

CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Venue: Training Room, 3rd Floor, **Date:** Monday, 28th July, 2008
Bailey House,
Rawmarsh Road,
Rotherham. S60 1TD

Time: 10.30 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended March 2006).
2. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered later in the agenda as a matter of urgency.
3. Petition re: request for 5 a-side football provision - Monks Close, Scholes (Pages 1 - 7)
4. Draft Playing Pitch Strategy (Pages 8 - 50)
Steve Hallsworth, Business Manager, Leisure and Green Spaces to report
- to present the strategic framework for the development of playing pitches with community access in Rotherham
5. Modelling of Rotherham Central Area (Pages 51 - 52)
Jeff Wharfe, Local Economic Development Partnership Manager to report
- to seek to invoke Standing Order 38 to be exempt from normal contract standing orders in commissioning a 3D model of Rotherham Town Centre
6. Maintenance of Balancing Pond at Woodlathes Village (Pages 53 - 62)
Chris Wilkins, Assistant Development Control Manager to report
- to consider ownership and future management and maintenance of the balancing pond and its immediate surroundings on the Woodlathes residential development site
7. Sheffield to Rotherham Bus Rapid Transit (Pages 63 - 74)
Dave James, LTP Delivery Manager to report
- to consider a progress report
8. Rotherham Play Pathfinder: Consultation and Design Arrangements (Pages 75 - 77)
Nick Barnes, Principal Project Development Officer to report
- to consider a schedule of the programme

9. Eastwood South Residents Parking Scheme (Pages 78 - 81)
Ken Wheat, Transportation Unit Manager to report
- to consider the results of a public meeting about the implementation of residents' parking in the Boston Castle area of Eastwood South
10. Report re:- Opening of e-tenders (Page 82)
11. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC
The following items are likely to be considered in the absence of the press and public as being exempt under those Paragraphs, indicated below, of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended March 2006).
12. Clifton Park Restoration - Tender Evaluation. (report attached) (Pages 83 - 100)
- David Burton, Consultant Project Manager, to report

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER

1. MEETING:- CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES – DELEGATED POWERS

2. MEETING DATE:- 28th July, 2008

3. PETITIONS

I wish to report receipt of the following petition which was received by the Council on 23rd July, 2008 and referred to the Cabinet Member, Regeneration and Development Services:-

- request for 5 a-side football provision at Monks Close, Scholes (a copy of the petition is attached)

4. RECOMMENDATION

- (i) That the receipt of the petition be noted.
- (ii) That the Director of Culture and Leisure Services be asked to investigate the issue raised by the petitioners and submit a report to a future meeting of the Cabinet Member.

Strategic Director: Karl Battersby
Leisure and Green Spaces Unit, 3rd Floor, Norfolk House,
Walker Place, Rotherham, S65 1AS
Switchboard: (01709) 382121, Direct: 01709 822457
Fax: (01709) 838823, Email: andy.lee@rotherham.gov.uk
www.rotherham.gov.uk



*Rec'd Other Services,
24/6/08*

My Reference Your Reference Please ask for
AL/JB/LGS5881 Andy Lee

24th June 2008

Mr J. Smith & Mr T. Blake
3 Middlewood Drive
Scholes
Rotherham
S61 2XY

Dear Mr Smith & Mr Blake

Request for 5 a-side football provision at Monks Close

Thank you for your recent request and supporting petition for 5 a-side football nets at land off Monks Close, Scholes. Your petition will be passed to Cllr. Gerald Smith for consideration as Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Development Services.

Before a decision can be made regarding the erection of new posts, we will also need seek the views of residents living in close proximity to the area you propose and take their views into account.

I will write to you again once we have consulted with residents and a decision has been made.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Lee
Operations Manager - Green Spaces
Environment & Development Services.

*Copies to: -
Leurs for COUNCIL on 28th July
Ward No 8 Althro (Kappel):
Althro, Walker, Barran & Ka
(FOR INFORMATION).
Cabinet Member, Regen & Dev
on 28th July, 08
FILE PET. 1.*



3 Middlewood Drive
Scholes
Rotherham
S612xy

Andy Lee
Rotherham MBC
3rd Floor
Norfolk House
Walker Place
Rotherham
S65 1AF

2nd Floor

Dear Sir/ Madam

I am writing concerning the open field backing onto the park at the bottom of Middlewood Drive, regarding the possibility of mounting a set of 5-a-side football nets, for the use of the local community and neighbourhood.

Many of the surrounding residents often enjoy using the field for physical activity. Mainly football is played and often goalposts feature cans or any scraps that can be found in the vicinity of the field, this is often a safety hazard for the younger users. We feel the construction of the nets would provide a safe environment for people of all ages to use and treasure.

With Britain's younger generation getting bad press for being overweight and lazy, this facility would enable the local community to both enjoy keeping fit and creating new friends.

Many other facilities across Rotherham have been big hits such as Barkers Park "Football Arena" which is a fantastic construction but is a rather long way and is often problematic to get to due to the busy Oaks Lane Road, which is often hard for the younger generation to cross.

We feel the proposed sighting for the nets is a fantastic place due to the lack of traffic and the large size of the neighbouring community that would use the nets day in day out.

To prove how much it means to the local area we have decided to launch a petition to convince you how much the nets would mean to the surrounding area. (Petition enclosed).

Thank you for your kind attention and we hope for a quick response.

Yours Sincerely

Jack Smith (aged 12)
Tom Blake (aged 14)

CONTACT NUMBERS:



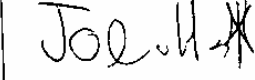

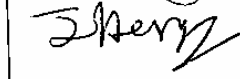

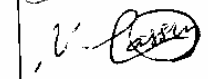

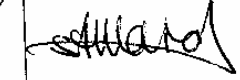
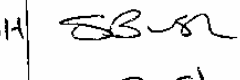
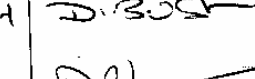


JACK SMITH: 01709555298

TOM BLAKE: 01709550423

Petition

We are proposing to apply to RMBC for the construction of two 5-a-side football nets. By this petition we are trying to prove how much this facility would mean to the neighbourhood. PLEASE SIGN BELOW IF YOU THIS FEEL THAT THIS IS A WORTHWHILE PROJECT!

Thank you for your kind attention.

NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENTS	DATE
Julia Beedle		Sounds Great!	13/6
Hannah Hobson		Wonderful idea	13/6
Joe Hobson		Great !!!	
Caroline Berry		It would be good to have somewhere for young people to play football.	13.6.08
Joshua Berry		It would be great to be able to play footy properly	13.6.08
John Langley		Good for community	13.6.08
Natasha Cassim		Great it would be good	13.6.08.
Paige Barry			
Steve Ward		Great Idea	13.06.08
Suzanne Bush		fab idea	13/6/08
Dean Bush		Great idea	13/6/08
Darren Kluk		About time!!	13/6/08
Juliette Kluk		Good (Dear, well done)	15/6/08

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We are proposing to apply to RMBC for the construction of two 5-a-side football nets. By this petition we are trying to prove how much this facility would mean to the neighbourhood. PLEASE SIGN BELOW IF YOU THIS FEEL THAT THIS IS A WORTHWHILE PROJECT!

Thank you for your kind attention.

NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENTS	DATE
C. L. BLAKE	<i>C. Blake</i>	Good idea	13.06.08.
George Blake	G. Blake	So idea	13.06.08
Tom Blake	T. BLAKE	Brilliant !!	13.06.08.
Jack Smith	J. Smith		13.06.08
Lisa Smith	<i>Smith</i>		13.6.08.
Cesley Woodcock	<i>Woodcock</i>	What a brilliant idea!	13.6.08.
D. Swires	D Swires		13.6.08
P. Booth	Petra Booth	Fantastic Idea & well thought out.	13-6-08 13-6-08
COLBYN BOOTH	C. Booth		13-6-08
Chris Booth	<i>Chris Booth</i>		13-6-08
Marie Barrett	<i>Marie Barrett</i>	Great Idea!	13-6-08
Tom Barrett	<i>Tom Barrett</i>	Good thinking!	13.6.08
Janice Barrett	<i>Janice Barrett</i>	Good idea	13.6.08
Wayne Beedle	<i>Wayne Beedle</i>	Great for the kids!	13.06.08
Jessica Beedle	Jessica B	cool	13.06.08
Jarrold Beedle	Jarrold Beedle	great!	13.06.08

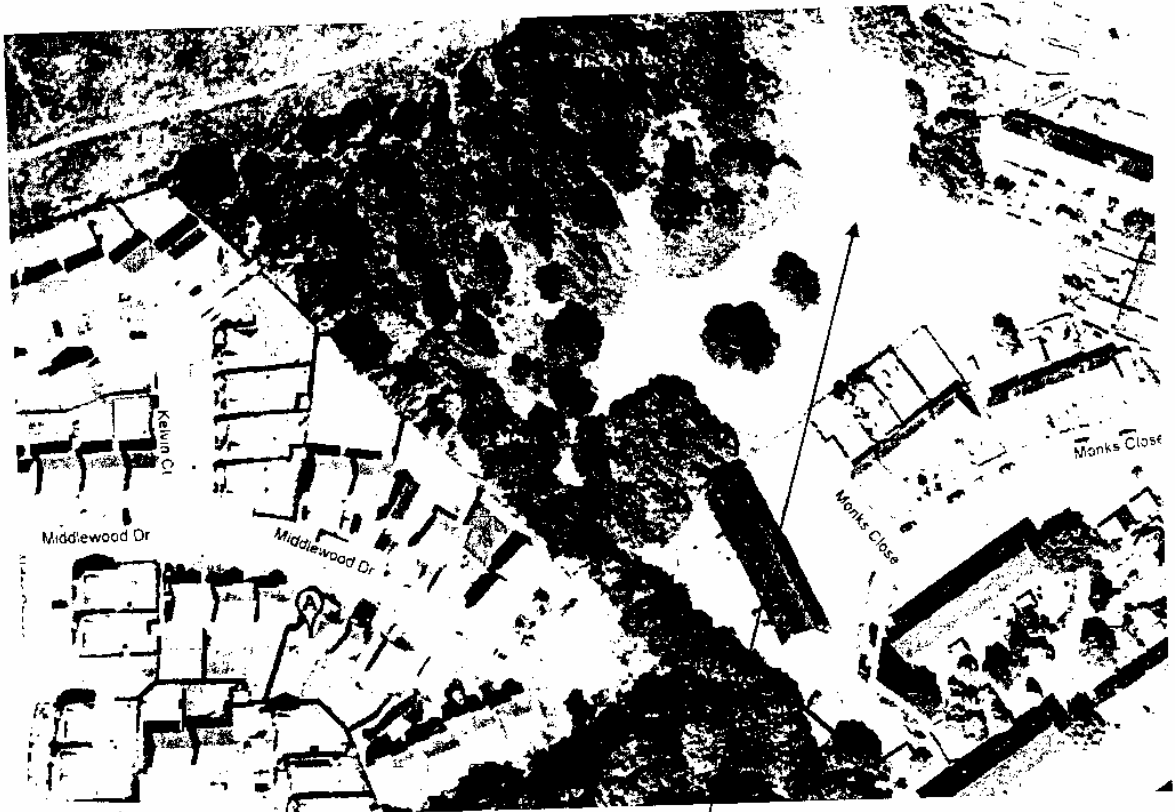
Petition

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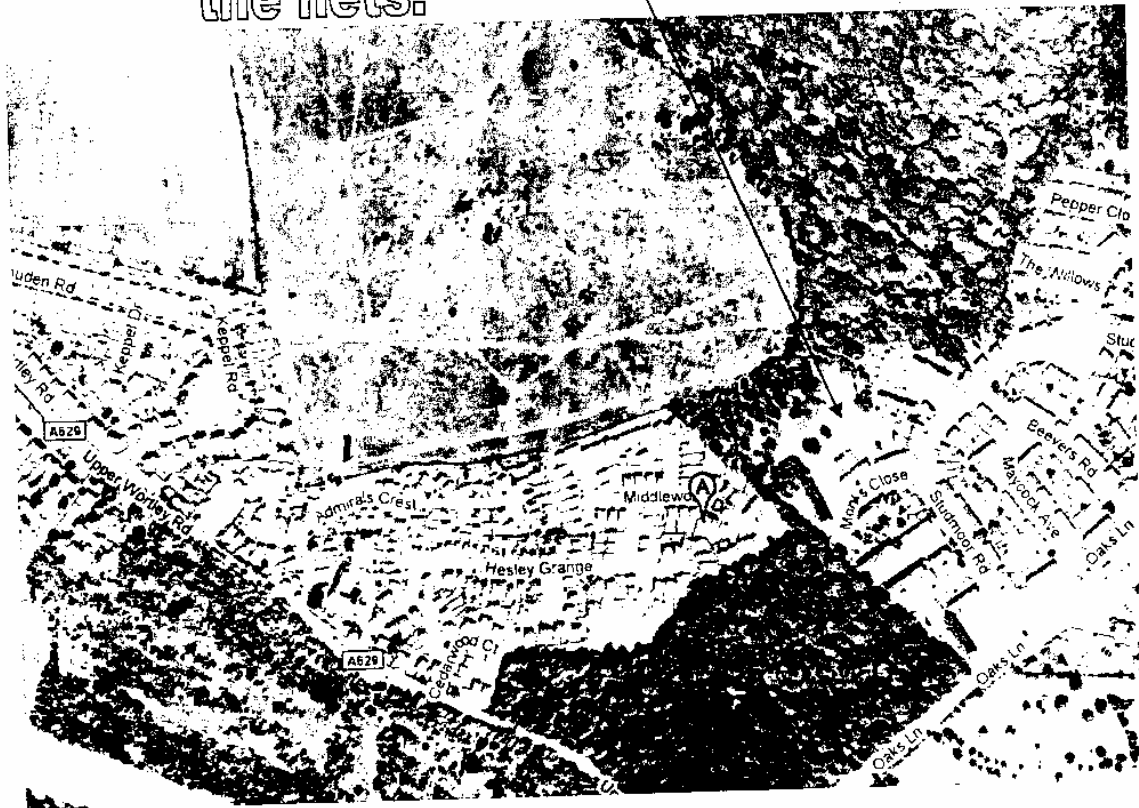
Thank you for your kind attention.

NAME	SIGNATURE	COMMENTS	DATE
N. JENNINGS	<i>[Signature]</i>	Good IDEA	13-6-8
LIZIE SMITH	<i>[Signature]</i>	brilliant for kids	13-6-08
T SMITH	<i>[Signature]</i>	THIS WOULD BE MONEY WELL SPENT, GOOD LUCK LADS.	13-6-08
J. E. BISHOP	<i>[Signature]</i>	Much needed facility for a good group of kids	15 6 08
M. Woodcock	<i>[Signature]</i>	the kids deserve it!	15.6.8
J. WOODCOCK	<i>[Signature]</i>	" " "	" "
J. SHERRIN	<i>[Signature]</i>	" " "	" "
BEN WOODCOCK	<i>[Signature]</i>	" " "	" "
C. Currie	<i>[Signature]</i>	" " "	15.06.08
D. Bellamy	<i>[Signature]</i>	" " "	15.6.08
N. Walker	<i>[Signature]</i>	" " "	15.06.08
R. SMITH	<i>[Signature]</i>	please	15-06-08
S. BERRY	<i>[Signature]</i>	GOOD IDEA	15.06.08
L. CLARK	<i>[Signature]</i>	Brilliant	15.06.08
N. BURNS	<i>[Signature]</i>	Public money well spent.	15.06.08
G. J. DIXON	<i>[Signature]</i>	Very good idea	18.06.08

PTM



This is where we would like you to construct the nets.



ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development Services
2.	Date:	28 July 2008
3.	Title:	Playing Pitch Strategy
4.	Programme Area:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

This report presents the strategic framework for the development of playing pitches with community access in the Rotherham borough. The attached Draft Playing Pitch Strategy (Appendix 15) includes a summary and interpretation of the findings of the Playing Pitch Assessment, carried out by Council appointed consultants and which includes extensive consultation with interested groups and individuals. The Draft Strategy identifies key issues and presents a proposed action plan.

6. Recommendations

- 1. Cabinet Member notes and supports the Playing Pitch Strategy and associated action plan**
- 2. Cabinet Member refers the Playing Pitch Strategy to the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel, prior to it going to Cabinet, to seek approval and adoption as Council policy**

3. Proposals and Details

This report presents the strategic framework for the development of playing pitches with community access in the Rotherham borough. The attached Draft Playing Pitch Strategy includes a summary and interpretation of the findings of the Playing Pitch Assessment for Rotherham, carried out by Council appointed consultants (Scott Wilson and Strategic Leisure) upon which most strategic recommendations are based.

The assessment considered all levels of club provision and participation, excluding professional clubs. The method used in this work was in accordance with the guidance from by Sport England and the Central Council for Physical Recreation (CCPR) and Planning Policy Guidance 17 (PPG17), all of which encourage local authorities to determine local needs in order to plan future provision. This strategy forms part the Council's broader strategic work in this area by supporting the Sport and Active Recreation Plan and also the developing Green Spaces Strategy.

Successful implementation of this strategy will be dependent on the development of effective partnerships. The strategy is aspirational and no single organisation, working alone, will be able to deliver the intended outcomes. Public, private and voluntary organisations, interested in the development of sport and physical activity will need to commit to working together in order to make the most of current and potential resources.

Why develop a Playing Pitch Strategy?

The purpose of a strategy is to ensure that the Council considers not only national planning policy and standards of provision, but also the needs of local voluntary clubs and other user groups in Rotherham when planning future provision.

What are the benefits of a Playing Pitch Strategy?

A Playing Pitch Strategy for the Rotherham borough will provide many benefits including:

1. Demonstrating a commitment to meeting local need. The process has included considerable consultation with local sports clubs, schools and stakeholders.
2. Providing a strategic approach to playing pitch provision with a clear set of priorities for pitch development.
3. Supporting the delivery of government policies for social inclusion, environmental protection, community involvement and healthy living.
4. Highlighting the value of leisure related services during times of increasing scrutiny for non-statutory services.
5. Providing robust evidence to support funding applications to agencies (e.g. The Football Foundation)
6. Providing planning related guidance (e.g. pitch requirements arising from new housing development, identification of sites for protection from unwelcome development, and change of use from/to recreation provision).
7. Linking closely with work being undertaken on open spaces (through PPG17) to provide an holistic approach to open space improvement and protection
8. Improving the Local Authority's asset management by providing detailed audit information and facility user views. This should result in more efficient use of resources and reduced overheads

What was the scope of the assessment?

Many of the pitches in the borough are owned and managed by the Borough Council but there are also a considerable number provided by Parish Councils, schools, colleges, private sports clubs, Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation (CISWO) and private companies. The Playing Pitch Assessment considered all such provision across Rotherham (with minor exceptions) and the needs and demands of cricket, football, hockey, rugby league and rugby

union. Assessments of supply and demand were carried out both on a borough-wide basis and by individual Assembly Areas.

The Assessment:

- Recorded quantity, geographical location and ownership of pitches.
- Assessed condition and quality of pitches and supporting facilities.
- Compared existing provision with National Playing Fields Association standards.
- Identified main user groups for each site, and sites without community use.
- Consulted user groups and identified current and potential future demand for pitches.
- Analysed supply and demand in order to identify: surpluses and deficiencies, sites with greatest potential for pitch development, and sites where there is very little or no demand for playing pitches.

The resulting information provided a basis for setting standards and policies for future pitch provision to meet local needs.

Assessment Findings

Quantity – There are 193 sites (RMBC, Schools/Colleges, Private/Voluntary Clubs, Trusts, CISWO and Parish) and 384 pitches, of these 119 sites and 258 pitches have secured community access, representing 67% of the total number of pitches. It is interesting to note that only 33% of School/College sites have community access.

Quality – The consultant analysis identified 73% as good quality, 23% as average, and 4% as poor quality. Common problems included dog fouling, litter, car/bike damage, golf divots and moles. Consultation with clubs identified 55% of pitches as 'very good' or 'good', 29% as 'average' and 16% as 'poor' or 'very poor'. Comments on the quality of changing rooms and other ancillary provision suggested that they were considered quite basic but in most cases users regarded them as acceptable.

Use - Many sites are very well used, and this has implications for the maintenance requirements of sites, as well as for potential investment priorities and facility development. There are a number of single pitch sites with no recorded use and multiple pitch sites registering just one team but this may change from season to season. Under utilisation of pitches should not be considered as an opportunity to dispose of sites without first considering the potential value of such sites for pitch rotation, alternative sport and recreation uses, or most importantly, the reasons for under use and whether these can be addressed.

Some key issues were:

1. Impact of off-road vehicles, litter, dog-fouling, and informal access and use of sites
2. Condition and capacity of ancillary facilities (e.g. changing rooms)
3. Need to protect playing pitch provision, and the future use of surplus pitches
4. Inconsistent community access to school sites
5. Availability of outdoor floodlit training facilities

Proposed approach to site development

In view of the need to achieve higher standards of pitch and ancillary provision across the borough within available resources, a hierarchy of sites is proposed. This would identify the pitches providing for higher level adult and junior competition, and those for lower level adult competition, casual play and training. A set of qualitative standards would need to be confirmed for each tier in the hierarchy. Priority sites for investment need to be confirmed taking into consideration the following factors:-

- Accessibility e.g. public and private transport, walking distance, car parking
- Size i.e. focus on sites capable of accommodating a number of pitches and changing facilities
- Quality i.e. can the pitch(es) meet the required standards for improvement?
- Location
- Availability of other pitches locally

Based on an appraisal of sites using these factors, the following have been identified as being most suitable for inclusion in a top tier of pitch sites:-

Table 1: Top Tier sites

Playing Field	Location	Area Assembly	Appendix
1. Herringthorpe Playing Fields	Middle Lane South, Herringthorpe	Rotherham South	1
2. Barkers Park	Redscope Crescent, Kimberworth Park	Rotherham North	2
3. Bill Hawes Recreation Site	Wroxham Way, Bramley	Wentworth Valley	3
4. Greenlands Park	Quarry Lane, North Anston	Rother Valley South	4
5. Swinton Recreation Ground	Park Road, Swinton	Wentworth North	5

Sites assessed as being under-utilised will be subject to further review, possibly leading to continued maintenance as reserve sites for new/displaced teams, to provide informal recreational space, or alternatively for disposal. The following sites have been identified within the assessment as being under-utilised:-

Table 2: Under-utilised sites

Playing Field	Location	Area Assembly	Appendix
1. Piccadilly Recreation Ground	off Piccadilly Road, Swinton	Wentworth North	6
2. Hamilton Rd (Cherry Tree Park),	Hamilton Rd, Maltby	Wentworth Valley	7
3. Highfield Park (leased from Lord Scarborough)	Highfield Park, Maltby	Wentworth Valley	8
4. Lodge Lane	Lodge Lane, Thorpe Hesley	Rotherham North	9
5. St Paul's Field	Kimberworth Park Road, Kimberworth	Rotherham North	10
6. Mowbray Gardens (responsibility of Housing Services)	Herringthorpe Valley Road, East Dene/East Herringthorpe	Wentworth South	11
7. Newhill Park	Newhill Road, West Melton	Wentworth North	12
8. Mill Lane	Mill Lane, Treeton	Rother Valley West	13
9. Well Lane	Well Lane, Treeton	Rother Valley West	14

At this stage it is envisaged that all sites other than those identified in Table 1 as Top Tier sites will be categorised as standard pitch sites which will be protected and maintained to an agreed standard subject to a continued demand.

A full set of recommendations and a proposed action plan are contained in the Draft Strategy document (Appendix A)

Consultation undertaken on Draft Playing Pitch Strategy

The Draft Strategy was made available via the Council's website (or hard copy where requested) from May to July 2007. In total 283 different groups and individuals were targeted and encouraged to respond, and numerous other groups have viewed the documents via partners. Overall comments received were generally in agreement with the findings and supportive of the proposals. A summary of the feedback has been placed on the Council's website and all consultees have been informed of where to find it. If the draft strategy is agreed, further consultation will be required at a local level, in order to develop detailed plans and to identify and co-ordinate the resources and partnerships necessary to deliver and sustain the required improvements.

Strategy implementation – key issues

- 1. The identified improvements will require both capital and revenue funding**
- 2. The Council will need to identify a level of capital funding to act as match to potential external funding opportunities**
- 3. Sufficient and secure revenue budgets, in particular grounds maintenance, will be essential for maintaining improved standards**
- 4. The potential of new, improved and innovative partnership working should be explored in order to support initial funding and long term sustainability needs.**

8. Finance

There will be a cost to produce the final Playing Pitch Strategy Document, which will be covered by the Service. Further costs relate to delivering and sustaining the necessary improvements in playing pitch and ancillary facility provision. Work currently underway to determine the future of the Council's ground maintenance service will also need to take account of the Playing Pitch Strategy action plan and standards.

It is proposed that the Service seeks to work in partnership in order to access all available external funding but it will also need to make a bid to the Council's Capital Programme, initially to secure funding to support the strategic development of the 5 top tier sites and later for the improvement of the standard pitch sites.

Reprioritisation of maintenance programmes and savings from the cessation of service at some sites, based on informed decisions relating to playing pitch usage and demand, will be necessary to support the increased costs that will result from providing and sustaining higher standards of provision.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Without significant capital and revenue investment it is unlikely that the identified improvements can be achieved. Delivery of the action plan will be heavily dependant on the development of effective partnerships and the availability of external funding opportunities. Whilst every effort will be made to ensure success in these areas it is not possible to predict at this stage the availability of either. Future local need for playing pitch provision and the impact of development activities are difficult to predict in the long term and as such the strategy will need to review pitch usage against provision, at agreed intervals, in order to take account of changing needs. The plans may also be affected by other developments (e.g. private and voluntary) which may be beyond the control of the Council.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The Playing Pitch Strategy will have extensive policy and performance implications:-

- It will contribute to regeneration by supporting bids for inward investment, improving and promoting the image of Rotherham, and by contributing to sustainable neighbourhoods of quality, choice and aspiration.
- It will seek to reduce inequalities by setting borough wide standards for playing pitch and ancillary facility provision
- A fundamental purpose of the strategy will be to identify a more sustainable approach to playing pitch provision. This includes setting standards that can be maintained over a long time period.
- It will provide a basis for ensuring adequate site provision to support increased active use thereby contributing to improved health
- It will support improvements in the standard of sport played in the borough by contributing to the future performance levels of athletes

Regeneration: Development of playing pitches and facilities would contribute to the regeneration of the identified sites, stimulating both capital and revenue investment.

Equalities: An underlying principle of development will be to support a broad range of inclusive sport and physical activity opportunities.

Sustainability: Taking a partnership approach through public, private and voluntary sector involvement in the sites is considered to represent a positive way forward. The creation of the effective partnerships will offer further potential to achieve long term sustainability.

Health: Development of improved and sustainable playing pitches will support sustained and increased active participation in playing pitch sports and therefore contribute to improvements in health and well being.

Human Rights: no implications.

Corporate Priorities: This strategy meets the Council's priorities of *Rotherham Achieving, Rotherham Alive and Rotherham Safe*. In particular it will contribute to Culture and Leisure Service outcomes under the following strategic objectives.

Achieve - Increase the economic vitality of the Borough, specifically the town centre and disadvantaged communities, through targeted investment in cultural initiatives.

Alive - Improve quality of life and levels of health and wellbeing for all people in Rotherham by increasing and widening participation in cultural activities.

Safe - To contribute to safer neighbourhoods and better environments, through the active engagement of priority communities in cultural activity and targeting resources to improve priority sites

Local Development Framework: This strategy is intended to inform policies in the emerging LDF, providing a basis for enhancing provision through future development.

Contribution to CPA: the scheme will help to address a number of Audit Commission criticisms, including the poor condition of buildings and targeting resources at priorities.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Consultation that has taken place to date is described above

Contact Name:

Steve Hallsworth, Leisure Services Manager, Culture & Leisure
01709 (82) 2483, steve.hallsworth@rotherham.gov.uk

Rotherham Playing Pitch Strategy

DRAFT DOCUMENT

18/07/2008

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Rotherham Playing Pitch Strategy

Part 1 – Setting the Scene

1.1 Introduction

This document presents a strategic framework for the development of playing pitches with community access across Rotherham. It includes a summary and interpretation of the findings of the Playing Pitch Assessment for Rotherham, carried out by Council appointed consultants (Scott Wilson and Strategic Leisure) upon which most strategic recommendations are based. The full assessment, and a further report focusing on provision in Area Assemblies, are available on the Council's website at <http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/pitches> or by contacting Culture & Leisure Services on 01709 822452.

The Playing Pitch Assessment considered all levels of club provision and participation, excluding professional clubs, although it is acknowledged that it may not have identified all provision and participation in Rotherham due to the difficulties associated with gathering this amount of information. Therefore the strategy will need to establish a process of review in order to take account of ever changing circumstances.

The method used in this work was in accordance with the guidance: "Towards A Level Playing Field: A Guide to the production of Playing Pitch Strategies" published by Sport England and the Central Council for Physical Recreation (CCPR) in October 2002 and Planning Policy Guidance 17 (PPG17), both of which encourage local authorities to determine local needs in order to plan future provision. It represents a move away from pre-existing approaches to determining need for playing pitches (e.g. the National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) 'six acre' standard), which Sport England consider to be less effective as a basis for strategy development reflecting local needs and opportunities.

1.2 The need for partnership

The Council recognises that in implementing this strategy, success will be dependent on the development of effective partnership working. The strategy is aspirational and no single organisation, working alone, will be able to deliver the intended outcomes. Public, private and voluntary organisations, interested in the development of sport and physical activity will need to commit to working together in order to make the most of current and potential resources.

This strategy is intended to provide a firm foundation upon which the interested partners can take forward their aspirations to develop and deliver a wide range of high quality playing pitch provision that will meet the many different needs of communities across the Rotherham borough.

1.3 Why develop a Playing Pitch Strategy?

The purpose of a strategy is to ensure that the Council considers not only national planning policy and standards of provision, but also the needs of local voluntary clubs and other user

groups in Rotherham when planning future provision. Playing pitches have long been established in Rotherham but the development of new residential areas and related population changes, the reduction in facility provision by organisations other than the council, and customers' changing expectations have led to changes in demand and adequacy of provision.

1.4 What are the benefits of a Playing Pitch Strategy?

A Playing Pitch Strategy for the Rotherham borough will provide many benefits including:

1. Demonstrating a commitment to meeting local need. The assessment methodology has included considerable consultation with local sports clubs, schools and stakeholders.
2. Providing a strategic approach to playing pitch provision with a clear direction and a set of priorities for pitch development and associated sports.
3. Helping to deliver government policies for social inclusion, environmental protection, community involvement and healthy living.
4. Highlighting the value of leisure related services during times of increasing scrutiny for non-statutory services.
5. Providing robust evidence to support funding applications to agencies including: Football Foundation, Sport England, Big Lottery Fund and Heritage Lottery Fund.
6. Providing planning related guidance e.g. pitch requirements arising from new housing development, identification of sites for protection from development, change of use from/to recreation provision. It is one of the best "tools" for the protection of pitches threatened by development.
7. Linking closely with work being undertaken on open spaces (through PPG17) to provide an holistic approach to open space improvement and protection
8. Improving the local authority's asset management by providing detailed audit information and facility user views. This should result in more efficient use of resources and reduced overheads

Part 2 - How was the assessment carried out?

2.1 National and Local Policy Context

The Government's Planning Policy Guidance 17 (PPG17) – 'Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation' (July 2002) advises that local authorities should undertake robust assessments of the existing and future needs of their communities for open space, sports and recreational facilities. Such assessments should include the use made of existing facilities, access in terms of location and cost, and opportunities for new facilities. It should also consider the quantity and quality of the facilities. Carrying out this work should allow local authorities to identify specific needs and over or under supply of pitches, and therefore provide an effective starting point to establish a strategy for provision at a local level.

This assessment was guided by principles set out in the PPG17 Companion Guide Assessing Needs and Opportunities (2002), and Sport England's analysis and audit methodology which compares the demand for pitches with their supply.

To ensure the provision of playing pitches in Rotherham meets the strategic needs of the local community, existing strategy documents have been reviewed to identify key priorities

which the playing pitch strategy needs to reflect, and objectives to which it should contribute. Specifically, the five priorities and two cross cutting themes within the Community Strategy, on which Rotherham MBC's corporate priorities are based, are supported by the recommendations arising within this Strategy. The five priorities are as follows:-

Rotherham Alive – We aim to improve the quality of life and levels of health and well being for all people in Rotherham by increasing and widening participation in cultural activities. The Strategy aims to contribute to this by ensuring people have access to good quality playing pitches across the borough.

Rotherham Safe – We aim to contribute to safer neighbourhoods and better environments through the active engagement of priority communities in cultural activity and targeting resources to improve priority sites. The Strategy seeks to improve priority pitch sites, including addressing safety and environmental concerns.

Rotherham Achieving – We aim to increase the economic vitality of the borough, specifically the town centre and disadvantaged communities, through targeted investment in cultural initiatives. Improvement of playing pitch sites through the Strategy is intended to improve the quality of life in disadvantaged neighbourhoods and thereby contribute to increased confidence and investment within them.

Rotherham Learning – We aim to improve the potential of Rotherham people by assisting them to develop through the provision of lifelong learning opportunities. The Strategy will improve priority playing pitch sites as settings for development of sports skills.

Rotherham Proud – We aim to increase levels of civic pride and citizen involvement through the provision of inclusive cultural services and opportunities for voluntary and community sector involvement. The Strategy provides a mechanism for continuing involvement by community stakeholders in the development and management of Rotherham's playing pitches.

The two cross-cutting themes are:-

Sustainable Development - The Strategy seeks to embed sustainability into the development of playing pitches by considering future needs and costs.

Fairness - A fundamental objective of the Strategy is to work towards ensuring that everyone within Rotherham has equal access to good quality playing pitches, whatever their circumstances.

A full list of reference documents is provided in Appendix A.

2.2 What was the scope of the assessment?

Rotherham comprises 7 Assembly Areas (21 Wards) and has a population of around 250,000. There is a wide range of playing pitch provision and demand within the borough. Many of the pitches are owned and managed by the Borough Council but there are a great number provided by Parish Councils, schools and colleges, private sports clubs, Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation (CISWO) and private companies. The Playing Pitch Assessment considered all such provision across Rotherham (with minor exceptions) and the needs and demands of cricket, football, hockey, rugby league and rugby union. Assessments of supply and demand were carried out both on a borough-wide basis and by individual Assembly Areas.

The Assessment:

- Recorded the quantity, geographical location and ownership of pitches.
- Assessed the condition and quality of pitches and supporting facilities.
- Compared existing provision with proposed local standards derived from assessment of existing and potential future demand.
- Identified the main user groups for each site, and sites without community use.
- Consulted user groups and identified the current and potential future demand for pitches.
- Analysed supply and demand in order to identify: surpluses and deficiencies, sites with greatest potential for pitch development, and sites where there is very little or no demand for playing pitches.

The resulting information provided a basis for setting standards and policies for future pitch provision to meet local needs for football, cricket, rugby league, rugby union and hockey.

2.3 How was information collected?

The current supply of pitches was established through a series of research and consultation exercises. These consisted of:

- Review of information held by RMBC;
- Survey of pitches owned and managed by RMBC, and other providers at local level;
- Consultation with key shareholders;
- A postal survey issued to all Town and Parish Councils;
- A postal survey of all schools; and
- A postal survey to all identified sports clubs.

The quality of playing pitches was assessed by:

- Site visits and a non technical turf pitch assessment of all pitches identified as having secured community use (based) on a visual inspection, with pitch quality being assessed by means of a Sport England Toolkit using a range of measures including sloping, unevenness, grass cover, drainage, etc.
- Self ratings by schools of their own facilities
- Ratings by local clubs of the facilities they use
- Consultation with Sheffield and Hallamshire FA

It is acknowledged that the assessments of pitch quality were not carried out independently in all cases, and this might introduce some subjectivity into the findings. Further independent site assessments would be valuable, providing a more consistent and reliable overview of pitch quality across the borough; means to achieve this should be pursued as an action arising from this strategy.

Levels of use of pitches were assessed through consultation with clubs and questionnaires.

Current demand for pitches was established through a series of research and consultation exercises. These consisted of:

- An initial club/organisation questionnaire sent to identified groups within the study area;
- Telephone consultation with key sports clubs;
- A postal survey to all Town and Parish Councils;

- Booking information from pitch sites within the study area; and
- Analysis of cricket and football league handbooks, including Rotherham and District Junior and Senior Football Leagues, The Mexborough Football League and The South Yorkshire Cricket League amongst others.

The level of demand for playing pitches (number of teams) against the current supply of pitches was assessed in accordance with the Sport England methodology. Team Generation Rates (TGR's) were used to provide information on the current demand and situation. However it is recognised that the number of pitches and teams may differ from season to season and for this reasons there is a need to ensure that the data used within the assessment is updated at appropriate intervals.

Assessments of current and potential future demand have been used to generate proposed local provision standards, expressed as a target number of pitches per 1000 head of population. In the case of football, separate standards have been suggested for each Area Assembly, reflecting varying circumstances in different parts of the borough. For cricket, rugby and hockey, borough-wide standards have been proposed. This is because the relatively low levels of demand make it difficult to establish any differences at Area Assembly level.

Part 3 - Assessment Findings

3.1 Playing Pitch Quantities

Table 1 shows the audited total number of natural turf (grass) playing pitches within the Rotherham borough boundary and Table 2 shows the number with secured community use. Table 3 shows the number of synthetic turf pitches available.

Table 1- Total Playing Pitch Provision

Pitch Provider	No of Sites	No of Pitches
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council	35	81
Education Sites*	95	185
Private/Voluntary Sports Clubs	20	35
Trust	2	2
CISWO	7	24
Parish	34	57
Total Provision Identified	193	384

*Education sites only includes formally marked pitch sites

Table 2 - Playing Pitches with Secured Community use

Pitch Provider	No of Sites	No of Pitches
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council	35	81
Education Sites	22	61
Private/Voluntary Sports Clubs	19	33
Trust	2	2
CISWO	7	24
Parish	34	57
TOTAL PROVISION AVAILABLE	119	258

Table 3 - Synthetic Turf Pitch (STP) Full Size Provision (secured community use).

Pitch Provider	No of Sites	*No of Pitches
Education Sites	3†	3(9)
Private/Voluntary Sports Clubs	1	1(4)
Total Provision Identified	4	4(13)

*Number of 5-a-side pitches shown in brackets †1 STP surface is only suitable for football

There are pitches that are not accessible to the local community, including most that are in use by private and professional clubs, and some that are owned by schools. The use of education pitches by community sports clubs is inconsistent across the borough, with no formal dual use arrangements encompassing all schools. Community access is dependent upon the policy of individual schools. However all local authority pitches, Trust, CISWO and Parish Council pitches are available to the local community to access on a formal hire agreement or through the sports clubs offering sports participation opportunities to the local community.

3.2 Playing Pitch Quality

Non-technical visual inspection of pitches by consultants and Council officers found 73% as being of good quality, 23% average, and 4% were found to be of poor quality. Common pitch problems include dog fouling on 31% of the sites, litter on 31% of the sites, car/bike damage on 14% of the sites, golf divots on 20% of the sites and moles on 4% of the sites.

97 of the schools consulted provided comments about the quality of their pitches. The key findings indicated that of those schools with community use 66% rated their pitches as “good” or “very good”, 10% rated their pitches as “average” and 24% rated their pitches as “poor” or “very poor”.

A consultation exercise was undertaken with all identified sports pitch clubs within the Rotherham Borough Council boundary. The response rate was good, and many clubs who were consulted did attempt to rate the quality of the pitches they use. The key findings of the survey showed that, 55% rated the pitches used as ‘very good’ or ‘good’, 29% rated the pitches used as ‘average’, 16% rated the pitches used as ‘poor’ or ‘very poor’. Only a handful of clubs commented on the quality of changing rooms and other ancillary provision. This revealed that, where provided, changing facilities were considered quite basic but in most cases users regarded them as acceptable. 66% of sites were judged to have adequate onsite car parking and 34% have roadside parking.

Football league secretaries and Sheffield and Hallamshire FA made a number of comments regarding pitch supply, quality, and development, including the following:

- There are poor quality facilities at some sites and there is a lack of floodlit areas, e.g. multi use games areas (mainly for training purposes).
- In their view changing facilities are of a very low standard. This is one of the reasons often attributed to teams folding. In particular, Barkers Park has been highlighted as an urgent priority for new changing facilities, along with Herringthorpe.
- A regional girl’s league used to use Herringthorpe playing fields (3/4 pitches weekly) but pulled out as the pitches were in very poor condition.

3.3 Playing Pitch Use

Whilst it has not been possible to establish detailed usage levels of every pitch in Rotherham, consultation has allowed identification of detailed levels of usage for all of the pitch facilities within RMBC ownership.

This showed that some sites are very well used, which has implications for wear and tear and the requirement for the maintenance of sites, as well as for potential investment priorities and facility development. This is an issue which needs to be considered in more detail and is reflected in the Strategy's recommendations.

In contrast there are a number of single pitch sites with no recorded use and multiple pitch sites registering just one team. No clear reason is identified for the apparent 'lack of demand' for these sites and this may change from season to season. An unused pitch will still incur operational and maintenance costs.

Under utilisation of pitches should not be considered as an opportunity to dispose of sites without first considering the potential value of such sites for pitch rotation, alternative sport and recreation uses, or most importantly, the reasons for under use and whether these can be addressed. It may be that such sites perform a useful open space function, which will be considered in the emerging Green Space Strategy, or provide an opportunity for unrecorded and informal use. Alternative sport and recreation use should be considered in the first instance and this is reflected in the Strategy's recommendations. The following sites were found to be under-utilised.

3.4 Playing Pitch Supply and Demand by Sport

Below is a summary of the analysis of supply and demand for pitches by sport and related key findings. The assessment reveals whether the pitches with secured community use are in surplus, deficit or adequate to accommodate the number of teams in the borough.

Cricket

The study identified **50 clubs** based within the Rotherham area generating **154 teams**. The number of teams generated by each club varies significantly, from single team clubs to those with in excess of eleven teams ranging from junior (11-17yrs) to senior. **36 pitches** were identified and included in the assessment calculation. Key findings include:

Pitch ownership - The largest number (36%) of pitches used by local clubs are in private/voluntary ownership or management. Only 5 pitches are owned/managed by RMBC (Greenlands Park, Kilnhurst Recreation Ground, Wath Sports Centre and Herringthorpe Playing Fields [2]). The other pitches are provided by Education (5), Parish (7), Trust (1) and CISWO (5). Cricket pitches in private ownership were perceived to be of a higher quality than those in public parks/open spaces.

Pitches with no community use - The assessment identified 5 cricket pitches without community use (all on school sites)

Demand for matches (variable) - The assessment reveals that there are approximately 79 matches a week during the season. The peak demand is spread across the weekend (Saturday 37% and Sunday 25%). The remainder (38%) are played in mid-week.

Surplus / deficiencies - There is a surplus of cricket pitch provision to meet peak demand weekend (+ 6 pitches).

Potential demand - On the basis of questionnaire returns, it would appear that nearly 50% of clubs are expected to remain the same in terms of membership. Several clubs have cited lack of funding as a factor inhibiting growth.

Long-term demand - Long-term demand for playing pitches is difficult to ascertain as there are many factors which can contribute to a change in demand including the success of local teams, sports development initiatives, the quality/accessibility of local facilities and the nature/scope of local leagues. Many clubs within Rotherham are hoping to start girls teams, this will increase demand for pitches.

Team Generation Rates – Compared to other authorities Rotherham has a fairly high rate for junior boy's cricket.

Football

The study identified **201 football clubs** based within the Rotherham area generating **365 teams**. The number of teams generated by each club varies significantly, from single team clubs to those with in excess of ten teams ranging from under 7's to senior. **203 football pitches** were identified ranging from mini to senior. Key findings include:

Pitch ownership – Rotherham Borough Council (34% of all pitches), Education (24%), Parish (23%), CISWO (9%), Private (9%) and Trust (1%)

Pitches with no community use - 98 pitches (14 senior, 72 junior and 12 mini) that do not have secured community use. The majority of these are on school sites.

Demand for matches (variable) – There are approximately 184 matches per week mostly played on a Sunday (85% of all football matches)

Surplus / deficiencies – Mini, Junior and Senior Football - The number of mini football pitches currently with secured community use is shown by the assessment to be insufficient to meet peak demand on Sunday, when there is a deficit of 6 pitches. The current supply of designated junior pitches is insufficient to meet current peak demand on a Sunday, when there is a deficit of 14 pitches. The number of senior football pitches identified as available for community use is more than adequate to meet the demand for senior football. The majority of senior football is played on a Sunday (77% of fixtures), when there is a surplus of 67 pitches

Potential demand - An attempt was made to assess levels of future demand in the borough. This was predominately conducted through consultation with sports clubs who were asked to identify issues with provision. Unmet demand could be viewed as an area within football where there has been significant growth, e.g. mini soccer. The level of demand within Rotherham is anticipated to remain constant within the majority of clubs. However, some clubs have identified a lack of pitches within the area and problems getting pitches as limiting factors.

Long-term demand - Long-term demand for playing pitches is difficult to ascertain as there are many factors which can contribute to a change in the demand for playing pitches including the success of local teams, sports development initiatives, the quality/accessibility of local facilities and the nature/scope of local leagues. Through club consultation, it is suggested that there will be an increase in the number of girls' teams. Sheffield and Hallamshire FA are currently setting up a girl's league which many clubs are signing up to.

Team Generation Rates – Compared to other authorities Rotherham has a high rate for junior boy's football but a low rate for junior girls.

Hockey

The study identified **3 clubs** based within the Rotherham area generating **11 teams**, all for men or women between 16 and 45 years of age. **3 synthetic turf pitches (STP)** and **4 grass pitches** were identified and included in the assessment calculation. Rotherham Hockey Club operates a number of junior hockey teams. However, these teams only play matches once a month and often play away games, although they do train at their home ground. Key findings include:

Pitch ownership - The 3 STPs available for community use (hockey) are in Education and Private ownership.

Pitches with no community use - There are no STPs in Rotherham without community use, although there is an STP at Dearne Valley College which is only suitable for football and therefore has not been counted in the hockey assessment.

Demand for matches (variable) - The assessment reveals that all games are played on a Saturday.

Surplus/Deficiencies - Based on 2-3 matches per day there is sufficient supply of pitches within the borough to accommodate the current demand for hockey matches.

The Sport England Facilities Planning Model works on the broad assumption that there should be one full size synthetic turf pitch per 60,000 population (other criteria also apply, such as drive times etc). The provision in Rotherham can be assessed against this 'model'. Currently there are 4 publicly (full or partially) accessible full size STP's (this figure includes the football-only STP at Dearne Valley College) serving an estimated population of 253,200. Based on the need for 1 STP per 60,000 there is a need for 4.22 STP's in the Rotherham borough. Output from Sport England's last run of the Facilities Planning Model indicated that a synthetic turf pitch was required in the South of Rotherham to meet existing demand. This demand has been met with the development of the new STP at Dinnington Comprehensive School.

Potential demand - An attempt was made to assess potential levels of demand in the borough. This was predominately conducted through consultation with sports clubs who were asked to identify issues with provision. The clubs involved raised no issues.

Long-term demand - Long-term demand for playing pitches is difficult to ascertain as there are many factors which can contribute to a change in demand for playing pitches including the success of local teams, sport development initiatives, the quality/accessibility of local facilities and the nature/scope of local leagues. The new STP at Dinnington Comprehensive School provides additional opportunities for Hockey Club fixtures.

Team Generation Rates - Compared to other authorities Rotherham generally has low team rates for hockey.

Rugby League

The study identified **2 clubs** based within the Rotherham area generating **4 teams**. All the teams are for senior men aged 18 to 45 years. **3 pitches** were identified and included in the assessment calculation. Key findings include:

Pitch ownership - The audit has identified that RMBC owns / manages 1 of the 3 rugby league pitches in the borough, the remaining pitches are owned by Education (2)

Pitches with no community use - The assessment has identified 1 rugby league pitch without community use (on a school site)

Demand for matches (variable) - The assessment reveals that all games are played on a Saturday

Surplus / deficiencies - The results show that the number of rugby pitches currently in secured public use is surplus to meet peak demand (+1 pitches). It should however be noted that any increases in the number of teams playing rugby league may not be able to be accommodated on the current stock of pitches at peak time

Potential demand - An attempt was made to assess potential levels of demand in the borough. This was predominately conducted through consultation with sports clubs who were asked to identify issues with provision. The two clubs involved raised no issues.

Long-term demand - Long-term demand for playing pitches is difficult to ascertain as there are many factors which can contribute to a change in the demand for playing pitches including the success of local teams, sports development initiatives, the quality/accessibility of local facilities and the nature/scope of local leagues.

Team Generation Rates – Compared to other authorities Rotherham has a fairly low team rate for men's rugby league.

Rugby Union

The study identified **5 clubs** based within the Rotherham area, generating **26 teams**. The number of teams generated by each club varies significantly, from single team clubs to those with in excess of thirteen teams ranging from junior to senior. **9 pitches** were identified and included in the assessment calculation. Key findings include:

Pitch ownership - The assessment has identified that RMBC owns/manages 6 of the 9 rugby union pitches in the borough, the remaining 3 pitches are owned by Parish Councils

Pitches with no community use - The audit has identified 12 rugby union pitches with no community use (all Education owned), 2 of these pitches (at Wickersley School) have organised use without written agreement and for this reason and in line with the Sport England Methodology these pitches have not been included in the assessment.

Demand for matches (variable) - The audit revealed that the majority of matches are played on a Sunday; all senior men's games are played on Saturdays.

Surplus / deficiencies - The results show that the number of rugby union pitches currently with secured community use is adequate (the number of matches played is equal to the number of pitches available) to meet peak demand. Peak demand is on a Sunday when all junior teams play. There is a small surplus of 4 pitches on a Saturday. It should however be noted that any increases in the number of teams playing rugby union may not be able to be accommodated on the current stock of pitches at peak time.

Potential demand - The level of demand within Rotherham is difficult to predict, but it appears from questionnaire returns that memberships will remain stable in the majority of clubs. That is with the exception of predicted growth at Dinnington Rugby Union Football Club who anticipate that their membership level will increase by 30 – 40 members in the coming years due to new facilities.

Long-term demand - Long-term demand for playing pitches is also difficult to ascertain as there are many factors which can contribute to a change in the demand for playing pitches including the success of local teams, sports development initiatives, the quality/accessibility of local facilities and the nature/scope of local leagues.

Team Generation Rates – Compared to other authorities Rotherham has a low rate for mini rugby but a fairly high rate for junior boys

Part 4 - Conclusions

4.1 Summary of the key issues

Based on the assessment undertaken, the following key issues relate to pitch supply and demand in the Rotherham borough:

General

- G1. Need to continually review information in order to record site developments and identify and respond to changes in demand
- G2. Impact of off-road vehicles, litter, dog-fouling, and informal access and use of sites
- G3. Ancillary facilities (e.g. changing rooms) may not be able to cope with increase new teams (girls)
- G4. The future of surplus pitches needs to be determined
- G5. Need to protect playing pitch provision, except where otherwise indicated
- G6. Inconsistent community access to school sites
- G7. Further independent assessment of pitch quality should be pursued

Cricket

- C1. Peak demand for cricket is at the weekend and there is a small surplus of 6 pitches available to meet demand. It is therefore necessary to maintain all existing pitches
- C2. Any large increase in the number of cricket teams in the borough would be difficult to accommodate on the existing stock of pitches at peak time. The assessment revealed that there are only a small number of pitches without community use which have potential for future community access. The audit also revealed that a large increase in teams is unlikely.

- C3. Girl's cricket is an area of development within Rotherham and several clubs are committed to starting girls/women sides. A small number of clubs operate friendly sides, these teams do not play regular fixtures and as a result they are not included within the assessment, They do however demand a pitch and as such should be considered in future demand. It may be necessary to carry out more detailed assessment of future demand arising from growth of girl's and women's cricket in order to determine future pitch and ancillary facility requirements

Football

- F1. There is a significant surplus of Senior Football pitches (+67) across the borough to cater for peak demand. Although a surplus is required to allow for resting, renovation, development and increase in demand, it could be argued that a significant surplus reflects an inefficient use of resources (i.e. maintaining pitches that are not needed). Therefore there is a need to rationalise the supply of senior football pitches to better reflect current and predicted demand. However, the findings need to be considered within the context of the local area; separate assessments of supply and demand have been completed for each Area Assembly.
- F2. There is a deficit of mini (-6) and junior pitches (-14). These deficiencies could be rectified through re-designation of current surpluses in senior provision. However, the findings need to be considered within the context of the local area; separate assessments of supply and demand have been completed for each Area Assembly.
- F3. A substantial number of junior and mini pitches are owned by educational establishments. However, only 22 of the 97 educational establishments with pitches have formal community use agreements. This can often lead to access being denied to the community for use this provision.
- F4. Around 30% of clubs predicted a rise in membership over the next few years with just 11% anticipating falling membership; some hoped to start girl's teams and/or introduce new age groups. These increases need to be accommodated. Although pitch supply would appear to be adequate, there was a general view that the standard of ancillary facilities needs to be improved to cater for these anticipated growth areas.
- F5. Some clubs expressed difficulties in accessing outdoor floodlight training facilities
- F6. Although most teams manage to find a suitable pitch for their activity (though not always their first choice and/or in the community they prefer) there is a perception that supply is insufficient in certain areas of the borough.
- F7. A number of site-specific issues have been identified including poor changing accommodation at Barkers Park and Herringthorpe, poor pitch quality at Herringthorpe, no provision of junior pitches in Wentworth and Thorpe Hesley and limited provision of mini football pitches.
- F8. To be effective against vandalism some changing facilities are converted shipping containers but these can be detrimental to the quality of site character.
- F9. Drainage seemed to be generally very good on inspection but there are some problems at specific sites throughout the borough at certain times of the year.
- F10. There are also a number of facilities which experience significant over-use with up to 6 teams playing on each pitch.

Hockey

- H1. There are surplus pitches available to meet the current demand for hockey within the borough, based on 2-3 fixtures per day.
- H2. Current provision should be maintained due to multi-sport use, e.g. football training.
- H3. Not all sites are available for community use at all times.

- H4. The new floodlit full size STP at Dinnington Comprehensive School could be a key site for hockey development.
- H5. Rotherham Hockey Club has expressed a desire to relocate to another site within the borough.

Rugby League

- RL1. There is a small surplus of pitches at peak time (+1)
- RL2. No junior teams were identified.
- RL3. There is a need to maintain all existing sites to accommodate current demand

Rugby Union

- RU1. There is an adequate supply of pitches at peak time (the number of games played is equal to the number of pitches available).
- RU2. There is a need to maintain all existing sites to accommodate current demand

4.2 Hierarchical Approach to Site Development

In view of the need to achieve higher standards of pitch and ancillary provision across the borough using limited resources, a hierarchy of sites is proposed linked to the requirements of sports development and competition. This would identify the pitches providing for higher level adult and junior competition, and those for lower level adult competition, casual play and training. A set of qualitative standards would need to be confirmed for each tier in the hierarchy.

Priority sites for investment need to be confirmed taking into consideration the following factors:-

- Accessibility e.g. public and private transport, walking distance, car parking
- Size i.e. focus on sites capable of accommodating a number of pitches, changing facilities
- Quality i.e. can the pitch(es) meet the required standards for improvement?
- Location
- Availability of other pitches locally

Based on an appraisal of sites using these factors, the following have been identified as being most suitable for inclusion in a top tier of pitch sites:-

1. Herringthorpe Playing Fields, Middle Lane South, Herringthorpe, Area Assembly - Rotherham South
2. Barkers Park, Redscope Crescent, Kimberworth Park, Area Assembly –Rotherham North
3. Bill Hawes Recreation Site, Wroxham Way, Bramley, Area Assembly – Wentworth Valley
4. Greenlands Park, Quarry Lane, North Anston, Area Assembly – Rother Valley South
5. Swinton Recreation Ground, Park Road, Swinton, Area Assembly – Wentworth North

Bill Hawes Recreation Ground has also been identified as being subject to particularly high levels of use at weekends.

Sites assessed as being under-utilised will be subject to further review, possibly leading to continued maintenance as reserve sites to cater for teams displaced from normal playing venues, to provide informal recreational space, or alternatively for disposal. The following sites have been identified within the assessment as being under-utilised:-

1. Piccadilly Recreation Ground, Swinton.
2. Hamilton Rd (Cherry Tree Park), Maltby
3. Highfield Park, Maltby
4. Lodge Lane, Thorpe Hesley
5. St Paul's Field, Kimberworth Park
6. Mowbray Gardens, East Dene/East Herringthorpe
7. Newhill Park, West Melton
8. Mill Lane, Treeton
9. Well Lane, Treeton

Part 5 Recommendations

The following strategic recommendations have been developed from the assessment of pitch sports in the borough and are aimed at addressing the key issues identified above. These have been categorised as recommendations relating to strategic planning, facility development, land use planning and policy and sports development

Strategic Planning (SP)

Strategic Planning – Recommendation 1
Develop a hierarchy of pitch and ancillary facility provision for the borough, including the following top tier sites as priorities for improvement: Herringthorpe Playing Fields, Barkers Park (Kimberworth Park), Greenlands Park (North Anston), Bill Hawes Recreation Ground (Bramley) and Swinton Recreation Ground. Undertake continuing assessment of site specific issues elsewhere to identify other site improvement priorities.
Key Issues Addressed: G3,C3,F4,F6,F7,F8,F9,H5,RL1,RU1

Strategic Planning – Recommendation 2
Develop qualitative standards for pitches and ancillary provision for sites at each tier in the proposed hierarchy, reflecting where appropriate Sport England guidelines, child protection requirements, female use and DDA requirements, Standards should also specify whether access for general recreational use is permitted on pitches at each tier.
Key Issues Addressed: G3,C3,F4,F6,F7,F8,F9,H5

Strategic Planning – Recommendation 3
Seek to develop the overall use of education pitches for community use and in so doing develop appropriate local support to facilitate access and use, especially for junior and mini teams. There should be a priority focus on those schools which have NOF3 funding, are Specialist Sports Colleges, or within the PFI or Building Schools for the Future programmes. (Only 33% of school sites are currently available for community use in Rotherham).

Key Issues Addressed: G6,F2,F3,H3,H4

Strategic Planning – Recommendation 4

Promote the overall value and benefits of playing pitch provision, and its contribution to open space in the local area. Ensure that the “dual” function of playing pitches and their value as part of the borough’s stock of green space is considered through a wider Green Space Strategy for the borough as part of the Council’s response to Planning Policy Note (PPG17). An overarching Green Space Strategy is vital in assessing the role and value of all green space across the borough. In some cases assessment of informal open space may identify potential sites for formal playing pitch development.

Key Issues Addressed: G5

Strategic Planning – Recommendation 5

Consider the findings of the Area Assembly Assessment to confirm adequacy of supply at local level, where supply and demand may vary that at a borough-wide level, e.g. mini soccer may be very popular in one area of the borough but not played in another area. Proposals to improve or redesignate specific sites should take this into account.

Key Issues Addressed: G4,C1,F1,F2,H1,RL1,RU1

Strategic Planning – Recommendation 6

Undertake further investigation into under-use of specific pitches to monitor trends from season to season. If a pitch is continually underused it should be redesignated, in the first instance to another sport/category to cater for identified need. Some under-used football sites should be maintained to provide facilities to ease the ‘cross-over’ period at the end of the season and to cater for the predicted growth in Sunday football (mainly junior teams). Ultimately such sites may be considered for other open-space uses within the Green Spaces Strategy or reallocation within the Local Development Framework.

Key Issues Addressed: G1,H1

Strategic Planning – Recommendation 7

All existing cricket provision in the borough should be retained.

All existing rugby provision (both disciplines) in the borough should be retained.

All existing hockey provision in the borough should be retained.

Key Issues Addressed: G5,C1,H2,RL3,RU4

Strategic Planning – Recommendation 8

The Playing Pitch Assessment data should be updated on a regular basis and a repeat of the strategy development undertaken every 5/7 years. Updating should include repeating quality inspections to monitor changes to quality of pitches and on-going consultation with

stakeholders. Further independent assessment of pitch quality should be undertaken as part of the updating process.

Key Issues Addressed: G1,G7,C2,C3,H1

Facility Development (FD)

Facility Development – Recommendation 1

Ensure sustained access to floodlit training facilities e.g. synthetic turf pitches or grass training areas - to support the overall development of pitch sports at local level.

Key Issues Addressed: F5

Facility Development – Recommendation 2

Seek to improve the overall quality and quantity of existing pitches and ancillary accommodation where necessary to meet proposed standards and in line with the proposed hierarchy of provision.

Key Issues Addressed: G3,C3,F4,F6,F7,F8,F9,H5,RL1,RU1

Facility Development – Recommendation 3

Ensure that where provided, informal grass kick about areas (5-a-side pitches) are maintained and adequately provide for informal play – this is to ensure that informal use of formal pitches is kept to a minimum in order to sustain quality.

Key Issues Addressed: G2,F7

Facility Development – Recommendation 4

Regular maintenance programmes should be implemented at STPs and provision made for investment in/replacement of such facilities.

Key Issues Addressed: F5,H2,H4,H5

Facility Development – Recommendation 5

Manage access and overuse of public provision with preventative maintenance programmes. Ensure appropriate measures are in place to control nuisance behaviour e.g. dog fouling, motor cycling, etc.

Key Issues Addressed: G2

Facility Development – Recommendation 6

Ensure playing pitch and public access requirements are addressed at the initial stages of any future residential and educational developments in line with proposed quantitative and qualitative standards and hierarchy priorities.

Key Issues Addressed: G2,G6,C1,F2,F3,H3,RL1,RU1

Facility Development – Recommendation 7

Develop a prioritised strategy for re-designating adult football pitches as junior and mini pitches, against the identified priorities from the proposed Local Area Assessment.

Key Issues Addressed: F1,F2

Land Use Planning and Policy (LP)

Land Use Planning and Policy – Recommendation 1

Current policy principles contained in the UDP need to be carried forward into the revised planning policy framework (Local Development Framework) in that there should be protection of playing pitches and associated facilities at levels recommended by this Strategy. Any loss of such facilities/pitches should be addressed through the provision of appropriate replacement provision

Key Issues Addressed: G5

Land Use Planning and Policy – Recommendation 2

Ensure appropriate planning policies are developed to support facility development and investment for future provision in line with the identified priorities in this strategy. These should incorporate the individual standards recommended for each type of pitch, (qualitative and quantitative). They should also seek to protect green spaces that have potential to support future demand for additional pitches.

Key Issues Addressed: G3,G5,C1,C3,F2,F4,F7,F8,F9,H2

Land Use Planning and Policy – Recommendation 3

Where there is potential for rationalisation of under-utilised sites, it is recommended that the Planning Service consider such opportunities through the development plan process. Where sites with development potential are disposed of, priority applications should be made for funding qualitative improvements to other outdoor sports facilities through direct funding or via Section106 Agreements.

Key Issues Addressed: G4

Land Use Planning and Policy – Recommendation 4

There are a number of particular sites where there is intensive usage (overuse), examples include Herringthorpe Playing Fields, Bill Hawes Recreation Ground and Barkers Park. Opportunities to utilise the planning system, including use of S106 agreements, to improve these facilities should be followed.

Key Issues Addressed: G3,C3,F4,F6,F7,F8,F9,F10,H5,RL1,RU1

Sports Development (SD)

Sports Development – Recommendation 1

It may be necessary to carry out more detailed assessment of future demand arising from growth of girl's and women's cricket in order to determine future pitch facility requirements using Team Generation Rates as a benchmark.

Key Issues Addressed: C3,F4

Sports Development – Recommendation 2

Consideration should be given to prioritising support particularly to mini pitch sports and creating opportunities for girls to participate. In comparing trends for girls' participation in all pitch sports in Rotherham, there is an identified need for promoting and actively creating more sustainable opportunities for girls and women to take part. In the case of football this has already been catered for by the appointment of the football development officer.

Key Issues Addressed: C3,RL2

Sports Development – Recommendation 3

Consideration should be given to allocating specific sports development support to key education establishments e.g. NOF schools, Specialist Sports Colleges, PFI and BSF in developing community access to outdoor sports facilities and in developing formal community use agreements.

Key Issues Addressed: G6,F3,H3

Sports Development – Recommendation 4

Where appropriate, initiate and encourage the development of 'community clubs' which reflect local priorities for sports development across pitch sports and provide for mini, junior and senior teams, training and competitive play and girls teams. Community clubs will require use of good quality pitches, with training and changing facilities on site.

Key Issues Addressed: C3,F2,H5,RL2

Part 6 Draft Action Plan

A Rotherham Playing Pitch Action Plan (working document) is detailed below.

Ref.	PROPOSED ACTION	RECOMMENDATION REFERENCE	LEAD	PARTNER AGENCIES	RESOURCES	TIMESCALE
A1	Continue to provide playing pitches within Parks to enable teams to play in their own community, where there is known demand. This is particularly important where there is high deprivation and low car ownership and is in line with the recommendations of “ <i>The Playing Pitch Strategy</i> ” (Sport England).	SP1, SP4, SP6, SD4, FD3, FD6, LP2	RMBC	Local Clubs/Community	RMBC	Ongoing
A2	Develop an ongoing programme of consultation and involvement with local stakeholders and key user groups. Focus should be on agreeing, developing and delivering planned improvements	SP8,	RMBC	Local Clubs/local residents/cultural associations	RMBC	Short-Medium
A3	Set minimum quality standards for pitch sites in order to establish consistency in approach to pitch provision, facility development and strategic planning.	SP2,LP2	RMBC	Local Clubs/user groups	RMBC	Short-Medium
A4	Develop a hierarchy of pitch sites including strategically placed key sites that can offer higher level provision, and taking into consideration local variations in supply and demand as shown in Area Assembly assessments.	SP1,SP5	RMBC	Local Clubs/user groups	RMBC	Short-Medium
A5	Improve the quality of provision where necessary to meet agreed minimum quality standards by: a. Developing a prioritised and costed programme of site improvements for submission to Rotherham MBC’s Capital Programme, external funding organisations, etc b. Identifying potential to create new pitches on informal open spaces within the Green Space Strategy as a way to address under-supply of junior and mini football pitches c. Establishing local partnerships to optimise the use of available resources to improve provision e.g. Section 106 agreements, NOF, schools, clubs. d. Co-operation with neighbouring authorities where facilities serve catchments that straddle the boundary	SP1,SP3, SP4, FD2, FD4,LP2,LP3,LP4	RMBC	Local Clubs/user groups/community/schools Neighbour Authorities	RMBC	Short-Medium

Ref.	PROPOSED ACTION	RECOMMENDATION REFERENCE	LEAD	PARTNER AGENCIES	RESOURCES	TIMESCALE
A6	Undertake further research to discover why some sites are identified as having low use (e.g. one team playing at site with multiple pitches) and others are over used (e.g. six teams playing at one site)	SP6	RMBC	Local Clubs/Local Leagues	RMBC	Short – Medium
A7	Agree surplus sites based on current and potential usage levels, so that where appropriate: a. adult pitches can be redesignated as junior or mini pitches b. pitches can be designated to be used to ‘rest’ pitches and address issues of wear and tear. c. alternative uses may be considered within the Green Space Strategy	SP6, FD7, LP3	RMBC	Local Clubs/Local Leagues	RMBC	Short – Medium
A8	Develop partnerships with Schools/Colleges (where there is an identified deficiency in provision which is not alleviated by provision elsewhere locally) in order to establish agreements for community use of pitches	SP3,FD6, SD3	RMBC	Sports Colleges/ Schools	None	Ongoing
A9	Establish closer strategic working between leisure and planning services to develop policies within the Local Development Framework to:- a. protect pitches at levels indicated by this strategy b. support facility development and investment to recommended standards (including the use of Section 106 Agreements) c. protect other green spaces that have potential to support future demand for additional pitches	SP7,FD6, LP1, LP2,LP3,LP4	RMBC	None	None	Ongoing
A10	Undertake further assessment of demand for training facilities (e.g. floodlit sites and STP) to allow adequacy of existing supply to be established and requirement for additional provision to be identified and pursued	FD1	RMBC	Local Clubs & Leagues/ Sport England	RMBC	Short and on-going

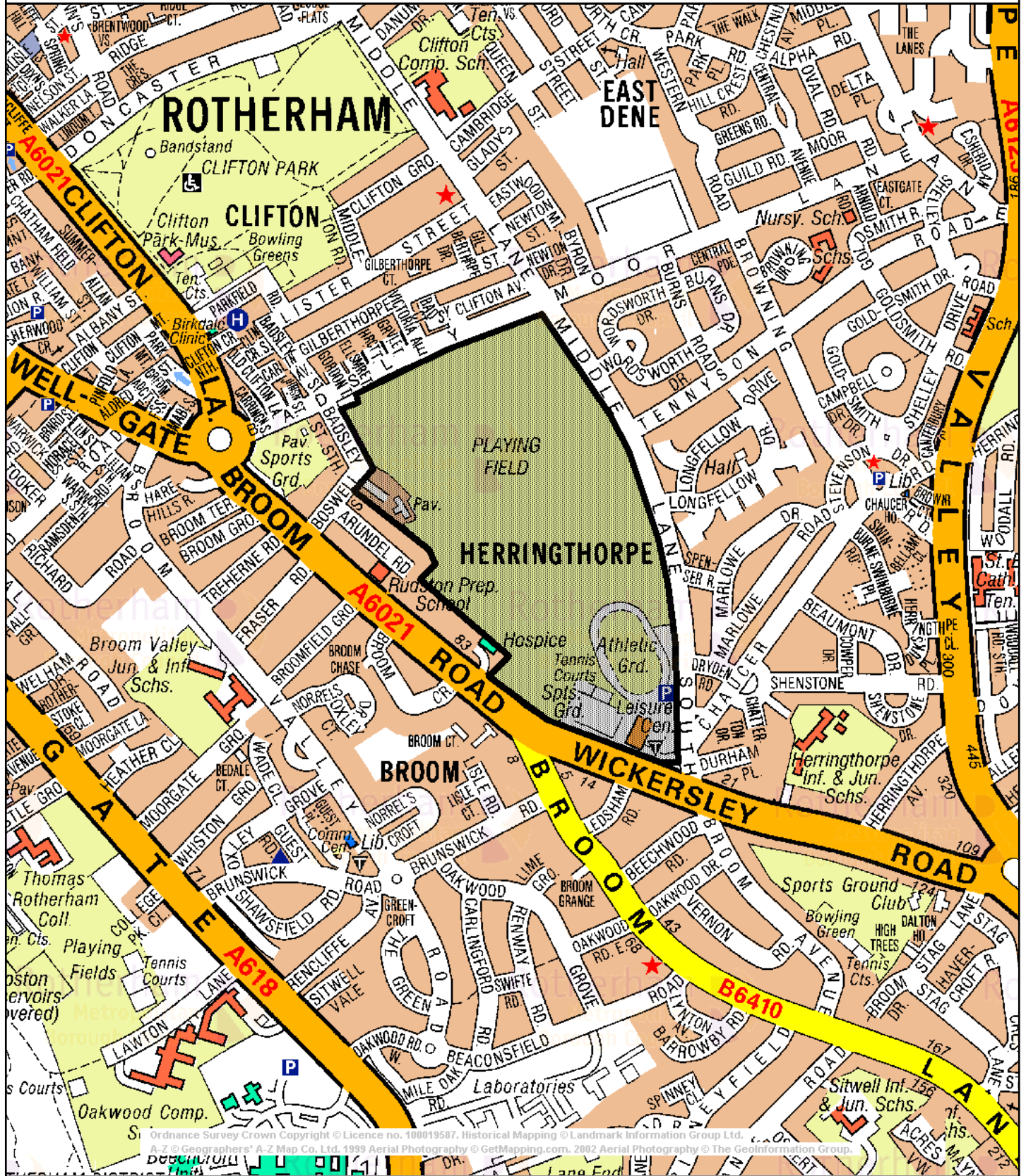
Ref.	PROPOSED ACTION	RECOMMENDATION REFERENCE	LEAD	PARTNER AGENCIES	RESOURCES	TIMESCALE
A11	Develop and pursue costed proposals for improved preventative maintenance and site protection measures to reduce dog fouling, litter, motor cycles, nuisance behaviour, etc	FD5	RMBC	Local Clubs/local residents	RMBC/ External Funding	Short and on-going
A12	Establish process and time table for on-going reviews of playing pitch supply and demand in Rotherham, including further independent assessment of pitch quality, in order to record site developments and to allow for changes in demand to be identified and responded to	SP6,SP8	RMBC	Sport England/ Local Clubs/other providers	RMBC/Sport England	Long
A13	Develop a costed methodology and seek resources for:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • annual data review • complete refresh of the Strategy in 2011 • detailed assessment of demand for training facilities • detailed assessment of growth in girls/women's sports • Independent assessment of pitch quality on sites where such information does not exist 	SP6,SP8,SD1, SD2, FD1	RMBC	Sport England/ Local Clubs/Local Leagues/ other pitch providers	RMBC/ External Funding	Short-Medium
A14	Ensure that the needs of outdoor sports participants are considered in planned indoor developments and the programming of indoor facilities.	SP2,SP5	RMBC	Local Clubs	RMBC	Ongoing
A15	Give favourable consideration to applications from the private sector to provide new playing fields or qualitative improvements to other facilities in the vicinity where a need is identified (including through Section 106 agreements).	FD2,FD6, LP4, LP5	RMBC	Private Sector Clubs	To be determined	Ongoing
A16	Integrate Sports Development issues into RMBC Sports Development plans <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Use of team generation rates to support prioritisation of sports development plans b. Developing, promoting and sustaining, junior and women/girls participation c. Sports development support for education sites d. Support development of 'community clubs' 	SD1, SD2, SD3, SD4	RMBC	Local Clubs/Local Leagues/ Sports Colleges/ Schools	RMBC Local Clubs	Ongoing

Key Strategic Documents

Appendix A

Rotherham Corporate Plan
Rotherham MBC Best Value Performance Plan
Local Agenda 21 Strategy
Sport and Active Recreation Plan 2002 – 2007
Green Spaces Best Value Review
Rotherham Draft Community Strategy 2202 – 2007
Cultural Strategy for Rotherham
South Yorkshire Health Action Zone
PPG 1 General Policies and Principles
PPG 3 Housing
PPG 12 Development Plans
PPG 13 Transport
PPG 17 Planning for Open Space Sport and Recreation
RPG12 Regional Planning Guidance for Yorkshire and the Humber
Rotherham Unitary Development Plan
UDP Review Issues Paper
Local Transport Plan
<i>'A Sporting Future for All'</i> – The Government's Plan for Sport
General Household Survey Participation in Sport – Past trends and future prospect (2001 publication)
<i>'Realising for Potential of Cultural Services: The Case for Sport'</i>
Football – FA National Facilities Plan
Cricket – ECB National Facilities Strategy
Yorkshire Cricket Board Development Plan 2001 - 2005
Rugby Union The National Facilities for Rugby Union in England
Hockey – People and Places: A National Facilities Strategy for Hockey 1999 – 2004
Yorkshire Region Hockey Facilities Strategy 2000 – 2005

Herringthorpe Playing Fields, S65 2ED



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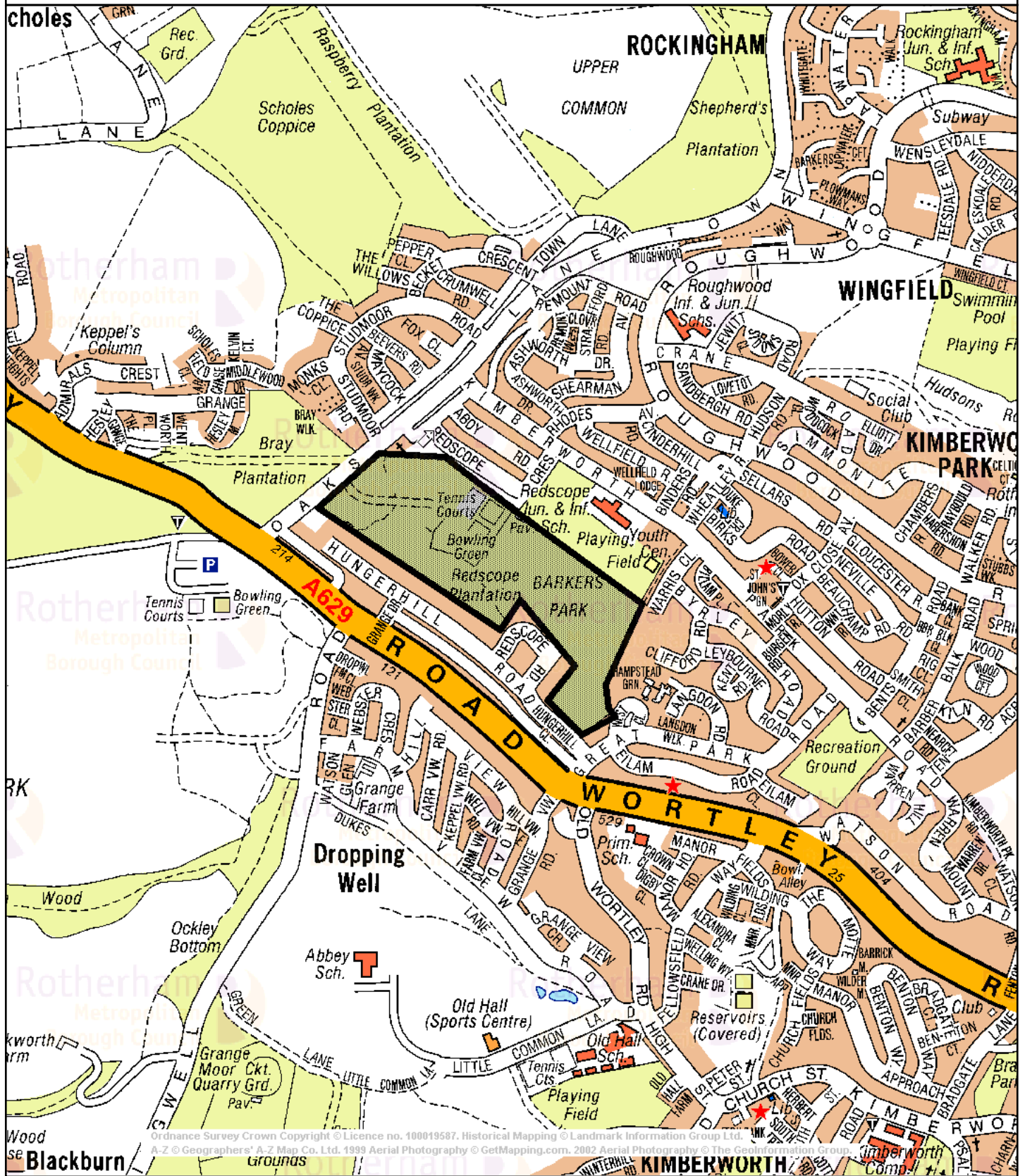


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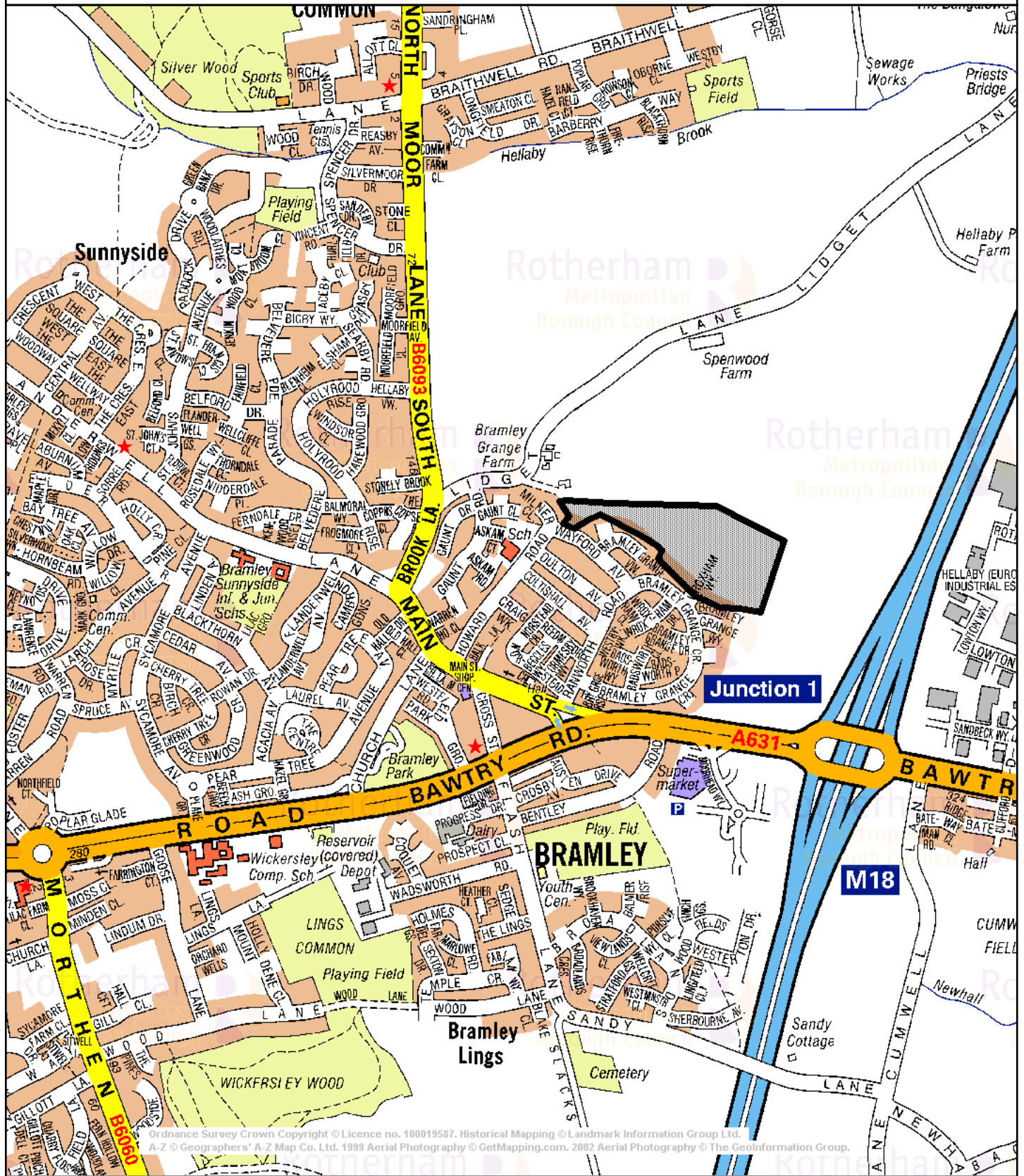


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Bill Hawes Recreation Ground, S66 2UY



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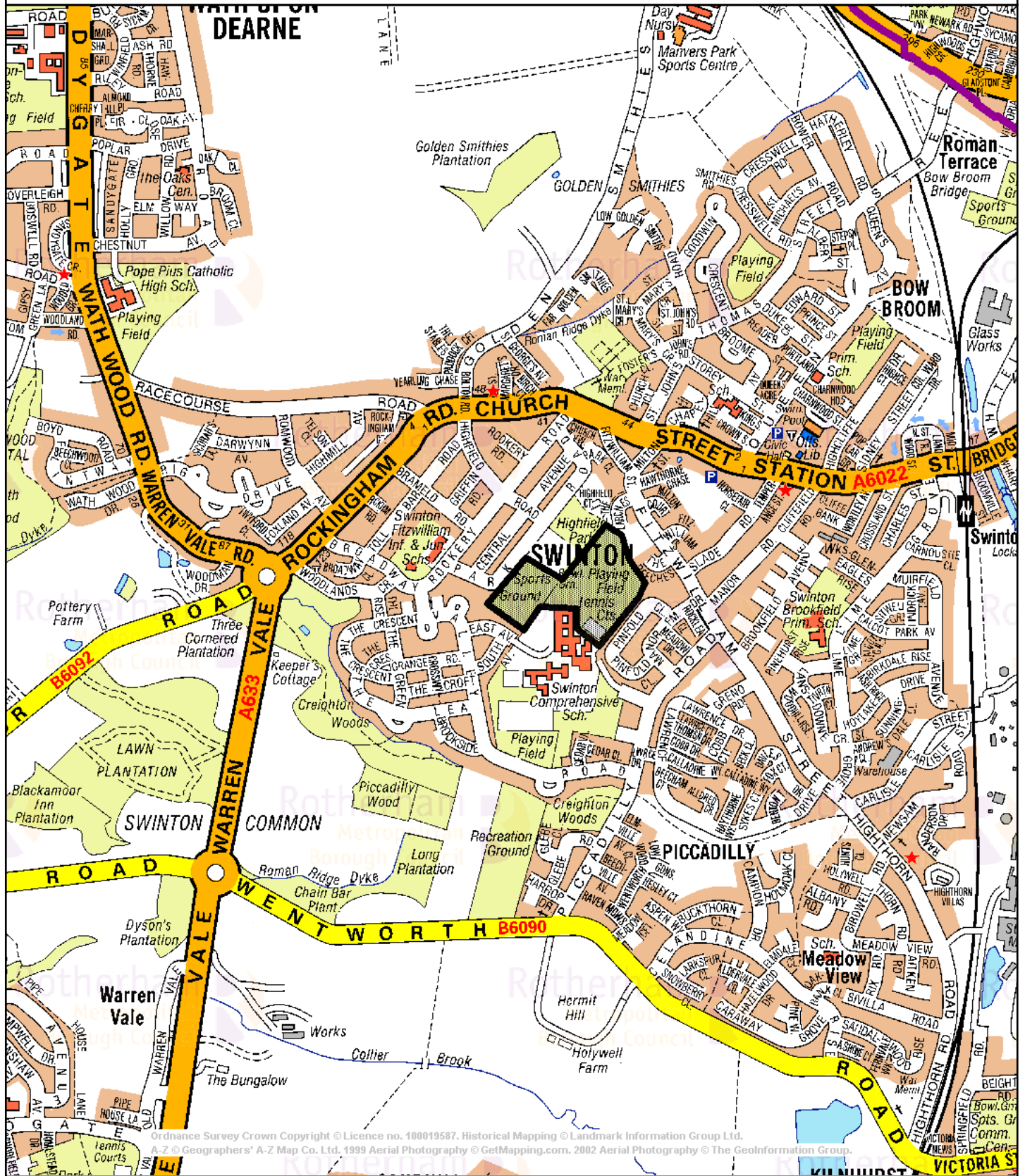


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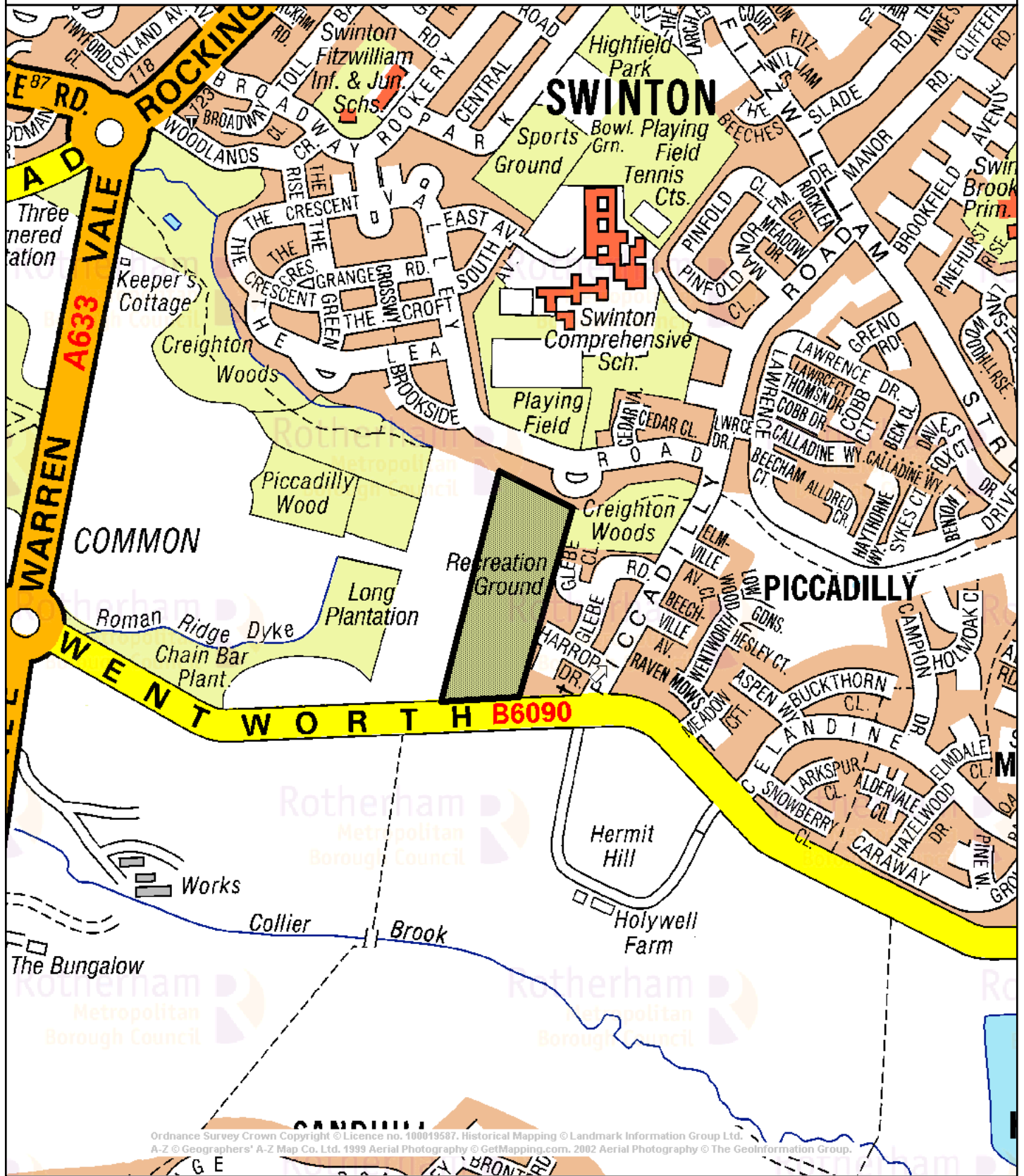


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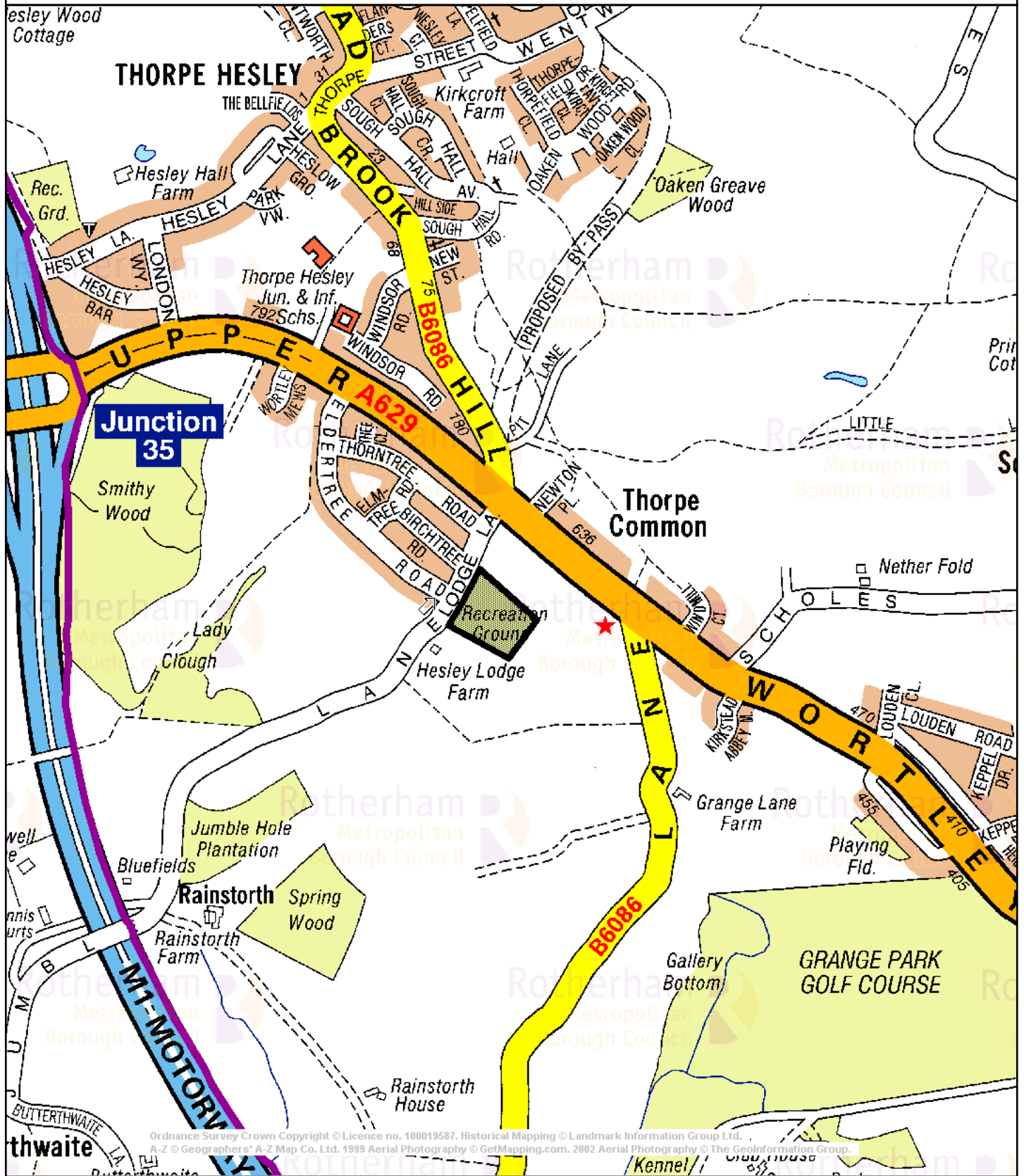


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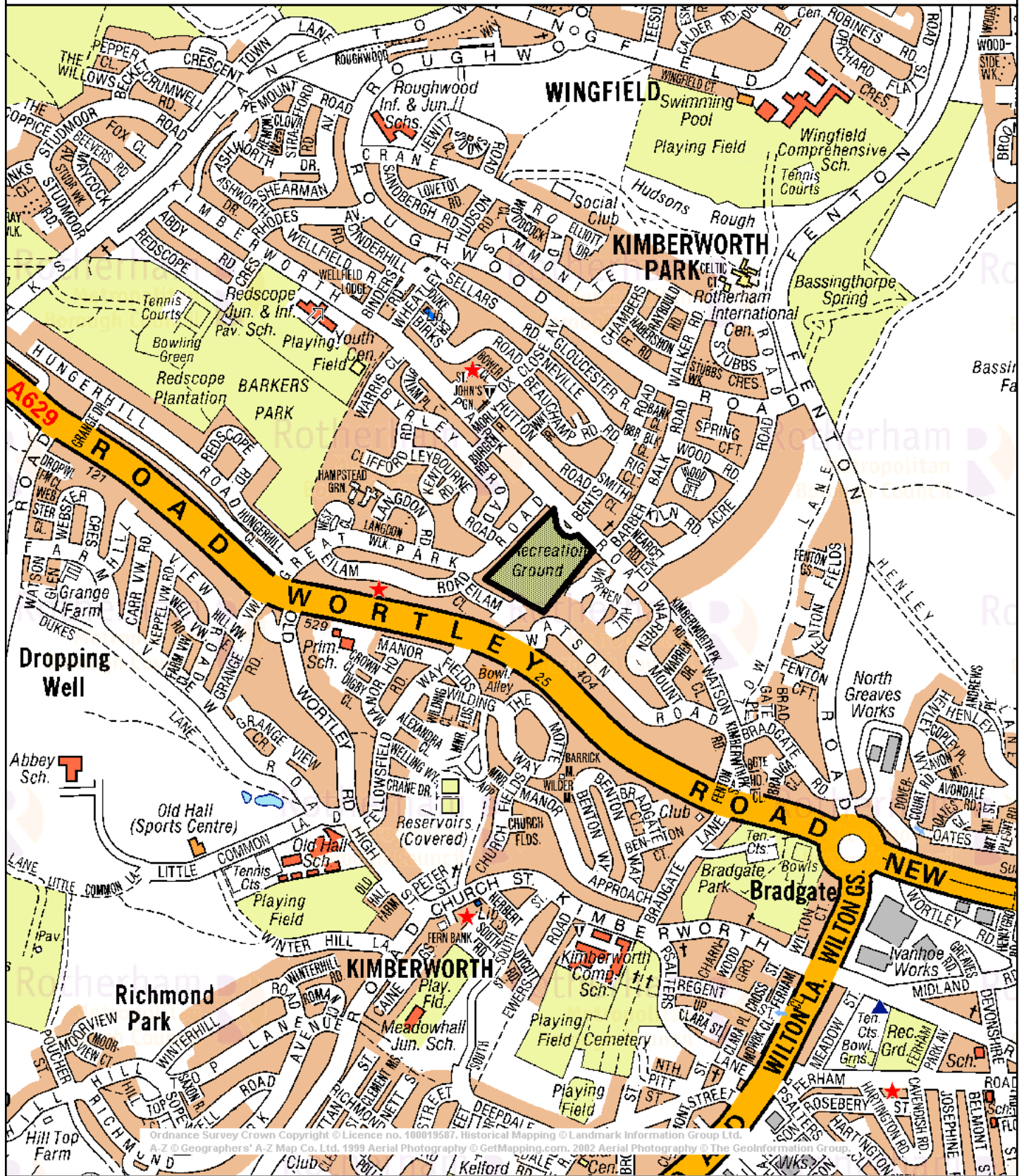
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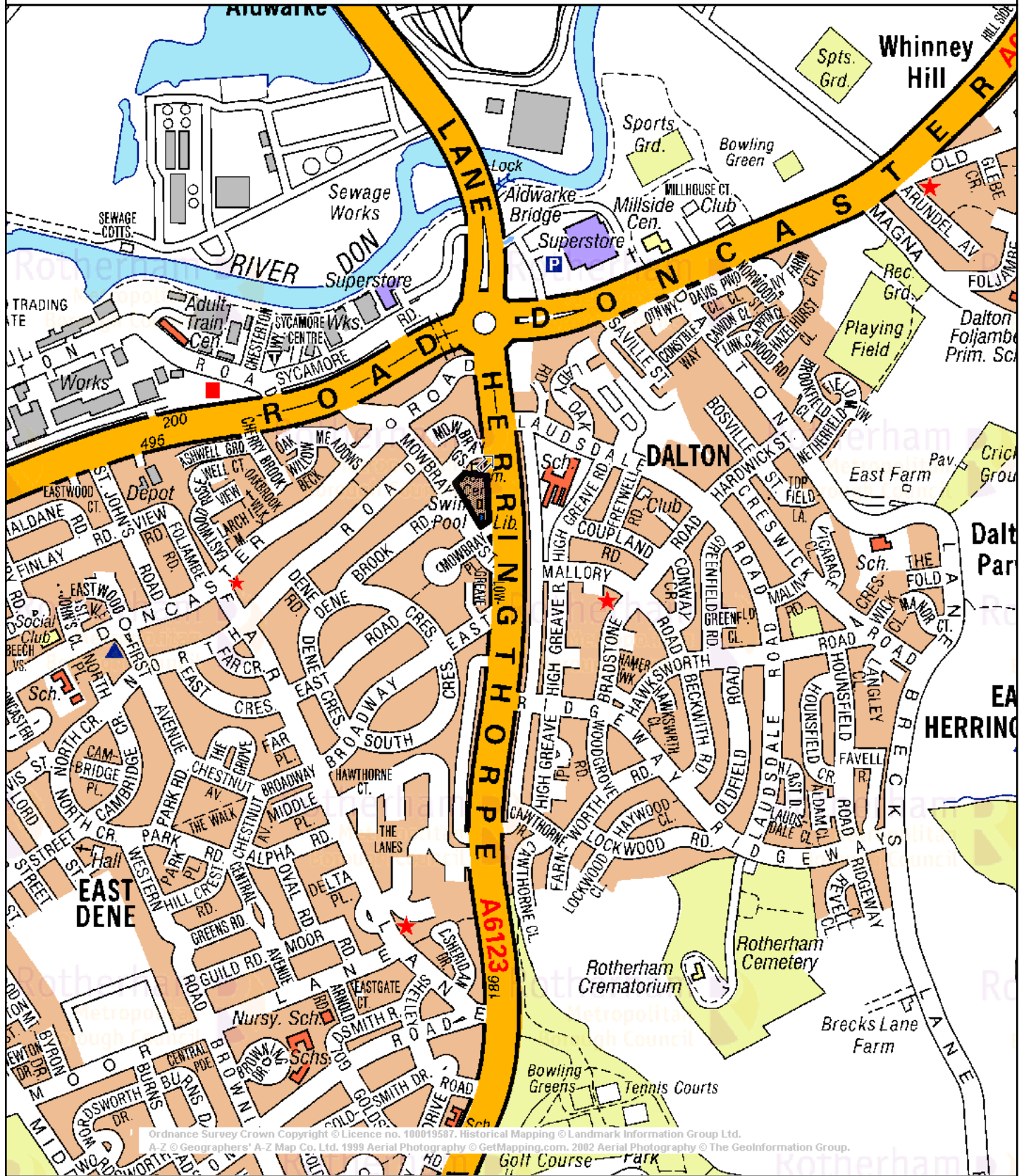


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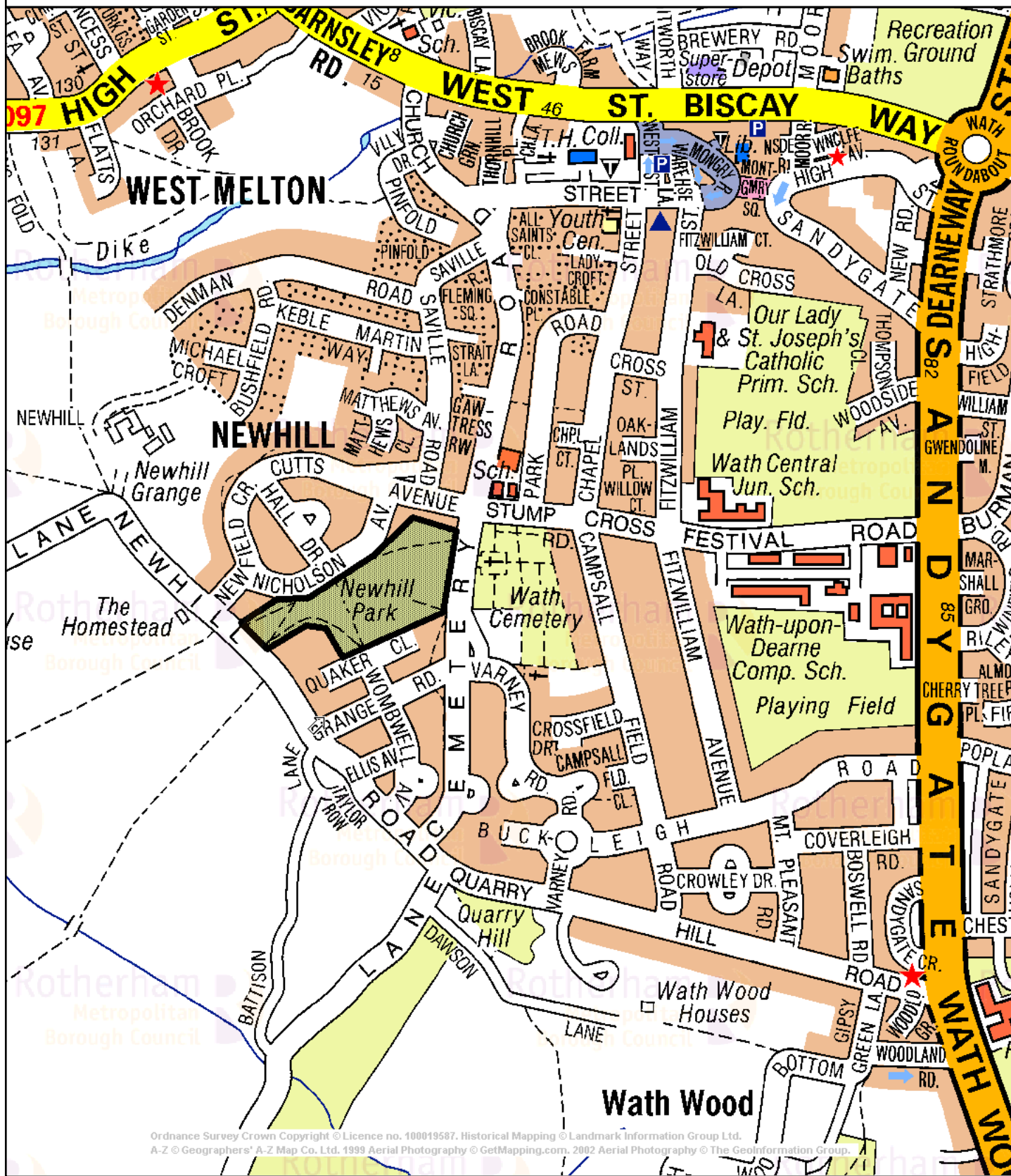


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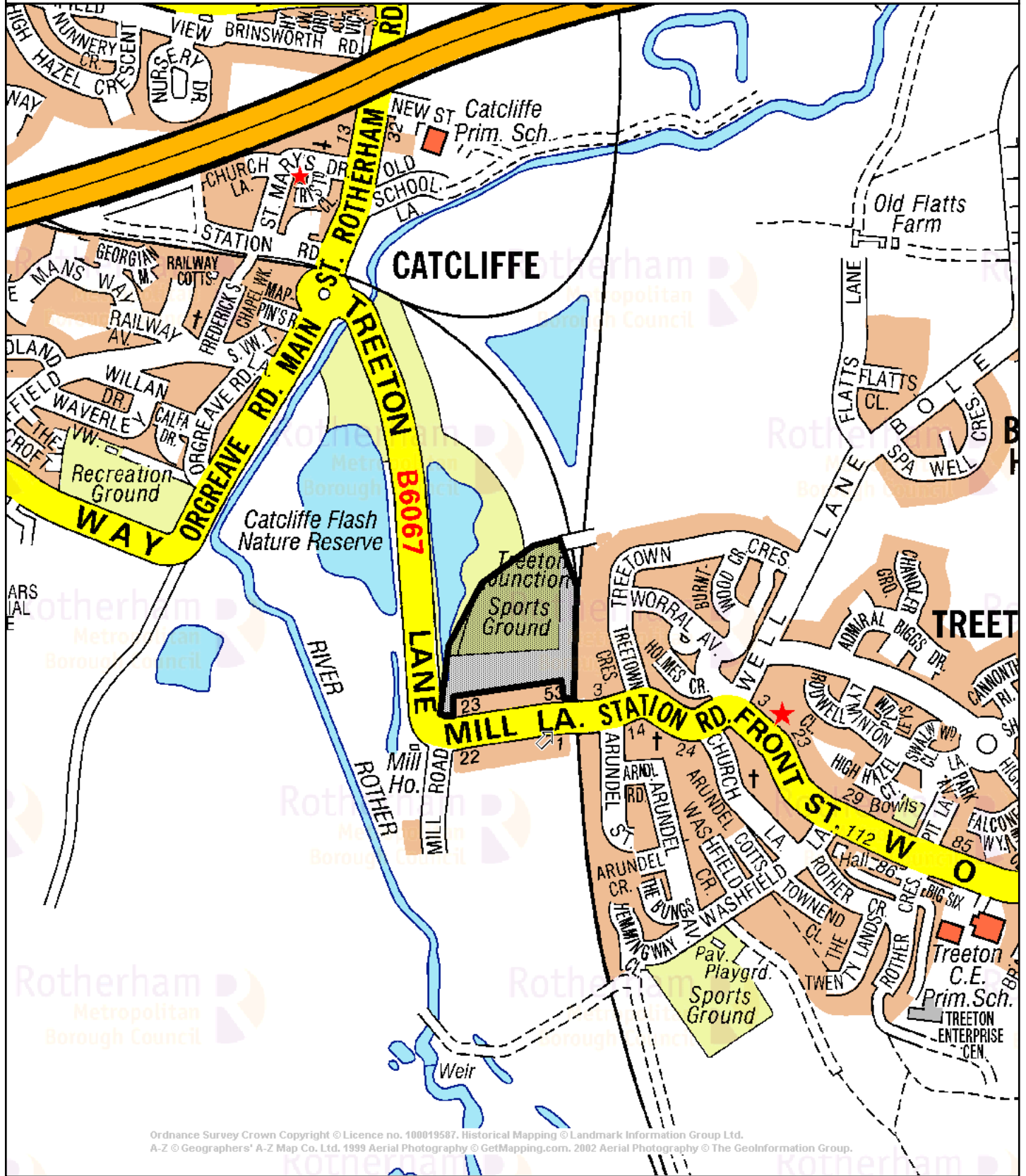


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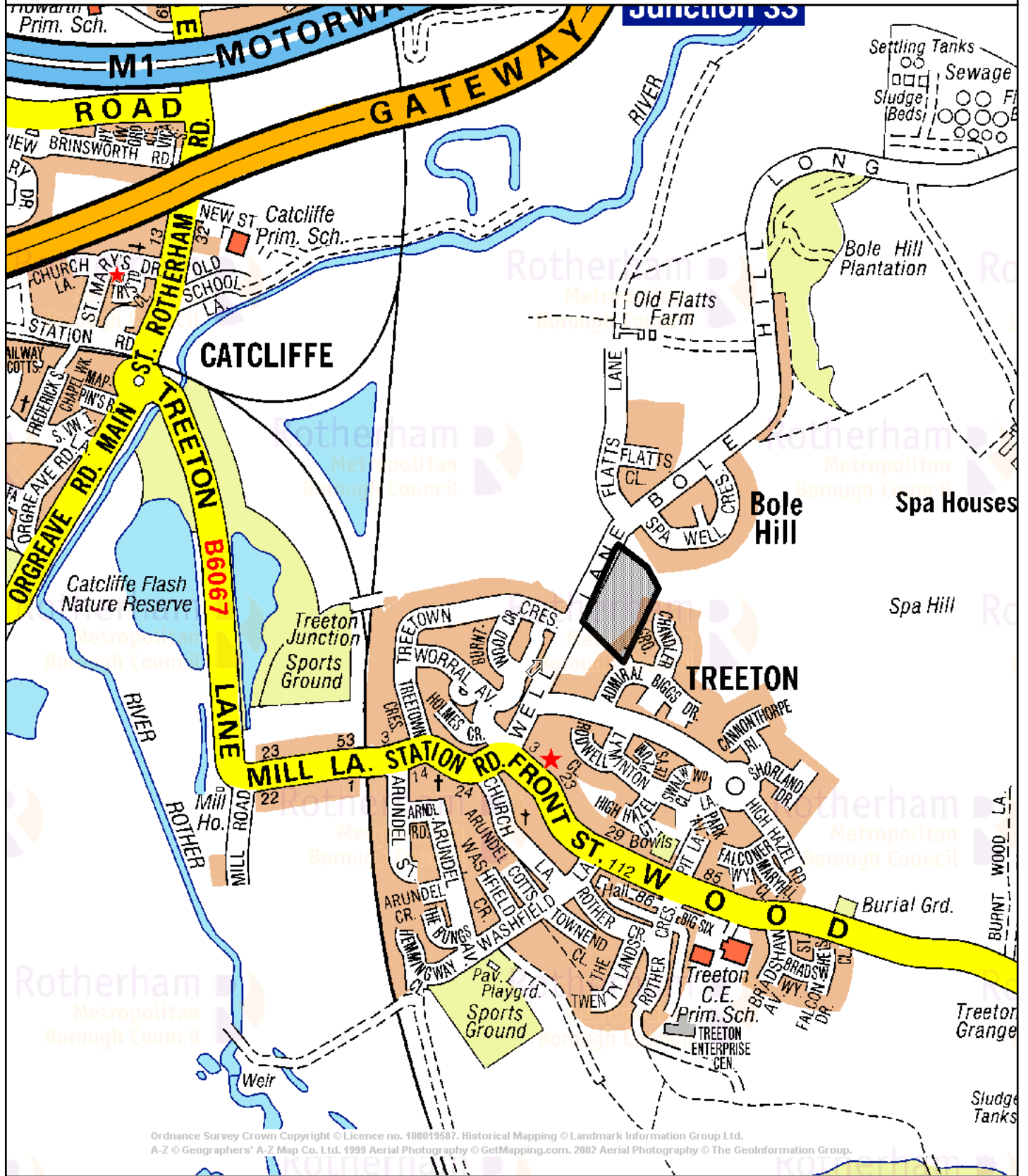


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ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development Services
2.	Date:	28th July 2008
3.	Title:	Modelling of Rotherham Central area
4.	Programme Area:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek the Cabinet Member's approval to invoke Standing Order 38, which permits exemption from normal contract standing orders. This is to allow LETS/DKE to be commissioned to produce a digital 3D model of the Rotherham town centre area.

6. Recommendations

The Cabinet Member is requested –

- 6.1 To receive the report.**
- 6.2 To exempt the contract for the procurement of a digital 3D model of the Rotherham town centre area from the requirements of standing order 47.6.3 (requirement to invite at least three written quotations for contracts with an estimated value of £20,000 but less than £50,000) and to award the contract to LETS/DKE.**

7. Proposals and Details

LETS/DKE has a unique offer. It currently operates the only operational Touchlight facility in Europe. Touchlight is a new computer interface that operates by a wave of the hand rather than via a keyboard or mouse and this coupled with 3D digital modeling software from California based Eon Reality, a global leader in interactive 3D visualisation means that LETS / DKE has a unique capability to model and present large geographic areas.

This capability enables LETS /DKE to create a grey scale range of buildings for the town centre area on a textured 3D map.

Individual buildings can then be digitally rendered to show how a proposed development will interact with the surrounding buildings and neighbourhood. In particular it will allow visualization of the macro impacts of the development from different viewpoints.

8. Finance

The full cost of the work being undertaken by the company will be £40,000 plus VAT. A grant of £20,000 is available through the LETS programme reducing the final cost to RMBC to £20,000 + VAT.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The availability of this model of the town centre should improve the Council's ability to communicate the Rotherham Renaissance Vision to the general public and should be an important tool to facilitate discussions with suppliers.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The model will help the council to convey to the general public the extent and nature of the new developments within the Rotherham Renaissance programme. It will also facilitate discussions with developers to ensure that high quality buildings consistent with the scale of Rotherham are brought forward to the planning stage

11. Background Papers and Consultation

The Strategic Director of Environmental and Development Services considers that awarding the contract to LETS /DKE would accord with the Council's duty to act in the best interests of council taxpayers and the community for the reasons outlined in the report.

Contact Name :

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Achieving Board Manager

Tel: 01709 822870

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ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development Services Meeting
2.	Date:	28 July 2008
3.	Title:	Maintenance of Balancing Pond at Woodlathes Village. Wards affected: Silverwood (Ward 14).
4.	Directorate:	Environment and Development Service

5. Summary

Negotiations have taken place over the ownership and future management and maintenance of the balancing pond and its immediate surroundings on the Woodlathes residential development site. A solution is sought in order that Yorkshire Water will adopt the drainage on site (including highway drainage) that discharges into the balancing pond.

6. Recommendations

- That the Council takes over the ownership of the site (as identified on the plan attached at Appendix 1) but that it be managed and maintained by the Green Belt Company,
- That Persimmon Homes will provide the Green Belt Company with a commuted sum of £140,000 to use as capital towards the management and maintenance of the site.
- That Persimmon Homes provide a Guarantee for a period of 21 years should the Green Belt Company go into liquidation during this period and not be able to fulfil their management/maintenance functions. (The Guarantee would require Persimmon Homes to pay the Council £140,000 (index linked) which it in turn would use to manage and maintain the pond).

7. Proposals and Details

Background:

Outline planning permission for residential development with associated community facilities and lake for surface water retention (balancing pond) at the site was granted on 25 May 1999, reference R97/1523P.

The outline permission was subject to a legal agreement under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 which identified areas on site that are to be reserved for the provision of public open space (the 'Green Land') and which are to be adopted by the Council.

The original applicants, Beazer Homes, were subsequently taken over by Persimmon Homes and it became clear that they were under the impression that the Council was also to adopt and take on responsibility for the management and maintenance of the balancing pond itself, though this was disputed by the Council. Due to the dispute between the two parties the matter was eventually referred to the Arbitrator (under the requirements of the original S106 Agreement).

Prior to the matter being formally considered by the arbitrator Persimmon Homes withdrew their case, accepting that the original S106 Agreement did not require the Council to adopt the balancing pond. Persimmons noted that Yorkshire Water would not adopt the surface water sewers on the Woodlathes Village residential site (which discharges into the pond) unless the Council owned the pond. Yorkshire Water are concerned that if a private company owns the pond, such a company could at some time in the future go out of business, leaving Yorkshire Water surface water sewers discharging into a balancing pond that would not be managed or maintained by anyone.

The purpose of this report is to consider the options available, including those where the Council takes on the ownership of the balancing pond, along with its management and maintenance and any public liability.

Options Available:

OPTION 1

The Council does not take on ownership of the pond:

Clearly this would be the simplest solution though would mean that Yorkshire Water would not adopt the surface water sewers on the overall site. Persimmons have indicated that should no solution to the matter be forthcoming they would look to fill in the pond and contain surface water on site by way of underground storage pipes. Any such works would be subject to planning permission though would no doubt be controversial and probably opposed by local residents. . Whilst the primary function of the balancing pond is to control the discharge of storm water from the site into the nearby Dalton Brook, it also indirectly provides a visually pleasing feature within the landscape. The loss of this feature is not considered appropriate. Refusal of any subsequent planning application would still leave the situation that Yorkshire Water will not adopt the sewers on the overall site

OPTION 2

The Council pursue the possibility of Yorkshire Water taking on ownership of the pond:

Yorkshire Water clearly has experience of managing bodies of water such as this though have indicated that they do not wish to take it on. The scenario set out in Option 1 of Persimmons looking to fill in the pond would once again apply.

OPTION 3

The Council takes on ownership of the pond and accepts a commuted sum from Persimmon Homes (£140,000) to manage and maintain it. The Council could then use the monies directly or pay an external body to manage and maintain the pond. The Council has no expertise 'in house' to carry out such works, particularly the de-silting works that are required to take place approximately every 10 years and so it is likely that it would have to look to an external body (such as the Green Belt Company) to carry out the function on its behalf.

OPTION 4

The Council takes on ownership of the pond, but that it be managed and maintained by a private company that Persimmons have used at other sites (the Green Belt Company). The Green Belt Company has indicated that the £140,000 would be sufficient funding to manage and maintain the pond in perpetuity. Yorkshire Water has indicated that it would be happy with such an option as the Council would ultimately be responsible for the pond should the Green Belt Company go into liquidation. Persimmon Homes would provide a commuted sum of £140,000 to the Green Belt Company who would invest the monies and use it to pay for the management and maintenance of the pond in perpetuity. The Council would need to ensure that Green Belt Company carries out the management and maintenance of the pond in accordance with the approved scheme, and the Environment and Development Service would be the responsible Directorate for carrying this out. The roles and responsibilities will be split across Service Areas within EDS as follows:-

- Culture and Leisure Service - 'Watching Brief'
- Streetpride - Delivery of works (if required)

Should the Green Belt Company go into liquidation then Persimmon Homes would offer a Persimmon Homes Guarantee for a period of 21 years in accordance with the Perpetuity Period Act. Under such circumstances, Persimmon Homes would pay the £140,000 (index linked) direct to the Council. Persimmon Homes have indicated that they cannot provide a guarantee after a 21 year period. After the 21 year period the Green Belt Company would continue to manage and maintain the site.

Option 4 is the preferred Option as any direct management capacity of the Council would only occur if the Green Belt Company goes into liquidation, and at that stage the Council would be provided the funds from Persimmon Homes as appropriate. The risk is that, should the Green Belt Company go into liquidation after the 21 year period, there would be no financial contribution to the Council.

Comments from other Service Areas:

Streetpride Service (Main Drainage) has been asked to look at what works should be carried out to the pond and its immediate surroundings before the Council would consider taking on its ownership (via the Green Belt Company). These details are set out at Appendix 2.

In addition, the Culture and Leisure Services has carried out an Assessment of Risk and Management Liability (Appendix 3). This concludes that whilst the visual amenity of the lake to the local community is undeniably great, the risks, commitments and liabilities associated with adoption of the site as a green space are also significant. At present there are low to medium safety risks associated with the lake and its environs. In addition, there are long-term time, staffing and financial commitments inherent in the ongoing maintenance of the site, through day to day management of the landscaped environment, general 'wear and tear' and the inevitable vandalism that such sites attract. These would be carried out by the Green Belt Company (in accordance with the approved scheme) and overseen by Streetpride Service and the Culture and Leisure Service where the need arises, in accordance with the roles and responsibilities as set out above (such as where complaints are received from local residents about the condition of land).

8. Finance

The costs of managing and maintaining the balancing pond would not be the responsibility of the Council unless the Green Belt Company goes into liquidation. Should this occur within 21 years an index linked commuted sum would be paid to the Council. After this 21 year period, should the Green Belt Company subsequently go into liquidation, the Council would be liable for the management and maintenance of the balancing pond with no commuted sum. Clearly this will have a financial implication, as well as a liability, though it is considered that the visual 'costs' of losing the balancing pond as an amenity feature would outweigh these financial costs.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

There is a risk that if the Council does not take on the ownership of the pond, either directly or via the Green Belt Company, there will be pressure from Persimmon Homes to fill in the pond and utilise underground storage pipes. It is considered that this would be inappropriate as whilst the primary function of the pond is to act as a balancing feature, controlling discharge of water from the overall site, it also indirectly acts as a valuable visual amenity feature in the landscape.

Should the Council take on the ownership of the pond, it will ultimately be responsible for its management and maintenance, with the related financial implications as set out above. This would include intermittent de-silting of the balancing pond (approximately every 10 years) and the Council has no expertise 'in house' to carry out such works and so it is likely that it would have to look to an external body to carry out the function on its behalf. The guarantee figure of £140,000 (index linked) has been calculated by the Green Belt Company for

Persimmon Homes. Rotherham MBC does not have experience of costs associated with maintaining such features, and cannot therefore be certain that this figure is sufficient to look after the pond in perpetuity, should the Green Belt Company go into liquidation and the management and maintenance functions be transferred to the Council.

Finally, the Council, as owner of the pond, would be liable for any flood or other damage arising from it though if caused by the negligence of the Green Belt Company not carrying out functions in accordance with approved management scheme then liability could be passed to them.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

In terms of the alignment/contribution of the proposal to the Council's cross cutting issues of sustainable development, equalities and diversity, regeneration, and health, it is considered that only sustainable development is applicable in this instance. The retention of the balancing pond provides a sustainable solution to the disposal of surface water from the Woodlathes residential development and ensures a better quality of life for local people.

There are no Crime and Disorder or Human Rights issues in this instance.

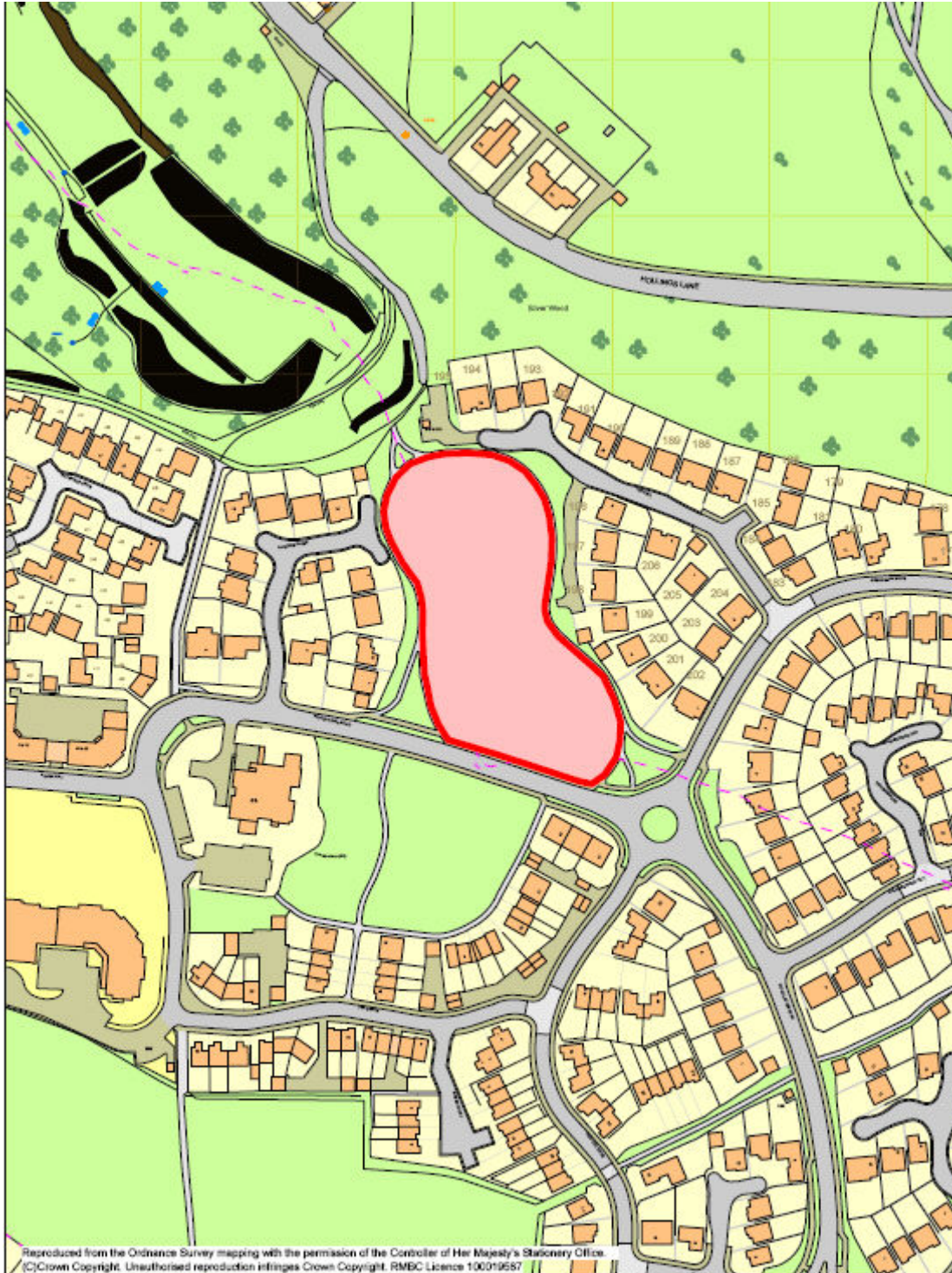
11. Background Papers and Consultation

Appendix 2 and 3 set out comments from other Service Areas.

Contact Name : Chris Wilkins x3832. chris.wilkins@rotherham.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1

Plan identifying site.



APPENDIX 2

Works identified by Streetpride Service (Main Drainage) to be carried out prior to any transfer of ownership to the Council.

- The works as set out in the original 'snagging list' prepared by the Green Belt Company.
- Provision of an emergency purpose built spillway or overflow to protect the surrounding area should the regulating control apparatus become blocked. The spillway would divert the flows and discharge into the existing watercourse downstream.
- The inlet to the flow control manhole chamber requires debris and vegetation removing to allow the water to discharge freely and unrestricted.
- The outflow control chamber is unsightly and requires filling around the concrete chamber and up to the cover level to be in keeping with the area.
- As built details of the outflow chamber and its connection onto the existing watercourse is required.
- The existing outfall where it outfalls into the existing open watercourse (i.e. downstream of the flow control chamber) requires cleaning out.
- Some of the inlet structures have bricks missing in places which need replacing.
- Some of the earth channel and embankment immediately downstream of inlet structures are showing signs of erosion. Both the channel and embankments need to be stabilised.
- The inverts of the inlet structures appear to be set quite low (i.e. just above normal water level). Should the lake start to fill with water then the inlet pipes may not have free discharge into the pond and the water from the lake may well back-up the incoming pipes. Flap valves should be installed to address this issue.
- It is important to note that the existing sub station may well be affected should the lake be breached. Details of appropriate flood defence measures should be submitted to address this issue.
- Signs to be erected around the lake warning of the dangers of swimming in the lake etc.
- Submit details to demonstrate how pollution incidents and siltation of the balancing pond will be minimised (such as separate petrol interceptor pond). Details of the structural stability and capacity of the pond need to be submitted for checking.
- Construction details of the pond are required for checking.
- De-silting of lake to take place, in accordance with approved scheme.

APPENDIX 3

Environment and Development Services Culture and Leisure –Green Spaces Unit

Woodlathes balancing lake Assessment of Risk and Management Liability

January 2007

1 Site description

Woodlathes Lake is situated within a recently developed part of Woodlathes Village, an extensive build of residential properties on the site of the former Silverwood pit site. The lake covers an area of approximately 4000 square metres and acts as a sump for the collection and management of surface water from the estate. The lake and an associated area of amenity grassland and plantings are fenced off from adjacent housing, though there is pedestrian access via a gate in the fence to the south east of the lake. To the north, the estate is bounded by Silver Wood.

2 Water safety

A site visit and inland water site risk assessment established the risk rating as being between Band 1 (Low) and Band 2 (Medium). However, the visitor figures used in the calculation erred on the conservative and factors such as water depth were unknown at the time of the assessment. The visit was made after a period of prolonged heavy rain when the lake was very turbid making an assessment of its depth and presence of submerged hazards impossible.

The lake has a population of feral wildfowl which will provide an added attraction to children.

Experience has shown that, even at small, relatively isolated wetland sites without a regular staff presence, fishing, swimming, rafting/boating and use of inflatables can raise serious issues of safety, particularly in summer when the attraction of activities in or near water to young people increases. This risk is exacerbated further by the drinking of alcohol which often accompanies this type of activity. It is likely that increasingly warm summers and the close proximity of housing and, by association, numbers of children/youths, will cause a dramatic increase in risk of water-related accident at the site in the future.

Falling within the low to medium risk band suggests that limited specific water safety precautions are required at the site. In the broader interest of safety, simple, low cost measures such as a warning signs or information boards in suitable positions should be provided.

Perceived commitment & liability

- a) Increasing risk of accidents involving young people, particularly in warm weather;
- b) Increased reports of swimming and incidents of antisocial behaviour on site, requiring attendance by Green Spaces staff and/or Police;

- c) Installation of water safety signage and/or equipment and its ongoing maintenance.

3 Management of marginal vegetation

Currently, the margins of the lake are approximately 80% vegetated, with the remaining 20% being freely accessible. The plant species involved (rushes, reedmace etc) are invasive and will quickly take over large areas of the lake and its immediate environs if left unmanaged. The outflow at the northern end of the lake is already becoming choked with vegetation. There is currently no evidence of submergent aquatic vegetation, but this could also become an issue through future eutrophication of the lake.

Perceived commitment & liability

- a) Ongoing regular management of marginal plant species to prevent loss of water amenity;
- b) Ongoing regular inspection and maintenance of lake outflow to prevent blockage and possible flooding;
- c) Likely establishment and consequent management of submergent vegetation in the longer-term.

4 Management of amenity grassland and plantings

The lake is surrounded by a swathe of amenity grassland which will require maintenance if it is not to become rank and unkempt. The associated plantings are of mixed alder/willow. These are quick growing species which will require regular management. At the time of the visit, the grassland area between the lake margin and the enclosing fence was extremely wet and slippery. While this indicates that the lake was operating as it should, this would have implications for management in wet weather.

Perceived commitment & liability

- a) Addition of grassland management to maintenance schedule and associated cost;
- b) Addition of tree management to maintenance schedule and associated cost;
- c) Lack of vehicular access provision to facilitate access by maintenance and emergency vehicles;
- d) Risk of maintenance and emergency vehicles becoming stuck in wet weather – if vehicular access was facilitated;
- e) Distinct slip hazard to pedestrians caused by extremely muddy banks in wet weather.

5 Fixtures and fittings

The lake has three brick-built inflow culverts – on the south, west and east sides – as well as the outflow to the north. All four culvert openings are protected by sturdy metal grilles to prevent possible access. The three inflows are unfenced and there is a risk of falling approx 1.5m onto the stone bed of the inflow stream below; the outflow is fenced and should present little risk of falls. The outflow has an inspection chamber adjacent, with secure manhole covers.

The whole of the lake and its environs are surrounded by a 4-rail metal fence approx 1.2m in height, which serves a decorative purpose rather than one of excluding

access. There is a pedestrian access gate in the fence to the south east of the lake allowing access to the whole site.

Perceived commitment & liability

- a) Maintenance of and potential vandalism to fixtures and fittings with associated costs of repair;
- b) Risk of slips, trips or falls into unguarded inflows.

6 Summary

Whilst the visual amenity of the lake to the local community is undeniably great, the risks, commitments and liabilities associated with adoption of the site as a green space are also significant. At present there are low to medium safety risks associated with the lake and its environs. In addition, there are long-term time, staffing and financial commitments inherent in the ongoing maintenance of the site, through day to day management of the landscaped environment, general 'wear and tear' and the inevitable vandalism that such sites attract.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development Services
2.	Date:	28 July 2008
3.	Title:	Sheffield to Rotherham Bus Rapid Transit scheme
4.	Directorate:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

This report updates Cabinet Member on the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) scheme between Sheffield and Rotherham.

6. Recommendations

That the Cabinet Member resolves to:-

- a) Note the new Project Organisational Structure as detailed in Appendix A, and**
- b) Note the extent and method for consultation.**

7. Proposals and Details

Cabinet Member will recall my previous report on 16 June 2008 (Minute No. << refers) which outlined the work on the Major Scheme Business Cases for both the BRT Northern and Southern routes and recommended that further progress reports be submitted as appropriate. This report details two main areas of work that have been progressed since my previous report: -

A Project Organisation Structure

Cabinet Member will recall that the BRT project has been developed and refined over the past year or so under the guidance of a Steering Group, set up by the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority (SYPTA).

One of the requirements of the Major Scheme Business Case is the definition of a Project Organisation Structure and to that end the remit of the Steering Group has been refined and a Delivery Group created to manage the project. This structure is attached to this report as **Appendix 1**. In addition, individual tasks (work packages) within the overall project have been created to better define and manage the project.

The remit for each group is summarised below.

Steering Group

This is responsible for:-

- i) Overall direction and high level decision making;
- ii) Ensuring that adequate resources are made available to the project teams;
- iii) Monitoring the risk register and ensuring suitable mitigation is in place;
- iv) Approving body for significant changes to scope, outputs costs and programme (see below for details of Request for Change Process);
- v) Ensuring the needs of end user are represented;
- vi) Ensure projects fit with wider policies and initiatives.

Delivery Group

This currently meets twice a month and is responsible for:-

- i) Managing delivery of agreed outputs/outcomes;
- ii) Controlling budget and programme;
- iii) Managing Work Packages so they meet their targets;
- iv) Reporting to the Steering Group to allow them to carry out their responsibilities in a timely manner;
- v) Managing the risk register.

Work Packages

Individual tasks are allocated by the Delivery Group to nominated Managers. Each Work Package has a brief to work to; a summary of these and their status is given in **Appendix 2**.

The current programme for delivery of the BRT project is shown in the table below:-

	Southern	Northern
Submission of MSBC for Programme Entry	December 2008	June 2009
Submission of updated MSBC for Conditional Approval	November 2009	May 2010
Full Approval	March 2011	November 2011
Start on Site	May 2011	January 2012
Opening Date	June 2012	July 2013

B Consultation

The second key issue to consider at this time is the public consultation process. A consultation strategy has been developed by the Delivery Group, based on the following principles: -

- An “information” then “consultation” process to ensure that consultees know what they are being consulted on;
- A “hierarchy” of consultees so early stages of consultation can inform later stages;
- Different methods of engagement to suit target audience and to balance cost and spread of consultation.

The table below summarises the process. The consultees are shown in approximate order of when they will be consulted.

CONSULTEE	METHOD
Senior Members/Officers	Briefing Pack, face-to-face meeting
Elected Members on route	Briefing Pack, face-to-face meeting
MP's on route	Briefing Pack, face-to-face meeting
Other elected members, MP's etc. in South Yorkshire	Briefing Pack with response slip , area panel etc.
Area Forums, Assemblies and Specialist Groups	Attendance at meetings
Public transport operators	Briefing Pack, face-to-face meeting
Statutory consultees and Highways Agency	Bespoke letter and follow up as required
Businesses in area	Leaflets by post, meetings for larger ones
Public on route	Direct mailed leaflet
Public – wider	Information sites at key points
Widest Activity	Web site (open to all groups above)
Other Activities	Media release to inform interested parties of consultation activities
Exhibitions	In relevant Town Halls and other locations
Information Line	During period of consultation

It must be noted that as this Consultation process is being undertaken by the Passenger Transport Executive, with the assistance of both Rotherham and Sheffield Council's the procedures will not follow this Council's Corporate Consultation and Community Involvement framework.

The results of the above consultation process will be analysed and fed back into the design process at Delivery and Steering Group level.

The details of the consultation process for this stage are being worked on and a programme will be issued shortly. The processes for future stages will be considered after MSBC submission.

8. Finance

Development of the Major Scheme Business Cases for the Northern and Southern routes is being funded from the South Yorkshire Local Transport Plan Strategic Capital programme, via the allocations made to the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

A comprehensive risk register has been developed. Regular monitoring meetings are held to review the key risks in order to ensure that risk is managed effectively.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

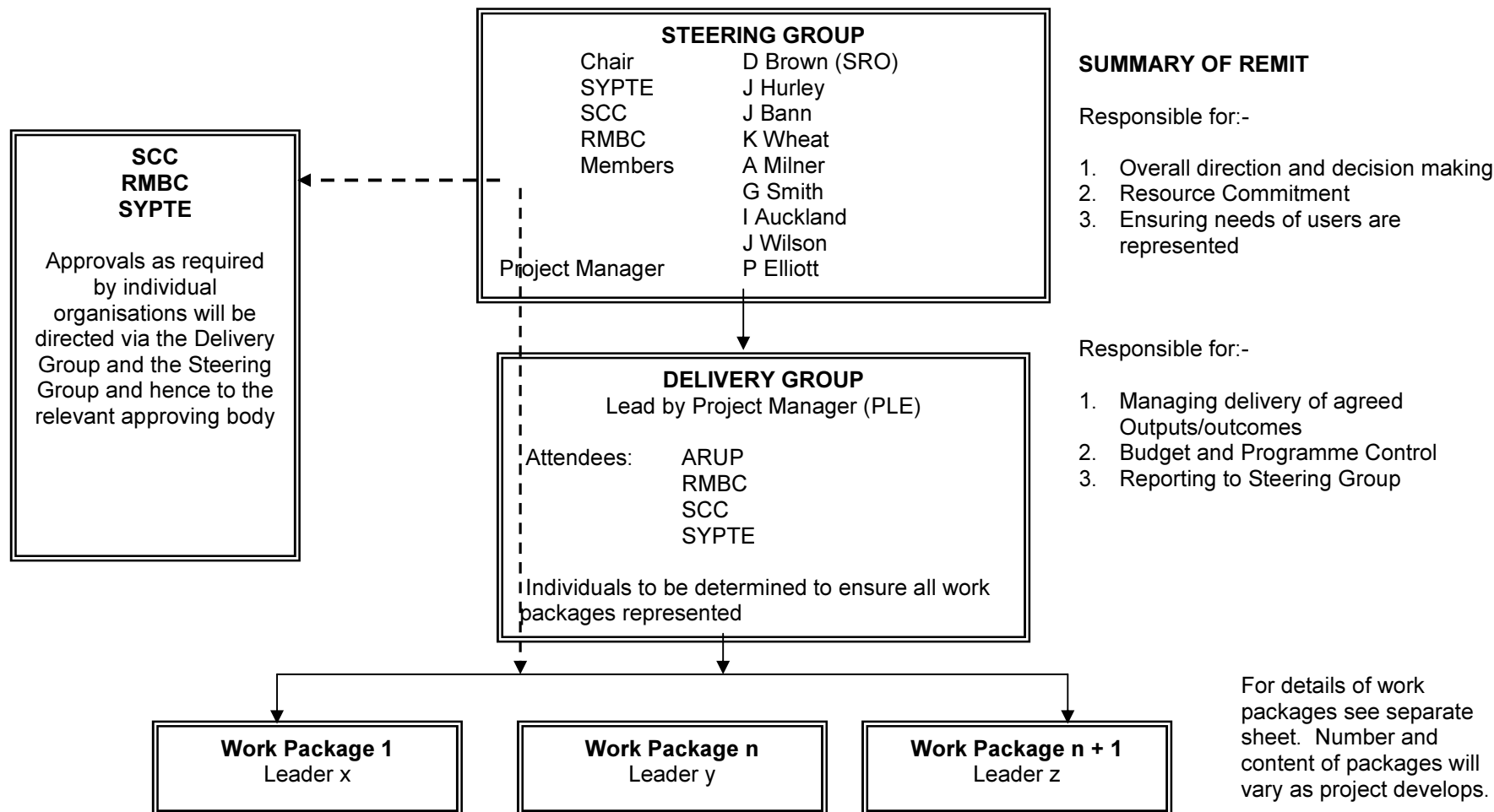
Transport and the LTP Delivery Report 'score' are crucial to the Councils CPA and CA assessments. As a means to various ends, accessibility and high quality transport systems and infrastructure are vital if we are to achieve the aims of the Community Strategies, the Corporate Plan and the South Yorkshire Spatial Strategy "Vision". These schemes will assist in terms of meeting the Council's agenda on sustainable development and fairness, equality and community cohesion.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

As stated above one of the next steps is to carry out the public consultation exercise and it is intended that this be undertaken within the next three months. Because this is being led by the SYPTE there is no requirement to invoke the Council's CCI procedures.

Contact Name : *Dave James, LTP Delivery Manager, Planning and Regeneration Service, extension 2954, dave.james@rotherham.gov.uk*

**SHEFFIELD ROTHERHAM PUBLIC TRANSPORT LINKS INCLUDING - BRT NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN
PROPOSED STRUCTURE FOR MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING**



PROJECT NO: 92432
STATUS: Draft issued for approval by Steering Group

VERSION: 3.3 D Curtis deleted
Version History: V3 updated as a result of meeting with DB/JH 10/06/09

DATE: 03 July 2008

RSHEFFIELD ROTHERHAM PUBLIC TRANSPORT LINKS - BRT SOUTHERN AND NORTHERN AND RELATED WORKS

Summary of Work Packages and their Status as at 30th June 2008.

“Pre-BRT” refers to WP’s delivered before implementation of BRT.

See Programme for details of target dates
See Cost Plan for summary WP costs (2008-18-049)
(2008-18-050)

VERSION: 4.5 Version 4.4 Updated with stage status and progress for meeting No.10
Version 4.5 Updated as results of discussions at Delivery Group meeting No.12
STATUS: Version 4 Issued for comment on Northern WP’s

Distribution: **Steering Group:** D Brown/ K Wheat/ D Curtis/ J Bann / A Milner / G Smith / I Auckland / J Hurley
Delivery Group: P Elliott/ D James/ D Budd/ J Meese/ H Holden/ C Buck/ G Sampson/ D Proctor / H Plummer
Others: H Plummer/ A White/ J Hurley/ P Horner/ E Jouravleva/ J Elliott/R Crawley

Stage Status: ■ (G) Progressing in line with approvals / Low risk
■ (A) Progressing but may not meet agreed targets/medium risk
■ (R) Not forecast to meet targets / high risk

No.		WORK PACKAGE	STATUS/COMMENTS	RISK	LED BY
WP1	RED	MSBC BRT Southern Route (Business Case only, not works) Baseline is submission approved by RTB	Programme of Works issued by Arup. MSBC due to be submitted December 2008. DfT update to be submitted by July 2008.	(i) Accuracy of design/costs/outputs etc. Being reviewed (ii) Modelling not complete (iii) Consultation delayed	G Sampson (PTE)
WP2	RED	Bus Services in Waverley Area Pre BRT provision of services to satisfy requirements of access to development (not part of BRT project) Post BRT as above and “feeder” services to BRT proposals (if required)	Bob Telfer now leading on. Updated brief issued for approval Ongoing	(i) Outputs/Outcomes not agreed (ii) No “scope of works” yet	R Telfer (PTE)
WP3	RED	BRT Services – Southern Delivery of BRT services (Specification and Procurement) (includes specification of on-vehicle services e.g. conductors/ticket machines if required)	Brief accepted by R Telfer Financial model for procurement options being developed. To be completed by 25 July 2008	(i) Specification affects patronage (ii) Revenue impacts not accurately known yet	R Telfer (PTE)

No.		WORK PACKAGE	STATUS/COMMENTS	RISK	LED BY
WP4	R E D	<p>Infrastructure Parkway Improvements (Waverley to Sheffield – Park Square)</p> <p>Design and provision of Bus Priority Measures for BRT services.</p> <p>Part of package within SCC's area</p> <p>Part of package with RMBC's area (Includes monitoring of infrastructure provided by developer).</p>	<p>Brief to be issued to RMBC/SCC for comment</p> <p>SCC and RMBC reviewing scope and estimate</p> <p>Initial scope and costs known. Phase 1 Safety Audit completed.</p> <p>Scope as shown on drawings (number to be advised)</p>	<p>(i) Journey time targets affect patronage.</p> <p>(ii) Some risks identified on Parkway, additional design required</p> <p>(iii) Journey time affects patronage/costs etc.</p>	<p>D Budd (SCC)</p> <p>D James (RMBC)</p>
WP5	G R E E N	<p>Infrastructure – Sheffield City Centre (Southern Route)</p> <p>Provision of stop improvements/information provision/highway modifications etc. for BRT services in City Centre.</p>	<p>Route agreed by Delivery Group (common with Northern for most of loop)</p> <p>Cost plan updated</p> <p>Journey time updated</p> <p>As detailed on drawings (number to be advised)</p>	<p>(i) Journey time affects patronage and service operating costs</p>	<p>D Budd (SCC)</p>
WP6	A M B E R	<p>Infrastructure – Catcliffe to Rotherham Centre</p> <p>Alterations proposed on highways on BRT route in Rotherham</p>	<p>Brief issued for comment</p> <p>Indicative scope and costs known. Cost Plan to be updated 3 July 2008</p> <p>RMBC reviewing cost and scope</p> <p>Works in Interchange being reviewed</p> <p>As shown on drawings (number to be advised)</p>	<p>(i) Journey time affects patronage and service operating costs</p>	<p>D James (RMBC)</p>

No.		WORK PACKAGE	STATUS/COMMENTS	RISK	LED BY
WP7	AMBER	Infrastructure – Park and Ride site (Waverley) Provision of Park & Ride Car Park Specification by PTE, designed and delivered by UK Coal Maintenance/Operation by PTE Peppercorn lease to PTE	Scope is now for 1000 spaces Scope agreed in principle with UK Coal's design team. MeEting with RMBC to discuss proposal being arranged As shown on drawings (number to be advised)	(i) Accuracy of estimates (ii) PTE/UK Coal agreement needed for works and lease (iii) Planning/Programme risks	A White (PTE)
WP8	AMBER	Infrastructure – Interchange Building (Waverley) Specification to be prepared by PTE Funded/designed/built by UK Coal (1,500 sq ft)	Initial draft location issued for comment Discussions with UK Coal ongoing	(i) "Iconic" building requested (ii) No scope yet	A White (PTE)
	RED	BRT Vehicles Specification/Procurement – Led by Chris Buck Specification for vehicles required, feeds into WP3, procurement of services.	Procurement of vehicles depends on option chosen for procurement of services. (See WP3) Specification for vehicles not clear MVA to provide vehicle loadings from model Chris Buck to update	Working assumption that same type of vehicles can be deployed on both Northern & Southern. Revenue impact Local Transport Bill will affect options Accuracy of estimates	C Buck (PTE)
WP10	GREEN	Marketing Details of offer to public need to be agreed	Initial meeting held. Scope being developed. Brief being agreed internally	First round of outputs needed for start of consultation	Nasar Haq (PTE)

No.		WORK PACKAGE	STATUS/COMMENTS	RISK	LED BY
WP11	RED	Consultation (Southern) Co-ordination of Consultation in individual work packages and carrying out "overall" consultation required.	Brief being agreed internally Programme for consultation on hold Proposals to be submitted to Steering Group	Programme delayed	P Horner (PTE)
WP12	GREEN	Shelters Provision of shelters, Real Time Information, CCTV Southern Route Northern Route	Initial scope agreed Scope needs input from Marketing team once brand / offer agreed Cost Plan to be updated 3 July 2008	Details of "offer" needed to complete design work Costs not yet finalised	H Plummer (PTE)
WP13 WP13a	RED	Ticketing Provision of specification for tickets, including pricing Procurement of ticket system	Scope being determined On/off vehicle ticketing offer to be determined WP13a draft to be completed 1 July 2008. CB to chase	(i) Accuracy of estimates until details known (ii) Ticketing strategy affects patronage	R Crawley (PTE)
WP14	AMBER	Land Procurement Details of land needed awaited from design team	Southern drawings issued to Districts for comment	Some land lies outside Partner ownership	J Elliott (PTE)
WP15	RED	Northern Route BRT MSBC (Business Case only) Baseline is submission approved by RTB Completion of current work Plan for progressing scheme beyond this stage needed.	Bid approved by RTB MSBC programmed for submission June 2009. Detailed Cost Plan updated June 2008. Programme updated June 2008	(i) Accuracy of estimates, scope and benefits to be reviewed. (ii) Proposals for fixed link not finalised	G Sampson (PTE)
WP16 WP16a	RED	BRT Procurement Services Infrastructure Development of procurement strategy for services and infrastructure	Options being reviewed. Project approach issued for comment Options agreed Further input needed from other WP's	Local Transport Bill will affect options Proposals not finalised	S Davenport (PTE)

No.		WORK PACKAGE	STATUS/COMMENTS	RISK	LED BY
WP20	AMBER	Tram/Train Improvements Longer term review of Tram & Train links between Rotherham & Sheffield	Scope being determined. Long term aim for tram-train on Northern corridor may impact on alignment, design, and costs of Northern route. Guidance from Steering Group is to preserve Tinsley Curve for rail if possible.	This impacts directly on WP 21	D Young (PTE)
WP21	RED	Fixed Link (Northern) – Provision of “Fixed Link” Alignment, configuration, possible future-proofing for tram/tram-train upgrade to be determined (WP20)	Meeting to discuss options/risks etc. held. SCC to carry out further design work.	Proposals linked to British Land’s	SCC
	AMBER	Bus Services along Northern route Determination of actions required as a result of introduction of BRT	Brief to be issued 1 July 2008 Determination of impact of BRT on bus services, especially 69 route required.	Outputs/Outcomes not agreed No “scope of works” yet	R Telfer (PTE)
WP23	AMBER	Northern BRT Services Delivery of BRT Services (Specification and Procurement) Overall BRT “offer” including service pattern etc.,	Scope being determined, link to similar WP for Southern	Specification affects patronage	C Buck? (PTE)
	AMBER	Infrastructure – Wicker to Meadowhall Way Alterations proposed on highways on BRT route in Sheffield	Indicative scope and costs known. Scope as shown on drawing number (tba)	(i) Journey time affects patronage and service operating costs	TBD
WP25	GREEN	Infrastructure – Sheffield City Centre (Northern Route) Provision of stop improvements provision/highway modifications etc. for BRT services	Route agreed by Delivery Group (common with Southern for most of loop) As shown in drawing (number to be advised)	(i) Journey time affects patronage and service operating costs (ii) Accuracy of costs	D Budd (SCC)

No.		WORK PACKAGE	STATUS/COMMENTS	RISK	LED BY
WP26	AMBER	Infrastructure – Lock Lane to Rotherham Centre Alterations proposed on highways on BRT route in Rotherham. As shown in drawing (number to be advised)	Indicative scope and costs known. Scope as shown on drawing number (tba)	(i) Journey time affects patronage and service operating costs (ii) Accuracy of costs	D James (RMBC)
WP27	RED	Infrastructure – Park and Ride site (Northern) Provision of Park & Ride Car Park near west end of Fixed Link Maintenance/Operation by PTE	Modelling based on 750 spaces Land will provide location as part of developer contribution – needs to be confirmed. Access to road network and BRT route to be determined	Assumption that British Location not identified	TBD
WP28	RED	Consultation (Northern) Overall consultation and co-ordination of any work in individual work packages	No work carried out to date Scope being developed	Detailed brief needed	P Horner (PTE)
WP29	AMBER	Communications Development of overall communication plan Co-ordination of communications by Partner's	Initial meeting held with Nasar. Scope being developed	Message to public affects ease of implementation and its success	Nasar Haq (PTE)

No.		WORK PACKAGE	STATUS/COMMENTS	RISK	LED BY
WP30	AMBER	Project Management Cost/Scope/Programme Control RFC Process Risk Monitoring Issue Log Targets for Work Packages Monitoring related projects etc.	(i) Cost Plan and Programme being submitted to Steering Group for approval (ii) Outputs not yet issued to Steering Group for approval (iii) Targets for some but not all WP's issued (iv) Issue Log updated and issued on a regular basis (iii) Risk Log needs updating	(i) Costs not correct (ii) Scope for WP's not signed off (iii) Programme etc. dependent on others (iv) Do minimum option not agreed (v) Resources for delivering not determined (vi) Procurement not agreed (vii) RFC process not fully implemented	Peter Elliott (PTE)

NOTES: See Risk Log for details of all current risks

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development
2.	Date:	
3.	Title:	Rotherham Play Pathfinder: Consultation and Design Arrangements
4.	Directorate:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

The Rotherham Play pathfinder programme, which has awarded approximately £2.5m to RMBC, has set very challenging targets, which must be met if Rotherham is to achieve its objective of 28 area based play areas – 12 in year one plus a two centre play facility in Rotherham town centre. This report highlights how this schedule can be met in Rotherham.

6. Recommendations

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development:

- 1 Exempts the contract for the design and project management to completion of six area based play areas in relation to the Rotherham Play Pathfinder programme from standing order 47 (contracts valued at less than £50,000) and awards the contract to Groundwork Dearne Valley Trust.**
- 2 Exempts the contract for the carrying out of a consultation exercise or exercises in relation to the Rotherham Play pathfinder programme from standing order 48 (contracts valued at £50,000 or more) and awards the contract to Groundwork Dearne Valley Trust.**

7. Proposals and Details

In order to achieve this objective, skilled officer input is required in consultation and in landscape design. The in-house landscape design service can commit to half the necessary year one support, i.e. it can design and project manage six sites to completion, for which it would charge a flat rate fee of 10%. An installation company will be appointed to carry out the landscaping works and install the play equipment.

It is proposed that Groundwork Dearne Valley Trust would design and project manage to completion the other six sites. Value for money should be achieved as Groundwork would also charge a flat rate fee of 10% for those sites. This would ensure that the same value for money was achieved externally as well as internally. Groundwork's overall price for delivering the other six sites is estimated to be in the region of £25k to 30k for projects with a value of up to £300k. Within this price Groundwork will also provide landscape designer presence at certain consultation events.

In addition Groundwork staff would be commissioned to provide dedicated support to carry out direct consultation with children and young people, parents and carers and the local community. This work cannot be done in-house due to lack of capacity.

The proposal fits with the Department for Children, Families and Schools' guidance to involve local partners and communities, and Groundwork is a member of Rotherham's Play Partnership and already supports Rotherham in the delivery of its Play targets through both the Big Lottery Fund and the pathfinder programme. It also contributed significantly to the developing Rotherham Play Strategy.

Groundwork has significant previous experience of this type of work, and proposes to charge for staff costs (up to 1.3 officers per annum) plus a standard management fee of £5,500 plus an additional £5,500 for finance & administration. The charge for the lead officer is approximately £29,500 for a full year from 1st July (Appendix 1 attached). This equates to a total annual price of around £54,000. As the consultation programme is likely to run for a total of twelve months this figure should also represent the overall price for consultation.

In order to achieve this support at very short notice, which is necessary to ensure the delivery of the Rotherham Play Pathfinder programme, it is requested that exemptions from contract standing orders be granted.

8. Finance

Revenue funding is provided to the Rotherham Play pathfinder by the Department for Children, Schools and Families for the purposes of consultation and landscape design works.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

There is a very tight delivery programme in place, which is a condition of acceptance of grant by the DCSF. Failure to deliver to deadline will result in unspent funding being withdrawn.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

None

11. Background Papers and Consultation

The Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) has been consulted and agrees with the recommendations to the Cabinet member for the reasons outlined in the report.

The Senior Accountant acting for Environment and Development Services has been consulted and agrees with the recommendations to the Cabinet member.

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ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER

1. Meeting:	Regeneration and Development Services Matters
2. Date:	28 July 2008
3. Title:	Results of the public meeting about the proposed residents' parking scheme at Eastwood South in the Boston Castle Ward
4. Directorate:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

To report the outcome of a public meeting held following the receipt of a 99 signature petition presented by Councillor Mahroof Hussain, which was considered by Cabinet Member on 21 January 2008.

6. Recommendations

Cabinet Member resolve that:

- i) objections to the introduction of Eastwood South Residents Parking Scheme in the Boston Castle Ward not be acceded to;**
- ii) that the proposed parking charges be introduced in stages over 2 years and will be:-**

Permit type:-	2008/2009	2009/2010
1st Resident/visitor	£12.50 per year	£17.50 per year
2nd Resident/visitor	£25.00 per year	£35.00 per year

6 month permit charges:-

1st Resident/visitor	£9.00	£12.50
2nd Resident/visitor	£18.00	£25.00

- iii) the traffic regulation orders associated with the scheme on Carlisle Street, Dixon Street, Elliott Court, Spring Street, Nelson Street, St Ann's Road and Lindum Terrace be implemented.**
- iv) following an initial period of approximately 6 months, the operation of the scheme be reviewed.**
- v) Objectors and residents be informed accordingly**

7. Proposals and Details

Cabinet Member will recall that a 99 signature petition, was submitted by Councillor Mahroof Hussain on behalf of residents from the Boston Castle area of Eastwood South objecting to the introduction of Eastwood South Residents' Parking Scheme (Minute No 182 of 21 January 2008 refers). Drawing No 126/18/TT467 attached as appendix "A" shows the Boston Castle area within the Eastwood South Residents' Parking Zone.

This area is already covered by residents parking restrictions which limits parking to '1 hour no return within 3 hours', but permit holders can park all day. The scheme is a legacy from the 1970's and residents do not have to pay for permits.

Pursuant to Minute No 182 (ii) a public meeting was held on Monday 4th February 2008 to explain to residents the reasons for the altering the terms of their existing parking scheme including the introduction of charges.

It was apparent from feedback given at the meeting that the residents were happy with the alteration of the operational hours of the scheme but unhappy with the introduction of charging. It was explained that residents' parking was originally introduced into this area when enforcement was undertaken by the Police and there was no cost to the Council. Now that enforcement is undertaken by Council, the costs incurred are currently an additional pressure on revenue budgets. The proposed charges reflect the cost of administration and effective enforcement of the residents' parking scheme.

Following the public meeting 2 further meetings were held with Cabinet Member and Boston Castle Ward members to discuss the outcome of the public meeting and to determine how the Eastwood South Residents' Parking Scheme could be implemented in the Boston Castle Ward.

It was agreed that, as there is an existing residents' parking scheme in place in the Boston Castle section of Eastwood South that the charges should be introduced incrementally over 2 years as in Wellgate (minute No 121 of 15 October 2007 refers). Those tiered charges would be as follows:-

Permit type:-	2008/2009	2009/2010
1 st Resident/visitor	£12.50 per year	£17.50 per year
2 nd Resident/visitor	£25.00 per year	£35.00 per year
6 month permit charges:-		
1 st Resident/visitor	£9.00	£12.50
2 nd Resident/visitor	£18.00	£25.00

It was confirmed there would be a maximum of 2 permits per household only. Each household may apply for up to 2 residents' or visitor permits; i.e. residents could have 2 residents' permits; 1 resident and 1 visitor permit; or 2 visitor permits. Visitor permits would be transferable between vehicles. It was considered that reducing the operational hours from Mon - Sat, 8.00am to

7.00pm to Mon – Fri, 9.00am to 4.00pm may reduce the need for existing residents to have permits for visitors.

Daily visitor permits would be marked Zone A and will be transferable between vehicles during the day in which they have been validated.

The scheme will be reviewed approximately 6 months after implementation.

An interim letter will be sent to Boston Castle residents explaining the decision prior to the application information being sent out.

8. Finance

The recommended scheme is estimated to cost £45,000. Funding is available from the Local Transport Plan Integrated Transport Capital Programme for 2008/09.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

If the scheme is not introduced commuters will continue to use the roads within the Eastwood South area as a free car park to the detriment of local residents and businesses.

In addition, failure to meet targets and objectives in the LTP will impact on the South Yorkshire and Council's prestige and 'CPA' score.

The proposed Residents Parking Scheme would be self financing. Failure to implement it would mean that the cost of enforcing the existing parking restrictions in the Boston Castle Ward would put continued pressure on Revenue budgets.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The proposals are in line with objectives set out in the South Yorkshire Local Transport Plan, particularly in terms of demand management and congestion.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

A newsletter was distributed to every property and business in the Eastwood South Area. The Traffic Regulation Order was advertised on streets and in the local press as required by statute.

Council Minute Nos 166 of January 2006, 157 of November 2006 and 96 of September 2007 refer to the proposals to introduce a Resident's Parking Zone in Eastwood South.

Council Minute No. 121 of 15 October 2007 refers to the increase in permit charges for the existing Wellgate Residents Parking Scheme.

Council Minute No 182(ii) refers to the proposal to hold in abeyance the introduction of the Eastwood South residents' Parking Scheme in the Boston Castle Ward pending the outcome of a public meeting.

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APPENDIX "A"

Key

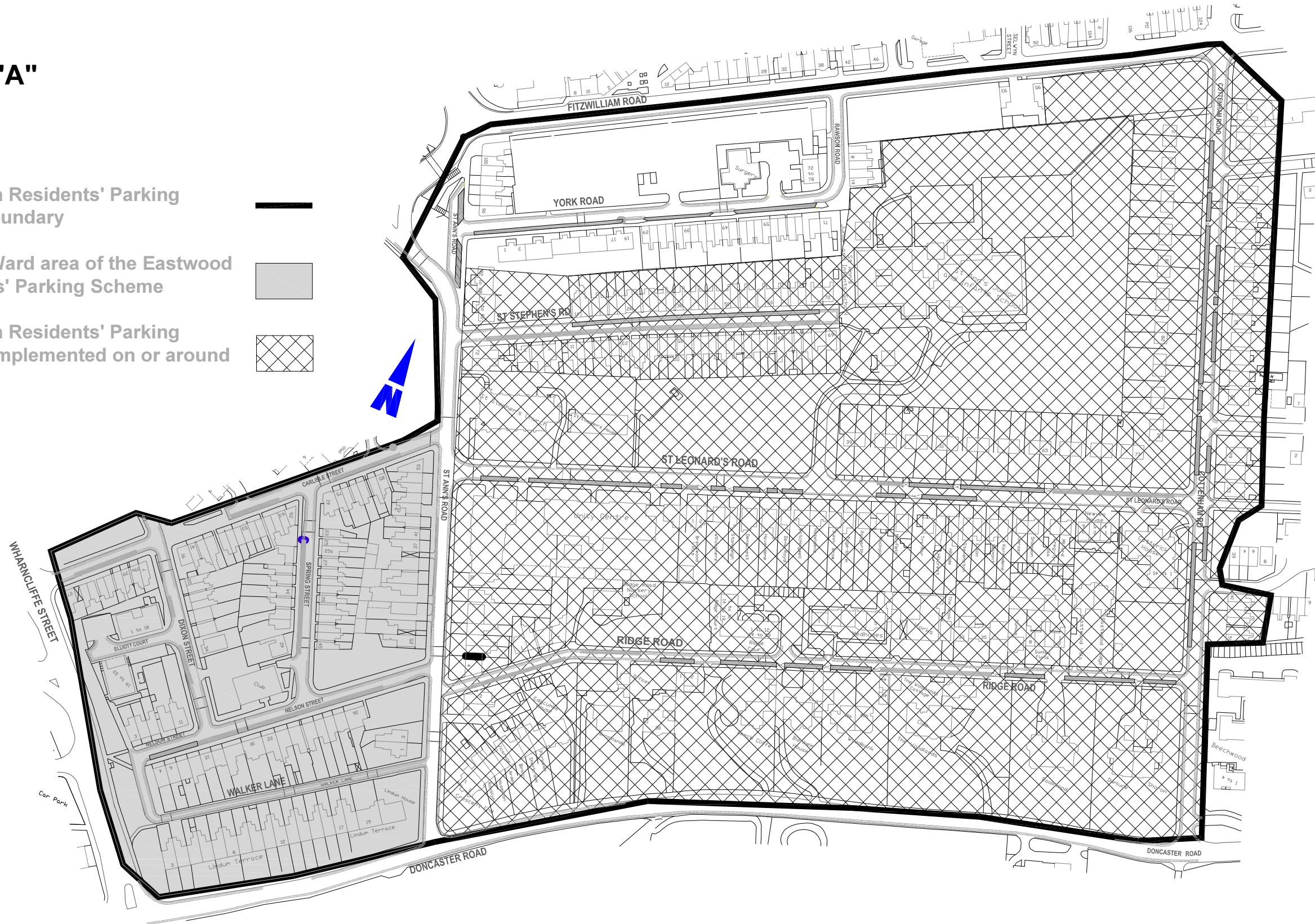
Eastwood South Residents' Parking Scheme area boundary



Boston Castle Ward area of the Eastwood South Residents' Parking Scheme



Eastwood South Residents' Parking Scheme to be implemented on or around 21st July 2008



Strategic Director:
Karl Battersby Bsc (Hons) MTPL MRTPI

Environment & Development Services
Bailey House, Rawmarsh Road,
Rotherham S60 1TD

Client:

Title Eastwood South Residents' Parking Scheme
Boston Castle Ward

Dwg. No. 126/18/467 Rev. Scales (if A3) Not to scale

Drawn SQ Date July 08 Chd. by TFS

Rev. Description

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER

1. MEETING:- CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES – DELEGATED POWERS

2. MEETING DATE:- 28th July, 2008

3. OPENING OF OFFERS/TENDERS

I wish to report the opening of e-tenders by the Cabinet Member, Regeneration and Development Services, as follows:-

on 4th July, 2008 re:-

- Clifton Park Project – pa-059

4. RECOMMENDATION

That the action of the Cabinet Member be recorded.

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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of the Local Government Act 1972.

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