



ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

FULL ASSESSMENT REPORT NOVEMBER 2025

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

CONTENTS

GLOSSARY	1
PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY	2
PART 2: FOOTBALL	13
PART 3: THIRD GENERATION TURF (3G) ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCHES (AGPS)	59
PART 4: RUGBY UNION	75
PART 5: RUGBY LEAGUE	92
PART 6: HOCKEY	94
PART 7: CRICKET	108
PART 8: TENNIS	136
APPENDIX 1: SPORTING CONTEXT	152
APPENDIX 2: NON TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT SHEETS.....	162

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

GLOSSARY

3G	Third Generation Turf
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
BARLA	British Amateur Rugby League Association
CC	Cricket Club
CCO	Club Community Organisations
CFS	County Facilities Strategy
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy
DCMS	Department for Culture, Media and Sport
ECB	England & Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FF	Football Foundation
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
GIS	Geographic Information System
GMA	Grounds Maintenance Association
GPIF	Grass Pitch Improvement Fund
GPMF	Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund
HC	Hockey Club
IMD	Indices (Index) of Multiple Deprivation
JFC	Junior Football Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LFFP	Local Football Facility Plan
LTC	Lawn Tennis Club
M	Metres
NFFS	National Football Facilities Strategy
NGB(s)	National Governing Body (of sport)
NLS	National League System
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
ONS	Office for National Statistics
PIP	Pitch Improvement Programme
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PP	PitchPower
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
RFL	Rugby Football League
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RLFC	Rugby League Football Club
RMBC	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
S106	Section 106
S&HFA	Sheffield & Hallamshire Football Association
U	Under (related to participating age groups)
WR	World Rugby
YCF	Yorkshire Cricket Foundation

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

1.1: Introduction

Knight Kavanagh & Page (KKP) has been commissioned to deliver a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) for Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council. This will provide the necessary robustness and direction to inform decisions affecting playing pitch provision within the local authority area.

This report presents a supply and demand assessment of playing pitch facilities across Rotherham. It is delivered in accordance with Sport England's PPS Guidance, which details five stages for the developing the study:

- ◀ Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach (1)
- ◀ Stage B: Gather information and views on supply of and demand for provision (2 & 3)
- ◀ Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views (4, 5 & 6)
- ◀ Stage D: Develop the strategy (7 & 8)
- ◀ Stage E: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date (9 & 10)

Stages A to C are covered in this report, with Stage D covered in the ensuing strategy document. Stage E references the ongoing work that will be required once the PPS has been approved and adopted.

The lifespan of a PPS is considered to be three years, although this can be increased if it is kept up to date. As a guide, if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years of the PPS being signed off by the steering group, then Sport England and the NGBs would consider the PPS and the information on which it is based to be out of date. The nature of the supply and in particular the demand for playing pitches will likely to have changed over the three years. Therefore, without any form of review and update within this time period it would be difficult to make the case that the supply and demand information and assessment work is sufficiently robust.

1.2: Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach

Management arrangements

A project team from the Council has worked with KKP to ensure that all relevant information is readily available and to support the consultants as necessary. This is so that project stages and milestones are delivered on time, within the cost envelope and to the required standard to meet Sport England guidance.

Further to this, a Steering Group is and has been responsible for the direction of the PPS from a strategic perspective. Its role is also to support, check and challenge the work of the project team. The Steering Group comprises representatives from the Council, Sport England and the relevant National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs).

It will be important for the Steering Group to continue to meet once the PPS has been finalised for several reasons, including a continuing responsibility to:

- ◀ Be a champion for playing pitch provision in the area and promote the value of the PPS.
- ◀ Ensure implementation of the recommendations and action plan.
- ◀ Monitor and evaluate the outcomes of the study and ensure that the PPS is updated.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Why the Strategy is being developed

The most recent PPS for Rotherham was produced in 2005, followed by a subsequent review which was adopted by Cabinet in 2009. However, this is now considerably out of date and was not supported by Sport England and the wider steering group. Moreover, the methodology utilised is no longer recognised by Sport England, with new guidance produced in 2013.

The PPS will help to guide future provision and management of existing and new sports pitches in Rotherham in the context of national and local policies as well as local sports development criteria. As a vision, it will also provide robust and objective justification for future playing pitch decision-making throughout the Borough.

The key drivers for the PPS include:

- ◀ Aims and objectives for improving health and well-being and increasing participation in sport and physical activity.
- ◀ Acknowledging changes in how sports are played.
- ◀ The need for evidence to help protect and enhance existing provision.
- ◀ The need to inform the development and implementation of planning policy, including Rotherham's Local Plan Review.
- ◀ To inform the determination of planning applications relating to existing playing field land.
- ◀ The need to fulfil the requirements of S106 planning obligations.
- ◀ The need to determine requirements linked to large housing developments and/or housing growth areas.
- ◀ The need to inform the expenditure of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).
- ◀ Potential changes to the supply of provision due to capital programmes e.g. for educational sites.
- ◀ Ensuring the most efficient management and maintenance of playing pitch provision for the benefit of local communities.
- ◀ The need to develop a priority list of deliverable projects which will help to meet any current deficiencies, provide for future demands and feed into wider infrastructure planning work.
- ◀ Prioritisation of capital and revenue investment from potential internal and external sources.
- ◀ The need to provide evidence to secure internal and external funding for new provision or the enhancement of existing facilities.
- ◀ To deliver the outcomes of NGB strategies and plans such as the Local Football Facility Plan (for football) and the County Facilities Strategy (for cricket).

Linked to the above, overarching objectives of the PPS are to:

- ◀ Provide a robust supply and demand assessment to inform the decision-making process in relation to planning applications impacting upon playing field land.
- ◀ Provide a carefully quantified and documented assessment of current and future needs for playing pitches.
- ◀ Provide information to assist performance management and asset management.
- ◀ Provide information to underpin the protection, enhancement and improvement of the existing stock and improvements in community access to non-local authority pitches.
- ◀ To enable processes to be developed to ensure the adequate provision of new pitches in relation to new housing developments.
- ◀ To provide good-quality information and evidence of need for funding bids for new and improved provision.
- ◀ To provide a greater understanding of sports catchment areas and any issues that go beyond the Rotherham boundary that are relevant to the Borough (e.g., into Sheffield).

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

- ◀ To provide a better understanding of the local population and any particular sporting needs, including women's and girls' activity and disabled participation.
- ◀ To identify high indices of multiple deprivation (IMD) areas that have playing pitch shortfalls and deficiencies, or particular issues with aspects such as access and quality.
- ◀ To ensure that the Council's PPS has strong links to all NGB plans and strategies.
- ◀ To provide the context for sports development of pitch sports which aims to develop the range of opportunities available.

In addition, the PPS will ensure that planning policy decisions are made in alignment with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which was updated in December 2024. One of the core planning principles of this is to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs.

Section eight of the NPPF deals specifically with the topic of healthy communities, with Paragraph 103 stating that "planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate."

Paragraph 104 sets three criterion that ensures existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields and formal play spaces, should not be built on unless:

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

Paragraphs 105, 106, and 107 set the parameters for the designation of Local Green Space. Such spaces may include playing fields.

Study area

The study area for the PPS covers the full Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council area. This comprises of a central, densely populated urban core with suburban and less populated wards predominantly located in northern and southern parts.

In addition to the Borough-wide assessment, analysis areas (or sub areas) are also used to allow for a more localised approach. For this, three areas have been created, with these known as North, Central and South, aligning to the Council's Neighbourhood Team areas and supporting how the Council manages the Borough. It is said that these sub areas also fit well with perceived sporting catchment areas and travel patterns, whilst they also fit with the Council's ward based plans to support ambitions of the Moving Rotherham and Cultural Partnership boards. Alignment also exists to Police boundaries, the National Health Service and Inclusive Care Board groups.

The three suggested sub-areas can be seen via the table and figure below.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Table 1.1: Analysis areas

Analysis area	Wards included
North	Dalton and Thrybergh, Hooper, Kilnhurst and Swinton East, Rawmarsh East, Rawmarsh West, Swinton Rockingham and Wath
Central	Boston Castle, Greasbrough, Keppel, Rotherham East, Rotherham West and Sitwell
South	Anston and Woodsetts, Aston and Todwick, Aughton and Swallownest, Bramley and Ravenfield, Brinsworth, Dinnington, Hellaby and Maltby West, Rothervale, Thurcroft and Wickersley South, Wales and Wickersley North

Figure 1.1: Analysis area breakdown



In addition, cross-boundary aspects are also recognised in regard to neighbouring (and nearby) local authorities including Barnsley, Doncaster and Sheffield. This includes reference to imported and exported demand into and from Rotherham as well as key sites and developments that sit close to boundary lines.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Scope

As standard, the PPS covers the following 'core' playing pitch sports, which are:

- ◀ Cricket
- ◀ Football
- ◀ Hockey
- ◀ Rugby league
- ◀ Rugby union

Any other grass pitch sports are also included where supply and/or demand has been identified. This can include the likes of American football, Aussie rules, lacrosse, Gaelic football and hurling. Despite not being a playing pitch sport, tennis is also included to provide a separate supply and demand analysis for the sport.

A section dedicated to third generation turf (3G) pitches is also included due to the number of sports such provision can accommodate. This predominately pertains to football but is also relevant to both rugby codes and potentially American football and lacrosse (where there is a presence).

1.3: Gather information and views on supply of and demand for provision (Stage B)

A clear picture of the supply of and demand for playing pitches in Rotherham is required to enable an accurate assessment of quantity, quality and usage. This has been achieved through site assessments and consultation with key stakeholders.

Gather supply information and views – an audit of provision

Quantity

Where known, all playing pitch facilities are included within the PPS, irrespective of ownership, management and use. Sites were initially identified using Sport England's Active Places web-based database, with the Council and NGBs supporting this process by checking and challenging this initial data as well as by supplying their own affiliation data and booking information.

Sport England's guidance uses the following definitions of a playing pitch and playing field, as set out by the Government in the 2021 'Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order':

- ◀ **Playing pitch** – a delineated area which is used for association football, rugby, cricket, hockey, lacrosse, rounders, baseball, softball, American football, Australian football, Gaelic football, shinty, hurling, polo or cycle polo.
- ◀ **Playing field** – the whole of a site that encompasses at least one playing pitch.

Although the statutory definition of a playing field sets out a minimum size, the PPS takes account of smaller sized pitches that contribute to the supply side. For example, a site containing a mini 5v5 football pitch is included despite it potentially being smaller than 0.2ha. The study counts individual grass pitches (as a delineated area) as the basic unit of supply, with the definition of a playing pitch also including artificial grass pitches (AGPs).

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

For each site that been included within the study, the following details are recorded in the project database:

- ◀ Site name, address (including postcode) and location
- ◀ Active Places ID (and a PPS site ID)
- ◀ Ownership and management type
- ◀ Security of tenure
- ◀ Community availability
- ◀ Total number, type and quality of provision
- ◀ Usage levels

As far as possible, this report aims to capture all playing pitches facilities within Rotherham; however, there may be instances that have led to omissions, such as unused school sites where access was not possible (although facilities at sites not accessed are still included where provision is identified via other sources e.g., affiliation data or club/league consultation). Where provision is not recorded within the report, it is still considered to exist for planning purposes and will continue to do so. Furthermore, any exclusion does not mean that the provision is not required from a supply and demand point of view.

Accessibility

Not all playing facilities offer the same level of access to the community, with ownership and accessibility often influencing actual availability. As such, each site included in the PPS is assigned a level of community use as follows:

- ◀ **Community use** - facilities in public, voluntary, private or commercial ownership or management (including education sites) recorded as being available for hire and currently in use by teams/members/individuals (depending on the sport).
- ◀ **Available but unused** - facilities that are available for hire but are not currently used externally; this most often applies to school sites but can also apply to sites which are expensive to hire or particularly poor quality.
- ◀ **No community use** - facilities which are, as a matter of policy or practice, unavailable for external hire. This includes professional club pitches along with some semi-professional club pitches where play is restricted to the first or second team of the host club.
- ◀ **Disused** – any sites where facilities were once provided but are no longer in place, yet they remain undeveloped and could therefore be brought back into use.

In addition, there should be a good degree of certainty that provision will be available to the community for at least the following three years. If this is not the case, the provision is still included within the assessment but is noted as having unsecure tenure. A judgement is made based on the information gathered and a record of secured or unsecured community use is put against each site.

Quality

The capacity of provision to regularly provide for competitive play, training and other activity is most often determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of provision affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of a sport. In extreme circumstances, it can result in a facility being unable to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off-peak times.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

The quality of all provision identified in the audit and the ancillary facilities supporting them are assessed as part of the PPS, regardless of ownership, management and availability. Along with capturing any detail specific to the individual facilities and sites, a quality rating is also recorded within the audit for each pitch/facility. These ratings are then used to help estimate the capacity (aligned to NGB guidance) to accommodate competitive and other play within the supply and demand assessment.

For the purposes of quality assessments, the PPS refers to playing facilities and ancillary facilities separately as being of 'good', 'standard' or 'poor' quality. However, some good quality sites may have poor quality elements and vice versa (e.g., a good quality pitch may be serviced by poor quality changing facilities).

Good quality refers to facilities with, for example, good grass cover, even surfaces and that are free from vandalism and litter. For ancillary facilities, it refers to access for disabled people, sufficient provision for referees, juniors/women/girls and appropriate showers, toilets and car parking. Facility age can also have a significant bearing on the overall quality rating.

Standard quality refers to playing provision that has, for example, adequate grass cover, minimal signs of wear and tear and goalposts that may be secure but in need of minor repair. In terms of ancillary facilities, standard quality refers to adequately sized changing rooms, storage provision and the provision of toilets, although some level of improvement/modernisation may be required.

Poor quality refers to playing provision with, for example, inadequate grass cover, uneven surfaces and waterlogging issues, whilst for ancillary facilities it may relate to changing rooms with no showers (or communal showers), no running water and old, dated interiors. They are often unsuitable for mixed gender use.

To ensure accurate findings, site assessments for each sport are carried out during the playing season for that sport. As such, site assessments for sports primarily played in the winter are generally conducted between November and February, whilst the sports predominately played in the summer are assessed between July and August. This also enables sufficient play to be carried out on the provision before the assessments take place by means of providing an accurate picture regarding the impact of demand.

In addition to undertaking non-technical assessments (using the templates provided within the guidance), users and providers have also been consulted on the quality as well as the Council and relevant NGBs. In some instances, the quality rating has been adjusted to reflect feedback (thus establishing an "agreed quality rating").

Furthermore, technical assessments have also been provided, where undertaken, such as those carried out by the Grounds Maintenance Association (GMA), which now provides technical assessments across football, rugby union, rugby league and cricket (known as PitchPower reports). PitchPower reports where carried out have informed the quality assessments for the PPS to ensure the findings align (unless there is a clear reason for a differential e.g., recent improvements/deterioration).

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Gather demand information and views

Current demand

Presenting an accurate picture of current demand for playing pitches (i.e., recording how and when provision is used) is important when undertaking a supply and demand assessment. To that end, demand for provision in Rotherham tends to fall within the following categories:

- ◀ Organised competitive play
- ◀ Organised training
- ◀ Informal play
- ◀ Unofficial use

Current and future demand for provision is presented on a sport-by-sport basis within the relevant sections of this report. In addition, unmet, latent, imported and exported demand for provision is also identified within each section (unless no such demand has been identified).

Unmet demand is existing demand that is not getting access to provision. It is usually expressed, for example, when a team is in training but is unable to access a match pitch, or when a club has a waiting list due to a lack of provision, which in turn is hindering the growth of the competition. In comparison, latent demand is defined as the number of additional teams (or members) that could be accommodated if access to a sufficient number of playing pitch facilities (and ancillary provision) were available.

Exported and imported demand refers to those that are playing outside of their local authority area of choice. This therefore includes Rotherham-based demand that travels outside of the Borough to access provision (exported demand), as well as demand from nearby authorities that travel into the Borough (imported demand). This can often be linked to capacity and/or quality issues within an authority, although nationally some leagues and competitions operate a central venue system that can necessitate the displacement.

A variety of consultation methods have been used to collate demand information. Firstly, face-to-face consultation (normally via video call) has been carried out with key clubs and leagues from each sport (as identified by the Steering Group). This enables the collection of detailed demand information and further interrogation of key issues. For all remaining clubs, telephone consultation or an online survey (postal if required) has been utilised.

Key providers and other users of provision have also been contacted, including schools and further education establishments. This involves face-to-face meetings with secondary schools and colleges and an online survey which has been sent to primary schools and special schools.

Future demand

Alongside current demand, it is important for a PPS to assess whether the future demand for provision can be met. One method for calculating this is by using Office of National Statistics (ONS) population projections and proposed housing growth to provide an estimate of the likely future demand for relevant facilities. Assumptions can then be made as to whether existing provision can cater for such growth via the use of team/member generation rates. This involves using an existing participation ratio and applying it to predicted growth to help estimate the change in demand for each sport that may arise in the future.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Other information sources used to help identify future demand include:

- ◀ Recent trends in the participation.
- ◀ The nature of the current and likely future population and their propensity to participate.
- ◀ Feedback from clubs on plans to develop additional teams / attract additional members.
- ◀ Any local and NGB specific sports development targets e.g., women's and girls' activity.

All future demand projections across the PPS for Rotherham covers the period up until 2040, which is aligned with the Council's Local Plan Review.

1.4: Assess the supply and demand information and views (Stage C)

Supply and demand information gathered is used to assess the adequacy of playing pitch provision in Rotherham and to identify key issues, challenges and aspirations. This forms the basis of this report.

Understanding the situation at individual sites

Qualitative ratings are linked to a capacity rating derived from NGB guidance and tailored to suit a local area. For this, the quality and use of each pitch is assessed against recommended capacity to indicate how many match equivalent sessions could be accommodated. Each pitch is then said to have potential spare capacity, be at capacity, or be overplayed – as follows:

Potential spare capacity: Play is below the level the site could sustain.	
At capacity: Play is at a level the site can sustain.	
Overused: Play exceeds the level the site can sustain.	

Pitches have a limit of how much play they can accommodate over a certain period of time before their quality, and in turn their use, is adversely affected. As the main usage of pitches is likely to be for matches, it is appropriate for the comparable unit to be match equivalent sessions but may for example include training sessions and informal use. One team accessing one whole pitch is considered to use the pitch for 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week based on them playing home and away fixtures on an alternate basis (therefore only requiring access to their home pitch every two weeks).

As a guide, the NGBs for the main playing pitch sports have set a standard number of matches that each pitch type should be able to accommodate without adversely affecting its quality. Given how the sports operate, this is per week for football, rugby league and rugby union, per day for hockey and per season for cricket. It is further detailed in the table below.

Table 1.2: Capacity of playing pitches

Sport	Pitch type	No. of match equivalent sessions		
		Good	Standard	Poor
Football	Adult pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Football	Youth pitches	4 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Football	Mini pitches	6 per week	4 per week	2 per week
Rugby union	Natural inadequate	2 per week	1.5 per week	0.5 per week
Rugby union	Natural adequate	3 per week	2 per week	1.5 per week
Rugby union	Pipe drained	3.25 per week	2.5 per week	1.75 per week
Rugby union	Pipe and slit drained	3.5 per week	3 per week	2 per week
Rugby league	Senior pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Rugby league	Junior pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Sport	Pitch type	No. of match equivalent sessions		
		Good	Standard	Poor
Rugby league	Mini pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	4 per season	0 per season
Cricket	One non-turf wicket	60 per season	60 per season	60 per season
Hockey	One AGP	4 matches per day	4 matches per day	0 matches per day

For tennis, a sports-lit hard court is said to have capacity for 60 members, whereas a non-lit has court has capacity for 40 members (this varies for grass courts).

Develop the current and future picture of provision

Once capacity is determined on a site-by-site basis, actual spare capacity is calculated on a borough-wide and an area-by-area basis via further interrogation of peak time demand (i.e., the day/time demand is most likely to exist). This then identifies whether there is overall spare capacity or whether there is a shortfall.

Although spare capacity may be identified at some sites and in some areas, it does not necessarily mean that there is surplus provision. For example, spare capacity may not be available when it is needed (actual spare capacity) or a site may be retained in a 'strategic reserve' to enable rotation and to reduce wear and tear. There may also be a need to discount some capacity, for example at poor quality sites that should not be used until they are improved or at unsecure sites where long-term access cannot be guaranteed.

Conversely, where a shortfall of capacity is identified, this does not necessarily mean there is a need for increased provision via new facilities. Instead, it may be possible for deficits to be overcome through better utilisation of the existing stock, such as via quality improvements or through improving community access.

Once current capacity is determined, future capacity can be calculated via incorporating the future demand identified plus any unmet, latent and exported demand.

Identify the key findings and issues

The Assessment Report, which is this document, is drafted and presented on a sport-by-sport basis, with data analysis undertaken on both a Council-wide and sub-area basis. This focuses on reporting research findings, consultation, site audit information and data analysis supported by detailed GIS mapping. It is agreed and 'signed off' prior to moving on to the strategy and action plan development stages.

Each included section (from Part 2 onwards) summarises the local administration of the included sport (or facility type). Each provides a summary of the supply of and demand for provision, with key issues identified and an overall supply and demand analysis undertaken.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

1.4: Develop the strategy (Stage D)

The Strategy follows the production of this Assessment Report, once it has been finalised and signed off by the Steering Group. It will feature:

- ◀ Headline findings
- ◀ An overall vision and associated aims for the PPS
- ◀ Sport-by-sport recommendations and scenarios
- ◀ Strategic recommendations
- ◀ A site-by-site and area-by-area action plan
- ◀ Housing growth scenarios

Additionally, it will provide detail as to how to deliver the PPS and keep it robust and up-to-date (Stage E).

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

PART 2: FOOTBALL

2.1: Introduction

The organisation overseeing the development of football in Rotherham is Sheffield & Hallamshire FA. It is also responsible for the administration, in terms of discipline, rules and regulations, cup competitions and representative matches, development of clubs and facilities, volunteers, referees and delivering national football schemes.

Facility development for football is largely the responsibility of the Football Foundation (FF), which is a charity, linked to and funded by the Premier League, The FA and the Government (via Sport England). Working in partnership with Sheffield & Hallamshire FA, it helps communities improve their local football facilities through grant funding.

This section of the report focuses on the supply and demand for grass football pitches, where formal demand is generally defined through five formats of play and five pitch types, linked to the age of teams and players. Please refer to the table below for more detail relating to this.

Table 2.1: Football grass pitch formats

Format/pitch type	Age range	Recommended pitch size (metres)	Recommended pitch size including runoff (metres)
Adult	U17s+	100 x 64	106 x 70
Youth 11v11	U15s-U16s	91 x 55	97 x 61
Youth 11v11	U13s-U14s	82 x 50	88 x 56
Youth 9v9	U11s-U12s	73 x 46	79 x 52
Mini 7v7	U9s-U10s	55 x 37	61 x 43
Mini 5v5	U7s-U8s	37 x 27	43 x 33

Part 3 captures supply and demand for third generation artificial turf pitches (3G pitches), which is the preferred artificial surface type for football.

Local Football Facility Plan

To support in delivery of both the current and superseding FA National Game Strategy, the FA has produced a Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) for every local authority across England. Each plan is unique to its area as well as being diverse in its representation. They identify key projects to be delivered and act as an investment portfolio for projects that require potential funding through the FF.

The LFFP is strategically aligned to the National Football Facilities Strategy (NFFS); a 10-year plan to change the landscape of football facilities in England. The NFFS represents a major funding commitment from the national funding partners (the FA, Premier League and Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)) and is delivered through the FF to inform and direct an estimated one billion pounds of investment into football facilities.

Each LFFP builds upon PPS findings (where present and current) regarding the formal and affiliated game.

The LFFP for Rotherham was initially produced in 2018 and subsequently updated in 2025 alongside the production of the PPS to ensure it was based on findings and recommendations that need to be incorporated to guide potential investment priorities.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Notwithstanding the above, it is important to recognise that the LFFP is an investment portfolio of priority projects for potential FF investment; it is not a detailed supply and demand analysis of all pitch provision in a local area. Consequently, it cannot be used in place of this PPS and is not an accepted evidence base for site change of use or disposal. An LFFP does, however, build on available/existing local evidence and strategic plans.

Consultation

In total, there are 556 football teams across 117 clubs that are based in Rotherham which are identified as accessing grass pitch and/or 3G pitch provision on a regular basis for the 2024/25 season.

In addition to face to face and video consultation with selected clubs, an electronic survey was sent to all clubs, with this distributed and supported via Sheffield & Hallamshire FA. A team response rate of 70% has been achieved, with this including the following clubs identified as being particularly key in the Borough:

- ◀ Aston Swallownest JFC
- ◀ Bramley Sunnyside JFC
- ◀ Bramley Sunnyside JFC (Girls)
- ◀ Brinsworth Whitehill JFC
- ◀ Dinnington Town JFC
- ◀ Kiveton Park FC
- ◀ Maltby Main FC
- ◀ Maltby Main JFC
- ◀ Mexborough Rangers JFC
- ◀ Millmoor Juniors FC
- ◀ Millmoor Juniors (Girls) FC
- ◀ Parkgate FC
- ◀ Rawmarsh St Joseph's JFC
- ◀ Rotherham Town JFC
- ◀ Swinton Athletic Spartans FC
- ◀ Wickersley Youth FC
- ◀ Wickersley Youth Girls FC

Furthermore, consultation has also been undertaken with the Rotherham & District Sunday League to inform this section of the report. Attempts continue to be made with clubs that have thus far been unresponsive.

2.2: Supply

The audit identifies a total of 237 grass football pitches across 81 sites in Rotherham. Of these, 213 pitches at 69 sites are identified as being available for community use at some level (although not necessarily used), as shown in the table below.

Table 2.2: Number of grass football pitches available for community use by analysis area

Analysis area	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
Central	5	15	7	4	4	35
North	12	18	9	8	9	56
South	24	28	17	23	30	122
Total	41	61	33	35	43	213

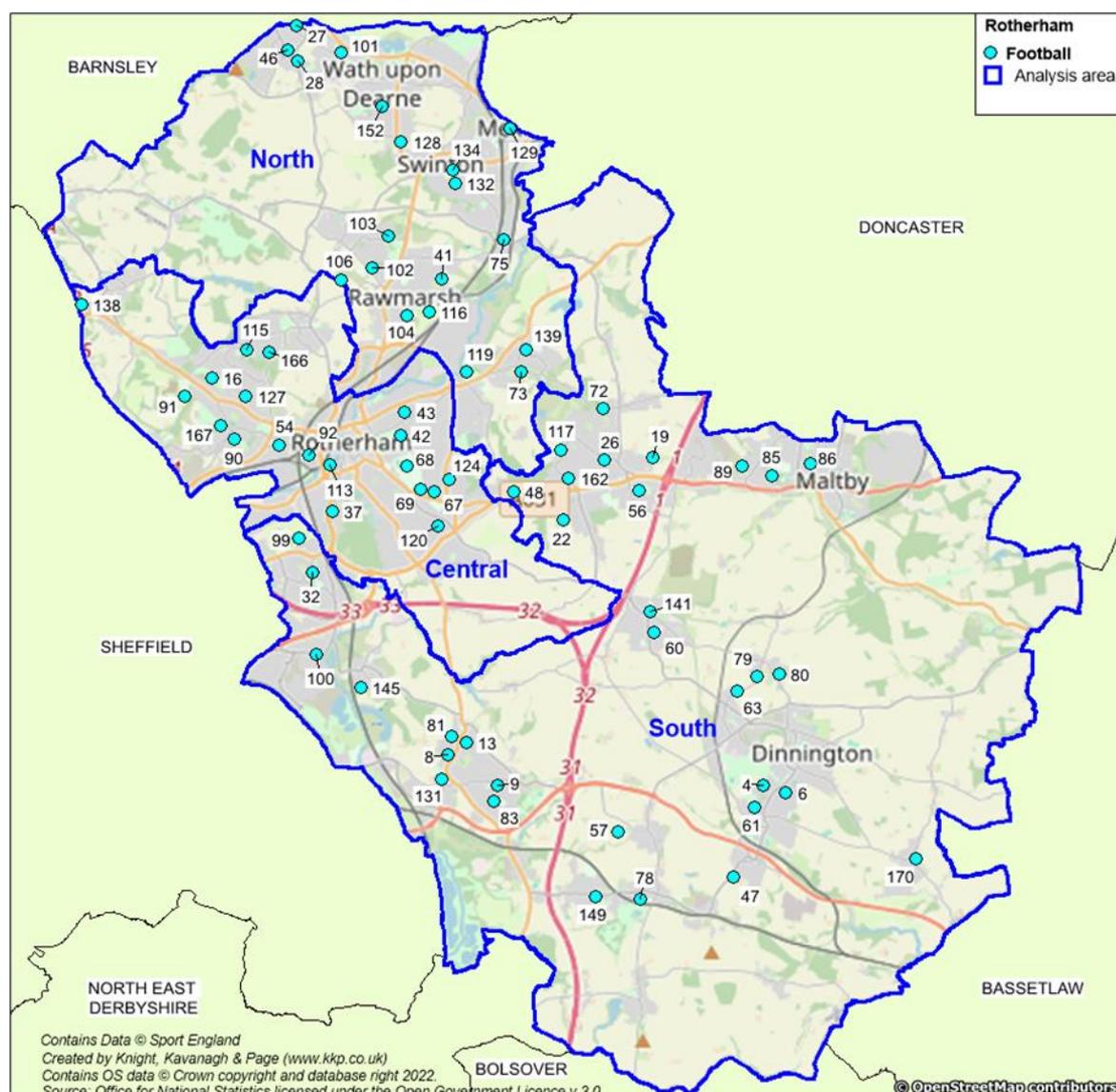
ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

As seen, most community available pitches can be found in the South Analysis Area, with 122 pitches provided (57%). The Central Analysis Area provides the fewest number of community available pitches with just 34 (16%).

There are more youth 11v11 pitches (61) identified when compared to other pitch sizes, which aligns to this being the most dominant format of play in the Borough. Across the rest of the pitch types, there is a relatively even split across Rotherham.

Figure 2.1 identifies all grass football pitches currently servicing Rotherham, regardless of community use. For a key to the map, see Table 2.16.

Figure 2.1: Map of sites with football pitch provision within Rotherham



Disused site/provision

There are several sites that have disused football provision in Rotherham. This includes sites that now have no formal sports pitches (disused sites), or that have previously accommodated football pitches but still accommodate some other form of provision (disused provision). These are summarised in the table below.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Table 2.3: Summary of disused sites/provision within Rotherham

Site ID	Active Places Power ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Comments
7	6002476	Anston Recreation Ground	S25 4DN	South	Disused site - Provided one youth 11v11 pitch <i>circa 2015</i>
23	6002494	Bow Broom Playing Field	S64 8NP	North	Disused site - Provided one adult pitch <i>circa 2008</i>
36	6002464	Burgoyne Park	S26 3XA	South	Disused provision - Provided one adult pitch <i>circa 2022</i>
52	6002483	Eldon Road Recreation Ground	S65 1RD	Central	Disused site - Provided one youth 11v11 pitch <i>circa 2015</i>
53	6002465	Falconer Lane Recreation Ground	S13 9ZL	South	Disused provision – Provided one youth 9v9 pitch <i>circa 2008</i>
62	6002474	Guilthwaite Hill	S60 4NE	Central	Disused site - Provided one adult pitch <i>circa 2008</i>
64	1202818	Harley Recreation Ground	S62 7UF	North	Disused site – Provided one youth 9v9 pitch <i>circa 2022</i>
71	1202831	Hill Sixty	S62 5AQ	North	Disused site - Provided one adult pitch <i>circa 2015</i>
82	6002488	Lodge Lane	S61 2SF	Central	Disused site - Provided one youth 11v11 pitch <i>circa</i>
87	6009754	Maltby Manor Fields	S66 7EJ	South	Disused site - Provided one adult pitch <i>circa 2009</i>
104	1202890	Rawmarsh Leisure	S62 6DG	North	Disused provision - Provided one adult and one youth 11v11 pitch <i>circa 2023</i>
157	1202820	Wentworth Recreation Ground	S62 7SB	North	Disused provision – Provided one youth 9v9 pitch <i>circa 2008</i>
158	6019127	West Melton Park	S63 6GF	North	Disused site - Provided one youth 11v11 pitch <i>circa</i>
171	N/A	Mill Lane	S60 5PL	South	Disused provision – Provided one youth 9v9 pitch <i>circa 2010</i>
173	N/A	Magna Lane Recreation Ground	S65 4HH	North	Disused provision – Provided one youth 9v9 pitch <i>circa 2015</i> .
175	N/A	Highfield Park	S66 7DR	South	Disused site – Provided one adult pitch <i>circa 2003</i> .
176	N/A	Tickhill Road	S66 7QW	South	Disused site – Provided one adult pitch <i>circa 2003</i> ¹
177	N/A	Newhill Park	S63 6HY	North	Disused provision – Provided one youth 11v11 pitch <i>circa 2009</i>
178	N/A	Picadilly Recreation Ground	S64 8JZ	North	Disused provision – Provided one youth 11v11 pitch <i>circa 2003</i>
179	N/A	Redhill	S26 6QA	South	Disused provision – Provided one youth 11v11 pitch <i>circa 2008</i>

¹ Site is subject to a planning application: RB2024/0453

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Site ID	Active Places Power ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Comments
183	N/A	Winney Hill	S26 7YL	South	Disused site – Provided one adult pitch <i>circa 2008</i>
184	N/A	Harthill Leisure Centre	S26 7XG	South	Disused provision – Provided one adult pitch <i>circa 2015</i>
192	N/A	Kiveton Park Industrial Estate	S26 6PB	South	Disused site - Provided one youth 11v11 pitch and one mini 7v7 pitch <i>circa 2010</i> .
194	N/A	New Wortley Road Park	S60 1LD	Central	Disused provision – Provided one mini 5v5 pitch <i>circa 2016</i>
195	N/A	Pitches Sports Club	S60 3PR	Central	Disused site – Provided one youth 11v11 pitch <i>circa 2008</i> .

As seen, there are currently 27 pitches across 25 sites which are not currently marked out but have been in the past. As a breakdown this equates to 10 adult pitches, 10 youth 11v11 pitches, five youth 9v9 pitches, one mini 7v7 pitch and one mini 5v5 pitch.

Management

Of the 213 community available pitches in Rotherham, 46 are managed by the Council (22%), 22 are managed by a parish or town council (10%), 38 are managed in-house by sports clubs (18%), 73 are managed by education operators (34%), 19 are managed by community organisations (9%), and the remaining 15 pitches are managed by other providers (7%). This is summarised further in the table below.

Table 2.4: Summary of pitch management (number of community available pitches)

Education	Council	Clubs	Parish/ Town Council	Community Organisation	Other
73	46	38	22	19	15

Education providers being the most dominant supplier of pitches is relatively common; however, this can cause issues as such operators are the most likely to prevent community access.

Security of tenure

Football clubs are considered to have secure tenure where they have freehold, leasehold or formally secured use of their site/s, for example via a community use agreement, for the next three or more years. In addition, demand that accesses local authority sites is also considered to have secure tenure on the basis that this provision will continue to be provided as part of the Council's ongoing leisure offering commitment. Based on this, tenure of sites in Rotherham is generally secure.

Of the 213 pitches that are available for community use in Rotherham, 159 pitches (75%) provide secure tenure for football participation, ensuring long-term and reliable access for users. In contrast, 54 pitches (25%) operate with an unsecure tenure, creating potential vulnerability in sustaining current levels of activity and future demand.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

All community available sites across Rotherham that are classified as having unsecure tenure are schools. In the main, education establishments are mostly able to state their own policies, therefore making them more likely to restrict levels of community use. Of the 73 community available pitches across the Borough that are situated at education sites, 18 provide a secure tenure for football participation through access arrangements via a planning condition. This is the case at Oakwood High School, TR Sports Centre, Wath Academy and Wickersley School & Sports College.

The below clubs are current accessing unsecure education sites for matches:

- ◀ Aston Swallownest JFC – Aston Academy
- ◀ Bramley Sunnyside JFC – Bramley Sunnyside Junior School
- ◀ Bramley Sunnyside JFC (Girls) - Bramley Sunnyside Junior School
- ◀ Hope Valley Tap FC – Clifton Community School (Cranworth Road Campus)
- ◀ Laughton Common FC – Dinnington High School
- ◀ Maltby JFC – Maltby Academy
- ◀ Red Lion Thorpe Hesley FC - Clifton Community School (Cranworth Road Campus)
- ◀ Rotherham Town JFC – St Bernards Catholic High School
- ◀ Sheffield International FC - Oakwood High School
- ◀ Swinton Athletic Spartans JFC – Swinton Academy
- ◀ Swinton W.M.C. FC – Swinton Academy
- ◀ The Cottage FC – St Pius X Catholic High School
- ◀ Valley JFC – Thrybergh Academy And Sports College
- ◀ Whiston Wildcats JFC – Sitwell Junior School/ Oakwood High School
- ◀ Woodman Rotherham FC - St Pius X Catholic High School

Additionally, several schools do not allow community access at all, with these also therefore providing unsecure tenure. The reasons for this vary. The most common example is that the schools want to protect pitches for curricular and extra-curricular purposes due to existing quality issues, whilst other reasons include staffing issues, health and safety issues and a perceived lack of profitability.

Pitch quality

The quality of football pitches across Rotherham has been assessed via a combination of site visits carried out in January 2025 (using non-technical assessments as determined by the FA), PitchPower reports where available (see below), and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating on a scale of good, standard and poor. For the full site assessment criteria, please refer to Appendix 2.

Pitch quality primarily influences the carrying capacity of a site; often pitches lack the drainage and maintenance necessary to sustain use. Pitches that receive little to no ongoing repair or post-season remedial work are likely to be assessed as poor, therefore limiting the number of games they can accommodate each week without it having a detrimental effect on quality. Conversely, well maintained pitches are likely to be of a higher standard and capable of taking a number of matches without a significant reduction in surface quality.

The table below summarises the quality of community available pitches in Rotherham. As seen, most pitches are assessed as standard quality (110 or 52%). There is then a reasonably even split between good quality pitches (54 or 25%) and poor quality pitches (49 or 23%).

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Table 2.5: Summary of pitch quality by pitch type (community available)

Pitch type	No. of good quality pitches	No. of standard quality pitches	No. of poor quality pitches
Adult	21	16	4
Youth 11v11	9	33	19
Youth 9v9	6	19	8
Mini 7v7	8	20	7
Mini 5v5	10	22	11
Total	54	110	49

The good quality pitches are located at:

- ◀ Aston Academy
- ◀ Bob Mason Recreation Grounds
- ◀ Brampton Ellis Playing Fields
- ◀ Brinsworth Playing Fields
- ◀ Chapman Fields
- ◀ Hangsman Lane Recreation Ground
- ◀ Herringthorpe Stadium
- ◀ Killamarsh Junior Athletics Club & Institute
- ◀ Maltby Miners Welfare
- ◀ Millmoor Juniors Football Club
- ◀ Millmoor Stadium
- ◀ Phoenix Sports & Social Club
- ◀ Rawmarsh St Joseph Junior Football Club
- ◀ Roughwood Road Recreation Ground
- ◀ Roundwood Golf Sports & Social Club
- ◀ Ruby Cook Recreation Ground
- ◀ Stelrad Park
- ◀ Swallownest Hamlet Miners Welfare Recreation Ground
- ◀ Treeton Memorial Playing Field
- ◀ West Melton Recreation Ground

Many of these are operated and/or maintained by clubs, which can allow for a more sophisticated, specialist and regular groundskeeping regime to be undertaken. Furthermore, clubs that manage their own sites are more likely to attract external funding for site improvements.

In contrast, the poor quality pitches that have been identified are at:

- ◀ Barkers Park
- ◀ Bramley Sunnyside Junior School
- ◀ Cortonwood Miners Welfare Scheme
- ◀ Crowgate Recreation Ground
- ◀ Green Arbour Road Rec Ground
- ◀ Greenlands Park
- ◀ Herringthorpe Playing Fields
- ◀ Hollings Lane Field
- ◀ Hollings Lane Sports Field
- ◀ Lodge Lane Park
- ◀ Maltby Miners Welfare
- ◀ Phoenix Sports & Social Club
- ◀ Rawmarsh Leisure

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

- ◀ Roughwood Road Recreation Ground
- ◀ Ruby Cook Recreation Ground
- ◀ Swallownest Hamlet Miners Welfare Recreation Ground
- ◀ Thorpe Hesley Recreation Ground
- ◀ Thurcroft Hub
- ◀ Wickersley School & Sports College
- ◀ Woodhouse Mill

In the main, these pitches show significant signs of wear and tear, are subject to basic/poor maintenance programmes, and/or suffer from waterlogging problems. Several are operated by the Council or a parish/town council.

The table below presents additional comments in regards to some sites where key information has been identified. This includes consultation feedback from responding clubs and leagues, non-technical assessment findings and wider operator consultation (e.g., with schools). However, please note that many of the comments provided are only opinions in regards to quality, rather than being evidence-based.

Table 2.6: Pitch quality findings

Site ID	Site name	Stakeholder	Consultation findings
19	Bill Hawes Recreation Ground	Bramley Sunnyside Juniors FC	The Club states that the goal mouths are wearing thin and are subject to holding water after substantial wet weather. The Club also states that overall maintenance of the pitches carried out by the Council is poor.
32	Brinsworth Playing Fields	Shakhtar Sheffield FC	The Club states that pitch quality has not improved upon previous seasons, with drainage on the site considered poor, whilst maintenance carried out by the Council is good.
49	Dinnington High School	Dinnington High School	Overall pitch quality is considered to be adequate although these are subject to curricular and extracurricular usage which contributes to overall carrying capacity and quality.
51	DVC Sports	AFC Trades Rawmarsh; Brecks Snooker Club Momentous Football Academy	The clubs collectively state that the overall maintenance carried out by the school is basic, with this relating to cutting and line marking and post season remedial work. Drainage on the site is considered to be good with no highlighted issues in relation to postponed fixtures.
54	Ferham Park	The Colin FC	The Club states poor maintenance is carried out by the council on these pitches with no difference in overall quality when compared to previous playing seasons.
61	Greenlands Park	Anston Rangers JFC	Overall pitch quality at this site has improved with the Club stating that this is due to an increase in maintenance. It should be noted that the goal mouths at this site have been highlighted as needing attention.
68	Herringthorpe Playing Fields	Rotherham & District Sunday League	The League states that the site is of a poor quality and that the pitches are not looked after, with maintenance not carried out as frequently as what it should be.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Stakeholder	Consultation findings
72	Hollings Lane Field	Ravenfield Rangers JFC; The Woodman Woodlathes FC	The clubs state that overall pitch quality is not good and has gotten significantly poorer when compared to previous seasons, with maintenance carried out by the Council seen as being ineffective when trying to improve pitch quality.
81	Leonard Kyte Recreation Ground	Aston Athletic FC	The Club states that overall maintenance carried out by the Council is standard quality and that the drainage is poor.
88	Maltby Miners Welfare	Maltby Main FC	The Club states that there has been miscommunication from the Council in relation to whose responsibility it is to maintain the pitches. Overall quality has improved at the site; however, the Club wishes to lead the maintenance regime.
95	Oakwood High School	Sheffield International FC	The Club states that the maintenance and drainage on this site is of a poor quality, although overall quality is standard. The pitches on this site are subject to curricular and extracurricular demand which contributes to the overall carrying capacity and quality of the pitches.
99	Phoenix Sports And Social Club	AFC Phoenix Club; Brinsworth Whitehill JFC	The clubs collectively state that as a result of investment to drainage at the site by Phoenix Sports & Recreation LTD, the overall pitch quality has improved in comparison to previous seasons.
104	Rawmarsh Leisure	AFC Rigdyke	The Club states that pitch maintenance carried out by the council is poor and that overall pitch quality has gotten slightly poorer when compared to previous seasons due to less grass cutting making conditions more difficult to play in.
106	Rawmarsh St Joseph JFC	Rawmarsh St Joseph JFC	The Club states that the overall pitch quality has improved upon previous seasons as a result of enhanced maintenance that the Club has funded. Despite this, drainage remains an issue when subject to heavy rainfall.
115	Roughwood Road Recreation Ground	Greasborough Youth FC	The Club states that the pitch quality has declined substantially when compared to previous seasons. The site is subject to unofficial use which contributes to a lack of grass coverage as well as poor drainage.
117	Ruby Cook Recreation Ground	Wickersley Youth JFC	The Club states that overall pitch quality has improved significantly on previous seasons with this due to Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund carried out in addition to a groundsman.
119	Silverwood Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	Lord Reresby FC	The Club states that it carries out maintenance on the site but struggles to uphold quality due to a lack of financial support. Overall quality has declined in comparison to previous seasons.
127	St Pauls Field	The Club Pot FC	The Club states that the overall maintenance and drainage carried out by the Council is adequate with no major issues to report.
128	St Pius X Catholic High School	Woodman Rotherham FC	The Club states that the maintenance and drainage of the pitches are of a good quality.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Stakeholder	Consultation findings
129	Stelrad Park	Mexborough Rangers JFC	The Club states that through time spent by volunteers and protecting the pitch during extreme weather conditions, the overall pitch quality at the site has improved on previous seasons.
132	Swinton Academy	Swinton Spartans FC	Pitches receive basic maintenance from external contractors and have decreased in quality in recent years since 2021. The Club states that overall quality was better when the school maintained the pitches.
138	Thorpe Hesley Recreation Ground	Clubhouse FC	The Club states that pitch quality is significantly poorer when compared to previous seasons with it also stating that there is a lack of maintenance carried out to keep pitch quality at an adequate level.
141	Thurcroft Hub	Gallows FC	The Club states that overall pitch maintenance and drainage is adequate at the site with no major issues identified.
143	Tr Sports Centre	Sheffield International FC; Thomas Rotherham College	Investment from the School to improve the overall maintenance at the site has improved the pitch quality on previous seasons.
151	Wath Academy	Wath Academy; Wath All Stars FC; Wathletico Women FC	Overall pitch quality is good in relation to both maintenance and drainage. Heavy school usage, however, impacts on quality and carrying capacity.
164	Wickersley School and Sports College	Wickersley Old Village Veterans FC	The Club states that pitch quality is good although similar to other education sites these pitches are subject to curricular and extracurricular demand, contributing to carrying capacity and overall pitch quality.
170	Woodsetts Recreation Ground	Shireoaks Inn FC	The Club states that overall pitch quality has improved when compared to last season with this as a result of fewer matches taking place on the pitch.

For a full breakdown of quality ratings at each site, please refer to Table 2.16.

The FA's Pitch Improvement Strategy

The FA has a general pitch improvement strategy which has been developed in partnership with the Grounds Management Association (GMA) to develop a grass pitch maintenance service that can be utilised by grassroots clubs with the aim of improving knowledge, skills and therefore the quality of pitches. The key principles behind the service are to provide clubs with advice/practical solutions in a range of areas, with the simple aim of improving playing surfaces. The programme is designed to help clubs on sites that they themselves manage and maintain but can also be used to advise local authority maintained sites.

Further to this, the FF and the FA has recently developed the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (GPMF) that allows clubs and sports organisations to apply for grant funding for maintenance assistance, consumables and/or equipment. Local authorities are currently ineligible applicants through this fund; however, clubs, leagues and or charitable organisations using local authority sites can apply provided they have security of tenure and/or a proforma is in place.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

In addition, the FA's Strategy also aims to focus on developing improved maintenance with local authorities that can be utilised at local authority-maintained sites.

PitchPower

The FA has a Pitch Improvement Programme aimed at improving the standard of grass pitches across the Country. For provision included in the programme, clubs can utilise the services of the FF's PitchPower app to carry out a free on-site assessment of their pitches. This then provides the GMA with the detail needed to create a personalised, informative report to advise on how improvements can be made. Clubs then receive bespoke advice and support to help with any future actions, funding applications and equipment.

The web app is open to access by all providers, including clubs, schools and local authorities. Following a PitchPower report, organisations can work towards the recommended dedicated maintenance regime identified to improve the quality of their pitches. Applicants are required to submit a PitchPower assessment for each of their pitches as a condition of a grant funding application for FF grass pitch investment, such as the GPMF.

PitchPower is less restricted by the seasonal window of in-season play when compared to the non-technical assessments carried out for this PPS, instead being able to be undertaken at any time in the year. Assessments are completed and submitted within one of three windows: July - October, November – March or April – June.

As well as the completion of other supporting information such as detail of volunteer training and what maintenance equipment is available, the assessment requires the taking of images and a single soil sample at each assessment site. There are three assessment sites for adult and youth pitches at each goal area and the centre circle, whilst for mini pitches there are two sites at the centre circle and one goal area.

The PitchPower assessments use a new five step Performance Quality Standard (PQS) rating system developed by the GMA, with the FF and Sport England agreeing alignment with the capacity guidance within the existing PPS guidance. This alignment is shown in the table below.

Table 2.7: Agreed equivalent PPS quality rating for PQS ratings

PQS Rating	PPS Quality Rating
Poor	Poor
Basic	Standard
Good	Good
Advanced	Good
High	Good

In Rotherham, 16 sites have received a PitchPower assessment. The findings of these in comparison to the PPS findings are shown in the table below.

Table 2.8: Summary of PitchPower findings compared to PPS quality ratings

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	PitchPower rating	PPS rating
8	Aston Academy²	Adult	Basic	Standard

² Sites in bold have been used to inform the quality scores in this report.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	PitchPower rating	PPS rating
8	Aston Academy	Youth 11v11	Advanced	Good
8	Aston Academy	Youth 11v11	Advanced	Good
8	Aston Academy	Youth 9v9	Advanced	Good
8	Aston Academy	Youth 9v9	Basic	Standard
8	Aston Academy	Mini 7v7	Advanced	Good
8	Aston Academy	Mini 7v7	Advanced	Good
8	Aston Academy	Mini 5v5	Advanced	Good
8	Aston Academy	Mini 5v5	Good	Good
32	Brinsworth Playing Fields	Youth 11v11	Poor	Good
32	Brinsworth Playing Fields	Youth 11v11	Poor	Standard
32	Brinsworth Playing Fields	Youth 11v11	Poor	Standard
40	Chapman Fields	Adult	Good	Good
40	Chapman Fields	Youth 11v11	Good	Good
40	Chapman Fields	Youth 11v11	Good	Good
40	Chapman Fields	Youth 9v9	Good	Good
46	Cortonwood Miners Welfare Scheme	Youth 11v11	Poor	Poor
46	Cortonwood Miners Welfare Scheme	Youth 9v9	Poor	Poor
46	Cortonwood Miners Welfare Scheme	Mini 7v7	Poor	Poor
46	Cortonwood Miners Welfare Scheme	Mini 5v5	Poor	Poor
57	Goosecar Lane Recreation Ground	Adult	Poor	Standard
78	Kiveton Park	Adult	Advanced	Standard
78	Kiveton Park	Youth 11v11	Advanced	Standard
78	Kiveton Park	Youth 9v9	Advanced	Standard
91	Millmoor Juniors Football Club	Adult	Good	Good
91	Millmoor Juniors Football Club	Youth (11v11)	Good	Good
91	Millmoor Juniors Football Club	Youth (9v9)	Basic	Standard
91	Millmoor Juniors Football Club	Mini (7v7)	Good	Good
91	Millmoor Juniors Football Club	Mini (5v5)	Good	Good
99	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	Mini 7v7	Poor	Poor
115	Roughwood Road Recreation Ground	Youth 11v11	Good	Poor
115	Roughwood Road Recreation Ground	Youth 9v9	Good	Good
115	Roughwood Road Recreation Ground	Mini 7v7	Good	Standard
115	Roughwood Road Recreation Ground	Mini 5v5	Basic	Standard
117	Ruby Cook Recreation Ground	Youth 9v9	Poor	Poor
117	Ruby Cook Recreation Ground	Mini 7v7	Good	Good
117	Ruby Cook Recreation Ground	Mini 7v7	Poor	Poor
117	Ruby Cook Recreation Ground	Mini 7v7	Poor	Poor
117	Ruby Cook Recreation Ground	Mini 5v5	Advanced	Good
117	Ruby Cook Recreation Ground	Mini 5v5	Advanced	Good
117	Ruby Cook Recreation Ground	Mini 5v5	Poor	Poor
129	Stelrad Park	Youth 11v11	Good	Good

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	PitchPower rating	PPS rating
129	Stelrad Park	Youth 9v9	Good	Good
129	Stelrad Park	Mini 7v7	Good	Good
131	Swallownest Hamlet Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	Adult	Good	Good
131	Swallownest Hamlet Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	Adult	Poor	Poor
131	Swallownest Hamlet Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	Mini 7v7	Basic	Standard
131	Swallownest Hamlet Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	Mini 5v5	Basic	Standard
131	Swallownest Hamlet Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	Mini 5v5	Basic	Standard
131	Swallownest Hamlet Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	Mini 5v5	Basic	Standard
131	Swallownest Hamlet Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	Mini 5v5	Poor	Poor
134	Swinton Miners Welfare	Youth 11v11	Good	Good
134	Swinton Miners Welfare	Mini 7v7	Good	Good
134	Swinton Miners Welfare	Mini 5v5	Good	Good
145	Treeton Memorial Playing Field	Adult	Advanced	Good
145	Treeton Memorial Playing Field	Mini 5v5	Advanced	Good
187	Killamarsh Junior Athletics Club & Institute	Adult	Advanced	Good
187	Killamarsh Junior Athletics Club & Institute	Adult	Good	Good
187	Killamarsh Junior Athletics Club & Institute	Adult	Good	Good
187	Killamarsh Junior Athletics Club & Institute	Youth 11v11	Good	Good
187	Killamarsh Junior Athletics Club & Institute	Youth 9v9	Good	Good
187	Killamarsh Junior Athletics Club & Institute	Mini 7v7	Good	Good
187	Killamarsh Junior Athletics Club & Institute	Mini 5v5	Good	Good
187	Killamarsh Junior Athletics Club & Institute	Mini 5v5	Good	Good

As seen, most of the ratings from PitchPower assessments are aligned with those from the non-technical assessments. Where there are discrepancies, it has been agreed with the FF to use the PPS quality scores as these are the most up to date findings, although it should be noted these scores have still been cross referenced against PitchPower reports and club consultation.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund³

With quality of grass pitches becoming one of the biggest influences on participation in football, the FA has made it a priority to work towards improving quality of grass pitches across the country. This has resulted in the creation of the GPMF. As part of this, grass pitches identified as having quality issues by the GMA via PitchPower assessments can apply to access funding to improve pitches to good quality or sustain them at good quality.

Once a PitchPower grass pitch assessment report has been produced for a site, eligible organisations can then apply for grant funding support through the GPMF, a fund offering six-year tapered grants to help eligible organisations such as clubs and leagues enhance or sustain the quality of their grass pitches. The fund is a key part of the FF's Grass Pitch Improvement Programme - an ambition to deliver 20,000 quality grass pitches by 2030. If a site is categorised as 'poor' or 'basic', then organisations can apply for funding to enhance pitch quality, whilst clubs with good or standard quality pitches can also apply for a lower level of funding to sustain quality.

All applicants must have the landowners permission (as a minimum) and have received a PitchPower Pitch Assessment Report, with the fund currently open to football clubs (excluding stadia pitches used for National League System play), leagues, education establishments and parish & town councils, Club Community Organisations (CCOs) and County FAs.

Several clubs in Rotherham have been awarded funding from the FF to improve the quality of their pitches. This incorporates investment into the following sites:

- ◀ Brinsworth Playing Fields
- ◀ Chapman Fields
- ◀ Cortonwood Miners Welfare Scheme
- ◀ Flash Lane Recreation Ground
- ◀ Killamarsh Junior Athletics Club & Institute
- ◀ Kiveton Park
- ◀ Maltby Miners Welfare
- ◀ Millmoor Juniors Football Club
- ◀ Phoenix Sports & Social Club
- ◀ Rawmarsh St Josep JFC
- ◀ Roughwood Recreation Ground
- ◀ Ruby Cook Recreation Ground
- ◀ Stelrad Park
- ◀ Swinton Miners Welfare
- ◀ Thurcroft Hub
- ◀ Treeton Memorial Playing Fields
- ◀ West Melton Recreation Ground

Ancillary facilities

Ancillary facility ratings are primarily influenced by the type of amenities which are available on a site accompanied by their quality, such as a clubhouse, changing rooms and car parking, as well as dedicated official and spectator facilities. Furthermore, it is becoming increasingly important for the provision to be inclusive, particularly due to growing women's and girls' and disability demand.

³ [Link to the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund](#)

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Although the size and configuration of ancillary provision may alter based on sports using the provision and the number of pitches serviced, generally the same principles are recommended to allow for varied use from all demographics. These are as follows:

- ◀ Accessible changing areas which can be separated, or are private/self-contained, to allow for separate male/female/all gender or senior/junior separation.
- ◀ A private accessible changing room (with relevant changing and showering provision) for someone who requires assistance.
- ◀ Separate female / male / all gender toilet provision.
- ◀ Suitably designed and specified showering cubicles to all users to maintain dignity and privacy whilst showering.

Open plan changing, toilets and particularly showering facilities can provide a significant barrier to many people resulting in them either not taking part or having a poorer sporting experience. As a result, those ancillary facilities that do not meet the above criteria are not rated as anything higher than standard quality for the purposes of this document.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

The table below highlights sites across Rotherham together with ancillary facility quality ratings and additional comments, where provided and available. This includes information from both the site assessment and consultation phase of the work undertaken.

Table 2.9: Ancillary provision of the clubs that responded to consultation

Site ID	Site name	Users	Overall building quality	Changing room quality	Comments
16	Barkers Park	Milldam FC; Ring O Bells FC	Standard	Poor	No changing facilities provided on site only toilets for users of pitches.
18	Baths Field	Cross Keys Wath FC; Westville FC	N/A	N/A	No ancillary facilities available on site.
19	Bill Hawes Recreation Ground	Bramley Sunnyside Juniors FC	N/A	N/A	No ancillary facilities available on site.
22	Bob Mason Recreation Grounds	Wickersley AFC	Standard	Standard	Two changing rooms with basic facilities including communal showers and toilet facilities.
27	Brampton Bierlow Park	-	N/A	N/A	No ancillary facilities available on site.
28	Brampton Ellis Playing Fields	-	N/A	N/A	No ancillary facilities available on site.
32	Brinsworth Playing Fields	Shakhtar Sheffield FC	Good	Standard	The Club state that they do not receive access to the onsite ancillary facilities.
37	Canklow Recreation Ground	Rotherham United Community Sports Trust; Treeton Terriers (Junior) FC	Standard	Standard	Two changing rooms onsite which are dated and in need of refurbishment. Facilities include changing rooms and toilets.
41	Claypit Lane Recreation Ground	AFC Monkwood	N/A	N/A	No ancillary facilities available on site.
46	Cortonwood Miners Welfare Scheme	-	Standard	Standard	Facilities include toilets and changing rooms that are accessible to both players and spectators. Facility also used post-match for food and drinks with a bar/ kitchen available.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Users	Overall building quality	Changing room quality	Comments
47	Crowgate Recreation Ground	Laughton Juniors FC	N/A	N/A	No ancillary facilities available on site.
54	Ferham Park	The Colin fc	N/A	N/A	No ancillary facilities available on site.
56	Flash Lane Recreation Field	AFC Rotherham Spartans Bramley Stingers JFC Wickersley THS FC	N/A	N/A	No ancillary facilities available on site.
57	Goosecarr Lane Recreation Ground	Thurcroft FC	Standard	Standard	Basic facilities provided within the pavilion including changing rooms and toilet facilities.
60	Green Arbour Road Rec Ground	Thurcroft JFC	N/A	N/A	No ancillary facilities available on site.
61	Greenlands Park	Anston Rangers JFC	Standard	Standard	Two changing rooms that are unused by the Club. No showers are within the changing rooms although a toilet is available within each. There are also dedicated spectator toilets which are disability compliant.
63	Hangsman Lane Recreation Ground	Thurcroft JFC	N/A	N/A	No ancillary facilities available on site.
68	Herringthorpe Playing Fields	The Park Hotel FC	Standard	Poor	Rotherham and District Sunday League states that the facilities are not adequate to accommodate the demand the site receives. The changing rooms are without showering facilities and include communal toilets.
69	Herringthorpe Stadium	Mail Coach FC; Rotherham United Women FC	Standard	Good	The general facilities include male and female changing rooms with showers and lockers available. There are also two meeting rooms which are available for hire. However, access to the changing rooms/toilets are reported to be infrequent.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Users	Overall building quality	Changing room quality	Comments
72	Hollings Lane Field	Ravenfield Rangers JFC; The Woodman Woodlathes FC	N/A	N/A	No ancillary facilities available on site.
73	Hollings Lane Sports Field	Woodman Woodlathes FC	N/A	N/A	No ancillary facilities available on site.
75	Kilnhurst Recreation Ground	Courtyard FC; Parkgate FC; Swinton Robin Hood FC	Poor	Poor	Site is equipped with outdated facilities that include changing rooms and toilets which are in major need of refurbishment to accommodate demand.
78	Kiveton Park	AG Sports Elites FC; Kiveton Park FC	Standard	Poor	The Club are in the process of upgrading its facilities at the site through fund raising and volunteers . There is no current clubhouse for the Club however there were plans for the construction of a new building, as such they utilise the cricket club facilities.
80	Laughton-en-le-Morthen Recreation Ground	Laughton Juniors FC	Standard	Standard	Basic provision identified within this supporting pavilion which includes toilets and a moderate space for events.
81	Leonard Kyte Recreation Ground	Aston Athletic FC	Standard	Standard	Three changing rooms on site which include communal player toilets and showers. Officials changing is also available with the same amenities. There is no access to dedicated spectator provision.
83	Lodge Lane Park	Aughton Black Bull FC; Swallownest Bethesda FC	Poor	Poor	No changing rooms or toilets located onsite, shipping container utilised for storage.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Users	Overall building quality	Changing room quality	Comments
88	Maltby Miners Welfare	Maltby Main FC; Maltby Main JFC	Standard	Standard	The clubhouse is equipped with a kitchen/ bar. The Club has access to four changing rooms equipped with communal showers, there is also an officials room. Dedicated spectator toilets and a medical room are also available on site. The Club often struggle to provide hot water for the showers.
91	Millmoor Juniors Football Club	Millmoor JFC	Good	Good	In 2018 the facilities were refurbished including kitchen improvements, a fully functional clubhouse, including changing rooms with showers, referee changing room, office, public toilets, kitchen and a cafe which serves hot and cold products on matchdays.
92	Millmoor Stadium	Sheffield FC Youth	Good	Good	Facility has recently undergone major refurbishment works including the changing room facilities which now include self-contained showers and toilets.
99	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	AFC Phoenix Club; Brinsworth FC; Brinsworth Whitehill JFC	Good	Standard	The Clubhouse onsite includes a kitchen/ bar and four changing rooms. The changing rooms include communal showers however does have self-contained toilets. An officials changing room is also included as well as dedicated spectator toilets and disabled access. Brinsworth Whitehill JFC states it needs segregated changing facilities in order to accommodate demand from girl's teams.
100	Poplar Way Recreation Ground	Cotts FC Treeton Terriers JFC	Good	Good	The onsite pavilion has recently been refurbished and includes changing rooms with self-contained showers and toilets as well as a function room.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Users	Overall building quality	Changing room quality	Comments
101	West Melton Recreation Ground	The Plough Ville FC	Standard	Standard	Small onsite clubhouse includes changing rooms with communal showers, toilet facilities and a social space.
104	Rawmarsh Leisure	AFC Rigdyke	Good	Standard	The Club states that there are two changing rooms available that contain communal player showers and toilets. No officials changing is available or dedicated spectator toilets.
106	Rawmarsh St Joseph Junior Football Club	Rawmarsh St Joseph JFC	Standard	Standard	The Club states that six changing rooms are available within its clubhouse which is also equipped with a kitchen/ bar. No showers are available within the changing rooms although communal player toilets are available. Dedicated spectator toilets, medical room and disabled access are available.
115	Roughwood Road Recreation Ground	Greasborough Youth FC	Poor	Poor	Mobile unit utilised as a clubhouse which contains basic facilities including changing rooms and toilets.
116	Roundwood Golf Sports & Social Club	Parkgate FC; Rotherham United Women FC	Good	Standard	Clubhouse includes two changing rooms with communal showers and toilets. Dedicated spectator toilets are also available alongside an officials room. Kitchen/ bar facilities are also available on site.
117	Ruby Cook Recreation Ground	Wickersley Youth JFC	Standard	Poor	No changing rooms available within the clubhouse onsite. The Club does have toilets for both player and spectator access which are disability compliant. The Club states issues with carparking on match days with this being too small.
119	Silverwood Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	Lord Reresby FC	N/A	N/A	No ancillary facilities available on site.
127	St Pauls Field	The Club Pot FC	N/A	N/A	No ancillary facilities available on site.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Users	Overall building quality	Changing room quality	Comments
129	Stelrad Park	Mexborough Rangers JFC	Poor	Poor	No changing facilities onsite. The Club has access to a portaloos to facilitate players and spectators.
131	Swallownest Hamlet Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	Sheffield United Community Foundation FC; Swallownest FC	Standard	Good	Fully functional Clubhouse with kitchen/ bar changing rooms, officials changing, dedicated spectator facilities and a social space.
134	Swinton Miners Welfare	Swinton Athletic FC	Poor	Poor	Mobile unit utilised as a clubhouse which contains basic facilities including changing rooms and toilets.
138	Thorpe Hesley Recreation Ground	Clubhouse FC; Thorpe Hesley Village FC	Poor	Poor	Two changing rooms that are without any showering facilities or toilets.
141	Thurcroft Hub	Gallows FC	Good	Standard	The clubhouse onsite includes a kitchen/ bar along with two changing rooms that are equipped with self-contained toilets and communal showers.
145	Treeton Memorial Playing Field	Treeton Terriers JFC	Standard	Standard	Clubhouse includes bar/ kitchen area and changing rooms with communal showers and toilets. Spectator toilets are also available on site as well as officials changing,
149	Wales Recreation Ground	Elsie's FC	N/A	N/A	No ancillary facilities available on site.
170	Woodsetts Recreation Ground	Shireoaks Inn FC	Standard	Good	The Club has access to five changing rooms within its clubhouse, with these including self-contained showers and toilet facilities. An officials room is also available which has a separate toilet and shower.
187	Killamarsh Junior Athletics Club & Institute	Killamarsh Juniors FC	Good	Standard	The facilities offer a kitchen, bar and spectator facilities. There are also numerous changing rooms with a multisport function; however, there are no dedicated female changing rooms/shower facilities.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

As seen in the table above, 10 sites are identified as providing poor quality changing facilities across Rotherham, with these being Barkers Park, Herringthorpe Playing Fields, Kilnhurst Recreation Ground, Kiveton Park, Lodge Lane Park, Roughwood Recreation Ground, Ruby Cook Recreation Ground, Stelrad Park, Swinton Miners Welfare and Thorpe Hesley Recreation Ground. These sites are generally serviced by dated facilities that require improving or replacing and have signs of wear and tear. Each therefore requires a degree of modernisation to ensure it remains fit for purpose in the future, although this ranges from renovation to the potential of a complete re-build.

Many sites are also identified as being without purposeful ancillary provision. On a site-by-site basis, this requires resolution, with facilities best suited to the userbase required. If sites are setup for and/or accessed by adult teams or women's and girls demand, this could necessitate the need for wide ranging clubhouses, whereas if demand is only received by youth and mini teams, less sophisticated provision is likely to be warranted. This is because such demand generally shows up ready to play, with facilities such as toilets considered to be most important rather than changing rooms.

2.3: Demand

A total of 556 teams from 117 affiliated clubs are identified as playing in Rotherham. As a breakdown, this equates to 130 adult teams, 151 youth 11v11 teams, 99 youth 9v9 teams, 94 mini 7v7 teams and 82 mini 5v5 teams. This is further summarised in the following table.

Table 2.10: Summary of competitive teams currently playing in Rotherham

Age group	No. of teams
Adult Men's (18-45)	91
Adult Women's (18-45)	39
Youth Boys (12-17)	117
Youth Girls (12-17)	34
Youth Boys (10-11)	78
Youth Girls (10-11)	21
Mini Mixed (8-9)	94
Mini Mixed (6-7)	82
Total	556

Football in Rotherham is played predominately in the South Analysis Area with a total of 339 teams (61%), followed by the North Analysis Area with 121 teams (22%). The Central Analysis Area has the fewest number of teams with 96 (17%).

Table 2.11: Summary of number of competitive football teams playing affiliation matches

Analysis area	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
North	39	29	21	17	15	121
Central	31	28	14	13	10	96
South	60	94	64	64	57	339
Rotherham	130	151	99	94	82	556

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Women's and girls' demand

As shown in table 2.10, there are currently 39 women's teams and 55 dedicated girls' teams playing football in Rotherham. This represents 17% of all demand across the Borough, which is a relatively high proportion.

Key clubs and organisations presently fielding female teams include:

- ◀ Aston Swallownest JFC
- ◀ Bramley Stingers JFC
- ◀ Bramley Sunnyside JFC (Girls)
- ◀ Brinsworth Whitehill Women FC
- ◀ Charnock Ridgeway Women & Girls
- ◀ Dinnington Town JFC
- ◀ Killamarsh Juniors FC
- ◀ Kiveton Park FC
- ◀ Laughton Common FC
- ◀ Laughton JFC
- ◀ Maltby JFC
- ◀ Maltby Main FC
- ◀ Maltby Main JFC
- ◀ Millmoor Juniors FC (Girls)
- ◀ Mind Over Matter FC
- ◀ Neverbee Athletic
- ◀ Parkgate FC
- ◀ Rawmarsh St Joseph's JFC
- ◀ Rotherham Select Schools FC
- ◀ Rotherham Town JFC
- ◀ Rotherham United Community Sports Trust FC
- ◀ Rotherham United Women FC
- ◀ Sheffield FC Youth FC
- ◀ Sheffield Kingdom FC
- ◀ Sheffield United Community Foundation FC
- ◀ Socrates Ladies FC
- ◀ Swinton Athletic Spartans JFC
- ◀ Treeton Terriers JFC
- ◀ Wath Stars JFC
- ◀ Wathletico FC
- ◀ Wickersley Youth Girls FC
- ◀ Wickersley Youth Ladies FC
- ◀ Woodhouse Phoenix FC

The FA currently has a drive to increase women's and girls' participation as part of its Reaching Higher Strategy. As such, it is imperative that sufficient facilities become suitable for female access, particularly in relation to toilets and appropriate changing facilities.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

National League System demand

Men's National League System

The National League System (NLS) is a series of interconnected leagues for adult men's football clubs in England. It begins below the Football League (from the National League at Step 1) and comprises of six steps, with various leagues at each level and more leagues lower down the system than at the top. The NLS has a hierarchical format with promotion and relegation between the steps, allowing even the smallest club the theoretical possibility of rising to the top of the system.

Clubs playing within the NLS must adhere to Stadium Accreditation⁴ requirements set out by the FA. The higher the level of football being played the higher the requirements. Clubs cannot progress into the league above if the ground grading requirements do not meet the correct specifications. Stadium Accreditation assesses grounds from Grade 1 to 7, which aligns with Step 1 clubs down to Step 6 clubs making the transition from Regional Feeder League. Please refer to the FA website⁵ for the full specifications for each.

In Rotherham, Rotherham FC plays above the NLS as a professional football club in the Football League. Two teams from two clubs then play within the NLS, as seen in the table below.

Table 2.12: Summary of teams playing within the NLS

Team	League	Level
Parkgate FC	Northern Counties East League Premier Division	Step 5
Maltby Main FC	Northern Counties East League Division One	Step 6

Women's National League System

The Women's NLS provides structure to the women's game. This ranges from Tier 1 to Tier 6 with each tier requiring differing ground grading requirements.

Although women's clubs still need to meet ground requirements set out by the FA, these differ from the men's NLS. Ratings range from grade A to C each with differing minimum requirements. Tier 1 and 2 in the Women's system is akin to Tier 3 and 4 of the men's, although not exactly the same. The system is also hierarchical format with promotion and relegation between the levels, allowing even the smallest club the theoretical possibility of rising to the top of the system.

Rotherham United Women's FC competes within the East Midlands Women's Regional Football League at Tier 5 of the Women's NLS.

Unmet and latent demand

The below clubs in Rotherham all identify latent demand and indicate that they could field additional teams if they had access to more or better quality pitch provision for match and training demand.

- ◀ Bramley Sunnyside JFC (Girls)
- ◀ Bramley Sunnyside JFC

⁴ <https://premierleaguestadiumfund.co.uk/stadium-accreditation-programme>

⁵ <http://www.thefa.com/get-involved/player/ground-grading>

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

- ◀ Brinsworth Whitehill JFC
- ◀ Brinsworth Whitehill Juniors FC (Girls)
- ◀ Club Brinsworth FC
- ◀ Greasbrough Youth FC
- ◀ Lord Reresby FC
- ◀ Maltby Main JFC
- ◀ Mexborough Rangers JFC
- ◀ Momentous Football Academy
- ◀ Rawmarsh St Josephs JFC
- ◀ Rawmarsh St Joseph's Juniors FC
- ◀ Shireoaks Inn FC
- ◀ Wath All Stars FC
- ◀ Wathletico FC
- ◀ Wathletico Women FC
- ◀ Wickersley Youth FC
- ◀ Wickersley Youth Girls FC

As seen, this covers 18 clubs, which is a relatively large amount. Most of the clubs also express future demand linked to the latent demand, with this covered later within this section of the report.

Exported and imported demand

The following three clubs are identified as importing four teams into Rotherham to accommodate match play demand on grass pitches:

- ◀ AG Sports Elites – one mini 5v5 team
- ◀ Sheffield United Community Foundation LFC – two adult women's teams
- ◀ Sheffield FC Youth - one youth 11v11 girls' team

These are all otherwise based in Sheffield.

There is also a relatively large element of exported football demand in relation to 3G pitches. Please see Part 3 of this report for more information in relation to this.

Conversely, no clubs are identified as exporting demand for grass pitches outside of Rotherham.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined via several ways, including through participation increases and by using population forecasts. In addition, the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document will contain housing growth scenarios that will estimate additional demand that could arise from housing developments across Rotherham.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Participation growth

Of responding clubs, 12 report aspirations to increase the number of teams they provide, totalling a predicted growth of 69 teams. This is summarised below.

Table 2.13: Potential team increases identified by clubs

Club	Analysis area	Gender	Number of teams	Pitch size	Match equivalent sessions per week ⁶
Aston Swallownest JFC	South	Women	1	Adult	0.5
Aston Swallownest JFC	South	Boys	2	Youth 9v9	1
Aston Swallownest JFC	South	Girls	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
Aston Swallownest JFC	South	Mixed	1	Mini 7v7	0.5
Aston Swallownest JFC	South	Mixed	1	Mini 5v5	0.5
Bramley Sunnyside JFC (Girls)	South	Girls	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
Bramley Sunnyside JFC (Girls)	South	Girls	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
Bramley Sunnyside JFC (Girls)	South	Mixed	2	Mini 5v5	1
Brinsworth Whitehill JFC	South	Men	1	Adult	0.5
Brinsworth Whitehill JFC	South	Women	1	Adult	0.5
Brinsworth Whitehill JFC	South	Boys	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
Brinsworth Whitehill JFC	South	Girls	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
Brinsworth Whitehill JFC	South	Boys	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
Brinsworth Whitehill JFC	South	Girls	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
Brinsworth Whitehill JFC	South	Mixed	3	Mini 5v5	1.5
Maltby Main JFC	South	Boys	3	Youth 11v11	1.5
Maltby Main JFC	South	Boys	3	Youth 9v9	1.5
Maltby Main JFC	South	Girls	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
Maltby Main JFC	South	Mixed	2	Mini 5v5	1
Mexborough Rangers JFC	North	Youth	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
Mexborough Rangers JFC	North	Mixed	1	Mini 5v5	0.5
Millmoor Juniors FC	Central	Men	1	Adult	0.5
Millmoor Juniors FC	Central	Women	1	Adult	0.5
Millmoor Juniors FC	Central	Mixed	1	Mini 7v7	0.5
Millmoor Juniors FC	Central	Mixed	1	Mini 5v5	0.5
Momentous Football Academy	North	Boys	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
Momentous Football Academy	North	Girls	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
Rawmarsh St Josephs JFC	North	Boys	5	Youth 11v11	2.5
Rawmarsh St Josephs JFC	North	Girls	5	Youth 11v11	2.5
Rawmarsh St Josephs JFC	North	Boys	5	Youth 9v9	2.5

⁶ Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, 0.5 pitches can therefore be seen in the table where there is latent demand for one team.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Club	Analysis area	Gender	Number of teams	Pitch size	Match equivalent sessions per week ⁶
Rawmarsh St Josephs JFC	North	Girls	5	Youth 9v9	2.5
Rawmarsh St Josephs JFC	North	Mixed	5	Mini 5v5	2.5
Shireoaks Inn FC	South	Men	1	Adult	0.5
Wath All Stars FC	North	Mixed	1	Mini 5v5	0.5
Wathletico Women FC	North	Women	1	Adult	0.5
Wathletico Women FC	North	Mixed	1	Mini 5v5	0.5
Wickersley Youth JFC	South	Mixed	4	Mini 5v5	2
-	-	Totals	69	-	34.5

In addition, it should be noted that Swinton Spartans FC also states that it wishes to increase the number of its teams; however, it does not quantify this growth. It has therefore not been included in the table above.

The total future demand quantified by the clubs amounts to 34.5 match equivalent sessions per week. Broken down by pitch type, 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week are identified on adult pitches, 8.5 match equivalent sessions on youth 11v11 pitches, 11 match equivalent sessions on youth 9v9 pitches, one match equivalent sessions on mini 7v7 pitches and 10.5 match equivalent session per week on mini 5v5 pitches.

By analysis area, 16.5 match equivalent sessions of future demand is expressed in the South Analysis Area and 16 match equivalent sessions is expressed in the North Analysis Area and two match equivalent sessions in the Central Analysis Area.

The future demand identified by clubs includes four senior women's and 17 junior girls' teams (in addition to mixed mini teams). To that end, it is worth reiterating that the FA has aspirations to increase female participation in football through the establishment and foreseen future effect of the FA Wildcats programme and Inspiring Positive Change Strategy. It is therefore possible that the growth in affiliated women's and girls' teams may exceed that forecast through other means.

Population growth

Based on population projections to 2040 (in line with the Council's Local Plan Review), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator can estimate the likely additional demand for grass football pitches that will arise from any growth. This is through using the current and future populations in each of the relevant age groups together with the current team numbers. Team generation rates have then been established to understand how much growth is required to establish one new team.

The table below shows the number of new teams generated by the new population and the requisite match equivalent sessions.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Table 2.14: Borough-wide team generation rates

Age group	Team generation rate	No. of new teams generated by the new population	No. of new teams generated by the new population - rounded figure	No. of match equivalent sessions per week ⁷
Adult Men's (18-45)	1:517	5.87	6	3
Adult Women's (18-45)	1:1239	2.52	3	1.5
Youth Boys (12-17)	1:61	7.29	7	3.5
Youth Girls (12-17)	1:202	2.13	2	1
Youth Boys (10-11)	1:47	4.84	5	2.5
Youth Girls (10-11)	1:169	1.29	1	0.5
Mini Mixed (8-9)	1:75	5.87	6	3
Mini Mixed (6-7)	1:85	5.03	5	2.5

As seen, an additional 35 teams are expected to be generated (equating to 17.5 match equivalent sessions per week). This represents relatively substantial growth from population forecasts alone. It equates to nine adult, nine youth 11v11, six youth 9v9, six mini 7v7 and five mini 5v5 teams.

Future demand summary

The future demand that has carried through to the supply and demand analysis and the end of this section of the report will only be based on the increases identified via population growth. This is because future demand reported by clubs is considered more aspirational and to avoid potential double counting (as some aspirations will likely absorb population increases). However, the proceeding Strategy document will include a scenario to identify the impact it would have if the growth was realised, with this considered possible based on recent growth trends. Furthermore, the Strategy document will also include a scenario that portrays future demand based on recent S&HFA growth trends over the previous five years.

Taking the above into consideration, a total requirement for 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week is identified on adult pitches, 4.5 match equivalent sessions on youth 11v11 pitches, three match equivalent sessions on youth 9v9 pitches, three match equivalent sessions on mini 7v7 pitches and 2.5 match equivalent sessions on mini 5v5 pitches.

2.4: Capacity analysis

The capacity for pitches to regularly provide for competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of a pitch affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment. In extreme circumstances, it can result in the inability of a pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off peak times.

⁷ Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, one team accounts to 0.5 match equivalent sessions on their relevant pitch type.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

As a guide, The FA has set a standard number of matches (or match equivalent sessions) that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without it adversely affecting its quality. Taking into consideration the guidelines on capacity, the following ratings were used in Rotherham:

Adult pitch quality	Match equivalent sessions per week	Youth pitch quality	Match equivalent sessions per week	Mini pitch quality	Match equivalent sessions per week
Good	3	Good	4	Good	6
Standard	2	Standard	2	Standard	4
Poor	1	Poor	1	Poor	2

Table 2.16 applies the above pitch ratings against the actual level of weekly play recorded to determine a capacity rating as follows:

Potential capacity	Play is below the level the site could sustain
At capacity	Play matches the level the site can sustain
Overplayed	Play exceeds the level the site can sustain

Education sites

To account for curricular/extra-curricular use of education pitches, the current usage at such sites needs to be adjusted. The only time this would not happen is when a school does not use its pitches at all and the sole use is community use. The adjustment is typically dependent on the amount of play carried out, the number of pitches on site and whether there is access to an on-site AGP (as this can result in less grass pitch use).

In some cases, where there is no identified community use, there is little capacity to accommodate further play. Internal usage often exceeds recommended pitch capacity, which is further exacerbated by basic maintenance regimes that may not extend beyond grass cutting and line marking. As such, where not overplayed as a result of community use, many school sites are considered to have no spare capacity to accommodate further usage based on assumed curricular and extracurricular activity.

For school sites which are available for community use, current play has been enlarged on a site-by-site basis following consultation with the providers. Generally, usage is increased by one match equivalent session per pitch; however, in some cases, further use is added when it is known that a particular provider uses a particular pitch heavily.

Over marked pitches

Where pitches are overmarked, only the larger pitch type is included within the capacity analysis as it is acknowledged that only one pitch can be used at one time, whilst any usage the larger pitch size receives will also result in usage of the smaller pitch/es within it. However, all usage is recorded, regardless of which of the pitches is accessed.

Peak time

Spare capacity can only be considered as actual spare capacity if pitches are available at peak time. In Rotherham, peak time for each pitch type is Sunday morning, as most teams across all age groups play at this time.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

In the table overleaf, please note that, on occasions, spare capacity in the peak period is identified despite the pitch being played to capacity or overplayed or more spare capacity is identified in the peak period than what exists overall. This is because most of the use on those particular pitches occurs outside of the peak period, therefore the identified spare capacity at peak time should not be utilised over and above overall capacity unless quality improvements are made that increase overall capacity.

A pitch is only said to have 'actual spare capacity' if it is available for community use and available at the peak time for that format of play. Any pitch not meeting this criterion is therefore not considered to have additional capacity, although it may have capacity outside of peak time.

There may also be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of regular friendly matches and activities that take place but are difficult to quantify on a weekly basis.

Pitches that are of a poor quality are not deemed to have actual spare capacity due to the already low carrying capacity of the pitches. Any identified spare capacity should be retained in order to relieve the pitches of use, which in turn will aid the improvement of pitch quality. Furthermore, any pitches with unsecure tenure are not considered to have actual spare capacity as no further play should be encouraged on such sites given that future access cannot be guaranteed.

The table below identifies the way capacity balance is represented in Table 2.16.

Table 2.15: Capacity balance examples

Spare capacity in peak period (examples)	Explanation of capacity balance
1	Highlighted in green with a number denotes that the pitches have actual spare capacity at peak time.
-	With a dash, this indicates that the pitch is unavailable in the peak period. If it were to be made available, actual spare capacity could exist.
0	Highlighted in orange with a zero, this indicates the pitch is played to capacity, either overall or during the peak period.
1	Not highlighted with a value, this indicates that the pitch has spare capacity in the peak period; however, capacity has been discounted. This may be due to unsecure tenure and/or poor pitch quality.
1	Highlighted in red with a number denotes that the pitches are overplayed and have no spare capacity across the week. This includes at peak time, despite any availability at peak time which may exist.

**ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Table 2.16: Grass football pitch capacity analysis

Site ID	Active Places ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
4	6019065	Anston Greenlands Primary School	S25 4HD	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
6	6000502	Anston Park Junior School	S25 2QZ	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
8	1201651	Aston Academy	S26 4SF	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Standard	2	2	0	-	At capacity.
8	1201651	Aston Academy	S26 4SF	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Good	4	8	4	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
8	1201651	Aston Academy	S26 4SF	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Good	7	8	1	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
8	1201651	Aston Academy	S26 4SF	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Good	4	12	8	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
8	1201651	Aston Academy	S26 4SF	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	3	Standard	5	12	7	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
9	6000499	Aston All Saints School	S26 2BL	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
9	6000499	Aston All Saints School	S26 2BL	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
13	30004914	Aughton Junior Academy	S26 3XQ	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
13	30004914	Aughton Junior Academy	S26 3XQ	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
13	30004914	Aughton Junior Academy	S26 3XQ	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
16	6002479	Barkers Park	S61 3NU	Central	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1.5	1	0.5	-	Overplayed.
18	1202885	Baths Field	S63 7DH	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
19	6002502	Bill Hawes Recreation Ground	S66 2UX	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	0	8	8	1	Actual spare capacity.
19	6002502	Bill Hawes Recreation Ground	S66 2UX	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	3	Standard	1.5	12	10.5	1.5	Actual spare capacity.
19	6002502	Bill Hawes Recreation Ground	S66 2UX	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	2	2	0	-	At capacity.
19	6002502	Bill Hawes Recreation Ground	S66 2UX	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
22	1041741	Bob Mason Recreation Grounds	S66 1DR	South	Yes	Wickersley Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Good	0.5	4	3.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
22	1041741	Bob Mason Recreation Grounds	S66 1DR	South	Yes	Wickersley Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
22	1041741	Bob Mason Recreation Grounds	S66 1DR	South	Yes	Wickersley Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	1	4	3	1	Actual spare capacity.
26	6018939	Bramley Sunnyside Junior School	S66 3QW	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	4	Poor	8	8	0	-	At capacity.

**ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Site ID	Active Places ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
27	1041675	Brampton Bierlow Park	S73 0YA	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	2	2	0	-	At capacity.
28	1041814	Brampton Ellis Playing Fields	S63 6AW	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	0	3	3	1	Actual spare capacity.
28	1041814	Brampton Ellis Playing Fields	S63 6AW	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Good	0	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity.
32	6000290	Brinsworth Playing Fields	S60 5DG	South	Yes	Brinsworth Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Good	0.5	4	3.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
32	6000290	Brinsworth Playing Fields⁸	S60 5DG	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Standard	1	4	3	1	Actual spare capacity.
37	6019050	Canklow Recreation Ground	S60 2JH	Central	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Standard	2	4	2	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
40	30010083	Chapman Fields	S26 5QQ	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	1.5	3	1.5	1	Actual spare capacity.
40	30010083	Chapman Fields	S26 5QQ	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Good	4.5	8	3.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
40	30010083	Chapman Fields	S26 5QQ	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	3.5	4	0.5	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
41	6002493	Claypit Lane Recreation Ground	S62 5JX	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1	2	1	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
42	1201803	Clifton Community School	S65 2SN	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
43	1201742	Clifton Community School (Cranworth Road Campus)	S65 1LN	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
43	1201742	Clifton Community School (Cranworth Road Campus)	S65 1LN	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
46	6001187	Cortonwood Miners Welfare Scheme	S73 0TU	North	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	2.5	1	1.5	-	Overplayed.
46	6001187	Cortonwood Miners Welfare Scheme	S73 0TU	North	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
46	6001187	Cortonwood Miners Welfare Scheme	S73 0TU	North	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	2	1	1	-	Overplayed.
46	6001187	Cortonwood Miners Welfare Scheme	S73 0TU	North	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1	2	1	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
47	20000166	Crowgate Recreation Ground	S25 5AL	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
47	20000166	Crowgate Recreation Ground	S25 5AL	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
48	6000401	Dalton Listerdale Junior & Infant School	S65 3HN	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
49	1201653	Dinnington High School	S25 2NZ	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Standard	2	2	0	-	At capacity.

⁸ Bold lettering indicates the site has received Grass Pitch Maintenance Funding

**ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Site ID	Active Places ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
49	1201653	Dinnington High School	S25 2NZ	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	3	Standard	4	12	8	2	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
49	1201653	Dinnington High School	S25 2NZ	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
54	6002484	Ferham Park	S61 1DY	Central	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
56	6002468	Flash Lane Recreation Field	S66 1TS	South	Yes	Bramley Parish Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
56	6002468	Flash Lane Recreation Field	S66 1TS	South	Yes	Bramley Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1	4	3	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
56	6002468	Flash Lane Recreation Field	S66 1TS	South	Yes	Bramley Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity.
56	6002468	Flash Lane Recreation Field	S66 1TS	South	Yes	Bramley Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
57	6009728	Goosecarr Lane Recreation Ground	S26 1HG	South	Yes	Todwick Parish Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
60	6009716	Green Arbour Road Rec Ground	S66 9LQ	South	Yes	Thurcroft Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1	2	1	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
60	6009716	Green Arbour Road Rec Ground	S66 9LQ	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
61	1202889	Greenlands Park	S25 4BR	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Poor	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
61	1202889	Greenlands Park	S25 4BR	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1.5	1	0.5	-	Overplayed.
61	1202889	Greenlands Park	S25 4BR	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1.5	1	0.5	-	Overplayed.
63	20001122	Hangsman Lane Recreation Ground	S25 3UD	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	0.5	3	2.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
67	6019209	Herringthorpe Junior School	S65 2JW	Central	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
68	1202829	Herringthorpe Playing Fields	S65 2ED	Central	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
68	1202829	Herringthorpe Playing Fields	S65 2ED	Central	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
69	1004751	Herringthorpe Stadium	S65 2HR	Central	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	1	3	2	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
72	1041743	Hollings Lane Field	S65 4PS	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
73	6016525	Hollings Lane Sports Field	S65 4JE	North	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
75	6002497	Kilnhurst Recreation Ground	S64 5SN	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed.
78	1202494	Kiveton Park	S26 6SQ	South	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed.

**ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Site ID	Active Places ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
78	1202494	Kiveton Park	S26 6SQ	South	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0.5	4	3.5	1	Actual spare capacity.
78	1202494	Kiveton Park	S26 6SQ	South	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	2	2	0	-	At capacity.
79	30005202	Laughton Junior & Infant School	S25 1YP	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
80	6010012	Laughton-en-le-Morthen Recreation Ground	S25 1YD	South	Yes	Laughton-en-le-Morthen Parish Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	4	2	2	-	Overplayed.
81	6002463	Leonard Kyte Recreation Ground	S26 3UT	South	Yes	Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
83	6002469	Lodge Lane Park	S26 2BB	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Poor	1	1	0	-	At capacity.
83	6002469	Lodge Lane Park	S26 2BB	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
85	6019317	Maltby Lilly Hall Academy	S66 8AU	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	3	2	1	-	Overplayed.
86	6006630	Maltby Manor Academy	S66 8JN	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Standard	2	2	0	-	At capacity.
86	6006630	Maltby Manor Academy	S66 8JN	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
86	6006630	Maltby Manor Academy	S66 8JN	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	3	Standard	3	12	9	3	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
86	6006630	Maltby Manor Academy	S66 8JN	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	2	2	0	-	At capacity.
88	1202759	Maltby Miners Welfare	S66 7JQ	South	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	3	3	0	-	At capacity.
88	1202759	Maltby Miners Welfare	S66 7JQ	South	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Poor	3.5	2	1.5	-	Overplayed.
89	6019312	Maltby Redwood Academy	S66 8DL	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
90	6019257	Meadow View Primary School	S61 2JD	Central	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
91	6002485	Millmoor Juniors Football Club	S61 2RB	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	1	3	2	1	Actual spare capacity.
91	6002485	Millmoor Juniors Football Club	S61 2RB	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Good	5	4	1	-	Overplayed.
91	6002485	Millmoor Juniors Football Club	S61 2RB	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
91	6002485	Millmoor Juniors Football Club	S61 2RB	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	1	6	5	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
91	6002485	Millmoor Juniors Football Club	S61 2RB	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Good	2.5	6	3.5	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
92	50000119	Millmoor Stadium	S60 1HB	Central	Yes	Private	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Good	1.5	3	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.

**ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Site ID	Active Places ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
95	1201828	Oakwood High School	S60 2UH	Central	Yes	Education	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	3	Standard	5	6	1	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
95	1201828	Oakwood High School	S60 2UH	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	2	2	0	-	At capacity.
99	1102095	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	S60 5PA	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	2	Good	3	6	3	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
99	1102095	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	S60 5PA	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Poor	1	1	0	-	At capacity.
99	1102095	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	S60 5PA	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Good	0.5	6	5.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
99	1102095	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	S60 5PA	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	2	4	2	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
99	1102095	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	S60 5PA	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	0.5	4	3.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
99	1102095	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	S60 5PA	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	5	4	1	-	Overplayed.
99	1102095	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	S60 5PA	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	8.5	1	7.5	-	Overplayed.
99	1102095	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	S60 5PA	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	3	2	1	-	Overplayed.
99	1102095	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	S60 5PA	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	2.5	1	1.5	-	Overplayed.
100	6004960	Poplar Way Recreation Ground	S60 5TR	South	Yes	Catcliffe Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Standard	3	4	1	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
101	30002784	West Melton Recreation Ground	S63 6FS	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	1	3	2	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
102	1201733	Rawmarsh Community School	S62 7GA	North	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
102	1201733	Rawmarsh Community School	S62 7GA	North	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
102	1201733	Rawmarsh Community School	S62 7GA	North	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
102	1201733	Rawmarsh Community School	S62 7GA	North	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
103	30004271	Rawmarsh Junior & Infant Thorogate School	S62 7HS	North	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
104	1202890	Rawmarsh Leisure	S62 6DG	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
104	1202890	Rawmarsh Leisure	S62 6DG	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity.
106	30003087	Rawmarsh St Joseph Junior Football Club	S62 7RZ	North	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	0.5	3	2.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
106	30003087	Rawmarsh St Joseph Junior Football Club	S62 7RZ	North	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Good	6	6	0	-	At capacity.

**ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Site ID	Active Places ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
106	30003087	Rawmarsh St Joseph Junior Football Club	S62 7RZ	North	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	5	4	1	-	Overplayed.
113	30003454	Rotherham United Football Club (The Aesdeal New York Stadium)	S60 1FJ	Central	No	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
115	30004426	Roughwood Road Recreation Ground	S61 4AZ	Central	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	0.5	4	3.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
115	30004426	Roughwood Road Recreation Ground	S61 4AZ	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	0.5	6	5.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
115	30004426	Roughwood Road Recreation Ground	S61 4AZ	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4	3	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
115	30004426	Roughwood Road Recreation Ground	S61 4AZ	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	4	1	3	-	Overplayed.
116	1102098	Roundwood Golf Sports & Social Club	S62 6LA	North	Yes	Other	Secure	Adult	-	3	Good	1.5	9	7.5	3	Actual spare capacity.
117	6002470	Ruby Cook Recreation Ground	S66 2LA	South	Yes	Wickersley Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Good	3	12	9	1	Actual spare capacity.
117	6002470	Ruby Cook Recreation Ground	S66 2LA	South	Yes	Wickersley Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1	2	1	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
117	6002470	Ruby Cook Recreation Ground	S66 2LA	South	Yes	Wickersley Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Poor	3	4	1	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
117	6002470	Ruby Cook Recreation Ground	S66 2LA	South	Yes	Wickersley Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	1	6	5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
117	6002470	Ruby Cook Recreation Ground	S66 2LA	South	Yes	Wickersley Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	3	1	2	-	Overplayed.
119	6001263	Silverwood Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	S65 3ES	North	Yes	Other	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Standard	3.5	4	0.5	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
119	6001263	Silverwood Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	S65 3ES	North	Yes	Other	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	1	4	3	1.5	Actual spare capacity.
120	6019168	Sitwell Junior School	S60 3LA	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	3	2	1	-	Overplayed.
124	1201168	St Bernards Catholic High School	S65 3BE	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed.
124	1201168	St Bernards Catholic High School	S65 3BE	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	4	4	0	-	At capacity.
124	1201168	St Bernards Catholic High School	S65 3BE	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Standard	5.5	8	2.5	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
127	6002491	St Pauls Field	S61 3JF	Central	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
128	1201125	St Pius X Catholic High School	S63 7PQ	North	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	2	2	0	-	At capacity.
128	1201125	St Pius X Catholic High School	S63 7PQ	North	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Standard	2	8	6	2	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
129	30004817	Stelrad Park	S64 8BH	North	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Good	1	6	5	0	No spare capacity in peak period.

**ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Site ID	Active Places ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
129	30004817	Stelrad Park	S64 8BH	North	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	1	3	2	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
129	30004817	Stelrad Park	S64 8BH	North	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	1	6	5	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
131	6001486	Swallownest Hamlet Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	S26 4UR	South	Yes	Other	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	1	3	2	1	Actual spare capacity.
131	6001486	Swallownest Hamlet Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	S26 4UR	South	Yes	Other	Secure	Adult	-	1	Poor	1	1	0	-	At capacity.
131	6001486	Swallownest Hamlet Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	S26 4UR	South	Yes	Other	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity.
131	6001486	Swallownest Hamlet Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	S26 4UR	South	Yes	Other	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	3	Standard	0	12	12	3	Actual spare capacity.
131	6001486	Swallownest Hamlet Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	S26 4UR	South	Yes	Other	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0	2	2	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
132	1201709	Swinton Academy	S64 8JW	North	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
132	1201709	Swinton Academy	S64 8JW	North	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Standard	4	8	4	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
132	1201709	Swinton Academy	S64 8JW	North	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	2.5	4	1.5	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
132	1201709	Swinton Academy	S64 8JW	North	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Standard	5	4	1	-	Overplayed.
132	1201709	Swinton Academy	S64 8JW	North	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	3	Standard	4	6	2	2	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
134	6002501	Swinton Miners Welfare	S64 8JH	North	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	1.5	3	1.5	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
134	6002501	Swinton Miners Welfare	S64 8JH	North	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	0	6	6	1	Actual spare capacity.
134	6002501	Swinton Miners Welfare	S64 8JH	North	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Good	0	6	6	1	Actual spare capacity.
138	1041511	Thorpe Hesley Recreation Ground	S61 2PT	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
139	1004772	Thrybergh Academy & Sports College	S65 4BH	North	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	3	Standard	3	6	3	3	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
139	1004772	Thrybergh Academy & Sports College	S65 4BH	North	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.

**ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Site ID	Active Places ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
139	1004772	Thrybergh Academy & Sports College	S65 4BH	North	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
141	6000275	Thurcroft Hub	S66 9AB	South	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1	2	1	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
141	6000275	Thurcroft Hub	S66 9AB	South	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	2	4	2	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
141	6000275	Thurcroft Hub	S66 9AB	South	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Standard	1.5	8	6.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
141	6000275	Thurcroft Hub	S66 9AB	South	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	4.5	1	3.5	-	Overplayed.
143	1004770	Tr Sports Centre	S60 2BE	Central	Yes	Education	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity.
145	1041747	Treeton Memorial Playing Field	S60 5PU	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	1.5	3	1.5	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
145	1041747	Treeton Memorial Playing Field	S60 5PU	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Good	2	6	4	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
149	6009741	Wales Recreation Ground	S26 6RB	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
151	1201911	Wath Academy	S63 7NW	North	Yes	Education	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity.
151	1201911	Wath Academy	S63 7NW	North	Yes	Education	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity.
151	1201911	Wath Academy	S63 7NW	North	Yes	Education	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4	3	1	Actual spare capacity.
151	1201911	Wath Academy	S63 7NW	North	Yes	Education	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	3	Standard	3	12	9	3	Actual spare capacity.
152	6019285	Wath Central Primary School	S63 7HG	North	No	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
157	1202820	Wentworth Recreation Ground	S62 7SB	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	3	Standard	1	6	5	2	Actual spare capacity.
162	6019138	Wickersley Northfield Primary School	S66 2HL	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
164	1201740	Wickersley School & Sports College	S66 1JL	South	Yes	Education	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	5	Poor	5	5	0	-	At capacity.
164	1201740	Wickersley School & Sports College	S66 1JL	South	Yes	Education	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Poor	2	2	0	-	At capacity.
164	1201740	Wickersley School & Sports College	S66 1JL	South	Yes	Education	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
166	1203143	Wingfield Academy	S61 4AU	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
166	1203143	Wingfield Academy	S61 4AU	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
167	1201705	Winterhill School	S61 2BD	Central	No	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Standard	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.
167	1201705	Winterhill School	S61 2BD	Central	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Good	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use.

**ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Site ID	Active Places ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
168	1042668	Woodhouse Mill	S13 9WF	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
168	1042668	Woodhouse Mill	S13 9WF	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
168	1042668	Woodhouse Mill	S13 9WF	South	Yes	Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1	4	3	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
170	6002473	Woodsetts Recreation Ground	S81 8QA	South	Yes	Woodsetts Parish Council	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
187	N/A	Killamarsh Junior Athletics Club & Institute	S21 1ED	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	3	Good	0	9	9	3	Actual spare capacity.
187	N/A	Killamarsh Junior Athletics Club & Institute	S21 1ED	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Good	2.5	4	1.5	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
187	N/A	Killamarsh Junior Athletics Club & Institute	S21 1ED	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	2	4	2	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
187	N/A	Killamarsh Junior Athletics Club & Institute	S21 1ED	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	1.5	6	4.5	0	No spare capacity in peak period.
187	N/A	Killamarsh Junior Athletics Club & Institute	S21 1ED	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Good	2	12	10	0	No spare capacity in peak period.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Actual spare capacity

The table below identifies actual spare capacity by site and pitch type across Rotherham. It totals 46.5 match equivalent sessions per week across 65 pitches.

Table 2.17: Summary of actual spare capacity of grass football pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (match equivalent sessions per week)
19	Bill Hawes Recreation Ground	South	Mini (5v5)	1	1
19	Bill Hawes Recreation Ground	South	Mini (7v7)	3	1.5
19	Bill Hawes Recreation Ground	South	Youth (9v9)	1	0.5
22	Bob Mason Recreation Grounds	South	Youth (11v11)	1	0.5
22	Bob Mason Recreation Grounds	South	Youth (9v9)	1	1
28	Brampton Ellis Playing Fields	North	Adult	1	1
28	Brampton Ellis Playing Fields	North	Youth (11v11)	1	1
32	Brinsworth Playing Fields	South	Youth (11v11)	1	0.5
32	Brinsworth Playing Fields	South	Youth (11v11)	2	1
37	Canklow Recreation Ground	Central	Youth (11v11)	2	0.5
40	Chapman Fields	South	Adult	1	1
40	Chapman Fields	South	Youth (11v11)	2	0.5
54	Ferham Park	Central	Youth (11v11)	1	0.5
56	Flash Lane Recreation Field	South	Mini (7v7)	1	1
57	Goosecarr Lane Recreation Ground	South	Adult	1	0.5
63	Hangsman Lane Recreation Ground	South	Adult	1	0.5
69	Herringthorpe Stadium	Central	Adult	1	0.5
78	Kiveton Park	South	Mini (7v7)	1	1
81	Leonard Kyte Recreation Ground	South	Youth (11v11)	1	0.5
91	Millmoor Juniors Football Club	Central	Adult	1	1
99	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	South	Mini (5v5)	1	0.5
99	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	South	Mini (5v5)	1	0.5
104	Rawmarsh Leisure	North	Youth (11v11)	1	1
106	Rawmarsh St Joseph Junior Football Club	North	Adult	1	0.5
115	Roughwood Road Recreation Ground	Central	Mini (5v5)	1	0.5
115	Roughwood Road Recreation Ground	Central	Mini (7v7)	1	0.5

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (match equivalent sessions per week)
116	Roundwood Golf Sports & Social Club	North	Adult	3	3
117	Ruby Cook Recreation Ground	South	Mini (5v5)	2	1
117	Ruby Cook Recreation Ground	South	Mini (7v7)	1	0.5
119	Silverwood Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	North	Youth (9v9)	2	1.5
127	St Pauls Field	Central	Youth (11v11)	1	0.5
131	Swallownest Hamlet Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	South	Adult	1	1
131	Swallownest Hamlet Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	South	Mini (7v7)	1	1
131	Swallownest Hamlet Miners Welfare Recreation Ground	South	Mini (5v5)	3	3
134	Swinton Miners Welfare	North	Mini (5v5)	1	1
134	Swinton Miners Welfare	North	Mini (7v7)	1	1
141	Thurcroft Hub	South	Adult	1	0.5
141	Thurcroft Hub	South	Mini (7v7)	2	0.5
143	Tr Sports Centre	Central	Adult	1	1
149	Wales Recreation Ground	South	Adult	1	0.5
151	Wath Academy	North	Youth (11v11)	1	1
151	Wath Academy	North	Youth (9v9)	1	1
151	Wath Academy	North	Mini (7v7)	1	1
151	Wath Academy	North	Mini (5v5)	3	3
157	Wentworth Recreation Ground	North	Youth (11v11)	3	2
170	Woodsetts Recreation Ground	South	Adult	1	0.5
187	Killamarsh Junior Athletics Club & Institute	South	Adult	3	3
-	-	-	Total	65	46.5

Most actual spare capacity is identified on adult pitches (14.5 match equivalent sessions per week), although there is some level of spare capacity across all pitch types. By analysis area, both the North and South analysis areas have 18 and 23.5 match equivalent sessions per week of actual spare capacity, respectively. In contrast, the Central Analysis Area has only five match equivalent sessions per week of actual spare capacity per week.

Table 2.18: Summary of actual spare capacity (in match equivalent sessions per week)

Analysis area	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
North	4.5	5	2.5	2	4	18
Central	2.5	1.5	-	0.5	0.5	5
South	7.5	3	1.5	5.5	6	23.5
Rotherham	14.5	9.5	4	8	10.5	46.5

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Overplay

In Rotherham, 24 pitches across 16 sites are overplayed by a combined total of 33.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

Table 2.19: Summary of overplay of grass football pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (match equivalent sessions per week)
16	Barkers Park	Central	Youth (11v11)	1	0.5
46	Cortonwood Miners Welfare Scheme	North	Youth (11v11)	1	1.5
46	Cortonwood Miners Welfare Scheme	North	Youth (9v9)	1	1
61	Greenlands Park	South	Youth (11v11)	1	0.5
61	Greenlands Park	South	Youth (9v9)	1	0.5
75	Kilnhurst Recreation Ground	North	Adult	1	0.5
78	Kiveton Park	South	Adult	1	0.5
80	Laughton-en-le-Morthen Recreation Ground	South	Adult	1	2
85	Maltby Lilly Hall Academy	South	Youth (9v9)	1	1
88	Maltby Miners Welfare	South	Youth (11v11)	2	1.5
91	Millmoor Juniors Football Club	Central	Youth (11v11)	1	1
99	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	South	Youth (11v11)	1	7.5
99	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	South	Youth (9v9)	2	2.5
99	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	South	Mini (7v7)	1	1
106	Rawmarsh St Joseph Junior Football Club	North	Youth (9v9)	1	1
115	Roughwood Road Recreation Ground	Central	Youth (11v11)	1	3
117	Ruby Cook Recreation Ground	South	Youth (9v9)	1	2
120	Sitwell Junior School	Central	Youth (9v9)	1	1
124	St Bernards Catholic High School	Central	Youth (11v11)	1	0.5
132	Swinton Academy	North	Youth (11v11)	2	1
141	Thurcroft Hub	South	Youth (11v11)	1	3.5
-	-	-	Total	24	33.5

Most overplay is situated in the South Analysis Area (22.5 match equivalent sessions per week), the remaining overplay is split relatively evenly across the Central and North analysis areas, with six and five match equivalent sessions per week, respectively.

By pitch type, overplay is mostly on youth 11v11 pitches (20.5 match equivalent sessions per week), although a proportion is identified on each pitch type. It is most minimal on mini 7v7 (one match equivalent session per week) and absent amongst mini 5v5 pitches.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Table 2.20: Summary of overplay (in match equivalent sessions per week)

Analysis area	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
North	0.5	2.5	2	-	-	5
Central	-	5	1	-	-	6
South	2.5	13	6	1	-	22.5
Rotherham	3	20.5	9	1	0	33.5

A large degree of overplay is generated from poor quality pitches (23 match equivalent sessions per week or 69%). This therefore means that quality improvements would have a significant impact on the identified capacity pressures.

2.5: Supply and demand analysis

Having considered supply and demand, the tables below identify current demand (i.e., spare capacity taking away overplay) in each of the analysis areas for each pitch type, based on match equivalent sessions. As stated earlier, future demand, at this stage, is calculated based on what has been identified through population growth.

Adult pitch capacity

Table 2.21: Summary and demand for adult pitches (match equivalent sessions)

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
North	4.5	0.5	4	1.5	2.5
Central	2.5	-	2.5	1	1.5
South	7.5	2.5	5	2	3
Rotherham	14.5	3	11.5	4.5	7

The table above shows that there is currently spare capacity of 11.5 match equivalent session per week on adult pitches in Rotherham. Spare capacity is identified across each analysis area, with it being most prevalent in the South Analysis Area (five match equivalent sessions per week).

After considering future demand, the actual spare capacity diminishes to seven match equivalent sessions per week.

Youth 11v11 pitch capacity

Table 2.22: Supply and demand for youth 11v11 pitches (match equivalent sessions)

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
North	5	2.5	2.5	1	1.5
Central	1.5	5	3.5	1	4.5
South	3	13	10	2.5	12.5
Rotherham	9.5	20.5	11	4.5	15.5

The table above shows that there is currently a shortfall of 11 match equivalent sessions per week on youth 11v11 pitches in Rotherham. Spare capacity is identified in the North Analysis Area (2.5 match equivalent sessions per week), whilst shortfalls can be found in the Central and South analysis areas. In the South Analysis Area, the shortfall is particularly large (10 match equivalent sessions per week).

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

After considering future demand, the shortfall increases to 15.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

Youth 9v9 pitch capacity

Table 2.23: Supply and demand for youth 9v9 pitches (match equivalent sessions)

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
North	2.5	2	0.5	-	0.5
Central	-	1	1	1	2
South	1.5	6	4.5	2	6.5
Rotherham	4	9	5	3	8

The table above shows that there is currently a shortfall of five match equivalent sessions per week on youth 9v9 pitches in Rotherham. Spare capacity is identified in the North Analysis Area (0.5 match equivalent sessions per week), whilst a shortfall can be found in the both the Central and South analysis areas.

After considering future demand, the shortfall increases to eight match equivalent sessions per week.

Mini 7v7 pitch capacity

Table 2.24: Supply and demand for mini 7v7 pitches (match equivalent sessions)

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
North	2	-	2	0.5	1.5
Central	0.5	-	0.5	0.5	0
South	5.5	1	4.5	2	2.5
Rotherham	8	1	7	3	4

The table above shows that there is currently spare capacity of seven match equivalent sessions per week on mini 7v7 pitches in Rotherham. Spare capacity is identified in each of the analysis areas.

After considering future demand, the spare capacity reduces to four match equivalent sessions per week. No future deficits are predicted.

Mini 5v5 pitch capacity

Table 2.25: Supply and demand for mini 5v5 pitches (match equivalent sessions)

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
North	4	-	4	0.5	3.5
Central	0.5	-	0.5	0.5	0
South	6	-	6	1.5	4.5
Rotherham	10.5	0	10.5	2.5	8

The table above shows that there is currently spare capacity of 10.5 match equivalent sessions per week on mini 5v5 pitches in Rotherham. Spare capacity is identified in each of the analysis areas.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

After considering future demand, the spare capacity reduces to eight match equivalent sessions per week.

2.6: Conclusion

Using the supply and demand tables above, the table below summarises the overall Rotherham supply and demand balance by pitch type.

Table 2.26: Summary of analysis for grass football pitches (match equivalent sessions)

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Adult	14.5	3	11.5	4.5	7
Youth 11v11	9.5	20.5	11	4.5	15.5
Youth 9v9	4	9	5	3	8
Mini 7v7	8	1	7	3	4
Mini 5v5	10.5	-	10.5	2.5	8

As seen, there are currently shortfalls of youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitch types, whereas overall spare capacity exists on adult, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches. When considering future demand, the deficits of youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 capacity increases, whilst adult pitch types are forecast to diminish but still remain.

In conclusion, the analysis shows that the level of grass football pitch supply in Rotherham is insufficient to meet demand, although this is only in relation to youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 formats. As such, the deficits are relatively modest, and in isolation do not result in an overarching need for additional provision (although new provision may be required to support additional future demand e.g., from housing growth). The proceeding Strategy document will therefore take this forward and identify alternative ways to overcome the shortfalls.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Supply and demand summary

- Actual spare capacity is identified across 65 pitches and totals 46.5 match equivalent sessions per week, whereas overplay is found on 24 pitches and equates to 33.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
- There are current and future shortfalls of youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitch types, whereas overall spare capacity exists on adult, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches.
- The analysis shows that the level of grass football pitch supply is insufficient to meet demand, although only in relation to youth football.

Supply summary

- The audit identifies a total of 237 grass football pitches across 81 sites in Rotherham, with 213 pitches across 69 sites identified as being available for community use.
- There are currently 27 pitches across 25 sites which are not currently marked out but have been in the past (disused).
- Of the community available pitches, most are managed by education providers (73), whilst 46 are managed by the Council and 22 by a parish or town council.
- Whilst tenure is generally secure across Rotherham, 16 clubs are accessing unsecure sites, most of which are schools.
- There are 54 good quality community available pitches, 110 standard quality pitches and 49 poor quality pitches.
- A total of 16 sites have received a PitchPower assessment, whilst 16 have received FF investment for quality improvements.
- 10 sites are considered to have poor quality ancillary facilities, whereas many additional sites are without any purposeful provision.

Demand summary

- In total there are 556 teams across 117 clubs which are identified as playing within Rotherham, with this equating to 130 adult teams, 151 youth 11v11 teams, 99 youth 9v9 teams, 94 mini 7v7 teams and 82 mini 5v5 teams.
- There are currently 39 women's teams and 55 dedicated girls' teams playing football in Rotherham, representing 17% of all demand.
- Two men's and one women's team play within the NLS.
- A total of 18 clubs identify latent demand in that they could field additional teams if they had access to more or better quality pitch provision.
- Three clubs import some level of demand from Sheffield.
- Of responding clubs, 10 quantify aspirations to increase the number of teams they provide, totalling a predicted growth of 59 teams.
- Population growth forecasts a growth of 35 teams, with this equating to nine adult, 15 youth and 11 mini teams.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

PART 3: THIRD GENERATION TURF (3G) ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCHES (AGPS)

3.1: Introduction

Competitive football can take place on 3G surfaces that have been FIFA or International Matchball Standard tested and approved by the FA for inclusion on the FA 3G Pitch Register. As such, in addition to training demand, a growing number of 3G pitches are now used for competitive match play, providing that the performance standard meets FIFA quality requirements.

World Rugby produced the 'Performance Specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22', which provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. The artificial surface standards identified in Regulation 22 allows matches to be played on surfaces that meet the required standard, meaning full contact activity, including tackling, rucking, mauling and lineouts, can take place.

Competitive rugby league play and contact practice is permitted to take place on 3G pitches which are deemed by the Rugby Football League (RFL) to meet its Performance Standard. RFL Stadium pitches require testing every two years and is slightly above the requirements for WR22/RFL Community pitches which requires retesting every two years. Community games can be played on RFL Community compliant pitches, but Tiers 1 & 2 must be played on a RFL Stadium compliant surface if they intend to play on 3G. Training demand can take place on both RFL Stadium and RFL Community pitches.

Many test contractors offer reduced rates through efficiency savings to carry out multiple performance tests in the same session, therefore providers seeking 3G pitch compliancy for a number of sports would be recommended to consider this opportunity. Other sports that are known to use 3G pitches for training and match play include American football and lacrosse.

EH's Artificial Grass Playing Surface Policy (June 2016) advises that 3G pitches should not be used for hockey matches or training and that they can only be used for lower-level hockey (introductory level) as a last resort when no sand-based or water-based AGPs are available.

3.2: Supply

The recommended dimensions for an 11v11 size 3G artificial grass pitch for football are 100 x 64 metres. This extends to an area of 106 x 70 metres with the recommended minimum three metre run off area included. These dimensions allow for all age group match play to take place including adults, youth under 17/18 and younger age groups via overmarked pitches, e.g., the marking out of two 9v9 pitches for under 11/12s.

For rugby union, a 3G pitch should measure 106 x 68 metres for senior match play, with a 5-metre run off around the full perimeter. Smaller sized pitches can, however, be used to support training demand providing that they are installed to the correct specifications.

For rugby league, the preferred size of a 3G pitch must measure 116 x 68 metres, with a maximum size 3G pitch measuring 122 x 68 metres and for a minimum size 3G pitch it must measure 100 x 55 metres all with a standard three metre run off.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

If a new pitch is proposed to measure below the recommended dimensions for the relevant sports, then justification must be provided for this in relation to the identified needs it will provide for and/or site constraints. In doing so, the impacts of a reduced pitch size in meeting current and future needs must be considered e.g., for football, a pitch not providing the recommended dimensions for adult match play and/or only being able to accommodate one rather than two overmarked 9v9 pitches. This justification needs to be included in the planning application details submitted to the relevant Local Planning Authority for the new pitch.

Unless otherwise stated and justified for an individual pitch, proposals in this PPS for any new 11v11 3G pitches are based on providing them to the recommended dimensions for the sports that they will be established to cater for.

For the purposes of the PPS, all 11v11 3G pitches 91m x 55m or larger are considered as 11v11 supply.

There are six 11v11 3G pitches in Rotherham across the same number of sites. All six pitches are sports lit and available for community use, as summarised in the following table.

Table 3.1: 11v11 3G pitches in Rotherham

Site ID	Active Places Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Sports lighting	Pitch size (metres)
21	1041700	Blackout13.Com Arena	S25 2PS	South	Yes	Yes	100 x 64
40	30010083	Chapman Fields	S26 5QQ	South	Yes	Yes	100 x 64
51	1002916	DVC Sports	S63 7EW	North	Yes	Yes	96 x 60
84	1201700	Maltby Academy	S66 8AB	South	Yes	Yes	100 x 64
143	1004770	Tr Sports Centre	S60 2BE	Central	Yes	Yes	92 x 60
151	1201911	Wath Academy	S63 7NW	North	Yes	Yes	92 x 55

Three of the 11v11 3G pitches are located in the South Analysis Area, two are in the North Analysis Area and one is in the Central Analysis Area.

Table 3.2: Summary of the number of 11v11 3G pitches by analysis area

Analysis area	No. of 11v11 pitches
North	2
Central	1
South	3
Rotherham	6

As well as the 11v11 3G pitches, there are also 10 smaller sized outdoor 3G pitches across six sites in Rotherham. All of these are serviced by sports lighting, although only nine pitches are available to the community.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Community use on the pitch at Parkgate Astro has been discounted as the pitch is programmed to deliver principally non-affiliated football activity, with only Rotherham United Community Trust currently being accommodated. The other unavailable pitch is at St Bede's Catholic Primary School.

Table 3.3: Additional supply of 3G provision (outdoor)

Site ID	Active Places Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Sports lighting?	Pitch size (metres)
77	30006468	Kiveton Community Sports Park	S26 6LR	South	Yes	Yes	73 x 46
97	30007837	Parkgate Astro	S62 6HQ	North	Yes ⁹	Yes	55 x 37
123	30008295	St Bede's Catholic Primary School	S61 1PD	Central	No	Yes	50 x 30
136	30009781	The Team Sport (Fitzwilliam Centre)	S65 2UF	Central	Yes	Yes	31 x 17
136	30009781	The Team Sport (Fitzwilliam Centre)	S65 2UF	Central	Yes	Yes	31 x 17
136	30009781	The Team Sport (Fitzwilliam Centre)	S65 2UF	Central	Yes	Yes	31 x 17
136	30009781	The Team Sport (Fitzwilliam Centre)	S65 2UF	Central	Yes	Yes	31 x 17
136	30009781	The Team Sport (Fitzwilliam Centre)	S65 2UF	Central	Yes	Yes	31 x 17
164	1201740	Wickersley School & Sports College	S66 1JL	South	Yes	Yes	65 x 40
167	1201705	Winterhill School	S61 2BD	Central	Yes	Yes	58 x 39

Most of the smaller sized pitch provision is provided in the Central Analysis Area (seven of 10 – 70%), followed by the South Analysis Area providing two smaller sized pitches (20%) and the North Analysis Area providing one smaller sized pitch (10%).

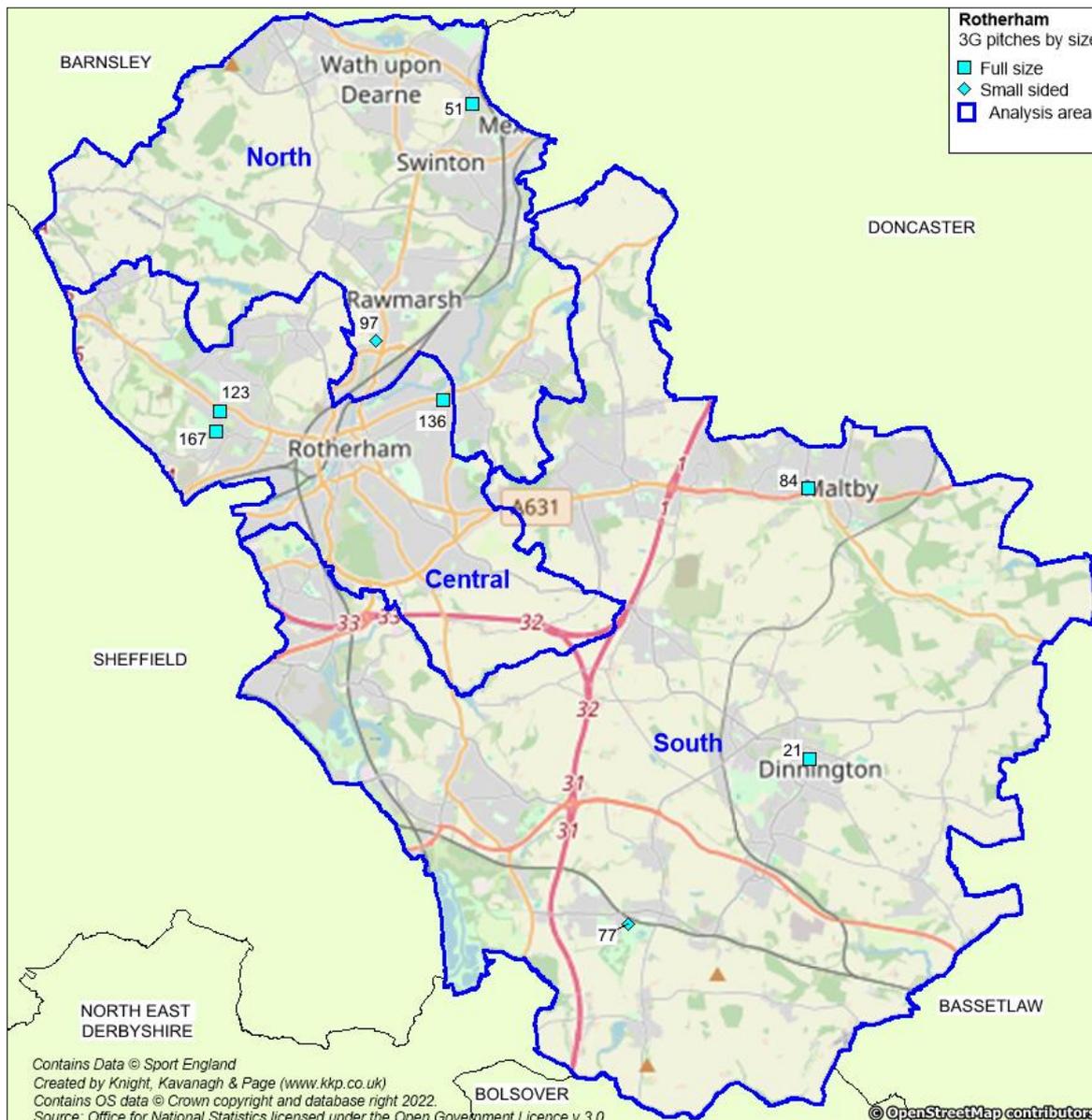
Whilst not large enough to accommodate adult match play, smaller size provision can be used to accommodate youth and mini matches, in addition to training demand, providing that they are on the FA 3G Pitch Register, of an adequate size and with appropriate run-off areas.

⁹ Pitch is not considered in the FA Training Model.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Figure 3.1 identifies the location of all 3G pitches in Rotherham, regardless of size.

Figure 3.1: Location of 3G pitches in Rotherham



Future supply

Wath Academy has aspirations to construct a second 11v11 3G pitch. No planning application has been submitted, but plans have been drawn up for the new pitch together with an accompanying new build pavilion and adjacent car parking.

Sheffield & Hallamshire FA has recently relocated from its business park offices at Meadowhall to Sheffield Olympic Legacy Park. It aspires to explore how it can play a greater role as a partner and/or facilities operator across a range of secondary sites spanning the four main local authorities within its region, including Rotherham. It is keen to open discussions with local authorities and other partners regarding the prospect of taking a greater lead in the operation of facilities.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Aspirations to develop a 3G pitch at Killamarsh Juniors Athletic Club Institute exist; whilst the site lies directly on the border with Rotherham, it is deemed a North East Derbyshire site for planning purposes. However, FF and S&HF report that if such a development is to be realised at the site, this would draw demand from clubs in Rotherham.

Rotherham Borough Council are considering the potential of developing a 3G pitch at Herringthorpe Playing Fields. In order to determine the feasibility of this, the Council is currently establishing a masterplan for the site.

FA 3G Pitch Register

In order for competitive matches to be played on 3G pitches, the pitch should be FIFA or IMS tested and approved and added to the FA 3G Pitch Register, which can be found at: <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/3g-pitch-register>.

Pitches undergo testing to become a FIFA Quality pitch or a FIFA Quality Pro pitch, with provision commonly constructed, installed and tested in situ to achieve either accreditation. The differences between the accreditations are that FIFA Quality pitches are designed to accommodate substantial levels of regular usage, whereas FIFA Quality Pro pitches are more for high level performance, with usage levels therefore more limited to protect the standard. Generally, FIFA Quality pitches can be typically used for 60-85 hours per week, whereas FIFA Quality Pro pitches are able to accommodate 20-30 hours.

To remain on the Register, pitches must be re-assessed every three years to ensure that quality has not deteriorated beyond acceptable levels, although this is required annually for clubs using 3G pitches within the National League System (Step 1-6).

In Rotherham, all of the 11v11 3G pitches are on the FA 3G Pitch Register, with the table below highlighting the current accreditation period.

Table 3.4: Summary of FA accreditation

Site ID	Site name	FA registered?	Expiry
21	Blackout13.Com Arena	Yes	31/05/2026
40	Chapman Fields	Yes	31/05/2027
51	DVC Sports	Yes	31/05/2028
84	Maltby Academy	Yes	31/05/2027
143	Tr Sports Centre	Yes	31/05/2027
151	Wath Academy	Yes	31/05/2028

In addition, the smaller sized pitches located at Kiveton Community Sports Park and Parkgate Astro are also on the FA 3G Pitch Register and therefore can accommodate match play (mini demand).

World Rugby (WR) compliant pitches

To enable 3G pitches to accommodate competitive rugby union matches, World Rugby has developed the Rugby Turf Performance Specification. This is to ensure that the surfaces can replicate the playing qualities of good quality grass pitches, provide a playing environment that will not increase the risk of injury and are of an adequate durability.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

The specification included a rigorous test programme that assesses ball/surface interaction and player/surface interaction and has been modified to align the standard with that of FIFA. Any 3G pitch used for any form of competitive rugby must comply with this specification and must be tested every two years to retain compliance.

In Rotherham, there are currently no 3G pitches which are World Rugby compliant.

RFL compliant pitches

3G pitches for rugby league are classed as either RFL Community or RFL Stadium. RFL Community is suitable for Tiers 4-6 and training; if used for competitive games they should be tested every two years, and if it only used training only then every three years. RFL Stadium pitches are considered suitable for match play use in Tiers 1-3 and should be retested annually if used for competitive games.

The aforementioned World Rugby testing complies with the RFL Community element of this, but the frequency of retest is different should the 3G be used for competitive rugby league. The RFL Stadium criteria requires an additional test.

In Rotherham, there are currently no 3G pitches which are RFL compliant.

Management

Four of the six 11v11 3G pitches are managed by education providers, with only two 11v11 3G pitches located at Blackout13.com Arena and Chapman Fields separate to this. The former is managed by Dinnington Resource Centre, whilst the latter is managed by Kiveton Park FC.

There is more of a mixture with the smaller sized 3G pitches in Rotherham. Five are managed by a commercial operator at The Team Sport (Fitzwilliam Centre), three are managed by education providers (30%), one is managed by a CCO (Rotherham United Community Trust) and one is managed by a community organisation at Kiveton Community Sports Park.

Availability

The following table summarises the availability within the peak period of 11v11 3G pitches in Rotherham. This uses Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM), which applies a generic overall peak period for AGPs based the following 34 hours a week - Monday to Thursday 17:00-21:00; Friday 17:00-19:00; Saturday and Sunday 09:00-17:00.

Table 3.5: Summary of 11v11 3G pitch availability

Site ID	Site name	Availability in the peak period (hours)	Availability
21	Blackout13.Com Arena	34	Availability from 09:00 until 21:00 everyday, although this is limited when matches are scheduled.
40	Chapman Fields	34	Availability from 17:00 to 21:00 Monday to Friday and from 09:00 to 17:00 on weekends.
51	DVC Sports	29.5	Availability from 08:00 until 21:30 Monday to Friday, from 08:00 to

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Availability in the peak period (hours)	Availability
			15:30 on Saturdays and from 08:00 until 14:00 on Sundays.
84	Maltby Academy	18	Availability from 17:00 to 21:00 Monday to Friday. No community use on the weekends.
143	Tr Sports Centre	31	Availability from 17:00 to 21:00 Monday to Friday and from 09:00 to 14:00 on weekends.
151	Wath Academy	30	Availability from 18:00 to 21:30 Monday to Friday and from 09:00 to 17:00 on weekends.

As seen, availability is relatively good across the provision, with most pitches accessible for at least 29 of the 34 peak period hours. The only exception is the provision at Maltby Academy, where no weekend availability is offered. This will be having a particular impact on its potential use for matches, despite FA compliancy.

In relation to smaller sized pitches, availability is generally similar, other than at Parkgate Astro and St Bede's Catholic Primary School. All remaining pitches are accessible at the very least on weekday evenings and at weekends.

Quality

Depending on use, it is considered that the carpet of an 3G pitch usually lasts for approximately 10 years', and it is the age of the surface, combined with maintenance levels, which most commonly affects quality. It is therefore recommended that pitch replacement funds be put into place by providers to enable long-term sustainability, ongoing repairs and future refurbishments beyond this period.

In Rotherham, the 11v11 3G pitch located at Maltby Academy is assessed as standard quality, whilst the remaining 11v11 3G pitches are all considered to be good quality (none are poor quality).

Table 3.6: Summary of 11v11 3G pitch quality

Site ID	Site name	Year installed/resurfaced	Quality
21	Blackout13.Com Arena	2022	Good
40	Chapman Fields	2022	Good
51	DVC Sports	2014	Good
84	Maltby Academy	2015	Standard
143	Tr Sports Centre	2019	Good
151	Wath Academy	2023	Good

The pitch at Maltby Academy is assessed as standard quality primarily due to general wear and tear, with the surface now being 10 years old. This means that imminent resurfacing is recommended.

The lifespan of the pitch at DVC Sports has also been exceeded, although it remains a good quality pitch. This is due to a regular and thorough maintenance programme.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

In addition to above, there are three good quality and seven are standard quality smaller size 3G pitches, as shown in the following table.

Table 3.7: Summary of smaller size 3G pitch quality

Site ID	Site	Year installed/resurfaced	Quality
77	Kiveton Community Sports Park	2016	Good
97	Parkgate Astro	2025	Good
123	St Bede's Catholic Primary School	2019	Standard
136	The Team Sport (Fitzwilliam Centre)	2021	Standard
136	The Team Sport (Fitzwilliam Centre)	2021	Standard
136	The Team Sport (Fitzwilliam Centre)	2021	Standard
136	The Team Sport (Fitzwilliam Centre)	2021	Standard
136	The Team Sport (Fitzwilliam Centre)	2021	Standard
164	Wickersley School & Sports College	2019	Standard
167	Winterhill School	2022	Good

Similar to the 11v11 3G pitches, no significant reports of quality issues have been raised during consultation. Furthermore, all pitches are within their recommended lifespans, with the provision at Kiveton Community Sports Park being the oldest (nine years).

At Parkgate Astro, the pitch has recently undergone resurfacing; this has been reflected in its quality score.

Ancillary facilities

All 3G provision in Rotherham is accompanied by ancillary facilities that are considered adequate, with no issues raised during consultation or via site assessments.

3.3: Demand

The 11v11 3G pitches in Rotherham are all reported to be operating at or close to capacity at peak times, especially during winter months when grass pitches cannot be used for training or recreational demand (due to a lack of sports lighting). This also applies to both midweek training demand and weekend usage given that each pitch is also on the FA 3G Pitch Register to host competitive matches.

Currently, it is considered that all the community-based activity on 3G pitches is football related, although this varies from usage from affiliated clubs to recreational groups and commercial league activity. Many of the pitches have large clubs tied to them, which gives them a prominent userbase that is then supplemented by other clubs as well as other forms of demand.

The table below summarises usage levels of the 11v11 3G provision in Rotherham, where known (it is not for Blackout13.Com Arena or DVC Sports). This is based on booking sheets supplied by the operators, feedback from clubs during the consultation process and affiliation data. It is then compared against availability at peak time, using Sport England's FPM.

As seen, midweek and weekend availability is currently close to capacity across the sites where information is known. In total, only seven hours of midweek spare capacity and eight hours of weekend spare capacity is identified.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Table 3.8: Current usage of 11v11 3G pitches across Rotherham

Site ID	Site name	Club user	Midweek availability (hours)	Midweek usage (hours)	Weekend availability (hours)	Weekend usage (hours)
21	Blackout13.Com Arena	Dinnington Town Juniors FC	18	<i>Unknown</i>	16	<i>Unknown</i>
40	Chapman Fields	Kiveton Park FC	18	16	16	16
51	DVC Sports	Ring O' Bells Old Boys	18	<i>Unknown</i>	11.5	<i>Unknown</i>
84	Maltby Academy	Maltby Juniors FC, Maltby Main FC, Ravenfield Arms FC and TSF Partnership Football Academy	18	13	0	0
143	Tr Sports Centre	Brinsworth Whitehill Juniors FC	18	18	13	13
151	Wath Academy	Crown Inn Newhill FC, Dearne Dragons Juniors FC, Queens Taproom FC, Swinton Ring O' Bells, Team Sport FC and Wath Stars Juniors FC	14	14	16	8

The usage levels of smaller sized pitches has been harder to determine, with booking sheets not supplied by the operators. However, it can be assumed that greater levels of availability remain, with such provision generally less in demand from clubs due to size limitations. This particularly applies to matchday usage at weekends.

Conversely, smaller sized pitches can receive higher levels of recreational and commercial use when compared to 11v11 provision, particularly when multiple pitches are provided at one venue as is the case at The Team Sport (Fitzwilliam Centre). This is because they better lend themselves to small-sided activity.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Unmet/latent demand

Getting access to good quality, affordable training facilities is a problem for many football clubs throughout the country. In the winter months, midweek training is only possible at sports lit facilities, with 3G provision preferred by the FA and most clubs.

Across Rotherham, 12 football clubs that responded to consultation report that they require additional access to 3G provision, which represents a relatively high proportion of unmet demand. Some of these are training on 3G pitches but do not have capacity for all of their teams, or do not have access at preferred times. Others are not training on 3G pitches at all and are instead using sand-based or grass pitches either at their home grounds or elsewhere.

Across the clubs, 129 teams are represented, which is a significant number, with 71 of the teams not currently accessing any 3G provision for training (55%). The clubs expressing this demand and sites presently used are summarised in the following table.

Table 3.9: Current training facilities of clubs reporting unmet/latent 3G pitch demand

Club name	Site ID	Site	Surface
Bramley Sunnyside JFC	19	Bill Hawes Recreation Ground	Grass
Bramley Sunnyside JFC	141	Thurcroft Hub	Grass
Bramley Sunnyside JFC Girls	19	Bill Hawes Recreation Ground	Grass
Bramley Sunnyside JFC Girls	141	Thurcroft Hub	Grass
Brinsworth Whitehill JFC	99	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	Grass
Brinsworth Whitehill JFC	143	Tr Sports Centre	3G
Brinsworth Whitehill JFC Girls	99	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	Grass
Brinsworth Whitehill JFC Girls	143	Tr Sports Centre	3G
Club Brinsworth FC	-	-	-
Greasbrough Youth FC	115	Roughwood Road Recreation Ground	Grass
Lord Reresby FC	68	Herringthorpe Playing Fields	Grass
Mexborough Rangers JFC	51	DVC Sports	3G
Mexborough Rangers JFC	129	Stelrad Park	Grass
Rawmarsh St Joseph's JFC	106	Rawmarsh St Joseph Jfc	Grass
Wathletico FC	151	Wath Academy	3G
Wickersley Youth FC	164	Wickersley School & Sports College	3G
Wickersley Youth Girls FC	164	Wickersley School & Sports College	3G

No unmet or latent 3G demand has been identified for any sport other than football.

Exported/imported demand

There are 25 teams from across three clubs (Aston Swallownest Juniors FC, Rotherham United Community Sports Trust and Rotherham United FC) that are identified as exporting demand outside of Rotherham to access 3G provision for match demand. This is summarised in the following table. It is due to the use of central venues within the leagues that the clubs access.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Table 3.10: Exported demand for 3G pitches

Club name	Teams	Site	Local authority
Aston Swallownest Juniors FC	2x adult men's teams	Concord Sports Centre	Sheffield
Aston Swallownest Juniors FC	2x adult men's teams	Eco-Power Stadium	Doncaster
Aston Swallownest Juniors FC	1x adult men's team	Leisure United Woodbourn Road	Sheffield
Aston Swallownest Juniors FC	1x adult women's team	Leisure United Woodbourn Road	Sheffield
Rotherham United Community Sports Trust	4x adult men's teams	Sheffield Hallam University Sports Park	Sheffield
Rotherham United Community Sports Trust	1x adult women's team	Sheffield Hallam University Sports Park	Sheffield
Rotherham United Community Sports Trust	1x youth 11v11 boys' team	Sheffield Hallam University Sports Park	Sheffield
Rotherham United Community Sports Trust	2x youth 11v11 girls' teams	Sheffield Hallam University Sports Park	Sheffield
Rotherham United Community Sports Trust	1x youth 9v9 girls' team	Sheffield Hallam University Sports Park	Sheffield
Rotherham United Community Sports Trust	1x mini 7v7 team	Sheffield Hallam University Sports Park	Sheffield
Rotherham United FC	5x youth 11v11 boys' teams	Sheffield Hallam University Sports Park	Sheffield
Rotherham United FC	2x youth 9v9 boys' teams	Sheffield Hallam University Sports Park	Sheffield
Rotherham United FC	1x mini 7v7 team	Sheffield Hallam University Sports Park	Sheffield
Rotherham United FC	1x mini 5v5 teams	Sheffield Hallam University Sports Park	Sheffield

In addition, two teams from Dearne Dragons Juniors FC import demand into Rotherham from Barnsley. This is via the 3G pitch at Wath Academy for its match demand.

No displaced 3G demand has been identified for any other sport.

Future demand

As set out in Part 2 of this report, potential growth from population projections equates to 35 football teams in Rotherham. If this growth was realised, and if all additional teams wanted or needed to train on 3G provision, it will increase the number of 3G pitches required. However, it should also be noted that the ONS projections do not account for the potential for future demand to be higher, which could be the case particularly if recent growth trends continue. Further increases will therefore be subject to scenarios in Strategy document.

In addition, although no rugby union or rugby league demand currently accesses 3G pitches (with non-suitable for such activity), it is clear that future access could provide a solution to the deficits identified in other section of this report. This would be particularly relevant in the case of Dinnington RUFC and Rotherham Phoenix RUFC, given the current overlap of their grass pitches.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

3.4: Supply and demand analysis

Football

The FA considers high quality 3G pitches as an essential tool in promoting coach and player development, with the pitches considered to be great assets on account of being able to support intensive use and use during inclement weather. Primarily, such facilities have been installed for social use and training; however, they are increasingly being used for competition, which the FA wholly supports.

Training demand

To quantify the 3G shortfall for football, the FA has established a training model, which suggests that one 11v11 3G pitch can accommodate 38 affiliated teams (with capacity built in for other forms of demand). It also has an aspiration for all teams to train once per week on a 3G pitch, although it is recognised that nationally some activity may need to be retained on sand-based pitches to ensure the sustainability of them.

For the model, in addition to 11v11 pitches being included, some smaller sized pitches can also be incorporated as nationally many are suitable for accommodating training demand, especially larger ones. The contribution each pitch makes towards the modelling in Rotherham is therefore summarised in the table below, which then informs the proceeding modelling tables.

Table 3.10: Contribution of 3G pitches in meeting training requirements

Site name	Analysis area	Size (metres)	Comments	Full size adult pitch equivalents
11v11 size				
Blackout13.Com Arena	South	100 x 64	Available for community use.	1
Chapman Fields	South	100 x 64	Available for community use.	1
DVC Sports	North	96 x 60	Available for community use.	1
Maltby Academy	South	100 x 64	Available for community use.	1
Tr Sports Centre	Central	92 x 60	Available for community use.	1
Wath Academy	North	92 x 55	Available for community use.	1
Smaller size				
Kiveton Community Sports Park	South	73 x 46	Available for community use.	0.75
Parkgate Astro	North	55 x 37	No accommodation of affiliated community football (blocked out by Rotherham United Community Trust).	-
St Bede's Catholic Primary School	Central	50 x 30	Unavailable for community use.	-
The Team Sport (Fitzwilliam Centre)	Central	31 x 17	Discounted due to commercial use.	-
The Team Sport (Fitzwilliam Centre)	Central	31 x 17	Discounted due to commercial use.	-
The Team Sport (Fitzwilliam Centre)	Central	31 x 17	Discounted due to commercial use.	-
The Team Sport (Fitzwilliam Centre)	Central	31 x 17	Discounted due to commercial use.	-

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Site name	Analysis area	Size (metres)	Comments	Full size adult pitch equivalents
The Team Sport (Fitzwilliam Centre)	Central	31 x 17	Discounted due to commercial use.	-
Wickersley School & Sports College	South	65 x 40	Large enough for mini 7v7 football usage.	0.25
Winterhill School	Central	58 x 39	Large enough for mini 7v7 football usage.	0.25
-	-	-	Total	7.25

No clubs currently report using any of the pitches for training that have been discounted in the table above, further evidencing their unsuitability for this purpose.

In addition to affiliated football demand in Rotherham (556 teams), exported demand (25 teams), walking football (seven teams), disability teams (13 teams), education teams (16 teams) and U6 teams (three teams) are all included for the modelling. In comparison, the six teams recorded as imported demand are taken away. This is because each is expected to contribute to training demand for 3G pitches. Therefore, given there is a total of 614 teams which originate in Rotherham, there is a theoretical need for 16.25 11v11 3G pitches (rounded up from 16.16), meaning a current shortfall of nine pitches.

Table 3.11: Current demand for 11v11 3G pitches in Rotherham (38 teams per pitch)

Current number of teams	11v11 3G pitch requirement	Current number of 11v11 size 3G pitch equivalents	Current shortfall of 11v11 3G pitches
614	16.25	7.25	9

When considering future demand for an additional 35 teams (based on population growth up to 2040), there is potential demand for 17 11v11 3G pitches overall. This means a theoretical future shortfall of 9.75 pitches.

Table 3.12: Future demand for 11v11 3G pitches in Rotherham (38 teams per pitch)

Future number of teams	11v11 3G pitch requirement	Current number of 11v11 size 3G pitch equivalents	Future shortfall of 11v11 3G pitches
649	17	7.25	9.75

Alternatively, the table below considers the number of 3G pitches required if every team was to remain training within the respective analysis area that they play in. This not only identifies where the potential needs exist, but it can also be used to guide which areas should be targeted for new provision.

Table 3.13: Current demand for 11v11 3G pitches by analysis area (38 teams per pitch)

Analysis area	Current number of teams	11v11 3G pitch requirement	Current number of 11v11 size 3G pitch equivalents	Current shortfall of 11v11 3G pitches
North	144	3.75	2	1.75
Central	119	3.25	1.25	2
South	351	9.25	4	5.25
Rotherham	614	16.25	7.25	9

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

This shows an overall shortfall of nine 11v11 3G pitch equivalents, equal to the shortfall across Rotherham as a whole. It also identifies that there are specific shortfalls in all analysis areas, with each needing at least one additional pitch. The largest deficit equates to 5.25 pitches in the South Analysis Area, with a shortfall of two pitches in the Central Analysis Area and 1.75 pitches in the North Analysis Area.

Match play demand

Improving grass pitch quality is one way to increase the capacity at sites but given the cost of doing such work and the continued maintenance required (and associated costs), alternatives need to be considered that can offer a more sustainable model for the future of football. The substitute to grass pitches is the use of 3G pitches for competitive matches, providing that the pitch is one the FA 3G Pitch Register, sports lit and available for community use during the peak period.

In Rotherham, all of the 11v11 3G pitches and two smaller sized pitches are on the FA 3G Pitch Register and can therefore host competitive matches, with 129 affiliated teams registered as using the provision currently. Whilst this is a considerable number, especially compared to most other authorities, there are opportunities for this to be further increased.

As the number of 3G pitches increases in line with meeting training demand shortfalls, so should the number of teams utilising the provision for matches, which in turn should further relieve grass pitches of use. As such, whilst the number of 3G pitches needed for matches will never outweigh the number of 3G pitches needed for training (as they would not be sustainable without midweek usage), maximising the pitches that are in place and that are proposed should be fully supported.

The use of 3G pitches for matches also emphasises the importance of maintaining good quality pitches. Should pitches become poor quality, they will likely lose accreditation to accommodate fixtures. This will then result in all teams using the provision needing to transfer to grass pitches, adding to their usage, reducing their capacity and further diminishing their quality.

Rugby union

Given the inclement weather often experienced throughout the winter months of the rugby union season, more clubs are becoming increasingly receptive towards training on artificial pitches. Clubs traditionally train on match pitches where sports lights are in place, with one pitch often designated for all training in particular, unless there is a separate grass training area. This tends to result in deterioration in pitch quality, sometimes coupled with decreasing maintenance budgets.

As mentioned previously, there are currently no World Rugby compliant 3G pitches within Rotherham with the nearest pitch located at Sheffield Hallam University Sports Park (Sheffield). This means that no rugby union demand is currently taking place across the supply; however, there is evidence to warrant the creation of suitable provision given the grass pitch shortfalls evident in Part 4 of this report.

The above particularly relates to Dinnington RUFC (South Analysis Area), Rotherham Phoenix RUFC (Central Analysis Area) and Wath-upon-Dearne RUFC (North Analysis Area), given the levels of overplay their grass pitches receive. Whilst other solutions to alleviate these deficits may be possible, they could be difficult to achieve and would not be as impactful (this will be tested in the subsequent Strategy document).

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Rugby league

Rotherham Nomads trains on Monday evenings on the 3G pitch at Parkgate Astro.

Other sports

Currently, no other sports clubs/users are presently identified as accessing the existing stock of 3G pitches in Rotherham (outside of some school activity). Furthermore, no demand for access has been identified, meaning no action is required in this regard.

3.5: Conclusion

There is an insufficient supply of 3G pitches in Rotherham to meet football requirements. This is clear through the high levels of unmet demand identified, as well as through the current and future training demand shortfalls that have been evidenced across the Borough. There is a theoretical current shortfall of nine 11v11 3G pitches, increasing to an anticipated future shortfall of 9.75 11v11 3G pitches. Increasing the supply along these lines will also better accommodate match play activity (if compliant).

For rugby union, evidence exists to support the creation of World Rugby compliant provision given the large grass pitch shortfalls that have been identified. Resolving this could be achieved in collaboration with reducing shortfalls for football, or exclusively if it is adjudged that the provision would receive enough usage and be sustainable without football demand.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ There is insufficient supply of 3G provision to meet football requirements, with large shortfalls identified across the Borough to meet training demand (in each analysis area)
- ◀ For rugby union, evidence exists to support the creation of World Rugby compliant provision given the large grass pitch shortfalls that have been identified.
- ◀ X-League rugby league activity is identified on the 3G pitch at Parkgate Astro.

Supply summary

- ◀ There are six 11v11 3G pitches in Rotherham across the same number of sites, with all six pitches sports lit and available for community use.
- ◀ There are also 10 smaller sized 3G pitches across six sites in Rotherham, with each serviced by sports lighting and nine considered to be available to the community.
- ◀ All six full size as well as the smaller sized pitches at Kiveton Community Sports Park and Parkgate Astro are FA approved to accommodate match play.
- ◀ No pitches are World Rugby or RFL compliant.
- ◀ Four of the six 11v11 3G pitches are managed by education providers with only two 11v11 3G pitches located at Blackout13.com Arena and Chapman Fields are separate to this.
- ◀ Availability is relatively good across the provision, with the only exception being at Maltby Academy, where no weekend accessibility is offered.
- ◀ The 11v11 3G pitch located at Maltby Academy is assessed as standard quality, whilst the remaining 11v11 3G pitches are good quality.
- ◀ All smaller sized 3G pitches are good or standard quality, with each within its recommended lifespan.
- ◀ No ancillary facility issues have been identified.

Demand summary

- ◀ The majority of 3G provision currently servicing Rotherham is reported by providers and clubs as operating at or close to capacity at peak times, especially during winter months.
- ◀ In total, only seven hours of midweek spare capacity and eight hours of weekend spare capacity is identified across the 11v11 stock.
- ◀ Demand is received from football clubs not only for training demand but also for match play, with 129 teams currently using 3G provision for this purpose.
- ◀ A total of 12 clubs report that they require additional access to 3G provision, with this representing a high proportion of unmet demand (129 teams are represented).
- ◀ There are 25 teams exporting 3G pitch demand outside of Rotherham (to Sheffield).
- ◀ If future demand from population projections and club aspirations is realised, this will further increase 3G requirements for football.
- ◀ Future demand could also exist for rugby union and rugby league based on the current supply and demand picture.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

PART 4: RUGBY UNION

4.1: Introduction

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) is split into four areas across the country with a workforce team that covers development, coaching, governance and competitions. It governs a variety of formats and programmes, including 15-a-side, 10-a-side, 7-a-side and Tag rugby as well as the O2 Touch programme. Its aim is to increase and retain participation within the game, with facilities needing to be appropriate, affordable and accessible in order to enable this.

For traditional rugby union, there are generally three playing formats, based on the age of the players involved. These are now known as age grade mixed rugby (previously mini), age grade boys/girls rugby (previously junior) and senior rugby.

The rugby union playing season generally operates from September to May. Dinnington RUFC plays in the Counties 2 Yorkshire of Northern Division, Maltby RUFC plays in the Counties 4 Yorkshire of Southern Division, Rotherham Phoenix RUFC plays in the Counties 3 Yorkshire of Northern Division, Rotherham Titans RUFC plays in the National League 1 and Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC plays in the Counties 1 Yorkshire of Northern Division.

Consultation

There are five rugby union clubs in Rotherham, with two responding consultation requests (Dinnington RUFC and Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC).

Table 4.1: Summary of rugby club consultation

Club	Responded?
Dinnington RUFC	Yes
Maltby RUFC	No
Rotherham Phoenix RUFC	No
Rotherham Titans RUFC	No
Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC	Yes

4.2: Supply

Within Rotherham, there are 20 grass rugby union pitches identified across 13 unique sites. All of the pitches across the Borough are available at some level for community use, albeit not all are currently being accessed.

As seen via the following table, the North Analysis Area provides the most pitches (10), whereas the fewest are found in the South Analysis Area (four).

Table 4.2: Summary of grass rugby union pitches available for community use

Analysis area	No. pitches
North	10
Central	6
South	4
Rotherham	20

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

For reference, the audit only identifies dedicated, line marked pitches that are serviced by goalposts. However, it is recognised that there are often some additional marked spaces that can be used, without goalposts, particularly for age grade rugby.

Recommended pitch dimensions for all formats of play are shown in the table below.

Table 4.3: Rugby union pitch dimensions

Age	Playing format	Maximum pitch dimensions (metres) ¹⁰
U7	Age grade mixed	20 x 12
U8	Age grade mixed	45 x 22
U9	Age grade mixed	60 x 30
U10	Age grade mixed	60 x 35
U11	Age grade mixed	60 x 43
U12	Age grade mixed	60 x 43
U13	Age grade boys/girls	90 x 60 (60 x 43 for girls)
U14	Age grade boys/girls	100 x 70
U15	Age grade boys/girls	100 x 70
U16	Age grade boys/girls	100 x 70
U17	Age grade boys/girls	100 x 70
U18	Colts	100 x 70
Senior	Senior	100 x 70

No disused pitches are identified.

Future supply

A proposal is in place at for the re-build of Wales High School, with the existing plans impacting upon the playing field provision. It is set out that three rugby union pitches will still be provided following the development, with these measuring 101 x 59 metres, 94 x 55 metres and 60 x 43 metres. However, it is proposed that each will also be a dual use football pitch as well as having summer sport over markings (e.g., athletics and rounders). The existing pitches are dedicated to rugby union.

From the beginning of the 2025/26 season, two pitches are to be marked out at Maltby Manor Fields and Maltby RUFC are to move to the site and no longer use Maltby Miners Welfare.

Figure 4.1 below shows the location of the rugby union pitches. For a key to the map, see Table 4.9.

¹⁰ Recommended run off area for all pitch types requires five-metres each way and a minimum in-goal length of six metres.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Figure 4.1: Location of rugby union pitches within Rotherham



Management and security of tenure

Of the 20 pitches provided, nine are operated by clubs and nine are operated by schools, with the remaining two being managed by the Council.

Table 4.4: Rugby union pitches by management type

Club	Council	Education	Other
9	2	9	-

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

In relation to clubs, tenure of the sites that they use is generally secure, particularly regarding primary venues. Dinnington RUFC as an example has a 999-year lease of its site (Dinnington Rugby Union Football Club) from the Council, with it fully managing the maintenance of the provision as part of this. However, the Club also occasionally utilises Dinnington High School, which is said to be unsecure as no formal, long-term agreement is in place.

Rotherham Phoenix RUFC and Rotherham Titans RUFC also have long-term tenure of their sites, with these accessing Phoenix Park and Clifton Park, respectively. These two clubs are based entirely at these sites, with no secondary venues utilised.

Wath-upon-Dearne RUFC splits its activity across four venues, with Wath Pump House Field and the adjacent Wath Cricket Club primarily used. This is via a rental agreement, which provides security of tenure as part of the Council's ongoing commitment to providing a leisure offering. However, the RFU notes that a long-term lease agreement would be preferred as this can be more beneficial, particularly when it comes to site development and funding applications.

The Club also accesses both Wath Academy and St Pius X Catholic High School, particularly for training and age grade activity. With no formal community use agreements in place, this is via unsecure arrangements, albeit no issues are reported. At St Pius X Catholic High School, no formal rugby union provision is marked out, with the general playing field instead accessed (grids are occasionally marked out).

As for Maltby RUFC, the Club operates at Maltby Miners Welfare under an unsecure tenure, with no long-term agreement in place with the community organisation operating the site. As part of the Club's relocation to Maltby Manor Fields (council-owned site), it will operate at the site under a secure tenure, as per the Council's ongoing commitment to providing a leisure offering.

Of the 20 pitches that are available for community use in Rotherham, 11 pitches (55%) provide secure tenure for rugby union participation, ensuring long-term and reliable access for users. In contrast, nine pitches (45%) operate with an unsecure tenure, creating potential vulnerability in sustaining current levels of activity and future demand.

Pitch quality

The assessment of rugby union pitch quality looks at two key elements; the maintenance programme and the level of drainage on each pitch. For maintenance, each pitch is given a maintenance rating of M0, M1 or M2, based on the regime that is usually undertaken, with the definitions of these shown in the table below.

Table 4.5: Definition of maintenance categories

Category	Definition
M0	Minimal or no maintenance is undertaken
M1	Regular maintenance is undertaken that extends beyond a basic regime
M2	A sophisticated, regular and dedicated maintenance regime is undertaken

For drainage, a rating of D0, D1, D2 or D3 is assigned to each pitch. This is based on whether or not drainage is adequate and considers the presence of an operational system. The figures are based upon a pipe drained system at 5-metre centres that has been installed in the last eight years and a slit drained system at 1-metre centres that has been installed in the last five years.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Table 4.6: Definition of drainage categories

Category	Definition
D0	Drainage is natural but inadequate
D1	Drainage is natural and adequate
D2	A pipe drainage system is installed (at 5-metre centres and within the last eight years)
D3	A pipe and slit drainage system is installed (at 1-metre centres in the last five years)

An overall quality based on both drainage and maintenance can then be generated on a scale of good, standard and poor as shown below.

Table 4.7: Quality ratings based on maintenance and drainage scores

		Maintenance		
		Poor (M0)	Adequate (M1)	Good (M2)
Drainage	Natural Inadequate (D0)	Poor	Poor	Standard
	Natural Adequate (D1)	Poor	Standard	Good
	Pipe Drained (D2)	Standard	Standard	Good
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	Standard	Good	Good

For the full assessment criteria, please refer to Appendix 2.

Of the pitches in Rotherham, three are assessed as good quality, 13 are assessed as standard quality and four are assessed as poor quality.

Table 4.8: Quality of pitches available for community use

Pitch quality		
Good	Standard	Poor
3	13	4

One of the good quality pitches is located at Dinnington Rugby Union Football Club, with a higher level of maintenance carried out on the provision (M2/D1) when compared to the other two pitches at the site (M1/D1). The Club also reports that it is looking to improve the under-footing around the pitches, in addition to seeking investment into better maintenance machinery that will aid further enhancements.

One of the pitches at Phoenix Park is also assessed as good quality (M2/D1), with the other two pitches at the site considered to be standard (M1/D1). The remaining good quality pitch is the sole pitch at Rotherham Titans Rugby Club (Clifton Lane).

In contrast, none of the poor quality pitches are currently accessed by clubs, with them all found at education (Wales High School) and council (Baths Field) sites.

A pitch-by-pitch breakdown can be seen in the table overleaf.

**ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Table 4.9: Pitch quality ratings

Site ID	Active Places ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Club user/s	Management	Tenure	Community use?	Sports lighting?	Quality score	Quality rating
18	1202885	Baths Field	S63 7DH	North	-	Council	Secure	Yes-unused	No	M0/D1	Poor
49	1201653	Dinnington High School	S25 2NZ	South	Dinnington RUFC	Education	Unsecure	Yes	No	M1/D1	Standard
49	1201653	Dinnington High School	S25 2NZ	South	Dinnington RUFC	Education	Unsecure	Yes	No	M1/D1	Standard
50	1202792	Dinnington Rugby Union Football Club	S25 2PB	South	Dinnington RUFC	Sports Club	Secure	Yes	Yes	M1/D1	Standard
50	1202792	Dinnington Rugby Union Football Club	S25 2PB	South	Dinnington RUFC	Sports Club	Secure	Yes	No	M1/D1	Standard
50	1202792	Dinnington Rugby Union Football Club	S25 2PB	South	Dinnington RUFC	Community Organisation	Secure	Yes	No	M2/D1	Good
88	1202759	Maltby Miners Welfare	S66 7JQ	South	Maltby RUFC	Community Organisation	Unsecure	Yes	No	M1/D1	Standard
95	1201828	Oakwood High School	S60 2UH	Central	-	Education	Unsecure	Yes-unused	No	M1/D1	Standard
98	30009280	Phoenix Park	S65 2PS	Central	Rotherham Phoenix RUFC	Sports Club	Secure	Yes	Yes	M1/D1	Standard
98	30009280	Phoenix Park	S65 2PS	Central	Rotherham Phoenix RUFC	Sports Club	Secure	Yes	Yes	M1/D1	Standard
98	30009280	Phoenix Park	S65 2PS	Central	Rotherham Phoenix RUFC	Sports Club	Secure	Yes	Yes	M2/D1	Good
112	1041740	Rotherham Titans Rugby Club (Clifton Lane)	S60 2SN	Central	Rotherham Titans RUFC	Sports Club	Secure	Yes	Yes	M2/D1	Good
143	1004770	Tr Sports Centre	S60 2BE	Central	-	Education	Unsecure	Yes-unused	No	M1/D1	Standard
148	1201878	Wales High School	S26 5QQ	South	-	Education	Unsecure	Yes-unused	No	M1/D0	Poor
148	1201878	Wales High School	S26 5QQ	South	-	Education	Unsecure	Yes-unused	No	M1/D0	Poor
148	1201878	Wales High School	S26 5QQ	South	-	Education	Unsecure	Yes-unused	No	M1/D0	Poor
151	1201911	Wath Academy	S63 7NW	North	Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC	Education	Unsecure	Yes	No	M1/D1	Standard
153	1202787	Wath Cricket Club	S63 7RW	North	Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC	Sports Club	Secure	Yes	No	M1/D1	Standard
154	1202886	Wath Pump House Field	S63 7DQ	North	Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC	Council	Secure	Yes	Yes	M1/D1	Standard
164	1201740	Wickersley School & Sports College	S66 1JL	South	-	Education	Unsecure	Yes-unused	No	M1/D1	Standard

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Sports lighting

As also identified in Table 4.9, three sports-lit pitches are identified at Phoenix Park, with one also in place at each of Dinnington Rugby Union Football Club, Rotherham Titans Rugby Club (Clifton Lane) and Wath Pump House Field. Such provision can enable training demand to take place on the pitches, in addition to match play, although this can then have capacity consequences due to the intensification of use.

From a club perspective, only Maltby RUFC is without access to a sports-lit pitch.

Ancillary facilities

Ancillary facility ratings are primarily influenced by the type of amenities which are available on a site, such as a clubhouse, changing rooms and car parking, combined with the quality of such provision. In this regard, good quality ancillary facilities are particularly important for rugby union clubs as they can assist with income generation. Furthermore, it is becoming increasingly important for the provision to be inclusive, particularly due to growing women's and girls', disability and junior/mini demand.

Although the size and configuration of ancillary provision may alter based on the sports using the provision, and the number of pitches the facilities service, generally the same principles are recommended to allow for varied use from all demographics. This includes:

- ◀ Accessible changing areas which can be separated, or are private/self-contained, to allow for separate male/female/all gender or senior/junior separation.
- ◀ A private accessible changing room (with relevant changing and showering provision) for someone who requires assistance.
- ◀ Separate female / male / all gender toilet provision.
- ◀ Suitably designed and specified showering cubicles to all users to maintain dignity and privacy whilst showering.

Open planned changing rooms, toilets and particularly showering facilities can provide a significant barrier to many users, resulting in them either not taking part or having a poorer sporting experience. As a result, those ancillary facilities that do not meet the above criteria cannot be rated anything higher than standard quality for the purposes of this document, regardless of their overall condition.

The table details the ancillary facility quality in Rotherham for the sites accessed by clubs, with additional context behind the rationale for the findings also provided. Unused sites are not featured given that there is no current demand for access.

Table 4.10: Summary of ancillary provision servicing rugby union sites

Site ID	Site name	Users	Overall building quality	Changing room quality	Comments
49	Dinnington High School	Dinnington RUFC	Standard	Standard	Changing facilities are available at the site; however, these are not generally accessed due to nature of usage by Dinnington RUFC (mostly age grade activity).

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Users	Overall building quality	Changing room quality	Comments
50	Dinnington Rugby Union Football Club	Dinnington RUFC	Good	Good	The site has eight full size changing rooms, all with showers, as well as a physio room, officials' room, reception area, kitchen, function room, bar, laundry room and an onsite gym.
88	Maltby Miners Welfare	Maltby RUFC	Standard	Standard	A large clubhouse with changing rooms, a function room, bar and kitchen.
98	Phoenix Park	Rotherham Phoenix RUFC	N/A	N/A	No clubhouse or changing rooms are identified onsite, with provision at Clifton Lane instead accessed.
112	Rotherham Titans Rugby Club (Clifton Lane)	Rotherham Titans RUFC	Standard	Standard	A large facility with changing rooms, a function room, bar and kitchen. This is often hired out for external events.
151	Wath Academy	Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC	Standard	Standard	Changing facilities are available at the site; however, these are not generally accessed due to nature of usage by Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC (mostly age grade activity).
153	Wath Cricket Club	Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC	Good	Good	The site has a clubhouse with changing rooms that include segregated showers. Dedicated officials' room is also provided, as is a small function room.
154	Wath Pump House Field	Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC	N/A	N/A	The area does not have its own ancillary provision, with facilities at Wath Cricket Club instead utilised.

As seen, Dinnington RUFC and Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC are serviced by good quality facilities, whilst Maltby and Rotherham Titans rugby clubs have standard quality provision. The main issue across these sites is generally the age of the buildings, with some level of refurbishment required across the venues.

Contrastingly, Rotherham Phoenix RUFC is without dedicated provision at its site (Phoenix Park), with no clubhouse provided. A planning application has also been submitted at this site for the siting of two storage containers.

At Dinnington Rugby Union Football Club, an aspiration exists to upgrade and increase the toilet facilities, beginning with the women's and girls' provision. This is despite the overall good quality of the clubhouse and changing rooms at the site.

For Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC, no issues are reported in regards the facilities at Wath Cricket Club; the site has recently been refurbished, providing a new bar area and function room.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

4.3: Demand

Demand for rugby pitches in Rotherham tends to fall within the categories of organised competitive play and organised training.

Competitive demand

There are five clubs based in Rotherham, collectively providing a total of 52 teams. As a breakdown, this consists of nine senior men's, 20 age grade boys', seven aged grade girls' and 16 age grade mixed teams.

The demand is summarised by club in the following table. As seen, Dinnington, Rotherham Phoenix and Wath-upon-Dean rugby clubs are large clubs with significant senior and age grade sections, whereas both Maltby RUFC and Rotherham Titans RUFC field just one or two teams.

Table 4.11: Summary of demand by club (number of teams)

Club	Analysis area	Men's	Women's	Age grade boys'	Age grade girls'	Age grade mixed
Dinnington RUFC	South	2	-	7	4	5
Maltby RUFC	South	2	-	-	-	-
Rotherham Phoenix RUFC	Central	2	-	7	3	6
Rotherham Titans RUFC	Central	1	-	1	-	-
Wath-upon-Dearne RUFC	North	2	-	5	-	5
Total	-	9	0	20	7	16

The demand is relatively evenly split across the three analysis areas. There are 20 teams in the South Analysis Area, 20 in the Central Analysis Area and 12 in the North Analysis Area.

Table 4.12: Summary of demand by analysis area (number of teams)

Analysis area	Men's	Women's	Age grade boys'	Age grade girls'	Age grade mixed
North	2	-	5	-	5
Central	3	-	8	3	6
South	4	-	7	4	5
Rotherham	9	0	20	7	16

Although there are currently no dedicated senior women's teams, there is a good level of female participation at age grade level. In addition, Dennington RUFC previously fielded a senior team and has an aspiration to re-establish this over the coming years (see future demand section).

Training demand

Throughout the Country, many rugby union teams train at their home ground on match provision. As a result, usage is concentrated which reduces the capacity for match play on these pitches and means they are more likely to be overplayed. A key factor in determining the extent of training on match pitches is the presence of sports lighting.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

In Rotherham, Dinnington RUFC, Rotherham Phoenix RUFC, Rotherham Titans RUFC and Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC all access their sports-lit pitches for training, with this equating to high levels of demand given the number of teams that are fielded by each. Dinnington RUFC as an example, reports that it utilises its provision on each day of the week. Each club currently train on a pitch that is also used to cater for match demand.

In addition to utilising sports-lit provision at Wath Pump House Field, Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC also accesses both Wath Academy and St Pius X Catholic High School for some training activity, albeit the latter does not have marked out rugby union provision. In both cases, this is predominately for age grade activity.

Maltby RUFC trains twice a week, once on Tuesdays and once on Thursdays. On a Tuesday, it uses its provision at Maltby Miners Welfare, despite the lack of sports lighting, whereas a sports-lit pitch at Phoenix Park is used on Thursdays.

Use of artificial pitches

The alternative to training on grass pitches is the use of 3G pitches. World Rugby produced the 'Performance Specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22', that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. A World Rugby compliant pitch also enables the transfer of match demand from grass pitches onto 3G pitches, which alleviates overplay of grass pitches and as a result protects quality.

There are currently no World Rugby compliant 3G pitches in Rotherham, although evidence could exist to support and/or warrant the establishment of provision. See Part 3 of this report for further information.

Exported/imported demand

No rugby union demand is identified as being exported from Rotherham, with all clubs using provision within the Borough for all their demand. Similarly, no imported demand into Rotherham is identified.

Unmet/latent demand

No unmet or latent demand relating to rugby union provision is identified. However, both Dinnington RUFC and Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC identify that they have capacity issues across their primary venues, with this leading to them needing to use other sites.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined through multiple ways, including through participation increases and by using population forecasts. In addition, the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document will contain housing growth scenarios that can be used to estimate additional demand for rugby union arising from housing developments across Rotherham.

Participation growth

Both Dinnington RUFC and Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC report aspirations to grow their demand, with this collectively amounting to a potential increase of nine teams. Dinnington RUFC has an aim to increase its age grade demand across the formats of play, noting that it will never turn away younger players, whilst also wanting to re-establish a senior women's team and create a third senior men's team.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Wath-upon-Dearne RUFC also wants to create a third senior men's team in addition to establishing an age grade girls' team.

Table 4.13: Summary of future demand expressed by clubs (number of teams)

Club	Analysis area	Men's	Women's	Boys'	Girls'	Mixed
Dinnington RUFC	South	1	1	2	2	2
Wath-upon-Dearne RUFC	North	1	-	-	1	-
Total	-	2	1	2	3	2

Aspirations relating to other clubs are at this stage are unknown.

Population growth

Based on population projections to 2040 (in line with the Council's Local Plan), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator can estimate the likely additional demand for grass rugby union pitches that will arise from any growth. This is by using the current and future populations in each of the relevant age groups together with the current team numbers, with team generation rates then established to understand how much growth is required to establish one new team.

The table below shows the number of new teams generated by the new population and the requisite match equivalent sessions.

Table 4.14: Borough-wide team generation rates

Age group	Current number of teams	Team generation rate	Number of new teams generated by the new population
Men (19-45yrs)	9	1:4,710	1
Women (19-45yrs)	0	-	0
Boys (13-18yrs)	20	1:489	1
Girls (13-18yrs)	7	1:1,369	0
Mixed (7-12yrs)	16	1:1,270	1

As seen, growth of one senior men's, one age grade boys and one age grade mixed team is projected. However, when this applied on an analysis area basis, it does not equate to a whole team for any of the formats.

Notwithstanding the above, it should be noted that team generation rates do not account for specific development work within certain areas or focused on certain groups, such as NGB initiatives. As such, increased future growth is still considered possible despite population projections indicating that there will only be minimal increases within each format of play. A growth in women and girls' rugby is thought to be particularly likely given current RFU aspirations and the recent 2025 Rugby World Cup.

Women's Rugby World Cup 2025

The expanded showcase event was hosted across eight venues and cities around England (Brighton & Hove, Bristol, Exeter, London, Manchester, Northampton, Sunderland and York) with 16 teams competing. The country-wide format made it the most accessible Women's Rugby World Cup ever, offering an unparalleled opportunity for fans to see, engage with and support the stars of the women's game in towns and cities across England.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

The Women’s Rugby World Cup 2025 represented a generational moment for global rugby, setting new standards, welcoming new fans and families to the sport, and inspiring a new generation of players. As a result, its impact now needs to be monitored throughout the lifespan of the PPS, following the event.

4.4: Capacity analysis

The capacity for pitches to regularly accommodate competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of a pitch affects the playing experience and people’s enjoyment of playing rugby union. In extreme circumstances, it can result in the inability of a pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off-peak times.

As a guide, the RFU has set a standard number of matches that each pitch should be able to accommodate, based on quality, as set out below.

Table 4.15: Pitch capacity (matches per week) based on quality assessments

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

Using the above, the following assumptions are then applied to the site-by-site and pitch-by-pitch analysis:

- ◀ All sites that are or could be used for competitive rugby union matches (regardless of whether this is secured community use) are included on the supply side.
- ◀ For senior and age grade boys/girls’ teams, the current level of play per week is set at 0.5 match equivalent sessions for each match played based on all teams operating on a home and away basis.
- ◀ Play per week for age grade mixed teams is set at 0.25 match equivalent sessions for each match played based on teams operating on a home and away basis.
- ◀ Training that takes place on marked pitches is reflected by the addition of match equivalent sessions to current usage levels (80-90 minutes of training equates to one match equivalent session).
- ◀ Internal use of school pitches is added to current play, where community availability is offered, as determined on a site-by-site basis depending on levels of activity.
- ◀ Other usage of pitches (e.g., by football teams) is added as match equivalent sessions based on the level and regularity of play.

The peak period

In order to fully establish actual spare capacity, the peak period needs to be established for all types of rugby union. For senior teams in Rotherham, it is considered to be Saturday PM, whilst it is Sunday AM for all forms of age grade rugby.

**ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Table 4.16: Capacity table for rugby pitches in Rotherham

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Tenure	Sports lighting?	Non-technical assessment score	Quality rating	Pitch Capacity (match equivalent sessions per week)	Match usage (match equivalent sessions per week)	Training usage (match equivalent sessions per week)	Capacity rating (match equivalent sessions per week)	Comments
18	Baths Field	North	Yes-unused	Council	Secure	No	M0/D1	Poor	1.5	-	-	1.5	An unused pitch with spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalent sessions, although this is discounted due to poor quality.
49	Dinnington High School	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	No	M1/D1	Standard	2	2	-	0	Used to capacity through school use and occasional access by Dinnington RUFC.
49	Dinnington High School	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	No	M1/D1	Standard	2	2	-	0	Used to capacity through school use and occasional access by Dinnington RUFC.
50	Dinnington Rugby Union Football Club	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Yes	M1/D1	Standard	2	1	7	6	Significantly overplayed by seven match equivalent sessions through accommodating both match and training demand from Dinnington RUFC.
50	Dinnington Rugby Union Football Club	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	No	M1/D1	Standard	2	2.75	-	0.75	Overplayed by 0.75 match equivalent sessions through usage by Dinnington RUFC.
50	Dinnington Rugby Union Football Club	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	No	M2/D1	Good	3	3	-	0	Played to capacity by Dinnington RUFC.
88	Maltby Miners Welfare	South	Yes	Sports Club	Unsecure	No	M1/D1	Standard	2	1	1	0	Played to capacity by Maltby RUFC.
95	Oakwood High School	Central	Yes-unused	Education	Unsecure	No	M1/D1	Standard	2	1	-	1	A pitch unused by the community with spare capacity of one match equivalent session, although this is discounted due to unsecure tenure.
98	Phoenix Park	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Yes	M1/D1	Standard	2	2.5	3	3.5	Significantly overplayed by seven match equivalent sessions through accommodating both match and training demand from Rotherham Phoenix RUFC.
98	Phoenix Park	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Yes	M1/D1	Standard	2	3	3	4	Significantly overplayed by seven match equivalent sessions through accommodating both match and training demand from Rotherham Phoenix RUFC.
98	Phoenix Park	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Yes	M2/D1	Good	3	2	1	0	Played to capacity by Rotherham Phoenix RUFC.
112	Rotherham Titans Rugby Club (Clifton Lane)	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Yes	M2/D1	Good	3	1.5	1.5	0	Played to capacity by Rotherham Titans RUFC.
143	Tr Sports Centre	Central	Yes-unused	Education	Unsecure	No	M1/D1	Standard	2	1	-	1	A pitch unused by the community with spare capacity of one match equivalent session, although this is discounted due to unsecure tenure.

**ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Tenure	Sports lighting?	Non-technical assessment score	Quality rating	Pitch Capacity (match equivalent sessions per week)	Match usage (match equivalent sessions per week)	Training usage (match equivalent sessions per week)	Capacity rating (match equivalent sessions per week)	Comments
148	Wales High School	South	Yes-unused	Education	Unsecure	No	M1/D0	Poor	1.5	1	-	0.5	A pitch unused by the community with spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions, although this is discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor quality.
148	Wales High School	South	Yes-unused	Education	Unsecure	No	M1/D0	Poor	1.5	1	-	0.5	A pitch unused by the community with spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions, although this is discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor quality.
148	Wales High School	South	Yes-unused	Education	Unsecure	No	M1/D0	Poor	1.5	1	-	0.5	A pitch unused by the community with spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions, although this is discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor quality.
151	Wath Academy	North	Yes	Education	Unsecure	No	M1/D1	Standard	2	2.25	1	1.25	Overplayed by 1.25 match equivalent sessions through school use as well as match play and training demand by Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC.
153	Wath Cricket Club	North	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	No	M1/D1	Standard	2	2	3	3	Significantly overplayed by three match equivalent sessions through accommodating both match and training demand from Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC.
154	Wath Pump House Field	North	Yes	Council	Secure	Yes	M1/D1	Standard	2	2.5	-	0.5	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions by Wath-upon-Deerne RUFC.
164	Wickersley School & Sports College	South	Yes-unused	Education	Unsecure	No	M1/D1	Standard	2	1	-	1	A pitch unused by the community with spare capacity of one match equivalent session, although this is discounted due to unsecure tenure.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Actual spare capacity

There may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as actual spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to regularly operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for regular friendly matches and activities that take place but are difficult to quantify on a weekly basis. In addition, any pitches that are used by clubs to capacity at peak time or that are poor quality are not considered to have actual spare capacity as usage of such provision should not be encouraged until the problems are resolved.

Furthermore, there are numerous rugby pitches in Rotherham at education sites that are unused by clubs despite being reported as available. Whilst these may theoretically provide some spare capacity, it would not be reasonable to equate this as actual spare capacity as school usage itself is likely to limit what additional activity should take place on the provision. Moreover, tenure at the sites is generally unsecure, meaning long-term access cannot be guaranteed.

Using the above, the table below ascertains whether or not any identified 'potential capacity' of sites in Table 4.16 can be used to accommodate an increase in play on a site-by-site and pitch-by-pitch basis. This would then equate to actual spare capacity.

Table 4.17: Summary of actual spare capacity (match equivalent sessions per week)

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitches with spare capacity	Potential spare capacity	Actual spare capacity (peak period)	Comments
18	Baths Field	North	1	1.5	-	Discounted due to poor quality.
95	Oakwood High School	Central	1	1	-	Discounted due to unsecure tenure.
143	Tr Sports Centre	Central	1	1	-	Discounted due to unsecure tenure.
148	Wales High School	South	2	1	-	Discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor quality.
148	Wales High School	South	1	0.5	-	Discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor quality.
164	Wickersley School & Sports College	South	1	1	-	Discounted due to unsecure tenure.

As seen, of the seven pitches with potential spare capacity, none offer any actual spare capacity.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Overplay

There are seven pitches across five sites in Rotherham that are overplayed by a total of 19 match equivalent sessions per week. This represents a substantial level across the venues.

Table 4.18: Summary of overplay

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Number of overplayed pitches	Overplay (match equivalent sessions per week)
50	Dinnington Rugby Union Football Club	South	2	6.75
98	Phoenix Park	Central	2	7.5
151	Wath Academy	North	1	1.25
153	Wath Cricket Club	North	1	3
154	Wath Pump House Field	North	1	0.5

At Dinnington Rugby Union Football Club, Phoenix Park, Wath Cricket Club and Wath Academy, the overplay is identified on the pitches that are used to accommodate training demand in addition to match play. This therefore considerably impacts on capacity.

The overplay is found across the three analysis areas, although the most is found in the Central Analysis Area (7.5 match equivalent sessions). The least is in the North Analysis Area (4.75 match equivalent sessions).

Table 4.19: Summary of overplay by analysis area (match equivalent sessions per week)

Analysis area	Overplay (match equivalent sessions)
North	4.75
Central	7.5
South	6.75
Rotherham	19

4.5: Supply and demand analysis

The table below identifies the overall supply and demand balance for rugby union in each of the analysis areas as well as across Rotherham as a whole. This is for both current and future demand.

For future demand, with no growth forecast on an analysis area basis from population increases, the aspirations from clubs have instead been included. This is because these are said to be realistic targets.

Table 4.20: Supply and demand balance for rugby union (match equivalent sessions per week)

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current supply and demand balance	Future demand	Future supply and demand balance
North	-	4.75	4.75	1	5.75
Central	-	7.5	7.5	-	7.5
South	-	6.75	6.75	3.5	10.25
Rotherham	0	19	19	4.5	23.5

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

As seen, there is a significant shortfall of 19 match equivalent sessions based on current demand levels, with a deficit identified in each of the three analysis areas. When accounting for future demand, the shortfall increases to 23.5 match equivalent sessions, with a worsening picture identified in the North and South analysis areas.

4.6: Conclusion

There is a clear shortfall of rugby union provision in Rotherham, with this identified across the Borough as well as in all three analysis areas. Furthermore, the deficits are relatively big, with significant levels of overplay identified across multiple sites that are in use by clubs and with no sites displaying actual spare capacity. This is primarily a consequence of large levels of demand and pitches being used to accommodate both match play and training activity.

Rugby union – supply and demand summary

- ◀ No actual spare capacity is identified.
- ◀ There are seven pitches across five sites that are overplayed by a combined 19 match equivalent sessions, which is substantial.
- ◀ Overall, there is a shortfall of 19 match equivalent sessions to meet current demand, with this increasing to 23.5 match equivalent sessions when accounting for future demand.

Rugby union – supply summary

- ◀ There are 20 grass rugby union pitches identified across 13 sites in Rotherham.
- ◀ All pitches are available at some level for community use, albeit not all are being accessed.
- ◀ There are no WR22 compliant 3G pitches in Rotherham.
- ◀ Of the pitches, nine are operated by clubs and nine are operated by schools, with the remaining two being managed by the Council.
- ◀ Three pitches are assessed as good quality, 13 are assessed as standard quality and four are assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ Poor quality pitches are provided at Wales High School and Baths Field, neither of which are currently used by clubs.
- ◀ Three sports-lit pitches are provided at Phoenix Park, with one also in place at each of Dinnington Rugby Union Football Club, Rotherham Titans Rugby Club (Clifton Lane) and Wath Pump House Field.
- ◀ The ancillary facilities in place across the Borough are assessed as good or standard quality.

Rugby union – demand summary

- ◀ Five rugby union clubs play within Rotherham consisting of 52 teams.
- ◀ As a breakdown, there are nine senior men's, 20 age grade boys', seven age grade girls' and 16 age grade mixed teams.
- ◀ No senior women's teams are currently fielded, although Dinnington RUFC has ambitions to establish a side over the coming years.
- ◀ In addition to match play demand, all clubs access sports-lit pitches for some level of training activity, with non-lit pitches at Maltby Miners Welfare, Wath Academy and St Pius X Catholic High School also utilised.
- ◀ Both Dinnington RUFC and Wath-upon-Dearne RUFC report aspirations to grow their demand, with this collectively amounting to a potential increase of nine teams.
- ◀ Increases forecast from population growth amount to one senior men's, one age grade boys' and one age grade mixed team, although no growth is identified when applied on an analysis area basis.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

PART 5: RUGBY LEAGUE

5.1: Introduction

The Rugby Football League (RFL) is the governing body for rugby league in Britain and Ireland. It administers the England national rugby league team, the Challenge Cup, Super League and the championships which form the professional and semi-professional structure of the game in the UK. It also administers the amateur and junior game across the Country in association with the British Amateur Rugby League Association (BARLA).

5.2: Supply

There are currently no dedicated rugby league pitches within Rotherham.

5.3: Demand

There are currently no full-contact, open-age rugby league clubs based in Rotherham. The nearest are in neighbouring Sheffield, which hosts three main clubs, with these known as Sheffield Eagles RLFC (professional), Sheffield Forgers RLFC and Sheffield Hawks ARLFC. In addition, there are also university-based rugby league teams competing in the City.

Previously, Rotherham Giants RLFC had been the sole full-contact rugby league club in Rotherham, based at Herringthorpe Playing Fields. However, the Club folded a significant length of time ago - in 2012.

With no traditional club based in Rotherham, that is not to say that there is no demand. Instead, it is feasible that most demand will be exporting outside of the Borough to access clubs in nearby authorities (such as those in Sheffield). That being said, to what extent this is occurring is difficult to determine.

Rotherham Nomads (X-League)

Rotherham Nomads are a community rugby league group specialising in X-League, which is a non-contact, mixed-gender variation of the sport designed to be inclusive, social and accessible to all abilities. The format emphasises fitness, teamwork and fun rather than heavy tackling, making it a welcoming route back into rugby league for lapsed players or a gentle introduction for complete beginners.

Founded in 2024, Rotherham Nomads trains on Monday evenings on the 3G pitch at Parkgate Astro. The Club's ethos centres on community engagement, mental and physical well-being and providing an enjoyable environment to play the sport without the intensity of the full-contact game.

5.4: Supply and demand analysis / conclusion

With no full-contact rugby league supply or demand identified in Rotherham, no current action is required in relation to the traditional form of the sport. That being said, any potential participation should be signposted to activity in neighbouring authorities to ensure that it can be accommodated.

For Rotherham Nomads, continued access to the provision at Parkgate Astro (or a suitable alternative) is imperative.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Rugby league – supply and demand summary

- ◀ With no full-contact rugby league supply or demand identified in Rotherham, no current action is required in relation to the traditional form of sport.
- ◀ Any potential participation should be signposted to activity in neighbouring authorities to ensure that it can be accommodated.
- ◀ For Rotherham Nomads, continued access to the provision at Parkgate Astro (or a suitable alternative) is imperative.

Rugby league – supply summary

- ◀ There are currently no dedicated rugby league pitches within Rotherham.

Rugby league – demand summary

- ◀ There are no competitive, full-contact rugby league clubs based in Rotherham.
- ◀ Rotherham Giants RLFC had been the sole full-contact rugby league club in the Borough, based at Herringthorpe Playing Fields, before it folded in 2012.
- ◀ With no club based in Rotherham, it is likely that some demand will be exporting outside of the Borough to access clubs in nearby authorities (such as in Sheffield), although to what extent is difficult to determine.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

PART 6: HOCKEY

6.1: Introduction

Hockey in England is governed by England Hockey (EH).

Competitive league hockey matches, and training can only be played on sand-filled, sand-dressed or water-based artificial grass pitches (AGPs). Although competitive, adult and junior club training cannot take place on third generation turf pitches (3G), 40mm pitches may be suitable for introductory level hockey, such as school curriculum low level hockey. EH's Artificial Grass Playing Surface Policy details suitability of surface type for varying levels of hockey, as shown below.

Table 6.1: England Hockey guidelines on artificial surface types suitable for hockey

Category	Surface	Essential Playing Level	Desirable Playing Level
1	Water surface approved within the FIH Global/National Parameters	International hockey (training and matches).	Domestic National Premier League competition; Higher levels of player pathway (performance centres and upwards).
2	Sand dressed surfaces within the FIH National Parameter	Domestic National Premier League competition; Higher levels of player pathway (academy centres and upwards).	All adult and junior league hockey; Intermediate or advanced school hockey; EH competitions for clubs and schools.
3	Sand filled surfaces within the FIH National Parameter	All adult and junior club training and league hockey; EH competitions for clubs and schools; Intermediate or advanced school hockey.	Lower level hockey (introductory level).
4	All 3G surfaces	No hockey.	Lower level hockey (introductory level) when no category 1-3 surface is available.

In addition to the above pitch types, EH is currently trialling a different multi-sport surface to better accommodate lower levels of hockey demand on a pitch that is also suitable for other sports such as netball and tennis. The surface type, known as Gen 2¹¹, is a versatile surface that will ensure that the sports do not need to compromise on the playing experience; it is a sand dressed synthetic turf with a compatible shock pad. The concept is designed to provide facilities, including at schools, with a dynamic carpet which reduces the amount of space required and enables the provision to be utilised to its full potential.

For senior teams, a full-size hockey pitch for matches must measure at least 91.4 x 55 metres excluding surrounding run off areas, which must be a minimum of two metres at the sides and three metres at the ends. EH's preference is for four metre side and five metre end run offs, with a preferred overall area of 101.4 x 63 metres.

¹¹ <http://www.englishockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=2596§ionTitle=Gen+2+Playing+Surface>

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

It is considered that a hockey pitch can accommodate a maximum of four matches on one day (peak time) provided the pitch has sports lighting. Training is generally midweek for senior activity and requires access to a pitch and sports lights, whereas many junior teams train on a Sunday as well as during midweek.

Consultation

There are three hockey clubs playing within Rotherham, with these being Rotherham HC, Chapeltown HC and Phoenix HC. Both Rotherham HC and Phoenix Ladies HC have responded to consultation requests, whereas Chapeltown HC has been unresponsive. This results in a 66% response rate.

Rotherham HC men's first team plays in the Yorkshire & North East, Yorkshire Men's Division 2, whilst its ladies first team plays in the Yorkshire League Division 1. Chapeltown HC men's first team plays in the Yorkshire & North East, Yorkshire Men's Division 1, whilst its ladies first team plays in the Yorkshire & North East Area Women's – Peak & Wold Women's Division 1. Phoenix Ladies HC also plays in the Yorkshire & North East Area Women's – Peak & Wold Women's Division 1.

6.2: Supply

There are three full size hockey suitable AGPs in Rotherham, with each of these available for community use and serviced by sports lighting. The pitches are located at Aurora Playing Field, Dinnington High School and Oakwood High School.

Two of the pitches are provided in the South Analysis Area (at Aurora Playing Field and Dinnington High School), whereas one is in the Central Analysis Area (at Oakwood High School). This means that there is no such provision within the North Analysis Area.

The pitch at Aurora Playing Field is accessed by Rotherham HC, whilst the pitch at Oakwood High School is utilised by both Chapeltown HC and Phoenix HC. The provision at Dinnington High School is therefore not currently used for any community hockey.

Regarding Aurora Playing Field, it should be noted that this is considered to form part of the wider Sheffield Hallam University Sports Park site, the bulk of which is situated within Sheffield. However, the land that hosts the hockey pitch is slightly separated and falls within the boundary of Rotherham, albeit right on the border, which is why it has been included within this study.

In addition to the full size provision, there is also a smaller sized AGP with a hockey suitable surface in Rotherham. This is at Clifton Community School (measuring 78 x 37 metres). It is in the Central Analysis Area, although it is not available for community use or serviced by sports lighting.

Nationally, many smaller sized pitches are considered too small to accommodate any purposeful hockey demand, although some larger ones can be utilised for training demand and junior play. However, this cannot be said to be the case at Clifton Community School given that it is inaccessible and without lighting. It is therefore discounted from this point forward as it is not relevant from a hockey perspective, although it is recognised that it will be serving a multi-sport purpose for curricular and extra-curricular demand.

Table 6.2 overleaf provides a site-by-site summary of the full size pitches. For the location, please refer to Figure 6.1.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Table 6.2: Full size hockey suitable pitches in the Borough

Site ID	Site	Active Places Power ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Tenure	Sports-lit?	Dimensions (metres)	Users
14	Aurora Playing Field	1103866	S60 5ND	South	Yes	Secure	Yes	98 x 58	Rotherham HC
49	Dinnington High School	1201653	S25 2NZ	South	Yes	Unsecure	Yes	105 x 66	-
95	Oakwood High School	1201828	S60 2UH	Central	Yes	Secure / Unsecure	Yes	100 x 62	Chapelton HC Phoenix HC

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Figure 6.1: Location of hockey pitches



Management and security of tenure

All three full size hockey pitches in Rotherham are managed in house by education providers, with Aurora Playing Field operated by Sheffield Hallam University and Dinnington High School and Oakwood High School operated by the respective schools.

Both Rotherham HC and Chapelton HC are considered to have secure tenure at the sites that they use, with each having a community use agreement in place that guarantees access for at least the next three years. This relates to Aurora Playing Field for Rotherham HC (agreement expires in 2038) and Oakwood High School for Chapelton HC.

In contrast, Phoenix HC has unsecure tenure as it only rents the provision at Oakwood High School on an annual basis.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Table 6.3: Summary of management and tenure status

Site ID	Club	Management	Users	Tenure
14	Aurora Playing Field	Education	Rotherham HC	Secure
49	Dinnington High School	Education	-	-
95	Oakwood High School	Education	Chapelton HC/Phoenix HC	Secure / Unsecure

Availability / Usage

Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM) applies an overall peak period for AGPs of 34 hours per week (Monday to Thursday 17:00-21:00; Friday 17:00-19:00; Saturday and Sunday 09:00-17:00). Using this, the availability at each site providing a full size pitch in Rotherham is summarised in the table below. However, please note that this only refers to overall availability and opening hours, rather than considering current capacity, which is instead accounted for within the demand part of this section.

As shown, the level of availability is somewhat mixed, with full availability offered at Aurora Playing Field but with limitations in place at Dinnington High School and more so at Oakwood High School.

Table 6.4: Availability of full size hockey suitable AGPs

Site ID	Site name	Availability	Midweek availability in the peak period (hours)	Weekend availability in the peak period (hours)
14	Aurora Playing Field	Monday-Friday 09:00 – 21:00 Saturday-Sunday 09:00 – 17:00	18 / 18	16 / 16
49	Dinnington High School	Monday-Friday 17:30 – 21:30 Saturday-Sunday 09:00 – 15:00	15.5/18	12/16
95	Oakwood High School	Monday-Thursday 18:00 – 21:00 Friday - Closed Saturday 09:00 – 16:00 Sunday - Closed	12/18	8/16

The pitch at Dinnington High School is used by the School until 17:30 during midweek to meet curricular and extra-curricular requirements, resulting in two and a half hours that cannot be utilised by the community. Similarly, it is not fully available at weekends due to closing at 15:00.

The pitch at Oakwood High School has less availability than Dinnington High School as it is generally unavailable for use on Fridays and Sundays. This is said to be because of operational costs, particularly during summer months when less demand for access exists and therefore less income. That being said, Phoenix HC identifies that it does occasionally access the pitch on Sundays, so some room for manoeuvre is provided.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

At Aurora Playing Fields, whilst full availability is offered during peak times, Rotherham HC indicates that it only accesses the provision in line with its community use agreement as any additional usage is considered too expensive. As a result, it restricts its access to Thursday evenings (18:30-21:00), Saturdays (all day) and Sundays (10:00-11:30). It also cannot hire the pitch out to any other third-party due to the cost and to protect surface quality, with the community use agreement stating that the provision can only be used for hockey and lacrosse purposes. There are no lacrosse clubs based in Rotherham.

Quality

Depending on use, it is considered that the carpet of an AGP usually lasts for approximately 10 years, and it is the age of the surface, together with maintenance levels, that most commonly affects quality. An issue for hockey nationally is that some providers did not financially plan to replace the carpet when first installed, leading to many pitches now being outside of their recommended lifespan and, consequently, poor quality.

For the PPS, each AGP has been assigned a quality rating of good, standard or poor following site assessments undertaken in January 2025, with this checked and challenged via provider and user consultation as well as EH input. The rating is linked to the condition and age of the playing surface, as well as surrounding hard areas and the maintenance regime that is undertaken (for the full assessment criteria, please refer to Appendix 2).

As seen in the following table, two of the pitches are considered good quality (at Aurora Playing Field and Oakwood High School), whereas one is poor quality (at Dinnington High School).

Table 6.5: Age and quality of full size hockey suitable AGPs

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Year installed/resurfaced	Quality rating
14	Aurora Playing Field	South	2017	Good
49	Dinnington High School	South	2006	Poor
95	Oakwood High School	Central	2024	Good

The pitch at Oakwood High School is rated as good quality having only recently been installed, whereas the pitch at Aurora Playing Field is assessed as such despite it being eight years old and nearing the end of its recommended lifespan. This is because it is rarely used for any demand other than that received from Rotherham HC, whilst it is also regularly maintained to a high level. The lack of football training demand on the site has also helped protect the surface, resulting in less wear and tear.

Conversely, the pitch at Dinnington High School is poor quality having not been refurbished since it was originally installed in 2006 (making the surface 19 years old). This is likely linked to its lack of hockey use, with clubs generally not wanting to utilise surfaces that are in a state of disrepair.

Ancillary provision

No significant issues have been identified through site assessments of via consultation at either Dinnington High School or Oakwood High School regarding either the quality, quantity and/or accessibility of ancillary provision.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

At Aurora Playing Fields, Rotherham HC notes that the provision is not dedicated to the hockey pitch, with it instead servicing the whole Sheffield Hallam University Sports Park site. This causes some logistical issues and results in the Club also accessing Phoenix Sports & Social Club as post-match base.

In addition, the Club also references a perceived lack of car parking spaces at Aurora Playing Field. This is particularly pressing when there are multiple users and sports accessing the site at the same time.

6.3: Demand

Across Rotherham, there are 26 hockey teams fielded by the three community clubs. Broken down, this equates to eight senior men's, seven senior women's, four junior boys', five junior girls' and two mini (mixed) teams.

Rotherham HC is the largest club with 17 teams, followed by Chapeltown HC with seven. Phoenix HC is a comparatively small club, fielding just two senior women's teams.

Table 6.6: Summary of hockey teams within the Borough

Name of club	Senior men	Senior women	Junior boys	Junior girls	Mini	Total
Chapeltown HC	3	2	1	1	-	7
Phoenix HC	-	2	-	-	-	2
Rotherham HC	5	3	3	4	2	17
Total	8	7	4	5	2	26

In addition to overall team numbers, the table below identifies each club's participation figures by specific demographics. Across the three clubs, there are 349 registered members, with this consisting of 172 seniors and 177 juniors.

Table 6.7: Summary of club membership within the Borough

Name of club	Senior men (17-55)	Senior women (17-55)	Junior boys (14-16)	Junior girls (14-16)	Junior boys (11-13)	Junior girls (11-13)	Mini mixed (5-10)	Total
Chapeltown HC	43	27	21	24	-	-	-	115
Phoenix HC	-	39	-	1	-	-	-	40
Rotherham HC	47	16	41	48	15	15	12	194
Total	90	82	62	73	15	15	12	349

Rotherham HC accesses the pitch at Aurora Playing Fields for all its activity. As mentioned previously, it accesses the provision on Thursday evenings for training from 18:30 until 21:00 as well as all day on Saturdays and from 10:00 until 11:30 on Sundays for matches.

Phoenix HC utilises the pitch at Oakwood High School on Wednesday evening from 18:00 until 19:00 for training. It then plays matches at the site on Saturdays, in addition to occasionally utilising it on Sundays for additional sessions or friendlies.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Chapelton HC also uses the pitch at Oakwood High School on Wednesday for training and on Saturdays for matches. In addition to this, it also accesses a smaller sized AGP at Caribbean Sports Club for some junior activity. This provision is located in Sheffield (see imported/exported demand section for further details).

Additional demand

Away from club-based match play and training demand, there are also several initiatives supported by EH that operate across the Country, including:

- ◀ Back to Hockey
- ◀ Flyerz Hockey
- ◀ Hockey Heroes
- ◀ Quicksticks
- ◀ Rush Hockey
- ◀ In2 Hockey
- ◀ Walking Hockey

Where undertaken, these initiatives add to hockey demand at sites. Each is therefore summarised further below.

Back to Hockey

Back to Hockey sessions are fun, social, and informal and are aimed at people who either have not played for a number of years or that are looking to play for the first time. They are generally hosted by clubs, with EH providing guidance on how to deliver the programme.

Benefits of clubs being involved in Back to Hockey include:

- ◀ More members.
- ◀ More casual players.
- ◀ Additional income.
- ◀ Extra publicity.
- ◀ New volunteers.

In Rotherham, Back to Hockey sessions are run out of Aurora Playing Field on Tuesday evenings.

Flyerz Hockey

Flyerz is the name widely associated with grassroots disability hockey in Great Britain. There are now more than 50 Flyerz sections across England, Wales, and Scotland, providing inclusive hockey for disabled people.

There are no Flyerz Hockey sessions currently taking place in Rotherham.

Hockey Heroes

Hockey Heroes is a six-week hockey programme aimed at beginners (children aged five to eight) that not only focuses on helping children develop some physical hockey skills such as dribbling, passing and goal scoring, but also places as much emphasis on character development including teamwork, communication, perseverance, and respect.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Rotherham HC currently runs Hockey Heroes activity at Aurora Playing Field.

In2Hockey

In2Hockey is England Hockey's adapted game format aimed at players 10-14 years old and is played as a 6-a-side game without goalkeepers, or as a 7-a-side game with goalkeepers.

Rotherham HC runs In2Hockey activity at Aurora Playing Field.

Quicksticks

Quicksticks is designed to introduce young people (aged 7-11) to the game of hockey. It is 4-a-side, can be played on any surface, and uses a larger, lighter and safer ball. It is a fun, fast, safe and exciting game that has been designed so that anyone can deliver the game, regardless of previous hockey experience.

Currently, no clubs or sites in Rotherham offer dedicated Quicksticks delivery.

Rush hockey

Rush hockey is a new way to play hockey, designed as a small-sided hockey game for adults. It can be played by men and women in mixed or single gender teams, indoors or outdoors and on pitches of varying sizes. Teams are four or five a side and it is played with a standard hockey stick but with unique goals and balls.

No Rush hockey activity is identified in Rotherham.

Walking hockey

Increasing in popularity, walking hockey is perfect for players looking for a less physically demanding version of the game but still enjoy showing their skills and being involved in the team and social aspect.

There are currently no Hockey Heroes courses operating in the Borough, although Rotherham HC indicates that it has hosted sessions in the past.

Imported/exported demand

Prior to the development of the hockey pitch at Oakwood High School, both Chapelton HC and Phoenix HC were primarily based outside of Rotherham in Sheffield (a pitch at Ecclesfield Secondary School was utilised before this was converted to 3G). This meant that Phoenix HC was exporting demand outside of Rotherham (as it is a Rotherham-based club), whilst Chapelton HC's presence in the Borough now means that it is importing demand (as it is a Sheffield-based club).

As mentioned above, despite Chapelton HC now utilising a pitch within Rotherham, it is also still using provision in Sheffield via a smaller sized pitch at Caribbean Sports Club. This is pertinent as it is reported that the operator of this site is exploring options that may impact on this activity, with long-term usage therefore not guaranteed.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Based on the close proximity of Aurora Playing Field to Sheffield, it is also expected that there will be additional imported and exported hockey demand between the two authorities, particularly relating to Rotherham HC. However, as this will only relate to members rather than teams, it is difficult to quantify.

Unmet/latent demand

There is no known unmet or latent demand identified from hockey clubs in Rotherham. The general consensus is that all activity is being adequately accommodated, particularly following the development of the pitch at Oakwood High School.

Future demand

Growing participation is a key aim within EH's Strategy (Creating A Future for Our Game Together 2024-2028), whilst it is also currently working on an updated facilities strategy that will add to this. Due to its significant plans, it does not see projected participation increases from general population growth to be an accurate measure of future demand, meaning this tool is not used in the way that it is for other playing pitch sports within this study. Instead, it states that growth should be regularly monitored to understand that impact it is having on pitch supply, with clubs also to be supported to fulfil their aspirations.

In relation to club aspirations, Rotherham HC indicates plans to increase by one senior men's team, in addition to growing its junior section. For this, it notes that it is making progress in promoting the Club within schools, although a difficulty in recruiting junior boys over the age of 14 is identified.

In comparison, Phoenix HC reports that its main goal is to sustain its current levels of demand. It therefore does not express any ambitions to increase its number of teams or membership.

6.4: Capacity analysis

When assessing the capacity of AGPs, all usage needs to be taken into account. This is because, in addition to hockey activity, there is often heavy football usage of provision and occasionally other sporting use which can take capacity away from hockey-based demand.

In Rotherham, football demand at Dinnington High School is particularly high, especially given that the pitch is not by or suitable for hockey demand. As a result, the pitch quality at the aforementioned site has worsened considerably. There is also a presence of it at Oakwood High School, although the impression is that this is yet to be fully maximised due to the relative newness of the provision. A full, consistent programme of use is still being established.

At Aurora Playing Fields, no football activity is taking place due to the conditions of the community use agreement that stipulates that only hockey and lacrosse demand can access the provision. Moreover, outside of use by Rotherham HC, only internal university demand (for both hockey and lacrosse) is seemingly being received.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

The table below details the usage at all three sites providing full size hockey pitches, comparing availability during peak time against hockey use and other activity as well as taking into consideration any remaining spare capacity. Peak time for senior hockey matches in Rotherham is Saturday, whilst it is Sunday for junior hockey matches. For training, it is Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, with Mondays and Fridays generally not considered as teams do not want to train in such close proximity to weekend matches.

Spare capacity is considered to exist for matches if there are currently less than eight teams assigned to a pitch on a Saturday or Sunday (and if the remaining capacity is not being utilised for other purposes). It exists for training if at least a section of a pitch is available for a minimum of an hour during evenings, midweek (Tuesday-Thursday).

Table 6.8: Usage of full size hockey suitable AGPs

Site ID	Site name	Midweek usage comments	Midweek capacity for hockey	Weekend usage comments	Weekend capacity for hockey
14	Aurora Playing Field	Used to capacity by Rotherham HC for training, with some university usage also recorded outside of this.	Capacity exists for an increase in demand on Tuesdays and Thursdays.	Used to capacity by Rotherham HC for matches on Saturdays. Some spare capacity exists on Sunday afternoons.	No capacity for an increase in senior demand, although some exists for junior demand.
49	Dinnington High School	No current midweek hockey usage but heavily used for football. Only 20:00-21:00 slots remain.	Capacity remains but is limited to one-hour slots.	No current hockey demand and only minimal usage for other purposes.	Capacity on both Saturdays and Sundays, although quality is an issue.
95	Oakwood High School	Used by both Phoenix HC and Chapelton HC on Wednesdays in addition to considerable football usage outside of this.	Minimal spare capacity exists for an increase in demand.	Used by Phoenix HC and Chapelton HC on Saturdays, with only one available slot remaining. Not accessible on Sundays, although some ad hoc activity is recorded.	Minimal capacity for senior demand on Saturdays but no capacity for junior demand on Sundays due to access restrictions.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

6.5: Supply and demand analysis

The below examines both match play and training demand across the Borough considering both current and future levels of demand.

Match play analysis

It is suggested that a full size hockey suitable, sports-lit AGP can accommodate four match equivalent sessions on one day. For senior demand, with teams playing on a home and away basis, this equates to one pitch being able to cater for eight 'home' teams on a Saturday (one team requires 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week). Using this, on the basis that there are three pitches in Rotherham, there is a theoretical opportunity to accommodate up to 24 senior hockey teams in the Borough.

With 15 senior teams currently playing in Rotherham, there is seemingly a sufficient supply of pitches to meet demand. However, this is not a true reflection of overall capacity, with quality issues at Dinnington High School making the pitch unusable. As such, there is only capacity for one additional team to be fielded based on the current status of the provision.

Table 6.9: Summary of hockey pitch capacity for peak time senior match play (Saturday)

Site ID	Site name	Potential capacity (number of teams)	Actual capacity (number of teams)	Number of hockey teams using the provision	Capacity balance (number of teams)
14	Aurora Playing Field	8	8	8	0
49	Dinnington High School	6	-	-	-
95	Oakwood High School	8	8	7	1
-	Total	22	16	15	1

It should also be noted that the spare capacity that has been identified is only relevant to Chapeltown HC and Phoenix HC, given that Rotherham HC does not utilise the pitch at Oakwood High School. This is significant as the Club has senior team growth plans that cannot be achieved at Aurora Playing Field based on existing demand levels.

For junior hockey matches, the need for pitches is usually less than it is for senior hockey, particularly given that younger age groups can play on half a pitch (meaning two fixtures can take place at one time). However, limited capacity in Rotherham has also been identified in this regard given that the pitch at Oakwood High School is unavailable for community use on Sundays. Furthermore, the community use agreement for Rotherham HC at Aurora Playing Fields only enables access to 11:30 on Sundays.

Training analysis

In terms of capacity for hockey training, additional availability has been identified across the three full size pitches, although this is minimal at both Oakwood High School and Dinnington High School due to the levels of football demand received. Both Chapeltown HC and Phoenix HC could increase their hours at Oakwood High School, but only to a limited degree.

The above is crucial due to Chapeltown HC's supplementary usage of a smaller sized pitch at Caribbean Sports Club, in Sheffield, and the uncertain future of this provision. Should it not be accessible in the long-term, additional capacity pressures could be created within Rotherham, with the demand potentially needing to relocate into the Borough. More capacity has been identified at Aurora Playing Fields, although Rotherham HC indicates that there is a cost issue that is preventing further usage.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

6.5: Conclusion

There is a sufficient supply of hockey pitches in Rotherham to cater for current demand. However, availability is extremely limited in relation to both match play and training usage at both Aurora Playing Fields and Oakwood High School, with any future demand likely to result in capacity pressures being created. This is then a particular issue when considering that the alternative pitch at Dinnington High School cannot be used due to quality issues. The picture could also be impacted upon if Chapeltown HC loses access to the supplementary provision that it uses in Sheffield.

Based on the above, it is clear that the pitches at Aurora Playing Fields and Oakwood High School require ongoing protection for hockey, whilst improvements at Dinnington High School would be beneficial in order to provide a suitable overspill venue. If this cannot be achieved, an alternative new pitch may be required.

In addition, there are clear means to further increase capacity via the pitches at Aurora Playing Fields and Oakwood High School. For Aurora Playing Fields, reported cost issues linked to Rotherham HC's community use agreement can be explored, whilst enabling regular Sunday access at Oakwood High School should also be prioritised.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Hockey – supply and demand summary

- ◀ There is a sufficient supply of hockey pitches in Rotherham to cater for current demand; however, any future demand is likely to result in capacity pressures being created.
- ◀ The pitches at Aurora Playing Fields and Oakwood High School require ongoing protection for hockey, whilst improvements at Dinnington High School would be beneficial in order to provide a suitable overspill venue.
- ◀ To further increase capacity, reported cost issues at Aurora Playing Fields linked to Rotherham HC's community use agreement can be explored, whilst enabling regular Sunday access at Oakwood High School should also be prioritised.

Hockey – supply summary

- ◀ There are three full size hockey suitable AGPs in Rotherham (provided at Aurora Playing Fields, Dinnington High School and Oakwood High School), with each of these available for community use and serviced by sports lighting.
- ◀ The pitch at Aurora Playing Field is accessed by Rotherham HC, whilst the pitch at Oakwood High School is utilised by both Chapeltown HC and Phoenix HC (Dinnington High School is not currently used for any community hockey).
- ◀ There is also a smaller sized AGP with a hockey suitable surface at Clifton Community School (measuring 78 x 37 metres); however, it is not available for community use or serviced by sports lighting.
- ◀ All three full size hockey pitches are managed in house by education providers.
- ◀ Whilst all three pitches are available for community use, the pitch at Oakwood High School is generally inaccessible on Fridays and Sundays, whereas Rotherham HC indicates that usage outside of its agreed community use agreement is too expensive.
- ◀ The pitch at Dinnington High School is assessed as poor quality, which is linked to its lack of hockey usage as it is not currently suitable for access.
- ◀ The pitches at Aurora Playing Field and Oakwood High School are good quality.
- ◀ Whilst no significant ancillary facility issues are identified, Rotherham HC reports that the provision at Aurora Playing Fields is not dedicated to the hockey pitch, leading it access Phoenix Sports & Social Club as a post-match base instead.

Hockey – demand summary

- ◀ There are 26 hockey teams fielded by the three community clubs, with this equating to eight senior men's, seven senior women's, four junior boys', five junior girls' and two mini (mixed) teams.
- ◀ Across the three clubs, there are 349 registered members, with this consisting of 172 seniors and 177 juniors.
- ◀ Back to Hockey, Hockey Heroes and In2Hockey sessions are all in operation, led by Rotherham HC.
- ◀ Both Chapeltown HC and Phoenix HC were previously primarily based in Sheffield, which meant that Phoenix HC was exporting demand (as a Rotherham-based club), whilst Chapeltown HC's is now importing demand (it is a Sheffield-based club).
- ◀ Chapeltown HC still utilises supplementary provision in Sheffield via a smaller sized pitch at Caribbean Sports Club for some junior activity; however, the operator of this site is reportedly exploring options that may result in the facility being unusable for hockey in the future.
- ◀ Rotherham HC indicates plans to increase by one senior men's team, in addition to growing its junior section.
- ◀ Football demand is relatively high at both Dinnington High School and Oakwood High School, which further limits capacity for hockey at the sites.
- ◀ At Aurora Playing Fields, no football activity is taking place due to the conditions of the community use agreement that stipulates that only hockey and lacrosse demand can access the provision.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

PART 7: CRICKET

7.1: Introduction

The Yorkshire Cricket Foundation (YCF) is the main governing and representative body for cricket for Rotherham. Working closely with the England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB), it is responsible for the management and development of every form of recreational cricket for men, women and children within each authority across the County.

Inspiring Generations

In October 2024 the ECB launched its refreshed strategy Inspiring Generations – Cricket's Game-wide Strategy (2025–2028). Cricket in England and Wales has seen transformative growth since the publication of its previous strategy Inspiring Generations (2020-24). Its new strategy represents an evolution of its plans, although many of its previous themes are still relevant. Its main purpose is to say 'cricket is a game for me' through its vision:

- ◀ To become the most inclusive team sport
- ◀ To grow and unite the game
- ◀ Lead the game through global transformation

It aims to obtain this vision through six key objectives:

- ◀ Make cricket diverse, inclusive and accessible
- ◀ Transform Women's and Girl's cricket
- ◀ Connect communities through play
- ◀ Inspire through winning England teams
- ◀ Support a thriving and sustainable men's and women's professional game
- ◀ Win the battle for attention

County Facilities Strategy

The YCF has recently completed its County Facilities Strategy (CFS) in partnership with the ECB. Its production involved engagement with key stakeholders, including leagues, active partnerships, county pitch advisors and Sport England.

The CFS is to be used to shape investment decisions and priorities for CCB moving forward, with the following facilities considered throughout its development:

- ◀ Traditional facilities (pitches, outfielders, pavilions, practice areas)
- ◀ Non-traditional facilities (multi-use games areas, tapeball/softball spaces, courts/cages)
- ◀ Indoor facilities (multi use halls, cricket specific halls, match play venues)

Notwithstanding the above; it is not a detailed supply and demand analysis of all pitch provision in a local area. Consequently, it cannot be used in place of a PPS and is not an accepted evidence base for development proposals that need to be judged against the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Field Policy.

Consultation

In total, 20 active, affiliated cricket clubs identified as playing within Rotherham, with 13 responding to consultation requests resulting in a response rate of 65% with support provided from Yorkshire Cricket Foundation and the Council.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Table 7.1: Cricket club response rate

Clubs	Responded?
Anston CC	Yes
Aston Hall CC	Yes
Brookhouse CC	Yes
Harthill CC	No
Kiveton Park Colliery CC	Yes
Maltby Miners Welfare CC	Yes
Rother Valley CC	No
Rotherham Sultans CC	No
Rotherham Town Eagles CC	No
Sangham Waleswood CC	No
Scholes & Harley CC	Yes
Thorpe Hesley & High Green CC	Yes
Todwick CC	Yes
Treeton CC	Yes
Upper Haugh CC	Yes
Waleswood Sports CC	No
Wath CC	Yes
Whiston Forge CC	Yes
Whiston Parish Church CC	Yes
Wickersley Old Village CC	Yes

7.2: Supply

In total, there are 19 grass wicket cricket squares in Rotherham provided across the same number of sites. They are all available for community use. The most grass wicket squares are identified in the South Analysis Area (12 squares or 63%), whilst the Central Analysis Areas provides four squares (21%) and the North Analysis Area has three squares (16%).

Table 7.2: Summary of grass wicket squares and community availability

Analysis area	No. of community available squares	No. of unavailable squares
North	3	-
Central	4	-
South	12	-
Rotherham	19	0

Non-turf pitches

There is a total of 33 active non-turf pitches (NTPs) across Rotherham with 13 accompanying grass wickets squares and the remaining 20 being standalone. Most of the standalone wickets are located at educational sites, although seven of these are unavailable for community use.

A new NTP is to be installed at Maltby Miners Welfare.

The ECB highlights that NTPs which follow its TS6 guidance on performance standards are suitable for high level, senior play. Additionally, NTPs are also frequently used for junior matches, which in turn can help reduce excessive use of grass wickets.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

The maps below show the location of all cricket squares currently servicing Rotherham. For a key to the map see Table 7.3.

Figure 7.1: Location of cricket squares in Rotherham



ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Table 7.3: Key to map of cricket squares

Site ID	Active Places ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of squares	User/s	No. of grass wickets	No. of non-turf wickets
3	1041701	Anston Cricket Club	S25 4DL	South	Yes	1	Anston CC	5	1
10	30006227	Aston Hall Cricket Club	S26 2BD	South	Yes	1	Aston Hall CC	10	1
29	1201658	Brinsworth Academy	S60 5EJ	South	Yes	2	-	-	2
40	30010083	Chapman Fields	S26 5QQ	South	Yes	1	-	-	1
43	1201742	Clifton Community School (Cranworth Road Campus)	S65 1LN	Central	No	1	-	-	1
49	1201653	Dinnington High School	S25 2NZ	South	Yes	1	-	-	1
57	6009728	Goosecarr Lane Recreation Ground	S26 1HG	South	Yes	1	Aston Hall CC; Todwick CC	10	-
61	1202889	Greenlands Park	S25 4BR	South	Yes	1	Anston CC	2	-
62	6002474	Gulthwaite Hill	S60 4NE	Central	Yes	1	Whiston Forge CC	8	1
66	1041750	Harthill The Field Cricket Club	S26 7YF	South	Yes	1	Harthill CC	2	1
78	1202494	Kiveton Park	S26 6SQ	South	Yes	1	Kiveton Park Colliery CC	12	-
88	1202759	Maltby Miners Welfare	S66 7JQ	South	Yes	1	Maltby Miners Welfare CC	6	-
95	1201828	Oakwood High School	S60 2UH	Central	Yes	1	-	-	1
99	1102095	Phoenix Sports & Social Club	S60 5PA	South	Yes	1	-	-	1
102	1201733	Rawmarsh Community School	S62 7GA	North	Yes	1	-	-	1
112	1041740	Rotherham Titans (Clifton Lane)	S60 2SN	Central	Yes	1	Rotherham Sultans CC; Rotherham Town Eagles CC	-	1
118	1202767	Scholes & Harley Cricket Club	S61 2RQ	Central	Yes	1	Scholes & Harley CC	7	1
124	1201168	St Bernards Catholic High School	S65 3BE	Central	Yes	1	-	-	1

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Site ID	Active Places ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of squares	User/s	No. of grass wickets	No. of non-turf wickets
128	1201125	St Pius X Catholic High School	S63 7PQ	North	No	1	-	-	1
139	1004772	Thrybergh Academy & Sports College	S65 4BH	North	Yes	1	-	-	1
143	1004770	Tr Sports Centre	S60 2BE	Central	No	1	-	-	1
145	1041747	Treeton Memorial Playing Field	S60 5PU	South	Yes	1	Treeton CC	14	1
146	1202781	Upper Haugh Cricket Club	S62 7SL	North	Yes	1	Upper Haugh CC	9	1
148	1201878	Wales High School	S26 5QQ	South	No	1	-	-	1
150	1041752	Waleswood Sports Cricket Club	S26 5PE	South	Yes	1	Sangham Waleswood CC & Waleswood Sports CC	3	1
151	1201911	Wath Academy	S63 7NW	North	Yes	1	-	-	1
153	1202787	Wath Cricket Club	S63 7RW	North	Yes	1	Wath CC	11	1
157	1202820	Wentworth Recreation Ground	S62 7SB	North	Yes	1	Wath CC	8	1
161	1202791	Whiston Parish Church Cricket Club	S60 4JG	Central	Yes	1	Whiston Parish Church CC	12	1
163	1202788	Wickersley Old Village Cricket Club	S66 2HL	South	Yes	1	Wickersley Old Village CC	8	1
164	1201740	Wickersley School & Sports College	S66 1JL	South	No	4	-	-	4
167	1201705	Winterhill School	S61 2BD	Central	Yes	1	-	-	1
170	6002473	Woodsetts Recreation Ground	S81 8QA	South	Yes	1	-	1	-
185	N/A	Brookhouse Cricket Club	S25 1XZ	South	Yes	1	Brookhouse CC & Wickersley Old Village CC	10	-
190	N/A	Thorpe Hesley & High Green Cricket Club	S61 2SE	Central	Yes	1	Thorpe Hesley & High Green CC	8	1

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Disused sites/provision

There are 10 sites which have previously accommodated cricket provision (but that are still used for other sports), or that are completely disused sites. Exact details surrounding each site are referenced in the table below.

Table 7.4: Summary of disused sites

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Analysis area	Disused site / disused provision	Comments
21	Blackout13.Com Arena	S25 2PS	South	Disused provision	Site previously accommodated one NTP wicket. The site is still used for football purposes.
46	Cortonwood Miners Welfare Scheme	S73 0TU	North	Disused provision	Site previously accommodated one NTP wicket. The site is still used for football purposes.
64	Harley Recreation Ground	S62 7UF	North	Disused site	Site previously accommodated a 10-wicket grass square.
68	Herringthorpe Playing Fields	S65 2ED	Central	Disused provision	Site previously accommodated three squares, an eight-wicket grass wicket square, accompanied by an NTP, a seven-wicket grass square and a standalone NTP.
75	Kilnhurst Recreation Ground	S64 5SN	North	Disused provision	Site previously accommodated one NTP wicket. The site is still used for football purposes.
88	Maltby Miners Welfare	S66 7JQ	South	Disused provision	Site previously accommodated one NTP wicket. The site is still used for football and cricket purposes.
141	Thurcroft Hub	S66 9AB	South	Disused provision	Site previously accommodated a 10-wicket grass square. The site is still used for football purposes.
151	Wath Academy	S63 7NW	North	Disused provision	Site previously accommodated one NTP wicket. The site is still used for football cricket purposes.
193	Former Greasbrough Cricket Club site	S61 4NY	Central	Disused site	Site previously accommodated a six-wicket grass square, accompanied by an NTP.
195	Pitches Sports Club	S60 3PR	Central	Disused site	Site previously accommodated one NTP wicket.

In addition, the two-lane fixed net facility at Rotherham Titans (Clifton Lane) is considered to be disused.

Indices of Multiple Deprivation

Several of the active cricket sites in Rotherham are located in the more deprived areas of the Borough, as seen via the mapping overleaf.

As seen, the following community available provision is within the most deprived areas of the Borough:

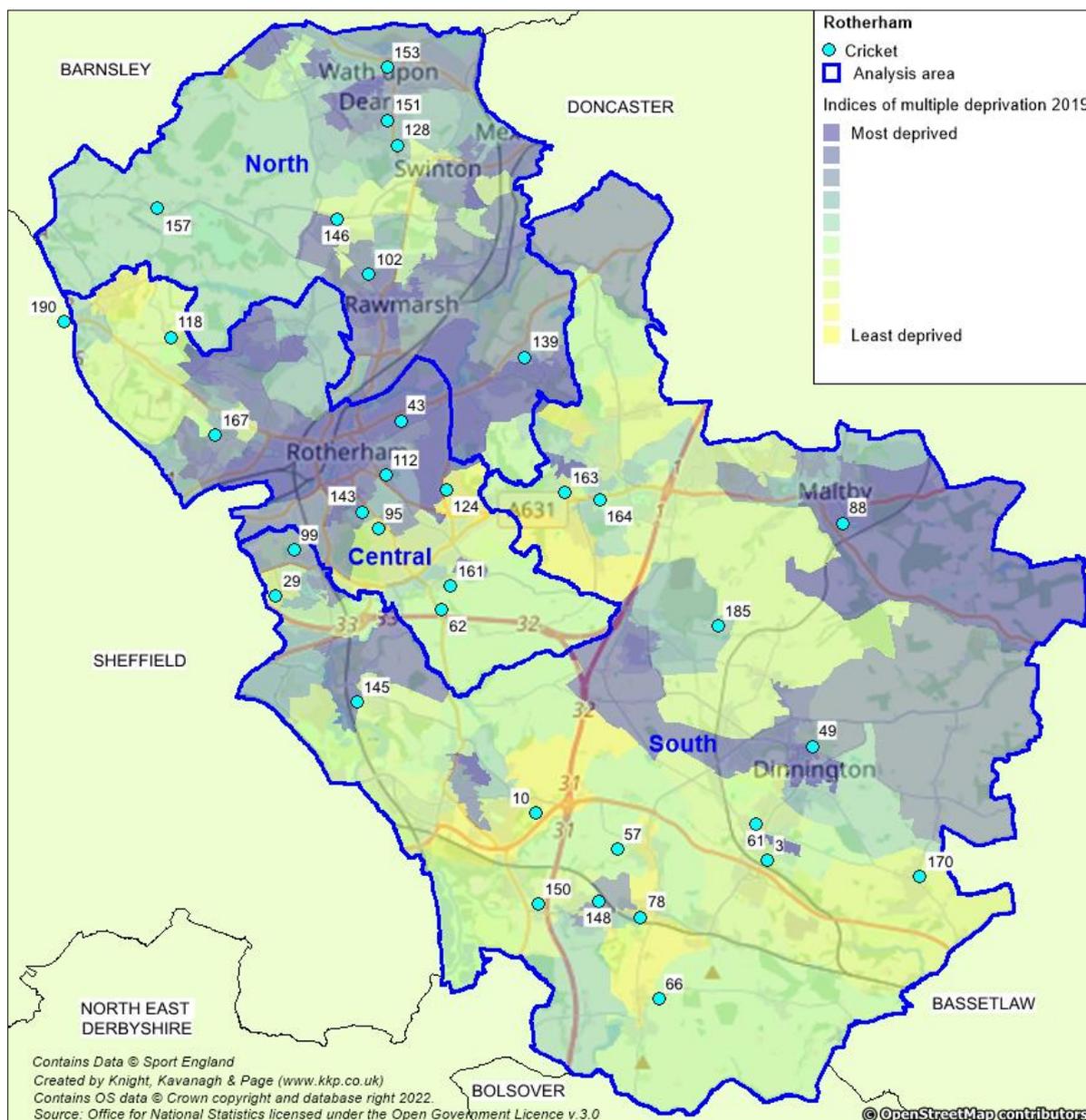
- ◀ Dinnington High School

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

- ✦ Maltby Miners Welfare
- ✦ Rotherham Titans (Clifton Lane)
- ✦ Thrybergh Academy & Sports College

These sites could be seen as a priority for investment due to the impact improvements could have on their communities.

Figure 7.2: Location of cricket sites against IMD



Management and security of tenure

Where it is known, all clubs except two in Rotherham are considered to have security of tenure, with this generally through freehold, a long-term lease or rental of a council-operated site.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Table 7.5: Summary of security of tenure for clubs

Site ID	Home ground	Club	Agreement	Tenure
3	Anston Cricket Club	Anston CC	Freehold	Secure
10	Aston Hall Cricket Club	Aston Hall CC	Freehold	Secure
57	Goosecarr Lane Recreation Ground	Todwick CC	Rent from Todwick Parish Council	Secure
62	Guilthwaite Hill	Whiston Forge CC	Lease from Sitwell Estate (expires in 15 years)	Secure
66	Harthill The Field Cricket Club	Harthill CC	Freehold	Secure
78	Kiveton Park	Kiveton Park Colliery CC	Rent from Kiveton Park Miners Welfare	Unsecure
88	Maltby Miners Welfare	Maltby Miners Welfare CC	Rent from Maltby Town Council	Secure
112	Rotherham Titans (Clifton Lane)	Rotherham Sultans CC & Rotherham Town Eagles CC	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
118	Scholes & Harley Cricket Club	Scholes & Harley CC	Lease from the Council (expires in 2031)	Secure
145	Treeton Memorial Playing Field	Treeton CC	Community use agreement with Treeton Memorial Community Centre & Playing Fields	Secure
146	Upper Haugh Cricket Club	Upper Haugh CC	Freehold	Secure
150	Waleswood Sports Cricket Club	Sangham Waleswood CC & Waleswood Sports CC	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
153	Wath Cricket Club	Wath CC	Rolling annual lease via the Council	Secure
161	Whiston Parish Church Cricket Club	Whiston Parish Church CC	Lease with Church Commissioners (expires in 2041)	Secure
163	Wickersley Old Village Cricket Club	Wickersley Old Village CC	Freehold	Secure
185	Brookhouse Cricket Club	Brookhouse CC	Lease with British Coal Board (100+ year agreement)	Secure
190	Thorpe Hesley & High Green Cricket Club	Thorpe Hesley & High Green CC	Rolling annual lease with Wentworth Estate	Unsecure

Scholes & Harley CC is negotiations with the Council to extend the lease of its site given that only six years remain on the current agreement.

The two clubs without security of tenure are Kiveton Park Colliery CC and Thorpe Hesley & High Green CC. For Kiveton Park Colliery CC, the Club currently operates at Kiveton Park via a rental agreement with Kiveton Park Miners Welfare on an annual basis.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Thorpe Hesley & High Green CC has a rolling annual lease with Wentworth Estate for use of the square at its home ground. This does not provide security of tenure as the operator could feasibly deny access beyond the playing season.

Tenure agreements for Rotherham Sultans, Rotherham Town Eagles, Sangham Waleswood and Waleswood Sports cricket clubs are unknown.

It is important to recognise that although Parish and Town Council sites used for cricket in Rotherham are generally considered to offer secure tenure, based on an expectation that community access will continue, this should be regularly monitored to confirm that such provision remains in place.

A notable exception is Wentworth Recreation Ground itself, where communication between Wentworth Parish Council and YCF indicates that the site is intended solely for use by Wath CC and will not accommodate any additional demand. As a result, the tenure for other potential users at this site should be deemed as unsecure.

Of the 19 squares that are available for community use in Rotherham, 16 squares (84%) provide secure tenure for cricket participation, ensuring long-term and reliable access for users. In contrast, three squares (16%) operate with an unsecure tenure, creating potential vulnerability in sustaining current levels of activity and future demand.

Pitch quality

Maintaining high pitch quality is the most important aspect of cricket; if the wicket is poor, it can affect the quality of the game and can, in some instances, become dangerous. As an example, if a square is poor quality, a ball can bounce erratically on a wicket and become a danger to players.

For the PPS, the quality of cricket pitches has been assessed via a combination of site visits completed in July 2025 (using non-technical assessments as determined by the KKP) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

The quality of a cricket square is assessed by considering factors such as evidence of the wicket being rolled, the wicket being correctly cut, evidence of cover usage, evidence of maintenance and the presence of line markings. Comparatively, an outfield is assessed on the provisions grass length, quantity of weeds, evenness of the surface, level of undulations, damage to the surface and evidence of dog fouling (for the full assessment criteria, please see Appendix 2).

The audit of grass wicket cricket squares found two to be good quality (11%), 14 to be standard quality (73%) and three to be poor quality (16%). This is summarised further in the following table. Although capacity solely derives from overall square quality, as outlined later in the section, the specific ratings for outfields have also been included due to the fact that this can affect the accessibility of the provision in addition to them also being used for cricket initiatives such as All Stars and Dynamos cricket, as well as women's softball cricket.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Table 7.6: Overall quality ratings for grass wicket squares and outfield (site-by-site)

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Square quality	Outfield quality
3	Anston Cricket Club	South	Standard	Standard
10	Aston Hall Cricket Club	South	Standard	Standard
57	Goosecarr Lane Recreation Ground	South	Poor	Poor
61	Greenlands Park	South	Poor	Poor
62	Guilthwaite Hill	Central	Standard	Standard
66	Harthill The Field Cricket Club	South	Standard	Standard
78	Kiveton Park	South	Standard	Standard
88	Maltby Miners Welfare	South	Standard	Standard
118	Scholes & Harley Cricket Club	Central	Standard	Standard
145	Treeton Memorial Playing Field	South	Standard	Good
146	Upper Haugh Cricket Club	North	Standard	Good
150	Waleswood Sports Cricket Club	South	Standard	Standard
153	Wath Cricket Club	North	Standard	Standard
157	Wentworth Recreation Ground	North	Standard	Good
161	Whiston Parish Church Cricket Club	Central	Good	Good
163	Wickersley Old Village Cricket Club	South	Good	Standard
170	Woodsetts Recreation Ground	South	Poor	Standard
185	Brookhouse Cricket Club	South	Standard	Standard
190	Thorpe Hesley & High Green Cricket Club	Central	Standard	Standard

The three squares with an overall rating of poor quality are at Goosecarr Lane Recreation Ground, Greenlands Park and Woodsetts Recreation Ground. At the former, the square suffers from limited grass coverage and is regarded as being very uneven, whilst the latter is in a state of disrepair, with weeds present on the wickets. It is currently unused due to this.

Conversely, the good quality squares are provided at Whiston Parish Church Cricket Club and Wickersley Old Village Cricket Club. These are generally all maintained to a high level, with no significant issues identified.

In addition to the overall quality scores, six clubs (46%) report an improvement in the quality of their home ground's square over the last 12 months, whereas five (38%) report a deterioration. Clubs reporting improvements largely attribute this to the dry summer conditions reducing drainage issues, whilst those reporting deterioration mostly link this to inadequate maintenance. As an example, Anston CC is currently in negotiations with the Council to assume responsibility for site maintenance, citing that the existing arrangement is seen as inadequate.

In relation to NTPs, five significant concerns have been found. The NTPs at Aston Hall Cricket Club, Guilthwaite Hill, Rotherham Titans (Clifton Lane), Treeton Memorial Playing Field and Upper Haugh Cricket Club require replacement following them being condemned by the YCF. Each club is actively exploring funding opportunities to support the installation of a new strip.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Grass Pitch Improvement Fund¹²

To coincide with the utilisation of PitchPower for cricket, the ECB, in partnership with Sport England and National Lottery, has released the Grass Pitch Improvement Fund (GPIF). The GPIF aims to tackle inequalities by providing improved access to good quality, safe playing facilities for targeted groups.

The Sport England Lottery Fund will provide funding for projects in England with projects in Wales supported by the England and Wales Cricket Trust. Priority will be given to applications which support cricket for the following groups:

- ◀ Women's and girls' cricket.
- ◀ Cricket in diverse communities.
- ◀ Disability cricket.
- ◀ Low socio-economic groups (LSEG).

Investment will be targeted into three main areas:

- ◀ Improving the quality of squares and outfielders (for grass pitches rated 'unsuitable' or 'basic' to improve to at least 'good').
- ◀ Creating sustainable management of sites (through irrigation and machinery improvements).
- ◀ Installing hybrid pitches to increase playing capacity.

The fund will run until March 2027, or whenever the funding is fully allocated.

Ancillary facilities

The extent of ancillary facilities required for cricket differs between times of play. For example, senior teams playing at weekends typically need to access clubhouse and kitchen facilities to provide teas, whereas this is often not required for junior and short format senior matches, where the need is more for access to suitable changing and/or toilet facilities.

Ancillary facility quality is primarily influenced by the type and standard of amenities which are available on a site, such as a clubhouse, changing rooms, showering provision, car parking, dedicated umpire provision, spectator facilities and boundary fencing. Provision of high quality ancillary facilities is also a key aspect of the ECB's Inspiring Generations Strategy, to meet the expectations of the core participation base as well as key growth markets such as women and girls cricket, South Asian and BAME communities, and All Stars and Dynamos cricket.

The audit of ancillary facilities at community available grass pitch cricket sites in Rotherham (where known through access and club consultation) determines that four sites are accompanied by good quality provision, eight sites are accompanied by standard quality provision and one is considered to have poor quality facilities (at Goosecarr Lane Recreation Ground). In addition, one site (Greenlands Park) does not offer any ancillary pavilion provision.

In correlation with the above, of responding clubs, 54% rate their changing room/clubhouse facilities as good quality (Anston CC, Brookhouse CC, Thorpe Hesley CC, Treeton CC, Whiston Forge CC, Whiston Parish CC and Wickersley Old Village CC). In comparison, only Wath CC identifies its ancillary pavilion provision as poor quality.

¹²<https://resources.ecb.co.uk/ecb/document/2024/07/23/a754a60b-a11a-4dee-aa7e-06fbdc040297/GPIF-guidance-notes.pdf>

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Eight clubs (57%) report not having suitable/separate changing rooms for women's and girls' provision, which is significant. However, of the clubs that currently cater for female demand (Anston CC, Aston Hall CC, Treeton CC, Whiston Parish Church CC and Wickersley Old Village CC), only Treeton CC is inadequately provided for in this regard.

A summary on a site-by-site basis relating to what is provided and the quality of the provision is provided overleaf. Please note, however, that this only includes sites with natural turf wickets.

**ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Table 7.7: Changing room quality (at community available sites with natural turf squares)

Site ID	Site	Club	Quality	Provision on site	Comments on changing rooms/clubhouses
3	Anston Cricket Club	Anston CC	Good	Access to changing rooms, toilets, sight screens, kitchen, tearoom, mowers/rollers, score box, portable covers for square, access for disabled, hot/cold water and heating.	The Club has suitable, dedicated changing rooms and suitable shower facilities for female players. The Club rates its overall ancillary facilities as good quality. The parking at the site is deemed sufficient to cater for all demand.
10	Aston Hall Cricket Club	Aston Hall CC	Standard	Access to changing rooms, toilets, kitchen, sight screens, mowers/rollers and hot/cold water.	The clubhouse is serviced with separate shower facilities for female players but not separate changing rooms. The Club rates its overall ancillary facilities as standard quality but highlights that it does not have a social area/clubroom within the clubhouse. The parking at the site is deemed sufficient to cater for all demand.
57	Goosecarr Lane Recreation Ground	Aston Hall CC & Todwick CC	Poor	Access to changing rooms, toilets, kitchen, hot/cold water and heating.	The Club has suitable, dedicated changing rooms and suitable shower facilities for female players. The Club rates its overall ancillary facilities as standard quality but the condition of its social area/clubroom as poor quality. The Club also reports suffering from vandalism to its sightcreens and clubhouse. The parking at the site is deemed sufficient to cater for all demand.
61	Greenlands Park	Anston CC	N/A	-	-
62	Guilthwaite Hill	Whiston Forge CC	Good	Access to changing rooms, toilets, sight screens, kitchen, tearoom, mowers/rollers, score box, portable covers for square, access for disabled, hot/cold water and heating.	The Club does not have suitable changing rooms for female players, or suitable shower facilities. The Club rates its overall ancillary facilities as good quality but the condition of its toilets facilities as standard quality. The Club also reports suffering from minor vandalism. The parking at the site is deemed sufficient to cater for all demand.
78	Kiveton Park	Kiveton Park Colliery CC	Standard	Access to changing rooms, toilets, sight screens, kitchen, tearoom, mowers/rollers, score box, portable covers for square, access for disabled, hot/cold water and heating.	The Club does not have suitable changing rooms for female players, or suitable shower facilities. The Club rates its overall ancillary facilities as standard quality but the condition of its toilet facilities as poor quality. The parking at the site is deemed sufficient to cater for all demand.
118	Scholes & Harley Cricket Club	Scholes & Harley CC	Standard	Access to changing rooms, toilets, sight screens, kitchen, tearoom, mowers/rollers, score box, access for disabled and hot/cold water.	The clubhouse is serviced with separate changing rooms for female players but not separate shower facilities. The Club rates its overall ancillary facilities as standard quality but the condition of its toilets facilities as poor quality. The parking at the site is deemed sufficient to cater for all demand.
145	Treeton Memorial Playing Field	Treeton CC	Standard	Access to changing rooms, toilets, sight screens, kitchen, tearoom, mowers/rollers, score box, portable covers for square, access for disabled, hot/cold water and heating.	The Club does not have suitable changing rooms for female players, or suitable shower facilities. The Club rates its overall ancillary facilities as good quality but the condition of its toilet facilities and changing rooms as standard quality. The Club also reports suffering from vandalism to its clubhouse. The parking at the site is deemed sufficient to cater for all demand.
146	Upper Haugh Cricket Club	Upper Haugh CC	Standard	Access to changing rooms, toilets, sight screens, kitchen, tearoom, mowers/rollers, portable covers for square, hot/cold water and heating.	The Club does not have suitable changing rooms for female players, or suitable shower facilities. The Club rates its ancillary facilities as poor quality. The parking at the site is deemed sufficient to cater for all demand.
153	Wath Cricket Club	Wath CC	Standard	Access to changing rooms, sight screens, mowers/rollers and portable covers for square.	The Club does not have suitable changing rooms for female players, or suitable shower facilities. The Club rates its overall ancillary facilities as poor quality. The parking at the site is deemed sufficient to cater for all demand.
161	Whiston Parish Church Cricket Club	Whiston Parish Church CC	Good	Access to changing rooms, toilets, sight screens, kitchen, tearoom, mowers/rollers, score box, portable covers for square, access for disabled, hot/cold water and heating.	The Club has suitable, dedicated changing rooms and suitable shower facilities for female players. The Club rates its overall ancillary facilities as good quality but the condition of its toilets facilities as standard quality. The Club also reports suffering from vandalism to its perimeter fence. The parking at the site is deemed sufficient to cater for all demand.
163	Wickersley Old Village Cricket Club	Wickersley Old Village CC	Good	Access to changing rooms, toilets, sight screens, kitchen, tearoom, mowers/rollers, score box, portable covers for square, access for disabled, hot/cold water and heating.	The Club has suitable, dedicated changing rooms and suitable shower facilities for female players. The Club rates its overall ancillary facilities as good quality. The parking at the site is deemed sufficient to cater for all demand.
185	Brookhouse Cricket Club	Brookhouse CC & Wickersley Old Village CC	Standard	Access to changing rooms, toilets, sight screens, kitchen, tearoom, mowers/rollers, portable covers for square and hot/cold water.	The Club has suitable, dedicated changing rooms and suitable shower facilities for female players. The Club rates its overall ancillary facilities as good quality. The Club also reports suffering from vandalism to its clubhouse due to golf balls hitting the facility. The parking at the site is deemed sufficient to cater for all demand.
190	Thorpe Hesley & High Green Cricket Club	Thorpe Hesley & High Green CC	Standard	Access to changing rooms, toilets, sight screens, kitchen, tearoom, mowers/rollers, score box, portable covers for square and access for disabled.	The clubhouse is serviced with separate shower facilities for female players but not separate changing rooms. The Club rates its overall ancillary facilities as good quality. The parking at the site is deemed sufficient to cater for all demand.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Training facilities

Access to cricket nets is important, particularly for pre-season/winter training. Clubs generally access both indoor and outdoor provision before the season commences, with outdoor training provision the supply most of the use during playing periods. The below table identifies current training provision at each cricket site, in addition to relevant comments made by clubs.

Table 7.8: Summary of training facilities

Site ID	Site	Club name	Training facility	Comments
3	Anston Cricket Club	Anston CC	4 x fixed bays ¹³	-
10	Aston Hall Cricket Club	Aston Hall CC	3 x fixed bays and mobile nets	Aspires for mobile nets
57	Goosecarr Lane Recreation Ground	Todwick CC	N/A	Aspire for NTP wicket & mobile nets
61	Greenlands Park	Anston CC	N/A	-
62	Gulthwaite Hill	Whiston Forge CC	Mobile net	-
66	Harthill The Field Cricket Club	Harthill CC	1 x fixed bay and mobile net	-
78	Kiveton Park	Kiveton Park Colliery CC	2 x fixed bays and mobile net	-
88	Maltby Miners Welfare	Maltby Miners Welfare CC	2 x fixed bays	-
112	Rotherham Titans (Clifton Lane)	Rotherham Sultans CC & Rotherham Town Eagles CC	N/A	-
118	Scholes & Harley Cricket Club	Scholes & Harley CC	Mobile nets	Aspire for fixed bay NTP nets.
145	Treeton Memorial Playing Field	Treeton CC	2 x fixed bays	Fixed nets require replacing
146	Upper Haugh Cricket Club	Upper Haugh CC	3 x fixed bays and mobile net	Aspire for new NTP & additional fixed bays
150	Waleswood Sports Cricket Club	Sangham Waleswood CC & Waleswood Sports CC	2 x fixed bays	-
153	Wath Cricket Club	Wath CC	3 x fixed bays and mobile nets	-
157	Wentworth Recreation Ground	Wath CC	N/A	-
161	Whiston Parish Church Cricket Club	Whiston Parish Church CC	3 x fixed bays	New provision (2025) and suitable for wheelchair access
163	Wickersley Old Village Cricket Club	Wickersley Old Village CC	Mobile nets	Aspire for fixed bay NTP nets

¹³ Installed in 2024.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Site ID	Site	Club name	Training facility	Comments
185	Brookhouse Cricket Club	Brookhouse CC	Mobile nets	Aspire for NTP wicket
190	Thorpe Hesley & High Green Cricket Club	Thorpe Hesley & High Green CC	Mobile nets	-

In total, eight responsive clubs (57%) report a need for new, additional or improved practice provision. This suggests that, whilst provision exists, it is currently insufficient to meet overall demand, both from a quantitative and qualitative perspective. In addition, there are currently no public outdoor practice net facilities i.e., nets located at local authority sites that are not for the primary purpose of clubs. Whilst not overly uncommon, this will be impacting upon recreational demand levels.

In addition to outdoor training facilities, and whilst not within the remit of this study, several cricket clubs also report a dependency on indoor facilities for practice, particularly outside of summer months. However, seven clubs state that they are currently travelling outside of the Borough to access such provision, as follows:

- ✦ Nitticar Cricket Centre (Bolsover) – Kiveton Park Colliery CC & Thorpe Hesley & High Green CC
- ✦ Sheffield Hallam University Sports Park (Sheffield) – Treeton CC, Wickersley Old Village CC & Whiston Forge CC
- ✦ S20 The Boundary (Sheffield) – Thorpe Hesley & High Green CC, Todwick CC, Treeton CC & Wickersley Old Village CC
- ✦ Westfield Sports Centre (Sheffield) – Whiston Parish Church CC

7.3: Demand

In Rotherham, there are 21 clubs generating a total of 109 teams. Broken down, this equates to 50 senior men's, seven senior women's, 48 junior boys' and four junior girls' teams.

Table 7.9: Summary of teams by club

Club	Analysis area	No. of senior men's teams	No. of senior women's teams	No. of junior boys' teams	No. of junior girls' teams	Total
Anston CC	South	5	2	8	-	15
Aston Hall CC	South	4	1	5	-	10
Brookhouse CC	South	3	-	-	-	3
Harthill CC	South	2	-	1	-	3
Kiveton Park Colliery CC	South	2	-	-	-	2
Maltby Miners Welfare CC	South	2	-	-	-	2
Rother Valley CC	North	-	-	-	-	0
Rotherham Sultans CC	Central	1	-	-	-	1
Rotherham Town CC	Central	-	-	-	-	0
Rotherham Town Eagles CC	Central	1	-	-	-	1
Sangham Waleswood CC	South	2	-	-	-	2
Scholes & Harley CC	Central	2	-	1	-	3
Thorpe Hesley & High Green CC	Central	4	-	3	-	7
Todwick CC	South	1	-	-	-	1
Treeton CC	South	3	1	7	-	11

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Club	Analysis area	No. of senior men's teams	No. of senior women's teams	No. of junior boys' teams	No. of junior girls' teams	Total
Upper Haugh CC	North	3	1	3	1	8
Waleswood Sports CC	South	2	-	1	-	3
Wath CC	North	3	-	5	-	8
Whiston Forge CC	Central	3	-	-	-	3
Whiston Parish Church CC	Central	3	2	7	1	13
Wickersley Old Village CC	South	4	-	7	2	13
Total	-	50	7	48	4	109

Most demand (65 teams or 60%) is located in the South Analysis Area, followed by the Central Analysis Area (28 teams or 25%). The least amount of demand is in the North Analysis Area, with 16 teams (15%).

It should also be noted that Rotherham Town CC previously provided demand prior to the 2025 season. However, it ceased fielding competitive teams season due to a decision made by the committee who oversee both cricket and rugby union at Rotherham Titans (Clifton Lane). The Club has struggled financially for many years and its future is unknown at present.

In addition, Rother Valley CC (despite considered a Rotherham-based club) currently plays outside of the Borough, in neighbouring Barnsley.

In 2023, Harley CC folded and merged with Scholes CC to form Scholes & Harley CC.

Additional demand

The ECB run several initiatives across the Country which results in additional cricket demand and use of cricket facilities. Whilst these do not generally utilise grass wickets, they can impact upon availability when sessions are being held due to use of cricket outfield, making squares unusable during these periods. The most relevant initiatives currently being delivered are detailed below.

All Stars cricket

In partnership with the ECB and Chance to Shine cricket clubs in Rotherham can register to become an ECB All Stars Cricket Centre. Once registered, a club can deliver the programme which aims to introduce cricket to children aged from five to eight.

Subsequently, this may lead to increased interest and demand for junior cricket at clubs. The programme seeks to achieve the following aims:

- ◀ Increase cricket activity for five to eight year olds in the school and club environment.
- ◀ Develop consistency of message in both settings to aid transition.
- ◀ Improve generic movement skills for children, using cricket as the vehicle.
- ◀ Make it easier for new volunteers to support and deliver in the club environment.
- ◀ Use fun small sided games to enthuse new children and volunteers to follow and play the game.

The table below summarises sites and clubs which are involved in All Stars and Dynamos for 2025.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Table 7.10: Summary of All Stars participation

Site ID	Site	Club	All Stars	Dynamos
3	Anston Cricket Club	Anston CC	Yes	Yes
10	Aston Hall Cricket Club	Aston Hall CC	Yes	Yes
57	Goosecarr Lane Recreation Ground	Aston Hall CC & Todwick CC	No	No
62	Guilthwaite Hill	Whiston Forge CC	Yes	Yes
66	Harthill The Field Cricket Club	Harthill CC	No	No
78	Kiveton Park	Kiveton Park Colliery CC	No	No
88	Maltby Miners Welfare	Maltby Miners Welfare CC	Yes	Yes
112	Rotherham Titans (Clifton Lane)	Rotherham Sultans CC & Rotherham Town Eagles CC	No	No
118	Scholes & Harley Cricket Club	Scholes & Harley CC	Yes	Yes
145	Treeton Memorial Playing Field	Treeton CC	Yes	Yes
146	Upper Haugh Cricket Club	Upper Haugh CC	Yes	Yes
150	Waleswood Sports Cricket Club	Sangham Waleswood CC & Waleswood Sports CC	No	No
153	Wath Cricket Club	Wath CC	Yes	Yes
157	Wentworth Recreation Ground	Wath CC	No	No
161	Whiston Parish Church Cricket Club	Whiston Parish Church CC	Yes	Yes
163	Wickersley Old Village Cricket Club	Wickersley Old Village CC	Yes	Yes
185	Brookhouse Cricket Club	Brookhouse CC & Wickersley Old Village CC	No	No
190	Thorpe Hesley & High Green Cricket Club	Thorpe Hesley & High Green CC	Yes	No
-	-	Total	11/19 (58%)	10/19 (53%)

Dynamos cricket

A key development area for the ECB in delivering on the outcomes of 'Inspiring Generations' will be the Dynamos programme for 8-11 year olds which originally aimed to launch in 2020. It plans on building on the significant growth of the All Stars Cricket programme for 5-8 year olds and will develop the pathway to retain juniors progressing from All Stars into Dynamos.

Where All Stars seeks to engage children in cricket activity and learning the skills, Dynamos seeks to engage children in learning how to play, introducing a modified soft ball format as competitive progression with a view to eventual transition through to hardball cricket. The programme will be strongly linked to The Hundred, a new short format competition which launched in 2021.

In Rotherham, all 10 clubs taking part in All Stars also operate Dynamos. However, there are no further participants.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Softball cricket

Softball is an ECB initiative aimed at women and girls to increase participation in cricket as a sport. The aim of softball cricket sections is enjoyment and participation, without pads, a hardball, a heavy bat and with limited rules. Sessions are played on the outfield and follow a festival format with each session running for a maximum of two and half hours, shorter than traditional formats.

In Rotherham, Anston, Aston Hall, Treeton, Upper Haugh CC, Wath CC, Whiston Parish Church and Wickersley Old Village cricket clubs all operate a women's softball section, with 14 teams fielded in total.

Unaffiliated demand

The Allama Iqbal League (based in Sheffield) utilises the squares at Rotherham Titans (Clifton Lane), Treeton Memorial Playing Field, Upper Haugh Cricket Club and Whiston Parish Church Cricket Club (two senior matches per season).

Demand from the Yorkshire Premier League is also prevalent within Rotherham, with Sangham Waleswood accessing the square at Waleswood Sports Cricket Club for its match demand.

In addition, demand from the Rotherham Super League also exists in the Borough, with Sangham Waleswood CC utilising the square at Waleswood Sports Cricket Club and Taz Tigers CC accessing the square at Maltby Miners Welfare for its home matches.

Last Man Stands

Last Man Stands (LMS) was founded in 2005, in London. The social outdoor eight-a-side T20 cricket game is played midweek, lasts approximately two hours and is generally played on NTPs. All eight wickets are required to bowl a team out so when the seventh wicket falls, the 'Last Man Stands' on his own. This shorter format of the game has encouraged more people to participate in the sport and is increasing in popularity.

LMS does not currently operate in Rotherham.

Imported/exported demand

Two cricket clubs currently export demand outside of Rotherham to fulfil match requirements due to a lack of capacity within the Borough. Upper Haugh CC sends senior men's teams to Hooton Pagnell Cricket Club in Doncaster and one junior boys' team to Worsbrough Bridge Football & Cricket Club in Barnsley. Whiston Parish Church CC allocates one junior boys' team to Holmesfield Cricket Club in North East Derbyshire.

The Allama Iqbal League¹⁴ (based in Sheffield) utilises the squares at Rotherham Titans (Clifton Lane), Treeton Memorial Playing Field, Upper Haugh Cricket Club and Whiston Parish Church Cricket Club (two senior matches per season).

¹⁴ Unaffiliated demand.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Unmet/latent demand

No unmet or latent demand for cricket is reported by clubs in Rotherham. That is to say that no clubs state that capacity is limiting the number of teams that they field, other than with the identified exported demand.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined via several ways, including through participation increases and by using population forecasts. In addition, the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document will contain housing growth scenarios that will estimate additional demand that could arise from housing developments across Rotherham.

Population forecasts

Based on population projections to 2040 (the period to which this assessment projects population based future demand), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator can estimate the likely additional demand for grass cricket pitches that will arise from any growth. This is by using the current and future populations in each of the relevant age groups together with the current team numbers, with team generation rates then established to understand how much growth is required to establish one new team.

Total current population in Rotherham is 265,969 and is anticipated to increase to 287,077 by 2040. The table below shows the number of likely teams generated by the new population and the requisite match equivalent sessions per week.

Table 7.11: Borough-wide team generation rates

Age group	Team generation rate	No. of new teams generated by the new population	No. of new teams generated by the new population - rounded figure	Peak time for population	Average games for age group	No. of match equivalent sessions per season
Men (18-55yrs)	1:1,228	3.23	3	Saturday	12	36
Women (18-55yrs)	1:9,009	0.45	0	Sunday	12	0
Boys (7-18yrs)	1:417	3.10	3	Midweek	4	12
Girls (7-18yrs)	1:4,923	0.26	0	Midweek	4	0

As seen in the above, there are six additional teams are expected to be generated by population growth in Rotherham, with this generating demand for 48 match sessions per season. This equates to three senior men's teams (two in the South Analysis Area and one in the Central Analysis Area) and three junior boys' teams (the same split).

Notwithstanding the above, it is important to acknowledge that there are plans and strategies in place to increase the number of teams at some formats beyond what current trends and population changes would suggest. For example, consultation with the ECB suggests that further development of women and girl's participation in cricket in Rotherham is likely as it is currently a national priority (it has recently established a target of trebling the number of female teams across the Country by 2027). This also applies to potential increased growth in junior cricket, linked to the All Stars and Dynamos initiatives.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Participation increases

Of the responding clubs in Rotherham, nine quantify their aspirations to increase levels of participation. This equates to a total predicted growth of two senior men's, three senior women's and eight junior boys' teams.

Table 7.12: Future demand expressed by clubs

Club	Analysis area	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys	Junior girls
Anston CC	South	-	-	1	-
Aston Hall CC	South	-	-	1	-
Kiveton Park Colliery CC	South	1	-	-	-
Scholes & Harley CC	Central	-	-	3	-
Thorpe Hesley & High Green CC	Central	1	-	1	-
Upper Haugh CC	North	-	1	-	-
Wath CC	North	-	1	-	-
Whiston Forge CC	Central	-	1	1	-
Whiston Parish Church CC	Central	-	-	1	-
Total	-	2	3	8	0

Future demand summary

In the supply and demand analysis at the end of this section of the report, only demand identified through population growth is taken forward, with club demand considered to be more theoretical and aspirational. This is to avoid any potential double counting and also factors in that some additional club context is unquantified.

Notwithstanding the above, the proceeding Strategy document will include a scenario to identify the impact if the club-driven growth was realised. It will also factor in a particular growth in women's and girls activity, as well as increases linked to potential housing growth.

Peak time demand

An analysis of match play identifies that peak time demand for senior cricket in Rotherham is Saturday, although several teams also play on a Sunday including senior women's teams. As such, both are considered within the supply and demand analysis later in the section. For junior cricket, peak time is midweek.

7.4: Capacity analysis

Capacity analysis for cricket is measured on a seasonal rather than a weekly basis. This is due to playability (as only one match is generally played per square per day at weekends or weekday evening) and because wickets are rotated throughout the season to reduce wear and tear and to allow for repair.

The capacity of a square to accommodate matches is driven by the number and quality of wickets. This section of the report therefore presents the current pitch stock available for cricket and illustrates the number of competitive match equivalent sessions per season per square that is available and that currently takes place.

For good quality squares, capacity is five matches per grass wicket per season, whilst for a standard quality square, capacity is four matches per wicket per season. For poor quality squares, no capacity is considered to exist as such provision is not deemed safe for play.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

The number of matches played by each team has been derived from consultation with the clubs. Where consultation was not possible, or where the level of play was not made clear, an assumption has been made that all senior teams play between 10 and 12 home matches per year and all junior teams play between four and eight matches per year depending on their age and level of competition.

The above is used to allocate capacity ratings as follows:

Potential capacity	Play is below the level the site could sustain
At capacity	Play matches the level the site can sustain
Overused	Play exceeds the level the site can sustain

The capacity analysis assumes that all clubs rotate their wickets evenly. However, this may not be the case at all sites, with central wickets potentially used more commonly than outer wickets that are closer to a boundary, especially for senior matches. The idea of this is to showcase what the capacity is or could be if best practice is followed for the whole square, rather than doing it on a wicket-by-wicket basis.

Please note that NTPs have been discounted from the analysis by means of not distorting the findings. This is because no NTPs are currently being used more than their recommended capacity, which is 60 match equivalent sessions per season (0 match equivalent sessions when poor quality). With no NTPs being overused, this translates to overall actual spare capacity for junior play, although this is not considered to be actual spare capacity for senior cricket due to league requirements generally not allowing usage.

Peak time demand

An analysis of match play identifies that peak time demand for senior cricket in Rotherham is Saturday, although several teams also play on a Sunday including senior women's teams. As such, both are considered within the supply and demand analysis. For junior cricket, peak time is midweek.

Spare capacity

The table below explains the difference between the potential spare capacity referenced in Table 7.14 and the actual spare capacity identified in the final three columns (Saturday, Sunday and midweek).

Table 7.13: Spare capacity examples

Examples	Explanation of spare capacity
No	If the cell has a "no" it means that the pitch is played to capacity within this period and therefore cannot accommodate any further demand.
Yes	If the cell has a "yes" that is not highlighted it means there is spare capacity to accommodate further demand within this designated peak period; however, this is discounted due to unsecure tenure, poor quality, the lack of community availability, or the pitch already being played to capacity or being overplayed.
Yes	If the cell has a "yes" and is also highlighted in green it means there is actual available spare capacity within this peak period which can be utilised.

**ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Table 7.14: Capacity analysis of grass cricket squares

Site ID	Active Places Power ID	Site name	Analysis area	Users	Security of tenure	No. of squares	Square quality	No. of grass wickets	Capacity (match equivalent sessions)	Current use (match equivalent sessions)	Capacity balance (match equivalent sessions)	Potential spare capacity/availability for Saturday cricket	Potential spare capacity/availability for Sunday cricket	Potential spare capacity/availability for midweek cricket
3	1041701	Anston Cricket Club	South	Anston CC	Secure	1	Standard	5	20	68	48	No	No	No
10	30006227	Aston Hall Cricket Club	South	Aston Hall CC	Secure	1	Standard	10	40	51	11	No	No	No
57	6009728	Goosecarr Lane Recreation Ground	South	Aston Hall CC & Todwick CC	Secure	1	Poor	10	-	20	20	No	No	No
61	1202889	Greenlands Park	South	Anston CC	Secure	1	Poor	2	-	20	20	No	No	No
62	6002474	Guilthwaite Hill	Central	Whiston Forge CC	Secure	1	Standard	8	32	29	3	No	No	No
66	1041750	Harthill The Field Cricket Club	South	Harthill CC	Secure	1	Standard	2	8	27	19	No	No	No
78	1202494	Kiveton Park	South	Kiveton Park Colliery CC	Unsecure	1	Standard	12	48	22	26	No	Yes	Yes
88	1202759	Maltby Miners Welfare	South	Maltby Miners Welfare CC	Secure	1	Standard	6	24	29	5	No	No	No
118	1202767	Scholes & Harley Cricket Club	Central	Scholes & Harley CC	Secure	1	Standard	7	28	24	4	No	No	Yes
145	1041747	Treeton Memorial Playing Field	South	Treeton CC	Secure	1	Standard	14	56	56	0	No	No	No
146	1202781	Upper Haugh Cricket Club	North	Upper Haugh CC	Secure	1	Standard	9	36	64	28	No	No	No
150	1041752	Waleswood Sports Cricket Club	South	Sangham Waleswood CC & Waleswood Sports CC	Secure	1	Standard	3	12	65	53	No	No	No
153	1202787	Wath Cricket Club	North	Wath CC	Secure	1	Standard	11	44	38	6	No	No	Yes
157	1202820	Wentworth Recreation Ground	North	Wath CC	Unsecure	1	Standard	8	32	11	21	Yes	Yes	Yes
161	1202791	Whiston Parish Church Cricket Club	Central	Whiston Parish Church CC	Secure	1	Good	12	60	70	10	No	No	No
163	1202788	Wickersley Old Village Cricket Club	South	Wickersley Old Village CC	Secure	1	Good	8	40	53	13	No	No	No
170	6002473	Woodsetts Recreation Ground	South	-	Secure	1	Poor	1	-	-	0	No	No	No
185	N/A	Brookhouse Cricket Club	South	Brookhouse CC & Wickersley Old Village CC	Secure	1	Standard	10	40	33	7	No	No	Yes
190	N/A	Thorpe Hesley & High Green Cricket Club	Central	Thorpe Hesley & High Green CC	Unsecure	1	Standard	8	32	42	10	No	No	No

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Actual spare capacity

A square is only considered to have actual spare capacity if it is available for further usage during a particular peak period. Using the capacity analysis, this section considers the level of actual spare capacity available for each playing format.

Notwithstanding the above, it should be noted that the actual spare capacity on Saturdays, Sundays and during midweek should not be viewed collectively as utilising it across different days may result in overplay. For example, a site with 12 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity per season theoretically has capacity for one additional senior team and two additional junior teams; however, it does not have capacity for both. As such, this needs to be taken into consideration on a site-by-site basis as and when demand grows.

Furthermore, there may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as actual spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of regular training sessions, or to protect the quality of the site. As such, no sites that are over, at, or close to capacity are considered to have actual spare capacity and neither are sites with unsecure tenure as future usage cannot be guaranteed.

Saturday cricket spare capacity

For senior men's cricket, peak time is Saturday as this is when most demand exists. As only one match can be played on each square per day, only two Saturday teams can be assigned to play home matches on one square (based on matches being played on an alternate home and away basis). As such, if a square has two Saturday teams already playing home fixtures on it, no actual spare capacity is perceived to exist for additional senior usage. If one or no teams are playing on a square on a Saturday, and it has overall capacity of at 12 match equivalent sessions (the average number of home matches played by a senior team), actual spare capacity for demand is generally identified.

Taking this into consideration, there are no squares in Rotherham that have potential capacity to accommodate further Saturday demand.

Sunday cricket spare capacity

Similar to Saturday cricket, a square on a Sunday is only considered to have actual spare capacity if it is not already used by two teams on this day, has secure tenure and is not over, at, or close to capacity.

Taking this into consideration, there are no squares in Rotherham that have potential capacity to accommodate further Sunday demand.

Midweek cricket spare capacity

For midweek cricket, most squares with spare capacity have actual spare capacity for an increase in demand. This is because matches can be spread across numerous days, meaning capacity is not limited to two teams. Moreover, the presence of junior wickets at certain sites, as well as NTPs, provide further capacity that is generally not available to senior demand.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

For a square to have actual spare capacity for midweek cricket, it must have secure tenure, not be overplayed and have more than six match equivalent sessions of spare capacity as this is the average number of matches an additional junior team would play. However, a square is not considered to have capacity for an increase in demand if it is already used by six midweek teams as availability is then assumed to be limited (on average, clubs are able to play fixtures on three nights per week, with other nights reserved for other activity such as All Stars and Dynamos).

Taking the above into consideration, there are three squares across the same number of sites in Rotherham that have potential capacity to accommodate further demand during midweek. This is shown in the table below.

Table 7.16: Summary of actual spare capacity for midweek cricket by site

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (sessions per season)	Comments
118	Scholes & Harley Cricket Club	Central	4	Used by one midweek team; spare capacity exists for five additional teams, midweek.
153	Wath Cricket Club	North	6	Used by five midweek teams; spare capacity for one additional team, midweek.
185	Brookhouse Cricket Club	South	7	Used by two midweek teams; spare capacity for four additional team, midweek.

As seen, a total of 17 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity is identified for midweek cricket, with such spare capacity relatively even across each analysis area.

Overplay

Overplay translates to a site accommodating more demand than it can sustain based on the number of wickets provided and the quality of the square. Although it is possible to sustain certain, minimal levels of overplay providing that a regular, sufficient maintenance regime is in place, a reduction in play is recommended on overplayed squares to ensure there is no detrimental effect on quality over time.

In Rotherham, 11 sites are overplayed by a total of 237 match equivalent sessions a season. Although a large amount of the overplay is due to the high levels of demand, some sites are also overplayed due to poor or standard quality pitches.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Table 7.17: Summary of overplay

Site ID	Active Places Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Overplay (match equivalent sessions per season)
3	1041701	Anston Cricket Club	South	48
10	30006227	Aston Hall Cricket Club	South	11
57	6009728	Goosecarr Lane Recreation Ground	South	20
61	1202889	Greenlands Park	South	20
66	1041750	Harthill The Field Cricket Club	South	19
88	1202759	Maltby Miners Welfare	South	5
146	1202781	Upper Haugh Cricket Club	North	28
150	1041752	Waleswood Sports Cricket Club	South	53
161	1202791	Whiston Parish Church Cricket Club	Central	10
163	1202788	Wickersley Old Village Cricket Club	South	13
190	N/A	Thorpe Hesley & High Green Cricket Club	Central	10
-	-	Total	-	237

The overplay is predominately identified in the South Analysis Area, with this amounting to 189 match equivalent sessions per season. The remaining overplay is identified in the North Analysis Area, with 28 match equivalent sessions per season and in the Central Analysis Area, with 20 match equivalent sessions per season.

7.5: Supply and demand analysis

Consideration must be given to the extent to which current provision can accommodate current and future demand for both senior and junior cricket. This section therefore looks at actual spare capacity on grass wicket squares considered against overplay and identified future demand. Match equivalent sessions for future demand are calculated using the average number of matches played per season (12 matches for senior teams and six matches for junior teams).

Saturday cricket supply and demand analysis

The table below looks at the supply and demand balance during the peak period for senior men's cricket (Saturday). As seen in the table below, there is a significant shortfall in Rotherham, with this amounting to 237 match equivalent sessions. Furthermore, each analysis area has a current shortfall, most notably in the South Analysis Area.

Table 7.18: Supply and demand analysis of cricket squares for Saturday cricket

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
North	-	28	28	-	28
Central	-	20	20	12	32
South	-	189	189	24	213
Rotherham	0	237	237	36	273

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

When future demand is accounted for, the overall shortfall for Saturday cricket worsens by 36 match equivalent sessions a season (three senior men's teams) to total 273 match equivalent sessions per season. At a localised level, shortfalls are evident in each analysis area, with this amounting to a particularly substantial amount in the South Analysis Area.

Sunday cricket supply and demand analysis

The table below looks at the supply and demand balance for Sunday cricket, which is peak time for senior women's demand but also relevant to some senior men's and junior teams. For actual spare capacity, this is converted from the number of match equivalent sessions identified to the number of match equivalent sessions that could feasibly be utilised by a growth in demand (based on senior teams playing on average 12 home matches a season).

As seen in the table below, there is a current and future shortfall for Sunday cricket in Rotherham, amounting to 237 match equivalent sessions. Furthermore, each analysis area has a current shortfall, most notably in the South Analysis Area.

Table 7.19: Supply and demand analysis of cricket squares for Sunday cricket

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
North	-	28	28	-	28
Central	-	20	20	-	20
South	-	189	189	-	189
Rotherham	0	237	237	0	237

Whilst no change is recorded based on no future demand being included, this is likely to be altered by an expected growth, particularly in relation to women's cricket. As outlined previously, this will be factored into the Strategy document.

Midweek cricket supply and demand analysis

For the midweek supply and demand analysis, actual spare capacity equates to the total spare capacity at each available site or, if it is lower, the total number of additional midweek teams that could be fielded on each available square (on the assumption that one square can accommodate four midweek teams), multiplied by six (the average number of matches a junior team plays). This is because midweek demand at peak time is not limited to one day, although some capacity should be reserved for activity such as All Stars and Dynamo's Cricket.

As seen in the table below, there is a shortfall for midweek cricket in Rotherham amounting to 222 match equivalent sessions per season.

Table 7.20: Supply and demand analysis of cricket squares for midweek cricket

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
North	4	28	24	2	26
Central	4	20	16	2	18
South	7	189	182	8	190
Rotherham	15	237	222	12	234

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

When future demand is accounted for, the overall shortfall for midweek cricket exacerbates by 12 match equivalent sessions a season (three junior teams) to leave an overall future shortfall of 234 match equivalent sessions per season. At a localised level, future demand is identified in all three analysis areas, exacerbating the shortfalls each.

7.6: Conclusion

Overall, there is currently an insufficient supply of cricket provision in Rotherham to cater for all formats of cricket (Saturday, Sunday and midweek cricket). Furthermore, when considering future demand, the shortfall is projected to worsen for Saturday and midweek cricket.

Table 7.21: Capacity balance of grass cricket squares across Rotherham

Playing format	Match equivalent sessions per season				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Saturday	-	237	237	36	273
Sunday	-	237	237	0	237
Midweek	15	237	222	12	234

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Cricket – supply and demand summary

- ◀ Overall, there is currently an insufficient supply of cricket capacity in Rotherham to cater for all formats of cricket (Saturday, Sunday and midweek cricket).
- ◀ A total of 11 sites are overplayed by 237 match equivalent sessions per season.
- ◀ When considering future demand, the shortfall worsens for each playing format.

Cricket – supply summary

- ◀ In total, there are 19 grass wicket cricket squares provided across the same number of sites, with all 19 available for community use.
- ◀ There are a total of 33 NTPs across the Borough, with 13 accompanying grass wickets squares and the remaining 20 being standalone (seven are unavailable for community use).
- ◀ There are 10 sites with disused cricket provision identified.
- ◀ Two clubs are without security of tenure, with these being Kiveton Park Colliery CC and Thorpe Hesley & High Green CC.
- ◀ The audit of grass wicket cricket squares found two (11%) to be good quality, 14 (73%) to be of standard quality and three to be poor quality (16%).
- ◀ Four sites are accompanied by good quality ancillary provision and eight sites are accompanied by standard quality provision, one has poor quality facilities, and one site (Greenlands Park) does not offer any ancillary pavilion provision.
- ◀ A total of 15 sites offer some form of outdoor training provision; however, eight responsive clubs (57%) report a need for new, additional or improved practice facilities.

Cricket – demand summary

- ◀ There are 21 clubs generating a total of 109 teams, which as a breakdown totals 50 senior men's, seven senior women's, 48 junior boys' and four junior girls' teams.
- ◀ Rotherham Town CC previously provided additional demand prior to the 2025 season.
- ◀ 11 clubs currently take part in the All-Stars, 10 take part in Dynamos initiatives and seven host women's softball cricket.
- ◀ Upper Haugh CC and Whiston Parish Church CC currently export demand outside of Rotherham to fulfil match demand and seven clubs are travelling outside of the Borough to access indoor cricket provision.
- ◀ No clubs report any latent or unmet demand, and no imported demand is received.
- ◀ Future demand from population forecasts equates to the predicted growth of three senior men's teams and three junior teams.
- ◀ There are nine clubs with future demand aspirations, with potential growth totalling two senior men's teams, three senior women's teams and eight junior boy's teams.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

PART 8: TENNIS

8.1: Introduction

The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) is the organisation responsible for the governance of tennis and administers the sport locally across Rotherham. It has recently restructured its strategic approach to target several national focus areas, with a priority on developing the sport at park sites.

In addition, the LTA is also the NGB for padel tennis. This therefore also features within this section of the report.

LTA Quick Access Loan Scheme¹⁵

The LTA's mission is to grow tennis and padel by making them accessible, welcoming, and enjoyable. Ensuring local communities have access to quality facilities is critical to attracting and retaining more players. As such, the LTA's Quick Access Loan Scheme aims to provide interest-free loans to support venues investment in facilities, prioritising the installation and construction of covered courts.

The objectives of the fund are to:

- ◀ Provide covered or sports-lit playing facilities to encourage community accessible play all year.
- ◀ Retain and increase the number of participants at the venue.
- ◀ Offer and increase both non-members pay and play usage and coaching opportunities.
- ◀ Grow the numbers of adults and juniors on the coaching programme.
- ◀ Provide seamless booking of tennis courts and lessons through an [online booking system](#).

As part of the fund, the LTA will fund:

- ◀ Lighting upgrades to LED (outdoor and indoor).
- ◀ New sports lights.
- ◀ New court provision.
- ◀ Outdoor padel courts.
- ◀ Covered padel (courts and cover).
- ◀ Covered tennis courts.

Consultation

Rotherham Moorgate LTC, the only tennis club in Rotherham, has contributed to this section of the report by participating in the consultation process and through providing detailed information.

8.2: Supply

There are 56 tennis courts identified in Rotherham across 14 sites. Of the courts, 45 are categorised as being available for community use at 12 sites, compared to 11 that are unavailable at two sites.

¹⁵[Quick Access Loan Scheme for tennis facilities \(lta.org.uk\)](#)

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

The South Analysis Area contains the highest amount of accessible provision with 18 courts, which equates to 40% of all community available tennis courts. This is followed by 14 courts in the Central Analysis Area (31%) and 13 courts in the North Analysis Area (29%).

Table 8.1: Summary of the number of courts by analysis area

Analysis area	No. of community available tennis courts	No. of community unavailable tennis courts
North	13	-
Central	14	4
South	18	7
Rotherham	45	11

Please note that courts are classified as being available for community use provided that they are deemed to be easily accessible to the general population, either via pay and play or through a membership at a club (or a mixture of both). All unavailable courts in Rotherham are located at educational sites, with these being located at Wales High School and Wingfield Academy.

Figure 8.1 shows the location of the courts servicing Rotherham regardless of community use. For a key to the map, see Table 8.2 overleaf.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Figure 8.1: Location of tennis courts in Rotherham



ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Table 8.2: Tennis courts in Rotherham

Site ID	Active Places Power ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Management	Community use?	Tenure	Club user/s	No. of courts	Sports lit?	Court type	Court quality
8	1201651	Aston Academy	S26 4SF	South	Education	Yes	No	-	5	No	Macadam	Standard
44	1043034	Clifton Park	S65 2AQ	Central	Other	Yes	Yes	-	3	No	Macadam	Poor
45	1043033	Coronation Park	S66 7NE	South	Council	Yes	Yes	-	2	No	Macadam	Poor
65	1041749	Harthill Leisure Centre	S26 7YQ	South	Council	Yes	Yes	-	1	Yes	Macadam	Poor
94	30007134	Rotherham Moorgate Tennis Club	S60 2AZ	Central	Sports Club	Yes	Yes	Rotherham Moorgate LTC	4	Yes	Artificial grass	Good
102	1201733	Rawmarsh Community School	S62 7GA	North	Education	Yes	No	-	4	Yes	Macadam	Poor
139	1004772	Thrybergh Academy & Sports College	S65 4BH	North	Education	Yes	No	-	2	Yes	Macadam	Standard
139	1004772	Thrybergh Academy & Sports College	S65 4BH	North	Education	Yes	No	-	1	No	Macadam	Standard
148	1201878	Wales High School	S26 5QQ	South	Education	No	No	-	7	No	Macadam	Poor
149	6009741	Wales Recreation Ground	S26 6RB	South	Council	Yes	Yes	-	1	Yes	Polymeric	Good
149	6009741	Wales Recreation Ground	S26 6RB	South	Council	Yes	Yes	-	1	No	Polymeric	Good
151	1201911	Wath Academy	S63 7NW	North	Education	Yes	No	-	6	Yes	Macadam	Standard
164	1201740	Wickersley School & Sports College	S66 1JL	South	Education	Yes	No	-	6	Yes	Macadam	Standard
166	1203143	Wingfield Academy	S61 4AU	Central	Education	No	No	-	4	Yes	Macadam	Standard
167	1201705	Winterhill School	S61 2BD	Central	Education	Yes	No	-	7	Yes	Macadam	Standard

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Site ID	Active Places Power ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Management	Community use?	Tenure	Club user/s	No. of courts	Sports lit?	Court type	Court quality
191	N/A	Ravenfield Tennis Courts	S65 4PP	South	Private	Yes	No	-	2	No	Polymeric	Good

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Disused provision

A disused site is a site that has previously been used for sport but is not currently being used by any users and that is not available for community hire either (often being unmarked). In relation to the tennis, the table below details sites that previously provided formal courts but which no longer do so.

Table 8.3: Disused tennis courts in Rotherham

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Analysis area	Comments
24	Bradgate Park	S61 1LJ	Central	Site previously accommodated two macadam courts.
110	Rosehill Victoria Park	S62 7HJ	North	Site previously accommodated three macadam courts.
147	Valley Park	S65 3DJ	Central	Site previously accommodated three macadam courts.

Regarding Rosehill Victoria Park and Valley Park, the LTA reports that the disused courts are to be brought back into use imminently via the LTA Parks Project Fund. The LTA reports that, work began on the refurbishment of the tennis courts at Rosehill Victoria and Valley Park in mid-October. This will be completed by Spring 2026 and both parks will have SmartAccess gate systems linked to online court booking.

In addition, there was previously tennis markings on a court at Goosecarr Lane Recreation Ground; however, only basketball markings now exist.

Padel provision

Padel tennis is relatively new to Great Britain and is growing in popularity, particularly since its recognition as a sport and integration within the LTA. It is played mainly in a doubles format on an enclosed court about a third of the size of a tennis court and can be played in groups of mixed ages and abilities. The rules are broadly the same as tennis, although you serve under-arm and the walls are used as part of the game with the ball allowed to bounce off them.

In order to grow the sport, the LTA is focused on improving the infrastructure and the coach education pathway, with £6 million invested by the NGB since 2021. At the end of 2020, there were 87 courts, with this growing to 350 in 2023 and 500 in 2024. There is also a projected growth to 1,000 in 2026, with it therefore envisaged that, with growing infrastructure, participation in padel will increase significantly over the coming years.¹⁶

Notwithstanding the above, there are currently no padel courts in Rotherham, which means that no demand can be met within the Borough (LTA analysis on supply required to meet padel demand in Rotherham is detailed further on in the chapter). A planning application has, however, recently been submitted to construct an indoor padel centre (seven indoor padel courts) at Hellaby Industrial Estate (REF: RB2025/1005). In addition, a separate planning application has been submitted for the development of five outdoor padel courts at The Grange Golf Club (REF: RB2025/0949).

¹⁶https://www.lta.org.uk/globalassets/about-lta-padel/lta-padel-strategy-2024-2029.pdf?utm_source=chatgpt.com

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

In terms of additional future supply, a variety of environments can be considered. Padel courts are often situated next to or managed by those running existing tennis facilities (e.g., tennis clubs, parks and indoor tennis centres), whilst development at leisure centre sites, golf clubs and rugby/football sites can also be particularly beneficial as provision can be tied into other sports facilities and profit from an already established operating model.

Linked to the above, the LTA is not encouraging clubs or local authorities to convert existing tennis courts to padel courts, unless it can be shown that they have the capacity to support this. This is to ensure that the provision of traditional courts remains sufficient and that the growth of padel is not detrimental.

Management and security of tenure

The table below highlights the management of tennis courts within Rotherham. As seen, most community available courts are operated by education providers (42 courts or 75%). There are five courts identified at council-owned sites (9%), whilst four courts (7%) are operated by tennis clubs/sports clubs and two courts are under private ownership (4%). The remaining courts (three courts or 5% at Clifton Park) are managed by Courtside.

Table 8.4: Tennis courts by management type

Community use?	Number of courts				
	Council	Education	Sports Club	Private	Other
Available	5	31	4	2	3
Unavailable	-	11	-	-	-
Total	5	42	4	2	3

Rotherham Moorgate LTC has security of tenure at its home venue (Rotherham Moorgate Tennis Club), with the Club owning freehold of the site.

Of the 45 courts that are available for community use in Rotherham, 12 pitches (27%) provide secure tenure for tennis participation, ensuring long-term and reliable access for users. In contrast, 33 courts (73%) operate with an unsecure tenure, creating potential vulnerability in sustaining current levels of activity and future demand.

Court type

Most community available outdoor tennis courts in Rotherham (37 courts or 82%) have a macadam surface. The estimated lifespan of a macadam court is 10 years, depending on levels of use and maintenance levels. To ensure courts can continue to be used beyond this time frame, it is recommended that a sinking fund is put into place for eventual refurbishment.

The remaining provision across the Borough consists of four artificial grass courts (9%) and four polymeric courts (9%). The former are located at Rotherham Moorgate Tennis Club, whilst the latter are at Wales Recreation Ground and Ravenfield Tennis Courts. At Rotherham Moorgate Tennis Club, the four artificial courts were resurfaced in April 2025.

Sports lighting

Sports lit courts enable use throughout the year and are identified by the LTA as being a key priority for growing participation nationally. The LTA reports that sports lighting allows for a 35% increase in available court time on an annual basis.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

In Rotherham, 31 of the 45 community available tennis courts are serviced by sports lights, representing 69% of the provision, which is a comparatively good percentage. Furthermore, all the courts at Rotherham Moorgate Tennis Club are equipped with sports lighting meaning all club-based demand is catered for in this regard. Access to courts with sports lighting is considered particularly key for clubs as it allows for greater use of provision, which in turn can help accommodate more members.

Increasing the number of local authority courts with sports lighting is also a strategic aim for the LTA due to the additional recreational demand and tennis programmes such provision can help accommodate. However, of the council-owned courts in Rotherham, only two out of seven are currently serviced by sports lighting.

Court quality

The quality of tennis courts has been informed through non-technical site assessments and consultation with providers to assign each court a rating of good, standard or poor. Key aspects informing the findings include surface quality, grip underfoot, line marking quality, evenness and evidence of inappropriate use such as vandalism and/or littering (for the full assessment criteria, please refer to Appendix 2).

Of the courts in Rotherham, eight (14%) are assessed as good quality, 31 (55%) as standard quality and 16 (30%) as poor quality. Of the community available provision, eight (18%) are good quality, 27 (60%) are standard and 10 (22%) are poor.

Table 8.5: Quality of tennis courts across Rotherham

Community use?	Quality		
	Good	Standard	Poor
Available	8	27	10
Unavailable	-	4	7
Total	8	31	17

The community available courts assessed as poor quality are located at the following sites:

- ◀ Clifton Park
- ◀ Coronation Park
- ◀ Harthill Leisure Centre
- ◀ Rawmarsh Community School

Issues recorded at these sites include poor grip underfoot, the presence of moss, worn line markings and loose gravel. Moreover, maintenance is also considered to be basic and infrequent at most of the poor quality sites, which can lead to further deterioration.

Three of the poor quality courts are at a council-owned sites, with these being at Coronation Park and Harthill Leisure Centre. Improving local authority courts is currently a national priority for the LTA, with a focus on suitable sites that cater for high levels of recreational demand or that have the potential to do so. This is especially if the provision is serviced (or could be serviced) by changing facilities and sports lighting.

Conversely, all four artificial grass courts at Rotherham Moorgate Tennis Club are assessed as good quality, which aligns with the Club's own rating. This also reflects the fact that the courts were resurfaced in April 2025.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

The remaining good quality courts are located at Wales Recreation Ground and Ravenfield Tennis Courts.

Ancillary facilities

Insight from the LTA indicates good quality ancillary facilities such as toilets, changing rooms and cafes encourage players to visit community available provision and stay for extended periods of time. Therefore, a potential way to increase usage of such provision would be to invest in suitable ancillary amenities, which can then also provide a source of income.

In Rotherham, the facilities at Rotherham Moorgate Tennis Club are considered to be good quality, with toilets, changing rooms and a social area all provided to a high standard. Furthermore, the venue offers dedicated separate women and girls' changing rooms.

At non-club venues, the provision at Wales Recreation Ground is also rated as good quality, whereas standard quality facilities are in place at Harthill Leisure Centre.

The remaining council-operated sites do not provide dedicated amenities, including changing rooms and toilets, which could be restricting the usage or at least the appeal of the venues. The same also applies at Ravenfield Tennis Courts, although plans are in place to develop appropriate ancillary facilities when a club is established at the site (see section 8.3 below).

8.3: Demand

Club-based tennis

There is one tennis club in Rotherham, Rotherham Moorgate LTC. It has a current membership of 172, which as a breakdown totals 133 senior and 39 junior members. The Club also reports that over the previous five years, its senior members have grown whilst its junior members have remained the same.

Although not currently operational, a second tennis club known as Ravenfield LTC, is expected to be established in Rotherham in the near future. As per its name, this will utilise Ravenfield Tennis Courts, which consists of two polymeric courts (without sports lighting) and has recently been acquired by a private landlord.

Informal and parks tennis

Away from clubs, community tennis activity can be difficult to quantify as it is not always monitored, especially at sites that are free to access as is the case at some local authority sites in Rotherham. Demand for such provision is generally at its highest during summer months, especially following events such as Wimbledon, but significant capacity can exist outside of this.

The LTA has developed a support package for local authorities to grow use of tennis courts by removing key barriers to participation, with products known as ClubSpark, Play (previously Rally) and Gate Access established. The LTA believes this presents a major improvement to the customer journey and provide a clear revenue stream to reinvest into court provision.

In Rotherham, courts at Clifton Park and Wales Recreation Ground¹⁷ are known to utilise the products currently, whilst it is also assumed that provision at Rosehill Victoria Park and Valley Park will feature at least some of them when they are brought back into use.

¹⁷ Previously online booking had been available at Bradgate Park and Ravenfield Tennis Courts.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

The products are further summarised below.

ClubSpark – Improving the booking process

ClubSpark is a flexible and simple venue management platform with multiple products and applications to help venues, local authorities and coaches manage their sport. ClubSpark is a tool that is offered for free as part of LTA venue registration and allows administrators to manage all functions at their venue(s), including:

- ◀ Managed website - create and manage a mobile friendly website tailored to LA/club requirements to promote events and activities.
- ◀ Managed coaching – set up coaching lessons and courses online.
- ◀ Membership management - improve membership engagement by making it easier for the venue and for members to pay, renew and keep in touch (includes online payments, direct debits and the monitoring of revenue streams; membership modules can also be used to take season ticket payments for venues operating a non-traditional annual facility fee).
- ◀ Organise payments - set the way payments are taken, whether it's immediate pay and play, or bookable as part of a membership package
- ◀ Court bookings – reduced administration for managing bookings; give staff, coaches, members and the general public access to book and pay for courts, classes or other resources online.
- ◀ Scheduling - set unique booking and price rules to suit the venue and enable lights to switch on/off automatically when linked to the LTA Premium Gate Access system.
- ◀ Book and pay remotely - customers can make bookings and payments for a venue anytime, anywhere via the real-time booking app.
- ◀ Reporting - ClubSpark allows administrators to view reports highlighting income, court usage, revenue and number of members and season ticket holders; this allows for identification of trends and patterns and evidence to demonstrate participation levels and impact.

LTA Play

Play is an aggregator that collects all booking and coaching information via ClubSpark pages and displays it for participants in one easy to view page. It allows players to search for venues close to them and provides booking options, removing the barriers of not knowing where courts are or how to book.

Play provides a helpful customer journey, with a personal profile to review and manage bookings, and helpful reminders. Courts can be set to book for free of charge or at a fee agreed by the provider.

Gate Access

The LTA has developed two Gate Access gate systems that work in association with ClubSpark to secure courts and to allow access to booked customers only. Members of the public can book a court online (making payment if required) and receive a four digit access code via email to enter using a courtside keypad. The gate access system then allows entry for the time booked if a correct code is entered.

There are two gate options available: SmartAccess Premium and SmartAccess Lite. The demands and needs of users plus the setup of the venue determines the most appropriate system for each site.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Nationally, the LTA report that in the last three years, sites with a gate access system installed have attracted 64,841 unique players, leading to 609,671 courts being booked. This has generated income of over £1 million.

Additional demand

The LTA operates various tennis initiatives across the Country which result in some courts receiving additional demand. Furthermore, there are other formats away from traditional tennis that can result in increased usage, with some of these detailed below. However, it should be referenced that none are currently identified as having a presence within the Borough.

Local Tennis Leagues

Recreational Tennis leagues are less formal in comparison to established club play, offering greater flexibility and an opportunity for all abilities to engage in competition at local venues. The leagues are available to all aged 18 years and above and are run by an organisation called Local Tennis Leagues, which is owned by the LTA. Players are organised into mixed sex leagues of eight based on similar ability levels, with matches arranged between the two players at whatever time and court is agreed. The flexibility of play is conducive to the use of park sites which are typically more easily accessible.

Local Tennis Leagues are to be introduced at Rosehill Victoria Park and Valley Park, once the courts at these sites are brought back into use.

LTA Youth Programme

The LTA coordinate courses for children aged 4-18, consisting of fun games and dynamic training. Specialist coaches make sure every child has the best start to their tennis journey in a safe and inclusive environment. Sessions cater to all abilities and split into the following:

- ◀ Blue Stage (Age 4-6).
- ◀ Red Stage (Age 6-8).
- ◀ Orange Stage (Age 8-9).
- ◀ Green Stage (Age 9-10).
- ◀ Yellow Stage (Age 10+).

Key points:

- ◀ There are assigned ages to each stage, but this only serves as a guide.
- ◀ Young people want to play in groups and with their friends, and so whatever stage they start at, all kids will see progression.
- ◀ In every LTA Youth stage, young people will be active, having fun and developing skills

LTA Youth Start¹⁸

LTA Youth Start¹⁹ is a six week coaching offer for children that have never played tennis before and is identified as a priority by the LTA. For £29.99 (Plus £5 postage & packaging), kids get six weeks coaching by an LTA Accredited coach, along with a free racket, pack of balls and personalised t-shirt so that they can continue playing.

¹⁸ <https://www.lta.org.uk/play-compete/lta-youth/start/>

¹⁹ <https://ClubSpark.lta.org.uk/tennisforkids>

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Free Parks Tennis

The LTA has launched the LTA Free Parks Tennis offer. This is due to the following identified needs:

- ◀ Player Trends:
 - ◀ 35% of people who play tennis once per year or more do so in a park.
 - ◀ The most common type of play for park players is socially with friends or family.
- ◀ Barriers:
 - ◀ 25% of players cite not having anyone to play with as a barrier to playing more tennis.
 - ◀ 24% of players cite having nowhere to play or difficulty in accessing local courts as reasons why they do not play tennis more often
 - ◀ 32% of these players say local courts are not affordable.
 - ◀ 75% of parks players consider themselves to be of beginner (41%) or improver (36%) standard, which is significantly lower than club players
 - ◀ 22% of players state that a lack of equipment prevents them from playing tennis.

The key points of a free park tennis session are:

- ◀ Free for all players to book and attend.
- ◀ Run by a minimum of two trained and DBS checked Activators.
- ◀ Sessions should run all year round (weather depending).
- ◀ Run on a Saturday or Sunday morning at 10.00-11.00am.

Court requirements are for three courts minimum in parks that have this many, or two courts at two court sites – a three-court site can have up to 34 players attending. The sessions are designed for those aged eight and over, but under eights can attend when accompanied by a parent.

Free Parks Tennis sessions are to be introduced at Rosehill Victoria Park and Valley Park, once the courts at these sites are brought back into use.

LTA Big Tennis Weekend

The LTA Big Tennis Weekend is an LTA initiative which all registered venues can access. Clubs and venues have the ability to sign up to host open days, which are free of charge, and create a relaxed and welcoming environment for those new to tennis to participate. This in turn can potentially lead to the clubs attracting new members.

The LTA hosts three dedicated weekends a year (in May, July and September) that are the UK's biggest public tennis events. Furthermore, venues are able to run additional events outside these dates and will benefit from their events being promoted on the national LTA campaign website. All clubs running an open day are asked to promote a follow-on offer to all attendees, such as a reduced rate introductory membership or a number of free coaching sessions, to encourage people to continue playing after the event.

LTA Big Tennis Weekend sessions are to be introduced at Rosehill Victoria Park and Valley Park, once the courts at these sites are brought back into use.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Padel demand

In 2022, 90,000 people reportedly play padel more than once a year in England - a 493% year on year increase compared to 2021 data (15,000). This then reportedly increased to 129,000 players in 2023, exemplifying the continued growth of the sport and the need to ensure that such demand is being adequately catered for.

Building on from the above, LTA has outlined a Padel Strategy (2024-2029). The key demand objectives are to:

- ◀ Grow the visibility of padel to increase awareness from 20% to 40% of the population, interest in playing from 7.5% to 15% and boost participation.
- ◀ Increase the number of annual padel players from 129,000 to 400,000, and monthly players from 65,000 to 200,000.
- ◀ Grow the padel coach and activator workforce from 40 to 700.
- ◀ Enable 10 players to break into the World top 200 and two players into the top 100 and inspire the padel audience.

Despite the above, there are currently no padel courts in Rotherham, meaning no activity is taking place. However, that is not to say that there is no demand. Some operators have aspirations to establish provision and this would likely result in significant usage when considering national and regional trends.

To assist local authorities in strategically planning padel provision, the LTA has established, by authority, the number of padel courts that can be sustained based on population density and padel demand. In Rotherham, this identifies a need for 21 courts, which is based on 20% of the population being interested in padel (taken from a YouGov survey), penetration levels of 8%, and one court being able to accommodate up to 200 players.

The above figures provided form a start point for conversation and strategic planning. It does not mean that the suggested number should be seen as a cap, but that the has LTA confidence that there is sufficient demand for the number of courts identified. Some areas where the sport is more established will create higher levels of demand. The figure also only represents the first stage in strategic planning for padel by local authority boundary. The second phase is to begin to look at potential locations and the demography of the catchment and how they overlay, which will in many instances cut across boundary lines.

Notwithstanding the above, Rotherham Moorgate LTC does not report of any aspirations to access padel court provision. As such, it is considered that any future padel demand will be away from the existing club.

Latent/unmet demand

Latent demand for tennis nationally is reported to be high by the LTA, which has an insight tool that suggests that 18% of the five million players that pick up a racket each year would play more often if key barriers such as poor promotion of opportunities to get on court, unclear booking journeys (especially those that are 'offline') and low quality facilities were addressed.

Furthermore, the LTA conducted some research to understand how the public feels about tennis and the main barriers to accessing the sport. The research was split into club, community and education sectors, with headline findings as follows:

- ◀ Around five million people play once per year with the majority of this in parks.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

- ◀ 46% of tennis played by those 14 years is on park courts.
- ◀ 80% of those that do not play tennis but would like to see parks as their first option.
- ◀ Barriers preventing use of courts located in parks include the quality of the courts, ease of booking and the number of courts available to play.
- ◀ Demand for tennis amongst those who stopped playing in the last five years is from 14 upwards.
- ◀ Although there is demand for tennis amongst working class individuals, the highest latent demand is from upper middle, middle and lower middle classes.

Further research carried out by the LTA also suggests that many more people would play tennis if they knew where courts were located, particularly local authority courts. Its assertion is that better promotion would increase demand. As such, there is a potential opportunity in Rotherham for the Council and other providers to address such barriers, whilst also bettering understanding of court usage.

Linked to the above, Rotherham Moorgate LTC does not report of any latent demand, suggesting that existing membership can be accommodated on the current level of provision available to them and that no potential members are being turned away due to capacity issues. As such, it is further considered that any latent demand in Rotherham will relate to non-club activity.

Future demand

Rotherham Moorgate LTC reports anticipated future demand totalling 50 members, with this equating 30 senior and 20 junior members. As outlined above, it considers that it can accommodate this growth on its current courts.

Additionally, a growth in demand for tennis is likely to emanate from general population growth, with much of this likely to be outside of the club environment. Using Sport England Sports Facility Calculator, projected growth to 2040 (in line with the Council's Local Plan) equates to the need for 2.79 courts. This is based on extrapolating current demand levels.

In addition, the LTA also expects future growth via its insight tools, with much of this demand likely to include participation outside of the club environment. This also links with the expected further growth of padel demand.

8.4: Supply and demand analysis

Club tennis

For club-based tennis, the LTA suggests that a hard court with no sports lighting can accommodate 40 members, whereas a hard court with sports lighting can accommodate 60 members. However, it must be noted that this should only be used as a guide as capacity can, in reality, vary from site to site depending on how the demand operates and the programmes of use in place. Some clubs can comfortably operate over capacity guidance, whilst others may have pressures without theoretically being over capacity.

Using the guidance, the table below identifies the capacity balance at Rotherham Moorgate Tennis Club. As shown, the Club has current spare capacity equating to 68 members, meaning overall capacity will also remain even if it fulfils its future growth plans.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Table 8.6: Capacity analysis (club courts)

Site ID	Site	No. of courts	Sports-lit?	Capacity	Current membership	Current capacity balance (no. of members)	Future capacity balance (no. of members)
94	Rotherham Moorgate Tennis Club	4	Yes	240	172	68	18

Given the expected emergence of Ravenfield LTC, consideration should also be given to Ravenfield Tennis Courts. This has capacity for a membership of 80 (two non-lit courts), meaning activity should be monitored if and when a club forms at the site.

Non-club tennis

For non-club courts, analysing supply and demand is difficult as usage figures are not generally known. That being said, no capacity issues have been identified in Rotherham, meaning all sites are considered to have capacity for additional growth. However, this does not equate to a surplus of courts given the high levels of unmet/latent demand identified. Furthermore, there are existing quality issues across many of the local authority sites as well as a general lack of sports lighting which will be inhibiting demand.

It should also be referenced that the presence of only eight local authority operated courts is low for an area the size of Rotherham, although this is expected to increase with the re-introduction of tennis at Rosehill Victoria Park and Valley Park (six courts).

8.5: Conclusion

The supply of tennis provision in Rotherham is sufficient to meet club-based demand, with current and expected future activity at Rotherham Moorgate Tennis Club being adequately accommodated. The same is also expected to apply at Ravenfield Tennis Courts, although demand levels need to be monitored as and when a club forms at the site to ensure that this is the case.

For non-club courts, the existing supply can clearly be improved upon through increasing quantity, improving quality, installing sports lighting, and rolling out LTA products such as Clubspark and Gate Access. Whilst no capacity issues are identified on the existing provision, issues across the venues are likely deterring demand and preventing growth in activity levels.

There is also a clear need to develop padel provision, with no courts currently provided.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Tennis – supply and demand summary

- ◀ The supply of tennis provision in Rotherham is sufficient to meet club-based demand, with current and expected future activity being adequately accommodated.
- ◀ For non-club courts, issues across the supply are likely deterring usage, meaning it can be improved upon through increasing quantity, improving quality, installing sports lighting, and rolling out LTA products such as Clubspark and Gate Access.
- ◀ There is also a clear need to develop padel provision, with no courts currently provided.

Tennis – supply summary

- ◀ There are 56 tennis courts identified in Rotherham across 14 sites.
- ◀ Of the courts, 45 are categorised as being available for community use at 12 sites, compared to 11 that are unavailable at two sites.
- ◀ Disused courts at Rosehill Victoria Park and Valley Park, are to be brought back into use imminently via the LTA Parks Project Fund.
- ◀ There are no padel courts currently provided.
- ◀ Most community available courts are operated by education providers (31 courts), with only five identified at council-managed sites.
- ◀ Most community available tennis courts in Rotherham have a macadam surface (37 courts), although there are also four artificial grass courts and four polymeric courts.
- ◀ A total of 31 of the 45 community available tennis courts are serviced by sports lights, representing 69% of the provision, although this applies to only two local authority courts.
- ◀ Eight courts (14%) are assessed as good quality, 31 (55%) as standard quality and 16 (30%) as poor quality.
- ◀ The ancillary facilities at Rotherham Moorgate Tennis Club are considered to be good quality.
- ◀ At non-club venues, dedicated amenities are only provided at Wales Recreation Ground and Harthill Leisure Centre.

Tennis – demand summary

- ◀ There is one tennis club in Rotherham, Rotherham Moorgate LTC.
- ◀ The Club has a current membership of 172, which as a breakdown totals 133 senior and 39 junior members.
- ◀ Although not currently operational, Ravenfield LTC is expected to be established soon, with this to utilise provision at Ravenfield Tennis Courts.
- ◀ Courts at Clifton Park and Wales Recreation Ground are known to utilise LTA products currently, with this assisting in accommodating recreational demand.
- ◀ No LTA programmes or additional tennis activity is identified as currently taking place in the Borough (e.g., Local Tennis Leagues).
- ◀ With no padel courts provided, no demand is being received, although the LTA identifies a need for 21 courts to meet expected demand levels.
- ◀ No latent or unmet demand is identified for club-based tennis; however, together with future demand, it is expected to be high for parks tennis and padel due to existing quantity and quality issues.
- ◀ Rotherham Moorgate LTC reports anticipated future demand totalling 50 members (30 seniors and 20 juniors).

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

APPENDIX 1: SPORTING CONTEXT

The following section outlines a series of national, regional and local policies pertaining to the study and which will have an important influence on the Strategy.

National context

The provision of high quality and accessible community outdoor sports facilities at a local level is a key requirement for achieving the targets set out by the Government and Sport England. It is vital that this strategy is cognisant of and works towards these targets in addition to local priorities and plans.

Department of Culture, Media and Sport Get Active: A Strategy for the Future of Sport and Physical Activity (2023)

The Government published its new strategy for sport in August 2023. The 2015 government sport strategy, Sporting Future: A New Strategy for a More Active Nation, was a fundamental re-framing of sport and physical activity in the UK. It set out five outcomes delivered by sport and physical activity:

- ◀ Physical wellbeing
- ◀ Mental wellbeing
- ◀ Individual development
- ◀ Social and community development
- ◀ Sustainable economic development

This new strategy builds on the foundations of Sporting Future and retains these five outcomes at its core. In order to measure its success in producing outputs which accord with these aims it has also adopted a series of three core priorities, with seven indicators to achieve these priorities as follows:

- ◀ **Being unapologetically ambitious in making the nation more active**
 - ◀ Ensuring everyone is focused on increasing physical activity, meaning fewer inactive children, and narrowing the gap on inactivity where groups are not being reached, with visible progress across the country by 2030
 - ◀ Focusing on evidence, data and metrics
 - ◀ Setting the future direction for facilities and spaces where people can be active
- ◀ **Making sport and physical activity more inclusive and welcoming for all that everyone can have confidence that there is a place for them in sport**
 - ◀ Helping the sector to be welcoming to all
 - ◀ Improving how issues and concerns are dealt within the sector
- ◀ **Moving towards a more sustainable sector that is more financially resilient and robust**
 - ◀ Supporting the sector to access additional, alternative forms of investment
 - ◀ Working towards a more environmentally sustainable sector

Delivering against these priorities will help create a more active nation and a more sustainable sport sector. These aims are complementary; greater participation, stronger governance and confidence in the sector will help to drive investment, which in turn helps to attract new audiences. The vision is to make sport and physical activity accessible, resilient, fun and fair, for now and the years to come – for the benefit of individuals and the country.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Sport England Uniting the Movement: Our 10-year vision to transform lives and communities through sport (2021-2031)

Sport and physical activity makes people happier and healthier, and movement is the lens through which we can make that happen. It does the same thing for our communities, with life-changing, sustainable benefits that have huge economic and social value. That's why Sport England wants sport and physical activity to be recognised as essential to help overcome these national challenges.

The Strategy recognises the need to invest in sport and physical activity through NGBs, other sports bodies and local sports clubs, organisations and community groups to increase engagement for different groups as part of our core purpose. It states that there is now a need to go further in promoting movement in general as the means to unlock sport and activity for some people.

Tackling inequalities

There are deep-rooted inequalities in sport and physical activity, which means that there are people who feel excluded from being active because the right options and opportunities aren't there. These inequalities are at the very core of the Uniting the Movement.

Sport England plans on having a laser focus on tackling inequalities in all that it does, because providing opportunities to people and communities that have traditionally been left behind, and helping to remove the barriers to activity is vitally important.

National Planning Policy Framework (updated 2024)

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out planning policies for England. It details how these changes are expected to be applied to the planning system. It also provides a framework for local people and their councils to produce distinct local and neighbourhood plans, reflecting the needs and priorities of local communities.

The NPPF states the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. It identifies that the planning system needs to focus on three themes of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. A presumption in favour of sustainable development is a key aspect for any plan-making and decision-taking processes. In relation to plan-making the NPPF sets out that Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs.

The 'promoting healthy communities' theme identifies that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficiencies or surpluses in local areas should also be identified. This information should be used to inform what provision is required in an area.

As a prerequisite the NPPF states existing open space, sports and recreation buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- ◀ An assessment has been undertaken, which has clearly shown that the open space, buildings or land is surplus to requirements.
- ◀ The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location.
- ◀ The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

In order for planning policies to be ‘sound’ local authorities are required to carry out a robust assessment of need for open space, sport and recreation facilities.

The FA National Football Facilities Strategy (2018-28)

The Football Association’s (FA) National Football Facilities Strategy (NFFS) provides a strategic framework that sets out key priorities and targets for the national game (i.e., football) over a ten-year period.

The Strategy sets out shared aims and objectives it aims to deliver on in conjunction with The Premier League, Sport England and the Government, to be delivered with support of the Football Foundation.

These stakeholders have clearly identified the aspirations for football to contribute directly to nationally important social and health priorities. Alongside this, the strategy is clear that traditional, affiliated football remains an important priority and a core component of the game, whilst recognising and supporting the more informal environments used for the community and recreational game.

Its vision is: *“Within 10 years we aim to deliver great football facilities, wherever they are needed”*

£1.3 billion has been spent by football and Government since 2000 to enhance existing football facilities and build new ones. However, more is needed if football and Government’s shared objectives for participation, individual well-being and community cohesion are to be achieved. Nationally, direct investment will be increased – initially to £69 million per annum from football and Government (a 15% increase on recent years).

The NFFS investment priorities can be broadly grouped into six areas, recognising the need to grow the game, support existing players and better understand the different football environments:

- ◀ **Improve 20,000 Natural Turf pitches**, with a focus on addressing drop off due to a poor playing experience;
- ◀ **Deliver 1,000 3G AGP ‘equivalents’** (mix of full size and small sided provision, including MUGAs - small sided facilities are likely to have a key role in smaller / rural communities and encouraging multi-sport offers), enhancing the quality of playing experience and supporting a sustainable approach to grass roots provision;
- ◀ **Deliver 1,000 changing pavilions/clubhouses**, linked to multi-pitch or hub sites, supporting growth (particularly in women and girls football), sustainability and providing a facility infrastructure to underpin investment in coaching, officials and football development;
- ◀ **Support access to flexible indoor spaces**, including equipment and court markings, to support growth in futsal, walking football and to support the education and skills outcomes, exploiting opportunities for football to positively impact on personal and social outcomes for young people in particular;
- ◀ **Refurbish existing stock to maintain current provision**, recognising the need to address historic under-investment and issues with refurbishment of existing facilities;
- ◀ **Support testing of technology and innovation**, building on customer insight to deliver hubs for innovation, testing and development of the game.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Local Football Facility Plans

To support in delivery of the NFFS, The FA commissioned a national project to develop a Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) for every local authority across England. Each plan is unique to its area as well as being diverse in its representation.

Identifying strategic priorities for football facilities across the formal, recreational and informal game, LFFPs establish a ten-year vision for football facilities that aims to transform the playing pitch stock in a sustainable way. They identify key projects to be delivered and act as an investment portfolio for projects that require funding. As such, around 90% of all will be identified via LFFPs. LFFPs will guide the allocation of 90% of national football investment (The FA, Premier League and DCMS) and forge stronger partnerships with local stakeholders to develop key sites. This, together with local match-funding will deliver over one billion pounds of investment into football facilities over the next 10-years.

It is important to recognise that a LFFP is an investment portfolio of priority projects for potential investment - it is not a detailed supply and demand analysis of all pitch provision in a local area. Therefore, it cannot be used as a replacement for a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) and it will not be accepted as an evidence base for site change of use or disposal.

A LFFP will; however, build on available/existing local evidence and strategic plans and may adopt relevant actions from a PPS and/or complement these with additional investment priorities.

The FA: A Thriving Grassroots Game (2024-28)

This new strategy aims to enhance participation, improve facilities and create a more inclusive and enjoyable environment for players, coaches, volunteers and officials.

The strategy focuses on five main areas:

- 1. Improving Playing Choice and Opportunity**
Creating diverse and flexible playing options to cater to all individuals.
- 2. Delivering Equal Opportunities for Women and Girls**
Ensuring every woman and girl has access to football in a safe and enjoyable setting.
- 3. Building and Improving Facilities**
Increasing the quality and quantity of grassroots football pitches and facilities.
- 4. Tackling Poor Behaviour**
Reducing incidents of poor behaviour and discrimination, promoting positive conduct.
- 5. Developing a Valued Network of Volunteers, Coaches, and Referees**
Growing and supporting the grassroots workforce to sustain the game's future.

To achieve these priorities, the FA has identified three key drivers:

- ◀ **Supporting Thriving Community Clubs**
Assisting clubs to grow sustainably and provide excellent football experiences.
- ◀ **Connecting and Serving Participants**
Enhancing digital services to offer personalized and accessible opportunities.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

◀ **Progressing the Game's Governance**

Implementing high governance standards to serve all football participants effectively.

These initiatives are developed in collaboration with County FAs to ensure local needs are met.

The FA's strategy aims to transform grassroots football by addressing key challenges, investing in facilities, and promoting inclusivity and positive behaviour.

The FA: Inspiring Positive Change Through Football (2024-28)²⁰

The FA launched its new Strategy which aims to 'take English football forward, with clear focus on the biggest opportunities and challenges that need to be addressed'.

To achieve this, eight key strategic priorities are identified which include four 'Game Changer' objectives and four 'Drivers' objectives as detailed below. The strategy also outlines how The FA's plans to achieve these objectives.

Game Changers:

- ◀ Win tournaments
 - ◀ Develop pathways
 - ◀ Support elite players
 - ◀ Enhance environments
 - ◀ Collaborate and influence
- ◀ A game free from discrimination
 - ◀ Boost representation
 - ◀ Drive more inclusion
 - ◀ Tackle discrimination
- ◀ Equal opportunities for women & girls
 - ◀ Increase school participation
 - ◀ Increase club participation
 - ◀ Enhance women's competitions
 - ◀ Support female coaches and referees
- ◀ Transform the pitch landscape
 - ◀ Sustain and grow high-quality grass pitches
 - ◀ Deliver new 3G pitches
 - ◀ Support inclusivity accessibility and environmental sustainability of facilities

Drivers:

- ◀ Thriving community clubs
 - ◀ Develop club opportunities
 - ◀ Support the current and future generation of club leaders
 - ◀ Equip clubs to add long-term value to local communities
- ◀ World-class FA cups
 - ◀ Broaden commercial appeal
 - ◀ Evolve the Adobe Women's FA Cup format
- ◀ Participant led
 - ◀ Place participants at the centre of decision making
 - ◀ Create flexible models to meet participants needs
 - ◀ Provide digital tools to improve experiences
- ◀ Progressive governance
 - ◀ Support integration of women's and girls' football
 - ◀ Support governance of the NLS

²⁰ [FA Strategy 2024-2028: The Football Association](#)

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

- ◀ Support our County Football Associations (CFAs)

The FA: Reaching Higher (2024-28)²¹

The FA's 2020-2024 strategy, 'Inspiring Positive Change', coincided with record growth across the sport, with more women and girls playing, coaching, officiating and supporting the flourishing professional game than ever before.

This strategy aims to build on the success achieved to date and strives to continue working to unlock the full potential of the women's and girls' game. The strategy outlines four strategic priorities as seen below.

1. **Build and Protect the Uniqueness of the Women's Game:** Continue to honour the history of women's football and recognise those who have contributed towards making it so unique, whilst ensuring the distinct qualities and unique culture of the women's game are valued and protected.
2. **Win a Major Tournament:** Continue to be world-leaders both on and off the pitch, developing players and building an inclusive talent pathway system to make football more equal and accessible at every level of the game, ensuring the England pathway and teams represent society.
3. **Build Robust, High-Quality Competition:** Create compelling competition structures and support clubs to develop to the appropriate level within the game, while enabling people to grow and develop within The FA's competition structures.
4. **Deliver Equal Opportunities for Women and Girls to Play:** Sustain growth in schools whilst tackling inequalities. Continue to grow the number of female teams and deliver vibrant league offers whilst extending and enhancing the sessional football offer. The ambition is for 90% of schools to deliver equal access for girls to play football in key stages two and three.

There are five golden threads which weave through each of the four strategic priorities and across all levels of the women's and girls' game, which will be instrumental for delivering the next phase of growth by 2028:

1. **Female Health and Wellbeing:** Develop the game to support women and girls with their health and wellbeing needs, providing them with environments in which they can thrive.
2. **Safeguarding:** Support the evolution of an ever-safer culture across the women's and girls' game.
3. **Refereeing:** Grow and nurture a new generation of referees who are representative of our society.
4. **Coaching:** Support and develop brilliant coaches capable of unleashing every player's potential in a safe and inclusive game.
5. **Diversity and Inclusion:** Ensure the game is more reflective of our society.

²¹ [The FA Womens & Girls Football Strategy 2024-28](#)

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Inspiring Generations – Cricket’s Game-wide Strategy (2025 – 28)^[1]

In October 2024 the ECB released its updated Inspiring Generations – Cricket’s Game-wide Strategy (2025–28). Cricket in England and Wales has seen transformative growth since the publication of its previous strategy Inspiring Generation (2020-24). Its new strategy represents an evolution of its plans, however, many of its previous themes are still relevant. Its main purpose is to say ‘Cricket is a game for me’ through its vision:

- ◀ To become the most inclusive team sport
- ◀ To grow and unite the game
- ◀ Lead the game through global transformation

It aims to obtain this vision through six key objectives

- ◀ Make cricket diverse, inclusive and accessible
- ◀ Transform Women’s and Girl’s cricket
- ◀ Connect communities through play
- ◀ Inspire through winning England teams
- ◀ Support a thriving and sustainable men’s and women’s professional game
- ◀ Win the battle for attention

Underpinning these six ambitions are a series of enablers that cut-across multiple areas of the game, alongside Cricket’s Core Values.

The Rugby Football Union Strategic Plan (2021)

The RFU has released its new strategic vision, which is to achieve ‘a successful and thriving game across England’. The strategy can be found [here](#).

It identifies four ‘Game Objectives’ and four ‘Driving Objectives’, to form priority focuses for the strategy. It believes that these objectives will make the greatest substantive improvements to the game and investment will be aligned to these areas.

Game objectives

- ◀ **Enjoyment** – Enable positive player experiences on and off the field.
- ◀ **Winning England** – Create the best possible high-performance system for England Rugby.
- ◀ **Welfare** – Enhance players welfare to protect and support the wellbeing of players.
- ◀ **Flourishing rugby communities** – Support clubs to sustain and grow themselves and to reflect society.

Driving objectives

- ◀ **Diversity & inclusion** – Drive rugby union in England to reflect the diversity of society.
- ◀ **Understand** – Build a deep understanding of players, volunteers and fans to shape the future of the game.
- ◀ **Connect** – Connect with and grow the rugby community and create exceptional experiences.
- ◀ **Commercial & operational excellence** – Ensure a sustainable and efficient business model delivered by an inspired workforce.

^[1]<https://resources.ecb.co.uk/ecb/document/2024/10/22/19a925d7-3c92-4a36-8e7b-f49cb470377f/ECB-Inspiring-Generations-2025-2028.pdf>

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

A number of aims, identified as key to the achievement of these main objectives, are particularly relevant to facilities. The provision of good quality and suitable rugby union facilities will help to achieve these aims and in turn objectives:

- ◀ *Enjoyment* – Improve accessibility for women and girls across the game.
- ◀ *Enjoyment* – Make the game inclusive and attractive for 14 to 18 year olds.
- ◀ *Flourishing rugby communities* – Provide support to help clubs maximise the benefit from their facilities and assets.
- ◀ *Diversity & Inclusion* – Improve the diversity of all facets of our game and continue to create an inclusive environment for all.

Rugby Football League – National Community Facilities Strategy (2024 – 2030)

The RFL has developed a new National Facilities Strategy which will guide investment into the game from 2024 through to 2030. The proposed investment package aligned to the Strategy will not only transform facilities, but also bolster the sport's social impact, reinforcing its position as a vital part of the nation's sporting and social fabric.

The four focus areas of the Strategy are:

- ◀ **Security of Tenure** – allowing clubs to plan for the long-term
- ◀ **Accessible and Inclusive Facilities** – providing suitable facilities for all and creating safe spaces for the wider community
- ◀ **Adequate and Appropriate Pitch Provision**– investment both in playing surfaces, and in upskilling a volunteer workforce to maintain them
- ◀ **Sustainability**– both environmental and financial

The Strategy will deliver on the four focus areas by delivering against a set of five recommendations which are set within the Strategy and are detailed below. These recommendations reflect the wider strategic aspirations across the sport and are for the RFL to work to deliver.

- ◀ **Focus community clubs**
 - ◀ Ensure the RFL has sufficient capacity and resource to deliver the recommendations identified within this Strategy to support its community clubs.
 - ◀ Ensure all community clubs have the knowledge and resource to provide good quality grass pitches.
 - ◀ Supporting clubs to have good quality changing and social facilities which can support the scale of need at each club. These must be inclusive for all participants and benefit target user groups such as women and girls' participants.
 - ◀ Ensure clubs can accommodate a sustainable operational programme for clubhouses to ensure the longevity of provision.
 - ◀ Work with clubs and key partners to increase the number of clubs with secured tenure of their club facilities.
 - ◀ Develop a dedicated funding programme which is specifically aimed at supporting clubs to gain security of tenure at their respective site.
 - ◀ Highlight success stories and best practices from community clubs to inspire others and showcase the positive impact of these efforts.
- ◀ **Deliver positive social and environmental impact**
 - ◀ Support clubs through training and advice on how to promote facilities for non-rugby league purposes.
 - ◀ Work with Active Partnerships across England to enable higher usage and activation of rugby league assets for non-rugby league activity.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

- ◀ Prioritise clubs for wellbeing hubs which may offer the widest social benefit (relative to local need) – particularly those in high deprivation areas.
- ◀ Use the activation of club facilities as a prerequisite to capital funding for club house improvements / new development.
- ◀ Collaborative working with sports partners and key agencies
- ◀ **Collaborative working with sports partners and key agencies**
 - ◀ Ensure continued working with Sport England and National Governing Bodies of other sports to capitalise on shared investment opportunities.
 - ◀ Work with the Football Foundation to maximise Multi-Sport funding opportunities – utilising the framework provided in this Strategy as the baseline of shared investment.
 - ◀ Work closely with Active Partnerships in areas with high club densities to establish opportunities for pitch access via the Open School Facilities programme.
- ◀ **Technological solutions**
 - ◀ Ensure the RFL gathers greater levels of information from clubs via affiliation. To include (e.g.) security of tenure information and an integrated self-assessment audit of community facilities.
 - ◀ Continue expanding the use and application of PitchPower so all clubs can self-assess provision and support clubs to make positive contributions to improving the quality of grass pitches.
 - ◀ Promote technological solutions which progress clubs into being more sustainable, energy efficient and ensure their long-term viability as community assets.
 - ◀ Create a platform or resource hub where clubs can access information on funding opportunities, facility management, and sustainable operational practices.
- ◀ **Working with Charitable Community Organisations and Wheelchair Rugby League**
 - ◀ Develop an investment package to support the operational delivery of professional club foundation led wheelchair activity focusing on storage and logistical solutions.
 - ◀ Prioritise capital investment into community club sites which also accommodate professional club foundations as tenants for community Rugby League activity.
 - ◀ Begin work on the feasibility of developing a national wheelchair centre which includes exploring partnership opportunities with other sports to maximise multisport value and return on investment.
 - ◀ Consult with professional club foundations, where possible, to understand the need for 3G access and work to ascertain sufficient access hours during peak times of need.

England Hockey Strategy (2023 – 2028)

England Hockey's Facilities Strategy can be found [here](#).

Aiming to make hockey more noticeable, relevant, and accessible to all, England Hockey have launched their new strategy 'Creating a Future for Our Game Together' on 3rd October. The new strategy is a continued effort to re-engage with the current hockey community and to reach out to potential newcomers to introduce them to hockey.

Underpinning the strategy and of importance to the hockey community are four values, "collaborate inclusively, care for people and places, play with spirit win with grace and resilient in everything we do".

The strategy is the culmination of two years consultation with various stakeholders across the sport and larger sporting sector. Hockey will be guided by five key objectives over the next five years.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

1. **Lead Positive Change:** to create and champion positive change within the community by broadening and widening the engagement of the sport and making it more ethnically and culturally diverse.
2. **Meaningful Growth:** to make sure that our sport thrives and grows into the future, we want to nurture a love of hockey within a more diverse group of young players and communities to reflect society.
3. **Drive Visible Impact:** to produce and release high-quality, engaging content that shares the love of the game, captures the passion, builds a deep connection and amplifies the voices of the hockey community with new and existing participants.
4. **Responsible Leadership:** to provide forward thinking, compassionate and inclusive leadership. Leadership that fosters trust within physically and psychologically safe environments and which puts players, the community and sustainability at heart of every decision.
5. **Inspirational International Success:** inspirational club and national teams delivering podium success in Europe and on the world stage, underpinned by a thriving talent system and domestic game.

The strategy aligns with Sport England's 'Uniting the movement' strategy and UK Sport's Powering Success, Inspiring Impact' strategic plan.

LTA – Tennis Opened Up 2024-2026

The LTA's vision for 2024-2026, is Tennis Opened Up. Its mission is to transform communities through tennis, by making it by making it relevant, accessible, welcoming, enjoyable and inspiring. The objectives of the LTA are:

- ◀ Put tennis at the heart of communities.
- ◀ Grow and diversity our audience of fans and players.
- ◀ Attract and engage the tennis workforce for the next generation.
- ◀ Be one of the most respected nations in the world for player development.
- ◀ Secure a sustainable future for tennis in Britain.

These objectives will be delivered through six strategies: Invest, Grow, Engage, Perform, Diversity and Lead. The LTA will implement a facilities strategy with a focus on parks, covered courts, Community Indoor Tennis Centres and Padel.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

APPENDIX 2: NON TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT SHEETS

Grass football pitch non-technical assessment

Non Technical Visual Quality Assessment - Football							
Please complete one form per pitch							
Site reference:				Site Name:			
6 figure grid reference				Pitch ID(s):			
Number of football pitches on site:				Pitch size:	(Adult 11v11, Youth 11v11, 9v9, 7v7 Mini, 5v5, 7v7)		
Availability				Are any other pitches marked out over this pitch?	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Weather at time of visit & date of visit				If yes, please indicate what pitches are overmarked? (i.e. one youth pitch is overmarked on a adult pitch) in Pitch Issues			
Pitch Issues:							
Assessment Criteria (please rank each of the following aspects for each pitch with an 'X' in the coloured box to the right of the chosen answer)							
Element (Gathered via a non technical site assessment)	Rating					Guidance notes	Comments
Playing surface							
Grass Cover	Good >80%		Adequate 60-80%		Poor <60%		Advice is to walk through the middle of the pitch
Does the pitch meet The FA minimum size?	Yes - as per the FA recommended size		Within FA recommended guidelines		No		See size chart below for recommended dimensions
Slope of pitch (gradient and cross fall)	Flat		Moderate		Severe		
Length of grass	Good		Too long		Too short		Good 30mm-50mm, Too long 51mm plus, Too short 29mm less
Evenness of pitch	Good		Adequate		Poor		
Problem Areas: Evidence of dog fouling/glass/litter/vehicle tracks	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots		
Problem Areas: Evidence of unofficial use/damage to the surface	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots		
Problem Areas: Evidence of poor drainage	No evidence of standing water or poor drainage		Some evidence of poor drainage		Yes, poor drainage		
Maintenance programme (information from maintenance schedule/grounds team/club survey)							Section total
Grass cutting	Yes, as required		Yes, but not frequent enough		No		
Seeded	Yes, as required		Not known		No		
Aerated (per year)	Three or more times		Once/ twice		No		
Sand dressed	Within the last 12 months		Within the last 2 years		No		
Fertilised	Within the last 12 months		Within the last 2 years		No		
Weed killed	Within the last 12 months		Within the last 2 years		No		
							Section total
NB If none of this information is provided you should assume that only the grass is being cut and the rest of the maintenance items should be marked with the lowest score option.							
PITCH SCORE				0.0%	RATING		Poor

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Grass rugby pitch non-technical assessment

Non Technical Visual Quality Assessment - Rugby Union										
Please complete one form per pitch										
Site reference										Site Name
6 figure grid reference										Pitch ID(s)
Date of assessment										Pitch size
Number of pitches on site										(Senior, Mini/Midi)
Availability										Are any other pitches marked out over this pitch?
Community Use - used, Community Use - unused, No Community Use, Available but Unused										
Weather at time of visit										If yes, please indicate what pitches are overmarked? (i.e. one mini/ midi pitch is overmarked on a senior pitch) in Pitch Issues
General comments/observations										
Assessment Criteria (please rank each of the following aspects for each pitch with an 'X' in the coloured box to the right of the chosen answer)										
Qualitative information (gathered on site)	Rating						Guidance notes	Comments		
Grass Coverage	Good		Adequate		Poor		>90% = good. <80% = poor			
Size of pitch	Acceptable (between recommended minimum and maximum sizes)		Flag for further investigation (below recommended minimum size)		Unacceptable (above maximum size)		Maximum size = width 70m, goal line to goal line 100m, in goal area 22m, run offs 5m where practical. Recommended minimum size = width 68m, goal line to goal line 94m, in goal area 6m, run offs 5m where practical.			
Length of grass	Too Long		Good		Too short		Too long = >75mm. Too short = <50mm			
Problem Areas: Evidence of glass/litter/vehicle tracks/dog fouling	None		Yes - some		Yes lots					
GOALPOSTS										
Are goalposts installed?	Yes		No							
Is there any obvious danger on posts?	Yes		No							
Are the posts stable in the ground?	Yes		No							
Is the crossbar fixed securely?	Yes		No							
Is there evidence of rust on the posts?	Yes		No							
ANCILLARY										
Is the pitch floodlit?	Yes		No							
Is there changing accommodation for the pitch?	Yes		No							
Is an appropriate level of car parking available?	Yes		No							
Pitch maintenance (information gathered via club survey/ pitch provider consultation) - refer to the guidance notes below										
Aerated (per year)	three or more times		twice		once		never			
Sand dressed (per year)	three or more times		twice		once		never			
Fertilised (per year)	three or more times		twice		once		never			
Weed killed (per year)	three or more times		twice		once		never			
Chain harrowed	every week		fortnightly		monthly		never			
Drainage										
	Natural (inadequate) SCORE D0		Natural (adequate) SCORE D1		Pipe drained SCORE D2		Pipe and slit drained SCORE D3		Unknown SCORE D0	
										Pitch Maintenance Score
										Natural (adequate) = 3 or less training/match cancellations per season Natural (inadequate) = 4 or more training match cancellations per season *Based on a pipe drained system at 5m centres that has been installed in the previous eight years **Based on a slit drained system at 1m centres completed in the previous five years.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Artificial grass pitches non-technical assessment (including third generation turf pitches)

Non Technical Visual Quality Assessment - Artificial grass pitches									
Site reference			Site Name						
6 figure grid reference			Pitch ID						
Number of AGPs on site			Pitch size	Full (i.e., 100m x 60m)			Half (i.e., 60m x 40m)		
Availability			Community Use - used, Community Use - unused, No Community Use, Available but Unused						
Type of pitch	Long Pile 3G (65mm with shock pad) Sand Dressed		Medium Pile 3G (55-60mm) Sand Filled		Short Pile 3G (40mm) Water based				
Assessment Criteria (please rank each of the following aspects for each pitch with an 'X' in the coloured box to the right of the chosen answer)									
Element	Rating						Guidance notes	Site comments	
Age of Surface	less than 2 years		2-5 years		5-10 years		over 10 years		
Evidence of moss/lichen (all surfaces)	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Loose gravel (macadam surface)	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Holes or rips in surface (macadam, art. grass or polymeric surfaces)	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Grip underfoot	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Line markings - quality	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Problem Areas: Evidence of Glass/ stones/ litter	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Problem Areas: Evidence of inappropriate use	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Problem Areas: Evidence of damage to surface	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots		If no evidence, assume none.		
Access for disabled players. i.e.: ramps onto courts, width of gates	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Condition of posts/ nets/ goals	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Surrounding fencing	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Adequate safety margins (w here appropriate)	Yes - fully		No- but adequate		No - not adequate				
Is the AGP floodlit?	Yes		No						
Is the AGP left open at all times?	Yes		No						
Are there dug outs?	Yes		No						
Are there youth shelters/spectator seating around AGP?	Yes		No						
Is there changing accommodation for the AGP?	Yes		No						
Maximum score	93		Scoring:	Poor <=50		Total Score	0		
				Standard 51-79		Potential Rating	Poor		
				Good 80+					

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Cricket non-technical assessment

Element	Rating			Guidance notes	Comments (use the guidance notes to help complete)
About the cricket outfield					
Grass coverage	Good	Acceptable	Poor	CBEX falls below the ECD basic standard	
Length of grass	Good	Acceptable	Poor	Ideally 12mm - 25mm	
Evenness	Even	Uneven		Ball should run without deviation or ramp	
Evidence of Dog fouling/glass/stones/litter?	None	Yes	Immediate action required	Mag also wish to refer to sewer anomaly. If yes, refer to sewer/cater/tille manager	
Evidence of Unofficial use?	None	Yes	Immediate action required	eg informal, casual use, unbooked use, kids kickabout etc. Mag also wish to refer to sewer anomaly. If yes, refer to sewer/cater/tille manager	
Evidence of Damage to surface?	None	Yes	Immediate action required	eg from animals/vehicles - rabbit, gulls and fawns etc mag also wish to refer to sewer anomaly	
Artificial wickets					
Is the wicket and surrounds married in	Yes	No		There should be no trip points	
Evenness of wicket	Even	Uneven		There should be no unevenness in surface levels	
Stump holes	Yes	No		Should be no wider than a standard cricket ball	
Moss or materials in the surface	Yes	No		There should be none	
Rips or surface lifting	Yes	No		If "yes" contact site manager	
Surface worn in high traffic areas - creases	Yes	No		If "yes" contact site manager	
Hardness - does the ball rebound when thrown straight down?	Yes	No			
Grass wickets					
Presence of line markings	Yes	No			
Evidence of rolling - is wicket smooth and uniform	Yes	No			
Evidence of straight cut and height	Yes	No		3mm on wicket wicket/12mm rest of square	
Evidence of repair work on old wickets	Yes	No			
Grass coverage (square and wickets)	Yes	No		CBEX falls below the ECD basic standard	
Hardness - does a cricket ball thrown straight down into the surface rebound?	Yes	No			
Changing/ Pavilion					
Umpires provision	Yes	No			
Toilets	Yes	No			
Hot/cold water	Yes	No			
Heating	Yes	No			
Condition of building	Good	Acceptable	Requires attention		
NTP					
Is the wicket and surrounds married in (no trip points)	Yes	No			
Evenness of wicket (no contours in surface levels)	Even	Uneven			
Stump holes (no wider than a standard cricket ball)	Yes	No			
Moss or materials in the surface (should be none)	Yes	No			
No rips or surface lifting	Yes	No			
Surface worn in high traffic areas - crease	Yes	No			
Hardness - does the ball rebound when thrown straight down	Yes	No			
Is the steel frame/posts upright?	Yes	No			
Are steel cross members detached?	Yes	No			
Are all posts and net fixings in place?	Yes	No			
Can a ball pass through any part of the netting?	Yes	No			
Is appropriate safety/supervisory signage present?	Yes	No			

