

Stroud Playing Pitch Strategy

Stage C: FINAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

for

Stroud District Council



Section 8 Key Findings and Issues

The Set of Needs Assessment documents comprises:

- Stage B Database
- Stage C Sections 1 and 2: Introduction and Strategic Context
- Stage C Section 3: Football
- Stage C Section 4: Cricket
- Stage C Section 5: Rugby
- Stage C Section 6: Hockey
- Stage C: Section 7: Tennis and Bowls
- Stage C: Section 8: Key Findings and Issues Report

May 2019

1 Context

- 1.1 This Playing Pitch Strategy is one of a suite of reports covering Stroud District, commissioned by Stroud District Council as part of a wide assessment of Green Infrastructure, Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study within the District. The other elements are an Open Space and Green Infrastructure Study and a Built Facilities Study.
- 1.2 The study will inform the review of the Stroud District Local Plan. The overarching intent of the wider study is to provide a robust audit and assessment evidence base of open space and sport and recreation areas set within a Green Infrastructure network, enabling a coherent strategy approach to policy and development. The overall objectives are to:
- Protect the existing open space network;
 - Enhance and improve the accessibility and quality of existing provision;
 - Provide new open space to expand the network strategically;
 - Create multifunctional strategic hubs of open space; and
 - Work together to protect, deliver and effectively manage open space, green infrastructure, sport and recreation provision across the District.
- 1.3 This PPS covers the pitch sports of football, cricket, rugby and hockey; (there were no instances found of other sports making use of playing pitch areas such as lacrosse, softball, stoolball and American football). Consideration is given to the provision of all facilities that allow sports to be played, such as Synthetic Turf Pitches (referred to in this report as Artificial Grass Pitches or AGPs). This Playing Pitch Strategy also includes the sports of tennis and bowls. Athletics is dealt with in the Built Facilities Report
- 1.4 Sport England has prescribed methodologies for local authorities to follow where producing playing pitch strategies and assessments of other sporting provision. This Needs Assessment report has been carried out, and provides the evidence in, full compliance with this methodology and will form the basis for the development of the Strategy.
- 1.5 As appropriate, the report examines provision at both the District-wide and at eight individual local 'clusters'. Given the geographical spread of the District, it is essential for the assessment to provide this two-tier insight. The clusters are set out later in the report.
- 1.6 The analysis of ONS population projections for Stroud shows that:
- Whilst the overall population of of Stroud District is predicted to increase by 16,355 (13.7%) over the 22 year period 2018-2040, the number of people in the overall 'active participation' age group (5-69 years) is also projected to increase, but at a lower rate (i.e. by 3,954 or 4.2%).
 - The age group within the 'active participation' group that is projected to see the greatest increase in numbers in the period to 2040 is the 10-19 years age group (youth/junior pitch sports), which is predicted to increase by 12.2%.
 - The main age band for adult pitch sports (20 – 34 years) is predicted to show an increase of 5%.

- The age group predicted to see a decline in numbers in the period to 2040 is the 46-54 years age group (adult and vets pitch sports) by -3.8%.

1.7 What the above ONS projections do not take into account is the impact of planned new growth allocated within the emerging new Local Plan up to 2040. Following consultation between the consultants and Council Officers, the following figures have been agreed regarding housing growth figures on a cluster basis for the period of this Strategy. These form the basis of predicting future number of teams.

Table 8.1 Projected housing growth and estimated population over life of the Strategy

Cluster	Housing growth figures	Additional population accrued*
Berkeley	3343	7690
Cam/Dursley	1489	3425
Cotwold Fringe	94	217
Gloucester Fringe	1646	3785
Severn Vale	95	219
Stonehouse	1848	4251
Stroud Valleys	1669	3839
Wotton	198	455
District Total	10383	23881

**The mid-2016 total population estimate for SDC in 2018 (119,074 (say 119,100)) divided by the mid-2016 based corresponding estimate for households (51k) equals 2.33 as an average household size. The corresponding figure for the 2036 time horizon is 2.257; and, only very slightly less (2.256) for the 2040 time horizon. 2.3 is a compromise between all three of the above.*

- 1.8 The implications of these projected changes are explored further within the ‘Future Demand’ sections for each individual pitch sport in Sections 3-7 of the Needs Assessment Report..
- 1.9 Over the last four years of the Active People Survey carried out by Sport England, (between 2012 and 2016), once a week sports participation in Stroud increased from 39.1% to 40.0%. In the same period, overall participation rates in Stroud were greater than those recorded for both Gloucestershire and England
- 1.10 The 2015/16 (APS10) survey showed that adult male sports participation rates (48.4%) in Stroud were much higher than female (32%). The overall downward trend in sports participation rates in Stroud amongst women observed then suggested that there is a need to develop targeted policies and proposals aimed at increasing participation in sport and active recreation in the District.
- 1.11 Since 2016, Active People has been replaced by the Active Lives Survey which provides a measure of some of the Key Performance Indicators (KPI) identified in the Government’s strategy ‘Sporting Futures’ and gives a much more nuanced understanding of sporting behaviour. The latest published data is up to May 2018 (released October 2018) and shows that activity levels in Stroud are slightly above Gloucestershire’s average:

Table 8.2 Active Lives data for Stroud

Adults (16 Years+)	Inactive (<30 mins a week)	Fairly Active (30- 149 mins a week)	Active (>150 mins a week)
Stroud District	20.4%	12.2%	67.5%
Gloucestershire	22.7%	12.1%	65.2%
England	25.2%	12.5%	62.3%

Source: www.sportengland.org/media/13563/active-lives-adult-may-17-18-report.pdf

1.12 Sport England’s market segmentation tool has been designed to help understand the life stages and attitudes of different population groups – and the sporting interventions most likely to engage them. From this data it is possible to present a picture of the dominant social groups in a given local authority area and estimate the proportion of the population within each market segment group that do participate in specific sports and how many people would like to participate (or participate more).

1.14 These numbers have been used within the relevant sports to help predict the future situation. For interest, the dominant market segmentation groups in Stroud are listed below, together with the sports covered in this Strategy which they are most likely to participate in. (However, as numbers generally participating in rugby and hockey particularly are not as large as other sports, these sports do not tend to show up in this classification.

- Tim (Settling Down Males): (football, running)
- Philip (Comfortable Mid Life Males): (football, running)
- Elaine (Empty Nest Career Ladies):
- Ralph and Phyllis (Comfortable Retired Couples): (bowls)
- Roger and Joy (Early Retirement Couples):

2 Key Findings and Issues: Football

Summary of Section 3: Needs Assessment

Supply

2.1 The following football pitches have been recorded in Stroud:

Name of cluster	Sites	Adult football	Junior 11V11	Junior 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
Berkeley	5	5		1	3	
Cam/Dursley	6	7		3	2	1
Cotswold Fringe	2	2				
Gloucester Fringe	4	3		2	3	
Severn Vale	3	3		2	1	3
Stonehouse	8	10		2	6	3
Stroud Valleys	28	25	1	4	8	3
Wotton	5	6		2		1
TOTAL	61	61	1	16	23	11

- 2.2 Almost all pitches are listed as A (Available for Community Use and Used), the exceptions being 7 sites recorded as B (Available for community use and unused) (5 of these are school sites); 2 sites recorded as C Not available for community use, as matter of policy and practice and 3 football pitches recorded as being disused.
- 2.3 5% of sites are owned by the District Council; 44% by Town/Parish Councils; 21% by commercial concerns or sports clubs, 20% at education sites and 10% by community organisations/trusts.
- 2.4 Out of 61 adult pitches recorded, 42 rated as standard and 21 as good. None were rated poor. The majority of junior and mini pitches were rated as standard, many of them being on school sites
- 2.5 Some key points:
- Maintenance was usually rated as standard/acceptable by clubs, although rarely as good. A number of grounds – including in Stroud town - were highlighted for maintenance requiring improvement (particularly those maintained by town/parish councils)
 - Problems with (or required improvements to) drainage were mentioned in relation to a few specific grounds. But the deteriorating quality of grounds throughout the season as pitches become waterlogged has not emerged as a particular issue across the district.
 - Sloping pitches (as one might expect in such a geographical area!)
 - Pitches not large enough/appropriate for promotion e.g.: King George V Nailsworth (Taverners FC); Mason Road Recreation Ground (Stroud Harriers); Butterow West.
 - Improved or new, additional changing facilities were identified as being required (either to meet promotion requirements or to enhance the playing experience at a number of sites including Whitminster Pavilion, Mason Road Recreation Ground, Villa Park (Woodchester FC), Cam Everlands, Leonard Stanley Playing Field, Meadowbank Stadium (Shortwood FC); Hardwicke Village Hall Playing Fields (Hardwicke AFC) and Chalford Sports & Social Club
 - Public recreation grounds: Clubs using pitches on public recreation grounds frequently mention problems arising from this, notably litter and fouling by dogs.
- 2.6 In addition to the findings above, the following points were made by multiple clubs and sum up very well the views expressed:
- A general perception of poor provision for football in the wider Stroud town area particularly: single pitch sites, often on a slope, sometimes with undersize adult pitches and no or unsuitable changing facilities. The following grounds were mentioned repeatedly by many clubs as being restricted by these factors: Viilla Park (Woodchester FC), Horsley Playing Fields; Jubilee Fields, Randwick; Mason Road Recreation Ground, Stroud; Elm Road Playing Fields, Cashes Green; Whiteshill and Ruscombe Playing Fields, King George V Playing Fields, Bisley
 - A lack of floodlit AGPs for training –and the cost to clubs of using such facilities is a huge issue for them

- Small (youth football) clubs find it difficult to grow as not enough youth pitches (those that are available are taken by larger youth football clubs). A number of youth football clubs are split across several sites (up to 5 in a few cases).
- Localised shortages of pitches, particular to accommodate youth teams – notably in Stroud town and the Gloucester Fringe cluster.

Demand

2.7 Key findings are:

- 236 teams have been identified as playing for clubs based in Stroud District: 71 adult teams, 3 Ladies teams, 100 junior teams and 62 mini teams (12 of which are girls' teams).
- 1 x u18 for Stonehouse Youth; 1 x u12 for Shortwood Youth and all Youth and 7 youth teams and 2 mini teams for Forest Green Rovers FC play outside the area
- The highest ranked club in the football hierarchy is Forest Green Rovers FC who are the only professional club in the district playing in EFL Division 2 at The New Lawn.
- Other leagues represented in the area includes the Southern, Hellenic and Western Football Leagues (3 teams), the Gloucester County League (3 teams), the Gloucester Northern Senior League (9 teams) and the Stroud and District League (50 teams).
- Other than Women's football and occasional vets, there is very little adult play on Sundays. There has been a national decline in Sunday play for adults and there is only one recorded Sunday league team playing in the area. .
- There are 21 clubs with 92 youth teams playing in Stroud district. 60% of youth football and almost all mini football takes place on a Saturday morning. The younger leagues tend to be more geographically located (Severn Valley Youth League, Mid Gloucester Mini Soccer League and the Cotswold Youth League).
- Generally, youth football appears fairly buoyant with the number of teams increasing, but the number of senior men's sides is remaining static at best.

Capacity

2.8 87% of adult men's play is on Saturday afternoon; 100% of Ladies play is on Sundays. Youth football is split 60%:40% between Saturday mornings and Sundays. 97% of mini football is on Saturday mornings.

2.9 An assessment has been carried out, according to the Sport England Methodology of assessing capacity. The capacity of each pitch is computed according to its quality rating (i.e. 2 matches per week for a 'standard' rated pitch); the amount of match equivalent sessions is then calculated and measured against this. In essence '0.5' = 1 match equivalent which = one team, so in, for example, Cam/Dursley, there is space for one extra team to play at peak time for adult play (Saturday afternoons). Peak time for both junior and mini is Saturday morning. All use of the pitch is taken into account: Matchplay, training, casual use and educational use.

ADULT PITCHES		Match equivalents			
Sub Area	Number	Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period
Berkeley	5	14	6	8	1
Cam/Dursley	7	13	7.5	5.5	0.5
Cotswold Fringe	2	4	1.5	2.5	1
Gloucester Fringe	3	6	5.5	0.5	0
Severn Vale	3	8	5.0	3.0	0.5
Stonehouse	10	19	9	10	2
Stroud Valleys	27	45	26	19	6
Wotton	5	11	7.5	3.5	1
Total	62	120	68	52	12

JUNIOR		Match equivalents			
Sub Area	Number	Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period
Berkeley	1	2	1	1	0.5
Cam/Dursley	3	6	5.5	0.5	0
Cotswold Fringe					
Gloucester Fringe	2	4	3.5	0.5	0
Severn Vale	2	4	3.5	0.5	0.5
Stonehouse	2	6	2.5	3.5	0
Stroud Valleys	6	14	10	4.0	0.5
Wotton	2	4	4	0	0
Total	18	40	26.5	10	1.5

MINI PITCHES		Match equivalents			
Sub Area	Number	Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period
Berkeley	3	14	1.5	12.5	10
Cam/Dursley	3	12	4	8	4
Cotswold Fringe					
Gloucester Fringe	3	12	5.5	6.5	6
Severn Vale	4	16	6	10	5
Stonehouse	7	38	12	26	12
Stroud Valleys	13	60	23	37	18.5
Wotton	1	4	2	2	2
Total	34	156	54	102	57.5

2.10 The key findings are:

Adult play

Across the district as a whole there are 12 spare slots i.e. nominally room for 24 additional teams), to play on Saturday afternoons. However, this needs careful interpretation on a site by site basis. For example, some sites may not have changing facilities which means they do not mean league requirements for senior teams. A small amount of spare capacity is required for rest and recovery, accommodating cancellations etc and some clusters effectively are operating at capacity (Cam/Dursley, Gloucester Fringe and Severn Vale). Whilst Stroud Valleys has in theory room for an additional 12 teams there are particular issues for many of the pitches here which renders them unattractive/unsuitable for accommodating additional teams.

Junior play

Effectively there is hardly any spare capacity on existing pitches for any additional junior teams across the district or in each cluster.

Mini play

Assessing usage and capacity for mini teams is not as straightforward as for adult and older age group junior teams. The length of matches depends on the age group; often matches are friendly or training sessions; many games are played consecutively – up to 4 in a row, depending on age groups. Also depends on quality of the pitch – standard rated mini pitch can accommodate 4 match equivalent sessions a week and a good pitch can accommodate, 6. There is clearly spare capacity for mini teams, but those youth football clubs running many mini sides may still find it difficult to accommodate them (Cam Everside Youth at Jubilee Fields, Cam for example).

2.11 Capacity can also be presented by cluster and from this we can see whether there are particular areas where pitches could be considered to be remarked for a more appropriate size. Berkeley, Stonehouse and Stroud Valleys cluster areas have a very healthy spare capacity for mini football and it may be that some of these could be remarked as 9v9 pitches, given that all areas have very little capacity for 9v9 football. The only area where there is sufficient spare capacity to consider remarking adult pitches to junior is in Stroud Valleys.

2.12 There are a number of other factors to take into account in a discussion of capacity:

- Preferred pitches: most teams are playing on their preferred pitches, apart from some youth football clubs who would prefer to be playing all their teams at one site
- There is some spare room to fit in additional pitches at existing sites (see Future Situation)
- Junior pitch sizes: Most junior teams are playing on appropriate size pitches. Several u16s are playing on adult pitches but this has not emerged as a problem. 9v9 pitches occasionally have to be over marked on adult or large youth pitches and a few 9v9 pitches are over marked for mini soccer.
- The bigger issue for youth football clubs concerns accommodating all their teams on one site. Of the 21 clubs with youth teams: 14 are based at one ground and a further 3 use two grounds. 4 clubs are spread across several venues: Cotswold

Rangers Youth FC, Hardwicke Rangers Youth FC, Minchinhampton Rangers Youth FC and Rodborough Youth, spread across 3, 4, 5 and 6 sites respectively.

- Forest Green Rovers 9 youth teams both play and train at Cirencester 3G FTP and a couple of other youth teams play outside the area.
- Challenges in obtaining pitches for matchplay mostly relate to when matches are called off due to bad weather and alternative provision is sought – there is hardly any spare capacity to accommodate this for adult football especially in Stroud. There are localised issues at the start and end of the cricket season on some shared grounds.

2.13 A major issue for clubs is finding affordable AGP facilities for training – the majority of clubs mentioned problems with this. 50 clubs in total appear to train on AGPs in the area: 18 or so at Rednock School, 10 at Stratford Leisure Centre, 4 on the smaller 3G FTP at Wotton Community Parc, 3 on the sand based AGP at Wotton Community Parc and 11 at Inside Football. 3 clubs train outside the area on both a 3G and sand based AGP in south Gloucester.

Artificial Grass Pitches (3G FTPs)

2.14 The key points with regard to the quantity and quality of artificial grass pitch provision in Stroud district are:

- There are 4 full size floodlit artificial grass pitches within Stroud District, currently with community use, all rated good. There are 3 sand based pitches – at Wotton Community Parc, Stratford Park Leisure Centre and Wycliffe College.
- There is only one full size floodlit 3G FTP in the district and it has community use – this is the 3G FTP at Rednock School in Dursley.
- The pitches at Wotton Community Parc, Stratford Park Leisure Centre and Rednock School Dursley can be considered as having secure community use. Wycliffe College is an independent School and whilst happy to accommodate community use on weekday evenings (and it seems likely that this will continue for the foreseeable future), this use is not secured. (The pitch is not available at weekends, due to the needs of the College).
- There is an undersize 3G FTP at Wotton Community Parc which has secure community use (not FA accredited). Other demand for football training is met by the three small indoor artificial grass pitches at Inside Football on the Brimscombe Industrial Estate in Stroud (not appropriate for league matchplay)
- There is occasional use of AGPs to the south of the district but not enough to merit them being considered as forming part of the pattern of provision for Stroud teams. 3 clubs in the north Gloucester Fringe cluster use pitches at St Peter's High School (3G FTP FA registered) and Severn Vale School (sand based) for training; both of these lie outside Stroud District.

2.15 The adequacy of AGPs in Stroud (both sand based and 3G FTPs) to accommodate demand for football, taking into account both training and competitive fixtures is an important issue. (Demand for hockey is considered specifically in Section 5 below).

2.16 As far as football training is concerned:

- All artificial grass pitches with community use in Stroud district (i.e. both sand based and 3G FTP and Inside Football) have hardly any spare slots during

weekday evenings (other than an occasional one-third of a pitch for an hour and later slots on Friday evenings, traditionally always very difficult to fill).

2.17 As far as matchplay is concerned:

- There is currently no FA registered pitch available for weekend matches in Stroud district. This is the first year Rednock School has not re-applied for accreditation due partly to the cost and the fact that there has been no demand expressed for its use as a regular home pitch by any local teams (this may be related to the cost of hiring it for matches, although this has not been fully established). The pitch is occasionally used to accommodate postponed matches.

2.18 Demand for 3G AGPs

- Throughout the research for this report, there were constant references to not only the absolute lack of 3G FTPs for training, but also to the lack of affordable training facilities. Most responding clubs indicated a willingness to play matches on 3G FTPs, subject to charges being acceptable.
- Calculations based on the FA assessment of 38 teams per full size 3G FTP for training results in the need for an additional 4 3G FTPs in Stroud to meet demand.
- There are 16 teams who are based in Berkeley cluster; 31 teams in Cam/Dursley; 1 team in Cotswold Fringe; 24 teams in Gloucester Fringe; 17 teams in Severn Vale; 37 teams in Stonehouse; 89 teams in Stroud and 22 teams in Wotton.
- It is possible to compute how many 3G FTPs are required for matchplay. To reach the FA's target of 50% of youth and mini play to be on 3G FTPs by 2020 would require a total 4.2 full size (or equivalent) 3G FTPs in total in the area.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand to 2040?

2.19 The main characteristics of future demand for football in Stroud are a buoyant youth and minis sector and growing demand for affordable and accessible 3G football turf pitches and/or floodlit training areas. Sunday adult play is in decline, but Saturday play seems relatively stable and the CFA is planning to increase the number of Wildcat centres (for girls' participation) operating in Stroud. Growth in small sided games has not emerged as a particular trend in Stroud, although it is difficult to predict how any increase in demand for indoor small sided football and such initiatives as walking football will translate to demand for outdoor 3G FTPs and/or even grass pitches.

2.20 Demand generated by people moving into new housing in the district, together with changes in participation trends, latent, unmet and currently displaced (at least 11 youth teams) demand and the aspirations of clubs suggests that an additional 22 male adult, 2 female adult, 35 junior teams and 16 mini teams will be created by 2040.

Grass pitches

2.21 Many of the considerations to be borne in mind are set out in the full Needs Assessment document (Section 3) including:

- Current spare capacity at existing pitches

- Reinstating pitches at sites where pitches have existed in the past and/or creating new pitches where there is room on existing sites.
- Improving the quality of pitches and/or ancillary facilities to increase their capacity (although this rarely solves the problem of peak time demand).
- Securing or increasing community use of pitches on school sites
- Transference of activity from grass to 3G FTP provision
- Providing sites large enough to accommodate a range of youth football teams in one place
- Whether it is worth pursuing a policy of single pitch grounds in Stroud – what would be the alternative?
- What if further sports development initiatives or alternative forms of football grow in popularity?
- What if all pitches on private grounds and/or without security of tenure were no longer available ?
- What if any pitches are likely to be lost in the near future ?

2.22 As set out in the Needs Assessment, the need for pitch space does not just have to be met through new provision and there are various other ways of providing increased capacity which will be further discussed as part of Stage D. It can be seen that given the various areas of land and possible permutations, it is very difficult to put a figure on the needs for new provision. Much will depend on the progress made with installing 3G FTPs in the district and whether clubs are happy to take up spare slots on existing pitches.

2.23 However, in an attempt at this stage to give a figure, it is suggested that in addition to existing stock the minimum number of additional pitches required to 2040 is as follows (some of which could be accommodated at existing playing fields as listed above if in the right location):

- 3-4 x adult pitches
- 8 - 10 x junior pitches (of varying pitch size)
- 4 x mini pitches (7x7 and 5v5).

We have not attempted at this stage to break this down on a cluster basis as some discussion needs to take place with the Steering Group regarding priorities for each cluster.

Artificial grass pitches

2.24 Potential sites for additional 3G FTP provision (up to 4 full size required) are summarised as:

- In the interests of making the best use of the 3G FTP at Rednock School, the issue concerning non-registration to the FA for matchplay needs to be resolved.
- The proposal for a potential 3G FTP at Waterwells Sports Centre in South Gloucester might attract the c,21 teams from Hardwicke who currently train on AGPs in South Gloucester.

- The longstanding proposal, which now has some funding in place, for a small (mini pitch size) 3G indoor training area to be located on the home ground of Frampton Youth FC (Reg Dawe Memorial ground)
- The Needs Assessment supports (up to two) 3G FTP provision in Stroud town to meet the demand from local clubs for training and matchplay. A site with existing on-site management is preferable: as schools, Archway School and Marling School (if the site is large enough) are potential sites.
- These and other possible sites/proposals for additional 3G FTP provision are discussed more fully in the main Report. For example, football teams in Stonehouse use a variety of artificial grass pitches for training in both Stroud and Dursley and the location of a 3G FTP could be supported through the Needs Assessment. However, there does not at present appear to be a suitable site for 3G FTP provision in Stonehouse.

Priorities for football

2.25 From the above and Section 3 of the Needs Assessment, the following priorities for football are suggested (these will be expanded upon following the Stage C Meeting, as part of the Strategy development):

- F.1** Meeting future demand for pitches: this requires further discussion around the various possibilities/factors set out about
- F.2** Appropriate, sustainable, affordable AGP provision:
- F.3** Recognising and meeting the specific needs of youth football clubs
- F.4** Enhancing the quality of existing provision where specific deficiencies identified, particularly around clubs progressing to the next level and addressing the capacity of the site (especially key sites as listed below)
- F.5** Encouraging participation by women and girls, particularly through enhanced changing facilities and general improvements to pitch and site quality.
- F.6** Addressing the 'Stroud problem': single pitch sites; lack of 3G FTPs, future of Stratford Park (set out in the main report).

Key sites

2.26 The following sites are identified as important in terms of addressing issues for football in Stroud district and moving the Strategy forward (by cluster). Further details are set out in Section 7 of this Summary Report.

Beverley

- SDBE.08 Hamfields Leisure Centre
- SDBE.71 Sharpness Recreation Ground
- SDBE.77 Thornhill Park (Slimbridge AFC)

Cam/Dursley

- SDCD.07 Everlands Ground, Cam
- SDCD.42 Rednock School 3G FTP
- SDCD.80 War Memorial Recreation Ground

Gloucester Fringe

SDGF.09 Hardwicke Village Playing Fields
SDGF.69 Rob Dawe Memorial Close

Severn Vale

SDSE.68 Reg Davies Memorial Field
SDSE.40 Whitminster Pavilion and Playing Fields

Stonehouse

SDST.15 Leonard Stanley Playing Fields
SDST.43 Maidenhill School
SDST.66 Oldends Lane Playing Field stadium pitch & Oldends Lane pitches

Stroud Valleys

SDSV.01 Archway School
SDSV.03 Chalford Sports & Social Club
SDSV.62 King George V Playing Fields Nailsworth
SDSV.16 Marling School
SDSV.33 Stratford Court
SDSV.35 Stuart Playing Fields, Minchinhampton

Wotton

SDWO.45 Wotton Community Parc

3 Key Findings and Issues: Cricket

Supply

3.1 The following cricket grounds have been recorded in Stroud

	Grounds being used			Cricket pitches not in use
	Cricket grounds	Non turf wickets	Grounds shared with winter sports (excl. school sites)	
Berkeley	4	1	1	D – Hamfields LC
Cam/Dursley	5	1*		B – Normal Hill, Dursley
Cotswold Fringe	5		4	D – KGV Bisley; Painswick Recreation Ground
Gloucester Fringe	2		1	D - Hardwicke Village Recreation Ground
Severn Vale	3		2	
Stonehouse	7		2	D – Leonard Stanley Playing Field
Stroud Valleys	5	1	5	B – Archway School (2 NTW); C – Beaudesert School; D – Stratford Court Playing Fields
Wotton	2	1*	2	B – non turf wicket at Wotton Community Parc/KLB

- Stand alone non-turf wickets

3.2 Ownership and access is as follows:

Ownership Type	Cricket Ground	Artificial wicket	Grass Pitch	Community use of grounds			
				A	B	C	D
Community Organisation /Parish Council/LA	18		13	13			5
Sports Club/Private/Trust	18	2	17	17			1
Education (inc private)	6	5	4	2	2	1	
TOTALS	42	7	34	33	2	1	6

3.3 In total 42 sites containing cricket pitches have been identified in Stroud, of which 6 are school sites. 9 of these are not currently being used: 3 are theoretically available but not in use; 1 site is not available and 6 sites are identified which have hosted cricket in the past but no longer do so (see Table above)

3.4 Other findings are:

- Excluding school pitches, 17 sites are shared with either rugby or football
- As a district, Stroud has comparatively few artificial non turf wickets.
- The only Local Authority owned and managed cricket pitch is Stratford Court, Stroud. No cricket has been played here for the past two seasons.
- Marling School, Stroud & Wycliffe College are the only education establishments recorded so far as having regular, community use of its cricket facilities (Marling is the only state school with a grass wicket). Wycliffe College’s facilities are used for county training and also hosts County Age Group matches on their grass wicket. .

3.4 Regarding the quality of the pitches:

- All grounds scored highly, and out of 41 grounds assessed, 31 were rated good and 10 as standard. Many grounds have good quality artificial net cages. Comments from the clubs are also considered as part of the quality assessments; Uley CC did rate its own pitch at the playing fields as poor.
- As would be expected, the standard of cricket pitches is commensurate with the standard of play and of particular note were the excellent pitches at Cullimore Grounds, Stroud CC (double pitch site) and Pounds Close, Frocester CC.
- Changing facilities were either rated adequate or good throughout the area. There were specific instances where clubs identified problems with heating or showers, and one instance of a club considering its changing facilities to be poor.
- Haresfield Gladiators CC mentioned their intention to seek both advice and funding to develop changing facilities; Whitminster CC have plans to construct a new pavilion although funding is an issue and Eastcombe CC’s pavilion would benefit from replacement security doors and shutters.
- The shared sports and social club facilities (used by both football and cricket at Cam Everlands) have been identified as requiring upgrading urgently. The visual

quality assessments also noted that the pavilion at Miserdon would benefit from upgrading.

- Of particular note: Rockhampton has two grounds (one just outside the Stroud boundary). 5 new strips have been established on the ground within the District and there are proposals to level and reseed spare land behind the existing old nets to create a second pitch.
- A number of grounds would like nets, sight screens, roll on covers etc. Leonard Stanley Parish Council would like to install cricket nets even the cricket ground is disused ground
- Some problems with cricket changeover period, particularly at Painswick RFC and Sports Club (cricket/rugby) and Cam Everlands (cricket/football)

3.5 Cricket clubs were asked whether they are satisfied with the overall provision of cricket pitches in the Stroud district. 23 clubs responded to this and all bar one said they were satisfied. The comments received from the dissatisfied club tended to relate to their own specific circumstances, rather than those of the district. A couple of other comments did relate to there not being enough good quality pitches.

Demand

3.6 The salient findings were:

- 27 clubs were identified in Stroud fielding a total of 71 adult and 33 junior teams.
- There are 12 teams based in Berkeley cluster; 13 teams in Cam/Dursley; 15 teams in Cotswold Fringe; 11 teams in Gloucester Fringe; 12 teams in Severn Vale; 27 teams in Stonehouse; 12 teams in Stroud Valley and 2 teams in the Wotton cluster.
- Junior cricket in Stroud is entirely club based with all the youth teams playing as part of well-established senior clubs. Cam, Frampton-on-Severn, Frocester, Stroud and Upton St Leonards CC each field at least 3 junior teams.
- 5 clubs said their junior membership had increased over the past 3 seasons; 2 said decreased. Traditional adult membership (of men's teams) has remained steady at best.
- Women's cricket is recognised as a particular growth area within the sport (in part attributed to initiatives such as 'softball cricket') and four Stroud clubs now have ladies teams.
- The tendency is that clubs located in the smaller towns and villages with reduced catchment areas, field only one adult team (e.g. Nympsfield, North Nibley, Uley) and these clubs have particular difficulty maintaining their levels of activity.
- Virtually all of the clubs in the Stroud district are represented by teams playing in the Stroud District League. A large number of clubs in the district are represented by teams in the Gloucester County League which sits between the Stroud District League and the West of England Premier League.
- A few of the adult men's teams play just in friendly fixtures. Nearly half of all clubs field a 'friendly' team. These matches are in no way less formal or competitive – they just don't have a league structure.

- As well as the competitive frameworks provided for U15, U13 and U11 age groups, tournaments are also enjoyed by young cricketers which provide a festival feel to games against teams from the local area and further afield.
- The ECB's All Stars programme has been very successful in driving up participation of young people aged 5 – 8 years. This programme offers eight weeks of coaching in a safe and inclusive environment, Several clubs in Stroud are involved in the programme, including Uley CC, Cam CC, Frampton CC, Oakridge CC, Slimbridge CC, Sheepscombe CC and Stroud CC.

Capacity

3.7 63% of senior play is on Saturdays; 10% midweek and 27% on Sundays. 97% of youth play is midweek, with just 1 team playing Sunday afternoons.

3.8 The majority of clubs do train – in summer on their home ground (although not all clubs have nets). Where clubs train on their pitch, this usage has been taken into account in the assessment of capacity. In winter, a few clubs train in various school sports halls in the district.

3.9 Excluding artificial wickets in poor condition with no community use, the capacity summary is as follows:

Cluster	Number of grounds	Number of wickets (grass)	Match equivalent capacity	Match equivalent played
Berkeley	5 (1 disused)	34 + 1 AW	158 (grass)	109
Cam/ Dursley	5	24 + 1 AW	110 (grass)	96
Cotswold Fringe	7 (2 disused)	49	229	149
Gloucester Fringe	3 (1 disused)	20	100	90
Severn Vale	3	23	115	107
Stonehouse	9 (1 disused) + 1 AW	73 + 1 AW	365	219
Stroud Valleys	8 (1 disused) + 4 AW (1 disused)	41	193	167
Wotton	2 + 1 AW	10	42	29

3.9 The following table sets out how many grounds there are in each cluster according to the capacity rating for the ground.

Cluster area (Total number of cricket grounds in brackets)	Disused	Potential to accommodate more play at peak times (Saturdays)	Potential to accommodate more play at off peak times	Site being played to the level it can sustain	Site being overplayed
Berkeley (5)	1		3	1	
Cam/Dursley (5)		3	3		1
Cotswold Fringe (7)	2	3	3	2	
Gloucester Fringe (3)	1		1		1
Severn Vale (3)			1	2	
Stonehouse (9)	1	1	3	3	
Stroud Valleys (8)	1		4	3	
Wotton (4)		1	3	1	

Note: Some grounds may be able to accommodate more play at both peak and off-peak times and so are entered twice in the above table.

3.10 In summary:

- 2 sites are assessed as being overplayed (Cam Everlands and Upton St Leonards) and 12 grounds are being played to the level the site can sustain (with allowances made for the quality of the ground)
- The greatest pressure is observed in the Stroud Valleys cluster and also Gloucester Fringe and Severn Vale (although there are only 3 grounds in each of these two clusters)
- 20 grounds have potential to accommodate more play at off peak times (or extra matches at peak times – Saturdays – but with insufficient room for an extra team)
- 8 grounds have potential to accommodate at least one additional Saturday team - possibly more if training has been overestimated.
- So there is some spare capacity – whether it is in the areas it is required (i.e. for individual club growth when a 3rd XI Saturday league team forms) would have to be appraised on a site by site basis.
- In addition, there are several cricket pitches no longer in use which could be reinstated, including: KGV Fields, Bisley; Stratford Court in Stroud and possibly Hamfield Leisure Centre’s pitch.
- There is a newly installed artificial wicket at Katherine Lady Berkeley/Wotton Sports Centre. The Wotton Community Sports Foundation would welcome greater use of this pitch.
- The study did not find any issues with changing facilities which impacted on site capacity for cricket.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand to 2040?

- 3.11 The main characteristics of future demand for cricket in Stroud are a fairly buoyant youth sector, which it is hoped will develop further following the introduction of All Stars cricket but a more mixed picture in respect of adult teams. There are some very strong, well established and managed clubs with very good quality grounds, but overall the level of adult play needs support. There are some optimistic signs for women's cricket and T20 is also experiencing some growth which may result in an increase in more casual play and midweek leagues.
- 3.12 Demand generated by people moving into new housing in the district, together with changes in participation trends, latent and unmet demand and the aspirations of clubs suggests that an additional 20 men's teams, 3 ladies' teams and 11 youth teams will be created by 2040
- 3.13 The full Needs Assessment considers many facets of this including:
- Grounds which are currently being overplayed and where any increase in teams will ideally require access to a second ground – Cam Everlands and Upton St Leonard's grounds are examples.
 - Around a third of grounds are being played to the level the site can sustain and thus any growth in the number of teams (particularly Saturday sides) will mean an additional ground is required to meet the fixture schedule for the 3rd XI
 - Current spare capacity at existing pitches: there is some spare capacity but this is more likely for Sunday and midweek teams. Only 8 grounds have potential to accommodate one additional Saturday team. The greatest pressure for Saturday play is in the Stroud Valley, Cam/Dursley cluster and Gloucester Fringe clusters
 - Reinstating pitches at sites where pitches have existed in the past and/or creating new pitches where there is room on existing sites. A key site is here is Stratford Court
 - Improving the quality of pitches and/or ancillary facilities to increase their capacity (although this rarely solves the problem of peak time demand). Generally, cricket pitch quality in Stroud is very good, with 2/3rds of pitches rated as good.
 - Securing or increasing community use of pitches on school sites: There is no scope to do this, other than to make use of the newly installed artificial wicket at KLB/Wotton Sports Centre
 - It is possible that non turf pitch facilities will increasingly play a key role in delivering casual and informal formats of the game as they require minimal preparation and maintenance, thus helping to keep the activity affordable. There are only a few non turf wickets in Stroud - only two are on non school sites although they have spare capacity. One option might be to increase the provision of non-turf wickets.
 - There is no cricket ground in Wotton town itself, although there is a non-turf wicket at KLB School (Wotton Community Sports Foundation) – where there may be scope to develop community use. However, it should be noted that there is spare capacity at Kingswood (just to the south of Wotton, with one Saturday team).

3.14 It can be seen that given the various areas of land and possible permutations, it is very difficult to put a figure on the need for new provision. As a conservative estimate, in addition to existing stock this would suggest the need for a minimum of two additional cricket pitches to 2040 as follows:

- Cam/Dursley
- Gloucester Fringe (Upton St Leonards area)

3.15 As set out above, the need for pitch space does not just have to be met through new provision and there are various other ways of providing increased capacity which will be further discussed as part of Stage D.

Priorities for cricket

3.16 From the above and Section 4 of the Needs Assessment, the following priorities for cricket are suggested (these will be expanded upon following the Stage C Meeting, as part of the Strategy development):

- C.1 Meeting future demand for pitches: this requires further discussion around the various possibilities/factors set out about
- C.2 Addressing shortfalls in any particular areas/clusters
- C.3 Ensuring facilities support the development of youth cricket and that there is sufficient capacity to meet growth
- C.4 Enhancements to ancillary facilities at specified grounds (some identified as Key Sites)
- C.5 Addressing underuse of some grounds (some identified as Key Sites)
- C.6 Ensuring facilities support development of cricket amongst women and girls

Key sites

3.17 The following sites are identified as important in terms of addressing issues for cricket in Stroud district and moving the Strategy forward. Further details are set out in Section 7 of this Summary Report.

SDBE.26	Rockhampton Cricket Club
SDCD.07	Cam Everlands
SDCF.12	King George V Bisley
SDCD.39	Uley Playing Fields
SDGF.38	Upton St Leonard Recreation Ground
SDSE.40	Whitminster Pavilion and Playing Fields
SDST.22	Owen Harris Memorial Ground
SDSV.33	Stratford Court Playing Fields
SDWO.14	Kingswood Playing Fields

4 Key Findings and Issues – Rugby

Supply

4.1 The following are the key findings on the provision of rugby pitches in Stroud:

- 11 sites containing rugby pitches are identified in Stroud, with a total of 23 pitches.
- 4 of these sites (7 pitches) are on school sites with no recorded community use (Marling School, Maidenhill School, Norman Hill (Rednock School) and Thomas Keble School.
- There are two schools which have community use: Wotton Sports Centre Community Parc – 1 adult pitch and Archway School – 2 not quite adult size pitches. Together with the other 5 sites, there are thus 16 pitches with community use: 10 adult and 6 mini/midi.
- Stroud RFC (Fromehall Park) and Minchinhampton RFC are the only two sites catering exclusively for rugby.
- Archway School is an important educational site that regularly caters for rugby matchplay – this season, all Stroud RFC’s u6 – u16 teams are playing there.

4.2 Rugby pitches are quality assessed according to their drainage and maintenance. This can best be explained by the table of theoretical pitch capacity ratings; the numbers in italics indicate the number of match equivalent sessions which can be played each week on (type of) pitch.

		Maintenance		
		Poor (M0)	Standard (M1)	Good (M2)
Drainage	Natural Inadequate (D0)	<i>0.5</i>	<i>1.5</i>	<i>2</i>
	Natural Adequate (D1)	<i>1.5</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
	Pipe Drained (D2)	<i>1.75</i>	<i>2.5</i>	<i>3.25</i>
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>3.5</i>

- No playing surfaces were regarded as being less than acceptable. Comments from the clubs are also considered as part of the quality assessments.
- The best rated pitch was Stroud RFC’s ground at Fromehall Park (D2/M2) (This pitch has been identified by the RFU for an aeration programme) The lowest rated pitches were #3 at Dursley Rugby Club and the midi pitch at Minchinhampton RFC. The pitches at Archway School were not assessed although Stroud RFC who use them say they drain well. All other pitches scored D2/M1, meaning that they can accommodate 2.5 match equivalent sessions a week.
- There were no issues around the drainage of the pitches. The main quality issues concerns floodlighting:
- Dursley RFC: The capacity of this site would be increased by better floodlights on the training area and also floodlighting of Pitch 2 (Pitch 1 is floodlit, although lights are 10 years old)

- Painswick RFC – The main pitch is floodlit and the 2nd pitch is partially floodlit; improving these floodlights would increase capacity and is supported by the RFU
- Wotton RFC - RFU has supported club with small grant for floodlighting. Currently applying for higher, permanent lighting stations

4.3 Changing facilities were either rated adequate or good throughout, other than at Stroud RFC, where the showers and changing areas are old, tired and much in need of refurbishment. At Wotton Sports Centre, there is tremendous pressure on changing facilities when hockey, football and rugby teams are playing; this situation has been highlighted by all clubs playing there.

Demand

4.4 Key Findings in respect of demand

- 6 clubs were identified in Stroud fielding a total of 58 teams - 17 adult and colts and 41 mini/midis.
- Four of the clubs run the whole range of adult, youth and mini/midi teams. Cainscross RFC and Wotton RFC currently run one team each. There is a joint initiative supported by Glos RFU to run a 'Cainswick' team jointly between Painswick and Cainscross RFCs; this XV will play 4 matches this year – 2 at Painswick and 2 at Cainscross.
- All clubs running junior teams said they have increased the number of teams they run over the past 3 years, other than Dursley RFC who have remained the same.
- Painswick RFC is the only club to currently run a women's/girls' team.

Capacity

4.5 Rugby union has a strong culture of training on floodlit natural grass pitches on weekday evenings; the same pitches that are also used for matches at weekends. Therefore assessments of capacity take equal account of training as well as match play (training is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions).

4.6 There is very little spare capacity at club sites throughout the district: Minchinhampton and Cainscross pitches are recorded as being played to the level they can sustain. Painswick RFC main pitch and Stroud RFC's pitch at Fromehall Park are technically overplayed and Dursley RFC are the only club potentially able to accommodate some additional play at peak times. The pitch at Archway School is probably at capacity with use by Stroud RFC minis and school use.

4.7 The conclusions on capacity on a club by club basis are:

- Minchinhampton RFC: Being played to the level the site can sustain although training on adult pitches means these pitches are technically overplayed
- Dursley RFC: Potentially able to accommodate some additional play at peak times – a little at peak time on the adult pitch and more on the mini pitches.
- Stroud RFC – adult pitch at Fromehall Park is being overplayed as accommodates matches from u13s upwards and adult teams. Lower age groups play off site on the two pitches at Archway School which are at capacity as a result.

- Painswick RFC: Technically overplayed main pitch and no spare capacity on mini/midi pitches at peak time
- Cainscross RFC: A little spare capacity but with training, the site is probably being played to the level it can sustain.
- Wotton RFC: One team currently based here so some spare capacity including at peak time.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand to 2040?

- 4.8 The main characteristics of future demand for rugby in Stroud are a buoyant youth sector, and strong clubs with ambitions to increase their range of teams and constantly improve their facilities.
- 4.8 Demand generated by people moving into new housing in the district, together with changes in participation trends, latent and unmet demand and the aspirations of clubs suggests that an additional 4 men's teams, 1 ladies' teams, 4 junior rugby and 2 mini rugby teams will be created by 2040. However, as the TGR for rugby is so always so high, it is very difficult to project an increase in the number of teams through new housing/population growth. The growth will come through the existing rugby clubs, or possibly the formation of a new club with its own facilities.
- 4.9 The full Needs Assessment considers many facets of this including:
- The analysis has demonstrated that existing pitches are nearing capacity. Each club has particular issues in terms of accommodating growth in demand – some sites with the addition of floodlighting may be able to accommodate more matches, but there are particular pinchpoints for Minchinhampton RFC, Painswick RFC and Stroud RFC, and any increase at Cainscross (with just one pitch) will be difficult to accommodate.
 - There are some additional rugby pitches at schools, but it does seem that most avenues for securing greater use of school sites have been explored. Stroud RFC did use Maidenhill school rugby pitches in the past, but is currently focusing use on Fromehall Park and Archway school in an effort to bring some cohesion to the club. However, it does desperately require additional provision, ideally 4 rugby pitches in total and sites have been sought throughout Stroud for some years.
 - Several rugby clubs in Stroud train on 3G FTPs – notably Dursley RFC who train at Rednock School (and Wotton Community Parc) and Minchinhampton RFC who train on the sand based AGP at Wycliffe College. However the provision of additional AGP training facilities for rugby has not emerged as an issue. The improvement of floodlights will provide greater capacity on training areas at certain grounds. The provision of World Rugby compliant artificial surfaces for rugby has not emerged as an issue in Stroud.
- 4.10 It can be seen that given the various areas of land and possible permutations, it is very difficult to put a figure on the needs for new provision. taking into account likely growth in demand and the requirement to provide accessible permanent rugby pitches for Stroud RFC youth teams, it is estimated that 6-7 additional rugby pitches will be required, 3-4 of which should be in Stroud.

Priorities for rugby

4.11 From the above and Section 5 of the Needs Assessment, the following priorities for football are suggested (these will be expanded upon following the Stage C Meeting, as part of the Strategy development):

- R.1** Meeting future demand for pitches: this requires further discussion
- R.2** Provision of adequate and appropriate floodlighting for training and matchplay
- R.3** Addressing the shortage of provision in Stroud for youth rugby
- R.4** Enhancement of changing and ancillary facilities, notably at Fromehall Park (Stroud RFC)
- R.5** Providing facilities to promote participation amongst women and girls

Key sites

4.12 The following sites are identified as important in terms of addressing issues for rugby in Stroud district and moving the Strategy forward (by cluster). Further details are set out in Section 7 of this Summary Report.

- SDCD.05 Dursley RFC
- SDCF.24 Painswick RFC & Sports Club
- SDSV.89 Stroud RFC

5 Key Findings and Issues – Hockey

Supply

- 5.1 There are three hockey compliant floodlit full size sand based AGPs in Stroud District: Stratford Park Leisure Centre; Wotton Community Parc and Wycliffe College. There is no community use of the AGP at Beaudesert Park School.
- 5.2 Painswick Hockey Club plays matches at St Peter’s School in Tuffley, Gloucester – a full size sand based floodlit pitch with community use, which lies outside Stroud District. At present, no other AGPs in the wider Gloucester area have been identified as being used by Stroud based hockey clubs.
- 5.3 With regard to the security of tenure for community use of the three hockey compliant full size floodlit AGPs in Stroud, the following pertains:

Topic	Stratford Park Leisure Centre	Wotton Community Parc	Wycliffe College
Community Use Agreement in place? Hockey a priority? How long in advance agreed?	CUA Yes. Full community use secured; principal hockey site in Stroud Town. Understand hockey is a priority	Full CUA, managed by Trust. Principal hockey site in Wotton area. Hockey is a priority sport.	Hockey club hires facility and is accepted, regular user of facility for training on Wednesday nights. No CUA. Pitch not

	sport.		available for matchplay due to needs of College and lack of changing
Ancillary facilities for club at site	Changing facilities in sports centre. No dedicated clubhouse	Changing facilities in school sports centre. No dedicated clubhouse.	Not available
Sinking fund for resurface of AGP ?	Not known.	Yes	Not known

5.4 All three sand based AGPs were rated as good, but clubs commenting did highlight issues around condition of posts/nets/goals and evidence of glass/stones/litter in on the courts and some evidence of inappropriate use. In addition:

- Stratford Park Leisure Centre– floodlights not always working
- Wotton Community Parc - pitch not always well maintained and beginning to show age.
- Desire for clubhouse at Stratford Park Leisure Centre or use by hockey club (sharing with Bowls pavilion not possible due to rental arrangements)
- The sand based AGP at Wotton Community Parc is one of a range of facilities on this developing community sports park. The priority for WUE Hockey Club is new clubhouse/pavilion/changing facilities on site; other sports using the parc have expressed the same aspiration (football and rugby) for a joint facility.
- WUE currently use the adjacent small size 3G for warm ups before matches, although the surface is not appropriate. An additional facility which could be used for overflow matches and warm ups would be a great addition to facilities.

Demand

5.4 Membership of the four hockey clubs in Stroud is as follows:

- Stroud Hockey Club: growing membership: 118 senior members and 143 junior members; 3 Ladies teams; 3 men’s teams and 5 junior teams
- Wotton under Edge Hockey Club: growing membership: 106 senior members and 232 junior members
- Ladies teams; 4 men’s teams; 10 junior teams
- Dursley Hockey Club; slightly decreasing membership; 21 members; one senior Ladies team
- Painswick Hockey Club: slightly decreasing; 19 members; one senior Ladies team

5.5 Overall, the Hockey Affiliation Analysis for Stroud records the following:

- 125 adult men; 132 adult women; 154 junior boys and 223 junior girls
- 7 men’s teams; 8 women’s teams; 6 boys’ teams; 6 girls’ teams and 3 mixed teams

Capacity

5.6 Times and days of matches and training by the 4 clubs are summarized as follows:

A Stroud Hockey Club

Stratford Park Leisure Centre

7.5 hours per week (3 hours per week for training (incl juniors); 4.5 hours per week for Saturday matches)

Wycliffe College

3 hours per week for training (incl juniors)

B WUE Hockey Club

Wotton Community Parc

19.25 hours per week: 4.5 hours per week (senior training); 3.25 hours per week for training (juniors); 1 hour per week social play (Fridays); 1 hour per week for training (Saturday juniors); 6.5 hours per week for Saturday matches; 3 hours per week for Sunday matches

C Dursley Hockey Club

Wotton Community Parc

2.5 hours per week: 1 hour per week for training; 1.5 hours per week for Saturday matches

D Painswick Hockey Club

St Peter’s School, Tuffley

1.5 hours per week for matches

Wycliffe College

1 hour per week for training

5.7 A detailed analysis has been undertaken of capacity at the three sites within Stroud. This concludes:

Stratford Park Leisure Centre	Wycliffe College	Wotton Community Parc
No spare capacity for hockey on weekday eves as fully used for football (apart from a few 1/3rds of a pitch) Appears to be spare capacity from 13.30pm on Sundays (if this fits with league fixtures schedule)	No other availability at Wycliffe for training as other slots used by football clubs on weekday evenings Not available weekends as used for school fixtures and no accessible changing facilities	Hockey has priority but no spare capacity as other earlier slots weekday evenings used for football. Saturdays already full with hockey matchplay. Some Sundays there is limited spare capacity (4 hours+) if tournaments not being held

5.8 Further points are:

- Painswick HC says it is able to find the slots it needs, albeit out of the area for matchplay.
- Dursley Hockey Club also uses the Wotton Community Parc pitch and comments that its matches are fitted in around WUE usage (it has 1.5 hour slot on Saturdays)
- Stroud Hockey Club state that lack of pitch access for training is their biggest obstacle. The club would like all its teams to be based at one site. The club would like to train 3 nights a week in Stroud but at the moment they only train on one night at Stratford Park Leisure Centre and their Ladies and girls currently train at Wycliffe College.
- WUE have 250 children turning up for junior tournaments and the club is expanding. It would like additional training sessions (it has split its ladies' training into 20 sessions) and states that the men's 1st XI would train twice a week if there was the capacity. Ideally the club would like a second hockey pitch at the site to offer hockey to a wider range of people, not just competitive league hockey.

5.9 In summary:

- Training for the four clubs in Stroud District can currently be accommodated on the three sand based AGPs in the district but only 3 out of 4 clubs play their matches on them. One team travels outside the district to play its matches.
- Two hockey clubs have their training and matchplay split between two different sites.
- Even though hockey is the preferred usage for sand based pitches, demands for training facilities for local football clubs mean that facility providers are striking a balance between the two sports and weekday evening slots which have not traditionally been booked by hockey are now virtually full with football training and small sided soccer. There is occasionally 1/3rd of a pitch free, but this does not assist with hockey training.
- The picture is different at weekends – then there are only 2 full size sand based AGPs available as the Wycliffe College pitch is used for school matches.
- Saturdays are full up with matchplay and Sunday mornings are also fully used. There appears to be spare capacity after 1.30pm on Sundays at Stratford Park Leisure Centre and at Wotton Community Parc, although up to two tournaments are held each month and these are day long events. Sunday afternoons does not currently align with fixture schedules for hockey.

Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand to 2040?

- 5.10 Hockey is experiencing considerable growth, promoted through increasing media profile and international success and the popularity of a range of initiatives to get people playing the sport. The burgeoning growth in junior play looks set to continue and there are two strong clubs in Stroud which run a range of teams of both genders and all ages and who are seeing their membership increase. There are two other clubs running one ladies team each and it is important that these are supported to provide an equally valuable, but different, experience.

- 5.11 Future demand for hockey really needs to be assessed on the basis of club members rather than league teams, as that does not reflect the amount of hockey informal and casual play and coaching and training. (Projections on the basis of new housing only show an increase of 4 senior teams and 2 junior teams, as the team generation rate for hockey is so high). Further guidance on this is required from England Hockey
- 5.12 However, with currently 257 adult and 377 junior hockey players in Stroud, even a 10% increase will result in an additional 26 adult and 38 juniors which will result in additional teams as well as increase the numbers of members to be accommodated in training sessions.
- 5.13 All 4 clubs, with the possible exception of Painswick, are currently struggling to access available provision to accommodate growth and other models of hockey. Demand can only be met at present due to creative scheduling and the clubs being spread over four sites.
- 5.14 There is very limited capacity for growth in hockey activity at any of the three sand based AGPs in the district. In the first instance, squad sizes for training can be increased to cater for more participants, but once 2 new teams form, a new match slot will need to be found, which on current scheduling will be very difficult. There is very little spare capacity for hockey matchplay on Saturdays. There appears to be some availability on Sundays, although this does not align with the fixtures schedule.
- 5.15 England Hockey is keen to develop hub sites for large hockey clubs. Such a coherent model can ensure that the majority of senior and junior teams can be wholly based at one site, sharing clubhouse and changing facilities and enabling close liaison over training and coaching. The strategy might consider where such a hub site could be developed in the study area.
- 5.16 Given the lack of spare capacity and expected growth in hockey it is proposed that over the life of the strategy, an additional sand based AGP will be required in the district.

Priorities for hockey

- 5.17 From the above and Section 6 of the Needs Assessment, the following priorities for hockey are suggested
- H.1 Meeting future demand for pitches:
 - H.2 Protecting existing floodlit sand based pitches in Stroud district
 - H.3 Ensuring ongoing secured community access to the three sand based pitches, particularly Wycliffe College
 - H.4 Protecting Dursley Hockey Club's training and matchplay access at Wotton Community Parc
 - H.5 Enabling Stroud Hockey Club to be able to accommodate all its junior and senior training and matchplay at Stratford Park Leisure Centre
 - H.6 Providing clubhouse facilities – a 'clubhome' – for Stroud Hockey Club at Stratford Park Leisure Centre
 - H.7 Providing clubhouse facilities – a 'clubhome' – for WUE Hockey Club at Wotton Community Parc (this to be a joint facility between all clubs, the need for which has been highlighted by other sports playing there?)

H.8 Find out/ensure/recommend that appropriate sink funds are in place on all astro (but particularly in this context local authority ones) for replacement

H.9 Ensure sufficient funds and resources are available for ongoing maintenance, particularly at Stratford Park Leisure Centre

Key sites

5.18 Therefore – not unsurprisingly – the following sites are identified as key sites in terms of addressing issues for hockey in Stroud:

SDST.41 Wycliffe College – Securing community use of sand based AGP

SDSV.91 Stratford Park Leisure Centre – provision of hockey clubhouse; enabling all Stroud HC teams to be fully based at the site

SDWO.45 Wotton Community Parc– provision of hockey clubhouse; ensuring continued access for training and matchplay for Dursley Hockey Club

6 Key Findings and Issues – Tennis and Bowls

Information on Athletics is currently included in the Built Facilities Report and will be integrated with the PPS at Stage D. Information on Indoor Tennis and Bowls provision is also in that report.

Tennis

6.1 The following tennis courts and their access arrangements and quality ratings are recorded:

Cluster	Floodlit Courts	Non floodlit courts	Access via club	Book (usually Pay and Play)	No charge (usually open access)	Total No.	Good	Standard	Poor
Berkeley		4			4	4		2	2
Cam/Dursley	4	3	3	2	2	7	3	4	
Cotswold Fringe	6	3	8	1		9	8	1	
Gloucester Fringe		2	2			2	2		
Severn Vale	3		3			3	3		
Stonehouse		2			2	2			2
Stroud Valleys	15	4	11	8		19	17	2	
Wotton	4	5		9		9		9	
Total	32	23	26	20	8	55	33	18	4

- 6.2 It is a key finding of the Needs Assessment that there is evidence of robust demand for tennis in Stroud, primarily emanating from pro-active clubs, with a significant element of latent demand. There is increasing interest from juniors and from those wanting to improve their games through coaching and opportunities for a better standard of play.
- 6.3 Chalford, Frampton on Severn, Painswick and Minchinhampton tennis clubs are all large, self-sustaining clubs with buoyant junior sections. There is limited spare capacity at the courts and virtually none at peak time.
- 6.4 If the intent of the LTA and the District Council is to pursue a strategy to drive up tennis participation, the best approach may be to focus initially on park courts, to introduce more (young) people to the game, and then with progression routes to clubs as appropriate. Park-based facilities should play a core role in such a strategy, in encouraging people into tennis who might otherwise not want to (initially) join a club. Specifically, such opportunities exist at War Memorial Playing Fields, Dursley and Stratford Park, Stroud.
- 6.5 Therefore, although future population change will have some impact upon demand for outdoor tennis, it is likely that any such increase could be absorbed by improvements to the existing stock of facilities.
- 6.6 The following to be considered:
- Upgrade/improve tennis facilities at Stratford Park if possible via the 'Remote Access' scheme which has already been considered.
 - Protect and retain all existing courts as all have been identified as being used and with possibilities for enhanced use in the future (e.g. Hamfields Leisure Centre through links with SGS)
 - Refurbish other courts that currently have use and which would benefit from enhancement, on a phased basis – for example, the courts at the War Memorial Recreation Ground Dursley
 - See also findings re: indoor provision in Built Facilities Needs Assessment.

Bowls

- 6.7 There are 10 bowling greens – all 6 rink grass – in Stroud, where the following clubs are based: Cam Mills, Dursley, Falcon (Painswick), Painswick, Frampton upon Severn, Cotswold, Nailsworth Mills, Stroud (Stratford Park, Victory Park and Wotton under Edge).
- 6.8 One green is potentially under threat (Painswick – due to planned expansion of car parking). No major facility issues other than possible refurbishment of the bowls pavilion at Stratford Park
- 6.9 There is no evidence based upon current participation that there is demand for additional outdoor bowling facilities. While some greens operate a busy programme of fixtures, all clubs have capacity for additional members, and the flexibility of fixtures means that there is scope to accommodate more teams on existing greens. Assuming that each green can take at least six matches per week (12 teams assuming that teams play home and away alternately), based upon the number of members and teams run, no greens are at capacity.
- 6.10 Membership of around 80 bowlers has often been used as an indication of the health of a club. 3 clubs have between 70 and 80 members (Frampton upon Severn;

Stroud BC and Wotton under Edge). 4 clubs have between 40 and 60 members and 2 clubs have less than 40 members.

- 6.11 There is not a high latent demand for bowls, and despite an ageing population, relatively few new bowlers coming through from population growth. Whilst there may be additional bowlers generated through new housing, these will still be able to be accommodated in existing clubs. The national EBA are acutely aware of the issues in terms of declining membership facing bowls; in the Stroud area at least there are some pockets of activity.

7 General Themes and Priorities

- 7.1 The PPS will be a strategy to ensure that the right pitches are provided in the right places at the right price to ensure viability. The context for planning for the pitch sports has changed markedly in recent years, both nationally and in the Stroud area. The key issues to arise will be explored in more detail at the forthcoming Stage C Steering Group Meeting and focus on:

- G.1** Ensuring that sufficient, appropriate pitch sport facilities are provided and accessible and available to meet demand in Stroud DC from increases in population, including that from new housing growth, and participation to 2040.
- G.2** Adopting a pragmatic, sustainable approach which advocates in the first instance making the best use of facilities already available, in preference to new provision.
- G.3** Ensuring closer co-ordination between the education sector and buy-in of various establishments in moving proposals forward including town and parish councils
- G.4** To raise the profile of sport in contributing to enhanced mental and physical health and well-being and to consider the establishment of community sport, health and well being hub sites based around pitch sport provision.
- G.5** Enhancing facilities to ensure retention of players and attraction of new participants, particularly those still underrepresented in the pitch sports such as women, girls and people with disabilities.
- G.6** Protecting existing provision and focusing on increasing usage to ensure pitch sport sites remain viable and sustainable.

- 7.2 The remainder of this section sets out each of the key sites for further consideration with a brief presentation of the issues which the Strategy and Action Guide will address. The Action Guide will consider all sites, but these have been highlighted for discussion at the Stage C Meeting. They are not necessarily the main pitch or most important pitch sport sites in Stroud – but those with particular issues which require addressing.

- 7.3 The Key Sites are as follows. ‘General’ key sites are those which have been sometime identified as community health, sport and well being sites or where there are cross-sport issues, or issues re: tennis and bowls.

Key Sites by cluster for the Strategy to consider:

	Ground Name	Football	Cricket	Rugby	Hockey	General/ Other
SDBE.08	Hamfields Leisure Centre	X				X
SDBE.26	Rockhampton Cricket Club		X			
SDBE.71	Sharpness Recreation Ground	X				
SDBE.77	Thornhill Park	X				
SDCD.05	Dursley RFC			X		
SDCD.07	Everlands Ground, Cam	X	X			
SDCD.61	Jubilee Fields, Cam					X
SDCD.25	Norman Hill (Rednock School)					X
SDCD.42	Rednock School	X				
SDCD.39	Uley Playing Fields		X			
SDCD.80	War Memorial Rec. Gnd, Dursley	X				X
SDCF.12	King George V. Bisley		X			
SDCF.23	Painswick Recreation Ground					X
SDCF.24	Painswick RFC & Sports Club			X		
SDGF.09	Hardwicke Village Playing Fields	X				
SDGF.69	Rob Dawe Memorial Close	X				
SDGF.38	Upton St Leonard Recreation Ground		X			
SDSE.68	Reg Davies Memorial Ground	X				
SDSE.40	Whitminster Pavilion & Playing Fields	X	X			
SDST.15	Leonard Stanley Playing Fields	X				
SDST.43	Maidenhill School					X
SDST.66	Oldends Lane Playing Fields & Stadium	X				
SDST.22	Owen Harris Memorial Ground		X			X
SDST.41	Wycliffe College				X	
SDSV.01	Archway School	X				
SDSV.03	Chalford Sports & Social Club	X				
SDSV.62	King George V Playing Fields, Nailsworth	X				
SDSV.16	Marling School	X				
SDSV.65	Nailsworth Primary School					X
SDSV.33	Stratford Court Playing Fields	X	X			
SDSV.91	Stratford Park Leisure Centre				X	X
SDSV.89	Stroud RFC			X		
SDSV.35	Stuart Playing Field, Minchinhampton	X				
SDSV.44	Thomas Keble School					X
SDWO.14	Kingswood Playing Fields		X			
SDWO.45	Wotton Community Parc	X			X	X

8 Key Site Schedule: Key Findings and Issues

BERKELEY Site Ref	Site Name	Site - Single sport, shared or school	Key Findings and Issues
SDBE.08	Hamfields Leisure Centre	Single - football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 adult, 1 junior 9v9 and 2 mini pitches. New changing facilities nearing completion (S106 funded). No issues raised in respect of ground by clubs and no improvements required. • VQA observation that floodlights would be an advantage. Adult pitch has railings and dug outs. • SGS College and Berkely UTC now based on campus with expedted growth in students up to 1000. College is developing arrangements with Hamfields Community Trust to use pitch facilities • Site included because potential long-term site for 3G FTP provision and possible community SHW (Sport, Health & Well-being) hub site, through partnership with on-site SGS, Hamfields Community Trust and resident clubs (Sharpness AFC and Severnside Nuclear Juniors.
SDBE.26	Rockhampton Cricket Club	Single - cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass square; 10 wickets. VQA (Visual Quality Assessment): Good. High quality facility. • Proposals: Intention to increase size of square and further develop second pitch on site for junior play. • Need to use Rockhampton Common for 3rd & 4th senior teams and midweek juniors but could accommodate some additional play, especially Sundays.
SDBE.71	Sharpness Recreation Ground	Single - football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Council owned site; one adult pitch. Used by Sharpness AFC 3rd XI (1st & 2nd play at Hamfields) • Changing available in community hall over road which do not meet FA standards. • Valuable facility, which is potentially able to accommodate more play but lack of changing facilities limits capacity.
SDBE.77	Thornhill Park	Single - football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good stadium pitch, potentially able to accommodate additional use. Good access via A38 and M5. • Club have expressed desire for 3G training area as no area off-pitch for warm up for visiting teams etc • This site identified by FA and DC as potential as key football site – additional training facilities would fit with this but site is enclosed and very restricted.

CAM/ DURSLEY Site Ref	Site Name	Site - Single sport, shared or school	Key Issues and Findings
SDCD.05	Dursley Rugby Club	Shared – R,C.,B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resurgent cricket club. VQA: good. There is spare capacity at the ground to run another Saturday cricket team 3 full size (1 floodlit) + 3 mini/midi + partially floodlit training area for rugby The rugby capacity of this site would be increased by better floodlights on the training area and also floodlighting of Pitch 2 (Pitch 1 is floodlit, although lights are 10 years old) Site identified as potential SHW sports hub as partnership between Dursley Running Club, Dursley RFC and Stinchcombe Stragglers CC (also involves adjacent farmland)
SDCD.07	Everlands Ground, Cam	Shared – F,C.T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grass square; 5 wickets. VQA: Good. Shared changing in very poor condition and needs urgent replacement. Cricket pitch is technically overplayed (3rd & 4th play elsewhere) and club is considering how best to obtain access to additional, or larger, cricket facilities. . Adult football pitch rated as good for purposes of capacity analysis. Potential to accommodate additional teams outside of peak time. Sports club now considering building new changing block on site (leaving social facilities as they are) as possible move to Norman Hill seems increasingly unlikely. Any expansion in either football or cricket at the site will be difficult to accommodate.
SDCD.61	Jubilee Playing Fields, Cam	Single - football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large site with variety of pitch sizes currently 1 adult, 2 jnr 9v9, 2 mini 7v7 and 1 mini 5v5. PQA rated as standard. Adult pitch has slight spare capacity (possibly room for another team) but junior 9v9s are fully used. Also some spare capacity in theory on mini pitches, but conclude ground is used as fully and efficiently as possible. club copes by staggering kick off times. Site has been identified as possible SHW Hub site.
SDCD.25	Norman Hill (Rednock off-site) school	School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Off-site school playing field. Non turf cricket strip rated poor and now redundant. Rugby is the sole remaining pitch (currently cut and marked), but posts rusty. No community use. Flat, level, attractive site with various sports/options pursued over the years. Minimal school use because of distance from school and this is unlikely to change. Changing facilities now fenced off and out of use; could be reinstated. Important site in Dursley; future options should be investigated further.

CAM/ DURSLEY Site Ref	Site Name	Site - Single sport, shared or school	Key Issues and Findings
SDCD.42	Rednock School	School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only full size floodlit 3G FTP provision in Stroud District. Pitch is not FA Registered this year . • Pitch is fully used on weekday evenings but not used as weekends for matchplay, other than to accommodate occasional postponed matches • Important to make best use of this facility and work towards FA Registration and affordable matchplay slots.
SDCD.39	Uley Playing Fields	Shared – F,C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 grass wickets. Cricket and football pitches assessed as standard. • Underused ground for cricket – just 5 matches per season • Football pitch could accommodate more play outside of peak times. • No other issues identified but visits suggests smart village facility which has spare pitch sport capacity.
SDCD.80	War Memorial Recreation Ground, Dursley	Single - football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major open space site in central Dursley accommodating range of informal and casual use as well as football. Adult pitches have some potential for additional use at peak times. • Important site in the district for women’s and girls’ football (Dursley Ladies and Girls FC.) Identified by FA for pitch improvements to provide better playing surface to support this; enhanced changing facilities would also support. • Tennis courts identified as possible site for enhancement and floodlighting

COTSWOLD FRINGE Site Ref	Site Name	Site - Single sport, shared or school	Key Issues and Findings
SDCF.12	King George V Playing Fields, Bisley	Shared – F,C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fairly remote site from the rest of the district. Unused cricket ground for at least a couple of years. Square apparent but uncut. Ground could fairly easily be reinstated. • 1 adult football pitch rated standard; used by Chalford AFC 4th XI this season, so spare capacity for another Saturday team.. Ground is not rated highly by clubs, due to issues around maintenance, grass cutting and poor changing. • Highlighted for cricket especially as one of several underused grounds in the district
SDCF.24	Painswick RFC &	Shared – R,C,T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 grass square; 10 wickets. VQA: Good. No issues with cricket; club runs 4 adult and 2 junior

COTSWOLD FRINGE Site Ref	Site Name	Site - Single sport, shared or school	Key Issues and Findings
	Sports Club		<p>teams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 adult rugby – one fully floodlit and 2nd pitch partially floodlit. Very faint markings for 3 mini/midi pitches around cricket square. • Technically overplayed main pitch with only limited spare capacity on mini/midi pitches. • Improving floodlighting of 2nd rugby pitch would increase capacity
SDCF.23	Painswick Recreation Ground	Shared	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bowls green and clubhouse potentially may be lost under plans to provide car parking

GLOUCESTER FRINGE Site Ref	Site Name	Site - Single sport, shared or school	Key Issues and Findings
SDGF.09	Hardwicke Village Hall Playing Fields	Single - football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public recreation ground with on-site village hall which includes changing facilities • 1 adult football pitch and 2 minis rated as standard. Adult pitch being played to the level the site can sustain; some spare capacity on mini pitches • Site (as public open space) is not suitable for standard of play of Hardwicke AFC (barriers cannot remain around pitch; pitch requires constant maintenance) • Club would like separate changing facilities for the club - key site for FA focus.
SDGF.69	Rob Dawe Memorial Close	Single - football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult and junior pitch, rated standard, are being used to the level the site can sustain – there is very little spare capacity. Site accommodates almost all Hardwicke Rangers Youth FC teams. • Changing facilities provided in temporary portacabins. Club have advanced plans to replace with permanent changing and clubhouse facilities, but problems over remaining length and terms of lease – site may be vulnerable. No equivalent, replacement sites nearby.
SDGF.38	Upton Recreation Ground	Shared – F,C.,T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 grass pitch; 12 wickets. VQA: Good. Site accommodates 4 adult teams, several junior teams and other representative matches and cricket activity. Site is overplayed for cricket. • One adult football pitch rated as standard (because of recent drainage works) but meets requirements of Northern League Division 1. No other issues for football. .

SEVERN VALE Site Ref	Site Name	Site - Single sport, shared or school	Key Issues and Findings
SDSE.68	Reg Davies Memorial Field	Single - football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large open site with range of pitch sizes, all rated standard. 1 adult, 2 x 9v9, 1 x 7v7 and 2 x 5v5. Some spare capacity including at peak times but in general the ground is well and efficiently used • Aspiration for on site, indoor training facilities. There is an area of the ground not currently used for pitches where a mini size indoor training area could be provided.
SDSE.40	Whitminster Pavilion	Shared – F,C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 grass cricket pitch; 10 wickets, rated good. Potentially able to accommodate some additional play outside of peak times • 1 adult and 1 mini football pitches rated good/standard. There is a little spare capacity outside of peak times. Main base for Cotswold Rangers adult teams and some youth. • The pavilion is large but very outdated and unattractive given the other good attributes of the ground and is identified as requiring replacement or major renovation.

STONEHOUSE Site Ref	Site Name	Site - Single sport, shared or school	Key Issues and Findings
SDST.15	Leonard Stanley Playing Fields	Single - football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 adult, 1 9v9, 1 7v7 and 2x 5v5 mini football pitches, rated standard. Adult and youth pitches full at peak time with a little spare capacity in week; mini pitches have spare capacity. • Pitches on open playing field site and vulnerable to fouling by dogs • Key site as developing as a football hub but range of improvements to pitches and changing facilities required if club is to progress. further
SDST.22	Owen Harris Memorial Ground	Shared – F,C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pleasant large, open site with attractive changing facilities. • 1 grass square with 5 wickets, rated good. Identified as considerable spare capacity for cricket • 2 adult football pitches catering for a range of teams, rated good. Taverners FC 1st XI is located here as ground meets league requirements. • Also identified as potential SHW hub site, although location may mitigate against this.
SDST.66	Oldends Lane Playing Field	Single - football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stonehouse Town FC stadium pitch rated as good. Major plans for development of car park for housing and upgrading of clubhouse facilities through S106 funding; also improvements to floodlighting funded ready for when club is promoted.

STONEHOUSE Site Ref	Site Name	Site - Single sport, shared or school	Key Issues and Findings
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also 2 adult, 1 junior 9v9 and 2 mini pitches on adjacent land rated as standard, with some spare capacity. • Well used football hub site with possible potential for a 3G FTP (sites limited in Stonehouse)?
SDST.41	Wycliffe College	School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sand based AGP in good condition but not secured for community use • Important facility for hockey in Stroud but only for training; not available at weekends. • Identified by FA as important for football training (but only because of lack of 3G FTPs in Stroud?)
SDST.43	Maidenhill School	School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Football and rugby pitches on-site which have been used by the community in the past. • Grass pitches now managed by the school and no recorded community use. (Stonehouse Sport run indoor facilities) • Need to establish potential and willingness for school to develop/continue community use of football and rugby pitches in the future? • Also identified as possible SHW hub site.

STROUD VALLEYS Site Ref	Site Name	Site - Single sport, shared or school	Key Issues and Findings
SDSV.01	Archway School	School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 adult and 1 9v9 football pitches with established community use. Rated standard and being played to the level the site can sustain. • Vitally important site for Stroud RFC juniors – u6-u13s play here and site is used to capacity on Sundays. • Preferred site identified in Strategy for 3G FTP provision..
SDSV.03	Chalford Sports and Social Club (Highfield Sports Ground)	Shared – F,C.,T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass square; 12 wickets. Good quality. Ground approaching capacity but still able to accommodate more outside peak time (Saturdays) • 2 adult football and 1 mini pitch rated good/standard. Little spare capacity for football and works well with primary school pitches next door in accommodating any overflow. • Very active sporting hub with plans to extend changing/clubhouse to meet requirements for possible promotion.

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STROUD VALLEYS Site Ref	Site Name	Site - Single sport, shared or school	Key Issues and Findings
SDSV.62	King George V Playing Fields, Nailsworth	Shared – F,T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult football pitch rated as standard (because on a tiered bank) but otherwise with very good playing surface and attractive ground. One team playing here (Taverners FC 2nd XI) so potential to accommodate additional play at peak times. • Option to remodel/level the site and enlarge the pitch? Taverners FC 1st XI is a Nailsworth club currently playing at Owen Harris Memorial Ground but would prefer to play in Nailsworth.
SDSV.16	Marling School	School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 grass square; 8 wickets. VQA: Good. Regular community use for cricket and (probably) being played to the level the site can sustain. • Site also used by several football clubs on regular basis. No community use for rugby • Possible location for a 3G FTP.
SDSV.65	Nailsworth CofE Primary School	School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very good full size adult pitch on school site next to Forest Green Rovers .No known community use at present, although has been valuable football facility in the past. • Plans advanced for MUGA on the site – need to clarify if pitch will be affected.?
SDSV.91	Stratford Park Leisure Centre	AGP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sand based AGP in good condition. Peak time use at capacity. • Important facility, especially for hockey matchplay and training (and football training as no 3G FTP in the town) • Stroud Hockey Club would like all their teams to be able to be accommodated for training and matchplay on this pitch • No separate clubhouse for hockey • Major enhancement of tennis courts identified and improved access/usage arrangement • Refurbishment of bowling pavilion?
SDSV.33	Stratford Court Playing Fields	Shared – F,C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important playing field site in the town • Cricket square evident but not cut. No cricket on site for past 2 years. Redundant artificial strip separate to cricket square restricts capacity and alignment for football pitches. • For football, site currently accommodates 1 adult pitch, 1 9v9 and 3 x 7v7 pitches, with various overmarkings for 5v5 pitches. Adult pitch is being played to the level it can sustain; junior pitch is being overplayed slightly and there is a little spare capacity on mini pitches. • Changing facility is acceptable; but any intensification of use would benefit from enhanced and improved facilities including officials' changing. • Various proposals advanced for this site; strategy recommends maintaining as cricket site;

STROUD VALLEYS Site Ref	Site Name	Site - Single sport, shared or school	Key Issues and Findings
			removing redundant wicket and considering basing all Rodborough Youth FC teams here.
SDSV.89	Stroud Rugby Club (Fromehall Park)	Single – rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 full size, floodlit rugby pitch and quarter size, partially floodlit, training area. Quality good. • Main pitch probably overplayed as accommodates u13 upwards fixtures as well as adult play. . • Club say that all senior matches and training can be accommodated but space is woefully inadequate for the Mini and Junior section necessitating them relocating to Archway School every weekend. • Showers and changing areas are old, tired and much in need of refurbishment. • The search for a new site for Stroud RFC youth teams has been going on for many years. 3-4 rugby pitches required to accommodate them.
SDSV.35	Stuart Playing Field , Minchinhampton	Shared – F,C.,T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 grass cricket pitch; 12 wickets. VQA: Good. Potentially able to accommodate some additional play outside of peak times. • Adult football, junior 9v9 and 2 x 5v5 football pitches which have some spare capacity. Identified as key site as not clear why more junior football is not played here (and other youth teams play on other pitches)? • Separate changing facilities for all sports (including tennis). Vibrant, sporting hub site.
SDSV.44	Thomas Keble School	School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School with extensive playing fields – at least 2 adult football pitches and rugby pitch, rated standard • Recorded community in the past but not at present. Need to identify why? • Also identified as possible SHW hub site.

WOTTON Ref No	Site Name	Site - Single sport or shared	Key Issues and Findings
SDWO.14	Kingswood Playing Fields	Shared – F,C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 grass square; 4 wickets. VQA: Standard. • 1 adult football pitch rated as standard • Good changing within modern village hall on site. • Pitches have considerable spare capacity for both cricket and football. • Identified as key site because of underuse for cricket – how to best support/increase use?
SDWO.45	Wotton Community Parc/Katharine Lady Berkeley School	School/Community Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One adult rugby pitch with training floodlights. Rated standard. • Recently installed non turf cricket wicket which school wishes to promote for community use. • 2 adult football pitches and 2 x 9v9 pitches being efficiently used and operating at the level they can sustain. • Full size sand based AGP: operating at full capacity with Wotton Hockey Club and Dursley Hockey Club teams for training and matchplay and some football use • Smaller 3G FTP fully used for football training and junior matches; spare capacity Sundays. • Changing facilities are now insufficient for the range and amount of community use of this site and new community sports hub clubhouse and separate changing for various sports required (football, rugby and hockey) • Possible location for additional, artificial surface.- to be discussed further.