

Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) Part 2

Delivery Framework and Action Plan

Why are we bringing this forward?

From Strategy to Delivery

- Cabinet adopted the PPS in April 2026
- Part 1 identified current and future need
- Part 2 sets out how partners will respond
- Provides the delivery framework for the next five years
- Creates a clear programme of projects and investment priorities



What did the PPS tell us?

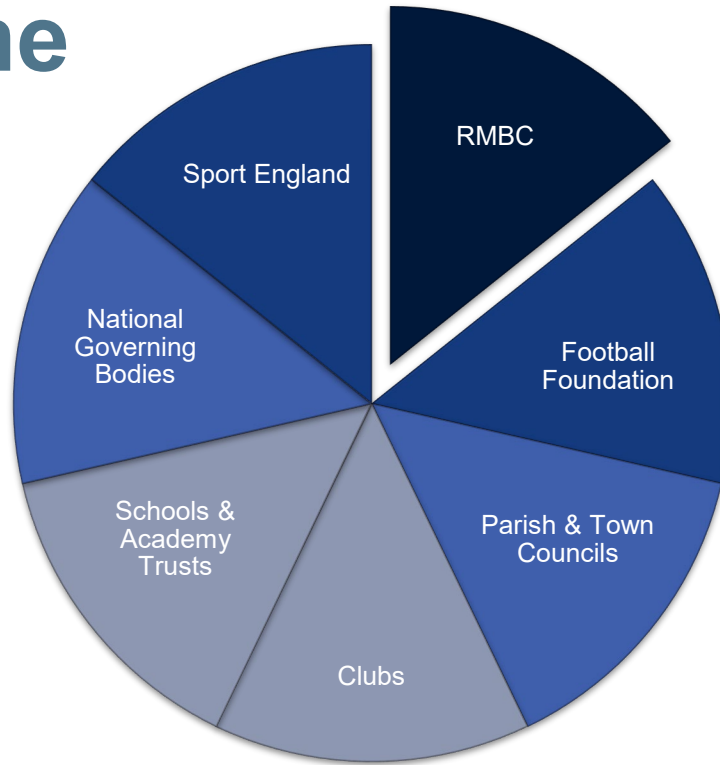
Current pressures

- Football overplay
- Lack of 3G provision
- Cricket growth pressures
- Rugby capacity challenges
- Poor/missing ancillary facilities

Future pressures

- Population growth
- Increased participation
- More demand from women and girls
- Increased expectations around facility quality

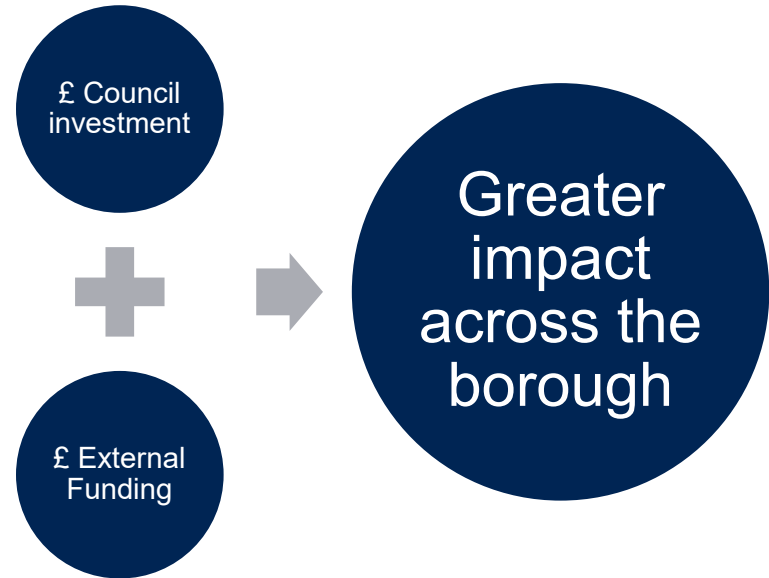
This is a Partnership Delivery Programme



Significant Investment Opportunity

The PPS strengthens our ability to:

- Secure external funding
- Support funding bids
- Attract investment from national governing bodies
- Secure developer contributions
- Prioritise projects based on evidence



Women and Girls Participation

- **Football**
 - Continued growth in girls football teams
 - Increased demand for training and match facilities
- **Rugby**
 - Growth in female participation and development pathways
- **Cricket**
 - Expansion of women's and girls' cricket
 - Need for additional pitch capacity and improved changing facilities

- Appropriate changing facilities
- Safe and welcoming environments
- Access to quality pitches
- Evening training opportunities

What are the Priority Projects?

1. Football Capacity & Overplay Programme
2. 3G Football Pitch Portfolio Programme
3. Cricket Growth & Capacity Programme
4. Community Use Agreements with Schools
5. Ancillary Facilities Improvement Programme

Herringthorpe Playing Fields

- Identified as one of the highest priority investment opportunities
- Existing sporting hub
- Supports football and rugby demand with space for other sports and recreational activities
- Potential to address multiple PPS priorities
- Opportunity to create additional capacity
- Opportunity to improve facility quality
- Potential to attract significant external investment
- Opportunity to link with the Athletics Stadium



Opening Up More Facilities

- Increases capacity quickly
- Requires lower capital investment
- Supports local communities
- Creates opportunities in areas of demand



How much will this cost the Council?

- Many projects are externally funded
- PPS helps unlock investment
 - Sport England
 - Developer contributions S106
 - Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)
- Future schemes subject to separate business cases and governance

Wider Benefits for Rotherham

Health

- Increased physical activity

Communities

- Stronger clubs and volunteering

The PPS Supports

- Physical health
- Mental wellbeing
- Social inclusion
- Community resilience

Place

- Improved facilities and local pride

Children & Young People

- More opportunities to participate

Risks if we do nothing

- Continued overplay
- Declining pitch quality
- Lost funding opportunities
- Growing participation demand cannot be met
- Increased facility deficit



Summary & Questions

- Evidence-based priorities
- Partnership-led delivery
- Significant investment opportunity
- Supporting growth in participation
- Meeting demand for women and girls
- Strategic focus on priority sites
- Delivering broader health and community benefits

