



ROYAL BOROUGH OF KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES OUTDOOR LEISURE FACILITIES STRATEGY

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY ASSESSMENT REPORT MARCH 2023

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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GLOSSARY

3G	Third Generation (artificial turf)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
BUCS	British Universities Colleges Sport
DCMS	Department for Culture, Media and Sport
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
GMA	Grounds Maintenance Association
HC	Hockey Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LFFP	Local Football Facility Plan
NFFS	National Football Facilities Strategy
NGB(s)	National Governing Body (of sport)
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
ONS	Office for National Statistics
OSFS	Outdoor Sport Facilities Study
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
RFL	Rugby Football League
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
U	Under

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PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

1.1: Introduction

Knight Kavanagh & Page (KKP) has been commissioned by the Council to undertake an Outdoor Leisure Facilities Strategy for the Royal Borough of Kingston-upon-Thames. This will provide the necessary robustness and direction to inform decisions affecting relevant provision across the local authority area.

The Outdoor Leisure Facilities Strategy will consist of two elements; a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) covering all pitch sports, and an Outdoor Sport Facilities Strategy (OSFS) covering all “non-pitch” sports. This document (known as the Assessment Report) forms part of the PPS, presenting a supply and demand assessment of playing pitch provision in the area. It is delivered in accordance with Sport England’s PPS Guidance, which details five stages of development:

- ◀ Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach (1)
- ◀ Stage B: Gather information and views on the 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 proceeding strategy document and Stage E ongoing once the work has been approved.

1.2: Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach

Why the Strategy is being developed

The overall aim of the Outdoor Leisure Facilities Strategy is to:

- ◀ Produce an updated PPS and establish an appropriate steering group.
- ◀ Produce an outdoor leisure facilities strategy for the Council which assesses the current and future outdoor leisure needs with input (using consultation) from residents, leisure centres, sports clubs, educational establishments, National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs) and operators of facilities, both now and in the future.
- ◀ Establish the need for high quality outdoor sports facilities in a growing and vibrant borough.
- ◀ Create a cohesive new environment with outstanding urban design.
- ◀ Assess the requirements of those stakeholders likely to commission sport and outdoor leisure services, such as Adult Social Care, Public Health, Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Education Services, to support and promote active lifestyles to allow residents to live longer, healthier, happier lives.
- ◀ Review national trends and the market for outdoor sport and leisure, assessing the likely impact of trends on the Borough over the next ten years.
- ◀ Work with partners to ensure that facilities and infrastructure are provided to support sustainable communities in Kingston.
- ◀ Provide the Council with evidenced analysis, using facility modelling, use of consultation and use of strategic planning tools to support prioritisation of resources, partnerships and focus on meeting current and future outdoor sport and leisure needs in Kingston.
- ◀ Focus on the River Thames to understand what physical activity opportunities it can bring in the future.

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In addition, the following key drivers are identified:

- ◀ To inform planning policy relating to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and provide an evidence base for responding to planning applications affecting outdoor space and playing fields.
- ◀ To establish a clear strategic pathway for improvement, investment and protection of outdoor sports facilities and playing pitches.
- ◀ To have a robust evidence base upon which to be able to apply for external funding.
- ◀ To inform development of new schools planned for the future outdoor sport and pitch provision.
- ◀ To improve the quality and capacity of existing provision, regardless of ownership or management and to drive participation.
- ◀ To assess supply and demand issues with cross-boundary usage of sites in neighbouring local authorities.
- ◀ To ensure links with the Borough's Health Needs Assessment and to recognise the sport and physical activity benefits related to outdoor sports facilities.

Another purpose of the Outdoor Leisure Facilities Strategy is to look to address a range of fundamental challenges and assess how sports facilities can be used to meet the needs of:

- ◀ A growing Kingston population, which is relatively prosperous whilst also catering for areas of high deprivation which may have different requirements.
- ◀ Health partners in addressing the cost of physical inactivity and obesity levels.
- ◀ Increased demand for facilities given the projected increase in population.
- ◀ A growing and active 'grey market' which is time rich, especially during the day.

The Outdoor Leisure Facilities Strategy will also link to the development of the Borough's Asset Strategy, the Indoor Built Facilities Strategy and support to the refresh of the Green Spaces Strategy. The key strategic themes with regard to sport and leisure in Kingston emanating from these main strategies are considered to be:

- ◀ Creating a genuinely attractive place that people enjoy visiting and using.
- ◀ Creating a cohesive new environment with outstanding urban design.
- ◀ Working with partners to ensure that facilities and infrastructure are provided to support sustainable communities in Kingston.
- ◀ Offering facilities and programmes which contribute to reducing health inequalities, improving education and skills development, and improving local economic development.
- ◀ Working in partnership with other agencies to tackle health issues.
- ◀ Supporting and promoting active lifestyles and increasing participation in sport and physical activity to allow residents to live longer, healthier, happier lives.

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 to ensure 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 study from a strategic perspective and for supporting, checking and challenging the work of the project team. The Steering Group is made up of representatives from the Council, Sport England and the relevant National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs).

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

- ◀ Be a champion for provision in the area and promote the value and importance of the work.
- ◀ Ensure implementation of the recommendations and action plan.
- ◀ Monitor and evaluate the outcomes of the study.
- ◀ Ensure that the study is kept up to date.

Scope

The scope of the PPS will focus geographically on all local provision, regardless of ownership and management arrangements. Sports included within the study are as follows:

- ◀ Football (including 3G pitches)
- ◀ Rugby union (including 3G pitches)
- ◀ Cricket
- ◀ Hockey (sand/water based pitches)

In addition, other grass pitch sports are also included where supply and/or demand has been identified. This includes rugby league, American football, Aussie rules, lacrosse, baseball/softball, Ultimate and Gaelic football.

In addition, an education section is also included to pull out the key supply and demand findings relating to schools, colleges and universities, although such information is also included within each relevant section.

Study area

The study area is the entire local authority area, with analysis areas (or sub areas) also used to allow for a more localised analysis in addition to the analysis for Kingston-upon-Thames as a whole. The four sub-areas, split via the grouping of wards boundaries, are shown in the following table and figure.

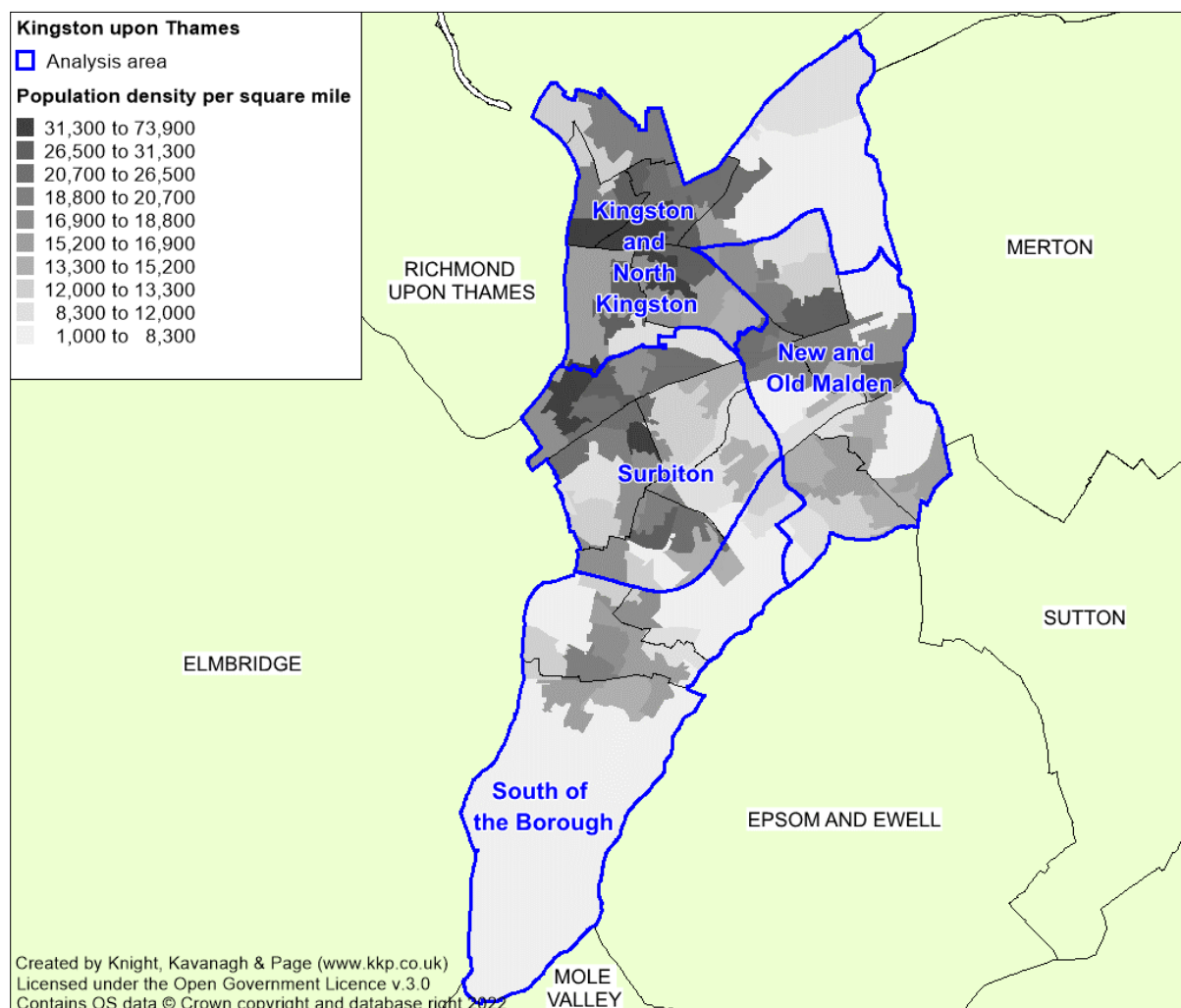
Table 1.1: Analysis area breakdown

Analysis area	Wards
Kingston	Tudor, Canbury, Grove, Norbiton, Grove
Surbiton	St Marks, Berrylands, Surbiton Hill, Alexandra
New Malden	Coombe Hill, Coombe Vale, Beverley, St James, Old Malden
Chessington	Tolworth & Hook Rise, Chessington North & Hook, Chessington South

In addition, cross-boundary aspects are also recognised in regard to neighbouring local authorities including Richmond-upon-Thames, Elmbridge, Epsom & Ewell, Sutton and Merton. This will include reference to imported and exported demand into and from Kingston-upon-Thames as well as key sites and developments that sit close to boundary lines.

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Figure 1.1 Map of Kingston-upon-Thames and its analysis areas



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 Kingston-upon-Thames 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

Sport England's guidance uses the following definitions of a playing pitch and playing field. These definitions are 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.

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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).

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 updating this initial data as well as by supplying their own affiliation data and booking information.

For each site, the following details are recorded in the project database:

- ◀ Site name, address (including postcode) and location
- ◀ 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 of the playing pitches within Kingston-upon-Thames; 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 within the study where provision is known to exist from other sources e.g., affiliation data or club/league consultation). Where provision has not been 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 pitch facilities offer the same level of access to the community. The ownership and accessibility of also influences their actual availability for community use. As such, each site included in the PPS is assigned a level of community use as follows:

- ◀ **Community use** - provision in public, voluntary, private or commercial ownership or management (including education sites) recorded as being available for hire and currently in use by teams playing in community leagues.
- ◀ **Available but unused** - provision that is available for hire but are not currently used by teams which play in community leagues; this most often applies to school sites but can also apply to sites which are expensive to hire.
- ◀ **No community use** - provision which as a matter of policy or practice is not available for hire or used by teams playing in community leagues. This should include professional club sites along with some semi-professional club sites where play is restricted to the first or second team.
- ◀ **Disused** – provision that is not being used at all by any users and is not available for community hire either. Once these sites are disused for five or more years they will then be categorised as lapsed sites.
- ◀ **Lapsed** - last known use was more than five years ago (these fall outside of Sport England's statutory remit but still have to be assessed using the criteria in paragraph 99 of the NPPF and Sport England would still challenge any proposal that does not).

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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 over a season 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.

The quality of all provision identified in the audit and the ancillary facilities supporting them are assessed as part of a PPS, regardless of ownership, management and availability. Along with capturing any details 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. The age of the facilities can also have a significant bearing on the overall quality rating.

Standard quality refers to playing provision that have, 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 poor drainage, whilst for ancillary facilities it may relate to changing rooms, no 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, the site assessments for sports played in the winter are conducted between November and February, whilst the sports played in the summer have assessments carried out between July and August.

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 this (thus establishing an "agreed quality rating").

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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 Kingston-upon-Thames 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 league 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 pitches (and ancillary provision) was available. Exported and imported demand refers to those that are playing outside of their local authority area of choice.

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 Council and the relevant NGBs), thus allowing for the collection of detailed demand information and further interrogation of key issues. For all remaining clubs, telephone consultation or an online survey (converted to postal if required) has been utilised.

Key providers and other users of provision have also been contacted, including leisure providers and charities as well as schools and further/higher education establishments. This involves face-to-face meetings with secondary schools, colleges and universities and an online survey being sent to primary schools, special schools and independent schools.

Future demand

Alongside current demand, it is important for a PPS to assess whether the future demand for provision can be met. Using Office of National Statistics (ONS) population projections and proposed housing growth, as well as likely participation growth informed through consultation, an estimate can be made of the likely future demand for the relevant facilities. Assumptions can then be made as to whether existing provision can cater for such growth.

Team generation rates are used to provide an indication as to how many people it may take to generate a team (by gender and age group). This ratio can then be applied to predicted population and housing growth to help estimate the change in demand for each sport that may arise in the future.

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Other information sources that were 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 cover the period up until 2041, in line with the Council's emerging Local Plan.

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 Kingston-upon-Thames 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 playing pitch sports, the quality and use of each pitch is assessed against recommended capacity to indicate how many match equivalent sessions provision could accommodate.

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.	

As a guide, the NGBs for football, cricket, rugby union and hockey 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 and rugby union, per day for hockey and per season for cricket and 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
	Youth pitches	4 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Mini pitches	6 per week	4 per week	2 per week
Rugby union	Natural Inadequate (D0)	2 per week	1.5 per week	0.5 per week
	Natural Adequate (D1)	3 per week	2 per week	1.5 per week
	Pipe Drained (D2)	3.25 per week	2.5 per week	1.75 per week
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	3.5 per week	3 per week	2 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	4 per season	0 per season
	One synthetic 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

No other grass pitch sports have a defined capacity guidance, although it can be assumed that a similar approach to the likes of football and rugby union should be applied. This is further detailed within the relevant sections of this report.

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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 of capacity.

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 utilising the existing stock, such as through quality improvements or through improving community access.

Once current capacity has been determined, future capacity can then also be calculated via incorporating the future demand that has been identified as well as 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 playing pitch facilities. Each provides a summary of the supply of and demand for provision, with key issues identified and an overall supply and demand analysis undertaken.

1.5: 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).

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PART 2: FOOTBALL

2.1: Introduction

Surrey FA is the primary organisation overseeing the development and governance of football in Kingston-upon-Thames. It is responsible for sustaining and growing the game across the region including participation, promoting diversity, regulating the sport for everyone to enjoy and the protection and development of facilities. However, it is not the only County FA with affiliated clubs playing in the Borough, as some clubs instead affiliate to Middlesex FA or London FA.

Working alongside the County FAs in supporting the development of facilities in Kingston-upon-Thames is the Football Foundation, which is a charity, linked to the Premier League, the FA and the Government, that helps communities improve their local football facilities through grant funding. It is committed to improving the experience of playing football for everyone involved in the game.

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
	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 of this report captures supply and demand for third generation pitches (3G pitches), which is the preferred artificial surface type for football. There is a growing demand for the use of 3G pitches for competitive football fixtures, in addition to training needs, especially to accommodate mini and youth football.

Local Football Facility Plans (LFFPs)

To support in delivery of both the current and superseding FA National Games Strategy, the FA commissioned a nationwide consultancy project which has now been completed. As part of this, a LFFP has been produced for every local authority across England, with each plan being unique to its area as well as being diverse in its representation.

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 Football Foundation to inform and direct an estimated one billion pounds of investment into football facilities over the next ten years.

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Each LFFP builds upon PPS findings (where present and current) regarding the formal and affiliated game as well as including strategic priorities for investment across small-sided football (including recreational and indoor activity). The LFFP also incorporated consultation with groups outside of formal football, as well as under-represented communities. This included those which may be key partners with regards to using football for behavioural change, plus groups which may be key drivers of FA priorities around participation in the likes of women and girls' football, disability football and futsal.

The LFFP for Kingston-upon-Thames was produced in 2019. As it is a 'live' document, any future revision of the LFFP for the Borough will consider the findings of this study as an up-to-date supply and demand assessment to inform priorities. LFFPs identify key projects to be delivered and act as an investment portfolio for projects that require funding.

Linked to the above, it is important to recognise that the 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. Consequently, it cannot be used in place of this study and is not an accepted evidence base for site change of use or disposal. A LFFP does, however, build on available/existing local evidence and strategic plans.

Consultation

A total of 73 affiliated football clubs are based in Kingston-upon-Thames. Of these, 42 responded to consultation requests, which represents a club response rate of 58% and a team response rate of 79%. The majority of unresponsive clubs are small clubs fielding just one or two teams.

2.2: Supply

The audit identifies a total of 112 football pitches across 30 sites in Kingston-upon-Thames. Of these, 96 pitches are available at some level for community use (although not necessarily used) across 24 sites. This means that only the following six sites have pitches that are fully unavailable for community use:

- ◆ Chelsea Football Club (Kingsmeadow)
- ◆ Coombe Boys School
- ◆ Fulham Football Club Training Ground
- ◆ Knollmead Primary School
- ◆ Malden Parochial C of E Primary School
- ◆ Rokeby School Sports Ground

The table below shows the breakdown of the pitches available for community use. As seen, the South of the Borough Analysis Area has the most pitches (48), followed by the New & Old Malden Analysis Area (21 pitches). The Surbiton Analysis Area has the fewest pitches (10).

Table 2.2: Summary of pitches available for community use

Analysis area	Pitch type					Total
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
Kingston & North Kingston	8	4	2	3	-	17
New & Old Malden	12	2	1	6	-	21
South of the Borough	18	8	7	9	6	48
Surbiton	8	1	1	-	-	10
Total	46	15	11	18	6	96

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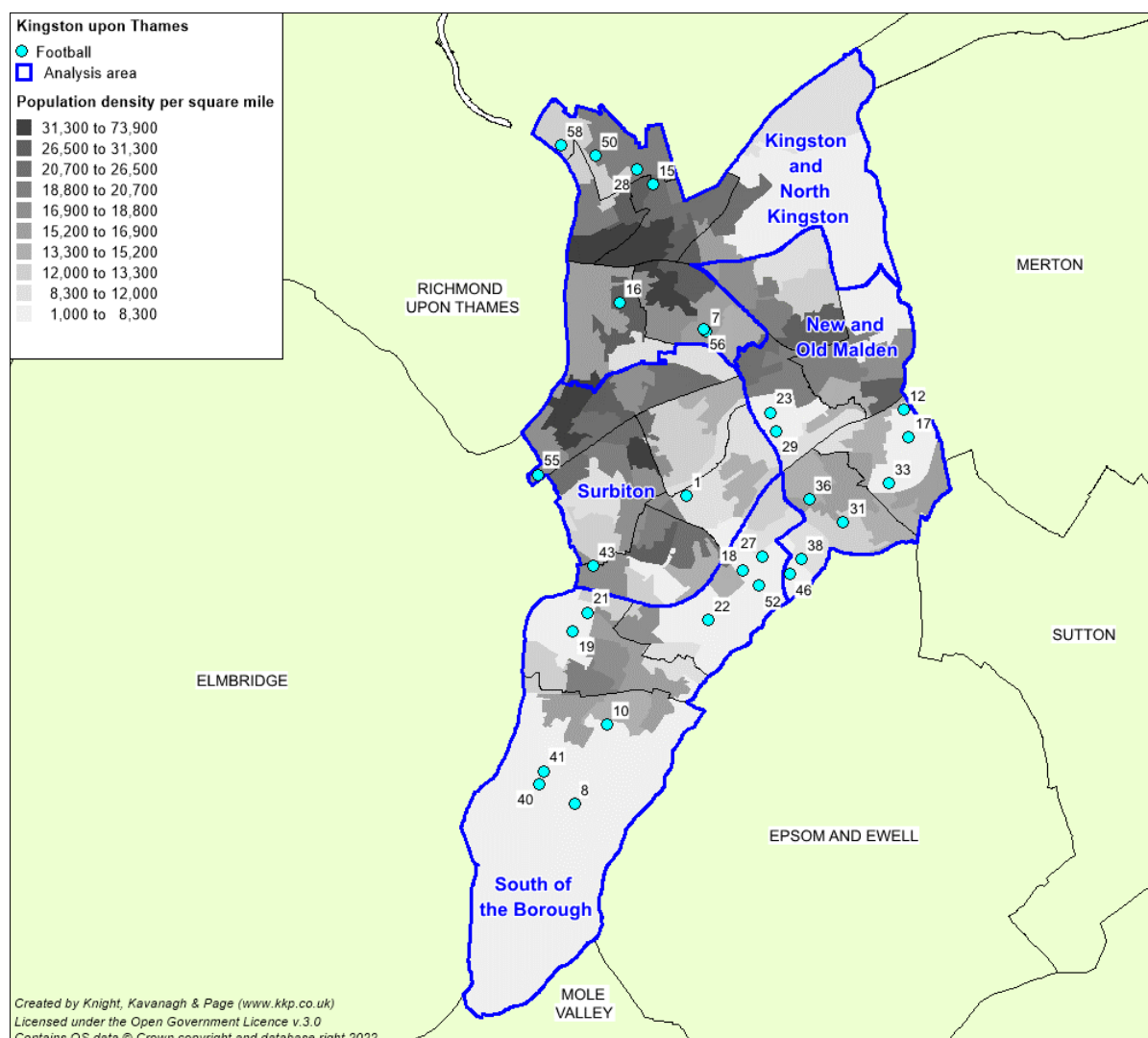
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As also seen in the above table, there are a large number of adult pitches (46) compared to other pitch sizes, which reflects high demand for adult football. In contrast, there are only six dedicated mini 5v5 pitches supplied, all of which are in the South of the Borough Analysis Area.

There are five fewer pitches identified currently when compared to the previous PPS, adopted in 2014. This is predominately due to some school sites marking out fewer pitches, although pitches were also previously marked out at Beverley Park.

Figures 2.1 identifies grass football pitches currently servicing Kingston-upon-Thames, regardless of community use. For a key to the maps, see Table 2.14.

Figure 2.1: Location of football pitches in Kingston-upon-Thames



Additional provision

There are several sites located just outside of Kingston-upon-Thames that require consideration as they all accommodate, or are capable of accommodating, significant demand from the Borough. This particularly applies to Commons Extension Sports Ground, Colliers Wood Football Club and Wibbandune Sports Ground, all of which are technically located in Merton. They are in very close proximity to the Borough, situated just on the other side of the A3.

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Whilst the sites are discounted from any analysis within this report, they require continued consideration due to their location and accessibility for Kingston-upon-Thames residents. This is especially the case for Commons Extension Sports Ground and Wibbandune Sports Ground as both are very large sites with a considerable number of pitches.

Informal provision

There are a number of sites identified in Kingston-upon-Thames that do not have official football pitches marked out but could have the capacity to provide pitches if required. Many of these sites contain a solitary goalpost or goalposts of an unofficial size and are likely to receive some level of informal use:

- ◀ Athelstan Recreation Ground
- ◀ Green Lane Recreation Ground
- ◀ Knollmead Playground
- ◀ RAF Chessington
- ◀ Risborough Green
- ◀ Woodview

Disused/lapsed provision

No disused/lapsed sites that previously provided football pitches have been identified in Kingston-upon-Thames. However, as mentioned above, some sites now mark out fewer pitches than previously, or now mark out no football pitches despite still being in use as playing field sites for other sports. Using Beverley Park as an example, it no longer provides for football but does still cater for cricket demand.

Management and security of tenure

The table below details the management of all football sites in Kingston-upon-Thames with the main operators being education providers and the Council. The remaining sites are managed by clubs or commercial entities (e.g., Goals).

Table 2.3: Football pitch sites by management type

Club	Number of football pitch sites		
	Council	Education	Other
4	12	12	2

A site is only thought to have secure tenure if it has a long-term lease agreement in place or a guarantee that pitches will continue to be provided over the next three years. As such, all local authority sites in Kingston-upon-Thames provide security of tenure as continued community use is ensured through an ongoing commitment for sports and leisure facilities to be provided. Furthermore, the Council has an adopted Community Asset Transfer Policy which sets out guidelines that can enable clubs and other community organisations to take on the management of provision.

Chessington & Hook United FC reports that it has a 25-year lease agreement with the Council at its site and does not report any issues with this arrangement. Agreements are also in place at Churchfields Recreation Ground, Dinton Field and Latchmere Park for use by Kingston Little League and The Premier & Primary Junior Boys League, although this is nearing expiry for the former.

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In contrast, security of tenure is not provided at any sites with development pressures or where lease arrangements are coming to an end as there is no guarantee that they will continue to be provided in the future. Based on this, most education sites do not provide secure use as no long-term community use agreements are in place, meaning access can be stopped at any point.

An example of where no security of tenure is provided is at the three University sites in the Borough (Kings College Sports Ground, London of Economics Sports Ground and Tolworth Court Ground). All of these are theoretically available for community use, but this is somewhat limited due to internal access as well as partnerships with professional clubs such as Fulham FC and AFC Wimbledon.

Schools such as Southborough High School and Richard Challoner School are also well used by the community without long-term agreements in place. In contrast, a school with secure tenure is Shrewsbury House School, where a shared use agreement is in place following a recent planning and building application at its sports ground site.

Pitch quality

The quality of football pitches across Kingston-upon-Thames has been assessed via a combination of site visits (using non-technical assessments as determined by the FA), PitchPower reports (see below), and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ 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 Kingston-upon-Thames. In total, 24 pitches are rated as good quality, 32 as standard quality and the remaining 40 pitches as poor quality.

Table 2.4: Pitch quality assessments (community use pitches)

Pitch type	Good	Standard	Poor
Adult	16	20	10
Youth 11v11	1	5	9
Youth 9v9	1	1	9
Mini 7v7	6	4	8
Mini 5v5	-	2	4
Total	24	32	40

In percentage terms, 25% of the community available pitches are assessed as good quality, with 33% considered to be standard and 42% considered to be poor.

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The good quality pitches are located at the following sites:

- ◀ Kings College Sports Ground
- ◀ London School of Economics Sports Ground
- ◀ Shrewsbury House School Sports Ground
- ◀ Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University)

As seen, three of these are university sites where frequent and sophisticated maintenance regimes are applied. However, despite the good quality rating, Kingston University reports an aspiration to improve the drainage at Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University) via the installation of a new system. The existing drainage was installed in 2011 and is no longer considered adequate.

Conversely, the poor quality pitches are located at the following 10 sites:

- ◀ Alexandra Recreation Ground
- ◀ Churchfields Recreation Ground
- ◀ King George's Field
- ◀ Latchmere Park
- ◀ Southborough High School Sports Ground
- ◀ Chessington & Hook Football Club
- ◀ Dinton Field
- ◀ Kingston Road Recreation Ground
- ◀ Manor Park
- ◀ Victoria Recreation Ground

The main reasons for the poor quality ratings at the sites relate to waterlogging issues, uneven playing surfaces, signs of and wear and tear and unofficial use. Furthermore, most users of the sites report that quality has worsened in recent years, with the majority of these stating that maintenance is insufficient and/or infrequent. Eight of the 10 sites are local authority operated.

Pitch improvement

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

The tool across mobile app and desktop is open to access for 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 Football Foundation grass pitch investment, such as the Grass Pitch Maintenance fund (detailed later in this section).

PitchPower is less restricted by the seasonal window of in-season play than the non-technical assessments for the PPS, instead being able to be undertaken within a 10-month period, with assessments completed and submitted within one of three windows: September- 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 Football Foundation and Sport England agreeing alignment with the existing PPS guidance. This alignment is shown in the table below.

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Table 2.5: Agreed equivalent PPS quality rating for PQS ratings

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

In Kingston-upon-Thames, five sites have received a PitchPower assessment, with the findings of these feeding into the quality ratings of this study. The sites that have received an assessment are:

- ◀ Chessington & Hook United Football Club
- ◀ Dinton Field
- ◀ Fairfield Recreation Ground
- ◀ Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field)
- ◀ Latchmere Park

In addition to PitchPower, the FA has a general pitch improvement strategy, in partnership with the GMA. As part of this, it has a grass pitch maintenance service that can be utilised by 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 and practical solutions in a range of areas, with the simple aim of improving playing surfaces. This is designed to help clubs on sites that they themselves manage and maintain but can also be used to advise local authority-maintained sites.

The Football Foundation and the FA have also recently developed a new Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund that allows clubs and sports organisations to apply for funding for maintenance assistance, consumables and/or equipment. Whilst local authorities are currently ineligible applicants through this fund, clubs, leagues and/or charitable organisations using local authority sites can apply provided they have security of tenure.

Funding is awarded over a ten-year period for up to 66% of the total cost required to bring the pitches up to an appropriate standard, following a site assessment. The level of funding then decreases year on year, with the expectation that the Club is able to take on the works independently by the end of the term.

Over marked pitches

Over marking of pitches can cause notable damage to the surface quality and lead to overuse beyond recommended capacity. In some cases, mini pitches may be marked onto senior pitches or mini matches may be played widthways across adult or youth pitches. This can lead to targeted areas of surface damage due to a large amount of play focused on high traffic areas, particularly the middle third of the pitch.

Over marking of pitches not only influences available capacity, but it can also cause logistical issues regarding kick off times; for example, when two teams of differing age formats are due to play at the same site at the same time.

In Kingston-upon-Thames, only Weir Archer Athletics & Fitness Centre is identified as having football pitches that are formally over marked, with three mini pitches marked out over a youth 11v11 pitch. However, it is also known that mini and youth pitches are marked out at Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University) via the use of cones, with all pitches at the site currently being for adult football.

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Where football pitches are over marked by other football pitches, only the larger pitch type is considered as part of the supply (as the over marked pitches cannot be used when it is in use).

Ancillary facilities

As with pitch quality, the quality of ancillary facilities servicing football sites across Kingston-upon-Thames has been assessed on the basis of identifying good, standard and poor quality provision. Ancillary facility ratings are primarily influenced by the type and quality of amenities which are available, such as a clubhouse, changing rooms, car parking and boundary fencing.

In regard to clubhouse and changing facilities, the following sites are considered to have poor quality provision:

- ◀ Alexandra Recreation Ground
- ◀ Chessington & Hook United Football Club
- ◀ Fairfield Recreation Ground
- ◀ Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field)
- ◀ King Edwards Recreation Ground
- ◀ King George's Field
- ◀ Kingston Road Recreation Ground
- ◀ Manor Park
- ◀ Surbiton Town Sports Club
- ◀ Victoria Recreation Ground

Many of these are located at council sites, with many of the buildings such as those at Manor Park, King Edwards Recreation Ground and King George's Field requiring replacement. Substantial work is needed to modernise the facilities and to, amongst other things, make them suitable for split gender usage. Some also require enlarging, such as the provision at Victoria Recreation Ground.

In addition, Churchfields Recreation Ground is currently not serviced by any ancillary provision, with no changing or toilet facilities provided on site.

At Surbiton Town Sports Club, Alfilico Madrid FC reports that the changing facilities are not enough to service the number of teams playing at the site, whilst Chessington & Hook United FC similarly reports the site needs more changing facilities at its site. In particular, it has an aspiration for provision dedicated for females and officials.

AFC Southborough and Hook Venturers FC both report that the facilities at King Edwards Recreation Ground are inadequate. It is stated that the changing rooms are rarely open when matches are played on Sundays as no one is on site, whilst roof leakages are also proving problematic.

At Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field), modified shipping containers are used as changing facilities, which the School considers to be inappropriate, especially as only one shower is provided. As a result, it generally does not allow community access to the provision, despite the pitches being regularly in use.

Away from the poor quality facilities, JGS FC reports an issue at Goals Tolworth, stating that the Club has no access to the shower facilities on site. The provision is assessed as standard quality.

Kings College Sports Ground also has standard quality provision. The University reports an aspiration to refurbish the facilities, with a particular focus on updating the dated interiors.

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Good quality ancillary facilities have been identified at several education sites, including London School of Economics Sports Ground and Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University) as well as Richard Challoner School and Southborough High School. The university sites are all well serviced by well-maintained facilities, whereas recent refurbishment has taken place at the school sites. At Southborough High School, the renovation focus on the interior of the building, with the exterior still requiring improvement.

Away from clubhouse provision, The Royal Oak FC reports that there is inadequate car parking provision available at Alexandra Recreation Ground and Corinthian Casuals FC Youth reports the same at King George's Field. Additionally, car parking is also reported as being limited by clubs at Tiffin School Sports Centre and Chessington & Hook United Football Club.

Building conditions survey

The Council has undertaken a building conditions survey to identify improvements required at 12 of its sites and the level of investment needed to enable this. For football, the survey covers the following sites:

- ◀ Alexandra Recreation Ground
- ◀ Churchfields Recreation Ground
- ◀ Fairfield Recreation Ground
- ◀ King Edwards Recreation Ground
- ◀ Manor Park
- ◀ Victoria Recreation Ground

Each of this is assessed as having poor quality provision (or is without sufficient facilities).

Football pyramid facilities

The football pyramid is a series of interconnected leagues for adult men's football clubs in England. It begins below the football league (the National League) and comprises of six steps, with various leagues at each level and more leagues lower down the pyramid than at the top. These are then supported by regional feeder leagues, which were previously at Step 7 of the pyramid but are now not included.

The system has a hierarchical format with promotion and relegation between the levels, allowing even the smallest club the theoretical possibility of rising to the top. Clubs within the step system must adhere to ground 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 requirements do not meet the correct specifications. Ground grading assesses grounds from A to H, with 'A' being the requirement for Step 1 clubs and H being the requirement for Step 6 clubs. The general principle for clubs in the football pyramid is that they have to achieve the appropriate grade by March 31st of their first season after promotion, which therefore allows a short grace period for facilities to be brought up to standard. This, however, does not apply to clubs being promoted to Step 6 (as they must meet requirements immediately).

In Kingston-upon-Thames, there are two teams operating within the pyramid, with Kingstonian FC and Corinthian Casuals FC operating at Step 3 in the Isthmian Premier League. However, the former currently plays outside of the Borough (see exported demand section).

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Table 2.6: Kingston-upon-Thames based clubs in the football pyramid

Team	Level
Kingstonian FC	Step 3
Corinthian Casuals FC	Step 3

Women's National League System

In addition to the men's football pyramid, there is a Women's National League System which provides structure to the women's game. This ranges from Tier 1 to Tier 7, with each step requiring differing ground grading requirements.

Although women's teams are still required to meet the ground requirements set out by the FA, these differ from the men's structure. Ratings range from grade A to C, each with differing minimum requirements. Tier 1 and 2 in the Women's National League System is akin to Step 3 and 4 of the men's National League System, 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.

In Kingston-upon-Thames, Chelsea FC Women competes in the Women's Super League, which is the top tier of the female game, playing at Kingsmeadow. Fulham FC Women are located just outside of the Borough, playing home games at Motspur Park, in Merton.

2.3: Demand

In total, there are 241 affiliated teams from within 74 clubs based in Kingston-upon-Thames. Of these, 191 teams from within 58 clubs affiliate to Surrey FA, whilst 35 teams from 15 clubs affiliate to London FA and five teams from one club affiliate to Middlesex FA. However, a significant proportion of this demand currently plays outside of the Borough.

Through the audit and assessment, 159 affiliated teams from across 64 clubs are identified as currently playing regular, competitive matches on pitches within Kingston-upon-Thames. This consists of 57 senior men's, one senior women's, 60 youth boys', one youth girls' and 40 mini soccer teams. Based on this, 82 affiliated teams are currently exported to neighbouring authorities.

Included within the exported demand figures are all teams from Richmond Park Girls' FC, with all demand currently playing matches in Richmond-upon-Thames. The Club fields 12 mini and youth girls' teams as well as two adult women's teams, therefore significantly adding to the female demand identified. All of these also train within Kingston-upon-Thames.

The breakdown of teams playing matches within Kingston-upon-Thames is shown by playing format in the table below. More information on the exported activity is detailed later on within this section of the report.

Table 2.7: Summary of competitive teams currently playing in Kingston-upon-Thames

Analysis area	No. of teams playing					Total
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
Kingston & North Kingston	9	7	6	7	6	35
New & Old Malden	15	8	5	3	3	34
South of the Borough	14	21	11	11	8	65
Surbiton	20	3	-	2	-	25
Kingston-upon-Thames	58	39	22	23	17	159

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The South of the Borough Analysis Area has the highest number of teams (65), whilst the Surbiton Analysis Area has the fewest (25). This is reflective of the former having the largest supply of pitches and the latter having the fewest.

There are more adult 11v11 teams (58) when compared to other formats of play, with mini 5v5 teams (17) being the least represented. Again, this is representative of the supply of pitches across the Borough.

Additional demand

In addition to the demand identified above, Kingston Little League operates in Kingston-upon-Thames, providing an additional football structure for youth and mini play. It currently provides for six youth 11v11 teams, 12 youth 9v9 teams and 10 mini 7v7 teams, whilst also having a section known as Bantams, providing sessions for mini 5v5 age groups. It uses both Latchmere Park and Dinton Field for all activity.

The Premier & Primary Boys Football League also operates in Kingston-upon-Thames, using Churchfields Recreation Ground as a central venue. It currently caters for four mini 5v5 teams, seven mini 7v7 teams, six youth 9v9 teams and seven youth 11v11 teams.

Factoring the above demand into the summary of teams currently playing in Kingston-upon-Thames increases the total number of teams using pitches in the Borough to 211. All additional demand is seen in the Kingston & North Kingston and South of the Borough analysis areas.

Table 2.8: Summary of teams including unaffiliated demand

Analysis area	No. of teams playing					Total
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
Kingston & North Kingston	9	13	18	17	6	63
New & Old Malden	15	8	5	3	3	34
South of the Borough	14	28	17	18	12	89
Surbiton	20	3	-	2	-	25
Kingston-upon-Thames	58	52	40	40	21	211

There are also several other teams within Kingston-upon-Thames, most prominently in terms of disability football, with eight affiliated disability teams recognised across mental health, pan-disability and learning-disability formats. This includes four fielded by Kingstonian FC.

London School of Economics, Kings College London and Kingston University also all field several teams within the Borough, including female teams. This includes four BUCS teams playing at London School of Economics Sports Ground, three at Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University) and five at Kings College Sports Ground (other teams are fielded outside of the Borough). Furthermore, all three have a strong inter-mural programme that results in extra match play demand.

Professional clubs Chelsea FC, Fulham FC and AFC Wimbledon also have a strong presence across Kingston-upon-Thames, away from their affiliated demand. Chelsea FC runs programmes from schools such as Southborough High School, whilst AFC Wimbledon and Fulham FC have regular access agreements at Kings College Sports Ground and London School of Economics Sports Ground, respectively. This is for their academy set ups and denotes significant usage throughout the week.

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Participation trends

There are significantly fewer teams currently identified in Kingston-upon-Thames when compared to previous PPS data collected from the 2013/14 season. However, it must be noted that this included Commons Extension Sports Ground within the supply, which catered for a large proportion of demand, thus making it difficult to draw a comparison. That being said, it is clear that there has been some form of reduction, although not necessarily due to a loss of teams but more because a greater number of teams are now playing outside of the Borough.

In terms of clubs remaining in Kingston-upon-Thames, participation has seemingly remained relatively static, with eight clubs reporting an overall increase in team numbers and seven reporting a decrease (the remainder report no change). Within these figures, most decreases have been seen in adult football, whilst most increases have been in mini and youth football.

Imported/exported demand

As intimated above, a large number of clubs otherwise based in Kingston-upon-Thames currently export match play demand outside of the Borough. In some instances, this is not through preference and is instead due to a lack of capacity or because of perceived poor quality. However, in many cases, it is due to the proximity of other sites, including Commons Extension Sports Ground, Colliers Wood Football Club and Wibbandune Sports Ground.

Other sites accessed outside of Kingston-upon-Thames include:

- ◀ Bedfont Football Club (in Hounslow)
- ◀ Goals Wimbledon (in Merton)
- ◀ Grist's Memorial Ground (in Elmbridge)
- ◀ Grey Court School (in Richmond-upon-Thames)
- ◀ Ham Playing Fields (in Richmond-upon-Thames)
- ◀ Hampton & Richmond Borough Football Club (in Richmond-upon-Thames)
- ◀ King Georges Fields (in Richmond-upon-Thames)
- ◀ Imber Court Sports Club (in Elmbridge)
- ◀ Nescot Sports Centre (in Epsom & Ewell)
- ◀ Raynes Park Vale Football Club (in Merton)
- ◀ Tooting & Mitcham Community Sports Club (in Merton)
- ◀ Whitton Sports & Fitness Centre (in Richmond-upon-Thames)

In total, 82 teams (68 male and 14 female) are identified as being exported, which a considerable number. Clubs expressing this demand include:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ◀ AFC Kingston Youth | ◀ Barden Ballers FC |
| ◀ BCJ FC | ◀ Double H FC |
| ◀ Hook Ventures FC | ◀ Kingston Town FC |
| ◀ Kingstonian FC | ◀ Manor Athletic FC |
| ◀ Metropolitan Police Youth FC | ◀ Richmond Park Girls' FC |
| ◀ Surbiton Eagles FC | ◀ Spartan Vets FC |
| ◀ The Prince FC | |

Richmond Park Girls' FC exports 14 teams to Richmond-upon-Thames for matches due to a lack of pitch capacity within the Borough. It has an aspiration to access match playing venues within Kingston-upon-Thames and preferably wants this to be via one site with a full size 3G pitch.

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Kingstonian FC's current home ground is at Tooting & Mitcham Community Sports Club in Merton, which it shares with Tooting and Mitcham Utd FC. The Club reports a significant need to relocate back to Kingston-upon-Thames and is ideally looking to acquire its own site, with recent discussions taking place with Kingston University. The Club's first team requires a stadia pitch capable of accommodating Step 3 football.

In contrast, very little imported demand is identified, although there are some clubs that split demand across authorities.

Latent/unmet demand

Of clubs that responded to consultation, eight clubs indicate that they could field more teams if they had access to more pitches, which represents latent demand. Further details of this can be seen in the table below.

Table 2.9: Summary of latent demand

Club	Comments
A.F.C. Kingston Youth FC	The Club reports that it could field an additional mini 5v5 team, one mini 7v7 team and two youth 9v9 teams if it had access to more pitches.
Double H FC	The Club reports that it could field an additional adult men's team if it had access to more pitches.
JGS FC	The club reports that it could field an additional two youth 11v11 teams if it had access to more pitches.
Corinthian Casuals Youth FC	The Club reports that it could field an additional youth girls' team if it had access to additional pitches.
Kingston Town FC	The Club reports that it could field additional youth 11v11 teams if it had access to additional pitches.
Parkside FC	The Club reports that it could field two additional adult men's teams if it had access to more pitches
Richmond Park Girls FC	The Club reports that it could field teams in Kingston-upon-Thames if it had access to suitable pitches.
Surbiton Town FC	The club reports it could field an additional adult men's team if it had access to more pitches.

Additionally, four out of the responding clubs report that they could field further teams if they had access to better or more ancillary provision. These are Alfletico Madrid FC, Corinthian Casuals FC, Chessington & Hook United FC and Parkside FC.

Some latent and unmet demand is also reported by clubs as a consequence of a lack of training capacity. This is explored within Part 3 of this report.

Many providers of pitches also report high levels of unmet and latent demand in that they have waiting lists in place for access or because they are turning down usage enquiries. This particularly relates to Tolworth Court Ground, where Kingston University states that it currently has a waiting list for pitch access with over 100 team/users included. Southborough High School, Richard Challoner School, London School of Economics and Kings College London also suggest that they are often preventing access due to a lack of capacity.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined through multiple ways, including through participation increases and by using population forecasts, which are explored below.

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Population growth

For population projections, Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator can estimate the likely additional demand for grass football pitches that will arise from forecasted growth. This uses the current population within each relevant age group together with current participation levels to establish team generation rates that are applied to future population projections.

Using the current and future populations in each of the relevant age groups together with the current team numbers (including unaffiliated demand), team generation rates have been established to understand how much growth is required to establish one new team. The table below then shows the number of new teams that are projected to be created by population increases. This is up to 2041, in line with the Council's emerging Local Plan.

Table 2.10: Borough-wide team generation rates

Age group	Team generation rate	Number of new teams generated by the new population ¹
Adult Mens (18-45)	1:788	2
Adult Womens (18-45)	1:38,606	-
Youth Boys (12-17)	1:84	3
Youth Girls (12-17)	1:4,271	-
Youth Boys (10-11)	1:53	2
Youth Girls (10-11)	-	-
Mini Mixed (8-9)	1:101	2
Mini Mixed (6-7)	1:195	1

As seen, growth of two adult, three youth 11v11, two youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 team is predicted.

Notwithstanding the above, team generation rates do not account for societal factors or changes in the way people may wish to play sport. Similarly, they cannot account for specific development work within certain areas or focused towards certain groups, such as NGB initiatives. For example, there is current a focus on developing women's and girls' football nationally which is likely to lead to more female teams in the future and therefore further increased pitch demand. Such targeted work is not captured through population projections, with no increases in female football currently forecast.

Participation increases

From consultation responses, 10 clubs' report aspirations to increase the number of teams that they provide. This equates to a predicted growth of 65 teams across the Borough, broken down as 12 adult teams, 24 youth 11v11 teams, 17 youth 9v9 teams, five mini 7v7 teams and seven mini 5v5 teams.

Table 2.11: Potential team increases identified by clubs

Club	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Gender	Number of teams
AFC Kingston Youth	Kingston & North Kingston	Youth	11v11	Boys	2
		Youth	9v9	Boys	2
		Mini	5v5	Mixed	2
AFC Southborough	South of the Borough	Adult		Men's	1

¹ Rounded to the nearest whole number

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Club	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Gender	Number of teams
Alfletico Madrid FC	Surbiton	Adult		Men's	1
Chessington & Hook United FC	South of the Borough	Adult		Men's	1
				Women's	1
		Youth	11v11	Boys	1
		Youth	11v11	Girls	1
		Youth	9v9	Boys	1
		Youth	9v9	Girls	1
		Mini	7v7	Mixed	1
		Mini	5v5	Mixed	1
Corinthian Casuals Youth FC	South of the Borough	Youth	11v11	Girls	1
Double H FC	Kingston & North Kingston	Adult		Men's	1
JGS FC	Surbiton	Youth	9v9	Boys	1
		Youth	11v11	Boys	1
Kingston Town FC	Kingston & North Kingston	Mini	5v5	Mixed	2
Kingstonian FC	Kingston & North Kingston	Adult		Women's	1
		Youth	11v11	Boys	5
		Youth	11v11	Girls	3
		Youth	9v9	Boys	5
		Youth	9v9	Girls	3
Parkside FC	Surbiton	Adult		Men's	1
		Adult		Women's	1
Richmond Park Girls' FC	Kingston & North Kingston	Adult		Women's	3
		Youth	11v11	Girls'	10
		Youth	9v9	Girls'	4
		Mini	7v7	Girls'	4
		Mini	5v5	Girls'	2
Surbiton Town FC	Surbiton	Adult		Men's	1
Total					65

In addition, Corinthian Casuals Youth FC states that it would like to introduce a disability team into the Club in the future as well as an additional girls' team, as referenced above. Kingstonian FC expresses the largest growth aspiration, which it links to its aspiration of returning to Kingston-upon-Thames and having its own site that it can develop.

Future demand summary

In the supply and demand analysis at the end of this section of the report, it is considered unfeasible for all future demand to be factored in. This is because it is likely that club aspirations will absorb the future demand identified through population growth, rather than them being judged separately and therefore double counted. As such, only demand expressed by clubs is taken forward as this suggests the largest growth out of the two methods.

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.

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As a guide, the FA has set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without it adversely affecting quality. Taking into consideration the guidelines on capacity, the following ratings were used in Kingston-upon-Thames:

Adult pitches		Youth pitches		Mini pitches	
Pitch quality	Matches per week	Pitch quality	Matches per week	Pitch quality	Matches per week
Good	3	Good	4	Good	6
Standard	2	Standard	2	Standard	4
Poor	1	Poor	1	Poor	2

Table 2.14 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
Overused	Play exceeds the level the site can sustain

Education sites

To account for curricular/extra-curricular use of education pitches, the current usage of 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 extra-curricular activity.

For education sites which are available for community use, current play has been increased 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.

Informal use

A number of football pitches in Kingston-upon-Thames on open access sites, especially those managed by the Council, resulting in informal use in the form of, for example, dog walkers, unorganised sport (including football) and exercise groups. However, this usage is not recorded and it is therefore difficult to quantify on a site-by-site basis. Instead, it is recommended that open access sites be protected through an improved maintenance regime and reduced capacity.

Match equivalent sessions

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

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One team accessing one pitch is considered to use the pitch for 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week. This is based on them playing home and away fixtures on an alternate basis (therefore only requiring access to their home pitch every two weeks).

Peak time

Spare capacity can only be considered as actual spare capacity if pitches are available at peak time, which can differ for each pitch type depending on when leagues operate for each format of play. In Kingston-upon-Thames, peak time varies by playing format, as shown in the table below.

Table 2.12: Summary of peak time for playing formats

Playing format	Peak time
Adult	Sunday AM
Youth 11v11	Sunday AM
Youth 9v9	Sunday AM
Mini 7v7	Saturday AM
Mini 5v5	Saturday AM

On occasion, 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 the overall spare capacity that exists. This is because most or all of the use on those particular pitches occurs outside of the peak period. Where this is the case, given that peak time usage should not be utilised over and above overall capacity, adjustments have been made.

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 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 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 quality improvements. Furthermore, any pitches with unsecure tenure are not considered to have actual spare capacity as no further play should be encouraged on the sites given that future access cannot be guaranteed.

The table below identifies the way actual spare capacity is represented in Table 2.14.

Table 2.13: Spare capacity examples

Spare capacity in peak period (examples)	Explanation of spare capacity
1	If the cell is highlighted in green with a number, it means that the pitches have actual spare capacity at peak time.
-	If the cell has a dash in it, this means that the pitch is unavailable at peak time. If it was available, actual spare capacity could exist.
0	If the cell has a 0 in it, this means that the pitch is played to capacity, either overall or during the peak period.

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Spare capacity in peak period (examples)	Explanation of spare capacity
1	If the cell has a number in it but is not highlighted, it means the pitch has spare capacity in the peak period; however, this is discounted. This is most commonly due to unsecure tenure and/or poor pitch quality.

Please see the table overleaf for the capacity analysis.

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Table 2.14: Football pitch capacity analysis

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Management	Type of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	Available for community use?	Quality rating	No. of pitches	Sports lighting?	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity (match sessions)	Overused (+), At Capacity (!) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Spare capacity available in peak period (match sessions)	Comments
1	Alexandra Recreation Ground	KT5 9BE	Surbiton	Council	Secure	Adult		Yes	Poor	2	No	3	2	1	0	Overplayed
7	Chelsea Football Club (Kingsmeadow)	KT1 3PB	Kingston & North Kingston	Private	Secure	Adult		No	Good	1	Yes	-	3	-	-	Unavailable for community use
8	Chessington & Hook United Football Club	KT9 2NF	South of the Borough	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		Yes	Standard	2	Yes	2	4	2	0.5	Actual spare capacity
						Youth	(11v11)		Standard	1	No	2	2	0	-	Played to capacity at peak time
						Youth	(9v9)		Poor	1	No	1.5	1	0.5	0	Overplayed
						Mini	(7v7)		Standard	2	No	1.5	8	7	0.5	Actual spare capacity
						Mini	(5v5)		Poor	1	No	1	2	1	0	Played to capacity at peak time
10	Churchfields Recreation Ground	KT9 2LA	South of the Borough	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	Yes	Poor	2	No	3.5	2	1.5	0	Overplayed
						Youth	(9v9)		Poor	1	No	3	1	2	0	Overplayed
						Mini	(7v7)		Poor	1	No	3.5	2	1.5	0	Overplayed
						Mini	(5v5)		Standard	2	No	2	8	6	0	Played to capacity at peak time
12	Coombe Boys School	KT3 6NU	New & Old Malden	School	Unsecure	Adult		No	Standard	1	No	-	2	-	-	Unavailable for community use
15	Dinton Field	KT2 5TY	Kingston & North Kingston	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	Yes	Poor	2	No	3	2	1	0	Overplayed
						Youth	(9v9)		Poor	1	No	3	2	1	0	Overplayed
						Mini	(7v7)		Standard	1	No	4	4	0	0	Played to capacity at peak time
16	Fairfield Recreation Ground	KT1 2PY	Kingston & North Kingston	Council	Secure	Adult		Yes	Standard	4	No	1	8	7	3	Actual spare capacity
17	Fulham Football Club Training Ground	KT3 6PT	New & Old Malden	Private	Secure	Adult		No	Good	5	No	-	15	-	-	Unavailable for community use
18	Goals Tolworth	KT5 9NT	Surbiton	Commercial	Secure	Adult		Yes	Standard	3	No	3	6	3	1	Actual spare capacity
19	Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field)	KT9 1BF	South of the Borough	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	Yes	Standard	1	No	2	2	0	0	Played to capacity at peak time
						Youth	(9v9)		Standard	1	No	2	2	0	0	Played to capacity at peak time
						Mini	(7v7)		Standard	1	No	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure
21	King Edwards Recreation Ground	KT9 1DW	South of the Borough	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	Yes	Standard	2	No	1	4	3	1	Actual spare capacity
22	King George's Field	KT9 1TR	South of the Borough	Council	Secure	Adult		Yes	Standard	1	Yes	2	2	0	0	Played to capacity at peak time
						Adult			Poor	5	No	7.5	5	2.5	-	Overplayed
						Youth	(9v9)		Poor	3	No	4	3	1	-	Overplayed
						Mini	(7v7)		Poor	4	No	3.5	8	4.5	4.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality
						Mini	(5v5)		Poor	3	No	2.5	6	3.5	3.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality
23	Kings College Sports Ground	KT3 5HA	New & Old Malden	University	Unsecure	Adult		Yes	Good	2	No	6	6	0	0	Played to capacity
						Mini	(7v7)		Good	3	No	6	18	12	0	Played to capacity at peak time
26	Kingston Road Recreation Ground	KT3 3RX	New & Old Malden	Council	Secure	Adult		Yes	Poor	1	No	1	1	0	0	Played to capacity
27	Knollmead Primary School	KT5 9QP	Surbiton	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	No	Standard	2	No	-	8	-	-	Unavailable for community use

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Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Management	Type of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	Available for community use?	Quality rating	No. of pitches	Sports lighting?	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity (match sessions)	Overused (+), At Capacity (/) or Potential to Accommodate additional play (-)	Spare capacity available in peak period (match sessions)	Comments
28	Latchmere Park	KT2 5SF	Kingston & North Kingston	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	Yes	Poor	2	No	3	2	1	0	Overplayed.
						Youth	(9v9)		Poor	1	No	3	1	2	0	Overplayed.
						Mini	(7v7)		Poor	2	No	5	4	1	0	Overplayed.
29	London School of Economics Sports Ground	KT3 5HB	New & Old Malden	University	Unsecure	Adult		Yes	Good	7	No	21	21	0	0	Played to capacity at peak time
						Mini	(7v7)		Good	2	No	12	12	0	0	Played to capacity at peak time
31	Malden Parochial C of E Primary School	KT4 7LW	New & Old Malden	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	No	Standard	1	No	-	2	-	-	Unavailable for community use
						Mini	(7v7)		Standard	1	No	-	4	-	-	Unavailable for community use
33	Manor Park	KT3 6AU	New & Old Malden	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	Yes	Poor	2	No	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality
						Youth	(9v9)		Poor	1	No	0	1	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality
						Mini	(7v7)		Poor	1	No	0	2	2	2	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality
36	Richard Challoner School	KT3 5PE	New & Old Malden	School	Unsecure	Adult		Yes	Standard	2	No	4	4	0	0	Played to capacity at peak time
38	Rokeby School Sports Ground	KT4 7QB	New & Old Malden	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	No	Standard	4	No	-	8	-	-	Unavailable for community use
						Mini	(7v7)		Standard	4	No	-	16	-	-	Unavailable for community use
40	Shrewsbury House School Sports Ground	KT9 2ND	South of the Borough	School	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	Yes	Good	1	No	2	4	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time
						Youth	(9v9)		Good	1	No	2	4	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time
						Mini	(7v7)		Good	1	No	2	6	4	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time
41	Sir Francis Barker Recreation Ground	KT9 2NB	South of the Borough	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	Yes	Standard	1	No	4	3	1	-	Overplayed
43	Southborough High School Sports Ground	KT6 5BX	Surbiton	School	Secure	Adult		Yes	Standard	2	No	4	4	0	0	Played to capacity at peak time
						Youth	(11v11)		Poor	1	No	1	1	0	0	Played to capacity at peak time
						Youth	(9v9)		Poor	1	No	1	1	0	0	Played to capacity at peak time
46	Surbiton Town Sports Club	KT4 7QB	Surbiton	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		Yes	Standard	2	Yes	3	4	1	0.5	Actual spare capacity
50	The Tiffin Girls' School	KT2 5PL	Kingston & North Kingston	School	Unsecure	Adult		Yes	Standard	1	No	2	2	0	0	Played to capacity at peak time
52	Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University)	KT4 7QH	South of the Borough	University	Unsecure	Adult		Yes	Good	7	No	20.5	21	0.5	0	Played to capacity at peak time
55	Victoria Recreation Ground	KT6 5DN	Surbiton	Council	Secure	Adult		Yes	Poor	2	No	1	2	1	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality
56	Weir Archer Athletics & Fitness Centre	KT1 3PB	Kingston & North Kingston	Council	Secure	Adult		Yes	Standard	1	Yes	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed
58	YMCA Hawker	KT2 5BH	Kingston & North Kingston	Council	Secure	Adult		Yes	Standard	2	No	4	4	0	0	Played to capacity

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Actual spare capacity

The table below identifies actual spare capacity across Kingston-upon-Thames. It totals 9.5 match equivalent sessions and is identified across 19 pitches at six sites.

Table 2.15: Actual (peak time) spare capacity site by site

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (match equivalent sessions)
8	Chessington & Hook United FC	South of the Borough	Adult	2	0.5
			Mini (7v7)	2	0.5
16	Fairfield Recreation Ground	Kingston & North Kingston	Adult	4	3
18	Goals (Tolworth)	Surbiton	Adult	3	1
21	King Edwards Recreation Ground	South of the Borough	Youth (11v11)	2	1
40	Shrewsbury House School Sports Ground	South of the Borough	Youth (11v11)	1	1
			Youth (9v9)	1	1
			Mini (7v7)	1	1
46	Surbiton Town Sports Club	Surbiton	Adult	2	0.5
Total					9.5

Actual spare capacity is broken down by analysis area and pitch type in the table below. As seen, most actual spare capacity is identified on adult pitches (five match equivalent sessions), whereas none is found on mini 5v5 pitches. The South of the Borough Analysis Area has the highest amount of actual spare capacity (five match equivalent sessions), whilst none is evidenced in the New & Old Malden Analysis Area.

Table 2.16: Actual spare capacity summary

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (match equivalent sessions per week)					
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
Kingston & North Kingston	3	-	-	-	-	3
New & Old Malden	-	-	-	-	-	0
South of the Borough	0.5	2	1	1.5	-	5
Surbiton	1.5	-	-	-	-	1.5
Kingston-upon-Thames	5	2	1	1.5	0	9.5

In addition, it should be noted that 13 match equivalent sessions of potential spare capacity is discounted due to poor quality, whilst one further match equivalent session is discounted due to unsecure tenure.

Overplay

Overplay occurs when there is more play accommodated on a site than it can sustain (based on its quality rating), which can often be due to the low carrying capacity of pitches. In Kingston-upon-Thames, 25 pitches across eight sites are overplayed by a combined total of 17.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

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Table 2.17: Overplay site-by-site

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating
1	Alexandra Recreation Ground	Surbiton	Adult	2	1
8	Chessington & Hook United FC	South of the Borough	Youth (9v9)	1	0.5
10	Churchfields Recreation Ground	South of the Borough	Youth (11v11)	2	1.5
			Youth (9v9)	1	2
			Mini (7v7)	1	1.5
15	Dinton Field	Kingston & North Kingston	Youth (11v11)	2	1
			Youth (9v9)	1	1
22	King George's Field	South of the Borough	Adult	5	2.5
			Youth (9v9)	3	1
28	Latchmere Park	Kingston & North Kingston	Youth (11v11)	2	1
			Youth (9v9)	1	2
			Mini (7v7)	2	1
41	Sir Francis Barker Recreation Ground	South of the Borough	Youth (11v11)	1	1
56	Weir Archer Athletics & Fitness Centre	Kingston & North Kingston	Adult	1	0.5
Total					17.5

The highest level of overplay is identified on youth 9v9 pitches (6.5 match equivalent sessions). There is no identified overplay on mini 5v5 pitches. Furthermore, the South of the Borough Analysis Area contains the highest amount of overplay (10 match equivalent sessions), whereas none is evidenced in the New & Old Malden Analysis Area.

Table 2.18: Overplay summary

Analysis area	Overplay (match equivalent sessions per week)					
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
Kingston & North Kingston	0.5	2	3	1	-	6.5
New & Old Malden	-	-	-	-	-	0
South of the Borough	2.5	2.5	3.5	1.5	-	10
Surbiton	1	-	-	-	-	1
Kingston-upon-Thames	4	4.5	6.5	2.5	-	17.5

Of the overplayed pitches, 20 are assessed as poor quality, meaning that the associated capacity rating is insufficient to meet the level of demand received. Quality improvements would therefore alleviate this.

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 is derived solely from club aspirations as it is considered that this will absorb increases from population growth.

The table below shows current spare capacity on adult pitches equating to one match equivalent session per week. However, a shortfall of two match equivalent sessions per week is identified in the South of the Borough Analysis Area.

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Adult pitch capacity

Table 2.19: Supply and demand balance of adult pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Kingston & North Kingston	3	0.5	2.5	1	1.5
New & Old Malden	-	-	0	-	0
South of the Borough	0.5	2.5	2	1.5	3.5
Surbiton	1.5	1	0.5	2	1.5
Kingston-upon-Thames	5	4	1	4.5	4.5

After considering future demand, a shortfall of 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week is projected. This is a result of a shortfall being created in the Surbiton Analysis Area and the existing shortfall in the South of the Borough Analysis Area increasing. Spare capacity remains in the Kingston & North Kingston Analysis Area.

Youth 11v11 pitch capacity

There is a current shortfall of youth 11v11 pitch capacity amounting to 2.5 match equivalent sessions per week, with no analysis areas containing overall spare capacity. The New & Old Malden and Surbiton analysis areas are operating at capacity.

Table 2.20: Supply and demand balance of youth 11v11 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Kingston & North Kingston	-	2	2	5	7
New & Old Malden	-	-	0	-	0
South of the Borough	2	2.5	0.5	1.5	2
Surbiton	-	-	0	0.5	0.5
Kingston-upon-Thames	2	4.5	2.5	7	9.5

When considering future demand, the overall shortfall is exacerbated to 9.5 match equivalent sessions per week, with shortfalls in the Kingston & North Kingston, South of the Borough and Surbiton analysis areas.

Youth 9v9 pitch capacity

There is a current shortfall of youth 9v9 pitch capacity amounting to 5.5 match equivalent sessions per week, with no analysis areas containing overall spare capacity. The New & Old Malden and Surbiton analysis areas are operating at capacity.

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Table 2.21: Supply and demand balance of youth 9v9 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Kingston & North Kingston	-	3	3	5	8
New & Old Malden	-	-	0	-	0
South of the Borough	1	3.5	2.5	1	3.5
Surbiton	-	-	0	0.5	0.5
Kingston-upon-Thames	1	6.5	5.5	6.5	12

When factoring in future demand, the shortfall worsens to 12 match equivalent sessions, with shortfalls in the Kingston & North Kingston, South of the Borough and Surbiton analysis areas.

Mini 7v7 pitch capacity

There is a current shortfall of mini 7v7 pitch capacity amounting to one match equivalent sessions per week, with no analysis areas containing overall spare capacity. This marginally worsens when considering future demand, with a shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions predicted.

Table 2.22: Supply and demand balance of mini 7v7 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Kingston & North Kingston	-	1	1	-	1
New & Old Malden	-	-	0	-	0
South of the Borough	1.5	1.5	0	0.5	0.5
Surbiton	-	-	0	-	0
Kingston-upon-Thames	1.5	2.5	1	0.5	1.5

The shortfalls are identified in the Kingston & North Kingston and South of the Borough analysis areas.

Mini 5v5 pitch capacity

Mini 5v5 pitches across Kingston-upon-Thames are currently operating at capacity, with no actual spare capacity or overplay identified.

Table 2.23: Supply and demand balance of mini 5v5 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Kingston & North Kingston	-	-	0	2	2
New & Old Malden	-	-	0	-	0
South of the Borough	-	-	0	0.5	0.5

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Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Surbiton	-	-	0	-	0
Kingston-upon-Thames	0	0	0	2.5	2.5

When factoring in future demand, an overall capacity shortfall is established, equating to 2.5 match equivalent sessions per week. The shortfall is attributed to the Kingston & North Kingston and South of the Borough analysis areas.

2.5: Conclusion

Using the supply and demand tables above, the table below summarises the overall Kingston-upon-Thames supply and demand balance by pitch type.

Table 2.24: Summary of supply and demand

Pitch type	Match equivalent sessions per week				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult	5	4	1	4.5	3.5
Youth 11v11	2	4.5	2.5	7	9.5
Youth 9v9	1	6.5	5.5	6.5	12
Mini 7v7	1.5	2.5	1	0.5	1.5
Mini 5v5	-	-	0	2.5	2.5

Overall, it is determined that there is currently a shortfall of youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 match equivalent sessions and minimal spare capacity on adult pitches, whilst mini 5v5 pitches are at capacity. After factoring in future demand, a shortfall is projected for each pitch type.

Based on the above, it is clear that there is an overall shortfall of football provision to meet both current and future demand. Where shortfalls are present, these could be alleviated through providing new pitches, with one pitch generally required to overcome a shortfall of one match equivalent session (based on peak time capacity). However, there are also alternatives to overcoming the deficits, for example via improving the existing stock and improving access to unsecure and unavailable provision. These will be further explored in the proceeding strategy document.

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Football- supply summary

- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 112 football pitches across 30 sites in Kingston-upon-Thames, with 93 pitches available at some level for community use across 23 sites.
- ◀ Several sites just outside of the Borough also supply Kingston-upon-Thames, including Commons Extension Sports Ground and Wibbandune Sports Ground, which are particularly large sites.
- ◀ Most sites are operated by education providers and the Council (12 each).
- ◀ Of the community available pitches, 21 are rated as good quality, 32 as standard quality and 40 as poor quality.
- ◀ The poor quality pitches are identified at Alexandra Recreation Ground, Chessington & Hook United Football Club, Churchfields Recreation Ground, Dinton Field, King George's Field, Latchmere Park, Kingston Road Recreation Ground, Manor Park, Southborough High School Sports Ground and Victoria Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Poor quality ancillary facilities are identified at Chessington & Hook United Football Club, Chessington Sports Centre, Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field), King Edwards Recreation Ground, Kingston Road Recreation Ground, Manor Park, Surbiton Town Sports Club and Victoria Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Two clubs play within the football pyramid (Kingstonian FC and Corinthian Casuals FC), whilst Chelsea FC Women play at the top level of the female structure.

Football- demand summary

- ◀ In total, there are 241 affiliated teams from within 74 clubs based in Kingston-upon-Thames; however, only 159 teams from across 64 clubs are currently playing matches in the Borough.
- ◀ Significant additional demand is also identified from Kingston Little League and The Premier & Primary Boys Football League, with 52 additional teams playing within these structures.
- ◀ Further demand is evident from professional clubs, university activity and disability teams.
- ◀ A large number of teams (82 currently export from the Borough, either due to the close proximity of other sites or due to provision issues (e.g., a lack of capacity or perceived quality issues).
- ◀ The exported demand figures include Richmond Park Girls FC, which fields 14 female teams in Richmond-upon-Thames due to a lack of capacity within the Borough.
- ◀ Eight clubs report latent demand in that they could field more teams if more pitches were available to them, whilst four of the responding clubs report they could field extra teams if they had access to better ancillary provision.
- ◀ Team generation rates predict future demand amounting to two adult, three youth 11v11, two youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 team, whereas future demand expressed by clubs equates to projected growth of 12 adult, 24 youth 11v11, 17 youth 9v9, five mini 7v7 and seven mini 5v5 teams.

Football- supply and demand summary

- ◀ In total, 19 pitches display some level of actual spare capacity across six sites, equating to 9.5 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ There are 25 overplayed pitches across eight sites, with total overplay equating to 17.5 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ There is currently a shortfall of youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 match equivalent sessions and spare capacity on adult pitches, whilst mini 5v5 pitches are at capacity.
- ◀ After factoring in future demand, a deficit is projected for each pitch type, making it clear that there is an overall shortfall of provision.

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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 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 union, more commonly known as 'Regulation 22', which provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for the sport. The artificial surface standards identified allows contact training and 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. Pitches fall under two categories; community club pitches which require retesting every two years and elite stadia pitches which require an annual retest. Much of the criteria within the RFL performance standard test also forms part of the World Rugby test, meaning World Rugby certified 3G pitches are considered by the RFL to be able to meet rugby league requirements, subject to passing an additional RFL performance standard test.

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

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: Current provision

A full size 3G pitch is considered by the FA to measure at least 100 x 64 metres (106 x 64 metres including run offs), although nationally many 3G pitches that are otherwise considered to be full size are slightly undersized due to previously being converted from sand-based provision (dimensions for hockey are generally smaller than for football).

In Kingston-upon-Thames, there is one full size pitch, located at Fulham Football Club Training Ground. However, due to the professional nature of the Club, this is unavailable for community use, with all access reserved for internal activity.

Table 3.1: Full size 3G pitches in Kingston-upon-Thames

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Sports lighting?	Size (metres)
17	Fulham Football Club Training Ground	KT3 6PT	New & Old Malden	No	Yes	108 x 72

It is uncommon for an authority not to have any community available full size 3G pitches.

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There are also 18 smaller size 3G pitches across seven sites in Kingston-upon-Thames. All but three of the pitches are available for community use and are serviced by sports lighting. The pitch at Rokeby Prep School and the two at Shrewsbury House Sports Ground are neither available nor sports-lit.

Table 3.2: Additional supply of 3G provision

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Sports lighting?	Size (metres)
18	Goals Tolworth	KT5 9NT	South of the Borough	Yes	Yes	30 x 20
						30 x 20
						30 x 20
						30 x 20
						30 x 20
						30 x 20
						30 x 20
						40 x 30
36	Richard Challoner School	KT3 5PE	New & Old Malden	Yes	Yes	50 x 35
37	Rokeby Prep School	KT2 7PB	Kingston & North Kingston	No	No	40 x 16
39	Shrewsbury House Sports Ground	KT6 6RL	Surbiton	No	No	88 x 74
						50 x 20
51	Tiffin Sports Centre (Tiffin High School)	KT2 6RL	Kingston & North Kingston	Yes	Yes	45 x 27
54	Tolworth Girls School	KT6 7LQ	Surbiton	Yes	Yes	30 x 20
						30 x 20
58	Weir Archer Athletics & Fitness Centre	KT1 3PB	Kingston & North Kingston	Yes	Yes	37 x 20
						37 x 20

Additionally, there is one indoor 3G pitch provided at Fulham Football Club Training Ground, although as with its full size pitch, this is also unavailable for community use.

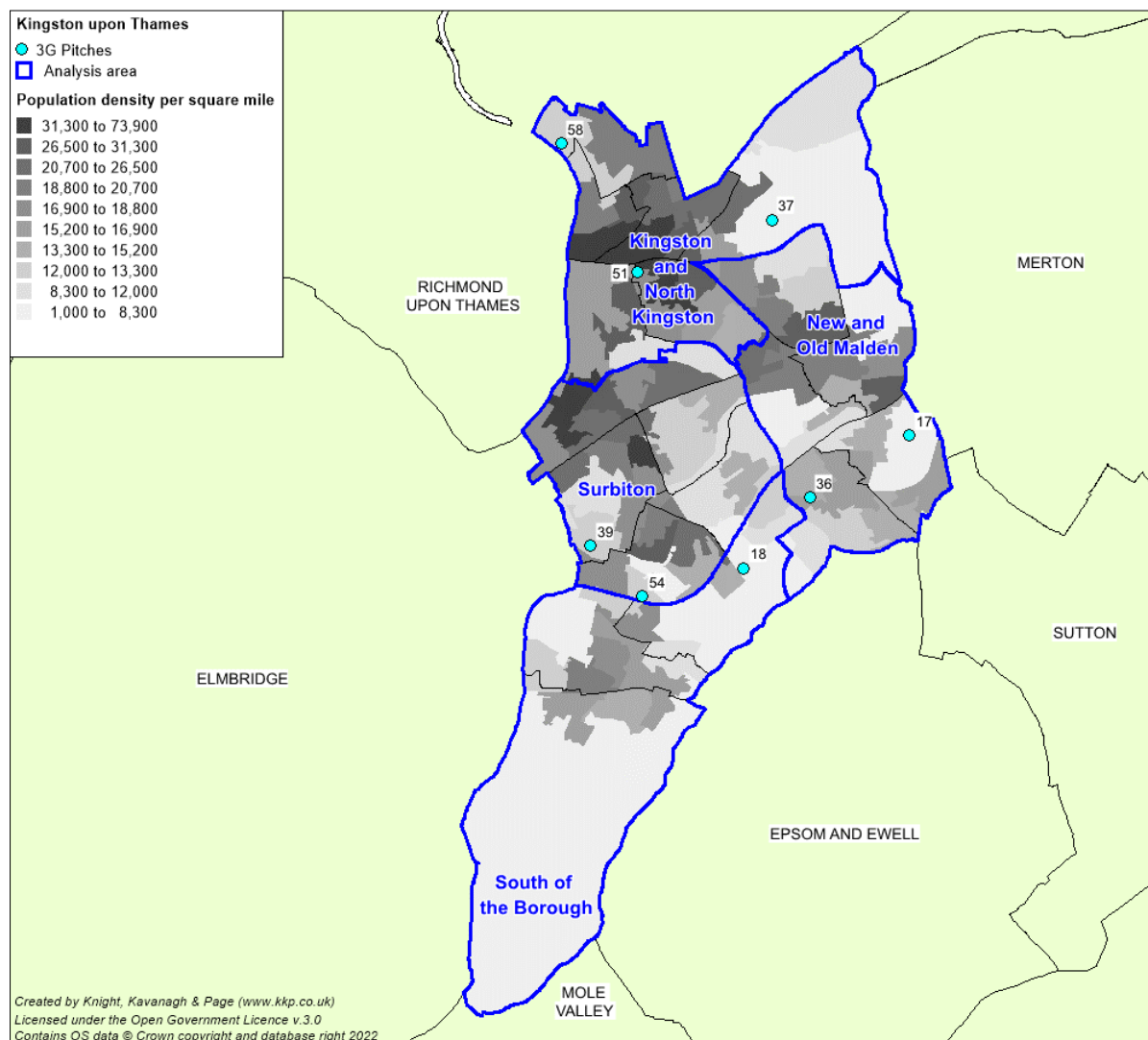
Where community availability is offered, whilst not large enough to accommodate adult match play, smaller sized 3G provision can be used to accommodate youth and mini football matches on the proviso that they are FA approved, of an adequate size and with appropriate run-off areas. The FA's recommended pitch size for youth football varies from 91 x 55 metres to 73 x 46 metres, depending on age, whilst it is 55 x 37 metres for mini 7v7 play and 37 x 27 metres for mini 5v5 play.

Notwithstanding the above, smaller size pitches are more commonly used to accommodate training and recreational activity. However, for training, they are not always conducive to demand, with many being too small for purposeful activity or too tight if pitch barriers are in place (as is the case at Tolworth Goals).

Figure 3.1 below identifies the location of all 3G pitches currently in Kingston-upon-Thames, regardless of size.

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Figure 3.1: Location of 3G AGPs in Kingston-Upon-Thames



Future provision

There are several plans in place relating to existing and new 3G pitches, in addition to aspirations being expressed by several clubs and operators.

Regarding existing provision, Shrewsbury House School is exploring the potential of establishing sports lighting at its site so that its smaller size 3G pitches can accommodate community use. It is not yet sure as to whether this will be possible in terms of gaining planning permission.

The smaller size 3G pitches at Weir Archer Athletics & Fitness Centre will soon be moved slightly due to wider site plans and the creation of a new secondary school. This will temporarily mean that the provision cannot be used, and it will also result in the loss of community access during school hours when the pitches are re-established as they will then be reserved for curricular and extra-curricular use. Whilst this will satisfy the internal demand, it will result in the displacement of current usage from other schools as well as some community programmes.

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The community programmes currently accessing the pitches at Weir Archer Athletics & Fitness Centre during hours that will soon be unavailable include activity from Chelsea FC's Foundation, Fulham FC's Foundation and MIND, a mental health charity which runs football sessions as well as several schools. These will need to be accommodated at alternative sites with suitable provision.

For new pitches, Kingstonian FC has an aspiration for access to a full size 3G pitch as part of any relocation back to Kingston-upon-Thames, with some preliminary discussions taking place with Kingston University over a partnership approach. The Club is currently exported from the Borough due to a lack of a suitable venue for the level that it plays at (Step 3).

Chessington & Hook United FC states that it wants to convert its main match pitch at its home ground to a 3G pitch in addition to its existing smaller size sand-based AGP, which it currently utilises for training. This would therefore create one full size and one smaller size 3G pitch.

Similarly, Corinthian Casuals FC wants to develop a full size 3G pitch in place of its main pitch at King George's Field. As with Kingstonian FC, the Club currently plays at Step 3, meaning a higher grade of provision may be required (see FA pitch register section, below).

In addition, a currently unmarked area to the back of King George's Field has been identified as potential land for the development of new outdoor sports provision, which could include the establishment of a (or multiple) 3G pitch/es.

Unmarked areas of land at Devon Way and Woodstock Lane South have also been identified as having the potential for the development of new outdoor sports provision, with 3G again a possibility should this come to fruition. Kingston Road Recreation Ground and YMCA Hawker are other sites that have been earmarked.

Christ Church Primary School, Kings College London, London School of Economics, Richard Challoner School and Southborough High School all have aspirations to develop full size pitches at their sites, although no formal plans are in place. At Kings College London, the University reports that its planned location for the pitch would impact on cricket provision, which would therefore require a resolution.

Burlington Junior School reports plans to establish a smaller sized 3G pitch.

FA 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 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 accredited, 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 football pyramid (steps 1-6).

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In Kingston-upon-Thames, only the indoor 3G pitch at Fulham Football Club Training Ground is FA approved (the outdoor 3G pitch is not). As such, no community available pitches are currently accredited.

World Rugby 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.

The specification includes 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 or contact training must comply with this specification and must be tested every two years to retain compliance.

In Kingston-upon-Thames, no 3G pitches are currently on the World Rugby compliancy register. However, Shrewsbury House School suggests that its smaller size pitch has been constructed to an appropriate grade and it uses the provision for internal rugby union activity. Nevertheless, the RFU reports that it is unaware of this, meaning that at present the compliancy of the surface is questionable.

Management

The full size pitch at Fulham Football Club Training Ground is managed by the Club itself and its foundation.

Of the smaller size pitches, nine are operated commercially (via Goals at Goals Tolworth), whilst five are managed by schools and four are managed by Places Leisure on behalf of the Council (at Weir Archer Athletics & Fitness Centre and Tolworth Girls School).

Availability

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 table below identifies the availability of the 3G pitch stock across Kingston-upon-Thames.

Table 3.3 Summary of 3G pitch availability

Site ID	Site	Availability
17	Fulham Football Club Training Ground	Unavailable for community use.
18	Goals Tolworth	Available Monday-Friday between 09:00 and 23:00, Saturday from 09:00 until 18:00 and Sunday from 09:00 until 22:00.
36	Richard Challoner School	Available 17:00 until 22:00 Monday-Friday and from 12:00 until 21:00 Saturday-Sunday
37	Rokeby Prep School	Unavailable for community use
39	Shrewsbury House Sports Ground	Unavailable for community use
51	Tiffin School Sports Centre	Available 18:00 until 22:00 Monday-Friday, from 09:00 until 16:00 on Saturdays and from 14:00 until 20:00 on Sundays.
54	Tolworth Girls School	Available 17:30 until 22:00 Monday-Friday and from 09:00 until 22:00 Saturday-Sunday.

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Site ID	Site	Availability
58	Weir Archer Athletics & Fitness Centre	Currently available Monday-Thursday 07:30 until 22:00, Friday 07:30 until 20:00 and from 09:00 until 17:00 Saturday-Sunday. Following the development of the new school, during term time this will become 18:00-22:00 Monday-Thursday and 18:00-20:00 on Fridays (weekend hours will be unaltered).

As mentioned previously, the provision at Fulham Football Club Training Ground is unavailable for community use, as are the pitches at Rokeby Prep School and Shrewsbury House Sports Ground. At the remaining school sites, although community availability is offered, it is somewhat limited as usage is reserved for curricular and extra-curricular activity during weekdays until the evening.

Only the smaller size pitches at Weir Archer Athletics & Fitness Centre and Goals (Tolworth) are currently available throughout weekdays and at weekends. However, when the new school is developed at the former, the pitches will not be available until 18:00 during term time.

Quality

Depending on use, it is considered that the carpet of a 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 sinking funds be put into place by providers to enable long-term sustainability, ongoing repairs and future refurbishment beyond this period.

For the PPS, each 3G pitch has been assigned a quality rating of good, standard or poor following site assessments. This rating is linked to the condition and age of the playing surface, as well as surrounding hard areas and the maintenance that is undertaken. For the full assessment criteria, please refer to Appendix 2.

The pitches at Fulham Football Club Training Ground could not be assessed due to the private nature of the site. Of the remaining pitches, all but two are assessed as standard quality, although provision at Rokeby Prep School and Tiffin Sports Centre has reached the end of its recommended lifespan.

The poor quality pitches are found at Tolworth Girls School, with these also at the end of their lifespan. In addition to general wear and tear, the rating is due to the surface being over-crumbled and because the fencing is of an inadequate standard.

Table 3.4: Age and quality of 3G pitches

Site ID	Site Name	No. of pitches	Year installed/resurfaced	Quality
17	Fulham Football Club Training Ground	2	2016	N/A
18	Goals Tolworth	9	2016	Standard
36	Richard Challoner School	1	2014	Standard
37	Rokeby Prep School	1	2012	Standard
39	Shrewsbury House Sports Ground	1	2012	Standard
51	Tiffin Sports Centre (Tiffin High School)	1	2012	Standard
54	Tolworth Girls School	2	2011	Poor
58	Weir Archer Athletics & Fitness Centre	2	2018	Standard

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Ancillary facilities

No significant issues have been identified regarding the ancillary facilities servicing the 3G pitches, although as many are located at school sites, the provision is generally not dedicated to the supply. A good example of this is at Tolworth Girls School, where the facilities are located a significant distance from the pitches, making them somewhat inaccessible. Nevertheless, this is not considered to be a major issue given that most use is for training and recreational football, with users therefore tending to show up ready to play rather than relying on good access to changing rooms.

3.3: Demand

The 3G pitch stock currently servicing Kingston-upon-Thames is reported to be operating at or close to capacity at peak times during midweek, especially in winter months when grass pitches cannot be used for training or recreational demand (due to a lack of sports lighting). However, weekend usage is limited, predominately on account of no matches being played on the existing supply of pitches as none are FA approved or World Rugby compliant.

Richard Challoner School in particular reports capacity issues on its pitch, highlighting that it is regularly turning down enquiries from interested users and clubs. It also has more weekend usage than most other pitches, with coaching sessions taking place on both Saturday and Sunday mornings.

The pitches with most spare capacity remaining are found at Tolworth Girls School with available slots existing on each midweek evening as well as at the weekend. The School suggests that this is linked to the quality issues that are evident, rather than a general lack of interest.

Currently, it is considered that all community-based activity on 3G pitches is football related, with no other sporting usage identified outside of some internal rugby union demand at Shrewsbury House School. The large majority of capacity is being taken up by clubs for training purposes, although there is also a strong presence of recreational football activity taking place (i.e., via unaffiliated groups).

In addition, there are often small-sided commercial leagues operating on 3G pitches across the Country. In Kingston-upon-Thames, this is particularly prominent due to the presence of Goals Tolworth, although no such activity is identified on pitches away from this site. There are 5-a-side leagues running on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 19:00 until 21:00, with 28 teams currently registered across the venue.

Goals Tolworth is also a common venue accessed by clubs for training activity, with 11 clubs that responded to consultation reporting that they access the site for this purpose. This is compared to seven clubs that state that they use Weir Archer Athletics & Fitness Centre, four that use Richard Challoner School and three that use Tiffin Sports Centre (Tiffin High School).

Notwithstanding the above, many clubs report that they do not currently access 3G pitches for training despite having an aspiration to do so. This includes AFC Kingston Youth, which instead uses grass pitches at Weir Archer Athletics & Fitness Centre, Corinthian Casuals FC, which uses a defined grass area at King George's Field, and Chessington & Hook United FC, which uses its sand-based pitch. It also relates to the likes of Double H FC and AFC Southborough, both of which suggest that they generally do not train at all due to a lack of suitable provision.

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Unmet/latent demand

As intimated above, significant unmet demand for 3G provision is expressed in Kingston-upon-Thames, with 14 responding football clubs stating that additional pitches are required to meet their training requirements.

Collectively, the clubs currently provide 126 teams, which is a considerable number. The clubs in full are:

- ◀ AFC Kingston Youth (19 teams)
- ◀ Chessington & Hook United FC (three teams)
- ◀ Double H FC (three teams)
- ◀ Hook Youth FC (10 teams)
- ◀ Kingston Town FC (eight teams)
- ◀ Metropolitan Police Youth FC (four teams)
- ◀ Richmond Park Girls FC (14 teams)
- ◀ Alfiletico Madrid FC (two teams)
- ◀ Corinthian Casuals FC (33 teams)
- ◀ Gemini FC (16 teams)
- ◀ JGS FC (two teams)
- ◀ Kingstonian FC (eight teams)
- ◀ Parkside FC (two teams)
- ◀ Surbiton Sports FC (two teams)

All these clubs explicitly state a need for access to 3G pitches. Whilst many do currently access 3G pitches, most prominently via Goals Tolworth and Weir Archer Athletics & Fitness Centre, the perception is that these are not large enough to adequately accommodate all demand. In addition, some of the clubs' report that access to the existing sites is not ideal due to a lack of capacity. This leads to teams having to train on undesirable days and/or at undesirable times.

The unmet demand includes Richmond Park Girls FC, which fields 14 female teams. Currently, the Club splits its training activity across the sand-based pitch at Tiffin Girls School, the smaller sized 3G pitches at Weir Archer Athletics & Fitness Centre and grass provision at this site as well as at Dinton Fields. The Club also runs Wildcats and Just Play sessions from these venues.

In addition, unmet demand for access to 3G provision for rugby union could also be perceived to exist given the overplay of grass pitches currently identified (in Part 4 of this report). Currently, all clubs are training on pitches otherwise used for matches, and the concentrated nature of this demand results in such provision being overused. As such, transferring the demand to 3G pitches would remove this excess usage and resolve many capacity issues. There is also a lack of dedicated sports-lit grass pitches which compounds this need further.

No unmet demand for any other sport is identified.

Exported/imported demand

Linked to the above, Richmond Park Girls FC occasionally exports some training activity outside of Kingston-upon-Thames due to a lack of capacity. This is in addition to its exported match play demand referenced in Part 2 of this report.

No other football or any other relevant clubs identified as playing matches in Kingston-upon-Thames currently export training activity outside of the Borough. Similarly, no imported demand has been identified.

Future demand

As set out in Part 2 of this report, potential growth equates to 42 football teams to 2041 (on the assumption that demand from population growth will be absorbed by clubs aspirations). If this growth was realised, and if all additional teams wanted to train on 3G provision, it will increase the number of 3G pitches required.

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Away from football, with no current demand identified for access to 3G pitches, no future demand is projected. However, that is not to say that there is no requirement for compliant provision.

3.4: Supply and demand analysis

Football

To quantify the 3G shortfall for football, the FA has established a training model, which suggests that one full size 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.

Using the above, with current demand totalling 204 teams, including teams playing in the Kingston Little League and the Premier & Primary Boys Football League, it is feasible that at least six full size 3G pitches are required (rounded up from 5.55).

Table 3.3: Current shortfall of 3G pitches to meet football training demand

Current demand (number of teams)	3G full size pitch requirement ²	Current number of full size 3G pitches	Current shortfall
211	6	-	6

When factoring in future demand, the requirement could increase to the need for seven full size pitches (rounded up from 6.57).

Table 3.4: Future shortfall of 3G pitches to meet football training demand

Future demand (number of teams)	3G full size pitch requirement ³	Current number of full size 3G pitches	Future shortfall
253	7	-	7

To further this analysis, the table below explores where the 3G shortfalls exist, by analysis area, on the presumption that all demand will want to train within the area that they play matches in.

Table 3.5: Current and future shortfall for 3G pitches by analysis area for training demand

Analysis area	Current demand	Current 3G requirement ⁴	Future demand	Future 3G requirement
Kingston & North Kingston	63	2	26	2
New & Old Malden	34	1	-	1
South of the Borough	88	2	10	3
Surbiton	25	1	6	1
Kingston-upon-Thames	211	6	42	7

² Rounded to the nearest whole number

³ Rounded to the nearest whole number

⁴ Rounded to the nearest whole number

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The current requirement equates to two pitches in the Kingston & North Kingston and South of the Borough analysis areas in addition to a requirement of one pitch in the New & Old Malden and Surbiton analysis areas. The additional future demand results in an increase of the shortfall in the South of the Borough Analysis Area.

Based on the above, it is clear that there is a need to develop full size 3G pitches in Kingston-upon-Thames. Whilst the existing smaller sized pitches are capable of accommodating some demand, this provision should be seen as secondary supply as the size and nature of most is not ideal for the majority of demand.

Other sports

For rugby union, there is evidence to warrant the creation of World Rugby compliant 3G provision given the grass pitch shortfalls evident in Part 4 of this report, both overall and at Kings College Sports Ground, London School of Economics Sports Ground and Kingston Rugby Football Club. Whilst other solutions to alleviate these deficits may be possible, they could be difficult to achieve and would not be as impactful.

With minimal other activity identified in Kingston-upon-Thames that could utilise the 3G pitch stock, no other requirements are identified.

3.5: Conclusion

There is a clear shortfall of 3G pitch provision in Kingston-upon-Thames to meet requirements, as evidenced through the significant levels of unmet demand identified for football. As there are no other means to alleviating these shortfalls, as can be the case with grass pitches (e.g., capacity through improving quality), new provision is required. The strategy document that proceeds this report will identify areas and sites that should be prioritised.

There is also demand the provision of World Rugby compliant provision. This could be achieved in conjunction with reducing football shortfalls, or via additional provision providing that it is well located to service the clubs that are in need.

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3G – supply summary

- ◀ There is one full size 3G pitch in Kingston-upon-Thames, located at Fulham Football Club Training Ground, although this is unavailable for community use.
- ◀ There are also 18 smaller size 3G pitches across eight sites, with 15 available for community use and sports lit as well as one indoor 3G pitch (at Fulham Football Club Training Ground).
- ◀ Shrewsbury House School has aspirations to establish sports lighting at its site so that its smaller sized pitches can be made available to the community, whilst two mini 5v5 3G pitches are to be established at a new leisure centre, adjacent to Fairfield Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Kingstonian FC, Corinthian Casuals FC, Chessington & Hook United FC, Kings College London, London School of Economics, Richard Challoner School, Southborough High School, Christ Church Primary School and Burlington Junior School all have aspirations to develop 3G pitches.
- ◀ Land to the back of King George's Field as well as at Devon Way, Kingston Road Recreation Ground and YMCA Hakwer has also been identified as having the potential to provide 3G provision (in addition to other outdoor sports facilities).
- ◀ No 3G pitches that are available for community use are FA approved for competitive matches.
- ◀ No pitches are World Rugby compliant, although Shrewsbury House School reports that its provision has been installed to an appropriate grade.
- ◀ Most of the community available pitches are assessed as standard quality, although provision at Rokeby Prep School, Tiffin Sports Centre and Tolworth Girls School has reached the end of its recommended lifespan.
- ◀ The pitches at Tolworth Girls School are assessed as poor quality due to the surface being over-crumbed and because of fencing issues.
- ◀ No ancillary facility issues are identified.

3G – demand summary

- ◀ The 3G pitch stock is reported to be operating close to capacity during midweek, especially in winter months when grass pitches cannot be used for training or recreational demand.
- ◀ Weekend usage is limited, predominately on account of no matches being played on the existing supply of pitches as none are FA approved or World Rugby compliant.
- ◀ It is considered that all community activity is football related, with no other sporting usage identified outside of some internal rugby union demand at Shrewsbury House School.
- ◀ The large majority of capacity is being taken up by clubs for training purposes, although there is also a strong presence of recreational football activity taking place as well as commercial leagues running at Goals Tolworth.
- ◀ Other activity is identified from health activation programmes with Public Health and the foundations of Chelsea FC and Fulham FC.
- ◀ Unmet demand for 3G access for football is high, with 14 clubs (collectively fielding 126 teams) stating that additional pitches are required.
- ◀ Unmet demand for rugby union could also be perceived to exist given the overplay of grass pitches as a result of concentrated training demand.
- ◀ If future demand from population projections and club aspirations is realised, this will increase 3G requirements.

3G – supply and demand summary

- ◀ Based on current demand, there is a shortfall of six full size 3G pitches to meet football training requirements, increasing to seven when accounting for future demand.
- ◀ The current requirement equates to two pitches in the Kingston & North Kingston and South of the Borough analysis areas and of one pitch in the New & Old Malden and Surbiton analysis areas, whilst the additional future demand results in an increase of the shortfall in the South of the Borough Analysis Area.
- ◀ There is also evidence to warrant the creation of World Rugby compliant 3G provision given the grass pitch shortfalls evident as this could be a solution to alleviating the deficits.

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PART 4: RUGBY UNION

4.1: Introduction

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) governs rugby union in England. It is split into four areas across the Country with a workforce team that covers development, coaching, governance and competitions. As part of this, club developers and a team of community rugby coaches deliver core programmes for clubs across Kingston-upon-Thames.

The RFU oversees 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.

Consultation

There are four rugby union clubs in Kingston-upon-Thames and three responded to consultation requests, resulting in a response rate of 75%. The unresponsive club is Kingston RUFC.

Table 4.1: Summary of rugby club consultation

Club	Responded?
Economicals RUFC	Yes
Kingston RUFC	No
Law Society RUFC	Yes
Racal Decca RUFC	Yes

4.2: Supply

There are 16 grass rugby union pitches identified in Kingston-upon-Thames across nine unique sites, with 14 pitches available for community use across seven sites. The pitches that are unavailable for community use are located at education sites (Hollyfield School and Rokeby School Sports Ground).

The majority of the community available pitches are located in the New & Old Malden Analysis Area (seven), whilst no pitches are provided in the Kingston & North Kingston Analysis Area. This is further summarised below.

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

Analysis area	No. senior pitches	No. of age grade pitches
Kingston & North Kingston	-	-
New & Old Malden	7	-
South of the Borough	6	-
Surbiton	1	-
Kingston-upon-Thames	14	0

As seen, all the community available pitches are senior pitches, although an unavailable age grade pitch is located at Rokeby School Sports Ground. Whilst community available age grade pitches are provided at some venues across the Country, such play often takes place on over marked senior pitches, which is the case across Kingston-upon-Thames. As such, the lack of standalone provision is not considered to be uncommon or problematic.

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For rugby union pitch dimensions, please refer to the table below.

Table 4.3: Rugby union pitch dimensions⁵

Age	Pitch type	Maximum pitch dimensions (metres) ⁶
U7	Age grade mixed (mini)	20 x 12
U8	Age grade mixed (mini)	45 x 22
U9	Age grade mixed (mini)	60 x 30
U10	Age grade mixed (mini)	60 x 35
U11	Age grade mixed (mini)	60 x 43
U12	Age grade mixed (mini)	60 x 43
U13	Age grade boys/girls (junior)	90 x 60
U14 +	Senior	100 x 70 ⁷

The figure below identifies all grass rugby union pitches currently servicing Kingston-upon-Thames. For a key to the map, see Table 4.8.

⁵ For more information see: https://www.englandrugby.com/dxdam/da/da5079b1-7d2a-45ac-890c-d797e11e17c3/ER_Girls%20Age%20Bands.pdf

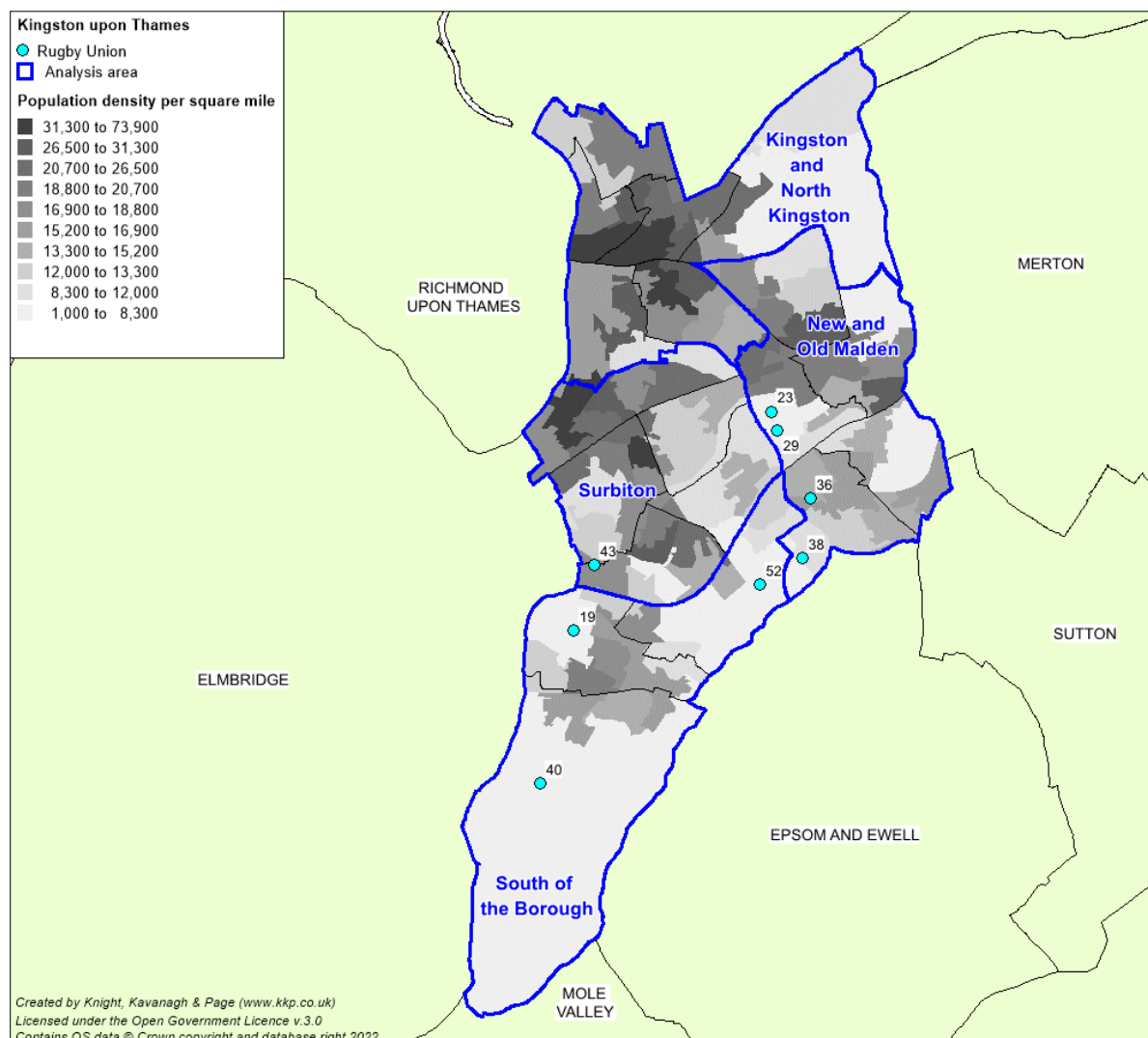
⁶ Recommended run off area for all pitch types requires five-metres each way and a minimum in-goal length of six metres.

⁷ Minimum dimensions of 94 x 68 metres are accepted.

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Figure 4.1: Location of rugby union pitches within Kingston-Upon-Thames



Management

Of the 16 pitches provided, 13 are operated by education providers, whilst the remaining three pitches are operated by Kingston RUFC. As such, there are no pitches operated by the Council.

Table 4.4: Rugby union pitches by management type

Community use	Number of pitches			
	Club	Council	Education	Other
Available	3	-	11	-
Unavailable	-	-	2	-
Total	3	-	13	-

Security of tenure

Economicals, Law Society and Racal Decca rugby clubs all rent their provision from universities, with Economicals RUFC accessing London School of Economics Sports Ground, Law Society RUFC using Kings College Sports Ground and Racal Decca RUFC using Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University).

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Whilst none of the clubs report any issues with renting, it must be noted that such arrangements can cause security of tenure issues as long-term access is not guaranteed, even if there is an obligation from the providers to provide sports facilities. This is especially the case for Racal Decca RUFC at Tolworth Court Ground as Kingston University has in the past reconfigured its pitches and there is a concern that it might reduce its rugby supply in the future. It is less of a worry for Economicals RUFC and Law Society RUFC as both are more intrinsically linked to the university sites that they use as they were set up for past students.

Kingston RUFC has a leasehold of its site and therefore has no security of tenure concerns. However, it also accesses provision at Southborough High School for some age grade activity, with no long-term agreement in place to support this.

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 5m centres that has been installed in the last eight years and a slit drained system at 1m centres that has been installed in the last five years.

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

The above was calculated for each pitch within Kingston-upon-Thames following site assessments, with findings then checked and challenged against consultation. This has then allowed an 'agreed quality rating' to be established.

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

Of the pitches that are available for community use, four are good quality, nine are standard and one is poor (at Southborough High School). The unavailable pitch at Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field) is also poor quality, whilst the unavailable pitch at Rokeby School Sports Ground is considered standard.

All pitches in use by clubs are good or standard quality. A pitch-by-pitch breakdown can be seen in the table below.

Table 4.8: Site quality ratings

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Tenure	Management	Community use?	No. of pitches	Pitch type	Sports lighting?	Non-technical assessment score	Quality rating
19	Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field)	KT9 1BF	South of the Borough	Unsecure	School	No	1	Senior	No	M0/D1	Poor
23	Kings College Sports Ground	KT3 5HA	New & Old Malden	Unsecure	University	Yes	2	Senior	No	M1/D1	Standard
								Senior	No	M1/D1	Standard
29	London School of Economics Sports Ground	KT3 5HB	New & Old Malden	Unsecure	University	Yes	2	Senior	No	M2/D1	Good
								Senior	No	M2/D1	Good
36	Richard Challoner School	KT3 5PE	New & Old Malden	Unsecure	School	Yes-unused	3	Senior	No	M1/D1	Standard
								Senior	No	M1/D1	Standard
								Senior	No	M1/D1	Standard
38	Rokeby School Sports Ground	KT4 7QB	New & Old Malden	Unsecure	School	No	1	Junior	No	M1/D1	Standard
40	Shrewsbury House Sports Ground	KT9 2ND	South of the Borough	Unsecure	School	Yes-unused	1	Senior	No	M1/D1	Standard
43	Southborough High School Sports Ground	KT6 5BX	Surbiton	Unsecure	School	Yes	1	Senior	No	M1/D0	Poor
52	Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University)	KT4 7QH	South of the Borough	Unsecure	University	Yes	2	Senior	No	M2/D2	Good
								Senior	No	M2/D2	Good
69	Kingston Rugby Football Club	KT9 1PL	South of the Borough	Secure	Sports Club	Yes	3	Senior	No	M1/D2	Standard
								Senior	Yes	M1/D2	Standard
								Senior	No	M1/D2	Standard

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Of the provision that is in use by clubs, the pitches at Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University) are assessed as good quality due to the presence of a drainage system and a rigorous maintenance regime that is in place.

The pitches at both Kings College Sports Ground and London School of Economics Sports Ground are assessed as standard quality, with drainage considered to be adequate, albeit natural, and the maintenance programmes being frequent but relatively basic.

Similarly, the pitches at Kingston Rugby Football Club are assessed as standard quality, although a drainage system is now in place following previous waterlogging issues.

Away from pitches in use by clubs, the pitch at Southborough High School Sports Ground is assessed as poor quality due to limited maintenance and natural drainage that is inadequate, with the School reporting that the provision is unusable following heavy rainfall. The pitch at Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field) is poor quality due to very limited maintenance taking place.

All remaining pitches are assessed as standard quality.

Ancillary facilities

Law Society RUFC has access to clubhouse provision at Kings College Sports Ground; however, it states that it would like better showers and changing facilities as well as a bar/lounge area for players to socialise in. The Club currently only has access to two changing rooms that have communal rather than ensuite shower facilities and the provision could now be considered dated. This also means that they do not comply with RFU recommendations.

London School of Economics Sports Ground and Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University) are serviced by bigger and better quality ancillary facilities, with no issues identified by either Economicals RUFC or Racal Decca RUFC.

The ancillary facilities at Kingston Rugby Football Club are of good quality and are relatively new following funding from Sport England and an interest free loan from the RFU. There are four team changing rooms and two officials changing rooms, all with showers and toilets self-contained, as well as a bar and lounge area. The building also has a disabled changing room with shower upstairs, including a lift to access both floors.

4.3: Demand

Demand for rugby pitches in Kingston-upon-Thames tends to fall within the categories of organised competitive play and organised training.

For competitive play, rugby union demand is split between adult rugby, age grade boys/girls rugby (previously junior) and age grade mixed rugby (previously mini). Age grade runs from U13 level to U18 (colts), whilst age grade mixed is for U7 to U12 level. In addition, new girls' age bands have been established, with the new age bands being at U12, U14, U16 and U18 level.

Competitive demand

There are four rugby clubs based in Kingston-upon-Thames, collectively providing a total of 19 teams. As a breakdown, this consists of nine senior men's, five age grade boys' and five age grade teams, with no dedicated women's or age grade girls' teams or disability teams identified. Kingston RUFC previously hosted a small female section but no longer does so due to a reported lack of demand.

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Despite there currently being little female rugby union presence within Kingston-upon-Thames, it should be noted that there is strong demand being received in neighbouring Merton, especially at clubs such as Wimbledon RUFC. As such, this is not considered to be an issues by the RFU.

Kingston RUFC is a relatively large club fielding several teams at senior and age grade level, whilst the remaining three clubs only field senior teams. The largest of these is Law Society RUFC, which has three senior men's teams and one veteran's team.

Table 4.9: Summary of demand

Club	Analysis area	No. of rugby union teams				
		Men's	Women's	Age grade boys'	Age grade girls'	Age grade mixed
Economicals RUFC	New & Old Malden	2	-	-	-	-
Kingston RUFC	South of the Borough	2	-	5	-	5
Law Society RUFC	New & Old Malden	4	-	-	-	-
Racal Decca RUFC	South of the Borough	1	-	-	-	-
Total		9	-	5	-	5

Three universities also field several teams in Kingston-upon-Thames, with these also requiring consideration. They predominately play in BUCS leagues, with eight senior men's and four senior women's teams identified within this structure, as summarised in the table below. However, it must also be noted that there will be additional inter-mural demand that can vary week-by-week.

Table 4.10: Summary of University demand

University	Analysis area	No. of rugby union teams	
		Men's	Women's
Kings College London	New & Old Malden	5	2
Kingston University	South of the Borough	1	1
London School of Economics	New & Old Malden	2	1
Total		8	4

The teams from Kings College London and London School of Economics play at London School of Economic Sports Ground, whilst those from Kingston University use Tolworth Court Ground.

Most of the teams across Kingston-upon-Thames are fielded in the New & Old Malden Analysis Area, with this accommodating two of the universities as well as Economicals and Law Society rugby clubs. The remaining teams play in the South of the Borough Analysis Area.

Table 4.11: Summary of demand by analysis area

Analysis area	No. of senior teams	No. of age grade boys/girls' teams	No. of age grade mixed teams
Kingston & North Kingston	-	-	-
New & Old Malden	16	-	-
South of the Borough	5	5	5
Surbiton	-	-	-
Kingston-upon-Thames	21	5	5

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Additional demand

Southborough High School reports that professional club Harlequins RUFC operates some coaching sessions at the School for its students. This adds demand to the provision at its sports ground.

Participation trends

Participation in Kingston-upon-Thames has seemingly increased over recent years, with Economicals, Kingston and Law Society rugby clubs all reporting a growth in the number of their teams. Racal Decca RUFC has remained a single-team club.

Economicals RUFC previously fielded just one senior team but has now grown to two, whilst Kingston RUFC reports that its age grade section has been growing year on year. Five years ago, only two age grade boys' teams were part of the Club (at U17 and U15 level), with this now growing to five.

Law Society RUFC has increased its number of teams via the creation of a veteran's team. However, it also states that its overall playing numbers have decreased, leading to many of its third team players playing for its second team, which then has a knock-on effect of the third team struggling for numbers. It identifies that this is mainly a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Training demand

Throughout the Country, many rugby union teams train at their home ground on match pitches. 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.

There is currently only one sports-lit pitch in Kingston-upon-Thames, with this provided at Kingston Rugby Football Club. It is used to accommodate all training activity from the Club.

Economicals, Law Society and Racal Decca rugby clubs all access their match pitches for training demand, despite them not being serviced by sports lighting. As such, usage can be limited, especially during winter months. Mobile lighting aids with this.

The university teams also train on their match pitches.

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.

Nationally, clubs with access to 3G pitches for training utilise them as a method of protecting grass pitches for matches and providing a high quality surface for full contact practice. Competitive play generally continues to take place on grass pitches, although there is occasional use of 3G pitches for fixtures in the case of grass pitch quality or capacity issues (especially during bad weather spells).

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There are currently no full size World Rugby compliant 3G pitches in Kingston-upon-Thames. The nearest are located in nearby authorities such as Merton, Elmbridge, Spelthorne and Wandsworth. However, Shrewsbury House School reports that its smaller sized 3G pitch is appropriate for rugby union activity and uses it for this purpose for its curricular and extra-curricular demand. It measures approximately 85 x 50 metres, with a small area also provided to the side. Nevertheless, the RFU is unaware of its compliance, meaning that this is at present questionable.

See Part 3 of this report for further information.

Exported/imported demand

No clubs or teams are identified as exporting from or importing into Kingston-upon-Thames. However, it must be noted that there are several large clubs very close to the border of the Borough that likely attract some localised demand. This predominately relates to Wimbledon RUFC and Old Emmanuel RUFC, both of which are based just over boundary lines, in Merton.

Unmet/latent demand

No unmet or latent demand is identified in Kingston-upon-Thames. All clubs report that their activity can be accommodated and that no players are being turned away due to a lack of capacity.

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 will estimate the additional demand for rugby union arising from housing developments within LBRuT.

Participation increases

No future demand aspirations are reported by the three clubs that responded to consultation requests, with all suggesting that they are happy with their current playing numbers. Law Society RUFC in particular reports that its focus is on sustaining its current number of teams due to a recent decline in playing numbers.

Future demand for Kingston RUFC is unknown. However, as the largest club in the Borough, it could be the most likely to have growth aspirations.

Table 4.12: Summary of future demand expressed by clubs

Club	Analysis area	No. of rugby union teams				
		Men's	Women's	Boys'	Girls'	Mini
Economicals RUFC	New & Old Malden	-	-	-	-	-
Kingston RUFC	South of the Borough	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Law Society RUFC	New & Old Malden	-	-	-	-	-
Racal Decca RFC	South of the Borough	-	-	-	-	-
Total		0	0	0	0	0

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Population increases

Based on population projections to 2041 (in line with the Council's emerging Local Plan), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator can estimate the likely additional demand for grass rugby pitches that will arise from any growth. Using the current and future populations in each of the relevant age groups together with the current team numbers, team generation rates have 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 for each playing format. However, no growth is projected, with increases considered insufficient to result in the creation of any additional teams.

Table 4.13: Borough-wide team generation rates

Age group	Team generation rate	Number of new teams generated by the new population ⁸
Men (19-45yrs)	1:4,040	0
Women (19-45yrs)	-	0
Boys (13-18yrs)	1:1,250	0
Girls (13-18yrs)	-	0
Mixed (7-12yrs)	1:2,501	0

Notwithstanding the above, team generation rates do not account for specific development work within certain areas or focused towards certain groups, such as NGB initiatives. As such, future growth is still considered possible despite population projections indicating that there will be no increased demand. A growth in women and girls' rugby is thought to be particularly likely given current RFU aspirations and due to the upcoming 2025 Rugby World Cup because of its expected impact and related development work.

The peak period

In order to fully establish actual spare capacity, the peak period needs to be established for all types of rugby. For senior teams in Kingston-upon-Thames, it is considered to be Saturday PM, although it must be noted that midweek demand is also high due to the presence of the universities demand.

Peak time for age grade rugby is Sunday AM.

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. 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.

To enable an accurate supply and demand assessment of rugby union pitches, the following assumptions are applied to the site-by-site and pitch-by-pitch analysis:

- ◀ All sites that are or could be used for competitive rugby matches (regardless of whether this is secured community use) are included on the supply side.

⁸ Rounded to the nearest whole number.

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- ◀ All competitive play is on senior sized pitches, with junior and mini teams playing on overmarked pitches.
- ◀ From U13s upwards, teams play 15v15 and use a full pitch.
- ◀ For senior and youth 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.
- ◀ Mini teams (U6s-U12s) play on half of a senior pitch, meaning two matches and four teams can be accommodated at any one time
- ◀ Play per week for mini 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 (one training session is one match equivalent session).
- ◀ Internal use of school pitches is added to current play where community usage is also received, 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.

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 4.14: 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

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Table 4.15: Capacity table for rugby pitches in Kingston-upon-Thames

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of pitches	Pitch type	Quality rating	Sports lighting?	Non-technical assessment score	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Training equivalent sessions (per week) ⁹	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
19	Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field)	South of the Borough	No	1	Senior	Poor	No	M0/D1	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use
23	Kings College Sports Ground	New & Old Malden	Yes	2	Senior	Standard	No	M1/D1	3	2	2	3	Used for match play and training by Law Society RUFC and university teams
					Senior	Standard	No	M1/D1	2.5	2	2	2.5	Used for match play and training by Law Society RUFC and university teams
29	London School of Economics Sports Ground	New & Old Malden	Yes	2	Senior	Good	No	M2/D1	1.5	1	3	0.5	Used for match play and training by Economicals RUFC and university teams
					Senior	Good	No	M2/D1	1	2	3	1	Used for match play and training by Economicals RUFC and university teams
36	Richard Challoner School	New & Old Malden	Yes-unused	3	Senior	Standard	No	M1/D1	-	-	2	2	Unused by the community
					Senior	Standard	No	M1/D1	-	-	2	2	Unused by the community
					Senior	Standard	No	M1/D1	-	-	2	2	Unused by the community
38	Rokeby School Sports Ground	New & Old Malden	No	1	Junior	Standard	No	M1/D1	-	-	-	-	Unavailable for community use
40	Shrewsbury House Sports Ground	Surbiton	Yes-unused	1	Senior	Standard	No	M1/D1	-	-	2	2	Unused by the community
43	Southborough High School Sports Ground	Surbiton	Yes	1	Senior	Poor	No	M1/D0	1	0	0.5	1.5	Used by Kingston RUFC for some mini demand as well as school activity and some sessions from Harlequins RUFC
52	Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University)	South of the Borough	Yes	2	Senior	Good	No	M2/D2	1	1.5	3.25	0.75	Used for match play and training by Racal Decca RUFC and university teams
					Senior	Good	No	M2/D2	1	1.5	3.25	0.75	Used for match play and training by Racal Decca RUFC and university teams
69	Kingston Rugby Football Club	South of the Borough	Yes	3	Senior	Standard	No	M1/D2	2	-	2.5	0.5	Used for match play by Kingston RUFC
					Senior	Standard	Yes	M1/D2	0.5	5	2.5	3	Used for training by Kingston RUFC and some match play
					Senior	Standard	No	M1/D2	2.25	-	2.5	0.25	Used for match play by Kingston RUFC

⁹ Where training takes place on non-sports lit pitches, mobile sports lighting is generally used.

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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 which are difficult to quantify on a weekly basis.

Furthermore, there are some rugby union pitches in Kingston-upon-Thames 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, the nature of club rugby generally means that clubs are generally unwilling to utilise secondary venues, making community use unlikely, with ancillary provision, access and player welfare also often problematic.

In addition, any pitches that are used by clubs to capacity at peak time, that are poor quality or that provide unsecure tenure are not considered to have actual spare capacity. As such, the table below ascertains whether or not any identified 'potential capacity' can be used to accommodate an increase in play on a site-by-site and pitch-by-pitch basis.

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Table 4.16: Actual spare capacity table

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Capacity rating	Actual spare capacity (peak period)	Comments
19	Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field)	South of the Borough	Senior	-	0	No actual spare capacity due to being unavailable for community use.
23	Kings College Sports Ground	New & Old Malden	Senior	3	0	Overplayed, therefore no actual spare capacity.
			Senior	2.5	0	Overplayed, therefore no actual spare capacity.
29	London School of Economics Sports Ground	New & Old Malden	Senior	0.5	0	Overplayed, therefore no actual spare capacity.
			Senior	1	0	Overplayed, therefore no actual spare capacity.
36	Richard Challoner School	New & Old Malden	Senior	2	0	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure, with school usage also likely to limit capacity.
			Senior	2	0	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure, with school usage also likely to limit capacity.
			Senior	2	0	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure, with school usage also likely to limit capacity.
38	Rokeby School Sports Ground	New & Old Malden	Junior	-	0	No actual spare capacity due to being unavailable for community use.
40	Shrewsbury House Sports Ground	Surbiton	Senior	2	0	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure, with school usage also likely to limit capacity.
43	Southborough High School Sports Ground	Surbiton	Senior	1.5	0	Overplayed, therefore no actual spare capacity.
52	Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University)	South of the Borough	Senior	0.75	0	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
			Senior	0.75	0	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
69	Kingston Rugby Football Club	South of the Borough	Senior	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
			Senior	3	0	Overplayed, therefore no actual spare capacity.
			Senior	0.25	0	Spare capacity is not of a sufficient amount to accommodate an increase in senior play without overplay being created (0.5 match equivalents are required).

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Of the nine pitches identified as having potential spare capacity in Kingston-upon-Thames, only one is considered to have actual spare capacity at peak time for an increase in senior play. This relates to one of the pitches at Kingston Rugby Football Club.

The remaining pitches are all overplayed, at or close to capacity, unavailable to the community, or do not provide security of tenure to current or potential users.

Overplay

There are six pitches across four sites in Kingston-upon-Thames that are overplayed by a total of 11.5 match equivalent sessions per week. These are at Kings College Sports Ground, London School of Economics, Kingston Rugby Football Club at Southborough High School Sports Ground and are used by Law Society, Economicals and Kingston rugby clubs.

Table 4.17: Summary of overplay

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of overplayed pitches	Pitch type	Overplay
23	Kings College Sports Ground	New & Old Malden	2	Senior	3
				Senior	2.5
29	London School of Economics Sports Ground	New & Old Malden	2	Senior	0.5
				Senior	1
43	Southborough High School Sports Ground	Surbiton	1	Senior	1.5
69	Kingston Rugby Football Club	South of the Borough	1	Senior	3
Total					11.5

At King College Sports Ground and London School of Economics Sports Ground, the overplay is a consequence of the pitches being used for both community and university play and for both matches and training. At Kingston Rugby Football Club, the overplay is predominately due to the pitch accommodating significant and heavily concentrated training demand due to the presence of sports lighting.

The pitch at Southborough High School is overplayed due to use from Kingston RUFC and internal access. It is also the only overplayed pitch that is assessed as poor quality, thus providing a reduced capacity.

The majority of overplay is evident in the New & Old Malden Analysis Area, whilst some is also found in the South of the Borough Analysis Area and the Surbiton Analysis Area.

Table 4.18: Summary of overplay by analysis area

Analysis area	Overplay (match equivalent sessions)
Kingston & North Kingston	-
New & Old Malden	7
South of the Borough	3
Surbiton	1.5
Kingston-upon-Thames	11.5

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4.5: Supply and demand analysis

Having considered supply and demand, the table below identifies the overall spare capacity and overplay of rugby union pitches in Kingston-upon-Thames based on match equivalent sessions. Future demand is based on club development plans and predicted increases from projected population growth.

Table 4.19: Summary of supply and demand analysis

Analysis area	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				Total
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current demand	Future demand	
Kingston & North Kingston	-	-	0	-	0
New & Old Malden	-	7	7	-	7
South of the Borough	0.5	3	2.5	-	2.5
Surbiton	-	1.5	1.5	-	1.5
Kingston-upon-Thames	0.5	10	11	0	11

There is a current and future capacity shortfall of 11 match equivalent sessions to meet rugby union demand in Kingston-upon-Thames, with deficits identified in the New & Old Malden, South of the Borough and Surbiton analysis areas. The Kingston & North Kingston is at capacity, with no community demand currently existing.

4.6: Conclusion

There is a clear shortfall of rugby union capacity in Kingston-upon-Thames. This is predominately due to concentrated use of four sites (Kingston Rugby Football Club, Kings College Sports Ground, London School of Economics Sports Ground and Tolworth Court Ground), with all four used for both community match play and training demand and with three also accommodating university activity.

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Rugby union - supply summary

- ◀ There are 16 grass rugby union pitches identified across nine sites in Kingston-upon-Thames, with 14 pitches available for community use across seven sites.
- ◀ All the community available pitches are senior pitches (all age grade rugby takes place on senior provision).
- ◀ Of the 16 pitches provided, 13 are operated by education providers and three by clubs (none are operated by the Council).
- ◀ Economicals (at London School of Economics Sports Ground), Law Society (at Kings College Sports Ground) and Racal Decca (at Tolworth Court Ground) rugby clubs all rent their provision from universities, whereas Kingston RUFC has leasehold of its site.
- ◀ Kingston RUFC also accesses Southborough High School Sports Ground, where no long-term agreement is in place.
- ◀ Of the pitches that are available for community use, two are good quality, 11 are standard quality and one is poor quality (at Southborough High School Sports Ground).
- ◀ There is currently only one sports-lit pitch in Kingston-upon-Thames, with this provided at Kingston Rugby Football Club.
- ◀ The clubhouse at Kings College Sports Ground requires improvement, with no social provision provided and with the changing rooms being dated.

Rugby union - demand summary

- ◀ There are four rugby clubs based in Kingston-upon-Thames (Economicals RUFC, Kingston RUFC, Law Society RUFC and Racal Decca RUFC), collectively providing a total of 19 teams (nine senior men's, five age grade boys' and five age grade mixed teams).
- ◀ Kingston RUFC is a relatively large club fielding several teams at senior and age grade level, whilst the remaining three clubs only field senior teams.
- ◀ In addition, three universities also field several teams in the Borough, including 12 BUCS teams, with these also requiring consideration.
- ◀ Participation in has seemingly increased over recent years, with Economicals, Kingston and Law Society rugby clubs all reporting a growth in the number of their teams.
- ◀ All teams are currently training on match pitches across the sites that are in use, despite sports lighting only being provided at Kingston Rugby Football Club.
- ◀ No future demand is reported by clubs or via future population projections, although that is not to say that there will not be growth, particularly within targeted areas and the upcoming 2025 Rugby World Cup (e.g., women's and girls').

Rugby union – supply and demand summary

- ◀ Only one pitch, at Kingston Rugby Football Club, has actual spare capacity for an increase in demand.
- ◀ There are six pitches across four sites that are overplayed by a combined total of 11.5 match equivalent sessions (at Kingston Rugby Football Club, London School of Economics Sports Ground, Kings College Sports Ground and Southborough High School Sports Ground).
- ◀ There is a current and future capacity shortfall of 11 match equivalent sessions per week on rugby union pitches.
- ◀ A provision shortfall is identified in the Surbiton, South of the Borough and New & Old Malden analysis areas, with the Kingston & North Kingston Analysis Area receiving no demand.

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PART 5: HOCKEY

5.1: 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 3G pitches, 40mm pitches may be suitable at introductory level, such as school curriculum low level hockey. England Hockey's (EH) Artificial Grass Playing Surface Policy details suitability of surface type for varying levels of hockey, as seen below.

Table 5.1: England Hockey guidelines on artificial surface types suitable for hockey

Category	Surface	Playing Level	Playing Level
England Hockey Category 1	Water surface approved within the FIH Global/National Parameters	Essential International Hockey - Training and matches	Desirable Domestic National Premier competition Higher levels of EH Player Pathway Performance Centres and upwards England
England Hockey Category 2	Sand dressed surfaces within the FIH National Parameter	Essential Domestic National Premier competition Higher levels of player pathway: Academy Centres and Upwards	Desirable All adult and junior League Hockey Intermediate or advanced School Hockey
England Hockey Category 3	Sand based surfaces within the FIH National Parameter	Essential All adult and junior club training and league Hockey EH competitions for clubs and schools Intermediate or advanced schools hockey	EH competitions for clubs and schools (excluding domestic national league)
England Hockey Category 4	All 3G surfaces	Essential None	Desirable Lower level hockey (Introductory level) when no category 1-3 surface is available.

In addition to the above pitch types, EH reports that it is currently trialling a different multi-sport surface in order 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 2, is a versatile surface that will ensure that the sports do not need to compromise on the playing experience; it will be a sand dressed synthetic turf with a compatible shock pad. The concept is designed to provide facilities, including schools, with a dynamic surface which reduces the amount of space required and enables the provision to be utilised to its full potential.

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For senior teams, a full-size hockey pitch for competitive matches measures at least 91.4 x 55 metres excluding 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.

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 and also requires access to a pitch with lights.

Consultation

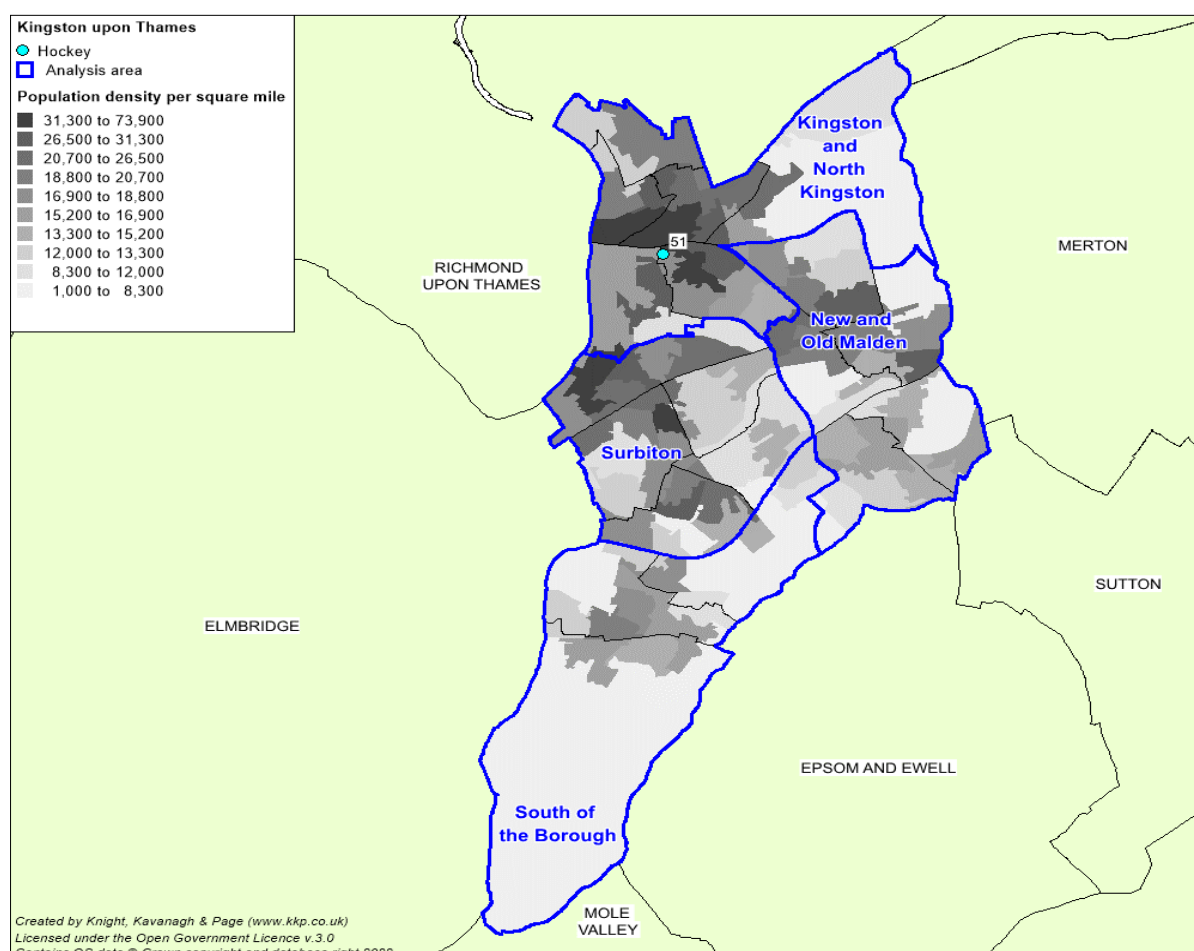
There are three hockey clubs identified as currently playing within Kingston-upon-Thames. Aces HC, Mitcham Ladies HC and Old Kingstonians HC all responded to consultation requests, resulting a 100% response rate.

In addition, Berrylands, Cheam, Old Cranleighans and Surbiton hockey clubs are all identified as being clubs that draw some demand from Kingston-upon-Thames, with most also having previously played within the Borough. As such, they have also been consulted.

5.2: Supply

There is one full size (sand dressed) hockey suitable pitch in Kingston-upon-Thames, which is located at Tiffin Girls' School in the Kingston & North Kingston Analysis Area. The pitch is available for community use and is serviced by sports lighting. It measures 98 x 62 metres.

Figure 5.1: Location of full size hockey suitable APGs



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Smaller size provision

In addition to the pitch at Tiffin Girls' School, there are eight smaller size sand-based pitches in Kingston-upon-Thames across six sites, as summarised below.

Table 5.3: Smaller size AGPs in Kingston-upon-Thames

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	No. of pitches	Community use?	Sports lighting?	Size (metres)
9	Chessington Sports Centre	South of the Borough	3	Yes	Yes	30 x 20
						30 x 20
						30 x 20
20	Holy Cross Prep School	Kingston & North Kingston	1	No	No	60 x 42
24	Kings Oak Primary School	Kingston & North Kingston	1	No	No	40 x 28
32	Malden Parochial C of E Primary School	New & Old Malden	1	No	No	25 x 12
41	Shrewsbury House Sports Ground	South of the Borough	1	No	No	50 x 33
43	Southborough High School Grass Pitches	Surbiton	1	No	No	45 x 28

Of the smaller size pitches, only those at Chessington Sports Centre is available for community use and with sports lighting. Due to this and the small nature of the provision, none are considered suitable for purposeful hockey demand, meaning that they are all discounted from this point forward.

Notwithstanding the above, it is recognised that the smaller size pitches can be valuable assets for accommodating curricular and extra-curricular demand as well as recreational community activity where availability is offered. An example of this is at Chessington Sports Centre, where a high level of football demand is received despite the provision being unsuitable for hockey and not providing for the sport (no hockey goals are in place).

Management and security of tenure

The full-size hockey suitable pitch at Tiffin Girls' School is managed in house by the School itself. Aces HC accesses the provision on a seasonable basis, whilst any additional hockey usage is accommodated via ad hoc bookings as and when required. As a result, no long-term agreements are in place, meaning that security of tenure is limited.

Availability

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).

In Kingston-upon-Thames, the pitch at Tiffin Girls' School has good availability during the peak period, although it is not fully available as some capacity is reserved for internal school usage, which is normal at school site across the Country. Outside of school hours, the pitch is available on weekdays from 18:00 until 21:30 and at weekends between 09:00 and 18:00. This means the pitch has 29 out of 34 hours of availability in the peak period.

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Quality

Depending on use, it is considered that the carpet of an AGP usually lasts for approximately ten 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 poor quality.

For the PPS, each AGP has been assigned a quality rating of good, standard or poor following site assessments. This rating is linked to the condition and age of the playing surface, as well as surrounding hard areas and the maintenance that is undertaken. For the full assessment criteria, please refer to Appendix 2.

The pitch at Tiffin Girls' School was installed in 2013 and has been assessed as standard quality, with some signs of wear and tear evident despite a relatively robust and regular maintenance regime. The pitch is reaching the end of its ten-year carpet life and imminent resurfacing is recommended to ensure that the provision can remain useable.

Ancillary provision

The ancillary facilities at Tiffin Girls' School are considered problematic, with Aces HC suggesting that the provision is poor quality. It states that there are no showers in the changing rooms and that no social space is available for post-match refreshments. Furthermore, car parking is limited which can be an issue around match and training days.

5.3: Demand

There are three clubs currently playing in Kingston-upon-Thames: Aces HC, Mitcham Ladies HC and Old Kingstonian HC.

Aces HC

Aces HC fields one senior women's team and currently has a membership of 22 seniors and two juniors. It accesses the pitch at Tiffin Girls' School for all matches and training, although it notes that due to better quality it would prefer to access a pitch at Surbiton High School if the capacity existed. This provision is located outside of Kingston-upon-Thames, in Elmbridge.

Mitcham Ladies HC

Mitcham Ladies HC is also a club with one senior women's team. It currently plays its matches outside of Kingston-upon-Thames, in Merton, but accesses the pitch at Tiffin Girls' School every Thursday evening for training.

Old Kingstonian HC

Old Kingstonian HC is a large club with 137 senior and 251 junior members. It currently fields four senior men's (including one veteran's) and three senior women's teams as well as several junior teams; however, most of this activity takes place at Ditton Field in Elmbridge.

The Club accesses Tiffin Girls' School for some senior and junior training activity and as an overspill venue for fixtures, with two or three matches being held at the site each Saturday. On average, it accesses the provision for 16 hours per week.

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Additional club demand

No other hockey clubs are currently accessing the pitch at Tiffin Girls' School, although there has been some recent usage. For example, Berrylands HC used the provision last season due to capacity issues within Merton, although this has now been resolved via access to a pitch at Wimbledon High School.

Similarly, Cheam HC on occasion accessed Tiffin Girls' School last season due to capacity issues at Nonsuch High School, in Epsom & Ewell. It now solely accesses this site without a need for a secondary venue.

Going back further, Mid Surrey HC used the pitch at Tiffin Girls' School for all activity, prior to a merger with Old Cranleigh HC in 2018. As part of this, its demand is now absorbed at Old Cranleigh HC's own venue, in Elmbridge.

Surbiton HC has not historically accessed provision within Kingston-upon-Thames; however, the proximity of the Club means that it is likely to accommodate some demand from within the Borough. It currently utilises two pitches at its own site, in Elmbridge, as well as Surbiton High School as an overspill venue.

Although not included within the scope of this study, Surbiton HC reports high demand for access to indoor provision for indoor hockey. It states that it cannot currently gain sufficient access to suitable facilities.

University demand

Kings College London, London School of Economics and Kingston University all field hockey teams, although none do within Kingston-upon-Thames despite otherwise having a presence within the Borough.

Lee Valley Tennis & Hockey Centre in Waltham Forest is used by London School of Economics, Kings College Sports Ground in Lewisham is used by Kings College London and Surbiton Hockey Club is used by Kingston University. All three report that they are happy at their current venues.

England Hockey initiatives

In addition to club and university-based hockey activity, there are also various initiatives for hockey which are promoted by EH, as detailed below. These can add to the demand in a local authority and also necessitate the need for further pitch capacity.

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.

There are currently no Back to Hockey sessions in Kingston-upon-Thames. However, Surbiton HC offers Back to Hockey sessions which take place on Monday evenings. Whilst this is located outside of the Borough, it is considered capable of servicing some demand from residents.

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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.

Outside of Kingston-upon-Thames, walking hockey sessions are currently offered by Surbiton HC and take place at the Club on Friday mornings between 10:00-11:00.

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. Nevertheless, no such activity is currently identified in or around Kingston-upon-Thames.

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.

There are currently no Hockey Heroes courses operating in Kingston-upon-Thames.

Participation trends

Both Aces HC and Mitcham Ladies HC report that participation levels have remained static in recent years, with them only ever having one senior team. Meanwhile, Old Kingstonian HC has seen a considerable growth in membership, which as a consequence has led to increased demand for access to the pitch at Tiffin Girls' School.

Exported/imported demand

There is a high level of cross-boundary demand across and nearby to London boroughs due to the number of clubs in the region and the size of many. This is exemplified by a club such as Old Kingstonian HC using pitches in multiple authorities. Nevertheless, the Club reports that it is currently happy utilising Ditton Field as its main venue and Tiffin Girls' School as its secondary venue.

Mitcham Ladies HC primarily considers itself to be a Merton based club, meaning that its use of the pitch at Tiffin Girls' School represents imported demand. However, it notes that this is not an issue as many of its members come from Kingston-upon-Thames.

As previously mentioned, Aces HC has an aspiration to relocate its demand to Surbiton High School, outside of Kingston-upon-Thames. This would become exported demand.

Latent/unmet demand

No latent or unmet demand is identified by any of the three clubs utilising provision within Kingston-upon-Thames. Aces, Mitcham Ladies and Old Kingstonian hockey clubs all report their current level of provision is adequate to meet their needs.

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Conversely, both Cheam HC and Old Cranleigh HC report that they could field more teams and accommodate more members if they had access to increased pitch capacity. Such demand could lead to them having a future need to re-access provision at Tiffin Girls School, despite currently being located outside of the Borough.

Future demand

Growing participation is a key aim within EH's Strategic Plan and key drivers include working with clubs, universities, schools and regional and local leagues as well as developing opportunities for over 40s and delivering a quality programme of competition. Overall, it has an aim to double participation over the next ten years.

In addition, based on population projections to 2041 (in line with the Council's emerging Local Plan), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator can estimate the likely additional demand for AGP provision that will arise from growth, worked out by converting existing demand to team/member generation rates. In Kingston-upon-Thames, it identifies a small increase in demand; however, this is difficult to fully quantify given the nature of the existing demand and the cross-boundary activity that is taking place. Due to this, population growth in neighbouring authorities may also result in increased requirements for access to pitches within the Borough.

In relation to club aspirations, neither Aces HC nor Mitcham Ladies HC report intentions to increase their number of teams in the future, with both happy to continue as one team clubs. Old Kingstonian HC has an overall aim to increase demand but does not quantify this growth, although it suggests that it will be fielded outside of Kingston-upon-Thames.

Peak time demand

Peak time demand for senior hockey is Saturdays, with the majority of matches played on this day. In addition, training activity generally takes place on midweek evenings, with preference often given to Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursdays as teams are reluctant to train in close proximity to weekend matches.

Junior hockey predominately takes place on Sundays, either through organised training, friendlies or tournaments.

Pitch usage

Old Kingstonian HC is by far the biggest user of the pitch at Tiffin Girls' School, utilising the site for an average of 16 hours per week during the hockey season, which as a breakdown consists of around eight midweek hours and eight weekend hours. In addition, Aces HC accesses the provision for three hours a week, whilst Mitcham Ladies HC accesses it for 1.5 hours a week. This adds up to 20.5 hours of weekly hockey usage within a peak time period of 34 hours.

Whilst the above would suggest that 13.5 hours of spare capacity remains, in reality the majority of this is taken up by other sporting users, most prominently football clubs. Only minimal booking slots remain during midweek evenings, largely on Mondays and Fridays, with a similar level of availability existing during weekends.

Most of the football usage at Tiffin Girls School comes from Richmond Park Girls' FC, which utilises the pitch for training for 12 of its 14 affiliated teams, in addition to all running programmes from the site. The Club has an aspiration to transfer this demand to a full size 3G pitch should one be provided.

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

5.4: Supply and demand analysis

It is suggested that a full size, floodlit pitch is able to accommodate four match equivalent sessions on one day. With teams playing on a home and away basis, this equates to one AGP being able to cater for eight 'home' teams at peak time (one team requires 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week on its 'home' AGP). Using this, on the basis that there is one full size AGP in Kingston-upon-Thames, this provides a theoretical opportunity to accommodate up to four matches and eight hockey teams across the Borough.

For senior hockey, Old Kingstonian HC generally utilises the pitch at Tiffin Girls' School for two or three matches each Saturday, whilst Mitcham Ladies HC and Aces HC only require access every other week (or alternate weeks) with both only fielding one team. As such, there are some weeks where all capacity will be taken up, and other weeks where some level of spare capacity will remain.

There is more pressure in terms of midweek training capacity, with the hockey demand competing for booking slots with football clubs. Currently, around 12 hours of capacity are taken up at Tiffin Girls' School by Aces, Mitcham Ladies and Old Kingstonian hockey clubs, but little space exists for this to increase should any growth occur or should any other clubs in the area require access. Supplying full size 3G provision in the Borough should help alleviate this pressure as it will provide a means to transferring the football demand away.

For junior hockey matches, the need for pitches is less than it is for senior hockey. This is because younger age groups can play on half a pitch (meaning two fixtures can take place at one time) and because there are fewer junior teams in Kingston-upon-Thames than there are senior. As such, provision adequate for senior demand is also likely to be adequate to accommodate junior demand, although there are likely to be added pressures when it comes to training.

5.6: Conclusion

Sufficient capacity exists on the pitch at Tiffin Girls' School to accommodate current hockey demand, meaning that the existing supply is adequate. However, it is imperative that the pitch is protected for future access (meaning no 3G conversion) as without it, several clubs in the region would be inadequately serviced. This not only relates to the three existing hockey clubs but also other users that could have future access requirements or that could be squeezed out of other venues if demand had to be relocated from Kingston-upon-Thames.

To ensure that demand for the pitch at Tiffin Girls' School can continue to be catered for, opportunities to increase capacity for hockey should be sought, with existing availability limited. Primarily, this could be achieved via increasing the stock of 3G pitches in the Borough, as set out in Part 3 of this report. This would enable the transfer of football demand to a more suitable surface.

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Converting sand-based AGPs to 3G

Since the introduction of 3G pitches and given their popularity for football, providers have seen this as a way of replacing their tired sand-based carpet and generating money from hiring out a 3G pitch to football clubs and commercial football providers. This has come at the expense of hockey, with players now travelling further distances to gain access to a suitable pitch and many teams being displaced from their preferred geographical area.

Due to its impact on hockey, it is appropriate to ensure that sufficient sand-based AGPs are retained for the playing development of the sport. To that end, a change of surface should require a planning application and, as part of that, the applicants should have to show that there is sufficient provision available for hockey in the locality. Opportunities to incorporate this into planning policy should therefore be explored, and advice from Sport England and EH should also be sought prior to any planning application being submitted.

It should also be noted that, if a surface is changed, it could require the existing floodlighting to be changed and, in some instances, noise attenuation measures may need to be put in place.

The 3G surface is limited in the range of sport that can be played or taught on it. Those proposing a conversion should take advice from the appropriate sports' governing bodies or refer to Sport England guidance 'Selecting the Right Artificial Grass Surface which can be found on Sport England's website:

<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/artificial-sports-surfaces/>

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Hockey – supply summary

- ◀ There is one full size AGP suitable for competitive hockey in Kingston-upon-Thames, located at Tiffin Girls' School.
- ◀ The site is serviced by sports lighting and is fully available for community use.
- ◀ In addition, there are eight smaller-size AGPs located across the Borough, although none are suitable for purposeful hockey demand.
- ◀ The full-size hockey suitable pitch at Tiffin Girls' School is managed in house by the School itself, although no long-term access guarantees are offered to hockey club users.
- ◀ The pitch is assessed as standard quality, with resurfacing imminently due following installation in 2013.
- ◀ The ancillary facilities servicing the pitch are poor quality, with no showers or social space on offer.

Hockey – demand summary

- ◀ There are three clubs currently playing in Kingston-upon-Thames: Aces HC, Mitcham Ladies HC and Old Kingstonian HC, with all three accessing the pitch at Tiffin Girls' School.
- ◀ Both Aces HC and Mitcham Ladies HC field one senior women's team, whilst Old Kingstonian HC is a large club with several senior and junior teams but is primarily based at Ditton Field in Elmbridge.
- ◀ Mitcham Ladies HC primarily considers itself to be a Merton based club, meaning that its use of the pitch at Tiffin Girls' School represents imported demand.
- ◀ Aces HC has an aspiration to relocate its demand to Surbiton High School, which would become exported demand.
- ◀ Berrylands, Cheam and Mid Surrey hockey clubs previously accessed the pitch at Tiffin Girls School but no longer do so.
- ◀ Kings College London, London School of Economics and Kingston University all field hockey teams, although none do within Kingston-upon-Thames despite otherwise having a presence within the Borough.
- ◀ Both Cheam HC and Old Cranleigh HC report that they could field more teams and accommodate more members if they had access to increased pitch capacity, which could lead to them having a future need to re-access provision at Tiffin Girls School.
- ◀ Overall, hockey demand at Tiffin Girls School amounts to 20.5 hours of weekly usage, with the majority of the remaining peak time capacity at the site taken up by football usage (e.g., by Richmond Park Girls' FC) and with only limited availability remaining.

Hockey – supply and demand summary

- ◀ For senior hockey, there are some weeks where all capacity will be taken up at Tiffin Girls School and other weeks where some level of spare capacity will remain.
- ◀ There is more pressure in terms of midweek training capacity, with the hockey demand competing for booking slots with football clubs.
- ◀ For junior hockey, the need for pitches is generally less than it is for senior hockey, meaning provision that adequate for senior demand is also likely to be adequate for junior demand.
- ◀ Notwithstanding the existing adequacy of supply, it is imperative that the pitch is protected for future access as without it, several clubs in the region would be inadequately serviced.

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PART 6: CRICKET

6.1: Introduction

The Surrey County Cricket Board is the main governing and representative body for cricket within the County, including Kingston-upon-Thames. Its aim is to promote the game at all levels through partnerships with professional and recreational cricketing clubs as well as other appropriate agencies. Working closely with the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), it is responsible for the management and development of every form of recreational cricket for men, women and children within the area. It is also currently working with the ECB on delivering and laying the foundations for its Strategy, “Inspiring Generations”, which has been live since 2020.

For senior cricket in Kingston-upon-Thames there are three main offerings (Saturday, Sunday and midweek cricket), whilst the youth league structure tends to be club-based matches which are generally played mid-week, although Sunday activity is also common. In addition, there is also a presence of recreational and unaffiliated cricket taking place.

County Facilities Strategy

Surrey Cricket is currently undertaking a County Facilities Strategy. These are being produced by individual county cricket boards across the Country, unique to their geographic areas and based upon inputs from diverse representation. They are viewed as long-term plans and involve engagement with key stakeholders, including clubs, leagues, active partnerships, county pitch advisors and Sport England.

To inform the strategies, the ECB has set guidelines to ensure that the following facilities are considered in 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).

The strategies will be used to shape investment priorities, ensuring that decision-making processes are clearly explained before a list of priority projects is produced. To inform this process, each strategy will utilise findings from PPS-related work, where in place, as a ‘high quality’ evidence base.

Consultation

In total, there are five clubs based within Kingston-upon-Thames. Of these four have responded to consultation requests, resulting in a response rate of 80%.

The table below summarises the responsiveness of clubs. The unresponsive club is London Gymkhana CC.

Table 6.1: List of affiliated clubs with analysis area

Club name	Analysis area	Club response?
Chessington CC	South of the Borough	Yes
Hook & Southborough CC	South of the Borough	Yes
Kingstonian CC	Kingston & North Kingston	Yes
London Gymkhana CC	Surbiton	No
Malden Wanderers CC	New & Old Malden	Yes

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In addition, Old Emmanuel, Viscount, Wandgas and Worcester Park cricket clubs have also been consulted. These are based outside of the Borough but serve considerable demand from Kingston-upon-Thames due to their proximity to the boundary. The Surrey Cricket League has also been consulted.

6.2: Supply

There are 19 grass wicket cricket squares in Kingston-upon-Thames across 13 sites, with 17 squares at 12 sites available for community use. The two unavailable squares are both found at Rokeby School Sports Ground.

Of the community available squares, seven are in the New & Old Malden Analysis Area and the South of the Borough Analysis Area, whilst four are in Surbiton Analysis Area. The remaining square is provided in the Kingston & North Kingston Analysis Area, as further summarised in the table below.

Table 6.2: Summary of grass wicket squares available for community use

Analysis area	Number of squares		Total
	Available for community use	Not available for community use	
Kingston & North Kingston	1	-	1
New & Old Malden	7	2	9
South of the Borough	7	-	7
Surbiton	2	-	2
Total	17	2	19

Non-turf pitches (NTPs)

NTPs, particularly at club sites, aid with training and practice and can help reduce overplay on grass wickets when used for matches. The ECB highlights that NTPs which follow its TS6 guidance on performance standards are suitable for high level, senior play. Additionally, NTPs can be used for junior matches.

Across Kingston-upon-Thames, there are NTPs on or adjacent to 11 grass wicket squares. These are at the following 10 sites:

- ◀ Alexandra Recreation Ground
- ◀ Fairfield Recreation Ground
- ◀ Malden Wanderers Cricket Club
- ◀ Richard Challoner School
- ◀ Shrewsbury House Sports Ground
- ◀ Beverley Park
- ◀ Manor Park
- ◀ Rokeby School Sports Ground (x2)
- ◀ Sir Francis Barker Recreation Ground
- ◀ Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University)

In addition, there are four standalone NTPs which are currently provided at Beverley Park, King Edwards Recreation Ground, Southborough High School and Southborough High School Sports Ground. These are all reportedly available for community use.

Over the last 18 months, the Council has been working closely with the ECB, Surrey Cricket and London Cricket Trust to get NTPs installed in order to help towards the development of cricket within the Borough and to develop club and junior cricket, specifically targeting youth development and women's and girls' activity. This forms part of a project to expand the offering of cricket within London for local communities and to improve provision within parks. It led to the creation of the NTPs identified above at Alexandra Park, Beverley Park, Manor Park, Fairfield Recreation Ground and King Edwards Recreation Ground.

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Linked to the project, London Cricket Trust has awarded Kingston-upon-Thames as Authority of the Year. This was for its cricket development and promotion within the Borough and namely for establishing the five NTPs within a year - something no other authority in the region has achieved.

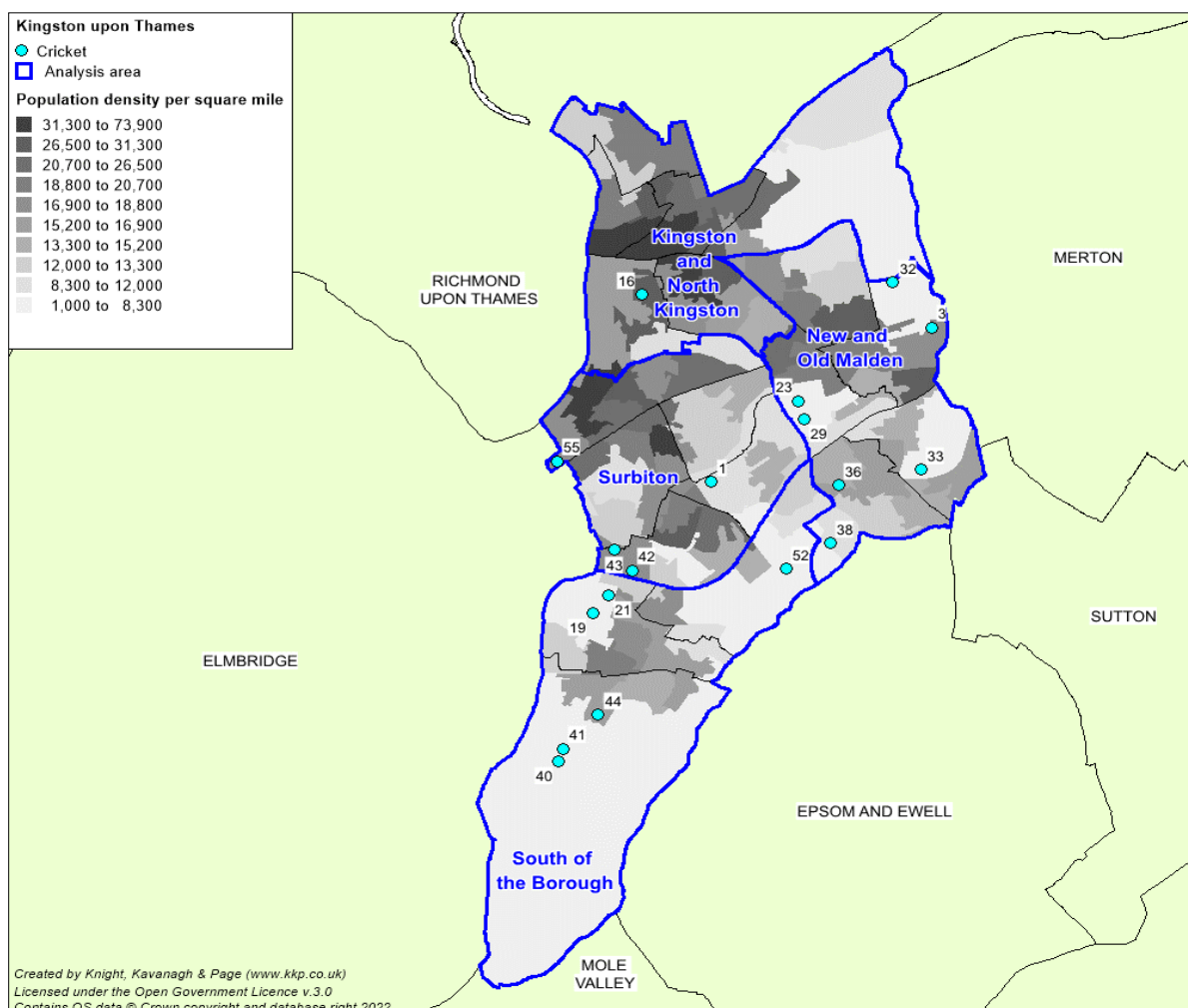
Disused provision

King Edwards Recreation Ground and Beverley Park used to provide grass wicket squares; however, during site visits, these were found to be overgrown and no longer in use. Nevertheless, they still provide a standalone NTP. Plans are also in place to reinstate the squares in the future to support the NTPs.

An additional square located at Kings College Sports Ground was taken out of use and is now used for football activity by the University as well as by AFC Wimbledon. When provided, this was used by Kingstonian CC, meaning community cricket was negatively impacted upon by the change.

The map below shows the location of all cricket squares currently servicing Kingston-upon-Thames. For a key to the map, see Table 6.3.

Figure 6.1: Location of cricket squares within Kingston-upon-Thames



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Table 6.3: Key to map of cricket squares

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of grass wicket squares	No. of wickets	
						Grass	Non-turf
1	Alexandra Recreation Ground	KT5 9BE	Surbiton	Yes	1	8	1
3	Beverley Park	KT3 4LL	New & Old Malden	Yes	-	-	1
16	Fairfield Recreation Ground	KT1 2PY	Kingston & North Kingston	Yes-unused	1	6	1
19	Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field)	KT9 1BF	South of the Borough	Yes	1	6	-
21	King Edwards Recreation Ground	KT9 1EE	South of the Borough	Yes	-	-	1
23	King College Sports Ground	KT3 5HA	New & Old Malden	Yes	1	10	-
29	London School of Economics Sports Ground	KT3 5HB	New & Old Malden	Yes	2	10	-
						10	-
32	Malden Wanderers Cricket & Lawn Tennis Club	KT3 4LE	New & Old Malden	Yes	2	16	-
						8	-
33	Manor Park	KT3 6AU	New & Old Malden	Yes	1	8	1
36	Richard Challoner School	KT3 5PE	New & Old Malden	Yes	1	8	1
38	Rokeby School Sports Ground	KT4 7QB	New & Old Malden	No	2	6	1
						8	1
						-	1
40	Shrewsbury House Sports Ground	KT9 2ND	South of the Borough	Yes-unused	1	5	1
41	Sir Francis Barker Recreation Ground	KT9 2NB	South of the Borough	Yes	3	14	1
						14	-
						6	-
42	Southborough High School	KT6 5AS	Surbiton	Yes-unused	-	-	1
43	Southborough High School Sports Ground	KT6 5BX	Surbiton	Yes-unused	-	-	1
44	St Philip's School	KT9 2HR	South of the Borough	Yes-unused	-	-	1
52	Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University)	KT4 7QH	South of the Borough	Yes	2	8	1
						5	
55	Victoria Recreation Ground	KT6 5DN	Surbiton	Yes	1	8	-

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Management and security of tenure

Hook & Southborough CC and Kingstonian CC use education facilities, with no long-term access agreement in place. The former rents the provision at Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field), whereas the latter has a two-lease arrangement for use of Kings College Sports Ground.

Conversely, London Gymkhana CC and Chessington CC use council sites as primary venues (Alexandra Recreation Ground and Sir Francis Barker Recreation Ground), whilst Malden Wanderers CC has freehold of its venue. As such, all three are deemed to have security of tenure, although only eight years remain on Chessington CC's lease arrangement.

The table below identifies the arrangements in place for each club.

Table 6.4: Summary of security tenure for Kingston-upon-Thames cricket clubs

Site ID	Site	Club	Arrangement	Tenure
1	Alexandra Recreation Ground	London Gymkhana CC	Leased from the Council	Secure
41	Sir Francis Barker Recreation Ground	Chessington CC	Leased from the Council	Secure
19	Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field)	Hook & Southborough CC	Rented from the School	Unsecure
23	Kings College Sports Ground	Kingstonian CC	Two-year lease agreement from Kings College University	Unsecure
32	Malden Wanderers Cricket & Lawn Tennis Club	Malden Wanderers CC	Freehold	Secure

Where long-term tenure is not provided, not only can this create problems with access, but it can also prove to be problematic if the clubs want to develop provision or apply for external funding. Many funding bodies require lease agreements of over 25 years for applicants to be successful.

In addition to the above, three of the five clubs also utilise secondary venues due to their size and a lack of capacity on their main square/s. This is commonly through short-term rental agreements where tenure is inevitably less secure, although some council sites are accessed. The following table identifies the secondary venues and the sites accessed, with Malden Wanderers CC using several locations.

Table 6.5: Summary of secondary venues

Club	Site/s accessed
Kingstonian CC	Old Tiffinians Association Sport Ground
London Gymkhana CC	Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University)
Malden Wanderers CC	Beverley Park
	Chiswick House Cricket Ground
	Raynes Park Sports Ground
	Richard Challoner School

Some of the above sites are outside of Kingston-upon-Thames, including Chiswick House Cricket Ground, Old Tiffinians Association Sports Ground and Raynes Park Sports Ground. See the exported demand section for further information.

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Pitch quality

Cricket pitch quality has been assessed via a combination of site visits (using non-technical assessments as determined by the ECB) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

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, 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 nearby players.

For the full assessment criteria, please see Appendix 2. However, it must be noted that the site assessments took place during unprecedented summer weather and an exceptional heatwave which resulted in localised droughts and water shortages. As such, findings may differ from what would ordinarily be expected, although the check and challenge process has looked to ensure that this is not the case.

The audit of community available grass wicket cricket squares in Kingston-upon-Thames found nine to be good quality, six to be standard quality and two to be poor quality.

Table 6.6: Summary of quality of grass wicket squares

Good	Standard	Poor
9	6	2

This is summarised square-by-square below.

Table 6.7: Quality ratings community available grass wicket squares (site by site)

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	No. of squares	Square quality
1	Alexandra Recreation Ground	Surbiton	1	Standard
16	Fairfield Recreation Ground	Kingston & North Kingston	1	Poor
19	Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field)	Surbiton	1	Standard
23	Kings College Sports Ground	New & Old Malden	1	Standard
29	London School of Economics Sports Ground	New & Old Malden	2	Good
				Good
32	Malden Wanderers Cricket & Lawn Tennis Club	New & Old Malden	2	Good
				Good
				Good
33	Manor Park	New & Old Malden	1	Standard
36	Richard Challoner School	New & Old Malden	1	Good
40	Shrewsbury House Sports Ground	South of the Borough	1	Good
41	Sir Francis Barker Recreation Ground	South of the Borough	3	Good
				Standard
				Standard
52	Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University)	South of the Borough	2	Good
				Good
55	Victoria Recreation Ground	Surbiton	1	Poor

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As illustrated, the good quality squares are located at:

- ◀ London School of Economics Sports Ground (x2)
- ◀ Malden Wanderers Cricket & Lawn Tennis Club (x2)
- ◀ Richard Challoner School
- ◀ Sir Francis Barker Recreation Ground
- ◀ Shrewsbury House School Sports Ground
- ◀ Tolworth Court Ground (x2)

Despite the squares at Malden Wanderers Cricket & Lawn Tennis Club being of a good quality, the host club does report some issues with dog fouling and states that significant bare patches are currently present on the outfield, primarily due to the hot weather over the summer. It is currently working to rectify these issues.

In contrast, the poor quality squares are located at Fairfield Recreation Ground and Victoria Recreation Ground. Both of these are identified as having overgrown wickets as well as poor grass coverage and undulating outfields. Both are also open to wider public use which appears to be exacerbating the issues.

Regarding the standard quality provision, Hook & Southborough CC reports issues with fox digging on the square it uses at Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field) and states that the cutting of the outfield is not managed regularly enough. The School echoes this and also reports that the pitch suffers from waterlogging.

Chessington CC notes that the pitches at Sir Francis Barker Recreation Ground have worsened in quality since last season, predominantly due to recent hot spells. It also reports issues with the straight boundaries being too small and high levels of dog fouling. The primary square at the site is assessed as good quality, whilst the other two are assessed as standard quality.

Of the NTPs, the provision is generally in good condition, predominately due to the new developments at Alexandra Park, Beverley Park, Manor Park, Fairfield Recreation Ground and King Edwards Recreation Ground, where quality is particularly high.

Performance Quality Standards

To obtain a full technical assessment of wicket and pitches, the ECB recommends application of its Performance Quality Standard (PQS) assessment. This assesses cricket squares to ascertain whether pitches meet the required standards, which are benchmarked by the Ground Maintenance Association (GMA).

Table 6.8: Performance Quality Standard ratings

Quality rating	Details
Premier (High)	Where the surface is intended for Premier League play, with those within the top quartile capable of holding minor county and 1 st class one day matches. May include some of the better schools and university pitches
Club (Standard)	A Club pitch suitable for league, school and junior cricket
Basic	An acceptable level suitable for recreational cricket and where the surface is designed and maintained within financial limitations such as local authorities
Unsuitable	This is where the surface is deemed unfit or unsafe for play

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Clubs can contact the ECB to arrange for a pitch advisor to complete three different reports (comprehensive, mini or verbal) that vary in cost. A comprehensive report includes soil testing and guidance on machinery and corrective procedures, a mini report includes guidance on machinery and corrective procedures and a verbal report is a spoken version of a mini report.

PitchPower

As mentioned in Part 2: Football, The Premier League, The FA and the Football Foundation are increasing efforts to improve the quality of grass pitches in England with the launch of the PitchPower app. Launched in 2020 for football and re-launched in 2022 with functionality for cricket, rugby league and rugby union pitches, the app is a new digital self-assessment tool to allow reports and recommendations to be made more quickly and easily once submitted for review by GMA regional pitch advisors.

The tool across mobile app and desktop is open to access by all providers, for example clubs, schools and local authorities. Following a PitchPower Assessment Report, organisations can work towards the recommended dedicated maintenance regime identified to improve the quality of their pitches.

The functionality of the app for cricket is set to be trialled in early 2023 and has therefore not been factored into the aforementioned quality scores. It is also unknown how the PitchPower assessments will be implemented into studies such as these moving forward, although it is recommended that they supersede non-technical assessments as they are more comprehensive and can provide detailed strategic recommendations on how facilities can be improved. As a result, quality scores for cricket and recommendations within this study should be reviewed and updated as part of the Stage E process to reflect new technical assessment evidence and information when it is available.

Ancillary facilities

Most community available grass wicket squares in Kingston-upon-Thames are serviced by pavilions, albeit quality varies. Out of the 14 sites providing community available grass wicket squares, seven are serviced by good quality facilities, two by standard quality facilities and five by poor quality facilities.

Table 6.9: Quality ratings for ancillary facilities servicing community available squares

Site ID	Site	Available for community use?	No. of squares	Ancillary facility quality
1	Alexandra Recreation Ground	Yes	1	Poor
16	Fairfield Recreation Ground	Yes	1	Poor
19	Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field)	Yes	1	Poor
23	Kings College Sports Ground	Yes	1	Good
29	London School of Economics Sports Ground	Yes	2	Good
32	Malden Wanderers Cricket & Lawn Tennis Club	Yes	2	Good
33	Manor Park	Yes	1	Poor
36	Richard Challoner School	Yes	3	Good
40	Shrewsbury House Sports Ground	Yes	1	Good
41	Sir Francis Barker Recreation Ground	Yes	3	Standard

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Site ID	Site	Available for community use?	No. of squares	Ancillary facility quality
42	Southborough High School	Yes	1	Standard
43	Southborough High School Grass Pitches	Yes	1	Good
52	Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University)	Yes	2	Good
55	Victoria Recreation Ground	Yes	1	Poor

The facilities at Fairfield Recreation Ground and Victoria Recreation Ground are classified as poor. At both sites, this is because the pavilions provide only basic toilet and changing facilities that are dated.

The provision at Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field) is also rated as poor quality. Hook & Southborough CC reports that the changing and toilet facilities are in poor condition and notes that it has experienced issues with vandalism such as children climbing on the roofs and damaging fences.

Whilst Malden Wanderers CC is serviced by good quality provision, the Club reports that the pavilion is showing some signs of age and wear and tear. It identifies an aspiration to carry out a refurbishment in the near future, but notes that it does not currently have the funding to undertake this. Additionally, it reports issues with its car parking, stating that it is minimal.

Building conditions survey

The Council has undertaken a building conditions survey to identify improvements required at 12 of its sites and the level of investment needed to enable this. For cricket, the survey covers the following sites:

- ◀ Alexandra Recreation Ground
- ◀ Beverley Park
- ◀ Fairfield Recreation Ground
- ◀ King Edwards Recreation Ground
- ◀ Manor Park
- ◀ Sir Francis Barker Recreation Ground
- ◀ Victoria Recreation Ground

Each of this is assessed as having poor or standard quality provision within this study.

Training facilities

Access to cricket nets is important, particularly for pre-season/winter training. Clubs access both indoor and outdoor provision before the season commences, whilst during the season, outdoor training provision supplies most of the use.

In Kingston-Upon-Thames, the table below summarises the sites that currently contain fixed practice nets. In total, there are eight sites supplying 31 bays.

Table 6.10: Summary of practice nets in Kingston-upon-Thames

Site ID	Site	Available for community use?	No. of nets/bays
19	The Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field)	Yes	2
32	Malden Wanderers Cricket & Lawn Tennis Club	Yes	3

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Site ID	Site	Available for community use?	No. of nets/bays
36	Richard Challoner School	Yes	3
38	Rokeby School Sports Ground	No	2
40	Shrewsbury House School Sports Ground	Yes	4
41	Sir Francis Barker Recreation Ground	Yes	7
42	Southborough High School	Yes	2
51	Tiffin School Sports Centre	Yes	8

In addition, London School of Economics Sports Ground also has nets, utilising a separate grass wicket square for this purpose. It also previously provided fixed nets but no longer does so and instead accesses provision supplied by Surrey County CC if required.

The nets at Tiffin School Sports Centre are particularly unique in that they do not accompany a cricket square, instead making it a dedicated practice site. The same also applies to the provision at Southborough High School, although only two nets are provided whilst eight are in place at Tiffin School Sports Centre.

As with its squares, the provision at Rokeby School Sports Ground is unavailable for community use.

Only two clubs in the Borough report demand for new, improved and/or additional training facilities. Hook & Southborough CC reports needing more practice nets at Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field), whereas Malden Wanderers CC wants to replace its existing nets.

All other responsive clubs report that they are satisfied with their current practice provision, although several report a need for access or improved access to indoor facilities for winter training purposes. Whilst this falls outside the remit of this study, it is something that should be considered moving forward, with many clubs reporting that they do not have access to sports halls or must access them at undesirable times. This is generally due to year-round block bookings being given priority.

The Council reports an aspiration to installed fixed practice nets across some of its sites, although it states that this will require a manageable booking process. It also states that partner clubs could be sought as part of any development. Victoria Park, as an example, has an existing concrete base that could be utilised, whilst Friends of Latchmere Recreation Ground have expressed an interest in developing provision for cricket.

6.3: Demand

There are five affiliated cricket clubs based in Kingston-upon-Thames which collectively run 70 cricket teams. This equates to 31 senior men's, one senior women's and 38 junior teams.

All the clubs' field multiple teams and most are particularly large with a significant number of teams across several formats. This includes Malden Wanderers CC, which is the biggest club in the Borough with 26 junior teams in addition to ten senior teams.

Demand is summarised club-by-club in the following table.

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Table 6.11: Summary of demand by club

Club	Analysis area	No. of teams		
		Senior male	Senior female	Junior
Chessington CC	South of the Borough	6	-	8
Hook & Southborough CC	Surbiton	3	-	-
Kingstonian CC	New & Old Malden	9	-	4
London Gymkhana CC	Surbiton	4	-	-
Malden Wanderers CC	New & Old Malden	9	1	26
Total		31	1	38

As illustrated in the table above, the largest number of teams (48) are based in the New & Old Malden Analysis Area. The South of the Borough Analysis Area provides 14 teams and the Surbiton Analysis Area provides seven teams (none are located in the Kingston & North Kingston Analysis Area).

Table 6.12: Summary of teams by analysis area

Analysis area	No. of competitive teams		
	Senior men	Senior women	Junior
Kingston & North Kingston	-	-	-
New & Old Malden	18	1	30
South of the Borough	6		8
Surbiton	7	-	-
Total	31	1	38

Additional demand

In addition to the aforementioned affiliated clubs, a substantial level of other cricket demand is also recorded in the Borough. This is summarised via the sub sections below.

Unaffiliated demand

In addition to the affiliated cricket clubs playing in Kingston-upon-Thames, a number of unaffiliated teams also play in the Borough. These generally take part in friendly or social matches or compete in shorter forms of the game. Those unearthed/recorded as part of this audit are listed below, together with the home grounds they most commonly use:

- ◀ Balmoral CC (nomadic)
- ◀ New Malden CC (Richard Challoner School)
- ◀ St Luke's CC (Tolworth Court Ground)
- ◀ SW United CC (Alexandra Recreation Ground)

University demand

London School of Economics, Kings College London and Kingston University all have internal cricket activity which results in the use of provision at their sites (London School of Economics Sports Ground, Kings College Sports Ground and Tolworth Court Ground). London School of Economics also has a separate cricket club (known as LSE CC), although its demand takes place away from its campus in Kingston-upon-Thames.

Kings College London has four teams playing in BUCS leagues, whilst Kingston University has one.

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Surrey Cricket League

The Surrey Cricket League currently caters for 28 teams across three divisions, with matches played at central venues organised by the League. This entails use of both squares Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University), with several fixtures held at the site each Saturday. The League rents the squares directly from the University.

The Club's with teams that are primarily assigned to Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University) are Bec Old Boys CC, London Gymkhana CC, St Luke's CC and Wandsworth CC.

All other venues used by the League are outside of Kingston-upon-Thames. It reports that the provision available within the Borough is sufficient to meet its needs.

Surrey Slam

Surrey Slam is a form of recreational, short form cricket, which was founded in 2018 and takes place in four counties in the South of England: Hampshire, Kent, Surrey and Sussex. It works directly with the relevant county cricket foundations to provide cricket that more people can and want to play. The aim is to increase recreational cricket participation both in the men's and women's game.

In Kingston-upon-Thames, both Kingstonian CC and Malden Wanderers CC are participating in the Surrey Slam.

British Tamil Cricket League

The British Tamil Cricket League is a progressive community league for British Tamils. It operates across London and in surrounding regions, with several leagues and divisions on offer.

New Malden CC is the only club in the Borough which currently plays in the League.

Last Man Stands

Last Man Stands (LMS) was founded in 2005. The social outdoor eight-a-side T20 cricket game is played midweek, lasts approximately two hours and is generally played on non-turf wickets. 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 Kingston-upon-Thames. However, LMS does operate in the neighbouring borough of Richmond-upon-Thames, where matches are held at Marble Hill Park, Old Deer Park and Twickenham Green. Additionally, a franchise also operates at Raynes Park Sports Ground, in Merton.

It is considered that the presence of LMS in neighbouring authorities can absorb some Kingston-upon-Thames based demand.

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Twenty20 Community Cricket

Twenty20 Community Cricket was founded in 2009 and works with young people to engage them in cricket across Surrey and London, providing coaching and cricket development work. The programme has an academy in Kingston-upon-Thames which is based at Richard Challoner School. This offers winter training, regular coaching sessions, intra academy summer competitions, umpiring and scoring training opportunities.

Additionally, there is another academy in Kingston-upon-Thames located at Chessington School. In September 2021, a Sixth Form Academy was launched where students can receive training twice a week whilst studying for their A Levels.

Other activity

London School of Economics reports that its site is regularly used by Surrey County CC for youth matches and 'A' team matches. This adds significant usage to the site and results in little to no capacity existing for community clubs.

Participation trends

Cricket demand in Kingston-upon-Thames has increased over recent years, with seven more teams identified now compared to data collected in 2014 for the previous PPS. There has been a decrease in the number of senior teams but a large increase of junior teams.

In correlation with the above, three clubs report an overall participation increases and two suggest no change, meaning no clubs report an overall decrease in teams. The clubs reporting growth are:

- ◀ Chessington CC
- ◀ Kingstonian CC
- ◀ Malden Wanderers CC

The clubs report that their growth has occurred for a variety of reasons, such as improved coaching, increased marketing and just a general uplift in demand following the easing of Covid-19 restrictions. Malden Wanderers CC reports that it has seen increases across all levels, but particularly in regards to women's demand due to the growth in the women's game nationally.

Notwithstanding the above, it must be noted that two clubs included in the 2014 study are seemingly no longer operational, which explains why there has been an overall decrease in senior demand despite growth within the remaining clubs. Surbiton Imperial CC and Surrey Seamers CC have not played matches since 2017 and 2019, respectively.

Imported/exported demand

Two clubs otherwise based in Kingston-upon-Thames currently export some demand outside the Borough to be able to field all of their teams. These are:

- ◀ Kingstonian CC
- ◀ Malden Wanderers CC

Kingstonian CC utilises Old Tiffinians Association Sport Ground in Elmbridge to ensure that all of its senior teams can play, whereas Malden Wanderers CC accesses two venues outside the Borough to cater for its senior and junior demand due to the large size of the club. It uses Chiswick House Cricket Ground in Hounslow and Raynes Park Sports Ground in Merton.

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In addition, due to the proximity to Kingston-upon-Thames of Old Emmanuel, Viscount, Wandgas and Worcester Park cricket clubs, they are considered to service significant demand from the Borough. They collectively run 27 teams between them, with many of these likely catering for residents of Kingston-upon-Thames. The clubs are summarised in the table below.

Table 6.13: Summary of clubs outside of Kingston-upon-Thames servicing demand

Club	No. of teams		
	Senior male	Senior female	Junior
Old Emmanuel CC	3	-	-
Viscount CC	1	-	-
Wandgas CC	4	-	4
Worcester Park CC	8	-	7
Total	16	-	11

Of these, Worcester Park CC imports some demand into Kingston-upon-Thames, utilising Richard Challoner School as a secondary venue. It generally plays one match a week at the site.

Old Emmanuel CC is reportedly looking at using the square at Manor Park in time for the 2024 season. However, this would entail significant site improvements to bring the provision up to Surrey Championship standard.

ECB initiatives

The ECB is currently running a number of 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.

All Stars cricket

In partnership with the ECB and Chance to Shine, clubs in Kingston-upon-Thames 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 has the following aims:

- ◀ Increase cricket activity for 5-8 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 to follow and play the game.

For the 2022 season, Kingstonian CC and London Gymkhana CC are registered to deliver All Stars. Malden Wanderers CC reports that it was previously part of the initiative but that it has since taken it on in-house via its own coaching set up.

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Dynamos cricket

Dynamos provides the next step for all those graduating from All Stars cricket, thus developing a pathway to retain juniors who progress, as well as being an introduction for all 8-11 year olds new to the sport. 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 softball format as competitive progression with a view to transition through to hardball cricket.

In Kingston-upon-Thames, Kingstonian CC and London Gymkhana CC are signed up to the initiative.

Softball cricket

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

As with All Stars and Dynamos, Kingstonian CC is the only club signed up to the initiative in Kingston-upon-Thames.

Disability cricket

Malden Wanderers Cricket & Lawn Tennis Club, via Malden Wanderers CC, was the venue for the 2022 Disability Cricket Festival, ran by the Surrey Cricket Foundation. Around 40 young people with various disabilities attended.

Latent/unmet demand

Malden Wanderers CC reports that it would like to field additional teams; however, it is concerned about the lack of capacity at venues currently used. As such, it states that it could potentially increase its number teams but only if more venues were available, either in the Kingston-upon-Thames or in neighbouring boroughs.

No other clubs report latent or unmet demand.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and using population forecasts.

Population forecasts

For population projections, Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator can estimate the likely additional demand for grass wicket cricket squares that will arise from forecasted growth. This uses the current population within each relevant age group together with current participation levels to establish team generation rates that can then be applied to future population projections.

Using the above, it is predicted in Kingston-upon-Thames that there will be a growth of two senior men's and two junior teams to 2041 – the date selected to align the study with the Council's emerging Local Plan. This is shown in the table below.

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Table 6.14: Team generation rates based on population growth (2041)

Age group	Team generation rate	Number of new teams generated by the new population ¹⁰
Men (18-55yrs)	1:1,612	2
Women (18-55yrs)	1:49,137	0
Junior (7-18yrs)	1:331	2

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 Kingston-upon-Thames is likely as it is currently a national priority. This also applies to potential increased growth in junior cricket, linked to the abovementioned All Stars and Dynamos initiatives.

In addition, the ECB's five-year media rights deal, from 2020-2024, includes a continuation of its relationship with Sky Sports. This now extends beyond broadcasting and is a partnership which will secure significant investment and a commitment to increase participation and drive engagement. This could therefore boost demand to levels in excess of those anticipated through the PPS, meaning the impact should be reviewed over coming years.

Participation increases

Two clubs in Kingston-upon-Thames indicate aspirations to increase levels of participation. This amounts to a total predicted growth of eight teams, equating to three senior men's, two senior women's and three junior teams. The clubs with future demand are Chessington and Malden Wanderers cricket clubs.

Table 6.15: Future demand expressed by clubs

Club	Analysis area	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior
Chessington CC	South of the Borough	1	-	2
Hook & Southborough CC	South of the Borough	-	-	-
Kingstonian CC	New & Old Malden	-	-	-
London Gymkhana CC	Surbiton	-	-	-
Malden Wanderers CC	New & Old Malden	2	2	1
Total		3	2	3

The future demand expressed by clubs is summarised by analysis area below. It is split across the South of the Borough and New & Old Malden analysis areas.

Table 6.16: Summary of future demand aspirations by analysis area

Analysis area	Number of competitive teams		
	Senior men	Senior women	Junior
Kingston & North Kingston	-	-	-
New & Old Malden	2	2	1
South of the Borough	1	-	2
Surbiton	-	-	-

¹⁰ Rounded to the nearest whole number

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Analysis area	Number of competitive teams		
	Senior men	Senior women	Junior
Total	3	2	3

Based on the club aspirations being higher than what is projected through population growth, it is considered that likely that this will absorb the resultant participation increases, rather than them being judged separately and therefore double counted.

6.4: 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 considered to be five matches per grass wicket per season, whilst for a standard quality square, it 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. This is summarised in the table below.

Table 6.17: Grass wicket capacity

Wicket quality	Matches equivalent sessions (per season)
Good	5
Standard	4
Poor	0

In addition to grass wickets, NTPs are considered to have capacity for 60 match equivalent sessions per season providing that they are not poor quality (in which instance no capacity is provided). However, this capacity is only relevant for junior play, where the provision is more commonly used and where matches can be played on a variety of days, rather than for senior cricket due to league requirements generally not allowing usage. The capacity of such provision is therefore judged separately to the capacity of grass wickets when a square has both.

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 ten 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. This 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

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

Peak time demand

An analysis of match play identifies that peak time demand for senior men's cricket in Kingston-upon-Thames is Saturday, although a good proportion of teams are also fielded on a Sunday, as well as midweek in shorter formats of the game as well as recreational activity. Peak time for senior women's cricket is Sunday, whereas it is midweek for junior cricket, albeit some Sunday cricket is also recorded.

Based on the above, capacity across Saturday's, Sunday's and midweek requires consideration, which the following analysis looks to provide. This involves factoring in the overall capacity level at each site and current usage levels across each relevant period.

Education usage

Whilst only a few squares based at schools and university sites currently have any recorded community use, it must be recognised that the majority do cater for curricular and extra-curricular use of their provision. This is especially the case at London School of Economics Sports Ground, Richard Challoner School, Rokeby School Sports Ground and Southborough High School, who all have a strong cricket programme. This results in there being little capacity remaining for external access, even where none is currently being received.

Given the above, internal usage of cricket provision is also factored into the following analysis via adding match equivalent sessions to the levels of actual play recorded.

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Table 6.18: Capacity analysis of cricket squares in Kingston-upon-Thames

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of grass wicket squares	Quality	No. of wickets		Capacity (match sessions per season)		Actual play (match sessions per season)		Capacity rating (match sessions per season)		Potential spare capacity for Saturday cricket?	Potential spare capacity for Sunday cricket?	Potential spare capacity for midweek cricket?
						Grass	NTP	Grass	NTP	Grass	NTP	Grass	NTP			
1	Alexandra Recreation Ground	Surbiton	Yes	1	Standard	8	1	32	60	48	12	16	48	No	No	Yes
3	Beverley Park	New & Old Malden	Yes	-	Good	-	1	-	60	-	28	-	32	No	No	Yes
16	Fairfield Recreation Ground	Kingston & North Kingston	Yes-unused	1	Poor	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	No	No	No
19	Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field)	South of the Borough	Yes	1	Standard	6	-	24	-	46	-	22	-	No	No	No
21	King Edwards Recreation Ground	South of the Borough	Yes	-	Good	-	1	-	60	-	0	-	60	No	No	Yes
23	King College Sports Ground	New & Old Malden	Yes	1	Standard	10	-	40	-	80	-	40	-	No	No	No
29	London School of Economics Sports Ground	New & Old Malden	Yes	2	Good	10	-	50	-	48	-	2	-	No	No	No
					Good	10	-	50	-	48	-	2	-	No	No	No
32	Malden Wanderers Cricket & Lawn Tennis Club	New & Old Malden	Yes	2	Good	16	-	80	-	102	-	22	-	No	No	No
					Good	8	-	40	-	60	-	20	-	No	No	No
33	Manor Park	New & Old Malden	Yes	1	Standard	8	1	32	60	0	0	32	60	Yes	Yes	Yes
36	Richard Challoner School	New & Old Malden	Yes	1	Good	8	1	40	60	48	20	8	40	No	No	No
38	Rokeby School Sports Ground	New & Old Malden	No	2	Standard	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	No	No	No
					Good	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	No	No	No
					Standard	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	No	No	No
40	Shrewsbury House Sports Ground	South of the Borough	Yes-unused	1	Standard	5	1	20	60	20	20	0	40	No	No	No
41	Sir Francis Barker Recreation Ground	South of the Borough	Yes	2	Good	14	-	70	-	72	-	2	-	No	No	No
					Standard	14	1	56	60	54	10	2	50	No	No	No
					Standard	6	-	24	-	30	-	6	-	No	No	No
42	Southborough High School	Surbiton	Yes-unused	-	Good	-	1	-	60	-	0	-	60	No	No	No
43	Southborough High School Sports Ground	Surbiton	Yes-unused	-	Good	-	1	-	60	-	0	-	60	No	No	No
44	St Philip's School	South of the Borough	Yes-unused	-	Good	-	1	-	60	-	30	-	30	No	No	No
52	Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University)	South of the Borough	Yes	2	Good	8	1	40	60	54	20	14	40	No	No	No
					Good	5	-	25	-	30	-	5	-	No	No	No
55	Victoria Recreation Ground	Surbiton	Yes	1	Poor	8	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	No	No	No

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Actual spare capacity

Using the capacity analysis, this section considers the level of actual spare capacity available for each playing format. It should, however, 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.

Saturday cricket

Only two squares are available for further demand on a Saturday, with these being Manor Park, which is currently unused, and one of the squares at Sir Francis Barker Recreation Ground. However, this has only two match equivalent sessions of capacity, which is insufficient to accommodate any further demand over a season without overplay being created.

All remaining squares are used to capacity on a Saturday, either because two teams are already assigned to them as a home venue or because overplay is already identified. Some NTPs have capacity, but these are generally not conducive for senior play and are therefore not considered.

Based on the above, total actual spare capacity amounts to 32 match equivalent sessions, all at Manor Park and in the New & Old Malden Analysis Area.

Table 6.19: Summary of actual spare capacity for senior cricket (Saturday) by site

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (sessions per season)
33	Manor Park	New & Old Malden	32

Sunday cricket

The picture for Sunday cricket is the same as for Saturday cricket, with only the square at Manor Park considered to provide actual spare capacity. The remaining squares are already used to capacity, have no overall spare capacity, or have insufficient capacity to accommodate an additional team.

Sunday capacity provides capacity for additional senior men's demand to be accommodated outside of the peak period whilst still being able to play within a competitive format. Moreover, it provides peak time availability for senior women's cricket (both hardball and softball) and for some junior demand.

Midweek cricket

For midweek cricket, the square at Manor Park is again considered to provide actual spare capacity, with further capacity also identified at the site due to the presence of an NTP. In addition, currently under-utilised NTPs at Alexandra Recreation Ground, King Edwards Recreation Ground, Sir Francis Barker Recreation Ground and Beverley Park provide more actual spare capacity for midweek activity.

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In total, 282 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity for midweek cricket is identified. This consists of 124 match equivalent sessions in the New & Old Malden Analysis Area, 110 match equivalent sessions in the South of the Borough Analysis Area and 48 match equivalent sessions in the Surbiton Analysis Area.

Table 6.20 Summary of actual spare capacity for midweek cricket by site

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (sessions per season)
1	Alexandra Recreation Ground	Surbiton	48
3	Beverley Park	New & Old Malden	32
21	King Edwards Recreation Ground	South of the Borough	60
33	Manor Park	New & Old Malden	92
41	Sir Francis Barker Recreation Ground	South of the Borough	50
Total			282

The reason for midweek capacity being higher than the capacity for senior cricket, especially on Saturdays, is because fixtures can be split across numerous days, meaning more than two home teams can be assigned to a square. In addition, junior teams and recreational demand can utilise NTPs where they are provided. Generally, it is considered that squares can accommodate up to six teams during midweek (although some do accommodate more), with this then also leaving capacity for other activities, such as All Stars and Dynamos initiatives.

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. On this basis, overplay in Kingston-upon-Thames is relatively high, with 10 squares overplayed across eight sites by a total of 155 match equivalent sessions. This is summarised in the table below.

Table 6.21: Summary of overplay by site

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Overplay (matches per season)
1	Alexandra Recreation Ground	Surbiton	16
19	Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field)	South of the Borough	22
23	Kings College Sports Ground	New & Old Malden	40
32	Malden Wanderers Cricket & Lawn Tennis Club	New & Old Malden	22
			20
36	Richard Challoner School	New & Old Malden	8
41	Sir Francis Barker Recreation Ground	South of the Borough	2
			6
52	Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University)	Surbiton	14
			5
Total			155

The highest level of overplay is seen in the New & Old Malden Analysis Area (90 match equivalent sessions per season).

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Table 6.22: Summary of overplay by analysis area

Analysis area	Overplay (sessions per season)
Kingston & North Kingston	-
New & Old Malden	90
South of the Borough	30
Surbiton	35
Total	155

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.

6.5: 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 based on club aspirations absorbing population growth and are calculated using the average number of matches played per season (12 matches for senior teams and between four and eight matches for junior teams, depending on age).

Saturday supply and demand analysis

The table below looks at the supply and demand balance during the peak period for senior men's cricket (Saturday). For actual spare capacity, please note that this is converted from the number of match equivalent sessions identified above to the number of match equivalent sessions that could feasibly be utilised by a growth in demand. This is calculated by using the average number of matches played per season by senior teams (12) multiplied by the number of additional teams that can be fielded at peak time (two teams per square that is available). The entirety of the spare capacity at each site is not used as this number of matches may not be able to be accommodated at peak time.

Table 6.23: Supply and demand analysis of cricket squares for senior cricket (Saturday)

Analysis area	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Kingston & North Kingston	-	-	0	-	0
New & Old Malden	24	90	66	24	90
South of the Borough	-	30	30	12	42
Surbiton	-	35	35	-	35
Total	24	155	131	36	177

As seen in the table above, there is a significant overall shortfall of capacity in Kingston-upon-Thames on Saturdays amounting to 131 match equivalent sessions currently and 177 match equivalent sessions when accounting for future demand. This is most prominent in the New & Old Malden Analysis Area, although deficits also exist in the South of the Borough and Surbiton analysis areas. The Kingston & North Kingston Analysis Area is at capacity.

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The lack of capacity on Saturday explains the high level of exported and/or unmet demand expressed. Incorporating this demand would therefore significantly worsen the picture, especially in regards to Malden Wanderers CC.

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.

Table 6.24: Supply and demand analysis of cricket squares for Sunday cricket

Analysis area	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Kingston & North Kingston	-	-	0	-	0
New & Old Malden	24	90	66	24	90
South of the Borough	-	30	30	-	30
Surbiton	-	35	35	-	35
Total	24	155	131	24	155

As with Saturday cricket, there is an overall shortfall of capacity for Sunday cricket amounting to 131 match equivalent sessions per season currently. This increases to 155 match equivalent sessions when incorporating future demand.

Shortfalls are evident in the New & Old Malden, South of the Borough and Surbiton analysis areas, whereas the Kingston & North Kingston Analysis Area is at capacity.

Midweek cricket supply and demand analysis

For this 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 teams that could be fielded on each available square (on the assumption that one square can accommodate six 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 Dynamos.

Table 6.25: Supply and demand analysis of cricket squares for midweek cricket

Analysis area	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Kingston & North Kingston	-	-	0	-	0
New & Old Malden	72	90	18	8	26
South of the Borough	48	30	18	16	2
Surbiton	24	35	11	-	11
Total	144	155	11	24	35

There is currently a shortfall of capacity for midweek cricket amounting to 11 match equivalent sessions per season, which increases to 35 match equivalent sessions when accounting for future demand. As such, the shortfalls are smaller than what has been evidenced for Saturday and Sunday cricket and there is overall spare capacity identified in the South of the Borough Analysis Area. The deficit is due to the New & Old Malden and the Surbiton analysis areas.

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Conclusion

There are significant capacity shortfalls for cricket in Kingston-upon-Thames, with these being evident for all formats of play and within each potential playing period. This is primarily due to the strength of the traditional form of cricket in the Borough, with five large clubs fielding teams. However, there is a general lack of good quality, accessible playing venues to meet this demand.

Non-traditional formats of play are being better provided for, primarily through the recent installation of NTPs at five local authority sites. This provides bespoke capacity for recreational demand as well as other midweek and junior activity that generally cannot be utilised for more traditional play on Saturdays and Sundays.

Cricket – supply summary

- ◀ In total, there are 19 grass cricket squares located across 13 sites, with 17 squares at 12 sites available for community use.
- ◀ There are NTPs accompanying 11 grass wicket squares and four standalone NTPs are provided; this includes five NTPs that have recently been installed at local authority sites.
- ◀ King Edwards Recreation Ground and Beverley Park used to provide grass wicket squares and plans are in place to reinstate the squares in the future to support the on-site NTPs.
- ◀ Security of tenure concerns are evident for Hook & Southborough and Kingstonian cricket clubs as they access education sites with no long-term agreements in place.
- ◀ The audit of community available grass wicket cricket squares found nine to be good quality, six to be standard quality and the remaining two to be poor quality.
- ◀ The poor squares are found at Fairfield Recreation Ground and Victoria Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Poor quality ancillary facilities are identified at Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field) and Victoria Recreation Ground.
- ◀ A total of nine sites are currently serviced by practice nets, although Hook & Southborough CC and Malden Wanderers CC report demand for improved provision.

Cricket – demand summary

- ◀ There are five affiliated cricket clubs which collectively provide 70 cricket teams, equating to 31 senior men's, one senior women's and 38 junior teams.
- ◀ The Surrey Cricket League also has demand in the Borough (via Tolworth Court Ground), whilst four unaffiliated teams identified in addition to university demand.
- ◀ Demand has significantly increased in recent years, particularly at junior level.
- ◀ Kingstonian CC and London Gymkhana CC offer the All Stars and Dynamos initiatives, whilst the former also runs women's softball sessions as well.
- ◀ Kingstonian and Malden Wanderers cricket clubs export some demand outside of Kingston-upon-Thames, whereas Worcester Park CC imports demand to Richard Challoner School.
- ◀ Old Emmanuel CC is reportedly looking to use Manor Park in time for the 2024 season, although this will entail significant site improvements to bring the provision up to standard.
- ◀ Malden Wanderers CC report unmet and latent demand, stating that it could field more teams if capacity/availability improved.
- ◀ Future demand of two senior men's and two junior teams is predicted via population growth, whilst Chessington CC and Malden Wanderers CC indicate aims to increase participation.

Cricket – supply demand summary

- ◀ Only the square at Manor Park provides actual spare capacity for an increase in Saturday and/or Sunday cricket, whereas five sites can accommodate additional midweek usage.
- ◀ 10 squares across eight sites are overplayed by a total of 155 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ There are significant capacity shortfalls for cricket across the Borough, with these being evident for all formats of play and within each potential playing period.
- ◀ Midweek and junior demand as well as non-traditional formats of play are being better provided for than traditional cricket, primarily as the recent installation of NTPs provides bespoke capacity for such activity.

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PART 7: OTHER GRASS PITCH SPORTS

This section focuses on other sports that are played on grass pitches and where some form of supply and/or demand in Kingston-upon-Thames or nearby has been found. It does not include sports where no current, formal activity has been identified in the Borough, although that is not to say that other sports have not been played historically, that they are not played informally or that some demand is not exported to where supply and demand exists outside of the area.

7.1: American Football

American football in the UK is governed and administered by the British American Football Association (BAFA). This covers both contact and flag activity.

Adult contact teams play within the BAFA National League or the BAFA Women's National League and play home and away fixtures per the regular season with a playoff system to follow for those which qualify. Junior contact football is played as a full 11v11 format league season for U19s, whilst U16s contact football is played as a 5v5 format with full equipment and tackling based across a series of day tournaments as part of a festival structure.

Flag football is the fastest growing format of the game not only in Great Britain, but also across the world, with professional leagues such as the American Flag Football League and the newly established NFL Flag starting to spring up. It is a high-octane, non-contact version of American football, where tackles are made by pulling off flags which all players wear on their hips. There are multiple different formats and variations globally, but in Great Britain the predominant format is 5v5 aligning with the current competition format for the International Federation of American Football.

Supply

There is one dedicated American football pitch in Kingston-upon-Thames, located at Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University) in the South of the Borough Analysis Area. The pitch is utilised for training and match demand from Kingston University and is also available for hire for community use albeit no community demand is currently identified, with the pitch in good condition.

There is a clubhouse pavilion onsite which comes with changing and toilet facilities, as well as ample car parking. The University report the pavilion to be of standard quality.

Demand

Kingston Cougars (American Football) fields one senior men's team, which plays in BUCS leagues at Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University). The Club trains once a week on Thursday evenings between 19:30 and 21:00, and its home fixtures take place on Sunday afternoons.

Supply and demand analysis

With one dedicated pitch but no substantial demand for the sport identified, outside of Kingston University, supply is deemed to be sufficient, with no clear action required. It is, however, imperative that any demand that does exist is directed to clubs in neighbouring authorities to ensure that it is catered for.

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7.2: Lacrosse

English Lacrosse is responsible for the governance and administration of lacrosse nationwide, with men's lacrosse governed locally by the South of England Men's Lacrosse Association and women's lacrosse governed by the Southwest Women's Lacrosse Association. The playing season runs from September to March.

Match play is permitted to take place on grass, sand based and 3G pitches, though most club play across the region tends to take place on grass pitches. However, it should be noted that men's and women's lacrosse are played on different pitches with different field dimensions.

Supply

There is one dedicated lacrosse pitch in Kingston-upon-Thames, located at Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University) in the South of the Borough Analysis Area. The pitch is utilised for training and match demand from Kingston University and is also available for hire for community use albeit no community demand is currently identified. There is a clubhouse pavilion onsite which comes with changing and toilet facilities, as well as ample car parking. The University report the pavilion to be of standard quality.

Demand

There is one club identified in Kingston-upon-Thames. It forms part of the University, but is only operating as recreational activity, with sessions taking place on Thursday afternoons at Tolworth Sports Ground. Kingston University reports the Club has found it difficult post lockdown to get the requisite numbers for both the men and women's teams.

Prior to Covid-19, the Club had one men and women's team which played weekly in the BUCS league.

Supply and demand analysis

With one dedicated pitch but no substantial demand for the sport identified, outside of Kingston University. Supply is demanded to be sufficient, with no clear action required. It is, however, imperative that any demand that does exist is directed to clubs in neighbouring authorities to ensure that it is catered for.

7.3: Rugby League

The Rugby Football League (RFL) is the governing body for rugby league in England. 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.

Most community club rugby league is played throughout the summer season (from February to October). However, rugby league is considered as a winter season sport within schools, colleges and universities and therefore pitch provision for matches and training is also required throughout the winter months.

Supply

There are no rugby league pitches in Kingston-upon-Thames. The nearest is located in Lambeth at Clapham Common, home of London Chargers RLFC.

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Demand

No demand has been identified for rugby league in Kingston-upon-Thames. In effect, any residual need is unlikely to be sufficient for a club to be created, with individuals instead likely to travel to Lambeth to play for London Chargers RLFC.

Supply and demand analysis

As no demand has been identified within Kingston-upon-Thames there is no requirement for any provision to be established. Instead, focus should be placed on ensuring that any demand that does exist can be accommodated within clubs outside of the region (e.g., via London Chargers RLFC).

7.4: Aussie Rules

AFL England is the governing body for Australian Rules Football in England. It was formed in 2012 to succeed AFL Britain with the aim to be more effective in governing the game in England as both Scotland and Wales had developed their own autonomous bodies.

The local competition for Australian Rules Football in London is AFL London, which first formed in 1989 but was formerly known as the British Australian Rules Football League. It is one of the oldest competitions outside Australia and is currently made up of nine clubs across three levels of competition (Premiership, Conference and Social). It runs yearly from April to August.

The sport in London is played on full ovals with fixed upright goal posts and full 18-a-side teams. This contrasts with the rest of England where a modified nine a side version of the game is played on smaller pitches, largely due to playing numbers.

Supply

There are no dedicated Aussie Rule football pitches within Kingston-upon-Thames. The nearest is supplied in Clapham in the London Borough of Lambeth. This is home to a club known as Wandsworth Demons.

Demand

There has been no identified demand for American football within Kingston-upon-Thames. In effect, any residual need is unlikely to be sufficient for a club to be created, with individuals instead likely to travel to play for 'Wandsworth Demons'.

Supply and demand analysis

With no dedicated facilities or substantial demand for the sport identified, Aussie Rules should not be considered a priority for the Council. It is, however, imperative that any demand that does exist is directed to clubs in neighbouring boroughs to ensure that it is catered for (e.g., Wandsworth Demons).

7.5: Baseball/Softball

Baseball and softball are both governed by Baseball and Softball UK (BSUK), which is currently aiming to build the number of teams playing regularly throughout the country. Baseball is played between two teams of nine players, which take turns batting and fielding across nine innings, whilst softball has two varieties: slow-pitch softball and fast-pitch softball. Both sports in England operate from April until September.

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Supply

No baseball/softball diamonds have been identified in Kingston-upon-Thames. The nearest permanent facility is provided in neighbouring authority Richmond-upon-Thames, located at Ham Playing Fields and servicing Richmond Baseball Club.

Demand

There are no current baseball or softball clubs identified in Kingston-upon-Thames. However, anecdotal evidence suggests that significant recreational demand is likely to exist, as well as some latent and unmet demand, particularly due to the large Korean population and communities within the Borough.

The neighbouring borough of Richmond-upon-Thames provides for Richmond Baseball Club, which currently has three senior teams and plays in the British Baseball Federation League structure and runs youth camps during the school summer holidays. This is likely to pick up some traditional demand from Kingston-upon-Thames.

Supply and demand analysis

Given the large Korean community within Kingston-upon-Thames, the creation of baseball/softball diamonds should be considered a priority in order to provide dedicated spaces for activity and to ensure that all demand can be met. The focus of this should be on parks/open spaces in order to accommodate recreational play, and the New Malden analysis area should be targeted as this is where the majority of the population resides.

7.6: Gaelic football

Britain GAA is the Provincial Council of Gaelic football and hurling outside of Ireland. It is made up of seven counties, with Kingston-upon-Thames falling into the London region. The playing season runs from May until August.

Supply

There are no Gaelic football pitches provided in Kingston-upon-Thames. Within other London boroughs, there is provision in Sutton via Round Towers Gaelic Football Club, which trains and plays at Mitcham Rugby Club on pitches that are otherwise used for rugby union.

Demand

No demand for Gaelic football has been identified in the Borough, with no clubs in existence either currently or historically.

Supply and demand analysis

With no dedicated facilities or substantial demand for the sport identified, Gaelic football should not be considered a priority for the Council. However, it is imperative that any demand that does exist is directed to clubs in other London boroughs to ensure that it is catered for (e.g., Round Towers Gaelic Football Club).

7.7: Ultimate frisbee

UK Ultimate is the national governing body of Ultimate frisbee, otherwise known as Ultimate. Its role is to assist and encourage both players and teams at all levels of the sport. The sport can be played both indoor (winter) and outdoor (summer).

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The rules of Ultimate are a combination of two sports: American football and basketball. A non-contact sport, two teams of seven compete to score points in the opponents 'end zone', located at either side of the pitch. Players cannot run with the disk or allow it to hit the ground and must throw it to a teammate located in the opposing end zone to score. It is played on a narrow pitch 100x37 metres in size, with competitive outdoor matches occurring between the months of April and August and with matches lasting approximately one hour.

Supply

There are no dedicated Ultimate Frisbee dedicated pitches within Kingston-upon-Thames, with the nearest located in neighbouring authority of Richmond-upon-Thames. Richmond & Twickenham Ultimate play at Old Deer Park.

Demand

There has been no identified demand for Ultimate Frisbee within Kingston-upon-Thames. In effect, any residual need is unlikely to be sufficient for a club to be created, with individuals instead likely to travel to the Richmond-Upon-Thames to play for Richmond Ultimate Frisbee. They are a friendly pick up group who organise games in Old Deer Park on Sunday mornings.

Supply and demand analysis

With no dedicated facilities or substantial demand for the sport identified, Ultimate Frisbee should not be considered a sport for the Council to prioritise. It is, however, imperative that any demand that does exist is directed to clubs in neighbouring boroughs to ensure that it is catered for (e.g., via Richmond & Twickenham Ultimate).

Other grass pitch sports - supply summary

- ◀ There is one dedicated American football pitch in Kingston-upon-Thames, located at Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University).
- ◀ There is one dedicated lacrosse pitch, also located at Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University).
- ◀ There are no rugby league, Aussie rules, baseball/softball, Gaelic football or Ultimate frisbee pitches in the Borough, although there are in neighbouring authorities.

Other grass pitch sports - demand summary

- ◀ Kingston Cougars (American Football) fields one senior men's team, which plays in BUCS leagues at Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University).
- ◀ There is one lacrosse club identified, forming part of Kingston University, although it is only operating as recreational activity at present.
- ◀ No formal baseball/softball activity is identified, but there is likely to be high levels of recreational demand due to the presence of the Korean community within the Borough.
- ◀ No rugby league, Aussie rules, Gaelic football or Ultimate frisbee demand is taking place in the Borough, although some residents are likely being accommodated in neighbouring authorities where clubs are present.

Other grass pitch sports – supply and demand summary

- ◀ Supply for American football and lacrosse is currently sufficient to meet demand.
- ◀ There is a need for dedicated baseball/softball provision to accommodate demand, particularly in the New & Old Malden Analysis Area.
- ◀ With no provision in place for other sports and with no clear need identified, it is imperative that localised demand is signposted to neighbouring authorities to ensure that it can be catered for.

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PART 8: EDUCATION

8.1: Introduction

Provision of sport and recreation facilities at schools, colleges and universities can make an important contribution to the overall playing pitch stock, especially where community use is or could be offered. It is therefore important to have accurate information about the number, type, quality and availability of facilities and pitches within the education sector in Kingston-upon-Thames. As such, this section seeks to summarise the education findings featured within each other part of this document.

Key challenges

The key challenges for education in the context of this study is around capacity. Schools generally have a difficult task in being able to hire out facilities for community use as well as accommodating curricular and extra-curricular activity. Unlike clubs and teams, it can be difficult for schools to quantify usage each week as there are many varying factors, including the weather, the curriculum, interest from pupils, and quality issues, especially in winter. There may be some weeks where capacity exists for external usage, whereas during other periods, internal demand may already result in overuse.

Access is also a major challenge at education sites. From a user perspective, it can be difficult to engage with schools to gain access, especially at academies where management can lie with an external company. For schools, the associated costs attributed to opening up, staffing, and the additional wear and tear to facilities can affect community use procedures in place.

The Council is seeing less control over the supply of school facilities as more schools move to academy status, which means that influencing schools in terms of opening up facilities for community use is becoming much more difficult. Even when schools are available, there is often no long-term guarantee that this will remain the case, unless a robust community use agreement is in place. This means that access can be unsecure.

Consultation

Consultation has been carried out with all secondary schools within the Borough, as well as the universities; London School of Economics, Kings College London, and Kingston University. Online surveys have also been sent out to primary schools, with 63% responding.

8.2: Current provision

The following education sites within Kingston-upon-Thames contain playing pitches:

- ◀ Coombe Boys School
- ◀ Holy Cross Prep School
- ◀ London School of Economics Sports Ground
- ◀ Kings College London Sports Ground
- ◀ Malden Parochial C of E Primary School
- ◀ Rokeby Prep School
- ◀ Shrewsbury House Sports Ground
- ◀ Southborough High School Sports Ground
- ◀ The Tiffin Girls' School
- ◀ Tolworth Court Ground (Kingston University)
- ◀ Coombe Girls School
- ◀ Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field)
- ◀ Kings Oak Primary School
- ◀ Knollmead Primary School
- ◀ Richard Challoner School
- ◀ Rokeby School Sports Ground
- ◀ Southborough High School
- ◀ St Philip's School
- ◀ Tiffin School Sports Centre
- ◀ Tolworth Girls School

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There are 74 pitches identified across the sites, with 56 available for community use at some level, although not necessarily used. The remaining 18 pitches are not available for community use.

The following table outlines the total number and type of playing pitches provided. As seen, adult football pitches are most prominently supplied. Most is located in the New & Old Malden Analysis Area, whilst very little is provided in the Kingston & North Kingston Analysis Area.

Table 8.1: Summary of pitches at education sites

Analysis area	Number of pitches					
	Adult football	Youth football	Mini football	Rugby union	AGP ¹¹	Cricket
Kingston & North Kingston	1	0	0	0	1	0
New & Old Malden	12	5	10	8	0	6
South of the Borough	7	4	2	4	0	5
Surbiton	2	2	2	1	0	2
Kingston-upon-Thames	22	11	14	13	1	13

The table below shows the breakdown of pitches available for community use at education sites.

Table 8.2 Summary of pitches available for community use at education sites

Analysis area	Number of pitches					
	Adult football	Youth football	Mini football	Rugby union	AGP ¹²	Cricket
Kingston & North Kingston	1	0	0	0	1	0
New & Old Malden	11	0	5	7	0	4
South of the Borough	7	4	2	3	0	5
Surbiton	2	2	0	1	0	2
Kingston-upon-Thames	20	6	7	11	1	11

8.3: Primary schools

The results of the online survey to primary schools to ascertain the quality, quantity and availability of playing pitch facilities are summarised below.

Quantity

Through consultation, five primary schools report access to playing fields, of which three contain marked pitches. These are a mixture of football pitches and two junior rugby union pitches as reported by Malden Parochial C of E Primary School.

Kings Oak Primary School has a smaller sized hockey suitable pitch on site, but it is not available for community use.

¹¹ Includes both 3G and sand-based

¹² Includes both 3G and sand-based

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In addition, the following schools have a generic grass field of a suitable size which could be marked out for playing pitches if required:

- ◀ Burlington Junior School
- ◀ Christ Church Primary School
- ◀ Ellingham Primary School
- ◀ Lovelace Primary School
- ◀ Robin Hood Primary School
- ◀ St Mary's C of E Primary School
- ◀ Tolworth Infant & Junior School
- ◀ Castle Hill Primary School
- ◀ Corpus Christi Roman Catholic School
- ◀ Green Lane Primary School
- ◀ Malden Manor Primary School
- ◀ St John's C of E Primary School
- ◀ St Matthew's C of E Primary School

Some schools access off-site playing fields for curricular and extra-curricular use due to a lack of provision within their own school. This is reported as being the case for two schools within Kingston-upon-Thames; Christ Church Primary School and Rokeby Prep School.

Quality

Through consultation, quality of pitches is raised as a concern at one primary school, with this being at Malden Parochial C of E Primary School. The school assesses that its pitches are poor quality and reports drainage issues compounded by a basic maintenance regime. In addition, two schools with poor generic grass fields report the same issues.

Availability

From the responding schools, only Castle Hill Primary School reports that its playing fields facilities are available at some level for community use, but currently only in the school holidays. However, the school also reports that it is currently unused and no formal pitches are marked out.

Issues preventing other schools opening to the community include access/management arrangements, quality, lack of spare capacity beyond potential school use and a lack of perceived financial viability.

Ancillary provision

There are no responding primary schools which indicate that they have specific changing accommodation to service their playing pitch facilities. They all have changing facilities which are generic to their school facilities, with much of this provision being inaccessible to community users. Quality and accessibility varies on a site-by-site basis.

Plans to develop or expand existing provision

Of responding primary schools, two report plans to develop or expand existing playing field provision. Comments in relation to this can be seen in the table below.

Table 8.3: Primary school development plans

School	Summary
Castle Hill Primary School	The School would like to have an official sports field that can be used all year round. However, it is currently unsure if this is possible due to a lack of space and funding.
Christ Church Primary School	The School is currently exploring funding opportunities to provide ancillary facilities on site.

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8.4: Secondary schools

The table below provides a summary of the key issues and findings relating to the playing provision at secondary school sites identified via consultation and through research. This relates to quantity, quality, availability and usage.

Table 8.4: Secondary school provision

School	Summary
Coombe Boys School	One adult football pitch on site, but the pitch is unavailable for community use.
Hollyfield School (Hook Playing Field)	The School has one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 pitch, one senior rugby union pitch, one grass wicket square and NTP. All facilities are in standard condition. The grass pitches are available for community use; however the rugby union pitch is not due to very limited maintenance taking place. Also, poor quality ancillary facilities have been identified at the site.
Richard Challoner School	It has a 3G pitch on site, which was installed in 2014. As well as two adult football pitches, 3 senior rugby union pitches and a smaller sized hockey suitable AGP. All its facilities are in standard or good condition and are available for community use. The School has reported plans to develop its 3G into full size.
Rokeby School (Sports Ground)	The school's sports ground has four youth 11v11 and four mini 7v7 pitches, one smaller 3G, one junior rugby union pitch, two grass wicket squares and NTP. All the facilities are currently unavailable for community use but are assessed as standard quality.
Shrewsbury House School (Sports Ground)	The School has one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 football pitch, two smaller 3G pitches, one senior rugby union pitch, one smaller hockey suitable AGP and one grass wicket square. All the grass pitches are available to the community for access but are currently unused. The artificial pitches are currently unavailable for community use and are not sports lit. However, the school report it has aspirations to establish sports lighting at its site so the smaller pitches can be available for community use. The football pitches have secure tenure due to a shared use agreement in place following recent planning and building application at the sports ground site.
Southborough High School	The School has two adult football pitches, one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9 pitch, one senior rugby pitch as well as two NTP's. The grass pitches, apart from the adult football pitch, are assessed as poor quality due to their limited maintenance and drainage issues. The School reports aspirations to develop its smaller 3G pitch into a full size pitch. The facilities are well used by the community, particularly for clubs such as Chelsea FC who run programmes for its academy set ups. However no long term arrangements are currently in place.
St Philips School	One NTP on site at the school and has been assessed as good quality. However, it is unavailable for community use.
Tiffin High School (Tiffin Sports Centre)	One smaller sized 3G pitch, which is assessed as standard quality and was last resurfaced in 2012. It is available for community use and is provided with sports lighting. However, the ancillary facilities are thought to be problematic

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School	Summary
The Tiffin Girls' School	The School provides one adult football pitch and one full size hockey suitable 3G pitch. Both facilities are assessed as standard and are available for community use. The 3G pitch is the only hockey suitable pitch in the Borough and provides sports lighting. The pitch is accessed by Aces HC, Mitcham Ladies HC and Old Kingstonian HC, despite significant community access long term arrangements are not offered. However, the ancillary facilities are thought to be problematic with Aces HC rating the provision as poor as well as car parking being limited.
Tolworth Girls School	There are two smaller 3G pitches on site, that are available for community use and are provided with sports lighting. The pitches are assessed as poor as they have reached the end of their recommended lifespans as well being reported as over crumbed and fencing of an inadequate standard. The ancillary facilities are reported to be inaccessible due to being located a significant distance from the pitches.

8.5: Universities

London School of Economics

The University is based elsewhere outside of the Borough but has its sports ground based in New Malden. The site contains seven full size adult pitches, two mini 5v5 pitches, two senior rugby pitches, two grass wicket squares, all of which are of a standard or good quality, with regular maintenance regimes in place. All facilities are available for community use, but it is limited due to being used externally by professional football clubs and Surrey County CC as well as its own university demand. Therefore, outside of this demand, there is a lack of capacity and as a result the University are currently limiting access.

Good ancillary facilities have been identified on site as well. The University reports no current development plans, however it would be open to a 3G on site in order to accommodate more clubs and teams but this would require major investment.

Kings College London

The University is based elsewhere outside of the Borough but has its sports ground based in New Malden. The site contains two full size adult pitches, three mini 7v7 pitches, two senior rugby union pitches, one grass wicket square, with all facilities are of a standard quality. All facilities are theoretically available for community use; however, this is limited due to internal access as well as partnerships with professional clubs such as Fulham FC and AFC Wimbledon.

It has standard quality ancillary provision on site and the University reports an aspiration to refurbish the facilities, with a particular focus on updating the dated interiors.

Kingston University

The University is based at Tolworth Court Ground for its sporting provision. The site contains seven full size adult pitches, two senior rugby union pitches, two grass wicket squares and NTP, one dedicated American football and lacrosse pitch. All the facilities are in standard/good condition. All the facilities are theoretically available for community use, but this is somewhat limited due to internal access as well as partnerships with professional clubs such as Fulham FC and AFC Wimbledon.

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Education summary

- ◀ There are 74 educational facilities identified with pitches in Kingston-upon-Thames, with 56 offering community use at some level (although are not necessarily used).
- ◀ Five primary schools report access to playing fields, of which three contain marked out pitches (for football and rugby union), whilst Kings Oak Primary School report access to a smaller sized hockey suitable pitch on site but this is unavailable for community use.
- ◀ Only Castle Hill Primary School reports that its playing field facilities are available at some level for community use, but currently only during the school holidays and no pitches are marked out.
- ◀ Secondary schools provide a range of outdoor facilities, particularly for football and rugby union, although the quality and quantity varies, as does accessibility.
- ◀ Secondary schools also provide several 3G pitches and AGPs which are, in general, heavily utilised by the community.
- ◀ The three universities in the Borough (London School of Economics, Kings College London and Kingston University) all providing a range of playing pitch facilities on site.
- ◀ Community use is offered by all three; however, this is generally limited due to high levels of internal activity and through professional club usage.

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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 Media Culture and Sport Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation (2015)

The Government published its strategy for sport in December 2015. This strategy confirms the recognition and understanding that sport makes a positive difference through broader means and that it will help the sector to deliver five simple but fundamental outcomes: physical health, mental health, individual development, social and community development and economic development. In order to measure its success in producing outputs which accord with these aims it has also adopted a series of 23 performance indicators under nine key headings, as follows:

- ◀ More people taking part in sport and physical activity.
- ◀ More people volunteering in sport.
- ◀ More people experiencing live sport.
- ◀ Maximising international sporting success.
- ◀ Maximising domestic sporting success.
- ◀ Maximising domestic sporting success.
- ◀ A more productive sport sector.
- ◀ A more financially and organisationally sustainable sport sector.
- ◀ A more responsible sport sector.

Sport England: Uniting the Movement 2021

Sport and physical activity has a big role to play in improving the physical and mental health of the nation, supporting the economy, reconnecting communities and rebuilding a stronger society for all. From this notion, Sport England has recently released its new strategy, Uniting the Movement, its 10-year vision to transform lives and communities through sport and physical activity.

It seeks to tackle the inequalities long seen in sport and physical activity. Providing opportunities to people and communities that have traditionally been left behind, and helping to remove the barriers to activity, has never been more important.

There are three key objectives to the Strategy:

- ◀ Advocating for movement, sport and physical activity.
- ◀ Joining forces on five big issues
- ◀ Creating the catalyst for change

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In particular, the five big issues are identified where the greatest potential is seen for preventing and tackling inequalities in sport and physical activity. Each one is a building block that, on its own, would make a difference, but together, could change things profoundly:

Recover and reinvent: Recovering from the biggest crisis in a generation and reinventing as a vibrant, relevant and sustainable network of organisations providing sport and physical activity opportunities that meet the needs of different people.

Connecting communities: Focusing on sport and physical activity's ability to make better places to live and bring people together.

Positive experiences for children and young people: Unrelenting focus on positive experiences for all children and young people as the foundations for a long and healthy life.

Connecting with health and wellbeing: Strengthening the connections between sport, physical activity, health and wellbeing, so more people can feel the benefits of, and advocate for, an active life.

Active environments: Creating and protecting the places and spaces that make it easier for people to be active.

The specific impact of the Strategy will be captured through programmes funded, interventions made, and partnerships forged. For each specific area of action, a set of key performance indicators will be developed. This hybrid approach will help evidence the overall progress being made by all those involved in supporting sport and physical activity.

National Planning Policy Framework (2021)

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.

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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.

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The FA: National Game Strategy (2018-2021)

The FA launched its new National Game Strategy in July 2018 which aims to inspire a life-long journey in football for all. To achieve this, the strategy will focus on five key aspects of the game:

- ◀ A high quality introduction to football
- ◀ Developing clubs and leagues
- ◀ Embrace all formats of football and engage all participants
- ◀ Recruit, develop and support the workforce
- ◀ Develop sustainable facilities

Through these five pillars, The FA's objectives are to:

- ◀ Increase the number of male affiliated and recreational players by 10%.
- ◀ Double the number of female affiliated and recreational players via a growth of 75%.
- ◀ Increase the number of disability affiliated and recreational players by 30%.
- ◀ Ensure affiliated Futsal is available across the country in order to increase the number of Futsal affiliated and recreational players.

The sustainable football facilities should provide support to an agreed portfolio of priority projects that meet National Football Facility Strategy (NFFS) investment priorities.

England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Inspiring Generations (2020-2024)

The England and Wales Cricket Board unveiled a new strategic plan in 2019. The strategic plan aims to connect communities and improve lives by inspiring people to discover and share their passion for cricket

The plan sets out six important priorities and activities, these are:

- ◀ Grow and nurture the core
- ◀ Create an infrastructure investment fund for First Class County Clubs
- ◀ Introduce a new Community Investment Funding for Counties and County Cricket Boards
- ◀ Invest in club facilities
- ◀ Develop the role of National Counties Cricket
- ◀ Further invest in County Competitions
- ◀ Inspire through elite teams
- ◀ Increase investment in the county talent pathway
- ◀ Incentivise the counties to develop England Players
- ◀ Drive the performance system through technology and innovation
- ◀ Create heroes and connect them with a new generation of fans
- ◀ Make cricket accessible
- ◀ Broaden crickets appeal through the New Competition
- ◀ Create a new digital community for cricket
- ◀ Install non-traditional playing facilities in urban areas
- ◀ Continue to deliver South Asian Action Plans
- ◀ Launch a new participation product, linked to the New Competition
- ◀ Engage children and young people
- ◀ Double cricket participation in primary schools
- ◀ Deliver a compelling and coordinated recreational playing offer from age five upwards
- ◀ Develop our safeguarding to promote safe spaces for children and young people
- ◀ Transform women's and girls' cricket
- ◀ Grow the base through participation and facilities investment
- ◀ Launch centres of excellence and a new elite domestic structure

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- ◀ Invest in girls' county age group cricket
- ◀ Deliver a girls' secondary school programme
- ◀ Support our communities
- ◀ Double the number of volunteers in the game
- ◀ Create a game-wide approach to Trust and Foundations through the cricket network
- ◀ Develop a new wave of officials and community coaches
- ◀ Increase participation in disability cricket

The Rugby Football Union Strategy 2021 Onwards

Through the strategy, the RFU aims to enrich lives, introduce more people to rugby union and develop the sport for future generations. The goal is to achieve this by strengthening and uniting rugby union in England and producing consistently winning England teams.

Eight key strategic priorities are identified with all investment decisions aligned to these. The strategy also outlines the RFU's core activities which form the backbone of its business operations and services to the game.

The priorities include four 'Game Objectives' and four 'Driving Objectives' as detailed below.

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 player 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 and operational excellence – ensure a sustainable and efficient business model delivered by an inspired workforce

Rugby Football League Strategic Plan 2015 – 2021

The RFL's most recent strategy aims to establish rugby league as "a growing sport, available throughout the country, that is recognised as providing positive experience for all participants and spectators, in environments that are welcoming, inclusive, vibrant, safe and comfortable - encouraging people to return again and again, featuring:

- ◀ Financially viable and sustainable professional clubs creating stable employment opportunities, showcasing local, national and international playing talent, and leading the sport's development - and making a difference - in their own communities;
- ◀ Welcoming community clubs, putting players first, offering recreational enjoyment for children and adults alike in a safe and inclusive environment;
- ◀ A central organisation that stands out for excellence, innovation, mutual respect, integrity and inclusion that understands its role in servicing the wider sport;
- ◀ A sports that lives its values in all its decisions and actions.

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This vision is underpinned by 13 core principles, including:

- ◀ An integrated whole sport - each constituent part of the sport will have a responsibility to ensure the good health of the entire game;
- ◀ Return on investment - investment will be targeted to ensure the sustainability of member clubs, and growth in the number and quality of players thus seeking an effective return for the game;
- ◀ Financial parameters - financial distributions will be undertaken to ensure the whole of the game will move forward together;
- ◀ Geographic expansion - geographic expansion of the sport should be carried out in a proportionate and sustainable manner.

England Hockey (EH) - A Nation Where Hockey Matters 2013

The vision is for England to be a 'Nation Where Hockey Matters'.

We know that delivering success on the international stage stimulates the nation's pride in their hockey team and, with the right events in place, we will attract interest from spectators, sponsors and broadcasters alike. The visibility that comes from our success and our occasions will inspire young people and adults to follow in the footsteps of their heroes and, if the right opportunities are there to meet their needs, they will play hockey and enjoy wonderful experiences.

Underpinning all this is the infrastructure which makes our sport function. We know the importance of our volunteers, coaches, officials, clubs and facilities. The more inspirational our people can be, the more progressive we can be and the more befitting our facilities can be, the more we will achieve for our sport. England Hockey will enable this to happen and we are passionate about our role within the sport. We will lead, support, counsel, focus and motivate the Hockey Nation and work tirelessly towards our vision.

As a governing body, we want to have a recognisable presence to participants of the game, be that through club or association website or their communications, or through the work of the many outstanding coaches in our game, so that players understand that their club is part of a wider team working together to a common goal.

The core objectives are as follows:

- ◀ Grow our participation
- ◀ Deliver international success
- ◀ Increase our visibility
- ◀ Enhance our infrastructure
- ◀ For England Hockey to be proud and respected custodians of the sport

Club participation

Our club market is well structured and clubs are required to affiliate to England Hockey to play in community leagues. As a result only relatively few occasional teams lie outside our affiliation structure. Schools and Universities are the other two areas where significant hockey is played.

Hockey is clearly benefiting from a double Olympic legacy. After Great Britain's women won bronze in front of a home crowd in London in 2012 the numbers of young girls playing the sport doubled and a historic gold in Rio 2016 saw more than 10,000 players promptly joining clubs. These triumphs have inspired the nation to get active and play hockey.

LONDON BOROUGH OF KINGSTON UPON THAMES

PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Thanks to the outstanding work of the network of clubs across the country, England Hockey has seen unprecedented growth at both ends of the age range. There has been an 80% increase in the number of boys and girls in clubs, as well as a 54% increase in players over the age of 46.

Hockey clubs have reaped the rewards of the improved profile of the sport, focussing on a link with schools to provide excellent opportunities for young players. Programmes such as Quick sticks – a small-sided version of hockey for 7-11 year olds – in primary schools have been hugely successful in allowing new players to take part in the sport from an early age. The growth in the sport since the eve of London 2012 has been seen across the country, examples being a 110% increase in under 16s club participation in London, and a 111% growth in the North West in the same age bracket.

England Hockey Strategy

England Hockey's Facilities Strategy can be found.

Vision: For every hockey club in England to have appropriate and sustainable facilities that provide excellent experiences for players.

Mission: More, Better, Happier Players with access to appropriate and sustainable facilities

The 3 main objectives of the facilities strategy are:

◀ **PROTECT: To conserve the existing hockey provision**

There are currently over 800 pitches that are used by hockey clubs (club, school, universities) across the country. It is important to retain the current provision where appropriate to ensure that hockey is maintained across the country.

◀ **IMPROVE: To improve the existing facilities stock (physically and administratively)**

The current facilities stock is ageing and there needs to be strategic investment into refurbishing the pitches and ancillary facilities. England Hockey works to provide more support for clubs to obtain better agreements with facilities providers & education around owning an asset.

◀ **DEVELOP: To strategically build new hockey facilities where there is an identified need and ability to deliver and maintain. This might include consolidating hockey provision in a local area where appropriate.**

England Hockey has identified key areas across the country where there is a lack of suitable hockey provision and there is a need for additional pitches, suitable for hockey. There is an identified demand for multi pitches in the right places to consolidate hockey and allow clubs to have all of their provision catered for at one site.

ROYAL BOROUGH OF KINGSTON UPON THAMES 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?			
				If yes, please indicate what pitches are overmarked? (i.e. one youth pitch is overmarked on a adult pitch) in Pitch Issues			
Weather at time of visit & date of visit							
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

ROYAL BOROUGH OF KINGSTON UPON THAMES PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Cricket pitch 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 ECB basic standard	
Length of grass	Good	Acceptable	Poor	Usually 12mm - 25mm	
Evenness	Even	Uneven		Poll should run without drainage or ramp	
Evidence of Dog fouling/glass/stones/litter?	None	Yes	Immediate action required	Yes, refer to water/care/safe message	
Evidence of Unofficial use?	None	Yes	Immediate action required	eg informal, casual use, unauthorised use, kids kickabout etc. Yes, refer to water/care/safe message	
Evidence of Damage to surface?	None	Yes	Immediate action required	eg from animals/vehicles - rabbit, cattle and horses etc may also wish to refer to water warning	
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" - water/care/safe message	
Surface worn in high traffic areas - creases	Yes	No		If "yes" - water/care/safe message	
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 each 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 ECB 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			

ROYAL BOROUGH OF KINGSTON UPON THAMES PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Rugby pitch non-technical assessment

Non Technical Visual Quality Assessment - Rugby Union										
Please complete one form per pitch										
Site reference										
6 figure grid reference										
Date of assessment										
Number of pitches on site										
Availability										
Community Use - used, Community Use - unused, No Community Use, Available but Unused										
Weather at time of visit										
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			
							Pitch Maintenance Score			
Drainage	Natural (inadequate) SCORE D0		Natural (adequate) SCORE D1		Pipe drained SCORE D2		Pipe and slit drained SCORE D3		Unknown SCORE D0	
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.										

ROYAL BOROUGH OF KINGSTON UPON THAMES 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)			Medium Pile 3G (55-60mm)			Short Pile 3G (40mm)		
		Sand Dressed			Sand Filled			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+				