PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY: NEWARK & SHERWOOD DISTRICT

STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN (January 2003)

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INTRODUCTION

The Strategy has been developed from the findings of research information, and analysis of, outdoor sports provision and levels of use within the Newark & Sherwood District Council (NSDC) area. This was carried out by Knight, Kavanagh & Page Leisure Management Consultancy. The term 'outdoor sports', in this case covers playing pitch sports including football, rugby, cricket and bowls.

Research and consultation was carried out between January and November 2002. This culminated in the production of an Assessment Report. This provides a detailed picture of the provision, use, adequacy and shortfall of outdoor sports facilities within Newark & Sherwood. Copies of this report can be requested from NSDC Leisure Services.

The Strategy and Action Plan puts forward recommendations for NSDC and its partners in relation to the provision and improvement of playing pitches, non-pitches and associated facilities within Newark & Sherwood. The document is split into three main component parts; Context, Strategy and Action Plan.

- Context
- □ Strategy
- Action Plan

CONTEXT

County Partnership

The Assessment Report and this document are part of a County-wide process. Each local authority in the County including Nottingham City is participating in this. (The overall project will culminate in the production of a County Strategy & Action Plan.)

Scope of the Strategy

The Strategy principally relates to NSDC owned and managed facilities. However, it also takes into consideration, and makes recommendations on, outdoor sports facilities provided by the voluntary, private and education sectors. It is, therefore, a document that should be used by the sporting community in partnership with NSDC. It sets out the vision for the provision and use of outdoor sports facilities within the Newark & Sherwood area over the next 10 years.

Newark & Sherwood District is, geographically the largest district in Nottinghamshire, covering one third of the County in the north and east. It comprises the rural Trent valley and the former mining communities of the Nottinghamshire coalfield. The predominant industries today are mineral extraction, engineering and agriculture.

The district includes the former borough of Newark, the small cathedral town of Southwell and approximately 90 villages and hamlets, of which nearly half have been designated as conservation areas. Also within the district is Sherwood Forest.

The research and findings are based on supply and demand in the context of the whole District area. It is important to note that individuals, teams, clubs and leagues involved in sport do not necessarily recognise local authority administrative boundaries. Local leagues include catchment areas that straddle these boundaries

Preparing the Strategy

The Strategy was commissioned, on a County-wide basis in January 2002. Research and consultation was carried out between January and November 2002. The study uses the methodology within the 'Playing Pitch Strategy' document published by the Sports Council, NPFA and Central Council for Physical Recreation in 1991. This document outlines an assessment process based on a local qualitative evaluation. This method was devised to enable policy makers to review playing pitch requirements and provision at a local level.

The method uses sport 'teams' as the basic unit of demand. Sports are evaluated separately and a demand equation compares the number of matches to be accommodated with the number of pitches available. In this study a team-based analysis is used, based on use of pitches at individual sites.

The primary method of research involves detailed consultation with representatives from the following groups:

- Regional governing bodies of sport.
- Sports leagues and clubs.
- □ Site managers.
- Local authority departments/officials Leisure, Planning, LEA.
- Parish and Town councils.
- □ Schools.

Meetings were conducted with representatives from principal leagues, clubs and high schools within the District. Inter-personal consultation with football, cricket and bowls, primary schools and town/parish councils was supplemented by the distribution of a playing pitch questionnaire. Questionnaires were either passed onto respondents via league secretaries or sent direct to recipients.

The questionnaire is designed to elicit information relating to pitch quality and the condition/adequacy of changing accommodation and parking. It is one method of identifying latent or suppressed demand and is used in tandem with face-to-face meetings and telephone interviews with club representatives. The consultation and interview process is used to assess the standard of facilities as perceived by users and to quantify what facilities are required at specific sites and how those facilities may assist/delimit club development.

Where possible telephone interviews were carried out with clubs that did not reply to the questionnaire.

Many of the issues, highlighted in this document (for example; the differences evidenced between local responses to consultation and wider league perceptions) are common to most, if not all the other local authorities in Nottinghamshire. The research process and the subsequent production of strategy and action plan reports has, thus, for most boroughs and districts in the County followed a broadly comparable pattern.

For this reason, the documents for each borough and district follow a matching format. As a result, in most cases, parallel issues are defined, described and presented in a common layout. With one or two exceptions, the recommendations appertaining to Local Plan recommendations are also analagous. This approach while justified in the context of each local authority area, will also simplify and support the production of a County-wide document and support ensuing partnership work and joint approaches to taking specific action.

National policy context

The Government views playing field strategies as an essential element underpinning its strategy for the protection and provision of outdoor playing space. In its strategy for sport, 'A Sporting Future for All' (1999), it highlights the need for local authorities to carry out playing pitch assessments. Audits, assessments and strategies for playing pitches are pivotal to the Government's approach to protect and provide playing pitches to schools and the wider community.

The Government, recognising the continued loss of, and risk to, playing fields, has tightened up some aspects of legislation and policy with regard to these facilities. In 1996 it introduced the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) (Amendment) Order. This made provisions for Sport England to be a statutory consultee on proposals that affect playing fields. A playing field, for the purposes of the Order, is defined as the whole of a site that encompasses at least one playing pitch.

In 1998, the Department of the Environment, Transport & the Regions introduced new legislation in the form of the Town & Country Planning (Playing Fields) (England) Direction. This states that where a local planning authority is approving development on playing fields within local authority ownership and those used by educational institutions, and where Sport England has objected, the planning application must be referred to the Secretary of State.

Further legislation, within the Schools Standards and Framework Act (SSFA) 1998, was introduced by the Government requiring all state schools to seek approval from the Secretary of State for Education and Employment (Education and Skills since July 2001) for the sale of their playing fields. Section 77 of the SSFA seeks to protect school playing fields by requiring the prior consent of the Secretary of State before disposal or change of use may take place. The Department for Education and Employment produced guidance on section 77 of the SSFA within Circular 3/99 'The Protection of School Playing Fields' in June 1999.

Circular 3/99 has recently been replaced by guidance from the Department for Education and Skills entitled 'The Protection of School Playing Fields and Land for City Academies'. This guidance aims to strengthen the existing measures for protecting school playing fields.

In particular, the guidance is intended to support the development and improvement of sporting and play provision for the benefit of schools and their local communities, and to provide wider access to these facilities. Applications for disposal or change of use of playing fields will not only have to take account of existing community use but the potential use of the facilities for the local community.

The Government has re-affirmed its policies to sport in 'A Sporting Future for All' published by the Department of Media, Culture and Sport in 2000. Paragraph 8.6 seeks to continue to protect sports pitches through planning and education requirements.

It also looks to further strengthen or extend protection of playing fields by; revising PPG17 to tighten the categories of possible exception, better monitoring of applications affecting playing fields and the setting up of a National Advisory Panel to monitor school playing field disposal.

An aspiration within 'The Government's Plan for Sport' published in March 2001 is that by the end of the decade each local authority should have a comprehensive audit of all outdoor playing field facilities to include public (education and leisure), private and voluntary provision.

PPG 17 'Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation' was published in July 2002 followed in September by 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities: A Companion Guide to PPG 17'. The PPG re-affirms the importance of undertaking 'robust assessments of the existing and future needs of their communities' not just playing pitches but open space, sports and recreational facilities. Paragraph 5 states that 'Good quality assessments and audits, leading to clear strategies supported by effective planning polices, will provide vital tools for resolving potential conflicts that arise between different uses and users of open space, sports and recreational facilities.

Since 1996, Sport England has published a number of documents reflecting issues and guidance relating to playing fields. Sport England's policy on planning applications for development on playing fields is included in its planning policy statement 'A Sporting Future for the Playing Fields of England' (1998).

Sport England's planning policy statement puts forward a presumption against development which would lead to the loss of, or would prejudice the use of, all or any part of a playing field, or land last used as playing field or land allocated for use as a playing field in an adopted or draft deposit local plan. There are a number of exceptions to this rule, one of which includes the production of a carefully quantified and documented assessment of current and future needs. This should demonstrate that there is an excess of playing field provision in the catchment area and that the site has no special significance to the interests of sport.

Outdoor sports provision in Newark & Sherwood

The following table demonstrates the number of football pitches available and the number of teams playing in the District:

Number of pitches			Number of teams			
Senior	Junior	Mini	Senior Junior Mini Wor			
53	9	17	57	37	53	3

Adult football

The following leagues service open age football:

- Central Midlands League.
- Midlands Amateur Alliance.
- Nottinghamshire Amateur League.
- Nottinghamshire Alliance League.
- □ Mid Lincolnshire League.
- Midland Regional Alliance.
- □ Newark Alliance League.
- Description Nottinghamshire Sunday League.
- Nottinghamshire Football Combination.
- Lincolnshire Intermediate League.
- □ Mansfield Sunday League.
- □ EMPA League.

These leagues represent a wide range of standards of play and an equally wide range of demand for standards of facilities. These vary from very basic pitch and changing accommodation requirements through to stipulations for fenced pitches and floodlights.

The East Midlands Women's League services senior women's football. Whilst striving to play on the best facilities possible, there are no strict stipulations for facilities which have been outlined for this league.

Youth/Junior/Mini football

The following leagues service youth/junior and mini football in the District:

- Mansfield Youth League.
- Nottinghamshire Youth League.
- □ Young Elizabethan League.
- □ New Newark Youth League.

Issues for football

- □ The views of the league and club representatives vary. League administrators for several of the youth/junior leagues state that demand from teams is static and in some places in decline and that there are sufficient pitches of adequate quality to meet the demand. Leagues in many cases cover several authorities and in some cases other counties.
- □ Local consultation would indicate that this is not reflective of Newark & Sherwood or indeed other Nottinghamshire authorities. As can be seen from the table above, the number of junior teams far outweighs the number of junior pitches, which are available for community use.
- It must be concluded that some junior teams (U12 U14 age groups) play on senior size pitches. This increases wear and tear on facilities that are already utilised by older age groups and senior teams.
- Many of the pitches suffer from insufficient maintenance to reflect the amount of play taking place.
- It is unclear at present what Football Association's (FA) policy/guidance is on different pitch sizes for different age groups. It is anticipated that such guidance may be made in the forthcoming County Facilities Strategy to be published by the FA.
- A number of clubs have indicated that they are unable to meet local demand i.e. if more pitches were available locally they would be able to field more teams. This particularly relates to junior teams.
- □ A large number of school sites, have pitches, which are not currently available for community use.
- Devon Park is in the process of being developed through NOF Green Spaces and Football Foundation bids. These will address playing pitch and ancillary facility issues.

Cricket

The following table demonstrates the number of cricket pitches available and the number of teams playing in the District:

Number of pitches		Number of teams			
Senior	Junior	Senior	Women's		
35	0	94	53	0	

Cricket in Newark & Sherwood is serviced by the following leagues:

- Description Nottinghamshire Premier League.
- □ South Nottinghamshire League.
- Bassetlaw & District League.
- □ Edwin Arthur League.
- Newark Alliance League.
- Newark & District League.

A significant amount of friendly fixtures are also played by a majority of the clubs.

Issues for cricket

- A number of cricket grounds across the District have issues regarding the quality of ancillary facilities.
- □ A number of clubs have indicated that if more pitches were available they would be able to field more teams, particularly juniors.
- Although cricket is a strongly represented and a developing sport in Newark & Sherwood, there is no identifiable women's participation, although it must be noted that Southwell CC have a developing girl's section.
- □ It can be anticipated that with cricket included in the Active Sport Programme, that the number of girls playing will increase with a knock on effect on the demand for pitch time.
- □ There are three schools, which have cricket pitches, which are not currently available for community use.

Rugby

The following table demonstrates the number of rugby pitches available and the number of teams playing in the District:

Number of pitches			Number of teams			
Senior	Junior	Mini	Senior Youth/Mini Women's/			
9	5	0	9	16	0	

These teams and pitches are distributed between three clubs and one secondary school:

- □ Newark RUFC.
- □ Ollerton RUFC.
- □ Southwell RUFC.
- □ Joseph Whitaker Comprehensive School.

Issues for rugby

- Demand from rugby appears to be met at present, although the RFU has indicated that Ollerton RUFC will require another pitch in the near future in order to meet demand generated from the Club's development programme.
- The issue of overplay on the pitches owned by Nottinghamshire County Council at Southwell RUFC has been highlighted by the club as a significant issue.
- Both Newark and Southwell have identified a need to upgrade their club-house facilities.
- Newark RUFC have approached the council in order to gain assistance with the development of some of their land in order to create further junior and mini rugby pitches.

Bowls

The following table illustrates the number of bowling greens available and the number of teams playing in the District:

Number of greens	Number of clubs			
	Senior	Junior		
24	20	1		

Greens are distributed between 20 different sites, each with a club attached to it. Only nine of these clubs affiliate to the Nottinghamshire County Bowls Association (NCBA) and the English Bowls Association (EBA).

Issues for bowls

- □ A number of clubs identified the need for improved ancillary facilities.
- A SELF application has been submitted for Sherwood Avenue to address the ancillary facility issues there.
- Thoresby Welfare BC are currently working on a lottery bid in order to replace the surfaces on both greens and replace their current maintenance machinery.
- Demand for bowls would appear to be met at present.

Outdoor sports, shortfall, inadequacy and requirements.

The research has found some evidence of a need for additional pitch facilities based on current levels of use and demand.

A number of clubs indicated that if better pitches/facilities were provided they would be able to produce additional teams, particularly for cricket and football. This provides some evidence of suppressed demand in the District. This identified need, and the consequent shortfall of pitches, is outlined within this section.

Some football pitches have poor quality/inadequate changing facilities and are identified as not meeting the needs of users.

These qualitative issues may be creating an artificially low level of use and demand for certain sports in some areas.

The quality of pitches and facilities is, in some cases, inadequate to service the needs of current and potential users. In the context of Best Value, these facilities should be improved to meet NSDC's corporate policies relating to the provision and effective management of services and resources.

The issue of quality, therefore, needs to be taken into account in the analysis of the adequacy of provision.

In terms of this study the approach has identified those sites or pitches that are inadequate for the following reasons:

- Derived Poor playing surface due to drainage, waterlogging, unevenness or debris.
- No changing facilities or inadequate number of facilities relative to pitch numbers.
- □ No or limited off-street parking provision.
- □ Junior teams, from UI5 age level down, having to play on senior sized pitches rather than the appropriate junior pitches.

Once inadequate pitches are identified, the playing pitch area is calculated. The' total pitch requirement' figure is converted into a local standard based on provision per 1,000 population.

The identification of sites that require significant investment within the local standard should assist NSDC to maximise recreational open space provision through development opportunities in the future. Using commuted sums, existing capital budgets and other funding the Council should be in a position to reduce the number of inadequate pitches identified in this study. This could be done providing investment into existing facilities or new facilities of the appropriate standard. In the longer term, the improvements to facility provision should increase use and demand for pitch provision within the District. NSDC should review the adequacy of provision as part of a rolling programme every three to five years to identify inadequacies in provision and revise priorities as applicable.

Newark & Sherwood pitch shortfall and inadequacy.

Site	Shortfall/inadequacy	No. of pitches on site	No. of inadequate pitches on site
British Sugar Sports Ground	Pavilion is in poor condition requiring urgent structural work.	l senior football	
Caunton Cricket Club	Pavilion is in poor condition requiring a re-build.	l cricket	
Collingham Cricket Club	The changing facilities are in poor condition and require refurbishment	l cricket	
Coronation Street	The changing facilities are in poor condition requiring a re-build. Partners are looking to WREN for funding.	3 senior football I mini football I cricket	
Davids Lane	The football pitch is considered to be in poor condition suffering from insufficient maintenance. The changing facilities require refurbishment.	l senior football I cricket	I senior football
Devon Park	The pitches are in need or resurfacing and are currently the subject of a funding bid. The changing facilities require replacement and this should be included as part of the FF bid.	2 senior football 4 mini football	2 senior football 4 mini football
Edwinstowe Cricket Club	The changing facilities are described as being in poor condition, requiring replacement. This is part of the clubs development plan.	l cricket	
Hawton Lane	The bowls greens are in poor condition suffering from poor surface quality.	2 senior football I mini football I cricket 2 bowls	2 bowls
Higmanton Road	Changing facilities are in poor condition. There is no showers, toilets or running water	l senior football	
Kelham Hall	The football pitches are considered to be in poor condition suffering from water logging and insufficient maintenance	l senior football I mini football	I senior football I mini football
Lincoln Road	The changing rooms are described as being in good condition but are to small to accommodate current demand and require extension.	4 senior football	
Lowdham Playing Field	Pitches/squares are described as in poor condition suffering from drainage problems.	l cricket I senior football	l cricket I senior football

Morton Sports Field	Changing facilities are in poor condition requiring refurbishment.	I senior football	
Oxton Village Hall	The pitch is described as in poor condition suffering from insufficient maintenance and a drainage problem.	l cricket I senior football	l senior football
Oxton Cricket Club	The pavilion is in poor condition and requires refurbishment. The club has a development plan in place to accommodate this work.	l cricket	
Sherwood Avenue	Changing facilities are in poor condition comprising of a portacabin. A lottery bid is in place to build a new facility.	I bowls green	
Southwell RUFC	One of the pitches is in poor condition and suffers from a severe slope. The changing facilities are described as being in poor condition and requiring refurbishment.	2 senior rugby	I senior rugby
Stapleford Lane	Pitches are in poor condition suffering from mole infestation, drainage problems and a lack of sufficient maintenance. The changing rooms are also in poor condition requiring refurbishment. A FF bid is in place	2 senior football	2 senior football
The Acres	The football pitches are in poor condition suffering from a lack of sufficient maintenance	l senior football I junior football	l senior football I junior football
Thoresby Welfare Ground	The bowls greens are in poor condition, suffering from poor quality surfaces	I senior football I cricket 2 bowls	2 bowls
War Memorial Ground	The bowls pavilion is in poor condition requiring refurbishment. A funding application is in progress.	2 senior football I bowling green	

Summary of shortfall and inadequacy

Shortfall

4 senior football pitches

I junior football pitches

2 cricket pitches

I rugby pitch

Inadequacy

9 senior football pitches

I junior football pitches

5 mini soccer pitches

I cricket square

I rugby pitch

4 bowls greens

STRATEGY

Introduction

The preceding sections summarise local outdoor sports provision within Newark & Sherwood. The requirement for additional pitches has been identified where there is an expressed demand. The issue of the quality of the existing outdoor facilities stock, in particular football, has been highlighted in the section on assessment and analysis.

Significant investment is required on many existing pitches to bring about improvements to meet the needs and aspirations of existing and future users. The following section, written in a common format for each of the borough and districts in the county, provides the way forward for NSDC in the provision and improvement of outdoor sports and associated facilities within Newark & Sherwood.

Aim

The overall vision of the Playing Pitch Strategy is that:

'by 2013 Newark & Sherwood District Council will aim to provide and have assisted in the provision of an appropriate distribution and range of quality playing pitches and associated facilities which will sustain a growing sporting community and provide opportunities for increased participation

for all the District's residents'

The Strategy is aimed at supporting a number of Statutory, Corporate and wider objectives, to which NSDC subscribes, such as:

- The Department of Media, Culture & Sport 'A Sporting Future for All Action Plan' 2000 requirement for playing pitch audits and strategies to be produced by 2005.
- Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) Note 17 'Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation' July 2002 requirement for local planning authorities to carry out robust assessments of need from which to adopt policies for the protection of existing and the provision of new facilities.
- Nottinghamshire County Council Education Strategy and other sub strategies such as the Strategy for Physical Education in schools.
- Nottinghamshire Active Sports Development Plan
- Nottinghamshire Local Football Partnership Facility Strategy.
- Newark & Sherwood District Sports and Cultural Aspirations.
- Newark & Sherwood District Local Plan Review and planning policies on the provision and protection of playing pitches.

The Strategy should inform NSDC and partners when prioritising actions for improvements to playing pitch provision and applying for major funding streams such as:

- □ New Opportunities Fund.
- □ Football Foundation.
- Sport England Lottery Fund and Awards for All.

Policy objectives

• In common with other districts and boroughs in the county.

NSDC will work to provide, and assist in the provision of, good quality, accessible outdoor sports facilities appropriate to meet the needs of the various communities within Newark & Sherwood.

The achievement of the strategic aim should be carried out through the implementation of the following policy objectives:

- 1. Increase the quality and capacity of existing outdoor sports facilities to meet the needs and aspirations of the sports governing bodies, local sports leagues, clubs and Newark & Sherwood District Council.
- 2. Maintain and increase the current quantity of outdoor sports facility provision to meet the identified needs of local sports clubs and users.
- 3. Improve accessibility to existing outdoor sports facilities and opportunities for local sports clubs and users to participate on them.
- 4. Provide usable, accessible and viable outdoor sports facilities in Newark & Sherwood in the context of the Council's District Local Plan.
- 5. Increase the demand for and participation in outdoor sports through sports development initiatives.
- 6. Improve the health and well being of residents by providing high quality opportunities for sporting activity.
- 7. Support the development of local sports clubs to meet their needs and aspirations within Newark & Sherwood.

Management objectives

A number of management objectives need to be accepted and implemented to enable the above policy objectives to be delivered. It is recommended that NSDC adopt the following objectives, which are to be generally applied across the county, to enable it to achieve the aim and objectives of the Strategy:

- Within a phased programme, improve the quality, security and defensibility of outdoor sports facilities including their ancillary amenities such as changing accommodation and car parking.
- Ensure the appropriate distribution of outdoor sports facilities commensurate with need.
- □ Use development opportunities to provide improvements to existing facility provision or additional facilities where appropriate.
- Increase participation in outdoor sports through sports development initiatives and increased opportunities at good quality facilities.
- Support the sporting community to identify facility need and increase and/or improve existing provision.
- Support local clubs to produce sports development plans and where relevant identify and secure facility improvements, appropriate sites for new facility development and funding opportunities.
- Develop supplementary planning guidance to enable specific local clubs to implement development proposals, where needs have been identified.
- Develop a policy within the District Local Plan along with supplementary planning guidance that would seek the provision of high quality sports to meet the needs associated with new development.
- Within the context of the District Local Plan strive to ensure that where sites may be lost through development or closure of access that facilities of the same or improved standard are provided to meet the continued needs of residents within and beyond Newark & Sherwood.
- Work to ensure appropriate resources are made available to maintain sites to an appropriate standard.
- □ Support, and assist partner agencies to provide, usable, accessible and viable outdoor sports facilities within Newark & Sherwood.
- Identify outdoor sports facilities that are well used but have the potential to further increase participation in sport.
- □ Identify areas of open space that have the potential to contribute to outdoor sports provision within Newark & Sherwood.

Management/developmental considerations

NSDC should consider the introduction of development orientated management policies targeted at encouraging closer partnership between users and NSDC/pitch owners. This should allow more effective use of facilities, more appropriate allocation of resources linked to Corporate Objectives, create incentives for good practice and allow/encourage Best Value in service delivery.

Through NSDC owned site	On and through voluntary sector ownership/ management	Hire/lease/Direct Rate Relief (DRR) conditions
Ensure revenue maintenance on NSDC sites through hypothecation of pitch hire revenues, and capital receipts and appropriate budget allocation.	Implement /development ownership/lease agreements with key clubs.	Work in partnership with clubs towards integrated sports development practice.
Identification of pitch rotation capacity in concert with football leagues. 'New pitches' should be introduced to the stock where overplay and/or fixture congestion is problematic.	Implementation developmental DRR policy.	Work in partnership with clubs to develop integrated funding policies.
Pricing structure linked to pitch quality. Pitches should be accurately graded and where appropriate fees increased to reflect increased quality sites).	Implementation developmental lease agreements with key clubs based on football development plan.	Implement safe child friendly and equitable criteria within all pitch use agreements (short term hires or leases) and within DRR criteria.
Ensure consistent match cancellation policy through user and referee forums.	Identify club support budget to provide land use/maintenance including equipment loan.	
Improve communication and user group ownership by establishing user group forums at all sites, constituted to address pricing, maintenance and sports development issues	Linked to club development programme/VIP scheme, provide training to clubs on pitch and ground maintenance.	

Initiatives proposed across the country may include:

Planning policies and local standards

The Recreation and Open Space chapter of the Local Plan provides the land use planning framework for the provision and safeguarding of indoor and outdoor recreation facilities in the District.

The revised Local Plan should include reference to the following:

- □ The Governments strategy for sport 'A Sporting Future for All' (April 2000) and Action Plan (March 2001).
- Planning Policy Guidance 17 'Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation' (July 2002).
- □ The revised 1991 Playing Pitch Strategy (Sport England, NPFA and CCPR) which is currently under review. The revised document should give details of trends in provision and participation at a national and regional level.
- □ The Council's Cultural and Recreational Aspirations.

The Recreation and Open Space chapter should explicitly state the overall aim of the Local Plan towards recreation. The land use planning policies within the Local Plan should seek to encourage greater participation in sport and recreation through an appropriate distribution of good quality facilities to meet the needs of the various communities within the District.

The Playing Pitch Strategy & Action Plan should provide the supporting information for policies to be developed which:

- Protect existing sports and recreation facilities from redevelopment.
- □ Support proposals for new facilities.
- Promote greater use of existing sport and recreation resources.
- □ Require new open space provision in association with new development.

It is recommended that the revised Local Plan include a general policy stating the aim of the Local Plan towards the provision of sport and recreation. The following policy 'Planning for Recreation' should be considered for inclusion within the Plan:

Planning for Recreation

In conjunction with partner agencies and local communities, the Council will aim to:

- I. Protect recreational facilities where there is a recognised or expressed need as identified in the Playing Pitch Strategy & Action Plan
- II. Enhance the provision and quality of recreational facilities as demonstrated within the Playing Pitch Strategy & Action Plan
- III. Strive to ensure that recreational facilities are accessible to all sections of the community
- *IV.* Encourage the appropriate management of recreational facilities

It is further recommended that the Council include the following policy within the revised Local Plan:

Protection of outdoor recreation facilities

Proposals that would lead to the loss of existing or former land used for outdoor sport or recreation will not be permitted where there is a recognised identified need for such facilities. An exception may be made where a Playing Field and Recreational Open Space Impact Assessment, carried out by the developer, is measured against the findings of the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy & Action Plan and identifies either:

- I. Alternative facilities of at least equivalent community benefit, accessibility and value are made available.
- II. An excess of outdoor sports or recreational facilities within the catchment area such that the proposals would not lead to a shortfall compared with the Council's standards, taking into account the quantitative and qualitative value of the existing provision.
- III. The proposals would lead to the retention and enhancement of the existing provision in terms of its quantitative and qualitative value to meet local needs.

In terms of playing field space the Council should adopt the standards as outlined at the table at the end of this section as an indication of the local qualitative demand.

With regard to new and existing recreation provision it is also recommended that the revised Local Plan include a policy for the provision and improvement of outdoor recreational facilities. A suggested policy is highlighted below:

Provision and improvement of outdoor recreational facilities

Proposals for the provision of formal outdoor recreational facilities will normally be permitted where they:

- I. Meet the needs of all residents for a range of sporting and recreational opportunities, in terms of quality, accessibility, choice and value
- II. The size and location of the site is capable of accommodating a viable outdoor recreational facility
- III. Are located in accessible locations and have alternative modes of access to facilities
- *IV.* Have an acceptable impact upon the:
 - Amenity of surrounding residents and occupiers.
 - **D** Road network and access into the site.
 - **D** Townscape, and the
 - □ Landscape and ecology of the site
- V. Provide the necessary ancillary facilities to ensure the viability and sustainability of the site

Open space provision in new housing developments

Occupants within each new dwelling put additional pressure on the existing open space provision within the District. It is essential that the Council ensure that proposals for individual dwellings as well as larger residential development sites contribute to the required recreational provision. It is recommended that the Council formulate a policy that seeks formal recreational open space provision for individual dwellings based on the standard identified within the Playing Pitch Strategy & Action Plan. The standard will need to include the requirement for children's play and casual open space. Provision may either be in the form of new recreation facilities or improvements to existing facilities.

New housing developments must include formal and informal recreational open space, meeting or exceeding local standards based on the Council's assessments into the demand for recreational open space. Where the locality of the proposed development is not already served by open space meeting these local standards then a higher standard of open space is likely to be required. Proposals for new housing developments should include provision for recreational open space within an agreed timescale in accordance with the following guidelines:

Developments occupied by 100 people or more should include well-located local open space for formal recreation on site equivalent to [enter relevant local standard for catchment area*] ha. per 1000 population and space for children's play and casual recreation on site at a standard equivalent to [enter relevant local standard for catchment area*] ha. per 1000 population.

Housing developments likely to be occupied by between around 50 to 100 people should include well-located local open space for children's play and casual recreation on site at a standard equivalent to [enter relevant local standard for catchment area*] ha. per 1000 population.

In small residential developments likely to be occupied by less than 50 people contributions will be required towards the provision of children's play area and casual recreation which is:

- **□** Fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development proposal.
- □ Where such contributions would secure provision in a location close to and easily accessible from the new development.
- Where it would be of direct benefit to the occupiers of the new development.

Open space should be within or adjacent to the new development. However, provision of some or all of the required recreational open space, either off-site or through contributions to improve and/or expand an existing facility or create a new facility, will be permitted where the Council is satisfied that there is no practical alternative.

Any off-site provision should be:

- **□** Fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development proposal.
- □ In a location where it would be of direct benefit to the occupiers of the new development

* No figure is entered here because the local standard for open space should include the element for playing pitches and non-pitch sports, children's play areas and general amenity open space.

The table below summarises the local standards for the catchment areas within the District based on the local demand and an evaluation of the adequacy of current provision to meet the needs of local sports clubs.

Catchment area	Existing adequate pitches available for community use	Existing inadequate pitches available for community use	Pitches required to meet current shortfall and anticipated future demand	Local standard to meet current and future needs
hectares	149.38	18.61	11.22	
	ha/1,000 population	ha/1,000 population	ha/1,000 population	ha/I,000 population
Newark & Sherwood district	1.42	0.18	0.11	1.71

The above figures have been derived from an assessment of the quality of the existing pitch and non-pitch stock to meets the needs and aspirations of current users and an examination of the need for additional facilities, identified by representatives of the sporting community, to meet current and future anticipated requirements. The far right column should replace the NPFA standards within the current District Local Plan.

The current pitch and bowls green stock available for community use equates to 167.99 ha. Of this hectarage, 149.38 ha is classed as adequate and 18.61 ha as inadequate. There is a further 67.59 ha in the borough that is currently unavailable for community use (e.g., school pitches not made available for hire).

There is a shortfall of 11.22 ha of pitch space across the borough (I.e. the amount of pitch space required to meet latent and future demand).

The total area in hectares required comprises:

Adequate pitch and bowling green provision	149.38
Inadequate pitch and bowling green provision	18.61
New pitch and bowling green provision required	11.22

This area (179.21 ha) equates to a local standard of 1.71 ha per 1,000 population (i.e., total hectarage required of 179.21 divided by the Borough's population of 104 900). All figures involved in calculations are rounded up.

ACTION PLAN

Introduction

The following tables set out the recommended actions relating to sport and site specific issues within Newark & Sherwood District. They include the following headings:

- Key Issues: The key issues relate to the quality and capacity of pitch sites to provide an adequate level of service to existing and future users. These were identified through the various methods of consultation and are detailed in the Assessment Report.
- Recommended Action: In principle the actions on one particular site should be viewed within the overall strategy of seeking to improve the overall pitch stock for the benefit of current and future users. Many recommended actions relate to infrastructure improvements such as drainage or changing facility improvement. However, some cover the decommissioning of pitches and different management regimes at specific sites.
- □ Timescale: There are several timescales in the action plans. The overall timescale of the Strategy relates to the period 2003 to 2013.
 - Short term refers to within one to three years (i.e. by 2006).
 - Medium term refers to within three to five years (i.e. by 2008).
 - Long term refers to within 10 years (i.e. by 2013).
- Partnerships: Includes the various partners that will need to be involved within any proposed improvements at particular sites. There is a need for NSDC as one of the major stakeholders to foster develop these partnerships in the early stages of the Strategy.
- □ Links to policy objectives: Relates to the number of key policy objectives within the Strategy, shown earlier in the document, that a specific proposal will help to achieve.
- External funding sources (EFS): Highlights the known funding sources beyond NSDC's capital programme at the time of writing the Strategy. These may of course change over the next 10 years and NSDC, along with its partners, should seek to obtain funding from sources relevant at that time. Such sources currently include the various sports governing bodies, The Countryside Agency, The Football Foundation, The Market Towns Initiative, The New Opportunities Fund and Sport England's Lottery Fund and Awards for All.
- Outcomes: Highlights the principle outcomes of implementing the proposed recommendations within each sport and on each site.

Priorities for action

Prioritisation criteria

The criteria used to identify short-term priorities are as follows:

- Overall capital costs.
- Overall/ongoing revenue costs.
- Strategic impact based on NSDC/Leisure Services existing objectives.
- Strategic impact based on ability to address more than one stated policy objectives.
- Active Sport priorities girls and women's football.
- □ Strategic impact based on contribution to quality of participation across the area (e.g. mini soccer).
- Local impact based on meeting current need at local/community/ward level.
- Joint use impact based on ability to meet education as well as community need.
- Cost effectiveness based on ability to make a significant impact through relatively little or short term expenditure.
- Sustainability based on the involvement of community group(s) in ongoing management and defensibility of the site.
- Timescale based on extent of impact through short term/immediate action (three to 12 months).
- Extent of need based on the degree of shortfall/existing standard of facilities.

Site specific action plans

Site	Key Issues	Recommended Action	Time- scale	Partnerships	Links to policies	EFS	Outcomes
British Sugar Sports Ground	Pavilion is in poor condition.	Structural assessment of the pavilion should be carried out followed by the appropriate refurbishment or replacement.	Short term	NSDC, NCFA, NLFP, clubs using the site	1,3,4	FF, NOF	Improve the quality, accessibility and capacity of the site.
Caunton Cricket Club	Pavilion is in poor condition.	Partners should support the Club in its sourcing of external funding to refurbish and extend the pavilion or rebuild.	Short term	CCC, NCB, NSDC,	1,3,4	NOF, SELF, ECB	Improve the quality, accessibility and capacity of the site.
Collingham Cricket Club	Pavilion is in poor condition.	Partners should seek to support the club and consider options for the potential refurbishment of the pavilion.	Short term	CCC, NCB, NSDC,	1,3,4	NOF, SELF, ECB	Improve the quality, accessibility and capacity of the site.
Centenary Ground	The football pitches are considered to be in poor condition.	Technical assessment of the pitch substructure should be carried out followed by the appropriate remedial work.	Short term	STC, NSDC, NCFA, NLFP, clubs using the site	1,2,4	FF, NOF	Improve the quality and capacity of the site assisting to meet latent and future demand.
Coronation Street	The changing facilities are in poor condition, requiring a re-build.	Support partners in attempting to gain funding from specified source (WREN)	Short term	NSDC, NCFA, club/s using the site	1,2,4	FF, NOF, SELF	Improve the quality and capacity of the site assisting to meet latent and future demand.
Davids Lane	The football pitch is considered to be in poor condition, while the changing facilities are in poor condition.	Technical assessment of the pitch substructure should be carried out followed by the appropriate remedial work. The changing facilities require refurbishment.	Short term	GPC, NSDC, NCFA, NLFP, clubs using the site	1,2,4	FF, NOF	Improve the quality and capacity of the site assisting to meet latent and future demand.

Devon Park	The pitches are in need of resurfacing. The changing facilities are described as poor.	Should the current bids be unsuccessful NSDC should continue to seek funding for resurfacing and refurbishment work or replacement.	Short term	NSDC, NCFA, NLFP, clubs using the site	1,2,3,4	NOF, FF,	Improve the quality, capacity and accessibility of the site.
Edwinstowe Cricket Club	The pavilion is in poor condition	Partners should seek to help the club in their aspirations to replace the existing facility as part of their development plan.	Short term	Club, ECB, NCCB	I,3,4	NOF, SELF, ECB	Improve the quality, capacity and accessibility of the site.
Hawton Lane	The bowls greens are in poor condition	Partners should be supportive of the suggested action to improve the quality of the surfaces.	Short term	Club, NBA, EBA	1,2,4	NOF, SELF	Improve the quality and capacity of the site to meet he needs of current and future users.
Higmanton Road	Changing facilities are in poor condition.	Partners should investigate the possibility of introducing a water supply/toilets/showers	Short term	Site owners, NSDC, NCFA, LUFC	1,3,4	NOF, FF	Improve the quality and accessibility of the site to meet users needs.
Kelham Hall	The football pitches are in poor condition	Partners should pursue a policy of improved maintenance of the pitches	Short term	NSDC, NCFA, NLFP, clubs using the site	1,2,4	NOF, FF	Improve the quality and capacity of the site to meet he needs of current and future users.
Lincoln Road	The changing facilities are in good condition, however they are too small to meet the needs of the users.	Partners should investigate funding streams in order to expand the current facility.	Short term	NSDC, NCFA, NLFP	1,3,4	FF, NOF, SELF, NSDC	Improve the quality, capacity and accessibility of the site.
Lowdham Playing Field	Pitches are described as in poor condition. Changing facilities are also in need of refurbishment. The football pitch is currently unused.	Technical assessment of the pitch substructure should be carried out followed by the appropriate remedial work. Changing facilities should be refurbished.	Short term	lpc, lcc, ncb, ncfa, nsdc	1,2,3,4	NOF, FF, SELF	Improve the quality and capacity of the site assisting to meet latent and future demand.

Morton Sports Field	Changing facilities are in poor condition.	Refurbishment of existing facilities	Short term	MSA, FCC, FFC, NCB, NCFA, NSDC	1,3,4	NOF, FF, SELF	Improve quality and accessibility of the site to meet the needs of current and future users.
Oxton Village Hall	The football pitch is in poor condition.	Technical assessment of the pitch substructure should be carried out followed by the appropriate remedial work.	Short term	OPC, NCB, NCFA, NSDC, clubs using the site	1,2,4	NOF, FF	Improve the quality and capacity of the site assisting to meet latent and future demand.
Oxton Cricket Club	The pavilion is in poor condition.	Club should carry out detailed feasibility of new pavilion as part of its development plans.	Short term	OE, OCC, NCB, NSDC	1,3,4	NOF, SELF	Improve the quality, capacity and accessibility of the site whilst assisting with club development.
Ollerton RUFC	The Club and governing body has identified the need for an additional pitch in order to facilitate the development plans of the Club.	Feasibility of an additional pitch at the club site should be carried out.	Short- Medium term	Site owners, ORUFC, RFU, NSDC	1,2,3,5,6, 7	NOF, SRB, SELF, RFU	Increase the capccity and accessibility of the site whilst assisting with club development.
Sherwood Avenue	Changing facilities are in poor condition.	SELF bid is underway to build a new clubhouse with changing/shower and toilet facilities and meeting room.	Short term	NSDC, clubs using the site, NBA	I,2,3,4,6, 7	self, NOF, SRB	Increase the quality, capacity and accessibility of the site whilst assisting with club development.

Southwell RUFC	One of the pitches is in poor condition and suffers from some water logging. It is also considered to be overplayed.	Evaluation of the maintenance and booking schedules should be carried out by NCC. Technical assessment of the pitch substructure should be carried out followed by the appropriate remedial work.	Short term	SRUFC, NCC, NSDC, RFU	1,2,4,7	NOF, SELF	Increase the quality and capacity of the site in order to assist with club development.
Stapleford Lane	Pitches are in poor condition.	Technical assessment of the pitch substructure should be carried out followed by the appropriate remedial work.	Short term	Site owners, WTFC, NCFA, NLFP	1,2,4	NOF, FF	Improve the quality and capacity of the site assisting to meet latent and future demand.
The Acres	The football pitches are in poor condition.	Technical assessment of the pitch substructure should be carried out followed by the appropriate remedial work.	Short term	EPC, FVFC, NCFA, NLFP, NSDC	1,2,4	NOF, FF	Improve the quality and capacity of the site assisting to meet latent and future demand.
Thoresby Welfare Ground	The bowls greens are in poor condition	Partners should be supportive of the suggested action to improve the quality of the surfaces.	Short term	Club, NBA, EBA	1,2,4	NOF, SELF	Improve the quality and capacity of the site to meet he needs of current and future users.
War Memorial Ground	The bowling pavilion is in poor condition	Refurbishment of the existing facililties. Sources of external funding should continue to be pursued.	Short term	NSDC, SBC, NBA	1,3,4	NOF, SELF, SRB	Increase the quality and accessibility of the site, thus assisting with club development

Newark Town FC	The Club has aspirations to become a Charter Standard Community Club in the near future. This may have an implication for facilities.	The Club's progress should be monitored and supported.	Short- medium term	NTFC, NCFA, NLFP, NSDC,	5,6,7	FF, NOF	Establishment of a Charter Standard Community Club in the District.
	A number of football clubs in the Clubs have indicated that if more pitches were available locally they would be able to field more teams. This can be equated to a shortfall of four senior and one mini pitch.	Negotiations should be commenced with schools, which have existing pitches, which are not currently accessed by clubs, in order that these pitches might be accessed.	Short term	NSDC, LEA, NCFA, NLFP, WUFC, ORFC, NFC, LUFC, FFC	I, 2, 3, 4, 7	NOF, FF, LEA	Improve access to existing facilities and thereby increasing the current pitch stock. This will help to accommodate latent and increased demand.
	Demand for junior league football varies across the County with pockets of high demand in the urban areas and plateaux in the rural areas. The leagues are too widespread to have specific knowledge of demand.	A partnership should be created to establish development plans for the junior football leagues, which cover the County. This should include position statements, participation targets and forward plans for mini, junior and girls football. A section of these plans should focus on facilities.	Short term	NCFA, all local authorities in the County, NLFP, YEL, NYL, LEA, Club representatives	5, 7	A4A	Assist local authorities in recognising local levels of demand for pitches in the future, identify clubs/age groups/sections which need development/support
	Demand for bowls appears to be catered for at present and for the foreseeable future.	The provision and demand for bowls facilities should be closely monitored, possibly through the creation of a bowls focus group. Protection should be given to existing facilities in the District in order that demand continues to be met	Medium term	NSDC, NBA, local clubs	7	Not applicable	Provide protection for existing facilities in the District as well as recognising and supporting the needs of the clubs.

Action Plan Legend

External Funding Sources = FF – Football Foundation, NOF – New Opportunities Fund, SE – Sport England, CA – Countryside Agency.

Principal National, regional and local partnerships =

NSDC – Newark & Sherwood District Council, LEA – Local Education Authority, NCC – Nottinghamshire County Council, RGBs – Regional Governing Bodies, NCFA – Nottinghamshire County FA, NLFP – Nottinghamshire Local Football Partnership, NCB – Nottinghamshire Cricket Board, NBA – Nottinghamshire Bowling Association, RFU – Rugby Football Union, WUFC – Wheatsheaf United FC, ORFC – Oxton Rangers FC, NFC – Newark FC, NTFC – Newark Town FC, LUFC – Lowdham United FC, FFC – Fiskerton FC, LUFC – Laxton United FC, WTFC – Winthorpe Tigers FC, FVFC – Farnsfield Villa FC, LCC – Lowdham CC, CCC – Caunton Cricket Club, FCC – Fiskerton Cricket Club, OCC – Oxton Cricket Club, ORUFC – Ollerton RUFC, SRUFC – Southwell RUFC, SBC – Southwell Bowling ClubMSA – Morton Sports Association, STC – Southwell Town Council, GPC – Gunthorpe Parish Council, OPC – Oxton Parish Council, EPC – Edingly Parish Council, OE – Oxton Estates
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PART I: INTRODUCTION

I. Structure

This is a technical report considering the current supply and demand issues for playing pitches and ancillary facilities within the Newark and Sherwood District area. It covers the predominant issues for pitch sport provision that services football, rugby, cricket and bowls. Strategic recommendations and action plans will follow in a subsequent report. It is laid out in the following sections:

Part I 'Introduction' provides the background to the research and analysis sections of the report.

- Section I gives a breakdown of the format and structure of the report.
- Section 2 summarises the role of playing pitch assessments in meeting the Government's strategies and policies for the provision of sports facilities.
- Section 3 defines the geographical area covered within the research and summarises the local catchment areas identified for measuring the adequacy of pitch provision.

Part 2 'Research Methodology' provides a summary of how the research was carried out.

- □ Section 4 provides an introduction into the two main approaches used to assess the adequacy of pitch provision.
- Section 5 summarises the quantitative assessment approach based on the NPFA's 'Six-Acre Standard'.
- Section 6 summarises the approach based on a local demand and qualitative assessment which uses the methodology within the 'Playing Pitch Strategy' published by the NPFA, Sports Council and Central Council for Physical Recreation.
- □ Section 7 highlights and defines some of the terminology used within the 'assessment'.

Part 3 'Sport Specific Summary' provides some background to local sports administration and provision within Newark and Sherwood. Although pitch provision is mentioned in this part of the Report detailed information on pitch sites and their facilities is included in Part 4.

- □ Section 9 football provision
- □ Section 10 cricket provision
- □ Section I I rugby provision
- □ Section 12 bowls provision

Each of the above sections provides a summary of the main leagues that service these sports within Newark and Sherwood. The last three sections detail the clubs and pitches in the area that service cricket, rugby and bowls.

Part 4 'Site by Site Assessment and Analysis' provides a detailed assessment of each identified pitch site which is available for community use within Newark and Sherwood. The assessment includes the following details:

- □ Location
- Number and type of pitches
- Provision of ancillary facilities
- Usage including name of club, the League they play in and when they play
- Qualitative information from pitch managers
- Analysis of Council booking records
- □ Analysis of user questionnaire responses

Part 5 'Education sites' provides a summary of the principal users at some of the school sites within Newark and Sherwood.

2. Context

The Government views playing field strategies as an essential element underpinning its strategy for the protection and provision of outdoor playing space. In its strategy for sport, 'A Sporting Future for All' (1999), it highlights the need and importance for local authorities to carry out playing pitch assessments. Audits, assessments and strategies for playing pitches are also seen as pivotal to the Government's approach to protecting and providing playing pitches for schools and the wider community.

National Context

The Government, recognising the continued loss and risk to playing fields, has tightened up some aspects of legislation and policy regarding these facilities. In 1996, it introduced the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) (Amendment) Order. This made provisions for Sport England to be a statutory consultee on proposals that affect playing fields. A playing field, for the purposes of the Order, is defined as the whole of a site that encompasses at least one playing pitch¹.

In 1998, the Department of the Environment, Transport & the Regions introduced new legislation in the form of the Town & Country Planning (Playing Fields) (England) Direction. This states that where a local planning authority is approving development on playing fields within local authority ownership and those used by educational institutions, and where Sport England has objected, the planning application must be referred to the Secretary of State.

¹ A delineated area, which together with any run-off area, is of 0.4ha or more, and which is used for association football, American football, rugby, cricket, hockey, lacrosse, rounders, baseball, softball, Australian football, Gaelic football, shinty, hurling, polo or cycle polo.

Further legislation, within the Schools Standards and Framework Act (SSFA) 1998, was introduced by the Government requiring all state schools to seek approval from the Secretary of State for Education and Employment (Education and Skills since July 2001) for the sale of their playing fields. Section 77 of the SSFA seeks to protect school playing fields against disposal or change of use by requiring the prior consent of the Secretary of State before disposal or change of use may take place. The Department for Education and Employment produced guidance on section 77 of the SSFA within Circular 3/99 'The Protection of School Playing Fields' in June 1999.

Circular 3/99 has recently been replaced by guidance from the Department for Education and Skills entitled 'The Protection of School Playing Fields and Land for City Academies'. The guidance aims to strengthen the existing measures for protecting school playing fields.

In particular, this is intended to support the development and improvement of sporting and play provision for the benefit of schools and their local communities, and to provide wider access to these facilities. Applications for disposal or change of use of playing fields will not only have to take account of existing community use but the potential use of the facilities for the local community.

The Government has re-affirmed its policies to sport in 'A Sporting Future for All' published by the Department of Media, Culture and Sport in 2000. Paragraph 8.6 seeks to continue protecting sports pitches through planning and education requirements. It also looks to further strengthen or extend protection of playing fields by; revising PPG17 to tighten the categories of possible exception², better monitoring of applications affecting playing fields and the setting up of a National Advisory Panel to monitor school playing field disposal.

The Action Plan for 'A Sporting Future for All' published in December 2000 looks to local authorities to establish databases of playing pitch provision over the next five years as part of the local plan process. Local authorities are also required to produce a playing fields audit and strategy linked to sports development objectives over the same period.

Since 1996, Sport England has published a number of documents reflecting current issues and guidance relative to playing fields. Sport England's policy on planning applications for development on playing fields is included in its planning policy statement 'A Sporting Future for the Playing Fields of England' (1998).

² In March 2001 the Government issued a public consultation draft 'Revision of Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 Sport, Open Space and Recreation'.

The policy states that it 'will oppose the granting of planning permission for any development that would lead to the loss of, or would prejudice the use of, all or any part of a playing field, or land last used as playing field or land allocated for use as a playing field in an adopted or draft deposit local plan unless, in the judgement of Sport England, one of the specific circumstances applies. Those specific circumstances are:

E1: A carefully quantified and documented assessment of current and future needs has demonstrated to the satisfaction of Sport England that there is an excess of playing field provision in the catchment, and the site has no special significance to the interests of sport.

E2: The proposed development is ancillary to the principal use of the site as a playing field or playing fields, and does not affect the quantity or quality of pitches or adversely affect their use.

E3: The proposed development affects only land incapable of forming, or forming part of, a playing pitch and does not result in the loss of or inability to make use of any playing pitch (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins), a reduction in the size of the playing area of any playing pitch or the loss of any other sporting/ancillary facilities on site.

E4: The playing field or playing fields that would be lost as a result of the proposed development would be replaced by a playing field or playing fields of an equivalent or better quality and of equivalent or greater quantity, in a suitable location and subject to equivalent or better management arrangements, prior to the commencement of development.

E5: The proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor sports facility, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss of the playing field or playing fields'.

The policy statement includes a set of circumstances applicable to each of the above exceptions that are taken into account by Sport England when assessing planning applications.

3. Local Catchment

Newark & Sherwood – Sport England PAI wards & leisure centres



PART 2: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

4. Introduction

This report uses established and recognised quantitative and qualitative methodologies for assessing the supply of, and demand for, pitch sports.

5. Quantitative methodology

The quantitative method used in this study is based on the National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) minimum national standard for outdoor sport and recreational play space of 2.43 hectares (six acres) per 1000 population³. Within this standard, the NPFA states that between 1.6 and 1.8 ha of sport and recreational space should be provided for youth and adult use. Of this 1.21 ha should be for the provision of formal playing pitches. The remaining 0.4-0.6 ha should be for the provision of non-pitch sports.

This study identifies the total provision of formal playing pitches within the District. The specific dimensions of each identified pitch have not been measured as part of this study. Maximum pitch dimensions using the 'Handbook of Sports & Recreational Design Vol. I: Outdoor Sports', Second Edition, Sports Council, 1993, have been applied to each identified pitch. The total playing pitch area is the sum of the dimensions of all identified pitches.

The study, via consultation with site managers, identifies senior, junior and mini pitches. In general, however, it is assumed that a pitch used by a senior team is a senior sized pitch and it is assumed that it is of maximum size. This assumption – that each pitch is the maximum size for its category - is also applied to junior and mini-soccer pitches. It is recognised and acknowledged that the size of pitches across all categories will vary. The net effect of this assumption is to over-estimate the total playing pitch area.

In addition, for each identified pitch area an additional 50% is added to make allowance for side movement, safe playing margins and the need for ancillary facilities such as pavilions, changing rooms, training areas and seasonal movement. This is in accordance with the recommendations in the 'Six Acre Standard' and the Sports England's 'Handbook of Sports & Recreational Design Vol. 1: Outdoor Sports'. This calculation has been applied to all identified pitches, with the exception of cricket and artificial turf pitches (ATPs).

³ The Six Acre Standard, NPFA, 1993

6. Qualitative methodology

The 'Playing Pitch Strategy' document published by the Sports Council, NPFA and Central Council for Physical Recreation in 1991, outlines a complimentary assessment process based on a local qualitative evaluation. This method was devised to enable policy makers to review playing pitch requirements and provision at a local level. It should be seen as complementary to the quantitative approach recommended in the Six Acre Standard.

The method, whilst recognising the NPFA Six Acre standard, uses sport 'teams' as the basic unit of demand. Sports are evaluated separately via a demand equation that compares the number of matches to be accommodated with the number of pitches available. In this study, a team-based analysis is applied to use of pitches at individual sites.

The primary method of research involves detailed consultation with representatives from the following groups:

- Regional governing bodies of sport
- □ Sports leagues
- □ Sports clubs
- □ Site managers
- Local authority Leisure, Planning, LEA
- □ Schools

In this case, research into the adequacy of football pitch and facility provision was supplemented by the distribution of a club-based questionnaire. Each league secretary distributed the questionnaire to clubs via the League meetings. The questionnaire gathers supplementary qualitative information about pitch quality, changing accommodation and parking. Furthermore, it attempts to qualify what facilities are required at specific sites and how those facilities may assist club development.

It is important to note that this approach, in accordance with the 'Playing Pitch Strategy', is designed to cater only for competitive activity and voluntary participation by adults and young people playing pitch sports. It excludes participation by young people in school and by anyone in a casual manner.

7. References to supply and demand

In this report a number of specific issues relating to supply and demand are considered pertinent in determining the adequacy of provision of pitches. Some of these references and the terminology used to describe them are outlined below.

Supply

Pitches identified as being accessible at a particular time will be included in the supply side of the equation. It is not sufficient to identify the overall number of pitches. In order to be recognised as part of the supply calculation pitches should be:

- □ In an acceptable playing condition for league requirements
- Of the correct (or acceptable) size and layout
- Be available for use at the appropriate time

Furthermore, the study has also, where relevant, considered other issues which impact on a pitch's overall desirability. These include access to, and the quality of, changing accommodation, pitch location and hire cost. These factors can restrict, or even prohibit, access to pitches that may otherwise be considered available. These issues may, again, be particularly pertinent to junior boys and girls and women's participating in football.

This study provides an assessment based upon pitches that are currently available. The assessment takes account of those pitches that are acceptable in terms of meeting the needs and aspirations of users, managers and organisations involved in promoting the provision of good quality sporting facilities.

For comparative purposes the study attempts to identify all pitches within the District whether available or not and those used on a casual basis or on a formal basis in the past. This should not be seen as representing the accessible pitch stock but may be used to identify potential additional pitch space provided that management, maintenance and quality issues are addressed.

Capacity

The term capacity is used in this context to refer to the level of use a pitch can satisfactorily accommodate without causing long-term damage. The study does not incorporate detailed soil substructure and drainage inspections. However, a judgement is made according to the following:

- The timetabling of demands for the pitch. Is it available when the demand require it?
- □ The overall physical ability of the surface of the pitch to support regular matches before the quality is damaged making it unfit for competitive play or causing damage that cannot be rectified during the closed season.

Self-evidently, pitch capacity varies depending on the drainage and soil substructure, soil make up, maintenance, weather conditions, location (within a floodplain), type of sport and age of user.

'Factfile 2 - Planning and Provision for Sport: the selection, maintenance, usage and cost effectiveness of natural turf pitches' English Sports Council, 1994 provides guidance on pitch capacity. It suggests that in most instances a well-drained football pitch, which is maintained in accordance with local authority specifications, should be able to accommodate two to three matches per week. However, it is highly likely that, as a result of limited investment, poor ground conditions and years of overplay, pitches within Newark and Sherwood may only have a capacity of one match per week.

It is accepted that junior players cause far less damage than adults. One estimate is that players under the age of 15 years cause about half the damage of those over the age of 15. However, this does not negate the fact that, on the whole, junior players use the same goalmouths and penalty areas as the adult players where wear and tear is more intense and damage may be compounded.

Sand carpet and suspended water table pitches, should accommodate around four to five matches per week.

It is generally accepted that privately owned and managed pitches have more restricted access than publicly owned and managed pitches. Similarly, those pitches accommodating senior league teams are normally used for no more than one and occasionally two matches per week throughout the season. In both cases, these pitches are likely to be the subject to more stringent cancellation criteria than publicly owned pitches.

In the context of this report is is assumed, unless otherwise stated, that well installed and maintained public football pitches should (on average) be able to accommodate up to three matches per week.

Temporal demand

Temporal demand is the analysis of the fluctuation of demand across relevant periods. The crucial issue is identifying peak demand - assessing on which days, and at what times, demand for pitches is greatest. For pitch sports the majority of participation is organised through leagues which require clubs or teams to play on certain days and at specific times. It is, therefore, normally relatively straightforward to assess when demand for pitches reaches its peak.

Latent demand

Latent demand refers to unfulfilled demand and broadly takes two forms:

- □ Suppressed demand those who wish to play but for whatever reason cannot.
- Potential demand those who do not wish to play but who may, under the right circumstances, be persuaded to do so.

Suppressed and potential demand is taken into account where it can be realistically quantified and where the provision and quality of pitches are likely to be a significant factor in any change. Reference is also made to the impact of the quality of ancillary facilities such as changing accommodation, floodlighting, parking, etc., on the demand for participation in sport and quality pitch space.

The lack of satisfactory facilities at certain pitches may prevent a club from joining a certain league and therefore be suppressing demand at that club and in that league. The impact of the quality of provision on local demand is an important issue in terms of developing local standards for current and future requirements.

Future demand

Reference is also made to anticipated future demand for pitches. This includes, at a basic level, using population projections to assess future pitch space requirements over a 10-15 year period. At another level the projected impact of sports development initiatives, at both the national and local level, currently underway by governing bodies of sport (NGBs), schools and local voluntary sector sports clubs will also be estimated.

The impact of mini-soccer on participation profiles is still being assessed by the Football Association and by many local administrators. Since its introduction, the number of U10 year olds playing football has increased significantly. Girls football is also one of the fastest growing sports in the country. The study assesses the development or otherwise of girls football within the Newark and Sherwood area.

There are also similar initiatives in other sports such as Tag Rugby and Kwik Cricket that may have an impact on facility requirements in the future.

The extent to which the rate of growth of mini and junior sport participation will continue in the future is uncertain. However, this study has sought to gauge the development of football and the other sports through dialogue with NGBs, local league secretaries and club managers.

PART 3: SPORT SPECIFIC SUMMARY

8. Introduction

The following four sections provide a summary of the local administration of the main pitch sports within Newark and Sherwood:

Section 9 - Football Section 10 - Cricket Section 11 - Rugby Union Section 12 - Bowls

Details of the main leagues servicing the sports are included along with issues appertaining to pitch provision to accommodate league needs. The sections on cricket and rugby include a summary of respective clubs and profiles.

Section 9 deals with football provision. It provides a summary of the main leagues that provide structured competitive football for all players (at all age groups) within the Newark and Sherwood area. The summary includes details on the following:

- Normal match days and times.
- Current number of clubs or teams within the League.
- Adequacy of pitches and ancillary facilities used by clubs or teams in the League.

These details have been gathered via interviews with league secretaries or other representatives.

Section 10 summarises cricket provision and details the principal leagues that provide opportunities for teams to play competitive cricket in the area. It concludes with two tables providing a summary of cricket clubs and cricket pitch provision.

Section 11 summarises rugby provision within the area identifying the clubs with details of teams, match days, venue and pitches.

Section 12 summarises bowls provision. It lists the clubs along with venue details.

Football

The following table shows the number of pitches providing for, and the teams playing football in, Newark and Sherwood:

Number of pitches Number of teams using the pitches					
Senior	Junior/Mini	Senior	Junior	Mini	Women's
53	9/17	57	37	53	3

Senior football

Within Nottinghamshire, senior football refers to teams playing within one of the following leagues:

- Central Midlands League (Sat).
- Midland Amateur Alliance (Sat).
- Denote Nottinghamshire Amateur League (Sat).
- □ Nottinghamshire Alliance League (Sat).
- □ Mid Lincolnshire League (Sat).
- □ Midland Regional Alliance (Sun).
- □ Newark Alliance League (Sun).
- □ Nottinghamshire Sunday League (Sun).
- Nottinghamshire Football Combination (Sun).
- Lincolnshire Intermediate League (Sun).
- □ Mansfield Sunday League (Sun).
- □ EMPA League (Sun).

Central Midlands League

Club	Home Ground
Ollerton Town FC	Ollerton Welfare Ground
Thoresby Colliery Welfare FC	Thoresby Colliery Welfare

Midland Regional Alliance Football League

The League consists of 43 teams drawn from across Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Staffordshire. It is split into three divisions with between 14 and 18 teams in each division. All matches kick off at 2.00pm on a Saturday.

The standard of facilities required by this league is higher than those at a local level. The majority of sites used are privately owned managed. Clubs are required to provide separate changing and an official's room.

Club	Venue
Southwell AFC	War Memorial Ground

Newark Alliance Football League

The League consists of 44 teams of which 36 play within Newark & Sherwood. 18 requests that club grounds must be within 30 miles drive of Newark Parish Church.

The league secretary stated that there is a lack of football pitches in the District and that each season they are forced to turn teams away.

Club	Home Ground
Bridge FC	Lincoln Road
British Sugar AFC	British Sugar Sports Ground
Cardinals Hat FC	Kelham Hall
Castle Barge 95 FC	Lincoln Road
Chesters FC	Coronation Street
Coddington FC	Stapleford Lane
Collingham FC 1 st & Res	Station Road
Devon FC	Devon Park
Farndon United FC 1 st & Res	Marsh Lane Playing Fields
Farnsfield Villa FC	The Acres
Fiskerton FC	Morton Sports Field
Grove Athletic FC	Grove Leisure Centre
Gunthorpe FC	Davids Lane
Hawtonville FC	Devon Park
Hearty Goodfellow FC	Centenary Ground
Holly Trinity FC 1 st & Res	Coronation Street
Laxton United FC	Higmaton Road
Lowdham United FC 1 st & Res	Caythorpe Cricket Club
New Inn FC I st & Res	Elm Avenue
Newark FC	Lincoln Road
Newark Flowserve FC	Hawton Lane
Newark Squires FC	Coronation Street
Newark Town FC	Muskham Playing Field
NSK FC	NSK Sports Ground
NSK Millers FC	NSK Sports Ground
Old Kings Arms FC	Kelham Hall
Sutton on Trent FC	Grassthorpe Road
The Grove FC	Coronation Street
Watermill FC	Devon Park
Wheatsheaf United FC 1 st	War Memorial Ground
Wheatsheaf United FC Res	Centenary Ground
Zenith FC	Lincoln Road

Nottinghamshire Football Alliance

The League has four divisions and accommodates teams from central and south Nottinghamshire. It has a total of 63 teams playing in the league of which 10 are from within Newark & Sherwood.

Club	Home Ground
Clipstone FC	Clipstone Welfare
Bilsthorpe FC	Bilsthorpe Welfare Ground
Newark Flowserve 1 st & Res	Hawton Lane
Newark Town FC 1 st & Res	Devon Park
Rainworth Miners Welfare FC 1 st & Res	Rainworth Welfare Ground
Southwell City FC 1 st & Res	War Memorial Ground

Nottinghamshire Amateur League

The League draws its teams from the central and southern areas of the county. It has four divisions within the league containing approximately 50 clubs. Of those, one is from Newark & Sherwood. The league secretary indicated that there will be spaces for new teams in the forthcoming season.

Club	Home Ground
Southwell City FC 3 rd	War Memorial Ground

Nottinghamshire Sunday League

The League consists of 154 teams playing in three sections, Premier, Senior and Intermediate. Within the Premier section there are five divisions, four divisions within the Senior section and four within the Intermediate. All matches kick off at 10.30am on Sunday. There are two clubs from Newark & Sherwood playing in the league.

Club	Home Ground
Black Bull Inn FC	Oxton Village Hall
HMP Lowdham Grange FC	HMP Lowdham Grange

Lincolnshire Intermediate League

Club	Home Ground
Caythorpe FC	Caythorpe Cricket Club

Mid Lincolnshire League

Club	Home Ground
Collingham FC	Station Road
Grove Rangers FC	Coronation Street
Southwell United FC	Centenary Ground

Junior football

In this report, junior football refers to teams playing the following leagues:

- Mansfield Youth League
- Nottinghamshire Youth League
- Young Elizabethan League
- New Newark Youth League

Mansfield Youth League

The League consists of 121 teams. Of them, 27 play within Newark & Sherwood. Boys teams play on Saturday afternoons. Girls play on Sunday mornings. This avoids sharing changing facilities.

Teams playing in the League use a selection of sites. The league secretary indicated that if facilities were improved there would be greater demand.

Teams	Home Ground
Bilsthorpe Welfare FC U16, 13	Bilsthorpe Welfare Ground
Blidworth Welfare FC U13	Blidworth Welfare Ground
Clipstone Rovers FC U14	Clipstone Welfare Ground
Clipstone YC Colts FC U16	Clipstone Youth Club
Grove Rangers FC U14	Coronation Street
Ollerton & Beavercoates FC U16	Boughton Sports Field
Rainworth Rangers FC U15	Ravenshead Leisure Centre
Rainworth Rangers FC U12	Joseph Whitaker School
Rainworth Tigers FC U13, 12, 12	Welfare Ground
Robin Hood Colts FC U16, 15, 14, 12	Rufford School
Rufford Rangers FC U15	Rufford School
Thoresby Colliery Welfare FC U12	King Edwin School
Walesby Juniors FC UI2	Walesby Sports Ground

Nottinghamshire Youth Football League

The League consists of 96 teams drawn from across the County. It is made up UI5's, UI6's and a senior section, which incorporates UI7 and UI8's. There are three divisions within both the UI5 and UI6 sections and a further two within the senior section. All matches kick off at 3pm on Saturdays (2.15pm between October and February).

The league fluctuates in size. Last season the UI5 and UI6 sections increased in size while the senior section remained the same. Of the 94 clubs involved, four play in Newark & Sherwood.

Team	Home Ground
Ollerton & Bevercoates FC U17	Boughton Sports Field
Oxton Rangers FC U17	Oxton Village Hall
Newark Town FC U16	Devon Park
Newark Town FC UI5	Kelham Hall

New Newark Youth League

The league was reinstated in 1988. It currently provides opportunities for junior football at U12 and U13 age group and mini soccer from U9 to U11. Currently there are 62 teams playing in the league. The league is expanding every year, provision at the moment is believed to meet demand, however if the league continues to grow at its current rate then demand may begin to out-way capacity. Matches kick off on Saturday mornings. The following teams play in the league:

Team	Home Ground
Collingham FC U13	Station Road
Grove Rangers FC U12, 12, 13, 13	Grove Leisure Centre
Grove Rangers FC U13	Coronation Street
Holy Trinity FC U12	Coronation Street
Newark Town FC UI3	Elm Avenue
NSK Colts FC U12	NSK Sports Ground
Sherwood Lions FC U12	Hawton Lane
Southwell United FC U12, 13	Centenary Ground
Winthorpe & Coddington Tigers FC U12, 13	Stapleford Lane

Mini soccer

Within Nottinghamshire mini soccer refers to teams playing within one of the following leagues:

- Mansfield Youth League
- Young Elizabethan League
- Roseley & District League
- □ New Newark Youth League

Mansfield Youth League

The League consists of approximately 60 teams. Of those, 12 play within Newark & Sherwood. Teams use a selection of private and school sites.

Team	Home Ground
Blidworth Welfare FC UII, 10	Welfare Ground
Clipstone YC Colts FC U9	Clipstone Youth Club
Rainworth Tigers FC UII, 10, 10, 9, 9, 9, 9, 9	Lake View School
Robin Hood Colts FC U10, 10, 9, 9	Rufford School
Sparta FC UII	Joseph Whitaker School
Walesby Juniors FC UII, 10, 9	Walesby Sports Ground

Roseley & District Youth League

Team	Home Ground
Blidworth Welfare FC U10	Welfare Ground

New Newark Youth League

The league was reinstated in 1988. It currently provides opportunities for junior football at U12 and U13 age group and mini soccer from U9 to U11. Currently there are 62 teams playing in the league. The league is expanding every year, provision at the moment is believed to meet demand, however if the league continues to grow at its current rate then demand may begin to out-way capacity. Matches kick off on Saturday mornings. The following teams play in the league:

Team	Home Ground
Brinkley Bombers FC UII	Centenary Ground
Collingham FC UI I	Station Road
Farndon Colts JFC U10, 10	Marsh Lane
Grove Rangers FC U9, 10, 10, 11	Coronation Street
Grove Rangers FC UII	Grove Leisure Centre
Lowdham Colts FC U10	Caythorpe Cricket Club
Muskham Cougars FC U10, 10, 11	Muskham Playing Fields
Newark Harriers FC UI I	Kelham Hall
Newark Town FC U9, 10, 10, 11	Devon Park
NSK Colts FC U9	Elm Avenue
Sherwood Lions FC U9, 10, 11	Hawton Lane
Southwell United FC U9, 9, 10, 10, 11	Centenary Ground
Sutton-on-Trent FC U9, 11	Grassthorpe Road
Wintorpe & Coddington Tigers FC U9, 9, 10, 11	Stapleford Lane

Girls & women's football

East Midlands Women's League

Team	Home Ground	
Collingham FC	Station Road	
Ollerton Ladies FC	Ollerton Welfare Ground	
Newark Town FC	Devon Park	

Site	Ownership	Number of Pitches
Bilsthorpe Welfare Ground	Parish Council	2 senior
Blidworth Welfare Ground	Trust	I senior, I mini
British Sugar Sports Ground	Private	l senior
Caythorpe Cricket Club	Private	I senior
Centenary Ground	Town Council	2 senior, 2 junior, 1 mini
Clipstone Welfare Ground (Lido)	Private	I senior
Clipstone Youth Club	Parish Council	I senior
Coronation Street	Parish Council	3 senior, 1 mini
Davids Lane	Parish Council	I senior
Devon Park	Local Authority	2 senior, 4 mini
Elm Avenue	LEA	I senior
Grassthorpe Road	Parish Council	I senior, I mini
Grove Leisure Centre	Local Authority	3 senior, 2 mini
Hawton Lane (Flowserve)	Private	2 senior, 1 mini
Higmaton Road	Parish Council	I senior
Hoveringham Cricket Club	Parish Council	I junior
HMP Lowdham Grange	Prison Service	I senior
Joseph Whitaker School	LEA	3 senior
Kelham Hall	Local Authority	I senior, I mini
King Edwin School	LEA	I junior
Lakeview School	LEA	2 junior
Lincoln Road	Local Authority	4 senior
Lowdham Playing Fields	Parish Council	I senior
Marsh Lane Playing Fields	Parish Council	I senior, I mini
Morton Sports Field	Private	I senior
Muskham Playing Field	Parish Council	I senior, I mini
NSK Sports Ground	Private	2 senior, 1 mini
Ollerton Welfare Ground	Private	I senior
Oxton Village Hall	Parish Council	I senior
Rainworth Welfare Ground	Private	2 senior
Rufford School	LEA	2 junior
Stapleford Lane	Trust	2 senior
Station Road	Private	2 senior, 1 mini
Thoresby Welfare Ground	Private	I senior
The Acres	Parish Council	I senior, I junior

Figure 6 : Football pitch sites in Newark and Sherwood available for community use.

Walesby Sports Ground	Private	2 senior, 1 mini
War Memorial Ground	Town Council	2 senior
Whinney Lane	Private	l senior
TOTAL		53 s, 9 j, 17m

Cricket

The following table shows the number of pitches available for community use in Newark and Sherwood:

Number of	squares	Number of teams using the squares		
Senior	Junior	Senior Youth Women's		
35	0	94	53	0

There are 34 cricket clubs in Newark and Sherwood. All the Clubs listed in the table below play in one or more of the following leagues:

- Nottinghamshire Premier League (NPL)
- □ South Nottinghamshire League (SNL)
- Bassetlaw & District League & District League (BDL)
- □ Edwin Arthur League (EAL)
- □ Newark Alliance League (NAL)
- □ Newark & District League (NDL)
- □ Friendly (FR)

Nottinghamshire Premier League

The League came in to ECB operation three seasons ago as a part of the England and Wales Cricket Board Premier League system. Across the Country there are 21 premier leagues spanning 32 counties. The League is made up of 12 clubs that meet the ground requirements laid down by the ECB.

South Nottinghamshire League

The League draws its teams from across the south and central districts of Nottinghamshire. It has 141 teams playing across 15 divisions in two separate sections.

Bassetlaw & District League

The League is one of the oldest in the County and although predominantly Nottinghamshire based, it draws teams from South Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Lincolnshire. It has 69 playing in nine divisions.

Newark Alliance League

The League draws its teams from Newark & Sherwood and the surrounding area. There are 55 teams playing in six separate divisions.

The following table provides information on all cricket clubs, sites and leagues within the District of Newark & Sherwood:

Club	Ground	No. of squares	Senior leagues
Balderton CC	Coronation Street	I	SNL 2, NAL 2, NDL
Blidworth Welfare CC	Burmah Road	I	NPL, BDL, EAL 2
Blisthorpe Welfare CC	Eakring Road	I	BDL
Caunton CC	Manor Road	I	SNL
Caythorpe CC	Caythorpe Road	2	NPL, BDL, SNL 2, NAL 3
Collingham CC	Dale Field	I	SNL 3, NAL, NDL, FR 2
Clipstone Welfare CC	Seventh Avenue	I	BDL, NAL
Edingley CC	The Acres	I	SNL 2
Edwinstowe CC	Forest Corner	I	BDL 2, NAL, NDL
Epperstone CC	Gonalston Lane	I	SNL, FR
Farndon CC	Marsh Lane	I	SNL 2, NAL, NDL
Farnsfield CC	Station Lane	I	BDL 2, NDL, FR
Fiskerton CC	Morton Sports Field	I	NAL
Gentlemen of Lound CC	Forest Lane	I	NDL, FR
Grove Cavillers CC	Grove Leisure Centre	I	NAL, FR
Gunthorpe CC	Davids Lane	I	NAL
Hoveringham CC	Main Street	I	SNL, FR
Laxton CC	Castle Grounds	I	NDL, FR
Lowdham CC	Lowdham Playing field	I	SNL 2
Ollerton Colliery CC	Ollerton Welfare Ground	I	BDL 2, FR 2
Oxton CC	Oxton Village Hall	I	SNL, NAL
Newark CC	Kelham Road	I	SNL 2, NAL, NDL
Rainworth Welfare CC	Rainworth Welfare	I	SNL, FR
Rose & Riley CC	Newark Flowserve	I	EL
NSK Newark CC	Elm Avenue	2	BDL 2, NAL
South Muskham CC	Bekitts Field	I	SNL 2, NAL, NDL
Southwell CC	Brackenhurst Farm College	I	SNL 2, NAL, FR
Sutton-on-Trent CC	Grassthorpe Road	I	NDL

Thoresby Colliery CC	Fourth Avenue (Thoresby W)	I	BDL 2, NAL
Thoresby Park CC	Thoresby Estate	I	BDL 2, EAL
Thurgarton CC	Priory Ground	I	SNL 2, NAL, NDL, FR
Upton CC	Hockerton Lane	I	FR
Wellow Exciles CC	Ollerton Welfare Ground	I	FR
Winthorpe CC	Holme Lane	I	NAL

Rugby Union

The following table gives an analysis of the number of pitches available for community use:

Number of	Pitches	Number of teams using the pitches		
Senior	Junior/Mini	Senior Youth/Mini Women's/Girl's		
9	5	9	16	0

There are three rugby clubs within Newark and Sherwood.

Club	Home Ground	No. of pitches
Newark RUFC	Kelham Road	4 senior, 5 junior
Ollerton RUFC	Boughton Sports Field	l senior
Southwell RUFC	Southwell Rugby Club	2 senior
-	Joseph Whitaker Comprehensive	2 senior

Club profile

Newark RUFC

The Club is based at Kelham Road in Newark. It has three senior teams playing in Notts, Lincs & Derby League structure. Its junior section runs teams from U7 to U19. The club revealed that they are currently considering developing a section of land that they own into junior and mini rugby pitches and have approached the council in order that they might help. There are plans in place to make improvements to the pitches and the clubhouse. The Club has received Sportsmatch funding in order to purchase IT equipment.

Ollerton RUFC

The Club is based at Boughton Sports Field on Church Lane. It has three senior teams playing in the Notts, Lincs & Derby League Structure. The Club has a junior section consisting of 10 members who train on a Sunday. The secretary indicated that the club would like to increase the size of the junior section. Current provision at the site consists of one senior pitch, the club wishes to introduce a second pitch. There is currently insufficient space available, therefore an application has been submitted to buy a parcel of land. The club has received SRB funding in the last two years totalling $\pounds 2,100$ to support the development of the junior section.

Southwell RUFC

The Club is based in Southwell and has three senior teams playing in the Notts, Lincs & Derby League structure. Its junior section consists of teams playing at U13, U11 and U10. The secretary stated that it would like to introduce a fourth senior team and expand the junior section alongside an improved clubhouse. The second team pitch slopes significantly and as a result pitch No.I becomes over used. An application is in the process of submission for NOF green spaces funding in order to carry out a 'cut and fill' exersise.

Bowls

The following table gives an analysis of the number of greens providing for, and the clubs playing bowls in, Newark and Sherwood:

Number of greens	Number of clubs using the greens	
Standard	Senior Junior	
24	20	1

There are 20 clubs servicing bowls in Newark and Sherwood. Nine are fully affiliated to the Nottinghamshire County Bowls Association and the English Bowls Association (EBA).

Club	Ground	No. of greens	Ownership
Balderton BC	Coronation Street	I	Public
Blidworth Welfare BC	Blidworth Welfare	I	Private
Blisthorpe BC	Welfare Ground	2	Private
Clipstone BC	Seventh Avenue	I	Private
Collingham BC	Dale Field	I	Private
Farndon BC	Marsh Lane	I	Public
Harby BC	Harby Bowls Club	I	Public
Hoval Farrarrs BC	Sherwood Avenue	I	Public
Lowdham BC	Lowdham Village Hall	I	Private
Newark BC	London Road	I	Private
Newark Northern BC	Beaumond Gardens	I	Public
Newark Conservative BC	Beaumond Gardens	I	Public
Newark Flowserve BC	Hawton Lane	2	Private
Newark Ladies BC	Beaumond Gardens	I	Public
Nottingham Constabulary BC	Mansfield Road	I	Private
Ollerton & Bevercoates BC	Whinney Lane	2	Private
Rainworth Welfare BC	Rainworth Welfare	I	Private
Sherwood BC	Sherwood Avenue	I	Public
Southwell BC	War Memorial Ground	I	Public
Thoresby Welfare BC	Welfare Ground	2	Private

The table below lists currently unused greens in the District:

Site	No. of Greens
NSK	2
British Sugar Factory	1

Club profile

Newark Northern BC

The Club is based at Sherwood Avenue, which is a local authority owned site providing one green. It has 46 members, which has remained static for the last three years. The Club field one team that plays in EBA competitions.

Rainworth Welfare BC

The Club is based at the Welfare Ground on Kirklington Road. The site is privately owned providing one bowls green described as being in very good condition. It has 36 members, a number that to date, has remained static for the last three seasons. The Club has attempted to establish links with local schools but has been unsuccessful in securing interest.

Thoresby Welfare BC

The club is based at the welfare ground, which is owned by the miners' welfare. The greens are in poor condition. Both surfaces are soft and suffering from moss coverage. The club is currently working on a lottery bid in order to replace the surfaces on both greens and replace their current maintenance machinery.

PART 4: SITE BY SITE ASSESSMENT AND ANALYSIS

I3. Introduction

The following sections provide an analysis of the use and an assessment of the quality of available pitch sites within the District. The assessment of quality is based on the perspective of pitch managers and users. For the purposes of this report quality of pitches will be based on the following standards:

- Pitches that are rated as good have; a level playing surface, more than 80% grass cover, little or no signs of wear and tear and no waterlogging,
- Pitches that are rated as adequate have; approximately 65% grass cover, minimal signs of wear and tear and minimal waterlogging,
- Pitches that are rated as poor have; little or no grass cover, potholing and rutting and an uneven playing surface

Each site is considered in the context of the following:

- □ Location
- Number and type of pitches
- Provision of ancillary facilities
- Usage including name of club, the League they play in and when they play
- Qualitative information from pitch managers
- Analysis of Council booking records
- Analysis of user questionnaire responses

14. Pitch use and analysis

Beaumond Gardens

This local authority owned site provides one bowls green described as being in good condition. Newark Northern Bowls Club maintains the site.

The clubhouse is described as being in poor condition, however N&S District Council are in the process of refurbishment. The following clubs use the site:

Team	League	Time
Newark Northern BC	Notts Bowls Association	All week
Newark Ladies BC	Notts Bowls Association	All week
Newark Conservative BC	Notts Bowls Association	All week

Bilsthorpe Welfare Ground

This parish council owned site provides two senior football pitches, one rugby pitch, one cricket square and two bowls greens. All of the facilities at the site are described as being in adequate condition.

The clubhouse provides changing and ancillary facilities for all sports. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Bilsthorpe Welfare CC	Bassetlaw & District League	Sat
Bilsthorpe Welfare FC	Notts Alliance League	Sat
Bilsthorpe Welfare FC U16	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Bilsthorpe Welfare FC UI I	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Bilsthorpe Welfare BC	Notts County Bowls Association	All week

Blidworth Welfare Ground

This trust owned site provides one senior football pitch, one mini soccer pitch and one cricket square. The football pitch is described as being in adequate condition and the cricket square is described by users as being in good condition. The Club also has wheel on nets to enable practice on the square.

It has a pavilion with two dressing rooms providing showers, toilets and an umpire's room. Users describe the facility as being in good condition. It has approximately fifty car parking spaces. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Blidworth Welfare CC I st	Notts Premier League	Sat
Blidworth Welfare CC 2 nd	Bassetlaw & District League	Sat
Blidworth Welfare CC 3 rd	Edwin Arthur League	Sun
Blidworth Welfare CC 4 th	Edwin Arthur League	Sun
Blidworth Welfare CC UI5	Junior League	Sun
Blidworth Welfare CC UI3	Junior League	Sun
Blidworth Welfare CC Kwik	Kwik Cricket Competition	Sun
Blidworth Welfare BC	Notts Bowls Ass	All week
Blidworth Welfare FC U13	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Blidworth Welfare FC UI I	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Blidworth Welfare FC U10	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Blidworth Welfare FC U10	Rowsley & District Youth League	Sun

Boughton Sports Field

This trust owned site provides one rugby pitch described by users as being in good condition. The club has submitted a NOF Green Spaces funding application in order to secure monies for the purchase of a parcel of land that would provide another pitch.

The facilities include showers, toilets and officials room and are described as being in good condition. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Ollerton RUFC 1 st	NLD League	Sat
Ollerton RUFC 2 nd	NLD League	Sat
Ollerton RUFC 3 rd	NLD League	Sat

British Sugar Sports Ground

This company owned site has one senior football pitch and an unused bowls green. Users indicated that the site is subject to serious flooding.

The ground has changing facilities that provide toilets and showers within the pavilion. However the pavilion is in poor condition and requires urgent structural work. The following team uses the site:

Team	League	Time
British Sugar AFC	Newark Alliance League	Sun

Caunton Cricket Club (Manor Road)

This site provides one cricket square described as being in adequate condition.

The pavilion is described as being in poor condition. There is a bid in place to rebuild the facility with additional space to accommodate more players. It is hoped that this will be in place before the start of next season. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Caunton CC	South Notts League	Sat
Caunton CC UI2	Junior League	Sun
Caunton CC Kwik	Kwik Cricket Competition	Sun

Caythorpe Cricket Club (Caythorpe Road)

This privately owned site is situated off Caythorpe Road and has two cricket squares described by users as being in good condition. The site also provides one senior football pitch described as being in good condition.

There is a clubhouse on site described by users as being in good condition providing showers, toilets and an officials room. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Caythorpe CC I st	Notts Premier League	Sat
Caythorpe CC 2 nd	Bassetlaw & District League	Sat
Caythorpe CC 3 rd	South Notts League	Sat
Caythorpe CC 4 th	South Notts League	Sat
Caythorpe CC Sun 1 st	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Caythorpe CC Sun 2 nd	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Caythorpe CC Sun 3 rd	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Caythorpe CC UI5	Junior League	Sun
Caythorpe CC UI3	Junior League	Sun
Caythorpe CC UI2	Junior League	Sun
Caythorpe CC UII	Junior League	Sun
Caythorpe FC	Lincs Intermediate League	Sun
Lowdham United FC 1 st	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Lowdham United FC Res	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Lowdham United Colts FC U10	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Centenary Ground

Southwell Town Council purchased the site six years ago. It is located off Brinkley Hill. It has two senior football pitches and two junior football pitches and a mini soccer pitch. Users describe pitches as being in adequate condition.

The pavilion has five small changing rooms with separate shower rooms, one large changing room with en-suite shower and a kitchen area. The Town Council secured a Sports England Lottery Funding (SELF) to help finance the development of the pavilion. Car parking is available but is very poor.

Team	League	Time
Southwelll United FC	Mid Lincs League	Sat
Weatsheaf United FC Res	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Hearty Goodfellows FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Southwell United FC U13	New Newark Youth League	Various
Southwell United FC U12	New Newark Youth League	Various
Southwell United FC UII	New Newark Youth League	Various
Southwell United FC U10	New Newark Youth League	Various
Southwell United FC U9	New Newark Youth League	Various
Southwell United FC U9	New Newark Youth League	Various
Brinkley Bombers FC UI I	New Newark Youth League	Various

Clipstone Welfare Ground (Lido)

Situated on Clipstone Road, this privately managed site is home to Clipstone Welfare FC. It contains one senior floodlit football pitch with spectator areas and dug outs. The pitch is of good quality. The ground also has a cricket square described as being in good condition.

There is a small clubhouse next to the pitch. This provides umpires room, shower and toilets. Users describe the facility as being in adequate condition. The following teams used the pitches during the 2001/02 season:

Team	League	Time
Clipstone FC	Notts Alliance League	Sat
Clipstone Rovers FC	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Clipstone Welfare CC I st	Bassetlaw & District League	Sat
Clipstone Welfare CC 2 nd	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Clipstone Welfare CC U15	Junior League	Sun/midweek
Clipstone Welfare CC UI I	Junior League	Sun/midweek
Clipstone Welfare BC	Notts Bowls Association	All week

Clipstone Youth Club

The parish council owned site provides a senior football pitch described as being in adequate condition. The following teams use the ground.

Team	League	Time
Clipstone YC Colts FC U16	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Clipstone YC Colts FC U9	Mansfield Youth League	Sat

Collingham Cricket Club (Dale Field)

The Club owns and maintains the site. There is one cricket square described as being in good condition. There is also a bowls green on site.

The changing facilities are housed in the pavilion that is described as being in poor condition, requiring refurbishment. Car parking is available. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Collingham CC I st	South Notts League	Sat
Collingham CC 2 nd	South Notts League	Sat
Collingham CC 3 rd	South Notts League	Sat
Collingham CC Sun	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Collingham CC	Newark & District League	Evening
Collingham CC U15	Junior League	Sun
Collingham CC UI3	Lincoln League	Sun
Collingham CC UI I	Lincoln League	Sun
Collingham BC	Notts Bowls Ass	All Week

Coronation Street

This parish council owned ground provides three senior football pitches, a mini soccer pitch and a cricket square. Users describe the pitches as being in adequate condition.

Changing facilities are provided at the ground but are considered to be in poor condition, requiring a re-build. An approach to WREN or Sport England in an attempt to gain funding is being considered. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Balderton CC I st	South Notts League	Sat
Balderton CC 2 nd	South Notts League	Sat
Balderton CC Sun I st	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Balderton CC sun 2 nd	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Balderton CC	Newark & District League	Evenings
Balderton CC UI2	Junior League	Sun
Balderton CC UI I	Junior League	Sun
Balderton CC Kwik	Kwik Cricket Competition	Sun
Balderton BC	Notts Bowls Ass	All week
Grove Rangers FC	Mid Lincs League	Sat
Chesters FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Holly Trinity FC I st	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Holly Trinity FC Res	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Newark Squires FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
The Grove FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Grove Rangers FC U14	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Grove Rangers FC U13	New Newark Youth League	Various
Holy Trinity FC U12	New Newark Youth League	Various
Grove Rangers FC UII	New Newark Youth League	Various
Grove Rangers FC U10	New Newark Youth League	Various
Grove Rangers FC U10	New Newark Youth League	Various
Grove Rangers FC U9	New Newark Youth League	Various

Davids Lane

This parish council owned site provides one senior football pitch and one cricket square. Users describe the football pitch as being in adequate/poor condition and suggests that it suffers from insufficient maintenance. The cricket square is described as being in adequate condition.

All teams use the pavilion that is owned by the cricket club and described as being in adequate/poor condition and in need of refurbishment. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Gunthorpe CC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Gunthorpe FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Gunthorpe FC U18	Notts Youth League	Sun

Devon Park

This local authority owned site provides two senior football pitches and four mini soccer pitches. The local authority has submitted a green spaces bid for the resurfacing of the football pitches.

The changing facilities are described as being in poor condition and in need of replacement. The facility is the subject of a current Football Foundation Bid. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Newark Town FC 1 st	Notts Alliance League	Sat
Newark Town FC Res	Notts Alliance League	Sat
Devon FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Hawtonville FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Watermill FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Newark Town Women's FC	East Midlands Women's League	Sun
Newark Town FC U16	Notts Youth League	Sat
Newark Town FC UII	New Newark Youth League	Various
Newark Town FC U10	New Newark Youth League	Various
Newark Town FC U10	New Newark Youth League	Various
Newark Town FC U9	New Newark Youth League	Various

Edingley Cricket Club

This privately owned site provides a cricket square described by users as being in adequate condition.

There are changing rooms provided, located in the pavilion, they are described as being in adequate condition. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Edingley CC 1 st	South Notts League	Sat
Edingley CC 2 nd	South Notts League	Sat

Edwinstowe Cricket Club (Forest Corner)

This site provides a cricket square described as being in adequate/good condition. A pavilion provides all the necessary amenities but is described as being in need of replacement. The club has plans to replace it in the near future as part of a wider development plan. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Edwinstone CC I st	Bassetlaw & District League	Sat
Edwinstone CC 2 nd	Bassetlaw & District League	Sat
Edwinstone CC 3 rd	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Edwinstone CC	Newark & District League	Evenings
Edwinstone CC UI2	Junior League	Sun
Edwinstone CC UII	Junior League	Sun
Edwinstone CC Kwik	Kwik Cricket Competition	Sun

Elm Avenue

This LEA owned site provides one senior football pitch described by users as being in adequate condition.

Changing facilities are provided at the ground. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
New Inn FC 1 st	Newark Alliance League	Sun
New Inn FC Res	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Newark Town FC U13	New Newark Youth League	Sat

Epperstone Cricket Club (Gonalston Lane)

This parish council owned site provides one cricket square described by users as being in adequate condition.

There is a pavilion providing two changing rooms with showers, toilets and an umpire's room. Users describe the ancillary facilities as being in good condition. There is parking for approximately 40 cars. The following teams use the ground:

Team	League	Time
Epperstone CC	South Notts League	Sat
Epperstone CC	Friendly	Sun

Farnsfield Cricket Club (Station Lane)

This site provides a cricket square described as being in adequate condition. A pavilion provides all the necessary amenities. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Farnsfield CC 1 st	Bassetlaw & District League	Sat
Farnsfield CC 2 nd	Bassetlaw & District League	Sat
Farnsfield CC	Newark & District League	Evenings
Farnsfield CC	Friendly	Sun
Farnsfield CC	Junior League	Sun
Farnsfield CC Kwik	Kwik Cricket Competition	Sun

Gentlemen of Lound Cricket Club (Forest Lane)

This site provides a cricket square described as being in adequate condition. A pavilion provides all the necessary amenities. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Gentlemen of Lound CC	Newark & District League	Evenings
Gentlemen of Lound CC	Friendly	Sun

Grassthorpe Road

This parish council owned site provides one senior football pitch, one mini soccer pitch and a cricket square.

Changing facilities are provided including showers and toilets. The pavilion also has a bar facility. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Sutton-onTrent CC	Newark District League	Evenings
Sutton On Trent FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Sutton On Trent FC UII	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Sutton On Trent FC U9	New Newark Youth League	Sat

Grove Leisure Centre

This local authority owned leisure centre provides three senior football pitches, two mini soccer pitches, two rugby pitches and one cricket square. The football pitches are described as being in adequate condition. The rugby pitches are currently unused. The cricket square is described as being in adequate condition.

All teams using the facilities are able to change in the centre. Users describe the ancillary facilities as being in good condition. There is a detached changing room described as being in poor condition that is no longer used. Parking is available on site. The following teams use the facilities.

Team	League	Time
Grove Cavillers CC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Grove Cavillers CC	Friendly	Sun
Grove Athletic FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Grove Rangers FC U13	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Grove Rangers FC U13	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Grove Rangers FC U12	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Grove Rangers FC U12	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Grove Rangers FC UII	New Newark Youth League	Sat

Hawton Lane (Flowserve)

This company owned site provides two senior football pitches, one mini soccer pitch, one cricket square, and two bowls greens. All of the pitches/squares are described as being in good condition, however the bowls greens are described as being in poor condition. The club are working up an 'Awards For All' bid to improve the surface conditions.

The pavilion has four dressing rooms providing showers and toilets all of which are described as being in good condition. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Rose & Riley CC	Evening League	Week nights
Newark Flowserve FC 1 st	Notts Alliance League	Sat
Newark Flowserve FC Res	Notts Alliance League	Sat
Newark Flowserve FC 3 rd	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Sherwood Lions FC U12	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Sherwood Lions FC UI I	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Sherwood Lions FC U10	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Sherwood Lions FC U9	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Newark Flowserve BC	Notts Bowls Association	All week

Higmanton Road

This site provides one senior football pitch described as being in adequate condition.

Changing facilities are provided. However they are considered to be in very poor condition lacking toilets and showers as the facility does not have a water supply. The following team uses the site:

Team	League	Time
Laxton United FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun

Hoveringham Cricket Club (Main Street)

This parish council owned site has one cricket square and one junior football pitch. The cricket square is described as being in adequate condition, while the junior football pitch is currently unused.

The site has a pavilion providing basic changing and ancillary facilities that currently accommodate the needs of the Club. The following teams use the site.

Team	League	Time
Hoveringham CC	South Notts League	Sat
Hoveringham CC	Friendly	Sun

HMP Lowdham Grange

This site is owned and maintained by the prison service and provides one senior football pitch described as being in good condition.

Changing accommodation and parking is provided. The following team uses the site:

Team	League	Time
HMP Lowdham Grange FC	Notts Sunday League	Sun

Kelham Hall

This local authority owned site currently provides one senior football pitches and one mini soccer pitch described by users as being in poor condition. The second pitch is currently surplus to requirements and is therefore un-maintained at the moment.

There are changing rooms located in the main building providing showers and toilets, however, they are small but described as being in good condition. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Cardinals Hat FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Old Kings Arms FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Newark Town FC U15	Notts Youth League	Sat
Newark Harriers FC UII	New Newark Youth League	Sat

Kelham Road

This site is owned by Newark RUFC and provides four senior pitches and five junior pitches. All pitches are described as being in good condition.

Changing and ancillary facilities are located in the clubhouse which is described by users as being in good condition. There are approximately 200 car parking spaces. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Newark RUFC I st	NLD League	Sat
Newark RUFC 2 nd	NLD League	Sat
Newark RUFC 3 rd	NLD League	Sat
Newark RUFC U19	No League Membership	Sun
Newark RUFC U17	No League Membership	Sun
Newark RUFC U15	No League Membership	Sun
Newark RUFC U13	No League Membership	Sun
Newark RUFC UTI	No League Membership	Sun

Laxton Cricket Club (Castle Grounds)

The site provides a cricket square and pavilion. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Laxton CC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Laxton CC	Friendly	Sun

Lincoln Road

This local authority owned site provides four senior football pitches described as being in adequate condition. The site is subject to consideration for a new leisure centre that is due to be built in five to seven years time.

There are changing facilities at the site. Users describe them as being in good condition providing toilets, showers and disabled access but are not large enough to accommodate current demand. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Bridge FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Castle Barge FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Newark FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Zenith FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun

London Road

This privately owned site has one bowls green described by users as being in good condition.

There is a small clubhouse that is described as being in good/adequate condition. The following club uses the site:

Team	League	Time
Newark BC	Notts Bowls Ass	All week

Lowdham Playing Field

Lowdham Parish Council owns this playing field site situated off Main Street. There is one cricket pitch with eight wickets, one senior football pitch and one bowls green. There is a pavilion with changing rooms, an official's rooms and toilets.

According to a club representative from Lowdham CC, the square is of poor surface quality. The club played at Gunthorpe in the past, but moved due to drainage problems at the site. Lowdham United FC no longer plays on the site. The pitch is too small and there is waterlogging due it being located on the river Trent floodplain. The bowls green is described as being in adequate condition. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Lowdham CC I st	South Notts League	Sat
Lowdham CC 2 nd	South Notts League	Sat
Lowdham BC	Notts Bowls Ass	All week

Marsh Lane Playing Fields

This parish council owned site provides one senior football pitch, a mini soccer pitch, a cricket square and a bowls green.

Changing facilities are provided, located in the pavilion. They are shared between the sports. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Farndon CC 1 st	South Notts League	Sat
Farndon CC 2 nd	South Notts League	Sat
Farndon CC Sun	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Farndon CC	Newark & District League	Evenings
Farndon FC 1 st	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Farndon FC 2 nd	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Farndon JFC U10	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Farndon JFC U10	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Farndon BC	Notts Bowls Ass	All Week

Morton Sports Field

This sports association owned site is located off Cooks Lane in Fiskerton cum Morton. The site provides one cricket square and one football pitch. The cricket square is described as being in adequate condition. The football pitch is also described as being in adequate condition.

There is a pavilion on site with changing facilities. Users describe the pavilion as being in poor condition, with car parking available. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Fiskerton CC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Fiskerton CC UI3	Junior League	Sun
Fiskerton CC UII	Junior League	Sun
Fiskerton CC Kwik	Kwik Cricket Competition	Sun
Fiskerton FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun

Muskham Playing Field

This parish council owned site provides one senior football pitch and a mini soccer pitch described by users as being in adequate condition.

There are changing rooms described by users as being in adequate condition. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Newark Town FC 3 rd	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Muskham Cougars FC U10	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Muskham Cougars FC U10	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Muskham Cougars FC UI I	New Newark Youth League	Sat

Newark Cricket Club

This privately owned site providing one cricket square is described as being in good condition.

Changing facilities are provided in the pavilion that is also described as being in good condition. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Newark CC I st	South Notts League	Sat
Newark CC 2 nd	South Notts League	Sat
Newark CC 3 rd	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Newark CC	Newark & District League	Evening
Newark CC UI3	Junior League	Sun
Newark CC UI2	Junior League	Sun
Newark CC Kwik	Kwik Cricket Competition	Sun

NSK Sports Ground

This privately owned site provides two cricket squares, two senior football pitches and a mini soccer pitch.

The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
NSK Newark CC I st	Bassetlaw & District League	Sat
NSK Newark CC 2 nd	Bassetlaw & District League	Sat
NSK Newark CC Sun	Newark Alliance League	Sun
NSK UI5	Junior League	Sun
NSK UI3	Junior League	Sun
NSK Kwik	Kwik Cricket Competition	Sun
NSK FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
NSK Millers FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
NSK Colts FC UI2	New Newark Youth League	Sat
NSK Colts FC U9	New Newark Youth League	Sat

Ollerton Welfare Ground

This privately owned site provides one senior football pitch described as being in good condition, and a cricket square also described as being in good condition.

Changing facilities are provided and described as being in adequate condition. The following teams sue the site:

Team	League	Time
Ollerton Town FC	Central Midlands League	Sat
Wellows Exciles CC	Friendly	Sun
Ollerton Welfare CC I st	Bassetlaw & District League	Sat
Ollerton Welfare CC 2 nd	Bassetlaw & District League	Sat
Ollerton Welfare CC	Friendly	Sun
Ollerton Welfare CC	Friendly	Sun
Ollerton Welfare CC U17	Junior League	Sun
Ollerton Welfare CC U15	Junior League	Sun
Ollerton Welfare CC U13	Junior League	Sun
Ollerton Welfare CC UI I	Junior League	Sun
Ollerton Welfare CC Kwik	Junior League	Sun

Oxton Village Hall

This parish council owned site provides one senior football pitch described by users as being in poor condition. The pitch surface is uneven and suffers from drainage problems.

There are changing rooms on site, providing showers and toilets. Users describe the changing rooms as being in adequate condition. There is parking for approximately 30 cars. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
	South Notts League	Sat
Oxton CC 2 nd	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Black Bull Inn FC	Notts Sunday League	Sun
Green Dragon FC		Sun
Oxton Rangers FC U17	Notts Youth League	Sun

Oxton Cricket Club (Main Street)

This site is owned by the Oxton Estate and provides one cricket square described by users as being in adequate condition.

The Club has a pavilion with two changing rooms providing showers and toilets but no umpires room. Users describe the pavilion as being in adequate/poor condition. The club revealed that it has plans to introduce a new pavilion as part of its development plan. There is parking for approximately forty cars. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
	South Notts League	Sat
Oxton CC Sun	Newark Alliance League	Sun

Rainworth Welfare Ground

This privately owned site provides one cricket square that has just been developed. The square is yet to be used, so at this stage it is difficult to determine the quality. There are also two senior football pitches, described by users as being in adequate condition and a bowls green.

The pavilion is described as being in good condition providing showers, toilets and umpires room. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Rainworth MW CC I st	South Notts League	Sat
Rainworth MW CC 2 nd	Friendly	Sun
Rainworth MW CC UI3	Junior League	Sun
Rainworth BC	Notts Bowls Ass	All week
Rainworth MW FC I st	Notts Alliance League	Sat
Rainworth MW FC Res	Notts Alliance League	Sat
Rainworth Tigers FC U13	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Rainworth Tigers FC U12 A	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Rainworth Tigers FC U12 B	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Rainworth Tigers FC UI I	Mansfield Youth League	Sat

Sherwood Avenue

This local authority owned site provides one bowls green described by users as being in good condition.

Changing facilities are available comprising of a changing area and toilets housed in a portacabin. Users describe the quality of the ancillary facilities as being poor. The site is subject to a lottery bid to build a new changing facility/clubhouse that would incorporate toilets, showers and a meeting room. The following clubs use the site:

Team	League	Time
Sherwood BC	Notts Bowls Ass	All week
Hoval Farrarrs BC	Notts Bowls Ass	All week
Newark Northern BC	Notts Bowls Ass	All week

South Muskham & Little Carlton Cricket Club

The site provides a cricket square and pavilion. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
South Muskham CC 1 st	South Notts League	Sat
South Muskham CC 2 nd	South Notts League	Sat
South Muskham CC 3 rd	Newark Alliance League	Sun
South Muskham CC	Newark & District League	Evenings

Southwell Rugby Club

This privately owned site provides two senior rugby pitches, however one of the pitches is currently owned by Nottinghamshire County Council. Users describe the Council owned pitch as being in good condition but suffering from overplay. The Club owned pitch is on a severe slope and described as in poor condition. The local authority has put in a green spaces bid to have the pitch levelled and drained. All teams use the clubhouse that is described as being in poor condition. There are approximately forty car parking spaces on a gravel base. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Southwell RUFC 1 st	NLD League	Sat
Southwell RUFC 2 nd	NLD League	Sat
Southwell RUFC 3 rd	NLD League	Sat
Southwell RUFC U13	No League Membership	Sun
Southwell RUFC UTI	No League Membership	Sun
Southwell RUFC U10	No League Membership	Sun

Stapleford Lane

This ground is trust owned and provides two senior football pitches which the Club maintain. Users describe the pitches as being in poor condition suffering from mole infestation, poor drainage and a general lack of maintenance.

There are changing rooms at the site that are described as being in poor condition. The site is however the subject of a Football Foundation bid for a pavilion, pitch work and the introduction of floodlights. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Coddington FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Winthorpe Tigers FC U13	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Winthorpe Tigers FC U12	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Winthorpe Tigers FC UII	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Winthorpe Tigers FC U10	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Winthorpe Tigers FC U9	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Winthorpe Tigers FC U9	New Newark Youth League	Sat

Station Road

This privately owned site provides two senior football pitches and a mini soccer pitch. Users describe the site as being in good condition.

Changing facilities are provided and are described as being in adequate condition. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Collingham FC 1 st	Mid Lincs League	Sat
Collingham FC Res	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Collingham FC 3 rd	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Collingham Women's FC	East Midlands Women's League	Sun
Collingham FC U13	New Newark Youth League	Sat
Collingham FC UI I	New Newark Youth League	Sat

The Acres

This parish council owned site provides a senior football pitch, and a junior football pitch. Users describe both football pitches as being in poor condition.

The changing rooms are described as being in adequate condition providing showers and toilets. There have been instances of vandalism and the changing rooms have been broken into on one occasion. There is no parking on site. The following team uses the ground:

Team	League	Time
Farnsfield Villa FC	Newark Alliance League	Sun

Thoresby Colliery Cricket Club (Fourth Avenue)

This privately owned site provides one senior cricket square described as being in good condition. The site also provides one senior football pitch described as being in adequate condition. The Club also has nets and a practice wicket off the square. There are two bowls greens that are described as being in poor condition.

The pavilion is old but described as being in adequate condition. There is limited parking available. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Thoresby Colliery Welfare FC	Central Midlands League	Sat
Thoresby Colliery CC I st	Bassetlaw & District League	Sat
Thoresby Colliery CC 2 nd	Bassetlaw & District League	Sat
Thoresby Colliery CC Sun	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Thoresby Colliery CC U15	Junior League	Weekdays
Thoresby Colliery CC UI I	Junior League	Weekdays
Thoresby Welfare BC	Notts Bowls Association	All week

Thoresby Park Cricket Club (Thoresby Estate)

This estate owned site is leased to the club who maintains it. The site provides one cricket square described as being in good condition.

The pavilion provides showers, toilets, official's room and meeting room and is described as being in good condition. The following teams use the site.

Team	League	Time
Thoresby Park CC 1 st	Bassetlaw & District League	Sat
Thoresby Park CC 2 nd	Bassetlaw & District League	Sat
Thoresby Park CC Sun	Edwin Arthur League	Sun

Thurgarton Cricket Club (Priory Ground)

This site is situated just of Priory Road. There is one cricket square described by users as being in good condition.

The site also has a pavilion described as being in good condition, providing all the basic amenities. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Thurgarton CC I st	South Notts League	Sat
Tuurgarton CC 2 nd	South Notts League	Sat
Thurgarton CC Sun	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Thurgarton CC	Newark & District League	Evenings
Thurgarton CC UI7	Junior League	Sun
Thurgarton CC UI5	Junior League	Sun
Thurgarton CC UI3	Junior League	Sun
Thurgarton CC UI2	Junior League	Sun
Thurgarton CC UII	Junior League	Sun
Thurgarton CC Kwik	Kwik Cricket Competition	Sun

Upton Cricket Club (Hockerton Lane)

This privately owned site provides one cricket square described by users as being in good condition.

The site has a pavilion providing changing rooms, toilets and an area to utilise for having tea. Users describe the facility as being in adequate condition. Car parking is available. The following team uses the site:

Team	League	Time
Upton CC	Friendly	Sun

Walesby Sports Ground

This privately owned site provides two senior football pitches and a mini soccer pitch all described as being in very good condition.

The changing facilities are also described as being in very good condition. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Walesby Juniors FC U12	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Walesby Juniors FC UI I	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Walesby Juniors FC U10	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Walesby Juniors FC U9	Mansfield Youth League	Sat

War Memorial Ground

This site is located off Nottingham Road near the centre of Southwell. There is one flat bowls green and two senior football pitches. The bowls green has a pavilion which is considered to be in need of refurbishment. An application has been put forward for funding. The football pitches are described as being in good condition.

The Club has a pavilion with four dressing rooms, one referee's room, two showers, toilets, a clubroom with licence bar and car parking. All the ancillary facilities are described as being in good condition. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Southwell BC	Notts Bowls Ass	All week
Southwell AFC	Midland Regional Alliance	Sat
Weatsheaf United I st	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Southwell City FC 1 st	Notts Alliance League	Sat
Southwell City FC Res	Notts Alliance League	Sat
Southwell City FC 3 rd	Notts Amateur League	Sat

Whinney Lane

This privately owned ground provides one senior football pitch described as being in adequate condition. The site also provides two bowls greens also described as being in adequate condition. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Ollerton & Beavercoates FC U17	Notts Youth League	Sat
Ollerton & Beavercoates FC U16	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Ollerton & Beavercoates BC	Notts Bowls Ass	All week

Winthorpe Cricket Club (Holme Lane)

This privately owned site provides a cricket square described as being in adequate condition.

Changing facilities are provided in the pavilion, which is a small wooden framed building in adequate condition. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Winthorpe CC	Newark Alliance League	Sun

5. Educational Sites

Brackenhurst Farm College

This education site provides a cricket square. The current pavilion at the site is unable to accommodate current capacity of junior cricket. There is a bid in place to attempt to gain funding from the 'Foundation for Sport and the Arts' for an extension to the pavilion. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Southwell CC 1 st	South Notts League	Sat
Southwell CC 2 nd	South Notts League	Sat
Southwell CC Sun	Newark Alliance League	Sun
Southwell CC	Friendly	Sun
Southwell CC U17	Junior League	Sun
Southwell CC U15	Junior League	Sun
Southwell CC U13	Junior League	Sun
Southwell CC UI I	Junior League	Sun
Southwell CC Kwik	Kwik Cricket Competition	Sun
Southwell CC Girls U13	Friendly	Sun
Southwell CC Girls UI I	Friendly	Sun

Joseph Whitaker Comprehensive School

This LEA owned site provides three senior football pitches and two senior rugby pitches. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Rainsworth Rangers FC U12	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Sparta FC UII	Mansfield Youth League	Sat

King Edwin School

This LEA owned site provides one junior football pitch. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Thoresby Colliery FC U12	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Robin Hood Colts FC U12	Mansfield Youth League	Sat

Lake View School

This LEA owned site provides two junior football pitches. The pitches are also over-marked for mini soccer. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Rainworth Tigers FC U10 A	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Rainworth Tigers FC U10 B	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Rainworth Tigers FC U9 A	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Rainworth Tigers FC U9 B	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Rainworth Tigers FC U9 C	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Rainworth Tigers FC U9 D	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Rainworth Tigers FC U9 E	Mansfield Youth League	Sat

Rufford School

This LEA owned site provides two junior football pitches. The pitches are also over-marked for mini soccer. The following teams use the site:

Team	League	Time
Robin Hood Colts FC U16	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Rufford Rangers FC U15	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Robin Hood Colts FC U15	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Robin Hood Colts FC U14	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Robin Hood Colts FC UI2	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Robin Hood Colts FC U10	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Robin Hood Colts FC U9	Mansfield Youth League	Sat
Robin Hood Colts FC U9	Mansfield Youth League	Sat

The following schools currently have community use agreements with clubs:

School	Authority	Football Junior	Football Senior	Rugby	Cricket
Brakenhurst Farm College	Newark & Sherwood				I
Joseph Whitaker Comprehensive	Newark & Sherwood		3	2	
Lakeview School	Newark & Sherwood	2			
King Edwin School	Newark & Sherwood	I			
Rufford School	Newark & Sherwood	2			
Total		5	3	3	I

Schools	Authority	Junior football	Senior Football	Rugby	Cricket
Balderton Chuter Ede Primary	Newark	1			
Bleasby Primary School	Newark	I			
Robert Jones Junior School	Newark	I			
Boughton St Joseph's School	Newark	I			
Newark Hawtonville Junior School	Newark	I			
Coddington School	Newark	I			
Collingham John Blow School	Newark	I			
Elston All Saints Primary School	Newark	I			
Farndon St Peters Primary School	Newark	I			
Farnsfield Endowed School	Newark	I			
Edwinstowe C of E Primary School	Newark	I			
Gunthorpe C of E Primary	Newark	I			
Halam C of E Primary	Newark	I			
Kirklington Primary	Newark	I			
Kneesall Primary	Newark	1			
Lowdham Primary	Newark	I			
Balderton John Hunt Junior	Newark	I			
Balerton Grove Comprehensive	Newark		4	2	I
Ollerton County Junior	Newark	I			
Ollerton Forest View Junior	Newark	I			
Ollerton Dukeries Com College	Newark		2	I	
Newark Bowbridge Junior	Newark	I			
Newark Bishop Alexander Primary	Newark	I			
North Clifton County Primary	Newark	I			
Newark Barnby Road Primary	Newark	I			
Newark Mount Primary	Newark	I			
Newark Holy Trinity Primary	Newark	I			
Elm Avenue Detached Playing Field	Newark		I		
North Muskham Primary	Newark	I			
Norwell Primary	Newark	I			
Harby Queen Eleanor Primary	Newark	I			
Python Hill Junior	Newark	I			
Ravenshead Primary	Newark	I			
Southwell Lowe's Wong Junior	Newark	2			

The following table lists other schools in the District with sports pitches:

Southwell Minister Comprehensive	Newark	I		2	I
Sutton on Trent Primary	Newark	I			
Walesby Primary	Newark	I			
Winthorpe Primary	Newark	I			
Besthorne Primary Detached	Newark	I			
Robert Jones Playing Field	Newark		I		
Samual Barlow Primary	Newark	I			
Newark Thomas Magnus Comp	Newark			2	I
Newark High School	Newark		I		
Southwell Minster Comprehensive	Newark		I		
Total		38	10	7	3