equipped with showers and toilet facilities as well as a kitchen area. The pavilion also has a community hall.
25	Crownhill Sports Ground	Standard	Poor	-	The clubhouse onsite provides changing rooms however these are dilapidated and in need of refurbishment in order to better accommodate demand, specifically women's and girl's.
28	Derwent Drive Playing Fields	Standard	Poor	Milton Keynes City	The clubhouse onsite has six changing rooms and three official rooms, but the club state that these are old and in need of investment. The communal showers lack privacy, making them unsuitable for women's and girl's as well as modern standards.
29	Downs Barn Pavilion and Pitches	Standard	Standard	Grid City FC MK Raptors	The supporting pavilion provides a meeting room, changing rooms and toilets as well as parking for up to 25 spaces.
31	Emberton Playing Field	Good	N/A	Olney Waterhall Stars Men	The pavilion onsite serves as a community hub for up to 80 people and regularly used by community groups such as Pilates, yoga and senior exercise classes. Toilet facilities are available however no changing rooms are included within the pavilion.
35	Fairfields Sports Hub	Good	Good	DonsAction FC Milton Keynes Dons COMMUNITY TRUST Shenley FC	Football Foundation investment has provided a modern community focused facility offering a range of facilities designed to support grass roots and elite level football. Changing rooms are equipped with changing rooms and toilets which can be utilised by women's and girl's teams, as well as officials changing. Media facilities also exist within this facility as well as a kitchen and bar area for pre and post-match refreshments.

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Site ID	Site name	Overall building quality	Changing room quality ³	Club user	Comments
37	Fishermead Sports Ground	Poor	N/A	MK Gallacticos	Onsite storage container used for goals and training equipment, no toilets are located onsite
48	Hanslope Recreation Ground	Good	Standard	Hanslope Hornets	The clubhouse onsite is designed to accommodate only sporting demand from football and cricket. The changing rooms are small with only two teams being able to access these on match days. The Club states that this can lead to congestion and that the carpark is not sufficient to accommodate the level of demand the site receives. In addition, there is also a community space equipped with a kitchen.
50	Heelands Sports Ground	Standard	Standard	Heelands Rangers	Clubhouse onsite includes four changing rooms with communal player showers and toilets, the Club states that these are more than adequate to accommodate the demand onsite and are looking to reduce this as part of the Home Advantage Programme work. The Club also states that it has been subject to vandalism which has resulted in damage to CCTV and attempted break ins. In addition, there has been burst water pipes and an overall lack of compliance with modern regulations and requirements.
53	Hodge Lea	Standard	Poor	MK United	The onsite pavilion at Hodge Lea provides four changing rooms which MK United states are not currently fit for purpose. These contain communal showering facilities and toilets. The Club only utilise 20% of the overall pavilion, with aspirations to turn this into a community hub.
56	Kents Hill Sports Ground	Standard	Poor	Furzton FC MK Wanderers	The pavilion onsite includes a bar/ kitchen and social space, six changing rooms as well as well as officials changing with communal showers and toilet facilities. Despite this, the MK Wanderers states that it has had issues with flooding issues from burst pipes and the roof collapsing in parts of the facility.
65	Loughton Sports Ground	Standard	Standard	OB City Tattenhoe Youth	Pavillion includes a bar and kitchen as well as a social space. Toilets and basic changing rooms are also available.
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	Good	Good	Old Bradwell United Real MK	The onsite pavilion services the sports ground as well as the wider community, there are changing rooms to accommodate home and away teams for both football and cricket as well as a sperate shower block for players and officials. There is a large social space which can accommodate up to 100 people as well as this being equipped with kitchen facilities.

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Site ID	Site name	Overall building quality	Changing room quality ³	Club user	Comments
68	Medbourne Pavilion	Good	Standard	Tattenhoe Youth	Similar to other facilities mentioned, Medbourne Pavillion services the wider community as well as the pitches. Two changing rooms are provided with communal showers as well as toilets, however some of these were converted to additional meeting room space. There is a large social space equipped with kitchen facilities and sports hall which can be utilised by community groups. In addition, a nursery exists within this facility.
72	Milton Keynes Irish Centre	Standard	Standard	Milton Keynes Irish	Two changing rooms equipped with showers and toilets for home and away teams as well as officials exist within this facility. In addition, the clubhouse includes a function room which is serviced by a bar for community and sporting events.
74	Milton Keynes Village Pavilion	Good	Standard	Milton Keynes Athletic MK Village	The pavilion onsite includes two changing rooms with communal showers and toilets. Also included is a large social space with a kitchen and bar area for pre and post-match refreshments.
77	New Bradwell Recreation Ground	Good	Standard	Bradwell Broncos New Bradwell St Peter FC	The clubhouse onsite includes five changing rooms with self-contained showers and toilets for players and officials. In addition, a social space equipped with a kitchen and bar is also included.
80	Newport Pagnell Youth Club	Standard	Poor	Newport Pagnell Youth	Two changing rooms are provided within the youth club however the Club states that it does not utilise these. There are no showering facilities available, although communal toilets are available. The Club states that there is also insufficient car parking.
81	Newton Leys Pavilion	Good	Good	Tattenhoe	The pavilion includes modern changing rooms with shower and toilet facilities. The pavilion is also equipped with kitchen facilities as well as meeting rooms. The site is serviced with ample parking to accommodate match days.
92	Perry Lane Recreation Ground	Standard	Standard	AFC Sherington Forza Rosa	Home and away changing rooms are available within the pavilion onsite, these have recently been refurbished however include communal showers and are basic. Further improvements are planned however this is subject to funding availability. A kitchen and function room are also available which are also situated within the pavilion.

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Site ID	Site name	Overall building quality	Changing room quality ³	Club user	Comments
95	Priory Park Pavilion	Good	Standard	Tattenhoe Youth	A large indoor hall, a smaller versatile space, meeting room with changing facilities. Rooms available for hire for parties, clubs, community groups and businesses. A kitchen area is also available for pre and post-match refreshments.
99	Scot Sports and Social Club	Poor	Poor	Bletchley Scot	Club report major issues with the clubhouse which were initially taken over as second hand 30 years ago. Major works are required to bring these up to a modern standard, plans have been drawn up for their improvements as well as initial quotes provided for the cost.
117	Tattenhoe Lane Sports Ground	Standard	Standard	Milton Keynes City	The Club has recently had upgrades to its changing rooms which included communal shower and toilet facilities. There is also a bar and social spare available within the sport and social club.
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion	Good	Good	AFC Carpathians MK United Tattenhoe	This facility offers a multitude of facilities available to the teams and wider community. Changing rooms are available for players and officials which include self-contained showers and toilets designed for FA affiliated football. In addition, this facility can be utilised for community events and functions with a café, licensed bar and indoor sports hall.
125	Walnut Tree Sports Ground	Standard	Standard	Aspley Guise MK Walton FC	The clubhouse onsite is equipped with four large changing rooms and two officials changing rooms with communal showering and toilet facilities. A communal kitchen area is also available. Parking onsite is limited and can be an issue on match days.
131	Watson's Field	N/A	N/A	-	N/A – no on-site provision
134	Wavendon Heights Playing Field	Good	Good	Woeburn & Wavendon FC	Officially opened in 2023 this new build modern clubhouse offers good quality facilities including a multi-purpose hall available to the wider community as well as four changing rooms with self-contained individual showers and toilets to accommodate players and officials. A community café is also available onsite. When all pitches are utilised, car parking can be an issue for the Club.
135	Wavendon Recreation Ground	Poor	Poor	Woeburn & Wavendon FC	The clubhouse on this site is basic and includes a wooden hut primarily for storage of training equipment. Basic facilities to accommodate match day fixtures however these are not appropriate for modern requirements.
136	Westcroft Sports Ground	Standard	Standard	Tattenhoe	Pavillion includes changing rooms and toilets as well as two indoor spaces for pre and post-match refreshments.

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Site ID	Site name	Overall building quality	Changing room quality ³	Club user	Comments
139	Willen Pavilion	Good	Standard	Castlethorpe Rovers Willen	The pavilion onsite is equipped with three changing rooms with communal showers and toilets. There is also official changing available onsite. The pavilion also includes a community hall, meeting room and kitchen facilities.
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	Standard	Standard	MB United Newport Pagnell Athletic	The clubhouse onsite is equipped facilities are available for use by players and officials during matches and training sessions. However, the current changing rooms have been identified as inadequate, with issues such as poor heating, limited toilet facilities, and a lack of showers. Food and other refreshments are also available onsite. Newport Pagnell Town Council has secured significant investment for the second phase of the sports ground's refurbishment. This phase includes the development of additional facilities, further enhancing the site's capacity to host a variety of events and activities
146	Woughton on The Green Playing Fields	Standard	Poor	Emerson Valley FC Inter MK Milton Keynes Dons FC Woughton FC	The pavilion supporting the pitches at this site are in major need of upgrade, the changing rooms are not compliant with modern policies including suitability for women's and girl's participation as well as safeguarding. The facility is equipped with a licensed bar and social space to accommodate spectators as well as post-match refreshments, however, club consultation states that this is not always open and available.

Eight sites are identified as having poor quality changing facilities, these sites are serviced by dated facilities that require improving or replacing and have obvious signs of wear and tear.

Each requires a degree of modernisation to ensure they remain fit for purpose in the future. Elsewhere, Browns Wood Sports Ground, Fishermead Sports Ground and Watson's Field do not provide any onsite ancillary facilities.

Education sites are excluded from the table above as their facilities are typically designed for curricular, extra-curricular, and multi-sport use rather than solely for football. Some sites in Milton Keynes offer changing facilities for hire at an additional cost.

Known sites include:

- ◀ Denbigh School.
- ◀ Giffard Park Primary School.
- ◀ Glebe Farm School.
- ◀ Leon Leisure Centre.
- ◀ Lord Grey School.
- ◀ Shenley Brook End School.
- ◀ The Hazeley Academy.
- ◀ The Radcliffe School.

No quality issues have been identified at any of the education sites providing ancillary facilities.

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Facilities for women and girls

Linked to the above on ancillary facilities supporting grass football pitches across Milton Keynes, it has been identified that 12 women's and girl's teams' access five sites which are serviced with poor provision including Derwent Drive Playing Fields, Hodge Lea, Kents Hill Sports Ground, Scot Sports and Social Club and Woughton on The Green Playing Fields. No women's and girl's demand are identified at sites which do not provide any ancillary facilities.

All other women's and girl's teams are currently accessing sites which provide ancillary facilities which are deemed sufficient to accommodate this level of demand within Milton Keynes.

2.3: Demand

A total of 656 teams from 74 affiliated clubs are identified as playing in Milton Keynes, although only 612 across 71 clubs access grass pitches for match demand. As a breakdown, this equates to 90 adult teams, 217 youth 11v11 teams, 113 youth 9v9 teams, 107 mini 7v7 teams and 85 mini 5v5 teams.

The remaining 44 teams not included within this section are identified as accessing 3G pitch provision for match play and do not require grass pitches to accommodate match demand, these are made up of 17 disability, 11 U5/U6 development, 12 futsal and four walking football teams. These teams are included within Part 3 of this report.

Table 2.9: Summary of competitive teams currently playing in Milton Keynes

Age group	No. of teams
Adult Men's (18-45)	78
Adult Women's (18-45)	12
Youth Boys (12-17)	186
Youth Girls (12-17)	31
Youth Boys (10-11)	86
Youth Girls (10-11)	27
Mini Mixed (8-9)	107
Mini Mixed (6-7)	85
Total	612

The area with the highest level of football participation in the West Analysis Area with 156 teams (27% of overall demand), followed by the East Analysis Area with 140 teams (23%). The North West Analysis Area has the fewest number of teams with 29 (5%). This is further summarised in the following table. It should be noted that whilst the figures in Table 2.10 are reflective of where teams primarily play matches, Berks & Bucks FA is aware that a number of teams train and play out of their analysis area to access facilities.

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Table 2.10: Summary of number of competitive football teams playing affiliation matches

Analysis area	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
Central	24	35	19	17	16	111
East	11	54	24	30	21	140
North	5	12	7	8	8	40
North East	11	15	11	9	9	55
North West	7	10	6	4	2	29
South	19	28	16	10	8	81
West	18	58	30	29	21	156
Milton Keynes	90	217	113	107	85	612

National League System demand

The National League System (NLS) is a series of interconnected leagues for adult men's football clubs in England. It begins below the Football League (from the National League at Step 1) and comprises of six steps, with various leagues at each level and more leagues lower down the system than at the top. The NLS has a hierarchical format with promotion and relegation between the steps, allowing even the smallest club the theoretical possibility of rising to the top of the system.

Clubs playing within the NLS must adhere to Stadium Accreditation⁵ requirements set out by the FA. The higher the level of football being played the higher the requirements. Clubs cannot progress into the league above if the ground grading requirements do not meet the correct specifications. Stadium Accreditation assesses grounds from Grade 1 to 7, which aligns with Step 1 clubs down to Step 6 clubs making the transition from Regional Feeder League. Please refer to the FA website⁶ for the full specifications for each.

Two teams from Milton Keynes compete in the NLS. Three teams also compete in the local regional feeder league which is one promotion away from the NLS. These are shown in Table 2.11.

Women's National League System

Correspondingly there is a Women's National League System similar to the adult men's which provide structure to the women's game. This ranges from Tier 1 to Tier 6 with each Tier requiring differing ground grading requirements.

Although women's clubs still need to meet ground requirements set out by the FA these differ from the men's National League System. Ratings range from grade A to C each with differing minimum requirements. Tier 1 and 2 in the Women's National League System is akin to Tier 3 and 4 of the men's National League System, although not exactly the same. The system is also hierarchical format with promotion and relegation between the levels, allowing even the smallest club the theoretical possibility of rising to the top of the system.

As shown in the table below, there are currently three women's team fielded by three clubs which are part of the WNLS.

⁵ <https://premierleaguestadiumfund.co.uk/stadium-accreditation-programme>

⁶ <http://www.thefa.com/get-involved/player/ground-grading>

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Table 2.11: Summary of teams playing within the NLS and WNLS

Team	League	Level
Milton Keynes Irish First	Spartan South Midlands Football League Premier Division	Step 5
Newport Pagnell Town First	United Counties League Premier Division South	Step 5
Milton Keynes College	Spartan South Midlands Football League Division Two	Regional Feeder League
New Bradwell St Peter FC First	Spartan South Midlands Football League Division Two	Regional Feeder League
Old Bradwell United First	Spartan South Midlands Football League Division Two	Regional Feeder League
Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust Women	Women's National League Northern & Southern	Tier 3
New Bradwell St Peter FC Ladies	Women's Regional Leagues Other	Tier 6
Newport Pagnell Town Women	Women's Regional Leagues Other	Tier 6

It should also be noted that Milton Keynes Dons FC plays professionally within the English Football League 2.

Walking football

Walking football⁷ is an alternate version of football than the format which is governed by The Walking Football Association. The sport has picked up popularity in recent years and has a typical demographic of over 50s for men and over 40s for women. It provides a less physically demanding version of the usual game due to the rules not allowing for any contact or fast-paced movement thus providing a more inclusive game for participants.

Whilst the game is governed by The Walking Football Association, and it provides competitive structures through national cup competitions. Much of the activation work undertaken nationally for this activity type is promoted by professional football club community organisations or by leading community grassroots football clubs.

Within Milton Keynes, the following walking clubs have been identified, two of which are men's and two women's:

- ✦ Milton Keynes Irish Walking.
- ✦ MK MaD Walkers Men.
- ✦ MK MaD Walkers Women.
- ✦ MK United Women's Walking.

In addition to the club-based demand, walking football sessions take place weekly at Tattenhoe Sports Pavillion (Monday), Ousdale School (Newport Pagnell Campus) (Monday), Medbourne Pavillion (Tuesday) and Portfield Community Centre (Wednesday) in Newport Pagnell.

⁷ <https://thewfa.co.uk/who-plays-walking-football/>
<https://thewfa.co.uk/womens-walking-football/>

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Women's and girls' demand

There are currently 12 women's teams and 60 dedicated girls' teams across 23 clubs playing football in Milton Keynes. This represents 11% of all demand across the City. Key clubs and organisations presently fielding female teams include:

- ◀ Bletchley Scot.
- ◀ Bradwell Broncos.
- ◀ City Belles.
- ◀ FC Castlethorpe Youth.
- ◀ Grid City FC.
- ◀ Milton Keynes City.
- ◀ Milton Keynes College.
- ◀ Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust.
- ◀ Milton Keynes Irish.
- ◀ MK United.
- ◀ MK Wanderers.
- ◀ New Bradwell St Peter FC.
- ◀ Newport Pagnell Town.
- ◀ Olney.
- ◀ Olney Town Colts.
- ◀ Shenley FC.
- ◀ Stoke Hammond Youth.
- ◀ Stony Stratford Town.
- ◀ Tattenhoe.
- ◀ Tattenhoe Youth.
- ◀ Walton MK.
- ◀ Willen.
- ◀ Woburn & Wavendon.

The FA currently has a drive to increase women's and girls' participation as part of its Inspiring Positive Change Strategy. As such, it is imperative that sufficient facilities become suitable for female access, particularly in relation to toilets and appropriate changing facilities. As previously identified, 12 women's and girl's teams across Milton Keynes are accessing a total of five sites which provides insufficient ancillary facilities to meet this demand including Derwent Drive Playing Fields, Hodge Lea, Kents Hill Sports Ground, Scot Sports and Social Club and Woughton on The Green Playing Fields.

Unmet and latent demand

Unmet demand is existing demand that is not getting access to pitches. It is usually expressed, for example, when a team is already training but is unable to access a match pitch, or when a league has a waiting list. Latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision.

The following teams all identified latent demand and indicate they could field additional teams if they had access to better quality pitch provision for match and training demand. Clubs did not specifically quantify the level of unmet demand.

- ◀ AFC Carpathians.
- ◀ Aspley Guise FC.
- ◀ Castlethorpe Rovers.
- ◀ City Colts.
- ◀ FC Castlethorpe Youth.
- ◀ Heelands Rangers FC.

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- ✦ Milton Keynes Irish FC.
- ✦ MK United.
- ✦ MK11 FC.
- ✦ New Bradwell St Peter FC.
- ✦ Newport Pagnell Athletic.
- ✦ Newport Pagnell Town.
- ✦ Olney Town.
- ✦ Olney Town Colts.
- ✦ Shenley FC.
- ✦ Stony Stratford Town.

Displaced/exported demand

Displaced or exported demand refers to Milton Keynes based teams that are currently accessing pitches outside of the local authority for their home fixtures, normally because their pitch requirements cannot be met, which is usually because of pitch supply, in some cases quality issues or stipulated league requirements for access to certain facilities.

It has been identified that a total of 26 teams across 11 clubs are exporting demand outside of Milton Keynes to neighbouring authorities including, Buckinghamshire, Central Bedfordshire and West Northamptonshire to access grass pitches for match demand. The table below summarises the clubs exporting demand.

Table 2.12: Summary of exported demand from Milton Keynes

Club	Number of teams	Site	Local Authority
Aspley Guise	7	Aspley Guise Common Fulbrook Middle School	Central Bedfordshire Council
Clean Slate	1	Yardley Gobion Sports And Social Club	West Northamptonshire
Liscombe Park FC	1	Liscombe Park FC Men	Central Bedfordshire
MK Cowboys FC	1	Wicken Sports Club	West Northamptonshire
OB City	3	Dave Law Sports Pavilion And Field Wicken Sports Club	West Northamptonshire
Red Eagles	6	Rectory Farm Primary School	West Northamptonshire
Sporting Leon	1	Wicken Sports Club	West Northamptonshire
Stacey Bushes	1	Cedars Upper School	Central Bedfordshire
Stoke Hammond	1	Stoke Hammond Sports Club	Buckinghamshire
Stony Stratford Town	3	Old Stratford Community Centre	West Northamptonshire
Upper Heyford Vets FC	1	Upper Heyford Playing Field	West Northamptonshire
Total	26	-	-

The table below highlights the pitch type, analysis area and match equivalent session (MES) that would be required for each team to return its match demand to Milton Keynes. In total this equates to 19 teams and a total of 9.5 match equivalent sessions broken down this equates to five on adult pitches, two on youth 11v11, 0.5 on youth 9v9, 1.5 on mini 7v7 and 0.5 match equivalent sessions on 5v5 pitches. It should be noted that Aspley Guise teams have been discounted due to the Club being located just over the border within Central Bedfordshire however affiliate to Berks & Bucks FA.

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The below figures will be carried through into the supply and demand analysis and be applied to the future total similar to that of future demand population projections.

Table 2.13: Exported demand quantified in match equivalent sessions

Club	Team	Pitch format	Analysis area	Match equivalent sessions (MES)
Clean Slate	Clean Slate Vets	Adult	West	0.5
Liscombe Park FC	Liscombe Park FC Men	Adult	North West	0.5
MK Cowboys FC	MK Cowboys FC First	Adult	West	0.5
OB City	OB City Bedford	Adult	East	0.5
OB City	OB City OB City Bedford 2nds	Adult	East	0.5
OB City	OB City OB City Vets	Adult	West	0.5
Red Eagles	Red Eagles U8 Warriors Group	(5v5)	North	0.5
Red Eagles	Red Eagles U9 Thunders Group	(7v7)	North	0.5
Red Eagles	Red Eagles U9 Spitfires Group	(7v7)	North	0.5
Red Eagles	Red Eagles U10 Hunters Group	(7v7)	North	0.5
Red Eagles	Red Eagles U11 Tornadoes Group	(9v9)	North	0.5
Red Eagles	Red Eagles U13 Bombers Group	(11v11)	North	0.5
Sporting Leon	Sporting Leon FC	Adult	West	0.5
Stacey Bushes	Stacey Bushes First	Adult	South	0.5
Stoke Hammond	Stoke Hammond Youth Veterans	Adult	South	0.5
Stony Stratford Town	Stony Stratford Town U13 Warriors	(11v11)	West	0.5
Stony Stratford Town	Stony Stratford Town U14 Leopards	(11v11)	West	0.5
Stony Stratford Town	Stony Stratford Town U15 Pumas	(11v11)	West	0.5
Upper Heyford Vets FC	Upper Heyford Vets FC Vets	Adult	West	0.5
-	Total	-	-	9.5

Future demand

Future demand can be defined via several ways, including through participation increases, by using population forecasts and historical participation data. In addition, the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document will contain housing growth scenarios that will estimate additional demand that could arise from housing developments across Milton Keynes.

Participation growth

Of responding clubs, 15 report aspirations to increase the number of teams they provide over the next three to five years totalling a predicted growth of 37 teams. This is summarised below.

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Table 2.14: Potential team increases identified by clubs

Club	Analysis area	Gender	Number of teams	Pitch size	MES per week ⁸
AFC Carpathians	East	Women's	1	Adult	0.5
AFC Carpathians	East	Boy's	1	9v9	0.5
AFC Carpathians	East	Girl's	1	9v9	0.5
Castlethorpe Rovers	Central	Men's	4	Adult	2
FC Castlethorpe Youth	Central	Boy's	1	9v9	0.5
FC Castlethorpe Youth	Central	Girl's	1	9v9	0.5
Heelands Rangers FC	Central	Boy's	1	11v11	0.5
Heelands Rangers FC	Central	Mixed	2	5v5	1
HEJ Athletic	Central	Mixed	4	5v5	2
Milton Keynes Athletic FC	East	Mixed	2	5v5	1
Milton Keynes Irish FC	South	Girl's	1	11v11	0.5
MK Wanderers	East	Mixed	1	5v5	0.5
New Bradwell St Peter FC	North West	Men's	1	Adult	0.5
Newport Pagnell Athletic	North East	Men's	1	Adult	0.5
Newport Pagnell Town FC	North East	Girl's	2	11v11	1
Newport Pagnell Town FC	North East	Girl's	1	9v9	0.5
Newport Pagnell Town FC	North East	Mixed	4	5v5	2
Newport Pagnell Youth	North East	Boy's	1	9v9	0.5
Olney Town Colts FC	North	Boy's	1	11v11	0.5
Olney Town Colts FC	North	Girl's	1	11v11	0.5
Olney Town Colts FC	North	Mixed	1	5v5	0.5
Olney Town FC	North	Men's	1	Adult	0.5
Olney Town FC	North	Women's	1	Adult	0.5
Stony Stratford Town FC	West	Men's	1	Adult	0.5
Stony Stratford Town FC	West	Mixed	1	5v5	0.5
Woburn & Wavendon FC		Youth	1	9v9	0.5
Woburn & Wavendon FC		Mixed	4	5v5	2
-	-	Totals	42	-	21

In addition, Bletchley Scot FC, City Colts FC, MK United and Shenley FC all have future demand aspirations, however, do not quantify the number of teams that they aspire to grow by.

The total future demand expressed by the clubs listed above amounts to 21 match equivalent sessions per week (as two teams equates to one match equivalent session playing on a home and away basis).

Broken down by pitch type, five match equivalent sessions per week are identified on adult pitches, three match equivalent sessions per week on youth 11v11 pitches, 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week on youth 9v9 pitches and 9.5 match equivalent session per week on mini 5v5 pitches.

In light of FA aspirations to increase youth and female specific participation in football through the establishment and foreseen future effect of the FA Wildcats programme and Inspiring Positive Change Strategy, it is likely that the growth in affiliated women's and girls' teams may exceed that shown through team generation rates.

⁸ Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, 0.5 pitches can therefore be seen in the table where there is latent demand for one team.

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Taking this into consideration combined with the aspirations highlighted through club consultation it can be said that women and girls' participation is going to continue to grow. As such, it is imperative that sufficient facilities are suitable for female access, particularly in relation to toilets and appropriate changing provision.

To what extent is not currently quantifiable, however, this increase in female demand is likely to be captured within the club aspirational future demand figures expressed in Table 2.14.

Population growth

Based on population projections to 2047 (the period to which this assessment projects population based future demand), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator can estimate the likely additional demand for grass football pitches that will arise from any growth. This is through using the current and future populations in each of the relevant age groups together with the current team numbers. Team generation rates have then been established to understand how much growth is required to establish one new team.

Please note, for consistency purposes across all sports in this report and in line with PPS methodology population growth based on ONS projections is carried forward to Part 2.5. However, it is acknowledged that club aspirations and trend-based modelling should also inform future demand. These aspects will be subject to scenarios within the Strategy & Action Plan.

The table below shows the number of new teams generated by the new population and the requisite match equivalent sessions.

Table 2.15: Authority wide team generation rates

Age group	Team generation rate	No. of new teams generated by the new population	No. of new teams generated by the new population - rounded figure	No. of match equivalent sessions per week ⁹
Adult Men's (18-45)	1:763	6.24	6	3
Adult Women's (18-45)	1:5,027	0.96	1	0.5
Youth Boys (12-17)	1:46	14.88	15	7.5
Youth Girls (12-17)	1:261	2.48	2	1
Youth Boys (10-11)	1:53	6.88	7	3.5
Youth Girls (10-11)	1:153	2.16	2	1
Mini Mixed (8-9)	1:79	8.56	9	4.5
Mini Mixed (6-7)	1:96	6.80	7	3.5

As the 49 teams expected to be generated (equating to 24.5 match equivalent sessions per week) are authority wide and not accredited to any analysis area, they will be added onto the overall supply and demand total for each pitch type within the 'Supply and demand analysis' section later.

Figures surrounding the extra demand generated for football training provision (hours per week on a 11v11 3G pitch with sports lighting) from future population will be referenced within Part 3: Third Generation Turf (3G) Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs).

⁹ Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, one team accounts to 0.5 match equivalent sessions on their relevant pitch type.

This potential growth is less significant than compared to the current trend based growth rate which is at 36% overall within the six years and therefore the future growth element of this report needs to be closely monitored through Stage E.

Future demand summary

In the supply and demand analysis at the end of this section of the report, accuracy of future demand through population growth and club aspirations is difficult to consider. This is because should club aspirations be realised, this would absorb a proportion of the future demand identified via population growth rather than it being judged separately and therefore double counted.

Future demand carried through to the supply and demand analysis is based on population growth. However, the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document will include a scenario to identify the impact aspirational club demand would have if the growth was realised. A separate scenario will also be run based on recent historical growth rates provided by Berks & Bucks FA.

Taking this into consideration, a total requirement for 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week is identified on adult pitches, 8.5 match equivalent sessions on youth 11v11 pitches, 4.5 match equivalent sessions on youth 9v9 pitches, 4.5 match equivalent sessions on mini 7v7 pitches and 3.5 match equivalent sessions on mini 5v5 pitches.

As appropriate, the Strategy document will contain a scenario and recommendations exploring the participation trends for football over the lifespan of the PPS and what impact this trend will have on demand locally. To illustrate this, there were 482 affiliated football teams in Milton Keynes during the development of the last PPS. Based on current numbers this has grown to 656. This represents a growth rate of 36% across this six-year period. If this trend continues over the next five years, there could be 892 teams affiliated in Milton Keynes by 2030.

To emphasise and reiterate, ONS population projections to 2047 represent only a small fraction of the anticipated growth. However, for consistency, these figures are carried forward to the supply and demand analysis. It is also important to note that ONS projections do not account for the population increases associated with planned housing growth in the Authority. As such, the impact of housing developments will be considered in the housing growth section in the proceeding Strategy document.

In addition, exported demand figures will be applied to the future totals for each pitch type.

2.4: Capacity analysis

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

As a guide, The FA has set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without it adversely affecting its quality.

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Taking into consideration the guidelines on capacity, the following ratings were used in Milton Keynes:

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

Table 2.17 applies the above pitch ratings against the actual level of weekly play recorded to determine a capacity rating as follows:

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

Match equivalent sessions per week

Pitches have a limit of how much play they can accommodate over a certain period of time before their quality, and in turn their use, is adversely affected. As the main usage of pitches is likely to be for matches, it is appropriate for the comparable unit to be match equivalent sessions but may for example include training sessions and informal use.

Education sites

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

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

For school sites which are available for community use but that currently do not have any external hirers, one match equivalent session per week, per pitch has been accredited to indicate use for curricular and extracurricular activity as opposed to them being completely unused.

As mentioned earlier, all education sites are currently classified as having unsecure tenure as no schools through consultation report having a community use agreement in place.

Peak time

Spare capacity can only be considered as actual spare capacity if pitches are available at peak time. In Milton Keynes, peak time for pitch access is Saturday AM when most mini and youth teams play. For adult football, peak time is Sunday AM.

In the table overleaf, please note that, on occasions, spare capacity in the peak period is identified despite the pitch being played to capacity or overplayed or more spare capacity is identified in the peak period than what exists overall.

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This is because most of the use on those particular pitches occurs outside of the peak period, therefore the identified spare capacity at peak time should not be utilised over and above overall capacity unless quality improvements are made that increases overall capacity.

A pitch is only said to have 'actual spare capacity' if it is available for community use and available at the peak time for that format of play. Any pitch not meeting this criterion is therefore not considered to have additional capacity, although it may have capacity outside of peak time.

There may also be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against the site.

For example, a site may be managed to operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of regular friendly matches and activities that take place but are difficult to quantify on a weekly basis.

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

Furthermore, any pitches with unsecured tenure are not considered to have actual spare capacity as no further play should be encouraged on such sites given that future access cannot be guaranteed.

The table below identifies the way capacity balance is represented in Table 2.17

Table 2.16: Capacity balance examples

Spare capacity in peak period (examples)	Explanation of capacity balance
1	Highlighted in green with a number denotes that the pitches have actual spare capacity at peak time.
-	With a dash, this indicates that the pitch is unavailable in the peak period. If it were to be made available, actual spare capacity could exist.
0	Highlighted in orange with a zero, this indicates the pitch is played to capacity, either overall or during the peak period.
1	Not highlighted by with a value, this indicates that the pitch has spare capacity in the peak period; however, capacity has been discounted. This may be due to unsecure tenure and/or poor pitch quality.
1	Highlighted in red with a number denotes that the pitches are overplayed and have no spare capacity across the week. This includes at peak time, despite any availability at peak time which may exist.

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Table 2.17: Grass football pitch capacity analysis

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
1	Abbeys Primary School	6015603	MK3 6PS	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality and unsecure tenure.
2	Allotment Field	1039710	MK46 4DH	North	Yes	Olney Town Council	Secure	Adult		2	Good	1	6	5	2	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
2	Allotment Field	1039710	MK46 4DH	North	Yes	Olney Town Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Good	5.5	8	2.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
2	Allotment Field	1039710	MK46 4DH	North	Yes	Olney Town Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	3	Good	3	12	9	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
2	Allotment Field	1039710	MK46 4DH	North	Yes	Olney Town Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Good	2.5	12	9.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
2	Allotment Field	1039710	MK46 4DH	North	Yes	Olney Town Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Good	3.5	12	8.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	1039711	MK11 1AR	West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	1	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	1039711	MK11 1AR	West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1.5	1	0.5	-	Overplayed.
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	1039711	MK11 1AR	West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	2.5	1	1.5	-	Overplayed.
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	1039711	MK11 1AR	West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	2	4	2	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	1039711	MK11 1AR	West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1	4	3	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
5	Bishop Parker Catholic School	6015624	MK2 3BT	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use.
7	Bow Brickhill Playing Fields	6015174	MK17 9JB	East	Yes	Bow Brickhill Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
7	Bow Brickhill Playing Fields	6015174	MK17 9JB	East	Yes	Bow Brickhill Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Good	4.5	12	7.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
8	Bradwell Sports and Social Club	6001385	MK13 9AR	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Good	2	3	1	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
8	Bradwell Sports and Social Club	6001385	MK13 9AR	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	1	4	3	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
9	Bradwell Village School	30005411	MK13 9AZ	Central	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1	1	0	-	Unavailable for community use.

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Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
10	Brooklands Community Sports Pavilion	30006794	MK10 7HN	East	Yes	Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust	Secure	Adult		2	Standard	0.5	4	3.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
10	Brooklands Community Sports Pavilion	30006794	MK10 7HN	East	Yes	Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Standard	6	4	2	-	Overplayed
10	Brooklands Community Sports Pavilion	30006794	MK10 7HN	East	Yes	Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	2.5	4	1.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
10	Brooklands Community Sports Pavilion	30006794	MK10 7HN	East	Yes	Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	2	4	2	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
11	Brooksward School	6015509	MK14 6JZ	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality and unsecure tenure.
11	Brooksward School	6015509	MK14 6JZ	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed.
12	Broughton Community Sports Pavilion	30006879	MK10 9NJ	East	Yes (Unused)	Broughton & Milton Keynes Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Standard	0	8	8	2	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
13	Broughton Fields Primary School	30008117	MK10 9LS	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality and unsecure tenure.
13	Broughton Fields Primary School	30008117	MK10 9LS	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	2	4	2	2	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality and unsecure tenure.
16	Browns Wood Sports Ground	6015812	MK7 8DX	East	Yes	Walton Community Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed.
16	Browns Wood Sports Ground	6015812	MK7 8DX	East	Yes	Walton Community Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
17	Bushfield School	6016853	MK12 5JG	North West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	2	4	2	2	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality and unsecure tenure.
20	Castlethorpe Sports Ground	6014671	MK19 7PL	North West	Yes	Castlethorpe Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
20	Castlethorpe Sports Ground	6014671	MK19 7PL	North West	Yes	Castlethorpe Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
20	Castlethorpe Sports Ground	6014671	MK19 7PL	North West	Yes (Unused)	Castlethorpe Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.

**MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL
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Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
22	Chestnuts Primary School	6015570	MK3 5EN	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
24	Conniburrow Community Sports Pavilion	6014728	MK14 7DX	Central	Yes	Campbell Park Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
24	Conniburrow Community Sports Pavilion	6014728	MK14 7DX	Central	Yes	Campbell Park Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
25	Crownhill Sports Ground	6015634	MK8 0AS	West	Yes (Unused)	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		2	Standard	0	4	4	2	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
27	Denbigh School	20002108	MK5 6EX	West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
27	Denbigh School	20002108	MK5 6EX	West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
27	Denbigh School	20002108	MK5 6EX	West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
28	Derwent Drive Playing Fields	30003323	MK3 7BE	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		2	Good	3	6	3	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
28	Derwent Drive Playing Fields	30003323	MK3 7BE	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	2.5	4	1.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
28	Derwent Drive Playing Fields	30003323	MK3 7BE	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	1	6	6	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
29	Downs Barn Pavilion and Pitches	1039708	MK14 7QW	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		2	Poor	2	2	0	1.5	Played to capacity.
30	Drayton Park School	6016618	MK2 3HJ	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use.
30	Drayton Park School	6016618	MK2 3HJ	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	2	4	2	2	Unavailable for community use.
31	Emberton Playing Field	6014747	MK46 5BS	North	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Good	1.5	3	1.5	1	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
31	Emberton Playing Field	6014747	MK46 5BS	North	Yes (Unused)	Emberton Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Good	0	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
31	Emberton Playing Field	6014747	MK46 5BS	North	Yes (Unused)	Emberton Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Good	0	6	6	1	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
32	Emerson Valley Combined School	6015306	MK4 2JR	West	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use.
32	Emerson Valley Combined School	6015306	MK4 2JR	West	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use.

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Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
34	Fairfields Primary School	30007712	MK11 4BA	West	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use.
34	Fairfields Primary School	30007712	MK11 4BA	West	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use.
35	Fairfields Sports Hub	30009437	MK11 4BA	West	Yes	Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust	Secure	Adult		3	Poor	5	3	2	-	Overplayed.
36	Falconhurst School	6015709	MK6 5AX	Central	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use.
37	Fishermead Sports Ground	30003410	MK6 2LP	Central	Yes (Unused)	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	0	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
37	Fishermead Sports Ground	30003410	MK6 2LP	Central	Yes (Unused)	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	0	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
40	Giffard Park Primary School	6015207	MK14 5PY	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	4	Good	7	24	17	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
41	Glebe Farm School	30010430	MK17 8XY	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult		1	Good	1	3	2	1	Sapre capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
41	Glebe Farm School	30010430	MK17 8XY	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Good	1	4	3	1	Sapre capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
41	Glebe Farm School	30010430	MK17 8XY	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	1	4	3	1	Sapre capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
43	Great Linford Primary School	6015599	MK14 5BL	Central	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use.
48	Hanslope Recreation Ground	6015438	MK19 7HQ	North West	Yes	Hanslope Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	3	2	1	-	Overplayed.
48	Hanslope Recreation Ground	6015438	MK19 7HQ	North West	Yes	Hanslope Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1	1	0	-	Played to capacity.
48	Hanslope Recreation Ground	6015438	MK19 7HQ	North West	Yes	Hanslope Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1.5	4	2.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
48	Hanslope Recreation Ground	6015438	MK19 7HQ	North West	Yes	Hanslope Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
50	Heelands Sports Ground	6015559	MK13 7EX	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		2	Poor	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
50	Heelands Sports Ground	6015559	MK13 7EX	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
50	Heelands Sports Ground	6015559	MK13 7EX	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1	1	0	-	Played to capacity.
50	Heelands Sports Ground	6015559	MK13 7EX	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period,

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Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
51	Heronsgate School	6015612	MK7 7BW	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	3.5	4	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
51	Heronsgate School	6015612	MK7 7BW	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	2.5	4	1.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
51	Heronsgate School	6015612	MK7 7BW	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	2.5	4	1.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
53	Hodge Lea	1031744	MK12 6JZ	North West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Good	2.5	3	0.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
53	Hodge Lea	1031744	MK12 6JZ	North West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	1	4	3	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
53	Hodge Lea	1031744	MK12 6JZ	North West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4	4	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
53	Hodge Lea	1031744	MK12 6JZ	North West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Good	0.5	6	5.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
54	Holne Chase Primary School	6015567	MK3 5HP	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Poor	2	4	2	2	Unavailable for community use.
55	Jubilee Wood Primary School	6016707	MK6 2LB	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	2	1	1	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
55	Jubilee Wood Primary School	6016707	MK6 2LB	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	3.5	4	0.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
55	Jubilee Wood Primary School	6016707	MK6 2LB	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	3	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
56	Kents Hill Sports Ground	6015618	MK7 6HQ	East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		2	Standard	4	4	0	-	Played to capacity.
56	Kents Hill Sports Ground	6015618	MK7 6HQ	East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	4	2	2	-	Overplayed.
56	Kents Hill Sports Ground	6015618	MK7 6HQ	East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	1.5	4	2.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
56	Kents Hill Sports Ground	6015618	MK7 6HQ	East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Good	2.5	12	9.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
56	Kents Hill Sports Ground	6015618	MK7 6HQ	East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1	4	3	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
58	Knowles Primary School	6015687	MK2 2HB	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use.
60	Langland Community School	6015508	MK6 4HA	Central	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use.
61	Leon Leisure Centre	1005479	MK2 3HQ	South	Yes	Education	Secure	Adult		2	Standard	4	4	0	0.5	Played to capacity.

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
61	Leon Leisure Centre	1005479	MK2 3HQ	South	Yes	Education	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Standard	5.5	4	1.5	-	Overplayed.
61	Leon Leisure Centre	1005479	MK2 3HQ	South	Yes	Education	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	3	2	1	-	Overplayed.
62	Long Meadow School	30005052	MK5 7XX	West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult		1	Good	1.5	3	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
62	Long Meadow School	30005052	MK5 7XX	West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Good	7.5	8	0.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
62	Long Meadow School	30005052	MK5 7XX	West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Good	1	6	5	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
63	Lord Grey School	1005470	MK3 6EW	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
63	Lord Grey School	1005470	MK3 6EW	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
64	Loughton School	6015530	MK5 8DN	West	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use.
64	Loughton School	6015530	MK5 8DN	West	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Standard	2	8	6	2	Unavailable for community use.
64	Loughton School	6015530	MK5 8DN	West	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use.
65	Loughton Sports Ground	6002030	MK5 8DL	West	Yes	Loughton & Great Holm Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Standard	2.5	4	1.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	1206730	MK14 5HH	Central	Yes	Great Linford Parish Council	Secure	Adult		3	Poor	6	3	3	-	Overplayed
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	1206730	MK14 5HH	Central	Yes	Great Linford Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	1206730	MK14 5HH	Central	Yes	Great Linford Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4	3	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	1206730	MK14 5HH	Central	Yes	Great Linford Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1	4	3	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
68	Medbourne Pavilion	6015898	MK5 6LS	West	Yes	Shenley Church End Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	2	2	0	-	Played to capacity
68	Medbourne Pavilion	6015898	MK5 6LS	West	Yes	Shenley Church End Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Standard	1.5	4	2.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
68	Medbourne Pavilion	6015898	MK5 6LS	West	Yes	Shenley Church End Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
72	Milton Keynes Irish Centre	6015729	MK2 2HX	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Good	4.5	3	1.5	-	Overplayed.

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
72	Milton Keynes Irish Centre	6015729	MK2 2HX	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0.5	4	3.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
74	Milton Keynes Village Pavilion	1039694	MK10 9AD	East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	4	2	2	-	Overplayed.
74	Milton Keynes Village Pavilion	1039694	MK10 9AD	East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
76	Monkston Primary School	30006079	MK10 9LA	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	3.5	2	1.5	-	Overplayed.
77	New Bradwell Recreation Ground	6002027	MK13 7AD	North West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed.
78	New Bradwell School	6015664	MK13 0BQ	North West	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use.
80	Newport Pagnell Youth Club	30006184	MK16 8HX	North East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
80	Newport Pagnell Youth Club	30006184	MK16 8HX	North East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
80	Newport Pagnell Youth Club	30006184	MK16 8HX	North East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Good	2	6	4	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
81	Newton Leys Pavilion	30010855	MK3 5SP	South	Yes	Bletchley & Fenny Stratford Town Council	Secure	Adult		1	Good	1	3	2	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
81	Newton Leys Pavilion	30010855	MK3 5SP	South	Yes	Bletchley & Fenny Stratford Town Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Good	1	4	3	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
81	Newton Leys Pavilion	30010855	MK3 5SP	South	Yes	Bletchley & Fenny Stratford Town Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	1	4	3	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
88	Open University (Walton Hall Campus)	1036110	MK7 6AA	East	Yes	Education	Secure	Adult		1	Good	1	3	2.5	1	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
90	Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus)	1206326	MK16 0BJ	North East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult		1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
90	Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus)	1206326	MK16 0BJ	North East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
91	Ousedale School (Olney Campus)	1014507	MK46 5LF	North	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
91	Ousedale School (Olney Campus)	1014507	MK46 5LF	North	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
92	Perry Lane Recreation Ground	6019525	MK16 9NH	North East	Yes	Sherington Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
95	Priory Park Pavilion	30010978	MK4 4NW	West	Yes	Shenley Brook End Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	3	Standard	4	12	8	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
95	Priory Park Pavilion	30010978	MK4 4NW	West	Yes	Shenley Brook End Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	3	Good	4.5	18	13.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
96	Priory Rise School	30003203	MK4 3GE	West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	6	Standard	6	24	18	6	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
99	Scot Sports and Social Club	30004601	MK3 5BX	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	2	1	1	-	Overplayed.
99	Scot Sports and Social Club	30004601	MK3 5BX	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
99	Scot Sports and Social Club	30004601	MK3 5BX	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
99	Scot Sports and Social Club	30004601	MK3 5BX	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
99	Scot Sports and Social Club	30004601	MK3 5BX	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4	3	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
99	Scot Sports and Social Club	30004601	MK3 5BX	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1	4	3	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
100	Shenley Brook End School	1008964	MK5 7ZT	West	Yes	Education	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Standard	2	4	2	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
100	Shenley Brook End School	1008964	MK5 7ZT	West	Yes	Education	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1	1	0	-	Played to capacity.
100	Shenley Brook End School	1008964	MK5 7ZT	West	Yes	Education	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
100	Shenley Brook End School	1008964	MK5 7ZT	West	Yes	Education	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Standard	2	8	2.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
103	SI Sports	30010552	MK16 9HP	North East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Sapre capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
107	St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School	30006115	MK10 9PH	East	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	2	4	2	2	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality and unsecure tenure.
110	St Marys Wavendon CE Primary School	30010431	MK17 7AA	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	5.5	4	1.5	-	Overplayed.
111	St Monica's Catholic Primary School	30005055	MK14 6HB	Central	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality and unsecure tenure.

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
112	St Pauls Catholic School	1206374	MK6 5EN	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Poor	3	2	1	-	Overplayed.
112	St Pauls Catholic School	1206374	MK6 5EN	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1	1	0		Played to capacity.
112	St Pauls Catholic School	1206374	MK6 5EN	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Poor	2	4	2	2	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality and unsecure tenure.
114	Stanton School	6016549	MK13 7BE	North West	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use.
114	Stanton School	6016549	MK13 7BE	North West	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use.
116	Summerfield School	6015607	MK13 8PG	Central	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	2	2	0	-	Played to capacity.
117	Tattenhoe Lane Sports Ground	6015068	MK3 7RB	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Good	1	3	2	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
117	Tattenhoe Lane Sports Ground	6015068	MK3 7RB	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Good	3	4	1	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
117	Tattenhoe Lane Sports Ground	6015068	MK3 7RB	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	0.5	6	5.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
117	Tattenhoe Lane Sports Ground	6015068	MK3 7RB	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Good	2	6	4	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion	1014222	MK4 3EQ	West	Yes	Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust	Secure	Adult		3	Good	8	9	1	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion	1014222	MK4 3EQ	West	Yes	Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Good	1	8	7	1	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion	1014222	MK4 3EQ	West	Yes	Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Good	3	12	9	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
119	The Hazeley Academy	1014028	MK8 0PT	West	Yes	Education	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
119	The Hazeley Academy	1014028	MK8 0PT	West	Yes	Education	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed.
119	The Hazeley Academy	1014028	MK8 0PT	West	Yes	Education	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4	3	0.5	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
119	The Hazeley Academy	1014028	MK8 0PT	West	Yes	Education	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	3	Standard	3	12	9	3	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
120	The Milton Keynes Academy	1047263	MK6 5LA	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult		2	Standard	3.5	4	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
121	The Radcliffe School	1005486	MK12 5BT	North West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult		2	Standard	2	4	2	2	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.

**MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
121	The Radcliffe School	1005486	MK12 5BT	North West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
122	The Webber Independent School	6015581	MK14 6DP	North West	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use.
123	Tickford Park Primary School	6005049	MK16 9DH	North East	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use.
124	Two Mile Ash School	6016921	MK8 8LH	West	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	2	8	6	2	Unavailable for community use.
125	Walnut Tree Sports Ground	6015738	MK7 7DF	East	Yes	Trust	Secure	Adult		2	Standard	1.5	4	2.5	1	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
125	Walnut Tree Sports Ground	6015738	MK7 7DF	East	Yes	Trust	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	3	2	1	-	Overplayed
125	Walnut Tree Sports Ground	6015738	MK7 7DF	East	Yes	Trust	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	3	Good	0.5	18	17.5	2.5	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
126	Walton High (Brooklands Campus)	30006381	MK10 7HE	East	No	Education	Unsecure	Adult		1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use.
126	Walton High (Brooklands Campus)	30006381	MK10 7HE	East	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use.
127	Walton High (Walnut Tree Campus)	1008944	MK7 7WH	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult		1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
127	Walton High (Walnut Tree Campus)	1008944	MK7 7WH	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
127	Walton High (Walnut Tree Campus)	1008944	MK7 7WH	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
128	Water Hall Primary School	6015544	MK2 3QF	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use.
128	Water Hall Primary School	6015544	MK2 3QF	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use.
129	Watling Academy	30009440	MK8 1EP	West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed
129	Watling Academy	30009440	MK8 1EP	West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	1.5	4	2.5	-	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
131	Watson's Field	30004010	MK17 9NB	East	Yes (Unused)	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
133	Wavendon Gate School	30006418	MK7 7HL	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	2	2	0	-	Played to capacity
133	Wavendon Gate School	30006418	MK7 7HL	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	3	4	1	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
133	Wavendon Gate School	30006418	MK7 7HL	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1.5	4	2.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
134	Wavendon Heights Playing Field	30010606	MK17 8ZN	East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		2	Good	1.5	6	4.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
134	Wavendon Heights Playing Field	30010606	MK17 8ZN	East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	1.5	4	2.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
134	Wavendon Heights Playing Field	30010606	MK17 8ZN	East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	1	6	6	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
135	Wavendon Recreation Ground	30004011	MK17 8AF	East	Yes	Wavendon Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Good	0.5	3	2.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
135	Wavendon Recreation Ground	30004011	MK17 8AF	East	Yes	Wavendon Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	2	6	4	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
135	Wavendon Recreation Ground	30004011	MK17 8AF	East	Yes	Wavendon Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Good	2	6	4	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
136	Westcroft Sports Ground	1039681	MK4 4DB	West	Yes	Shenley Brook End Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	2	2	0	-	Played to capacity
136	Westcroft Sports Ground	1039681	MK4 4DB	West	Yes	Shenley Brook End Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
139	Willen Pavilion	6015793	MK15 9JP	Central	Yes	Campbell Park Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	4.5	1	3.5	-	Overplayed.
139	Willen Pavilion	6015793	MK15 9JP	Central	Yes	Campbell Park Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	2	4	2	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
139	Willen Pavilion	6015793	MK15 9JP	Central	Yes	Campbell Park Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4	3	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
139	Willen Pavilion	6015793	MK15 9JP	Central	Yes	Campbell Park Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1	4	3	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
140	Willen Primary School	6015184	MK15 9HN	Central	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
140	Willen Primary School	6015184	MK15 9HN	Central	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1	2	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	6019706	MK16 0DF	North East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Good	0.5	3	2	1	Actual spare capacity within the peak period.
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	6019706	MK16 0DF	North East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		2	Standard	2	4	1.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	6019706	MK16 0DF	North East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	2	1	1	-	Overplayed.
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	6019706	MK16 0DF	North East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	4	2	2	-	Overplayed.

**MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	6019706	MK16 0DF	North East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	3	1	2	-	Overplayed.
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	6019706	MK16 0DF	North East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Poor	3.5	4	0.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	6019706	MK16 0DF	North East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	2	4	2	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	6019706	MK16 0DF	North East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.
146	Woughton on The Green Playing Fields	1103505	MK6 3EA	Central	Yes	Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust	Secure	Adult		7	Standard	7.5	14	5.5	4	Spare capacity discounted due to full academy and professional club usage.
146	Woughton on The Green Playing Fields	1103505	MK6 3EA	Central	Yes	Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	2	2	0	-	Played to capacity.
146	Woughton on The Green Playing Fields	1103505	MK6 3EA	Central	Yes	Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	3	4	1	-	Played to capacity within the peak period.

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Actual spare capacity

Actual spare capacity totals 32 match equivalent sessions per week across 45 pitches in Milton Keynes. This has been broken down by analysis area and by pitch type below.

Table 2.18: Summary of actual spare capacity (in match equivalent sessions per week)

Analysis area	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
Central	1	0.5	0.5	-	1	3
East	1	-	3.5	2	2.5	9
North	3	1	-	-	1	5
North East	1	1.5	-	-	-	2.5
North West	-	-	0.5	1	0.5	2
South	-	0.5	-	1	-	1.5
West	3.5	0.5	1.5	0.5	3	9
Milton Keynes	9.5	4	6	4.5	8	32

Most actual spare capacity is identified on adult pitches, although there is some level of spare capacity across all pitch types.

By analysis area, most actual spare capacity is in the East and West analysis areas. The South Analysis Area has the least amount of spare capacity.

Overplay

Overplay occurs when there is more play accommodated on a site than it can sustain (based on its quality rating), which can often be due to the low carrying capacity of pitches.

In Milton Keynes, 33 pitches across 22 sites are overplayed by a combined total of 35 match equivalent sessions per week.

Table 2.19: Summary of overplay of grass football pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (MES per week)
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	West	(11v11)	1	0.5
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	West	(9v9)	1	1.5
10	Brooklands Community Sports Pavilion	East	(11v11)	2	2
11	Brooksward School	Central	(5v5)	1	0.5
16	Browns Wood Sports Ground	East	(11v11)	1	0.5
35	Fairfields Sports Hub	West	Adult	3	2
48	Hanslope Recreation Ground	North West	Adult	1	1
56	Kents Hill Sports Ground	East	(11v11)	1	2
61	Leon Leisure Centre	South	(11v11)	2	1.5
61	Leon Leisure Centre	South	(9v9)	1	1
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	Central	Adult	3	3

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (MES per week)
72	Milton Keynes Irish Centre	South	Adult	1	1.5
74	Milton Keynes Village Pavilion	East	(11v11)	1	2
76	Monkston Primary School	East	(5v5)	1	1.5
77	New Bradwell Recreation Ground	North West	Adult	1	0.5
99	Scot Sports and Social Club	South	Adult	1	1
110	St Marys Wavendon CE Primary School	East	(5v5)	2	1.5
112	St Pauls Catholic School	Central	(11v11)	2	1
119	The Hazeley Academy	West	(11v11)	1	0.5
125	Walnut Tree Sports Ground	East	(11v11)	1	1
129	Watling Academy	West	(11v11)	1	0.5
139	Willen Pavilion	Central	Adult	1	3.5
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	North East	Adult	1	1
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	North East	(11v11)	1	2
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	North East	(11v11)	1	2
-	-	-	Total	33	35

Most overplay is situated in the East Analysis Area (10.5 match equivalent sessions per week), followed by the Central Analysis Area with eight match equivalent sessions per week.

By pitch type, overplay is mostly on youth 11v11 pitches (15.5 match equivalent sessions per week) with some also on adult pitches (13.5 match equivalent sessions per week). There is also overplay on youth 9v9 pitches (2.5 match equivalent sessions per week) and mini 5v5 pitches (3.5 match equivalent sessions per week). There is no identified overplay on mini 7v7 pitches.

Table 2.20: Summary of overplay (in match equivalent sessions per week)

Analysis area	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
Central	6.5	1	-	-	0.5	8
East	-	7.5	-	-	3	10.5
North	-	-	-	-	-	-
North East	1	4	-	-	-	5
North West	1.5	-	-	-	-	1.5
South	2.5	1.5	1	-	-	5
West	2	1.5	1.5	-	-	5
Milton Keynes	13.5	15.5	2.5	-	3.5	35

Most overplay is generated from poor quality pitches (19 match equivalent sessions per week). However, it should be noted that whilst overall overplay is high, most pitches are only marginally overplayed.

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

2.5: Supply and demand analysis

Having considered supply and demand, the tables below identify current demand (i.e., spare capacity taking away overplay) in each of the analysis areas for each pitch type, based on match equivalent sessions. As stated earlier, future demand, at this stage, is calculated based on what has been identified through population growth.

Adult pitch capacity

Table 2.21: Supply and demand balance of adult pitches in match sessions per week

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Exported demand	Future demand	Future total
Central	1	6.5	5.5	-	-	5.5
East	1	-	1	1	-	0
North	3	-	3	-	-	3
North East	1	1	0	-	-	0
North West	-	1.5	1.5	0.5	-	2
South	-	2.5	2.5	1	-	3.5
West	3.5	2	1.5	2.5	-	1
Milton Keynes	9.5	13.5	4	5	3.5	12.5

There is currently overplay of four match equivalent sessions per week on adult pitches in Milton Keynes. Overplay can be found in the Central, North West and South analysis areas with the North East Analysis Area currently played to capacity. All remaining analysis areas have actual spare capacity. After considering exported and future demand, overplay increases to 12.5 match equivalent sessions with only the North Analysis Area showing actual spare capacity.

Youth 11v11 pitch capacity

Table 2.22: Supply and demand balance of youth 11v11 pitches in match sessions per week

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Exported demand	Future demand	Future total
Central	0.5	1	0.5	-	-	0.5
East	-	7.5	7.5	-	-	7.5
North	1	-	1	0.5	-	0.5
North East	1.5	4	2.5	-	-	2.5
North West	-	-	0	-	-	0
South	0.5	1.5	1	-	-	1
West	0.5	1.5	1	1.5	-	2.5
Milton Keynes	4	15.5	11.5	2	8.5	22

The table above shows that there is currently a significant shortfall of 11.5 match equivalent session per week on youth 11v11 pitches in Milton Keynes with actual spare capacity of one match equivalent session per week existing only in the North Analysis Area. After considering exported and future demand, the shortfall increases to 22 match equivalent sessions per week with only minimal spare capacity within the North Analysis Area.

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Youth 9v9 pitch capacity

Table 2.23: Supply and demand balance of youth 9v9 pitches in match sessions per week

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Exported demand	Future demand	Future total
Central	0.5	-	0.5	-	-	0.5
East	3.5	-	3.5	-	-	3.5
North	-	-	0	0.5	-	0.5
North East	-	-	0	-	-	0
North West	0.5	-	0.5	-	-	0.5
South	-	1	1	-	-	1
West	1.5	1.5	0	-	-	0
Milton Keynes	6	2.5	3.5	0.5	4.5	1.5

The table above shows that youth 9v9 pitches in Milton Keynes have spare capacity of 3.5 match equivalent sessions, with the Central, East and North West analysis areas showing actual spare capacity. After considering exported and future demand, spare capacity is eradicated with a shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions established with shortfalls in the North and South analysis areas.

Mini 7v7 pitch capacity

Table 2.24: Supply and demand balance of mini 7v7 pitches in match sessions per week

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Exported demand	Future demand	Future total
Central	-	-	0	-	-	0
East	2	-	2	-	-	2
North	-	-	0	1.5	-	1.5
North East	-	-	0	-	-	0
North West	1	-	1	-	-	1
South	1	-	1	-	-	1
West	0.5	-	0.5	-	-	0.5
Milton Keynes	4.5	-	4.5	1.5	4.5	1.5

There is currently actual spare capacity amounting to 4.5 match equivalent session per week on mini 7v7 pitches in Milton Keynes. Spare capacity can be found in the East, North West, South and West analysis areas with the Central, North and North East analysis areas played to capacity. When factoring in exported and future demand for mini 7v7 pitches, actual spare capacity is eradicated with a shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week established, primarily in the North Analysis Area.

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Mini 5v5 pitch capacity

Table 2.25: Supply and demand balance of mini 5v5 pitches in match sessions per week

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Exported demand	Future demand	Future total
Central	1	0.5	0.5	-	-	0.5
East	2.5	3	0.5	-	-	0.5
North	1	-	1	0.5	-	0.5
North East	-	-	0	-	-	0
North West	0.5	-	0.5	-	-	0.5
South	-	-	0	-	-	0
West	3	-	3	-	-	3
Milton Keynes	8	3.5	4.5	0.5	3.5	0.5

There is currently actual spare capacity amounting to 4.5 match equivalent session per week on mini 5v5 pitches in Milton Keynes. Spare capacity is identified in the Central, North, North West and West analysis areas with the remaining areas played to capacity whilst the East Analysis Area is overplayed. After considering exported and future demand, actual spare capacity is reduced to 2.5 match equivalent sessions with the most actual spare capacity located within the West Analysis Area.

2.6: Conclusion

Drawing on the supply and demand tables above, the following summary presents the overall balance of pitch provision in Milton Keynes by pitch type. It reflects an overall pitches of the specific geographic areas where shortfalls and surplus capacity have been identified.

Table 2.26: Summary of analysis for grass football pitches (match equivalent sessions per week)

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Exported demand	Future demand	Future total
Adult	9.5	13.5	4	5	3.5	12.5
Youth 11v11	4	15.5	11.5	2	8.5	22
Youth 9v9	6	2.5	3.5	0.5	4.5	1.5
Mini 7v7	4.5	-	4.5	1.5	4.5	1.5
Mini 5v5	8	3.5	4.5	0.5	3.5	0.5
Milton Keynes	32	35	3	9.5	24.5	37

Within Milton Keynes, there are currently shortfalls across adult and youth 11v11 pitches amounting to four and 11.5 match equivalent sessions respectively, whilst actual spare capacity exists across all remaining pitch types. Overplay of adult and youth 11v11 pitch types is largely due to high levels of demand in comparison to pitch supply and quality. Elsewhere, the current total of actual spare capacity is relatively normal for youth 9v9, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitch types whilst the overall picture for Milton Keynes shows actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions a week.

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When considering exported and future demand across all pitch types, shortfalls significantly worsen in the case of adult and youth 11v11 pitches with actual spare capacity eradicated and shortfalls established on youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitches whilst actual spare capacity is reduced on mini 5v5 pitches. The overall picture for Milton Keynes shows significant shortfalls amounting to 37 match equivalent sessions a week.

In addition, there is latent and unmet demand reported by clubs which is currently not being accommodated through the shortfalls identified within Milton Keynes causing a barrier to participation particularly in the women's and girl's game which is experiencing significant growth nationally. Moreover, future growth in teams is likely to be higher than forecasted using ONS projections.

The subsequent Strategy & Action Plan will explore methods for how to reduce overplay across youth 11v11 pitches and increase actual spare capacity to accommodate future demand growth.

Furthermore, through Stage E the introduction of the mini 3v3 format should be monitored, to understand the impact that this will have on pitch capacity.

Supply and demand summary

- Within Milton Keynes, there are currently significant shortfalls across adult and youth 11v11 pitches amounting to four and 11.5 match equivalent sessions respectively, whilst actual spare capacity exists across all remaining pitch types.
- When considering exported and future demand across all pitch types, shortfalls significantly worsen in the case of adult and youth 11v11 pitches with actual spare capacity eradicated and shortfalls established on youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitches whilst actual spare capacity is reduced on mini 5v5 pitches. The overall picture for Milton Keynes shows significant shortfalls amounting to 37 match equivalent sessions a week.

Supply summary

- The audit identifies a total of 279 grass football pitches across 90 sites in Milton Keynes. Of these, 237 (85%) pitches across 65 sites are identified as being available for community use at some level (although not necessarily used)
- Most community available pitches can be found in the West Analysis Area with 59 pitches provided (25%).
- There are more adult pitches (64) identified when compared to other pitch sizes
- Bletchley Scot FC is in the process of configuring two additional pitches including a mini 5v5 and 7v7 on land adjacent to Scots Sport and Social Club.
- Newport Pagnell Town FC is in the process of undertaking a site expansion at Willen Road Sports Ground to provide three additional grass pitches including two youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch.
- The audit identifies seven pitches across seven disused sites that previously provided football pitches but no longer do so. Three of these sites are former education sites. In addition, 24 pitches across 12 sites have been identified where pitches are no longer marked out but the site continues to provide accessible playing field.
- Tenure of sites in Milton Keynes is generally secure i.e., through a long-term lease or a guarantee that pitches will continue to be provided over the next three years.
- The quality of football pitches across Milton Keynes has been assessed via a combination of site visits carried out in January 2025, PitchPower reports, and user consultation. Most pitches are assessed as standard quality with 121 (51%), whilst 78 pitches are rated as good quality (32%) and 29 pitches rated as poor quality (16%).
- In Milton Keynes, 89 pitches across 21 sites have received a PitchPower assessment.
- Eight sites are considered to have poor quality ancillary facilities, elsewhere, Browns Wood Sports Ground, Fishermead Sports Ground and Watson's Field do not provide any onsite ancillary facilities.

Demand summary

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- ◀ A total of 656 teams from 74 affiliated clubs are identified as playing in Milton Keynes, although only 612 across 71 clubs access grass pitches for match demand. As a breakdown, this equates to 90 adult teams, 217 youth 11v11 teams, 113 youth 9v9 teams, 107 mini 7v7 teams and 85 mini 5v5 teams.
- ◀ The remaining 44 teams not included within this section are identified as accessing 3G pitch provision for match play and do not require grass pitches to accommodate match demand, these are made up of 17 disability, 11 U5/U6 development, 12 futsal and four walking football teams.
- ◀ Football in Milton Keynes is played predominately in the West Analysis Area with a total of 156 teams (27%) whilst The North West Analysis Area has the fewest number of teams with 29 (5%).
- ◀ Two teams from Milton Keynes compete in the NLS. Three teams also compete in the local regional feeder league which is one promotion away from the NLS and there are currently three women's team fielded by three clubs which are part of the WNLS.
- ◀ There are currently 12 women's teams and 60 dedicated girls' teams playing football in Milton Keynes. This represents 11% of all demand across the City.
- ◀ It has been identified that a total of 26 teams across 11 clubs are exporting demand outside of Milton Keynes to neighbouring authorities including, Buckinghamshire, Central Bedfordshire and West Northamptonshire.
- ◀ Of responding clubs, 15 report aspirations to increase the number of teams they provide, totalling a predicted growth of 37 teams.
- ◀ Future demand from population growth equates to an additional 49 teams.
- ◀ In Milton Keynes, peak time for all formats of football is Saturday morning, as most teams across all age groups play at this time.

PART 3: THIRD GENERATION TURF (3G) ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCHES (AGPS)

3.1: Introduction

Competitive football can take place on 3G surfaces that have been FIFA or International Matchball Standard tested and approved by the FA for inclusion on the FA 3G Pitch Register. As such, in addition to training demand, a growing number of 3G pitches are now used for competitive match play, providing that the performance standard meets FIFA quality requirements.

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

Competitive rugby league play and contact practice is permitted to take place on 3G pitches which are deemed by the Rugby Football League (RFL) to meet its Performance Standard. Pitches fall under two categories; community club pitches which require retesting every two years and elite stadia pitches which require an annual retest. Much of the criteria within the RFL performance standard test also forms part of the World Rugby test, meaning World Rugby certified 3G pitches are considered by the RFL to be able to meet rugby league requirements, subject to passing an additional RFL performance standard test.

Many test contractors offer reduced rates through efficiency savings to carry out multiple performance tests in the same session, therefore providers seeking 3G pitch compliancy for a number of sports would be recommended to consider this opportunity. Other sports that are known to use 3G pitches for training and match play include American football and lacrosse.

EH's Artificial Grass Playing Surface Policy (June 2016) advises that 3G pitches should not be used for hockey matches or training and that they can only be used for lower level hockey (introductory level) as a last resort when no sand-based or water-based AGPs are available.

3.2: Supply

The recommended dimensions for an 11v11 size 3G artificial grass pitch for football are 100 x 64 metres. This extends to an area of 106 x 70 metres with the recommended minimum three metre run off area included. These dimensions allow for all age group match play to take place including adults, youth under 17/18 and younger age groups via overmarked pitches, e.g., the marking out of two 9v9 pitches for under 11/12s.

From the perspective of this PPS any pitch which meets the dimensions of 91x55m (the minimum dimensions for adult football) is referenced as being 11v11 size.

For rugby union, a 3G pitch must measure 106 x 68 metres for senior match play, with a 5-metre run off around the full perimeter. Smaller sized pitches can, however, be used to support training demand providing that they are installed to the correct specifications.

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For rugby league, the preferred size of a 3G pitch must measure 100 x 68 metres with an eight metre in-goal area, with a maximum size 3G pitch measuring 100 x 68 metres with a 11 metre in-goal area and for a minimum size 3G pitch it must measure 88 x 55 metres with a six metre in-goal area. All pitches must have a 3-metre run off as standard.

If a new pitch is proposed to measure below the recommended dimensions for the relevant sports, then justification must be provided for this in relation to the identified needs it will provide for and/or site constraints. In doing so, the impacts of a reduced pitch size in meeting current and future needs must be considered e.g., for football, a pitch not providing the recommended dimensions for adult match play and/or only being able to accommodate one rather than two overmarked 9v9 pitches. This justification needs to be included in the planning application details submitted to the relevant Local Planning Authority for the new pitch.

Unless otherwise stated and justified for an individual pitch, proposals in this PPS for any new 11v11 3G pitches are based on providing them to the recommended dimensions for the sports that they will be established to cater for.

Based on the above specification, the audit identifies a total of 13 11v11 3G pitches in Milton Keynes across as many sites. All pitches are sports lit and considered available for community use.

Table 3.1: 11v11 3G pitches in Milton Keynes

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Sports lighting?	Size (metres)	FA Registered
35	Fairfields Sports Hub	MK11 4BA	West	Yes	Yes	100 x 64	31/05/2027
41	Glebe Farm School	MK17 8XY	East	Yes	Yes	100 x 64	31/05/2026
61	Leon Leisure Centre	MK2 3HQ	South	Yes	Yes	100 x 64	31/05/2025
63	Lord Grey Academy	MK3 6EW	South	Yes	Yes	91 x 55	N/A
91	Ousedale School (Olney Campus)	MK46 5LF	North	Yes	Yes	91 x 55	31/05/2028
106	Sports Central	MK9 1EN	Central	Yes	Yes	100 x 64	31/05/2025
115	Stantonbury Leisure Centre	MK14 6BN	North West	Yes	Yes	90 x 64	N/A
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion	MK4 3EQ	West	Yes	Yes	100 x 64	31/05/2027
121	The Radcliffe School	MK12 5BT	North West	Yes	Yes	100 x 64	N/A
126	Walton High (Brooklands Campus)	MK10 7HE	East	Yes	Yes	100 x 60	N/A
129	Watling Academy	MK8 1EP	West	Yes	Yes	100 x 64	31/05/2027

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Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Sports lighting?	Size (metres)	FA Registered
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	MK16 0DF	North East	Yes	Yes	91 x 55	19/08/2025
147	Kents Hill Park School	MK7 6BZ	East	Yes	Yes	91 x 55	31/05/2026

As shown in Table 3.2 below, the East and West analysis areas have the greatest number of 11v11 3G pitches with three, followed by the North West and South analysis areas with two. The remaining analysis areas have one 11v11 3G pitch each.

Table 3.2: Summary of the number of 11v11 3G pitches by analysis area

Analysis area	No. of 11v11 pitches available for community use
Central	1
East	3
North	1
North East	1
North West	2
South	2
West	3
Milton Keynes	13

As well as the 11v11 3G pitches, there are also 24 smaller size outdoor 3G pitches across 11 sites in Milton Keynes. Of these, 18 pitches are available to the community and are sports lit.

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Table 3.3: Additional supply of 3G provision (outdoor)

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Number of pitches	Community use?	Sports lighting?	Size (metres)	FA Register?
14	Broughton Manor Preparatory School	MK10 9AA	East	1	No	No	30 x 20	N/A
17	Bushfield School	MK12 5JG	North West	1	No	No	33 x 14	N/A
45	Greenleys Junior School	MK12 5DE	North West	1	No	No	20 x 12	N/A
47	Hanslope Primary School	MK19 7BL	North West	1	No	No	74 x 45	N/A
69	Middleton Primary School	MK10 9EN	East	1	No	No	74 x 45	N/A
82	Newton Leys Primary School	MK3 5GG	South	1	No	No	74 x 45	N/A
94	Powerleague (Milton Keynes)	MK7 7WH	South	10	Yes	Yes	30 x 18	N/A
94	Powerleague (Milton Keynes)	MK7 7WH	East	2	Yes	Yes	40 x 30	N/A
98	Rickley Park Primary School	MK3 6EW	West	1	Yes	Yes	76 x 43	N/A
100	Shenley Brook End School	MK5 7ZT	West	1	Yes	Yes	45 x 35	N/A
101	Shenley Leisure Centre	MK5 6HF	West	2	Yes	Yes	45 x 35	N/A
138	Willen Lake	MK15 0DS	East	2	Yes	Yes	37 x 16	N/A

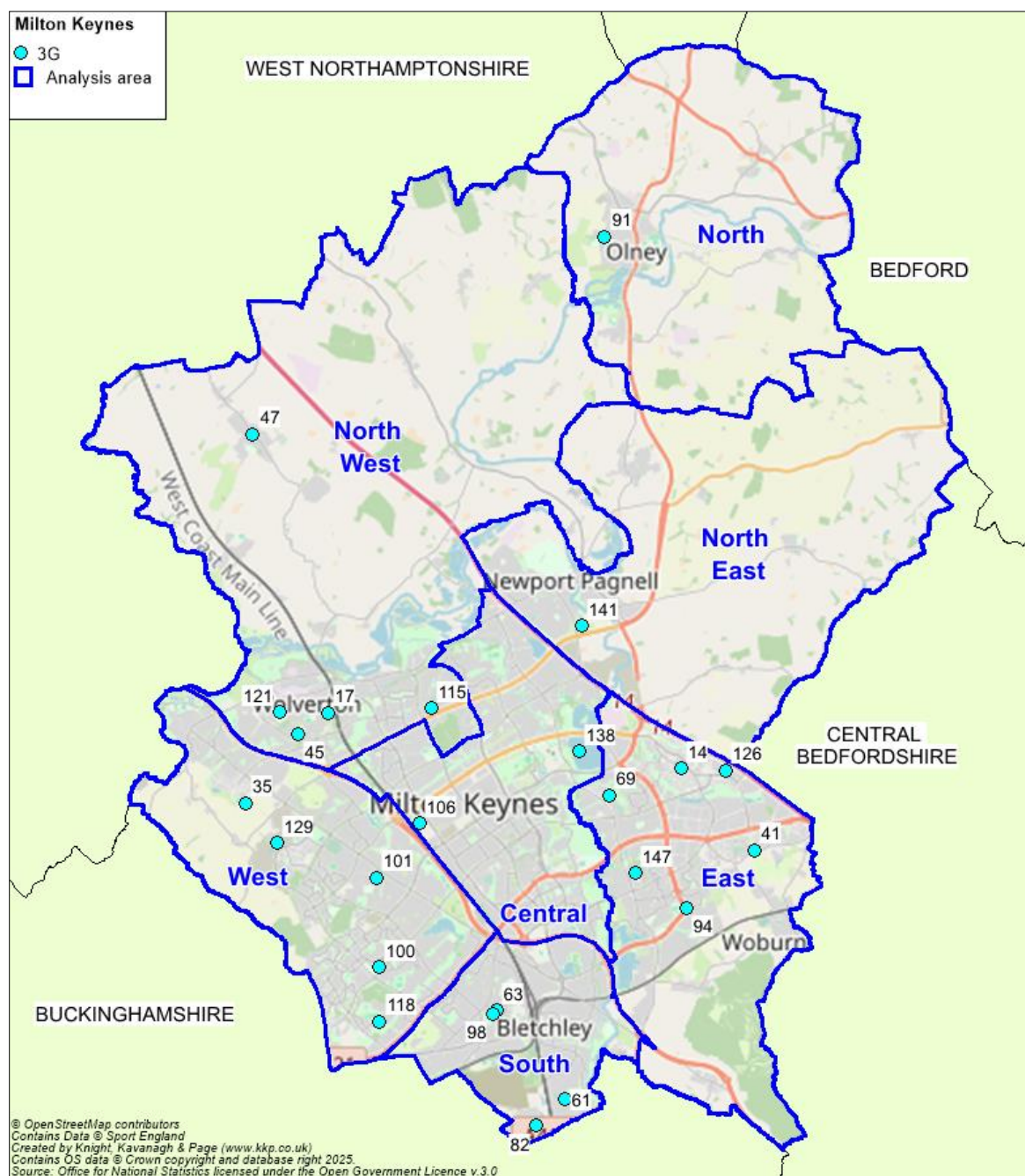
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Most of the smaller size pitch provision is provided in the South Analysis Area (11 of 24 – 46%), followed by the East Analysis Area providing six smaller size pitches (25%). The Central Analysis Area currently has no smaller size 3G pitches.

Whilst not large enough to accommodate adult match play, smaller size provision can be used to accommodate youth and mini matches, in addition to training demand, providing that they are on the FA 3G Pitch Register, of an adequate size and with appropriate run-off areas. They are also often used for recreational and informal uses.

The map below identifies the location of all 3G pitches in Milton Keynes regardless of size.

Figure 3.1: Location of 3G pitches in Milton Keynes



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FA 3G Pitch Register

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

Pitches undergo testing to become a FIFA Quality pitch or a FIFA Quality Pro pitch, with provision commonly constructed, installed and tested in situ to achieve either accreditation. The differences between the accreditations are that FIFA Quality pitches are designed to accommodate substantial levels of regular usage, whereas FIFA Quality Pro pitches are more for high level performance, with usage levels therefore more limited to protect the standard. Generally, FIFA Quality pitches can be typically used for 60-85 hours per week, whereas FIFA Quality Pro pitches are able to accommodate 20-30 hours.

To remain on the Register, pitches must be reassessed every three years to ensure that quality has not deteriorated beyond acceptable levels, although this is required annually for clubs using 3G pitches within the National League System (Step 1-6).

In Milton Keynes, the 3G pitches located at Fairfield's Sports Hub, Glebe Farm School, Leon Leisure Centre, Ousedale School, Sports Central, Tattenhoe Sports Pavillion, Watling Academy, Willen Road Sports Ground and Kents Hill Park School are all on the FA 3G Pitch Register. All other pitches are not on the register and therefore unusable for competitive match play.

The small sided 3G pitch located at Rickley Park School that was previously on the Register expired on the 31/05/2024 and has not yet been retested.

World Rugby (WR) compliant pitches

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

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

In Milton Keynes, there was previously one 3G pitch which was WR compliant located at Sport Central. It recently failed its re-certification test because of issues with line marking. Due to the dimensions of the pitch, it is not large enough to accommodate senior rugby demand and for that reason, it is not a significant loss for rugby union, however, it was still utilised on some occasions to accommodate training demand from Milton Keynes RUFC and would benefit from re-certification in the future to ensure it can be used as a function training outlet.

Conversations are ongoing regarding the potential development of a World Rugby compliant 11v11 3G pitch at Manor Fields. The development, led by Bletchley Rugby Club and supported by Milton Keynes Irish FC would see the pitch built on top of the existing rugby pitches to resolve ongoing flooding issues which are prevalent at the site. It has been identified that Milton Keynes City Council has ringfenced S106 monies from the Eaton Leys development to support this project.

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RFL compliant pitches

3G pitches for rugby league are classed as either RFL Community or RFL Stadium. RFL Community is suitable for Tiers 4-6 and training. If used for competitive games they should be tested every two years, and if it only used training only then every three years. RFL Stadium pitches are considered suitable for match play use in Tiers 1-3 and should be retested annually if used for competitive games. More information can be found in Section five here [Materials Science Consultants Ltd.](#)

The WR22 test complies with the RFL Community element of this, but the frequency of retest is different should the 3G be used for competitive rugby league. The RFL Stadium criteria requires an additional test.

Management

Across Milton Keynes, nine of the 13 11v11 3G pitches are managed by education providers. The pitch at Willen Road Sports Ground is managed by Newport Pagnell Town FC whilst the pitch at Stantonbury Leisure Centre is managed by a commercial operator. Elsewhere the 11v11 3G pitches at Fairfields Sports Hub and Tattenhoe Sports Pavillion are managed by the Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust.

The smaller size 3G pitches are managed by either commercial management (14 or 58%) or education providers (10 or 42%).

Availability

The following table summarises the availability within the peak period of 11v11 3G pitches in Milton Keynes. Sport England Active Places applies a generic overall peak period for AGPs based the following hours for AGPs 34 hours a week (Monday to Thursday 17:00-21:00; Friday 17:00-19:00; Saturday and Sunday 09:00-17:00).

The availability at each venue providing a 11v11 3G pitch is summarised in Table 3.4.

Table 3.4: Summary of 11v11 3G pitch availability

Site ID	Site	Availability in the peak period (hours)	Availability
35	Fairfields Sports Hub	34	Available to the community 16:00 until 22:00 Monday – Friday. Weekend availability is 09:00 until 17:00.
41	Glebe Farm School	30	Available to the community 18:00 until 21:30 Monday – Friday. Weekend availability is 08:00 until 21:30.
61	Leon Leisure Centre	34	Available to the community 16:00 until 22:00 Monday – Friday. Weekend availability is 09:00 until 17:00.
63	Lord Grey Academy	31.5	Available to the community 17:30 until 21:30 Monday – Friday. Weekend availability is 09:00 until 17:00.
91	Ousedale School (Olney Campus)	34	Available to the community 17:00 until 22:00 Monday – Friday. Weekend availability is 08:00 until 20:00.

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Site ID	Site	Availability in the peak period (hours)	Availability
106	Sports Central	34	Available to the community 09:00 until 21:00 Monday – Sunday.
115	Stantonbury Leisure Centre	34	Available to the community 06:30 until 22:00 Monday – Friday. Weekend availability is 08:00 until 18:00.
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion	32	Available to the community 09:00 until 21:00 Monday – Friday. Weekend availability is 09:00 until 16:00.
121	The Radcliffe School	34	Available to the community 17:00 until 21:00 Monday – Friday. Weekend availability is 09:00 until 17:00
126	Walton High (Brooklands Campus)	13	Currently available 18:00 until 21:00 Monday – Friday. No weekend availability due to staffing issues. School aspiration to open up more of the pitch for community use.
129	Watling Academy	21.25	Current availability is 17:45 until 21:00 Monday – Friday and 08:00 until 16:00 on Saturdays. No Sunday availability.
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	34	Available to the community 08:00 until 22:00 Monday – Sunday.
147	Kents Hill Park School	34	Available to the community 17:00 until 21:00 Monday – Friday. Weekend availability is 08:30 until 17:00 Saturday and 08:30 until 18:00 on Sunday.

Whilst there is a range of community availability across the 11v11 3G pitches servicing Milton Keynes, it has been raised by Berks & Bucks FA as well as by eight clubs through consultation stating that the pricing of the pitches can be a barrier to accessing the provision.

Quality

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

In Milton Keynes, most 11v11 3G pitches are rated as good quality, however, the pitches at Stantonbury Leisure Centre, Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion and The Radcliffe School are rated as standard quality. No 11v11 3G pitches are rated as poor quality across the Authority.

Table 3.5: Summary of 11v11 3G pitch quality

Site ID	Site	Year installed/resurfaced	Quality
35	Fairfields Sports Hub	2020	Good
41	Glebe Farm School	2022	Good
61	Leon Leisure Centre	2025	Good
63	Lord Grey Academy	2020	Good
91	Ousedale School (Olney Campus)	2024	Good

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Site ID	Site	Year installed/resurfaced	Quality
106	Sports Central	2017	Good
115	Stantonbury Leisure Centre	2019	Standard
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion	2019	Standard
121	The Radcliffe School	2013	Standard
126	Walton High (Brooklands Campus)	2016	Good
129	Watling Academy	2021	Good
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	2024	Good
147	Kents Hill Park School	2017	Good

As seen in the table above, a number of pitches are operating beyond or close to the recommended lifespan of a 3G pitch, including The Radcliffe School and Walton High (Brooklands Campus).

Despite it nearly reaching its recommended life span, the pitch at Walton High (Brooklands Campus) is rated as good quality due to its limited community use, meaning less wear and tear of the carpet has been received since it was installed.

In relation to the 11v11 3G pitch at Stantonbury Leisure Centre, feedback from Berks & Bucks FA as well as consultation with clubs suggests that the pitch is on the verge of being poor quality due to wear and tear, as well as this not being on the FA 3G Pitch Register.

In addition to above, there are three good quality and 21 standard quality and six poor quality smaller size 3G pitches. No smaller size 3G pitches are identified as poor quality across Milton Keynes.

Table 3.6: Summary of smaller size 3G pitch quality

Site ID	Site	Number of pitches	Year installed/resurfaced	Quality
14	Broughton Manor Preparatory School	1	2016	Standard
17	Bushfield School	1	2016	Standard
45	Greenleys Junior School	1	2018	Standard
47	Hanslope Primary School	1	2021	Good
69	Middleton Primary School	1	2021	Good
82	Newton Leys Primary School	1	2016	Standard
94	Powerleague (Milton Keynes)	10	2007	Standard
94	Powerleague (Milton Keynes)	2	2007	Standard
98	Rickley Park Primary School	1	2010	Standard
100	Shenley Brook End School	1	2024	Good
101	Shenley Leisure Centre	2	2018	Standard
138	Willen Lake	2	2014	Standard

Despite a few of the pitches exceeding their recommended life span, no significant reports of quality issues have been raised during consultation in relation to the smaller sided 3G pitches across Milton Keynes.

Ancillary facilities

All 3G pitches in Milton Keynes are accompanied by ancillary facilities that are considered adequate with no issues raised during consultation or via site assessments or consultation.

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3.3: Demand

The 11v11 3G pitches currently available for community use in Milton Keynes are all reported to be operating at or close to capacity at peak times, especially during winter months when grass pitches cannot be used for training or recreational demand (due to a lack of sports lighting).

The table below summarises usage levels of the 11v11 3G provision in Milton Keynes based on booking sheets supplied by the operators, feedback from clubs during the consultation process and affiliation data. This compared against availability at peak time, using Sport England's Active Places.

As seen, all midweek and weekend availability are currently at capacity or close to capacity, in Milton Keynes. This data should be used to establish a baseline that can be reviewed annually to see if the position changes, considering any new pitches that are established and the impact these have.

Table 3.7: Current usage of 11v11 3G pitches across Milton Keynes in peak time

Site ID	Site name	Midweek availability (hours)	Midweek usage (hours)	Weekend availability (hours)	Weekend usage (hours)
35	Fairfields Sports Hub	18	18	16	14
41	Glebe Farm School	14	14	16	12
61	Leon Leisure Centre	18	16	16	14
63	Lord Grey Academy	15.5	15.5	16	14
91	Ousedale School (Olney Campus)	18	12	16	12
106	Sports Central	18	18	16	16
115	Stantonbury Leisure Centre	18	14	16	12
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion	18	18	14	14
121	The Radcliffe School	18	16	14	12
126	Walton High (Brooklands Campus)	13	13	-	-
129	Watling Academy	14.25	14.25	7	7
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	18	18	16	16
147	Kents Hill Park School	18	16	16	14
-	Totals	218.75	202.75	179	157

Conversely, smaller sized pitches can receive higher levels of recreational and commercial use when compared to 11v11 provision, particularly when multiple pitches are provided at one venue as is the case at Powerleague (Milton Keynes). This is because they better lend themselves to small-sided activity.

Unmet/latent demand

Getting access to good quality, affordable training facilities is a problem for many football clubs throughout the country. In the winter months, midweek training is only possible at sports lit facilities, with 3G provision preferred by the FA and most clubs.

Across Milton Keynes, 16 football clubs that responded to consultation report that they require additional access to 3G provision, which represents a high proportion of unmet demand. Some of these are training on 3G pitches but do not have capacity for all of their teams, or do not have access at preferred times. Others are not training on 3G pitches at all

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and are instead using sand-based or grass pitches either at their home grounds or elsewhere.

Across the clubs, 221 teams are represented, which is a significant number, with 104 of the teams not currently accessing any 3G provision for training. The clubs expressing this demand and sites presently used are summarised in the following table.

Table 3.8: Current training facilities of clubs reporting unmet/latent 3G pitch demand

Club name	Site ID	Site	Surface
AFC Carpathians	10	Brooklands Community Sports Pavillion	Grass
Bletchley Scot FC	99	Scots Sports and Social Club	Grass
Castlethorpe Rovers	139	Willen Pavillion	Grass
City Colts FC	10	Brooklands Community Sports Pavillion	Grass
FC Castlethorpe Youth FC	20	Castlethorpe Sports Ground	Grass
Milton Keynes City FC	28	Derwent Drive Playing Fields	Grass
Milton Keynes City FC	117	Tattenhoe Lane Sports Ground	Grass
MK United	53	Hodge Lea	Grass
MK11 FC	63	Lord Grey School	3G
New Bradwell St Peter FC	77	New Bradwell Recreation Ground	Grass
Newport Pagnell Athletic FC	121	The Radcliffe School	3G
Newport Pagnell Town FC	141	Willen Road Sports Ground	Grass/ 3G
Newport Pagnell Youth FC	80	Newport Pagnell Youth Club	Grass
Open University FC	88	Open University (Walton Hall Campus)	Grass
Shenley FC	100	Shenley Brook End School	Grass/3G
Shenley FC	119	The Hazeley Academy	Grass
Stony Stratford Town FC	121	The Radcliffe School	3G
Stony Stratford Town FC	129	Watling Academy	3G
Tattenhoe Youth FC	68	Medbourne Pavillion	Grass
Tattenhoe Youth FC	97	Rickley Park	3G

No unmet or latent 3G demand has been identified for any sport other than football.

Exported/ displaced demand

Through consultation, no clubs are identified as exporting demand outside of Milton Keynes to access 3G provision. Similarly, no imported demand has been identified.

Future demand

As set out in Part 2 of this report, potential growth from population projections equates to 22 football teams to 638. If this growth was realised, and if all additional teams wanted or needed to train on 3G provision, it will increase the number of 3G pitches required.

ONS population projections do not account for the potential for future demand to be higher, which could be the case particularly if recent growth trends continue. Further increases will therefore be subject to scenarios in Strategy document. This will include growth scenarios aligned to the Milton Keynes City Plan (2050) and a scenario on the impact of trend based growth.

In addition, although there is limited access to 3G pitches for rugby union it is clear that future access could provide a solution to the deficits identified in Part 4 of this report. This would be particularly relevant in the case of Bletchley RUFC given its current situation in relation to the flooding of its pitches at Manor Fields.

3.4: Supply and demand analysis

Football

The FA considers high quality 3G pitches as an essential tool in promoting coach and player development, with the pitches considered to be great assets on account of being able to support intensive use and use during inclement weather. Primarily, such facilities have been installed for social use and training; however, they are increasingly being used for competition, which the FA wholly supports.

Training demand

To quantify the 3G shortfall for football, the FA has established a training model, which suggests that one 11v11 3G pitch can accommodate 38 affiliated teams (with capacity built in for other forms of demand). It also has an aspiration for all teams to train once per week on a 3G pitch, although it is recognised that nationally some activity may need to be retained on sand-based pitches to ensure the sustainability of them.

For the model, in addition to 11v11 pitches being included, some smaller size pitches can also be incorporated as nationally many are suitable for accommodating training demand, especially larger ones.

The contribution each pitch makes towards the modelling is summarised in the table below. This then informs the proceeding modelling tables. Any pitch too small to accommodate training demand are discounted, as well as any pitches that are unavailable for community use.

It should also be noted that some training demand is also recorded on the hockey suitable AGPs at Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus) and Woughton on The Green Playing Fields, linked to the shortfall of 11v11 3G pitches across Milton Keynes.

Table 3.9: Contribution of 3G pitches in meeting training requirements

Site name	Analysis area	Number of pitches	Size (metres)	Comments	Full size adult pitch equivalents
11v11 size	-	-	-	-	-
Fairfields Sports Hub	West	1	100 x 64	Available for community use.	1
Glebe Farm School	East	1	100 x 64	Available for community use. Utilised by Juventus Academy.	0.75
Leon Leisure Centre	South	1	90 x 64	Available for community use.	1
Lord Grey Academy	South	1	91 x 55	Available for community use. Utilised by Paris Saint Germain Academy.	0.5
Ousedale School (Olney Campus)	North	1	91 x 55	Available for community use.	1

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Site name	Analysis area	Number of pitches	Size (metres)	Comments	Full size adult pitch equivalents
Sports Central	Central	1	100 x 64	Available for community use. Some rugby demand is accommodated from Milton Keynes RUFC.	0.75
Stantonbury Leisure Centre	North West	1	90 x 64	Available for community use.	1
Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion	West	1	100 x 64	Available for community use.	1
The Radcliffe School	North West	1	100 x 64	Available for community use.	1
Walton High (Brooklands Campus)	East	1	100 x 60	Available for community use however is limited due to staffing.	0.75
Watling Academy	West	1	100 x 64	Available for community use with this limited in the peak period.	0.75
Willen Road Sports Ground	North East	1	91 x 55	Available for community use.	1
Kents Hill Park School	East	1	91 x 55	Available for community use.	1
Smaller size	-	-	-	-	-
Broughton Manor Preparatory School	East	1	30 x 20	Unavailable for community use.	-
Bushfield School	North West	1	33 x 14	Unavailable for community use.	-
Greenleys Junior School	North West	1	20 x 12	Unavailable for community use.	-
Hanslope Primary School	North West	1	74 x 45	Unavailable for community use.	-
Middleton Primary School	East	1	74 x 45	Unavailable for community use.	-
Newton Leys Primary School	South	1	74 x 45	Unavailable for community use.	-
Powerleague (Milton Keynes)	South	10	30 x 18	Discounted due to commercial use.	-
Powerleague (Milton Keynes)	East	2	40 x 30	Discounted due to commercial use.	-
Rickley Park Primary School	West	1	76 x 43	Available for community use.	0.5
Shenley Brook End School	West	1	45 x 35	Available for community use. Utilised by Shenley Brook End FC.	0.25
Shenley Leisure Centre	West	2	45 x 35	Discounted due to commercial use.	-

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Site name	Analysis area	Number of pitches	Size (metres)	Comments	Full size adult pitch equivalents
Willen Lake	East	2	37 x 16	Discounted due to commercial use.	-
-	-		-	Total	12.5

No clubs currently report using any of the pitches for training that have been discounted in the table above, further evidencing their unsuitability for this purpose.

Although there are 33 teams which export match demand outside of Milton Keynes there is still a need for these teams to train locally. Therefore, given there is a total of 656 teams which originate in Milton Keynes, there is a theoretical need for 17.25 11v11 3G pitches.

As there are currently 12.25 pitch equivalents provided, this means that there is a potential need for five additional 11v11 3G pitches to meet all current training demand.

Table 3.10: Current demand for 11v11 3G pitches in Milton Keynes (38 teams per pitch)

Current number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 11v11 size 3G pitch equivalents	Current shortfall
656	17.25	12.25	5

When considering future demand for an additional 49 teams (based on growth identified in Part 2 of this report), there is potential demand for 18.5 full size pitches overall (rounded down from 18.55), which means a theoretical future shortfall of 6.25 pitches.

Table 3.11: Future demand for 11v11 3G pitches in Milton Keynes (38 teams per pitch)

Future number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 11v11 size 3G pitch equivalents	Future shortfall
705	18.5	12.25	6.25

The table below considers the number of 3G pitches required if every team was to remain training within the respective analysis area that they play in to provide a more locational specific view. This not only identifies where the potential needs exist, but it can also be used to guide which areas should be targeted for new provision. The figures also includes exported competitive demand as these teams would prefer to train within their own local authority and analysis area.

Table 3.12: Current demand for 11v11 3G pitches by analysis area (38 teams per pitch)

Analysis area	Current number of teams	Current requirement	Current number of 11v11 pitch equivalents	Current shortfall
Central	127	3.25	0.75	2.5
East	140	3.75	2.75	1
North	42	1	1	0
North East	62	1.5	1	0.5
North West	36	1	2	1
South	90	2.5	1.5	1
West	159	4.25	3.5	0.75
Milton Keynes	656	17.25	12.5	5

This shows an overall shortfall of five 11v11 3G pitch equivalents, aligning to the shortfall across Milton Keynes as a whole. It also identifies that there are specific shortfalls in the

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Central, East, North East, South and West analysis areas, each needing at least 0.5 pitches, whilst the Central Analysis Area needs 2.5 pitches. When factoring in future demand, the shortfall increases to 6.25 pitches.

Whilst these analysis areas should be the prioritised for new 11v11 3G developments, many clubs are utilising facilities outside of their primary Analysis Area. As such, flexibility on the delivery of 11v11 3G pitches may be required.

Match play demand

Improving grass pitch quality is one way to increase the capacity at sites but given the cost of doing such work and the continued maintenance required (and associated costs), alternatives need to be considered that can offer a more sustainable model for the future of football. The alternative or supplement to grass pitches is the use of 3G pitches for competitive matches, providing that the pitch is FA approved, sports lit and available for community use during the peak period.

In Milton Keynes, currently 79 affiliated teams across 15 clubs are registered as using 3G pitches for regular match play.

As the number of 3G pitches increases in line with meeting training demand shortfalls, so should the number of teams utilising the provision for matches, which in turn should relieve grass pitches of use. As such, whilst the number of 3G pitches needed for matches will never outweigh the number of 3G pitches needed for training (as they would not be sustainable without midweek usage), maximising the pitches that are in place and that are proposed should be fully supported.

Rugby union

Given the inclement weather often experienced throughout the winter months of the rugby union season, more clubs are becoming increasingly receptive towards training on artificial pitches. Clubs traditionally train on match pitches where floodlights are in place or one pitch designated for all training in particular, unless there is a separate floodlit grass training area. It often results in deterioration in pitch quality coupled with decreasing maintenance budgets.

The recent RFU strategy on investment in 3G pitches both at club and community-based sites is indicative of the growing acceptance of 3G pitches amongst clubs nationally. Nationally clubs identify the use of 3G pitches for training as a method of protecting the match pitches and providing a high quality surface for full contact practice. Competitive play continues to take place on grass pitches for the most part, with ad hoc use of 3G pitches for fixtures in the case of unsuitable pitches due to waterlogging or frost.

The above particularly relates to Bletchley RUFC given the levels of overplay their grass pitches receive and the quality issues existing here. Whilst other solutions to alleviate these deficits may be possible, they could be difficult to achieve and would not be as impactful (this will be tested in the subsequent Strategy & Action Plan document.)

Other sports

Currently, no other sports clubs/users are presently identified as accessing the existing stock of 3G pitches in Milton Keynes (outside of some school activity).

3.5: Conclusion

In conclusion, there is insufficient supply of 11v11 size 3G pitches to meet current and anticipated future football training demand in Milton Keynes, with a potential current shortfall

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of five 11v11 3G pitches identified and an anticipated future shortfall of 6.25 11v11 3G pitches.

In addition, to ensure that current supply and any future supply is maintained to a good enough standard to accommodate demand, providers are encouraged to put pitch replacement funds in place to ensure long-term sustainability. This will allow for re-surfacing to take place when required and will ensure that pitches can remain on the FA 3G Pitch Register.

Supply and demand summary

- There is insufficient supply of 11v11 size 3G pitches to meet current and anticipated future football training demand in Milton Keynes, with a potential current shortfall of five 11v11 3G pitches identified and an anticipated future shortfall of 6.25 11v11 3G pitches.

Supply summary

- The audit identifies a total of 13 11v11 3G pitches in Milton Keynes across as many sites. All pitches are sports lit and considered available for community use.
- The East and West analysis areas have the greatest number of 11v11 3G pitches with three, followed by the North West and South analysis areas with two. The remaining analysis areas have one 11v11 3G pitch each.
- As well as the 11v11 3G pitches, there are also 24 smaller size outdoor 3G pitches across 11 sites in Milton Keynes. Of these, 18 pitches are available to the community and are sports lit.
- Most of the smaller size pitch provision is provided in the South Analysis Area (11 of 24 – 46%), followed by the East Analysis Area providing six smaller size pitches (25%). The Central Analysis Area currently has no smaller size 3G pitches.
- The 3G pitches located at Fairfield's Sports Hub, Glebe Farm School, Leon Leisure Centre, Ousedale School, Sports Central, Tattenhoe Sports Pavillion, Watling Academy, Willen Road Sports Ground and Kents Hill Park School are all on the FA 3G Pitch Register.
- The WR compliant pitch at Sport Central has lost its certification due to issue with existing line markings.
- Across Milton Keynes, nine of the 13 11v11 3G pitches are managed by education providers. The pitch at Willen Road Spots Ground is managed by Newport Pagnell Town FC whilst the pitch at Stantonbury Leisure Centre is managed by a commercial operator. Elsewhere the 11v11 3G pitches at Fairfield's Sports Hub and Tattenhoe Sports Pavillion are managed by the Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust.
- The smaller size 3G pitches are managed by either commercial management (14 or 58%) or education providers (10 or 42%).
- In Milton Keynes, most 11v11 3G pitches are rated as good quality, however, the pitches at Leon Leisure Centre, Stantonbury Leisure Centre, Tattenhoe Sports Pavillion and The Radcliffe School are rated as standard quality. No 11v11 3G pitches are rated as poor quality across the Authority.
- There are three good quality and 21 standard quality and six poor quality smaller size 3G pitches. No smaller sized 3G pitches are identified as poor quality across Milton Keynes.
- All midweek and weekend availability are currently at capacity or close to capacity in Milton Keynes.

Demand summary

- Currently, it is considered that most community-based activity on 3G pitches is football related. There is limited demand for this provision type outside of limited training demand from Milton Keynes RUFC and the aspiration of a pitch from Bletchley RUFC.
- 16 football clubs that responded to consultation report that they require additional access to 3G provision, which represents a high proportion of unmet demand. Across the clubs, 221 teams are represented, which is a significant number, with 104 of the teams not currently accessing any 3G provision for training.
- No clubs are identified as exporting demand outside of Milton Keynes to access 3G provision. Similarly, no imported demand has been identified.
- Although there are 33 teams which export match demand outside of Milton Keynes there is still a need for these teams to train locally. Therefore, given there is a total of 656 teams which originate in Milton Keynes, there is a theoretical need for 17.25 11v11 3G pitches.

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- ◀ When considering future demand for an additional 49 teams (based on growth identified in Part 2 of this report), there is potential demand for 18.5 full size pitches overall (rounded down from 18.55), which means a theoretical future shortfall of 6.25 pitches.
- ◀ There are specific shortfalls in the Central, East, North East, South and West analysis areas, each needing at least 0.5 pitches, whilst the Central Analysis Area needs 2.75 pitches.
- ◀ Whilst these analysis areas should be the prioritised for new 11v11 3G developments, many clubs are utilising facilities outside of their primary analysis area. As such, flexibility on the delivery of 11v11 3G pitches may be required.

PART 4: RUGBY UNION

4.1: Introduction

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) is split into four areas across the country with a workforce team that covers development, coaching, governance and competitions. It governs a variety of formats and programmes, including 15-a-side, 10-a-side, 7-a-side and Tag rugby. Its aim is to increase and retain participation within the game, with facilities needing to be appropriate, affordable and accessible in order to enable this.

For traditional rugby union, there are generally three playing formats, based on the age of the players involved. These are now known as age grade mixed rugby (previously mini), age grade boys/girls rugby (previously junior) and senior rugby.

The rugby union playing season operates from September to May.

Consultation

There are three rugby union clubs in Milton Keynes with all clubs responding to consultation requests resulting in a 100% response rate. This is summarised in the table below.

Table 4.1: Rugby club response rate

Club name	Club response	Type of consultation	Analysis area
Bletchley RUFC	Yes	Face to face	South
Milton Keynes RUFC	Yes	Face to face	West
Olney RUFC	Yes	Face to face	North

4.2: Supply

The audit identifies a total 23 rugby pitches located across 12 sites within Milton Keynes broken down as 19 senior and four junior pitches.

Of the pitches 13 (57%) are available for some level of community use with these all located across the three club sites, Emerson Valley Sports Ground, Manor Fields and Olney Recreation Ground. All unavailable pitches are located at educational sites.

Table 4.2: Supply of grass rugby union in Milton Keynes

Analysis area	No. of community available rugby union pitches	No. of unavailable rugby union pitches
Central	-	2
East	-	2
North	5	2
North East	-	2
North West	-	-
South	4	1
West	4	1
Total	13	10

All community available pitches are senior size and fairly evenly distributed between three of the seven analysis areas where rugby union is played within Milton Keynes. The North Analysis Area has 38% of all community available pitches with five, whilst the South and West analysis areas each have four (31%).

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The audit only identifies dedicated, line marked pitches that are serviced by goalposts. However, nationally, there are some additional spaces that are used, without goalposts, particularly for age grade rugby. It is also common for age grade matches to be played on senior pitches via the use of cones.

Recommended pitch dimensions for all formats of play are shown in the table below.

Table 4.3: Rugby union pitch dimensions

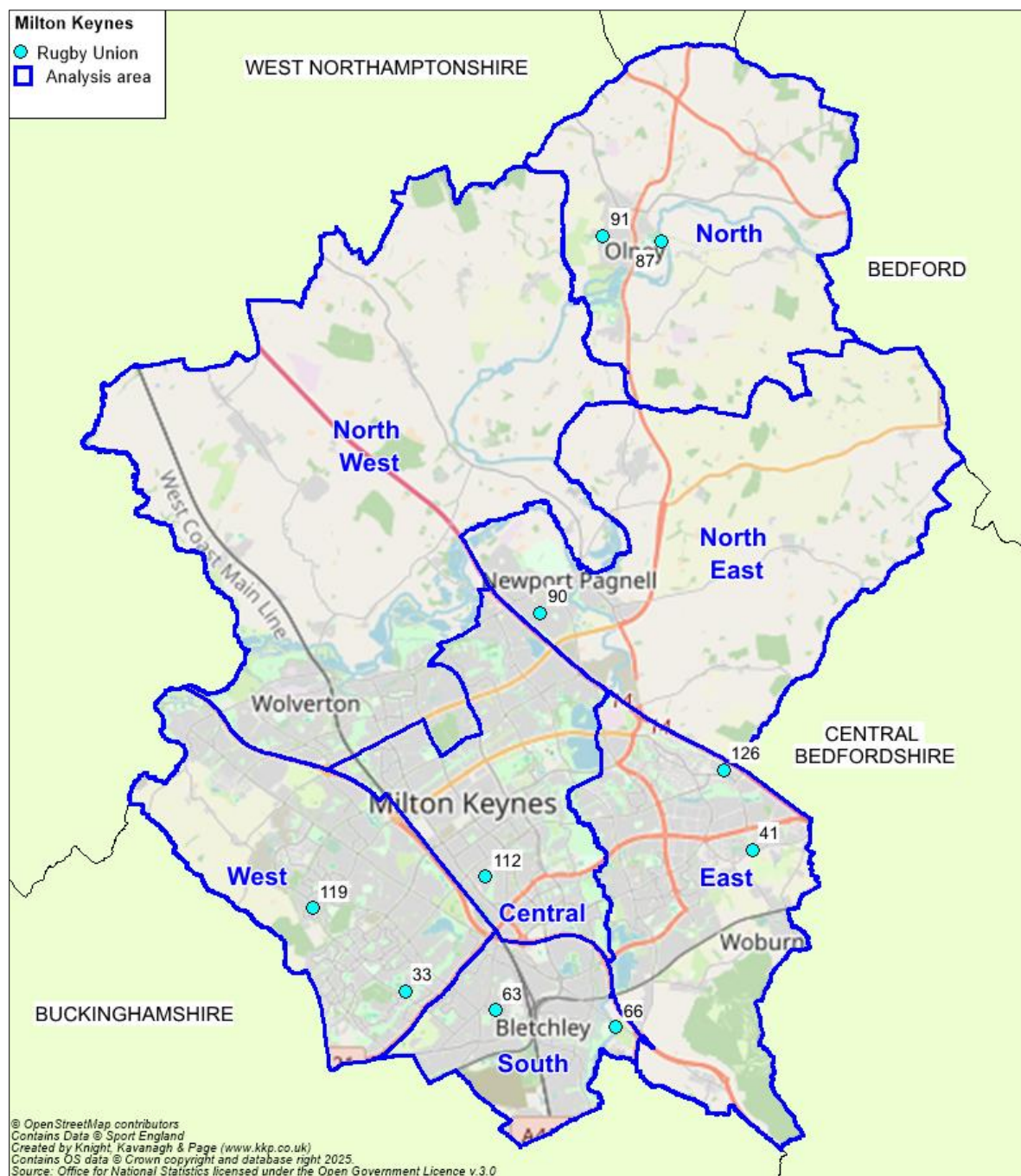
Age	Playing format	Maximum pitch dimensions (metres) ¹⁰
U7	Age grade mixed	20 x 12
U8	Age grade mixed	45 x 22
U9	Age grade mixed	60 x 30
U10	Age grade mixed	60 x 35
U11	Age grade mixed	60 x 43
U12	Age grade mixed	60 x 43
U13	Age grade boys/girls	90 x 60 (60 x 43 for girls)
U14	Age grade boys/girls	100 x 70
U15	Age grade boys/girls	100 x 70
U16	Age grade boys/girls	100 x 70
U17	Age grade boys/girls	100 x 70
U18	Colts	100 x 70
Senior	Senior	100 x 70

Figure 4.1 overleaf shows the location of all rugby union pitches currently servicing Milton Keynes. For a key to the map, see Table 4.15.

¹⁰ Recommended run off area for all pitch types requires five-metres each way and a minimum in-goal length of six metres.

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Figure 4.1: Location of rugby union pitches within Milton Keynes



Management and security of tenure

The table below identifies the tenure of the clubs at their home venues. As shown all clubs within Milton Keynes are considered to have secure tenure through long term leases.

Bletchley Rugby Club has a long-term lease agreement with Milton Keynes City Council for the use of the rugby pitches and accompanying ancillary facilities at Manor Fields.

Milton Keynes Rugby Club is currently 14 years into a 25-year lease at Emerson Valley Sports Ground from Milton Keynes City Council. The Club are open to this being extended with potential for a 100-year lease.

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Olney Rugby Club has a 98-year lease for its clubhouse at Olney Recreation Ground with Olney Town Council. In addition, three of its pitches are owned by club members. Finally, two pitches separate to the main club site at Olney Recreation Ground are rented from Olney Town Council.

Table 4.4: Summary of rugby club security of tenure in Milton Keynes

Club	Tenure arrangement	Secure?
Bletchley RUFC	Lease	Yes
Milton Keynes RUFC	Lease	Yes
Olney RUFC	Lease	Yes

The remaining provision not used by clubs is located at educational sites all of which is unavailable for community use, with tenure deemed unsecure.

Pitch quality

The quality of rugby union pitches across Milton Keynes has primarily been assessed via pitch quality standard (PQS) assessments using PitchPower (outlined in greater detail in Part 2: Football).

For rugby union, a PQS examines the following areas: thatch depth, root depth, average grass height, grass, weed coverage, topsoil depth, compaction, surface evenness, surface debris and line markings. Based on the inspection, bespoke recommendations are then made on how pitch improvements can be made through pitch maintenance including but not limited to decompaction, slitting, application of selective herbicide/fertiliser, scarifying, top dressing and overseeding.

The overarching quality score is provided on a scale of unclassified, basic, good and advanced, with recommended hours of use then attributed to each (the better quality the rating, the more capacity is considered to exist). Additional information for the ratings is provided in the table below.

Table 4.5: Rugby union pitch quality score ratings

PQS rating	Recommended hours of use (per week)	Comments
Unclassified	3	Pitch fails to meet minimum standards of the GMA's Grounds Management Framework and could be deemed poor quality.
Basic	4	A pitch that is safe for recreation sport and meets the minimum playing needs and expectations of community players nationwide. League levels: Counties 3 to 5
Good	5	A pitch that is good quality and safe for recreation sport. It meets the playing needs and expectations of community players nationwide. League levels: Counties 1 to 3
Advanced	5	A pitch that is high quality and meets the needs of top level recreational sport. It meets the playing needs and expectations of community and semi-professional players nationwide. League levels: National 1 to Regional 2

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It should be noted that where there is not a PQS rating, such as at education sites, the quality score defaults to basic. This is then checked and challenged with the RFU, Sport England as well as the Council and relevant operators for accuracy, in addition to site non-technical site visit carried out as part of the Stage B process.

The RFU has determined that an unclassified pitch can accommodate three hours' worth of play per week, with this generally equating to 180 minutes of senior matches (80 minutes plus additional time) and, thus, two match equivalent sessions of demand per week. For basic quality pitches, this increases to four hours (2.6 match equivalent sessions per week), whilst for good/advanced pitches it is five hours (3.3 match equivalent sessions per week).

Table 4.6: Pitch capacity guidance (match equivalent sessions per week)

PQS rating	Recommended hours of use (minutes) per week	Match equivalent sessions per week
Unclassified	3 (180)	2
Basic	4 (240)	2.6
Good	5 (300)	3.3
Advanced	5 (300)	3.3

It should be noted that for the methodology below and to meet the relevant guidelines, the match equivalent sessions referenced in the table above will be used to identify pitch capacity.

A pitch-by-pitch breakdown can be seen in the table overleaf.

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Table 4.7: Site quality ratings

Site ID	Site name	Club	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Tenure	Management	No. of pitches	Sports lit?	Quality rating	Date of PQS	Midweek training pitch capacity (Match equivalent sessions)	Weekend pitch capacity (Match equivalent sessions)
33	Emerson Valley Sports Ground	Milton Keynes RUFC	MK4 2DN	West	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	3	No	Basic	16/12/2025	-	7.8
33	Emerson Valley Sports Ground	Milton Keynes RUFC	MK4 2DN	West	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	1	Yes	Basic	16/12/2025	2.6	2.6
66	Manor Fields	Bletchley RUFC	MK2 2HX	South	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	1	Yes	Good	16/12/2025	3.3	3.3
66	Manor Fields	Bletchley RUFC	MK2 2HX	South	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	3	No	Basic	16/12/2025	-	7.8
87	Olney Recreation Ground	Olney RUFC	MK46 4DW	North	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	1	No	Good	15/10/2024	-	3.3
87	Olney Recreation Ground	Olney RUFC	MK46 4DW	North	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	2	No	Basic	15/10/2024	-	5.2
87	Olney Recreation Ground	Olney RUFC	MK46 4DW	North	Yes	Secure	Town Council	1	Yes	Basic	15/10/2024	2.6	2.6
87	Olney Recreation Ground	Olney RUFC	MK46 4DW	North	Yes	Secure	Town Council	1	No	Good	15/10/2024	-	3.3
41	Glebe Farm School	-	MK17 8XY	East	No	Unsecure	Education	1	No	Basic	-	-	2.6
63	Lord Grey School	-	MK3 6EW	South	No	Unsecure	Education	1	No	Basic	-	-	2.6
90	Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus)	-	MK16 0BJ	North East	No	Unsecure	Education	1	No	Basic	-	-	2.6
90	Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus)	-	MK16 0BJ	North East	No	Unsecure	Education	1	No	Basic	-	-	2.6
91	Ousedale School (Olney Campus)	-	MK46 5LF	North	No	Unsecure	Education	1	No	Basic	-	-	2.6
91	Ousedale School (Olney Campus)	-	MK46 5LF	North	No	Unsecure	Education	1	No	Basic	-	-	2.6
112	St Pauls Catholic School	-	MK6 5EN	Central	No	Unsecure	Education	1	No	Basic	-	-	2.6
119	The Hazeley Academy	-	MK8 0PT	West	No	Unsecure	Education	1	No	Basic	-	-	2.6
120	The Milton Keynes Academy	-	MK6 5LA	Central	No	Unsecure	Education	1	No	Basic	-	-	2.6
126	Walton High (Brooklands Campus)	-	MK10 7HE	East	No	Unsecure	Education	1	No	Basic	-	-	2.6

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Of the community available pitches in Milton Keynes, ten are rated as basic quality whilst three are assessed as good quality.

Table 4.8: Quality of senior pitches available for community use in Milton Keynes

Analysis area	Unclassified	Basic	Good	Advanced
Central	2	-	-	-
East	2	-	-	-
North	2	3	2	-
North East	2	-	-	-
North West		-	-	-
South	1	3	1	-
West	1	4	-	-
Total	10	10	3	0

Bletchley RUFC has regular issues with all four of its pitches flooding at Manor Fields, this has subsequently had an impact on its overall membership with the loss of senior teams, erosion of junior and mixed age grade and no current colt's side. Moreover, the impact of waterlogged pitches deters potential future players. The Club has limited access to pitches for training, which is often cancelled, as well as matches.

Milton Keynes RUFC states that overall pitch quality at Emerson Valley Sports Ground is of a good quality throughout the season, however, on occasions has had issues relating to the drainage on the pitch at a lower elevation, which receives surface water runoff from the other pitches that are slightly elevated in comparison.

Olney RUFC states that whilst its pitches are basic/ good some improvements are required such as additional drainage and deep spiking. The Club states that maintenance carried out on the pitches managed by Olney Town Council is not as thorough as the Club owned pitches with this consisting of grass cutting and line marking. External contractors are utilised to seed, fertilise and aerate all pitches that are owned by the Club.

Ancillary facilities

Ancillary facility ratings are primarily influenced by the type of amenities which are available on a site accompanied by their quality, such as a clubhouse, changing rooms, car parking, dedicated official and spectator facilities. Good quality ancillary facilities are particularly important for rugby clubs as they can assist with income generation. Furthermore, it is becoming increasingly important for the provision to be inclusive, particularly due to growing women's and girls', disability and junior/mini demand.

Although the size and configuration of ancillary provision may alter based on the sports using the provision, and the number of pitches it services, generally the same principles are recommended to allow for varied use from all demographics:

- ✦ Accessible changing areas which can be separated, or are private/self-contained, to allow for separate male/female/all gender or senior/junior separation.
- ✦ A private accessible changing room (with relevant changing and showering provision) for someone who requires assistance.
- ✦ Separate female / male / all gender toilet provision.
- ✦ Suitably designed and specified showering cubicles to all users to maintain dignity and privacy whilst showering.

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Open planned changing, toilets and particularly showering facilities can provide a significant barrier to many people resulting in them either not taking part or having a poorer sporting experience.

As a result of the above, those ancillary facilities that do not meet the above criteria, cannot be rated anything higher than standard quality for the purposes of this document. Additional context behind the rationale is provided below.

Table 4.9: Ancillary provision of the clubs that responded to consultation

Site ID	Site name	Users	Overall building quality	Changing room quality ¹¹	Comments
33	Emerson Valley Sports Ground	Milton Keynes RUFC	Good	Good	Ancillary facilities at this site include four large changing rooms with shower and toilet facilities compliant with RFU standards. The Club has designated one specific women's and girl's changing room. The clubhouse also has a large social space with fully equipped bar and kitchen area. Car parking at this site is adequate to accommodate demand received.
66	Manor Fields	Bletchley RUFC	Standard	Standard	Ancillary facilities at this site include two changing rooms which are outdated and in need of upgrading. These include communal showering facilities which are not compliant for women's and girl's teams. The clubhouse also has a large social space and bar.
87	Olney Recreation Ground	Olney RUFC	Good	Good	The Club has recently built two brand new changing rooms which are fully RFU compliant with self-contained showers and toilets. The clubhouse also includes an official room, a large social space with patio as well as a bar and gym.

Bletchley RUFC also has access to a separate changing block at Manor Fields which is equipped with two changing rooms and a physio room, however, this is as poor quality as the building sits within the flood plain and has been subject to flooding on multiple occasions causing this to come out of service due to the extent of damage that has been caused.

As well as the two good quality changing rooms at Olney Recreation Ground, Olney RUFC has an additional six changing rooms which are standard quality. These include communal shower facilities. The facility was built in the 1980s which the Club has continued to invest into when required.

¹¹ Including changing areas, toilets and showering facilities.

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In addition, Olney RUFC states that the car park at Olney Recreation Ground is insufficient to accommodate the level of demand that the site receives given that it shares with football. The Club applied for planning permission to extend the car park; however, permission was not granted.

Milton Keynes RUFC aspires to develop the space underneath the main clubhouse into a gym facility.

Women's Rugby World Cup 2025 will represent a generational moment for global rugby that will set new standards, welcome new fans and families to the sport and inspire a new generation of players, providing an exciting catalyst to nationwide and global rugby growth.

4.3: Demand

Demand for rugby pitches within Milton Keynes tends to fall within the categories of organised competitive play and organised training.

Competitive demand

There are three clubs within Milton Keynes generating a total of 40 teams across the City. Broken down, this equates to seven senior men's, three senior women's, 19 age grade boy's and girl's teams and ten mixed aged grade teams.

Olney RUFC is the largest club within Milton Keynes with a total of 18 teams, although this is closely followed by Milton Keynes RUFC with 16 teams.

Bletchley RUFC has the least number of teams across the City, the Club state that due to the flooding of its pitches, it is struggling to retain players especially within the age grade section of the Club.

Table 4.10: Summary of number of teams (demand) by club

Club	Analysis area	Age grade mixed ¹²	Age grade girls U12s	Age grade boys U12s	Age grade boys and girls ¹³	Adult male	Adult female	Total
Bletchley RUFC	South	1	0	1	1	2	1	6
Milton Keynes RUFC	West	5	0	1	7	2	1	16
Olney RUFC	North	5	0	1	8	3	1	18
Total	Total	11	0	3	16	7	3	40

Training demand

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

¹² (U7s to U11s)

¹³ (13s to U18s inc)

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Unless known otherwise through consultation all training demand is presumed to take place on the pitches at each club's home venue. The activity and training arrangements for each club and the level of this is highlighted in the table below

Table 4.11: Summary of rugby union club facility use for evening training

Club	Site ID	Site	Training demand	Match equivalent sessions (per week)
Bletchley RUFC	66	Manor Fields	Adult teams	3
Bletchley RUFC	66	Manor Fields	Age grade boys and girls ¹⁴	0.5
Bletchley RUFC	66	Manor Fields	Age grade boys U12s	0.5
Milton Keynes RUFC	33	Emerson Valley Sports Ground	Adult teams	3
Milton Keynes RUFC	33	Emerson Valley Sports Ground	Age grade boys and girls ¹⁵	3.5
Milton Keynes RUFC	33	Emerson Valley Sports Ground	Age grade boys U12s	0.5
Olney RUFC	87	Olney Recreation Ground	Adult teams	4
Olney RUFC	87	Olney Recreation Ground	Age grade boys and girls ¹⁶	4
Olney RUFC	87	Olney Recreation Ground	Age grade boys U12s	0.5
-	-	-	Total	19.5

For reference the following assumptions have been made to training demand, based upon findings and consultation with the RFU:

- Age Grade Mixed (U7s to U11s) are not accounted for midweek as they play/train at weekend.
- Each Age Grade U12s team is represented as 0.5 match equivalent sessions due to the reduce pitch size required to meet their demand.
- Each Age Grade (U13s to U18s) team are also represented as 0.5 match equivalent sessions as they train once a week but require two teams for one full size pitch usage.
- Each adult team is represented as one match equivalent session as they train twice a week but need two teams for a full pitch.

This has then been cross referenced for accuracy during the Stage B process.

Use of artificial pitches

The alternative to training on grass pitches is the use of 3G pitches. World Rugby produced the 'Performance Specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. A World Rugby compliant pitch also enables the transfer of match demand from grass pitches onto 3G pitches, which alleviates overplay of grass pitches and as a result protects quality.

There was previously one World Rugby compliant 11v11 3G pitch in Milton Keynes located at Sports Central, however has since lost its accreditation.

¹⁴ (13s to U18s inc)

¹⁵ (13s to U18s inc)

¹⁶ (13s to U18s inc)

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In addition, most of the demand for the pitch comes from football. Moreover, the pitch dimensions are not big enough to accommodate any match demand above U13s. Notwithstanding this, Milton Keynes RUFC access the provision to accommodate its age grade training demand.

Bletchley RUFC has development plans at Manor Fields for the installation of a World Rugby Compliant 11v11 3G pitch, the pitch would be elevated above the flood plain to reduce the risk of flooding at the site through storm water storage crates underneath the pitch ensuring that it remains useable year round. Milton Keynes City Council has ringfenced Section 106 monies to help fund this development.

Olney RUFC states that it has no desire to access a World Rugby compliant 11v11 3G pitch.

Exported/imported demand

There is no identified exported/ imported team demand from or into Milton Keynes, however, as reported by Olney RUFC the Club attracts player demand from Northamptonshire.

Unmet/latent demand

Unmet demand is existing demand at clubs which is not able to access sufficient supply of pitches for match play or training, it is usually expressed, for example, where a team is already training but is unable to access a match pitch or where a league or club operates a waiting list. In comparison, latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision.

Bletchley RUFC states that due to the flooding of its pitches at Manor Fields this has an impact on how frequently it can train as well as having an impact on accommodating matches. Olney RUFC states that it has some level of latent demand and is operating close to capacity due to an influx of demand of players from neighbouring authorities.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined through multiple ways, including through participation increases and by using population forecasts. In addition, the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document will contain housing growth scenarios that can be used to estimate additional demand for rugby union arising from housing developments across Milton Keynes.

Participation growth

Bletchley RUFC states that it wishes to increase the number of its teams significantly by reestablishing the mixed age grade section of the Club, this would include, three youth boys' teams, three youth girls' teams and five mixed age grade teams.

Neither Milton Keynes RUFC nor Olney RUFC state that they have future growth demand aspirations.

Following England's victory in the Women's Rugby World Cup in 2025, it is expected that interest and participation among women and girls will grow, fuelled by increased awareness and initiatives aimed at creating a lasting legacy from the event.

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Population growth

Based on population projections to 2047 Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator can estimate the likely additional demand for grass rugby pitches that will arise from any growth. This is by using the current and future populations in each of the relevant age groups together with the current team numbers, with team generation rates then established to understand how much growth is required to establish one new team.

The table below shows the number of new teams generated by the new population and the requisite match equivalent sessions. As seen, growth of one senior men's, two age grade boys and two age grade mixed teams is projected.

Table 4.13: City-wide team generation rates

Age group	Team generation rate	Number of new teams generated by the new population	Number of new teams generated by the new population - rounded figure	Training demand (MES)	Weekend matches (MES)
Men (19-45yrs)	1:5,990	0.31	0	0	0
Women (19-45yrs)	1:15,893	0.12	0	0	0
Boys (13-18yrs)	1:758	0.58	1	0.5	0.5
Girls (13-18yrs)	1:3,625	0.12	0	0	0
Mixed (7-12yrs)	1:2,495	0.38	0	0	0

Future levels of training demand that will emanate from the predicted growth can also be calculated via using Sport England's calculator.

Furthermore, the ONS projections do not account for the scale or distribution of housing growth in the City, which is proposed in the new emerging Local Plan, the Milton Keynes City Plan 2050. This will therefore also be subject to scenarios in Strategy document and/or via future assessment work undertaken by the Council.

Notwithstanding the above, team generation rates do not account for specific development work within certain areas or focused towards certain groups, such as NGB initiatives. As such, increased future growth is still considered possible despite population projections indicating that there will only be minimal growth. A growth in women and girls' rugby is thought to be particularly likely given current RFU aspirations the 2025 Women's World Cup win.

Women's Rugby World Cup 2025

For the first time ever, the expanded showcase event was hosted across eight venues and cities around England—Brighton & Hove, Bristol, Exeter, London, Manchester, Northampton, Sunderland, and York—with 16 teams competing for the title of world champions.

The countrywide format made it the most accessible Women's Rugby World Cup ever, offering an unparalleled opportunity for fans to see, engage with, and celebrate the stars of the women's game in towns and cities across England.

England's triumph in the 2025 Women's Rugby World Cup represents a generational moment for global rugby, setting new standards, attracting new fans and families to the sport, and inspiring a new generation of players. The victory serves as a catalyst for both nationwide and global rugby growth.

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Based on current ancillary provision, the only clubs in the Authority with facilities suitable to accommodate increased women's and girls' demand (including separate changing rooms and showering facilities) are Milton Keynes RUFC and Olney RUFC. Bletchley RUFC at Manor Fields will require investment to better support current and anticipated future levels of women's and girls' participation, despite already hosting a senior women's team.

Future demand summary

Due to the limited increases forecast through population projections, the aspirations held by clubs will instead be used within the supply and demand analysis at the end of this section as these are considered to be more realistic growth levels, especially given that they only relate to three clubs. The small growth predicted by population increases is likely to be absorbed by club plans.

In addition, the success of England women's national rugby union team winning the Women's Rugby World Cup is likely to impact the participation rates in the women's and girl's game with these expected to increase as a result.

4.4: Capacity analysis

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

As mentioned earlier, an unclassified pitch quality equates to two match equivalent sessions per week, a basic as 2.6 match equivalent sessions per week and a good/advanced pitch quality as 3.3 match equivalent sessions per week.

The table below identifies how both competitive and training demand has been equated for the capacity table.

Table 4.14: Competitive and training demand (match equivalent sessions per week)

Age group	Match equivalent sessions	Comments
Competitive demand¹⁷	-	-
Age grade boys and girls to Adult	0.5	The current level of play per week is set at 0.5 match equivalent sessions for each match played based on all teams operating on a home and away basis.
Age grade girls / boys U12s	0.25	One match equates to 0.25 match equivalent sessions as a smaller pitch area is utilised and matches are shorter.
Age grade mixed	0.125	Play on only a proportion of senior pitch, with match play equating to 0.125 match equivalent sessions per week
Training demand¹⁸	-	-
Adult	1	Each adult teams is represented as one match equivalent session as they train twice a week but need two teams for a full pitch.

¹⁷ ((Adult Male and Female Teams + Age Grade Boys and Girls U13-U18) + (Age Grade Girls U12+Age Grade Boys U12/2) +(Age Grade Mixed*0.25))/2

¹⁸ Adult Male and Female teams + (Age Grade Boys and Girls U13-U18/2) + ((Age Grade Girls U12) +Age Grade Boys U12))/2))

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Age group	Match equivalent sessions	Comments
Age grade boys and girls	0.5	Each Age Grade (U13s to U18s) team are also represented as 0.5 match equivalent sessions as they train once a week but require two teams for one full size pitch usage.
Age grade girls / boys U12s	0.5	Each Age Grade U12s team is represented as 0.5 match equivalent sessions due to the reduce pitch size required to meet their demand.
Age grade mixed	-	Age Grade Mixed (U7s to U11s) are not accounted midweek as they play/train at weekend.

This therefore informs the capacity analysis, with current levels of demand compared to the pitch supply in place on a site-by-site basis. In addition, to enable an accurate supply and demand assessment, the following assumptions are applied:

- ✦ All sites that are or could be used for competitive rugby matches (regardless of whether this is secured community use) are included on the supply side.
- ✦ All competitive play is on senior sized pitches, with age grade teams playing on overmarked pitches, unless dedicated age grade pitches are known to be instead.
- ✦ From U13s upwards, teams play 15v15 and use a full pitch.
- ✦ All club training is assumed to that takes place on clubs' sites on sports lit marked pitches unless known otherwise from consultation.
- ✦ A total of one match equivalent session of demand, per pitch, has been added for educational sites to accommodate for curricular and extracurricular activities. This is identified in the overall site capacity column.
- ✦ Other usage of pitches (e.g., by football teams) is added as match equivalent sessions based on the level and regularity of play.

Midweek capacity position

Midweek capacity has been calculated based on the total amount of training demand from a Club across the number of sports lit pitches it has on its site. If a site does not have any sports lit provision this is simply identify as total shortfall of provision with the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document identify on how this can be alleviated. This position may be altered, where known through consultation, with examples of offsite training on WR compliant 3G pitches. This will be identified in the tables below.

Weekend capacity position

Weekend capacity has been calculated based on the total amount of competitive demand from a club across the total number of pitches on its site, whether they are sports lit or not.

Overall site capacity

The overall site capacity has been calculated based on the training (midweek/training demand) and competitive demand (weekend matchplay demand) combined across the total number of pitches (Weekend pitch capacity) across the site.

Spare capacity

Historically spare capacity for rugby union has been identified on Saturday afternoons as this is when adult senior men's team play nationally, however, participation trend data from the RFU identifies that demand now is spread across the week.

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Midweek pitches are use substantially used for training demand (as explored earlier), Sundays are used to accommodate the growth in age grade mixed and age grade boys' and girls' teams whereas Saturdays are still utilised for adult men's teams.

As a result, spare capacity will be examined on the site as a whole rather than at a given peak period. The proceeding Strategy & Action Plan will then examine bespoke recommendation in order to provide additional capacity based on where shortfalls are identified (for example midweek for training / Saturdays for future adult men's teams etc)

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

Pitches that are of a poor quality are not deemed to have spare capacity due to the already low carrying capacity of the pitches. Any identified spare capacity should be retained in order to relieve the pitches of use, which in turn will aid the improvement of pitch quality. Furthermore, any pitches with unsecured tenure are not considered to have actual spare capacity as no further play should be encouraged on such sites given that future access cannot be guaranteed.

The way the above is represented in Table 4.15 is as follows:

Spare capacity (examples)	Explanation of spare capacity
1	If the cell is highlighted in green with a number, it means that the pitch/es has actual spare capacity to accommodate additional demand.
-	If the cell has a dash in it, it means the site is played to capacity.
1	If the cell has a number in it but is not highlighted, it means the site has spare capacity; however, this is discounted. This could be due to unsecure tenure, poor pitch quality, the pitch not being available for community use, or the pitch already being played to capacity or being overplayed (outside of peak time).

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Table 4.15: Capacity table for rugby pitches in Milton Keynes

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Tenure	Community use?	Midweek/training demand (Match Equivalent Sessions)	Sports lit Pitches	Midweek training pitch capacity	Midweek capacity position	Weekend matchplay demand (MES)	Total pitches	Weekend pitch capacity	Weekend capacity position	Overall site capacity ¹⁹
33	Emerson Valley Sports Ground	West	Secure	Yes	7	1	2.6	4.4	5.9	4	10.4	4.5	2.5
66	Manor Fields	South	Secure	Yes	4	1	3.3	0.7	2.4	4	11.1	8.7	4.7
87	Olney Recreation Ground	North	Secure	Yes	8.5	1	2.6	5.9	6.9	5	14.4	7.5	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
41	Glebe Farm School	East	Unsecure	No	-	-	N/A	0.0	-	1	2	N/A	1
63	Lord Grey School	South	Unsecure	No	-	-	N/A	0.0	-	1	2	N/A	1
90	Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus)	North East	Unsecure	No	-	-	N/A	0.0	-	1	2	N/A	1
90	Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus)	North East	Unsecure	No	-	-	N/A	0.0	-	1	2	N/A	1
91	Ousedale School (Olney Campus)	North	Unsecure	No	-	-	N/A	0.0	-	1	2	N/A	1
91	Ousedale School (Olney Campus)	North	Unsecure	No	-	-	N/A	0.0	-	1	2	N/A	1
112	St Pauls Catholic School	Central	Unsecure	No	-	-	N/A	0.0	-	1	2	N/A	1
119	The Hazeley Academy	West	Unsecure	No	-	-	N/A	0.0	-	1	2	N/A	1
120	The Milton Keynes Academy	Central	Unsecure	No	-	-	N/A	0.0	-	1	2	N/A	1
126	Walton High (Brooklands Campus)	East	Unsecure	No	-	-	N/A	0.0	-	1	2	N/A	1

¹⁹ One match equivalent has been removed per pitch on education sites to account for curricular and extracurricular demand

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Overall site spare capacity/overplay

There are four pitches across one site that has potential spare capacity in Milton Keynes located at Manor Fields (Bletchley RUFC) equating to 4.7 match equivalent sessions.

The remaining two sites (Emerson Valley Sports Ground and Olney Recreation Ground) are overplayed, despite having additional capacity for demand at the weekend. This is due to substantial levels of overplay generated midweek from training demand.

Table 4.16: Summary of overall site capacity of senior rugby union pitches in Milton Keynes

Site ID	Site name	Analysis Area	Sports lit Pitches	Total pitches	Midweek capacity position	Weekend capacity position	Overall site capacity ²⁰
33	Emerson Valley Sports Ground	West	1	4	4.4	4.5	2.5
66	Manor Fields	South	1	4	0.7	8.7	4.7
87	Olney Recreation Ground	North	1	5	5.9	7.5	1
-	-	Total	3	13	11	20.7	1.2

It should be noted that as the overall site capacity is based on the total amount of training/midweek and weekend demand across the capacity of all pitches. This is done in order to not double count capacity of training provision. Therefore, the site, as a whole, can still have a shortfall despite having spare capacity at the weekend. This will be examined in greater detail in the following Strategy & Action Plan.

Midweek spare capacity/overplay

Midweek capacity differs to that of whole site conclusions which are highlighted below and above in Table 4.16. For community rugby union clubs, for playing purposes, the only use of any site midweek is for access to grass or artificial grass pitches which have accompanying sports lighting to support midweek training requirements for members. On any given site, only a proportion of pitches provide sports lighting, and some sites have no provision altogether.

As a result of the requirement for sports lighting and many pitches not providing it, many pitches are, in effect, unusable midweek. As the player base for community clubs must train during autumnal and winter evenings (aligned to the rugby union season) where sports lighting is an essential requirement having a sufficient capacity to accommodate this is essential.

The table below highlights the midweek capacity position, based on pitches which provide sports lighting.

²⁰ One match equivalent has been removed per pitch on education sites to account for curricular and extracurricular demand

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Table 4.16: Midweek capacity balance on sports-lit pitches only

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Midweek/training demand	Sports lit pitches	Quality	Midweek training pitch capacity	Midweek capacity position
33	Emerson Valley Sports Ground	West	7	1	Basic	2.6	4.4
66	Manor Fields	South	4	1	Good	3.3	0.7
87	Olney Recreation Ground	North	8.5	1	Basic	2.6	5.9

As shown in the table above, there is an overall shortfall of midweek training capacity within Milton Keynes totalling 11 match equivalent sessions. This is due to a lack of sports lit pitches at club sites.

4.5: Supply and demand analysis

Having considered supply and demand, the tables below identifies the overall supply and demand balance (capacity against overplay) in each of the analysis areas based on match equivalent sessions per week. There are separate tables for midweek and weekend.

Table 4.17: Overall supply and demand balance on rugby union pitches in Milton Keynes during midweek (training demand)

Analysis area	Midweek capacity position	Future demand	Future total
Central	-	-	-
East	-	-	-
North	5.9	-	5.9
North East	-	-	-
North West	-	-	-
South	0.7	3	3.7
West	4.4	-	4.4
Total	11	3	14

When accounting for future demand from Bletchley RUFC in the South Analysis Area, shortfalls increase.

Table 4.18: Overall supply and demand balance on rugby union pitches in Milton Keynes at weekends (match play demand)

Analysis area	Weekend capacity position	Future demand	Future total
Central	-	-	-
East	-	-	-
North	7.5	-	7.5
North East	-	-	-
North West	-	-	-
South	8.7	3.625	5.075
West	4.5	-	4.5
Total	20.7	3.625	17.075

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When accounting for future demand from Bletchley RUFC in the South Analysis Area, spare capacity is reduced.

Overall, there is a current shortfall midweek for training demand across Milton Keynes, despite there being sufficient capacity to accommodate competitive demand at the weekend.

4.6: Conclusion

In conclusion, there is a clear and evident shortfall of grass rugby union provision within Milton Keynes due to the large amount of overplay identified. This is predominately due to a high level of demand, in terms of training, using a limited number of sports lit pitches. When accounting for future demand from Bletchley RUFC in the South Analysis Area, overall spare capacity is eradicated.

Table 4.19: Overall supply and demand balance on rugby union pitches in Milton Keynes

Analysis area	Overall site capacity	Future demand	Future total
Central	-	-	
East	-	-	
North	1	-	1
North East	-	-	
North West	-	-	
South	4.7	6.625	1.925
West	2.5	-	2.5
Total	1.2	6.625	7.825

Where shortfalls are present, these could be alleviated through providing new pitches, although the number required is dependent on the quality they are provided to and whether they can accommodate training needs or not. However, there are also alternatives to reducing the deficits, for example via improving the quality of the existing stock, increasing the presence of sports lighting and enabling access to World Rugby compliant 3G pitches. These will be further explored in the proceeding strategy document.

Rugby union – supply and demand summary

- Overall site capacity totals 1.2 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity per week, with weekend capacity equating to 20.7 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity per week.
- Notwithstanding the above, there is an overall shortfall of midweek training capacity within Milton Keynes totalling 11 match equivalent sessions per week. This is due to a lack of sports lit pitches at club sites.
- When factoring in future demand midweek shortfalls worsen with weekend capacity reducing.

Rugby union – supply summary

- The audit identifies a total 23 rugby pitches located across 12 sites within Milton Keynes broken down as 19 senior and four junior pitches.
- Of the pitches 13 (57%) are available for some level of community use with these all located across the three club sites, Emerson Valley Sports Ground, Manor Fields and Olney Recreation Ground. All unavailable pitches are located at educational sites.
- All community available pitches are senior sized and fairly evenly distributed between three of the five analysis areas where rugby union is played within Milton Keynes. The North Analysis Area has 38% of all community available pitches with five, whilst the South and West analysis areas each have four (31%).
- All clubs within Milton Keynes are considered to have secure tenure through long term leases.
- In Milton Keynes, four pitches are serviced by permanent sports lighting, with two located at Manor Fields (Bletchley RUFC) with one each located at Emerson Valley Sports Ground (Milton Keynes RUFC) and Olney Recreation Ground (Olney RUFC).
- Each rugby club within Milton Keynes has received PitchPower reports to inform the overall quality rating for all pitches on its respective site
- Of the community available pitches in Milton Keynes, ten are rated as basic quality whilst three are assessed as good quality.
- No major issues were identified in relation to any of the clubs' ancillary facilities.

Rugby union – demand summary

- There are three clubs within Milton Keynes generating a total of 40 teams across the City. Broken down, this equates to seven senior men's, three senior women's, 19 age grade boy's and girl's teams and ten mixed aged grade teams.
- Olney RUFC is the largest club within Milton Keynes with a total of 18 teams, although this is closely followed by Milton Keynes RUFC with 16 teams.
- Bletchley RUFC has the least number of teams across the City, the Club state that due to the flooding of its pitches, it is struggling to retain players especially within the age grade section of the Club.
- Bletchley RUFC states that due to the flooding of its pitches at Manor Fields this has an impact on how frequently it can train as well as having an impact on accommodating matches.
- Bletchley RUFC states that it wishes to increase the number of its teams significantly by reestablishing the mixed age grade section of the Club this would include, three youth boys' teams, three youth girls' teams and five mixed age grade teams.

PART 5: HOCKEY (ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCHES)

5.1: Introduction

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

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

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

In addition to the above pitch types, EH reports that it is currently trialling a different multi-sport surface in order to better accommodate lower levels of hockey demand on a pitch that is also suitable for other sports such as netball and tennis. The surface type, known as Gen 2²¹, is a versatile surface that will ensure that the sports do not need to compromise on the playing experience; it will be a sand dressed synthetic turf with a compatible shock pad. The concept is designed to provide facilities, including schools, with a dynamic surface which reduces the amount of space required and enables the provision to be utilised to its full potential.

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

²¹ [Deliver - Developing Your Project | England Hockey](#)

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

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

Club consultation

There are three hockey clubs based in Milton Keynes: Enigma Ladies HC, Milton Keynes HC, and Olney Juniors HC. Consultation included a survey with Enigma Ladies HC and face-to-face consultation with Milton Keynes HC, resulting in a combined response rate of 66%.

Table 5.2: Summary of consultation

Club name	Responded?
Enigmas Ladies HC	Yes
Milton Keynes HC	Yes
Olney Juniors HC	No

5.2: Supply

There are three full size hockey suitable artificial grass pitches (AGPs) in Milton Keynes located across two sites (Woughton on The Green Playing Fields has two). All three pitches are available for community use and have sports lighting.

Table 5.3: Summary of full-size hockey suitable AGPs

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of pitches	Size (metres)	Sports lighting?
90	Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus)	MK16 0BJ	North East	Yes	1	91 x 55	Yes
146	Woughton on The Green Playing Fields	MK6 3EA	Central	Yes	2	91 x 55	Yes

As shown in the table above, two AGPs are located within the Central Analysis Area and one in the North Analysis Area. No full size AGPs are located within the other analysis areas.

There are also seven smaller size AGPs, three of which are available for community use located at Browns Wood Sports Ground, St Pauls Catholic School and The Milton Keynes Academy. Given that these pitches are not suitable for formal hockey use due to a mixture of not being accessible, not being sports lit, or not being big enough for match play these has been discounted from the hockey analysis.

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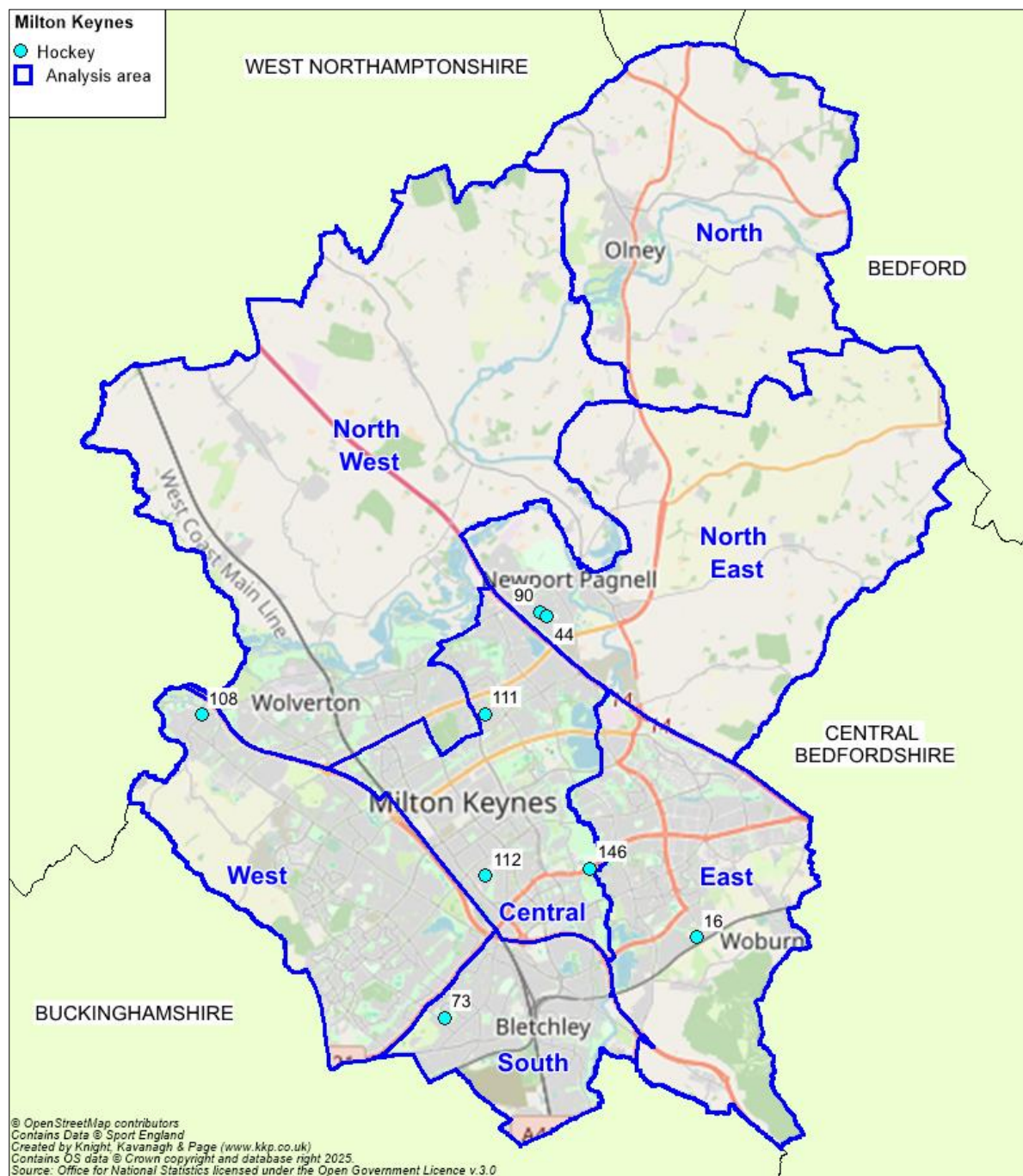
Table 5.4: Summary of small size hockey suitable AGPs

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Size (metres)	Sports lit?
16	Browns Wood Sports Ground	MK7 8DX	East	Yes	30 x 19	No
44	Green Park School	MK16 0NH	North East	No	30 x 15	No
73	Milton Keynes Preparatory School	MK3 7EG	South	No	50 x 25	No
108	St Mary and St Giles C of E Junior School	MK11 1EF	West	No	74 x 45	No
111	St Monica's Catholic Primary School	MK14 6HB	Central	No	35 x 18	No
112	St Pauls Catholic School	MK6 5EN	Central	Yes	55 x 30	Yes
120	The Milton Keynes Academy	MK6 5LA	Central	Yes	57 x 44	Yes
120	The Milton Keynes Academy	MK6 5LA	Central	No	52 x 30	No

A map of hockey provision is provided in Figure 5.1.

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Figure 5.1: Location of full size AGPs



Management and availability

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

The table below identifies the availability of AGP provision in Milton Keynes. As can be seen both sites open its facilities for the full 34 hours per week in line with the Sport England Facilities Planning Model peak time.

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As shown in the table below, the AGP at Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus) is managed in-house by the school and is available throughout the week although two hours of availability in the peak period are lost on the weekend due to this closing at 16:00.

Elsewhere, the two AGPs at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields are managed by Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust with these having full availability within the peak period throughout the week and weekend.

Table 5.5: Management and availability (full size pitches)

Site ID	Site name	Management	Availability	Total hours available in peak period
90	Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus)	Education	Monday – Friday 17:00 – 22:00 Weekends 09:00 – 16:00	32
146	Woughton on The Green Playing Fields	Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust	Monday – Friday 08:30 – 22:00 Weekends 09:00 – 18:00	34

Security of tenure

MK Dons Community Trust has a long-term lease agreement with Milton Keynes City Council for the management of Woughton on The Green Playing Fields, both of which Enigma Ladies HC and Milton Keynes HC play at. Both clubs have usage agreements at the site, however, neither have security of tenure with these agreements consisting of a monthly rental term.

Milton Keynes HC state through consultation that since Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust took over the lease agreement at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields, the rental cost has increased by 50%. Similarly, Enigma Ladies HC also state that as a single team club, it struggles to recoup the costs of hiring the AGP and ancillary facilities at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields through its membership fees. Additional issues in relation to this site can be found further in the section regarding the AGP and changing room quality as well as the limited access to ancillary facilities on training and match days.

Quality

Taking the above into account, the quality of hockey suitable artificial grass pitches have been assessed via a combination of site visits conducted in January 2025 (using non-technical assessments as determined by EH) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good.
- ◀ Standard.
- ◀ Poor.

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

It is considered that the carpet of an artificial grass pitch usually lasts for approximately ten years, and it is the age of the surface, combined with maintenance levels, which most commonly affects quality. The table below summarises the quality of artificial grass pitches in Milton Keynes.

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Table 5.6: Summary of quality

Site ID	Site name	Surface type	User	Quality rating	Built/ resurfaced
90	Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus)	Sand dressed	Olney Juniors HC	Poor	2006
146	Woughton on The Green Playing Fields	Sand dressed	Engima Ladies HC Milton Keynes HC	Poor	2012
146	Woughton on The Green Playing Fields	Sand dressed	Milton Keynes HC	Poor	2012

Based on the above and taking into account feedback provided from England Hockey, it is determined that all full size hockey pitches in Milton Keynes are poor quality.

The two AGP at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields do not have a not a sinking fund in place for the resurfacing of these even though they have surpassed the recommended ten-year life span. Consequently, the future quality of these is noteworthy and will require monitoring throughout the PPS Stage E process to ensure that they remain fit to provide opportunities for hockey.

Milton Keynes HC states that the pitches at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields flood after periods of wet weather and freeze during winter, this has led to the cancellation of training and matches due to safety concerns and playability of the pitch. In addition, there are quality issues with the goals and dug outs which are in a poor state due to a lack of maintenance and general upkeep.

Linked to the above, Enigma Ladies HC state that in comparison to previous seasons, the pitch quality has gotten slightly poorer.

In relation to the smaller size pitches in Milton Keynes, these are generally rated as standard quality whilst the pitches located at St Pauls Catholic School and The Milton Keynes Academy are rated as good quality with both recently resurfaced. A second pitch at The Milton Keynes Academy is rated as poor quality, with the School stating that potential development plans are in place for this to be converted into padel courts.

Notwithstanding the above, Sport England objected to this. The application proposed that the pitch is partly converted to a car park to support the proposed padel facility would be adjacent to the AGP. The application is still pending consideration.

Ancillary facilities

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

Clubhouse facilities are available at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields and are rated as poor quality, these include multiple changing rooms with showering facilities and toilets as well as a bar and social space with outdoor patio access. The facilities within this clubhouse are in a tired condition and in need of updating.

Milton Keynes HC states that there are several issues relating with the facilities at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields, with one being the boiler not working consistently, moreover issues relating to bacterial issues in the showers have been identified by the Club.

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In relation to the changing rooms, the Club states that these are not large enough to facilitate a full squad and are not suitable for women's and girl's teams as well as safeguarding issues also noted when juniors make the step up to play in senior teams no individual changing cubicles are available.

To further the above, Enigma Ladies HC states that it has turned up for matches at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields and the clubhouse facilities are not open and on occasions when they have been, are left in a poor state with cleanliness issues identified.

5.3: Demand

Competitive play

There are currently 16 teams playing within Milton Keynes based clubs which as a breakdown is four senior men's, five senior women's and seven junior teams. Milton Keynes HC is the largest club across the Authority with a total of 14 teams, which represents 88% of all demand.

As can be seen below, all three clubs' access one site on a weekly basis for its match play and training demand.

Table 5.7: Hockey team demand by club

Club	Analysis area	Senior men's teams	Senior women's teams	Junior teams	Site accessed
Enigma Ladies HC	Central	-	1	-	Woughton on The Green Playing Fields
Milton Keynes HC	Central	4	4	6	Woughton on The Green Playing Fields
Olney Juniors HC	North East	-	-	1	Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus)
Total	-	4	5	7	-

Within Milton Keynes, the largest number of affiliated members is identified as senior women with 78, followed by junior girls with 73 affiliated members highlighting that there is a strong presence of women and girl's hockey demand across the City. Overall club affiliate demand is summarised in the table below.

Table 5.8: Hockey clubs affiliate demand figures

Club	Senior men	Senior women	Junior boys	Junior girls	Total
Enigma Ladies HC	-	18	-	-	18
Milton Keynes HC	60	60	55	55	230
Olney Junior HC	-	-	11	18	29
Total	60	78	66	73	277

Milton Keynes HC states that it has experienced a reduction in demand in the past three years as a direct result of a pull-on players from other clubs in neighbouring authorities. The Club aspires to increase the number of its teams, however, expresses that this is not currently possible with players often leaving when transitioning to senior level hockey.

Imported demand

Imported demand refers to teams which originate outside of Milton Keynes, accessing facilities within the area for its home fixtures and/or training needs, normally because its pitch requirements cannot be met, which is usually because of pitch supply, in some cases quality issues or stipulated league requirements for access to certain facilities. In the case of Milton Keynes there are no known cases of imported demand.

Exported demand

Exported demand refers to teams which originate within Milton Keynes accessing facilities outside the area for its home fixtures and/or training needs, normally because its pitch requirements cannot be met, which is usually because of pitch supply, in some cases quality issues or stipulated league requirements for access to certain facilities. In Milton Keynes there are no known cases of exported demand.

Training demand

Access to artificial grass pitches for midweek training is important to sustain and grow all formats of hockey. The table below outlines the weekly training schedule for all clubs within Milton Keynes.

Table 5.9: Training demand summary

Site ID	Site	Club	Club training schedule
90	Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus)	Olney Juniors HC	The Club train on Wednesday evenings from 17:30 until 19:00.
146	Woughton on The Green Playing Fields	Engima Ladies HC	The Club state that it does not train.
146	Woughton on The Green Playing Fields	Milton Keynes HC	The Club train on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 19:00 until 21:30.

Future demand

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

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

Increased demand from new participants will lead to a requirement for increased capacity on available artificial grass pitches at peak time, but also midweek and on Sundays to deliver other formats of hockey activity. At present, it is not necessarily clear as to what format this may take or when it is likely to take place, however, there will be a requirement for access to increased capacity on artificial grass pitches across the area.

This should be considered when assessing demand for artificial grass pitches in the future, as not only will they be needed for peak match play times and midweek training to accommodate increased participation within the formalised hockey environment, but also throughout the week and at non-peak times to offer wider opportunities for play.

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

From a club perspective (the traditional 11 a side game), Milton Keynes HC report future demand aspirations across both senior men's and senior women's teams, with hope that they can reinstate two additional teams to provide six each, which the Club states that it previously accommodated.

Moreover, the Club is looking to attract additional junior players to feed into the Club pathway through opportunities to go into schools to deliver coaching and raise the profile

Back to Hockey and Walking Hockey

There are currently no Back to Hockey sessions delivered by any of the clubs within Milton Keynes. The nearest session is available at Northampton Hockey Club in Northamptonshire on Saturday mornings 09:00 until 10:30 at £2 a session.

Similarly, there are currently no Walking Hockey sessions delivered by any of the clubs within Milton Keynes, with the nearest session taking place at Berkhamsted & Hemel Hempstead HC in Hertfordshire on Tuesday afternoons 13:00 until 14:00.

EH Player Pathway

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

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

Development Centres (DCs) and Academy Centres (ACs)

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

Milton Keynes does not host an England Hockey's Talent Academy, with the nearest located at Oxford Hawks Hockey Club in Oxfordshire.

Peak time demand

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

5.4: Supply and demand analysis

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

Therefore, with three full size accessible AGPs provided in Milton Keynes, there is the potential to accommodate 24 Saturday teams. The table overleaf considers the actual amount of hockey usage that is accommodated and any spare capacity available.

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Table 5.10: Supply analysis of peak time (Saturday) pitch access

Site ID	Site name	Club	Analysis area	Security of tenure	No. of pitches	Quality	Potential capacity in teams	Actual capacity in teams	Number of hockey teams using the provision at peak time	Capacity balance
90	Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus)	Olney Juniors HC	North East	Unsecure	1	Poor	8	7	-	7
146	Woughton on The Green Playing Fields	Enigma Ladies HC Milton Keynes HC	Central	Unsecure	1	Poor	8	8	5	3
146	Woughton on The Green Playing Fields	Milton Keynes HC	Central	Unsecure	1	Poor	8	8	4	4
-	-	-	-		3	-	24	23	9	14

Within Milton Keynes, all three hockey suitable AGPs are void of having spare capacity due to unsecure tenure and poor quality. The subsequent Strategy & Action Plan will contain scenarios and recommendations for how to improve the offering of hockey within Milton Keynes, including resurfacing of the AGPs and securing tenure.

It should also be noted that both sites also receive football training demand during the midweek peak period, this activity limits the amount of availability that can be accessed by the hockey clubs within Milton Keynes. As a result, this provides a barrier to any future demand aspirations which have been expressed by Milton Keynes Hockey Club at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields.

5.5: Conclusion

There are three poor quality, sports lit, full size AGPs located across Milton Keynes, all of which have unsecure tenure despite being available for community use. The AGPs have the potential to accommodate 24 senior teams however due to unsecure tenure at the sites and significant quality issues, any potential spare capacity has been discounted. With nine senior teams currently fielded from two clubs, the current stock of provision is considered insufficient to accommodate demand and puts hockey at risk of being lost from Milton Keynes.

The quality of the AGPs is of significant concern, as the surfaces at both Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus) and Woughton on The Green Playing Fields have exceeded the recommended ten-year lifespan with risk of being condemned and no known sinking fund in place to replace these. It is therefore essential to identify a sustainable solution for their protection, secured access particularly at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields and resurfacing to ensure continued, high-quality hockey provision for clubs across Milton Keynes. The ancillary facilities supporting Woughton on The Green are also recognised as needing improvement over the lifespan of the PPS.

Supply and demand summary

- There are three poor quality, sports lit, full size AGPs located across two sites Milton Keynes, all of which have unsecure tenure despite being available for community use. The AGPs have the potential to accommodate 24 senior teams however due to unsecure tenure at the sites and significant quality issues, any potential spare capacity has been discounted.
- The quality of the AGPs is of significant concern, as the surfaces at both Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus) and Woughton on The Green Playing Fields have exceeded the recommended ten-year lifespan with risk of being condemned and no sinking fund in place to replace these.
- The absence of a sinking fund at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields further compounds this risk, leaving no clear financial plan in place to secure the pitches' future viability.

Supply summary

- There are three full size hockey suitable artificial grass pitches (AGPs) in Milton Keynes located across two sites (Woughton on The Green Playing Fields has two). All three pitches are available for community use and have sports lighting.
- As shown in the table above, two AGPs are located within the Central Analysis Area with one in the North Analysis Area. No full size AGP provision is located within the East, South and West analysis areas.
- There are also seven smaller sized AGPs, three of which are available for community use located at Browns Wood Sports Ground, St Pauls Catholic School and The Milton Keynes Academy.
- The AGP at Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus) is managed in house by the school. Elsewhere, the two AGPs at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields are managed by Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust.
- Milton Keynes Dons Community Trust has a long-term lease agreement with Milton Keynes City Council for the management of Woughton on The Green Playing Fields, both of which Enigma Ladies HC and Milton Keynes HC play at.
- Both clubs have usage agreements at the site, however, neither have security of tenure with these agreements consisting of a monthly rental term.
- All AGPs within Milton Keynes are in poor condition are past the recommended 10-year life span. No sinking fund is in place at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields.
- Milton Keynes HC and Enigma Ladies Hockey clubs report that clubhouse facilities are available at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields; however, they are rated as poor quality. In addition, EH highlight the changing rooms are of a similarly low standard, due to many of them being undersized for adults match play and lack of toilet provision incorporated within each changing room.

Demand summary

- ◆ There are currently 16 teams playing within Milton Keynes based clubs which as a breakdown is four senior men's, five senior women's and seven junior teams (139 registered junior players). Milton Keynes HC is the largest club across the Local Authority with a total of 14 teams, which represents 88% of all demand.
- ◆ Within Milton Keynes, the largest number of affiliated members is identified as senior women with 78, followed by junior girls with 73 affiliated members highlighting that there is a strong presence of women and girl's hockey demand across the City.
- ◆ Milton Keynes HC states that it has experienced a reduction in demand in the past three years as a direct result of a pull-on players from other clubs in neighbouring authorities
- ◆ Milton Keynes HC report future demand aspirations across both senior men's and senior women's teams, with hope that they can reinstate two additional teams to provide six each, which the Club states that it previously accommodated.

PART 6: CRICKET

6.1: Introduction

Bucks Cricket is the main governing and representative body for cricket within Milton Keynes. Its aim is to promote the game at all levels through partnerships with professional and recreational cricketing clubs as well as other appropriate agencies. Working closely with the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), it is responsible for the management and development of every form of recreational cricket for men, women and children within the area. It is also currently working with the ECB on delivering its updated Strategy, Inspiring Generations.

For senior cricket in Milton Keynes, there are three main offerings (Saturday, Sunday and midweek cricket), whilst the youth league structure tends to be club-based matches which are generally played mid-week, although Sunday activity is also common.

County Facilities Strategy

Bucks Cricket has recently developed a County Facilities Strategy. Such strategies are being created by individual county cricket boards across the country, each tailored to their unique geographic context and informed by input from a diverse range of stakeholders. They serve as long-term plans and involve consultation with key partners, including clubs, leagues, active partnerships, county pitch advisors, and Sport England.

The County Facilities Strategy (CFS) is an investment strategy of priority projects for potential investment for cricket; it is not a detailed supply and demand analysis of all pitch provision in a local area. It cannot be used in place of a PPS and is not an accepted evidence base for development proposals that need to be judged against the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Field Policy.

To inform the strategies, the ECB has set guidelines to ensure that the following facilities are considered in development:

- ❖ Traditional facilities (pitches, outfielders, pavilions, practice areas).
- ❖ Non-traditional facilities (multi-use games areas, tapeball/softball spaces, courts/cages).
- ❖ Indoor facilities (multi use halls, cricket specific halls, match play venues).

The strategies will be used to shape investment priorities, ensuring that decision-making processes are clearly explained before a list of priority projects is produced. To inform this process, each strategy will utilise findings from PPS-related work, where in place, as a 'high quality' evidence base.

Consultation

The audit identifies that within Milton Keynes, there are 23 cricket clubs that affiliate to Bucks Cricket fielding a total of 146 teams across all age groups and formats of play. Of these, 15 clubs have responded to consultation requests resulting in an 65% club response rate whilst 113 teams have responded equating to a 77% team response rate.

To help secure responses from clubs, Bucks Cricket assisted with sending out online surveys on behalf of KKP.

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Table 6.1: Summary of cricket consultation

Club	Club response
Bletchley Town CC	Yes
Brookland Blasters CC	No
Eagle Glebe CC	Yes
Great Brickhill CC	Yes
Hanslope CC	No
Milton Keynes CC	Yes
Milton Keynes City CC	Yes
MK Air CC	Yes
MK Stallions CC	Yes
MK Warriors CC	No
New Bradwell CC	Yes
Newport Pagnell Town CC	Yes
North Crawley CC	Yes
Old Bradwell New City CC	Yes
Olney CC	No
Open University CC	No
Shenley Church End CC	Yes
Sher-E-Punjab CC	No
Stony Stratford CC	Yes
West Oxley Kings CC	No
Westcroft CC	Yes
Whitehouse CC	No
Wolverton Town CC	Yes

The audit also highlights 23 teams in Milton Keynes that participate in semi-structured league and friendly competitions, making use of facilities across the City. These do not affiliate to Bucks Cricket. The demand generated by these teams, as identified by desktop research and through information provided via Bucks Cricket will be considered as part of the analysis.

6.2: Supply

The audit identifies that there are 27 grass wicket cricket squares in Milton Keynes across 26 sites, with two squares located at Manor Fields in the South Analysis Area. Of the grass wicket squares, 26 (96%) are available for community use. Open University (Walton Hall Campus) is the only site which does not offer community use.

There are also 27 non-turf pitches (NTPs) across Milton Keynes, of which 15 (63%) are available for community use. Of these, 15 (55%) accompany grass wicket squares, whilst the remaining 12 (44%) are standalone NTPs which are typically provided at education sites.

As seen in the table below, the East Analysis Area has the greatest number of grass cricket squares in Milton Keynes with seven (26%).

Elsewhere, the North, North East and South analysis areas have the least number of grass cricket squares with two each (7%).

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Table 6.2: Summary of grass wicket squares

Analysis area	No. of squares	No. of NTPs
Central	5	7
East	7	7
North	2	2
North East	2	2
North West	4	3
South	2	2
West	5	4
Total	27	27

Non-turf pitches (NTPs)

There are 27 NTPs identified across Milton Keynes located across as many sites. Of these, 15 accompany grass wicket squares Whereas the remaining 12 are standalone NTPs and located at:

- ♦ Denbigh School.
- ♦ Glebe Farm School.
- ♦ Lord Grey School.
- ♦ Marsh Drive Sports Ground.
- ♦ Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus).
- ♦ Ousedale School (Olney Campus).
- ♦ St Pauls Catholic School x 2.
- ♦ The Hazeley Academy.
- ♦ The Milton Keynes Academy.
- ♦ Walton High (Brooklands Campus).
- ♦ Woughton on The Green Playing Fields.

NTPs, particularly when located at club sites, can also aid with training and practice, and can help reduce overplay on grass wickets when used for matches. The ECB highlights that NTPs which follow its TS6 guidance on performance standards are suitable for low level, senior play. NTPs are also frequently used for junior matches across the country as well as recreational demand and there are some instances of both within Milton Keynes.

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

The map overleaf shows the location of all cricket squares (grass and non-turf) currently servicing Milton Keynes. See Table 6.3 for a key.

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Table 6.3 Key to map of cricket provision within Milton Keynes

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of squares	No. of wickets	No. of NTPs
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	MK11 1AR	West	Yes	1	12	1
7	Bow Brickhill Playing Fields	MK17 9JB	East	Yes	1	8	1
8	Bradwell Sports and Social Club	MK13 9AR	Central	Yes	1	10	1
12	Broughton Community Sports Pavilion	MK10 9NJ	East	Yes	1	5	1
18	Campbell Park	MK9 4AD	Central	Yes	1	11	-
20	Castlethorpe Sports Ground	MK19 7PL	North West	Yes	1	7	1
25	Crownhill Sports Ground	MK8 0AS	West	Yes	1	10	-
27	Denbigh School	MK5 6EX	West	No	-	-	1
31	Emberton Playing Field	MK46 5BS	North	Yes	1	8	-
38	Furzton Sports Ground	MK4 1HD	West	Yes	1	-	-
41	Glebe Farm School	MK17 8XY	East	Yes	-	-	1
42	Great Linford Cricket Pavillion	MK14 5AX	Central	Yes	1	8	-
48	Hanslope Recreation Ground	MK19 7HQ	North West	Yes	1	3	1
63	Lord Grey School	MK3 6EW	South	No	-	-	1
66	Manor Fields	MK2 2HX	South	Yes	1	13	1
66	Manor Fields	MK2 2HX	South	Yes	1	14	-
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	MK14 5HH	Central	Yes	1	8	-
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	MK14 5HH	Central	Yes	-	-	1
74	Milton Keynes Village Pavilion	MK10 9AD	East	Yes	1	7	1
77	New Bradwell Recreation Ground	MK13 7AD	North West	Yes	1	10	1
83	North Crawley Recreation Ground	MK16 9LH	North East	Yes	1	8	1
87	Olney Recreation Ground	MK46 4DW	North	Yes	1	11	1
88	Open University (Walton Hall Campus)	MK7 6AA	East	No	1	10	1
90	Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus)	MK16 0BJ	North East	No	-	-	1
91	Ousedale School (Olney Campus)	MK46 5LF	North	No	-	-	1
112	St Pauls Catholic School	MK6 5EN	Central	No	-	-	2
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavillion	MK4 3EQ	West	Yes	1	6	-
119	The Hazeley Academy	MK8 0PT	West	No	-	-	1
120	The Milton Keynes Academy	MK6 5LA	Central	No	-	-	1

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Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of squares	No. of wickets	No. of NTPs
125	Walnut Tree Sports Ground	MK7 7DF	East	Yes	1	10	-
126	Walton High (Brooklands Campus)	MK10 7HE	East	No	-	-	1
127	Walton High (Walnut Tree Campus)	MK7 7WH	East	No	1	7	1
132	Wavendon Gate Pavilion	MK7 7RZ	East	Yes	1	8	-
136	Westcroft Sports Ground	MK4 4DB	West	Yes	1	5	1
139	Willen Pavillion	MK15 9JP	Central	Yes	1	9	1
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	MK16 0DF	North East	Yes	1	8	-
143	Wolverton Sports Club	MK12 5HH	North West	Yes	1	15	-
146	Woughton on The Green Playing Fields	MK6 3EA	Central	Yes	-	-	1

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Unused provision

Seven sites across Milton Keynes formerly provided grass cricket provision with two squares provided at Woughton-on-the Green. The table below summarises the sites previously used for cricket and the approximate last date of its usage.

For senior cricket under the ECB, to accommodate senior cricket, boundaries should be a minimum of 59 metres and a maximum of 82 metres from the centre of the square. On this basis, the square at Brooklands Community Sports Pavillion and one square at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields could potentially be brought back into use to accommodate senior cricket demand. The remainder could theoretically provide a role for junior formats and recreational offers.

Table 6.4: Summary of unused sites

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Provision	Comments
10	Brooklands Community Sports Pavillion	MK10 7HL	One cricket square with an approximate ²² maximum boundary radius of 65 metres from the middle of the pitch.	Unused site previously provided <i>circa 2023</i> .
50	Heelands Sports Ground	MK13 7EX	One cricket square with an approximate maximum boundary radius of 57 metres from the middle of the pitch.	Unused site previously provided <i>circa 2007</i> .
56	Kents Hill Sports Ground	MK7 6HQ	One cricket square with an approximate maximum boundary radius of 55 metres from the middle of the pitch.	Unused site previously provided <i>circa 2022</i> .
59	Knowlhill Sports Ground	MK5 8ND	One cricket square with an approximate maximum boundary radius of 57 metres from the middle of the pitch.	Unused site previously provided <i>circa 2022</i> .
75	Monkston Community Centre and Sports Pavillion	MK10 9FJ	One cricket square with an approximate maximum boundary radius of 55 metres from the middle of the pitch.	Unused site previously provided <i>circa 2022</i> .
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavillion	MK4 3EQ	One cricket square with an approximate maximum boundary radius of 58 metres from the middle of the pitch.	Unused site previously provided <i>circa 2022</i> .
144	Woolstone Cricket Ground	MK15 0AE	One cricket square with an approximate maximum boundary radius of 57 metres from the middle of the pitch.	Unused site previously provided <i>circa 2010</i> .
146	Woughton on the Green Playing Fields	MK6 3EA	Two cricket squares with an approximate maximum radius of 65 and 55 metres from the middle of the pitch.	Unused site previously provided <i>circa 2024 and 2025</i> .

The squares at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields have recently been removed by MK Dons Community Trust as part of a football led application to improve the site to be used as a professional training facility. Notwithstanding this, a square is to be reinstated into the active supply of cricket squares within Milton Keynes as part of a mitigation package although it is undetermined as to when this will be.

²² Measurements of boundary lengths have been estimated using Google Earth.

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Security of tenure

Where clubs have responded to consultation requests, the table below outlines the tenure agreements of those clubs (14/23) at their primary sites across Milton Keynes. Where provision is owned by the Council (including that provided by town or parish councils) and either rented or leased to clubs, unless otherwise known, it is considered that this provision is secure and will be provided over the lifespan of the PPS. Milton Keynes City CC is considered to have unsecure tenure at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields.

School sites are generally considered to be unsecure as community use can stop at any time unless a community use agreement is in place, which none are known to be in place. As shown in the table below, Eagle Glebe CC has unsecure tenure at Glebe Farm School.

In general, most clubs operate with a degree of security of tenure at their respective grounds. It should be noted that, in many instances, clubs have been using their sites for several years or longer. Even where long-term agreements are not formally in place, there is an established understanding that these sites will continue to support cricket for the foreseeable future, at a minimum, throughout the lifespan of the PPS. Details for each club responding to consultation are provided in the following table.

Table 6.5: Summary of club tenure arrangements (Milton Keynes)

Club	Site	Tenure	Security of tenure
Bletchley CC	Manor Fields	The Club has a 21-year lease agreement with Milton Keynes City Council/ Bletchley RUFC	Secure
Eagle Glebe CC	Glebe Farm School	The Club has a rental agreement in place with the school	Unsecure
Milton Keynes CC	Milton Keynes Village Pavillion	The Club has a rolling 12-month lease agreement with Middleton Pavillion. The Club is in discussion to extend this to a 5-year lease	Secure
Milton Keynes City CC	Woughton on The Green Playing Field	The Club has a rental agreement with MK Dons Community Trust	Unsecure
MK Air CC	Westcroft Sports Ground	The Club has a five-year lease agreement with Shenley Brook End Parish Council	Secure
MK Stallions CC	Manor Fields	The Club has a 2-year lease agreement with Bletchley RUFC	Secure
New Bradwell CC	New Bradwell Recreation Ground	The Club has a 25-year lease agreement with Milton Keynes City Council	Secure
Newport Pagnell CC	Willen Road Sports Ground	The Club has a long-term lease agreement with Newport Pagnell Parish Council.	Secure
North Crawley CC	North Crawley Recreation Ground	The Club has a long-term lease agreement with North Crawley Institute & Great Linford Parish Council	Secure
Old Bradwell New City CC	Bradwell Sports and Social Club	The Club has a 12-year lease agreement with Bradwell Parish Council.	Secure
Shenley Church End CC	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	The Club has an informal rental agreement with Great Linford Parish Council	Secure

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Club	Site	Tenure	Security of tenure
Stony Stratford CC	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	The Club has a 20-year lease agreement with Ancell Trust	Secure
Westcroft CC	Crownhill Sports Ground	The Club has a 10-year lease agreement with Milton Keynes City Council	Secure
Wolverton Town CC	Wolverton Sports Ground	Owned by the Club	Secure

Pitch quality

The quality of cricket pitches has been assessed via a combination of site visits carried out in June 2025 (using non-technical assessments as determined by the ECB) user consultation and input from Bucks Cricket to reach and apply an agreed rating on a scale of good, standard and poor. The full assessment criteria can be seen via Appendix 2.

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

The audit of grass wicket squares in Milton Keynes found eight (30%) squares to be good quality, 12 (44%) to be of standard quality and seven (26%) to be poor quality.

Table 6.6: Quality ratings for grass wicket squares (site by site)

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	No. of squares	Square quality	Outfield quality
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	West	1	Good	Standard
7	Bow Brickhill Playing Fields	East	1	Good	Good
8	Bradwell Sports and Social Club	Central	1	Standard	Good
12	Broughton Community Sports Pavilion	East	1	Standard	Standard
18	Campbell Park	Central	1	Good	Good
20	Castlethorpe Sports Ground	North West	1	Standard	Standard
25	Crownhill Sports Ground	West	1	Poor	Good
31	Emberton Playing Field	North	1	Standard	Good
38	Furzton Sports Ground	West	1	Poor	Standard
42	Great Linford Cricket Pavillion	Central	1	Good	Good
48	Hanslope Recreation Ground	North West	1	Standard	Standard
66	Manor Fields	South	1	Standard	Standard
66	Manor Fields	South	1	Poor	Standard
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	Central	1	Standard	Standard
74	Milton Keynes Village Pavilion	East	1	Standard	Standard
77	New Bradwell Recreation Ground	North West	1	Standard	Standard
83	North Crawley Recreation Ground	North East	1	Good	Good
87	Olney Recreation Ground	North	1	Good	Good
88	Open University (Walton Hall Campus)	East	1	Standard	Good
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavillion	West	1	Poor	Good
125	Walnut Tree Sports Ground	East	1	Poor	Standard

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Site ID	Site	Analysis area	No. of squares	Square quality	Outfield quality
127	Walton High (Walnut Tree Campus)	East	1	Poor	Standard
132	Wavendon Gate Pavilion	East	1	Poor	Standard
136	Westcroft Sports Ground	West	1	Standard	Standard
139	Willen Pavillion	Central	1	Good	Standard
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	North East	1	Standard	Standard
143	Wolverton Sports Club	North West	1	Good	Standard

Several clubs report quality improvements at its sites over the last couple of years, for example, Ancell Trust Sports Ground (Stony Stratford CC) and New Bradwell Recreation Ground (New Bradwell CC) have no major issues, with clubs managing their own maintenance effectively. At Bradwell Sports and Social Club, the square quality has improved significantly due to improved groundman's efforts and adherence to recommended practices set by the ECB. Willen Road Sports Ground has also seen slight improvements in square quality thanks to better club-led maintenance.

Contrarily, a few grounds face recurring challenges, poor outfield quality is a common issue, especially at sites shared with football or that are open to the public, leading to problems like dog fouling and litter (e.g., Bradwell Sports and Social Club, New Bradwell Recreation Ground and Walnut Tree Sports Ground). In addition, several clubs highlight deteriorating pitch or square quality due to a lack of funding, vandalism, or inadequate maintenance (Crownhill Sports Ground, Wolverton Sports Club, Walnut Tree Sports Ground).

Some sites struggle with specific issues such as dangerous bounce from surface damage (Manor Fields), undersized or uneven outfields (North Crawley Recreation Ground, Wolverton Sports Club), and equipment problems like a broken roller (Milton Keynes Village Pavilion). There are also concerns about unofficial use and sustainability of leasing costs at certain grounds.

Overall, while some clubs are managing well and even improving their facilities, many face significant challenges related to funding, maintenance, and the shared or public nature of their grounds.

The table below provides details of club consultation feedback relating to its primary site.

Table 6.7: Pitch quality club consultation findings

Site ID	Site	Club	Comments
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	Stony Stratford CC	No major issues identified by the Club through consultation, maintenance of the square and outfield is carried out by the Club.
8	Bradwell Sports and Social Club	Old Bradwell New City CC	The Club states that square quality has improved significantly however the outfield is poor due to it being a public open space and shared with football. The clubs groundman is proactive and follow Bucks/ ECB recommendations for its maintenance.
25	Crownhill Sports Ground	Westcroft CC	The Club states that the quality of square does not meet league standards stating that this has deteriorated substantially due to a lack of funding as well as vandalism. A key issue is considered to be a lack of water next to the square to help the groundman.

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Site ID	Site	Club	Comments
66	Manor Fields	Bletchley CC MK Stallions CC	The clubs both state that the quality of the square is poorer when compared to previous seasons, with evidence of damage to the surface which causes a dangerous bounce.
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	Shenley Church End CC	Maintenance is carried out by an external contractor. The Club states that there is no difference in the quality of the square compared to previous seasons.
74	Milton Keynes Village Pavilion	Milton Keynes CC	The Club states that it manages the square maintenance although requires permissions from the Pavillion in certain circumstances. Quality of the square has deteriorated slightly due to adverse weather. The Club states that it struggles to prepare its wickets due to its roller breaking.
77	New Bradwell Recreation Ground	New Bradwell CC	The Club do not report any major issues in relation to the square however state that the outfield is of a poor quality due to it being a public open space and there being evidence of dog fouling.
83	North Crawley Recreation Ground	North Crawley CC	The Club states that the outfield is undersized with reference to some of the boundaries being too small. One side of the ground is considered problematic with ridge and furrow.
125	Walnut Tree Sports Ground	Crown CC	The Club states that external contractors have been brought in to do the pitch maintenance have caused the pitch to deteriorate. Additional issues consist of dog fouling/ litter, unofficial use and evidence of damage to the surface.
136	Westcroft Sports Ground	MK Stallions CC MK Air CC	No major issues were identified by the clubs, although it states that the pitch is expensive to lease with this not sustainable long term.
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	Newport Pagnell Town CC	The Club states that the square quality has slightly improved due to better maintenance carried out by the Club. Rabbit holes are recurring issues on the outfield, additionally some unofficial use has been identified on the square.
143	Wolverton Sports Club	Wolverton Town CC	The Club states that the square quality has gotten poorer due to a lack of funding and resources to maintain to a high standard. The outfield is considered to be uneven.

PitchPower Assessment

PitchPower (a technical assessment of quality) for cricket began to be used in 2024 with the initial reports being produced towards the end of the season. More information surrounding PitchPower, and its functionality is available in Part 2: Football. The main difference for the analysis of cricket is that both the outfield and square are assessed for quality.

The outfield focusing on analysing grass height, grass coverage, weed coverage, root depth, thatch depth, undesirable grasses, surface debris and percentage of pest and disease. In comparison the square evaluation includes most of the above in addition to surface evenness, core profile, root break, worm casts, pitch markings and post-match repairs.

PitchPower assessments use a new five step Performance Quality Standard (PQS) rating system developed by the GMA, with the FF and Sport England agreeing alignment with the capacity guidance within the existing PPS guidance. This alignment is shown in the table below.

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Table 6.8: Agreed equivalent PPS quality rating for PitchPower ratings

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

There are currently no PitchPower assessments for grass cricket squares in Milton Keynes, however, these will be implemented into the PPS process moving forward and as they come on board, it is likely they will supersede non-technical assessments as they are more comprehensive and can provide detailed strategic recommendations on how facilities can be improved.

As a result, quality scores for cricket and recommendations within the PPS Strategy & Action Plan should be reviewed and updated as part of the Stage E process to reflect new technical assessments evidence and information when available.

Grass Pitch Improvement Fund²³

To coincide with the utilisation of PitchPower (PP) for cricket the ECB in partnership with Sport England and National Lottery has released the Grass Pitch Improvement Fund (GPIF). The GPIF aims to tackle inequalities by providing improved access to good quality, safe playing facilities for targeted groups.

The Sport England Lottery Fund will provide funding for projects in England with projects in Wales supported by the England and Wales Cricket Trust. Priority will be given to applications which support cricket for the following groups:

- ◆ Women's and girls' cricket.
- ◆ Cricket in diverse communities.
- ◆ Disability cricket.
- ◆ Low socio-economic groups (LSEG).

Investment will be targeted into three main areas:

- ◆ Improving the quality of squares and outfielders (for grass pitches rated 'unsuitable' or 'basic' to improve to at least 'good').
- ◆ Creating sustainable management of sites (through irrigation and machinery improvements).
- ◆ Installing hybrid pitches to increase playing capacity.

The fund will run until March 2027, or whenever the funding is full allocated, whichever is sooner. As of March 2026, the programme is closed due to the budget now being used.

Non-turf wickets

In relation to NTPs across Milton Keynes 21 (72%) are assessed as good quality, two (7%) are assessed as standard quality and six (21%) are rated as poor quality. This is summarised by site, below.

²³<https://resources.ecb.co.uk/ecb/document/2024/07/23/a754a60b-a11a-4dee-aa7e-06fbd040297/GPIF-guidance-notes.pdf>

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Table 6.9: Summary of NTPs within Milton Keynes

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	No. of NTPs	Position	NTP quality
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	West	1	Square	Good
7	Bow Brickhill Playing Fields	East	1	Square	Good
8	Bradwell Sports and Social Club	Central	1	Standalone	Good
12	Broughton Community Sports Pavilion	East	1	Square	Good
20	Castlethorpe Sports Ground	North West	1	Square	Good
27	Denbigh School	West	1	Standalone	Good
41	Glebe Farm School	East	1	Standalone	Good
48	Hanslope Recreation Ground	North West	1	Square	Good
63	Lord Grey School	South	1	Standalone	Poor
66	Manor Fields	South	1	Square	Good
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	Central	1	Standalone	Good
74	Milton Keynes Village Pavilion	East	1	Square	Good
77	New Bradwell Recreation Ground	North West	1	Square	Good
83	North Crawley Recreation Ground	North East	1	Square	Good
87	Olney Recreation Ground	North	1	Square	Good
88	Open University (Walton Hall Campus)	East	1	Square	Good
90	Ousedale School (Newport Pagnell Campus)	North East	1	Standalone	Standard
91	Ousedale School (Olney Campus)	North	1	Standalone	Good
112	St Pauls Catholic School	Central	2	Standalone	Poor
119	The Hazeley Academy	West	1	Standalone	Standard
120	The Milton Keynes Academy	Central	1	Standalone	Good
126	Walton High (Brooklands Campus)	East	1	Standalone	Good
127	Walton High (Walnut Tree Campus)	East	1	Square	Poor
136	Westcroft Sports Ground	West	1	Square	Good
139	Willen Pavillion	Central	1	Square	Poor
146	Woughton on The Green Playing Fields	Central	1	Standalone	Good

The estimated lifespan of an NTP is around ten years, depending on levels of use, and a sinking fund should be put into place for refurbishment beyond this timeframe.

Ball strike

Where there is either new cricket provision being put in place, or more commonly where there is a development which may prejudice the use of an existing cricket facility, there is a requirement for a full ball strike risk assessment to be undertaken and appropriate mitigation put in place as part of the development. As such, the ECB recommends that the affected or at-risk clubs and organisations seek to have a ball strike risk assessment undertaken. Further information can be provided by the ECB. No ball strike issues have been identified by clubs across Milton Keynes.

Ancillary facilities

The level of ancillary facilities required varies depending on the type and timing of play. For example, senior teams playing at weekends typically need access to clubhouse and kitchen facilities to provide refreshments. In contrast, junior matches and short-format senior games often have more limited requirements, focusing primarily on access to appropriate changing rooms and/or toilet facilities.

Quality and access to required match day and preparatory facilities across the Milton Keynes is varied, with clubs playing at privately managed or sports club sites generally better served than those playing at community managed provision.

The quality of ancillary facilities is primarily shaped by the range and standard of amenities provided on site, such as a clubhouse, changing rooms, showers, car parking, dedicated umpire areas, spectator spaces, and boundary fencing. Delivering high-quality facilities is central to the ECB's Inspiring Generations strategy, helping to meet the expectations of existing players while also supporting the growth of the game among key audiences. This includes women and girls, South Asian and wider BAME communities, as well as new entry-level programmes like All Stars and Dynamos Cricket, which are explored later in this section.

The audit of ancillary facilities at community available grass pitch cricket sites in Milton Keynes identifies that six (25%) are accompanied by good quality provision, 17 (71%) are accompanied by standard quality provision and one (4%) are serviced by poor quality provision. The following sites are considered suitable to accommodate women's and girl's demand:

- ◀ Broughton Community Sports Pavilion.
- ◀ Campbell Park.
- ◀ Marsh Drive Sports Ground.
- ◀ Olney Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Tattenhoe Sports Pavillion.
- ◀ Wolverton Sports Club.

Of the above, no women's and girl's teams are identified as playing at these sites, indicating that women's and girl's teams across Milton Keynes are accessing provision that is deemed inadequate to accommodate this demand.

Table 6.10 below provides a further breakdown of ancillary facility quality alongside club consultation feedback where this has been provided.

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Table 6.10 Ancillary facility quality club consultation feedback

Site ID	Site	Club	Analysis area	No. of squares	Ancillary facility quality	Comments
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	Stony Stratford CC	West	1	Standard	The Club states that the overall clubhouse/ pavilion facilities are of a good quality, with changing rooms including showers available for home and away teams on match days as well as officials changing also available. Despite this, the club states that the changing rooms and showers are not suitable for female participation.
8	Bradwell Sports and Social Club	Old Bradwell New City CC	Central	1	Standard	The Club states that the overall facilities are of a standard quality with access to changing rooms for both home and away teams. Showering facilities are available in both however these are not suitable for women's and girl's participation. Officials changing is available.
12	Broughton Community Sports Pavilion	MK Warriors CC	East	1	Good	Broughton Community Sports Pavillion provide a modern offering for clubs to access pre and post-match, including changing rooms with showering and toilet facilities suitable for women's and girls, as well as a large social space and refreshment station.
20	Castlethorpe Sports Ground	MK Warriors	North West	1	Standard	The clubhouse provides access to two changing rooms onsite which it states are not adequate to accommodate the level of demand. Showers are not included within the changing rooms however communal toilets as well as officials changing rooms are provided.
25	Crownhill Sports Ground	Westcroft CC	West	1	Poor	The clubhouse onsite provides changing rooms however these are dilapidated and in need of refurbishment in order to better accommodate demand, specifically women's and girls. Westcroft CC states that it requires an additional storage area for equipment.
48	Hanslope Recreation Ground	Hanslope CC	North West	1	Standard	The clubhouse onsite is designed to accommodate only sporting demand from football and cricket. The changing rooms are small with only two teams being able to access these on match days which can lead to congestion and that the carpark is not sufficient to accommodate the level of demand the site receives. In addition, there is also a community space equipped with a kitchen.
66	Manor Fields	Bletchley CC MK Stallions CC	South	2	Standard	Ancillary facilities at this site include two changing rooms which are outdated and in need of upgrading. These include communal showering facilities which are not compliant for women's and girl's teams. The clubhouse also has a large social space and bar. The clubs have access to a separate changing block at Manor Fields which is equipped with two changing rooms and a physio room, however, this is as poor quality as the building sits within the flood plain and has been subject to flooding on multiple occasions causing this to come out of service due to the extent of damage that has been caused.
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	Shenley Church End CC	Central	1	Good	The Clubhouse/ pavilion on site has recently been refurbished, the quality of which is now good. There is home and away changing with separate showering facilities suitable for women's and girl's demand. Officials changing is also available.
74	Milton Keynes Village Pavilion	Milton Keynes CC	East	1	Standard	The Club states that the overall clubhouse/ pavilion on site is standard quality with separate changing rooms available for home and away teams as well as officials changing. Showering facilities are available in the changing rooms, however it is considered that these are not suitable for female demand.
77	New Bradwell Recreation Ground	New Bradwell CC	North West	1	Standard	The clubhouse onsite includes five changing rooms with self-contained showers and toilets for players and officials. In addition, a social space equipped with a kitchen and bar is also included.
83	North Crawley Recreation Ground	North Crawley CC	North East	1	Standard	The Club states that the overall quality of the clubhouse is standard, with the changing room facilities highlighted as particularly poor with these not suitable for women's and girl's participation. Contrarily, toilet facilities were rated as good quality. No officials changing are available at the site.
125	Walnut Tree Sports Ground	Crown CC	East	1	Standard	The Club states that the overall clubhouse facilities onsite are of a good quality however states that its social space is in need of some work completed to it. In addition, the changing rooms and showering facilities are not suitable for women's and girl's participation. Officials changing is available.
136	Westcroft Sports Ground	MK Air MK Stallions	West	1	Standard	The overall clubhouse facilities at this site are rated as standard quality by the clubs. Changing rooms are available for both the home and away teams although are serviced by shared showering facilities which are not considered suitable for women's and girl's participation. Officials changing facilities are also available on site.
139	Willen Pavillion	Westcroft CC	Central	1	Standard	The pavilion onsite is equipped with three changing rooms with communal showers and toilets. There is also official changing available onsite. The pavilion also includes a community hall, meeting room and kitchen facilities.
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	Newport Pagnell Town CC	North East	1	Standard	Two changing rooms are available onsite for home and away teams with showering facilities available. Despite this, these are not suitable for women's and girl's demand. In addition, no officials changing is available. It should be noted that the site is earmarked for potential Football Foundation funding aligning to the site expansion from planned housing development.
143	Wolverton Sports Club	Wolverton Town CC	North West	1	Good	The Club states that the overall clubhouse/ pavilion is of a good quality, with changing rooms and showering facilities available which are considered suitable for female participation. In addition, officials changing is available on site.

As shown in the table above, a recurring issue is that many changing rooms and shower facilities are not suitable for women's and girl's participation, some sites have recently refurbished or modern facilities that do cater to these players but are in the minority. Additional concerns include inadequate capacity to accommodate the number of teams, outdated facilities, insufficient parking and the need for more storage and social spaces.

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Training facilities

Access to cricket nets is essential, particularly for pre-season and winter training. Before the season begins, clubs typically make use of both indoor and outdoor facilities, while during the playing season, outdoor nets account for the majority of training activity. Across cricket sites in Milton Keynes, 16 venues offer dedicated onsite training facilities, comprising a total of 38 fixed-lane practice nets. A detailed breakdown is provided in the table below.

Table 6.11: Summary of training facilities

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Practice nets?	Number of lanes?
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	West	Yes	4
7	Bow Brickhill Playing Fields	East	Yes	2
12	Broughton Community Sports Pavilion	East	Yes	2
20	Castlethorpe Sports Ground	North West	Yes	1
41	Glebe Farm School	East	Yes	3
48	Hanslope Recreation Ground	North West	Yes	2
66	Manor Fields	South	Yes	2
77	New Bradwell Recreation Ground	North West	Yes	3
83	North Crawley Recreation Ground	North East	Yes	2
87	Olney Recreation Ground	North	Yes	2
88	Open University (Walton Hall Campus)	East	Yes	1
119	The Hazeley Academy	West	Yes	4
126	Walton High (Brooklands Campus)	East	Yes	3
127	Walton High (Walnut Tree Campus)	East	Yes	3
136	Westcroft Sports Ground	West	Yes	2
143	Wolverton Sports Club	North West	Yes	2

It is important to note that, while training facilities are available at Broughton Community Sports Pavilion and Westcroft Sports Ground, consultation with Bucks Cricket highlights that these facilities are currently unusable and require significant refurbishment.

In addition to fixed-lane practice nets, clubs utilise mobile nets that cover wickets on the square as an alternative method for practice. Notwithstanding this, within Milton Keynes clubs accessing Council owned sites do not have access to these mobile nets due to storage issues.

Based on consultation feedback, the following clubs report demand for new, improved and/or additional training facilities:

- ✦ Milton Keynes CC.
- ✦ Milton Keynes City CC.
- ✦ MK Air CC.
- ✦ MK Stallions.
- ✦ North Crawley CC.
- ✦ Old Bradwell New City CC.
- ✦ Shenley Church End CC.
- ✦ Westcroft CC.
- ✦ Wolverton CC.

This is further detailed in the table below.

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Table 6.12: Summary of demand for additional training facilities

Site ID	Site name	Club	Comments
8	Bradwell Sports and Social Club	Old Bradwell New City CC	Fixed-lane practice net, mobile cage and an NTP
25	Crownhill Sports Ground	Westcroft CC	Fixed-lane practice net, mobile cage
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	Shenley Church End CC	Fixed-lane practice net, mobile cage and an NTP
74	Milton Keynes Village Pavillion	Milton Keynes CC	Fixed-lane practice net
83	North Crawley Recreation Ground	North Crawley CC	Fixed-lane practice net
136	Westcroft Sports Ground	MK Stallions	Fixed-lane practice net, mobile cage
136	Westcroft Sports Ground	MK Air CC	Fixed-lane practice net, mobile cage
143	Wolverton Sports Club	Wolverton CC	Mobile cage and indoor facility
146	Woughton on The Green Playing Fields	Milton Keynes City CC	Fixed-lane practice net, mobile cage

All remaining responsive clubs report that they are satisfied with their current practice provision, although some report a need for access or improved access to indoor facilities for winter training purposes. Whilst this falls outside the remit of this study, it is something that should be considered moving forward.

Indoor facilities

Whilst the PPS only considers outdoor playing pitches, a cricket training programme includes accessing indoor net facilities over winter months in preparation for the start of the season. The table below highlights the clubs that utilise indoor provision and where this takes place.

Table 6.13: Summary of indoor provision accessed by clubs

Club	Access indoor provision?	Name of site(s) used
Bletchley Town CC	Yes	Leon Leisure Centre
Milton Keynes CC	Yes	Oakgrove School
MK Air CC	Yes	Oakgrove School Watling Academy
MK Stallions CC	Yes	Royal Latin School, Buckingham
New Bradwell CC	Yes	The Radcliffe School
Newport Pagnell Town CC	Yes	The Radcliffe School Beford School
North Crawley CC	Yes	Holywell School, Cranfield
Old Bradwell New City CC	Yes	Leon Leisure Centre Simbah Sports
Shenley Church End CC	Yes	The Radcliffe School
Stony Stratford CC	Yes	The Radcliffe School
Wolverton Town CC	Yes	The Radcliffe School

Where information is available through consultation, 11 clubs within Milton Keynes currently access indoor nets, whilst of those responding, four do not (Eagle Glebe CC, Milton Keynes City CC, Shenley Church End CC and Westcroft CC). The position for the unresponsive clubs is unknown.

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6.3: Demand

In total, there are 23 clubs in Milton Keynes that affiliate to Bucks Cricket generating a total of 146 teams, this equates to 81 senior men's, five senior women's, 50 junior boys' teams and ten junior girls' teams. These figures include hardball and softball teams in relation to women and girls' demand.

Stony Stratford CC is the largest club within the City with 23 teams, whilst Brookland Blasters CC, Hanslope CC, Milton Keynes City CC, Shenley Church End CC, West Oxley Kings CC and Whitehouse CC are the smallest (in terms of participation) with two senior men's teams each.

Table 6.14: Summary of number of competitive teams by club

Club	Analysis area	No. of senior men's teams	No. of senior women's teams	No. of junior boys' teams	No. of junior girls' teams	Total
Bletchley Town CC	South	3	-	3	2	8
Brookland Blasters CC	North	2	-	-	-	2
Eagle Glebe CC	East	3	-	-	-	3
Great Brickhill CC	East	6	-	6	1	13
Hanslope CC	North West	2	-	-	-	2
Milton Keynes CC	East	3	-	2	-	5
Milton Keynes City CC	Central	2	-	-	-	2
MK Air CC	West	7	-	6	1	14
MK Stallions CC	South	6	-	-	-	6
MK Warriors CC	East	4	-	-	-	4
New Bradwell CC	North West	4	-	1	-	5
Newport Pagnell Town CC	North East	3	1	3	1	8
North Crawley CC	North East	3	-	5	1	9
Old Bradwell New City CC	Central	2	-	1	-	3
Olney CC	North	4	1	7	-	12
Open University CC	East	3	-	-	-	3
Shenley Church End CC	Central	2	-	-	-	2
Sher-E-Punjab CC	North West	3	-	-	-	3
Stony Stratford CC	West	7	3	10	3	23
West Oxley Kings CC	East	2	-	-	-	2
Westcroft CC	Central	5	-	5	1	11
Whitehouse CC	West	2	-	-	-	2
Wolverton Town CC	North West	3	-	1	-	4
Total	-	81	5	50	10	146

As seen in the table below, the West Analysis Area accommodates the most demand with 39 (26%) teams identified. The area with the least amount of cricket demand is the North, North West and South analysis areas, each with 14 teams (9%).

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Table 6.15: Summary of number of competitive teams by analysis area

Analysis area	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys'	Junior girls'	Total
Central	11	-	6	1	18
East	21		8	1	30
North	6	1	7	-	14
North East	6	1	8	2	17
North West	12	-	2	-	14
South	9	-	3	2	14
West	16	3	16	4	39
Total	81	5	50	10	146

As well as club based demand, there are also a number of leagues and informal/recreational cricket that takes place across Milton Keynes, information related to this can be found below.

Four Counties League

The Four Counties League is a senior men's cricket league consisting of five divisions each with nine teams (six divisions of ten prior to covid) made up of clubs from Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire. For clubs to be entered into the Four Counties League, they must be affiliated to either Bucks or Bedfordshire Cricket. Fixtures are played on Saturday's and are played across most cricket venues within Milton Keynes as well as Bedfordshire.

Last Man Stands

In addition to club-based demand, there is also a Milton Keynes Last Man Stands League, of which 10 teams participate in. Fixtures are played midweek and traditionally take place at Marsh Drive Sports Ground and on occasions, Westcroft Sports Ground.

MK Gully

MK Gully competitions consists of three leagues, including Thursday (three teams), Sunday (five teams) and the Milton Keynes Gully Cricket Outdoor Tournament 2025 (10 teams). Fixtures are played across multiple venues within Milton Keynes.

Home Counties Women's League

The HCWCL was established in 2019 to promote and encourage participation for women's cricket clubs based in Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire and Oxfordshire. There are a number of divisions available to ensure every club within the five Counties has an opportunity to play both the format and standard of cricket they want, as locally as possible. The leagues vision is to see the league grow organically year on year and provide local clubs with a high quality playing structure both recreationally and competitively.

Informal and recreational cricket

Bucks Cricket reports that there is a high demand for non-affiliated informal and recreational cricket in Milton Keynes. This presents a challenge for both the Council and Bucks Cricket as it is difficult to identify the usage of the teams' utilising facilities across the City. Desk based research uncovers that key sites for use are Crownhill Sports Ground, Emberton Playing Fields, Great Linford Cricket Pavillion, Walnut Tree Sports Ground, Wavendon Gate Pavilion and Westcroft Sports Ground, as such demand identified at these sites will be accounted for in the capacity analysis.

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While these spaces are frequently used, reservations are often not made. This is particularly evident during local tournaments, where the scale of matches places additional strain on the infrastructure supporting each site.

Exported demand

Through completing the audit, it has been identified that a total of 21 teams across ten clubs are exporting demand outside of Milton Keynes to accommodate match demand. The table below highlights the club and where/when each team is exporting demand to as well as highlighting the peak period of play for each team exported.

Table 6.16: Clubs exporting demand outside of Milton Keynes

Club	Site	Local Authority	Peak period
Brooklands Blasters 1 st XI	Pages Park Pavillion	Central Bedfordshire	Saturday
Great Brickhill 3 rd XI	Ascott Park	Buckinghamshire	Saturday
Great Brickhill 4 th XI	Ascott Park	Buckinghamshire	Saturday
Great Brickhill U11 Invincibles	Rotten Row	Buckinghamshire	Midweek
Great Brickhill Midweek XI	Ascott Park	Buckinghamshire	Midweek
Milton Keynes City 1 st XI	Luton Regional Sports Centre	Luton	Saturday
Milton Keynes City 2 nd XI	Luton Regional Sports Centre	Luton	Saturday
MK Air 2 nd XI	Obelisk	West Northamptonshire	Saturday
MK Air CC	Eggington Foresters Cricket Club	Central Bedfordshire	Saturday
MK Air 3 rd XI	Obelisk	West Northamptonshire	Saturday
MK Sultan Midweek XI	Wingrave Sports & Social Club	Buckinghamshire	Midweek
MK Superkings 1 st XI	Wingrave Sports & Social Club	Buckinghamshire	Saturday
MK Superkings 2 nd XI	Wingrave Sports & Social Club	Buckinghamshire	Saturday
MK Superkings Midweek XI	Wingrave Sports & Social Club	Buckinghamshire	Midweek
Sher-E-Punjab 1 st XI	Stoke Hammond Sports Club	Buckinghamshire	Saturday
Sher-E-Punjab Midweek XI	Stoke Hammond Sports Club	Buckinghamshire	Midweek
Sher-E-Punjab Sunday 1 st XI	Stoke Hammond Sports Club	Buckinghamshire	Sunday
Stony Stratford U15 Falcons	Thornborough Cricket Club	Buckinghamshire	Midweek
Westcroft 3 rd XI	Allen Park	Bedford	Saturday
Westcroft WCC Tigers	Allen Park	Bedford	Saturday
Whitehouse Sunday 1 st XI	Wingrave Sports & Social Club	Buckinghamshire	Sunday
Whitehouse Midweek XI	Wingrave Sports & Social Club	Buckinghamshire	Midweek

As shown in the table above, 13 senior men's teams playing within the Saturday peak period are identified as exporting demand to sites outside of Milton Keynes. Whilst predominantly 3rd and 4th teams, should these teams wish to return to the City to accommodate match demand, a total of 156 match equivalent sessions a season will be required (on the basis one senior men's team plays an average of 12 games a season).

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Of the clubs exporting demand, Milton Keynes City, Westcroft CC and MK Air report a preference for its demand to return into Milton Keynes if the capacity of cricket squares was available as well as an improvement to the quality of the provision, as such this demand will be accounted for in the supply and demand analysis later in this section. The remaining clubs did not indicate exporting demand to be problematic.

Additional activity

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

All Stars cricket

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

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

Dynamo's cricket

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

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

The programme will be strongly linked to The Hundred, a short format competition which also launched in 2022.

Softball cricket

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

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

The table below details the 2025 participation figures for all three participation initiatives.

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Table 6.17: Summary of All Stars, Dynamos and Softball participation

Club	All Stars participation figures (2025)	Dynamos participation figures (2025)	Softball participation figures (2025)
Bletchley Town CC	15	15	15
Milton Keynes CC	28	16	-
MK AIR Cricket Club	8	8	10
New Bradwell Cricket Club	30	56	-
Newport Pagnell Town CC	10	-	-
North Crawley CC	30	-	12
Old Bradwell New City Cricket Club	20	30	15
Stony Stratford CC	-	-	12
Westcroft CC	15	15	-
Wolverton Town CC	10	10	5
Total	166	150	69

As shown in the table above, across Milton Keynes of the responding clubs a total of ten offer either All Stars, Dynamos or Softball participation.

Disability cricket

The ECB wishes to support cricket clubs to deliver cricket opportunities for those with disabilities and has setup the Disability Cricket Champion Club Programme to support clubs through guidance, resource and equipment. This is to enable them to welcome individuals with additional needs and varying abilities to support them to play, follow, officiate and volunteer.

There are currently no Disability Cricket Champion clubs in Milton Keynes.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through club ambitions and using population forecasts. In addition, the Strategy that follows this report will contain housing growth scenarios that will estimate the additional demand for cricket arising from the proposed growth within the emerging Milton Keynes City Plan 2050.

Population growth

Based on population projections to 2047 (the maximum period to which ONS projects population based future demand), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator (PPC) can estimate the likely additional demand for grass cricket pitches that will arise from any growth.

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

The total current population in 2025 of 292,584 is expected to increase to 315,915 by 2047. As such, seven senior men's, four junior boy's and one junior girls' team is expected to arise from this growth in population. This equates to 84 match equivalent sessions per season for Saturday cricket and 30 match equivalent sessions for per season for midweek cricket.

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Notwithstanding the above, it is important to acknowledge that there are plans and strategies in place to increase the number of teams at some formats beyond what current trends and population changes would suggest. For example, consultation with the ECB suggests that further development of women and girl's participation in cricket in Milton Keynes is likely as it is currently a national priority. This also applies to potential increased growth in junior cricket, linked to the abovementioned All Stars and Dynamos initiatives.

Furthermore, the Milton Keynes Cities Cricket Plan 2025–28 highlights the target for the number of junior teams to rise to 175 by 2028.

Participation growth

Through consultation, 11 clubs express their desire to increase the number of teams they field by a total of 31 teams. Details of a breakdown of this potential growth is listed in the table below.

Table 6.17: Future demand expressed by clubs (in teams)

Club	Analysis area	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys	Junior girls
Bletchley Town CC	South	4	1	2	3
Eagle Glebe CC	East	1	-	-	-
Milton Keynes CC	East	1	-	1	-
MK Stallions CC	South	-	1		1
New Bradwell CC	North West	-	-	1	
Newport Pagnell Town CC	North East	-	-	-	1
North Crawley CC	North East	-	-	1	2
Old Bradwell New City CC	Central	3	1	2	2
Shenley Church End CC	Central	1	-	-	-
Stony Stratford CC	West	1	-	-	-
Wolverton Town CC	North West	1	1	1	-
-	Total	12	4	8	9

As seen in the table above, aspirational club growth is dispersed across six of the seven analysis areas within Milton Keynes. No future demand is identified within the North Analysis Area.

Future demand summary

In the supply and demand analysis at the end of this section of the report, no future demand will be carried forward, due to not being recognised as being established through population growth.

Notwithstanding the above, the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document will contain a scenario that will consider the impact if club aspirations are also realised. It will also take into account the expected rise in women's and girls' activity and the Milton Keynes Cities Cricket Plan.

Peak time demand

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

Spare capacity

The table below explains the difference between the potential spare capacity referenced in Table 6.19 and the actual spare capacity identified in the final three columns (Saturday, Sunday and midweek). This is required as not all potential spare capacity can be considered actual spare capacity.

Table 6.18: Spare capacity examples

Potential spare capacity in peak period (examples)	Explanation of spare capacity
No	If the cell has a "no" it means that the pitch is played to capacity within this period and therefore cannot accommodate any further demand.
Yes	If the cell has a "yes" that is not highlighted it means there is spare capacity to accommodate further demand within this designated peak period; however, this is discounted due to unsecure tenure, poor pitch quality, the pitch not being available for community use or the pitch already being played to capacity or being overplayed so it cannot accommodate any additional demand.
Yes	If the cell has a "yes" and is also highlighted in green, it means there is actual available spare capacity within this peak period which can be utilised.

6.4: Capacity analysis

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

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

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

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

The above is used to allocate capacity ratings as follows:

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

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

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As previously mentioned, the audit identifies a large amount of recreational and informal demand across Milton Keynes. Where this demand is recorded, five match equivalent sessions per season for each team have been added to the square in order to account for this demand unless otherwise stated. It should be noted that some of this demand cannot be identified due to fixtures and results not being published online. As a reminder this applies to the following sites:

- ◀ Crownhill Sports Ground.
- ◀ Emberton Playing Fields.
- ◀ Great Linford Cricket Pavillion.
- ◀ Walnut Tree Sports Ground.
- ◀ Wavendon Gate Pavilion.
- ◀ Westcroft Sports Ground.

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

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Table 6.19 Capacity analysis of grass cricket squares

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community availability	Users ²⁴	Security of tenure	Pitch quality	Type of wicket	No. of grass wickets ²⁵	Capacity (match equivalent sessions)	Current use (match equivalent sessions)	Capacity balance (match equivalent sessions)	Potential spare capacity/availability for Saturday cricket	Potential spare capacity/availability for Sunday cricket	Potential spare capacity/availability for midweek cricket
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	West	Yes	Stony Stratford CC	Secure	Good	Senior	12	60	68	8	No	No	No
7	Bow Brickhill Playing Fields	East	Yes	Great Brickhill CC	Secure	Good	Senior	8	32	43	11	No	No	No
8	Bradwell Sports and Social Club	Central	Yes	Old Bradwell New City CC	Secure	Standard	Senior	10	40	16	24	No	Yes	Yes
12	Broughton Community Sports Pavilion	East	Yes	MK Warriors CC	Secure	Standard	Senior	5	20	39	19	No	Yes	Yes
18	Campbell Park	Central	Yes	Stony Stratford CC	Secure	Good	Senior	11	55	19	36	No	Yes	Yes
20	Castlethorpe Sports Ground	North West	Yes	Castlethorpe CC	Secure	Standard	Senior	7	28	15	13	Yes	Yes	Yes
25	Crownhill Sports Ground	West	Yes	MK Titans CC Simbah Academy CC Westcroft CC	Secure	Poor	Senior	10	0	12	12	Yes	Yes	Yes
31	Emberton Playing Field	North	Yes	Brooklands Blasters CC Friends United CC	Secure	Standard	Senior	8	32	11	19	Yes	Yes	Yes
38	Furzton Sports Ground	West	Yes	-	Secure	Poor	Senior	-	0	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes
42	Great Linford Cricket Pavillion	Central	Yes	Nag's Head CC North Crawley CC Landscape Town and Country CC Santander CC Stony Stratford CC	Secure	Good	Senior	8	40	45	5	Yes	Yes	Yes
48	Hanslope Recreation Ground	North West	Yes	Hanslope CC	Secure	Standard	Senior	3	12	14	2	Yes	Yes	Yes
66	Manor Fields	South	Yes	Bletchley Town CC	Secure	Standard	Senior	13	52	30	22	No	No	Yes
66	Manor Fields	South	Yes	MK Air CC MK Stallions CC	Secure	Poor	Senior	14	0	24	24	No	No	Yes
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	Central	Yes	Shenley Church End CC Stony Stratford CC	Secure	Standard	Senior	8	32	19	13	No	Yes	Yes
74	Milton Keynes Village Pavilion	East	Yes	Milton Keynes CC	Secure	Standard	Senior	7	28	28	0	No	Yes	Yes
77	New Bradwell Recreation Ground	North West	Yes	New Bradwell CC	Secure	Standard	Senior	10	40	42	2	No	No	Yes
83	North Crawley Recreation Ground	North East	Yes	North Crawley CC	Secure	Good	Senior	8	40	29	11	No	No	Yes
87	Olney Recreation Ground	North	Yes	Olney CC	Secure	Good	Senior	11	55	42	13	No	No	No
88	Open University (Walton Hall Campus)	East	No	Open University CC	Unsecure	Standard	Senior	10	40	25	15	Yes	Yes	Yes
118	Tattenhoe Sports Pavillion	West	Yes	-	Secure	Poor	Senior	6	0	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes
125	Walnut Tree Sports Ground	East	Yes	MK Knight Riders CC Panthers CC	Secure	Poor	Senior	10	0	26	26	Yes	Yes	Yes
127	Walton High (Walnut Tree Campus)	East	Yes	-	Unsecure	Poor	Senior	7	0	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes

²⁴ Includes demand from unaffiliated teams which are recognised as competing.

²⁵ Please note the number of wickets indicated are those which have been identified for actual competitive usage.

**MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL
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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community availability	Users ²⁴	Security of tenure	Pitch quality	Type of wicket	No. of grass wickets ²⁵	Capacity (match equivalent sessions)	Current use (match equivalent sessions)	Capacity balance (match equivalent sessions)	Potential spare capacity/ availability for Saturday cricket	Potential spare capacity/ availability for Sunday cricket	Potential spare capacity/ availability for midweek cricket
132	Wavendon Gate Pavilion	East	Yes	Milton Keynes Gully Cricket West Oxley Kings CC	Secure	Poor	Senior	8	0	65	65	No	No	No
136	Westcroft Sports Ground	West	Yes	MK Air CC MK Azad CC MK Stallions CC	Secure	Standard	Senior	5	20	34	14	No	Yes	No
139	Willen Pavillion	Central	Yes	Westcroft CC	Secure	Good	Senior	9	45	44	1	No	Yes	No
141	Willen Road Sports Ground	North East	Yes	Newport Pagnell CC	Secure	Standard	Senior	8	32	31	1	No	No	Yes
143	Wolverton Sports Club	North West	Yes	Wolverton Town CC	Secure	Good	Senior	15	75	31	44	No	Yes	Yes

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Actual spare capacity

A square is only considered to have actual spare capacity if it is available for further usage during a particular peak period, has security of tenure and is at least standard quality. Using the capacity analysis, this section considers the level of actual spare capacity available for each playing format.

Notwithstanding the above, it should be noted that the actual spare capacity on Saturdays, Sundays and during midweek should not be viewed collectively as utilising it across different days may result in overplay. For example, a site with 12 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity per season theoretically has capacity for one additional senior team and two additional junior teams; however, it does not have capacity for both. As such, this needs to be taken into consideration on a site-by-site basis as and when demand grows.

Potential spare capacity for additional cricket demand on a Saturday has been discounted at the following sites:

- ❖ Crownhill Sports Ground (poor quality and overplayed).
- ❖ Furzton Sports Ground (poor quality).
- ❖ Great Linford Cricket Pavillion (overplayed).
- ❖ Hanslope Recreation Ground (overplayed).
- ❖ Open University (Walton Hall Campus) (unavailable for community use and unsecure tenure).
- ❖ Tattenhoe Sports Pavillion (poor quality).
- ❖ Walnut Tree Sports Ground (poor quality and overplayed).
- ❖ Walton High (Walnut Tree Campus) (poor quality and unsecure tenure).

Taking the above into consideration, the squares at Castlethorpe Sports Ground and Emberton Playing Field have potential capacity to accommodate further demand as shown below.

Table 6.20: Site by site breakdown of spare capacity (Saturday demand)

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Capacity rating (MES)	Number of additional teams that could be accommodated in the peak period	Actual spare capacity required for additional teams in the peak period (MES)
20	Castlethorpe Sports Ground	North West	13	1	12
31	Emberton Playing Field	North	19	1	12

The total of actual spare capacity on Saturday equates to 24 match equivalent sessions per season with this falling in the North and North West analysis areas.

Table 6.21: Actual spare capacity for senior cricket (Saturday) by analysis area

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (MES per season)
Central	-
East	-
North	12
North East	-
North West	12
South	-
West	-
Total	24

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Sunday cricket

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

Similar to Saturday cricket, a square on a Sunday is only considered to have actual spare capacity if it is not already used by two teams at this time, has secure tenure and is not over, at, or close to capacity.

Potential spare capacity for additional cricket demand on a Saturday has been discounted at the following sites:

- ❖ Broughton Community Sports Pavillion (overplayed).
- ❖ Crownhill Sports Ground (poor quality and overplayed).
- ❖ Furzton Sports Ground (poor quality).
- ❖ Great Linford Cricket Pavillion (overplayed).
- ❖ Hanslope Recreation Ground (overplayed).
- ❖ Milton Keynes Village Pavillion (at capacity).
- ❖ Open University (Walton Hall Campus) (unavailable for community use and unsecure tenure).
- ❖ Tattenhoe Sports Pavillion (poor quality).
- ❖ Walnut Tree Sports Ground (poor quality and overplayed).
- ❖ Walton High (Walnut Tree Campus) (poor quality and unsecure tenure).
- ❖ Westcroft Sports Ground (overplayed).
- ❖ Willen Pavillion (not enough capacity).

Taking the above into consideration, there are six squares across the same number of sites in Milton Keynes that have potential capacity to accommodate further demand as shown below.

Table 6.22: Summary of actual spare capacity for Sunday cricket by site

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Capacity rating (MES)	Number of additional teams that could be accommodated in the peak period	Actual spare capacity required for additional teams in the peak period (MES)
8	Bradwell Sports and Social Club	Central	24	2	24
18	Campbell Park	Central	36	2	24
20	Castlethorpe Sports Ground	North West	13	1	12
31	Emberton Playing Field	North	19	1	12
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	Central	13	1	12
143	Wolverton Sports Club	North West	44	2	24

Total actual spare capacity on a Sunday equates to 108 match equivalent sessions per season. The Central Analysis Area has the most actual spare capacity totalling 60 match equivalent sessions. Actual spare capacity also exists in the North and North West analysis areas.

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Table 6.23: Actual spare capacity for senior cricket (Sunday) by analysis area

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (MES per season)
Central	60
East	-
North	12
North East	-
North West	36
South	-
West	-
Total	108

Junior cricket (midweek)

For midweek cricket, most squares with spare capacity have actual spare capacity for an increase in demand. This is because matches can be spread across numerous days, meaning capacity is not limited to two teams. Moreover, the presence of junior wickets at certain sites, as well as NTPs, provide further capacity that is generally not available to senior demand.

For a square to have actual spare capacity for midweek cricket, it must have secure tenure, not be overplayed and have more than six match equivalent sessions of spare capacity as this is the average number of matches an additional junior team would play. However, a square is not considered to have capacity for an increase in demand if it is already used by six midweek teams or more as availability is then assumed to be limited (on average, clubs are able to play fixtures on three nights per week, with other nights reserved for other activity such as All Stars and Dynamos).

Potential spare capacity for additional cricket demand midweek has been discounted at the following sites:

- ◆ Broughton Community Sports Pavillion (overplayed).
- ◆ Crownhill Sports Ground (poor quality and overplayed).
- ◆ Furzton Sports Ground (poor quality).
- ◆ Great Linford Cricket Pavillion (overplayed).
- ◆ Hanslope Recreation Ground (overplayed).
- ◆ Manor Fields (overplayed).
- ◆ Milton Keynes Village Pavillion (at capacity).
- ◆ New Bradwell Recreation Ground (overplayed).
- ◆ Open University (Walton Hall Campus) (unavailable for community use and unsecure tenure).
- ◆ Tattenhoe Sports Pavillion (poor quality).
- ◆ Walnut Tree Sports Ground (poor quality and overplayed).
- ◆ Walton High (Walnut Tree Campus) (poor quality and unsecure tenure).
- ◆ Willen Road Sports Ground (not enough capacity).

Taking the above into consideration there are eight squares across eight sites in Milton Keynes that have potential capacity to accommodate further demand during midweek as shown below.

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Table 6.24: Summary of actual spare capacity for midweek cricket by site

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Capacity rating (MES)	Number of additional teams that could be accommodated in the peak period	Actual spare capacity required for additional teams in the peak period (MES)
8	Bradwell Sports and Social Club	Central	24	4	24
18	Campbell Park	Central	36	6	36
20	Castlethorpe Sports Ground	North West	13	2	12
31	Emberton Playing Field	North	19	3	18
66	Manor Fields	South	22	3	18
67	Marsh Drive Sports Ground	Central	13	2	12
83	North Crawley Recreation Ground	North East	11	1	6
143	Wolverton Sports Club	North West	44	5	30

The total actual spare capacity midweek equates to 156 match equivalent sessions a season with most of this being in the Central Analysis Area with 72 match equivalent sessions a season.

Table 6.25: Actual spare capacity for midweek cricket by analysis area

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (MES per season)
Central	72
East	-
North	18
North East	6
North West	42
South	18
West	-
Total	156

Overplay

Overplay translates to a site accommodating more demand than it can sustain based on the number of wickets provided and the quality of the square.

Table 6.26: Summary of overplay

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Quality	Overplay (MES)
3	Ancell Trust Sports Ground	West	Good	8
7	Bow Brickhill Playing Fields	East	Good	11
12	Broughton Community Sports Pavilion	East	Standard	19
25	Crownhill Sports Ground	West	Poor	12
42	Great Linford Cricket Pavillion	Central	Good	5
48	Hanslope Recreation Ground	North West	Standard	2
66	Manor Fields	South	Poor	24

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Quality	Overplay (MES)
77	New Bradwell Recreation Ground	North West	Standard	2
125	Walnut Tree Sports Ground	East	Poor	26
132	Wavendon Gate Pavilion	East	Poor	65
136	Westcroft Sports Ground	West	Standard	14
-	-	Total	-	188

In Milton Keynes 11 squares are overplayed across 11 sites equating to 188 match equivalent sessions per season. The East Analysis Area has the most amount of overplay with 121 match equivalent sessions per season.

For seven sites, high demand from the respective clubs is the main reason for the overplay, whereas the remaining four are overplayed due to poor quality of the squares (Walnut Tree Sports Ground, Wavendon Gate Pavilion, Manor Fields and Crownhill Sports Ground).

6.5: Supply and demand analysis

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

Saturday supply and demand analysis

The table below looks at the supply and demand balance during the peak period for senior men's cricket (Saturday). For actual spare capacity, please note that this is converted from the number of match equivalent sessions identified above to the number of match equivalent sessions that could feasibly be utilised by a growth in demand. This is calculated by using the average number of matches played per season by senior teams (12) multiplied by the number of additional teams that can be fielded at peak time (two teams per square that is available). The entirety of the spare capacity at each site is not used as this number of matches may not be able to be accommodated at peak time.

Where clubs have been previously identified as exporting demand on Saturday and have expressed desire to return to Milton Keynes, an additional column has been added to account for the number of match equivalent sessions per season required to accommodate this level of demand. In this case three teams wish to return equating to 36 match equivalent sessions per season.

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Table 6.27: Supply and demand analysis of cricket squares for senior cricket (Saturday) in match equivalent sessions per season

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Exported demand	Future Total
Central	-	5	5	-	12	17
East	-	121	121	-	12	133
North	12	-	12	-	-	12
North East	-	-	-	-	-	-
North West	12	4	8	-	-	8
South	-	24	24	-	-	-
West	-	34	34	-	12	46
Total	24	188	164	84	36	284

As seen in the table above, there is a shortfall of grass wicket squares in Milton Keynes on Saturday's amounting to 164 match equivalent sessions per season. This is in the Central, East, South and West analysis areas.

Future demand projections from population increase show growth of seven senior men's cricket teams within Milton Keynes equating to 84 match equivalent sessions per season. In addition to considering exported demand of three senior men's team, the Authority wide shortfall worsens to a shortfall of 284 match equivalent sessions per season of overplay, a significant amount.

Sunday cricket supply and demand analysis

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

Table 6.28: Supply and demand analysis of cricket squares for Sunday cricket in match equivalent sessions per season

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future Total
Central	60	5	55	-	55
East	-	121	121	-	121
North	12	-	12	-	12
North East	-	-	-	-	-
North West	36	4	32	-	32
South	-	24	24	-	24
West	-	34	34	-	34
Total	108	188	80	-	80

As seen in the table above, there is a current shortfall of grass wicket squares in Milton Keynes on Sunday's amounting to 80 match equivalent sessions per season. This is in the East, South and West analysis areas.

As the future demand projections from population increase have not shown any growth for Sunday cricket within Milton Keynes, the future total remains the same as the current total, although it is recognised that this is highly likely to change. As such, the subsequent Strategy & Action Plan will run scenarios based on club/ECB aspirations.

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Junior cricket supply and demand analysis (midweek)

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

Table 6.29: Supply and demand analysis of cricket squares for midweek cricket in match equivalent sessions per season

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future Total
Central	72	5	67	-	67
East	-	121	121	-	121
North	18	-	18	-	18
North East	6	-	6	-	6
North West	42	4	38	-	38
South	18	24	6	-	6
West	-	34	34	-	34
Total	156	188	32	30	62

As seen in the table above, there is a shortfall of grass wicket squares in Milton Keynes midweek amounting to 32 match equivalent sessions per season. This is in the East, South and West analysis areas.

Future demand projections from population increase show growth of four junior boy's and one junior girls' team within Milton Keynes equating to 30 match equivalent sessions a season. As such, the future total results in an increased shortfall of 62 match equivalent sessions a season.

6.6: Conclusion

Based on the supply and demand analysis provided above, there are shortfalls of natural turf cricket squares to meet demand within Milton Keynes. When broken down and assessing each analysis area, there is overplay within the East, South and West analysis areas across all peak periods.

Table 6.30: Capacity balance of grass cricket squares summary in match equivalent sessions per season

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Exported demand	Future total
Saturday	24	188	164	84	36	284
Sunday	108	188	80	-	-	80
Midweek	156	188	32	30	-	62

When looking at the peak periods, there is currently an insufficient capacity of natural turf cricket squares to meet demand across all peak periods, this is as a result of poor quality squares and overplayed sites. When factoring in exported demand, shortfalls worsen significantly across the Saturday peak period.

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Further extrapolation of information is required to understand the impact of future demand across all peak periods of cricket within Milton Keynes. The subsequent Strategy and Action Plan will provide scenarios and recommendations that explore this as well as how best to alleviate these shortfalls, accommodate exported demand and ensure appropriate provision for cricket exists for the future in Milton Keynes.

Cricket – supply and demand summary

- Based on the supply and demand analysis, there are shortfalls of natural turf cricket squares to meet demand within Milton Keynes. When broken down and assessing each analysis area, there is overplay within the East, South and West analysis areas across all peak periods.
- When looking at the peak periods, there is currently an insufficient capacity of natural turf cricket squares to meet demand across all peak periods, this is as a result of poor quality squares and overplayed sites. When factoring in exported demand, shortfalls worsen significantly across the Saturday peak period.

Cricket – supply summary

- The audit identifies that there are 27 grass wicket cricket squares in Milton Keynes across 26 sites, with two squares located at Manor Fields in the South Analysis Area. Of the grass wicket squares, 26 (96%) are available for community use. Open University (Walton Hall Campus) is the only site which does not offer community use.
- There are also 27 non-turf pitches (NTPs) across Milton Keynes, of which 16 (63%) are available for community use. Of these, 15 (55%) accompany grass wicket squares, whilst the remaining 12 (44%) are standalone NTPs which are typically provided at education sites.
- the East Analysis Area has the greatest number of grass cricket squares in Milton Keynes with seven (26%) as well as having the greatest number of NTPs with eight (29%). Elsewhere, the North, North East and South analysis areas have the least number of grass cricket squares with two each (7%). Similarly, the North and North East analysis areas have the least number of NTPs with two each (7%).
- Seven sites across Milton Keynes formerly provided grass cricket provision with two squares provided at Woughton-on-the Green.
- Milton Keynes City CC is considered to have unsecure tenure at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields. Similarly, Eagle Glebe CC has unsecure tenure at Glebe Farm School.
- The audit of grass wicket squares in Milton Keynes found eight (30%) squares to be good quality, 12 (44%) to be of standard quality and seven (26%) to be poor quality.
- In relation to NTPs across Milton Keynes 21 (72%) are assessed as good quality, two (7%) are assessed as standard quality and six (21%) are rated as poor quality.
- The audit of ancillary facilities at community available grass pitch cricket sites in Milton Keynes identifies that six (25%) are accompanied by good quality provision, 17 (71%) are accompanied by standard quality provision and one (4%) are serviced by poor quality provision.
- The following sites are considered suitable to accommodate women's and girl's demand; Broughton Community Sports Pavilion, Campbell Park, Marsh Drive Sports Ground, Olney Recreation Ground, Tattenhoe Sports Pavillion, Wolverton Sports Club although no women's and girl's teams are identified as playing at these sites, indicating that women's and girl's teams across Milton Keynes are accessing provision that is deemed inadequate to accommodate this demand.
- Across cricket sites in Milton Keynes, 15 venues offer dedicated onsite training facilities, comprising a total of 34 fixed-lane practice nets.

Cricket – demand summary

- In total, there are 23 clubs in Milton Keynes that affiliate to Bucks Cricket generating a total of 146 teams, this equates to 81 senior men's, five senior women's, 50 junior boys' teams and ten junior girls' teams. These figures include hardball and softball teams in relation to women and girls' demand.
- Stony Stratford CC is the largest club within the City with 23 teams, whilst Brookland Blasters CC, Hanslope CC, Milton Keynes City CC, Shenley Church End CC, West Oxley Kings CC and Whitehouse CC are the smallest (in terms of participation) with two senior men's teams each.
- The West Analysis Area accommodates the most demand with 39 (26%) teams identified. The area with the least amount of cricket demand is the North, North West and South analysis areas, each with 14 teams (9%).
- Through completing the audit, it has been identified that a total of 21 teams across ten clubs are exporting demand outside of Milton Keynes to accommodate match demand.
- Through consultation, 11 clubs express their desire to increase the number of teams they field by a total of 31 teams.
- Population projections up until 2047 show growth of seven senior men's, four junior boy's and one junior girls' teams within Milton Keynes.

PART 7: BASEBALL/SOFTBALL

7.1: Introduction

The British Softball Federation (BSF) and British Baseball Federation (BBF) are responsible for the administration and governance of softball and baseball in the UK and are part of the overarching body for the sports, known as Baseball Softball UK (BSUK). BSUK has aligned its strategic goals to Sport England's Uniting the Movement, an initiative concentrated on increasing the sporting activity levels across under-represented communities, in the hope of securing investment for 2022-2027.

Baseball, the more commonly known of the two sports, is played between two teams of nine players, both of which alternate between batting and fielding across nine innings. In contrast, three forms of softball exist in the UK: slow pitch, fast pitch, and indoor.

Consultation

Within Milton Keynes, Milton Keynes Baseball Club is identified as offering the opportunity to participate in baseball. The Club has not responded to consultation requests, as such this section of the report has been informed through desk based research.

7.2: Supply

The audit of baseball and softball facilities in Milton Keynes identifies two baseball fields and one softball field located across two sites at Conniburrow Community Sports Pavilion and Woughton on The Green Playing Fields. These fields are available for community use with the provision at Conniburrow Community Sports Pavillion managed by Campbell Park Parish Council, whilst the baseball field at Woughton on The Green falls under the management of MK Dons Community Trust.

Table 7.1: Summary of baseball/ softball provision within Milton Keynes

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Analysis area	Provision
24	Conniburrow Community Sports Pavilion	MK14 7DX	Central	Softball
24	Conniburrow Community Sports Pavilion	MK14 7DX	Central	Baseball
146	Woughton On The Green Playing Fields	MK6 3EA	Central	Baseball

As seen in the table above, all provision is located within the Central Analysis Area.

Although softball provision previously existed at Stantonbury Leisure Centre, The Hazeley Academy and The Radcliffe School, these are no longer identified at the sites.

Quality

The quality of baseball and softball provision has been assessed via site visits carried out in June 2025 (using non-technical assessments as determined by the Sport England methodology) to reach and apply an agreed rating on a scale of good, standard and poor.

The audit found that all baseball and softball provision within Milton Keynes is of good quality, with no issues observed when conducting site assessments.

7.3: Demand

As previously stated, there is one club offering the opportunity to play baseball within Milton Keynes. In addition, there is also a softball league which operates within the area. Information relating to both can be found below.

Milton Keynes Baseball Club

Milton Keynes Baseball Club, founded in 1986, is one of the UK's longest-running baseball organisations, offering inclusive opportunities for players of all skill levels. Affiliated with the BBF and BSUK, the Club fields three competitive teams, all participating in national league play. Training, often held on Wednesday's and fixtures played on weekends are held on the baseball field at Woughton on The Green Playing Fields.

Milton Keynes Softball League

Milton Keynes Softball League is an inclusive slowpitch softball community catering to players aged 14 and above. The league is based at Conniburrow Sports Pavilion where training sessions take place every Tuesday from 6:30pm. The league has grown steadily, now featuring multiple teams and hosting seasonal fixtures and events. The league also organises social events and tournaments, including the Codebreakers Cup, which draws teams from across the UK.

National Baseball & Softball Complex

Whilst not within Milton Keynes, the National Baseball & Softball Complex is situated in neighbouring Buckinghamshire at Farnham Park, hosting the UK's only purpose-built, multi-field facility dedicated to baseball and softball. Operated by BSUK, it features two international-standard baseball fields, three dedicated softball/youth baseball diamonds, a batting cage and a bullpen, making it the premier venue for both sports in the country.

Farnham Park serves as the national training hub for the Great Britain Softball National Team and hosts a wide range of activities including league matches, tournaments, development sessions, and community programmes. The facility also includes the Home Plate Bar & Kitchen a clubhouse and social space for players and spectators.

7.4: Supply and demand analysis

Both Conniburrow Sports Pavillion and Woughton on The Green Playing Fields provide adequate facilities to satisfy the demand for baseball/softball participation in Milton Keynes via Milton Keynes Baseball Club and the Milton Keynes Softball League. As such, long-term, continued access to the sites should be sought to ensure that this remains the case.

7.5: Conclusion

Based on the information provided above, the current stock of good quality baseball/softball provision within Milton Keynes is sufficient to meet current demand levels identified through Milton Keynes Baseball Club and Milton Keynes Softball League. In addition, with the National Baseball & Softball Complex identified in neighbouring Buckinghamshire, demand is also likely to be accommodated here when facilities within the City cannot be accessed.

Baseball/ softball – supply and demand summary

- Both Conniburrow Sports Pavillion and Woughton on The Green Playing Fields provide adequate facilities to satisfy the demand for baseball/softball participation in Milton Keynes via Milton Keynes Baseball Club and the Milton Keynes Softball League. As such, long-term, continued access to the sites should be sought to ensure that this remains the case.

Baseball/ softball – supply summary

- The audit of baseball and softball facilities in Milton Keynes has identified two baseball fields and one softball field located across two sites at Conniburrow Community Sports Pavillion and Woughton on The Green Playing Fields
- The audit found that all baseball and softball provision within Milton Keynes is of good quality, with no issues observed when conducting site assessments.

Baseball/ softball – demand summary

- There is one baseball club identified In Milton Keynes known as Milton Keynes Baseball Club. The Club play out of Woughton on The Green Playing Fields.
- There is also the Milton Keynes Softball League based at Conniburrow Sports Pavillion.

APPENDIX 1: SPORTING CONTEXT

The following section outlines a series of national, regional and local policies pertaining to the study and which will have an important influence on the Strategy.

National context

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

Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Get Active: A Strategy for the Future of Sport and Physical Activity (2023)

The Government published its new strategy for sport in August 2023. The 2015 government sport strategy, Sporting Future: A New Strategy for a More Active Nation, was a fundamental re-framing of sport and physical activity in the UK. It set out five outcomes delivered by sport and physical activity:

- ◀ Physical wellbeing.
- ◀ Mental wellbeing.
- ◀ Individual development.
- ◀ Social and community development.
- ◀ Sustainable economic development

This new strategy builds on the foundations of Sporting Future and retains these five outcomes at its core. In order to measure its success in producing outputs which accord with these aims it has also adopted a series of three core priorities, with seven indicators to achieve these priorities as follows:

- ◀ **Being unapologetically ambitious in making the nation more active**
 - ◀ Ensuring everyone is focused on increasing physical activity, meaning fewer inactive children, and narrowing the gap on inactivity where groups are not being reached, with visible progress across the country by 2030
 - ◀ Focusing on evidence, data and metrics
 - ◀ Setting the future direction for facilities and spaces where people can be active
- ◀ **Making sport and physical activity more inclusive and welcoming for all that everyone can have confidence that there is a place for them in sport**
 - ◀ Helping the sector to be welcoming to all
 - ◀ Improving how issues and concerns are dealt within the sector
- ◀ **Moving towards a more sustainable sector that is more financially resilient and robust**
 - ◀ Supporting the sector to access additional, alternative forms of investment
 - ◀ Working towards a more environmentally sustainable sector

Delivering against these priorities will help create a more active nation and a more sustainable sport sector. These aims are complementary; greater participation, stronger governance and confidence in the sector will help to drive investment, which in turn helps to attract new audiences. The vision is to make sport and physical activity accessible, resilient, fun and fair, for now and the years to come – for the benefit of individuals and the country.

Sport England Uniting the Movement: Our 10-year vision to transform lives and communities through sport (2021-2031)

Sport and physical activity makes people happier and healthier, and movement is the lens through which we can make that happen. It does the same thing for our communities, with life-changing, sustainable benefits that have huge economic and social value. That's why Sport England wants sport and physical activity to be recognised as essential to help overcome these national challenges.

The Strategy recognises the need to invest in sport and physical activity through NGBs, other sports bodies and local sports clubs, organisations and community groups to increase engagement for different groups as part of our core purpose. It states that there is now a need to go further in promoting movement in general as the means to unlock sport and activity for some people.

Tackling inequalities

There are deep-rooted inequalities in sport and physical activity, which means that there are people who feel excluded from being active because the right options and opportunities aren't there. These inequalities are at the very core of the Uniting the Movement.

Sport England plans on having a laser focus on tackling inequalities in all that it does, because providing opportunities to people and communities that have traditionally been left behind, and helping to remove the barriers to activity is vitally important.

National Planning Policy Framework (updated 2025)

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.

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

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 Football Facilities Strategy (2018-28)

The Football Association's (FA) National Football Facilities Strategy (NFFS) provides a strategic framework that sets out key priorities and targets for the national game (i.e., football) over a ten-year period.

The Strategy sets out shared aims and objectives it aims to deliver on in conjunction with The Premier League, Sport England and the Government, to be delivered with support of the Football Foundation.

These stakeholders have clearly identified the aspirations for football to contribute directly to nationally important social and health priorities. Alongside this, the strategy is clear that traditional, affiliated football remains an important priority and a core component of the game, whilst recognising and supporting the more informal environments used for the community and recreational game.

Its vision is: *"Within 10 years we aim to deliver great football facilities, wherever they are needed"*

£1.3 billion has been spent by football and Government since 2000 to enhance existing football facilities and build new ones. However, more is needed if football and Government's shared objectives for participation, individual well-being and community cohesion are to be achieved. Nationally, direct investment will be increased – initially to £69 million per annum from football and Government (a 15% increase on recent years).

The NFFS investment priorities can be broadly grouped into six areas, recognising the need to grow the game, support existing players and better understand the different football environments:

- ◀ **Improve 20,000 Natural Turf pitches**, with a focus on addressing drop off due to a poor playing experience;
- ◀ **Deliver 1,000 3G AGP 'equivalents'** (mix of full size and small sided provision, including MUGAs - small sided facilities are likely to have a key role in smaller / rural communities and encouraging multi-sport offers), enhancing the quality of playing experience and supporting a sustainable approach to grass roots provision;
- ◀ **Deliver 1,000 changing pavilions/clubhouses**, linked to multi-pitch or hub sites, supporting growth (particularly in women and girls football), sustainability and providing a facility infrastructure to underpin investment in coaching, officials and football development;
- ◀ **Support access to flexible indoor spaces**, including equipment and court markings, to support growth in futsal, walking football and to support the education and skills outcomes, exploiting opportunities for football to positively impact on personal and social outcomes for young people in particular;
- ◀ **Refurbish existing stock to maintain current provision**, recognising the need to address historic under-investment and issues with refurbishment of existing facilities;
- ◀ **Support testing of technology and innovation**, building on customer insight to deliver hubs for innovation, testing and development of the game.

Local Football Facility Plans

To support in delivery of the NFFS, The FA has commissioned a national project. Over the next two years to 2020, a Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) will be produced for every local authority across England. Each plan will be unique to its area as well as being diverse in its representation, including currently underrepresented communities.

Identifying strategic priorities for football facilities across the formal, recreational and informal game, LFFPs will establish a ten-year vision for football facilities that aims to transform the playing pitch stock in a sustainable way. They will identify key projects to be delivered and act as an investment portfolio for projects that require funding. As such, around 90% of all will be identified via LFFPs. LFFPs will guide the allocation of 90% of national football investment (The FA, Premier League and DCMS) and forge stronger partnerships with local stakeholders to develop key sites. This, together with local match-funding will deliver over one billion pounds of investment into football facilities over the next 10-years.

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

A LFFP will; however, build on available/existing local evidence and strategic plans and may adopt relevant actions from a PPS and/or complement these with additional investment priorities.

The FA: Survive. Revive. Thrive. (2020-24)

This new strategy aims to ensure the grassroots game in England will survive, revive, and thrive over the next four years.

The strategy outlines seven transformational objectives through to 2024:

- ◀ **Male Participation:** Modernised opportunities to retain and re-engage millions of male participants in the game.
- ◀ **Female Participation:** A sustainable model based on a world-class, modernised offer.
- ◀ **Club Network:** A vibrant national club network that delivers inclusive, safe local grassroots football and meets community needs.
- ◀ **Facilities:** Enhanced access to good quality pitches across grassroots football.
- ◀ **Grassroots Workforce:** A transformation in community football by inspiring, supporting and retaining volunteers in the game.
- ◀ **Digital Products and Services:** An efficient grassroots digital ecosystem to serve the administrative and development needs of players, parents, and the workforce.
- ◀ **Positive Environment:** A game that's representative of our diverse footballing communities, played in a safe and inclusive environment.

This strategy was launched as grassroots football was able to safely return after lockdown from Monday 29 March, it also identifies the immediate challenge, in light of COVID-19, to get grassroots football back on its feet.

The new strategy sets out a number of goals to revive the game by addressing the areas that require particular attention. This includes increasing opportunities to ensure girls have the same access as boys to football in schools and clubs, and improving quality of pitches, with the aim of seeing 5000 good quality pitches added to the current number by 2024.

The FA: Inspiring Positive Change Through Football (2024-28)²⁶

The FA launched its new Strategy which aims to 'take English football forward, with clear focus on the biggest opportunities and challenges that need to be addressed'.

To achieve this, eight key strategic priorities are identified which include four 'Game Changer' objectives and four 'Drivers' objectives as detailed below. The strategy also outlines how The FA's plans to achieve these objectives.

Game Changers:

- ◀ Win tournaments
 - ◀ Develop pathways
 - ◀ Support elite players
 - ◀ Enhance environments
 - ◀ Collaborate and influence
- ◀ A game free from discrimination
 - ◀ Boost representation
 - ◀ Drive more inclusion
 - ◀ Tackle discrimination
- ◀ Equal opportunities for women & girls
 - ◀ Increase school participation
 - ◀ Increase club participation
 - ◀ Enhance women's competitions
 - ◀ Support female coaches and referees
- ◀ Transform the pitch landscape
 - ◀ Sustain and grow high-quality grass pitches
 - ◀ Deliver new 3G pitches
 - ◀ Support inclusivity accessibility and environmental sustainability of facilities

Drivers:

- ◀ Thriving community clubs
 - ◀ Develop club opportunities
 - ◀ Support the current and future generation of club leaders
 - ◀ Equip clubs to add long-term value to local communities
- ◀ World-class FA cups
 - ◀ Broaden commercial appeal
 - ◀ Evolve the Adobe Women's FA Cup format
- ◀ Participant led
 - ◀ Place participants at the centre of decision making
 - ◀ Create flexible models to meet participants needs
 - ◀ Provide digital tools to improve experiences
- ◀ Progressive governance
 - ◀ Support integration of women's and girls' football
 - ◀ Support governance of the NLS
 - ◀ Support our County Football Associations (CFAs)

The FA: Reaching Higher (2024-28)²⁷

The FA's 2020-2024 strategy, 'Inspiring Positive Change', coincided with record growth across the sport, with more women and girls playing, coaching, officiating and supporting the flourishing professional game than ever before.

²⁶ [FA Strategy 2024-2028: The Football Association](#)

²⁷ [The FA Womens & Girls Football Strategy 2024-28](#)

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

This strategy aims to build on the success achieved to date and strives to continue working to unlock the full potential of the women's and girls' game. The strategy outlines four strategic priorities as seen below.

1. **Build and Protect the Uniqueness of the Women's Game:** Continue to honour the history of women's football and recognise those who have contributed towards making it so unique, whilst ensuring the distinct qualities and unique culture of the women's game are valued and protected.
2. **Win a Major Tournament:** Continue to be world-leaders both on and off the pitch, developing players and building an inclusive talent pathway system to make football more equal and accessible at every level of the game, ensuring the England pathway and teams represent society.
3. **Build Robust, High-Quality Competition:** Create compelling competition structures and support clubs to develop to the appropriate level within the game, while enabling people to grow and develop within The FA's competition structures.
4. **Deliver Equal Opportunities for Women and Girls to Play:** Sustain growth in schools whilst tackling inequalities. Continue to grow the number of female teams and deliver vibrant league offers whilst extending and enhancing the sessional football offer. The ambition is for 90% of schools to deliver equal access for girls to play football in key stages two and three.

There are five golden threads which weave through each of the four strategic priorities and across all levels of the women's and girls' game, which will be instrumental for delivering the next phase of growth by 2028:

1. **Female Health and Wellbeing:** Develop the game to support women and girls with their health and wellbeing needs, providing them with environments in which they can thrive.
2. **Safeguarding:** Support the evolution of an ever-safer culture across the women's and girls' game.
3. **Refereeing:** Grow and nurture a new generation of referees who are representative of our society.
4. **Coaching:** Support and develop brilliant coaches capable of unleashing every player's potential in a safe and inclusive game.
5. **Diversity and Inclusion:** Ensure the game is more reflective of our society.

Inspiring Generations – Cricket's Game-wide Strategy (2025 – 28)^[1]

In October 2024 the ECB released its updated Inspiring Generations – Cricket's Game-wide Strategy (2025–28). Cricket in England and Wales has seen transformative growth since the publication of its previous strategy Inspiring Generation (2020-24). Its new strategy represents an evolution of its plans, however, many of its previous themes are still relevant. Its main purpose is to say 'Cricket is a game for me' through its vision:

- ◀ To become the most inclusive team sport.
- ◀ To grow and unite the game.
- ◀ Lead the game through global transformation.

^[1]<https://resources.ecb.co.uk/ecb/document/2024/10/22/19a925d7-3c92-4a36-8e7b-f49cb470377f/ECB-Inspiring-Generations-2025-2028.pdf>

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

It aims to obtain this vision through six key objectives

- ✦ Make cricket diverse, inclusive and accessible.
- ✦ Transform Women's and Girl's cricket.
- ✦ Connect communities through play.
- ✦ Inspire through winning England teams.
- ✦ Support a thriving and sustainable men's and women's professional game.
- ✦ Win the battle for attention.

Underpinning these six ambitions are a series of enablers that cut-across multiple areas of the game, alongside Cricket's Core Values.

The Rugby Football Union Strategic Plan (2021)

The RFU has released its new strategic vision, which is to achieve 'a successful and thriving game across England'. The strategy can be found [here](#).

It identifies four 'Game Objectives' and four 'Driving Objectives', to form priority focuses for the strategy. It believes that these objectives will make the greatest substantive improvements to the game and investment will be aligned to these areas.

Game objectives

- ✦ **Enjoyment** – Enable positive player experiences on and off the field.
- ✦ **Winning England** – Create the best possible high-performance system for England Rugby.
- ✦ **Welfare** – Enhance players welfare to protect and support the wellbeing of players.
- ✦ **Flourishing rugby communities** – Support clubs to sustain and grow themselves and to reflect society.

Driving objectives

- ✦ **Diversity & inclusion** – Drive rugby union in England to reflect the diversity of society.
- ✦ **Understand** – Build a deep understanding of players, volunteers and fans to shape the future of the game.
- ✦ **Connect** – Connect with and grow the rugby community and create exceptional experiences.
- ✦ **Commercial & operational excellence** – Ensure a sustainable and efficient business model delivered by an inspired workforce.

A number of aims, identified as key to the achievement of these main objectives, are particularly relevant to facilities. The provision of good quality and suitable rugby union facilities will help to achieve these aims and in turn objectives:

- ✦ **Enjoyment** – Improve accessibility for women and girls across the game.
- ✦ **Enjoyment** – Make the game inclusive and attractive for 14 to 18 year olds.
- ✦ **Flourishing rugby communities** – Provide support to help clubs maximise the benefit from their facilities and assets.
- ✦ **Diversity & Inclusion** – Improve the diversity of all facets of our game and continue to create an inclusive environment for all.

Rugby Football League – National Community Facilities Strategy (2024 – 2030)

The RFL has developed a new National Facilities Strategy which will guide investment into the game from 2024 through to 2030. The proposed investment package aligned to the Strategy will not only transform facilities, but also bolster the sport's social impact, reinforcing its position as a vital part of the nation's sporting and social fabric.

The four focus areas of the Strategy are:

- ◀ **Security of Tenure** – allowing clubs to plan for the long-term
- ◀ **Accessible and Inclusive Facilities** – providing suitable facilities for all and creating safe spaces for the wider community
- ◀ **Adequate and Appropriate Pitch Provision**– investment both in playing surfaces, and in upskilling a volunteer workforce to maintain them
- ◀ **Sustainability**– both environmental and financial

The Strategy will deliver on the four focus areas by delivering against a set of five recommendations which are set within the Strategy and are detailed below. These recommendations reflect the wider strategic aspirations across the sport and are for the RFL to work to deliver.

- ◀ **Focus community clubs**
 - ◀ Ensure the RFL has sufficient capacity and resource to deliver the recommendations identified within this Strategy to support its community clubs.
 - ◀ Ensure all community clubs have the knowledge and resource to provide good quality grass pitches.
 - ◀ Supporting clubs to have good quality changing and social facilities which can support the scale of need at each club. These must be inclusive for all participants and benefit target user groups such as women and girls' participants.
 - ◀ Ensure clubs can accommodate a sustainable operational programme for clubhouses to ensure the longevity of provision.
 - ◀ Work with clubs and key partners to increase the number of clubs with secured tenure of their club facilities.
 - ◀ Develop a dedicated funding programme which is specifically aimed at supporting clubs to gain security of tenure at their respective site.
 - ◀ Highlight success stories and best practices from community clubs to inspire others and showcase the positive impact of these efforts.
- ◀ **Deliver positive social and environmental impact**
 - ◀ Support clubs through training and advice on how to promote facilities for non-rugby league purposes.
 - ◀ Work with Active Partnerships across England to enable higher usage and activation of rugby league assets for non-rugby league activity.
 - ◀ Prioritise clubs for wellbeing hubs which may offer the widest social benefit (relative to local need) – particularly those in high deprivation areas.
 - ◀ Use the activation of club facilities as a prerequisite to capital funding for club house improvements / new development.
 - ◀ Collaborative working with sports partners and key agencies
- ◀ **Collaborative working with sports partners and key agencies**
 - ◀ Ensure continued working with Sport England and National Governing Bodies of other sports to capitalise on shared investment opportunities.
 - ◀ Work with the Football Foundation to maximise Multi-Sport funding opportunities – utilising the framework provided in this Strategy as the baseline of shared investment.

- ◀ Work closely with Active Partnerships in areas with high club densities to establish opportunities for pitch access via the Open School Facilities programme.
- ◀ **Technological solutions**
 - ◀ Ensure the RFL gathers greater levels of information from clubs via affiliation. To include (e.g.) security of tenure information and an integrated self-assessment audit of community facilities.
 - ◀ Continue expanding the use and application of PitchPower so all clubs can self-assess provision and support clubs to make positive contributions to improving the quality of grass pitches.
 - ◀ Promote technological solutions which progress clubs into being more sustainable, energy efficient and ensure their long-term viability as community assets.
 - ◀ Create a platform or resource hub where clubs can access information on funding opportunities, facility management, and sustainable operational practices.
- ◀ **Working with Charitable Community Organisations and Wheelchair Rugby League**
 - ◀ Develop an investment package to support the operational delivery of professional club foundation led wheelchair activity focusing on storage and logistical solutions.
 - ◀ Prioritise capital investment into community club sites which also accommodate professional club foundations as tenants for community Rugby League activity.
 - ◀ Begin work on the feasibility of developing a national wheelchair centre which includes exploring partnership opportunities with other sports to maximise multisport value and return on investment.
 - ◀ Consult with professional club foundations, where possible, to understand the need for 3G access and work to ascertain sufficient access hours during peak times of need.

England Hockey Strategy (2023 – 2028)

England Hockey's Facilities Strategy can be found [here](#).

Aiming to make hockey more noticeable, relevant, and accessible to all, England Hockey have launched their new strategy 'Creating a Future for Our Game Together' on 3rd October. The new strategy is a continued effort to re-engage with the current hockey community and to reach out to potential newcomers to introduce them to hockey.

Underpinning the strategy and of importance to the hockey community are four values, "collaborate inclusively, care for people and places, play with spirit win with grace and resilient in everything we do".

The strategy is the culmination of two years consultation with various stakeholders across the sport and larger sporting sector. Hockey will be guided by five key objectives over the next five years.

1. Lead Positive Change: to create and champion positive change within the community by broadening and widening the engagement of the sport and making it more ethnically and culturally diverse.
2. Meaningful Growth: to make sure that our sport thrives and grows into the future, we want to nurture a love of hockey within a more diverse group of young players and communities to reflect society.
3. Drive Visible Impact: to produce and release high-quality, engaging content that shares the love of the game, captures the passion, builds a deep connection and amplifies the voices of the hockey community with new and existing participants.
4. Responsible Leadership: to provide forward thinking, compassionate and inclusive leadership. Leadership that fosters trust within physically and psychologically safe environments and which puts players, the community and sustainability at heart of every decision.

5. Inspirational International Success: inspirational club and national teams delivering podium success in Europe and on the world stage, underpinned by a thriving talent system and domestic game.

The strategy aligns with Sport England's 'Uniting the movement' strategy and UK Sport's Powering Success, Inspiring Impact' strategic plan.

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

APPENDIX 2: NON TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT SHEETS

Grass football pitch non-technical assessment

Non Technical Visual Quality Assessment - Football									
Please complete one form per pitch									
Site reference:				Site Name:					
6 figure grid reference				Pitch ID(s):					
Number of football pitches on site:				Pitch size:	(Adult 11v11, Youth 11v11, 9v9, 7v7 Mini, 5v5, 7v7)				
Availability				Are any other pitches marked out over this pitch?					
				If yes, please indicate what pitches are overmarked? (i.e. one youth pitch is overmarked on a adult pitch) in Pitch Issues					
Weather at time of visit & date of visit									
Pitch Issues:									
Assessment Criteria (please rank each of the following aspects for each pitch with an 'X' in the coloured box to the right of the chosen answer)									
Element (Gathered via a non technical site assessment)	Rating					Guidance notes	Comments		
Playing surface									
Grass Cover	Good >80%		Adequate 60-80%		Poor <60%		Advice is to walk through the middle of the pitch		
Does the pitch meet The FA minimum size?	Yes - as per the FA recommended size		Within FA recommended guidelines		No		See size chart below for recommended dimensions		
Slope of pitch (gradient and cross fall)	Flat		Moderate		Severe				
Length of grass	Good		Too long		Too short		Good 30mm-50mm, Too long 51mm plus, Too short 29mm less		
Evenness of pitch	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Problem Areas: Evidence of dog fouling/glass/litter/vehicle tracks	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Problem Areas: Evidence of unofficial use/damage to the surface	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Problem Areas: Evidence of poor drainage	No evidence of standing water or poor drainage		Some evidence of poor drainage		Yes, poor drainage				
Maintenance programme (information from maintenance schedule/grounds team/club survey)									Section total
Grass cutting	Yes, as required		Yes, but not frequent enough		No				
Seeded	Yes, as required		Not known		No				
Aerated (per year)	Three or more times		Once/ twice		No				
Sand dressed	Within the last 12 months		Within the last 2 years		No				
Fertilised	Within the last 12 months		Within the last 2 years		No				
Weed killed	Within the last 12 months		Within the last 2 years		No				
									Section total
NB If none of this information is provided you should assume that only the grass is being cut and the rest of the maintenance items should be marked with the lowest score option.									
PITCH SCORE				0.0%	RATING		Poor		

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Grass rugby pitch non-technical assessment

Non Technical Visual Quality Assessment - Rugby Union										
Please complete one form per pitch										
Site reference						Site Name				
6 figure grid reference						Pitch ID(s)				
Date of assessment						Pitch size		(Senior, Mini/Midi)		
Number of pitches on site						Are any other pitches marked out over this pitch?				
Availability						If yes, please indicate what pitches are overmarked? (i.e. one mini/ midi pitch is overmarked on a senior pitch) in Pitch Issues				
Community Use - used, Community Use - unused, No Community Use, Available but Unused										
Weather at time of visit										
General comments/observations										
Assessment Criteria (please rank each of the following aspects for each pitch with an 'X' in the coloured box to the right of the chosen answer)										
Qualitative information (gathered on site)	Rating					Guidance notes	Comments			
Grass Coverage	Good		Adequate		Poor		>90% = good. <80% = poor			
Size of pitch	Acceptable (between recommended minimum and maximum sizes)		Flag for further investigation (below recommended minimum size)		Unacceptable (above maximum size)		Maximum size = width 70m, goal line to goal line 100m, in goal area 22m, run offs 5m where practical. Recommended minimum size = width 68m, goal line to goal line 94m, in goal area 6m, run offs 5m where practical.			
Length of grass	Too Long		Good		Too short		Too long = >75mm. Too short = <50mm			
Problem Areas: Evidence of glass/litter/vehicle tracks/dog fouling	None		Yes - some		Yes lots					
GOALPOSTS										
Are goalposts installed?	Yes		No							
Is there any obvious danger on posts?	Yes		No							
Are the posts stable in the ground?	Yes		No							
Is the crossbar fixed securely?	Yes		No							
Is there evidence of rust on the posts?	Yes		No							
ANCILLARY										
Is the pitch floodlit?	Yes		No							
Is there changing accommodation for the pitch?	Yes		No							
Is an appropriate level of car parking available?	Yes		No							
Pitch maintenance (information gathered via club survey/ pitch provider consultation) - refer to the guidance notes below										
Aerated (per year)	three or more times		twice		once		never			
Sand dressed (per year)	three or more times		twice		once		never			
Fertilised (per year)	three or more times		twice		once		never			
Weed killed (per year)	three or more times		twice		once		never			
Chain harrowed	every week		fortnightly		monthly		never			
Pitch Maintenance Score										
Drainage	Natural (inadequate) SCORE D0		Natural (adequate) SCORE D1		Pipe drained SCORE D2		Pipe and slit drained SCORE D3		Unknown SCORE D0	
Natural (adequate) = 3 or less training/match cancellations per season Natural (inadequate) = 4 or more training match cancellations per season *Based on a pipe drained system at 5m centres that has been installed in the previous eight years **Based on a slit drained system at 1m centres completed in the previous five years.										

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Artificial grass pitches non-technical assessment (including third generation turf pitches)

Non Technical Visual Quality Assessment - Artificial grass pitches									
Site reference			Site Name						
6 figure grid reference			Pitch ID						
Number of AGPs on site			Pitch size	Full (i.e., 100m x 60m)		Half (i.e., 60m x 40m)			
Availability									
Community Use - used, Community Use - unused, No Community Use, Available but Unused									
Type of pitch	{	Long Pile 3G (65mm with shock pad)		Medium Pile 3G (55-60mm)		Short Pile 3G (40mm)			
		Sand Dressed		Sand Filled		Water based			
Assessment Criteria (please rank each of the following aspects for each pitch with an 'X' in the coloured box to the right of the chosen answer)									
Element	Rating						Guidance notes	Site comments	
Age of Surface	less than 2 years		2-5 years		5-10 years		over 10 years		
Evidence of moss/lichen (all surfaces)	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Loose gravel (macadam surface)	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Holes or rips in surface (macadam, art. grass or polymeric surfaces)	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Grip underfoot	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Line markings - quality	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Problem Areas: Evidence of Glass/ stones/ litter	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Problem Areas: Evidence of inappropriate use	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Problem Areas: Evidence of damage to surface	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots		If no evidence, assume none.		
Access for disabled players. i.e.: ramps onto courts, width of gates	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Condition of posts/ nets/ goals	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Surrounding fencing	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Adequate safety margins (w here appropriate)	Yes - fully		No- but adequate		No - not adequate				
Is the AGP floodlit?	Yes		No						
Is the AGP left open at all times?	Yes		No						
Are there dug outs?	Yes		No						
Are there youth shelters/spectator seating around AGP?	Yes		No						
Is there changing accommodation for the AGP?	Yes		No						
Maximum score	93		Scoring:	Poor	<=50	Total Score	0		
				Standard	51-79	Potential Rating	Poor		
				Good	80+				

MILTON KEYNES CITY COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Cricket non-technical assessment

Element	Rating					Guidance notes	Comments (use the guidance notes to help complete)
About the cricket outfield							
Grass coverage	Good		Acceptable		Poor		CBX falls below the ECB basic standard
Length of grass	Good		Acceptable		Poor		Ideally 12mm - 25mm
Evenness	Even			Uneven			Ball should run without deviation or ramp
Evidence of Dog fouling/glass/stones/litter?	None		Yes		Immediate action required		May also wish to refer to warr. agency. If yes, refer to warr. agency/field manager
Evidence of Unofficial use?	None		Yes		Immediate action required		eg informal, casual use, unbooked use, kids kickabout etc. May also wish to refer to warr. agency. If yes, refer to warr. agency/field manager
Evidence of Damage to surface?	None		Yes		Immediate action required		eg from vehicles/animals - rabbit, cattle and horses etc may also wish to refer to warr. agency
Artificial wickets							
Is the wicket and surrounds married in	Yes			No			There should be no trip points
Evenness of wicket	Even			Uneven			There should be no anomalies in surface levels
Stump holes	Yes			No			Should be no wider than a standard cricket ball
Moss or materials in the surface	Yes			No			There should be none
Rips or surface lifting	Yes			No			If "yes" contact with manager
Surface worn in high traffic areas - creases	Yes			No			If "yes" contact with manager
Hardness - does the ball rebound when thrown straight down?	Yes			No			
Grass wickets							
Presence of line markings	Yes			No			
Evidence of rolling - is wicket smooth and uniform	Yes			No			
Evidence of straight cut and height	Yes			No			3mm max width wicket/12mm max of square
Evidence of repair work on old wickets	Yes			No			
Grass coverage (square and wickets)	Yes			No			CBX falls below the ECB basic standard
Hardness - does a cricket ball thrown straight down into the surface rebound?	Yes			No			
Changing/ Pavilion							
Umpires provision	Yes			No			
Toilets	Yes			No			
Hot/cold water	Yes			No			
Heating	Yes			No			
Condition of building	Good		Acceptable		Requires attention		
NTP							
Is the wicket and surrounds married in (no trip points)	Yes			No			
Evenness of wicket (no contours in surface levels)	Even			Uneven			
Stump holes (no wider than a standard cricket ball)	Yes			No			
Moss or materials in the surface (should be none)	Yes			No			
No rips or surface lifting	Yes			No			
Surface worn in high traffic areas - crease	Yes			No			
Hardness - does the ball rebound when thrown straight down	Yes			No			
Is the steel frame/posts upright?	Yes			No			
Are steel cross members detached?	Yes			No			
Are all posts and net fixings in place?	Yes			No			
Can a ball pass through any part of the netting?	Yes			No			
Is appropriate safety/supervisory signage present?	Yes			No			