



# **North East Lincolnshire Council**

## **Playing Pitch Strategy 2020 -2032**

July 2020

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## Glossary & Abbreviations

3G	Third generation pitch (artificial grass)
AGP	Artificial grass pitch
NTP	Non-Turf Pitch
FTP	Football Turf Pitch
AONB	Area of Natural Beauty
CC	Cricket Club
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy
CFA	County Football Association
CSP	County Sports Partnership
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FE	Further Education
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
HC	Hockey Club
HE	Higher Education
JFC	Junior Football Club
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
LMS	Last Man Stands
NGB	National Governing Body
ONS	Office of National Statistics
PF	Playing Field
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
RFC	Rugby Football Club
RFL	Rugby Football League
RFU	Rugby Football Union
S106	Section 106
TGR	Team Generation Rate
Secured Community Use	For pitches that are available to the community the degree of certainty that this availability will continue needs to be recorded (i.e. how secure is the availability to the community?). Unless local information suggests otherwise it can be assumed that the availability of all pitches in Local Authority, town and parish council and sports club ownership will be secure.
Unsecured Community Use	Mainly educational sites where the following should be in place to ensure certainty of secured community use: if not in place then the site provides unsecured community use. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A formal community use agreement</li><li>• A leasing or management agreement requiring pitches to be available to the community/a community club</li><li>• A formal policy for community use adopted by the owner and or educational establishment</li><li>• Written confirmation from the owner and or educational establishment.</li></ul>
Match Equivalent Sessions	Pitches have a limit of how much play they can accommodate over a certain period of time before their quality, and in turn their use, is adversely affected. As the main usage of pitches is likely to be for matches, it is appropriate for the comparable unit to be match equivalent sessions.

**Note on definitions of artificial pitch surfaces.**

Sport England has produced guidance on “Selecting the Right Artificial Surface for Hockey, Football, Rugby League and Rugby Union” This guidance should be followed when selecting an artificial surface. The guidance can be found at:

<https://www.sportengland.org/media/4275/selecting-the-right-artificial-surface-rev2-2010.pdf>

Throughout the PPS the following abbreviations are used to describe specific types of playing pitch facility that has an artificial surface rather than natural grass.

NTP or non-turf pitch refers to an artificial turf sports surface designed specifically for cricket.

3G - third generation football turf pitch. This pitch type comprises blades of polypropylene of 40mm to 65mm in length (i.e. short pile or long pile) supported by a thin base layer of sand and by an infill of rubber crumb. The 3G playing surface is laid on various types of stone base with or without a porous macadam layer and shock pad. Football Turf Pitches (FTPs) are suitable for football to a high level of competition.

AGP - stands for an England Hockey recognised artificial grass pitch which is either sand based/dressed or water playing surface. Football training but not competitive football can take place on this surface.

World Rugby Reg22 Compliant stands for a long pile FTP 3G with an engineered sub base system (of stone base, porous tarmac layer and shock pad) and are accepted by the rugby governing bodies (RFU and RFL).

## 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This is the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) for North East Lincolnshire Council (NELC, the “Council”) and its partners. The PPS builds upon the preceding Assessment Report (Stage C) but has been revisited since its original Stage C draft produced in 2018 as not all NGB and Scorecard information had been received or understood, therefore, due to the passage of time this version includes the most up-to-date assessment or information to allow signoff by the NGBs and Sport England. The PPS provides a framework for future provision and management of sports pitches to serve existing and new communities across North East Lincolnshire.
- 1.2. In line with the Government’s National Planning Policy Framework, the PPS sets out to assess existing sports pitches, the future need for sports pitches, and opportunities for new provision. The data for each sport is based upon 2019/20 season for football, 2018 season for cricket, 2018/19 season for Rugby Union and 2019 season for Hockey.
- 1.3. The PPS will run to 2025 (five years based on Sport England recommendations), but should be reviewed on an annual basis to keep it up-to-date and robust. However future demand is taken into account to 2032 (in line with the draft new Local Plan 2013 - 2032) and should be reviewed in accordance with Stage E of the Sport England PPS guidance (see Part 7).
- 1.4. The PPS has been developed in partnership with a range of agencies including the Council, Sport England, national governing bodies of sport including football, cricket, rugby union and hockey and local football, hockey, rugby union, and cricket clubs.
- 1.5. This PPS is based on a supply and demand assessment of playing pitch facilities in accordance with Sport England’s PPS Guidance: An Approach to Developing and Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy 2013:<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/planning-for-sport/planning-tools-andguidance/playing-pitch-strategy-guidance/>
- 1.6. The development of the PPS has been overseen by a Steering Group made up of representatives from:
  - **Sport England;**
  - **England Hockey;**
  - **NELC Assets, Planning, Grounds Maintenance services**
  - **Lincs Inspire Ltd;**
  - **England and Wales Cricket Board;**
  - **Football Association;**
  - **Rugby Football Union;**
- 1.7. It will be important for the Steering Group to continue once the PPS has been adopted by NELC. The reasons for this are:
  - **To implement the PPS recommendations and action plan.**
  - **Monitor and evaluate the outcomes of the PPS.**
  - **Ensure that the PPS is kept up to date.**
- 1.8. The PPS is for the whole Borough not just the Council. However, the Council has a lead role to play but at the same time the PPS has to be considered in the context of reducing budgets for local authorities and savings that mean a reduction in the resources available for the Council to maintain playing pitches and ancillary facilities.

- 1.9. Hub Sites – The PPS will seek to develop sufficient, fit for purpose, quality Community Sports Hub sites, whereby existing multi-pitch sites (which are easier to manage and operate) are maintained and where possible new Community Sports Hubs sites are developed.
- 1.10 The PPS identifies that lapsed or disused playing fields may be sold for housing developments to provide funds for new or improved quality playing pitches elsewhere across existing playing field sites or creating new playing field sites within North East Lincolnshire (NEL).
- 1.11 The provision of improved quality pitch provision across existing sites and new replacement playing pitches of equivalent size would meet the requirements of Sport England Playing Fields Policy Exemption 4. The lapsed and disused playing pitches identified currently have no pitch sport participation on them.
- 1.12 The priority is to ensure that the current and future shortfall in provision for youth 11 v 11 football, junior 9 v 9 football, cricket, 3G football turf pitches and rugby can be met. The Council has developed a deliverable plan to ensure sufficient provision as outlined at section XX of this strategy. On the basis the Council evidence delivery of mitigation against this plan, the lapsed or disused pitches will be considered surplus and progressed for development.
- 1.13 The aim of the PPS is:
- ‘to provide an assessment of the “fit for purpose” of the sports pitches and facilities, whilst identifying opportunities for retaining, reducing or removing this provision and prospects for new provision and partnerships. The assessment should identify specific needs and quantitative and/or qualitative deficits or spare capacity of sports pitches and facilities in North East Lincolnshire.’***
- 1.14 NELC has an approved Local Plan 2013 - 2032 for the Borough and the PPS will support the policy approaches in the plan rather than provide an evidence base for the policy. There is no commitment to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) at present but if the Council decides to introduce CIL in the future, the PPS will provide the evidence base for the production of the Regulation 123 list of CIL funded infrastructure.
- 1.15 The PPS will also provide evidence for funding bids from National Sports bodies like Sport England and the National Governing Bodies (NGB's) of sport.
- 1.16 NELC will use the PPS to understand current needs for its playing pitch and playing pitch ancillary facilities portfolio, and future need for provision, driven by increased population, and identification of any gaps in the existing facility network.
- 1.17 The development of the PPS will enable NELC and other local providers to shape their future playing pitch facilities offer; this may comprise of direct Council provision and that undertaken by education, voluntary, community, private sectors and National Governing Body's.
- 1.18 The development of the PPS is an opportunity to set out a strategic vision for the future provision of playing pitch facilities, based on robust evidence and a needs assessment.
- 1.19 The PPS will help to protect playing fields from loss and make sure the right type, and quantity, of new pitches are provided as part of existing and new developments and future growth sites.
- 1.20 The PPS will underpin the contribution that sport, and the facilitation of opportunities to have a healthy lifestyle, make to the NELC strategic outcomes and will also help provide a rationale to enable National Governing Bodies to further invest and deliver their working outcomes in North East Lincolnshire as outlined in their Whole Sport Plans.

- 1.21 The PPS will also provide evidence to support funding bids from other funders, whilst also supporting requests for S106 developer contributions and CIL (if appropriate) following building developments. Additionally, the strategy will help focus internal revenue and capital spend in the medium/ long term.

### Population and Growth

- 1.22 North East Lincolnshire (NEL) is a small unitary authority in the Yorkshire and Humber region, covering an area of 192km<sup>2</sup>. The majority of the resident population live in the towns of Grimsby and Cleethorpes, with the remainder living in the smaller town of Immingham, or in surrounding villages.
- 1.23 North East Lincolnshire is bordered by the local authority areas of North Lincolnshire, East Lindsey and West Lindsey.
- 1.24 Significant population growth is anticipated in North East Lincolnshire over the next 15 years as a result of implementation of a growth-orientated economic strategy. This could see the development of circa 13,340 new homes between 2013 and 2032. As a consequence, the Council is seeking to develop a long-term strategy for future provision and delivery of playing pitch and ancillary provision to serve future needs across the Borough.
- 1.25 The local Plan sets a baseline housing requirement of 9,742 but importantly provides the flexibility in supply to deliver the higher figure of 13,340 based upon capturing the benefits of employment growth locally.
- 1.26 The majority of the population, and future residential growth, will be in and around the urban area of Grimsby/Cleethorpes and the independent town of Immingham, with further growth in the arc settlements of Healing, Laceby, Waltham, New Waltham and Humberston.
- 1.27 Understanding the needs of different pitch sports at a local level enables NELC to provide appropriately to meet the needs of its communities. It is inevitable that the needs of communities change over time and participative requirements of individual sports change. The demand for these at a local level need to be assessed and modelled to understand what this means in terms of actual pitch provision, otherwise the Council could be providing too much or too little, thinking they are addressing local needs, when in fact they are not.
- 1.28 The very fact that the requirements of sports change is one of the several justifications for undertaking the PPS at a local level and critically for updating this analysis annually. However, it must also be understood that the PPS represents a 'snap-shot' in time based upon the anticipated level of growth planned for NELC.

## PPS Headline Findings

1.29 Table 1.1 shows the quantitative findings from the PPS Stage C Assessment Report.

**Table: 1.1: Headline Findings Football Grass Pitches, 3G football Turf Pitches, Cricket, Hockey & Rugby Union**

Sport	Current demand 2017	Future demand 2032 using Office National Statistics (ONS) Sub National Population Projections 2017 -2032
<b>Football (grass pitches)</b>	<p>Adult 11 v 11 - Demand is being met for adult match equivalent sessions at peak time of play on secure community use pitches.</p> <p>Youth 11 v 11 – Shortfall of 5 youth 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions at peak time of play on secure community use pitches.</p> <p>Junior 9 v 9 - Shortfall 11 match equivalent sessions at peak time of play on secure community use pitches.</p> <p>Mini Soccer 7 v 7 – Demand can be met with the current use off secured community use match equivalent sessions at peak time of play on secure community use pitches.</p> <p>Mini Soccer 5 v 5 – Demand can be met with the current use off secured community use match equivalent sessions at peak time of play on secure community use pitches.</p>	<p>Adult 11 v 11 – Demand is projected to be met from current match equivalent sessions at peak time of play on secure community use pitches.</p> <p>Youth 11 v 11 - Shortfall of 9 youth 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions at peak time of play on secure community use pitches.</p> <p>Junior 9 v 9 – Shortfall 13 match equivalent sessions at peak time of play on secure community use pitches.</p> <p>Mini Soccer 7 v 7 – Demand can be met with the current use off secured community use match equivalent sessions at peak time of play on secure community use pitches.</p> <p>Mini soccer 5 v 5 – Demand can be met with the current use off secured community use match equivalent sessions at peak time of play on secure community use pitches.</p>
<b>Football 3G football turf Pitches</b>	Shortfall of 4 full size 3G football turf pitches based upon the FA training model. This is after considering the 1 current full size existing 3G football turf pitch.	Shortfall of 5 full size 3G football turf pitches based upon the FA training model. This is after considering the 1 current full size existing 3G football turf pitch.
<b>Cricket</b>	Shortfall and overplay of 28 match equivalent sessions across North East Lincolnshire per season.	Shortfall and overplay of 97 match equivalent sessions across North East Lincolnshire. This includes latent demand, sports development initiatives and current under play.
<b>Hockey</b>	Current demand is being met on 2 unsecured community use AGPs and 1 secured AGP with a Community Use Agreement.	Future demand can be met but currently on 2 unsecured AGPs and 1 secured with a Community Use Agreement.
<b>Rugby Union</b>	Current demand is being met at peak time of play. There is over play when training and matches are included of 4 match and training equivalent sessions.	Future demand is met at peak time of play. There is over play of 9.5 match equivalent sessions when training and match equivalent session are included.

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

## Football – Headlines

- 1.30 The adult 11 v 11 current demand is met from existing available match equivalent sessions at peak time of play. There are 23 match equivalent sessions required at peak time and there are 30 match equivalent sessions available offering secured community use.
- 1.31 By 3032 there is a requirement for 30 adult 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions at peak time of play. There are currently 30 match equivalent sessions in secured community use. There are sufficient adult 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions with secured community use for future use.
- 1.32 There are teams that play in the English National Football League system. For the 2019/20 season Cleethorpes Town FC play at Step 4, Grimsby Borough FC play at Step 5, and Step 7 teams are Cleethorpes Town Reserves, Grimsby Borough Reserves and Immingham Town FC. Cleethorpes Town has received a grant from the Premier League to fund pitch and clubhouse improvements at their Linden home ground. Grimsby Borough FC play at the stadia pitch at Bradley Development Centre.
- 1.33 There is a current demand for 18 youth 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions at peak time of play. There are currently 7 sites providing 13 match equivalent sessions in secured community use at peak time of play. This provides a shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions.
- 1.34 There is some overplay of adult pitches by youth 11 v 11 teams and these have been included in the current demand for 18 youth 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions. The youth match equivalent sessions should be played on the correct size pitch for this age group.
- 1.35 There are currently 12 youth 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions available with unsecured community use and 13 match equivalent sessions in secured community use. There is a need to provide formal community use agreements for the unsecured community use match equivalent sessions to meet the need and safeguard use of pitches for youth 11 v 11 teams currently and in the future. However, this is not always achievable.
- 1.36 By 2032 the projected need for youth 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions is 22. The current secure community use match equivalent sessions equal 13. There is an additional need for 9 youth 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions, which equates to 9 pitches. The under supply of 9 youth 11 v 11 pitches by 2032 reduces to 4, if the 5 adult pitches required within the Local Plan Policy 14 relating to Grimsby West (3 adult pitches) and Humberston Road (2 adult pitches) are configured as youth 11 v 11 pitches. If these 5 pitches are provided as good quality pitches, they will provide 15 match equivalent sessions with back to back play meeting the requirement of 9 match equivalent sessions.
- 1.37 There is a current demand for 19 junior 9 v 9 match equivalent sessions at peak time of play. This includes exported teams and those teams over playing other pitch typologies. Currently there are 5 sites providing 8 match equivalent sessions with secured community use at peak time of play. The current shortfall of 11 match equivalent sessions can be overcome partially by formal community use agreements in place at 5 sites providing 5 currently unsecured match equivalent sessions. However, this is not always achievable.
- 1.38 By 2032 the projected requirement for junior 9 v 9 match equivalent sessions are 21. There are currently 8 match equivalent sessions with secured community use and therefore insufficient junior 9 v 9 match equivalent sessions to meet the future predicted match equivalent session demand in 2032. There are currently 5 unsecured match equivalent sessions that would require formal community use agreements. However, this is not always achievable. This means that there is a need for 13 additional junior 9 v 9 secured community use match equivalent sessions in 2032.
- 1.39 There may be opportunities to move some of the 9 v 9 match equivalent sessions onto 3G football turf pitches in the future. 13 junior 9 v 9 matches on 3G football turf would require 1 3G football turf pitch.

- 1.40 There is a current need for 17 mini soccer 7 v 7 match equivalent sessions and there are 8 sites in secured community use providing 38 match equivalent sessions per week. There are 3 sites providing 8 unsecured match equivalent sessions per week. By providing back to back play and ensuring individual capacity of pitches is not exceeded there are sufficient mini soccer 7 v 7 pitches currently and in the future.
- 1.41 By 2032 there is a projected demand for 21 mini 7 v 7 pitches at peak time of play. With formal community use agreements in place and the existing secured community use match equivalents there are sufficient mini soccer 7 v 7 match equivalents weekly with back to back play to meet the projected demand in 2032.
- 1.42 There is a current demand for 13 mini soccer 5 v 5 match equivalent sessions at peak time of play and currently there are 4 sites with secured community use providing 8 pitches and capacity for 38 match equivalent sessions weekly. There is a predicted need for 15 match equivalent sessions in 2032. There are sufficient match equivalent sessions with back to back play to meet current and future need to 2032.
- 1.43 In summary there are sufficient 7 v 7 and 5 v 5 pitches to meet current and future demand if secured community use match equivalent sessions are played back to back. There is a need for 13 additional junior 9 v 9 pitches providing 13 match equivalent sessions, which can be met by transferring matches in the future to 3G football turf. The under supply of 9 youth 11 v 11 pitches by 2032 reduces to 4 if the 5 adult pitches required within the Local Plan Policy 14 relating to Grimsby West (3 adult pitches) and Humberston Road (2 adult pitches) are configured as youth 11 v 11 pitches. If these 5 pitches are provided as good quality pitches, they will provide 15 match equivalent sessions with back to back play meeting the requirement of 9 match equivalent sessions.

### 3G football Turf Headlines

- 1.44 There is currently 1 x 3G football turf pitch in North East Lincolnshire, which is full size and is on the FA pitch register at Bradley Football Development Ground. There is a smaller 3G football turf pitch at West Marsh Community Centre (part funded from the Football Foundation) and 2 smaller 3G football turf pitches at King George V Stadium. All 3G football turf pitches are available for community use. West Marsh community Centre 3G small sided pitch requires improvements.
- 1.45 There is current demand for 5 x 3G football turf pitch full size 3G pitches. This leaves a current shortfall of 4 full size 3G football turf pitches against the current supply of 1 full size 3G football turf pitch. The future demand in 2032 predicts a need for 6 full size football turf pitches to meet training needs. This is a shortfall of 5 full size 3G football turf pitches against the current supply of 1 full size 3G football turf pitch.
- 1.46 There are currently no World Rugby Regulation 22 compliant pitches in NEL. A pitch of this type should be considered going forward to meet the needs of projected overplay for Rugby by 2032 of 9.5 match and training equivalent sessions. A site in the strategy area is required that could be accessed easily by both clubs. Club sites and others should be explored along with partnership working to provide funding between the Council, Football Foundation, County FA and Rugby Football Union.
- 1.47 Given that there is only the one full-sized 3G FTP facility (located to the west of Grimsby), the geographic spread of existing facilities is uneven. There are provision gaps in Cleethorpes and Humberston despite the large affiliated club demand, high population levels and substantive deprivation. It is recommended that these shortfalls are addressed.

- 1.48 The FA model for 3G football turf pitches for match play has been used to identify the number of 3G football turf pitches required if matches were played on 3G football turf pitches by typology. The number of pitches required are shown in the following scenarios:
- **Scenario 1** - To move all football games onto 3G football turf pitches there would be a need to provide 34 x 3G football turf pitches.
  - **Scenario 2** - To move 50% of all 9 v 9, 7 v 7 and 5 v 5 onto 3G football turf pitches there will be a need to provide 4 x (3.5 rounded up) 3G football turf pitches
  - **Scenario 3** - To move all North East Lincolnshire Council 5 v 5, 7 v 7 and 9 v 9 matches onto 3G football turf pitches there would be a need for 7 x 3G football turf pitches.
  - **Scenario 4** – To move 13 x 9 v 9 matches onto 3G football Turf pitches there would be a need for 1 x 3G football turf pitch.
- 1.49 There is a need to carry out consultation with leagues/clubs to gauge acceptance of moving competitive play to 3G pitches in the future particularly 9 v 9, 7 v 7 and 5 v 5. New 3G pitches need to achieve the FIFA Quality Performance Standard and have community use agreements in place as a condition of planning, otherwise these pitches have no impact on weekend match play.
- 1.50 To mitigate the shortfall, development opportunities are being explored at sites which are currently disused and lapsed sites which will result in the proceeds from disposal supporting proposals to create quality sports hubs at two (2) sites, namely:
- **Clee Fields** - significant investment to provide a multi-pitch 'Hub' site which collectively, with the adjacent King George V Stadium site, provide new 3G pitches (one on the area of the condemned artificial pitch); improved existing pitches, including a World Rugby Regulation 22 3G pitch also suitable for football; running track and ancillary studio and changing facilities; and
  - **Barrett's Recreation Ground** – including land which was formerly the site of Grimsby Swimming Pool – significant investment to redesign the existing site together with the new land to create a multi-pitch 'Hub' which collectively create a new 3G pitch and grass pitches; upgrading existing pitches as well as existing sports such as Bowls, Tennis, Cricket and ancillary changing facilities. The 3G pitch will be a community accessible pitch and may be located either on this site or the site adjacent home to Oasis Wintringham Academy.
- 1.51 Subject to a specific site feasibility, the Council, in conjunction with the playing pitch NGBs, will deliver at least three (3) full size new 3G artificial grass pitches, (1 Football Turf Pitch and 1 World Regulation 22 rugby compliant 3G pitch also suitable for football). Two (2) of these pitches will be located at Clee Fields and one (1) 3G Football Turf Pitch at Barrett's Recreation Ground (or the adjacent Oasis Academy Site). The Oasis Academy site will be subject to the protection of the existing artificial grass pitch being protected for hockey unless otherwise agreed with England Hockey.

## Cricket Headlines

- 1.52 The total capacity for cricket pitches across NEL is 283 match equivalent sessions per season on grass pitches and the capacity is 255 match equivalent sessions per season with a shortfall of 28 match equivalent sessions per season across the whole of the Borough. The demand for non-turf pitches is 61 match equivalent sessions and capacity is 240 with underplay of 179 match equivalent sessions. Bradley Recreation Ground has 3 non turf pitches that have been rated as 0 due to their condition and need replacing as has Butt Lane Playing Field non turf pitch. The Barratts Recreation Ground non turf pitches will need replacing in the near future.

- 1.53 Underplay of NTPs needs to be treated with caution. The reality is that leagues currently do not allow usage of NTPs in match play situations and junior cricket only teams U13 and below age groups would utilise an NTP. This means that clubs in formalised weekend cricket in the study area do not have the ability to play on NTPs for their league fixtures now and this is unlikely to change in the short term. One site Oasis Wintringham has no formal community use agreement in place. ECB and Lincolnshire Cricket will need to educate cricket networks as to the use of NTPs in the future to alleviate some grass over play. This is not an overnight solution but one where it is believed more cricket could and should be played on NTP to reduce running costs for clubs.
- 1.54 Cleethorpes Cricket Club has to play at an alternative ground in Immingham to its home ground on Sundays (4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>s and Sunday Academy) as only one game can be played on one square at one time. There is overplay of 15 match equivalent sessions on grass wickets at Cleethorpes CC. There is potential for this club to field a team in the U19 T20 competition in the short term. This would mean an additional maximum of 8 match equivalent sessions per season, taking borough wide over play to 27 (19 + 8) match equivalent sessions per season.
- 1.55 Grimsby Town Cricket Club has 17 wickets but realistically only 14 can be used given the boundary restrictions. The lowest, 14 pitches have been used in the supply and demand assessment. The current over-play on this site is 4 match equivalent sessions per season.
- 1.56 The British Legion site is an unsecured site. It is currently used by midweek league clubs. If this site was removed from play, overplay across North East Lincolnshire would rise to 64 match equivalent sessions per week.
- 1.57 The Linden Club cricket square has been reduced to 5 pitches due to the need for fencing around the football pitch. Hence the reason for the 29-match equivalent session overplay on the site.
- 1.58 Cricket Unleashed, the strategy for cricket 2016 -2022 placed engagement of women and girls at the forefront of this strategy alongside the role of the new 5 – 9 years of age All Stars cricket programme. The ECB All Stars initiative for 2017 and 2018 aimed at 5 – 9-year olds, proved to be very successful nationally and attracted 37,000 children and the target for 2018 has been raised considerably. ECB's new strategy 'Inspiring Generations' builds on the strong foundations laid by 'Cricket Unleashed', and this document lays out the strategy to grow cricket in England and Wales between 2020-24. At the heart of this strategy is a single unifying purpose, which gets to the core of what the game can do for society both on and off the field. This is coupled with an ambition for what success looks like by the end of this strategic period to ensure that the game is in an even stronger position than it is today. Inspiring Generations 2020 – 2024 can be found here:
- [https://platform-static-files.s3.amazonaws.com/ecb/document/2019/05/20/683c5b48-fe5f-4a07-b1de-23ef3af0753b/Inspiring\\_Generations\\_game-wide\\_Strategy\\_Document.pdf](https://platform-static-files.s3.amazonaws.com/ecb/document/2019/05/20/683c5b48-fe5f-4a07-b1de-23ef3af0753b/Inspiring_Generations_game-wide_Strategy_Document.pdf).
- 1.59 The ECB are due to launch Dynamos Cricket in 2020 and this provides a fantastic next step for all those graduating from All Stars Cricket and the perfect introduction for all 8 -11-year olds new to cricket. Grimsby Town Cricket Club, Healing community Junior Cricket Club and Clee Town Laportes Cricket Club are all planning to provide All stars and Dynamos cricket in 2020.
- 1.60 Taking into consideration these sports development initiatives it is sensible to consider as additional teams in the future as a minimum 1 women's team, 2 girl's teams and 2 junior boys' teams. This equates to 34 match equivalent sessions per season.
- 1.61 There is no identified increased need for cricket facilities based on future population growth. This is largely a consequence of an ageing population. There is latent demand for 35 match equivalent sessions per season.

- 1.62 There is a need to provide an additional cricket facility by 2032. This could be accommodated on the Barrett's Recreation Ground providing a 6-pitch natural grass square and outfield alongside non-turf pitches.
- 1.63 There is considerable midweek play in the area which bucks the national and countywide trend. The use of informal more casual environments appears more relevant within the area. However, there are a lot of NTPs which are not being utilised and perhaps are not a priority for reinstatement. – a more favoured option would be to combine NTPs with 1-2 good fine turf sites in the area to maximise play and increase sports development outcomes in a more robust and financially sustainable way.
- 1.64 Specific club issues which cause overplay need to be addressed and latent, sports development and future demand need to be addressed.

### Hockey Headlines

- 1.65 The current demand and future demand from hockey can be met by providing formal Community Use Agreements at Ormiston Maritime Academy and Oasis Academy Wintringham and the continued implementation of the existing Community Use Agreement at Grimsby Institute. All 3 AGPs should be protected for current and future use for hockey. This will safeguard match and training needs of hockey clubs in NEL for the future. No Hockey Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) should be considered for resurfacing to 3G FTP before it has been discussed and agreed with England Hockey, England Rugby Football Union, Football Foundation and NELC.
- 1.66 In developing 3G FTP pitches this will relieve the pressure on AGPs for further hockey training use. There will be a need for discussion between England Hockey, Football Foundation, Lincolnshire FA and NELC on how best to deliver new 3G football Turf Pitches. At the same time there will be a need to reduce the impact of moving football to 3G football turf pitches and sustaining the business case for AGPs. Therefore, providing hockey with continued sustainable use of AGPs in the future.

### Rugby Union Headlines

- 1.67 The demand for match pitches at peak time of play is met currently and in the future. The issue is that overplay occurs when training and match equivalents are combined. To meet the current training and match equivalents there is a need to address floodlighting issues, improve quality of pitches or to provide a World Rugby Regulation 22 compliant 3G pitch. This could be provided by upgrading a 3G football turf pitch when a new pitch is provided. This should be considered as part of future developments at Clee Fields.
- 1.68 The Council has been committed to working with Cleethorpes Rugby Union Football Club (CRUFC) and the RFU to secure a home for rugby at King George V playing fields, Taylors Avenue over the past few years. However, due to conflicts with the original conveyance at this site and proposed use of the site, there will be no solution forthcoming to the Council to provide security of tenure for Cleethorpes Rugby Club to seek funding to improve playing, changing and social facilities at this site, as set out under Charity Law and governed by the Charity Commission. The Council will however continue to work with CRUFC to seek opportunities at an alternative site (s) where it is appropriate and able to do so.
- 1.69 There is a requirement to provide permanent floodlighting of pitches at Grimsby Rugby Club to improve capacity on mid-week pitch use.

## The PPS Objectives

1.70 The PPS Objectives follow the following three principles:

- **Protect:** The strategy seeks to make sure that the right amount of playing pitches and ancillary facilities of the right quality are in the right place. It promotes the protection of existing provision and recognises the benefits of multi pitch sites by:
  - Highlighting sites which have a particular significance for sport and seeks to protect them as a local recreational space through the Development Plan process (see NPPF paragraphs 96 and 97)
  - Securing tenure and access for development minded clubs, through a range of solutions and partnerships.
  - Seeking formal community use agreements with schools where there is a need.
- **Enhance:** Key partners such as NELC, Parish Council's, local schools, Private and Voluntary Sector Sports Clubs, and NGBs must work together to maximise the full potential of playing pitch assets and the long-term sustainability of these assets and recognise that an improvement in quality and ongoing maintenance can have an impact on the capacity of use. The strategy will do this by setting out where improvements to the quality of playing pitches and ancillary facilities are required. The PPS looks at:
  - Improving quality
  - Working in partnership with stakeholders to provide funding
  - Securing developer contributions or CIL Funding
- **Provide:** In times of public sector austerity, investment needs to be directed at sites which will provide the best impact and highest increase in participation. It is the policy of NELC to support projects and sports clubs that are able to: demonstrate sustainable long-term development, increase participation and have achieved the appropriate accreditations e.g. Clubmark and / or Charter Standard providing player and sports development pathways. The strategy looks at:
  - Addressing capacity in junior and mini football by designating and ensuring that all teams are playing on pitches of the right size.
  - Addressing the need for artificial grass pitches to meet increasing and changing demand for AGP surfaces for both training and competition in football, hockey and rugby and other pitch sports.
  - Where required re locating playing fields to release sites for housing and provide funds to provide new or enhancing existing playing fields with improved quality of provision.
  - Providing the required number and type of pitches on-site, or appropriate provision off-site, to meet the specific needs of residential development proposals.

## Planning – North East Lincolnshire Council

1.71 The Local Plan covers the period 2013 - 2032.

1.72 The PPS is covering the same period as the Local Plan (to 2032), with a caveat in it that the PPS will need to be updated annually and fully reviewed within 3-5 years.

## Disused and Lapsed Playing Fields - Proposed Disposal

1.73 There are unused playing pitch sites that have been submitted for new housing development. None of these sites currently has any playing pitch participation. The sale of these sites will provide funding for the Council to reinvest into new playing pitch provision and create quality hub sites at existing playing pitch sites as well as a new site.

- 1.74 The new and existing hub sites will provide improved quality pitches and ancillary facilities for pitch sports across North East Lincolnshire. The plan outlines how the Council intend to meet the current and future short fall in youth 11 v 11 football, junior 9 v 9 football, cricket and rugby and to continue to seek a new home for Cleethorpes Rugby Club.
- 1.75 The Council has made two (2) planning applications to develop the facilities at Bradley Football Development Centre. The Council's Planning committee rejected both of these applications in 2018 and 2019 on the grounds of noise disturbance to local residents.
- 1.76 Consequently, the Council has re-evaluated and reassessed its proposed approach in order to deliver the necessary pitch provision through investment in existing sites and the provision of a new site as necessary to secure Sport England approval and avoid any future potential challenge/ objection arising from Planning Applications relating to the (housing) development sites.
- 1.77 **Disused** playing Fields – These are either sites that are not being used by any users or are not available for community hire. Once these sites are disused for five or more years they are categorised as 'lapsed sites.'
- 1.78 **Lapsed** playing fields - last known use was as a playing field more than five years ago. These fall outside of Sport England's statutory remit but still have to be assessed using the criteria in paragraph 97 of the National Planning Policy Framework. Sport England would nonetheless challenge a proposed loss of playing pitches/playing field which fails to meet such criteria. It should be emphasised that the lawful planning use of a lapsed site is still that of a playing field.
- 1.79 The following is a list of identified NELC lapsed/disused sites:
- **Lapsed playing field at the former Western School and to the rear of Grange Primary School. Western Secondary School has been closed since August 2008. The site continued as offices/ training until 2013 but has not had any playing pitches or games played on the playing field since the school closure. The site is identified in NELC Local Plan as a housing site (HOU128 Grimsby) development 390 units.**
  - **Lapsed playing field at the former Lindsey Lower School of Beacon Avenue, Cleethorpes has been closed since August 2006. The site has not had any playing pitches or games played on the playing field since the closure. The site is identified in NELC Local Plan as a housing site (HOU353 Cleethorpes) development 96 units.**
  - **Lapsed playing field (part) at the former Matthew Humberstone School, Cleethorpes has been closed since 2008. The site did have playing pitch use after its closure but has not been used for at least 5 years. The site is identified in NELC Local Plan as a housing site (HOU353 Cleethorpes) 80 units.**
  - **Lapsed playing field at Second Avenue. The playing fields catered for 2 adult 11 v 11 pitches. Site closed in July 2014. The playing pitches have not been used since.**
  - **Disused playing field at Centre 4 (formerly St Mary's Secondary School) - site not used since 2018. Site has 1 adult pitch of poor quality.**
- 1.80 A recommendation of the NEL Playing Pitch Strategy is to – ensure, through the use of the Playing Pitch Strategy, that playing pitches are protected through the implementation of local planning policy.
- 1.81 The NEL Playing Pitch strategy identifies shortfalls currently and in the future for 3G Football Turf Pitches, youth 11 v 11 football pitches, junior 9 v 9 pitches, cricket provision and the need to re-home Cleethorpes Rugby Club to a secure site in the future.

1.82 The table below identifies how the shortfall of current and future provision can be provided.

**Table 1.2: shortfall of current and future provision can be provided**

Playing Pitch Typology	Future Shortfall 2032	New Pitches Provided Through The Local Plan	How Shortfall Will Be Met
Adult Football 11 v 11	0	<p>The Local Plan Policy 14 relating to Grimsby West requires 3 adult 11 v 11 pitches.</p> <p>Strategic Housing site at Humberston Road requires 2 adult pitches.</p> <p>Total: 5 Adult 11 v 11 football pitches.</p>	N/A
Youth Football 11 v 11	9 Match Equivalent Sessions per week.		<p>5 new adult pitches provided by new housing should be configured as 5 youth 11 v 11 pitches:</p> <p>These pitches are to be of good quality to provide 15-match equivalent sessions per week.</p> <p>The 15-match equivalent sessions per week will meet the shortfall of 9 match equivalent sessions and allow for pitches to be rested and contribute to sustained pitch quality over time.</p>
Junior 9 v 9 Football	13 match equivalent sessions per week.		<p>The introduction of 3G football turf pitches will allow 9v9 match play to be transferred to these 3G pitches.</p> <p>To meet the requirement of 13 x 9v 9 match equivalent sessions requires 2 x 3G football turf pitches.</p> <p>See 3G Football Turf Pitches below for number to be provided.</p> <p>In addition, quality improvements could be made to standard and poor quality 9 v 9 pitches to provide additional match equivalent sessions if required.</p>
Mini Soccer 7 v 7	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mini Soccer 5 v 5	N/A	N/A	N/A

Playing Pitch Typology	Future Shortfall 2032	New Pitches Provided Through The Local Plan	How Shortfall Will Be Met
Cricket	<p>There will be a predicted shortfall of 28 match equivalent sessions per season, which could rise to 97 match equivalent sessions when considering latent demand and sports development initiatives</p> <p>The sports development initiatives are currently focused on women's, girls' and boys' cricket.</p> <p>Cricket leagues currently do not allow usage of NTPs in adult match play situations. Only junior cricket teams U13 would utilise an NTP.</p> <p>This means that clubs in formalised weekend cricket in the study area do not have the ability to play on NTPs for their league fixtures now and this is unlikely to change in the short term</p>	N/A	<p>Provision of a good quality 1 x 6 pitch square and a non turf cricket pitch at Barrett's Recreation Ground will provide 30 match equivalent sessions per season.</p> <p>Provision of a good quality 1 x 6 pitch square and a non turf cricket pitch at a new ground e.g. former Carr Lane Allotments will provide 30 match equivalent sessions per season.</p> <p>The remaining need to meet a further 7 match equivalent sessions per season can be met by juniors U13 playing on non turf pitches.</p> <p>Sports Development needs for women, girls and boy's cricket can be met with the provision of non turf pitches.</p> <p>The Midweek League currently use some non turf pitches and the use of the two (2) additional non turf pitches above could increase the number of mid-week matches played on non turf pitches.</p> <p>A third natural grass square (1 x 6 pitches) could be provided at Taylors Avenue once Cleethorpes Rugby Club are relocated.</p> <p>A favoured option by the ECB is to combine NTPs with 1-2 good fine turf sites in the area to maximise play and increase sports development outcomes in a more robust and financially sustainable way.</p>
Rugby Union	<p>Current and future match play is predicted to be met with existing provision.</p> <p>However, there is a need to provide for additional training match equivalent sessions.</p>		<p>There is a need to provide security of tenure for Cleethorpes Rugby Club.</p> <p>The RFU and club recognise that this is not currently feasible. However, options may come available through reinvestment of facilities for other sports, thus releasing alternative sites and new site options.</p>

Playing Pitch Typology	Future Shortfall 2032	New Pitches Provided Through The Local Plan	How Shortfall Will Be Met
			<p>NELC, RFU and Cleethorpes Rugby club are committed to working together to find an alternative site through the Stage E PPS process.</p> <p>Training requirements for additional match equivalent sessions can be met by providing floodlighting at Grimsby Rugby Club and a World Regulation 22 3G pitch at Clee Fields.</p>
Hockey AGPs	N/A	N/A	<p>England Hockey has stated they require 2 x AGPs as a minimum for the future. There are currently 3.</p> <p>Options to secure provision are provided below:</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b></p> <p>A full action plan with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agreements in place with Ormiston Academy and Grimsby Institute: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• this includes community use agreements and also</li> <li>• protection of the surface type selected when resurfacing, this would require work from EH, NELC and the management teams of each establishment.</li> </ul> <p>The latter can be carried out as an understanding that the sites will only commit to resurfacing to a hockey specific surface and work with Grimsby Hockey Club and England Hockey to find the best solution.</p> </li> <li>2. Alternatively, to protect the surface NELC will explore the use of an Article 4 direction to remove permitted development rights on both sites, in this case solely for the change of carpet?</li> </ol>

Playing Pitch Typology	Future Shortfall 2032	New Pitches Provided Through The Local Plan	How Shortfall Will Be Met
			<p>3. Resurfacing of both pitches will need to be considered within the mitigation proposed for the disposal of playing fields elsewhere in the area, with site assessments and costs carried out at the time of decision's being made.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b></p> <p>The investigative work undertaken to date at Clee Fields leads to the need for a new AGP rather than just resurfacing the carpet. The other alternatives are to provide a new AGP at Barratts Recreation Ground (possibly in conjunction with tennis and netball) and or resurfacing of the Oasis Academy, Wintringham AGP or Ormiston Maritime. Funding for any project would be via developer contributions. The Oasis Academy, Wintringham AGP or Ormiston Maritime will require the same commitments as Option 1. The development of a new AGP at Barrett's Recreation Ground would provide the security for partner clubs.</p> <p>The reason for providing a new facility as a second option is that NELC could provide long term security that would not be possible from the rejection of option 1 or the rejection of Oasis Academy, Wintringham or Ormiston Maritime by the interested parties. Whilst this would condense Hockey activity onto one site e.g. Barrett's Recreation Ground it would safeguard the future of Hockey long term which is the key for all involved in the PPS process.</p> <p>The consequence and worst-case scenario is all pitches are lost over time in the area and the closest available facilities are Scunthorpe or Louth. Realistically this would spell the end of Hockey for the people of North East Lincolnshire.</p>

Playing Pitch Typology	Future Shortfall 2032	New Pitches Provided Through The Local Plan	How Shortfall Will Be Met
3G Football Turf Pitch	<p>The PPS has identified a shortfall of 5 x 3G full size football turf pitches.</p> <p>The Local Football Facilities Plan for NELC identifies a shortfall of 4 x full size 3G football turf pitches with the combined use of the smaller size 3G football turf pitches currently existing cross NEL.</p>		<p>Provision of 1 x 3G football turf pitch at Barrett's Recreation Ground/ Oasis Academy Wintringham</p> <p>Provision of 1 x 3G football turf pitch and 1 x World Rugby Regulation 22 3G pitch suitable for football at Clee Fields.</p> <p>1 x 3G pitch to be provided in the Humberston area of NEL. Smaller existing 3G pitches to be refurbished and maintained.</p>

- 1.83 The table above identifies that all current and future shortfalls can be met without bringing back into use disused and lapsed sites.
- 1.84 North East Lincolnshire Council has identified through the PPS assessment new playing pitch land that can be brought into use and developed as playing pitch provision. The two (2) sites are: former Carr Lane Allotment and former Grimsby Swimming Pool land.
- 1.85 The PPS has identified Clee Fields and Barrett's Recreation Ground as existing sites that can be developed as playing pitch hub sites in the future. Barrett's Recreation Ground would include the land which was previously occupied by the Grimsby Swimming Pool.
- 1.86 The PPS will be used to help determine what impact any new development will have on the demand and capacity of existing sites in the area, and whether there is a need for improvements to increase capacity or if new provision is required.
- 1.87 Using the Sport England 'New Development Calculator for Pitch Sports' the table below indicates the number of pitches to meet estimated demand from new housing developments within the above NELC lapsed and disused sites identified in paragraph 1.79. The table below currently includes the former Western School Site, Lindsey Lower School Site, Matthew Humberstone Site and Second Avenue Site.

**Table 1.3: Estimated demand and costs for new pitches (matches and training demand). Utilising Sport England 'New Development Calculator for Pitch sports'**

	Number of pitches to meet estimated demand	Capital Cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)
<b>Total</b>	1.18	£166,349	£24,780
<b>Natural Grass Pitches</b>	1.13	£109,337	£22,806
Adult Football	0.30	£31,739	£6,697
Youth Football	0.37	£29,563	£6,208
Mini Soccer	0.28	£7,551	£1,586
Rugby Union	0.08	£11,467	£2,454
Rugby League	0.00	£0	£0
Cricket	0.09	£29,017	£5,861
<b>Artificial Grass Pitches</b>	0.06	£57,012	£1,974
Sand Based	0.00	£4,198	£130

	Number of pitches to meet estimated demand	Capital Cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)
3G	0.05	£52,814	£1,844
Number of Changing Rooms	1.48		
Capital Cost of changing rooms	£267,407		

- 1.88 The indicative total capital cost to be requested from developers for the projected population in the sites identified in the table above is £433,756 (Pitches £166,349 and changing rooms £267,407) and Lifecycle costs of £24,780 per annum.
- 1.89 The Sport England New Development Calculator for Pitch Sports should be used for all new housing developments across NELC to identify playing pitch contributions from developers.
- 1.90 NELC has identified a capital budget that it will use to invest in the existing sites at Clee Fields and Barrett's Recreation Ground including Grimsby Swimming Pool land to create the hub offer along with projected grant funding. Total: £6,303,000
- 1.91 The level of capital resource funding confirmed as at the time of writing the PPS and indicative level of external grant funding is shown in the table below:

**Table 1.4: NELC secured funding (as at July 2019) and indicative external grant funding**

Funding Stream	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
NELC Capital Resources (£)	2,553,000	2,000,000	TBC
External Grants (indicative) (£)	750,000	500,000	500,000
<b>Total funding</b>	<b>3,303,000</b>	<b>2,500,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>

**Overall total funding £6,303,000**

- 1.92 The PPS will be used to help inform Development Management decisions that affect existing or new playing fields, pitches and ancillary facilities. All applications assessed by the Local Planning Authority on a case by case basis take into account site specific factors. In addition, Sport England as statutory consultee on planning applications that affect or prejudice the use of playing field will use the PPS to help assess any planning application against paragraph 97 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and their Playing Fields Policy.
- 1.93 Sport England's playing field policy exception E1 only allows for development of lapsed or disused playing fields if a PPS shows a clear excess in the quantity of playing pitch provision at present and in the future across all playing pitch sports types and sizes.

**Policy Exception E1:**

***'A carefully quantified and documented assessment of current and future needs has demonstrated to the satisfaction of Sport England that there is an excess of playing field provision in the catchment, and the site has no special significance to the interests of sport'.***

- 1.94 Where the PPS cannot demonstrate the site, or part of a site, is clearly surplus to requirements then replacement of the site, or part of a site, will be required to comply with Sport England policy exception E4.

#### Policy Exception E4:

'The playing field or fields to be lost as a result of the proposed development would be replaced, prior to the commencement of development, by a new playing field site or sites:

- of equivalent or better quality and
- of equivalent or greater quantity;
- in a suitable location and
- subject to equivalent or better management arrangements.

- 1.95 Local authorities wanting to dispose of school playing field land need consent under Section 77 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998 for playing pitches unused for less than 10 years. Consent is now also required for disposal of any land used by a school or Academy under Schedule 1 of the Academies Act 2010.
- 1.96 It should be noted that consent under Section 77 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act does not necessarily mean subsequent planning approval will be granted. Therefore, any application for planning permission must meet the requirements of the relevant policy, in this case paragraph 99 of the National Policy Framework, Local Plan Policy and Sport England policy. Indeed, applicants are advised to engage Sport England before submitting applications.
- 1.97 Development opportunities are being explored to utilise the proceeds from the sale of the disused and lapsed sites which will result in proposals to create quality sports hubs at two (2) sites, namely:
- **Clee Fields** - significant investment to provide a multi-pitch 'Hub' Site which collectively with the adjacent King George V Stadium site will provide two (2) new 3G pitch (one (1) on the area of the condemned artificial pitch); improved existing pitches, including a World Rugby Regulation 22 3G pitch also suitable for football; upgraded existing pitches, running track and ancillary studio and changing facilities; and
  - **Barrett's Recreation Ground** – including land which was formerly the site of Grimsby Swimming Pool – significant investment to redesign the existing site together with the new land to create a multi-pitch 'Hub' Site which collectively will create a new 3G pitch and grass pitches; upgrade existing pitches as well as existing sports such as Bowls, Tennis, Cricket and ancillary changing facilities. The 3G pitch will be a community accessible pitch and may be located either on this site or the site adjacent home to Oasis Wintringham Academy.
- 1.98 Subject to a specific site feasibility, the Council, in conjunction with the playing pitch NGBs, will seek to deliver three (3) full size new 3G artificial grass pitches. Two (2) (1 x Football Turf Pitch and 1 x World Regulation 22 rugby compliant 3G pitch also suitable for football) at Clee Fields and one (1) 3G Football Turf Pitch at Barrett's Recreation Ground or the adjacent Oasis Academy Site. The Oasis Academy site will be subject to the protection of the existing artificial grass pitch being protected for hockey.
- 1.99 NELC will work with the playing pitch NGBs to create a new playing pitch Sports Hub at the former Carr Lane Allotments.
- 1.100 The Council is understandably apprehensive at providing costly re-provision at new sites when there is no demand to use the lapsed or disused sites and therefore sustainability is unclear. Equally the substantial investment to achieve new provision will commit resource which is very restricted to ensure these new sites are operational. An alternative may be to seek other organisations to take on this management role but this may not prove to be successful if the demand cannot be evidenced.

- 1.101 There is however the mechanism to transfer responsibility through asset transfers. NELC will discuss any proposed asset transfers of existing sites with the relevant NGBs and work with the NGBs to ensure any asset transfers would be sustainable going forward. The Council would prefer to make the necessary financial investment into existing operational sites (to Sport England's and NGBs satisfaction) to increase the quality and capacity of these sites. Nevertheless, the Council will ensure any replacement or enhancement of pitches and facilities will be fully accessible to the local community for the pursuit of outdoor sports and leisure activities.
- 1.102 The Council wishes to retain the right over time to renegotiate any specific replacement site(s) highlighted in the event that identified alternative sites (of suitable size, quality and location agreed with Sport England and the NGBs) and external grant funding may afford a better opportunity to be developed and ideally the ability to progress multiple pitch/sport hubs which would provide a greater long-term benefit to the community.
- 1.103 The PPS has identified a need for additional 9 v 9 junior pitches and 11 v 11 youth pitches by 2032, four (4) additional 3G football turf pitches and 1 cricket facility. It is considered that the 9 v 9 junior pitches will be accommodated on the three (3) additional 3G football turf pitches at Clee Fields and Barrett's.
- 1.104 The Council has a commitment to provide improved playing pitch facility stock. This is a long-term programme of investment and replacement. As excess land is released for housing development then monies from the sale of land will be invested to fund new playing field facilities and ancillary provision once sufficient capital receipts have been secured by the Council.
- 1.105 The Council recognises the need to ensure that new ancillary facilities provide for the maximum number of sports teams able to play at the site at peak time and be either equivalent or better in terms of quality (whether through potential loss of sites/ re-provision or enhancing existing sites).

### Monitoring and Review of the Strategy

- 1.106 It is important that regular monitoring and review occurs through meetings of the Steering Group following sign off by the National Governing Bodies and Sport England and adoption of the Strategy and Action Plan by the Council.
- 1.107 The Steering Group should be led by the Council. As a guide, if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three (3) years of the PPS being signed off by the Steering Group, then Sport England and the NGBs would consider the PPS to be out of date.

## 2. North East Lincolnshire Council PPS Introduction and Context

### Introduction

- 2.1. North East Lincolnshire Council commissioned a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS), which has been developed for natural grass and all-weather pitches. The PPS will guide future provision and management of sports pitches, to serve existing and new communities across North East Lincolnshire.
- 2.2. In line with the Government's National Planning Policy Framework February 2019, the PPS sets out to assess existing Playing Pitches, the future need for Playing Pitches, and opportunities for new provision. The key factors for North East Lincolnshire Council are:
- 2.3. The National Planning Policy Framework updated 2019 (NPPF) has a key focus in achieving sustainable development. The NPPF states that the overarching social objective of the planning system is:

***“to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities....by fostering a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support community's health, social and cultural wellbeing.”***

- 2.4. Paragraphs 96 and 97 of the NPPF outline the planning policies for the provision and protection of sport and recreation facilities:

**Figure 1: NPPF Outline paragraphs 96 and 97**

**Paragraph 96 - “Access to a network of high-quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate.”**

**Paragraph 97: “Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:**

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

### Aim of Developing a PPS

- 2.5. The aim of developing the PPS is to:

***“to provide an assessment of the “fit for purpose” of the sports pitches and facilities, whilst identifying opportunities for retaining, reducing or removing this provision and prospects for new provision and partnerships. The assessment should identify specific needs and***

***quantitative and/or qualitative deficits or spare capacity of sports pitches and facilities in North East Lincolnshire.'***

- 2.6. The PPS will support the policy approaches in the New Local Plan rather than provide an evidence base for the policy. There is no commitment to Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) at present but if the Council decides to introduce CIL in the future, the PPS will provide the evidence base for the production of the Regulation 123 list of CIL funded infrastructure. The PPS will provide evidence to support:
- **Identification of projects for which contributions can be sought as part of new development.**
  - **Funding bids from National Sports bodies like Sport England and the National Governing Bodies (NGB's) of sport,**
  - **Additionally, the Strategy will focus on revenue and capital spending in the medium term.**
- 2.7. This work will ensure that a planned approach to sport and physical activity facilities takes place across the borough over the medium term, ensuring that the borough's community has access to high quality facilities, helping communities improve their health and remain cohesive. It is imperative that where North East Lincolnshire Council and Town/ Parish Council's provide facilities, they are as efficient and effective as possible due to continuing financial pressures.

### Strategy Scope

- 2.8. The project scope for the PPS includes:
- **Football**
  - **Rugby Union**
  - **Cricket**
  - **Hockey**
- 2.9. The Strategy addresses facilities provided by the following sectors:
- **Local Authority**
  - **Education, (school based), Higher and Further education.**
  - **Voluntary and private sectors**

### Rationale for Developing a PPS Strategy

- 2.10. North East Lincolnshire Council wishes to understand both the needs of its playing pitch and playing pitch ancillary facilities portfolio, and future need for provision, driven by increased population, and identification of any gaps in the existing facility network.
- 2.11. The development of this new PPS will enable North East Lincolnshire Council and other local providers to shape their future playing pitch facilities offer; this may comprise direct provision and that undertaken by education, voluntary, community, private sectors and National Governing Body's.
- 2.12. The PPS will underpin the contribution that sport makes to the local authority's priority objectives. It will also help provide a rationale to enable National Governing Bodies to further invest and deliver their working outcomes as outlined in their various strategic development documents.

- 2.13. The development of the PPS is an opportunity to set out a strategic Vision for future provision of playing pitch facilities, based on robust evidence and a needs assessment.
- 2.14. This will guide and inform future investment and partnerships, influence the new Local Plan and future proof and increase participation opportunities to 2032.

## Terms of Reference

### PPS

- 2.15. The detailed requirements of each element of the study are set out below; these reflect the requirements and structure of the Sport England Playing Pitch Strategy guidance:
- 2.16. The strategy has been developed in line with guidance by Sport England (Playing Pitch Guidance, an approach to Developing and Delivering a PPS).
- **Stage A: (Step 1) – of the methodology is to prepare and tailor the approach.**
  - **Stage B: (Steps 2 & 3) - Gather supply and demand information and views. Information was gathered on both the supply of pitches and the demand for these pitches, specifically:**
    - Supply
    - Demand
    - Details of potential changes to the future pitch stock, as well as projected and aspirational increases in participation
  - **Stage C: (Steps 4, 5 & 6) – Assessing the Supply and Demand Information and Views. The supply and demand information collated has been used to:**
    - Understand the situation at individual sites.
    - Develop the current and projected future pictures of provision.
    - Identify the key findings and issues that need to be addressed.
  - **Stage D: Steps 7 & 8 – Developing the recommendations for an action plan and writing and adopting the strategy.**
- 2.17. This document continues on from the need's assessment (Stage A, B & C) and aims to:
- **Summarise the key strategic findings of the individual sport assessments and sets out the main issues to be addressed in the strategy.**
  - **Provides specific proposals for each sport.**
  - **Takes into consideration the current and future needs of the individual playing pitch sites.**
  - **Provides a guide to monitoring and reviewing the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS).**

## Background Context

### The Study Area, Population and growth

- 2.18. North East Lincolnshire (NEL) is a small unitary authority in the Yorkshire and Humber region, covering an area of 192 km<sup>2</sup>. The majority of the resident population live in the towns of Grimsby and Cleethorpes, with the remainder living in the smaller town of Immingham, or in surrounding villages. Map 1 shows the North East Lincolnshire study area.

**Map 1: North East Lincolnshire**



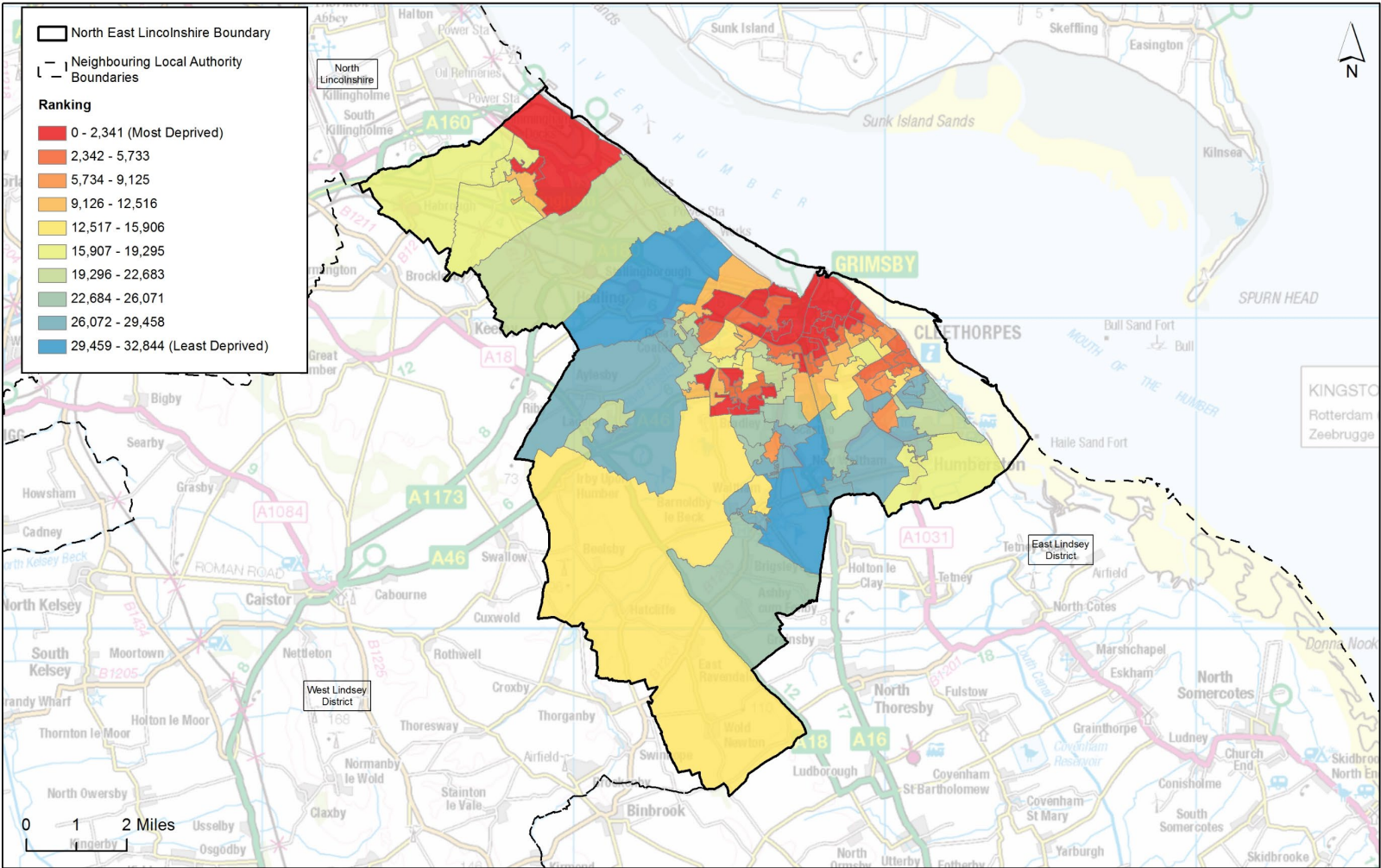
- 2.19. North East Lincolnshire is bordered by the local authority areas of North Lincolnshire, East Lindsey and West Lindsey.
- 2.20. Significant population growth is anticipated in North East Lincolnshire over the next 15 years as a result of implementation of a growth orientated economic strategy. This could see the development of circa 13,340 new homes between 2013 and 2032. As a consequence, the Council is seeking to develop a long-term strategy for future provision and delivery of playing pitch and ancillary provision to serve future needs across the Borough.
- 2.21. The local Plan sets a baseline housing requirement of 9,742 but importantly provides the flexibility in supply to deliver the higher figure of 13,340 based upon capturing the benefits of employment growth locally.
- 2.22. The majority of the population, and future residential growth will be in and around the urban area of Grimsby/Cleethorpes and the independent town of Immingham, with further growth in the arc settlements of Healing, Laceby, Waltham, New Waltham and Humberston.
- 2.23. The ONS 2014-based Subnational population projections project a population of 160,190 in 2017 rising to 162,612 in 2032. This is a rise in population of 2,422.

- 2.24. The Council has directly modelled the housing growth scenario to the forecast increase in jobs. This creates a stepped housing requirement which increases during the plan period in line with the expected increases in jobs growth, realised through the delivery of key strategic development projects.
- 2.25. The Council will bring forward sufficient land supply in order to ensure that this housing requirement is met and will monitor the delivery of new housing.
- 2.26. Understanding the needs of different pitch sports at a local level enables NELC to provide appropriately to meet the needs of its communities. It is inevitable that the needs of communities change over time participative requirements of individual sports change. The demand for these at a local level need to be assessed and modelled to understand what this means in terms of actual pitch provision, otherwise the Council could be providing, too much or too little, thinking they are addressing local needs, but in fact they are not.

### Other Local Factors

- 2.27. North East Lincolnshire ranks 31 nationally in the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IOMD) and 3 in the Yorkshire and Humber region highlighting that North-East Lincolnshire has some significant areas of deprivation (the lower the score, the higher the level of deprivation, as shown by the dark red areas in Map 2.2). (Source: Sport England Local Sport Profiles February 2016)
- 2.28. North East Lincolnshire has several areas of severe deprivation (see Map 2.2); these are particularly acute in and around the central urban areas of Immingham, Cleethorpes and Grimsby. The issue of deprivation outside the urban areas is also a challenge across the North-East Lincolnshire area, related to particular factors such as employment, accessibility and transport.

Map 2.2: North East Lincolnshire Areas of Deprivation



Index of Multiple Deprivation by lower super output areas in North East Lincolnshire (2015)



- 2.30 The North-East Lincolnshire communities also have significant health challenges, with growing numbers of both adults and children being overweight and/or obese (adults 69.7%, children 19.5%). In North East Lincolnshire, 27.4% of the population is not active enough to have a positive impact on individual health, participation rates are lower than the England and regional averages.
- 2.31 There is high dependence on private transport across the area, given that public transport is limited, and there is a need to travel to the urban centres for retail opportunities and employment.

### North East Lincolnshire Council's Priorities:

- 2.32 North East Lincolnshire Council's priorities are clear:

#### ***'Stronger economy and stronger communities'***

- 2.33 "To achieve this vision, we need to work in new ways with partners in the public and private sectors, the voluntary and community sector, and with individuals, families and communities. We must address the issues we face with creativity and innovation if we are to secure the outcomes we desire.
- 2.34 We want North East Lincolnshire to be seen as an attractive place to live, work, visit and invest. We know that we have significant and exciting opportunities for investment and growth in North East Lincolnshire.
- 2.35 The Council's stronger economy / stronger communities' priorities are underpinned by a key strategic framework comprising the following:



- 2.36 Our [outcomes framework](#) is the means by which our priorities will be translated into action and delivered, developed and achieved in conjunction with our partners across sectors. This is intended to drive a culture of evidence-based decision-making that will enable elected members to take informed key decisions, knowing the risks and the opportunities for citizens, communities and businesses. Our commissioning plan will ensure and foster clear links between the outcome's framework and the resources available to achieve them.
- 2.37 The framework sets out the five high level outcomes that we and our partners aspire to achieve to ensure prosperity and wellbeing for the residents of North East Lincolnshire.
- 2.38 The five outcomes are that all people in North East Lincolnshire will:



Source: NELC Outcomes Framework and Commissioning Plan, 2016-2026"

### North East Lincolnshire Local Plan 2013 - 2032 (Adopted 2018).

- 2.39 The Plan is the key document which will guide the changing use of land in the Borough and define the purpose to which it is put in the future. The Plan has three central themes:
- 1. Building the economy;**
  - 2. Building the homes; and,**
  - 3. Building the place**

## Overall Spatial Vision

2.40 The overall spatial vision is:

**“By 2032 North East Lincolnshire will be nationally and internationally recognised as a centre for off-shore renewables, focusing on operations and maintenance and contributing significantly to the Humber’s ‘Energy Estuary’ status. Growth in key sectors, food, energy, chemicals, ports and logistics, will be matched by a strong tourism and leisure offer. Evident through increased jobs and diversity of skills, the barriers to accessing jobs will have been broken down. This will be facilitated through the establishment of facilities to improve education and skills, and measures implemented to address housing need and affordability, and health and service needs, including countering deprivation issues in specific wards. A platform for sustainable economic growth will have been created, with conditions to capture and sustain more and better jobs in the area well established. Good progress will have been made to make North East Lincolnshire a forward-looking Borough where aspirations have been raised, and gaps narrowed in terms of social inequality; whether caused by health, education, age, disability, ethnicity, location or other aspects.**

**A vision for North East Lincolnshire will have successfully revitalised areas of low housing demand, and steps taken to lift housing delivery to support economic growth, recognising the need to provide housing to address demographic change, and improve prospects for economic growth, whilst providing choice within the housing market, and being sensitive to the scale and character of settlements. Town centres will be successful, having developed their offer to support growth. Environmental quality will be a source of pride, aspiration and confidence. The special character, biodiversity and distinctiveness of the Borough will continue to be protected and enhanced. The Borough’s ecological and green infrastructure networks will have been improved, providing improved habitats and access to nature for local communities. A commitment will have been demonstrated, to address the causes and consequences of climate change, including bringing about an overall reduction in the proportion of properties at risk from flooding.”**

2.41 The specific policy for greenspace and recreation states:

“Policy 42 Greenspace and Recreation

1. The Council will safeguard against any loss of public or private green spaces, sport and recreation and equipped play facilities in recognition of their importance to the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors to the Borough and their importance to biodiversity. The green spaces, sport and recreation and equipped play facilities that are safeguarded under this Policy are identified on the policies map together with playing fields which form part of identified education areas, cemeteries, and allotments.
2. Loss of these areas will only be supported accepted where:
  - **There is evidence that the facility is surplus to greenspace and recreation requirements, and has been assessed in terms of biodiversity value; or,**
  - **Alternative replacement provision of at least equivalent size, usefulness, attractiveness and quality can be provided, meeting current standards of provision and accessibility, (recognising any subsequent review and revision).**
3. Developers will be required to make provision for green space, sport and recreation facilities in accordance with the additional needs that the development generates taking account of current local standards of provision and accessibility, (recognising any subsequent review and revision). Delivery will be secured through planning conditions, obligations or charging levy as appropriate. In making this provision, recognition should be made to the role such green space plays in mitigating the effects of recreational pressure on the Humber Estuary SCA/SPA/Ramsar, specifically designing natural green space, which is attractive to walkers and dog walkers,

particularly in areas where development is most likely to result in increasing visitors to the Humber Estuary SAC/SPA/Ramsar.

4. Where existing facilities already meet current accessibility standards, the Council will seek a commuted sum towards the improvement and maintenance of off-site facilities, reflecting the future intensification of use of these facilities.
5. Where new green infrastructure is provided, the Council will expect proposals to include details to cover future long-term maintenance. This may include, where accepted by the Council, provision of a commuted sum for maintenance, calculated on the basis of typical maintenance costs per m<sup>2</sup> for a 10-year period. Alternatively, the developer may make arrangements for the land to be maintained by a body other than the Council.
6. Where appropriate, the specific historic interest of open space sites should be accommodated and where possible enhanced, development should enhance or otherwise accommodate the historic interest of open space sites, particularly where they contribute to the enhancement of the Borough's heritage assets.
7. Where education facilities are being developed which include playing pitch or sports facilities, provision shall be made, where feasible and appropriate, to incorporate community use."

## Playing Pitch Re – Provision

2.42 The Local Plan states:

**"North East Lincolnshire Council and Sport England are currently working on the preparation of a robust playing pitch strategy along with several National Governing Bodies of Sport. A number of council sports pitches have been allocated for future housing as part of the Council's property rationalisation process. Until this strategy work is completed, the Council is committed to replacing any sports pitch sites which are allocated for alternative use in this Plan, should the playing pitch strategy identify a shortfall in the geographic location of the allocated housing sites."**

2.43 Policy 14 strategic housing sites identifies Grimsby West and Humberston Road as 2 strategic housing sites that must provide playing pitches:

### Grimsby West

Provision of three adult sports fields including changing and parking facilities (Subject to amendment based upon up to date of robust open space, play and recreation needs).

### Humberston

Provision of two adult sports fields including changing and parking facilities (Subject to amendment based upon up to date of robust open space, play and recreation needs).

2.44 The Sport England New Development Calculator Tool should be used to determine the number and type of playing pitches that new housing development should deliver.

## Sports Participation

2.45 The Public Health England definition for physical activity is 150 minutes or equivalent of at least moderate intensity activity per week. Based on this definition, in 2015 54% of adults in North East

Lincolnshire aged 16+ years are classed as being active, lower than the regional (56.3%) and the national (57%) averages. 27.5% of the population is inactive This means over a quarter of the population in North East Lincolnshire is not active enough to derive health benefits from activity. (Source: Public Health England - Public Health Outcomes Framework. Measure: percentage of physically active and inactive adults. Time period(s): 2015)

- 2.46 Sport England's Active Lives Survey measures sport and physical activity across England. It has been running since November 2015 and replaces the Sport England Active People Survey.
- 2.47 For 2017 /18 the Active Lives Survey identified that 52.3% of North East Lincolnshire residents had participated in at least 150 minutes of physical activity and 57,7% had done no activity in the last 28 days and were classed as inactive.

### Market Segmentation

- 2.48 Sport England's market segmentation model comprises 19 'sporting' segments. These sporting segments reflect the characteristics of different types of participants in sport and physical activity.
- 2.49 Market Segmentation is designed to assist the understanding of attitudes, motivations and perceived barriers to sports participation and to assist agencies involved in delivery of sport and recreation to develop tailored interventions, communicate more effectively with the target market and to better understand participation in the context of life stage and lifecycles.
- 2.50 In North East Lincolnshire, the Sport England market segmentation data indicates higher proportions of the segments of Elsie & Arnolds, Philips, Roger and Joys, Kev's and Jamie's.

**Table 2.1: Market Segmentation Summary – North East Lincolnshire**

Market segment	Key Characteristics	% Of North East Lincolnshire	Activities / sports that appeal to segment
<b>Elsie &amp; Arnold Retirement Home Singles</b>	Retired singles are widowers, predominately females, living in sheltered accommodation	11.2	Gym, swim and bowls
<b>Philip Comfortable Mid-Life Males</b>	Philip also enjoys keep fit/gym, swimming, football, golf and athletics (running). His participation in most of his top sports is above the national average, which is indicative of the priority he places on sport.	8.6	Cycling, keep fit / gym, swimming and football
<b>Roger and Joy Early Retirement Couples</b>	Typically aged 56 – 65 this couple may be in employment, but nearing the end of their careers, or already have taken early retirement. They are slightly less active than the average adult population.	7.4	Walking, swimming, table tennis, golf and keep fit classes

<b>Kev Pub League Team Mates</b>	Blokes who enjoy pub league games and watching live sports	7.5	Swimming, football, cycling, golf, badminton, gym, athletics
<b>Jamie Sports Team Drinkers</b>	Young blokes (aged 18-25) enjoying football, pints and pool	6.1	Football, Cricket Keep fit/gym, Athletics

- 2.51 The market segments with the highest participation rates and which are most likely to play pitch sports are aged from 16 – 34 (segments 1-7 in the scale). Philip, Jamie and Kev are in this age group. This suggests that a proportion of the population will be keen to play outdoor sports.

## 3. Findings

### Football Summary of Key Findings

#### Main Characteristics of the Current Supply and Demand for Provision

- 3.1. There are 57 adult men's and 5 women's teams open aged 11 v 11 teams (2019/2020 season) across North East Lincolnshire Council Area. In addition, there are 5 open aged 5 v 5 disability teams, 1 x 6 a side team and a futsal team.
- 3.2. There are 32 adult 11 v 11 pitches available in North East Lincolnshire with an overall pitch capacity weekly of 76 match equivalent sessions and there is demand for 31 match equivalent sessions per week. There is capacity for an additional 45 match equivalent sessions per week across North East Lincolnshire.
- 3.3. When considering peak time of play there is a requirement for 23 peak time adult 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions. This includes an adult U17 0.5 match equivalent session currently over playing a youth 11 v 11 pitch. There are 32 match equivalent sessions available at sites that are in use. The actual spare capacity of adult 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions across North East Lincolnshire is 9 match equivalent sessions in the peak period on these sites.
- 3.4. Identified disused sites are, Louth Road and Woodside Sports Ground, Immingham. The Woodside Sports Ground was formerly Immingham Town FC's home ground before they disbanded. The reformed team play at Blossom Way, Immingham. These sites require protecting.
- 3.5. In addition, the following lapsed and disused sites for football are currently protected as playing pitch sites. NELC plan to sell these sites for housing and invest in existing sites and create a new site:
  - **Lapsed playing field at the former Western School and to the rear of Grange Primary School. Western Secondary School has been closed since August 2008. The site continued as offices/ training until 2013 but has not had any playing pitches or games played on the playing field since the school closure. The site is identified in NELC Local Plan as a housing site (HOU128 Grimsby) development 390 units.**
  - **Lapsed playing field at the former Lindsey Lower School of Beacon Avenue, Cleethorpes has been closed since August 2006. The site has not had any playing pitches or games played on the playing field since the closure. The site is identified in NELC Local Plan as a housing site (HOU353 Cleethorpes) development 96 units.**
  - **Lapsed playing field (part) at the former Matthew Humberstone School, Cleethorpes has been closed since 2008. The site did have playing pitch use after its closure but has not been used for at least 5 years. The site is identified in NELC Local Plan as a housing site (HOU353 Cleethorpes) 80 units.**
  - **Lapsed playing field at Second Avenue. The playing fields catered for 2 adult 11 v 11 pitches. Site closed in July 2014. The playing pitches have not been used since.**
  - **Disused playing field at Centre 4 (formerly St Mary's Secondary School) - site not used since 2018. Site has 1 adult pitch of poor quality.**

- 3.6. There are currently 34 youth 11 v 11 boys (including 4 exported teams), 6 mixed youth 11 v 11 and 5 youth 11 v 11 girls' teams across North East Lincolnshire. These teams demand 18 youth 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions per week at the peak time. This demand includes 1 youth 11 v 11 team that overplays an adult pitch at Lucarley's and 4 exported teams.
- 3.7. There are only 7 secured community use sites offering 13 secured community use match equivalent sessions for youth 11 v 11. There is a need to seek community use agreements with the unsecured sites to safeguard club usage in the future or provide 5 additional secured community use match equivalent sessions equivalent to 5 pitches at peak time of play.
- 3.8. There are currently 15 junior 9 v 9 boys (including 2 exported teams), 15 mixed junior 9 v 9 teams and 2 junior 9 v 9 girls' teams across North East Lincolnshire. These teams demand 19 junior 9 v 9 match equivalent sessions per week, at the peak time on junior 9 v 9 grass pitches. Demand includes exported teams and teams overplaying other pitch typologies. There are currently 13 junior 9 v 9 match equivalent sessions available at peak time. 8 of the 13 match equivalent sessions provide secured community use.
- 3.9. There are currently 34 7 v 7 mini soccer teams including 1 exported team across North East Lincolnshire. These teams demand 17 mini soccer match equivalent sessions per week, at the peak time on mini soccer grass pitches. Demand includes exported teams and teams overplaying other pitch typologies. There are currently 11 7 v 7 mini soccer match equivalent sessions available at peak time. However, there are 46 match equivalent sessions available weekly. It is considered that mini soccer pitches can be played with back to back matches, within the capacity of the individual pitch and not cause damage to the grass pitch. As there are 9 mini soccer pitches providing 38 weekly 7 v 7 mini soccer match equivalent sessions in secured community use and 17 match equivalent sessions are currently required there are sufficient 7v 7 match equivalent sessions to meet peak demand. If providing pitches at peak time only without back to back play there would be a shortfall of 8 mini soccer 7 v 7 pitches.
- 3.10. There are currently 25 5 v 5 mini soccer teams including 1 exported team across North East Lincolnshire. These teams demand 13 mini soccer match equivalent sessions per week, at the peak time on mini soccer grass pitches. Demand includes exported teams and teams overplaying other pitch typologies. There are currently 10 5 v 5 mini soccer match equivalent sessions available at peak time. However, there are 38 match equivalent sessions available weekly. It is considered that mini soccer pitches can be played with back to back matches, within the capacity of the individual pitch and not cause damage to the grass pitch. As there are 8 mini soccer pitches providing 38 weekly 5 v 5 mini soccer match equivalent sessions in secured community use and 13 match equivalent sessions are currently required there are sufficient 5 v 5 match equivalent sessions to meet peak demand. If providing pitches at peak time only without back to back play there would be a shortfall of 3 mini soccer 5 v 5 pitches.
- 3.11. The FA has big ambitions for the female game and aims to double levels of participation by 2020. To achieve this requires a combined effort across four pathways: education, recreation, competition and talent. Education environments have a huge impact on the first experience of football for young girls. This pathway can offer many opportunities for females of all ages to develop and grow a lifelong interest in football. The FA Wildcats girl's football centres provide the first step on the recreational pathway, the programme provides girls aged 5-11 with regular opportunities to play football in a fun and engaging environment. North East Lincolnshire has four FA Wildcats girls' football centres and the priority is to sustain this activity. There are 12 women's and girls' teams from Adult 11 v 11 though to Junior 9 v 9 with a number of mixed teams at Youth 11 v 11 and Junior 9 v 9.
- 3.12. There are two affiliated Futsal leagues run within the North East Lincolnshire local authority:
- **Grimsby Futsal Wednesday Premier League**
  - **Grimsby YMCA Futsal**

- 3.13. Futsal is an exciting, fast-paced, small sided team game that is widely played across the world. Typically, it's played on an indoor surface with hockey-sized goals and a size 4 football with reduced ball bounce. It is the FA's aim to ensure Futsal is available across the country. There are currently 4 affiliated futsal team in North East Lincolnshire alongside 2 affiliated leagues that currently affiliate via slots. It is a priority for the County FA to grow Futsal for all players.
- 3.14. There are currently no FA Just Play Centres in North East Lincolnshire. Affiliated walking football in North East Lincolnshire has a total of 2 affiliated teams. Walking football and Just Play are areas that the County FA has prioritised for further growth and development. Other local recreational football programmes include pro-club community scheme activity delivered by Grimsby Town Sport & Education Trust and casual, recreational bookings which are delivered by a range of organisations.
- 3.15. Informal football is played in local parks and green spaces – it is free, open access and often played spontaneously (normal clothing is worn). Common examples include a kick-about at a local park or on a multi-use game area (MUGA). Currently, informal football in North East Lincolnshire is played across local parks within the local authority.

### Is there enough Accessible and Secured Community use Provision Currently and in the Future?

#### Adult 11 v 11

- 3.16. The adult 11 v 11 current demand is met from existing available match equivalent sessions at peak time of play. There are 23 match equivalent sessions required at peak time and there are 30 match equivalent sessions available offering secured community use.
- 3.17. By 3032 there is a requirement for 30 adult 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions at peak time of play. There are currently 30 match equivalent sessions in secured community use. There are sufficient adult 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions with secured community use for future use.
- 3.18. The Local Plan Policy 14 relating to Grimsby West requires the provision of 3 adult 11 v 11 pitches and the Strategic Housing site at Humberston Road requires 2 adult pitches. These strategic housing site provisions at Humberston Road and Grimsby West could be reconfigured to provide for youth 11 v 11 usage. Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator Tool for New Housing Development should be used at all housing development sites across North East Lincolnshire to determine the provision of playing pitches from new housing developments.
- 3.19. There are teams that play in the English National Football League system. For the 2019/20 season Step 4 Cleethorpes Town FC, Step 5 Grimsby Borough FC, and Step 7 teams are Cleethorpes Town Reserves, Grimsby Borough Reserves and Immingham Town FC. Cleethorpes Town received a grant from the Premier League to fund pitch and clubhouse improvements at their Linden home ground. Grimsby Borough FC play at the stadia pitch at Bradley Development Centre.

#### Youth 11 v 11

- 3.20. There is a current demand for 18 youth 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions at peak time of play. There are currently 7 sites providing 13 match equivalent sessions in secured community use at peak time of play. This provides a shortfall of 5 match equivalent sessions.
- 3.21. There is some overplay of adult pitches by youth 11 v 11 teams and these have been included in the current demand for 18 youth 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions. The youth match equivalent sessions should be played on the correct size pitch for this age group.

- 3.22. There are currently 12 youth 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions available with unsecured community use and 13 match equivalent sessions in secured community use.
- 3.23. By 2032 the projected need for youth 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions is 22. The current secure community use match equivalent sessions equal 13. There is an additional need for 9 youth 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions, which equates to 9 pitches. 5 of these 9 pitches could be provided by configuring the 5 new adult pitches as youth 11 v 11 pitches identified in Policy 14 of the Local Plan 2013 – 2032. If these pitches were of good quality, they would provide 15 match equivalent sessions with back to back play providing the need for 9 youth 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions in 2032.

### Junior 9 v 9

- 3.24. There is a current demand for 19 junior 9 v 9 match equivalent sessions at peak time of play. This includes exported teams and those teams over playing other pitch typologies. Currently there are 5 sites providing 8 match equivalent sessions with secured community use at peak time of play. The current shortfall of 11 match equivalent sessions can be overcome partially by formal community use agreements in place at 5 sites providing 5 currently unsecured match equivalent sessions.
- 3.25. By 2032 the projected requirement for junior 9 v 9 match equivalent sessions are 21. There are currently 8 match equivalent sessions with secured community use and therefore insufficient junior 9 v 9 match equivalent sessions to meet the future predicted match equivalent session demand in 2032. There are currently 5 unsecured match equivalent sessions that would require formal community use agreements. This may not be achievable. This means that there is a need for 13 additional junior 9 v 9 match equivalent sessions in 2032.
- 3.26. There may be opportunities to move some of the 9 v 9 match equivalent sessions onto 3G football turf pitches in the future. This will then meet the required 9 v 9 peak time demand match equivalents in 2032.

### Mini Soccer 7 v 7

- 3.27. There is a current need for 17 mini soccer 7 v 7 match equivalent sessions and there are 8 sites in secured community use providing 38 match equivalent sessions per week. There are 3 sites providing 8 unsecured match equivalent sessions per week. By providing back to back play and ensuring individual capacity of pitches is not exceeded there are sufficient mini soccer 7 v 7 pitches currently and in the future.
- 3.28. By 2032 there is a projected demand for 21 mini 7 v 7 pitches at peak time of play. With formal community use agreements in place and the existing secured community use match equivalents there are sufficient mini soccer 7 v 7 match equivalents weekly with back to back play to meet the projected demand in 2032.

### Mini Soccer 5 v 5

- 3.29. There is a current demand for 13 mini soccer 5 v 5 match equivalent sessions at peak time of play and currently there are 4 sites providing 8 pitches and have capacity for 38 match equivalent sessions weekly. There is a predicted need for 15 match equivalent sessions in 2032. There are sufficient match equivalent sessions with back to back play to meet current and future need to 2032.

- 3.30. In summary there are sufficient 7 v 7 and 5 v 5 pitches to meet current and future demand if formal community use agreements are put in place. There is a need for 13 additional junior 9 v 9 pitches which can be met by transferring matches in the future to 3G football turf pitches. The under supply of 9 youth 11 v 11 pitches and 9 match equivalent sessions by 2032 reduces to 4 pitches with the provision of the pitches identified in the Local Plan 2013 – 2032 Policy 14 relating to Grimsby West, 3 adult 11 v 11 pitches and at Humberston Road, 2 adult pitches. These pitches should be designated as youth 11 v 11 pitches. If these pitches are of good quality, they would provide 15 match equivalent sessions with back to back play and meet the required shortfall of 9 match equivalent sessions in 2032.

### 3G football turf Pitches

- 3.31. The 3G pitches across North East Lincolnshire are identified in table 3.1. There are 4 x 3G football turf pitches suitable for football. There are no World Rugby Reg22 compliant 3G pitches.

**Table 3.1: 3G Football Turf Pitch breakdown - available to the community**

Site Name	Pitch Type (3G; Sand based; Sand filled; water based)	Size	Security of community use	Pitch score	Floodlighting	FA Pitch Register
Bradley Recreation Ground	3G	110 x 70	Secured	83 – Good	Yes	Yes
King George V Athletics Stadium	3G	40 x 30	Secured	56 – Standard	Yes	No
King George V Athletics Stadium	3G	40 x 30	Secured	74 – Standard	Yes	No
West Marsh Community Centre	3G	60 x 40	Secured	70 – Standard	No	No

- 3.32. There is 1 full size 3G football turf pitch with floodlights at Bradley Football Development Centre. The Bradley Football Development Centre 3G pitch is registered on the FA Pitch Register.
- 3.33. There is a smaller 3G pitch at West Marsh Community Centre (part funded from the Football foundation) and 2 smaller 3G pitches at King George V.
- 3.34. There are 3 AGPs suitable and available for hockey and 1 condemned AGP at Clee Fields.
- 3.35. There are no World Regulation 22 Rugby 3G pitches in North East Lincolnshire. Consideration should be given to provision of a World 22 Regulation 3G pitch in conjunction with the Football Foundation, Lincolnshire County FA and Rugby Football Union. The feasible site for a World Rugby Regulation 22 3G pitch would be Clee Fields.
- 3.36. The Football Foundation has had a prior dialogue with the Oasis Academy Wintringham (early 2019) about their site and a potential 3G football turf pitch. The County FA has through the Local Football Facility Plan identified with NELC the Barrett's Field site (at the rear of the Academy site) as a potential 3G football turf site. Either site would be suitable. However, the existing AGP at Oasis Academy must be protected, with the 3G Football Turf Pitch being additional, unless an alternative artificial grass pitch can be protected elsewhere in the Borough

- 3.37. The NEL Local Football Facilities Plan highlights the need for an FTP in the Barrett's Recreation Ground / Oasis Academy Wintringham Area and highlights both sites as a potential, numerous factors need to be taken into consideration such as management of the site, security of the site, sustainability etc. before a decision can be made on the most suitable site. The current AGP at Oasis Academy Wintringham will need to be protected for future Hockey use, unless an alternative artificial grass pitch can be protected elsewhere in the Borough.
- 3.38. Existing NEL artificial grass pitches include:
- **Oasis Academy Wintringham**
  - **Grimsby Institute of Further and Higher Education**
  - **Ormiston Maritime Academy**
- 3.39. Developing 3G football turf pitches will relieve the pressure on the above AGPs and allow Grimsby Hockey Club to develop in the future as football moves onto 3G football turf pitches. There needs to be discussion between England Hockey, Football Foundation, Lincolnshire FA and NELC on how best to achieve the delivery and football move to new additional 3G Football Turf Pitches from AGP for training and match play. This is to ensure the future sustainability of AGPs and the business case to maintain the AGPs and allowing continues use by hockey and football or other sports.
- 3.40. Developing 3G football turf pitches will relieve the pressure on AGPs and allow Grimsby Hockey Club to develop in the future as football moves onto 3G football turf pitches.
- 3.41. The FA's long-term ambition is to provide every affiliated team in England the opportunity to train once per week on a floodlit 3G surface, together with priority access for every Charter Standard Community Club through a partnership agreement. It is estimated that one full sized AGP can service 38 teams.
- 3.42. When considering current team numbers 204 across North East Lincolnshire there is a current requirement for 5 x 3G Football turf pitches to meet team training needs. Including the existing Bradley Football Development Centre 3G football turf pitch. There is a current need for an additional 4 x 3G football turf pitches.
- 3.43. Latent demand and future population growth predict that the number of teams in 2032 will be 222. This requires 5.8 rounded up to 6 x 3G full size football turf pitches in the future based on 38 teams accessing a pitch once per week for training. The future demand will require an additional 6 full size football turf pitches. Including the existing Bradley Football Development Centre 3G football turf pitch. There is a predicted future need for an additional 5 x 3G football turf pitches.
- 3.44. The Bradley Football Development Centre 3G football turf pitch is registered on the FA Pitch Register. This means that the pitch is authorised for match play as well as training.
- 3.45. There is a smaller 3G pitch at West Marsh Community Centre (part funded from the Football foundation) in need of refurbishment and 2 smaller 3G pitches at King George V.
- 3.46. The following scenarios show the number of 3G football turf pitches required if football matches were moved from natural grass pitches to 3G football turf pitches for match play.
- 3.47. Scenario 1 - To move all football games onto 3G football turf pitches there would be a need to provide 34 x 3G football turf pitches.
- 3.48. Scenario 2 - To move 50% of all 9 v 9, 7 v 7 and 5 v 5 onto 3G football turf pitches there will be a need to provide 4 x (3.5 rounded up) 3G football turf pitches.

- 3.49. Scenario 3 - To move all North East Lincolnshire Council 5 v 5, 7 v 7 and 9 v 9 matches onto 3G football turf pitches there would be a need for 7 x 3G football turf pitches.
- 3.50. Scenario 4 – To move 13 x 9 v 9 matches onto 3G football Turf pitches there would be a need for 1 x 3G football turf pitch.
- 3.51. The PPS should continue to support, maintain and operate the Bradley Football Development Centre 3G football turf pitch and develop additional 3G football turf pitches at:
- **1 x 3G (possibly 2 with 1 being World Rugby Regulation 22 compliant) at Clee Fields**
  - **1 x 3G at Barrett's Recreation Ground/Oasis Academy Wintringham**
  - **1 x 3G at former Carr Lane (Allotments)**
  - **1 3G elsewhere (if not at Clee Fields)**
- 3.52. Refurbishment and maintenance of the smaller 3G football turf pitches across NEL will also assist in meeting future demand.
- 3.53. An agreed action plan for the migration of football activity and or rugby union to new build 3Gs should be implemented by NELC, England Hockey, Football Foundation, Lincolnshire County Football Association and the Rugby Football Union. This is to ensure sand-based facilities are sustainable and that each sport can carry out development work to take advantage of new time slots made available on its preferred artificial surface.

### **Is Provision accessible and of Sufficient Quality and Appropriately Maintained?**

- 3.54. The site assessments carried out determine the 'Carrying Capacity' of a football pitch. This capacity determines the number of matches a pitch can take per week without having a detrimental effect on the quality. A pitch receives a score identified through the assessment that determines the quality as 'good', 'standard' or 'poor'. The effect this has on carrying capacity for adult pitches is as follows:
- **Poor = 1 match equivalent carrying capacity per week**
  - **Standard = 2 match equivalent carrying capacity per week**
  - **Good = 3 match equivalent carrying capacity per week**
- 3.55. For Youth Football 11 v 11 and Junior 9 v 9 pitches, carrying capacity is affected differently due to the difference in nature and length of play. The effect of the quality scores on these pitches is as follows:
- **Poor = 1 match equivalent carrying capacity per week**
  - **Standard = 2 match equivalent carrying capacity per week**
  - **Good = 4 match equivalent carrying capacity per week**
- 3.56. For Mini soccer 7 v 7 and 5 v 5 pitches, the quality score affects carrying capacity as follows:
- **Poor = 2 match equivalent carrying capacity per week**
  - **Standard = 4 match equivalent carrying capacity per week**
  - **Good = 6 match equivalent carrying capacity per week**

3.57. The quality of pitches across the borough is assessed below. There are 3 football pitch sites audited as good quality pitches these are shown in table 3.2 below.

**Table 3.2: Borough wide ‘Good’ Quality Football Pitches**

Pitch Provision – Site	Pitch Quality Rating
Blossom Way	Good
Bradley Development Centre	Good
Linden Homes (1 <sup>st</sup> Team Pitch)	Good

3.58. All of the good quality pitch sites are in secured community use.

3.59. Table 3.3 below identifies the football sites audited as ‘Standard’ quality.

**Table 3.3: Borough wide ‘Standard’ Quality Football Pitches**

Provision – Site	Pitch Quality Rating
British Legion Sports & Social Club, Healing	Standard
Barrett’s Recreation Ground	Standard
Greenland’s	Standard
John Whitgift Academy	Standard
Jubilee Park (St Christopher’s Field)	Standard
King George V Playing Field, Taylors Avenue	Standard
King George V Stadium, Weelsby Road, Grimsby	Standard
Linden Homes (All pitches except 1 <sup>st</sup> team pitch)	Standard
Lucarly’s	Standard
Oasis Academy, Wintringham	Standard
Novartis	Standard
Sussex Recreation Ground	Standard
Clee Field’s Playing Field	Standard
Beacon Academy	Standard
Humberston Academy	Standard
Havelock Academy	Standard
Roval Drive, Immingham	Standard
Cleethorpes Cricket Club	Standard
Grimsby Cricket Club	Standard
Ross Sports Ground	Standard
West Marsh Community Centre	Standard

3.60. Table 3.4 shows the 'poor' quality football pitches across the borough.

**Table 3.4: Borough wide 'Poor' Quality Football Pitches**

Pitch Provision – Site	Pitch Rating
Centre 4 (Formerly St Mary's Secondary School)	Poor
Sutcliffe Avenue	Poor
Woodside Sports Ground, Immingham	Poor
The Academy Grimsby	Poor
Butt Lane	Poor
Oasis Academy, Immingham	Poor
Mount Pleasant Playing Field	Poor
Healing School	Poor
St James School	Poor
Western Primary School	Poor
Stallingborough Fields	Poor
Fairfield Academy	Poor
Springfield Primary School	Poor

3.61. Poor natural drainage and compaction of the ground are issues at several of the grass football pitch sites and these are rated as 'Poor' quality.

3.62. Lincolnshire FA are happy to look at new sites for the Pitch Improvement Plan now the Local Football Facility Plan for NELC has been developed. As part of Pitch Improvement Programme Lincolnshire FA should consider the following priority sites for the future:

- **Bradley Football Development Centre (to maintain pitch quality)**
- **Sutcliffe Avenue**
- **Woodside Sports Ground, Immingham**
- **The Academy Grimsby**
- **Butt Lane**
- **Oasis Academy, Immingham**
- **Mount Pleasant Playing field**
- **Healing School**
- **St James School**
- **Western Primary School**
- **Stallingborough Fields**
- **Fairfield Academy**
- **Springfield Primary School**

3.63. It is important that fit for purpose ancillary provision (changing and social facilities) are provided. There is a need to ensure that existing facilities (changing rooms etc.) are not placed under undue pressure

by the provision of new pitches and that ancillary facilities must provide for the maximum number of sports teams able to play at the site at peak time and be either equivalent or better.

3.64. There are a number of sites where new changing rooms or improvements are required. The identified sites are:

- **Barrett's Recreation Ground**
- **British Legion Sports & Social Club**
- **Clee Field's Playing Field**
- **Humberston Academy**
- **Humberston Cloverfield's Academy**
- **King George V, Taylors Avenue**
- **Mount Pleasant Playing Fields**
- **Stallingborough Playing Fields**
- **Sussex Recreation Ground**
- **Sutcliffe Avenue Playing Fields**

## Cricket Summary of Key Findings

### Main Characteristics of the Current Supply and Demand for Provision

3.65. 18 sites provide cricket facilities across North East Lincolnshire. 11 of these sites provide secure community use and 7 sites provide unsecured community use.

3.66. 5 sites are in North East Lincolnshire Council ownership, 1 site is a Parish Council site, 5 sites are in club or private ownership, and 7 sites are in education ownership.

3.67. 5 sites have stated that their cricket facilities are available for community use but none of these sites have been identified as providing community use. All 5 sites provide non-turf pitches only. 4 are educational sites and 1 is a Parish council site.

3.68. 3 educational sites providing 5 non-turf pitches have stated they are not available for community use.

3.69. There are 23 cricket clubs providing 32 adult teams and 13 junior teams. A total of 45 teams.

3.70. These 23 clubs are currently using 10 sites for cricket. There are 5 sites offering community use with grass pitches. These are all in secured use and 5 sites offering community use of 8 non-turf pitches 7 of these are on secured community use sites. 1 non-turf pitch is on an education site and is unsecured.

3.71. Cleethorpes CC has the highest number of teams 6 adult and 10 junior teams followed by Grimsby Town CC 3 adult and 3 junior teams and Clee Town Laportes CC with 2 adult teams. There are 19 x 1 team clubs and all of them play in the Mid-Week League. Peak Time of play is midweek.

3.72. There is demand for 283 match equivalent sessions per season on grass pitches and the capacity is 255 match equivalents per season with overplay of 28 match equivalent sessions per season across the whole of North East Lincolnshire.

3.73. Cricket Unleashed, the strategy for cricket 2016 -2022 placed engagement of women and girls at the forefront of this strategy alongside the role of the new 5 – 9 years of age All Stars cricket programme. The ECB All Stars initiative for 2017 and 2018 aimed at 5 – 9-year olds, proved to be very successful nationally and attracted 37,000 children and the target for 2018 has been raised considerably. ECB's new strategy 'Inspiring Generations' builds on the strong foundations laid by 'Cricket Unleashed', and this document lays out the strategy to grow cricket in England and Wales between 2020-24. At the heart of this strategy is a single unifying purpose, which gets to the core of what the game can do for society both on and off the field. This is coupled with an ambition for what success looks like by the end of this strategic period to ensure that our game is in an even stronger position than it is today. Inspiring Generation's 2020 – 2024 can be found at:

[https://platform-static-files.s3.amazonaws.com/ecb/document/2019/05/20/683c5b48-fe5f-4a07-b1de-23ef3af0753b/Inspiring\\_Generations\\_game-wide\\_Strategy\\_Document.pdf](https://platform-static-files.s3.amazonaws.com/ecb/document/2019/05/20/683c5b48-fe5f-4a07-b1de-23ef3af0753b/Inspiring_Generations_game-wide_Strategy_Document.pdf).

3.74. The ECB are due to launch Dynamos Cricket in 2020 and this provides a fantastic next step for all those graduating from All Stars Cricket and the perfect introduction for all 8 -11-year olds new to cricket. Grimsby Town Cricket Club, Healing community Junior Cricket Club and Clee town Laportes Cricket Club are all planning to provide All stars and Dynamos cricket in 2020.

3.75. Cleethorpe Cricket Club has to play at an alternative ground in Immingham to its home ground on Sundays (4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and Sunday Academy) as only one game can be played on one square at one time. There is overplay of 15 match equivalent sessions on grass wickets at Cleethorpes CC. There is potential for this club to field a team in the U19 T20 competition in the short term. This would mean an additional maximum of 8 match equivalent sessions per season, taking over play across North East Lincolnshire to 27 match equivalent sessions per season.

3.76. Grimsby Town Cricket Club has 17 wickets but realistically only 14 can be used given the boundary restrictions. 14 has been used to calculate supply and demand. The club are planning to run All Stars and Dynamos Cricket in 2020.

3.77. The British Legion site is an unsecured site. Consultation identified that the security of the club on the site is in some doubt due to The British Legion Central Office looking to extract a large fee from the clubs for the use of the sports pitches. The club's pitches are quite poor as they rely exclusively on volunteer labour on the pitch. The site needs to be protected and if lost will need to be replaced or meet one of Sport England Playing Pitch exemptions. Healing Cricket club use this site for midweek cricket. Healing Junior Community Cricket Club launched in 2019 and used this site and accommodated 50 juniors on the All Stars programme. The intention is to continue the All Stars programme in 2020 and introduce Dynamos Cricket.

3.78. Clee Town Laportes Cricket club are also planning to run All Stars and Dynamos Cricket in 2020.

3.79. The demand for non-turf pitches is 61 match equivalent sessions per season and capacity is 240 with underplay of 179 match equivalent sessions. Bradley Recreation Ground has 3 non turf pitches that have been rated as 0 capacity due to their condition and need replacing as has Butt Lane Playing Field non turf pitch. The Barratts Recreation Ground non turf pitches will need replacing in the near future.

3.80. There are 3 sites that are over played. Cleethorpes CC 15 match equivalent sessions per season and the Linden club 29 match equivalent sessions per season. The Linden Club ground has now been reduced to 5 pitches due to the need for a barrier around the football pitch. Hence the reason for the 29-match equivalent session overplay on the site and Grimsby Town CC 4 match equivalent sessions.

**Accessible and Secured Community use Provision to meet Current Demand**

- 3.81. There is one school site Oasis Wintringham, which is an unsecured community use site which requires a community use agreement to be put in place. The non-turf pitch at the Oasis, Wintringham is used by midweek league teams and a community use agreement in place, will secure future use of this site for the teams that play there.
- 3.82. There are particular sites where there is over play e.g. Cleethorpes CC overplayed by 15 match equivalent sessions per season (Would benefit from non-turf pitch for junior use) and have teams travelling to Immingham, which is not ideal. A local venue to support this club to retain cricket would be more beneficial.
- 3.83. Linden cricket ground home ground of Clee Town Laportes CC is over played by 29 match equivalents per season and has had a reduction in the number of pitches on its square due to post and rail system introduced to a football pitch. Clee Town Laportes Cricket Club are seeking a new home ground as they consider that football comes first at the Linden ground. Barrett's Recreation Ground has the potential to provide a new site for Clee Town Laportes CC with the introduction of a grass square.
- 3.84. Grimsby Town Cricket Club has 17 wickets but realistically only 14 can be used given the boundary restrictions. When considering 14 wickets only at Grimsby Town Cricket Club this has an impact which means there is a current overplay on this site of 4 match equivalent sessions per season.
- 3.85. The British Legion site is an unsecured site. It is currently used by midweek league clubs. If this site was removed from play, overplay across North East Lincolnshire would rise by 15 match equivalent sessions per season. The site needs to be protected and if lost will need to be replaced or meet one of Sport England Playing Pitch exemptions.

### Cricket Pitches are they of Sufficient Quality and Appropriately Maintained

- 3.86. Although the cricket pitches at the club-operated sites are either good or standard quality. Two non-turf pitch sites are considered as Poor, Barrett's Recreation Ground and Stallingborough Playing Fields.
- 3.87. There are improvements required to grounds and clubhouse facilities and, provision of equipment and practice facilities. It is important that ancillary facilities and equipment are fit for purpose.
- 3.88. The club survey and ECB consultation reported:
- **Barrett's Recreation Ground:** The site has two standard quality non-turf pitches and poor changing facilities. At the time of the visit the outfield was too long for cricket use.
  - **Bradley Development Centre:** The three non-turf cricket pitches at this site were all poor quality and it was clear the artificial wickets need to be replaced.
  - **King George V Playing Field Cleethorpes:** The non-turf pitch was of poor quality and looked disused.
  - **Butt Lane Playing Field:** The non-turf pitch had a couple of holes that need repairing. The area around the non-turf pitch suffers from a mole infestation, creating a bit of unevenness.
  - **Grimsby Town Cricket Club:** The club manage and maintain their own ground, the club has rated the quality of their pitches as standard, with acceptable grass coverage and an uneven outfield. The surface needs to be Koreroed as it is the only realistic method of restoring it to a suitable standard. The ECB has advised that the clubs league markings are in the bottom quartile and therefore mitigation measures need to be considered before the pitch is considered poor. Facilities on site are also in need of refurbishment, with additional changing facilities, parking space, and training facilities (non- turf practice nets) required.  
The pavilion is good quality; however, this is an area the club would like to focus on. Over the next few years they want to provide disabled access to the pavilion, replace the changing rooms and

make them suitable for woman, as they want to develop woman's cricket at the site. Currently the outfield of the site has an aggressive weed issue that needs to be scarified. Another priority for the club is to source new nets.

- **Ormiston Maritime Academy:** The school has a non-turf pitch which is 7-years-old and in fairly good condition. The school would like the community to use the pitch, however, currently they have had no demand.
- **Oasis Academy Wintringham:** The school has one non-turf cricket pitch which is well utilised by the pupils and 3 local teams. The school feels it would massively benefit from obtaining outdoor nets, which would also be used by the local community. Over the next few years, they would like cricket to become a priority.
- **The Linden Sports Club:** The Clee Town Laportes Cricket Club has no formal tenure on the site but has played there since 1950 under various names and rent from Cleethorpes Town Football Club. The cricket club has the problem that with the ground being leased by Clee Town Football Club that from time to time they have to move fixtures to other grounds or cancel them to facilitate football and other events at short notice. The football club has been required to add facilities such as a permanent barrier around their pitch. This has meant match appropriate wickets have been reduced from 9 to just 5. The club has stated that there is space for the club to add a further 3 wickets to the other side of the square but the club will require funding to help with this. The ECB consider that the addition of 3 wickets to the south east of the existing square will not be feasible due to the size of the boundary not meeting requirements for adult cricket (45.72m) and there will be considerable risk of ball strike to the main dual carriageway – thus a suitable ball strike risk assessment would need to be completed and subsequent mitigation put in place an additional cost to the fine turf development of 3 cricket wickets which is not considered financially feasible.
- **Cleethorpes CC:** The club has two sets of nets, one which are excellent, the other requires replacing. The club has an excellent ancillary facility but during the consultation spoke about the plans to extend it to include an indoor net facility. The club also spoke about extending the car park facilities at the club.
- **Blossom Way Sports and Social Club:** The site is being used by Cleethorpes Cricket Club teams as well as a resident side. The square is in good condition and the site has good quality equipment. The site is not dedicated to cricket and has football in the winter meaning the outfield can be uneven in places but otherwise the site is good. The ancillary is huge but is showing some signs aging and wear.
- **British Legion Sports & Social Club:** The clubs pitches are quite poor as they rely exclusively on volunteer labour on the pitch.

### Future Supply and Demand of Provision

- 3.89. There is no identified increase needed for cricket facilities based on future population growth. This is largely a consequence of an ageing population. Based on sports development and latent demand, by 2032. There will be insufficient cricket pitches to meet future requirements. There is latent demand for 35 match equivalent sessions and 34 sports development match equivalent sessions.

3.90. There is currently overplay of existing natural grass cricket facilities across North East Lincolnshire of 28 match equivalent sessions per season. When adding in the following scenarios:

- **Cleethorpes CC. There is potential for this club to field a team in the U19 T20 competition in the short term. This would mean an additional maximum of 8 match equivalent sessions per season. This takes over play across North East Lincolnshire to 36 (28 + 8) match equivalent sessions per season.**
- **The British Legion site is an unsecured site. It is currently used by midweek league clubs. If this site was removed from play, overplay across North East Lincolnshire would rise to 66 (28 + 8 + 30) match equivalent sessions per week.**

3.91. The total required overplay by 2032 is predicted to be the current overplay 28 match equivalent sessions plus latent demand - 35 match equivalent sessions and sports development initiatives - 34 match equivalent sessions per season. Totalling 97 match equivalent sessions per season. This could increase if the 2 scenarios above come to fruition.

### Accessible and Secured Community use Provision to meet Future Demand

3.92. There will be a need to provide a community use agreement at Oasis, Wintringham; a new cricket square and outfield at one of the re-provided playing field sites; potentially provision of a grass cricket square at Barrett's Recreation Ground; combine NTP and 1 -2 good fine turf sites in the area to maximise play and increase sports development work.

## Hockey Key Findings

### Main Characteristics of the Current Supply and Demand for Provision

- 3.93. England Hockey full pitch dimensions with run offs are 101.40m x 61m. The Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs) available across NELC area for Hockey are the Oasis Academy, Wintringham and Ormiston Maritime Academy are of 'Standard' quality and Grimsby Institute is of 'Good' quality. The Oasis Academy, Wintringham and Ormiston Maritime Academy pitches, will require replacement carpets in the near future.
- 3.94. All 3 AGPs are provided on education sites in education or further and higher education ownership. 2 AGPs require secured community use agreements. The third Grimsby Institute has a Community Use Agreement in place since 2014. This community use agreement needs to be kept maintained. This is to safeguard hockey club use in the future.
- 3.95. There is 1 hockey club that plays competitive fixtures in NELC Area. This is Grimsby Hockey Club – The club has 2 men's and 2 women's teams that play league hockey and 4 junior teams.
- 3.96. Grimsby Hockey Club provide training for mixed hockey and junior hockey. There is a social team called North East Lincolnshire Hockey Club.
- 3.97. North East Lincolnshire Hockey Club has a membership of 29 all aged over the club 35 and trains on Thursday evenings for 1 hour at Ormiston Maritime Academy but doesn't play competitively.
- 3.98. The PPS Stage C assessment has used as a given that 4 match equivalents are available for play per each AGP Saturday and Sunday and each match slot equals 1.5 hours duration. Training slots are of 1hr duration.

- 3.99. Grimsby Hockey Club adult competitive matches (peak time) currently take place on a Saturday. Grimsby Men and the Ladies 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> X1 teams play at Grimsby Institute. In the past Grimsby Men's and Ladies 2<sup>nd</sup> X1 teams played home games at the Oasis Academy, Wintringham on a Saturday.
- 3.100. There is currently a requirement for 2 hockey match slots across NELC on a Saturday and 1 training slot for juniors on a Saturday (identified as 3 hours of use for adult matches and 1 hour for junior training). This leaves 10 match slots on a Saturday and 10 spare match slots on a Sunday across the NELC area.
- 3.101. Grimsby Hockey Club 13+ years train for 1 hour on a Thursday evening at Ormiston Maritime Academy and juniors train for 1 hour on a Saturday morning..
- 3.102. The Grimsby Hockey club membership has grown by 100% over the past few years and growth is particularly substantial in the junior section. 4 junior teams are competing for the club in the 2019 season. Junior teams play at central venue sites. However, the Grimsby HC junior teams will play at least 4 home games in the coming season.
- 3.103. The development of the junior section has occurred due to the club partnering with Premier Sport who manage all the clubs training. Premier Sport is a partner of England Hockey. There is still a need to ensure that those juniors participating in hockey in NELC continue to participate at Grimsby Hockey club and do not have to travel out of the area to play club hockey.
- 3.104. Hockey clubs are in competition with football teams requiring training facilities. This requires Hockey Club training to be protected at all 3 AGP hockey sites in NELC. There is a shortage of 3G FTPs across NELC. The provision of additional 3G FTPs will assist in football clubs moving to 3G FTPs from the existing AGPs for training. This would allow Grimsby Hockey Club to access additional training and match slots as it grows its club membership even further from the growth of 100% over the last few years.
- 3.105. An agreed action plan for the migration of football activity to new build 3Gs should be implemented by NELC, England Hockey, Football Foundation and Lincolnshire County Football Association. This is to ensure sand-based facilities are sustainable and that each sport can carry out development work to take advantage of new time slots made available on its preferred artificial surface.

### Accessible and Secured Community use Provision to meet Current Demand

- 3.106. The Oasis Academy, Wintringham and Ormiston Maritime Academy are not secured with community use agreements. Grimsby Institute AGP has a community use agreement which Part of Schedule 2 states; "the institute may prioritise or restrict access in the favour of hockey".
- 3.107. In planning for the future, opportunities should be pursued to ensure the continuation of the community use agreement at Grimsby Institute and the introduction of community use agreements at Oasis Academy, Wintringham and Ormiston Maritime.

### Accessible of Sufficient Quality and Appropriately Maintained

- 3.108. It is important that ancillary and pitch facilities are fit for purpose. The Oasis Academy, Wintringham and Ormiston Maritime Academy are of 'Standard' quality and Grimsby Institute is of 'Good' quality. The Oasis Academy, Wintringham and Ormiston Maritime Academy pitches will require replacement carpets in the near future.

## Main Characteristics of the Future Supply and Demand for Provision

- 3.109. Hockey clubs have reaped the rewards of the improved profile of the sport, focussing on a link with schools to provide excellent opportunities for young players. Programmes such as Quick sticks – a small-sided version of hockey for 7-11-year olds – in Primary Schools have been hugely successful in allowing new players to take part in the sport from an early age. The growth in the sport since the eve of London 2012 has been seen across the country, examples being a 110% increase in under 16s club participation in London, and a 111% growth in the North West in the same age bracket.
- 3.110. As part of the new England Hockey Strategy ‘A Nation where Hockey matters’ 2017-2021 a long-term aspiration is to double the number of people playing hockey in clubs by 2028.
- 3.111. Grimsby Hockey Club has stated it would like to grow but there are a number of reasons why it cannot. The club has indicated the following reasons for lack of growth:
- **Player’s and volunteer’s work/family commitments.**
  - **Low profile sport the area is focussed on higher profile sports.**
  - **Requirement for schools and colleges across NELC to increase participation in Hockey, not just other main stream sports.**
  - **Aging population.**
  - **Lower number of volunteers and higher costs for affiliation.**
- 3.112. An important aspect for Grimsby Hockey Club is the need for a dedicated clubhouse, to focus and provide a hockey hub for the community. Currently the provision is acceptable but needs maintenance and development.
- 3.113. Grimsby Hockey Club has partnered with Premier Sport an England Hockey partner to provide all their training. Since this started in 2017 the junior section has grown and so has the adult section. The club’s membership has increased by over 100%.
- 3.114. Taking the scenario that if Grimsby Hockey Club meet the aspirations of England Hockey by 2028 and increased their membership by a further 100%, then Grimsby hockey club membership would increase from 126 to 270. There would be increased junior teams and adult teams that would require additional training times and match slots. The training slots could be met by football teams currently using AGPs for midweek training due to the lack of 3G FTPs moving to new 3G FTPs. There is sufficient match slot time available at the weekends to meet growth in participation requirements.
- 3.115. There is a need for England Hockey to continue working with Grimsby Hockey Club to ensure that junior hockey participants that reside in the NELC area play their hockey at Grimsby Hockey Club and do not travel out of the area to participate.
- 3.116. The North East Lincolnshire Hockey Club may provide a women’s team in the future but would require a second training night or additional hours training per week. Both a 0.5 match slot and a 1-hour training slot can be provided from existing provision.

## Accessible and Secured Community use Provision to meet Future Demand

- 3.117. The current accessible supply of hockey facilities in the borough will be sufficient to meet future demand. There is, however, a need to provide Community Use Agreements at 2 sites and maintain the existing community use agreement at Grimsby Institute. England Hockey and NELC officers will work through 2 options to maintain hockey AGP provision in NEL. The 2 options are:

### Option 1:

A full action plan with:

1. Agreements in place with Ormiston Academy and Grimsby Institute:
  - this includes community use agreements and also
  - protection of the surface type selected when resurfacing, this would require work from EH, NELC and the management teams of each establishment. The latter can be carried out as an understanding that the sites will only commit to resurfacing to a hockey specific surface and work with Grimsby Hockey Club and England Hockey to find the best solution.
2. Alternatively, to protect the surface NELC will explore the use of an Article 4 direction to remove permitted development rights on both sites, in this case solely for the change of carpet?
3. Resurfacing of both pitches will need to be considered within the mitigation proposed for the disposal of playing fields elsewhere in the area, with site assessments and costs carried out at the time of decision's being made.

### Option 2:

The investigative work undertaken to date at Clee Fields leads to the need for a new AGP rather than just resurfacing the carpet. The other alternatives are to provide a new AGP at Barratts Recreation Ground (possibly in conjunction with tennis and netball) and or resurfacing of the Oasis Academy, Wintringham AGP or Ormiston Maritime. Funding for any project would be via developer contributions. The Oasis Academy, Wintringham AGP or Ormiston Maritime will require the same commitments as Option 1. The development of a new AGP at Barrett's Recreation Ground would provide the security for partner clubs.

The reason for providing a new facility as a second option is that NELC could provide long term security that would not be possible from the rejection of Option 1 or the rejection of Oasis Academy, Wintringham or Ormiston Maritime by the interested parties. Whilst this would condense Hockey activity onto one site e.g. Barrett's Recreation Ground it would safeguard the future of Hockey long term which is the key for all involved in the PPS process.

The consequence and worst-case scenario are all pitches are lost over time in the area and the closest available facilities are Scunthorpe or Louth. Realistically this would spell the end of Hockey for the people of North East Lincolnshire.

## Rugby Summary of Key Findings

### Main Characteristics of the Current Supply and Demand for Provision

- 3.118. The audit of rugby pitches in North East Lincolnshire identifies that there are 8 sites with rugby pitches across North East Lincolnshire. Only 4 sites provide for Club or College rugby pitches that can be called secured community use.

- 3.119. The secured community use Club and College sites are Grimsby Rugby Club, Cleethorpes Rugby Club (King George V Taylor's Avenue) and Franklin College – College Rugby Club. These sites provide 8 adult rugby pitches and 1 junior rugby pitch.
- 3.120. In addition to the 4 club sites there are rugby pitches provided at the following education sites:
- **Havelock Academy – 1 junior rugby pitch**
  - **Healing School – 1 adult rugby pitch**
  - **Tollbar Academy – 1 adult rugby pitch**
  - **John Whitgift Academy – 1 adult rugby pitch**
- 3.121. Of the 4 sites above only John Whitgift Academy has stated that it is interested in providing community use. No community use takes place currently.
- 3.122. There are no identified lapsed or disused sites identified for use by Rugby Union across the borough.
- 3.123. King George V Taylors Avenue is owned by NELC and there is a license agreement with Cleethorpes Rugby Club. The Council has granted a 'Tenancy at Will' – a formal License to the Cleethorpes Football Rugby Union Football Club to use part of the playing fields and grant permission to access the Pavilion at the King George V playing fields site at Taylors Avenue. The agreement is not exclusive to the site and does not preclude any other users. The agreement is personal between the Council and the Rugby Club and commenced on the 16 October 2015.
- 3.124. Cleethorpes Rugby Clubs ambition was to have a long-term lease in place at King George V Playing Fields. However, this was subject to Charity Commission and Fields in Trust approval, which has been determined and there are no options to allow a long-term lease to be afforded to the rugby club based on the site use and constitution of the Club. This is a full and final position as obtained from the Charity Commission.
- 3.125. Grimsby Rugby Club is owned partly by the club and partly by Lord Yarborough.
- 3.126. Franklin College rugby pitch is in the ownership of the College.
- 3.127. Grimsby RUFC has the following number of teams: 1st XV, and 2nd XV men's teams, an U17's men's colt team an Academy team, U13, U14, U15, U16 junior teams and U12, U11, U10, U9, U8, & U7 mini/midi teams.
- 3.128. Cleethorpes RUFC has the following number of teams: 1st XV and 2nd XV men's teams, an under 18's men's colt team, U15, U14 and U13 junior teams and U12, U11, U10, U9, U8, & U7 mini/midi teams.

### **Accessible and Secured Community use Provision to meet Current Demand**

- 3.129. Security of access to rugby grounds in the borough is good. Both clubs play at secured community use sites. The issue is the type of security. Cleethorpes Rugby Club would like hold a long-term lease on the King George V Playing Fields site instead of a license. A formal long-term lease would have enabled the club to seek funding to improve both playing and ancillary facilities. However, this is not aligned to the original conveyance at this site, and the constitution and use of the proposed use of the site, therefore there will be no solution forthcoming to the Council to provide security of tenure for Cleethorpes Rugby Club to seek funding to improve playing, changing and social facilities at this site, as set out under Charity Law and governed by the Charity Commission.

- 3.130. The Council will continue to work with CRUFC to seek opportunities at alternative sites(s) where it is appropriate and able to do so.
- 3.131. The RFU and Cleethorpes Rugby Club both agree that the PPS, at this stage cannot potentially deliver the solution on where the rugby club is to secure a long-term venue with an appropriate tenure position to be sustainable. NELC are committed to explore potential sites in conjunction with the RFU and Cleethorpes Rugby Club where:
- **New sports hubs are created.**
  - **Through interventions and investment to improve playing capacity there may be rationalisation or migration to certain sites and perhaps this releases other sites for the rugby club to consider a secure tenure.**

### Accessible Sufficient Quality and Appropriately Maintained

- 3.132. It is important that ancillary and pitch facilities are fit for purpose. It is also important to understand if over play of weekly match and training equivalent sessions occurs because of insufficient quality or pitches are not maintained appropriately.
- 3.133. The methodology for assessing rugby pitch quality looks at two key elements; the maintenance programme and the level of drainage. Each is scored and classified in one of three categories. These represent actions required to improve pitch quality. A breakdown for each of the two scoring elements and three respective categories is provided in table 3.5 below.

**Table 3.5: Rugby Pitch Scoring Elements Rugby Pitch Quality**

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

- 3.134. Table 3.6 below refers to the current community rugby sites and shows the quality pitch assessment score, which provides the weekly capacity for play e.g. a drainage score of D0 and a pitch maintenance score of M0 provides an individual pitch capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions weekly. The overall capacity of rugby pitches is shown for each site.

**Table 3.6: Quality assessment score of pitches available for secured community use**

Site Name	Type of pitch	Drainage Score	Pitch maintenance score	Pitch Capacity	Overall capacity of site
Lucarly's	Senior Rugby Union	D0	Poor (M0)	0.5	0.5
Franklin College	Senior Rugby Union	D1	Poor (M0)	1.5	1.5
Grimsby RUFC	Senior Rugby Union	D1	Adequate (M1)	2	
Grimsby RUFC	Senior Rugby Union	D1	Adequate (M1)	2	
Grimsby RUFC	Senior Rugby Union	D1	Adequate (M1)	2	
Grimsby RUFC	Junior Rugby Union	D1	Adequate (M1)	1	7

Site Name	Type of pitch	Drainage Score	Pitch maintenance score	Pitch Capacity	Overall capacity of site
King George*	Senior Rugby Union	D0	Poor (M0)	0.5	
King George*	Senior Rugby Union	D0	Poor (M0)	0.5	
King George*	Senior Rugby Union	D0	Poor (M0)	0.5	1.5

\* Information not available. No rugby pitches on site at time of assessment. The assessment calculations are rough estimates which require consultation with the RFU.

- 3.135. Cleethorpes Rugby Club have in the past played on a senior rugby pitch at Lucarley's they now only play and train at King George Taylors Avenue. The overall weekly match and training equivalent session capacity and demand for rugby club pitches is shown in Table 3.7 below.

**Table 3.7: Rugby club Sites showing weekly pitch match equivalent and training session capacity, demand and overplay**

Site Name	Type of pitch	Pitch Capacity Weekly Match and training Equivalent Sessions	OVERALL SITE capacity of Weekly Match and Training Equivalent sessions	OVERALL SITE Demand for Weekly Match and Training Equivalent Sessions	Weekly Overplay Match and Training Equivalent Sessions
Grimsby RUFC	Senior Rugby Union	2			
Grimsby RUFC	Senior Rugby Union	2			
Grimsby RUFC	Senior Rugby Union	2			
Grimsby RUFC	Junior Rugby Union	1			
Grimsby RUFC			7	8.5	1.5

King George*	Senior Rugby Union	0.5			
King George*	Senior Rugby Union	0.5			
King George*	Senior Rugby Union	0.5			
King George*			1.5	5.5	4

\* Information not available. No rugby pitches on site at time of assessment. The assessment calculations are rough estimates which require consultation with the RFU.

- 3.136. Table 3.7 identifies that there is weekly overplay of match and training equivalent sessions at each of the two community use rugby sites. Grimsby RUFC 1.5 match and training equivalent sessions

and King George V 4 match and training equivalent sessions. A total of 5.5 match equivalent and training sessions overplayed across the NELC area.

- 3.137. A visit by the RFU to Grimsby Rugby Club has identified the following maintenance improvements that could be undertaken:
- **Use the slitters a lot more than at present.**
  - **Invest in a set of chain harrows.**
  - **Provide fertiliser and a set of cutters to bring maintenance all in house.**
- 3.130 Grimsby Rugby Club would welcome the opportunity that a World Rugby Regulation 22 compliant 3G pitch could bring to the club in their efforts to widen the offer to participate in the many forms of rugby union and also to secure continuity throughout the season of midweek activity. Midweek training and perhaps schools' fixtures were highlighted as the key activities they would look to utilise the AGP for. The rugby club identified the November to March period of particular importance to them as the AGP would help alleviate some of the pressure on pitches at the club's site.
- 3.131 The RFU support the club with its need to install a recognised standard of floodlighting on one of the pitches at GRUFC. This would allow the club to provide a better environment for players to participate during midweek, where currently the club service all midweek activity with the use of two inadequate columns of lighting. Due to this limited provision, the club invariably experiences severe drop off of participating numbers and on many occasions has to cancel sessions.
- 3.132 The illuminating of a pitch will help to foster stronger school links and support the surrounding schools with a fixture venue after school.
- 3.133 Cleethorpes Rugby Club does not possess any floodlighting of any quality and therefore midweek training is challenging. Access to a World Rugby Regulation 22 compliant pitch at Clee Fields once a week say a Tuesday 7pm – 9.00pm would assist with mid-week training.
- 3.134 The peak period of match demand for rugby is a Saturday. There are currently 7 Senior Rugby Union pitches available providing secured community use across North East Lincolnshire and there is demand for 3 rugby match equivalent sessions on a Saturday afternoon at peak time.
- 3.138. The issue is provision of training equivalent sessions. The lack of capacity for training equivalent sessions is caused by lack of floodlighting and the need to improve the maintenance of pitches.

### Accessible and Secured Community use Provision to meet Future Demand

- 3.139. The current training and match equivalent sessions show overlap of 4.5 match equivalent sessions. Taking into consideration projected latent demand 5.5 match equivalent sessions overlap increases to 9.5 match equivalent sessions across North East Lincolnshire by 2032.

### Key Issues and Scenarios - Improving Pitch Quality

- 3.140. Improving quality of pitches at King George V, Taylors Avenue from 'Poor (MO)' to 'Standard (M1)' and providing drainage would increase capacity to 9.75 match equivalent sessions per week. There is a current overlap of 2 match and training equivalent sessions per week.
- 3.141. By improving the quality of the Grimsby Rugby Club Pitches from 'Standard (Adequate M1)' to 'Good (M2)' would improve and eliminate the current overlap of 1 match and training equivalent session per week. However, if the clubs latent demand of 5.5 match equivalent sessions came to fruition. There would be overlap of 2.5 match equivalent sessions per week in the future. There could be an opportunity to use the John Whitgift Academy Rugby pitch. The school is keen to have community use rugby on site.

- 3.142. An alternative would be to consider a 3G World Rugby 22 compliant pitch. A site will need to be explored in the strategy area that could be accessed easily by both clubs. Club sites and others should be explored.
- 3.143. There is demand for floodlighting at King George V, Taylors Avenue to provide floodlit capacity for training. 2 pitches with floodlights would be the ideal scenario.

### Improving Ancillary Facilities

- 3.144. Both Grimsby Rugby Club and Cleethorpes Rugby Club have ambitions to provide new and improved changing and social facilities to meet the needs and requirements of the clubs now and in the future, meeting the needs of both men and women and boys and girls. Cleethorpes Rugby Club has refurbished the pavilion at King George V Taylors Avenue.

### Protecting Existing Facilities

- 3.145. All rugby pitches across North East Lincolnshire are to be protected in the Local Plan. In regard to Cleethorpes Rugby Club, and the fact that a long-term lease is not viable, due to the Charity Commission position on granting a lease to the club via the Council, then Cleethorpes Rugby Club has to consider their legal position on the King George V site. An alternative site should be considered with access to World Rugby Reg22 compliant 3G pitch provision to reduce the projected future overlay of 9.5 match equivalent sessions per week. The World Rugby Reg22 compliant 3G pitch provision may prove a viable option to explore and could potentially fall into the RFU Rugby share approach with the RFU's 365 (AGP) Programme.
- 3.146. In return, for any contributions the RFU would wish to secure a minimum number of hours for rugby union use.

## 4. Strategy Framework and Action Plan for Enabling Future Delivery of Playing Pitch Provision

- 4.1. The PPS and Action Plan has been developed from research and analysis of playing pitch provision and usage within the borough and this is provided in Appendix 1 Stage C North East Lincolnshire Council's Playing Pitch Analysis and Assessment.
- 4.2. This section sets out a strategy to enable the delivery of Football, Cricket, Hockey, and Rugby Union. The PPS provides a framework for delivery with partners and sets out aspirations and provides a priority list for when funding becomes available.
- 4.3. The identified outputs for the PPS are:
- **Provide a framework to support medium- and long-term facilities planning for the delivery of playing pitches and ancillary facilities in the Borough.**
  - **A clear needs analysis for developers regarding future sports and recreation facility needs in the Borough**
  - **A robust framework to assist the allocation of developer contributions (through S106 money or if provided for in the future the Regulation 123 list of CIL funded infrastructure) for sports and recreation provision in the Borough.**
  - **To identify priority sports for the area based on National Governing Bodies targets and local community needs.**
  - **To develop a priority list for investment and use of resources secured through Section 106 and possibly CIL in the future the Council was to adopt a CIL Policy.**
- 4.4. The PPS framework and action plan focusses on the 5 points above and these points are addressed throughout the Priority Sports Specific Actions and Individual site Action Plans.
- 4.5. The strategy framework focuses on the following three objectives:
- **Protect:** The strategy seeks to make sure that the right amount of playing pitches and ancillary facilities of the right quality are in the right place. It promotes the protection of existing provision and recognises the benefits of multi pitch hub sites by:
    - Highlighting sites which have a particular significance for sport and seeks to protect them as a local recreational space through the Development Plan process (see NPPF paragraphs 96 and 97)
    - Securing tenure and access for development minded clubs, through a range of solutions and partnerships.
    - Seeking formal community use agreements with schools where there is a need.

- **Enhance:** Key partners such as NELC, Parish Council's, local schools, Private and Voluntary Sector Sports Clubs, and NGBs must work together to maximise the full potential of playing pitch assets and the long-term sustainability of these assets and recognise that an improvement in quality and ongoing maintenance can have an impact on the capacity of use. The strategy will do this by setting out where improvements to the quality of playing pitches and ancillary facilities are required. The PPS looks at:
  - Improving quality
  - Working in partnership with stakeholders to provide funding
  - Securing developer contributions or CIL Funding if available
- **Provide:** In times of public sector austerity, investment needs to be directed at sites which will provide the best impact and highest increase in participation. It is the policy of NELC to support projects and sports clubs that are able to; demonstrate sustainable long-term development, increase participation and have achieved the appropriate accreditations e.g. Clubmark and / or Charter Standard providing player and sports development pathways. The strategy looks at:
  - Addressing capacity in junior and mini football by designating and ensuring that all teams are playing on pitches of the right size.
  - Addressing the need for artificial grass pitches to meet increasing and changing demand for AGP surfaces for both training and competition in football, hockey and rugby and other pitch sports.
  - Where required re locating playing fields to release sites for housing and provide funds to provide new playing fields with improved quality of provision.
  - Providing the required number and type of pitches on-site, or appropriate provision off-site, to meet the specific needs of residential development proposals.
  - Providing the required number and type of pitches on-site, or appropriate provision off-site, to meet the specific needs of residential development proposals.

## Priority Sport Specific Actions

- 4.6. All existing playing field land is protected by the Local Development Plan for the Borough, Sport England policies and the NPPF to deliver current and future needs.
- 4.7. As a priority for all partners on the PPS Steering Group there is a need for NELC, Town and Parish Council's, Football Association, Lincolnshire Football, England Hockey, ECB, Rugby Football Union and Sport England to work together to provide a local investment plan to ensure the successful implementation of this PPS.
- 4.8. Hub Sites – The PPS will develop sufficient, fit for purpose, quality Community Sports Hub sites, whereby existing multi-pitch sites (which are easier to manage and operate) are maintained and where possible new Community Sports Hubs sites are developed e.g. Clee Fields and Barrett's Recreation Ground including the former Grimsby Swimming Pool land. The Council is keen to develop any new replacement playing fields as playing pitch hubs providing replacement facilities for some existing smaller pitch sites and any pitch sports required as a consequence of population growth.
- 4.9. The exact provision on these new sites should be agreed with the NGBs and Sport England as and when these replacement facilities become available. There is a need to address the current and future shortfall in provision.
- 4.10. All new housing development sites should apply the Sport England New Development Playing Pitch Calculator Tool to identify the number of pitches required from each new development and the capital cost of provision.

4.11. The Football, Cricket, Rugby and Hockey individual Sport Specific actions are shown in the table below.

4.12. The action plans are given a priority and this relates to timelines:

- **Priority 1.** Delivered against or worked towards within three years (ahead of the first full review of the PPS)
- **Priority 2.** Delivered within 6 years
- **Priority 3.** No specific date – In many instances the action is a general support for clubs or other bodies to progress with ground improvements and is not necessarily an action the Council or the Playing Pitch Steering Group have control over.

**Table 4.1: Individual Sport Specific Action Plans**

**Football**

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Clubs / Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
<b>Protect</b>	Football 1.	<p>All football pitches across the borough should be protected in the Local Plan unless suitable equivalent or better replacements are provided.</p> <p>The Individual site Action Plans identify sites that are no longer used for playing pitch use. These sites will be subject to investment within existing sites to improve quality and create hubs or add new additional playing pitch land and ancillary facilities to meet the current and future shortfall in playing pitch provision</p> <p>There is a need to ensure that existing facilities (changing rooms etc.) are not placed under undue pressure by the provision of new pitches and that ancillary facilities must be equivalent or better.</p> <p>Sites that are proposed to be lost must be protected until replacement provision in line with Sport England's playing field policy is agreed with the NGBs and Sport England.</p>	<p>All existing pitches and sites that have been previously used as playing fields across the borough.</p> <p>Sites that are currently lapsed and disused and proposed for housing (*or other) development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Matthew Humberstone Lower (Part)</b></li> <li>• <b>Lindsey Lower</b></li> <li>• <b>Second Avenue</b></li> <li>• <b>Western</b></li> <li>• <b>Centre4 (Former St Mary's Secondary School) *</b></li> </ul> <p>Sites to provide new facilities and protected through Local Plan policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Land at former Grimsby Swimming Pool</b></li> <li>• <b>Former Carr Lane allotments</b></li> </ul> <p>The PPS will develop sufficient, fit for purpose, quality Community Sports Hub sites, whereby existing multi-pitch sites (which are easier to manage and operate) are maintained and where possible new Community Sports Hubs sites are developed. The council is keen to develop any new replacement playing fields as playing pitch hubs providing replacement facilities for some existing smaller pitch sites and any pitch sports required from new population.</p>	1	NELC	High

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Clubs / Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
<b>Protect</b>	Football 2.	Ensure formal Community Use Agreements are in place with Education establishments providing football pitches and 3G football turf pitches for community use.	All schools, colleges and Higher Education facilities used by clubs.	1	NELC / Schools / Academies / Colleges and Higher Education	Low
<b>Protect</b>	Football 3.	Ensure clubs have appropriate levels of security of tenure at playing pitch sites where feasible to secure the long-term future of the club.	All relevant clubs	1	NELC / Parish and Town Council's Owners / Tenants.	Medium
<b>Enhance</b>	Football 4.	Increase the quality and playing capacity of pitches at priority sites and those that are classified as 'Poor' in the assessment.	Priority Sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bradley football Development Centre (to maintain quality)</b></li> <li>• <b>Sutcliffe Avenue</b></li> <li>• <b>Woodside Sports Ground, Immingham</b></li> <li>• <b>The Academy Grimsby</b></li> <li>• <b>Butt Lane</b></li> <li>• <b>Oasis Academy, Immingham</b></li> <li>• <b>Mount Pleasant Playing Field</b></li> <li>• <b>Healing School</b></li> <li>• <b>St James School</b></li> <li>• <b>Western Primary School</b></li> <li>• <b>Stallingborough Fields</b></li> <li>• <b>Fairfield Academy</b></li> <li>• <b>Springfield Primary School</b></li> </ul>	1	Site Owners / Schools/ FA	High

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Clubs / Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Enhance	Football 5.	Improve the standard of non-playing pitch facilities including access and car parking and the quality of changing rooms to provide segregated changing for male and females where feasible.	Priority Sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Barrett's Recreation Ground</b></li> <li>• <b>British Legion Sports &amp; Social Club</b></li> <li>• <b>Clee Field's Playing Field</b></li> <li>• <b>Humberston Academy</b></li> <li>• <b>Humberston Cloverfield's Academy</b></li> <li>• <b>King George V, Taylors Avenue</b></li> <li>• <b>Mount Pleasant Playing Fields</b></li> <li>• <b>Stallingborough Playing Fields</b></li> <li>• <b>Sussex Recreation Ground</b></li> <li>• <b>Sutcliffe Avenue Playing Fields</b></li> </ul>	2	Football clubs, NELC, FA and Lincolnshire FA, Parish and Town Council's	High
Enhance	Football 6.	Work with junior football clubs that meet the Councils and NGBs priorities and support clubs to achieve Charter Standard accreditation as a minimum kite mark for the Council to provide future support and funding and support those clubs that wish to achieve community or development club standards.	Clubs where appropriate	1	NELC, Clubs and Lincolnshire FA, Parish and Town Council's	Low
Enhance	Football 7.	Support junior clubs to develop with the management and improvement of facilities and ensure security of tenure of playing facilities for junior clubs either through leasing or community asset transfers so clubs can become sustainable in the future.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Discoveries</b></li> <li>• <b>Cleethorpes Town</b></li> <li>• <b>Healing Hotspurs</b></li> <li>• <b>Immingham Pilgrims</b></li> <li>• <b>Grimsby Borough</b></li> </ul>	1	All site owners, Lincolnshire FA. FA	Low

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Clubs / Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Provide	Football 9.	<p>Support the development of a minimum of 4 x 3G football turf pitches (artificial grass pitches).</p> <p>At this stage do not include any possible or proposed 3G pitches that may be developed as part of Grimsby Town FC community stadia project. Further work needs to be carried out to understand if the 3G football turf pitches currently stated to be provided, would be fully available for community use or would they be utilised by Grimsby Town FC Academy and provide for commercial use. The provision of a World Rugby Reg22 compliant 3G pitch should also be explored at the sites to be considered in conjunction with a football based 3G football turf pitch.</p> <p>The Cleve Fields site is potentially an alternative to the King George V Playing Fields Taylors avenue site for the rugby club. The RFU and the Cleethorpes Rugby Club would be keen to explore potential and opportunity for this to be realised given the restrictions on the King George V PF site.</p> <p>However, it is recognised by the club and the RFU that the PPS is not in a position to provide an identified site that can provide security of tenure for Cleethorpes Rugby Club.</p>	<p>Sites for 3G football turf pitches to be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Barrett's Recreation Ground/ Former Grimsby Swimming Pool site x 1 3G pitch/ or Oasis Academy Wintringham</b></li> <li>• <b>Clee Fields x 2 3G Football Turf Pitch (1 to be a World Regulation 22 Rugby compliant 3G pitch suitable for football).</b></li> <li>• <b>Humberston x 1 3G Football Turf Pitch elsewhere if only 1 is provided at Clee Fields and not 2.</b></li> </ul>	1 – 3	NELC, Lincolnshire RFU, Hockey. FA, CFA, England	High

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Clubs / Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Provide	Football 10.	<b>Provide a solution to meet current, identified latent demand and future demand to 2032.</b>	<p><b>Meeting Current, Latent, Unmet and Future Demand 2032– Adult Teams</b></p> <p>There are sufficient adult 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions in secured community use to meet current and future demand.</p> <p>The Local Plan Policy 14 relating to Grimsby West requires the provision of 3 adult 11 v 11 pitches and the Strategic Housing site at Humberston Road requires 2 adult pitches. These 2 sites should be considered for youth 11 v 11 pitch provision.</p> <p><b>Meeting Current, Latent, Unmet and Future Demand 2032– Youth 11 v 11</b></p> <p>By 2032 the projected need for youth 11 v 11 match equivalent sessions is 22. The current secured community use provision equals 13 match equivalent sessions. There is an additional need for 9 match equivalent sessions, which equates to 9 pitches. The 5 new adult pitches identified within Policy 14 of the Local Plan 2013 – 2032 should be configured as youth 11 v 11 pitches providing 5 youth 11 v 11 pitches. If these pitches are of good quality they could provide 15 match equivalent sessions with back to back play and meet the 9 match equivalent sessions required in 2032 at peak time of play.</p> <p><b>Meeting Current, Latent, Unmet and Future Demand 2032– Junior 9 v 9 Teams</b></p>	1 – 3	NELC, Parish Councils, Lincolnshire FA, FA	High

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Clubs / Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
			<p>By 2032 the projected requirement for junior 9 v 9 match equivalent sessions are 21. There are currently 8 match equivalent sessions with secured community use and therefore insufficient junior 9 v 9 match equivalent sessions to meet the future predicted match equivalent session demand in 2032. There are currently 5 unsecured match equivalent sessions that would require formal community use agreements. This may not be achievable. This means that there is a need for 13 additional junior 9 v 9 match equivalent sessions in 2032.</p> <p>There may be opportunities to move some of the 9 v 9 match equivalent sessions onto 3G football turf pitches in the future. This will then meet the required 9 v 9 peak time demand match equivalents in 2032.</p> <p><b>Meeting Current, Latent, Unmet and Future Demand 2032– Mini 7 v 7 Teams</b></p> <p>By 2032 there is a projected demand for 21 mini soccer 7 v 7 pitches at peak time of play. With the existing secured community use match equivalents (38) there are sufficient mini soccer 7 v 7 match equivalents weekly with back to back play to meet the projected demand in 2032.</p>			

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Clubs / Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
			<p><b>Meeting Current, Latent, Unmet and Future Demand 2032– Mini 5 v 5 Teams</b></p> <p>There is a predicted need for 15 match equivalent sessions in 2032. There are sufficient match equivalent sessions with back to back play to meet current and future need to 2032.</p> <p>The development of Barrett's Recreation Ground in conjunction with the former Grimsby Swimming Pool land will bring back into use additional grass pitches and provide the needed 3G football turf pitch provision required to meet future demand for 9v 9 pitch provision.</p> <p>The development of Clee Fields to provide 1 3G football turf pitch and a World Rugby Regulation 22 3G pitch that can be used for football will assist in meeting the demand for new 3G pitches.</p> <p>If Cleethorpes Rugby Club move from Taylors Avenue there will be an increase in natural grass football pitches from 2 to a possible 5 adult pitches which could also be reconfigured to youth 11 v 11 or junior 9v9 pitches. There could also be consideration of cricket facilities at this site</p>			

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Clubs / Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
<b>Provide</b>	Football 11.	Provide off site payments to enhance football facilities across the borough for use by residents of new developments. Apply the use of Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator Tool for New Housing Developments to identify the number of pitches required from new housing developments.	If CIL is adopted use funding to improve existing facilities for new residents.	1 – 3	NELC and other Stakeholders.	

### **Cricket**

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Clubs / Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
<b>Protect</b>	Cricket 1.	All cricket pitches across the borough should be protected in the Local Plan unless suitable equivalent or better replacements are provided.	All existing pitches and sites that have been previously used as playing fields across the borough.	1	NELC	Low
<b>Protect</b>	Cricket 2.	Ensure clubs have appropriate levels of security of tenure at playing pitch sites where feasible to secure the long-term future of the club.	The Clee Town Laportes Cricket Club and the Linden Club.  There is a need to discuss security of tenure with the British Legion on continued use of British Legion Sports & Social Club by Healing Cricket Club and future use by healing community Junior Cricket.	1  1	NELC / Owners / Tenants/ ECB / Cleethorpes Town Football Club and the British Legion	Low
<b>Enhance</b>	Cricket 3.	Work in partnership with the ECB to support clubs and schools in improving the quality of pitches, and in accessing funding	Work with ECB to identify sites where a combination of non-turf pitches and 1-2 good fine	1	NELC, ECB, and NEL Cricket Clubs.	High

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Clubs / Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
		<p>through the ECB Grant Aid and Pitch Advisory Scheme.</p> <p>Any improvements undertaken should seek to ensure that facilities are in line with ECB standards as well as meeting specifications for the local leagues</p>	<p>turf sites can maximise play and increase sports development.</p> <p>Consider with the ECB if the following non-turf pitches require replacing or consider rationalisation in light of the above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Barrett's Recreation Ground:</b> The site has two standard quality non-turf pitches that will need replacement.</li> <li>• <b>Bradley Development Centre:</b> The three non-turf cricket pitches at this site are poor quality and need to be replaced.</li> <li>• <b>King George Playing Field Cleethorpes:</b> The non-turf pitch was of poor quality.</li> <li>• <b>Butt Lane Playing Field:</b> The non-turf pitch has holes that need repairing. Mole infestation needs addressing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Grimsby Town Cricket Club:</b> The surface of the square needs to be Koro'oed as it is the only realistic method of restoring it to a suitable standard.</p> <p><b>Oasis Academy Wintringham:</b> The school has one non-turf cricket pitch which is well utilised by</p>			

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Clubs / Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
			<p>the pupils and 3 local teams. The school feels it would massively benefit from obtaining outdoor nets, which would also be used by the local community.</p> <p><b>Cleethorpes CC:</b> The club has two sets of nets, one which is excellent, the other requires replacing.</p>			
<b>Enhance</b>	Cricket 4.	Ensure that ancillary facilities meet club needs and requirements to ensure sustainability of use.	<p><b>Barrett's Recreation Ground:</b> Poor changing facilities.</p> <p><b>Grimsby Town Cricket Club:</b> The pavilion is good quality; however, this is an area the club would like to focus on. Over the next few years they want to add in disabled access into the pavilion, replace the changing rooms and make them suitable for woman, as they want to develop woman's cricket at the site. Currently the outfield of the site has an aggressive weed issue that needs to be scarified. Another priority for the club is to source new nets.</p> <p><b>Cleethorpes CC:</b> The club has an excellent ancillary facility but has plans to extend it to include an indoor net facility. The club would also like to extend the car park facilities at the club.</p> <p><b>Blossom Way Sports and Social Club:</b> The ancillary facility requires refurbishment.</p>	1	NELC, ECB, Site Owners and Clubs	High
<b>Provide</b>	Cricket 5.	Provide a solution for under and oversupply in the future to 2032.	<b>Cricket requirements 2019 – 2032.</b>	1 - 3	NELC, other site owners, Clubs, ECB	Low

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Clubs / Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
			<p>The projected sports development growth and current latent demand plus predicted overplay will require the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There will be a need to provide a community use agreement at Oasis, Wintringham;</li> <li>• A new cricket square and outfield at one of Clee Fields, KGV Playing Fields Taylors Avenue or Carr Lane.</li> <li>• Potentially provision of a grass cricket square at Barrett's Recreation Ground;</li> <li>• Combine NTP and 1 -2 good fine turf sites in the area to maximise play and increase sports development work.</li> </ul>			
<b>Provide</b>	Cricket 6.	Provide off site payments to enhance cricket facilities across the borough for use by residents of new developments. Apply the use of Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator Tool for New Housing Developments to identify the number of pitches required from new housing developments.	If CIL is adopted use funding to improve existing facilities for new residents.	1 – 3	NELC and other Stakeholders	

**Rugby Union**

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Clubs / Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
<b>Protect</b>	Rugby 1.	All Rugby pitches in the borough should be protected unless suitable equivalent or better replacements are provided.	All existing pitches and sites that have been previously used as playing fields and remain of potential value	1	NELC	Low
<b>Protect</b>	Rugby 2.	Ensure clubs have appropriate levels of security of tenure at playing pitch sites where feasible to secure the long-term future of the club	<p>Cleethorpes Rugby Club at King George V, Taylors Avenue. There will be no solution forthcoming to the Council to provide security of tenure for Cleethorpes Rugby Club to seek funding to improve playing, changing and social facilities at this site, as set out under Charity Law and governed by the Charity Commission. The Council will continue to work with CRUFC to seek opportunities at alternative sites(s) where it is appropriate and able to do so.</p> <p>The RFU believes a venue away from the King George V Taylors Avenue site may be the only real option to secure the long-term future of Cleethorpes Rugby Club. The RFU and the Rugby Club would be keen to explore potential and opportunity of future use at Clee Fields, Carr Lane and other sites that may become available due to investments at other sites that may free up additional sites as clubs and teams move to the newly invested sites.</p>	1 - 2	NELC, Cleethorpes Rugby Club, RFU.	High
<b>Enhance</b>	Rugby 3.	Improve the quality, availability and carrying capacity of existing rugby pitches to meet current and future needs of clubs. Particular emphasis on improving maintenance and installing drainage and access to floodlit training facilities.	Improving quality of pitches at King George V, Taylors Avenue from 'Poor (MO)' to 'Standard (M1)' and providing drainage would increase capacity to 9.75 match equivalent sessions per week. There is a current overplay of 4 match and training equivalent sessions per week.	1 - 3	NELC, Cleethorpes Rugby Club, Grimsby Rugby Club, RFU	High

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Clubs / Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
		<p>The RFU believes the need for access to floodlit provision is of very high priority, what with the school's development RFU (All Schools Program), O2 Touch and that each club has wholly inadequate provision available.</p>	<p>However, an alternative site such as Clee Fields, Carr Lane Allotments and other sites as they become available should be considered as a home venue for Cleethorpes Rugby Club.</p> <p>By improving the quality of the Grimsby Rugby Club Pitches from 'Standard (Adequate M1)' to 'Good (M2)' would improve and eliminate the current overplay of 1.5 match and training equivalent session per week. However, if the clubs latent demand of 5.5 match equivalent sessions came to fruition.</p> <p>There would be overplay of 3 match equivalent sessions per week in the future. There could be an opportunity to use the John Whitgift Academy Rugby pitch. The school are keen to have community use rugby on site.</p> <p>To assist with mid-week training there is a requirement to provide a minimum of 1 floodlit pitch at Grimsby Rugby Club and Cleethorpes Rugby Club sites, to allow the opportunity to develop greater community links and improve the environment for players, coaches and other volunteers.</p> <p>Consider a 3G World Rugby Reg22 compliant pitch as part of the Clee Fields Sports facility future developments.</p>			
<b>Enhance</b>	Rugby 4.	Support the improvement of all ancillary facilities to the required NGB standard.	Both Grimsby Rugby Club and Cleethorpes Rugby Club have ambitions to provide new and improved changing and social facilities to meet the needs and requirements of the clubs now and in the future, meeting the needs of both	1	NELC, Cleethorpes Rugby Club, Grimsby Rugby Club, RFU	Medium

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Clubs / Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
			men and women and boys and girls. Grimsby Rugby Club are developing plans to refurbish and extend their existing changing provision.			
<b>Provide</b>	Rugby 5.	Provide a solution for under and oversupply in the future to 2032.	<p>The current training and match equivalent sessions show overplay of 4.5 match equivalent sessions. Taking into consideration projected latent demand 5.5 match equivalent sessions overplay increases to 9.5 match equivalent sessions across North East Lincolnshire by 2032.</p> <p>The issue is not match play equivalent sessions but meeting requirements for training equivalent sessions.</p> <p>Access to a World Rugby Reg22 compliant 3G pitch provision to reduce the projected future overplay of 9.5 match equivalent sessions per week. The World Rugby Reg22 compliant 3G pitch provision may prove a viable option to explore and could potentially fall into the RFU Rugby share approach with the RFU's 365 (AGP) Programme. In return, for any contributions the RFU would wish to secure a minimum number of hours for rugby union use.</p> <p>Grimsby Rugby Club the RFU and NELC to work together to provide floodlighting at Grimsby Rugby Club. The provision of floodlighting will improve mid-week capacity of the rugby pitches.</p>	1 - 3	NELC, Grimsby Rugby Club, Cleethorpes Rugby Club, RFU	High
<b>Provide</b>	Rugby 6.	Provide off site payments to enhance rugby facilities across the borough for residents of	If CIL is adopted use funding to improve existing facilities for new residents.	1 – 3	NELC and other Stakeholders.	

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites / Clubs / Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
		new developments. Apply the use of Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator Tool for New Housing Developments to identify the number of pitches required from new housing developments.				

### Hockey

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites/Clubs/Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
<b>Protect</b>	Hockey 1.	All hockey suitable sand-based AGPs in the borough are required to be protected.	All existing pitches and sites that have been previously used as hockey AGPs and remain of potential value	1	NELC	Low
		Change of use of existing hockey artificial turf pitches to 3G football turf pitches should be discussed and agreed with NELC, the Football Association, England Hockey and the Rugby Football Union.		1 - 3	NELC, FA, EH, RFU	Low
<b>Protect</b>	Hockey 2.	<p>Ensure formal Community Use Agreements are in place with Education establishments providing AGPs for community use.</p> <p>All schools, colleges and Higher Education facilities used by clubs.</p> <p>Ensure clubs have appropriate levels of security of tenure at playing pitch sites to secure the long-term future of the club.</p>	<p>There is a need for England Hockey and NELC to work in partnership to address 1 of 2 options:</p> <p><b>Option 1:</b></p> <p>A full action plan with:</p> <p>1. Agreements in place with Ormiston Academy and Grimsby Institute:</p>	1	NELC / EH / Schools / Academies/ Further and Higher Education	Low

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites/Clubs/Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
		It is important to ensure that those AGPs used for hockey and provide community use have prioritised peak time match slots and training slots for hockey use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>this includes community use agreements and also</li> <li>protection of the surface type selected when resurfacing, this would require work from EH, NELC and the management teams of each establishment. The latter can be carried out as an understanding that the sites will only commit to resurfacing to a hockey specific surface and work with Grimsby Hockey Club and England Hockey to find the best solution.</li> </ul> <p>2. Alternatively, to protect the surface NELC will explore the use of an Article 4 direction to remove permitted development rights on both sites, in this case solely for the change of carpet?</p> <p>3. Resurfacing of both pitches will need to be considered within the mitigation proposed for the disposal of playing fields elsewhere in the area, with site assessments and costs carried out at the time of decision's being made.</p> <p><b>Option 2:</b></p> <p>The investigative work undertaken to date at Clee Fields leads to the need for a new AGP rather than just resurfacing the carpet. The other alternatives are to provide a new AGP at Barratts Recreation Ground (possibly in</p>			

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites/Clubs/Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
			<p>conjunction with tennis and netball) and or resurfacing of the Oasis Academy, Wintringham AGP or Ormiston Maritime. Funding for any project would be via developer contributions. The Oasis Academy, Wintringham AGP or Ormiston Maritime will require the same commitments as Option 1. The development of a new AGP at Barrett's recreation Ground would provide the security for partner clubs.</p> <p>The reason for providing a new facility as a second option is that NELC could provide long term security that would not be possible from the rejection of option 1 or the rejection of Oasis Academy, Wintringham or Ormiston Maritime by the interested parties. Whilst this would condense Hockey activity onto one site e.g. Barrett's Recreation Ground it would safeguard the future of Hockey long term which is the key for all involved in the PPS process.</p> <p>The consequence and worst-case scenario is all pitches are lost over time in the area and the closest available facilities are Scunthorpe or Louth. Realistically this would spell the end of Hockey for the people of North East Lincolnshire.</p>			
<b>Enhance</b>	Hockey 3.	<p>The quality, availability and carrying capacity of existing sand-based AGPs.</p> <p>Particular emphasis on ensuring sink funds are in place for sand based AGPs.</p>	All owners to ensure quality of sand based AGPs are maintained and sink funds are in place to replace carpets and floodlights as required.	1	Grimsby Institute of Further and Higher Education, Oasis Academy, Wintringham and	Medium

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites/Clubs/Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
					Ormiston Maritime Academy.	
	Hockey 4.	Ensure increased participation in hockey and the continual development of Grimsby Hockey Club membership.	England Hockey and its partner Premier sport to work with Grimsby Hockey club to maintain the growth in membership. Particularly seeking to keep juniors within the Grimsby club structure rather than participating in hockey at clubs outside the NELC area.	1	England Premier Grimsby Club. Hockey/ sport/ Hockey	Low
Provide	Hockey 5.	Provide a solution for under and oversupply in the future to 2032.	There is sufficient sand based AGP facilities currently and to meet future demand. It is important as stated above that sink funds and community use agreements are in place to safeguard future use off facilities by Grimsby Hockey Club.	1 – 3	Grimsby Hockey Club / Local Authority / EH / Schools / Academies/ Further and Higher Education	Medium
			There is a need to consider clubhouse facilities for Grimsby Hockey Club as it grows in the future.	3	Grimsby Hockey Club / Local Authority / EH / Schools / Academies/Further and Higher Education	High

**FTP 3G / AGP**

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites/Clubs/Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
<b>Protect</b>	FTP 3G /AGP 1.	Protect all existing FTP 3G and AGPs currently in use for hockey and football	All existing pitches 3G Pitch Bradley Development Centre, 60 x 40m 3G pitch West Marsh Community Centre, Sand based AGPs at Grimsby Institute, Oasis Academy, Wintringham and Ormiston Maritime Academy.	1	NELC	Low
<b>Protect</b>	AGP 2	Ensure that there remain sufficient sand based/dressed facilities to fulfil hockey need at both the current time and in the future by retaining sand-based facilities that are strategically important for hockey	See Hockey Recommendation 2.	1	NELC/England Hockey	Low
<b>Enhance</b>	FTP 3G / AGP 3.	Ensure that the quality of AGPs is sufficient and that a sinking fund is in place for the refurbishment of existing facilities.	All 3G football turf and Sand based AGPs currently available for competitive hockey.	1	NELC	Medium
<b>Provide</b>	FTP 3G / AGP 4.	Provide minimum of 4 additional 3G football turf pitches.	<p>Provide minimum of 4 additional 3G football turf pitches at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Barrett's Recreation Ground/ Former Grimsby Swimming Pool site x 1 3G football turf pitch. this could be located at Oasis Academy Wintringham but on condition that the AGP remains in place and protected for hockey use.</b></li> <li>• <b>Clee Fields x 2 3G Pitch 1 of which is a World Regulation 22 Rugby complaint 3G pitch.</b></li> <li>• <b>Carr Lane Allotments x 1 3G football turf Pitch</b></li> </ul>	1 - 3	NELC, FA, RFU and England Hockey.	High

Objective	Recommendation	Strategic Recommendation	Priority Sites/Clubs/Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Humberston x 1 3G football turf pitch within the Humberston locality.</b></li> <li><b>An additional locality to be identified if Clee Fields cannot deliver 2 3G football turf pitches.</b></li> </ul> <p>Ensure new sites can accommodate floodlights, changing, toilets, car parking and shelters.</p> <p>Ensure all sites new pitches are quality assessed and placed on the FA Register for 3G Pitches.</p> <p>Explore the feasibility of 1 of the 4 new 3G pitches being a World Rugby Reg22 compliant 3G pitch. The World Rugby Reg22 3G pitch provision may prove a viable option to explore.</p>			
<b>Protect</b>	FTP 3G/ AGP 5	An agreed action plan for the migration of football activity to new build 3Gs should be implemented by NELC, EH, FF/LCFA and RFU. To ensure sand-based facility is sustainable and that each sport can carry out development work to take advantage of the new slots made available on its preferred artificial surface.	New build 3G pitches and existing AGPs.	2	NELC, England Hockey, Football Foundation and Lincolnshire County Football Association.	Low

## General Actions

- 4.13. The tables below identify the general Planning Policy recommendations, PPS Development recommendations and the general actions which are followed by the site by site action plans.
- 4.14. The actions are given priorities and relevant potential delivery partners are highlighted. By being highlighted as a potential delivery partner, partners are not obligated to fund or facilitate the action but they should be involved in the project.
- 4.15. The action plans are given a priority:
- **Priority 1. Delivered against or to be worked towards within three years (ahead of the first full review of the PPS)**
  - **Priority 2. Delivered within 6 years**
  - **Priority 3. No specific date – In many instances the action is a general support for clubs or other bodies to progress with ground improvements and is not necessarily an action the Council or the PPS Steering Group have control over.**

## Costs

- 4.16. The strategic actions have also been ranked as low, medium or high based on cost. The brackets in which these sits are:
- **(L) -Low - less than £50k;**
  - **(M) -Medium - £50k-£250k;**
  - **(H) -High £250k and above.**
- 4.17. These are based on Sport England's estimated facility costs Quarter 2 2016.

## Funding Plan

- 4.18. In addition to using the planning system to lever in contributions through Section 106 or CIL, it is recognised that external partner funding will need to be sought to deliver much of the action plan. Although seeking developer contributions in applicable situations and other local funding/community schemes could go some way towards meeting deficiencies and/or improving provision, other potential/match sources of funding should be investigated e.g. look to apply for grants and work with NGBs and Sport England to seek partnership funding for a number of projects.
- 4.19. There are proposals to sell lapsed and disused sites and re invest in existing and new sites. Mitigation will meet Sport England's Exemption Policy 4 if all current and future shortfalls in provision are met. The actions to meet the shortfalls across all sports above are clearly identified and can be funded by capital funds from the sale of the disused and lapsed sites along with additional NGB grant funding.
- 4.20. The National Governing Body's England and Wales Cricket Board, Lincolnshire County Football Association Football Foundation, England Rugby Football Union and England Hockey has all identified that the following lapsed pitch sites: Western School, Matthew Humberstone School, Lindsey Lower School and Second Avenue are surplus to requirements along with the disused site at Centre 4.

- 4.21. The NGBs also agree that the mitigation of these sites would be best used to provide new playing pitch facilities at refurbished sports hubs e.g. Barrett's Recreation Ground including the former Grimsby Swimming Pool site for football and cricket. Clee Fields sports hub for football and rugby 3G pitches to include a World Rugby Regulation 22 3G pitch. In addition, new site(s) need to be considered and provided e.g. Former Carr Lane Allotment site.

## Monitoring and Review

- 4.22. It is important that the PPS Steering group keep this strategy alive. This will be achieved by:
- **Monitoring the delivery of the recommendations and actions.**
  - **Providing up to date annual supply and demand for pitch stock.**
  - **Addressing changing trends and formats for the different pitch sports as they develop and monitoring participation of these changes and trends.**
- 4.23. The on-going monitoring of the PPS will be led by North East Lincolnshire Council and will be linked to the PPS Steering Group. The PPS supply and demand will be updated annually and the whole PPS should be updated every 3 years.
- 4.24. Sport England recommends that a process should be put in place to ensure regular monitoring of how the recommendations and action plan are being delivered. This monitoring should be led by the local authority and supported by all members of, and reported back to, the steering group.
- 4.25. Understanding and learning lessons from how the PPS has been applied should also form a key component of monitoring its delivery. This should form an on-going role of the steering group.
- 4.26. As a guide, if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years of the PPS being signed off by the Steering Group, then Sport England and the NGBs would consider the PPS and the information on which it is based to be out of date as per Sport England's Playing Pitch Guidance.
- 4.27. Once the PPS is complete the role of the steering group should evolve so that it:
- **Acts as a focal point for promoting the value and importance of the PPS and playing pitch provision in the area.**
  - **Monitors, evaluates and reviews progress with the delivery of the recommendations and action plan.**
  - **Shares lessons learnt from how the PPS has been used and how it has been applied to a variety of circumstances.**
  - **Ensures the PPS is used effectively to input into any new opportunities to secure improved provision and influence relevant programmes and initiatives.**
  - **Maintains links between all relevant parties with an interest in playing pitch provision in the area.**
  - **Reviews the need to update the PPS along with the supply and demand information and assessment work on which it is based. Further to review the group should either:**
    - Provide a short annual progress and update paper;
    - Provide a partial review focussing on particular sport, pitch type and/or sub area; or
    - Lead a full review and update of the PPS document (including the supply and demand information and assessment details).

- 4.28. The steering group should meet at relevant points throughout the year to ensure that this role is progressed. This could be at six months and a year on from when the steering group signed off the PPS and/or arranged to tie in with the different seasons of the sports and any meetings with the NGBs.
- 4.29. Ideally the PPS could be reviewed on an annual basis from the date it is formally signed off by the Steering Group. The Steering Group including the NGBs will update the demand and supply information. This will help to maintain the momentum and commitment that would have been built up when developing the PPS. Taking into account the time to develop the PPS this should also help to ensure that the original supply and demand information is no more than two years old without being reviewed.
- 4.30. An annual review should not be regarded as a particularly resource intensive task. However, it should highlight:
- **How the delivery of the recommendations and action plan has progressed and any changes required to the priority afforded to each action (e.g. the priority of some may increase following the delivery of others)**
  - **How the PPS has been applied and the lessons learnt**
  - **Any changes to particularly important sites and/or clubs in the area (e.g. the most used or high-quality sites for a particular sport) and other supply and demand information, what this may mean for the overall assessment work and the key findings and issues**
  - **Any development of a specific sport or particular format of a sport or recent information e.g. the FA modelling for 3G pitch requirements.**
  - **Any new or emerging issues and opportunities.**
- 4.31. There is further information in Section E of Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy guidance.
- 4.32. The table below provides general Planning Policy recommendations and PPS Development recommendations.

**Table 4.2: General Recommendations**

General Planning & Playing Pitch Strategy Development			Action
General Planning	Recommendations	for	<p>Agree the following Actions for the Local Plan. Appropriate Allocations for playing fields should be set out within the new Local Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The policies within the new Local Plan, should be in accordance with the NPPF, which seeks to protect playing pitches unless the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.</li> <li>• Planning consent should include appropriate conditions and/or be subject to CIL or a Section 106 Agreement. Where developer contributions are applicable a Section 106 Agreement must be completed specifying the amount and timing of sums to be paid.</li> <li>• The Infrastructure Delivery Plan and the Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule (if the Council commits to producing a CIL) should include locations and costed projects for investment in playing pitch facility provision and maintenance for sites.</li> <li>• Where new pitches are provided changing rooms should be located on site as a minimum for adult's use including provision for women and girls or as a minimum toilet facility should be provided for junior and mini football use including toilets for women and girls.</li> <li>• There is a need to ensure that existing facilities (changing rooms etc.) are not placed under undue pressure by the provision of new pitches and that ancillary facilities must be equivalent or better.</li> <li>• Where schools or higher education establishments seek planning permission for outdoor playing pitches and/or artificial grass pitches the planning conditions must stipulate a formal community use agreement is put in place with the School and the Local Authority to provide for community use of the facility.</li> <li>• Use Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator Tool for new housing developments to identify the number of new pitches required from each development.</li> </ul>

## Individual Site Action Plans

4.33. The following provides information on individual sites.

**Table 4.3: Individual Site Action Plans**

Barrett's Recreation Ground	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports – Football: 4 Adult 11 v 11 Cricket: 2 non-turf Pitches	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan	1	NELC	Low
	<b>Enhance</b>	Improve drainage to existing pitches.	2	NELC	Medium
	<b>Provide</b>	In conjunction with the former Grimsby Swimming Pool site below carry out a feasibility study to merge the 2 sites into 1 adult football hub site considering new changing rooms and a 3G football turf pitch and renewal of the 2 non-turf cricket pitches with natural grass cricket square.  The 3G football Turf pitch may be provided at Oasis Academy Wintringham, which is adjacent to this site. Consideration needs to be given to the management and security of the 3G football turf pitch before a decision is taken on its location along with the protection of the existing AGP at Oasis Academy Wintringham.	2	NELC, FA, ECB	Medium

Former Grimsby Swimming Pool Site	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports: Currently None	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan	1	NELC	Low
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>	In conjunction with the Barrett's Recreation Ground site above carry out feasibility study to consider this site as an adult football / cricket hub in conjunction with Barrett's Recreation Ground.	2	NELC, FA, ECB	Medium

Blossom Way Sports and Social Club Immingham.	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –  Football: 2 Adult 11 v 11 Cricket: 1 Square 10 pitches	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan	1	NELC	Low
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>				

Bradley Development Centre	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –  Football: 11 Adult 11 v 11, 5 youth 11 v 11 4 junior 9 v 9, 3 mini 7 v 7, 3 Mini 5 v 5.  1 3G football Turf pitch 110 x 70. FA Registered  Cricket: 3 non-turf pitches	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>	Need to renew 3 non-turf cricket pitches.  There is a need to ensure sink funds are in place to replace 3G carpets and floodlighting in the future.	2 2	NELC, ECB NELC	Medium

British Legion Sports & Social Club Healing	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low

Football: 1 Adult 11 v 11, 2 youth 11 v 1 1. Cricket: 1 square 6 pitches		The site is not secured and requires action to ensure its long-term security as a playing field from the British Legion. If this site is lost it will have to meet one of Sport England Playing Field exemptions and re-provision of equal or better facilities provided at a suitable site.		Healing Hotspur FC, Healing Cricket Club, FA. ECB, British Legion, NELC.	
	<b>Enhance</b>	This site requires improvements to changing rooms.	3	British Legion	Medium-High
	<b>Provide</b>				

Butt Lane	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan	1	NELC	Low
Football: 1 Adult 11 v 11 Cricket: 1 non-turf pitch					
	<b>Enhance</b>	Need to address mole infestation	2	Laceby Parish Council	Low
	<b>Provide</b>	Consider if this site requires repair or replacement of the non-turf pitch for cricket.	2	Laceby Parish Council	Low

Cleethorpes Academy	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
Football: 1 adult 11 v 11 Cricket: 1 non-turf pitch		This site requires a formal community use agreement to be in place to safeguard community use in the future.			
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>				

Franklin College Grimsby	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports -	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan	1	NELC	Low
Football: 1 adult 11 v 11 Rugby: 1 Adult pitch.		This site requires a formal community use agreement to be in place to safeguard community use in the future.			
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>				

Greenland's	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
Football: 2 Adult 11 v 11					
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>				

Hardy's Recreation Ground	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
football: 2 Adult 11 v 11					
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>				

John Whitgift Academy	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
Football: 1 Adult 11 v 11, 1 Youth 11 v 11. rugby: 1 adult pitch		This site requires a formal community use agreement to be in place to safeguard community use in the future.			
	<b>Enhance</b>				

	<b>Provide</b>				
<b>Jubilee Park (St Christopher's Field)</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Sports –</b>	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
<b>Football: 2 adult 11 v 11</b>					
	<b>Enhance</b>	Enhance this site as mitigation of Centre4 and consider an Asset Transfer to a Charter Standard Club.	1	NELC, Sport England, Lincolnshire FA, Football Foundation.	Medium
	<b>Provide</b>				

<b>King George V playing Fields Taylors Avenue, Cleethorpes</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Sports –</b>	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
<b>Rugby: 3 Adult pitches</b>					
<b>Football: 1 Adult 11 v 11. 1 Youth 11 v 11</b>		Due to the original conveyance at this site, and the constitution and use of the proposed use of the site, there will be no solution forthcoming to the Council to provide security of tenure for Cleethorpes Rugby Club to seek funding to improve playing, changing and social facilities at this site, as set out under Charity Law and governed by the Charity Commission. The Council will continue to work with CRUFC to seek opportunities at alternative sites(s) where it is appropriate and able to do so.	1	NELC, Cleethorpes Rugby Club, RFU.	
<b>Cricket: 1 non-turf pitch</b>					
	<b>Enhance</b>	Rugby pitches need to improve from Poor MO to Standard M	3	NELC, Cleethorpes Rugby Club, RFU.	Low
	<b>Provide</b>	Need to provide new and improved changing and social facilities to accommodate men and women and floodlighting for 2 pitches dependent on security of tenure.	3	NELC, Cleethorpes Rugby Club, RFU.	High
		Need to explore provision for a World Rugby Reg22 compliant 3G pitch at an alternative site so that Cleethorpes Rugby Club can access for midweek training and some match play.	2	NELC, Cleethorpes Rugby Club, RFU.	
		Once a site has been found that provides secure tenure for Cleethorpes Rugby Club this ground could revert back to football and cricket providing 5 adult pitches that could be reconfigured as youth 11 v 11 pitches and or junior 9v9 pitches and cricket provision.			

<b>King George V STADIUM, Weelsby Road, Grimsby</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Sports –</b>	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs protecting as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
<b>Football: 1 ADULT 11 v 11</b>					
<b>2 small 3G Football Turf pitches 40 x 30</b>					
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>	There is a need to ensure sink funds are in place to replace 3G carpets and floodlights in the future.	2	NELC	Low

<b>Linden Club</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Sports -</b>	<b>Protect</b>	This site will need to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan	1	NELC	Low
<b>Football: 2 adult 11 v 11, 1 youth 11 v 11, 1 Mini 7 v 7, 1 Mini 5 v 5.</b>		Clee Town Laportes Cricket Club has no formal tenure on site and is in need of finding a new home ground. The club should be considered as a priority Club for any new cricket ground provided as part of re-provision of playing fields.	2	NELC, ECB, Clee Laportes Cricket Club	
<b>Cricket: 1 square 4 pitches</b>					
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>	Cleethorpes Football Club has planning permission for a new 3G all-weather pitch & associated stands, a single storey changing block will be erected within the 3G facility to replace the changing facilities currently housed within the existing club house. The three existing grass football pitches will be relocated on the site and upgraded to FA standard. In addition, an all-weather cricket pitch will be implemented as	3	Cleethorpes Town FC	High

		part of the scheme along with new grass pitches allowing cricket to be played in most weather conditions. The existing club house will also be upgraded externally and internally with a new extension added to create an additional function room to cater for demand. The bowling green will also be relocated, and the existing parking facilities will be doubled. This may not Come to fruition.			
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Lucarly's	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site will need to be protected as a playing pitch field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
Football: 2 adult 11 v 11, 1 mini 7 v 7, 1 Mini 5 v 5.					
Has provided a rugby pitch in the past					
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>				

Mount Pleasant Playing Field	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
Football: 1 adult 11 v 11, 1 youth 11 v 11					
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>	Poor single pitch and clubhouse. Facilities should be re-provided on new playing pitch site and existing pitch should revert to recreation ground.	2	NELC	Medium

Oasis Academy – Wintringham	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site within the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
Football: 1 adult 11 v 11, 3 youth 11 v 11, 1 junior 9 v 9, 1 Mini 7 v 7, 1 Mini 5 v 5.		This site requires a formal community use agreement to be in place to safeguard community use in the future.			
Cricket: 1 non-turf pitch					
AGP 110 x 70					
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>	Subject to completion of a Feasibility Study which includes the adjacent Barrett's site, and confirmation of security of tenure for community access, Oasis Wintringham will be considered as a possible site for a new build 3G football turf pitch. The existing AGP must remain in place, unless an alternative site can be protected elsewhere in the Borough.  Require outdoor cricket nets.  There is a need to ensure sink funds are in place to replace AGP carpets and floodlights in the future.	3	Oasis Academy Wintringham, football foundation Lincolnshire FA, NELC, Grimsby Town FC	Medium

Ormiston maritime Academy	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site within the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
Cricket: 1 non-turf pitch		This site requires a formal community use agreement to be in place to safeguard community use in the future.			
AGP 100 x 70m					
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>	There is a need to ensure sink funds are in place to replace 3G carpets and Floodlights in the future.	2	NELC	Low

Novartis	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –  Football: 2 Youth 11 v 11.  Cricket: 1 non-turf pitch  AGP 40 x 30	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site within the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
	<b>Enhance</b>	Need to improve drainage on grass pitches and improve surface of 13-year-old AGP.	3	Novartis.	Medium
	<b>Provide</b>	There is a need to ensure sink funds are in place to replace 3G carpets and floodlights in the future.	3	Novartis	Low

Centre 4 (old St Mary's School).	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports – Disused Site  Football: 1 adult 11 v 11	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan unless it meets one of Sport England's exemptions from its Playing field Policy.	1	NELC	High
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>	If the site is unable to be brought back into use, mitigate the loss on a replacement or existing site to address the shortfalls identified with the Assessment.	1	NELC RFU FA ECB EH	High

Stallingborough Playing Fields	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –  Football: 1 Junior 9 v 9.  Cricket: 1 non-turf pitch	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>				

Sussex Recreation Ground	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –  FOOTBALL: 1 adult 11 v 11	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>	Poor single pitch and clubhouse. Facilities should be re provided on new playing pitch site and existing pitch should revert to recreation ground.	2	NELC	Medium

Sutcliffe Avenue	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –  Football: 1 Adult 11 v 11	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>				

Woodside Sports Ground, Immingham	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –  Football: 1 adult 11 v 11 Disused	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
	<b>Enhance</b>				

	<b>Provide</b>				
<b>The Academy, Grimsby</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Sports –</b>	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
<b>Football: 1 youth 11 v 11</b>		This site requires a formal community use agreement to be in place to safeguard community use in the future.			
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>				
<b>Clee Fields Playing Fields</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Sports –</b>	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
<b>Football: 3 Youth 11 v 11</b>					
<b>AGP Unused for 10 years (Condemned)</b>					
	<b>Enhance</b>	Grass pitches require improved maintenance and new goal posts	2	NELC	Low
	<b>Provide</b>	Consider providing a sports hub at this site by replacing the condemned AGP as a natural grass football pitch and providing 2 x 3G football turf pitches. 1 of the 3G football turf pitches should be a World Rugby Regulation 22 3G pitch to meet demand from Cleethorpes and Grimsby Rugby Union Clubs.	1	NELC Lincolnshire County Football Association and Football Foundation, England Hockey, RFU and Cleethorpes rugby Club	High
<b>Oasis Academy Immingham</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Sports-</b>	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
<b>Football: 1 Youth 11 v 11</b>					
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>				
<b>Beacon Academy</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Sports –</b>	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs protecting as a playing field site in the Local Plan	1	NELC	Low
<b>Football: 3 Youth 11 v 11, 1 junior 9 v 9</b>		This site requires a formal community use agreement to be in place to safeguard community use in the future.			
	<b>Enhance</b>	Goals require replacing and current pricing requires amending so pitches are affordable for community use.	1	Beacon Academy	Low
	<b>Provide</b>	The site requires changing facilities to be updated.	3	Beacon Academy	Medium
<b>Humberston Academy</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Sports-</b>	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
<b>Football: 2 Youth 11 v 11, 1 Junior 9 v 9.</b>		This site requires a formal community use agreement to be in place to safeguard community use in the future.			
<b>Cricket: 1 non-turf pitch</b>					
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>				
<b>Havelock Academy</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>Sports –</b>	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs protecting as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low

Football: 2 Youth 11 v 11, 1 Mini 7 v 7, 1 Mini 5 v 5.		This site requires a formal community use agreement to be in place to safeguard community use in the future.			
Rugby: 1 junior pitch					
Cricket: 2 non-turf pitches					
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>				

Fairfield Academy	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs protecting as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
Football: 1 Junior 9 v 9, 1 Mini 7 v 7		This site requires a formal community use agreement to be in place to safeguard community use in the future.			
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>				

Roal Drive Immingham	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs protecting as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
Football: 1 Junior 9 v 9, 3 Mini 7 v 7, 3 Mini 5 v 5.					
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>				

St James School	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs protecting as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
Football: 1 Junior 9 v 9		This site requires a formal community use agreement to be in place to safeguard community use in the future.			
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>				

Western Primary School	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs protecting as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
Football: 1 Junior 9 v 9		This site requires a formal community use agreement to be in place to safeguard community use in the future.			
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>				

West Marsh Community Centre	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs protecting as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
Football: 1 Mini 7 v 7					
3G football Turf Pitch 60 x 40	<b>Enhance</b>	Need to improve 3G pitch	2	West Marsh community Centre, Lincolnshire County FA, Football Foundation	Medium
	<b>Provide</b>	Increase use of 3G pitch at weekends.	2	West Marsh Community Centre	Low
		There is a need to ensure sink funds are in place to replace 3G carpets and floodlights in the future.	2	West Marsh Community Centre	

Ross Sports Ground	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs protecting as a playing field site in the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
Football: 2 Mini 5 v 5					
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>				

Springfield Primary School	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs protecting as a playing field site in the Local plan.	1	NELC	Low
Football: 1 Mini 5 v 5		This site requires a formal community use agreement to be in place to safeguard community use in the future.			
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>				

Cleethorpes Cricket Club	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs protecting as a playing field site in the Local plan.	1	NELC	Low
Cricket: 1 square 16 pitches					
football 1 Mini 7 v 7					
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>	Would like an extension to pavilion to provide and indoor cricket net facility and need to upgrade 1 outdoor net facility.	3	Cleethorpes Cricket Club, ECB	

Grimsby Town Cricket Club	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan	1	NELC	Low
Cricket: 1 square 18 pitches					
football 1 mini 7 v 7					
	<b>Enhance</b>	Need to Koro'ed the square to return to suitable standard and the outfield requires scarifying	3	Grimsby Town Cricket Club, ECB	Low
	<b>Provide</b>	Need to provide additional changing rooms and address disabled access to pavilion and provide women's changing facilities, address parking and provide non-turf practise nets.	3	Grimsby Town Cricket Club, ECB	High

Grimsby Rugby Club	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan	1	NELC	Low
Rugby: 3 Adult pitches, 1 junior pitch.					
Football: 1 mini 7 v 7					
	<b>Enhance</b>	Need to improve pitches from Standard M1 to Good M2. The need to include floodlit provision needs to be considered at this site in conjunction with the club, RFU and NELC	1	Grimsby Rugby Club, RFU, NELC	Low
	<b>Provide</b>	Need to provide new and improved changing and social facilities.	3	Grimsby Rugby club, RFU and NELC	Medium
		Need to explore provision for a World Rugby Reg22 compliant 3G pitch either at this site or an alternative site that the club can access.	2	NELC, Grimsby Rugby club, RFU	Medium

Grimsby Institute of further & Higher Education	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan	1	NELC	Low

AGP 110 x 70m		There is a requirement to maintain the existing formal community use agreement that's in place to the benefit of hockey use and to safeguard community use in the future.	1	NELC, Grimsby Hockey Club, England Hockey	
	Enhance				
	Provide	There is a need to ensure a sink fund is in place to replace carpets and floodlights on the AGP in the future.	3	Grimsby Institute of Further & Higher Education, Grimsby Hockey Club and England Hockey	Medium

Haverstoe Park	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –  Football: 1 Youth 11 v 11, 1 junior 9 v 9, 1 mini soccer 7 v 7.	Protect	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan	1	NELC	Low
	Enhance				
	Provide				

Louth Road	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –  Football: Disused	Protect	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan	1	NELC	Low
	Enhance				
	Provide				

Grimsby Town football Club - Blundell Road	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –  Football	Protect	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan unless it meets one of Sport England's exemptions from its Playing field Policy.  Grimsby Town Football Club has a variety of plans that is considering for a new community stadium.	1	NELC	Low
	Enhance				
	Provide				

Grimsby Town FC – Cheapside Training Ground	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Sports –  Football – 2 Adult pitches	Protect	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan unless it meets one of Sport England's exemptions from its Playing field Policy.  Grimsby Town Football Club has a variety of plans that is considering for a new community stadium.	1	NELC	Low
	Enhance				
	Provide				

Matthew Humberstone Lower (Part) 27,890 Sq. meters.	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Lapsed Site	Protect	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan unless it meets one of Sport England's exemptions from its Playing field Policy.  This site is a site proposed by NELC as a housing development site and NELC propose to re-provide new playing fields and ancillary facilities elsewhere and improve existing sites to meet the PPs assessment current and future shortfalls.	1	NELC	Low
	Enhance				
	Provide	If the site is unable to be brought back into use, mitigate the loss on a replacement site or improve existing sites to address the shortfalls identified within the Assessment.	1	NELC RFU FA ECB EH	High

CENTRE4 – 20,418 Sq. meters.	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Planning application for a Community Farm	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan unless it meets one of Sport England's exemptions from its Playing Field Policy.	1	NELC	Low
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>	If the site is unable to be brought back into use, mitigate the loss on a replacement site and or improve existing sites to address the shortfalls identified within the Assessment	1	NELC RFU FA ECB EH	High

Lindsey Lower – 23,530 Sq. meters.	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Lapsed Site	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan unless it meets one of Sport England's exemptions from its Playing field Policy.  This site is a site proposed by NELC as a housing development site and NELC propose to re-provide new playing fields and ancillary facilities elsewhere and improve existing sites to meet the PPS assessment current and future shortfalls.	1	NELC	Low
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>	If the site is unable to be brought back into use, mitigate the loss on a replacement site and or improve existing sites to address the shortfalls identified within the Assessment	1	NELC RFU FA ECB EH	High

Second Avenue – 25,140 Sq. meters	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Lapsed Site	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan unless it meets one of Sport England's exemptions from its Playing field Policy.  This site is a site proposed by NELC as a housing development site and NELC propose to re-provide new playing fields and ancillary facilities elsewhere and improve existing sites to meet the PPs assessment current and future shortfalls.	1	NELC	Low
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>	If the site is unable to be brought back into use, mitigate the loss on a replacement site and or improve existing sites to address the shortfalls identified within the Assessment	1	NELC RFU FA ECB EH	High

Western – 70,030 Sq. Meters	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Lapsed Site	<b>Protect</b>	This site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan unless it meets one of Sport England's exemptions from its Playing field Policy.  This site is a site proposed by NELC as a housing development site and NELC propose to re-provide new playing fields and ancillary facilities elsewhere and improve existing sites to meet the PPs assessment current and future shortfalls.	1	NELC	Low
	<b>Enhance</b>				
	<b>Provide</b>	If the site is unable to be brought back into use, mitigate the loss on a replacement site and or improve existing sites to address the shortfalls identified with the Assessment	1	NELC RFU	High

				FA ECB EH	
Former Carr Lane Allotments	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
New Site	Protect	Once this site becomes a playing field site, this site needs to be protected as a playing field site in the Local Plan unless it meets one of Sport England's exemptions from its Playing field Policy.  This site is proposed by NELC as a new playing field site	1	NELC	Low
	Enhance				
	Provide	This site should be considered as a future secure home for Cleethorpes Rugby Club alongside provision of other sports such as football and cricket.	1	NELC RFU FA ECB EH	High

School Sites with no Community Use but need Pitches Protecting:

Site	Strategy	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Cost
Healing School	Protect	These sites need to be protected as playing field sites within the Local Plan.	1	NELC	Low
Tollbar Academy					
Cleethorpes Academy					
Laceby Acres Primary School					
Macaulay Primary Academy					
Middlethorpe Primary School					
Allerton Primary School/Pilgrim Academy					
Eastfield Primary School					
Enfield Primary School					
Fairfield Primary School					
Grange Primary School					
Humberston Cloverfields Academy					
New Waltham Primary School					
Old Clee Primary School					
Stanford Junior and Infants School					
Signfields Academy					
Waltham Lees					
Littlecoates Primary School					

