

INTERIM REPORT ON PLAYING PITCH PROVISION IN ADUR

FEBRUARY 2012



CONTENTS

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Context**
 - Character of the district
 - National regional and local policy context
- 3. Findings of previous studies**
- 4. 2011 Review**
 - Current provision – (Quantity)
 - Current provision (Quality)
 - Current demand
 - Forecast demand
 - Requirements
- 5. Summary of Findings and Recommendations**

APPENDICES

Appendix A – Deprivation statistics

Appendix B – Pitches with community use August 2011

Appendix C – Artificial pitches an overview

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to give an overview of the current supply and quality of sports pitches in Adur with reference to current and future needs. A previous study of playing pitches was undertaken in June 2007 by PMP Consultants which resulted in an overall strategy with recommendations. This was a sophisticated and detailed study with a full audit of pitches, users and providers.
- 1.2 The current review does not attempt to replicate the 2007 study but provides a simpler overview up-date to obtain a picture of supply and demand through general research and interviews with some key people. However, to help provide the context for this work the report also summarises the policy context, the outcome of previous studies and key local considerations. The report concludes with a summary and recommendations which will be used to help influence future decisions relating to the provision and upgrade of pitches in the district.

2.0 CONTEXT

Character of the District

- 2.1 **Physical Character** - Adur district lies on the south coast of England between Brighton and Hove City to the east, and Worthing to the west. It is a relatively small district, covering 41.5 square kilometres of which approximately half the district lies within the South Downs National Park. The South Downs rise up behind the coastal plain which runs the length of the District, where Adur's main settlements are located. To the south of the National Park are two distinct open areas, one which separates Lancing and Sompting from Worthing, and one that separates Lancing from Shoreham-By-Sea.
- 2.2 **Population** – Adur currently has a population of approximately 61,700 (ONS based figures – 2008). It is estimated that the population will increase to 63,300 by 2016 (2.6%) and to 67,700 by 2026 (9.7%). There is expected to be a relatively large increase in the numbers of the older age groups (55 plus) up to 2026. Similarly there are increases in the younger age groups albeit smaller in comparison. The likely impact of population changes on the demand for pitches is assessed in section 4 below.
- 2.3 **Deprivation** - The pitch review needs to take account of the deprivation in the district since this can help inform the type and quality of sport provision required. The new indices of deprivation 2010 produced by DCLG show that Adur is the most deprived authority in West Sussex (ranked 145th out of a total of 326 local authorities). However its relative position has improved between 2007 and 2010 from 129th. Deprivation indices include health, employment, education, income, housing, crime and the living environment (further detail is set out in Appendix A).

- 2.4 Two wards – Eastbrook (Fishersgate) and Southlands (Southwick) are within the 20% most deprived wards in England. Mash Barn (Lancing) is within the 30% most deprived wards. In Adur the most common deprivation indicator is that of Education. Both Peverel and Southlands wards fall within the 10% nationally most deprived wards in terms of 'Education'. Churchill, Eastbrook, Mash Barn, St. Marys, Southlands and Southwick Green fall within the 20% nationally deprived wards in terms of a range of factors.
- 2.5 For the wards closest to the site of the proposed new playing fields in Mash Barn (and also the subject of recent interest by the Brighton and Hove Football Club for a training academy), Education and the Living Environment (which includes air quality, road traffic accidents and housing in poor condition) are the two main deprivation issues.

National, Regional and Local Policy Context

- 2.6 **PPG17 (2002)** - states that the government expects all local authorities to carry out assessments of needs and audits of open space and sports and recreational facilities. Such audits should incorporate qualitative, quantitative and accessibility considerations as well as the overall non monetary value of the land including the level of use.
- 2.7 **The Draft National Planning Policy Framework** -state's the Government's objective to create strong, vibrant and healthy communities and to support this, the planning system should ensure access to open spaces and recreational facilities that promote the health and well-being of the community. Planning policies should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the area. Existing facilities including playing fields should not be built on unless surplus to requirements or the need for and the benefits of the development clearly outweigh the loss.
- 2.8 **South East Plan 2009** - Policy S5 encourages sustainable participation in sport, recreation and cultural activity in order to improve the overall standard of fitness, enhance cultural diversity and enrich the overall quality of life. The policy recognises the correlation of education and economic status with physical activity as well as with health and wider social inclusion.
- 2.9 **Adur Local Plan 1996** - A new Local Plan is being produced but until adopted, saved policies in the 1996 Local Plan will be used in decision making. Various policies in the Plan aim to protect existing recreation facilities including public open space (Policy AR1) and to permit new facilities within the built up area (Policy AR7) and within the countryside (if appropriate to the locality).
- 2.10 **Waves Ahead 2010** - The joint Adur/Worthing Sustainable Community Strategy 'Waves Ahead' is structured around four priorities which include actions relevant to this pitch review:
- A better place to live, work and enjoy e.g. by helping to improve and promote the use of public and open spaces through a range of

activities and events; developing ways of using social, sports and leisure facilities more innovatively for all the community.

- Better health and wellbeing for all e.g. by providing a choice of physical activities to help encourage adults to improve their physical and mental health; developing a range of physical activities for young people aimed at encouraging and increasing activity and preventing a future unhealthy lifestyle.
- Learning, training and employment opportunities for all e.g. by supporting innovative schemes delivered through youth, educational and voluntary service that will encourage young people to improve their basic and employment skills and engage with their communities.
- Staying and feeling safe e.g. by supporting the development of activities for children and young people to reduce the risk of getting involved in anti-social behaviour.

- 2.11 A key message from the above policy analysis is the strong link between the provision of recreational facilities and objectives to tackle problems and issues concerning health, deprivation, education and skills. These are significant issues for Adur as highlighted in the Sustainable Community Strategy – Waves Ahead.

3.0 FINDINGS OF PREVIOUS STUDIES

A Playing Pitch Strategy for Adur District and WSCC - 2007

- 3.1 This detailed study, produced by consultants PMP, looked at provision of pitches to meet needs up to 2011. In summary the study found that Adur district compares well to national averages in terms of number of pitches per adult population and the number of pitches secured for community use. However, other findings identified:

- A shortfall of junior football and rugby pitches now and in the future
- A shortfall of mini soccer pitches now and in the future
- A small surplus of adult football pitches by 2011
- At the time of the survey, football clubs identified that the quality and availability of changing facilities was unsatisfactory

- 3.2 In order to maintain and improve playing pitch provision in Adur, the review recommended:

- The protection of existing provision where appropriate
- Overcoming identified deficiencies and planning for new provision
- The enhancement of existing provision
- Developing a local standard

- 3.3 In addition, a number of detailed recommendations were put forward including:

- The deficiencies identified in certain pitch types emphasise the importance of protecting many of the existing areas of playing pitch land and open space in public, private and educational ownership

- To secure formal community use agreement where possible with local schools and other organisations
- Improvement to existing pitches and facilities
- Deficiencies to be helped by new pitch provision at Adur Rec Ground and at Mash Barn
- Council to adopt a local standard of 0.68 pitches per 1000 population.

3.4 In terms of quantitative provision, the new pitches at Adur Recreation Ground and at Mash Barn (as proposed at the time with an emphasis on adult pitches) would lead to a future surplus of adult football pitches but still result in a shortfall in junior pitches (for both football and rugby) and for mini soccer.

Open Space Studies

3.5 Two studies have been undertaken by consultants PMP to review open spaces in Adur and to inform the emerging Core Strategy and the Area Action Plan for Shoreham Harbour.

3.6 2005 Study - In terms of overall open space, for each type of category (with the exception of allotments) there were small shortfalls in provision identified for both the current year (using 2001 population estimates) and for 2011. The largest shortfall was in the category of outdoor sports facilities followed by natural and semi-natural green space and amenity green space categories.

3.7 The analysis of sports facilities highlighted the deficiency of outdoor facilities with some quality issues (e.g. poor drainage, sub-standard equipment). Consultation comments referred to the need for a synthetic turf pitch and for football and rugby pitches. Some comments highlighted the poor quality of some of the existing facilities with a lack of ancillary accommodation. The lowest scoring site in terms of quality was Monks Rec ground in Lancing. Quality was also an issue for Shoreham College and Lancing Manor Park and for Southwick Rec ground. Whilst access to facilities was generally good there were some concerns about poor signage and information, problems for disabled access and site entrances. Three sites with relatively poor access scores were East Lancing Rec ground, Riverside Moorings and Harbour Way Moorings.

3.8 2009 Study - This study was undertaken to up-date the 2005 study to provide a picture as at 2009 (using 2006 population estimates) and for 2026 taking account of the small increase in population and the addition of some new open space. This identified that the small shortfalls in each typology had increased slightly for both the current year and for 2026. The main exception is that of outdoor sports facilities where the proposed Mash Barn playing fields have turned a shortfall into a roughly neutral position in 2009 (-0.04 ha) and to a small shortfall in the future (-2.03 ha for 2026). The quantity standards are amended for this category (as well as for allotments) but all others remain the same as per the original study.

Summary

- 3.10 The findings of previous studies have made some consistent conclusions. There is a clear need to improve the overall standard of facilities; additional or reconfigured facilities should reflect the changes in demand (e.g. higher demand for junior / mini football); and existing pitches should be retained.

4.0 2011 REVIEW

Current provision - Quantity

- 4.1 Appendix B of this report provides a detailed breakdown of the number of pitches in Adur that have community use. Football is by far the dominant use of these and the table indicates that in August 2011 there were a total of 17 pitches set out for adult football, 10 for junior football and 3 for mini football. This compares to equivalent figures in the 2007 report of 22, 8 and 2 pitches respectively. The changes reflect the general decline in demand for adult football and increase in junior / mini-football (see below for more information relating to demand).
- 4.2 In the same period (2007-2011) there has been no change in the number of pitches provided for other sports such as cricket (3) adult rugby (2) and junior rugby (1). There has been no change in the number of artificial pitches in the district – there are no ‘community’ pitches of this nature and there is still only limited ‘shared’ access to such a facility. It should be noted that an artificial pitch can provide significantly more usage than a grass pitch which can only sustain a limited number of matches per week. This differential is multiplied further if the artificial pitch is floodlit. (Further information relating to artificial pitches can be found in Appendix C).
- 4.3 Adur has a good coverage for most sports that don’t use pitches and as needs have been identified the Council has looked to provide areas for their participation. The only major sports facility not provided in Adur is an athletics track, although both Brighton and Worthing provide this facility. In recent years provision has been made for extreme sports like skateboarding and BMX and facilities have been developed at Ham Rec, Southwick Rec, Adur Rec and Hamble Rec. A further list of activities available in Adur is set out below:
- Leisure centres - Lancing and Southwick
 - Waders – Small swimming pool
 - Water sports and indoor climbing wall - AWAC centre, Adur rec
 - Fixed orienteering course - Lancing Ring – Fixed Orienteering course
 - Tennis – Buckingham Park, Lancing Manor and Southwick Rec
 - Croquet – Private club/facility in Southwick
 - Roller Hockey rink - Fishersgate
 - Ice rink – Hired in Worthing (and possibly Fishersgate this winter)
 - MUGA’s - Buckingham Park and Southwick rec ground
 - Kick walls - Crowshaw rec and Sompting rec grounds
 - Petanque at Lancing Manor.

Current provision - Quality

- 4.4 One of the conclusions of the 2007 Pitch Review was that although football clubs were generally pleased with the facilities on offer there were some pitches and associated facilities (particularly changing rooms) in the district where improvements were required. A number of facilities did not meet current needs such as mixed gender use and the need to meet safe guarding children standards and DDA compliance tests. This view has been echoed in recent interviews with users.
- 4.5 The table in Appendix B provides a short summary of the quality of existing provision and, where appropriate, any works that could be undertaken to upgrade each facility. The table also provides a priority rating between 1 (the lowest) and 5 (the highest). Priority has been gauged against what benefits / improvements could be delivered balanced against approximate costs.
- 4.6 The findings demonstrate that there are 9 locations across the district that would benefit in improvements being made to pitches. These improvements range from fairly minor levelling work (approximately £4k) to new changing facilities approximately £200k). Buckingham Park improvements are given the highest priority rating given the level of usage and condition of the existing facilities.
- 4.7 The 2007 study highlighted a number of sites where qualitative improvements were recommended to pitches and ancillary facilities. This, alongside the information set out in Appendix 2, will be the foundation of an Action Plan for future improvements. To help endorse this approach, in late 2011 / early 2012, it is expected that stakeholders will be given an opportunity to comment on the emerging Action Plan. When published, the Action Plan will help to ensure that any money that might become available through development contributions or other funding sources will be spent in the most appropriate manner that delivers the greatest benefits.

Current demand

- 4.8 The view of the Council's Leisure and Cultural Services section, who manage the bookings of pitches, is that, in general, the supply of pitches for sports other than football is sufficient and there is some scope for flexibility if demand for any sport changes significantly.
- 4.9 Football continues to be very popular in the District and there is demand for all types of football pitch. This is reflected in the Sussex FA Participation Reports for Adur. Although the 2007 Study found that there was some concern about the quality and availability of changing facilities (see above) it also reported that there was a general consensus that the provision of pitches was sufficient. Current evidence suggests that this is still the case as all demand for football pitches can be met and there have been instances when some pitches have not been used on a Saturday.

- 4.10 The most significant trend in the last 3 years (since the 2007 pitch report was published) has seen a decline in the demand for adult football, especially on a Saturday afternoon. In contrast, the demand from Junior teams and different age groups / size of pitch has increased. At present the district has enough capacity to cope with these changes in demand for matches and there is still the possibility of different kick off times being agreed if necessary.
- 4.11 This increase in Junior requirements has also meant a greater need for practice / training areas, which Adur is placing additional demand on existing facilities. Many of the Junior clubs have to train on a Saturday morning which is not ideal. The best way to help meet this demand of Junior clubs would be through the provision of an artificial pitch.
- 4.12 Similarly, the demand for adult training facilities (in addition to the demand for pitches for matches) in Adur is also very strong and the delivery of an artificial pitch would help to alleviate this. This would prevent local teams from having to travel out of district, use smaller MUGA's for training purposes or train on a Saturday in winter months.

Forecast demand

- 4.13 There are two key elements to consider when forecasting the future demand for sports pitches in any given area. The first is demographics, to include growth forecasts and the breakdown of relevant 'sports playing' age groups. The second key element relates to lifestyle choice, forecast trends in usage and expectations.
- 4.14 In terms of demographics, it has already been stated that over the next 15 years there will be some growth in the total population of the District. The most significant growth (proportionally) is expected to be in the old and young age groups which may impact on the future demand for pitches.
- 4.15 The following age profiles are used to assess the demand for football pitches:
- Mini soccer teams - 6 to 9
 - Youth teams - between 10 and 18
 - Adult teams - between 16 and 44
- 4.16 The tables overleaf set out the forecast population changes in these categories (although it should be noted that the ONS age ranges differ slightly than those for football set out above).

2016 Population forecast

| Pop group | Pop. 2011 | Pop. 2016 | Change |
|-------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Mini soccer | ONS age range 5 to 9 = 3,100 | 3,400 | +300 |
| Youth | ONS age range 10 to 19 = 7,100 | 6,700 | -400 |
| Adult | ONS age range 15 to 44 = 21,300 | 20,900 | -400 |

2026 Population forecast

| Pop group | Pop. 2011 | Pop. 2016 | Change |
|-------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Mini soccer | ONS age range 5 to 9 = 3,100 | 3,500 | +400 |
| Youth | ONS age range 10 to 19 = 7,100 | 7,100 | 0 |
| Adult | ONS age range 15 to 44 = 21,300 | 21,600 | +300 |

- 4.17 Although the changes in forecast population levels across the relevant age groups is not particularly dramatic the data should be used to inform decisions about future pitch provision. Using demographics alone, these findings could imply that there will be a greater demand for mini-soccer pitches over the next 5-years and beyond. Demand for youth and adult pitches may well reduce in the short term but may increase back to current levels by 2026 with some additional demand for adult pitches over the longer term.
- 4.18 The other key factor when forecasting future demand is lifestyle choices and how this may affect trends in demand. Nationally it is recognised that the realistic aim for adult football is to try to retain, rather than increase, participation levels. This largely reflects the changing demands and aspirations of players who, in general, have less time to devote to football at the weekends and who expect a high standard of pitch and facilities when they do. This downward trend for 11-a-side / weekend adult football has been mirrored by the upward trend in demand for smaller sided mid-week games – particularly 5-a-side. There is an expectation that this trend may continue and for this reason current participation projects both nationally and locally currently focus on youth retention.
- 4.19 One of the key demand issues that must be addressed is the type and size of pitch provided. Demand for mini-soccer and youth football is expected to remain strong and it is important that the configuration of pitches (and size of goals etc) is able to adapt to any changes.

- 4.20 In addition, there is now a new FA initiative to roll out 9-a-side football for 10-12 year olds over the next couple of seasons. This would require additional / reconfigured pitches and different size goals. There is some limited (but insufficient) funding available to make these changes.
- 4.21 Local demand for a new floodlit artificial pitch in the district will remain strong and is likely be exacerbated further giving current trends in participation. Delivery of an artificial pitch would give greater flexibility and choice of how the pitches and training facilities can be configured and it would have significantly higher levels of usage than a standard grass pitch. Further information relating to the provision of an artificial pitch is set out in Appendix C.
- 4.22 There continues to be a demand from some clubs, most notably Adur Athletic for a 'base' from which they can operate their teams rather than utilising multiple sites which is what currently occurs.

5.0 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 Overall, Adur is well catered for with sports facilities and has a relatively good provision of sports / football pitches. Although recent, and forecast, changes in demand will mean that the type of nature of pitches is likely to change it is important to note that, in general, ***there continues to be a strong demand overall for pitches and that the approach to retain and, where possible, enhance current provision should continue.*** In this respect the majority of the conclusions and recommendations set out in the 2007 Playing Pitch Strategy are still very relevant.
- 5.2 ***There is demand for new pitches but the key driver for this is the need for different size and configuration of pitches*** rather than as a result in existing or forecast increases in demand for full size grass pitches.
- 5.3 Increasing demand for mini-soccer is expected to continue, reflecting a general trend and the forecast growth in this age range of the population. This and the new / emerging demand for 9 a-side pitches reflects ***a change in demand for facilities which increasingly need to be much more flexible to adapt for use by different age groups.***
- 5.4 ***Consideration will need to be given as to whether there is a need to reconfigure more traditional 11-a-side pitches*** as demand for these facilities continues to slow (particularly in recent years since the 2007 was published).
- 5.5 ***There is a poor level of provision of artificial pitches and training facility locally and there would be very high demand for any additional facilities that could be delivered.*** This is something that the Sussex FA has been actively pursuing for a number of years and they would welcome the opportunity to advance this. The Council and key stakeholders should continue to explore any opportunity deliver and fund such a facility within the District.

- 5.6 ***There remains a need to improve the quality of many of the pitches and associated facilities in the District*** to meet the needs and expectations of users and to comply with related legislation. The review of existing deficiencies should be taken forward, with key partners, to form an improvement action plan.
- 5.7 ***A key message from the deprivation analysis is that any future sport provision in the district and for any new proposals within or close to deprived wards, need to be linked to education and help to improve skill levels*** and to enable more people to gain good school qualifications and to access higher education.
- 5.8 ***An Action Plan should be produced in consultation with stakeholders*** to detail the improvements needed to existing facilities and for new types of provision. This will help to ensure that any money that might become available through development contributions or other funding sources will be spent in the most appropriate manner that delivers the most benefits.

APPENDIX A

TABLE 1: DEPRIVATION ON AN ELECTORAL WARD LEVEL

The table below shows the national ranking (In England) of deprivation in terms the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). The following domains make up the IMD: income; employment; health and disability; education; and children and young people. (Note: the wards are listed in alphabetical order not in the order of deprivation).

WARD LEVEL RANKINGS - ADUR

Boxes are shaded according to their national ranking (In England)



= 10% most deprived nationally



= 20% most deprived nationally



= 10% least deprived nationally



= 20% least deprived nationally

| Ward Code | | Ward Name | IMD Overall Rank | Income Rank | Employment Rank | Health and Disability Rank | Education Rank | Barriers to housing and services Rank | Crime Rank | Living Environment Rank | Income Affecting Children Rank | Income Affecting Older People Rank |
|-----------|------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 45UBFQ | Adur | Buckingham | 6,983 | 7,611 | 6,740 | 3,957 | 5,115 | 3,775 | 6,082 | 6,267 | 6,617 | 7,709 |
| 45UBFR | Adur | Churchill | 2,262 | 2,266 | 2,886 | 2,072 | 979 | 3,799 | 4,240 | 1,839 | 2,091 | 3,127 |
| 45UBFS | Adur | Cokeham | 2,624 | 3,487 | 2,724 | 2,321 | 1,599 | 1,953 | 5,142 | 2,790 | 3,476 | 4,179 |
| 45UBFT | Adur | Eastbrook | 1,464 | 1,347 | 1,873 | 1,308 | 1,067 | 4,581 | 3,143 | 963 | 1,491 | 1,741 |
| 45UBFU | Adur | Hillside | 2,690 | 3,686 | 3,362 | 2,208 | 1,795 | 2,395 | 3,503 | 1,741 | 3,904 | 4,785 |
| 45UBFW | Adur | Manor | 4,353 | 5,289 | 4,773 | 3,300 | 2,377 | 2,653 | 6,438 | 3,731 | 5,266 | 5,360 |
| 45UBFX | Adur | Marine (Adur) | 5,425 | 4,909 | 6,559 | 4,782 | 4,088 | 1,760 | 4,892 | 4,891 | 4,100 | 5,639 |
| 45UBFY | Adur | Mash Barn | 1,943 | 2,197 | 2,698 | 1,710 | 981 | 4,546 | 3,313 | 998 | 2,464 | 1,776 |
| 45UBFZ | Adur | Peveler | 2,346 | 2,548 | 3,288 | 1,906 | 762 | 2,723 | 5,068 | 2,920 | 2,518 | 3,064 |
| 45UBGA | Adur | St. Mary's | 2,039 | 2,278 | 2,360 | 1,578 | 1,493 | 4,940 | 2,106 | 1,343 | 2,372 | 2,996 |
| 45UBGB | Adur | St. Nicolas | 5,993 | 6,478 | 5,278 | 3,291 | 5,506 | 4,883 | 5,328 | 3,489 | 6,856 | 6,234 |
| 45UBGC | Adur | Southlands | 1,505 | 1,462 | 1,809 | 1,234 | 598 | 3,958 | 5,079 | 1,756 | 1,289 | 2,462 |
| 45UBGD | Adur | Southwick Green | 3,652 | 3,493 | 4,583 | 2,987 | 3,177 | 4,269 | 3,708 | 1,547 | 3,414 | 3,605 |
| 45UBGE | Adur | Widewater | 2,638 | 3,265 | 2,721 | 1,794 | 1,891 | 3,479 | 4,964 | 1,678 | 3,615 | 3,201 |

TABLE 2: LEVEL OF DEPRIVATION FOR ALL LOWER SUPER OUTPUT AREAS IN ADUR

The information shown in the tables below is for the overall score and ranking of the Index of Multiple Deprivation and the score & ranking for the seven indicators that make up the IMD. This includes the following domains: skills; barriers to housing and other services; wider barriers; geographical barriers; crime; environment (indoor and outdoor). (Note: the wards are listed in alphabetical order not in the order of deprivation).

Boxes are shaded according to their national ranking



= 10% most deprived nationally



= 20% most deprived nationally



= 10% least deprived nationally



= 20% least deprived nationally

| LSOA | LA | WARD NAME | Overall 2010 Score | Overall 2010 Rank | Income 2010 Score | Income 2010 Rank | Employ. 2010 Score | Employ. 2010 Rank | Health 2010 Score | Health 2010 Rank | Educational 2010 Score | Educational 2010 Rank | Barriers to Housing & Services 2010 Score | Barriers to Housing & Services 2010 Rank | Crime 2010 Score | Crime 2010 Rank | Living Environ. 2010 Score | Living Environ. 2010 Rank |
|-----------|------|------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---|--|------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| E01031338 | Adur | Buckingham | 7.8 | 26832 | 0.04 | 29182 | 0.05 | 23869 | -0.01 | 16128 | 13.74 | 18185 | 17.39 | 19476 | -0.98 | 28491 | 6.94 | 26515 |
| E01031339 | Adur | Buckingham | 8.03 | 26559 | 0.05 | 27156 | 0.04 | 27335 | -0.18 | 18580 | 8.39 | 23207 | 27.25 | 9377 | -1.01 | 28719 | 9.2 | 23833 |
| E01031340 | Adur | Buckingham | 6.06 | 28915 | 0.03 | 31238 | 0.04 | 27738 | -0.53 | 23396 | 9.77 | 21825 | 20.75 | 15699 | -0.49 | 23286 | 8.77 | 24318 |
| E01031341 | Adur | Churchill | 35.49 | 6047 | 0.25 | 5658 | 0.13 | 8465 | 0.81 | 5775 | 57.28 | 2140 | 24.99 | 11434 | -0.24 | 19927 | 38.28 | 5527 |
| E01031342 | Adur | Churchill | 17.8 | 15772 | 0.11 | 16281 | 0.08 | 17257 | 0.18 | 13420 | 27.79 | 9262 | 24.59 | 11814 | -0.69 | 25779 | 22.01 | 12544 |
| E01031343 | Adur | Churchill | 14.19 | 19021 | 0.09 | 19960 | 0.06 | 21090 | -0.12 | 17729 | 28 | 9179 | 14.64 | 22721 | -0.04 | 16898 | 19.3 | 14339 |

| LSOA | LA | WARD NAME | Overall 2010 Score | Overall 2010 Rank | Income 2010 Score | Income 2010 Rank | Employ. 2010 Score | Employ. 2010 Rank | Health 2010 Score | Health 2010 Rank | Educat' n 2010 Score | Educat' n 2010 Rank | Barriers to Housing & Service s 2010 Score | Barriers to Housing & Service s 2010 Rank | Crime 2010 Score | Crime 2010 Rank | Living Environ. 2010 Score | Living Environ. 2010 Rank |
|-----------|------|-----------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| E01031344 | Adur | Cokeham | 31.48 | 7565 | 0.18 | 9842 | 0.15 | 6231 | 0.56 | 8482 | 37.44 | 5945 | 36.07 | 3781 | -0.44 | 22754 | 30.88 | 8142 |
| E01031345 | Adur | Cokeham | 14.19 | 19015 | 0.07 | 22418 | 0.05 | 25198 | -0.09 | 17298 | 28.76 | 8857 | 35.08 | 4213 | -0.94 | 28213 | 9.35 | 23641 |
| E01031346 | Adur | Cokeham | 15.7 | 17612 | 0.08 | 21686 | 0.09 | 14652 | 0.16 | 13654 | 23.21 | 11492 | 16.39 | 20722 | -0.25 | 20086 | 20.63 | 13426 |
| E01031347 | Adur | Eastbrook | 33.69 | 6661 | 0.25 | 5846 | 0.14 | 7385 | 0.75 | 6413 | 35.28 | 6562 | 18.76 | 17889 | 0.29 | 12021 | 46.34 | 3337 |
| E01031348 | Adur | Eastbrook | 36.68 | 5627 | 0.24 | 6076 | 0.14 | 6974 | 1.07 | 3608 | 50.71 | 3067 | 23.14 | 13224 | -0.23 | 19667 | 42.45 | 4327 |
| E01031349 | Adur | Eastbrook | 11.68 | 21921 | 0.08 | 20992 | 0.06 | 22926 | -0.19 | 18705 | 20.94 | 12799 | 14.34 | 23066 | -0.26 | 20158 | 16.74 | 16356 |
| E01031350 | Adur | Hillside | 31.63 | 7503 | 0.16 | 10973 | 0.12 | 9163 | 0.71 | 6796 | 39.83 | 5354 | 30.69 | 6695 | 0.03 | 15900 | 48.14 | 2938 |
| E01031351 | Adur | Hillside | 12.53 | 20914 | 0.06 | 25289 | 0.06 | 20973 | -0.22 | 19157 | 21.56 | 12430 | 23.88 | 12490 | -0.09 | 17618 | 14.55 | 18247 |
| E01031352 | Adur | Hillside | 17.94 | 15637 | 0.1 | 18425 | 0.07 | 18628 | 0.32 | 11458 | 24.72 | 10691 | 28.17 | 8616 | -0.36 | 21671 | 22.95 | 11992 |
| E01031353 | Adur | Manor | 8.2 | 26352 | 0.03 | 31034 | 0.04 | 29726 | -0.62 | 24523 | 10.78 | 20839 | 38.21 | 2892 | -1.28 | 30507 | 5.03 | 28794 |
| E01031354 | Adur | Manor | 12.37 | 21088 | 0.07 | 23619 | 0.06 | 22418 | -0.16 | 18282 | 27.27 | 9502 | 21.87 | 14494 | -1.04 | 28971 | 16.84 | 16259 |
| E01031355 | Adur | Manor | 19.93 | 14048 | 0.12 | 15242 | 0.09 | 14877 | 0.43 | 10021 | 31.5 | 7806 | 18.96 | 17652 | -0.49 | 23418 | 25.03 | 10844 |
| E01031356 | Adur | Marine | 9.07 | 25266 | 0.07 | 23786 | 0.04 | 27699 | -0.49 | 22772 | 13.94 | 18006 | 29.23 | 7763 | -0.73 | 26175 | 6.12 | 27519 |
| E01031357 | Adur | Marine | 12.94 | 20465 | 0.09 | 19312 | 0.05 | 25843 | -0.44 | 22169 | 14.78 | 17264 | 32.03 | 5840 | -0.29 | 20652 | 17.6 | 15635 |
| E01031358 | Adur | Mash Barn | 32.95 | 6952 | 0.21 | 7805 | 0.11 | 10395 | 0.76 | 6256 | 49.31 | 3299 | 28.84 | 8058 | -0.5 | 23524 | 47.07 | 3187 |
| E01031359 | Adur | Mash Barn | 14.14 | 19082 | 0.07 | 22453 | 0.07 | 19584 | 0.04 | 15382 | 20.14 | 13303 | 13.67 | 23813 | -0.18 | 18943 | 31.1 | 8050 |

| LSOA | LA | WARD NAME | Overall 2010 Score | Overall 2010 Rank | Income 2010 Score | Income 2010 Rank | Employ. 2010 Score | Employ. 2010 Rank | Health 2010 Score | Health 2010 Rank | Educat' n 2010 Score | Educat' n 2010 Rank | Barriers to Housing & Service s 2010 Score | Barriers to Housing & Service s 2010 Rank | Crime 2010 Score | Crime 2010 Rank | Living Environ. 2010 Score | Living Environ. 2010 Rank |
|-----------|------|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| E01031360 | Adur | Mash Barn | 26.16 | 10067 | 0.17 | 10761 | 0.11 | 11038 | 0.46 | 9631 | 42.14 | 4758 | 14.45 | 22941 | 0.38 | 10657 | 28.49 | 9153 |
| E01031361 | Adur | Peverel | 34.84 | 6274 | 0.21 | 7682 | 0.14 | 7234 | 0.64 | 7560 | 67.96 | 1025 | 27.6 | 9082 | -0.31 | 20830 | 25.75 | 10473 |
| E01031362 | Adur | Peverel | 15.85 | 17481 | 0.09 | 19403 | 0.06 | 21993 | 0.45 | 9801 | 23.36 | 11420 | 23.88 | 12488 | -0.23 | 19754 | 16.28 | 16751 |
| E01031363 | Adur | Peverel | 14.75 | 18485 | 0.11 | 16959 | 0.05 | 24858 | 0 | 15949 | 28.97 | 8774 | 25.9 | 10587 | -1 | 28673 | 15.88 | 17075 |
| E01031364 | Adur | St Mary's | 26.9 | 9673 | 0.18 | 10182 | 0.12 | 9916 | 0.7 | 6910 | 22.61 | 11851 | 18.01 | 18740 | 0.38 | 10751 | 40.04 | 4988 |
| E01031365 | Adur | St Mary's | 16.4 | 17004 | 0.11 | 17025 | 0.08 | 17506 | -0.09 | 17251 | 21.22 | 12625 | 13.26 | 24275 | 0.19 | 13499 | 29.28 | 8807 |
| E01031366 | Adur | St Mary's | 28.76 | 8768 | 0.16 | 11337 | 0.11 | 10347 | 0.83 | 5662 | 47.9 | 3560 | 22.06 | 14310 | 0.17 | 13777 | 25.59 | 10557 |
| E01031367 | Adur | St Nicolas | 3.48 | 31470 | 0.02 | 31825 | 0.04 | 29675 | -0.38 | 21394 | 3.18 | 29210 | 11.29 | 26439 | -0.69 | 25748 | 6.51 | 27073 |
| E01031368 | Adur | St Nicolas | 15.48 | 17810 | 0.09 | 18903 | 0.08 | 16968 | 0.3 | 11675 | 16.62 | 15795 | 23.07 | 13301 | -0.88 | 27662 | 21.24 | 13039 |
| E01031369 | Adur | St Nicolas | 10.76 | 23019 | 0.07 | 23164 | 0.06 | 23375 | -0.15 | 18162 | 8.65 | 22926 | 19.82 | 16670 | -0.25 | 20075 | 23.18 | 11862 |
| E01031370 | Adur | Southlands | 20.85 | 13357 | 0.13 | 14161 | 0.08 | 16908 | 0.06 | 15178 | 44.86 | 4167 | 20.14 | 16351 | -0.06 | 17152 | 23.12 | 11895 |
| E01031371 | Adur | Southlands | 37.34 | 5399 | 0.26 | 5330 | 0.16 | 5570 | 1.26 | 2457 | 39.92 | 5331 | 24.61 | 11788 | -0.46 | 23012 | 38.52 | 5449 |
| E01031372 | Adur | Southlands | 26.25 | 10016 | 0.18 | 9522 | 0.12 | 8993 | 0.56 | 8437 | 45.81 | 3966 | 18.25 | 18459 | -1.14 | 29702 | 20.89 | 13254 |
| E01031373 | Adur | Southwick Green | 19.99 | 14004 | 0.17 | 10516 | 0.07 | 18879 | 0.21 | 12981 | 22.34 | 11998 | 27.55 | 9115 | -0.39 | 22001 | 24.62 | 11059 |
| E01031374 | Adur | Southwick Green | 12.52 | 20935 | 0.07 | 22680 | 0.07 | 19666 | -0.12 | 17758 | 17.21 | 15366 | 16.38 | 20734 | -0.7 | 25846 | 27.96 | 9406 |
| E01031375 | Adur | Southwick Green | 15.5 | 17788 | 0.09 | 19123 | 0.06 | 22529 | -0.08 | 17107 | 15.87 | 16373 | 16.07 | 21082 | 0.5 | 9043 | 35.13 | 6548 |

| LSOA | LA | WARD NAME | Overall 2010 Score | Overall 2010 Rank | Income 2010 Score | Income 2010 Rank | Employ. 2010 Score | Employ. 2010 Rank | Health 2010 Score | Health 2010 Rank | Educational 2010 Score | Educational 2010 Rank | Barriers to Housing & Services 2010 Score | Barriers to Housing & Services 2010 Rank | Crime 2010 Score | Crime 2010 Rank | Living Environ. 2010 Score | Living Environ. 2010 Rank |
|-----------|------|-----------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---|--|------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| E01031376 | Adur | Widewater | 17.78 | 15788 | 0.08 | 20537 | 0.1 | 13467 | 0.35 | 11008 | 25.45 | 10331 | 27.65 | 9042 | -1.19 | 30004 | 16.36 | 16682 |
| E01031377 | Adur | Widewater | 28.2 | 9020 | 0.16 | 11234 | 0.12 | 9664 | 0.82 | 5753 | 29.74 | 8437 | 24.32 | 12062 | -0.41 | 22233 | 45.81 | 3453 |
| E01031378 | Adur | Widewater | 21.23 | 13080 | 0.14 | 13429 | 0.09 | 15405 | 0.17 | 13523 | 31.26 | 7895 | 25.25 | 11165 | -0.29 | 20634 | 30.48 | 8298 |
| E01031379 | Adur | Widewater | 14.08 | 19150 | 0.08 | 21353 | 0.07 | 19527 | 0.22 | 12836 | 23.18 | 11510 | 14.13 | 23301 | -0.24 | 19884 | 18.69 | 14797 |

Overview

Churchill, Eastbrook, Hillside, Manor, Mash Barn and Peverel all have indicators that fall within the 10% most deprived in England. Education is a key deprivation issue.

A key message from the above deprivation analysis is that any future sport provision in the district and for any new proposals within or close to deprived wards, need to be linked to education and help to improve skills levels and to enable more people to gain good school qualifications and to access higher education. Skill levels are lower than surrounding areas – a higher proportion of residents have NVQ2 skills and trade apprentices. 28% are qualified to degree level or equivalent (36% across the South East. There are high levels of young people not in education, employment or training. Average wages reflect the low skills base. Of those working in the district, earnings are 12% below the South East average, and this differential has been increasing.

APPENDIX B

Pitches with secured community use – September 2011

| Site | Ward | Status | Adult football | Junior football | Mini football | Cricket | Adult rugby | Jnr rugby | Hocley | STPs | Summary (Quality of existing provision and works that could be undertaken to upgrade the facility) | Priority * | Cost (approx) |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------|-------------|-----------|--------|------|---|---------------|------------------|
| Buckingham Park | Buckingham | Local Auth. | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | | | Changing rooms are of a temporary nature and are substandard (security, DDA compliance, mixed changing rooms etc). New modern changing rooms required. High priority given high level of usage by mix of users. | 5 | £200K |
| Croshaw Rec | Churchill | Parish Council | 2 | | | | | | | | Fair standard, could benefit from some levelling work | 2 | £7K |
| East Lancing Rec | Churchill | Parish Council | 1 | | | | | | | | Fair standard, could benefit from some levelling work | 2 | £4k |
| Fishersgate Rec | Southwick Green | Local Auth. | | | 1 | | | | | | Needs improvement to condition and levels | 4 | £8k |
| Hamble Rec | Peverel | Local Auth. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lancing College | Manor | Other education | 2 | | 1 | | | | | 1 | Good quality | | |
| Lancing FC – Culver Rd | Mash Barn | Private | 1 | | | | | | | | Good quality | | |
| Lancing Manor Park | Manor | Local auth. | | | | 1 | | | | | Artificial mat is wearing thin. Needs artificial matting replaced with a new one. | 4 | £5k |
| Middle Road Rec | Southlands | Local auth. | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | Fair standard, could benefit from some levelling work | 2 | £6k |
| Monks Rec | Churchill | Parish Council | 2 | 1 | | | | | | | Fair standard, could benefit from some levelling work | 2 | £7k |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|---|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|---|---|-------|
| Quayside Park | Southwick Green | Local Auth. | | 1 | | | | | | | Fair standard, could benefit from some levelling work | 2 | £4k |
| Shoreham FC | St Mary's | Private | 1 | | | | | | | | Good Quality | | |
| Sompting Rec | Peverel | Local auth. | 2 | 1 | | | | | | | Good quality of pitches, changing rooms are small. | | |
| Southwick FC | Eastbrook | Private | 1 | | | | | | | | Good quality | | |
| Southwick Green | Southwick Green | Local auth. | | | | 1 | | | | | Fine | | |
| Southwick Rec | Eastbrook | Local auth. | 1 | 3 | | | | | | | Ground could do with some levelling, drainage and proper changing rooms | 3 | £200K |
| Golf Course | Mash Barn | Private | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

- *Priority rating is between 1 (the lowest) and 5 (the highest). Priority rating should be gauged against what benefits / improvements could be delivered balanced against approximate costs.

APPENDIX C

Artificial Pitch – Overview

Introduction

Local evidence has indicated a significant demand for a new floodlit artificial grass pitch to serve the residents of Adur. This paper explains what a 3rd Generation (3G) pitch is, summarises some key issues relating to such a facility and provides an overview of the type of information required if this proposal is to be progressed.

What is Synthetic Turf?

The first generation synthetic turf pitch was constructed of polypropylene and was known as AstroTurf. It was less expensive and more comfortable than natural grass, offering less risk of player injury – however, friction burns and blisters were common. The second generation of synthetic grass had widely spaced, longer tufts that provided a greater amount of firmness and stability. Third generation, or 3G, synthetic turf pitches far exceed earlier generations in performance and durability. They have a longer pile filled with sand and topped with rubber crumb.

Why Use 3G?

3G pitches are far more sophisticated and realistic than first-generation turf pitch and safer than natural grass. It's not grass, and it's more sophisticated than AstroTurf - it's made from a mix of quartz sand and rubber granules which are layered into the pitch, which in turn provides effective protection and added shock absorption. 3G pitches are the preferred choice for a football dominant venue although it should be noted that other sports can be played on the surface (although it is not ideal for hockey).

What are the advantages of having an artificial pitch?

3G pitches are the more realistic than AstroTurf, yet safer than grass. 3G pitches generally have less bumps and holes so you're less likely to trip and get injured. Simply put, the ground provides a firmer grip and allows for better ball control. Pushing off, running, stopping or tackling are all possible without additional risk of injury. 3G looks like natural grass with similar playing characteristics and it is non-abrasive.

Perhaps most importantly, artificial turf can withstand significantly more use than natural grass and can therefore be used much more frequently. They are much more durable to weather when compared to grass pitches which can help to reduce cancellations. As an indication of the levels of use a pitch that is part funded by the Football Foundation is expected to be available for use seven days a week for at least 85 hours.

A Sport England survey of artificial turf users undertaken in 2005 listed the following main advantages:

- All weather availability
- Players stay clean
- Quality of play and improved game
- Fewer injuries

Although an artificial pitch can provide many advantages it should be noted that the delivery and maintenance costs relating to such a facility are considerable (see below). In addition, compared to an unlit grassed pitch, greater consideration will be needed to assess the potential impact of a new 3G pitch on the local area (particularly neighbouring occupiers) given the higher levels of usage and the incorporation of floodlighting

Usage

A Sport England user survey undertaken in 2005 found that artificial pitches were being used for a significant amount of casual play (football), and that pitches were used as much for small-sized format games and training as for full-size games. Use by other sports apart from football is very limited. The survey also found that the most popular time for users was early evening (5pm to 8pm), during the week.

The findings are in tune with the general trend that that sports participation is becoming more casual, less formal and with greater demand for flexibility in activities, timing and location to fit in with increasingly complicated lifestyles. Future provision will need to take account of this less formal demand pattern from users as well as the demand for match play and coaching/training sessions. Any future provision therefore needs to be flexible in terms of both availability and design.

Current Provision in Adur

As explained within the report there is a clear deficiency in the provision of artificial pitches within Adur. There is some community use of the Astro turf pitch at St Andrews School but the nearest facilities with wide public access are located outside of the District within Brighton (Waterhall – 3G pitch) and Worthing (Durrington Leisure Centre – Astro turf). These are very well used and it is often difficult and expensive for teams located in the Adur area to book these at a suitable time. There is great demand for a more local facility that could be used for training and match purposes during the evenings and weekends and by school and college groups during the day. Clubs such as Lancing FC, Lancing Rangers FC, Lancing United FC and Adur Athletic FC would benefit greatly from a modern floodlit training facility. In addition, the Sussex FA is in need of a new Coach Education Centre to deliver their course.

Future Provision

Subject to planning and following the necessary consultation with stakeholders and residents there are a number of sites in Adur that could accommodate a floodlit 3G artificial pitch. These include:

- Monks Rec, Lancing (see below)
- Southwick Rec adjacent to Impulse Leisure Southwick, Old Barn Way

- Lancing Rec adjacent to Impulse Leisure Lancing, Manor Road

Monks Rec

Of those listed it is considered that the Monks Rec site has the greatest potential to deliver the needs and aspirations of the community. It is located close to an area which experiences relatively high levels of deprivation and the delivery of new leisure facilities for young people is seen locally as one way of helping to address this. In addition the site is located in close proximity to the site at New Monks Farm which is Brighton and Hove Albion's preferred location for their new training academy. Furthermore, Monks Rec adjoins the headquarters of the Sussex FA (located to the south) and there is a clear opportunity to consider how the Sussex FA might help to manage any new facility.

The Sussex FA did start to progress proposals for an artificial pitch at Monks Rec in 2006. Plans were drawn up and initial discussions with the Parish Council and officers from the Council were generally positive. Plans were not progressed beyond that point due to financial constraints and the reduction of budgets / grants that had previously been available.

The Monks Rec site is currently home to 2 full size grass pitches, 1 mini-soccer and changing rooms which are in a relatively poor condition. The plans drawn up in 2006 indicate that a new artificial pitch and changing rooms could be located at Monks Rec and the 2 full size pitches could be retained (although these would need to be reconfigured). If a new artificial pitch is delivered, there would be an overall gain of 1 full size pitch and 2 mini-soccer pitches* (as there would be space to mark out 3 pitches across its width). Depending on the configuration of the pitches, may also be the opportunity to retain the existing grass mini-soccer pitch (*thereby increasing the overall game to 3 mini-soccer pitches).

Key considerations

Before any scheme is progress the Football Foundation sets out some key issues and requirements that should be considered at an early stage. These are set out below:

- Site plan showing access, ownerships, existing buildings etc
- An overview of planning considerations (neighbouring occupiers, existing uses, access arrangements etc)
- Maintenance arrangements and responsibilities
- Draft programme of use – to demonstrate demand and influence pitch configuration.
- Information on changing provision
- Parking arrangements
- Disabled access
- Consideration of non-football uses
- Project programme
- Possible funding sources.

Design

There are a number of key design considerations that should play a key role in determining the type and nature of the facility:

- The pitch layout should reflect which sports will be played most often.
- Margins / run offs (3m) are required beyond each touchline / goal line.
- Fencing should be considered carefully – 3.5m in height rising to 5m behind the goals is a good guide.
- Fencing should incorporate recesses for goal post storage.
- Floodlighting is required to meet the Football Foundation's requirement of 85 hours of available weekly use. Minimum average illuminance needs to be 200lux.
- Design must have regard to the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act.
- Construction should allow for the rapid drainage of water.

Cost and Funding

The costs of constructing a full size 3G facility are significant. The total cost of delivering a facility obviously depends on land costs, quality of the pitch and the need for any ancillary facilities (changing rooms etc). However, several examples have been set out below as a guide but it should be noted that there is no indication that the cost of any of these included changing rooms or any significant ancillary works. (New changing facilities are likely to be required to serve any new 3G pitch in Adur).

| Location | Facility | Date | Total Cost |
|---------------------------------|--|------|------------|
| Leighfair Park, Derry | New floodlit 3G Synthetic Sports Pitch | 2011 | £582,000 |
| Manor School, Raunds, Northants | New full size, artificial, 3G, floodlit pitch. | 2008 | £560,000 |
| Lewes, Downs Leisure Centre | Replacement All Weather pitch 3G | 2006 | £471,000 |
| Minster College, Kent | New 3G pitch. | 2006 | £432,000 |

There are grants available from the Sport England, the FA (through the Sussex FA) and the Football Foundation to assist in delivery 3G pitches to meet identified need. However, it should be acknowledged that in recent years the level of money available through these means has reduced significantly and a matched funding as a minimum is now the standard expectation.

Maintenance and Refurbishment

It is a common misconception that artificial pitches are maintenance free - this is not the case. An artificial pitch is expensive and to prolong its life span careful

maintenance will be required. Before any new pitch is delivered it is therefore vital that clear and robust management long term funding arrangements are in place.

The FA advice in 2008 was that a budget of £9,000 to £11,000 a year should be allowed for regular and periodic maintenance. An artificial pitch has a life span of approximately ten years depending on factors such as pitch type and quality, usage and maintenance. The FA estimate that the cost of resurfacing a full sized artificial pitch is between £150,000 and £180,000. The cost of rejuvenating the carpet in year five should also be taken into account - £30,000.

Summary

An initial review has indicated that there is a strong demand for a new artificial pitch to serve Adur. Artificial pitches (particularly 3G pitches) offer many advantages in that they provide for realistic play, help to reduce injuries and allow for much more frequent use when compared to a grass pitch. However, a 3G pitch is expensive to deliver and maintain and previous schemes have stalled due to funding difficulties. However, there may now be an opportunity to link a new 3G pitch in Adur to the delivery of a new training Academy for Brighton and Hove Albion. To help inform the next stages it is vital that further evidence is collected to demonstrate demand, preferred location and management plans.