

Report by the Head of Planning and Community

Playing Pitch Strategy for Adur

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 Consultants have been commissioned to develop a district wide playing pitch strategy for Adur. Members are now asked to adopt it.
- 1.2 The purpose of this document to enable strategic planning of playing pitches. It will help the planning process and contribute to the delivery of the Adur Development Plan. It will also be used in the development of a sports strategy for Adur which will be brought to this committee at a later date.

2.0 Recommendation

Members are recommended to:

- 2.1 Adopt the Playing Pitch Strategy for Adur.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 PMP consultants were appointed in August 2006 to develop a Playing Pitch Strategy for Adur. The document outlines the current provision and provides information for decision-making and future development proposals in Adur.
- 3.2 This document fits with The Community Strategy and the Open Space Study that was carried out as part of Planning Policy Guidance 17. Details of this can be found in section 2 of the document.
- 3.3 As well as the local context, the documents used to develop this strategy include Game Plan (Department of Culture, Media and Sport), Sport England – Making England an Active and Successful Sporting Nation, Choosing Health: Making healthy choices easier, Choosing Activity: A Physical Activity Action Plan, DfES: Learning through PE and Sport and Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 (Planning for Open Space Sport and Recreation)
- 3.4 The study has been jointly funded by Adur District Council and West Sussex County Council. The county council's involvement has focussed on pitch provision at school sites particularly regarding the 'Age of Transfer' issue making certain that these educational sites have adequate provision.

4.0 Proposals

- 4.1 Key actions, recommendations and priorities for the future are highlighted in the document. A copy is in the Members Room and on the website.

4.2 The document should be used to inform decisions such as the detail of usage of the new Mash Barn Playing Pitch site. A report will be circulated regarding this project to Community and Leisure Committee once a scheme has been drawn up.

Local Government Act 1972

Background Papers:

None

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Appendix

1.0 Council Priority

1.1 Adur's Playing Pitch Strategy contributes to the following Council priorities:

- Create a clean, green, safe environment
- Revitalise Adur
- Contribute to the implementation of the Community Strategy and other partnership initiatives where possible

2.0 Specific Targets

2.1 **(A)** The Corporate Plan target that this document contributes to is achievement of the Community Strategy priorities.
(B) The Government targets that this strategy is aiming to achieve are outlined in Appendix 1 of the document.

3.0 Sustainability Issues

3.1 Protecting and developing new playing pitch sites will help sustain and improve outdoor sports provision in Adur.

4.0 Equality Issues

4.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

5.0 Community Safety issues (Section 17)

5.1 Protecting and developing new playing pitch sites will help sustain and improve outdoor sports provision in Adur which will contribute to developing activities for young people which in turn will help to reduce crime and disorder.

6.0 Human Rights Issues

6.1 Matter considered and no issues identified.

7.0 Financial Implications

7.1 West Sussex County Council has contributed £10,000 towards the total cost of £14,000.

8.0 Legal Implications

8.1 Matter considered and no issues identified

9.0 Consultations

9.1 (A) PMP consultants have consulted with the local community and relevant regional agencies as outlined in the document.

(B) The feedback from the consultation has been used to inform the recommendations and priorities.

10.0 Risk assessment

10.1 If this document is not adopted ad hoc decisions would be made in the future regarding playing pitch development. This document provides a strategic approach to the planning of playing pitch development that has been lacking in Adur.

11.0 Health & Safety Issues

11.1 Adopting the Playing Pitch Strategy itself has no Health and Safety Issues however each recommendation would need to be looked at and risk assessed.

12.0 Procurement Strategy

12.1 It was believed that PMP would be able to give best service with their gained experience from the PPG17 work that they had previously been commissioned to carry out.

13.0 Partnership working

13.1 The strategy itself was jointly funded by Adur DC and WSCC developing this partnership further in this area of work. In order to deliver the recommendations and priorities of the document partnerships will need to be developed with organisations in the local community.

Introduction

- 1.1 PMP was appointed in August 2006 by Adur District Council ('the Council') and West Sussex County Council to carry out a District wide playing pitch strategy. In addition, it was requested that the effects of the school system re-structuring through the age of transfer process be taken into consideration.
- 1.2 The key areas of the study included:
- analysing the current level and quality of pitch provision within the District
 - assisting the Council in meeting the requirements for playing pitches in accordance with the methodology developed by Sport England in conjunction with the Central Council for Physical Recreation (CCPR)
 - providing information for decision-making and future development proposals in the Adur District and informing the contents of other strategies currently being developed by the Council.
- 1.3 The Playing Pitch Methodology (PPM) covers voluntary participation in competitive pitch sports by adults and young people, therefore this strategy is primarily concerned with, and will apply the PPM calculations to, the following sports (these will be referred to as 'pitch sports' in the body of the report):
- association football (football)
 - rugby union (rugby)
 - cricket
 - hockey.
- 1.4 This report presents the key findings arising from extensive survey work and consultation, highlighting areas of concern and opportunity. It is important to note that in terms of the PPM, the strategy discusses the provision of playing pitches (ie the playing surface, safety margins and the wider area for repositioning the pitch within the playing field) and not open spaces (which include grass or other areas which are not used for sport). This is an important distinction because some of the areas surrounding pitches are not used for sport but are important in terms of open space.
- 1.5 The report covers the following key areas:
- **the current picture** – a review of current participation trends and playing pitch provision in England for pitch sports and outdoor sports, at national and local levels
 - **methodology** – a summary of the research and analysis process
 - **supply and demand** – an overview of the playing pitch facilities and pitch sport activity in the Adur District
 - an application of Sport England's **PPM**
 - **key actions, recommendations and priorities** for the future based on development of the main issues arising from the supply and demand analysis
 - an **analysis** of the level of supply and demand for outdoor sports facilities in the Adur District.

The current picture

Introduction

- 2.1 This section outlines the current situation in England with regards to playing pitch and outdoor sports provision. The following aspects are discussed:
- national trends in playing pitch and outdoor sports provision
 - current trends in pitch sport and outdoor sports participation
 - the local context.

Playing pitch provision in England

A lack of reliable data

- 2.2 The Register of Recreational Land was undertaken in the early 1990s. However, the data collected has not been updated, and therefore is becoming increasingly unreliable. Despite this, the statistics tend to reflect the most recent pitch audit – the Register of English Football Facilities (REFF) – which was commissioned by the Football Foundation and the Football Association in 2001 and completed in February 2002. The information collected went ‘live’ on the REFF website (www.reff.org.uk) in November 2002. Research revealed that there are 35,044 grass football pitches in England (21,640 adult, 8,418 junior, 4,986 mini).
- 2.3 Sport England launched Active Places website (www.activeplaces.com) in July 2004. This website contains information about all sports facilities in England (of certain types). In 2005 the website was updated to include all football pitches within England. This data is based on the REFF findings of November 2002 but is currently being updated. The pitch information from this study will be used to update the activeplaces.com information for the Adur District.

A lack of monitoring

- 2.4 There is a perception that playing pitches are being lost to development all over the country. This perception is incorrect. Figures released by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport and Sport England show that the number of playing fields being created in England has grown for the second year running.
- 2.5 62 new playing fields were created in 2004/05, turning land into grass sports pitches for communities and clubs. This is in addition to 72 new playing fields created in 2003/04. In contrast, only two playing fields were completely lost, neither of which had previously been accessible to the general public.
- 2.6 Richard Caborn, Minister for Sport, said in November 2006:
- “It’s great news for sport that for the second consecutive year, more playing fields are being created than are being lost. In fact more than £387 million was invested into 482 outdoor sites and 157 indoor facilities last year.”*
- 2.7 “This shows we are delivering on our commitment to reverse the decline of playing fields and put sport back at the heart of life in this country. We now have in place the best ever protection through Government planning regulations and today’s figures show that the system is working. The majority of applications to develop playing fields now come from bodies who want to improve their sports facilities.”

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- 2.8 Since 1996, Sport England has been a statutory consultee on all proposals for developments that affect playing fields, land that has been used as playing fields at any time in the last five years and which remains undeveloped, and land that is identified for use as a playing field in a development plan.
- 2.9 Sport England must be notified by the local planning authority when a relevant planning application is received. Data stored by Sport England on statutory consultations since 1999 reveals the increasing pressure on pitches throughout the country (Table 2.1 below).

Table 2.1 Statutory consultations with Sport England

Region	Number of consultations received					% Difference (1999-2004) +/-
	1999 2000	2000 2001	2001 2002	2002 2003	2003 2004	
South East	144	198	154	234	237	65%
West Midlands	107	174	170	213	194	81%
North West	95	132	134	193	175	84%
Yorkshire	102	99	129	185	190	86%
East	38	93	88	116	144	278%
East Midlands	32	75	109	140	137	506%
South West	56	43	73	83	181	223%
London	32	37	26	59	59	84%
North East	40	36	74	74	96	140%
England	646	887	957	1297	1413	128%

- 2.10 As shown in Table 2.1, Sport England was consulted on 65% more planning applications in 2003/04 than in 1999/2000 for the South East region. This region has the highest number of playing pitch applications for a Sport England region for the last two years. In West Sussex as a whole, the National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) states that there are 10 playing fields under threat from development (www.npfa.co.uk). However none of these are within the Adur District.
- 2.11 Key national statistics, trends, issues and implications for future demand for playing pitches are outlined in Table 2.2 overleaf.

Table 2.2 National trends in pitch sports

	Key facts	Key trends	Implication for pitches and ancillary facilities
Football	Out of school, football has experienced the biggest growth in 'frequent' participation from 37% in 1994 to 43% in 1999	More children are playing due to popularity of mini soccer	More mini soccer sized pitches needed
	Female soccer is now starting to grow nationally at a rapid pace	More women are playing the game	Improved quality of ancillary facilities and in particular dedicated changing facilities
	A 300-400% growth in informal 5-a-side football	More mid-week fixtures, more non-grass pitches	Players defecting to five-a-side, therefore additional synthetic turf and indoor space may be required
	The FA forecast the number of youth players to increase by 10% over next five years	More pitches will be needed	The vast number of children playing mini-soccer will result in the need for more junior pitches in five year's time
Cricket	Kwik cricket – a game devised for children is played by 1.1 million pupils in 90% of the country's primary schools – 434,000 of these are girls	Increased participation by young people	More pitches used for Kwik cricket and new mobile pitches introduced in schools
	Despite the declining men's game, the number of women's clubs increased from 4,200 in 1997 to 7,611 in 2001	Increased participation by women	Improved access needed to quality training pitches and improved ancillary facilities in smaller clubs is required
	England won The Ashes in 2005	The England and Wales Cricket Board has reported a 50% increase in participation across all forms of cricket	Increased pressure on pitch availability, and requirements for additional ancillary accommodation
Rugby Union	Rugby - Making An Impact is the most comprehensive study into participation trends in rugby union in England. 254 ex-players, 193 people involved in rugby at all levels, and 1,708 members of the public were interviewed between January and April 2003	Over the past five seasons, the average number of sides fielded by each active club has fallen to an average of 2.7 per club, from 2.9 in the 1997-98 season.	Clubs will be targeted to ensure they can run additional teams, therefore the demand for pitches will remain static or potentially increase (outcome of Rugby World Cup 2007 will have an impact)
	The number of adult males playing rugby has decreased by 12% over last five years however there has been increased junior participation, possibly due to England's world cup win in 2003.	Decline in the men's game is recognised but many initiatives are in place to increase opportunities and promote the sport	May require better quality pitches with ancillary facilities
	Women's participation has increased significantly in recent years - from approximately 2,000 players in 1988, to 8,000 by 1998	Increase in participation by women. Women's rugby is still a minority sport but is stronger than ever, particularly in universities.	Improved clubhouse facilities and increased access to pitches

	Key facts	Key trends	Implication for pitches and ancillary facilities
Hockey	Hockey is one of top five most popular games in schools, although adult participation declined from 20% in 1994, to 17% in 1999 and the number of children citing it as enjoyable dropped from 13% to 10% over the same period	Slight decline in youth participation. Emphasis therefore is placed on promoting hockey among young people to secure the future of the game. However, many clubs still do not have access to STPs	Continuing requirement for STPs and improved clubhouse facilities to meet league requirements and to encourage club/team formation may be required.

- 2.12 Whilst the above provides a useful indication of the changing nature of pitch sports, it must be acknowledged that trends vary across the country.

Strategic review

- 2.13 A series of key documents from various relevant organisations are reviewed below to provide the strategic context to this playing pitch strategy. National documents can be found in Appendix I.

Regional context

The South East Plan

- 2.14 The new South East Plan is being drafted by the South East Regional Assembly as part of its role as Regional Planning Body. This plan will set out a vision for the region from 2006 to 2026, focusing on housing, transport, economy and the environment and will replace the existing RPG9.
- 2.15 The South East Plan is a document that will set out the changes needed to improve the quality of life in the South East England region over the next twenty years. The South East Plan is the name given to the Regional Spatial Strategy.
- 2.16 Key topics covered in the Plan are housing, transport, employment and the environment. Part One of the Plan covering regional policies was approved in July 2005. The region’s county and unitary councils are consulting locally on sub-regional details for Part Two of the Plan. The full Plan was submitted to Government in March 2006 and it is expected that the final Plan will receive Government approval in 2008.
- 2.17 Part One of the South East Plan identifies the Sussex coast Sub-Region, which includes Adur, as one of nine sub-regions the focus is on improving the economy to reduce deprivation and bring its economic performance closer to the regional average.

County strategic documents

West Sussex Cultural Strategy – Consultation 2002 – 2006

- 2.18 The purpose of this strategy is to create coherent and effective plans for the development of a wide range of cultural services across the county and to preserve and develop the county’s unique culture.
- 2.19 The strategy considers the geographic, administrative and regional contexts in which cultural activity exists, and recognises seven key objectives which are:

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- balancing the needs of urban, coastal and rural communities
- developing provision which is both locally appropriate and contributes to wider strategic objectives
- providing for the needs of the cultural majority.

2.20 The strategy highlights the Government’s recognised need and opportunity for community arts and participatory sports practice to act as a flexible and cost effective solution to some social problems.

“art and sport can not only make a valuable contribution to delivering key outcomes of lower long-term unemployment, less crime, better health and better qualifications, but can also help to develop the individual pride, community spirit and capacity for responsibility that enable communities to run regeneration programmes themselves”

2.21 In conclusion, the strategy suggests that partnerships are built and sustained between:

- county, district, borough, town and parish councils
- providers within a single cultural sector such as sport
- the individual cultural sectors – for example between tourism and the arts and crafts
- the cultural sector as a whole and those with whom it wishes to engage in the health, education and business communities.

Sussex Cultural Matrix

2.22 The Sussex Cultural matrix is an exercise carried out by local authority leisure officers in all the Sussex districts and East and West Sussex County Councils. It is the result of an agreement by the Sussex Leisure Officers Association to produce a supporting document to the Local Cultural Strategies in Sussex. Key elements of the cultural profile for Adur include:

- roughly half of Adur is made up of undulating downland, includes a thriving commercial port and one of the oldest licensed airports in the country
- within a small area, Adur enjoys the benefits of the sea, the Downs, village greens, places of historic and maritime interest, and a friendly and active community
- the area provides a full mix of basic community cultural resources and is well provided for in community sports halls
- the water sports resources of the Adur estuary provide opportunities for a wider than local catchment
- the area offers ready access to the countryside with the Coastal link forming an extension of the Downs Link, which incorporates a leisure route and a sculpture trail.

Local context

- 2.23 While consideration of the national and regional context is important, the local context of Adur District is more important in determining the detail of the playing pitch strategy.

A Community Strategy for Adur 2004

- 2.24 A series of vision statements have been identified for Adur. Those relevant to this study include:

“where people feel energised and happy, and are proud to live, work and play”

“where inequalities in quality of life are reduced across the district and where Adur’s towns encourage people with different abilities, cultures and views to support each other and live in harmony”

“where leisure and recreation facilities are close at hand and accessible to all”.

- 2.25 The strategy is divided into ten themes. For each of these there are summaries of the views of the residents and the issues raised by the Community Strategy consultation. The themes and issues raised relevant to this study are highlighted below:

- young people and children – increasing the range of opportunities for young people, address transport and access to facilities, improve facilities in children’s play areas, increase recreation and participation
- environment – the need to maintain and protect local open spaces, streets and open spaces are clean and well maintained
- culture and leisure – protect parks and open spaces, promote culture and leisure facilities.

- 2.26 Open space, sport and recreation facilities can play an important role in achieving many of the key priorities for the themes outlined above, as they cut across many wide-ranging issues and can impact on health, deprivation and the local economy.

Adur Development Plan: Core Strategy (June 2006)

- 2.27 The aim of this document is to guide the future development of Adur and to help protect and improve its environment and facilities over the next 20 years.
- 2.28 The development plan will help address some of the main priorities identified in the Community Strategy, of which the key theme of culture and leisure is most relevant to this study.
- 2.29 Key issues identified through the consultation process that should be addressed through the development plan, of relevance to this study are:
- providing for leisure and cultural needs
 - protecting and improving existing community, health and education facilities; providing new facilities in the right locations.

- 2.30 COM1 Existing and New Community, Leisure and Cultural Facilities proposes the Core Strategy should ensure that:
- all community, leisure and cultural facilities are protected and, where possible enhanced
 - the loss of any community, leisure or cultural facilities will only be allowed in exceptional circumstances where it is demonstrated to be surplus to requirements or can be provided in a better location elsewhere
 - new major development should provide or contribute to new community, leisure and cultural facilities or improve existing facilities
 - proposals that allow the opportunity for joint provision and sharing of premises should be promoted.

Demographic analysis

- 2.31 In analysing the need and demand for any new playing pitches or outdoor sports facilities it is important to assess the size and composition of the local leisure market and the impact it will have upon facility usage. An analysis of the population in the District is shown in Table 2.3 below:

Table 2.3 Demographic profile of Adur District

Population	<p>The resident population according to the 2001 Census was 59,627 with the proportion of males to females 47.6% to 52.4%.</p> <p><i>Relatively small potential user base, but contained within a relatively small area. Therefore it is unlikely that there are many access issues but pitches could come under pressure from housing developments.</i></p>
Age structure	<p>The percentage of children and teenagers as a part of the overall population is 23.4%, which is lower than the total for England and Wales (25.1%).</p> <p>The proportion of younger adults (20 to 39) is also smaller than national averages (23.1% compared to 28.3% for England)</p> <p>The proportion of older persons (60 years and older) in Adur is above the national average. The Adur figure is 27.2% whilst the national figure is 20.8%.</p> <p><i>Young people from the ages of 16-29 typically have high participation rates in a number of sports. The demographic analysis indicates that the Adur District has an older-than-average population.</i></p> <p><i>It is possible that participation rates in the sports covered in this study are lower-than-average.</i></p>
Ethnic background	<p>The 2001 census identified 97.6% of the Adur population as white compared to a national average (England and Wales) of 90.92%. 0.8% of the population is Asian, compared to the national average (England and Wales) of 4.58% and 0.2% is black (compared to national average of 2.3%).</p>

Economic activity	The proportion of residents in full time employment is 41.9% compared to 30.9% in England. 1.8% of the local population is unemployed compared to 2.5% for England and Wales. 15.2% of the population is retired compared to 9.9% of the population of England and Wales.
Mobility	The level of car ownership in the District is low with 23.6% of households having no car or van. This compares to an average of 26.8% for England and Wales. <i>This indicates that the population is not particularly mobile but the compacted nature of the District should negate this.</i>
Health	The percentage of people with a long term limiting illness or disability is 3.9%, lower than the national average of 4.3%.

2.32 A full breakdown of the Adur District demographic profile can be found in Appendix A.

Sport and leisure potential profile

2.33 A sport and leisure potential profile for an area is calculated using data from Continental Research’s Million Plus Panel¹. The figures which are presented provide an indication of the propensity of residents within the District to take part in some of the main sports.

2.34 A detailed report on the propensity of residents within the District to participate in sporting activities is provided in Appendix B. Those that relate to the key sports within this document are summarised in Table 2.5 below:

Table 2.4 Leisure potential profile

Activity	Results as a % of the District population	Results as a % of GB population
Football	21.5%	19.7%
Rugby	6.0%	8.0%

2.35 As Table 2.4 shows, there is an above average propensity to participate in football but a below average propensity to participate in rugby. Figures for hockey and cricket are not available.

¹ The Million Plus Panel comprises a pool of over 3 million UK residents and holds over 3,000 lifestyle, demographic and purchasing details for each.

Methodology for assessing supply and demand

- 3.1 This section outlines the methodology we have used for assessing the supply and demand of playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities. The methodology for assessing playing pitches and outdoor sports is different. As demonstrated below, over the past 80 years, there has been evolution of the most effective method of assessing playing pitch provision culminating in the Sport England PPM used for this strategy.

Playing pitches

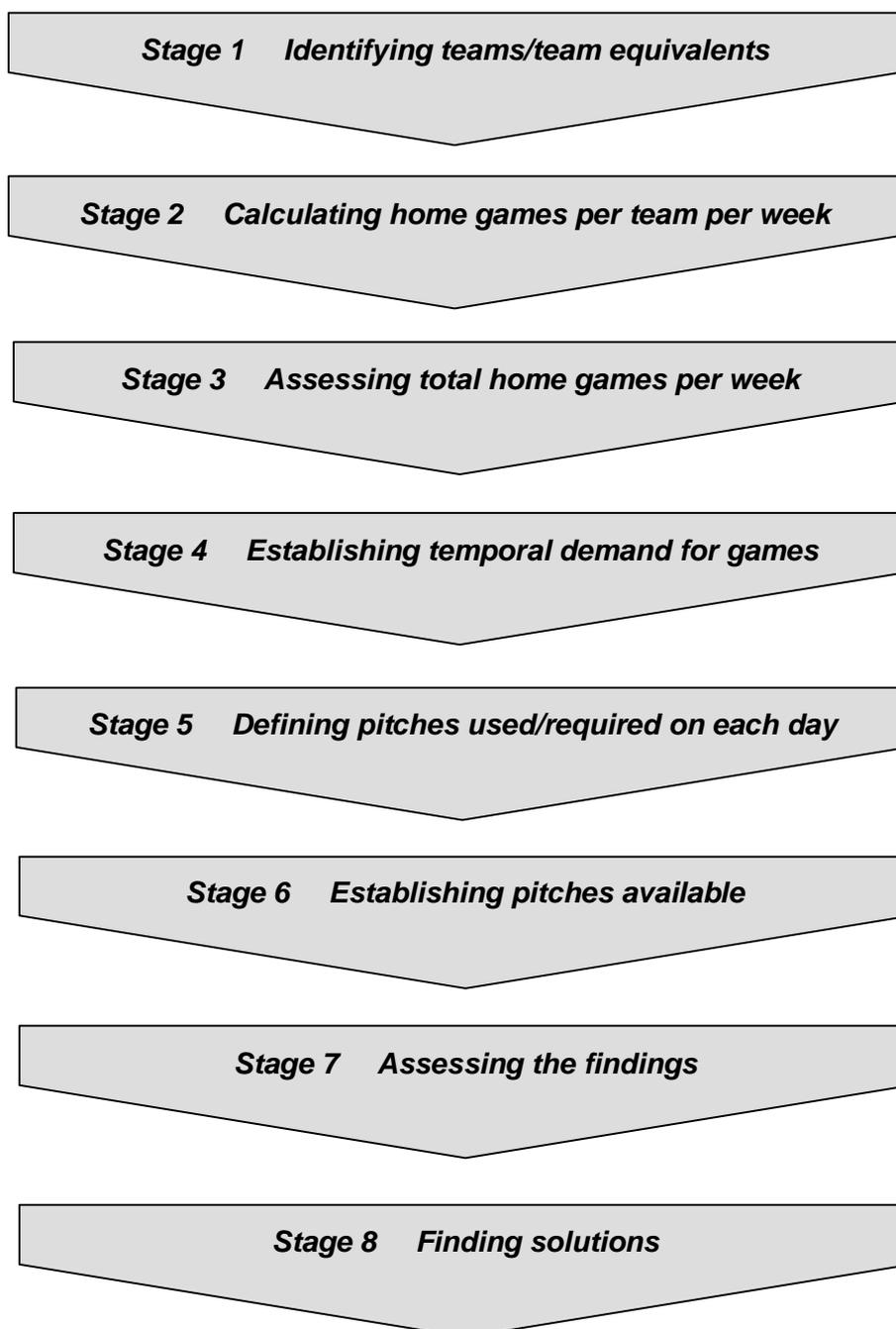
Previous approaches to identifying the need for pitches

- 3.2 The first attempt to establish a standard of provision for public open space and playing fields was made by the NPFA in 1925 and has been subsequently refined on a number of occasions. It is known as the Six Acre Standard and states that there should be a minimum of 2.4 hectares (or six acres) of 'outdoor playing space' (defined as playing pitches, greens, courts, parks, playgrounds, informal play space) per 1,000 population.
- 3.3 However, it is an overly simplistic approach as it overlooks local considerations and is regarded as a broad statement of what the NPFA regards as the desirable area of land required for playing space. It is also not compliant with PPG17.

The playing pitch methodology

- 3.4 Our process follows the methodology presented in the '*Towards a Level Playing Field: A manual for the production of a playing pitch strategy*' document.
- 3.5 The aim of the PPM is to determine the number of pitches required for each activity based on demand in an actual or predicted set of circumstances. The essential difference between the methodology and previous approaches based on national standards is that, instead of using land area per head of population as the basic unit, it measures demand (at peak times) in terms of teams requiring pitches and then compares this with the pitches available, thus enabling a tangible measure of the adequacy of existing supply.
- 3.6 The particular advantage of this methodology is that it is related precisely to the local situation and the very task of collating and analysing the information highlights problems and issues from which policy options and solutions can be explored.
- 3.7 In line with this methodology, this strategy only applies the PPM to pitch provision for football, rugby, hockey and cricket. The process is shown in Figure 3.1, overleaf.

Figures 3.1 Process diagram



Our approach

Playing pitches

3.8 The success of the PPM depends largely on obtaining an accurate tally of the number of teams and pitches in the Adur District. To achieve this, a full audit of pitches, users and providers within the District boundary was conducted.

Questionnaires (see Appendix C) were sent to:

- all known football, cricket, rugby and hockey clubs (identified in governing body and county association handbooks, league handbooks, pitch booking records, websites, local press, telephone directories and using local knowledge)
- all known Parish Councils, schools and colleges and other providers of pitches within the Adur District.

3.9 Table 3.1, below, summarises the response rates. It was of paramount importance that a 100% response rate was received from providers of playing pitches. For this reason, all non-responding schools and other providers were contacted by telephone. However, a 100% response rate was not needed from clubs. This is because club information can be sourced from league handbooks, the internet and Council Officers. The purpose of the club surveys is to cross-check information and gather qualitative information (ie comments) from clubs.

Table 3.1 Consultation audit response rates for pitches

	Surveys sent	Surveys returned	% data received from surveys	Successful phone calls/ alternative method	% data received ¹
Association Football	36	9	25%	27	100%
Cricket	2	0	0%	2	100%
Rugby Union	1	0	0%	1	100%
Hockey	1	0	0%	1	100%
Schools/Colleges	21	11	52%	10	100%
Parish Councils	3	1	33.3%	2	100%
TOTAL	66	21	32%	45	

3.10 The final survey response rate for playing pitches was 32%, which is above average.

¹ Data from the clubs which did not respond were obtained through Council Officers, NGB handbooks and the internet

Supply and demand of playing pitches

Introduction

- 4.1 This section outlines the current situation in the Adur District in terms of pitch provision for, and demand from, football, cricket, rugby, and hockey clubs.

Supply: playing pitch provision in Adur District

Pitch stock

- 4.2 The research methods outlined in Section 3 identified 74 playing pitches in the Adur District. This figure includes all known public, private, school and other pitches whether or not they are in secured public use. The full audit of pitches can be seen in Appendix D. They comprise:
- 35 adult football pitches
 - 18 junior football pitches
 - 4 mini soccer pitches
 - 10 cricket pitches
 - 4 adult rugby pitches
 - 1 junior rugby pitch
 - 2 synthetic turf pitches.
- 4.3 The majority of these pitches are located on sites where more than one pitch is present or where the site caters for both summer and winter pitch sports.

Adult pitches

- 4.4 Of these pitches, 51 (69%) are full-size adult football, cricket, rugby, hockey and synthetic turf pitches. This equates to circa one pitch for every 947 adults in the District. As an illustration, the best ratio of pitches to adults we have encountered is 1:365 in Kennett in Wiltshire and the worst is 1:2,637 in Newham. The national average is 1:989, therefore the Adur District fairs slightly better than the national average.
- 4.5 Table 4.1 overleaf sets out a selection of previous results from studies PMP has undertaken.

Table 4.1 Ratio of adult pitches per 1,000 adults

Local Authority	Ratio (Pitches : adults)
Kennett	1: 365
Bath and North East Somerset	1: 574
Colchester	1:655
Canterbury	1:720
Maidstone	1:723
North Wiltshire	1: 804
Adur District	1:947
England	1: 989
St. Helens	1: 1,050
Portsmouth	1: 1,100
Worcester	1:1,125
Torbay	1: 1,313

4.6 The local ratio for specific sports in comparison with the estimated national average is shown in Table 4.2. The results reflect Table 4.1, illustrating that although Adur District fairs better than the national average in terms of total adult pitches, this varies across sports. The District scores well for football but poorly for cricket, rugby and hockey.

Table 4.2 Ratio of adult pitches to adults, by sport

Sport	Adur District (pitches : adults)	England (pitches : adults)
Football	1:1,380	1: 1,840
Cricket	1:4,830	1: 4,243
Hockey (including STPs)	1:24,151	1: 8,271
Rugby	1:12,075	1: 8,968

Community pitches

4.7 In line with “Towards a Level Playing Field” our definition of ‘community pitches’ is those pitches with ‘secured community use’, recognising that this has a considerable bearing upon the value of facilities both individually and collectively to the community at large.

4.8 In practice this definition embraces:

- all Local Authority and Parish Council facilities
- any school facilities where they are subject to formal dual/community use agreements between the school/education authority and the Council
- any other institutional facilities which are available to the public as a result of formal dual/community agreements
- any facilities owned, used or maintained by clubs/private individuals, which as a matter of policy or practice are available for use by large sections of the public through membership of a club or admission fee. In either case the ‘cost of use’ must be reasonable and affordable for the majority of the community.

4.9 Of the 74 pitches identified, 39 (53%) are secured for the local community. These comprise:

- 22 adult football pitches
- 8 junior football pitches
- 2 mini football pitches
- 3 cricket pitches
- 2 adult rugby pitches
- 1 junior rugby pitch
- 1 hockey pitch.

4.10 Table 4.3 compares the percentage of pitches secured for community use in the Adur District with those of other local authorities for which PMP holds information and an example of a high and low figure from previous PMP research.

Table 4.3 Pitches with secured community use

Local Authority	% of pitches secured for community use
South Somerset District Council (High)	69%
Maidstone Borough Council	61%
Adur District Council	53%
Canterbury City Council	50%
Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (Low)	33%

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- 4.11 Table 4.3 shows that Adur District compares favourably with other local authorities and has a higher ratio of pitches secured for community use than other authorities for which PMP hold data.
- 4.12 An additional 16 pitches are currently used by community teams on an ad hoc or informal basis and are therefore ‘unsecured’ – we will return to this issue in Section 6. A full list of all the pitches can be found in Appendix D.

Areas of pitches

- 4.13 Although the surveyed sports club secretaries were asked to state the exact size of the playing fields, the majority did not respond, guessed or simply did not know. Therefore, standard sizes and areas for playing pitches published by NPFA have been applied. It has been assumed that pitches throughout the Adur District are consistent with these standard measurements.
- 4.14 These sizes include the pitch itself, safety margins and side movement allowance. They do not include areas of open space used for other sports and recreational purposes (ie courts, greens, golf courses, picnic areas, heathland, woodland etc).
- 4.15 The total estimated area of pitches by sport in the Adur District is shown in Table 4.4. Table 4.5 (overleaf) shows the total estimated area of pitches with secured community use by sport. Comparison of the two tables shows that 62% of the total playing pitch area in Adur District is secured for community use.

Table 4.4 Total area of all pitches by sport in the Adur District

Sport	NPFA Pitch Areas (hectares)	Assumed area	Number of pitches	Area of pitches (hectares)
Senior Football	0.82-0.9	0.86	35	30.10
Junior Football	0.4-0.6	0.50	18	9.00
Mini-soccer	0.22	0.22	4	0.88
Cricket	1.4-1.6	1.50	10	15.00
Adult Rugby	1.26	1.26	4	5.04
Junior Rugby	0.8	0.80	1	0.80
Hockey	0.6	0.60	2	1.20
Total			74	62.02

SECTION 4 – SUPPLY AND DEMAND OF PLAYING PITCHES

Table 4.5 Total area of secured community pitches by sport in the District of Adur in 2005

Sport	NPFA Pitch Areas (hectares)	Assumed area	Number of pitches	Area of pitches (hectares)
Senior Football	0.82-0.9	0.86	22	18.92
Junior Football	0.4-0.6	0.50	8	4.00
Mini-soccer	0.22	0.22	2	0.44
Cricket	1.4-1.6	1.50	3	4.50
Adult Rugby	1.26	1.26	2	2.52
Junior Rugby	0.8	0.80	1	0.80
Hockey	0.6	0.60	1	0.60
Total			39	31.78

- 4.16 In summary, the 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.

Location of pitches

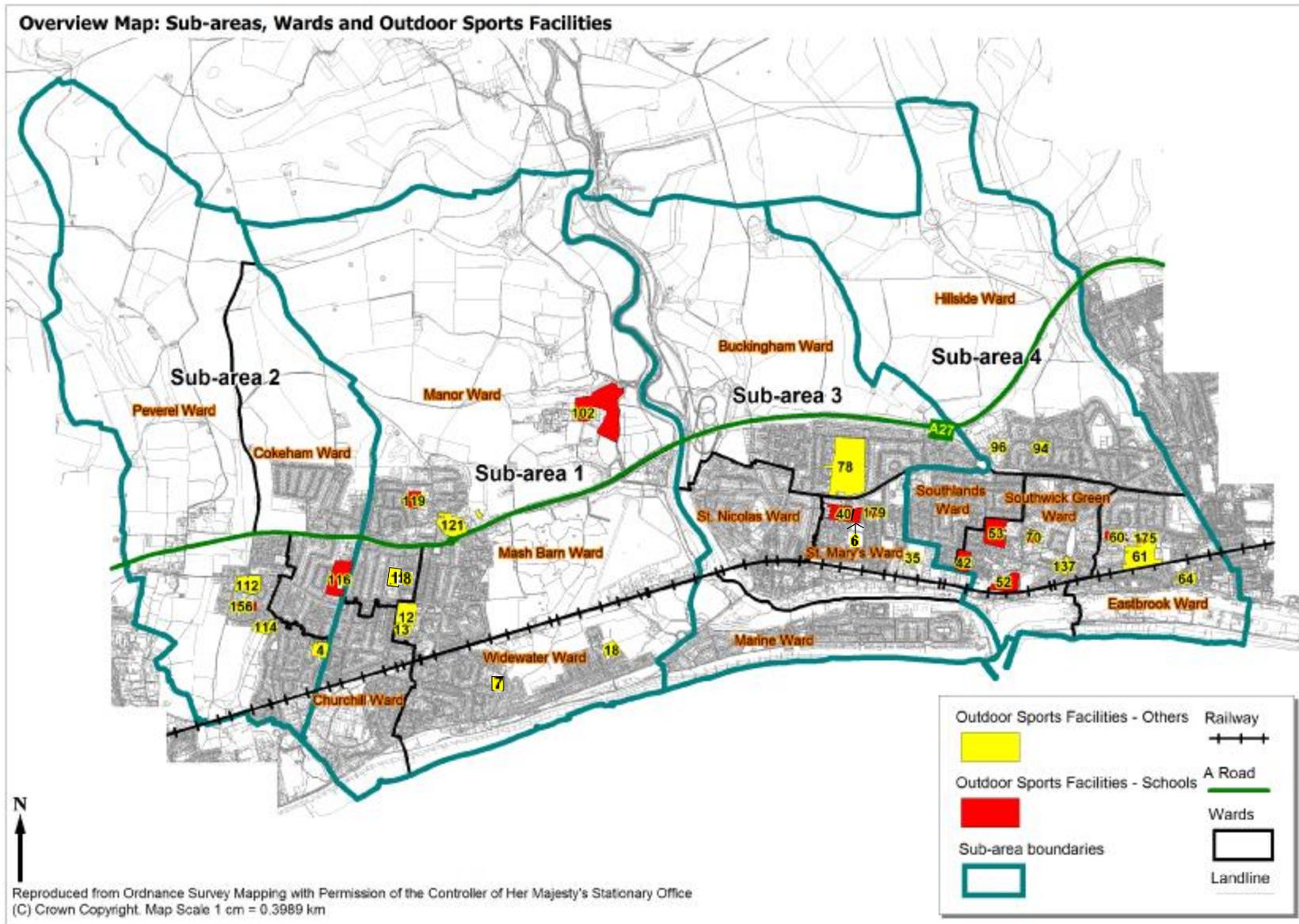
- 4.17 The location of the existing pitches in the District has been examined. Figure 4.1 overleaf illustrates the position of playing pitches in the District. The key to the sites is shown below.

Map key

Non School Sites	School Sites
4. Crowsham Recreation Ground	78. Buckingham Park
6. St Nicholas and St Mary School	94. Quayside Park
7. Thornberry Middle School	96. Heron Dales School
12. Monks Recreation Ground	102. Lancing College
13. Lancing Football Club	112. Sompting Recreation Ground
18. East Lancing Recreation Ground	114. Hamble Recreation Ground
35. Shoreham FC	116. Boundstone Community School
40. Buckingham Middle School	118. Oakfield Middle School
52. Shoreham College	119. North Lancing School
53. King's Manor Community College	121. Lancing Manor Park
60. Manor Hall County Middle School	156. White Styles School
61. Southwick Recreation Ground	175. Manor Hall Community College
64. Fishergate Recreation Ground	179. St Peter's Catholic Primary School
70. Glebe Middle School	

SECTION 4 – SUPPLY AND DEMAND OF PLAYING PITCHES

Figure 4.1 Location of pitches in the Adur District



SECTION 4 – SUPPLY AND DEMAND OF PLAYING PITCHES

4.18 It can be seen from Figure 4.1 that:

- the largest playing pitch site is Lancing College (Site ID 102)
- there is only one site (Fishergate Recreation Ground) – Site ID 64) to the south of the railway line in the Shoreham area
- there are no playing pitch sites in the Marine Ward.

4.19 Out of the 14 wards in the Adur District, there are two without any formal playing pitch facilities:

- Cokeham
- Marine.

Ownership

4.20 Table 4.6 and Table 4.7 summarise the ownership of playing pitches in Adur District:

Table 4.6 Ownership of all playing pitches in Adur District

Ownership	Nr of adult football pitches	Nr of junior football pitches	Nr of mini football pitches	Nr of cricket pitches	Nr of adult rugby union pitches	Nr of junior rugby union pitches	Nr of artificial hockey pitches
Local Authority	10	7	1	3	2	1	0
LEA	6	9	1	3	1	0	1
Other Education	9	1	2	4	1	0	1
Parish Council	5	1	0	0	0	0	0
Voluntary Sector	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private/Corporate	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	35	18	4	10	4	1	2

Table 4.7 Ownership of playing pitches with secured community use in the Adur District

Ownership	Nr of adult football pitches	Nr of junior football pitches	Nr of mini football pitches	Nr of cricket pitches	Nr of adult rugby union pitches	Nr of junior rugby union pitches	Nr of artificial hockey pitches
Local Authority	10	7	1	3	2	1	0
LEA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Education	2	0	1	0	0	0	1
Parish Council	5	1	0	0	0	0	0
Voluntary Sector	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private/Corporate	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	22	8	2	3	2	1	1

4.21 The following key points can be drawn from the findings set out in Table 4.6 and Table 4.7:

- the Local Authority own more playing pitches than any other body
- there are a comparatively large number of pitches under the control of other educational bodies (Lancing College)
- all junior rugby pitches have secured community use
- half of the STPs in the District have secured community use.

Demand: pitch sport clubs in Adur District

4.22 Table 4.8 below illustrates the number of football, cricket, hockey and rugby teams identified as playing on pitches in the Adur District. These include adult, junior and mini teams.

Table 4.8 Sports clubs using playing pitches in the Adur District

Sport	Number of clubs	Number of teams
Football	48	132
Cricket	2	5
Rugby union	1	12
Hockey	1	7

Football clubs in Adur District – an overview

- 4.23 Of the 36 surveys sent out to football teams, nine were returned representing a 25% response rate, which is a good return rate. Alternative means of gaining the information required were undertaken. These included telephone calls, internet/desk research, booking records, consultation with key Council officers and use of league handbooks.
- 4.24 Football is very popular within Adur, and this is evident through the large number of teams in the area. In addition to the strong adult game, there has been a growth in the 5-a-side game.
- 4.25 The following is a summary of key findings from the information available to us:

Membership Football in Adur is relatively strong and the large number of teams who play in the area represents this. Buckingham ward has a large number of clubs, including Buckingham Athletic FC and Adur Athletic FC who are a Charter Standard Club. 49 junior/mini soccer teams are present in the area, in addition to the many adult teams. Fishergate Flyers and Adur Athletic FC have large youth setups. There are two adult female and four youth female teams in the District. None of the clubs returning a survey reported a decrease in the number of its members and several clubs reported an increase.

Standard of play The standard of play varies across the District, with adult teams competing in the Brighton and Hove District League, Sussex Sunday Football League, Worthing District Football League, Arun and Chichester Youth Football League. Football is very popular in the District, and successful programmes such as Street Soccer and girl's open training sessions have boosted participation amongst youngsters.

Facilities used The general consensus was that the provision of pitches is sufficient, however the quality and availability of changing facilities was unsatisfactory. Buckingham Park is one of the major sites for football provision at present.

Constraints The major constraints identified by football clubs in the District are as follows:

- lack of external funding
- lack of internal funding
- lack of local facilities.

Future plans Adur Athletic FC has advanced plans for developing pitches and clubhouse facilities at Adur Recreation Ground. The site will include two youth and two adult football pitches. There is also an opportunity for additional pitch provision at the new site adjacent to the golf course in the Mash Barn ward. A new multi use games area is planned in Lancing that could be used for training purposes whilst the Sussex FA and Sompting Sports Association have improvement plans for Sompting Recreation Ground.

Governing body Adur District is the home of Sussex County FA, which is based at the County Ground in Lancing. The Sussex Local Football Partnership oversees and co-ordinates the planning, development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all development across the county.

Cricket clubs in Adur District – an overview

4.26 Of the four cricket clubs surveyed none returned their questionnaires. Further information about cricket clubs was accessed by telephoning the clubs directly, the internet, consulting with council officers and use of governing body handbooks. Currently two cricket clubs play their home games within the Adur District, representing a total of five teams. Analysis of the responding clubs' membership, structure and aspirations is presented below.

Membership Southwick Cricket Club and Lancing Manor Cricket Club play in the Adur District. There are no adult or junior female teams within the District.

Standard of play Southwick CC play in Division 2 of the Sussex Invitation Cricket League, and Lancing Manor Cricket Club play in Division 2 of the West Sussex Cricket League.

Facilities used Both cricket clubs use council recreation grounds, with Southwick CC playing at Southwick Green and Lancing Manor CC playing at Lancing Manor Park. Lancing College has four cricket pitches that are used for youth county cricket matches.

Constraints No major constraints were highlighted by the clubs; however, the three constraints experienced by the majority of all sports clubs are as follows:

- lack of internal funding
- lack of external funding
- lack of appropriate local training facilities.

Future plans There is a possibility that cricket will return to Buckingham Park as part of the new rugby pavilion project.

Other Sussex County Cricket Club won two trophies during 2006. It is possible this success will increase junior participation in the District.

Rugby Union clubs in Adur District – an overview

4.27 Shoreham Rugby Club is the only rugby club in the District. Shoreham RFC has achieved the RFU Seal of Approval and is a progressive club. Further information regarding rugby union was accessed by telephoning the club directly and use of the Internet and governing body handbooks.

SECTION 4 – SUPPLY AND DEMAND OF PLAYING PITCHES

Membership	Shoreham Rugby Club is the only adult provider of teams, both male and female, in the District. The club runs U14 and U17 girls teams. The club has good community links, especially with Manor Hall Middle School.
Standard of play	The first team plays in the RFU Sussex 2 West league.
Facilities used	Shoreham Rugby Club have this season moved to Buckingham Park and have a venue that they can call home.
NGB	The Club has achieved the RFU Seal of Approval.
Future plans	Shoreham Rugby Club and the council are working towards the development of a clubhouse at Buckingham Park.

Hockey clubs in Adur District – an overview

4.28 There is one hockey club in Adur District.

Membership	Southwick Hockey Club has seven teams including five adult male and two adult female teams. The club has an active youth section and is looking for opposing teams to play against. Four of the five adult male teams play in the Sussex Open league.
Standard of play	The men's first team have recently been promoted to the Kent and Sussex First Division.
Facilities used	Southwick Hockey Club plays its matches at King's Manor School. Training takes place at King's Manor school and outside the District at Portslade.
Constraints	The club uses Kings Manor School astro-turf pitch where access is limited. The quality of the pitch has also been identified as poor and in need of upgrading, including floodlighting.
Future plans	The club has not identified any future plans, although the youth section is very strong, and there is likely to be an increased demand for pitch space in the future.

4.29 The above supply and demand data will be set in context by applying the Playing Pitch Methodology in Section Five.

The Playing Pitch Methodology

- 5.1 Adur District Council has recently undertaken a PPG17 assessment and this included an audit of all outdoor sports facilities in the District. However the PPG17 assessment significantly differs from a playing pitch strategy in that there is no analysis of supply against direct demand; instead it uses local standards as a surrogate measure of demand.
- 5.2 The Playing Pitch Methodology (PPM) comprises eight stages. Stages one to six involve numerical calculations, whilst stages seven and eight develop issues and solutions. The methodology is employed to analyse the adequacy of current provision and to assess possible future situations, in order that latent and future demand (identified through Team Generation Rates), and the problems of quality, use and capacity of existing pitches can be taken into account.
- 5.3 It is implicit to the methodology that each sport is dealt with individually, with a specific set of calculations for each because, despite some superficial similarities, they exhibit very different patterns of play.
- 5.4 We have further subdivided the analysis of some sports to deal with specific sub-sectors of activity, eg junior play or adult play, so that important aspects are not submerged in aggregated data. Football and rugby have been subdivided in this manner, whereas no differentiation has been made between junior and senior cricket and junior and senior hockey teams as they play on pitches of similar dimensions.
- 5.5 The summary of the findings for the District as a whole gives an indication of the shortfall or surplus of pitches for each sport.

Pitch quality and carrying capacity

- 5.6 The 1991 playing pitch methodology assumed that all pitches are of sufficient standard to sustain two games per week. The new methodology suggests that the quality of a pitch should be taken into account. This information can be gained from three sources:
- club surveys
 - site visits
 - consultation with key Council officers and stakeholders.
- 5.7 Using all of this information, it is possible to make a judgement on the carrying capacity of the District's pitches. It is important to recognise that there is no formula for calculating the carrying capacity of pitches as it is dependent upon a wide range of factors such as weather conditions, age/weight of users, quality of players, etc. However, through local knowledge, user surveys, interviews and an analysis of usage patterns from the previous season it is possible to consider the capacity of each pitch.
- 5.8 In calculating the carrying capacity of a pitch, the following should be considered:
- what proportion of games are cancelled due to the poor condition of the pitch?
 - is the condition of the pitch declining over the season?
 - what is the maintenance regime for the pitch at present?

SECTION 5 – THE PLAYING PITCH METHODOLOGY

- could the capacity of the pitch be improved by enhanced maintenance?
 - extent to which pitches are required to accommodate training activity?
- 5.9 The number of community matches a grass pitch can absorb is a function of the needs of other users and quality. For example, a school pitch may be able to accommodate one game each weekend, while a comparable Council pitch may be able to accommodate two. The quality of pitches must, therefore, be considered.
- 5.10 Some pitches cannot sustain the standard two games per week assumed in the previous playing pitch methodology. In the same way, a small number of pitches can sustain more than two games per week.
- 5.11 The audit was weighted according to the capacity of each pitch. Pitches that were considered capable of sustaining only one match per week were therefore weighted as only equivalent to half a pitch in the audit. The weighting system used is outlined in Table 5.1 below.

Table 5.1 Carrying capacity for each type of pitch

Carrying Capacity	Multiplication Factor
Four matches per week	2.0
Three matches per week	1.5
Two matches	1.0
One match per week	0.5
One match or less per fortnight	0.25

- 5.12 To assign a carrying capacity to each pitch, we have used the estimate provided by clubs for their own pitches and utilised the information gathered from surveys and consultation to estimate the carrying capacity for other pitches. Where we have received no specific comments regarding a pitch, the following assumptions have been made:
- a carry capacity of 2 for mini soccer pitches as the nature of the game and age of the players allows for a minimal amount of wear and tear
 - a carrying capacity of 0.5 for all school facilities (except mini soccer) as they are unlikely to be able to accommodate as many matches as a public facility due to school lesson usage
 - Parish Council/local authority pitches have a carrying capacity of 1 (a standard assumption).
- 5.13 The two STPs have been assigned a carrying capacity of two (four hockey games each a week) as the artificial surface is able to withstand a far greater degree of usage. If the STPs were improved and floodlit, it is possible that the carrying capacity could be increased.
- 5.14 The following paragraphs outline the information on pitch quality gained from the surveys, site visits and consultation.

Club surveys - quality of pitches and ancillary facilities

- 5.15 All sports clubs playing on pitches in the District were asked about their perceptions of pitch quality by postal questionnaire. The results highlighted that football clubs were generally pleased with the facilities on offer. Most aspects of the pitches (eg firmness of surface, line markings) were rated “acceptable” to “good”. The ancillary facilities were also rated acceptable to good but value for money was only “acceptable”, as was the overall score.

Site Visits

- 5.16 The quality of the sites were assessed using the site assessment matrix developed as part of the 2003 review of the Playing Pitch Methodology. A copy of this Matrix can be found in Appendix E.
- 5.17 The site assessment matrix rates both the ancillary facilities (changing rooms, parking, etc.) and pitches, and provides a percentage score for each. The percentage scores translate in the following ratings:

Ancillary Facilities

- 90% and over - excellent
- 60% to 89% - good
- 40% to 59% - average
- 30% to 39% - poor
- less than 30% - very poor.

Pitches

- 90% and over - excellent pitch
 - 64% to 89% - good pitch
 - 55% to 63% - average pitch
 - 30% to 54% - below average pitch
 - less than 30% - poor pitch.
- 5.18 The site visits showed that the quality of pitches and ancillary facilities were generally high with the vast majority of sites scoring between 64 to 90% for pitches and 60% to 89% for ancillary facilities. There were a number of sites and which were rated very highly, these are:
- Buckingham Park
 - Shoreham FC.

SECTION 5 – THE PLAYING PITCH METHODOLOGY

5.19 There were no sites that scored particularly poorly however it was noted that the Fishergate Recreation Ground informal pitch area was of a poor standard. In addition, it is known that the STP at Kings Manor Community College is of a poor quality with the synthetic turf needing replacing.

PPM calculations

5.20 Table 5.2, below, demonstrates the calculations undertaken to determine the surplus/deficit of pitches in the District. It should be noted that the calculated surplus/deficit is based upon the peak load of games to be played at a specific time during the week (ie am or pm on a day). However, for some sports eg mini-soccer, it may be possible to spread the games during the course of a Sunday morning and therefore not require the maximum amount of pitches. This will be considered further in Section 6.

Table 5.2 PPM calculations for the District

		Football	Mini-soccer	Cricket	Rugby Union	Hockey	
STAGE ONE Identifying teams	Adult games	58	25	5	2	7	
	Junior teams	49		0	10	0	
STAGE TWO Calculate home games per week	Adult games	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.5	
	Junior teams	0.5		0.7	0.5	0.5	
STAGE THREE (S1x S2) Assessing total home games per week	Adult games	29	13	4	1	4	
	Junior teams	25		0	5	0	
STAGE FOUR Establish temporal demand for pitches	Saturday AM	Adult games	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
		Junior teams	0%		0%	0%	0%
	Saturday PM	Adult games	70%	0%	50%	100%	50%
		Junior teams	20%		50%	0%	0%
	Sunday AM	Adult games	30%	0%	0%	0%	0%
		Junior teams	80%		0%	100%	100%
	Sunday PM	Adult games	0%	0%	50%	0%	50%
		Junior teams	0%		50%	0%	0%
STAGE FIVE (S3 x S4) Defining pitches used each day	Saturday AM	Adult games	0	13	0	0	0
		Junior teams	0		0	0	0
	Saturday PM	Adult games	20	0	2	1	2
		Junior teams	5		0	0	0
	Sunday AM	Adult games	9	0	0	0	0
		Junior teams	20		0	5	0
	Sunday PM	Adult games	0	0	2	0	2
		Junior teams	0		0	0	0
STAGE SIX Establishing pitches currently available	Adult games	22	4	3	2	2	
	Junior teams	8			1		
STAGE SEVEN (S6-S5) Identifying shortfall (-) and surplus (+)	Saturday AM	Adult games	22.0	-8.5	3.0	2.0	2.0
		Junior teams	8.0			1.0	
	Saturday PM	Adult games	1.7	4.0	1.3	1.0	0.3
		Junior teams	3.1			1.0	
	Sunday AM	Adult games	13.3	4.0	3.0	2.0	2.0
		Junior teams	-11.6			-4.0	
	Sunday PM	Adult games	22.0	4.0	1.3	2.0	0.3
		Junior teams	8.0			1.0	

SECTION 5 – THE PLAYING PITCH METHODOLOGY

Key issues

5.21 Key issues arising at the District level from Table 5.2 are:

- supply meets demand (1.7) for full size adult football pitches on the peak day across the District
- there is an undersupply (-11.6) of junior football pitches on the peak day at a District level
- there is an undersupply (-8.5) of mini-soccer pitches in the District on the peak day
- there is a small oversupply of cricket pitches (1.3) on the peak day
- there is an slight oversupply (1.0) of adult rugby pitches on the peak day
- there is an undersupply (-4.0) of junior rugby pitches on the peak day
- supply meets demand (0.3) for hockey pitches.

5.22 The PPM can then be applied at ward level (see Table 5.3 below) showing the over and under supply compared to the current demand in each ward. However it should be strongly noted that ward boundaries are effectively an artificial barrier in that on the ground people naturally travel across boundaries to access pitches. Therefore an oversupply in one ward is likely to cater for the needs of neighbouring wards that may have an undersupply. Nevertheless it is a useful way of displaying the data at a local level.

Table 5.3 Summary of PPM results by ward

Ward name	Shortfall of adult football	Shortfall of junior football	Shortfall of Mini-soccer	Shortfall of cricket	Shortfall of adult rugby union	Shortfall of junior rugby union	Shortfall of hockey	Total pitches
Buckingham	-2.3	-0.2	0.0	1.0	1.0	-4.0	0.0	-4.5
Churchill	0.5	0.2	-1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.9
Cokeham	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Eastbrook	-2.2	0.2	-3.5	-1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-6.6
Hillside	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Manor	2.0	-1.6	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.7
Marine	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mash Barn	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0
Peverel	-0.1	-2.0	-2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-4.1
Southlands	-0.8	-6.4	-3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-10.2
Southwick Green	0.6	1.0	2.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	-1.8	2.8
St Mary's	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
St Nicolas	0.0	-1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1.2
Widewater	0.0	-1.6	-0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2.1
Total	1.7	-11.6	-8.5	1.3	1.0	-4.0	0.3	

- 5.23 Table 5.3 matches demand against supply at specific sites. Therefore higher demand is frequently seen where there is higher provision. The key issues arising from the table are:
- seven wards have an overall shortfall of pitches. The largest is Southlands (-10.2), largely due to the deficiencies for all football pitch types. Eastbrook also has a significant deficit of pitches (-6.6), showing shortfalls in adult football, mini soccer and cricket pitches
 - four wards showed a small deficiency for adult football pitches and these are spread between the Lancing and Shoreham areas.
 - six wards have a deficiency of junior football pitches. Aside from Southlands, the largest is Peverel (-2.0 pitches) followed by Widewater (-1.6 pitches). Four of the deficiencies are less than two pitches
 - Southwick Green and Buckingham show small oversupplies of cricket pitches whilst Eastbrook has a small undersupply (-1.1)
 - as the only rugby pitches in the District are based in Buckingham, there are only surpluses and deficiencies witnessed in this ward
 - there is a deficiency of hockey pitches in Southwick Green (-1.8) but an oversupply in Manor (2.0).
- 5.24 The deficiencies in rugby and hockey are felt in the only wards where there are clubs. The over and under provision of various football facilities is spread around the District.

Predicting the future

Introduction

- 5.25 This section of the report models the “what if” scenario. It analyses future participation trends in line with population increases in order to estimate the supply and demand scenario for 2011.

Team Generation Rates

- 5.26 Team Generation Rates (TGRs) indicate how many people in a specified age group are required to generate one team. TGRs are derived by dividing the appropriate population age band for the relevant sport (eg for adult football it is the 16-45 age group) by the number of teams playing that sport. Calculating TGRs enables fair comparison to be made between different areas where similar studies have been undertaken. A high TGR indicates a high level of latent demand whilst a low TGR suggests a low level of latent demand.
- 5.27 TGRs can be calculated for each of the individual disciplines, eg adult men’s football, adult women’s football and mini-soccer. Once these TGRs have been calculated, they can be brought together to form one TGR for each sport. Further details on the TGRs can be found in Appendix F.
- 5.28 The TGRs for each sport in the Adur District are shown in Table 5.4 to 5.7 below, compared to the national average based on Sport England database of Playing Pitch Strategy information as at March 2004. Each sports TGR is discussed in detail overleaf.

Table 5.4 Football Team Generation Rates

Age group	TGR
Senior male	184
Senior female	5,376
Junior male	49
Junior female	571
Overall Adur District	239
National average	239
Mini-soccer	116

Table 5.5 Cricket Team Generation Rates

Age group	TGR
Senior male	2,693
Senior female	0
Junior male	0
Junior female	0
Overall Adur District	6,534
National average	761

Table 5.6 Rugby Union Team Generation Rates

Age group	TGR
Senior male	9,610
Senior female	0
Junior male	362
Junior female	0
Overall Adur District	3,695
National average	1,498

Table 5.7 Hockey Team Generation Rates

Age group	TGR
Senior male	2,066
Senior female	5,376
Junior male	0
Junior female	0
Overall Adur District	3,544
National average	2,567

What do these numbers mean?

5.29 The following examples help clarify what TGRs mean:

1:100 è high TGR è relatively low latent (unmet) demand

1: 1000 è low TGR è relatively high latent (unmet) demand

5.30 These figures are only a guide and do not specify the sport or refer to local conditions. For example, the national popularity of football will mean that it will almost always have the lowest TGR. Equally, hockey usually has the highest. Therefore, it is more useful to compare the Adur District’s TGRs with other areas.

5.31 From our previous work we have found that football TGRs range from 1:118 in Mid-Devon to 1:636 in Waltham Forest. This means that the Adur District has a relatively low latent demand for football. It should be noted that the figures for female junior football are impressive and it is felt that this will feed through into female adult football in subsequent years, reducing the latent demand.

5.32 For cricket, the TGRs have ranged from 1:212 in West Devon to 1:9,450 in Newham. The majority of TGRs for cricket are below 1:1,000, making the Adur District’s TGR of 1:5634 significantly higher than average. This indicates that there is relatively high latent demand for cricket in the area.

5.33 For rugby union, TGRs have ranged from 1:495 in Mid Devon to 1:6,615 in Newham. The Adur District’s TGR of 1:3,695 and this indicates that the level of latent demand for rugby in the area is particularly large.

5.34 For hockey, TGRs have ranged from 1:881 in Bath and North East Somerset to 1:9,890 in Rochdale. The Adur District’s TGR is 1:3,544 which suggests there is relatively high latent demand.

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5.35 These TGR figures show the relatively popularity of football in the Adur District compared to the other three pitch sports covered by this study.

Projections for 2011

5.36 By applying TGRs to the population projections for 2011, we can project the theoretical number of teams that would be generated over the next few years. This can then be applied to the PPM model to forecast the future shortfall of pitches, assuming that no new pitches are built in the interim and that TGRs remain the same. This model only includes pitches with official community use.

Population growth

5.37 Population growth statistics were used from West Sussex County Council. These showed that an increase of just over 2% is expected by 2011. This population factored into each ward in the District though it is recognised that some wards are likely to increase larger population growth than others.

5.38 Table 5.10, below, provides details on the expected surpluses and deficiencies in 2011 on a ward basis.

Table 5.10 PPM calculations (2011)

Ward name	Shortfall of adult football	Shortfall of junior football	Shortfall of Mini-soccer	Shortfall of cricket	Shortfall of adult rugby union	Shortfall of junior rugby union	Shortfall of hockey	Total pitches
Buckingham	-2.4	-0.3	0.0	1.0	1.0	-4.1	0.0	-4.8
Churchill	0.4	0.2	-1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1.0
Cokeham	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Eastbrook	-2.3	0.1	-3.6	-1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-6.8
Hillside	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Manor	2.0	-1.6	-0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.6
Marine	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mash Barn	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0
Peveler	-0.1	-2.0	-2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-4.2
Southlands	-0.8	-6.5	-3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-10.4
Southwick Green	0.5	1.0	2.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	-1.8	2.7
St Mary's	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
St Nicolas	0.0	-1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1.2
Widewater	0.0	-1.6	-0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2.1
Total	1.3	-12.0	-8.8	1.2	1.0	-4.1	0.2	

5.39 The key issues arising from the above analysis are that:

- the surplus of adult football pitches reduces to 1.3
- the undersupply of junior football pitches increases to **-12.0**
- the undersupply in mini-soccer pitches will increase from **-8.5** to **-8.8**

SECTION 5 – THE PLAYING PITCH METHODOLOGY

- the oversupply of hockey pitches will decrease from 0.3 to 0.2 with the largest deficiency still contained within the Southwick Green ward
- there are only minimal changes predicted for adult rugby and cricket pitches.

5.40 It can be seen from the issues raised above, that there can be key changes over a period of years (such as an increase in population and participation) that will significantly change the supply/demand of pitches. The capability to model ‘what if?’ scenarios ensure that a changing local context can always be accommodated and local policies changed to reflect this. This should form the basis of monitoring of the situation to be undertaken by the Council on a regular basis.

5.41 There are currently a large number of sports development programmes being led in the District, particularly based around the large amount of work in junior football and mini-soccer. It has been assumed that the sports development initiatives will increase participation by 5% in each sport. This reflects the 1% year on year increase in physical activity targets goal from the Game Plan strategy. Table 5.11, below, shows the effect of this participation increase.

Table 5.11 PMP calculations by analysis area with sports development increases (2011)

Ward name	Shortfall of adult football	Shortfall of junior football	Shortfall of Mini-soccer	Shortfall of cricket	Shortfall of adult rugby union	Shortfall of junior rugby union	Shortfall of hockey	Total pitches
Buckingham	-2.6	-0.4	0.0	1.0	0.9	-4.4	0.0	-5.5
Churchill	0.1	0.1	-1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1.3
Cokeham	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Eastbrook	-2.5	-0.0	-3.8	-1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-7.4
Hillside	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Manor	2.0	-1.7	-0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.4
Marine	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mash Barn	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0
Peverel	-0.3	-2.1	-2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-4.5
Southlands	-0.9	-6.9	-3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-11.0
Southwick Green	0.4	1.0	2.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	-1.9	2.5
St Mary's	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
St Nicolas	0.0	-1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1.3
Widewater	0.0	-1.7	-0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2.3
Total	0.2	-13.0	-9.4	1.1	0.9	-4.4	0.1	

- 5.42 When factoring sports development increases with population changes it can be seen in this scenario the increases and decreases in surpluses and deficiencies are far more pronounced and the pressures of pitches will be much increased. Section 6 examines how these shortfalls, if they come to fruition, can be addressed.

Conclusion

- 5.43 This section has presented the modelling element of the Playing Pitch Strategy. However it is important to ensure that all the data, both quantitative and qualitative, are brought together when presenting the way forward for the strategy.

Priorities for action and key recommendations

- 6.1 This section sets out the key issues highlighted in this study and recommendations for how these can be addressed. All recommendations feed into an Action Plan, contained within the Executive Summary.
- 6.2 The research findings lead to the following components as a basis for maintaining and improving playing pitch provision in Adur District:
- protection of existing provision where appropriate
 - overcoming identified deficiencies and planning for new provision
 - enhancement of existing provision
 - developing a local standard.

Protection of existing provision

Local Development Framework Policies

- 6.3 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 as playing pitches are often under threat from other, non-sport development.
- 6.4 All known sports pitch sites, irrespective of ownership, should be delineated on proposals maps and afforded protection within specific policies that benefit sport and physical activity within the District.
- 6.5 The likely policies outlined in the emerging Local Development Framework could represent a pragmatic approach to the development of playing pitch, open space and sports facilities provision in the District, for example:
- to encourage a more efficient and effective use of recreational facilities and open spaces throughout the District by reviewing and re-organising the use of open spaces and the layout of sports pitches
 - to improve the quality and standard of provision of open space and recreational facilities and stimulate new provision to meet people's needs through the review of facilities supported by the Council, adherence to defined and adopted standards, consideration of local demand for particular activities and private and other public investment in partnership with the District Council.

Recommendation 1:

The Council should seek to safeguard all pitches in the District. There should be a presumption against any pitch loss and pitch disposals should only be considered if superior pitch provision is proposed.

Unsecured sites

- 6.6 As discussed in Section 4, there are currently a number of sites in the District without community-use agreements that are used on an ad hoc basis by community teams. These sites are a valuable resource to the District at present and consideration should be given to securing their future use. This will enable the Council to plan for the future with some degree of certainty where shared provision is concerned. Community-use facilities have the potential to maximise use of existing assets and such partnerships are attractive to public funding partners who may provide resources to upgrade pitches; improve drainage etc to enable the increased use by the community.
- 6.7 Of particular concern are the junior football and mini-soccer pitches that are currently used by the community. Securing the future usage of these facilities could help reduce the identified current/future shortfall of each facility type in the District. It should be noted that such sites are currently predominantly used for training rather than match purposes.

Table 6.1 Unsecured pitches in Adur District currently used by community teams

	adult football pitches	junior football pitches	mini football pitches	cricket pitches	adult rugby union pitches	junior rugby union pitches	adult rugby league pitches	junior rugby league pitches	adult grass hockey pitches	artificial hockey pitches
Total	4	7	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	1

- 6.8 Table 6.1 illustrates that there are currently facilities at school sites that provide a valuable resource to the community. The development of the dual-use of school playing fields and the joint development of community pitch facilities on education sites has the potential to assist in meeting future demand (2011 projections) for junior football and mini-soccer pitches in the District, although consideration should be given to the location of these facilities.
- 6.9 Implementation of this requires genuine financial commitment from local authorities to improve playing surfaces and capacity, providing or improving changing accommodation and possibly providing revenue subsidies to users. The forthcoming school age of transfer changes may give the County and District Councils the ideal opportunity to implement such changes.
- 6.10 Clearly there are management issues inherent in formulating and managing dual-use agreements. Further advice and guidance can be obtained from Sport England’s Planning Bulletin 16 – School Sites and Community Provision (2004). This is available free of charge from the Sport England website (www.sportengland.org/planningkitbag).

Recommendation 2:

The Council should seek to secure formal community use agreements where possible with local schools where the community already has access to facilities in order to secure their usage for the medium and long term. In addition the Council should seek to identify further opportunities for the community to use school facilities.

Unused sites

- 6.11 There is currently one outdoor sports facility in the District that is unused; this is the Kings Manor Community College's detached playing field. The site is located a considerable distance from the College in the Southwick Green ward and because of the distance the school have not used it on a regular formal basis for a significant period of time.
- 6.12 Because of the shortage of pitches for mini soccer and junior football it is important that the site is not developed for any other purpose without all possibilities for sporting and open space usage being exhausted. Adur District Council should work with the school to explore opportunities for the site to be brought back into use as a sports field.

Recommendation 3:

The Council should use Local Development Frame policies to protect the Kings Manor Community College additional sports field and explore opportunities with local clubs and the college for it to be brought back into sporting use.

Maintenance regimes

- 6.13 Maintenance is a very important factor in the quality of pitch provision in the District. This study has highlighted a number of sites where improvements are needed for the quality of ancillary facilities and pitches. Recommendations have been made for pitch improvements where appropriate, however it is important that all providers review their maintenance practices on a regular basis to ensure that they are providing quality facilities.
- 6.14 Any programme of improvements should bear in mind the following aspects:
- the standard of play at the site (including league requirements)
 - the intended capacity of the site (number of games and training sessions per week and level of informal use)
 - the need to encourage use by young people, women and other target groups through appropriate ancillary facilities
 - facility specifications from NGB strategies.
- 6.15 Under utilised pitches identified within this study can be used to improve management practices, for example, by rotating games and resting pitches in the high season.

SECTION 6 – PRIORITIES FOR ACTION AND KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.16 All pitches which host league matches should meet the minimum quality standards for facilities set out by the governing body, the NPFA and Sport England. In addition, all provision should comply with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995.
- 6.17 The Council should produce an action plan for improvements to its own pitches. This action plan should list, in priority order, the improvements to be made to each site and the approximate cost of doing so. As Section 106 monies are collected (see later in Section 6) the upgrades can occur as per the priority order. Due to the two new pitch sites (later in this chapter) it is expected that Section 106 monies will be focused upon qualitative improvements rather than quantitative. An example of the action plan is shown below.

Table 6.2 Example qualitative improvements action plan

Priority No.	Where?	What?	Approximate cost	Other
1.	Buckingham Park	Replacement football goalposts needed	£800 per pitch	Use of football foundation funding?
2.	Fishergate Recreation Ground	New sand slits drainage system to be installed.	£24k per pitch	
3.	Sompting Recreation Ground	New changing pavilion	£500k	

- 6.18 In the longer term, it should be an aim of the Council to have all sites in the District meet Football Foundation guidelines in terms of the quality of the pitches and ancillary facilities.

Recommendation 4:

Long term aim for the Council for all sites in the District to meet Football Foundation guidelines for the quality of pitches and ancillary facilities.

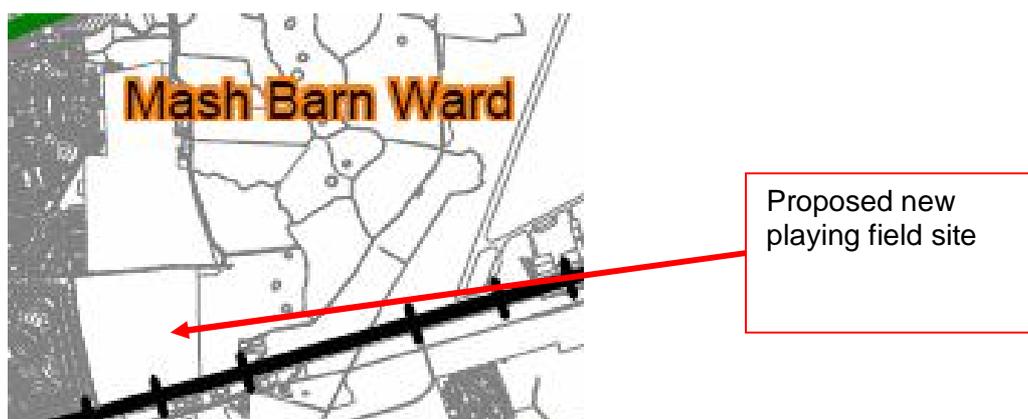
Overcoming sport specific deficiencies and issues

- 6.19 Deficiencies in pitches arise when there is an absolute shortage and/or when existing pitch(es) cannot accommodate existing demand, particularly at peak periods. Some degree of spare capacity is an integral part of playing pitch provision.
- 6.20 The recommendations set out additional provision, by analysis area, in line with the Playing Pitch Future Scenario (2011) modelling, where appropriate. It must be acknowledged that the recommendations for pitches are a minimum level of provision, based on a pragmatic approach to what may be feasible in the long-term and where the latent demand/pressure for additional pitches both now and in the future has been identified.

Football

- 6.21 Football in Adur is very popular and, unlike many other local authorities, there are pressures on all types of football pitches. There are a number of major future developments that will impact on future pitch provision.
- 6.22 Adur Athletic FC have advanced plans to develop Adur Recreation Ground for their own needs. The most recent plans (which may be subject to change) include two adult and two junior pitches. Currently Adur Athletic has four senior teams, ten junior sides and six mini soccer teams. The two new adult pitches will suffice for the adult teams but the junior pitches will have extensive usage and will need to be remarked for mini soccer too. It is vital that the pitches contain an extensive drainage system in order to cope with this level of usage. Despite this over-usage concern, this development is positive and will stop the various teams being spread over various sites.
- 6.23 There is another pitch development in the District to the west of the airport in the Mash Barn ward, identified in Figure 6.1 below.

Figure 6.1 New pitch site



- 6.24 The provisional scheme for this site included five adult football pitches and two junior football pitches, however the exact layout will be influenced by this study and subsequent consultation with local sports clubs.

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- 6.25 The County FA have plans for the redevelopment of the Lancing FC site and have aspirations for a 3rd generation pitch for training purposes within the District. There are also plans for the development of pitches at Monks and Sompting Recreation Grounds.
- 6.26 Table 6.3, below, shows the predicted effect of the new pitch provision at Adur Recreation Ground and the new golf course site in the 2011 scenario. These calculations include a 5% increase in participation.

Table 6.3 Modelling results for 2011 with new pitches included

Ward name	Shortfall of adult football	Shortfall of junior football	Shortfall of Mini-soccer	Shortfall of cricket	Shortfall of adult rugby union	Shortfall of junior rugby union	Shortfall of hockey	Total pitches
Buckingham	-2.6	-0.4	0.0	1.0	0.9	-4.4	0.0	-5.5
Churchill	0.1	0.1	-1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1.3
Cokeham	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Eastbrook	-2.5	-0.0	-3.8	-1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-7.4
Hillside	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Manor	2.0	-1.7	-0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.4
Marine	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mash Barn	10.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.0
Peveler	-0.3	-2.1	-2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-4.5
Southlands	-0.9	-6.9	-3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-11.0
Southwick Green	0.4	1.0	2.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	-1.9	2.5
St Mary's	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
St Nicolas	0.0	-1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1.3
Widewater	0.0	-1.7	-0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2.3
Total	7.2	-9.0	-9.4	1.1	0.9	-4.4	0.1	

- 6.27 It can be seen from Table 6.3 that by providing such a large number of additional adult football pitches, there will be a large future surplus of adult football pitches. As no new mini soccer pitches are planned there will continue to be a large deficiency for this type of pitch. The deficiency of junior football pitches will only be slightly reduced (-11.6 to -9.0).
- 6.28 A consultation exercise will be held using the results of this draft strategy to help further inform the pitch layout and ancillary facilities at the new site in Mash Barn. The current proposal is that the configuration of five senior pitches and two junior pitches be changed to:
- two senior pitches
 - five junior pitches

- five mini soccer pitches.

Recommendation 5:

The Council should use the draft findings of this strategy at a consultation event to help inform the layout of the new Mash Barn site.

- 6.29 When the new sites at Adur Recreation Ground and in Mash Barn are complete, it is expected that capacity elsewhere will be freed up significantly. When this occurs the Council will need to review existing pitch provision at the freed up sites to ensure they are used to their maximum potential. It would be expected that sites would be reconfigured to stop clubs having their teams spread throughout a number of sites.

Recommendation 6:

The Council should review the configuration of pitches at Council owned existing sites once the new facilities at Adur recreation ground and Mash Barn are available.

Rugby

- 6.30 The only rugby club in the District, Shoreham RFC, moved to Buckingham Park at the beginning of the 2006/07 season. A total of two adult pitches and one junior pitch has been provided for the club at their new home. The developments at the two new football sites are intrinsically linked to the growth of Shoreham RFC at Buckingham Park.
- 6.31 With the expected reconfiguration of football sites, there will be an opportunity for the Council to provide additional rugby pitches at Buckingham Park. As there is currently only one junior pitch, but six junior sides the junior teams frequently have to use an incorrect sized pitch. This, in turn, may lead to significant quality issues with all pitches being over-used.
- 6.32 It is hoped that the Council will be able to provide additional junior rugby pitches following the future pitch reconfiguration exercise as well as a dedicated tag rugby area(s). It is important that the rugby club are involved in this process from an early stage.

Recommendation 7:

The Council should review the needs and aspirations of Shoreham RFC during the reconfiguration of pitches at Council owned existing sites once the new facilities at Adur recreation ground and Mash Barn are available.

Cricket

- 6.33 The demand and supply figures for cricket do not include the use by the County Cricket Club at Shoreham College. However, despite taking this additional cricketing use into account, the participation levels of cricket in the area are low.

SECTION 6 – PRIORITIES FOR ACTION AND KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.34 Because of the low participation rate, there is little difference between the current future supply and demand scenarios. Should there be a large rise in the demand for cricket wickets it is expected that the demand could be contained by using an existing facility on an educational site. If this was not possible, it would be possible for a new wicket could be constructed on one of the many District or Parish Council sites that do not currently host cricket – eg Victoria Recreation Ground or Monks Recreation Ground. However, it is felt that this is unlikely to occur and the Council should not plan for this eventuality at this stage.

Hockey

- 6.35 Southwick Hockey Club uses the synthetic turf pitch at Kings Manor Community College. This is an aging facility that needs the synthetic turf re-laid as a priority. There is a medium term plan for the school to be significantly rebuilt as part of the “Building Schools for the Future” plan or through other measures available from Dfes to the Local Authority. This makes the re-laying of the surface problematic for obvious value for money reasons.
- 6.36 Because of the relative strength of football in the District, there is a clear demand for floodlit synthetic turf pitches for training in the evening. The preferred surface for such facilities is a third generation synthetic turf pitch. Such a facility is different from the sand based synthetic turf pitches used for hockey. There are a number of schemes being progressed in the District for third generation facilities, for both public and educational sites.
- 6.37 It is important that the needs of hockey are not overlooked and that there continues to be a sand based synthetic turf pitch in the District for Southwick Hockey Club to use. The Council should work with the LEA to ensure that the pitch at Kings Manor Community College remains in a usable state until it is rebuilt or that any new facility built is compatible with the needs of Southwick Hockey Club.

Recommendation 8:

The Council should work with the local Local Education Authority to ensure the Synthetic Turf Pitch at Kings Manor Community College remains in a usable state until it is rebuilt, unless a suitable replacement facility is built.

Developer Contributions/Section 106 agreements

- 6.38 It is a long-standing and accepted principle that new residential developments should include the provision of appropriate areas of public open space. It is now formally accepted that all such development should actually contribute to the provision of open space, including playing pitches, which are required to meet the needs generated by the development and prevent deficiencies and shortfalls being increased.
- 6.39 It is important that the Council continues to build on its very successful experiences in this area and must continue to have firm pitch protection policies within adopted planning policy. This is essential in order to derive robust Section 106 agreements (Town and Country Planning Act (1990)) to ensure that playing pitches are provided by developers as a basic element of community provision for new residential areas and that appropriate provision is made for future maintenance.

SECTION 6 – PRIORITIES FOR ACTION AND KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.40 Most playing pitch provision would be off-site (ideally provision should be forthcoming from the developers of every new house) and should be vested in an appropriate authority to secure it as public open space. Consideration should also be given to using agreements to secure public access to educational sites. Circular 05/2005 provides the basis of the pooling of contributions when a development is not of an extent to warrant a complete new pitch. It is possible that the S106 system may change to a roof tax system, the Council should review any local standards in light of this.
- 6.41 Sport England have released advice for local authorities in the planning contributions kitbag (www.sportengland.org/index/get_resources/planning_for_sport_front_page/kitbag_frontend_page.htm) which provides advice on the three key areas of
- explaining what planning contributions are
 - developing local frameworks
 - good practice examples.

Recommendation 9:

The Council should seek to ensure that through the application of planning policies the recreational needs of future residents within residential proposals are appropriately met. In this respect Section 106 planning obligations potentially could be used.

Sources of capital funding

- 6.42 Areas for improvement identified in the site visits may require either capital or revenue expenditure (or both). There are several potential sources of financial aid. These include:
- Football Foundation
 - Sport England Community Investment Fund
 - Rugby Football Foundation
 - Sport England Community Club Development Fund
 - National Lottery Funding
 - Foundation for the Sports and Arts.

Football Foundation

- 6.43 The Foundation is dedicated to revitalising the grass roots of the game, constructing modern football infrastructure creating facilities that are fit for the game in the 21st century. The maximum grant for a capital project is £1 million. Grants of this size will only be awarded in exceptional circumstances. The percentage level of support is typically around 50% but in exceptional circumstances could reach 90%.

(See <http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/> for more information)

Sport England Community Investment Fund

6.44 The Sport England Community Investment Fund is used for funding applications over £5000. The South East region has £21.8 million pounds to distribute up to the year 2009 however only £12.2 million will be for an open fund. Projects must:

- directly increase participation in priority groups
- have secured or have strong indication of securing significant levels of partnership funding
- come from areas of social deprivation and that particularly benefit isolated rural communities
- develop more than one sport or activity.

(See <http://www.sportengland.org/> for more information)

Rugby Football Foundation

6.45 In January 2003, the Rugby Football Union (RFU) announced the commencement of this fund. Community rugby clubs can apply for grants and/or interest-free loans to fund capital facility projects which contribute to the recruitment and retention of players. This funding is available to clubs participating at Level 5 or below.

6.46 There are two different elements to the fund:

- **Ground Match Grant Scheme:** this provides easy-to-access grant funding for capital playing projects which contribute to the recruitment and retention of players. A list of projects that qualify for a grant will be sent to clubs on request as part of the application pack. All projects that qualify for a grant also qualify for the loan (see below)

6.47 At present, clubs can apply for between £1,500 and £5,000, which they must equally match (ie 50:50). Clubs may only apply for one grant per project.

- **Interest-free loan schemes:** the interest-free loan scheme provides loans to clubs to help finance capital projects which contribute to the recruitment and retention of players. The key features of the scheme are:
 - loans will be interest-free (though if a club defaults on a capital payment, the whole loan will be subject to interest until the outstanding amounts are paid)
 - the maximum loan available is £100,000
 - the maximum loan period will be 15 years, including an initial two-year capital holiday
 - security will be required for the loan scheme in the form of either a charge over property or personal guarantees.

6.48 Clubs may apply for both a grant and a loan for the same project (providing that the appropriate conditions are met). A club could, therefore, apply for a maximum grant of £5,000 (providing it matches it with £5,000 of other funding) and a maximum loan of £100,000. Grants and loans will be awarded by the Trustees of the Rugby Football Foundation.

National Lottery Funding

6.49 Lottery funded projects of relevance include:

- Awards for All
- Parks for People
- Young People's Fund

6.50 These are described in the paragraphs below

Awards for All

6.51 The Lottery Small Grants Scheme offers Awards for All grants of between £500 and £10,000 for small projects which involve people in their community. The Council could not directly apply for such funds but could work with clubs in order for them to apply.

Parks for People

6.52 This fund is committing £90 million over the next three years to parks and gardens in England. It aims to improve local environments and quality of life as well as making a lasting impact on the lives of local people and the places where they live.

6.53 Grants will range from £250,000 to £5m however the main aim is for improvements to a green space used for informal recreation and enjoyment. 25% of the project costs would need to be raised by the Council themselves, including at least 5% cash from the Council's own resources.

Young People's Fund

6.54 A further lottery funded programme is the Young People's Fund. This is designed to support projects which provide opportunities for young people in deprived areas. The projects must show that they are contributing towards keeping young people active, healthy, safe, enjoying activities and making a positive contribution to the community.

6.55 Applicants to the Young People's fund can be either young individuals, voluntary or community organisations. Grants between £250 and £5,000 are available to individuals aged between 11 and 25 years old. Community and voluntary organisations have been provided with a total of £40 million, to be divided into grants between £5,000 and £150,000 over a three-year period.

Sportsmatch

6.56 The Sportsmatch scheme is government funded and designed to match pound for pound funds raised. Funding is aimed at projects which aim to increase participation in sport at the grass root level and/or improve basic skills. Capital projects under £5,000 are considered but most of the annual £3.6 million pounds are aimed at revenue based projects. The maximum amount available is £50,000.

Lord Taverners

6.57 The Lord's Taverners distribute funding for cricket projects through various County Cricket Boards. Grants of up to £6,000 are available for the installation and of non-turf pitches and practice ends. The Council cannot apply for funds directly but could work with other local organizations to prepare such a bid.

Barclays Spaces for Sport

- 6.58 The Barclays Spaces for Sports scheme is an exciting new partnership between Barclays, Groundwork and the Football Foundation, providing £30 million over three years to create or improve sports facilities in communities across the UK.
- 6.59 Seven flagship sites per year will be delivered with matched funding from the Football Foundation. A further number of smaller sites will also be created, offering basketball, netball, tennis through to skateboard and BMX tracks.
- 6.60 Every site will be supplied with sports equipment with further support available to help the community get the most out of the new facilities.
- 6.61 In terms of site selection, Barclays Spaces for Sports is a closed Scheme, which means the general public are not being asked to send in applications for the sites. Instead, Barclays will use and build upon the existing local networks of Groundwork and Football Foundation to identify potential sites.

Foundation for Sports and the Arts

- 6.62 The foundation for sports and the arts distribute monies collected by the football pools companies. The aim of the charity is to:
- “increase participation in sports and the arts, especially amongst young people and those with more ability than resources”
- 6.63 Awards up to £100,000 have been awarded in the past, though such levels are unusual. It is not currently possible to make applications for football based projects.

Community Club Development Fund

- 6.64 This fund is distributed by Sport England but is actually funded directly from central government. £20 million was released to clubs in the period 2004 to 2006 and it is expected that further monies will be made available from March 2007.
- 6.65 The criteria for successfully applying for funding includes:
- projects which provide enhanced facilities for sports at clubs with inadequate existing provision
 - projects which are demonstrably linked to other NGB priority development work eg volunteering, coaching talent development and club/school links
 - projects serving clusters (eg through a Beacon club infrastructure) meeting the needs of several clubs/sports
 - clubs able to provide the greatest sporting and community benefit in terms of contributing to improved health, community cohesion, crime prevention etc
 - clubs in areas of both sporting and greatest social deprivation.

Developers

- 6.66 Through Section 106 agreements (see earlier in this Section).

- 6.67 It is assumed that sufficient financial resources will not be available immediately to meet all the identified needs. To ensure strategic development of all the potential projects in the Adur District it is necessary to:
- give all partners, providers and users the opportunity to add to this long list of projects and ensure that it evolves as necessary throughout the course of this strategy
 - develop a set of criteria against which projects can be judged, in order to assess which of the potential projects should be developed first
 - make priorities against this criteria.

The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA)

- 6.68 The DDA aims to end the discrimination that many people with disabilities face. This act gives people with disabilities rights in the areas of:
- employment
 - access to goods, facilities and services
 - buying or renting land or property.
- 6.69 On 1 October 2004 the final stages of the goods, facilities and services provisions of Part III of the DDA came into force. The new duties will apply to all providers of services to the public where physical features make access to their services impossible or unreasonably difficult for people with disabilities.
- 6.70 The Disability Rights Commission (DRC) published the revised Code of Practice on this subject in February 2002. This statutory code, agreed by Parliament, provides detailed advice on the way the law will work, together with practical examples. This document can be obtained from www.drc-gb.org.
- 6.71 The DRC list 18 types of services and facilities that are covered by the DDA, one of which is sport and leisure. Therefore, the Council should ensure that all their facilities comply with the DDA requirements. Some funding opportunities to help ensure facilities comply are shown below.

Children in Need

- 6.72 The BBC Children in Need Appeal gives grants to organisations with disadvantaged children and young people living in the United Kingdom. Applicants must be from properly constituted non-for-profit organisations, for example:
- self-help groups
 - voluntary organisations
 - registered charities.
- 6.73 This would make it unlikely that The Council could directly approach the fund, however it can encourage and assist disability groups in the area to apply to the fund. It should be noted that any application for funds must be for a project that starts within 12 months of the application date.

LloydsTSB foundation for England and Wales

6.74 The mission of this trust is:

“to support and work in partnership with charitable organisation which help people, especially those who are disadvantaged or disabled, to play a fuller role in communities throughout England and Wales”

6.75 The trust does not fund Borough/ District Council’s directly and application would be best served through a sports club or charitable organisation. Grants can be between £500 and £10,000.

Peter Harrison Foundation

6.76 The foundation runs a nationwide programme entitled “opportunities through sport” and only accepts application from organisations that are:

- registered charities – or
- friendly societies or industrial provident societies – or
- organisations whose charitable status is recognised by the Inland Revenue in Scotland or Northern Ireland

6.77 The organisation will not fund projects that directly replace statutory funding or activities that are primarily the responsibility of central or local government. Applicants can apply for up to a maximum of 3 years of revenue support and projects that are likely to be successful should include a high degree of community.

Developing a local standard

6.78 An important outcome from a playing pitch strategy is the development of local standards of provision, in accordance with national planning policy. Such standards will:

- underpin negotiations with developers over their contributions for new pitch provision to meet the needs of new residential developments
- provide an additional overview of the general supply of pitches/level of provision
- assist in protecting land in playing field use
- assist in benchmarking with other areas/authorities.

6.79 The NPFA’s Six Acre Standard states that for every 1,000 people, 1.2 hectares of playing pitches should be provided. However, this is a national benchmark and has little value at a local level as local standards can be as low as 0.4 or 0.5 in urban areas. Therefore local factors are of vital importance when establishing a local standard.

6.80 Using the data provided in the playing pitch modelling, a more accurate local standard can be put forward, in line with PPG 17. The standard proposed is for all areas of the District and it is not intended that the individual analysis areas have separate standards.

SECTION 6 – PRIORITIES FOR ACTION AND KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.81 The existing and a future local standard has been calculated in Table 6.6. The existing local standard is based upon the current supply of pitches (measured in area) in each sub area, divided by the number of population in that analysis area. The total represents the current standard, which is 0.53ha per thousand population.
- 6.82 The future local standard calculation is based upon the findings of this report for the future year 2011. It takes into account the additional pitches identified within this report in 2011 and calculates the required area per thousand population.
- 6.83 The final action of the Action Plan (contained in the Executive Summary) sets out that the Council should seek to achieve the local standard of 0.68ha per thousand people by 2011.

Recommendation 10:

The Council should adopt a local standard of 0.68 pitches per 1,000 population for the District

Table 6.6 Development of a Local Standard – Calculations

Developing a local standard for Adur

(a) Current situation 2006

Hectares per 1,000 population of accessible pitches

Adur = 0.53 hectares per 1,000 population

(b) Additional pitches needed by 2011

Pitch type	adult football pitches	junior football pitches	mini football pitches	cricket pitches	adult rugby pitches	junior rugby pitches	artificial hockey pitches
Total	4	7	5	0	0	2	0

Total Additional Pitch Area required for Adur

9.64 hectares

(c) Recommended new standard for 2011

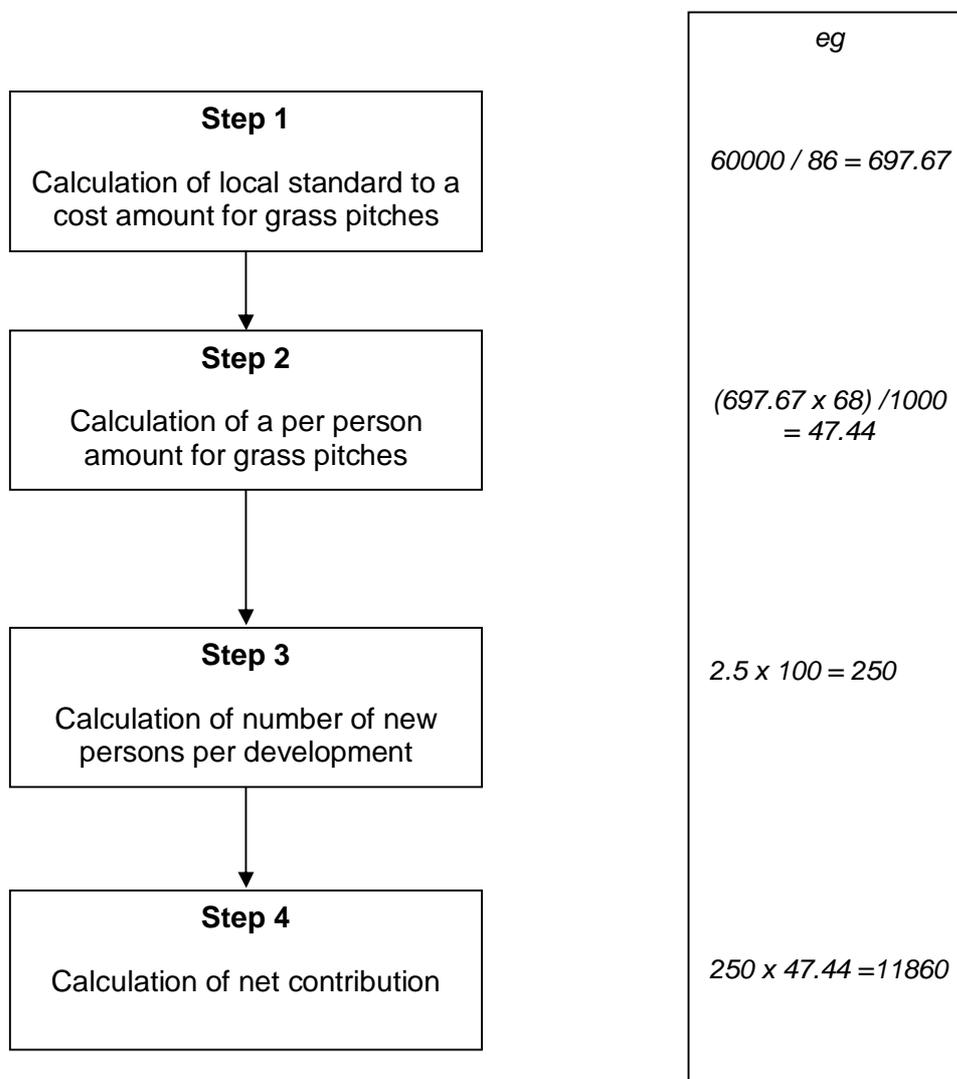
(taking into account additional needs and increases in population)

Adur = 0.68 hectares per 1,000 population

Implementation of the local standard

- 6.75 Council policies should be developed that will bring contributions from developers for playing pitches from new housing developments. The Council may decide that all developments should contribute via S106 agreements or they may be selective according to the type of accommodation being provided. For instance the Council may decide against contributions from sheltered accommodation or nursing homes. It should be remembered in the formulation of policies, however, that although persons from these accommodation types may not use the pitches formally they may still use them informally. Further information on this is provided in PMP's PPG17 assessment for Adur District.
- 6.76 The local standard set in this study for Adur is 0.68ha of playing pitches per 1,000 population. Sport England provides regular costings for facility types in England. The most up to date costs at the time of this report showed a grass pitch (100m x 64m) at £60,000.
- 6.77 It should be noted that the costs given do not include inflation beyond the 1st quarter of 2007, unusual site conditions (eg poor ground conditions, difficult access), VAT, land acquisition costs or regional variation costs. They do provide for external works, 15% fees for changing facilities and 5% fees for both pitch types.
- 6.78 The size of a grass pitch in this scenario is given at 100m x 64m or 0.64 hectares. This is different to the standard size an adult football pitch in the modelling for this strategy (0.86) as a safe run off area is not included. Therefore a figure of 0.86ha is assumed for the pitch cost of £60,000 and this equates to a figure of £697.67 per 0.01ha.
- 6.79 As the cost of 0.01ha of a pitch has been calculated, it is possible to work out how much an area equivalent to the local standard would cost, this is 697.67 multiplied by 68: £47,441.56. Dividing this amount by one thousand provides a per person amount as the local standard is 0.68ha per 1,000 persons. This amount is £47.44.
- 6.80 Where the number of new residents for a development is not known, a standard household occupancy rate then needs to be assessed. For ease of purposes a figure of 2.5 persons per household is used in this example. In a development of 100 homes a total number of 250 new persons can be assumed. Multiplying the number of persons by the suggested contribution per person provides the suggested development contribution. In this scenario the contribution is £11,860 (250 x £47.44). This scenario is outlined in Figure 6.1 overleaf.

Figure 6.1 Developer cost for a playing pitch standard



6.84 Should the Council wish, a contribution towards synthetic turf provision could be included within this scenario. Further information on the development and implication of local standards is available in Section 15 of PMP’s PPG17 assessment for Adur District.

Age of transfer process

Introduction

- 7.1 As shown in previous chapters, educational establishments are major providers of playing pitches in Adur District. This includes institutions in both the public and private domains. There is currently a three-tier education system in the District and proposals have been made to change this to a two-tier system. This would involve the closure of some schools and the expansion of others.
- 7.2 This chapter examines each of the proposed changes to schools under the control of the Local Education Authority (LEA) in Adur District. Schools outside of the control of the LEA are not examined as any proposed changes will not affect them. As per the standard playing pitch strategy methodology, the main concern is the effect on playing pitch provision rather than the total grass field area.

Boundstone Community College

- 7.3 The proposed changes mean that this school will need to expand to cater for pupils from a year younger than it currently does (age 11 rather than 12). The current expansion plans will encroach upon the College’s grass fields but will not affect the quantity of grass pitches at the site. The proposed changes are not therefore, contrary to the provision of playing pitches in Adur District.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
Community College (12 to 18 years).	Community College (11 to 18 years).	Encroachment onto grass field area but no affect upon playing pitch provision.

Buckingham Community Middle School

- 7.4 It is planned to amalgamate Buckingham Middle School with Kingston Buci First School to establish a new all-through Primary School on the present Buckingham School site. This would entail pupils leaving a year earlier but starting at age four. To cater for the increased number of pupils the school will need to expand but the school will continue to have one grass pitch following any developments.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
Middle School (8 to 12 years).	Primary School (4 to 11 years).	Minor encroachment onto grass fields area but no affect upon playing pitch provision of one junior pitch.

Fishersgate First School

- 7.5 The status of this school is undecided at the time of this report. It was originally scheduled to close but there is a possibility that it might expand to become a primary school. The existing grass field on the site is not large enough to accommodate a mini soccer pitch. Subsequently, should the school face closure there would be no impact on pitch provision.

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- 7.6 Should the school expand to become a primary school a playing pitch could be provided at the adjacent Fishersgate Recreation Ground. The use of this site by the School and public will need to be carefully managed as issues with dog fouling have been well documented.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
First School (3 to 8 years).	Primary School (4 to 11 years) or closure.	None but possibility of increasing the number of pitches in the area through the redesignation of Fishersgate Recreation Ground.

Freshbrook First School

- 7.7 Freshbrook is proposed to amalgamate with Thornberry Middle School on the Thornberry site. The site currently has a grassed area of approximately 0.45 hectares but due to the age of its pupils there are no formal pitches. Therefore the closure of the school will have no effect on playing pitch provision in the District.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
First School (3 to 8 years).	Closure.	Site has no formal pitches therefore none will be lost through its closure.

Glebe Community Middle School

- 7.8 It has been proposed that Glebe Middle will become a Primary school. This will require an expansion to cater for younger children, though the oldest year would transfer to secondary school. Overall there should be no increase in pupil numbers but the provision of new classrooms encroach onto the grass field area. However there will be no pitch loss as the school will continue to have one junior football pitch.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
Middle School (8 to 12 years)	Primary School (4 to 11 years)	Encroachment onto grass fields area but no affect upon the playing pitch provision of one junior pitch.

Hérons Dale School

- 7.9 Herons Dale School caters for pupils with special educational needs. It already caters for pupils based on primary school age groups (4 to 11). The school is not affected by the age of transfer process, however it shares its grass field with Holmbush First School which is affected. There are no plans for Holmbush First to build upon Herons Dale grass field area.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
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School for pupils with special educational needs.	None.	None.
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Holmbush First School

- 7.10 Holmbush First School is proposed to become a primary school. It currently uses the grass field of neighbouring Herons Dale School, as it has no grass pitches of its own although it does have two hard paved areas for recreation. The school will need to expand in size to cater for the additional pupils its designation as a primary school will bring but it is not proposed to build upon the playing fields at neighbouring Heron Dales School. Therefore, there is no effect on playing pitch provision in the District.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
First School (3 to 8 years).	Expansion to primary school.	Site has no formal pitches therefore none will be lost through its expansion.

King's Manor Community College

- 7.11 It is proposed that King's Manor Community College will begin to take pupils at age 11, rather than 12 as at present. This will entail building on the grass field area which currently has two football pitches and one rugby pitch during the winter, and an athletics track during the summer. The proposed expansion does encroach onto the grass field area but it does not currently reduce the current level of pitches (or grass athletics track). Therefore there would be no effect on grass pitch provision in the District.
- 7.12 The school has a second site for grass pitches but has not been used for such a purpose for many years. This site is considered to be a valuable resource considering the undersupply of football pitches in the District and it is recommended that the community be allowed access to it. This is considered further in Section 6.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
Community College (12 to 18 years).	Community College (11 to 18 years).	Encroachment onto grass field area but no effect upon playing pitch provision.

Kingston Buci First School

- 7.13 It is proposed that this school will amalgamate with Buckingham Middle School to become a new all-through Primary. The school has a number of small grassed areas used for recreation, the largest being approximately 0.25 hectares. The school does not, however, have any formal pitches will therefore not affect playing pitch provision in the District.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
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First School (3 to 8 years).	Closure.	Site has no formal pitches therefore none will be lost through its closure.
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Manor Hall County First and Middle Schools

- 7.14 These two schools are currently next to each other on Manor Hall Road. It is proposed that they will amalgamate to become a primary school but the exact details of this have not yet been decided. The first school has some hard paved and grassed areas but no formal pitches, therefore should it be closed there would be no effect on pitch provision in the area.
- 7.15 The middle school currently has one junior football pitch and one mini soccer pitch. With the deficit of football pitches in the area, it is important that the school does not lose any formal pitch areas should it expand. As the school has in excess of 1.5 hectares of grass fields, any expansion should be accommodated without formal pitch loss.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
First school (3 to 8 years) and middle school (8 to 12 years).	Nothing yet defined but possible closure of first school and expansion of middle school.	Closure of the first school would not affect pitch provision in the area whilst the middle school has ample space to expand without affecting the number of on site pitches.

North Lancing First and Middle School

- 7.16 Although this school will become a primary school the changes will be minimal as the school already occupies the site. The first school provision currently has a grassed area to the south of its main building but it is small (approximately 0.18 hectares). This grassed area is too small to include any pitches as the area needed for a mini soccer pitch is 0.22 hectares.
- 7.17 It is possible that the middle school provision will need to expand to include pupils from the first school. However the school has ample room to expand without encroaching on its single junior football pitch. Therefore there will be no pitch loss as part of this proposal.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
First School (3 to 8 years) and Middle School (8 to 12 years).	The school will become a primary school and lose Year 7 pupils.	The school has ample space to expand without affecting the pitch provision.

Oakfield Middle School

- 7.18 It is proposed that Oakfield Middle School will amalgamate with Willows First School. The school currently has two junior pitches and it is proposed that a multi use games area (MUGA) for recreation be created for the expanded school.

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- 7.19 The schools grassed area is approximately 1.3 hectares in size and its two junior pitches are approximately 1 hectare in size. Therefore any plans for expanding the school and construction of the hard paved area must conserve the two junior pitches. If this is not possible then land from the Willows school should be used for the pitches or hard paved area.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
Middle School (8 to 12 years).	Primary School (4 to 11 years).	Concern that school expansion and hard paved area will affect the two junior pitches. Use of some grassed area at Willows First school may be necessary.

Shoreham Beach Community First School

- 7.20 It is proposed that Shoreham Beach Community First School will become a primary school. The school currently has a small grassed area to the west of the main building that encompasses a play trail and is approximately 0.11 hectares. This area is not large enough to accommodate a mini soccer pitch.
- 7.21 Unfortunately there are no nearby sports pitches, meaning that pupils would have to be transported a significant distance to use such facilities. The purchase of adjacent properties to the school for an extension to the playing fields could be sought in the long term but the cost is likely to be prohibitive.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
First School (3 to 8 years).	Primary School (4 to 11 years).	Site has no formal pitches therefore none will be lost.

Shoreham First

- 7.22 It is proposed that Shoreham First School will become a primary school. The school currently has no formal pitch area nor any grassed area. The hard paved areas surrounding the school buildings are not substantial either. As the school does not have any grassed areas there are no concerns regarding the loss of pitches. Instead, the concern is the lack of pitches available to pupils at the new school.
- 7.23 The school does have access to the local authority owned grassed area known as “The Meads” to the north of the school. However there are access issues to this site which need to be addressed and the public access to the site means that dog fouling could be an issue. It is recommended that the LEA and Adur District Council work together to overcome the access issues and investigate the potential of a dog-free area within the site.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
First School (3 to 8 years)	Primary School (4 to 11 years)	Site has no formal pitches therefore none will be lost. Opportunities for usage of “The Meads” should be

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		considered.
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St Nicholas and St Mary Church of England First and Middle School

- 7.24 These two schools currently share the same site making the proposed amalgamation to a primary school relatively easy. The schools have a substantial grass field area of approximately 1.1 hectares, which contains one junior football pitch. The school therefore has a substantial area onto which to expand, if needed, without affecting playing pitch provision in the District.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
First School (3 to 8 years) and Middle School (8 to 12 years)	Amalgamation to primary school.	As schools already share the same site and there is a significant grass field area there are no pitch loss ramifications.

St Peters Catholic Primary School

- 7.25 This school is not affected by the age of transfer process due to its religious status and the fact that it is already a primary school.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
Primary School (4 to 11 years).	Primary School (4 to 11 years).	None.

The Templars First School and White Styles County Middle School

- 7.26 These two schools are based on the same site on White Styles Road in Lancing. The proposed amalgamation between the two schools will not affect the playing pitch provision as no substantial new buildings will be needed to cater for the pupils and there will actually be an overall decrease in the number of pupils on site. By removing one of the hard paved recreation areas there is an opportunity to increase the number of playing pitches on site.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
First School (3 to 8 years) and Middle School (8 to 12 years).	Amalgamation to primary school.	As schools already share the same site and there is a significant area of grass field area there are no pitch loss ramifications.

The Willows First School

- 7.27 The Willows First School will merge with Oakfield Middle School on the Oakfield site. Whilst the school does have a grassed area it does not have any formal pitches therefore there are no concerns about pitch loss specifically regarding this site. It is a concern that the Oakfield Middle School will not be able to expand and create a hard

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paved area without pitch loss and a partial area of Willows First School may be needed to ensure there is no overall pitch loss.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
First School (3 to 8 years).	Amalgamation with Oakfield Middle in Oakfield buildings.	Site has no formal pitches therefore none will be lost through its closure.

Thornberry Middle School

- 7.28 It is proposed that Thornberry Middle School will amalgamate with Freshbrook First School to become a new all-through Primary on the Thornberry site. Some expansion of the school will be necessary to cater for the increased pupil numbers. The school currently has a grass area of approximately 1.3 hectares, which contains a single junior pitch (approximately 0.5 hectares in size). The limited amount of expansion work needed will not, therefore, affect pitch provision in the District.

Current Status	Proposal	Effects
Middle School (8 to 12 years).	Primary School (4 to 11 years).	No affect on playing pitch provision in the District.

Conclusion

- 7.29 Chapter 6 of this report showed that there are acute pressures on playing pitches in Adur District and it is important that the age of transfer process does not remove any playing pitches or increase the burden on the heavily used Council pitches. The proposed changes achieve this with the one concern of Oakfield Primary School. However it should still be possible to increase the size of this school, construct a MUGA and yet still retain the two junior pitches.
- 7.30 Rather than pitch loss concerns, the age of transfer process actually brings a number of opportunities relating to playing pitches. A number of schools currently allow local clubs to use their playing pitches but yet have no formal dual-use agreement in place for this usage. The LEA and District Council should use this process as an opportunity to obtain such formal agreements. There are two new pitch possibilities brought about as a result of the proposed changes. Due to the lack of grass fields at Shoreham First School it is possible that a new mini soccer and junior football pitch could be created at the Meads Recreation Ground. A similar opportunity exists at Fishersgate First School/Recreation Ground.