

Playing Pitch Strategy

Fenland District Council 2016 - 2031



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Version 4.0

Prepared by



TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>1</u>	<u>INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>STRATEGIC CONTEXT</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>FOOTBALL</u>	<u>28</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>CRICKET</u>	<u>88</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>RUGBY UNION</u>	<u>106</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>HOCKEY</u>	<u>121</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>ADDITIONAL SPORTS</u>	<u>139</u>
<u>8</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATIONS / ACTION PLAN</u>	<u>161</u>
<u>9</u>	<u>APPENDIX</u>	<u>174</u>

1 INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE

1.1 Introduction

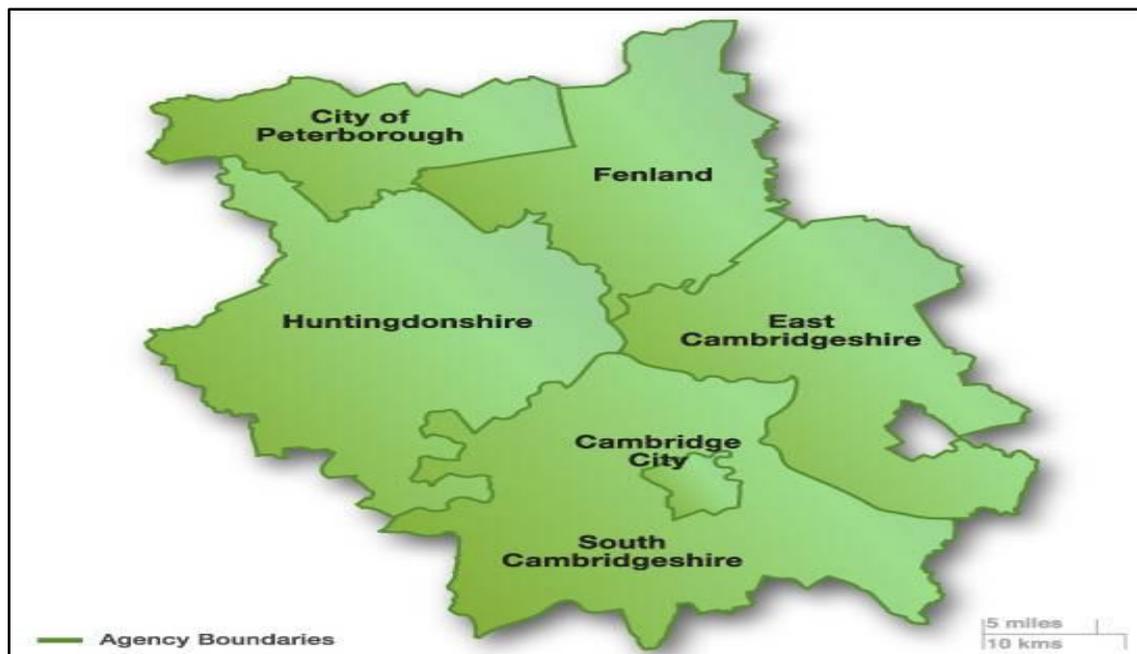
- 1.1.1 Fenland District Council (the Council) has commissioned 4 global Consulting Limited and Strategic Leisure Limited to produce a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) to cover the period 2015 to 2031 matching the date of the Fenland Local Plan.
- 1.1.2 Alongside this PPS, the Council has also commissioned a Built Sport Facilities Strategy, which is currently being completed by 4 global and Strategic Leisure. This will be presented as a separate document however the two should be read alongside each other and used to inform a coordinated approach to sports provision over the next 15 to 16 years (up to 2031) in Fenland.
- 1.1.3 A PPS is a strategic assessment which provides an up to date analysis of supply and demand regarding playing pitches (grass and artificial) which serve the following core sports;
- Football
 - Rugby Union
 - Cricket
 - Hockey.
- 1.1.4 This report will also analyse the supply and demand of the following sports and physical activities
- Tennis
 - Bowls
 - Athletics
 - Cycling
- 1.1.5 The Council Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) is needed to ensure that the current and future demand for sports and recreation facilities are planned for holistically and that the needs of the current and growing population of Fenland can be fully met. This piece of work will support Fenland's 2013 'Leisure Strategy – Helping to create a healthy and prosperous local community' and compliment and support Fenland's revised infrastructure plan.

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- 1.1.6 The PPS will also provide evidence to support funding bids from National Sports bodies like Sport England and National Governing Bodies (NGB's) of sport, regional funders such as WREN, whilst also supporting requests for developer contributions following building developments. Additionally, the strategy will help focus internal revenue and capital spending from Fenland District Council in the medium term.
- 1.1.7 The PPS will ensure that a planned approach to sport and physical activity facilities takes place in Fenland over the medium term, ensuring the local community has access to high quality facilities, helping to improve their health and remain cohesive. The PPS will also enable the Council to provide facilities that are as efficient and effective as possible aligned to their financial priorities.
- 1.1.8 The key outputs of the Fenland PPS are:
- A Fenland-wide Playing Pitch Strategy.
 - A framework to support medium and long-term facilities planning for the delivery of sport and leisure in the district.
 - A clear needs analysis for developers regarding future sports and recreational facility needs in the District.
 - A robust framework to assist the allocation of developer contributions for sports and recreational provision in Fenland.
- 1.1.9 The PPS will help towards the following evidence to support the future work of the council, town councils and community sport:
- To identify supply & demand issues for sport and recreation provision across Fenland.
 - To identify priority sports for the area based on National Governing Bodies (NGBs) targets and local community needs.
 - To provide evidence to guide and support bids to external funding partners to support the delivery of sports and recreation facilities in the District.
 - To develop a priority list for investment and use of resources secured through section 106.
 - To provide robust evidence to identify priorities for sports and recreation provision in the Medium term.
 - To identify the role of the education sector in supporting the delivery of community sports.
 - To identify the role that high quality sports and recreation facilities can play in overcoming health inequalities and community cohesion issues across the District.

1.2 Background Context

- 1.2.1 Fenland District is a predominantly rural area, located in the northern part of Cambridgeshire, relatively close to both Cambridge (in the south) and also Peterborough (to the west). The District has 4 market towns, Chatteris, March, Whittlesey and Wisbech, and 29 smaller villages. The District borders with Kings Lynn and West Norfolk to the east.
- 1.2.2 The district covers an area of about 550 square km (210 square miles). It is set to see substantial population growth over the next few years.
- 1.2.3 The development of a Playing Pitch Strategy will help to Fenland District Council to plan effectively for future playing pitch provision, current and future need, population growth and increased participation.
- 1.2.4 Implementing a planned approach to future provision of playing pitches in Fenland over the medium term will ensure that the Fenland community has access to high quality facilities, helping communities improve their health and remain cohesive. Where the Council provides and maintains pitches, it is critical that they are as efficient and effective as possible due to continuing financial pressures.
- 1.2.5 Map 1.1 below shows the area of Fenland, and its relationship to the rest of the County.

Map 1.1. ONS Map of Fenland



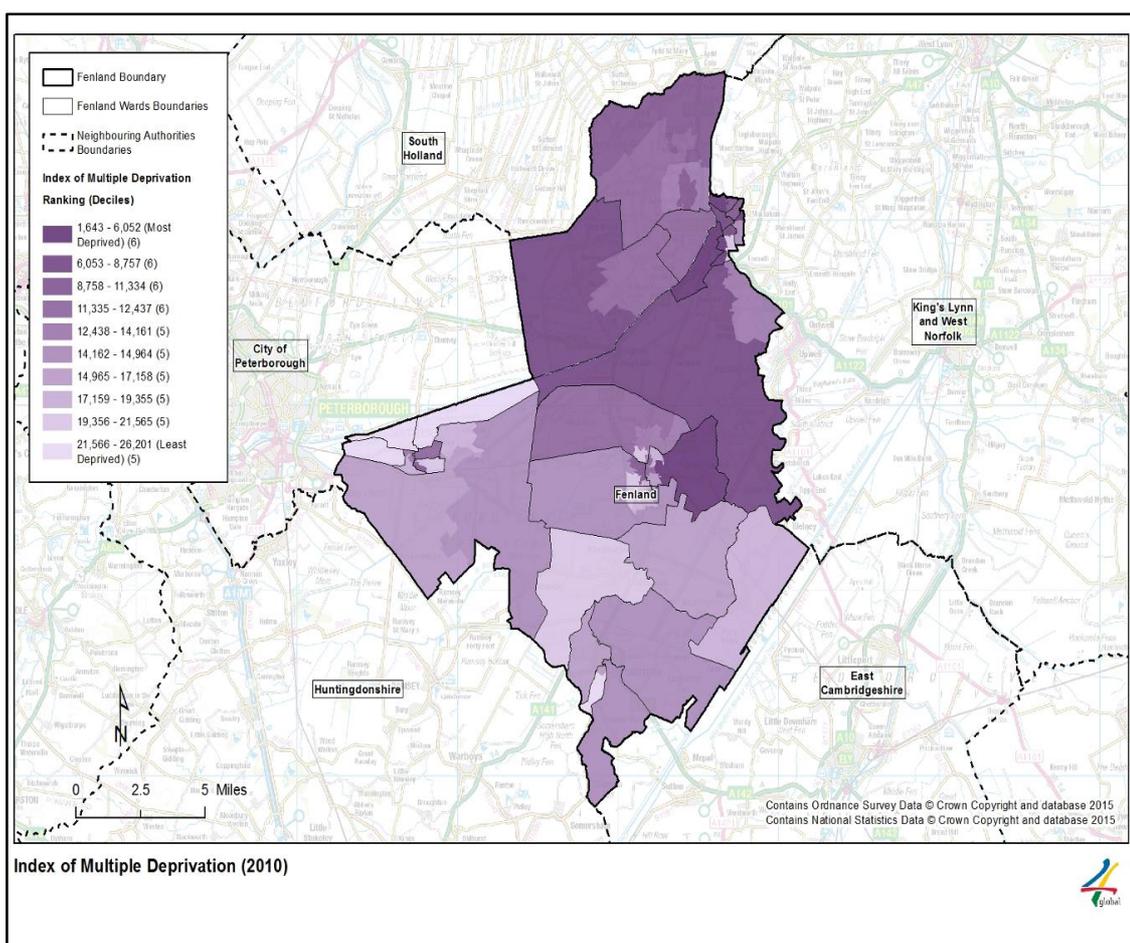
1.2.7 Significant population growth is anticipated in Fenland over the next few years; as a consequence of this, the council wishes to see a long term i.e. 2015-2031 Strategy for the future provision of playing pitches sports across the local authority area.

1.2.8 It is anticipated that the majority of the population, and therefore residential development, growth will be in and around the four main towns.

1.2.9 Fenland District ranks 9 out of the 56 districts in the East of England; this score highlights that Fenland has some significant areas of deprivation. (Source: Sport England Local Sport Profiles May 2015).

1.2.10 Fenland has several areas of severe deprivation (see Map 1.2). The issue of rural deprivation is also a challenge across the Fenland area, related to particular factors such as employment, accessibility and transport.

Map 1.2. Fenland area of Deprivation

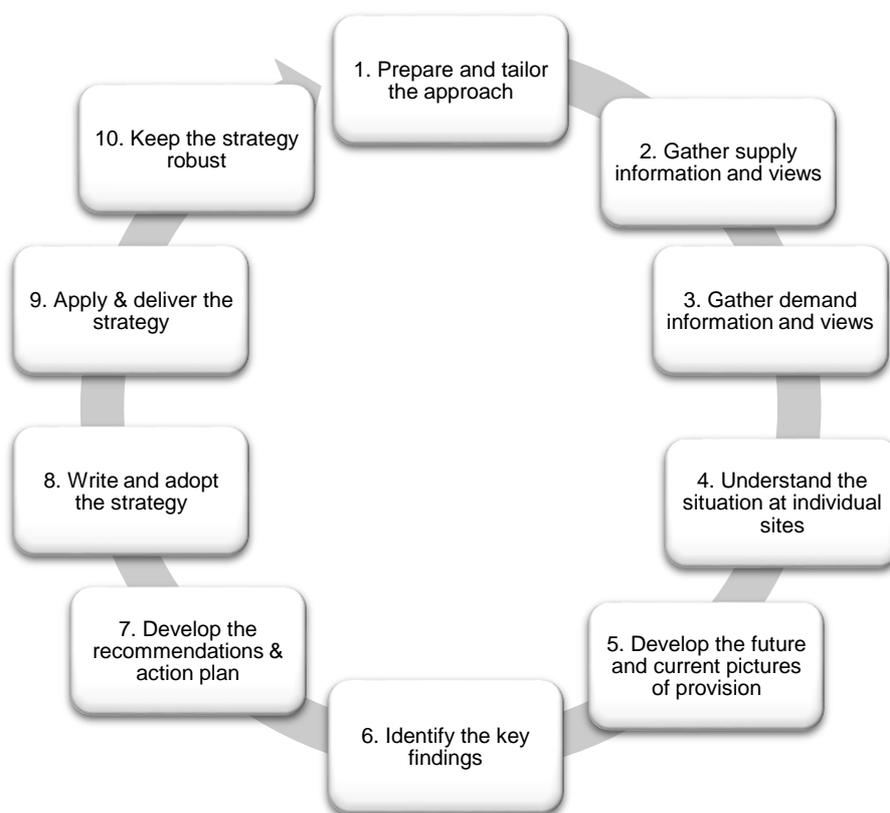


- 1.2.11 The Fenland communities also have significant health challenges, with growing obesity, and low levels of regular participation in physical activity at 24.40% (Active People Survey 9 (APS9) 2014/15 Q2. In Fenland over three-quarters of the population are not active enough to have a positive impact on individual health.
- 1.2.12 Obesity levels in the area are extremely high with 72.4% of adults and 22.3% of children categorised as obese (Source: Sport England Local Sport Profiles August 2015)
- 1.2.13 There is high dependence on private transport across the area, given that public transport is very limited, and there is a need to travel to the market towns (urban centres) for education, retail opportunities and employment.

1.3 Methodology

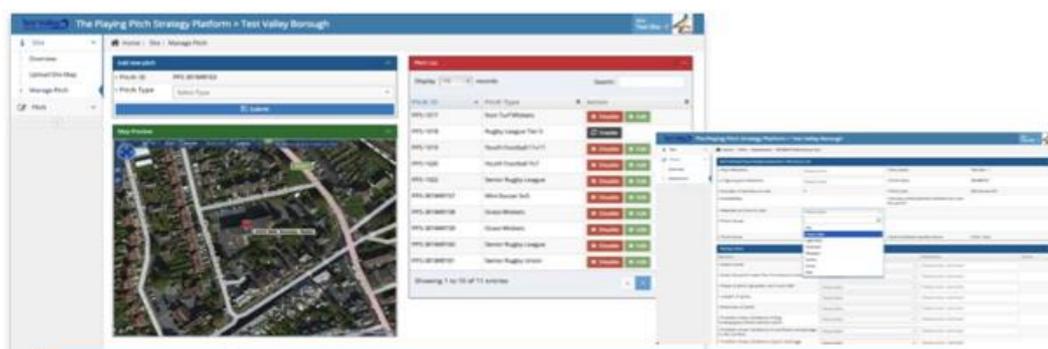
- 1.3.1 The assessment methodology adopted for the PPS follows the published guidance from Sport England. The guidance used is the 2013 version, Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance – An Approach to Developing and Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy. Figure 1 summarises the approach proposed in this guidance and is broken down into 10 steps.

Figure 1: Developing and Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy – The 10 Step Approach (Sport England, 2013)



- 1.3.2 To facilitate information gathering and help ensure PPS reports are based on a robust evidence base, 4 global has developed an online data entry and assessment platform (see images below), which contains all pitch provider and club information. This will enable the Council to keep supply and demand information and the strategy up to date through its life and beyond

Figure 2 - 4 global's Online Playing Pitch Platform



- 1.3.3 A Project Steering Group comprising representation from the Council, Sport England and National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs) has guided the study from its commencement. At critical milestones, the Steering Group members have reviewed and verified the data and information collected to allow the work to proceed efficiently through each stage, reducing the margin of error.

1.4 The Structure of our Report

- 1.4.1 The structure of the PPS report is as follows
- Section 2 – Context
 - Section 3 – Football
 - Section 4 – Cricket
 - Section 5 – Rugby
 - Section 6 – Hockey
 - Section 7 – Other outdoor sports facilities
 - Section 8 – Recommendations and Action Plan
- 1.4.2 Supporting information is included in the appendices

2 STRATEGIC CONTEXT

- 2.1.1 This section summarises the most important policies and context that impact upon the strategy and its interpretation. It also gives an overview of the demographics of the district, which provides contextual background to sport participation and the need for provision now and in the future.
- 2.1.2 Sport specific strategies and policy documents published by NGBs are included within each sport's section to provide more relevant context to each sport.

2.2 National Context

- 2.2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the requirement of local authorities to establish and provide adequate and proper leisure facilities to meet local needs. Paragraphs 73 and 74 outline the planning policies for the provision and protection of sport and recreation facilities.

“Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up to date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision is required”.

‘Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

2.2.2 Sport England is a statutory consultee on all planning applications that affect sports pitches and it has a long established policy of playing pitch retention, even prior to the NPPF guidance. It looks to improve the quality, access and management of sports facilities as well as investing in new facilities to meet unsatisfied demand. Sport England requires local authorities to have an up-to date assessment of playing pitch needs and an associated strategy including a recommendation that the evidence base is reviewed every three years. The key drivers for the production of the strategy as advocated by Sport England are to protect, enhance and provide playing pitches, as follows:

- Protect: To provide evidence to inform policy and specifically to support Site Allocations and Development Management Policies which will protect playing fields and their use by the community, irrespective of ownership
- Enhance: To ensure that sports facilities are effectively managed and maintained and that best uses are made of existing resources - whether facilities, expertise and/or personnel to improve and enhance existing provision – particularly in the light of pressure on local authority budgets
- Provide: To provide evidence to help secure external funding for new facilities and enhancements through grant aid and also through CIL and Section 106 agreements

2.2.3 Sport England and local authorities can then use the strategies developed and the guidance provided in making key planning decisions regarding sports pitches and facility developments in the area and to support or protect against planning applications brought forward by developers.

2.3 Local Context – Fenland

2.3.1 A number of current local strategic policies, strategies and factors influence current and future supply and demand for sport and recreation facilities in Fenland. In addition a number of overarching National sport policies and strategies also have an impact on sport and physical activity within the District.

2.3.2 Local strategies and policies include:

- Fenland Council Corporate Plan (2015 - 2018)
- Fenland Local Plan (2015 – 2031)
- Fenland Strategic Partnership
- Fenland Sustainable Community Strategy (2009 – 2012)
- Fenland Health and Well-Being Policy – Evidence Report 2013

- Fenland Sport and Leisure Strategy (2013 – 2018)
- Population Profiles and Projections
- Participation Trends and Rates

Fenland District Council Corporate Plan (2015 – 2018)

2.3.3 The Fenland District Corporate Plan identifies three key priorities for the District, which all support the overall aim of improving the quality of life for local communities. These priorities are:

COMMUNITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support vulnerable members of our community • Support our ageing population and young people • Promote health and wellbeing
ENVIRONMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver a high performing refuse, recycling and street cleansing service • Work with partners and the community on projects to improve the environment and our streetscene • Work with partners to keep people safe in their neighbourhoods by reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, and promoting social cohesion
ECONOMY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attract new businesses and jobs, and support existing businesses in Fenland • Raise aspirations and improve learning opportunities • Promote Fenland as a tourism and visitor destination • Promote and enable housing growth, economic growth and regeneration across Fenland

2.3.4 The key priority for ‘Communities’ is the one most relevant to future provision of sport and leisure facility provision in the District, and the one to which increased participation and improved health will most contribute.

2.3.5 Promoting Health and Well-Being is the key area to which sport and leisure provision relates, and which provides the context for this Strategy.

Fenland Local Plan (2015 – 2031)

2.3.6 Fenland Local Plan sets the long-term planning and land use policies within the Borough. The Local Plan includes documents previously referred to as the Local Development Framework (LDF).

2.3.7 The Vision Statement for the Fenland Local Plan is included overleaf.

2.3.8 The key Local Plan objective with most relevance to the future provision of sport and leisure facilities is:

- Healthy, Inclusive and Accessible Communities:
- Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities

(e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities and community activities); and ensure all groups thrive in safe environments and decent, affordable homes

- Create and enhance multifunctional open space that is accessible, links with a high quality green infrastructure network and improves opportunities for people to access and appreciate wildlife and wild places
- Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income

The Fenland Local Plan Vision Statement

Fenland will nurture, grow and promote its market towns and villages. They will be attractive places to live, set within our unique and protected Fens landscape.

Everyone will recognise the increase in opportunities presented to them, whether that be improved health and wellbeing, new homes, a wide range of new job opportunities or places to play.

Between 2011 and 2031, Fenland will be a growing district, growing by 11,000 new homes, meeting the housing needs of all our communities. There will be increased employment opportunities across the district and a bolstered tourism economy, and existing businesses will be encouraged to expand. Growth in homes and jobs will be closely linked to each other, with new infrastructure such as schools, roads, health facilities and open space provision planned and provided at the same time as the new buildings.

Growth will be focused on our four market towns. But villages will not be left behind, with appropriate and sensitive development being permitted to ensure they remain thriving local communities.

New development will be safe and of a high quality design, with higher environmental standards than homes built in previous decades. The natural and historic environment will be protected and enhanced, with new development taking into account the surroundings of the area in which it would be situated.

Through growth, current issues such as health inequalities, community deprivation, infrastructure deficit and low skills, will be tackled and addressed. Growth will attract investment, attract businesses and attract new residents to the district.

Overall, sustainable growth will build a stronger, better and more sustainable Fenland.

- 2.3.9 Decisions on investment in services and facilities, and on the location and scale of new development, will be taken on the basis of a Fenland Settlement Hierarchy. The hierarchy is as follows:

-
- **Market Towns** - The majority of the district's new housing, employment growth, retail growth and wider service provision should take place in these settlements:
 - Primary Market Towns: March and Wisbech
 - Other Market Towns: Chatteris and Whittlesey
 - **Growth Villages** - For these settlements, development and new service provision either within the existing urban area or as small village extensions will be appropriate albeit of a considerably more limited scale than that appropriate to the Market Towns.
 - Wimblington*; Doddington*; Manea; and Wisbech St Mary

 - **Limited Growth Villages** - For these settlements a small amount of development and new service provision will be encouraged and permitted in order to support their continued sustainability, but less than would be appropriate in a Growth Village. Such development may be appropriate as a small village extension.
 - Coates; Elm; Friday Bridge; Leverington; and Parson Drove

 - **Small Villages:** In these settlements, development will be considered on its merits but will normally be of a very limited nature and normally be limited in scale to residential infilling or a small business opportunity.
 - Benwick; Christchurch; Eastrea; Gorefield; Guyhirn; Murrow; Newton; Turves; and Tydd St Giles

 - **Other Villages:** In the following other villages, residential development will be considered on its merits and will normally be restricted to single dwelling infill sites situated within an otherwise built up frontage.
 - Church End, Coldham, Collette's Bridge, Foul Anchor, Pondersbridge, Rings End, Tholomas Drove and Tydd Gote

 - **Elsewhere:** Development elsewhere (i.e. in an area not falling into one of the above categories), will be restricted to that which is demonstrably essential to the effective operation of local agriculture, horticulture, forestry, outdoor recreation, transport or utility services; and to minerals or waste development in accordance with separate Minerals and Waste Local Development Documents (LDDs). Any such development will be subject to a restrictive occupancy condition.

Fenland Strategic Partnership

2.3.10 Fenland has a spectacular landscape, lively market towns and a strong community spirit. The Fenland Strategic Partnership (FSP) brings together all of the local agencies and organisations who are dedicated to improving the district and making life in Fenland even better. Working together helps to better co-ordinate services across organisations, reduce duplication and provide a more unified service to Fenland residents.

2.3.11 The current FSP priorities are:

- **Cohesion** with a focus on: Private sector renting to include Houses of Multiple Occupation and supporting new arrivals in the local community
- **Health commissioning** with a focus on: Alcohol misuse and reducing deaths from early heart disease
- **Meeting the needs of older and younger people** with a focus on: Together for Families and living well and independently
- **Economic Development** with a focus on apprenticeships

Fenland Sustainable Community Strategy

2.3.12 The Fenland Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) 2009-2012 sets out how the public, private, community and voluntary services will work together to make Fenland an even better place to live and work. It recognises that there some big challenges to overcome, but emphasises that the Fenland Strategic -Partnership, who produce and monitor progress of the SCS, is dedicated to tackling them together. The strategy has the following themes:

- Health and Social Well-being
- Safer and Stronger Communities
- Economic and Sustainable Communities
- Building a Sustainable Environment
- Children and Young People

2.3.13 It is clear from the above that Health and Social Well-being is one the key themes of the SCS.

Fenland Health and Wellbeing Policy Evidence Report - 2013

2.3.14 The context for health and well-being in this Strategy is the Cambridgeshire Health and Well-Being Strategy (adopted 2012), and the Fenland Health and Well- Being Evidence Report 2013.

2.3.15 The communities of Fenland face some significant health challenges, which is why this area is such a priority in planning, policy and strategic terms at local level.

2.3.16 The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Cambridgeshire (JSNA, 2012) and the Health Profile for Fenland (2015) details that there are high levels of obesity, low levels of exercise and healthy eating, high teenage pregnancy, and high levels of smoking in Fenland compared to Cambridgeshire, the East of England and national averages, as summarised below:

- Fenland has the highest proportion of obese adults in Cambridgeshire at 27%, which is higher than the national average of 23%. The total percentage of adults classed as overweight or obese is 72%, which is significantly worse than the regional and national average of 63%. In addition 14% of Fenland children are obese compared to a national figure of 10%.
- Of the 123 wards in Cambridgeshire, Fenland has the top 18 wards with the highest estimated prevalence of obese adults.
- Only 21.7% of residents in Fenland consume five or more portions of fruit and vegetables in a day compared to the 23.7% national average.
- Only 51% of the adults in Fenland take part in a minimum 150 minutes of moderate intensity exercise per week, which is significantly lower than the national average of 56%.
- Approximately 27% of adults who live in Fenland smoke, which is the highest estimated figure in the County (Cambridgeshire average is 22%). Smoking is implicated in four in every seven deaths in the over 65s in Fenland.
- Life expectancy for men is lower than the England average
- Levels of people diagnosed with diabetes is higher than the England average

The Fenland Sport and Leisure Strategy (2013 – 2018)

2.3.17 Leisure has a significant positive impact on people and places; FDC promotes leisure for the benefit of the Fenland community. This strategy sets out a vision and strategic aims for the short to medium term, to ensure that leisure continues to contribute to the Council's key priorities.

2.3.18 The strategy acknowledges the key outcomes of leisure participation and the benefits these provide to the individuals and communities FDC, these include:

- Improved health and reduced health inequalities
- Strong, sustainable and cohesive communities
- Improved life chances for children and young people
- Reduced anti-social behaviour and fear of crime
- Increased skills, employment and economic prosperity
- Pride in communities generated by sports teams

2.3.19 The overall vision for the strategy is:

“To encourage more people to be more active, more often, by providing an efficient leisure service, attractive open spaces and support for local sports clubs and community events.”

2.3.20 FDC will deliver this vision through the following four strategic aims:

- Continue to provide an efficient service
- More people, more active, more often
- Supporting community sport
- Linking with partners to encourage tourism and economic activity

2.3.21 The third key aim, Supporting community sport, is of particular relevance to the PPS due to the emphasis FDC highlights in the strategy on the role community sport will play in providing accessible leisure and sport via village halls and local playing fields which reduce the need for local residence to travel to access sport/leisure provision.

2.3.22 In addition the strategy highlights that Fenland's green spaces are well used by sports clubs. Football clubs are well established and are being strengthened by support from Cambridgeshire Football Association, the Football Foundation and the Council's Sports Development Team. Local youth football and cricket leagues have been home grown and form the backbone of sustainable youth sport in Fenland.

2.3.23 The key outcomes from the delivery of this strategy by 2018 will be:

- Cross service work to ensure increased tourism opportunities and visitor spending as a result of collaborative work between teams
- An improvement in the Sport England Active People survey results for Fenland, with an additional 2% of the community undertaking regular physical activity
- Improved quality of facilities, with a plan in place for the future of the George Campbell Leisure Centre and plans regarding the sustainability of all other facilities developed
- Development of a 10 year asset management plan for all leisure centres
- Input into economic development initiatives highlighted in the Fenland Economic Development Strategy Action Plan
- An increase in the proportion of adults and children with a healthy weight
- An increase in the proportion of elderly people who are active

2.3.24 The PPS will help support the key aims and outcomes of the Fenland Sport and Leisure Strategy by contributing to the following specific actions that are outlined in the strategy within each of the four key aims:

- Aim: Continuing to provide an efficient service:
 - Increase demand and participation in active leisure through an effective, segmented marketing plan.
 - Use customer satisfaction to promote the service, ensuring customers is at the centre of the Councils work.
- Aim: More people more active, more often
 - Develop an active recreation programme in Fenlands Parks.
- Aim: Supporting community sport
 - Ensure that the Sports Development Team works as an enabler, not a provider, to support community sports clubs to improve participation, local facilities and
 - Identify strategic sporting hubs in each town and support the hubs by developing a business plan with current users
 - Work together with National Governing Bodies of Sport to develop stronger player pathways and additional support for clubs across Fenland
 - Work together with partners such as Living Sport to effectively utilise national and Regional programmes to develop stronger partnerships with local clubs and improve sports participation in areas with an

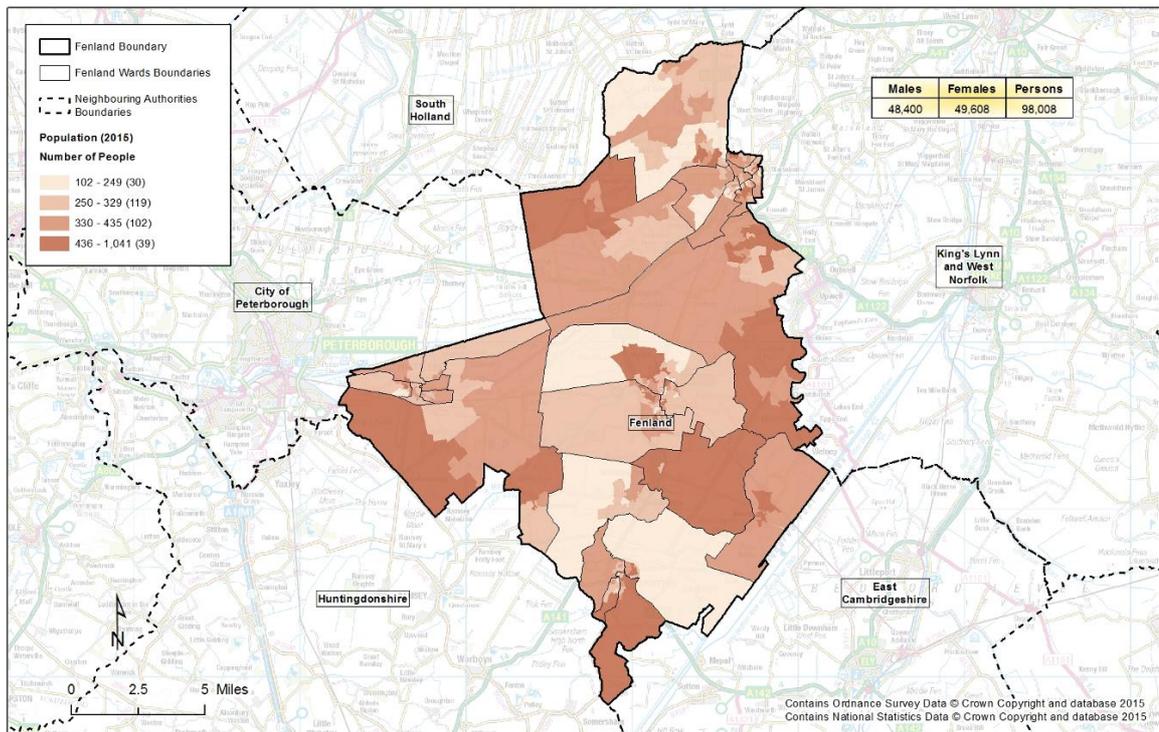
identified need

- Increase exercise participation in the community - using 'Get Active campaigns' in conjunction with community clubs
- Work with partners to deliver effective active leisure programmes that develop respect and strengthen community cohesion, including cross generational and cross cultural events
- Aim: Linking with partners to encourage tourism and economic activity
- Work with partners to extend the use of community facilities to widen their use for events and functions.

2.4 Population Profiles and Projections

2.4.1 The population profile of Fenland, the future growth projections and the locations of growth are important to understand in planning for the future provision of sports facilities. Map 2.1 illustrates current population distribution and scale. Map 2.2 illustrates the population growth expected in the district to 2031.

Map 2.1 Existing Population in Fenland



2.4.2 The demographic profile of Fenland, current and future, is summarised in Table 2.1.

2.4.3 In the decade up to 2001, the district's population grew at four times the national average and has continued to grow rapidly since. The 2011 Census suggests Fenland has a population of approximately 95,300, compared to 83,700 in 2001 and 75,500 in 1991. Chatteris and March in particular have accommodated significant new house building, as have Doddington, Wimblington and Manea.

Table 2.1. Summary of Fenland Demographic Profile 2015

KEY FACTORS	FENLAND DISTRICT
Population 2015 (all ages) (Office for National Statistics 2012 SNPP projections)	97,894
Population 2031 (all ages) (ONS 2012 SNPP projections)	109,040
Population Increases Planned	11,000 new homes 2014-2031; circa 17,700 additional residents
Population characteristics	Predominantly white; the population is ageing – the number of people of pensionable age will rise from 25% to 41% in the next 10 years
Rural Areas	Fenland is predominantly rural. 25% of its population live in its rural area. The majority of the rural population live in one of the districts 29 villages.
Deprivation	IMD 22.27 (9 out of 56 in East of England) There are high levels of deprivation across Fenland; Wisbech in particular would benefit from regeneration and investment. There are significant inequalities in terms of life expectancy, particularly for men, who live shorter lives than the average in the East of England and England.
Obesity	72% i.e. nearly three quarters of the adult population are categorised as obese; 22.3% i.e. over a fifth of children are obese
Health Cost of Inactivity	£1,416,538m
Health Issues	Main health problems are caused by obesity and smoking, cardio vascular diseases, and diabetes. In Fenland about 27% of the adult population smoke. Smoking is responsible for 1 in 7 deaths in the District.

2.4.4 The percentage population of the market towns and the villages is circa 25% in the rural villages and 75% in the four market towns:

Table 2.2. Fenland Population Distribution

TOWN	POPULATION
VILLAGES AND OUTLYING AREAS	23,375
CHATTERIS	10,500
MARCH	20,000
WHITTLESEY	13,000
WISBECH	20,500

Source: Fenland Local Plan 2014

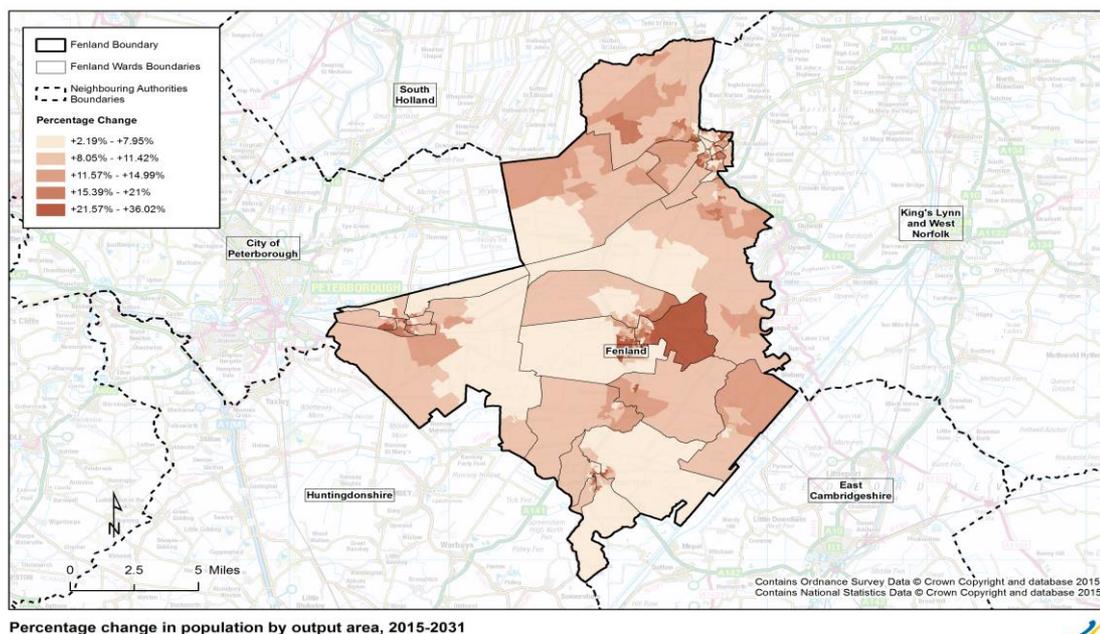
2.4.5 The population across Fenland is expected to increase with the building of 11,000 new homes. These will be located as follows:

Table 2.3. Locations of New Homes in Fenland

TOWN	NEW HOMES
VILLAGES AND OUTLYING AREAS	1,200
CHATTERIS	1,600
MARCH	4,200
WHITTLESEY	1,000
WISBECH	3,000 plus 550 in the neighbouring Kings Lynn and West Norfolk

2.4.6 Map 2.2 illustrates the population growth forecast for Fenland by 2031, and the locations in which it will occur. The darker the colour shade, the higher the population growth in that specific area. The areas of densest population growth are in and around the four market towns, as detailed above, with the greatest level of growth around March.

Map 2.2. Population Growth Forecast in Fenland by 2031



2.5 Physical Activity and Participation

2.5.1 The value of participation in sport and physical activity is significant, and its contribution to individual and community quality of life should not be under-estimated. This is true for both younger and older people; participation in sport and physical activity delivers:

- Opportunities for physical activity, and therefore more 'active living'
- Health benefits - cardio-vascular, stronger bones, mobility
- Health improvement
- Mental health benefits
- Social benefits – socialisation, communication, inter-action, regular contact, stimulating

2.5.2 In addition, participation in sport and physical activity can facilitate the learning of new skills, development of individual and team ability/performance, and provide a 'disciplined' environment in which participants can 'grow' and develop.

2.5.3 The benefits of regular and active participation in sport and physical activity will be important to promote in relation to future provision of sport, leisure and physical activity in Fenland; critically there is an existing audience in the District, who already recognise the advantages of participating, and a latent community who are inclined to take part.

2.6 Participation Trends and Rates

Current Participation Rates

2.6.1 The Active People Survey (APS) 9 (2014/15 Q2) highlights that of those aged 16+, only 24.4% i.e. under a third of the adult population in Fenland participates once a week in sport; This is lower than the Cambridgeshire, (35.8%), East (34.6%) and England average (35.%), and is lower than previous levels of participation in the Borough in APS 1 2005/06 (29.2%). This means that circa 75% or three quarters of Fenland residents over 16, are not physically active at least once a week. This statistic is of significant concern, given the corporate priority and objectives for health and well-being in Fenland.

(Source: APS 9 2014/15 Q2)

- 2.6.2 Only 17.7% of the Fenland population take part in 1-2 x 30 minutes of moderate intensity activity per week. (Source: APS 9 2014/15 Q2)
- 2.6.3 The proportion of people taking part in 30 minutes moderate intensity activity 3 times a week is only 12.4% in Fenland and is lower than the regional (East 16.8%) and England (17.5%) average. The proportion of people in Fenland taking part in 30 minutes moderate intensity activity 3 times a week has decreased since APS1 2005/06, and increased very slightly since APS 8 2014/15 Q1.
- 2.6.4 Overall, participation rates are higher for males than females in Fenland.

Table 2.4. The top 5 participation sports in Fenland (Source Active People, Sport England)

TOP PARTICIPATION SPORTS	FENLAND
	Swimming Cycling Gym Fitness Football

- 2.6.5 APS 9 Q2 also identifies that:
- In terms of Latent Demand, 56.7% of all adults in Fenland want to do more sport
 - 12.4% of the identified latent demand in 2012/13 in Fenland was for swimming, (APS7; Local Sports Profile updated March 2014)
 - 31% of adults in Fenland, who are already physically active, want to do more sport
 - 23.3 % of those who are physically inactive in Fenland, want to do more sport
 - Satisfaction with existing sports facilities has decreased from 67.7% to 58.1% in Fenland over the last 5 years.

(Source: SE Local Sport Profile updated March 2014, and APS 9 2014/15 Q2)

Sport England Key Performance Indicators

- 2.6.6 Sport England, the Government's agency for sport, measures 5 key areas in relation to sport activity. Tables 2.5 and 2.6 overleaf set out the performance of Fenland, compared to the East region and England.

(Source: APS 7, 2012/13 from Local Sports Profile March 2014).

Table 2.5. Comparison of Sport England KPI's for Fenland, The East Region of England and England (National)

KPI1 3x30 - PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PER WEEK	YEAR	FENLAND			EAST			ENGLAND		
		ALL	MALE	FEMALE	ALL	MALE	FEMALE	ALL	MALE	FEMALE
	2005/06	17.2%	18.6%	15.9%	20.8%	22.8%	18.9%	21.3%	24.0%	18.7%
2012/13	20.6%	23.9%	17.5%	23.8%	26.5%	21.1%	24.7%	28.3%	21.3%	

INDICATOR	FENLAND				EAST				ENGLAND			
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
KPI2 * - Volunteering at least one hour a week	5.4%	*	*	8.6%	4.8%	8.0%	7.4%	6.8%	4.5%	7.2%	7.6%	6.0%
KPI3 - Club Membership in the last 4 weeks	20.9%	16.6%	15.7%	14.1%	24.3%	23.6%	23.7%	22.2%	23.9%	23.3%	22.8%	21.0%
KPI4 - Received tuition / coaching in last 12 months	17.3%	9.4%	14.5%	16.2%	18.3%	16.8%	17.4%	16.7%	17.5%	16.2%	16.8%	15.8%
KPI5 - Took part in organised competition in last 12 months	14.7%	12.4%	*	12.7%	15.3%	14.5%	15.1%	13.6%	14.4%	14.3%	14.4%	11.2%
KPI6 - Satisfaction with local provision	67.7%	~	~	58.1%	70.2%	~	~	62.5%	69.0%	~	~	60.3%

Source: Local Sports Profile, August 2015, Active People Survey, Year: 2009/10-2011/13, Measure: Key Performance Indicators 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

2.6.7 It can be seen from Table 2.5 that in 2012/13, Fenland was below all participation KPIs, and those relating to club membership and satisfaction with provision in comparison to the England averages. Fenland has higher levels of residents who participate in organised sport and receive coaching than the England average, although levels are lower than the East average. However, there are high levels of volunteering in the District, compared to the East and England averages. It is critical that regular participation opportunities continue to be provided, given their health benefits, and are both accessible and affordable, as KPIs 2-8 evidence such a low participation level, despite an increase, since the initial APS survey in 2005/06.

Market Segmentation

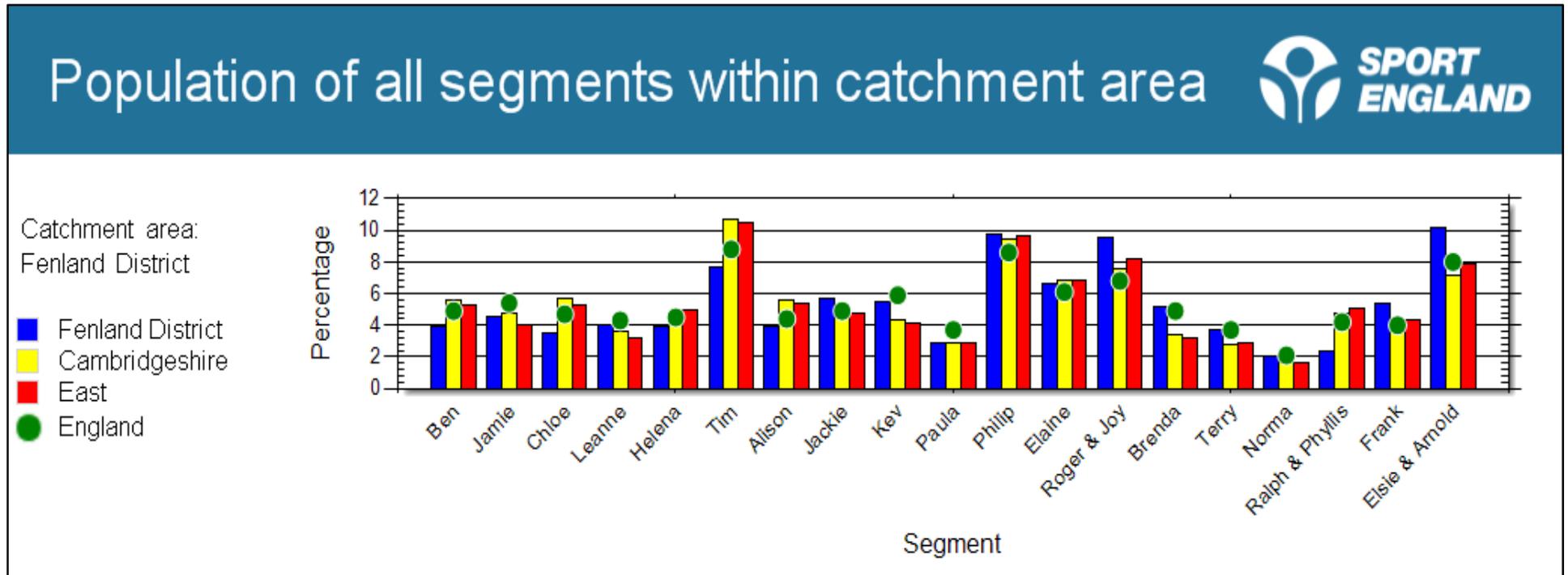
2.6.8 Sport England’s market segmentation model comprises 19 ‘sporting’ segments. It is designed to assist understanding of attitudes, motivations and perceived barriers to sports participation and to assist agencies involved in delivery of sport and recreation to develop tailored interventions, communicate more effectively with the target market and to better understand participation in the context of life stage and lifecycles. Across Fenland, Market Segmentation data indicates higher proportions of people in segments two, nineteen, four, nine and eleven (see below) relative to other segments locally, regionally and/or nationally. ‘Elsie and Arnolds’ (10.2%) is the most significant market segment in the District.

Table 2.6: Market Segmentation Summary – Fenland

MARKET SEGMENT	KEY CHARACTERISTICS	% OF ST FENLAND POPULATION	ACTIVITIES / SPORTS THAT APPEAL TO SEGMENT
Elsie and Arnold Retirement home singles (Segment Ref: #19)	Lowest participation rates of the 19 segments. Poor health and disability are major inhibitors. Participation mainly in low intensity activity. Safer neighbourhoods or people to go with would encourage participation. Organised, low-impact, low intensity events would be welcomed.	10.2	Walking, bowls and dancing
Philip, Comfortable Mid-Life Males (Segment Ref: #11)	Philip also enjoys keep fit/gym, swimming, football, golf and athletics (running). His participation in most of his top sports is above the national average, which is indicative of the priority he places on sport.	9.8	Cycling, keep fit / gym, swimming and football
Roger and Joy Early Retirement Couples (Segment Ref: #13)	Typically aged 56 – 65 this couple may be in employment, but nearing the end of their careers, or already have taken early retirement. They are slightly less active than the average adult population.	9.5	Walking, swimming, table tennis, golf and keep fit classes
Tim, Settling Down Males (Segment Ref: #6)	Tim is an active type that takes part in sport on a regular basis. He is aged 26 – 35, may be married or single, is a career professional, and may or may not have children. Tim participates in very active, technical sports, skiing, water sports, team games, individual activities, personal fitness and likely to have private gym membership.	7.7%	Cycling keep fit/gym, swimming, football and athletics or running, also football and athletics.

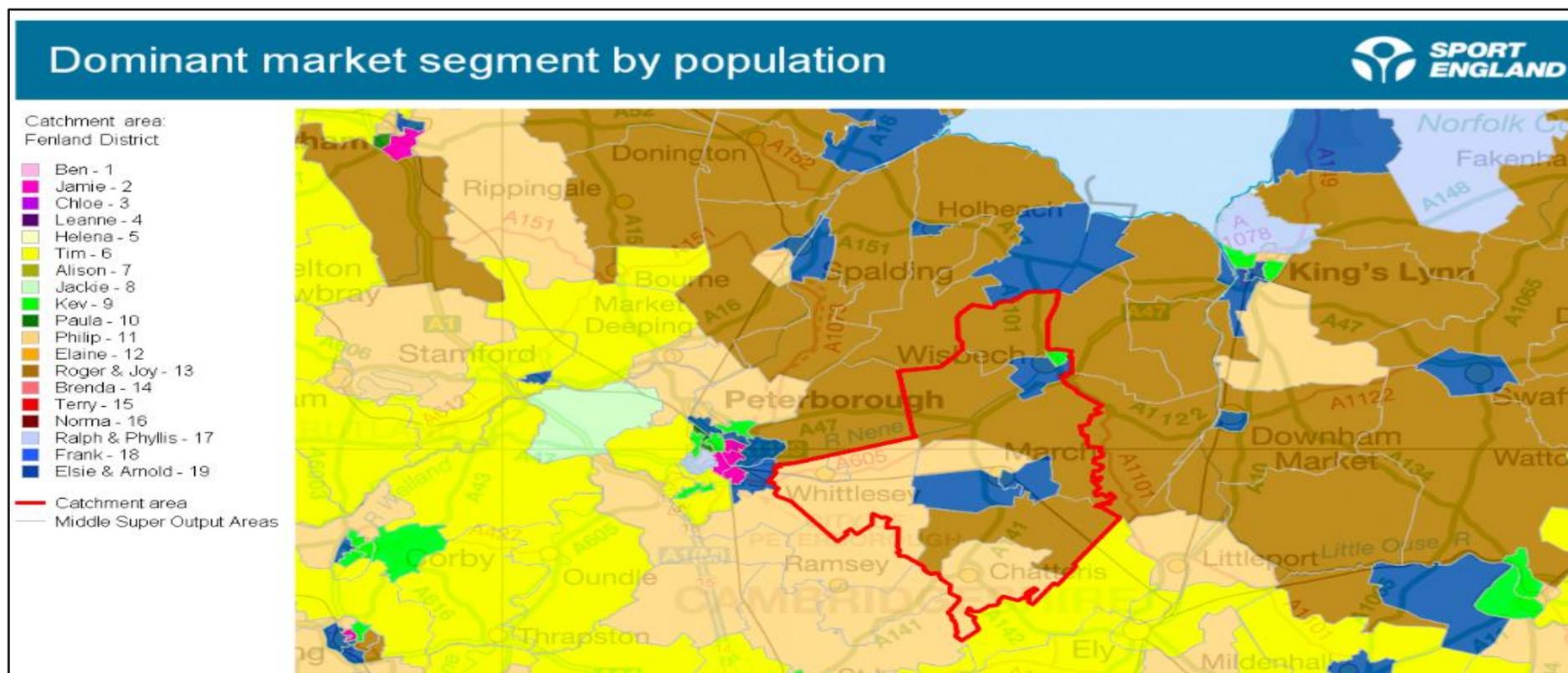
2.6.9 There are also quite large groups of: Jackie, Kev, Elaine and Brenda's across Fenland .

Figure 2.1: Dominant Market Segments in Fenland (Source: Sport England Market Segmentation March 2015)



2.6.10 The implications of the above analysis is that there is a need to ensure provision of quality facilities for bowls, cycling, fitness, keep fit/gym, swimming, football and athletics or running, table tennis and golf at local level. There is also a need to ensure opportunities exist for walking and dancing.

Map 2.3. Dominant Market Segment Map - Fenland

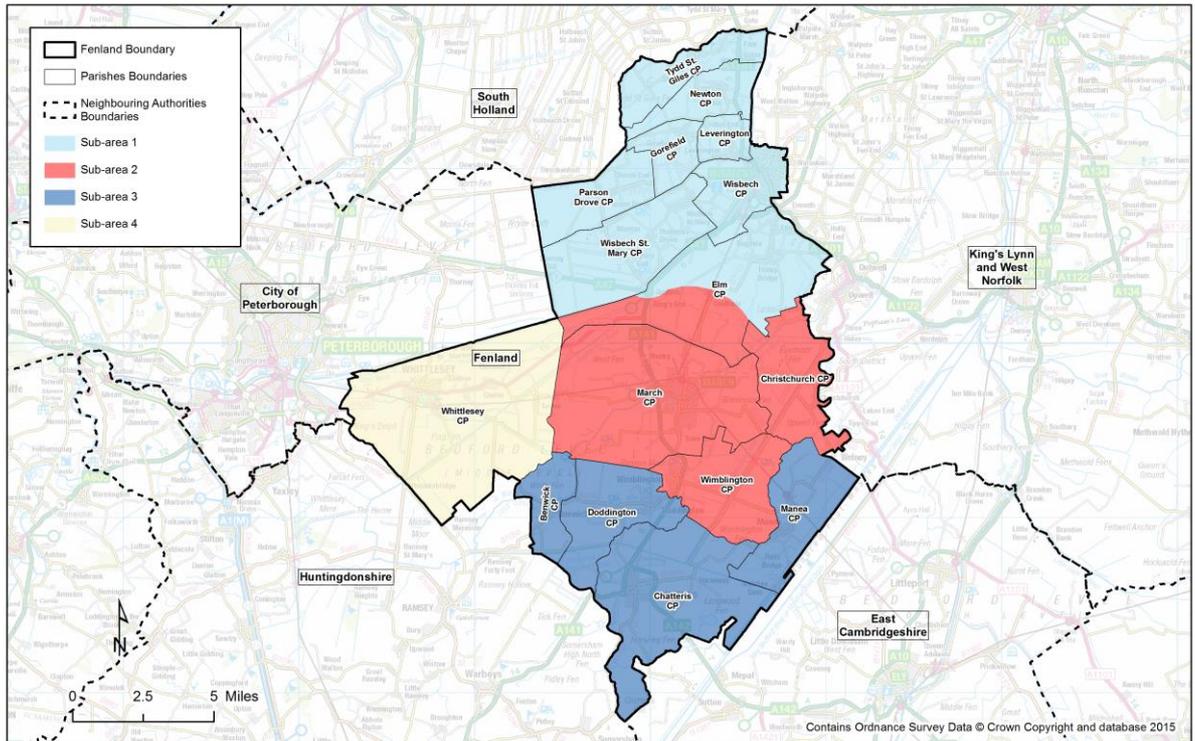


2.6.11 The distribution of the most dominant market segments in Fenland is shown above in Map 2.3. This map shows that in Fenland, the majority segment across the district is 'Roger and Joy', with 'Phillips' in the south and south west of the area, particularly around Chatteris. There is also a concentration of 'Elsie and Arnolds' in this area. This type of local intelligence should be used to develop and drive programmes to maximise participation opportunities at local level, by providing activities in which people want to take part. This is critical in Fenland given the extremely low participation rates, and the very high levels of obesity and health issues, many of which could be improved if individuals were more active more regularly.

2.7 Sub-Areas

2.7.1 The current level and nature of facility provision in Fenland, has been assessed overall on basis of the four sub areas as shown on Map 2.4 below. Map 2.4 also illustrates the wards comprising these sub areas.

Map 3.1: Fenland District Showing Analysis Sub Areas



Fenland sub-areas



2.7.2 The sub-areas were allocated by Fenland District Council and are allocated as follows:

- Sub-area 1: Wisbech (Light Blue)
- Sub-area 2: March (Red)
- Sub-area 3: Chatteris (Dark Blue)
- Sub-area 4: Whittlesey (Cream)

2.7.3 The following sections of the PPS will reference these sub areas when providing an analysis of the supply and demand data for each sport and recommendations for current and future pitch provision in Fenland.

3 FOOTBALL

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 This section of the report focuses on the supply and demand for grass football pitches. At the end of this section there is also a summary of the supply and demand findings for third generation (3G) artificial grass pitches (AGP's) that are becoming increasingly important to service the needs of football for both competitive play and training. The Football Association's (FA's) *National Game Strategy* was published in 2013. A core focus is to develop and improve grassroots facilities. Key headlines in the strategy of relevance to this PPS include;

- On average 52% of football pitches are owned by educational institutions and 31% by local authorities
- Growth in small-sided football is expected to continue (driven by the private but also social enterprise sectors)
- The Football Foundation is committed to funding grass roots community infrastructure improvements and creating sustainable sites is critical
- 49% of teams have five or more games cancelled per season, mainly due to pitches being unplayable
- The cost of pitches and ancillary facilities, as well as quality of maintenance, are a national concern across clubs
- Pitch provision needs to account for environmental sustainability, new formats of the game, changes in society and increased club ownership through long term leases and asset transfers
- The main driver of demand is ease of access, particularly for casual play
- Local authorities should recognise and maximise the social value of provision (health, education and community safety)

3.1.2 In October 2014, the FA announced its intentions to deliver 30 football hubs in cities across the country. The FA intends to increase the number of full size, publicly accessibility 3G AGP's to over 1,000 across England. It also intends to facilitate the delivery of more than 150 new club-owned and managed football hubs to support the deliver of FA, County FA and professional club youth development and coach education programmes. It also aims to ensure that at least 50% of all mini soccer and youth matches are played on good quality 3G AGP's.

3.2 Consultation Overview

Football Association

- 3.2.1 The body that governs football in the study area is Cambridgeshire FA and all of the FA's community and development objectives are implemented through this local body.
- 3.2.2 4global consulted with Cambridgeshire FA to provide an overview of club and facility needs and issues across the Fenland Study area. This section covers the main points raised.
- 3.2.3 The March area is a focus for the Cambridgeshire F.A with regards to developing a new full size 3G AGP in the area and a football hub site. This is due to the concentration of football in the area along with March being located outside the current catchment of the existing full size 3G AGPs at Thomas Clarkson Academy (Wisbech) and Cromwell Community College (Chatteris). Part of this report will assess the supply and demand of existing AGP's and make recommendations as to potential site options for a new full size 3G AGP.
- 3.2.4 The following sites and clubs were highlighted by the Cambridge F.A of being of particular strategic importance in the area:
- Cromwell Community College
 - Thomas Clarkson Academy
 - Wisbech St. Mary F.C.
 - Feldale Field in Whittlesey. This site has recently received funding for new changing facilities and has been earmarked as a potential key site for the West of the district.
 - The potential for a new full size 3G AGP site in March – Location TBC.
 - Peacock Paddock. The youth pitches located on the site are well used to being one of the few youth pitch sites in Chatteris. There is potential to explore the dual use of the ancillary with the local Cricket Club that use the same site and develop a multi-sport facility.
- 3.2.5 For grass-based pitches, facility provision for football appears to meet demand sufficiently and is perceived to be of good quality, however it is clear that this needs to be supported by the quantitative analysis of the PPS.

Further Consultations

3.2.6 A number of additional consultations were undertaken with key stakeholders, including but not limited to schools and community sports associations. This is in addition to the consultations undertaken with all football clubs in the area during the demand capture process.

3.3 Supply

Quantity Overview

3.3.1 As part of the supply scope for the strategy, a 4 global site assessor visited all football sites in the area and assessed the facilities using the FA's guidelines, as shown in the Playing Pitch Strategy Appendix 2 - Football Association (Sport England, 2014).

3.3.2 Table 3.1 presents the data collected on football pitch supply in the area. The total number of pitches recorded is presented alongside the number of secured and unsecured pitches. Technical Appendix 2 presents a detailed table of all pitches in the Borough, including capacity and supply and demand balance.

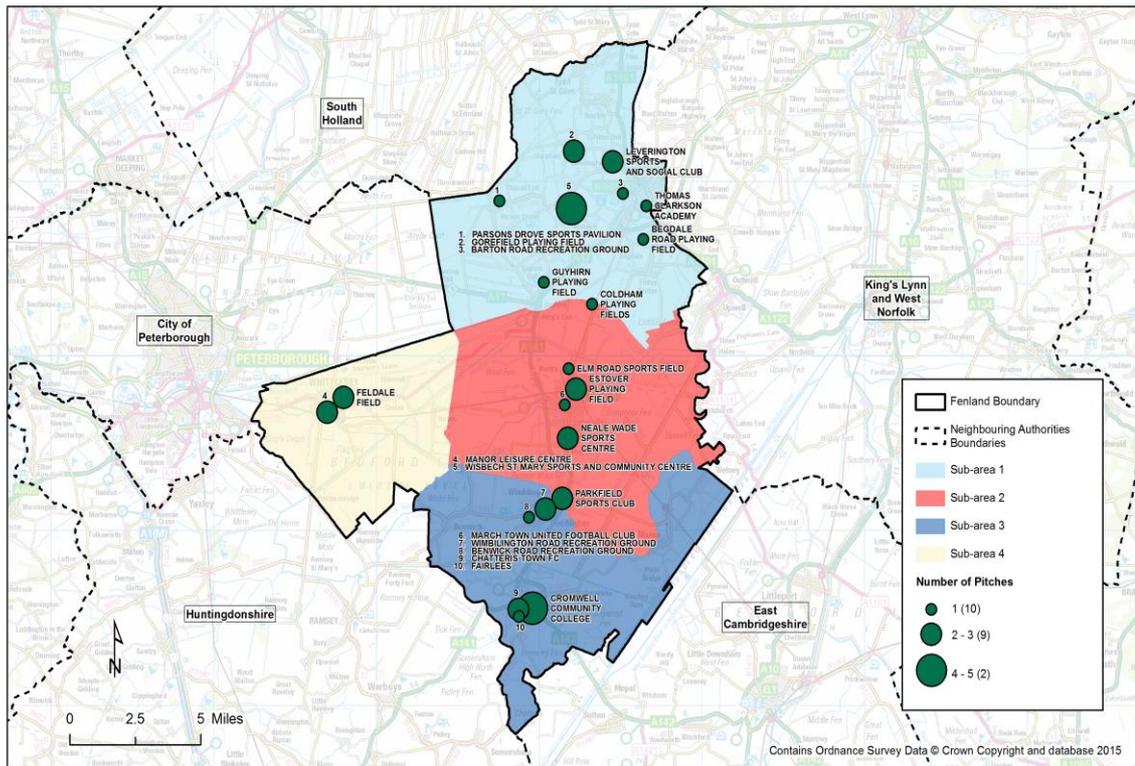
Table 3.1 – Supply of pitches in the District. Source: 4 global site assessments

Fenland		Number of pitches						
		Adult football	Youth football		Mini soccer		AGPs	
		11v11	11v11	9v9	7v7	5v5	3G	Sand based
Available for community use	Secured	31	2	7	2	4	2	6
	Unsecured	4	0	0	0	0	0	1
No community use		3	1	0	3	2	0	0
Total		38	3	7	5	6	2	6

3.3.3 Map 3.1. overleaf illustrate the geographical location of adult football pitches across the District. The size of dot for each site represents the number pitches at each site. Map 3.2. overleaf illustrates the location of youth pitches in Fenland.

3.3.4 Map 3.1. illustrates that there is a greater volume of adult pitch supply in the Wisbech, March and Chatteris sub-areas focused around their namesake towns in addition to Wimblington. The map also indicates relatively low supply in the Whittlesey sub areas (sub areas 4) compared to the other three sub areas (1 Wisbech, 2 March, 3 Chatteris).

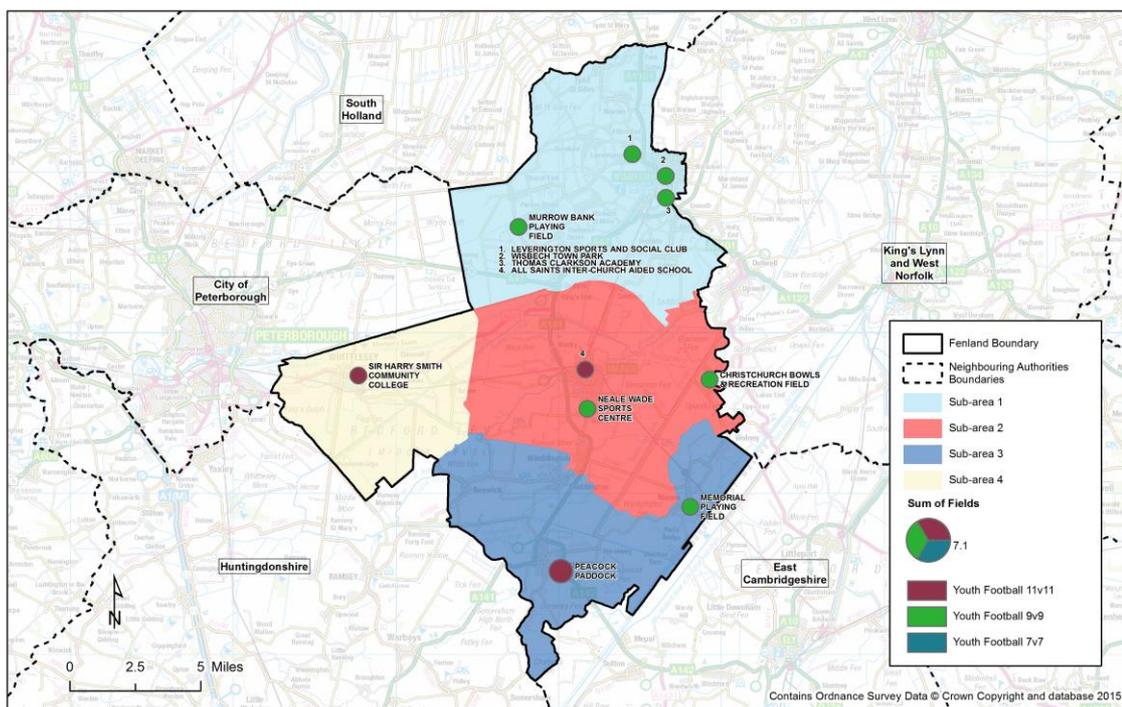
Map 3.1 – Site Audit for Adult Football Pitches in Fenland



Adult Football pitches in Fenland



Map 3.2 – Site Audit Showing Football Pitches by Type, Youth Pitches) in Fenland

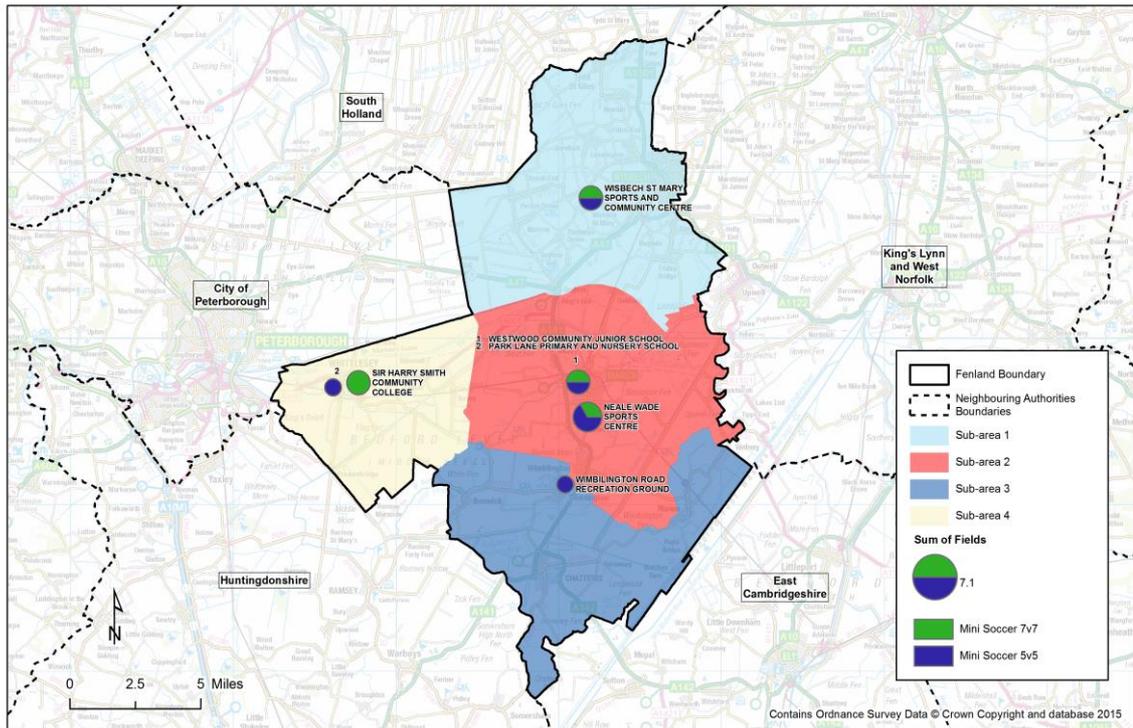


Youth Football pitches by type in Fenland



- 3.3.5 There are a number of key sites where there is a concentration of adult football pitch supply, these include; Wisbech St. Mary Sport and Community Centre (Wisbech); Neale Wade Sport Centre, Estover Playing Field and Parkfield Sports Club (March); Cromwell Community College and Chatteris Town FC (Chatteris); the only adult pitches in the Whittlesey sub-area are located at Feldale Field and Manor Leisure Centre.
- 3.3.6 Map 3.2. illustrates that youth supply is slightly more evenly spread across Fenland however only Chatteris, March and Whittlesey have youth 11v11 pitches. Wisbech does not have any youth 11v11 pitches, which could result in youth demand in the sub-area being played on adult size pitches.
- 3.3.7 Wisbech, March and Chatteris sub-areas have the greatest supply of mini 7v7 and 9v9 pitches at sites such as Neale Wade Sport Centre (March) and Peacock Paddock (Chatteris). Neale Wade Sport Centre also has a concentration of Mini 7v7 and 5v5 pitches with the remaining mini pitch provision being located in Wisbech St Mary Sport and Community Centre and Sir Harry Smith Community College (Whittlesey). There are few mini pitches in the Chatteris sub area with the only one being located at Wimblinton road recreation ground. See map 3.3.

Map 3.3. Mini Football Pitches by Type – Fenland



Mini Soccer pitches by type in Fenland



Pitch Ownership

3.3.8 The ownership of football pitches is split across the area. The three main owners of pitches are Parish Councils, Education providers and Sports Clubs/Community Associations. Education providers hold the majority of pitches owning 100% of all 3G AGP's in the District, 80% of all mini soccer 7v7 pitches and 67% of all 5v5 pitches. In addition Education own the highest percentage of Adult pitches (24%) and 33% of all 11v11 youth pitches, second to Sports Club/Community Associations who own 67%. Parish Councils own the most youth football 9v9 pitches at 57%. It is important to understand the distribution of pitch ownership as the owners of football pitches can affect their community use and potentially inhibit their use, or provide the opportunity for enhanced use. Secondary schools are a key stakeholder in Fenland in terms of pitch ownership across all types of football pitches and provide a key role in the current and future supply of pitches for community use. With more schools becoming independent academies this places limitations on the impact external influence, such as the council, can have regarding the community access and improvement to quality and supply of pitches on school sites. The ownership of football pitches in Fenland is summarised in Table 3.2 below

Table 3.2 – Site ownership in Fenland. Source: 4 global site assessments

Ownership (%)	Type of football pitch						
	Adult football	Youth football		Mini soccer		AGPs	
	11v11	11v11	9v9	7v7	5v5	3G	Sand based
Local Authority	18%	0%	0%	20%	17%	0%	0%
Education	24%	33%	29%	80%	67%	100%	57%
Higher Education	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Further Education	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Charity/Trust	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Parish/Town Council	21%	0%	57%	0%	17%	0%	0%
Sports Club/Community Association	11%	67%	0%	0%	0%	0%	14%
Privately owned	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	28%
Unsure	21%	0%	14%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Pitch Quality

3.3.9 Where access was possible, each site and pitch was visited by an independent assessor (the same person for all pitches) in accordance with the non-technical assessment guidance provided by the FA. The assessment scores take into account pitch and changing room quality. In addition to the site visits, club consultations were used to verify the quality ratings. Each pitch is rated as good, standard or poor, which is then linked to its carrying capacity (number of training/match equivalents per week that the quality of the pitch should be able to accommodate).

3.3.10 The following sites with community access achieved the best scores from the site assessments undertaken by 4 global.

- **Wisbech St. Mary Sport and Community Centre (Wisbech):** This was identified as an impressive site, with adult and mini football

pitches of good quality and kept in good condition. The ancillary facilities are in excellent condition and appear to be more than adequate for the sporting and leisure needs of the growing community.

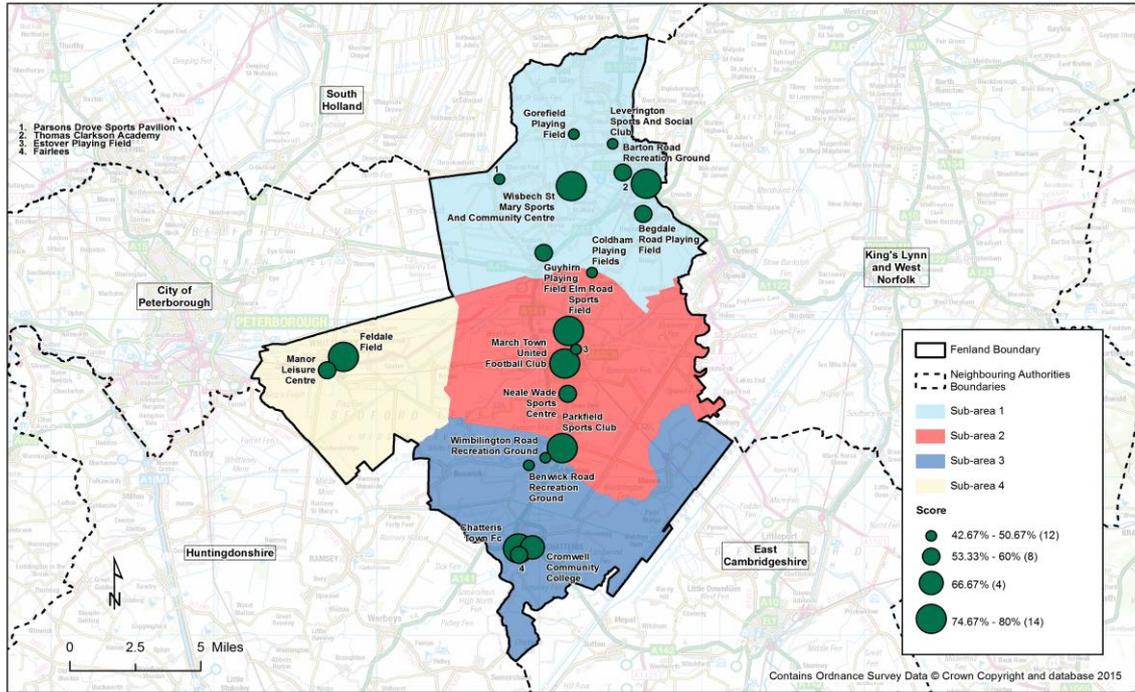
- **Thomas Clarkson Academy (Wisbech):** This site had good overall pitch quality and ancillary facility scores for both the adult and youth football pitches on site as well as the AGP.
- **Parkfield Sports Club (March):** This site was rated as having higher than average pitch quality for adult pitches and ancillary facility scores. The site impressed our site assessor with the community provision for men and women.
- **Feldale Field (Whittlesey), Elm Road Sport Field (March):** The adult pitches and ancillary facilities on site were rated of above average quality.

3.3.11 The following sites scored particularly poor:

- **Estover Playing Field (March):** The adult pitches were very poor on inspection and the ancillary facilities were also very poor. The site does have potential if investment was made into levelling of the pitches and providing new ancillary facilities.
- **Park Lane Primary and Nursery School (Whittlesey):** The standard of mini pitch quality was poor and unsafe primarily caused by the failure of pest-proof fencing in preventing rabbits from digging up the fields. This was a common theme identified across the majority of primary schools pitches that were assessed.
- **Wimblington Road & Benwick Road Recreation Grounds (Chatteris):** Poor adult, mini pitches and ancillary facilities.

3.3.12 Map 3.4 shows the assessment scores of adult football pitches. Map 3.5 shows youth pitches. The larger the green dot the higher quality score.

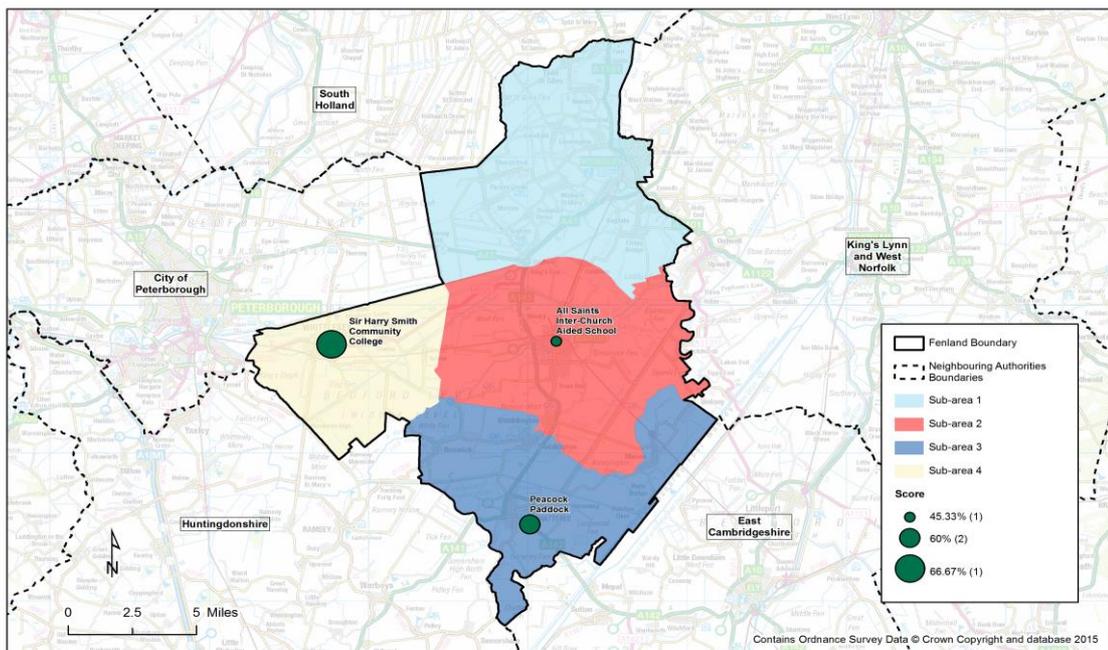
Map 3.4 – Assessment scores by site, Adult pitches Source: 4 global site assessments.



Adult Football pitches quality score



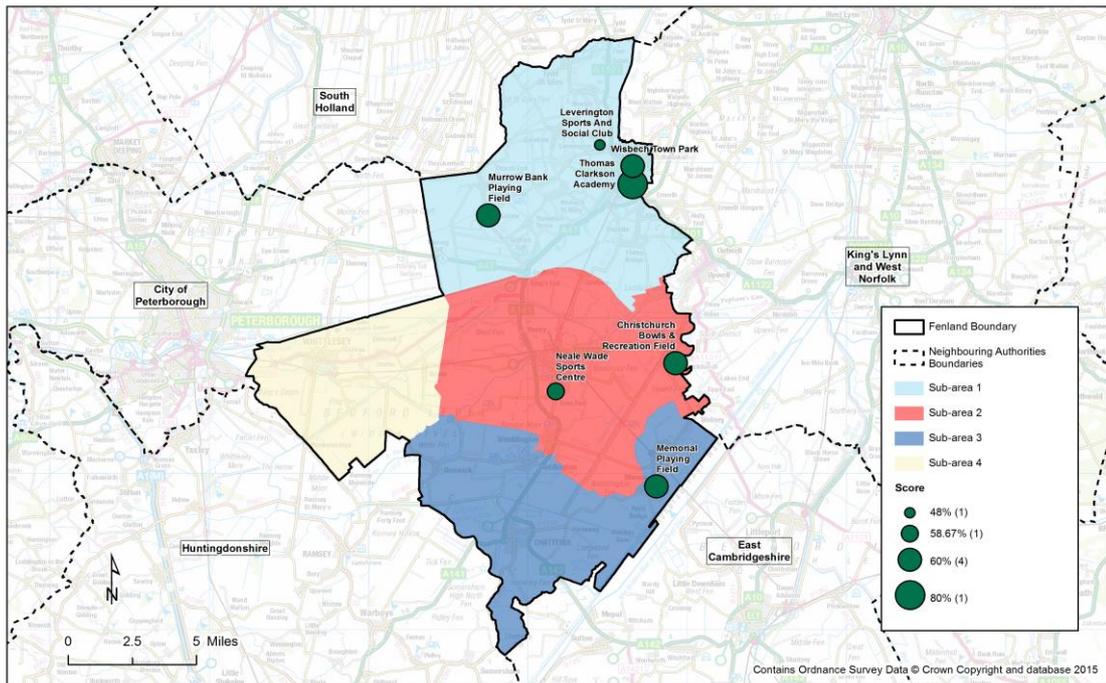
Map 3.5 – Assessment scores by site, youth pitches 11v11. Source: 4 global site assessments.



11v11 Youth Football pitches quality score



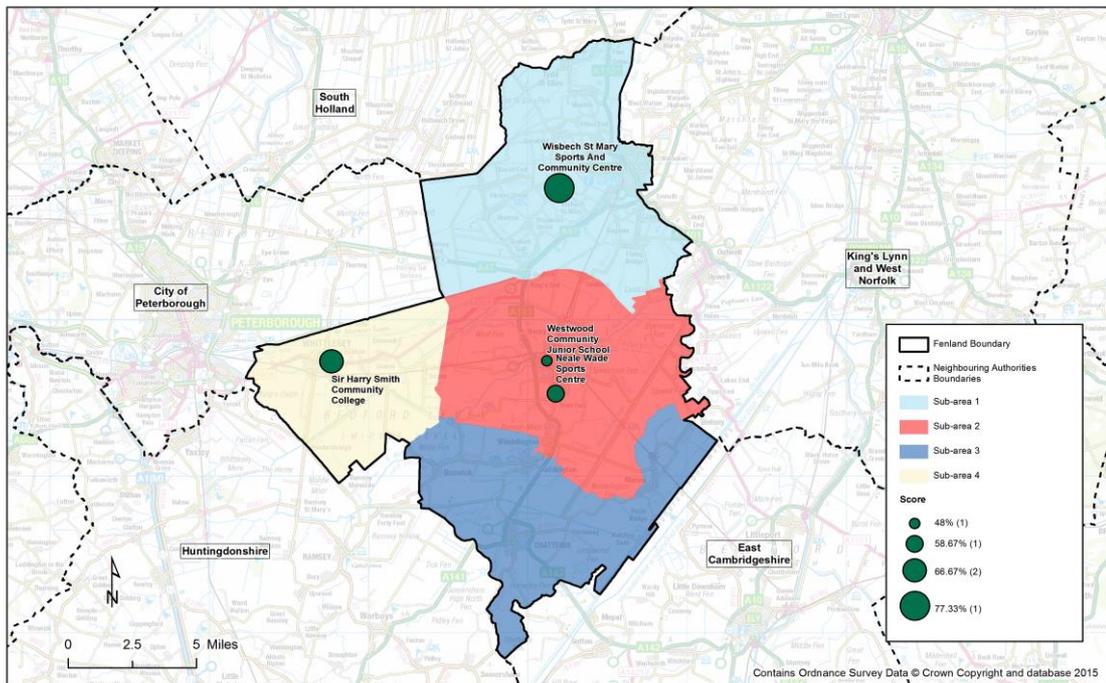
Map 3.6 – Assessment scores by site, youth 9v9 pitches. Source 4 global site assessments.



9V9 Youth Football pitches quality score



Map 3.7 – Assessment scores by site, Mini 7v7 pitches. Source 4 global site assessments



7v7 Mini Soccer pitches quality score



3.3.13 Table 3.3 provides a summary of all site assessment data, showing the spread of football pitches across the Poor, Standard and Good pitch ratings.

Table 3.3 – Summary of quality ratings by pitch type (Source: 4 global site assessments)

Quality score	Adult football	Youth football		Mini soccer		Total
	11v11	11v11	9v9	7v7	5v5	
Good (80-100%)	20	3	5	4	3	35
Standard (50-79.9%)	6	0	1	0	0	7
Poor (0-49.9%)	6	0	1	0	0	7
Total	32	3	7	4	3	

3.4 Demand

3.4.1 Football is the most popular team participation sport in Fenland, with a total of 141 teams recorded by the study, as shown in Table 3.4.

Table 3.4 – Team Profile and demand for pitches in Fenland (Source: 4 global site assessments)

Measure	Adult teams	Youth teams (U11 and above)	Mini teams (U7 to U10)
Number of teams	45	58	38
Match equivalents per week (home games)	22.5	29	19
Equivalent number of 'Good' quality match pitches	7.5	7.25	3.16

3.4.2 Table 3.4. highlights the number of match equivalents per week for Adults, Youth and Mini teams in Fenland and the number of 'Good' quality match pitches that would required to support the current number of teams per age group.

3.4.3 In Fenland the club to team ratio is 1:4.3 (i.e. each club runs on average 4.3 teams). This compares to a national ratio of 1:3.3 and a regional ratio of 1:3.5. This shows there is a higher than average number of teams, per club, compared to regional and national levels.

- 17 of the youth clubs in Fenland run youth 11-a-side teams only and do not have a mini-soccer team.
- 73.2% of clubs in Fenland have adult teams, compared to national and regional averages of 72.6% and 74.9% respectively.
- 53.3% of adult-only clubs in Fenland have only one team compared to the national average of 74.9%.

(FA Participation Report 2013-14)

Charter Standard Clubs

3.4.4 There are 24 clubs in Fenland that have achieved Charter Standard. The level of status obtained by these clubs is outlined in Table 3.5.

Table 3.5 – Charter Standard Clubs in Fenland (FA Participation Report 2013-14)

Status	Fenland		England	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Community Club	3	7.3%	663	2.5%
Development Club	0	0.0%	516	1.9%
Charter Standard	21	51.2%	5998	22.5%
Total	24	58.5%	7177	27.0%

3.4.5 In terms of teams, 94.0% of youth and mini-soccer teams play within a club of Charter Standard status. This compares to a national average of 81.1% with a National Game Strategy target of 80% of youth and mini-soccer teams playing within a Charter Standard Club by 2015. This highlights that nearly all youth and mini-soccer teams are accommodated by a club that has been externally assessed and can demonstrate to parents, sponsors and the public that it is well organised, safe and provides opportunities for all. It also confirms the club has FA-qualified coaches as standard and adheres to FA Respect policies and codes of conduct and prioritises child welfare as well as appropriate levels of discipline.

Major Club Demand Summary

- 3.4.6 The top 4 largest clubs in terms of the number of teams are summarised below. Extracts of the PPS Stage B (supply and demand) data is available to view in the appendix for further information.
- 3.4.7 **Wisbech St. Mary F.C** – This is the largest clubs in Fenland with 24 teams including 6 adult teams, which includes the only female adult team in Fenland, 11 youth teams (7 boys 11v11, 2 boys 9v9, 1 girls 11v11 and 1 girls 9v9) and 7 mini teams (3 7v7, 4 5v5). The club plays all of its fixtures at Wisbech St. Mary Sports and Community Centre and uses the Thomas Clarkson Academy and Wisbech Cricket and Hockey Club for training. The club rates the standard of its facilities as good. The club has noticed a decrease in the number of youth and mini teams since last year with the main reason being due to a lack of managers to run the teams. Despite this the club has plans to develop of new mini teams in the future. The club would like a new 3G pitch (60 x 40) for training purposes and believe that this would enable them to generate 6 new mini teams and 4 new youth teams and enable young people to play technical football at an early age plus reducing use of the grass pitches. The F.A. have noted the clubs desire for a small sided 3G AGP but this would not be a high priority for F.A investment as it is not a full size 3G AGP.
- 3.4.8 **Whittlesey Junior F.C** – This club has 20 teams in total including 9 youth teams (5 boys 11v11, 4 boys 9v9, 1 girls 11v11, 1 girls 9v9) and 7 mini teams (3 7v7 and 4 5v5 teams). They play all of their home matches at the Field of Dreams and train at Sir Harry Smiths Community College. The club rates its home ground quality as good with adequate ancillary facilities. The club has seen an increase in its junior teams over the past three years.
- 3.4.9 **March Soccer School F.C** – The club has 17 teams, 8 youth (4 11v11, 4 9v9, and 9 mini (5 7v7, 4 5v5). They club plays its fixtures out of multiple venues, with youth teams playing out of Neale Wade Sports Centre, Westwood Community Junior school and All-Saints Inter Church Aided school. Their training predominately takes place at Westwood Community Junior School. The club rates the facilities at Neale Wade and Westwood School as good and adequate but highlighted that the maintenance of pitches at All Saints school are poor with a severe gradient on the pitch. The club has seen an increase in youth and mini teams over the past three years and has plans to add 1 additional youth boys and girl's team (2 in total) and 2 additional mini teams.

3.4.10 **Chatteris Town Youth F.C** – The club has 13 teams in total, 2 adult men, 5 youth (5 boys 11v11, 2 boys 9v9 and 2 girls 11v11) and 4 mini teams (3 7v7 and 1 5v5). The club uses the pitches at Fairledes for its adult U16 & U17 Youth fixtures and training. The pitches at Peacock Paddock are used for all their additional youth and mini fixtures and training. The club rates the pitches and changing facilities at Fairledes as adequate with some poor drainage on the pitch. Peacock Paddock pitches are rated as good quality but the changing facilities as poor. There has been an increase in adult and mini teams over the past 3 years but a decrease in junior teams. The club has plans to increase its junior teams by 3 (2 male, 1 female). The club would ideally like to play all of its teams at Peacock Paddock but the club highlights there is not enough capacity on the site to cater for the demand from its teams.

3.5 Conversion Rates

3.5.1 The FA publishes Football Participation Reports for every local authority area on a season-by-season basis. These reports contain information on the current and future trends in participation and how these trends compare to other areas. The source of data in this section will be the 2014/14 report, as this is the most recent version to be released by the FA. It would be favourable to have a more up to date version of this report, however the document still provides valuable insight into the trends for football in Fenland.

3.5.2 A 'conversion rate' is used by the FA as an indicator of the levels of participation in football. The following tables and graphs show football conversion rates for Fenland compared to Regional and National rates. These are calculated by comparing the number of persons playing football to the relevant population age group. These numbers are then expressed as a proportion of the relevant population. This creates a percentage of the population at each age group involved in playing football, called a 'conversion rate'. The number of individuals playing football is estimated by multiplying the number of teams by the average number of players involved in the different forms of football, assuming the following:

- 18 players are involved in an 11-a-side squad
- 10 players in a mini-soccer team squad
- 12 players in a 9 v 9 team squad
- 9 players in a 7 v 7 team squad
- 8 players in 6 v 6 and 5 v 5 team squads
- 6 players in a 4 v 4 team squad

3.5.3 Table 3.5. shows football conversion rates across Fenland, compared to regional and national rates for season 2012/13 and 2013/14. It identifies that the number of adult teams has stayed the same whilst there was an increase in one extra female team. The number of youth and mini teams has decreased by a total of 26 teams (-13.7%) which is a significant decline over 13% higher than the regional and national average

Table 3.5 – Conversion rates for football in Fenland (FA Participation report, 2013/14)

	Adult 11-a-side		Youth All Formats		Mini	All Forms
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Mixed	Total
Fenland						
No. Of teams 13/14	54	6	58	10	48	176
No. Of teams 12/13	54	5	83	13	49	204
Variance	0%	20%	-30.1%	-23.1%	-2.0%	-13.7%
Players 13/14	972	108	915	101	480	2576
Players 12/13	972	90	1,494	234	490	3280
Conversion Rate 13/14	6.3%	0.7%	20.3%	2.3%	12.2%	5.9%
Conversion Rate 12/13	6.3%	0.6%	29.7%	3.4%	12.4%	7.0%
Variance	0%	0.1%	-9.46%	-1.1%	-0.2%	-1.1%
East of England						
Conversion Rates 13/14	6.4%	0.3%	22.8%	2.0%	12.8%	6.0%
Conversion Rates 12/13	6.6%	0.3%	24.8%	2.3%	11.5%	6.2%
Variance	-0.2%	0.0%	-2.0%	-0.3%	1.3%	-0.2%
England						
Conversion Rates 13/14	4.7%	0.3%	18.7%	1.8%	10.1%	4.9%
Conversion Rates 12/13	5.2%	0.3%	20.5%	2.0%	9.6%	5.2%
Variance	-0.5%	0.0%	-1.8%	-0.2%	0.5%	-0.3%

Table 3.6 compares conversion rates in Fenland with ‘similar’ authorities demographically. The table shows a sample of members of the respective ‘sub-groups’ and the ranking indicates how Fenland is positioned compared to the rest of the sub-groups. The top and bottom ranked local authorities are included for reference, as well as other local authorities in the East of England.

Table 3.6 – Conversion rates across ‘similar’ authorities. Source: FA Participation Reports 2013/14

Rank	Local Authority	Adult Male %	Adult Female %	Youth Male %	Youth Female %	Mini-Soccer %	Average
1	South Gloucestershire	6.7	0.6	29.1	5.1	17.3	11.8
7	Mid Suffolk	8.5	0.2	25.2	1.9	14.8	10.1
23	Fenland	6.3	0.7	20.3	2.3	12.2	8.4
24	St.Edmundsbury	7.9	0.2	21.0	1.4	11.0	8.3
37	East Northamptonshire	3.1	0.2	10.5	0.9	9.7	4.9

3.5.4 Table 3.6 highlights that Fenland currently ranks 23rd amongst similar local authorities (based on population characteristics) when comparing the conversion rates for number of persons playing football to the relevant population age group.

3.5.5 These findings are supported by Table 3.7 below, which compares the conversion rates for Fenland to the national conversion target, as well as suggesting the growth potential for the area (See note 2 for greater detail).

Table 3.7: Comparison of conversion rate and growth potential for Fenland with similar local authorities. Source: FA Participation Report 2013/14

Football Type		Conversion Target*	Conversion Rate	Variance	Growth Potential**
Forest Heath					
Adult 11-a-side	M	5.58	6.30	0.72	0
	F	0.32	0.7	0.38	0
Youth (all formats)**	M	23.62	20.30	-3.32	13
	F	2.35	2.30	-0.05	1
Mini-Soccer	Mixed	13.07	12.20	-0.87	4

*Note1: The target is the value of the upper quartile (75th percentile) of conversion rates of all local authorities in the same subgroup.

**Note2: Growth Potential represents the number of teams for each football type that the local authority would need to develop to reach the conversion target volume. For Youth (all formats) the growth potential has been calculated on the number of teams required assuming 9x9 format.

3.5.6 The low conversion rates and un-favorable Growth Potential, apart from some potential in male youth football, indicate that Fenland is unlikely to be a significant target for growth and development from the FA. This means that high-profile development projects are unlikely to get substantial financial backing and the Council should focus on a small number of achievable projects or initiatives that will increase football provision in the area.

3.6 Club Membership Trends

3.6.1 Trends in club membership are shown in the tables below. The results are derived from the club survey and questions on changes in the number of teams over the last three years as well as future projections. Not all clubs answered this question, but it does provide an indication of the overall trends.

3.6.2 Table 3.8 shows the changes in club size over the past three years, and indicates that of the 18 football clubs that answered this question, there was a total decrease in 10 teams across all clubs (3 adult, 5 youth and 2 mini teams) with a similar number of clubs (12) expressing that their teams had either increased or stayed the same.

Table 3.8 – Change in football club size in previous 3 years. Source: 4 global club survey

Measure	Adult	Youth	Mini	Totals
Stayed the same	7	4	1	12
Increased	6	4	2	12
Decreased	3	5	2	10
Totals	16	13	5	

3.6.3 Table 3.9 below shows the future projections of football clubs in the area. The highest growth was projected in Junior Boys teams with a total of 10 new teams over the next three years. The majority of the junior - boys' growth was aligned to three clubs, March Town United (3 teams), Benwick & Chatteris Town F.C. (2 teams each).

Table 3.9 – Projected change in club size for next 3 years. Source: 4 global club survey

Measure	Number of clubs projecting a growth (number of clubs)	Projected total number of teams	Number of clubs that highlighted no projected growth
Senior/open age - Men	4	4	14
Senior/open age - Women	1	1	17
Junior – Boys	7	10	11
Junior - Girls	2	2	16
Mini	2	6	16

3.6.4 Table 3.9 also highlights projected growth in mini football over the next three years with a total of 6 new teams. This growth is attributed across two clubs, Wisbech St. Mary F.C (4 teams) and March Soccer School F.C (2 teams).

3.6.5 Both of these tables show that football clubs have been relatively static throughout Fenland over the past three years and this is forecast to continue in the near future across adult football with projected growth in Junior boys and mini football teams. This therefore indicates that the priority should ideally be improving the quality of the sites for adult football with potentially some additional provision or remarking of adult sites to accommodate the projected growth in junior and mini football.

3.7 Future Demand

3.7.1 In order to calculate the future demand for football in Fenland, a Team Generation Rate has been calculated using the current number of teams and the current population. This measure allows us to calculate what size of population (for various age groups) will typically cause enough demand for a football team.

3.7.2 This Team Generation Rate can now be applied to the population projections to confirm how population growth or reduction will affect the demand for teams in each of the key age groups.

3.7.3 The 20131 Fenland projections include the impact of the additional planned housing developments of 11,000 new homes by 2031 (see table 2.3 for a breakdown of planned housing allocations).

Table 3.10 - Team Generation Rates. Source: FA Participation Reports 2013/14 and 2012 ONS Population Statistics and Projections Fenland 2015

Age group	Current population Within age group	No. of teams	TGR (no. of people per team)	Future population (2031) within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Men (19-45yrs)	15,386	54	285	16,293.50	57.17	3.17
Senior Women (19-45yrs)	15,106	6	2518	14,935.58	5.9	- 0.1
Youth Boys (12-18yrs)	3,864	58	67	4,246.61	63.38	5.38
Youth Girls (12-18yrs)	3,666	10	367	4,001.18	10.90	0.90
Mini soccer mixed (6-11yrs)	2,960	48	62	3,317.56	53.50	5.50

3.7.4 Table 3.10 illustrates that, in line with ONS 2012 Population Statistics and projections for 2031, additional teams will be generated across Fenland, especially for the Senior Men, Youth Boys and Mini Soccer age ranges.

3.7.5 The increase in demand for senior men’s teams can be catered for by a minimum of 0.5 good quality adult size pitches. The increase in demand for youth football can be catered for by a minimum 1 youth pitches and the demand in mini soccer can be catered for by a minimum of 1 mini size pitches. Overall this highlights that the increase in population will not have a significant impact on the number of additional pitches required. The following supply and demand balance section will identify whether current and future projected demand for playing pitches can be catered for by the current supply and carrying capacity of Football pitches across Fenland.

3.8 Supply and Demand Balance

Current Supply and Demand Balance

3.8.1 This section presents the supply and demand balance findings for grass football pitches (both for current and future scenarios) for Fenland as a whole).

3.8.2 The pitch balance figures i.e. the relationship between supply and demand, have been calculated using the capacity and pitch quality ratings. The pitch balance figures are presented both in terms of match equivalents and the number of pitches. For the latter we have assumed that a good standard adult football pitch can accommodate 3 matches per week, a good standard youth pitch 4 matches per week and a good standard mini football pitch 6 matches per week.

Table 3.11 – Overall football balance figures for Fenland 2015. Source: 4 global site assessments and demand consultations

Pitch Type	Number of pitches	Pitch capacity (supply, match equivalents)	Demand (matches + training per week, match equivalents)	Difference between capacity and demand (balance match equivalents)	Pitch balance figures (no. of ‘good’ pitches)
Adult football	39	72	40	+32	10.6
Youth football 11v11	4	7	29	-22	- 5.5
Youth Football 9v9	7	15	12.5	+2.5	0.6
Mini Soccer 7v7	5	18	15.5	+2.5	0.4
Mini Soccer 5v5	6	18	12	+6	1

3.8.3 The results in Table 3.11 indicates that at present, supply significantly exceeds demand for adult football and mini-soccer when taking into account the demand for matches and training per week. This surplus equates to the equivalent of 10.6 adult and 1.4 mini good quality pitches across Fenland. The overall balance scores also highlight a latent demand for youth football equating to -22 match equivalents per week for youth 11v11 football requiring an additional 5.5 good quality youth 11v11 sized pitches to cater for the latent demand across Fenland. The latent demand in youth football is due to the limited supply of youth 11v11 pitches across Fenland with current supply being based in only three sites, Peacock Paddock in Chatteris (2 youth 11v11 pitches), All Saints Inter Church Aided School in March (1 youth 11v11 pitch), Sir Harry Smith Community College in Whittlesey (1 youth 11v11 pitch not available for community use).

3.8.4 It is important to highlight that it is common for Youth and Mini football to take place on adult pitches that are over marked, especially Youth 11v11 Football, which in turn has an impact on the supply and demand balance calculations for pitches. The following table (table 3.12) takes into account youth and mini football currently being accommodated on adult and youth pitches across Fenland and the overall impact this has on balance scores and match equivalents.

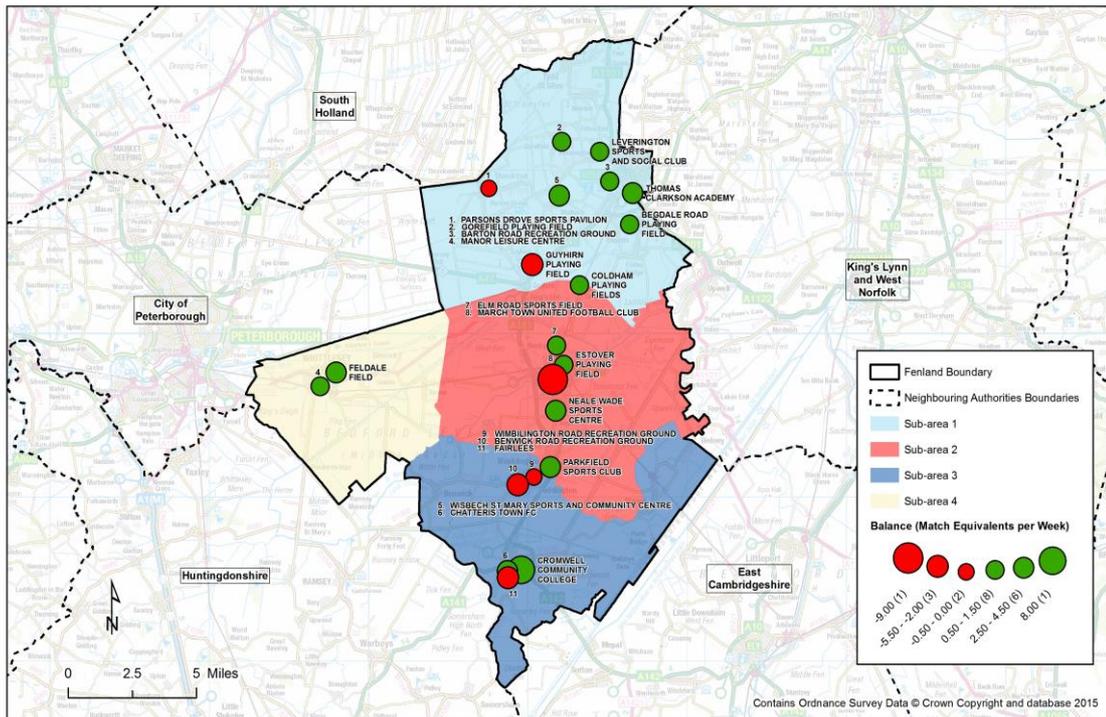
Table 3.12 Overall football balance for Fenland 2015, including calculations where youth and mini football is being played on Adult pitches. 4 global site assessments and demand calculations.

Pitch Type	Number of pitches	Pitch capacity (supply, match equivalents)	Demand (matches + training per week, match equivalents)	Actual balance match equivalents (Taking into account adult pitches being used for Youth and Mini football)	Pitch balance figures (no. of 'good' pitches)
Adult football	39	72	40	+17	5.6
Youth football 11v11	4	7	29	2	0.5
Youth Football 9v9	7	15	12.5	+14.5	3.6
Mini Soccer 7v7	5	18	15.5	+11.5	1.9
Mini Soccer 5v5	6	18	12	+14	2.3

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- 3.8.5 Table 3.12 provides an accurate reflection of the current balance of Football playing pitch provision within Fenland. Where youth or mini football was recorded on a site with no youth or mini pitches this provision has been allocated to the adult pitch. This has therefore reduced the surplus in adult pitches as previously shown on table 3.11 and increased the surplus of Youth and Mini Pitches. Based on the above balance figures, adult pitches in Fenland can cater for an additional 17 match equivalents per week, this is the equivalent to a current surplus of 5.6 adult sized pitches across Fenland.
- 3.8.6 Map 3.8 (overleaf) illustrates the balance scores (match equivalents per week) of adult pitches across Fenland highlighting that there is an overall surplus in the Wisbech area (Sub area 1) primarily due to the surplus supply of pitches at Wisbech St. Mary Sport and Community centre and Thomas Clarkson Academy. The only pitches at a deficit, where demand is greater than supply, within the Wisbech sub area are located at Parsons Drove and Guyhirn Playing Fields.
- 3.8.7 Within March (Sub area 2) the demand for adult pitches at March Town United F.C. exceeds the current supply of the adult pitches in match equivalents per week. This is primarily caused by the amount of weekly training demand placed on the pitch by the clubs adult and youth teams. There is however a surplus in pitch supply on the local adult pitches at Elm Road Sports Field, Estover Playing Fields, Neale Wade Sport Centre and Parkfield Sports Club which could cater for the latent demand of March Town United F.C especially if the pitch quality and ancillary facilities at some of these sites were improved such as Estover Playing Fields. Consultation with the F.A. identified there is some reluctance for clubs within the March area to use alternative grounds other than their home ground for matches and training. This is an ongoing area of development for the F.A. where some achievements have been made in recent years through the amalgamation of youth teams in the sub-area.

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- 3.8.8 Within the Chatteris sub area (sub area 3) there are clusters of adult pitches to the North and South of the sub area. There is a deficit in supply at Wimblington Road Recreation Ground and Benwick Road Recreation Ground to the North of the sub area which could be reduced by improving the poor quality of the pitches on both sites. In addition the surplus of adult pitches at Parkfield Sports Club could also cater for the latent demand. To the South of the Chatteris sub area there is a surplus in adult pitch provision at Cromwell Community College, which is available for community use and Chatteris Town FC, which is not available for community use. Gaining access to the pitches at Cromwell Community College would help reduce the latent demand placed on the adult pitch at Fairledes used by Chatteris Town Youth F.C for matches and training.
- 3.8.9 In the Whittlesey sub are (Sub area 4) there is a surplus in adult pitch provision at Feldale Field, The Field of Dreams and Manor Leisure Centre. There are no other adult pitches located in or around Whittlesey.
- 3.8.10 Youth 11v11 pitches (Map 3.9) in Fenland are surplus +2 match equivalents per week which equates to a surplus of 0.5 youth sized pitches, this is due to there being only 4 youth 11v11 sized pitches in Fenland and the majority of youth 11v11 demand is being played on adult sized pitches. The current surplus of 2 match equivalents per week is attributed to the pitches at Sir Harry Smith Community College (Whittlesey) that are only used for training by the Coates Athletic F.C. youth team. The remaining two youth pitches at Peacock Paddock (Chatteris) and All Saints Inter Church Aided School (March) are used to capacity. There are no youth 11v11 pitches in Wisbech (sub area 1) resulting all youth football being played on adult sized pitches.

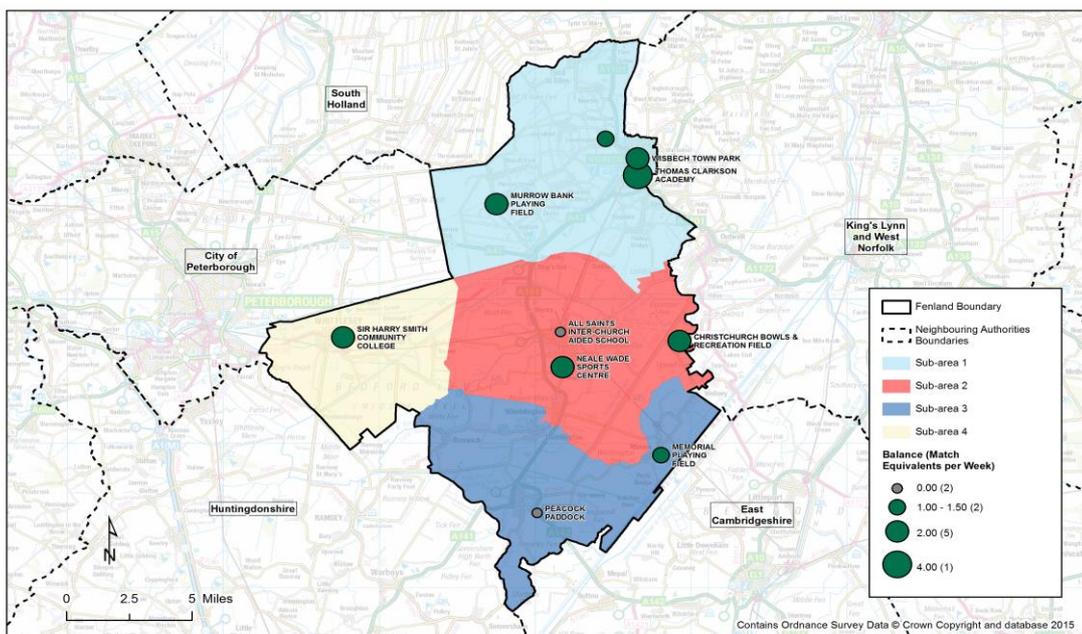
Map 3.8. Balance Scores (Match Equivalents per week) for Adult Football Pitches in Fenland



Adult Football balance in match equivalents per week in Fenland



Map 3.9. Balance Scores (Match Equivalents per week) for Youth 11v11 and 9v9 Football Pitches in Fenland



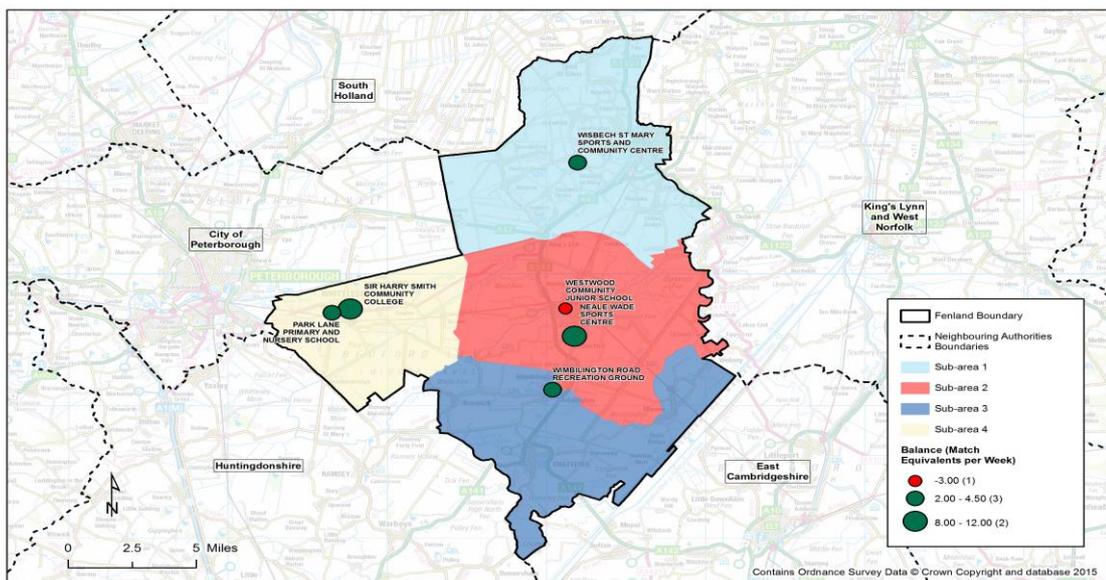
Youth Football pitches balance in match equivalents per week in Fenland



3.8.11 Youth 9v9 pitches (Map 3.9) have a surplus of +14.5 match equivalents per week that equates to a surplus of 3.6 pitches. This is due to a youth football demand being catered for by adult pitches and current youth 9v9 pitches being underused or having no demand. Thomas Clarkson Academy, Christchurch Bowls & Recreation Field, Leverington Sports and Social Club, Murrow Bank Playing Field and Neale Wade Sport Centre are all examples where 9v9 pitches exist but there is no recorded demand for these pitches as a result of this study.

3.8.12 Mini 7v7 and 5v5 football has an overall balance of +11.5 and +14 match equivalents respectively (Map 3.10). This equates to a surplus of 1.9 7v7 mini pitches and 2.3 5v5 pitches. The majority of this surplus can be attributed to the mini pitches at Neale Wade Sport Centre and Sir Harry Smith Community College. There is a deficit in mini pitch supply at Westwood Community Junior School caused by the demand placed on the pitches by March Soccer School F.C. which could be accommodated by the mini pitches at Neale Wade Sport Centre. There is limited mini pitch provision in the Wisbech and Chatteris sub-areas.

Map 3.10. Balance Scores (Match Equivalents per week) for Mini Football Pitches In Fenland



Mini Soccer balance in match equivalents per week in Fenland



3.8.13 Despite their being an overall surplus of Adult, Youth and Mini football pitches in Fenland the following specific sites have identified deficiencies in their football pitch supply (see table 3.13 overleaf).

Table 3.13 – Football sites in Fenland with deficiencies in supply

SITE NAME	PITCH TYPE	NO. OF PITCHES	OWNERSHIP	NON TECHNICAL QUALITY ASSESSMENT SCORE	BALANCE-MATCH EQUIVALENTS CAPACITY FOR COMMUNITY USE	COMMENTS
<p>March Town United F.C. (March Sub Area 2)</p> <p>(site not available for community use but is a key club in Fenland)</p>	Adult Pitch	1	Leased by the club (30 years)	80.0% (Good)	- 9.0	<p>This is a good quality pitch with very good ancillary facilities. The adult pitch can cater for a maximum of 3 match equivalents per week.</p> <p>The deficiency is caused by 3 adult men's teams and 3 youth teams using the adult pitch for the equivalent of 3 games per week and 9 hours of training per week that equates to a total demand of 12 match equivalents per week. The pitch is therefore currently over capacity by a total of -9 match equivalents per week. The club has plans to increase three additional junior teams and one additional adult women's team and has stated that it will use local pitches to cater for their increased demand.</p> <p>This increase in demand of junior teams could be catered for by the All Saints Inter Church Aided School, situated nearby, and the youth 11v11 pitches located at the school. These pitches are rated as poor quality however so would require enhancements to cater for this demand. Alternatively the adult pitch at Elm Road sports ground could cater for the demand for adult women teams as well as the new junior teams. Another option would be to use the 3 adult pitches at Estover Playing fields, which are all rated as poor quality in addition to a poor quality ancillary changing provision. If investment was made into improving the pitch quality and ancillary provision, including remarking one of the adult pitches as a 11v11 youth pitch, then Estover Playing Fields could also cater for the demand expressed by March Town United F.C.</p>

Guyhirn Playing Field (Wisbech Sub Area 1)	Adult Pitch	1	Leased by the club (20 years remaining)	60.0% (Standard)	-5.5	This pitch has been assessed as standard quality with adequate but poor scoring ancillary facilities and can cater for 2 match equivalents per week. The adult pitch is used by Guyhirn F.C. who are an adult club with 3 men's team who use the pitch for 12 hours of training and matches per week equating to 7.5 match equivalents per week. The club have ambitions to add a junior boys team. The pitch at nearby Coldham Playing Field (1 adult pitch) currently has spare capacity on Sundays to cater for some of the latent demand from Guyhirn F.C in addition to mid week training. In addition the Pitches at Wisbech St. Mary Community Sport Centre (5 Adult pitches) 8 minutes drive from Guyhirn have space capacity to cater for the latent demand for matches and training from Guyhirn F.C.
Benwick Road Recreation Ground (Chatteris Sub Area 3)	Adult Pitch	1	Rented from the Parish Council.	48% (Poor)	-3	The adult pitch has been assessed as poor quality but has a good standard of ancillary facilities. The poor quality of the pitch results in it only catering for the 1 match equivalent per week. The pitch is used by Doddington United F.C. who have 2 adult teams and use the pitch for 6 hours of training per week, this equates to 4 match equivalents per week resulting in the pitch being over used by the equivalent of -3 match equivalents. All of the site usage is currently during peak time on Saturday leaving Sunday available to cater for 1 match equivalents/ two matches on a Sunday.

Fairledes Field (Chatteris Sub Area 3)	Adult Pitch	1	Fenland District Council	53 % (Standard)	- 1	The pitch is of standard quality and therefore can accommodate 2 match equivalents per week. Chatteris Town Youth FC currently use the adult pitch on site for their matches for 2 adult teams and 2 youth teams (U16 & U17) plus adult training equating to 3 hours per week. This equates to 3 match equivalents per week. The club also has ambitions to increase its junior boys teams by 2 and junior girls teams by 1 however these teams could potentially play at Peacock Paddock which is the other pitch used by the club.
Memorial Playing field (Chatteris Sub Area 3)	Youth 9v9	1	Rented from the Council.	60% (Standard)	- 0.5	The pitch has three teams using it, Manea United F.C. Adult team and Manea United Strikers F.C. Youth U14 and U11. The adult team should ideally not be playing on the memorial playing field youth 9v9 pitch and has therefore impacted on the overall carrying capacity of the pitch. There is sufficient green space on memorial playing fields to mark out a full size 11v11 pitch in addition to the current 9v9 youth size pitch would cater for the Manea United F.C. adult team demand.
Wimblington road Recreation Ground (Chatteris Sub Area 3)	Adult Pitch x2 (also includes mini soccer 5v5 on site)	2	Rented from Parish Council	48% (Poor) both adult pitches	- 0.5	The site contains 2 adult pitches and 1 mini 5v5 pitch. 3 adult and 3 junior teams (U14, U16, U11) from Benwick Athletic FC use the pitch for matches only. The pitch is over capacity by 0.5 match equivalents for adult matches only. Improving the quality of the adult pitches would enhance their carrying capacity to enable them to cater for the demand in match equivalents per week.

Westwood Community Junior School (March Sub Area 2)	2x Mini Pitches (1 7v7 and 1 5v5)	2	School Site	48% (Poor) both pitches	-3	March Soccer School F.C. use the mini pitches for there mini team matches and training creating a demand of 7 match equivalents per week whilst the pitches in their current state can only accommodate 4 match equivalents per week. The club has plans to add an additional 2 mini teams but have identified a lack of provision across the current pitches they use. The nearby mini pitches at Neale Wade Sport Centre (8 minutes drive) have a surplus in provision that could accommodate the current and future demand for Mini Football pitches expressed by March Soccer School F.C.
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Future Supply and Demand Balance

3.8.14 By utilising the Team Generation Rates as explained above, Table 3.10 shows the projected supply and demand balance for 2031, to illustrate whether Fenland currently has the capacity for any expected demands in growth caused by population growth.

Table 3.14– Future supply and demand balance (2031) for Fenland

Pitch Type	Number of pitches	2015 balance	Additional teams 2031	Additional Demand 2031 (match equivalents)	2031 balance	Pitch balance figures (no. of 'good' pitches)
Adult football	39	+17	3.17	1.5	+15.5	5.1
Youth football 11v11	4	2	2.69*	1.3	0.7	0
Youth Football 9v9	7	+14.5	2.69*	1.3	+13.2	3.3
Mini Soccer 7v7	5	+11.5	2.25**	1.1	+10.4	1.7
Mini Soccer 5v5	6	+14	2.25**	1.1	+12.9	2.1

* 5.38 additional youth teams (12-18) have been proportioned across Youth 11v11 & Youth 9v9. ** 5.50 additional mini soccer teams have been proportioned across Mini 7v7 and 5v5.

3.8.15 This data illustrates that when calculating the projected increase in demand against the current level of supply in Fenland, there is sufficient capacity to provide for football across the district. There will be just enough supply to cater for the demand in Youth 11v11 Football 11v11 however this could be accommodated by the surplus of adult pitches and opening up youth pitches on school sites for community use.

3.9 Strategic sites for protection and enhancement

3.9.1 Based on the evidence collated in the PPS for football pitch provision, it can be concluded that there are certain football pitch sites in the district, which, because of a combination of factors, are recorded as high value sites. The factors which contribute towards a site being recorded as a high value site include;

- High number and broad range of types of pitch available
- Available for community use and used or not currently available for community use but if available would support a deficit of provision in the surrounding area.
- High quality assessment score
- Good security of tenure for user groups
- Provides pitches within an area where there is calculated to be a deficiency of pitches now or in the future

3.9.2 The Fenland football sites identified in Table 3.15 provides a detailed analysis of each football site with a justification, if required, for Protection, Enhancement or Provision. Where applicable, these justifications will then be reflected in the Action Plan and site-by-site strategy.

Table 3.15 – Recommended football sites for protection in Fenland

SITE NAME	SUB AREA	NO. OF PITCHES	OWNERSHIP	PITCH ASSESSMENT SCORE	BALANCE – CAPACITY FOR COMMUNITY USE (MATCH EQUIVALENTS)	JUSTIFICATION FOR PROTECTION (PR) ENHANCEMENT (E) OR PROVISION (PV)
Wisbech St. Mary Sport and Community Centre	1 Wisbech	7 (5 Adult, 2 Mini)	Council	77.30%	+4.5 Adult + 4 Mini	PR The pitches on this site should be protected in the Local Plan. The site is the primary home ground for Wisbech St. Mary Football Club who are the biggest club in Fenland with regards to number of teams with 24 in total (6 adult including 1 women's team, 11 youth, 7 mini teams).
						E The club has plans to grow the number of teams with 6 new mini and 4 new youth teams in the future which can be accommodated by their current mini pitches with the potential for an adult pitch to be over marked as a youth pitch. The club currently use the Sand based AGP at Wisbech Cricket and Hockey club for mid week training (19 hours in total) this is not an ideal surface upon which to use for Football, however the Hockey club welcome the use as the AGP hire generates an additional source of revenue for the club. If there was a need to displace some of the football training demand this could be catered for by the 3G full size AGP at Thomas Clarkson Academy which the club currently use for seven hours of training each week.

						PV	The club have highlighted they would like a new small-sided 3G pitch (60x40m, 2400 sqm) for training purposes however the nearby full size AGP at Thomas Clarkson Academy (12 minutes drive) that can accommodate their training need. The F.A. have acknowledged the clubs desire for a small sided 3G AGP but it is a low priority for the F.A and a development that the club would have to source funding for.
Parsons Drove	1 Wisbech	1 Adult	Parish Council	48%	0 Adult (at capacity)	PR	The pitch is located to the West of the Wisbech sub area and is home to Parsons Youth F.C and are also used by Thorney F.C. This is the only pitch located in the West of the Wisbech area. The pitches on this site should be protected.
						E	The pitch has been rated as poor quality therefore it is recommended that pitch quality is improved to enhance the carrying capacity of the pitch for matches and training. Thorney F.C. are using Parsons Drove temporarily whilst they main home ground in Peterborough is under development (Thorney Recreation Ground). Thorney F.C. will likely move back to their home ground once work has been completed therefore reducing the demand at Parsons Drove.
Barton Road Recreation Ground	1 Wisbech	1 Adult	Parish Council	60%	+1.5 Adult	PR	The adult pitch is used by Wisbech Town Acorns F.C. for their U13 – U17 team matches on Saturdays. The ancillary facilities on site were rates as excellent. The site should be protected in the Local Plan.
Begdale Road Playing Field	1 Wisbech	1 Adult	Parish Council	60%	+1.5 Adult	PR	The site should be protected in the local plan. The pitch is used by Elm F.C. for competitive matches on Sunday.

Gorefield Playing Field	1 Wisbech	2 Adult	Charity	48%	+0.5 Adult	PR	The pitches on the site are used by Upwell Towns F.C. three adult teams for Saturday Matches. The pitches are of poor quality but a good quality large clubhouse is situated on site. The club have stated that they are currently using the pitches for matches but would like to return to Upwell playing fields (outside the district) once refurbishment works to the pitches have been completed.
						E	It is recommended that the maintenance programme of the pitches is improved which will improve the quality and carrying capacity of the grass pitches.
Guyhirn Playing Fields	1 Wisbech	1 Adult	Parish Council	60%	-5.5 Adult	PR	This pitch has been assessed as standard quality with but with poor scoring ancillary facilities. The adult pitch is used by Guyhirn F.C. who are an adult club with 3 men's team who use the pitch for 12 hours of training and matches per week equating to 7.5 match equivalents per week. The club have ambitions to add a junior boys team. The site and pitches should be protected.
						E	The pitch at nearby Coldham Playing Field (1 adult pitch) currently has spare capacity on Sundays to cater for some of the latent demand from Guyhirn F.C in addition to mid week training. In addition the Pitches at Wisbech St. Mary Community Sport Centre (5 Adult pitches) 8 minutes drive from Guyhirn have space capacity to cater for the latent demand for matches and training from Guyhirn F.C.
						PV	The ancillary is of poor quality, in particular the changing facilities, and should be considered for replacement.

Murrow Bank Playing Field	1 Wisbech	1 Youth 9v9	Parish Council	60%	+2 Youth	PR	The site is used by Murrow Bell 2007 F.C. who currently use the youth size pitch for Adult matches on a Sunday. There is no recorded youth demand on the site. There is no ancillary provision on site. The pitches on the site should be protected.
Leverington Sport and Social club	1 Wisbech	2 Adult 1 Youth 9v9	Privately owned by club	48%	+0.5 Adult +1 Youth 9v9	PR	The pitches are rated as poor quality and are used by the three adult teams of Leverington Sport F.C. for Saturday matches. The ancillary provision is rated as good quality. The site should be protected in the local plan.
						E	It is recommended that the drainage of the adult and youth pitches is improved to help enhance the quality of the pitches and their carrying capacity.
Thomas Clarkson Academy	1 Wisbech	1 Adult 1 Youth 9v9 1 AGP Full Size 3G 600 x 600 Rubber Crumb	School	Adult and Youth Pitches 80% AGP 70% Standard	+3 Adult +4 Youth 9v9 +31.5 Hours AGP	PR	The grass pitches, floodlit AGP and ancillary provision on the site are of good quality. The pitches are available for community use however there was no identified demand of clubs using the grass pitches for matches or training. The full size AGP is available for community use and used for midweek training purposes for a total of 17 hours per week due to the training demand from local clubs which include Wisbech St. Mary F.C, Leverington Sport F.C, Coldham F.C, and Upwell Town F.C. The pitches and AGP on site should be protected.
						PV	The AGP was rated as Standard quality and is +10 years old and therefore could be in need of replacement within the next 2-3 years.
Wisbech Town Park	1 Wisbech	1 Youth 9v9	Parish Council	60%	+2 Youth 9v9	PV	This is a one pitch site situated in the centre of Wisbech Town. There was no recorded club demand on this pitch as a result of this study. The site should be protected.

Neale Wade Sport Centre	2 March	2 Adult	School	58.6%	+ 3 Adult + 2 Youth 9v9 + 4 Mini 7v7 + 8 Mini 5v5 + 22.5 hours AGP peak	PR	One of the largest Football sites in Fenland with use from local Football clubs March Soccer School F.C, March Saracens F.C and March Rangers Youth F.C. for training. The pitches at Neale Wade are one of several options to be considered in catering for the latent demand for matches and training of the adult and youth teams at March Town F.C, which is located a 6 minutes away by car. The surplus pitch provision at Neale Wade should also be protected to help cater for the future demand for pitches brought about by the planned housing developments in March.
		1 Youth 9v9				1 Mini 7v7	2 Mini 5v5
		1 x Sand Filled AGP 60 x 100 sqm					

						PV	The site could be considered as one of the several locations for a new full Size 3G AGP. The existing sand based AGP is used by March Town Hockey Club and therefore should not be replaced with a 3G AGP. The alternative options would be to replace one of the existing Football pitches transferring the existing demand from football clubs onto the new 3G AGP. Alternatively one of the Rugby pitches at the school, which are not currently used for community use, could be replaced with a 3G AGP. The ancillary and changing rooms would have to be enhanced to cater for a new full size 3G AGP at this site and the car parking would have to be increased to cater for additional usage. The F.A. have identified Neale Wade as one of the potential location for a new full size 3G AGP.
Estover Playing Fields	2 March	3 (Adult)	County Council (Leased to Estover Playing Fields Association, 100 year lease) A CIC has been set up to manage the site.	42.67%	+1 Adult	PR	The pitches on this site should be protected in the Local Plan. The site is currently used by March Rangers F.C. and March Saracens F.C.
						E	The three pitches and ancillary facilities are of poor quality and require investment into leveling the current pitches and providing new ancillary facilities. The clubs using the site rated the pitches and facilities as poor quality with high levels of dog fouling and litter noticeable on the pitches.

						PV	The pitches at Estover are one of several options to be considered in catering for the latent demand for matches and training at March Town F.C. The site should also be considered as one of several locations in the March area for a new full size 3G AGP. There is significant space on the site to accommodate a full size 3G AGP on the location of the existing MUGA which would enable the existing grass pitches on the site to be retained. If a full size 3G AGP was provided then a new ancillary facilities (ideally including club house and changing facilities) would need to be provided. The F.A. have identified Estover as a potential location for a new full size 3G AGP. developments.
Parkfield Sports Club	2 March	2 Adult	Parish Council	77.3%	+2.5 Adult	PR	The pitches on this site should be protected in the Local Plan. The pitches are used by Wimblington Road FC for Matches and Estover Park FC Youth for Training. The surplus in adult pitches at this site can cater for the latent demand identified at the adult pitches at Wimblington Road Recreation Ground and Benwick Road Recreation Ground that are situated in close proximity to Parkfield Sports Club.
Coldham Playing Fields	2 March	1 Adult	Parish Council	50.67%	+0.5	PR	The pitch on this site should be protected in the Local Plan. The pitches are used by Coldham United FC, March Rangers Youth FC (U14) and Walsoken United FC.
						E	The football pitch is of standard quality and is the closest pitch to Guyhirn Playing Field which is over capacity and therefore could help displace the latent demand placed on Guyhirn Playing Field by Guyhirn F.C.

						PV	Coldham Playing Fields require improvement to their ancillary facility. Temporary changing rooms currently exist on site which are of an old design and are in a very poor condition scoring 30% overall. Enhancing the ancillary would help the site cater for the additional demand from Guyhirn Playing Field by Guyhirn FC.
Elm Road Sports Field	2 March	1 Adult	Privately Owned (Elm Road Sports Field Association, ERSFA)	77.33%	+1.5 Adult	PR	The one adult sized pitch at Elm Road is being used by March Rangers Youth F.C. for their youth and mini soccer team matches (5 teams) and is over marked with 7v7 and 9v9 pitch size markings. The pitches and ancillary provision on the site were rated as good. The pitches on the site should be protected in the local plan.
						E	March Rangers Youth F.C. have demand for an additional two U11 and one U13 youth teams that can be accommodated at Elm Road. They have also expressed that if additional pitches were available they could increase two additional mini teams. A recommendation would be for the club to access the mini soccer pitches at Neale Wade Sport Centre once accessibility to changing facilities has been improved on the site. The club have also expressed a need to access a 3G pitch for youth team training.
						PV	This site should be considered as a possible location for a new full sized 3G AGP in the March sub area.

March Town United F.C	2 March	1	Leased by the club (30 years)	80.0% (Good)	- 9.0	PR	This is a good quality pitch with very good ancillary facilities. The adult pitch can cater for a maximum of 3 match equivalents per week. The deficiency is caused by 3 adult men's teams and 3 youth teams using the adult pitch for the equivalent of 3 games per week and 9 hours of training per week that equates to a total demand of 12 match equivalents per week. The pitch is therefore currently over capacity by a total of -9 match equivalents per week
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						<p>The club has plans to increase three additional junior teams and one additional adult women's team and has stated that it will use local pitches to cater for their increased demand. This increase in demand of junior teams could be catered for by the All Saints Inter Church Aided School, situated nearby, and the youth 11v11 pitches located at the school. These pitches are rated as poor quality and require enhancements to cater for this demand.</p> <p>Alternatively the adult pitch at Elm Road sports ground could be used to cater for the demand for adult women teams as well as the new junior teams if a ground share agreement was put in place with March Rangers Youth F.C.</p> <p>Another option would be to use the 3 adult pitches at Estover Playing fields, which are all rated as poor quality in addition to a poor quality ancillary changing provision. If investment was made into improving the pitch quality and ancillary provision, including remarking one of the adult pitches as a 11v11 youth pitch, then Estover Playing Fields could also cater for the demand expressed by March Town United F.C.</p> <p>An additional option would be for the club to use the pitches at Neale Wade Sport Centre which have a surplus provision for youth, mini and adult pitches.</p> <p>In summary, it is recommended that a number of the above pitch options are considered as there is currently not one site in the March Town area that could cater for all of the latent demand identified at March Town F.C.</p>
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						PV	March Town F.C. should also be considered as one of the possible locations for a new Full Size 3G AGP in the March area. The only solution however would be to replace the existing grass pitch with the AGP due to the limitations of available land on the current site. If this were to happen then community use would need to be secured to enable other local clubs to access and benefit from the the facility.
Westwood community junior school	2 March	1 mini 7v7 1 mini 5v5	School	48%	-3 mini 7v7 0 mini 5v5	PR	The pitches should be protected. March Soccer School F.C. use the mini pitches for their mini team matches and training. The club has plans to add an additional 2 mini teams but have identified a lack of provision across the current pitches they use.
						E	The pitch quality and drainage should be improved to increase the capacity of both pitches. The ancillary provision has been rated as poor, in particular the changing provision. Separate male, female and youth changing including the provision of shower facilities would enhance the quality of community use. The nearby mini pitches at Neale Wade Sport Centre (8 minutes drive) have a surplus in provision that could accommodate the current and future demand for Mini Football pitches expressed by March Soccer School F.C.

All Saints Inter Church Aided School	2 March	1 Youth 11v11	School	45.33%	0 Youth 11v11	PR	The pitch is currently used by March Soccer School F.C. for their U12 training and should be protected.
						E	The pitch is of poor quality and requires improvements to drainage and also the gradient of the pitch. There are also no changing facilities at the site therefore limiting community use. The nearby pitches at Neale Wade Sport centre are surplus to provision and can accommodate any future demand placed on the pitches at All Saints school.
Christchurch Bowls and Recreation Field	2 March	1 Youth 9v9	Parish Council	60%	+2 Youth 9v9	PR	The pitch is located in the East of Fenland and is rated as standard quality. There were no recorded clubs or teams from this study that use the site. The site should be protected, as it is the only youth pitch in the East of Fenland within the March sub area.
Peacock Paddock	3 Chatteris	2 Youth 11v11	Privately Owned	64.3%	0 Youth (at capacity)	PR	This pitches on this site should be protected. The 2 youth pitches are used by Chatteris Town Youth F.C. for their youth and mini team training and matches (12 teams). The pitches are currently used to capacity.

						E	<p>The changing facilities are of poor quality and require investment to support current and future demand. The club also has plans to increase its junior teams by two. Access to the nearby AGP and grass pitches at Cromwell Community College would help cater for the current and future demand for youth and mini pitches.</p> <p>The site is also the home ground of Chatteris Cricket Club and the football and Cricket provision is split by a hedge running down the centre of the site. One solution to the ancillary provision for both Cricket and Football would be to remove the hedge and create a dual sport site that shares the better quality Cricket Pavilion. This would also create enough space on the site for the Cricket Club to provide additional grass wicket to help cater for Cricket demand.</p>
						PV	Removal of the football ancillary and create a dual use agreement for both Cricket and Football to share the existing Cricket Pavillion.
Cromwell Community College	3 Chatteris	4 adult 1 x 3G AGP 100X60 Sqm	School	66.67% Pitches 75% AGP	+8 Adult +37 hours AGP peak	PR	<p>The pitches and AGP on this site are owned by the school and therefore should be protected. The grass pitches on the site are of standard quality and no recorded community use has been identified within this study.</p> <p>The full size 3G AGP is used for a total of 6 hours of training each week due to the midweek training demand from local football clubs that include Benwick Athletic F.C, and Manea United F.C There was no recorded competitive match demand identified on the 3G AGP as part of this study.</p>

						E	<p>Access to these pitches by Chatteris Town F.C. would help cater for their current and future demand for adult, youth and mini matches and training thus displacing the demand on the over capacity pitches at Fairledes and Peacock Paddock.</p> <p>The F.A. have been supporting the club to obtain access to the grass pitches at the college and put in place a community use agreement but have faced challenges from the college regarding access, maintenance and management of the pitches for community use. The school currently operate the community use of the pitches and AGP but the local authority manages community use of other facilities on the site such as the Gym. It is recommended that the management and booking of the pitches and AGP for community use is transferred to the local authority to manage which would provide consistency and improve communication and access for community bookings.</p>
Fairledes	3	1 Adult	Fenland District Council	53.33%	-1 Adult	PR	<p>The pitch on this site should be protected. The pitch is of standard quality and used by Chatteris Town Youth FC for their adult and junior team matches and training. The demand on the pitch placed by the club exceeds the current carrying capacity of the pitch.</p>

	Chatteris					E	<p>Improve the drainage of the pitch to enhance pitch quality and carrying capacity.</p> <p>The club has ambitions to increase their junior boys teams by 2 and junior girls teams by 1 but are restricted by limited capacity at Fairledes and their alternative ground, Peacock Paddock. A solution is to use the nearby 3G AGP and grass pitches at Cromwell Community College.</p>
Benwick Road Recreation Ground	3 Chatteris	1 Adult	Parish Council	48%	-3 Adult	PR	<p>The pitch on this site should be protected.</p> <p>Doddington United F.C use the pitch for adult matches and 6 hours of training per week for their 2 adult teams equating to 4 match equivalents per week.</p>
						E	<p>The adult pitch has been assessed as poor quality but has a good standard of ancillary facilities. The poor quality of the pitch results in it only catering for the 1 match equivalent per week.</p> <p>The pitch quality should be improved to improve the carrying capacity of the pitch.</p> <p>Doddington F.C. could use the nearby pitches at Parkfield Sports Club to help cater for their match and training demand. This would require discussions with Wimblington Road F.C. regarding ground share arrangements.</p>
Wimblington Road Recreation Ground		2 Adult 1 Mini 5v5	Parish Council	48%	-0.5 2 Adult	PR	<p>The site contains 2 adult pitches and 1 mini 5v5 pitch. 3 adult and 3 junior teams (U14, U16, U11) from Benwick Athletic FC use the pitch for matches only. The site and pitches should be protected.</p>

	3 Chatteris					E	The pitch is over capacity by 0.5 match equivalents for adult matches only. Improving the quality of the adult pitches would enhance their carrying capacity to enable them to cater for demand. The pitches at Parkfield Sports Club could also be accessed by the club to cater for their latent demand.
Chatteris Town F.C	3 Chatteris	2 Adult	Owned by the club	80%	+4 Adult	PR	The pitches on this site should be protected in the Local Plan. The club is another of the largest clubs in Fenland with 13 teams (2 adult, 5 youth and 4 mini). The club has expressed an increase in adult teams over the past three years and if this trend continues any future demand caused by new adult teams will be catered for by the current surplus in match equivalents per week on their adult pitches.
						E	The clubs youth and mini teams use the local pitches at Fairledes (1 adult pitch) and Peacock Paddock (2 youth pitches) for their youth and mini matches and training. Both pitches are at capacity therefore restricting the youth and mini team development. Access to the nearby pitches at Cromwell Community College would help cater for the current and future demand for youth and mini pitches.
Memorial Playing Field	3 Chatteris	1 Youth 9v9	Parish Council	60%	-0.5	PR	The pitch should be protected. The pitch has three teams using it, Manea United F.C. Adult team and Manea United Strikers F.C. Youth U14 and U11. The adult team playing on a youth pitch impacts on the overall carrying capacity of the pitch.

						PV	There is sufficient green space on memorial playing fields to mark out a full size 11v11 pitch in addition to the current 9v9 youth size pitch. This would increase the carrying capacity of the pitch and cater for the current demand.
Manor Leisure Centre	4 Whittlesey	2 Adult 1 AGP 30x20 Sqm Sand dressed	Owned by Leisure Company	Adult pitches 60% AGP 75%	+1.5 Adult +40 AGP	PR	The adult pitches at Manor Leisure centre are used by Coates Athletic F.C and Whittlesey Blue Star F.C. for matches on a Saturday and The Railway AFC for Sunday matches. The ancillary facilities are of good quality. The adult pitches at Manor Leisure centre, in addition to the 2 adult pitches at Feldale Field and the 3 pitches at Field of Dreams, are the only adult pitches in the Whittlesey sub area and therefore should be protected.
Park Lane primary and nursery school	4 Whittlesey	1 mini 5v5	School	48%	+2 Mini	PR	The site is not available for community use. The pitches are the only 5v5 mini soccer pitches in the Whittlesey area and should be protected to enable community use discussions to take place with local clubs when demand for mini soccer pitches arises.
Feldale Field	4 Whittlesey	2 Adult	School	74.67%	+2.5 Adult	PR	The site has two adult football pitches rated as standard with good quality ancillary facilities. The pitches are used by Coates Athletic F.C. for matches. The club also use the nearby Sir Harry Smith Community College for youth and mini training. Feldale Field and Manor Leisure are the only adult pitches in the Whittlesey sub-area and therefore should be protected for current and future demand and team development.

Field of Dreams	4 Whittlesey	3 Adult 3 Youth 11v11	Local Authority	80%	+ 6 Adult + 6 Youth 11v11	PR	The site has 3 adult pitches and 3 youth pitches of good quality and it is the home ground of Whittlesey Junior F.C. who have 20 junior teams (aged U15 – U7) using the pitches for matches on Saturdays and Sundays. The pitches should be protected in the local plan.
						PV	There are 3 mobile temporary changing rooms being used on the site which do not contain shower facilities or separate changing and toilets for male, females, juniors and adults. Due to the size of the club and the number of matches taking place on the site during weekends it is recommended that a permanent and fixed ancillary solution is provided to included enhanced toilet and shower facilities.
Sir Harry Smith Community College	4 Whittlesey	1 Youth 11v11	School	66.67% Pitches 67% Standard AGP	+2 Youth 11v11 +8 Mini 7v7	PR	The site contains the only mini pitches in the Whittlesey sub-area, which are currently used for training purposes by Coates Athletic F.C. The pitches on this site should be protected for current and future demand.
		2 Mini 7v7 1x AGP sand dressed 60 x 50m 1x AGP 3G medium pile 40x40				E	Currently the site only has community use on its small sided AGP's which are used for casual football and training by Coates Athletic F.C. and Whittlesey Junior F.C. Enhanced community use at the site would enable Coates Athletic F.C. to use the youth grass pitches for weekend matches thus displacing demand from Feldale Field pitches where their youth teams are currently playing on adult size pitches.

3.10 Artificial Grass Pitches (AGP's) for Football

- 3.10.1 There are several surface types that fall into the category of artificial grass pitches (AGP). The three main groups are rubber crumb (3G), sand-based (filled or dressed) and water based.
- 3.10.2 The FA considers high quality 3G pitches as essential in promoting coach and player development. These pitches can support intensive use and as such are great assets for both playing and training. Primarily such facilities have been installed for community use and training. However, they are increasingly used for competition, which the FA wholly supports. The FA's long-term ambition is to provide every affiliated team in England with the opportunity to train once a week on a floodlit 3G surface together with priority access for Charter Standard Community Club through a partnership agreement.
- 3.10.3 Competitive football can take place on all 3G surfaces and the preferred pile length is 60mm with an AGP size of 110 x 70 meters (7700 square meters). Only competition up to (but not including) regional standard can take place on a 40mm pile. Football training can take place on sand and water based surfaces but this is not preferred to a 3G pitch.

Quantity and Quantity Overview

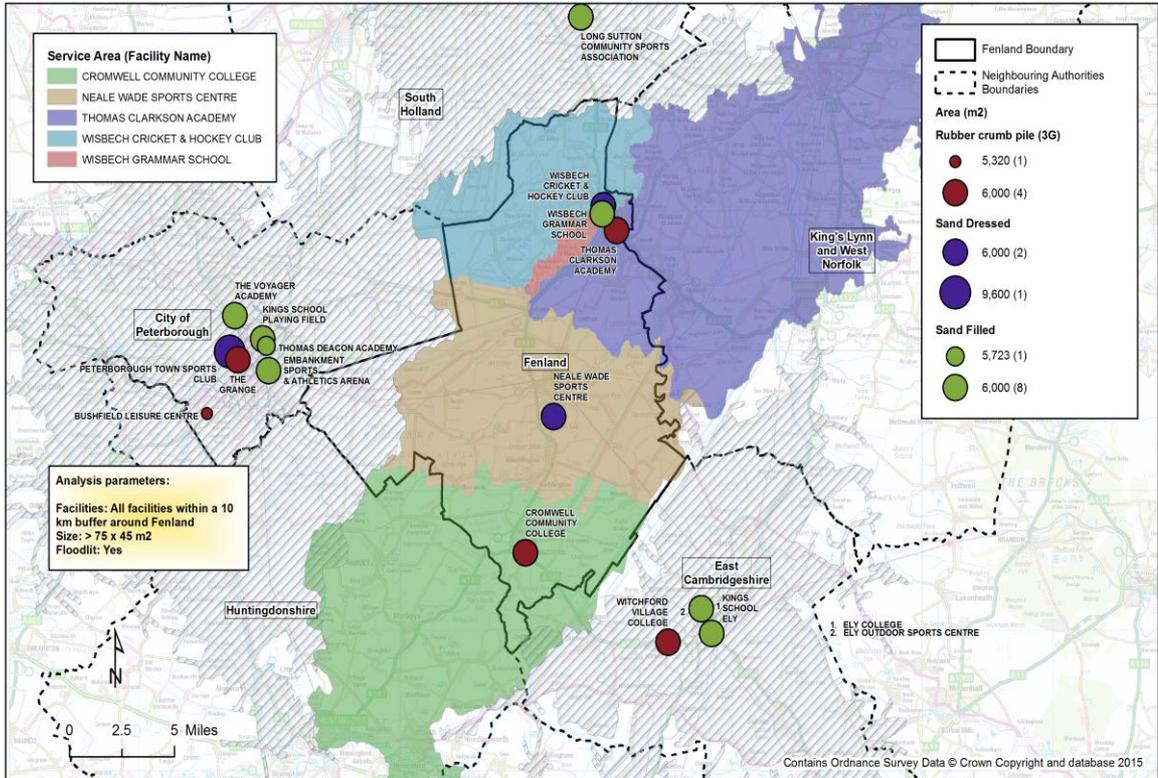
- 3.10.4 Table 3.16 provides a list of all types of AGP's that are used for football in Fenland, either for training or competitive play. Fenland has a total of 9 AGPs across the district. Conversely, there are only three 3G AGP across the district, these are based on education sites at Cromwell Community College (Chatteris sub area 3), Thomas Clarkson Academy (Wisbech Sub area 1) and Sir Harry Smith Community College (Whittlesey sub area 4). Sir Harry Smith Community College also has a small sand-dressed 30 x 40m AGP. The pitches at Cromwell Community College and Thomas Clarkson Academy are the only two full size 3G AGPs suitable for competitive Football. Both 3G AGPs are available for community use, the AGP at Cromwell Community College was refurbished in 2011 while the AGP at Thomas Clarkson Academy is over 10 years old.
- 3.10.5 There are two additional full size AGPs that are sand filled at Wisbech Cricket & Hockey Club and Wisbech Grammar School (Sub area 1). In addition there is another full size AGP at Neale Wade Sport Centre (March, sub area 2). These however are sand filled or sand dressed AGPs and therefore not ideal for competitive Football use but can be used for Football training.

Table 3.16 – AGP provision in Fenland (AGP's of a suitable size and surface type for competitive Football have been highlighted in yellow)

Site Name	Pitch Type (3G; Sand dressed; Sand filled; water based)	AGP Size	Floodlit	Age	Ownership	Community use category	Security of use	Pitch score
Cromwell Community College (SA 3)	Medium Pile 3G - (55-60mm)	100 x 60m 6000 sqm	Yes	4 years	Education	Available for community use and used	Secured	75 - Standard
Manor Leisure Centre (SA 4)	Sand Dressed	30 x 20m 600 sqm	Yes	2-5 years	Local Authority	Available for community use and used	Secured	75 - Standard
Neale Wade Sports Centre (SA 2)	Sand Dressed	100 x 60m 6000 sqm	Yes	5 years*	Education	Available for community use and used	Secured	73 - Standard
Parkfield Sports Club (SA 2)	Sand Filled	30 x 20m 600 sqm	Yes	10+ years	Council	Available for community use and used	Secured	60 - Standard
Sir Harry Smith Community College (SA 4)	Sand Dressed	60 x 50m 3000 sqm	Yes	10+ years	Education	Available for community use and used	Secured	65 - Standard
Sir Harry Smith Community College (SA 4)	Medium Pile 3G - (55-60mm)	40 x 40m 1600 sqm	Yes	3 years	Education	Available for community use and used	Secured	67 - Standard
Thomas Clarkson Academy (SA 1)	3G Rubber Crumb	100 x 60m 6000 sqm	Yes	10 years	Education	Available for community use and used	Secured	70 - Standard
Wisbech Cricket & Hockey Club (SA 1)	Sand Filled	100 x 60m 6000 sqm	Yes	10+ years	Charity	Available for community use and used	Secured	45 - Poor
Wisbech Grammar School (SA 1)	Sand Dressed	100 x 60m 6000 sqm	Yes	10+ years	Education	Available for community use and used	Unsecured	73 - Standard

3.10.6 The supply of AGP's in Fenland is also shown graphically in Map 3.11

Map 3.11 – AGP Audit Map for Fenland showing location of full size (100m x 60m minimum) AGP's and service area catchments within 30 minute drive time



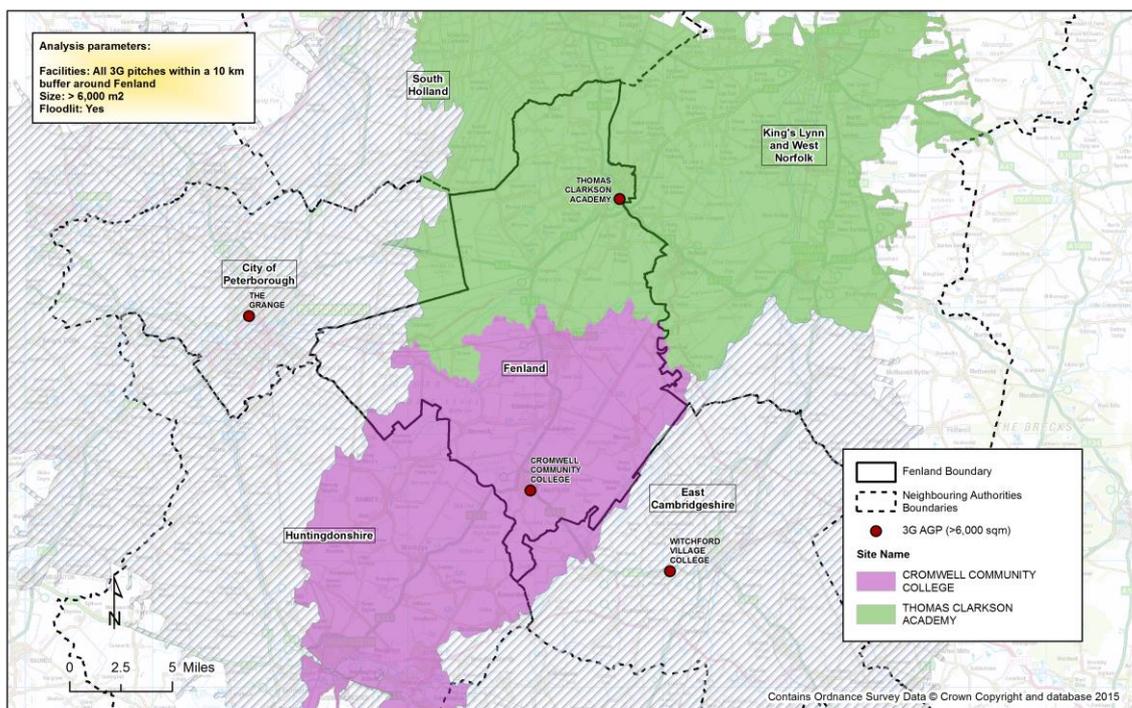
AGP's service area (up to a 30 minute drive time)



3.10.7 Map 3.11 illustrates that there is an overall spread of AGP provision across Fenland with each of the identified sub areas hosting at least one AGP. The Map also illustrates that, as previously highlighted, the only suitable AGPs for Football that are aligned to the F.A. recommendations (3G Full Size AGPs) are located in the South of the District at Cromwell Community College (Chatteris, Sub area 3) and to the North at Thomas Clarkson Academy (Wisbech sub area 1). There are no suitable sized 3G AGPs for Football located in the March (sub area 2) or Whittlesey (sub area 1) area.

3.10.8 Map 3.12 illustrates where larger AGPs (greater than 100 x 60 meters) are located in Fenland and provides a 20-minute drive time catchment area around each AGP to demonstrate the service area of each facility. The map also includes AGPs from neighbouring local authorities to show how their 30-minute catchment areas service Fenland. The map highlights suitable 3G AGPs for Football in red including those situated outside the Fenland district boundary in Peterborough and East Cambridgeshire.

Map 3.12 – 3G AGP service areas catchments Fenland and neighbouring councils (up to a 30 minute drive time)



3G AGPs (>=6,000 sqm) service area (up to a 30 minute drive time)



3.10.9 Map 3.11 and 3.12 demonstrates that North and South of Fenland in the Wisbech and Chatteris sub areas have suitable 3G AGP provision for Football. The March and Whittlesey sub areas do not currently have any 3G AGPs however the Whittlesey area is serviced by the catchment area of 3G AGPs in Peterborough from Bushfield Leisure Centre and The Grange. The March sub area of Fenland is serviced by both catchment areas of Thomas Clarkson Academy (Wisbech sub area 1) and Cromwell Community College (Chatteris sub area 3).

Supply and Demand Balance – the FA model

- 3.10.10 The FA uses an indicative supply and demand model based on the latest Sport England research, AGP's State of the Nation (March 2012). This model assumes that 51% of usage is by sports clubs when factoring in the number of training slots available per pitch type per hours from 5pm – 10pm Monday to Friday and 9am – 5pm Saturday and Sundays.
- 3.10.11 It is currently estimated that one full size AGP can service 60 teams, however following consultation with the FA it is understood that this measure is currently under review and likely to fall to 45 teams per AGP. Guidance from the FA has provided direction that future models should utilise the latest measure so 45 teams per AGP will be used in the calculations.
- 3.10.12 On the basis that there are 176 teams playing in Fenland, there is a recommended need of at least 3.9 full size 3G pitches. According to this result, and bearing in mind the current supply, there is latent demand for 1 to 2 additional 3G pitches to be provided in the District. Ideally, any new 3G provisions would service the March and Whittlesey sub areas that are currently not serviced by the current full size 3G AGP. The recommendations section of this report will evaluate options with regards to where additional 3G AGPs could be located including considerations, where practical, of converting sand filled AGPs into 3G.

Demand

- 3.10.13 Demand for AGP's is typically at peak times on weekdays between 6pm and 10pm. Feedback from the clubs in the area has indicated that there is significant demand for 3G pitches.
- 3.10.14 Wisbech St. Mary F.C. have expressed a desire for a new 3G pitch (60 x 40) for training purposes and believe that this would enable them to generate 6 new mini teams and 4 new youth teams and enable young people to play technical football at an early age plus reducing use of the grass pitches and the current use of the sand based AGP at Wisbech Hockey and Cricket club for their training.
- 3.10.15 March Rangers Youth F.C, who use the adult pitches at Elm Road Sports Field (March), have expressed a need for a 3G AGP to support youth and mini team training and matches. The club identified that the provision of a 3G AGP would also enable them to generate 6 additional teams (1 x U9, U10, U13, U14, 2 x U11).

Sport England Facility Planning Model (FPM, May 2015)

- 3.10.16 The Facility Planning Models (FPM) for football across Fenland and has been recently drafted and provide further evidence on the supply and demand balance for football-ready AGP's in the area.
- 3.10.17 The Facilities Planning Model provides an opportunity to test out possible changes to supply and demand and to identify how closures and new provision could impact on other existing facilities in the area and beyond.
- 3.10.18 The majority of the outputs from the FPM data takes into consideration the cross boundary facilities and movements from neighbouring authorities.
- 3.10.19 The key findings from the FPM (May 2015) for the supply and demand of Mid Suffolk were as follows.
- 3.10.20 There are a total of 4 AGP's on four sites across Fenland that provide for football opportunities. The facilities are all full size pitches of 100x60 or more and are floodlit. The facilities are at Cromwell Community College (Chatteris), Neale Wade Sports Centre (March), Thomas Clarkson Academy (Wisbech) and Wisbech Cricket and Hockey Club. The only major market town in Fenland without a full size facility is Whittlesey. The only facility in Whittlesey is sited at the Sir Harry Smith College. This facility is a 60x50 sand filled facility. This type of surface can be used for training for football.
- 3.10.21 Cromwell and Thomas Clarkson are 3G surfaces, which are specifically designed for football usage. Neale Wade and Wisbech are sand dressed facilities. This surface is a preferred surface for hockey but they can be used for football training and informal games.
- 3.10.22 When taking in to account the facilities availability for use by the community in the peak period the supply equates to 3.4 pitches.
- 3.10.23 Three of the 4 pitches are based on education sites. The positives of this are that the sites will likely have significant day time use by the schools but the negative is that they will have limited availability, if any, for the community at these times. A further challenge can be that due to the way in which schools are now pre-dominantly managed, via academies, there is no opportunity to have a single discussion regarding community access with the education authority and individual dialogue and agreements are required.

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- 3.10.24 This level of supply in Fenland equates to a supply of 0.41 of a pitch per 10,000 residents. This level of provision compares well to the National (0.32), Regional (0.3) and County (0.31) averages. Of the neighbouring authorities only East Cambridgeshire (0.45) has a higher figure and Peterborough (0.41) is the same but a further pitch is planned in this area.
- 3.10.25 The total VPWPP (Visits Per Week In Peak Period) demanded by the residents of Fenland is 1,564 in comparison to supply capable of providing 2,510. This provides a significant oversupply of 946 VPWPP. This level of oversupply equates just over 60% of the current demand and is the equivalent of an oversupply of 1.28 pitches.
- 3.10.26 Based on Fenland's population and demographic the demand is for 2 AGP's. With a supply of just under 3.4 this results in a significant oversupply of 1.39 pitches.
- 3.10.27 This is the largest oversupply in comparison to neighbouring authorities and Kings Lynn actually has an undersupply of 2 pitches and CIPFA (nearest neighbour) comparator Amber Valley has an even higher level of undersupply at -2.27 pitches.
- 3.10.28 Of the 1,564 VPWPP demanded 1,492 are modeled to be met by the supply both within Fenland and through facilities provided in neighbouring authorities. In % terms this equates to a satisfied demand figure of 95.4%. This figure is very high and compares well to the National (84.4%), Regional (82.1%) and County (83.2%) averages. Only Peterborough of the comparator authorities has a higher figure (97.2%).
- 3.10.29 Of the 4 full size pitches in the area 2 are 3G the preferred surface for football. At present the data is not indicating that any further full size 3G provision could be justified in the area. However, this is based on the model used that applies generic demand analysis based on participation rates from Active People. The wider strategic work of the PPS recommendations and action plan will identify how the impact on existing facilities, and their sustainability, if additional facilities are proposed.

3.10.30 The FPM identified that the existing facilities are 91.1% full for football based on the hours allocated in the model. Analysis undertaken by 4 global has identified that both facilities were open for community use. Thomas Clarkson Academy was open for 40 hours per week during the peak period and Cromwell Community College was open for 23 hours mid week and weekends on request, 8 hours Saturday and 8 hours Sunday. Based on the football demand gathered for both facilities the findings of spare capacity on both sites identified that Cromwell Community College had +37 available hours for community use and Thomas Clarkson Academy had +31.5 hours.

Growing the Capacity for Football – Development of 3G AGP's in Fenland

3.10.31 The review of AGP provision in Fenland identifies there is a need for at least one additional 3G AGP when taking into consideration the FA model and the Sport England Facilities Planning Model (FPM). One possible location for this AGP could be near March town (Sub area 2) where there are currently no suitable 3G AGPs in the area other than the sand dressed AGP located at Neale Wade Sport Centre which is predominately used by March Town Hockey Club. Despite the absence of a 3G AGP in March the catchment area analysis undertaken as part of this study identified that the March area is currently serviced within a 30 minute drive time catchment of the existing full size 3G AGP's based at Cromwell Community College (Chatteris sub area 3) and Thomas Clarkson Academy (Wisbech sub area 1) with the Town of March sitting on the fringes of the catchment area for both facilities. The provision of a new 3G AGP in March could help cater for the latent demand for matches and training identified on the grass pitches at March Town F.C. and other pitches in the March area (Westwood Community School and All Saints Inter Church Aided School). A new 3G AGP would also help to alleviate some of the football training demand that is currently placed on the sand dressed AGP at Neale Wade Sport Centre therefore providing additional pitch capacity at peak times.

3.10.32 The locations that should be considered for the provision of a new full size 3G AGP in the March sub area are:

- Neale Wade Sport Centre – a full size 3G AGP could be located on one of the existing grass football or Rugby pitches at the school site that are not currently used by community clubs and would be in addition to the sand dressed AGP that is located there and used by March Hockey Club. Being located on a school site would enable the 3G AGP to be managed alongside the existing facilities for community use and also provide the school with a new facility for educational

purposes. If a 3G AGP was located on this site then access to ancillary provision and changing rooms would have to be explored further as the PPS study highlighted access restrictions on ancillary provision for community football clubs using the site. The parking capacity at Neale Wade sport centre would also have to be enhanced to cater for additional demand placed on the facility generated by users of the 3G AGP. Neale Wade Sport Centre is a potential new 3G AGP site option supported by the F.A.

- Estover Playing Fields - There is significant space on the site to accommodate a full size 3G AGP on the location of the existing MUGA which would enable the existing grass pitches on the site to be retained. If a 3G AGP were to be placed on this site then investment would have to be made into providing new ancillary provision, including a clubhouse, changing, shower and toilet facilities in addition to parking capacity. Enhancing the overall maintenance and quality of the site, which is currently in a state of poor quality, would also have to be undertaken. The County Council, who lease the land to the Estover Playing Fields Association, owns the site. A new 100 year lease has recently been agreed for the site and a CIC created by March Town Council to manage the site. These new arrangements have created security on the site for future facility development opportunities both from a capital investment and facility management perspective via the creation of the new CIC. In addition to the above it has been identified through consultation that funding has been secured to improve the quality of the site which could be used as match funding towards the F.A and any additional funding streams (e.g. Sport England) for the development of a new full size 3G AGP on the Estover site. Estover Playing Fields is a potential new 3G AGP site option supported by the F.A.
- March Town F.C. –due to the limitations of available land on the current site the only option would be to replace the existing grass pitch with a new full size 3G AGP. If this were to happen then community use would need to be secured and openly promoted and supported by March Town F.C to enable other local clubs to access and benefit from the facility. March Town F.C. is not recommended by the F.A as a potential site for a new 3G AGP.
- Elm Road Sports Ground – The site is privately owned and used for football and Rugby (March Bears RFC). Due to the limitations of available land the only option to include a new 3G AGP on this site would mean placing it on the existing grass pitch. Consideration would

also have to be made in relation to limited parking available on the site and the location of the site itself which is situated on the northern outskirts of March Town. Consultation and permission would also have to be sought from the private landowner and the Elm Road Sports Association (ERSA). Elm Road Sports Ground is not recommended by the F.A. as a potential site for a new 3G AGP.

3.10.33 Total supply and demand balance for all AGP's in Fenland will be required before making a decision on the best sites for additional developments or enhancements. Findings from the Hockey and Rugby sections of the report will therefore need to be considered as both of these sports will contribute to the supply and demand of AGP's.

3.10.34 After considering the demand for AGP's by rugby and hockey, the Action Plan will provide a summary of potential sites for additional AGP's across Fenland.

3.11 Football Summary

3.11.1 Below is a short summary of the key findings from the football analysis.

Table 3.17 – Summary of Football Findings for Fenland

Football Summary Box
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The supply and demand analysis and results indicate that on the whole, there is sufficient supply of football pitches in Fenland to cater for both the current and future demand for Football, with limited deficiency on only a small number of specific sites. • Education providers own the majority of pitches including 100% of all 3G AGP's, 80% of all mini soccer 7v7 pitches, 67% of all 5v5 pitches and the highest percentage of adult pitches (24%) and 33% of all 11v11 youth pitches. Sports Club/Community Associations own the majority of youth 11v11 pitches at 67%. Parish Councils own the most youth football 9v9 pitches at 57% • 72% of the grass pitches are rated as GOOD quality, 14% are rated as STANDARD and 14% are rated as POOR. • The highest scoring sites for quality were Wisbech St. Mary Sport and Community Centre (Wisbech), Thomas Clarkson Academy (Wisbech), Parkfield Sports Club (March), Feldale Field (Whittlesey) and Elm Road Sport Field (March). • The lowest scoring sites for quality were Estover Playing Field (March), Park Lane Primary and Nursery School (Whittlesey), Wimblington Road Recreation Ground (Chatteris) and Benwick Road Recreation Ground (Chatteris). • The largest clubs in Fenland based on number of teams are Wisbech

St. Mary F.C, Whittlesey Junior F.C, March Soccer School F.C and Chatteris Town Youth F.C.

- There is an overall population increase in Fenland by 2031 that will create an increase in 3 additional adult teams (19-45 year olds), 6 youth teams (12-18) and 6 mini soccer teams (6-11).
- Recent growth in teams (past 3 years) has been relatively static from a club perspective.
- The largest growth area, as reported by Fenland clubs, is expected to be male youth teams with 10 clubs reporting an increase in their youth teams.
- There are only three sites within Fenland that have youth 11v11 sized pitches. As a result the majority of youth matches and training takes place on adult pitches that in turn impacts on the demand of adult pitch supply.
- Balance figures for 2015 identifies that there is an over supply of adult football pitches by +17 match equivalents per week (5.6 good quality adult sized pitches), youth football 11v11 +2 match equivalents (0.5 pitches), youth 9v9 +14.5 match equivalents (3.6 pitches), mini soccer 7v7 +11.5 match equivalents (1.9 pitches) and mini soccer 5v5 +14 match equivalents per week (2.3 pitches).
- Future Balance figure projections for 2031, taking into account future population projections and team growth identifies that there will be a surplus in adult football pitches with +15 match equivalents per week (5.1 pitches), youth 11v11 +0.7 match equivalents per week (0 pitches) highlighting that demand will only just be met by the existing supply, youth 9v9 +13.2 match equivalents (3.3 pitches), mini 7v7 +10.4 match equivalents (1.7 pitches) and mini 5v5 +12.9 match equivalents (2.1 pitches). This highlights that overall the current supply of grass pitches across Fenland can cater for the current and future demand for football.
- On a sub area level there is an overall positive balance in grass pitch supply within the Wisbech area. The March sub area has a large concentration of clubs and an overall positive balance in grass pitch supply. The March Town F.C. pitch is heavily used and over capacity and the club should seek to use local pitches at Neale Wade, Elm Road or Estover Playing Fields. The majority of grass pitches in the Chatteris sub area are either at capacity or over capacity this is predominately due to the poor quality, drainage and maintenance on the local council owned pitches. A key solution for Chatteris is better access to the pitches at Cromwell Community College and enhanced use by local clubs of the full size 3G AGP situated there. Whittlesey has an overall positive balance in pitch supply for adult, youth and

mini pitches.

- Fenland has two full size 3G AGPs suitable for Football located in the North of the district at Thomas Clarkson Academy and in the South at Cromwell Community College. The only two sub-areas without full size 3G AGP provision are the Whittlesey and March areas.
- The F.A. AGP model calculates that Fenland should have at least 1 additional 3G AGP based on the number of teams in the district. The Sport England Facility Planning Model (FPM) also supports the need for at least one additional 3G AGP in Fenland due to current AGPs being at capacity. The area in and around March Town has been highlighted as a priority area for the F.A. to develop one new 3G AGP.
- Potential site options for a new 3G AGP in March could be:
 - Estover Playing Fields.
 - Neale Wade Sport Centre. In addition to the existing sand based AGP.
- Further recommendations for the location of a new 3G AGP will take into account the supply and demand from Hockey and Rugby and will be included in the site-specific action plan of the Playing Pitch Strategy.

4 CRICKET

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 In order to understand the overall objectives and priorities of the ECB, an analysis of key recent strategies and documentation has been undertaken and summarised below.

Grounds to Play – England and Wales Cricket Board Strategic Plan (2010 – 2013)

4.1.2 The ECB published its strategic plan in 2010. One of the core aims of the strategy is to enhance facilities, environments and participation. The ECB is prioritising the expansion of indoor cricket facilities, better use of school facilities and establishing better school-club links in order to position cricket at the heart of the community. This strategy was followed by the National Club Strategy (2012).

National Club Strategy (2012)

4.1.3 The ECB's National Club Strategy was developed from its Strategic Plan. It focuses on promoting the sustainability of clubs and their facilities. The ECB aims to develop accessible, high quality and innovative facilities which inspire the nation to choose cricket, and create a culture of sustainable development which will leave a legacy for generations to come.

4.2 Supply

Quantity Overview

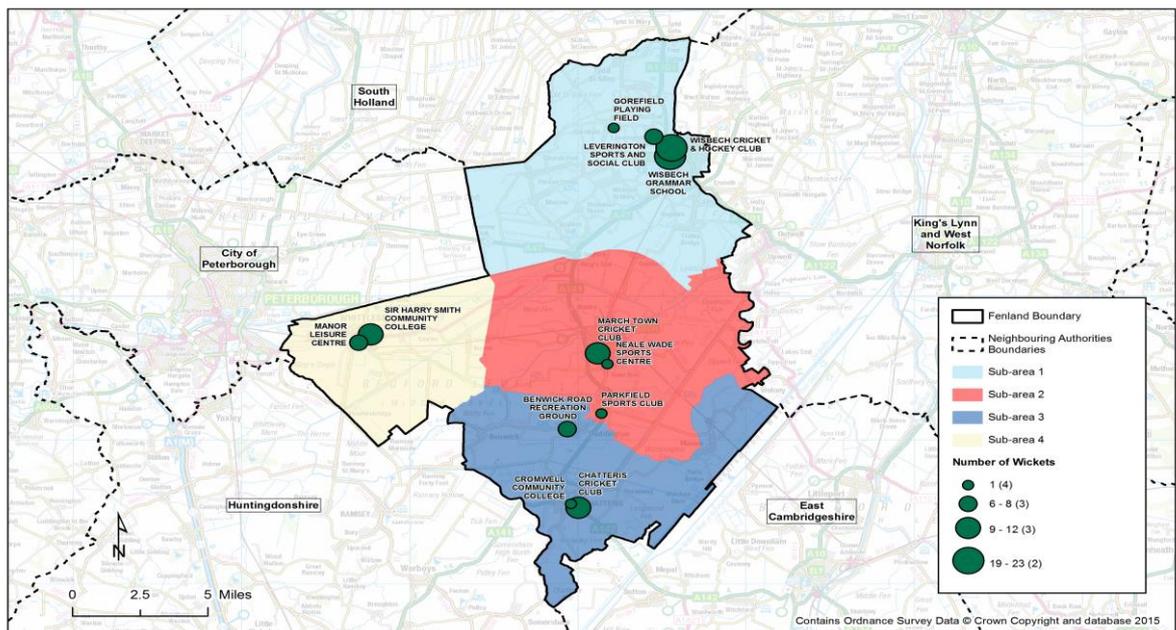
4.2.1 There are twelve Cricket sites across Fenland of which ten are available for community use. The two sites that are not available for community use are located on educational sites at Cromwell Community College and Wisbech Grammar School. Map 4.1 (overleaf) illustrates the location of these sites.

4.2.2 Map 4.1. Illustrates that all four of Fenlands sub areas have Cricket site provision with at least one Cricket club based in each area. The sites that play host to Fenlands Cricket clubs are:

- March Town Cricket Club (Sub area 2)
- Wisbech Town Cricket Club (Wisbech Cricket and Hockey Club, Sub area 1)
- Chatteris Cricket Club (Sub area 3)
- Leverington Cricket Club (Leverington Sport and Social Club, Wisbech sub area 1)

- Wimblington Cricket Club (Parkfield Sports Club, March sub area 2)
- Whittlesey Cricket Club (Sir Harry Smith Community College, Whittlesey sub area 4)
- Neale Wade Community Sport Centre (one Artificial Wicket used by March Town C.C for adult and Junior Training and games).
- Benwick Road Recreation Ground (Used by March C.C. for adult and junior matches)
- Gorefield Playing Field (Wisbech Sub area 1, no club has been identified as using the site)
- Manor Leisure centre (Whittlesey sub area 4, no club has been identified as using the site).

Map 4.1. Audit of Cricket Sites In Fenland. Source 4 Global Site Assessments



Cricket pitches in Fenland



4.2.3 Table 4.1 below presents the data collected on cricket pitch supply in Fenland. The Appendix presents further detail on the audit of all pitches across the local authority.

Table 4.1 – Supply of cricket pitches in Fenland

	Grass wickets	Artificial wickets
No. Of cricket pitches	85	10

4.2.4 Of the 85 grass wickets, the following have multiple squares;

- Wisbech Cricket and Hockey Club (3)
- Wisbech Grammar School (3)

Tenure and Management

4.2.5 There is an equal spread of ownership arrangements for cricket pitches in Fenland. This is shown in Table 4.2 below.

Table 4.2 – Ownership breakdown for Cricket in Fenland

Pitch ownership	Ownership of available cricket pitches	Ownership of unavailable cricket pitches
Education	2	4
Private	2	0
County Council	0	0
Local Authority	2	0
Charity/Trust	5	0
Unknown	2	0

Quality Assessment

4.2.6 Each site (where access was possible) was visited and assessed by an independent assessor using non-technical assessments as determined by the ECB and Sport England. Site assessments take into account the playing surface quality and maintenance and the quality of changing rooms. In addition to the site visits, a club consultation is used to validate the quality ratings. Each site is then assigned a rating of “Good”, “Standard” or “Poor”.

4.2.7 Table 4.3 summarises the quality assessment results. Further details of the carrying capacity allocations of each site by pitch type can be found in the Appendix. Given the ratings; the overall standard of pitches across Fenland is good, with 31% of pitches scoring “Good”.

Table 4.3 – Summary of cricket pitch scoring in Fenland

Rating	Good	Standard	Poor
Number of pitches	14	2	1

4.2.8 The top five quality scoring sites are summarised below;

Wisbech Grammar School (100%) (Wisbech sub area)

This site has 3 grass cricket squares. Each of the squares is in excellent condition and received a high standard of maintenance during the season. Although the outfield of these pitches are utilised for rugby pitches, the month between the terms when rugby and cricket are played allows for adequate recovery. The site is not regularly available to the community, nor is there any security of tenure available to any community users

Leverington Sports and Social Club (95.56%) (Wisbech sub area)

Multi-sport site with a good ancillary. This site dropped marks due to an undulating outfield (86.67%) but scored well in other categories.

Wisbech Cricket and Hockey Club (91.67%) (Wisbech sub area)

The site has two squares of grass wickets (both of which scored 100%) and an additional pitch that is severed by just one artificial strip (which scored 85.71%). Although the ancillary facility fulfills the criteria of the ECB's non-technical assessment, the ancillary has been highlighted, both during the consultation and the assessment, as being in need of replacement.

Chatteris Cricket Club (90.48%) (Chatteris sub area)

The site scored well on its pavilion, outfield and grass wickets (100%) and artificial wicket (85.71%). It scored slightly lower for its practice facilities (66.67%).

March Town Cricket Club (88.10%) (March sub area)

The site scored very highly on the fundamental cricket elements of grass pitches, outfield, ancillary (100%) and artificial wickets (85.71%). The practice facilities on the site were significantly lower than the rest of the site, only scoring 50%. During consultation, the club also discussed the possibility of further developing the ancillary.

4.3 Demand

Club and team profile

4.3.1 Through the demand consultations with clubs, six clubs have been identified as playing in Fenland. These clubs are shown in Table 4.4 below, with details on the team profiles where it was possible to contact them.

Table 4.4– Cricket club profiles for responding clubs. Source: 4 global club consultations

Club	No. Of competitive teams			Total
	Senior men	Senior women	Juniors	
March Town CC	6	1	3	10
Wisbech Town CC	7	0	6	13
Chatteris CC	3	0	4	7
Leverington CC	2	0	0	2
Wimblington CC	4	0	4	8
Whittlesey CC	2	0	0	2
Total	24	1	17	42

Current, future and latent demand

4.3.2 In order to identify trends in participation over the last three years, each cricket club was asked to state whether their number of teams has increased, decreased or stayed the same. Each club was also asked to indicate if there are firm plans in place to increase the number of teams in the future. The results are laid out in the table below.

Table 4.5– Cricket club profiles for responding clubs. Source: 4 global club consultations

Club	No. Of existing competitive teams and increase/decrease trend over the last 3 years.					
	Senior men		Senior women		Juniors	
	Current	Recent Trend	Current	Recent Trend	Current	Recent Trend
March Town CC	6	Increase	1	NR*	3	Same
Wisbech Town CC	7	Decrease	0	Same	6	Same
Chatteris CC	3	Decrease	0	NR	4	Same
Leverington CC	2	Same	0	NR	0	NR
Wimblington CC	4	Same	0	NR	4	Increase
Whittlesey CC	2	Same	0	Same	0	Same
Total	24		1		17	

*NR stands for "Not Reported"

4.3.3 Table 4.5 highlights that the majority of clubs have not witnessed a change in their number of teams over the past three years. The most common category in which clubs have experienced a decrease is in senior men's cricket. There has been an increase in senior teams at March Town CC and an increase in Junior teams at Wimblington CC.

- 4.3.4 Chatteris and Leverington Cricket club highlighted that they had plans to increase their senior Cricket teams by one team. Wimblington and Whittlesey Cricket clubs each expressed an increase in one additional junior team in the future.
- 4.3.5 In order to calculate the future demand for cricket in Fenland, a Team Generation Rate (TGR) has been calculated using the current number of teams and the current population. This measure allows us to calculate what size of population (for various age groups) will typically cause enough demand for a cricket team.
- 4.3.6 This TGR can now be applied to the population projections for Fenland to confirm how population growth or reduction will affect the demand for teams in each of the key age groups.
- 4.3.7 The 20131 Fenland projections include the impact of the additional planned housing developments of 11,000 new homes by 2031 (see table 2.3 for a breakdown of planned housing allocations).

Table 4.6: Impact of population projections on the need for cricket provision (Team Generation Rates). Source: 4 global demand consultation and 2012 ONS Population Projections

Age group	Current pop. Within age group	Current no. Of teams	TGR (no. Of people per team)	Future (2031) population within age group	Predicted future number of teams 2031	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Adult (20-64) – males only	27,425	24	1,143	28,964	25.34	1
Youth (5-18) – boys only	7,546	17	443.8	8,227	18.54	2

- 4.3.8 Table 4.6 illustrates that one additional adult men’s team and two youth boys’ teams will be generated by the projected population increase across Fenland by 2031.

4.4 Capacity Analysis

- 4.4.1 The capacity to provide for competitive play over a season is mainly determined by the quality of pitches.
- 4.4.2 Tables 4.7 below presents the percentage of wickets across Fenland that fall under each quality category and are available to the community.

Table 4.7: Quality ratings for cricket pitches in percentages. Source: 4 global site assessments

Quality rating (ECB: grass wickets have a carrying capacity of 5 games per season, non-turf wickets 60 games per season)	Overall Quality Rating	
	Grass Wickets	Artificial Wickets
Good (80%-100%)	100%	0%
Standard (60%-80%)	0%	70%
Poor (0%-60%)	0%	30%

4.5 Supply and Demand Balance

- 4.5.1 Of the ten cricket sites recorded as available for community use have five have been identified as having spare capacity for their grass wickets. One of these clubs, Chatteris Cricket Club, is at capacity for grass wickets and has an artificial wicket at the club to cater for additional demand. Two clubs, March CC and Wisbech CC are both over capacity for grass wickets due to a large number of senior, junior and county matches played at the clubs. Both clubs however have artificial wickets that can cater for the additional capacity places on the grass wickets however this will predominately only cater for the junior matches and training as adult matches are mainly played on grass wickets.
- 4.5.2 Under ECB guidance, each grass wicket has a carrying capacity of 5 matches per year. An artificial wicket has a carrying capacity of 60 matches per year.
- 4.5.3 Under these conditions there is a total carrying capacity across Fenland of 1,025 matches per season with 425 matches of this capacity being supplied by grass pitches.
- 4.5.4 Following consultation with the ECB, it is key to highlight that the reference to under capacity must be balanced with the understanding that any prudent club retains a certain number of pitches on a strip to cater for additional activity beyond that calculated for league games. It should be noted that when calculating five games per strip then the wickets are being used to capacity with no retained supply for unforeseen circumstances such as unusual weather events, which would reduce capacity.

Table 4.8 – Overall Cricket balance figures for Fenland 2015

Area		Cricket – 5 Matches per strip per season
Supply and demand figures (matches)	DEMAND 349.0	SUPPLY 425
Overall balance (matches)		+76
Pitch balance figure (no. Of grass or artificial wickets)		16 grass wickets or 2 artificial wickets

- 4.5.5 The overall results for cricket indicate that, when utilising a capacity measure of 5 matches per strip per season (as mandated in the ECB guidance document), there is an oversupply of grass cricket wickets across Fenland of +76 match equivalents per year. This equates to 1 grass wickets or 2 artificial wickets.
- 4.5.6 In order to understand how projected population growth will influence the demand for cricket in Fenland, Table 4.9 illustrates the change in balance caused by increased demand. This is calculated on the assumption that each additional team will require 8 home games per season (decimal points have been rounded to the nearest whole number).

Table 4.9– Future supply and demand balance including projected demand increase 2031

Area		Cricket – 5 Matches per strip per season
Supply and demand figures (matches)	DEMAND 373.0	SUPPLY 425
Overall balance (matches)		+52
Pitch balance figure (no. Of grass or artificial wickets)		11 grass wickets or 1 artificial

- 4.5.7 This data illustrates that when using the ECB guidelines of 5 matches per wicket per season, the projected increase in demand can still be satisfied by the current level of supply with a slight reduction in the surplus equating to +52 match equivalents per week which equates to 11 grass wickets or 1 artificial.

4.6 Strategic sites for protection and enhancement

4.6.1 Based on the evidence collated in the PPS for cricket pitch provision, it can be concluded that there are certain cricket facilities across Fenland that are recorded as high value sites, for a number of reasons.

4.6.2 We have identified the following sites used for cricket in the borough as strategic sites for protection;

Table 4.10 – Strategic cricket sites for protection and enhancement

Site Name	No. Of Pitches (Squares)	Ownership	Community Use category	Non-technical Assessment Score	Balance – Capacity for community use	Justification for Protection (PR), Provision (PV) and Enhancement (E)	
Wisbech Cricket and Hockey Club (Wisbech Sub area 1)	3	National Trust owns site	Available for community use and used	90.48%(across all pitches)	Currently over capacity for grass wickets	PR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Good quality, 3 square site with good quality pitches but aging ancillary in need of replacement. ➤ Home ground of Wisbech Town Cricket Club. ➤ Currently over capacity for grass wickets due to the demand placed on them for games and matches from the 13 teams based at the club. ➤ The site should be protected in the local plan.
						E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Enhancement options should include refurbishment of the ancillary to support the development and enhancement of the kitchen, changing rooms and bar areas to enable the clubs to maximise

Site Name	No. Of Pitches (Squares)	Ownership	Community Use category	Non-technical Assessment Score	Balance – Capacity for community use	Justification for Protection (PR), Provision (PV) and Enhancement (E)
						<p>revenues from club and community use of the facility. The Hockey club based at the same site who share the ancillary also raised this as a priority area for development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Refurbishment of the artificial wicket, which was rated as 66% quality score, to help cater for the current and future demand for training and matches. ➤ Explore the potential to use nearby Cricket Pitches to help cater for the latent demand for grass wickets. An example could include the Cricket pitches at nearby Wisbech Grammar school which are currently not available for community use but the school have expressed they would be willing to discuss opportunities with local clubs. Another alternative would be the pitch at Leverington Sports and social club but this would depend on a ground share agreement with Leverington Cricket Club.

Site Name	No. Of Pitches (Squares)	Ownership	Community Use category	Non-technical Assessment Score	Balance – Capacity for community use	Justification for Protection (PR), Provision (PV) and Enhancement (E)	
Leverington Sport and Social Club, (Leverington Cricket Club, Wisbech Sub area 1)	1	Owned by the club	Available for community use and used	95.56%	Currently under capacity for grass wickets	PR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Good quality site with good provision. ➤ Home ground of Leverington Cricket Club. ➤ Could provide additional capacity for Wisbech Town Cricket Club which is based locally and over capacity for grass wickets. ➤ The site should be protected in the local plan.
Gorefield Playing Field (Wisbech Sub area 1)	1	Owned by a Charitable Trust	Available	61%	Currently under capacity for grass wickets.	PR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A standard quality site with 10 grass wickets. No club demand was recorded for the site. ➤ A potential overflow site to cater for the latent demand from Wisbech C.C. ➤ The site should be protected in the local plan.
March Town Cricket Club (March Sub area 2)	1	Land left in trust	Available for community use and used	87.14%	Currently over capacity for grass wickets	PR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Good quality site overall. ➤ Home ground of March Town C.C. ➤ The grass wickets are over capacity due to the training and match demand from the 11 teams based at the club ➤ The site should be protected in the local

Site Name	No. Of Pitches (Squares)	Ownership	Community Use category	Non-technical Assessment Score	Balance – Capacity for community use	Justification for Protection (PR), Provision (PV) and Enhancement (E)	
							plan.
						E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The practice Nets are of poor quality and in need of replacement. ➤ The club currently use the grass wickets at Benwick Road Recreation Ground to help cater for the latent demand for matches and training at March Town C.C. The grass wickets at Benwick Road are currently under supply and could accommodate additional demand from the club. ➤ The club also use the artificial wicket at Neale Wade Sport center for adult and junior training. The artificial wicket at Neale Wade however is of poor quality and in need of refurbishment. ➤ Another option to help cater for the latent demand could be the artificial wicket at Parkfield Sports club but this would depend on a ground share agreement with Wimblington Cricket Club. A third option could be to include new wickets on the outfield at March

Site Name	No. Of Pitches (Squares)	Ownership	Community Use category	Non-technical Assessment Score	Balance – Capacity for community use	Justification for Protection (PR), Provision (PV) and Enhancement (E)	
							Town C.C. to cater for the junior demand
Neale Wade Sport Centre (March Sub area 2)	1	School	Available for community use	14%	+60	PR	➤ The one Artificial wicket at Neale Wade Sport centre is of poor quality and used by March Town C.C. for adult and junior training.
						E	➤ Replacement of the artificial wicket at Neale Wade Sport Centre to help cater for the adult and junior demand by March Town C.C.
Chatteris Cricket Club (Chatteris Sub area 3)	1	Private Land owner	Available for community use and used	90.48%	Currently at capacity for grass wickets	PR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Good quality site with good quality facilities but does require improvement to its practice facilities. ➤ The club is currently at capacity for grass wickets due to the amount of demand placed on the pitch by the 3 adult and 4 junior teams however the demand for some of the junior matches and training can be catered for by the artificial wicket. ➤ The site should be protected in the local plan.

Site Name	No. Of Pitches (Squares)	Ownership	Community Use category	Non-technical Assessment Score	Balance – Capacity for community use	Justification for Protection (PR), Provision (PV) and Enhancement (E)
						<p>E</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ New practice facilities required. ➤ Explore the potential to use the pitches at Cromwell Community College as overflow pitches for the club to cater for the existing and future demand for grass wickets. The college pitch is currently no used for community sue so this would depend on community use agreement being established with the college ➤ The site is also the home ground of Chatteris Town Youth F.C. and the football and Cricket provision is split by a hedge running down the centre of the site. One solution to the ancillary provision for both Cricket and Football would be to remove the hedge and create a dual sport site that shares the better quality Cricket Pavilion. This would also create enough space on the site for the Circket Club to provide additional grass wicket to help cater for Cricket demand.

Site Name	No. Of Pitches (Squares)	Ownership	Community Use category	Non-technical Assessment Score	Balance – Capacity for community use	Justification for Protection (PR), Provision (PV) and Enhancement (E)	
						PV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Future security of tenure needs to be confirmed and provided to enable the club to remain using the site for current and future Cricket development and provision. There are seven years remaining on the lease. The club has some uncertainty regarding what the landowner plans to do with the land when the lease expires. ➤ The provision of a additional grass wickets on the site if security of tenure can be confirmed and the site turned into a dual use site with football by removing the central hedge.
Parkfield Sports Club (Wimblington C.C., Chatteris Sub area3	1	Owned by Council	Available for community use and used	85%	Currently under capacity for artificial wicket	PR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Good quality site with one good artificial wicket that is used for adult and junior matches by Wimblington C.C. ➤ The site should be protected in the local plan.
Benwick Road Recreation Ground (Chatteris Sub area 3, used by	1	Parish Council	Available for community use and used	83%	Currently under capacity for grass wickets	PR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A good quality site with both grass and an artificial wicket. ➤ Used by March Town C.C. for adult and junior matches.

Site Name	No. Of Pitches (Squares)	Ownership	Community Use category	Non-technical Assessment Score	Balance – Capacity for community use	Justification for Protection (PR), Provision (PV) and Enhancement (E)	
March Town C.C.)							➤ The site should be protected in the local plan.
Sir Harry Smith Community College (Whittlesey Cricket Club, Sub area 4)	1	Owned by School	Available for community use and used	86.4%	Currently under capacity for grass wickets	PR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Good quality of provision for a school site. ➤ Used by Whittlesey C.C. for matches and training. ➤ The site should be protected in the local plan
						E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Development of existing practice facilities to include new outdoor nets.
Manor Leisure Centre (Whittlesey Sub area 4)	1	Leisure Centre	Available for community use and used	93%	Currently under capacity for grass wickets	PR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A good quality site. ➤ No club demand was recorded for the site. ➤ The site should be protected in the local plan

4.7 Cricket Summary

4.7.1 A full set of cricket recommendations is provided in Table 4.10 but below is a short summary of the key findings from the cricket analysis

Table 34 – Summary of Cricket Findings for Fenland

Cricket Summary Box
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ There is a general surplus of cricket wickets across the borough and there is still a surplus even with future demand and population growth is taken into account.➤ The quality of Cricket provision in Fenland is very high.➤ Team generation rates for Fenland suggest that by 2031, 2 new adult teams and 1 new youth teams are likely to exist.➤ Chatteris and Leverington CC have projected future growth in their number of adult men's teams of one additional team each. Wimblington and Whittlesey have projected future growth in one additional junior team each.➤ Balance figures for 2015 - +76 wickets (individual strips)➤ Projected balance figures for 2031 + 52 wickets (individual strips)➤ There are some large and positively performing clubs in the area, including March Town C.C., Chatteris C.C. and Wisbech C.C. All of these have well maintained and managed club grounds, which scored excellently during site assessments.➤ March Town Cricket Club and Wisbech Cricket and Hockey Club have grass wickets that are over capacity due to the demand from adult, junior and county matches that are placed on the wickets. Both clubs have artificial wickets however that can cater for this additional demand, in particular junior matches.➤ Several sites require improvements to their practice facilities and ancillary facilities to enable clubs to continue to grow and develop. These sites include Wisbech Cricket Club, March town CC, Leverington CC and Chatteris CC.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The clubhouse and changing block at Wisbech Cricket Club requires refurbishment and development.○ The artificial wicket at Neale Wade requires replacing.○ There is potential to provide additional wickets on the Chatteris Cricket Club site and develop the site into a dual Football and Cricket facility with shared use of the existing Cricket Pavillion. Security of tenure would be required for these developments to take place as there is some uncertainty regarding the future use of the land currently used by once their lease expires in seven years.➤ When taking into account the balance of pitches at a sub area level:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ In Wisbech there is an overall positive balance in the supply of grass wickets. Access to the pitches at Wisbech Grammar School (that are not currently available for community use) would help to alleviate some of the demand at Wisbech Cricket Club.○ In the March Sub area the grass wickets at March Cricket Club are over capacity and the artificial wicket at Neale Wade is in need of replacements. Access to the wickets at Parkfield Sports Club would help alleviate the demand placed on March Town C.C.○ In the Chatteris and Whittlesey sub areas there an overall positive balance in the number grass wickets to cater for demand.

5 Rugby Union

5.1 Introduction and Strategic Context

- 5.1.1 The Rugby Football Union (RFU) is the national governing body responsible for grassroots and elite rugby in England. Cambridgeshire RFU administers the sport across the region. The rugby union playing season operates from September to April.
- 5.1.2 The RFU published its Facility Strategy (2014) for the next four years. The strategy includes the following relevant objectives and priorities relevant to the PPS:
- The core aims of the RFU are to create effective and efficient facilities, management and governance along with community integration
 - Facility priorities include improving changing provision, natural turf pitch quality, AGPs and floodlighting for both matches and training. These affect commercial opportunities within community clubs

5.2 Consultation Overview – Rugby Football Union (RFU)

- 5.2.1 There are two Rugby Clubs in Fenland that are affiliated to the RFU. Wisbech Rugby Football Club (RFC), who play at their namesake ground, and March RFC who are based at Elm Road Sports Field (March).
- 5.2.2 Wisbech RFC is a priority club for the RFU and Eastern Counties Rugby Union (ECRU) along with continued support to March Bears RFC.
- 5.2.3 Wisbech RFC has recently received £10k grant investment from the RFU to improve the social area towards a £20k+ total project cost. The development has created an increase in visitors and external groups using the facility. The additional revenues generated from external groups and visitors have helped the club apply a more robust annual maintenance programme including aeration of their pitches.
- 5.2.4 The RFU highlighted that midweek demand for pitch use is far greater on those pitches that have floodlighting compared to those that do not and developments or enhancements to floodlighting can help displace demand for pitches that are predominately used for matches on weekends. Wisbech RFC have been identified through the ECRU facilities plan 2015-19 as a key investment priority for floodlighting due to the current provision which is quantified as being 0.5 of a pitch.

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- 5.2.5 Wisbech RFC has been identified as a hub club for the RFU All Schools Programme being delivered within Witchford Village College and Thomas Clarkson Community College. The fundamental aim of the programme will see Rugby Union become a key sport played regularly with fixtures and supported by trained PE Staff. The aim of the programme is to increase the number of players attending the club from the colleges.

Major Clubs and Sites

- 5.2.6 **Wisbech RFC:** This site is owned by the National Trust and is subject to regulations and restriction with regards to development. The club has invested in the clubhouse, supported by the RFU, and plans to continue carrying out future upgrades. The club identified it needs to improve the level of maintenance carried out on its pitches to enable continued growth and development.
- 5.2.7 **March Bears RFC:** The club plays at Elm Road Sports Ground. The site has a pitch with some floodlighting and a small to medium sized ancillary facility. The club did not have a representative present during the site assessment and have not taken the opportunity to complete the club consultation. According to web-based research the club operates a 1st XV and a 'Legends XV' that both play on the Elm Road Sports Ground site.
- 5.2.8 **Wisbech Grammar School:** The school operates 5 rugby pitches on its site. Each is of good quality and maintained to a very high level. The school currently does not have any regular community use for rugby. During consultation the school said that it would be open to being used as an 'over-flow' site should Wisbech RFC be unusable, but this would be heavily dependent on the school's needs and the condition of its pitches at the time of the request.

Key Facility Priorities

- Assisting Wisbech RFC to find solutions with the national trust to ensure they can continue to develop and grow.
- Engaging with March Bears to further develop their club either through the development of age group teams or a second XV.
- Where needed, utilise the excellent facilities at Wisbech Grammar School to help develop youth rugby in the Fenland area.

5.3 Supply

Quantity overview

5.3.1 There are five Rugby sites in Fenland located at Wisbech Rugby Club, Wisbech Grammar School, Elm Road Sports Field (March), Neale Wade Sport Centre (March) and Sir Harry Smith Community College (Whittlesey). There are no Rugby pitches located in the Chatteris sub area (Sub area 3).

5.3.2 Of these sites only two, Wisbech Rugby Club and Elm Road Sports Field (Home of March Bears RFC), are available and used of community use. The three remaining sites and their pitches are located on education sites that are not available for community use.

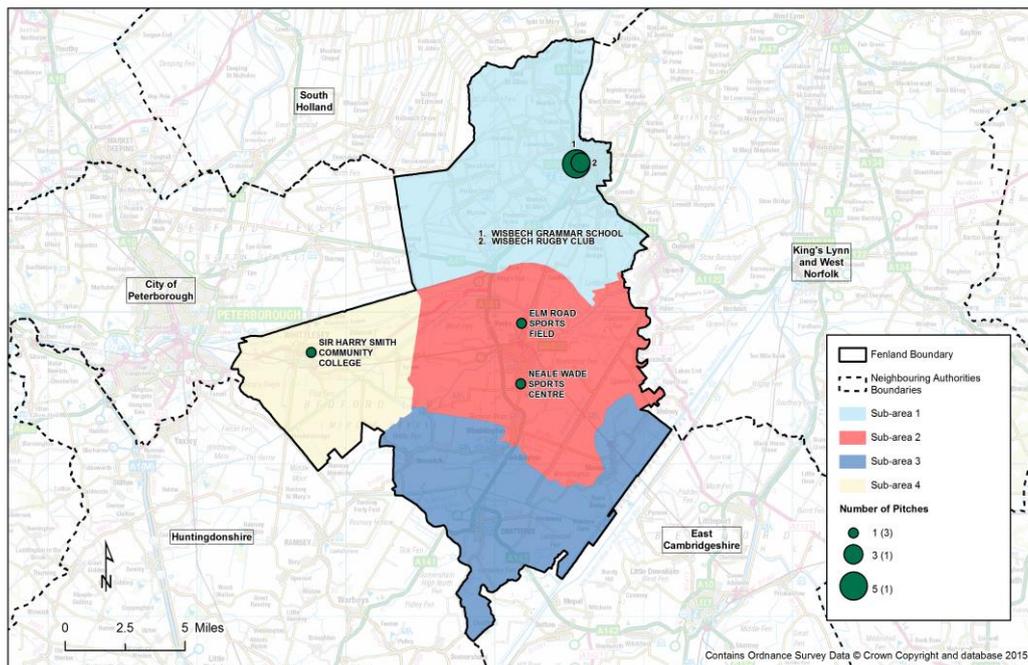
5.3.3 Table 5.1 below summarises the pitches that are provided in Fenland.

Table 5.1 – Rugby pitch supply in Fenland

Community use security	Number of pitches	
	Senior Rugby	Junior Rugby
Secured	5	0
Unsecured	5	1
Total	10	1

5.3.4 Map 5.1 highlights where Rugby pitches are located within Fenland.

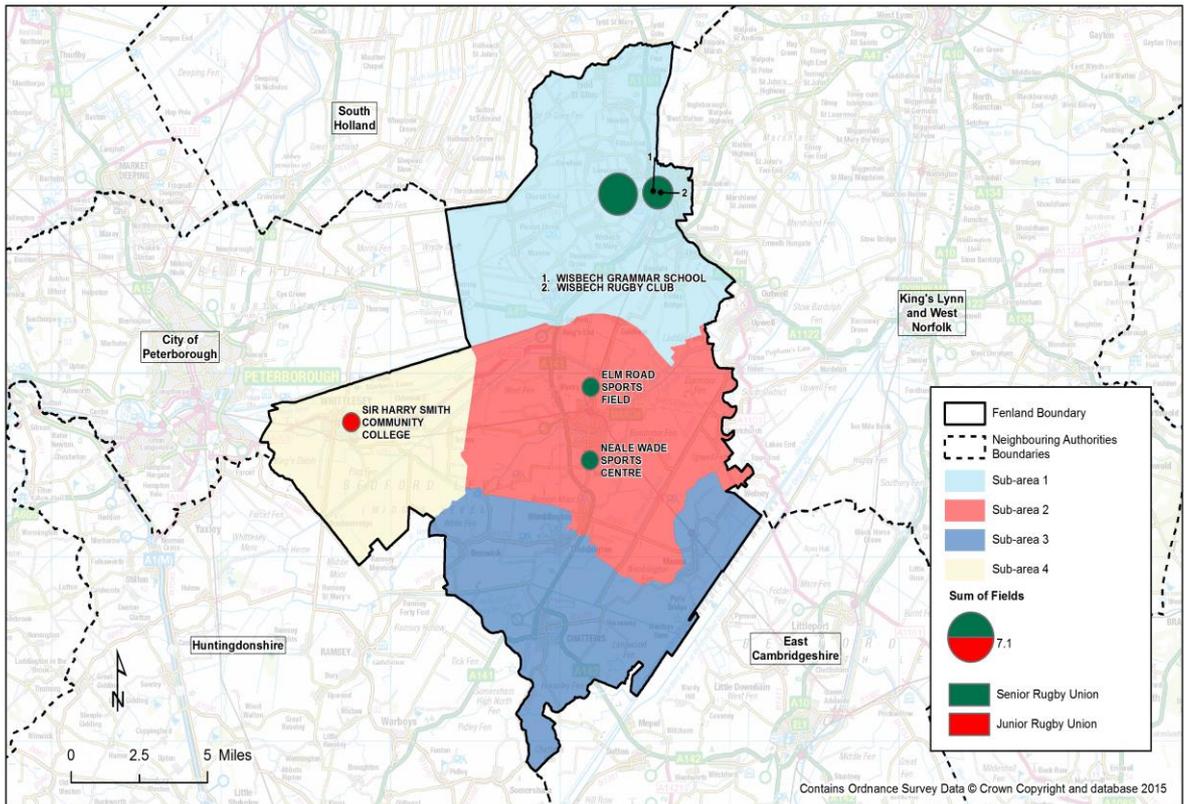
Map 5.1. Location of Rugby pitch sites in Fenland. Source 4 global site assessments



Rugby Union pitches in Fenland



Map 5.2 – Rugby Pitches in Fenland by Type. Source 4 global site assessments.



Rugby Union pitches by type in Fenland



5.3.5 Map 5.2 (above) illustrates the mix of senior and junior rugby pitches in Fenland. The only designated junior rugby pitch is located at Sir Harry Smith Community College in Whillesey (Sub area 4) which is not available or used for community use. Both Wisbech and March Bears RFC have junior rugby teams that will play matches and training on adult pitches with junior pitches marked out by cones.

Tenure and Management

5.3.6 Wisbech Rugby Club is the only significant rugby provision available to the community in the study area. The club faces some challenges as a result of having the National Trust as its landowner. Security of tenure on the site is largely dependent on a continuing good relationship with the trust. In consultation, the club reported that it did not feel any imminent threat to its usage of the site, but that the future development of their facilities and infrastructure rests largely on the decision made by the National Trust.

Quality Assessment

5.3.7 Each site (where access was possible) was visited and assessed by an independent assessor using non-technical assessments as determined by the RFU. The methodology for assessing rugby pitch quality looks at two key elements - the maintenance programme and level of drainage.

5.3.8 Each is scored and classified in one of three categories. These represent actions required to improve site quality. A breakdown for each of the two scoring elements and three respective categories is provided in the following two tables.

Table 5.2– Rugby pitch maintenance quality assessment specifications. Source: RFU PPS Guidance

Category	Overall Quality Rating
MO	Action requires significant improvements to the maintenance programme
M1	Action requires minor improvements to the maintenance programme
M2	Action requires no improvements to the maintenance programme

Table 5.3 – Rugby pitch drainage quality assessment specifications. Source: RFU PPS Guidance

Category	Overall Quality Rating
DO	Action on pipe draining system is needed on pitch
D1	Action on silt drainage system is needed on pitch
D2	No action is needed on pitch drainage

5.3.9 These scores are then combined to provide a match equivalent capacity, as calculated in Table 5.4 (Overleaf).

Table 5.4 – Match equivalent calculation for rugby pitches.

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

5.3.10 Table 5.5 summarises the quality assessment results.

Table 5.5 – Rugby Pitch Quality Summary by Pitch Type

Site Name	Type of pitch	Pitch maintenance score	Drainage Score	Pitch Capacity	Overall capacity of site
Sir Harry Smith Community College (Whittlesey sub area)	Junior	3 - Poor (M0)	D1	1.5	1.5
Neale Wade Sports Centre (March sub area)	Senior	3 - Poor (M0)	D1	1.5	1.5
Wisbech Grammar School (Wisbech sub area)	Senior	12.0 - Good (M2)	D1	3	15
	Senior	12.0 - Good (M2)	D1	3	
	Senior	12.0 - Good (M2)	D1	3	
	Senior	12.0 - Good (M2)	D1	3	
	Senior	12.0 - Good (M2)	D1	3	
Elm Road Sports Field (March sub area)	Senior	2 - Poor (M0)	D2	1.75	1.75
Wisbech Rugby Club (Wisbech sub area)	Senior	0 - Poor (M0)	D1	1.5	4.75
	Senior	0 - Poor (M0)	D1	1.5	
	Senior	2 - Poor (M0)	D2	1.75	

5.3.11 Sir Harry Smith Community College and Neale Wade Sports Centre were identified as having the pitches least capable of carrying match equivalents. Whilst neither of these pitches are regularly used for community this should be considered should the pitches be required as “overflow” pitches for the local clubs. This is especially important in the case of the Neale Wade Centre due to its close proximity to the Elm Road Sports Field where March Bears RFC are based.

5.3.12 Wisbech Rugby Club highlighted poor drainage across two of its pitches as a major concern. The limited resources of the club mean additional maintenance on its pitches is difficult. Artificial drainage was installed in the clubs’ first team pitch, which has had a significant and positive impact.

5.4 Demand

Current Demand

5.4.1 As part of the club consultation process Wisbech RFC and March Bears RFC were contacted to provide their demand data. March Bears did not respond and therefore were unable to supply any demand data despite several attempts by the project steering group and the RFU to contact them. Wisbech RFC, as the only other major club in the area, were contacted and highlighted the following key issues;

- The club has lost teams in its junior sections due to a lack of players.
- The club highlighted the need to improve the standard of drainage on the pitches, alongside increased pitch maintenance as the main facility development priority.

5.4.2 Table 5.6 shows the number of teams and match equivalents (demand only) in Fenland. Team data from March Bears RFC was collated from the club website.

Table 5.6 – Demand summary for Rugby in Fenland

	Adult teams	Youth teams (U11 and above)	Mini teams (U7 to U10)
Number of teams	6	5	4
Match equivalents per week (home games)	3	2.5	2

Future Demand

- 5.4.3 In order to calculate the future demand for rugby in Fenland, a Team Generation Rate (TGR) has been calculated using the current number of teams and the current population. This measure allows us to calculate what size of population (for various age groups) will typically cause enough demand for a rugby team.
- 5.4.4 This Team Generation Rate can now be applied to the population projections for the two local authorities to confirm how population growth or reduction will affect the demand for teams in each of the key age groups.
- 5.4.5 The current ratio for each of the population groups (e.g. what percentage of the current population is accounted for by the Males 19-45) is then used to calculate the total projected population for each of the age groups.

Table 5.7 – Future demand projections for rugby teams in Fenland. Source: 4 global demand consultations and 2012 ONS Population Projections

	Current pop. Within age group	Current no. Of teams	TGR	Future (2031) population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Mini/Midi (U77-12) - Mixed	7,092	6	1182	7,904.87	6.6	0
Junior Rugby – Male (13-17)	2,758	3	919.3	3046.16	3.3	0
Senior Rugby – Male (18-45)	15,987	4	3,996.75	16901.20	4.2	0

- 5.4.6 Table 5.7 illustrates that, in line with population projections for 2031, there will not be an increase in the number of Senior, Junior or Mini/Midi Rugby teams in Fenland.

5.5 Supply and Demand Balance

5.5.1 Table 5.8 illustrates supply and demand figures for rugby sites in Fenland which takes into account the carrying capacity of each Rugby site available for community (supply) and the amount of demand placed upon that pitch caused by team matches and training. The overall balance figure is the number of match equivalents per week each particular site currently provides taking into account midweek training and weekend matches which will be either positive, showing there is a surplus of provision and the site could accommodate more matches, or a negative, showing there is greater demand placed on the pitches than they have the capacity to currently provide.

Table 5.8 – Supply and Demand Balance by Club

Site Name	Pitch type	Quantity	Supply Capacity	Total Supply Capacity	Demand (Training Midweek Match equivalents)	Total Demand matches (Match equivalents)	Balance (Supply minus demand)
Elm Road Sports Field (March Bears RFC)	Senior	1	1.75	1.75	1	1	-0.25
Wisbech Rugby Club	Senior	3	1.5	4.75	8*	4*	-7.25
	Senior		1.5				
	Senior		1.75				

*This is based on some lighting solutions being available at each club. Wisbech RFC has movable arc lighting available for training midweek sessions (based on an equivalent of 0.5 matches floodlit) and March Bears have some low level lighting that is adequate for training but not for games). The match equivalents for the training and matches of midi/mini teams (U7-U12 age group), following consultation with the RFU, have been worked out as 0.25 match equivalents per week in order to take into account only half an adult pitch being used for training and matches.

5.5.2 The balance for Wisbech RFC indicates that it has insufficient supply of pitches to meet the current demand for Rugby at the site. The key reason for this result is the lack of pitches able to meet midweek (training) demand, which the club highlighted as being 22 hours of training across all adult, junior midi and mini Rugby. In addition there is minimal floodlighting capacity, only equivalent to 0.5 pitches, to allow midweek training to take place. To counter this lack of floodlit capacity, Minis, Midis and junior teams hold training sessions on Sunday mornings, rather than the more traditional midweek slots.

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- 5.5.3 March Bears RFC is identified as having a -0.25 negative balanced in match equivalents for their pitches at Elms Road Sports Field. Although no training data has been gathered from the club the assumption has been made that each of their adult teams train for at least 1 hour per week equating to a total of 2 hours per week which is 1 match equivalent.

5.6 Strategic Sites for Protection and Enhancement

- 5.6.1 It is recommended that both Rugby sites are protected as they;
- Have greater demand than supply, therefore creating latent demand that can increase participation if provision is improved, or
 - Are a major club in the area, with significant junior sections and a adult teams, or
 - Are placed in such a position that, should any be closed or moved, a large proportion of residents would not have access to a rugby club without significant travel.
- 5.6.2 With this recommendation of protection in mind, Table x provides further recommendations on potential areas of enhancement for each of the Rugby Clubs

Table X Strategic Rugby sites for protection, enhancement and provision in Fenland

Site Name	No. Of Pitches	Community Use category	Non-technical Assessment Score	Balance – Capacity for community use	Justification for Protection (PR), Enhancement (E) or Provision (PV)	
Wisbech RFC (Sub area 1)	3 Snr	Secured	M0/D1 x2 M0/D2 x1	-7.25	PR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This site is home to Wisbech RFC, the largest club Rugby club in Fenland. The site should be protected in the Local Plan.
					E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancing the level of drainage at the site would produce significantly better pitches, reduce cancellations and increase the carrying capacity of the site enabling the pitches to cater for a greater number of matches. Use of the 5 good quality pitches located at nearby Wisbech Grammar School (2 minutes drive away from the club) would help cater for junior match demand on weekends. There is currently no community use available but consultation with the school identified they would be willing to discuss opening access to the site as an overflow for the club. Improving the club’s resources for carrying out maintenance on the site would also improve the quality of the pitches, reduce cancellations and increase the carrying capacity of the club.

						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An additional option, to help cater for the mid week training demand, would be to use the floodlit 3G AGP at Thomas Clarkson Academy to accommodate some of the training demand. Thomas Clarkson Academy is located 7 minutes away by car from Wisbech RFC and is available for community use
					PV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing a greater level of floodlighting will enable the club to hold more training sessions in the traditional mid week slots, that may prevent the player loses the club has experienced in junior age groups. It is thought this would require significant consultation with the National Trust. Improvements to the ancillary provision would enable the club to increase its revenue form private hires and therefore make the club more financially stable (and possibly increase their resources for carrying out increased levels of maintenance). The site has open access to the public. During consultation the club highlighted the issue of littering, dog fouling and a significant problem with homeless drinking taking place on or near the pitches. The erection of perimeter fencing around the site would help prevent open access by the public and dogs

Elm Road Sports Ground (March Bears RFC)	1 Snr	Secured	M0/D2	-0.25	PR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site has a good rugby pitch and should be protected in the local plan.
					E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancing the drainage and maintenance on the site would lead to a greater carrying capacity of the adult pitch and therefore reducing the negative balance in weekly match equivalents. The Rugby pitch at Neale Wade Sport Centre is not used for community Rugby and surplus to provision. This pitch could be accessed by March Bears for weekend matches thus off setting the current demand placed on Elm Road Sports ground.
					PV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The provision of Floodlighting would mean that the club would have the capacity to host additional mid week training sessions.

5.7 Rugby Summary

5.7.1 A summary of the Rugby findings identified in section 5 are listed in table 5.9 below.

5.7.2 Table 5.9 – Summary of Rugby Findings for Fenland

➤ Rugby Summary Box
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ There are only two Rugby Clubs in Fenland, Wisbech RFC and March Bears RFC.➤ Wisbech RFC is the only multi-pitch rugby club in the area and is the only club in Fenland to operate a juniors' section of any kind. The club has 2 adult teams, 3 junior teams (U13-U17) and 6 midi/mini teams (U17-U12).➤ March Bears Rugby Club is the only other rugby club in Fenland and offers only seniors rugby and has two senior adult teams.➤ Team Generation Rate (TGR) projections taking into account future population increases in Fenland by 2031 identified zero growth in the number of adult, junior and midi/mini rugby teams.➤ Wisbech RFC has been identified as a priority club for the RFU and Eastern Counties Rugby Union (ECRU). The club has been identified through the ECRU facilities plan 2015-19 as a key investment priority for floodlighting due to the current provision, which is quantified as being 0.5 of a pitch.➤ The best quality pitches in Fenland are located at Wisbech Grammar School. The school does not currently have any regular community use on the site.➤ The pitch maintenance quality at Wisbech RFC has been assessed as poor across all of its three pitches. Only one pitch as good quality drainage (Pipe Drainage) the other two are naturally drained. The poor quality of the pitches impacts on the carrying capacity of the pitches and the amount of training and matches they can accommodate on a weekly basis.➤ Cancellations and lack of carrying capacity due to poor drainage and relatively low levels of drainage is a major barrier to progression identified by Wisbech RFC.➤ March Bears RFC has one adult pitch that has been assessed as poor maintained pitched but good quality drainage. The overall poor quality of the pitch impacts on the carrying capacity of the pitches for adult training and matches.➤ Wisbech RFC were identified as having pitches that were over capacity to cater for the amount of weekly demand placed on them by team training and matches. This equated to a negative balance of -7.25 match equivalents. A large proportion of this demand was caused by the 22 hours of weekly training recorded by the club by its adult and junior teams, the majority of which was taking place on weekends due to limited floodlighting to accommodate mid week training.➤ Improving the quality of the pitch maintenance on all three pitches and the drainage on two of the pitches at the club would help increase the carrying capacity for weekly matches and training.➤ Additional floodlighting at Wisbech RFC will allow for more training to take place midweek and therefore displace demand for the pitches on weekends.

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- Local Rugby pitches at Wisbech Grammar School could relieve some of the demand for the pitches at Wisbech RFC, in particular junior matches at weekends. During consultation, Wisbech Grammar said it would consider opening its site to Wisbech Rugby Club as an 'overflow' facility if required. However, this would only be in consideration for its own needs and priorities.
 - The floodlit full sized 3G AGP located at nearby Thomas Clarkson Academy could also provide capacity for the mid week training demand at Wisbech RFC.
 - March Bears RFC was identified as having a slight negative balance of -0.25 match equivalents per week. Improving and investing in the maintenance of their adult pitch will enhance the carrying capacity of the pitches.

6 Hockey

6.1 Introduction and Strategic Context

6.1.1 In order to understand the overall objectives and priorities of the England Hockey Board (EHB), an analysis of key recent strategies and documentation has been undertaken and summarised below.

The National Hockey Facility Strategy – The Right Facilities in the Right Places (2012).

6.1.2 The EHB published its facility strategy in 2012. The main points in this strategy relevant to the PPS are;

- EHB are looking to grow the sport by 10,000 adults and 32,500 children
- The EHB is looking to invest in support clubs, that are committed to what the EHB call their 'Single System' involving equal opportunities to access the sport for all, Club First accreditation, a commitment to sustainability and secure partner funding.
- As of 2011, hockey was utilising around two thirds of sand and water based AGPs in England, typically from September to April.
- The development of AGPs must be done on the basis of evaluating supply and demand balance, strategic considerations, and type, level and extent of use.
- England Hockey has a £2.2m capital fund to invest in facility development and enhancements.

6.2 Consultation Overview

6.2.1 This section summarises the consultations with England Hockey and key facility providers for hockey.

England Hockey

6.2.2 Consultation with England Hockey (EH) identified there are two clubs based in Fenland, Wisbech Hockey Club and March Town Hockey Club who use the AGP at Neale Wade Sport Centre. The key points for the clubs can be summarised as;

6.2.3 March Town Hockey Club

- Highlighted that the pitch hire was expensive for them at £46 per hour despite this price being inline with the average price for AGP hire per hour.
- They were also not happy with Football being played on the sand based AGP. Supply and demand analysis of football clubs identified

that 10 hours of midweek football training takes place on the AGP at Neale Wade.

- The club do not have a clubhouse at Neale Wade Sport Centre but share the ancillary at March Town Cricket Club situated nearby.

6.2.4 Wisbech Hockey Club

- Age and condition of the AGP is over ten years old and requires replacing. The club lost a significant number of games to the pitch last year due to very poor drainage. This has discouraged players, opposing teams, and potential investors and therefore is a key priority area of development for the club.
- The condition of the clubhouse is of poor quality with the lack of a suitably developed Kitchen meaning that the club is unable to cook food for match days resulting in a loss of potential revenue from bar and kitchen sales.
- The land, on which their pitch and clubhouse are based, is owned by the national trust/Harecroft Hudson Trust Committee, which places severe restrictions on any building and development plans.
- The club has received principle agreement from the national trust for a new changing block to be built behind the current clubhouse (as to not affect the view from the overlooking national trust building). This will enable the club to adhere to league standards RE: separate youth and adult changing rooms/officials changing rooms etc. However this does come with the issue of further restricting already inadequate car parking space. There are plans for the club to invest in the new changing block, with some potential investment/support to be provided by the Harecroft Hudson Trust Committee.
- The club has good links with England Hockey and has been expanding its club development initiatives via links with the Thomas Clarkson Academy where it has provided some club sessions at the school to encourage Hockey participation, as well as running junior training sessions on Saturday mornings.

6.3 Supply

- 6.3.1 Fenland has a total of nine AGP's within the district of these only three have the appropriate pitch size and type for Hockey which is sand dressed, sand filled or water based pitches. Sand dressed pitches are a preferred surface for hockey and only water based (not common and only usable for hockey) are better (Please see previous table 3.16 in the football section of the PPS for a complete list of all AGPs within Fenland).

6.3.2 The three facilities suitable for Hockey are Neale Wade Sport Centre in March (Where March Town Hockey Club are based), Wisbech Hockey and Cricket Club and Wisbech Grammar School.

Table 6.1. Sand based artificial pitches in Fenland suitable for Hockey

Site Name and Sub Area (SA)	Pitch Type (3G; Sand dressed; Sand filled; water based)	AGP Size	Floodlit	Built/Refurbishment/Age	Ownership	Community use category	Security of use	Pitch score
Neale Wade Sports Centre (SA 2)	Sand Dressed	100 x 60m 6000 sqm	Yes	1998/ 2011/ 3+ years	Education	Available for community use and used	Secured	73 - Standard
Wisbech Cricket & Hockey Club (SA 1)	Sand Dressed	100 x 60m 6000 sqm	Yes	1995/ 19+ years	Charity	Available for community use and used	Secured	45 - Poor
Wisbech Grammar School (SA 1)	Sand Filled	100 x 60m 6000 sqm	Yes	2003/ 11+ years	Education	Available for community use	Unsecured	73 - Standard

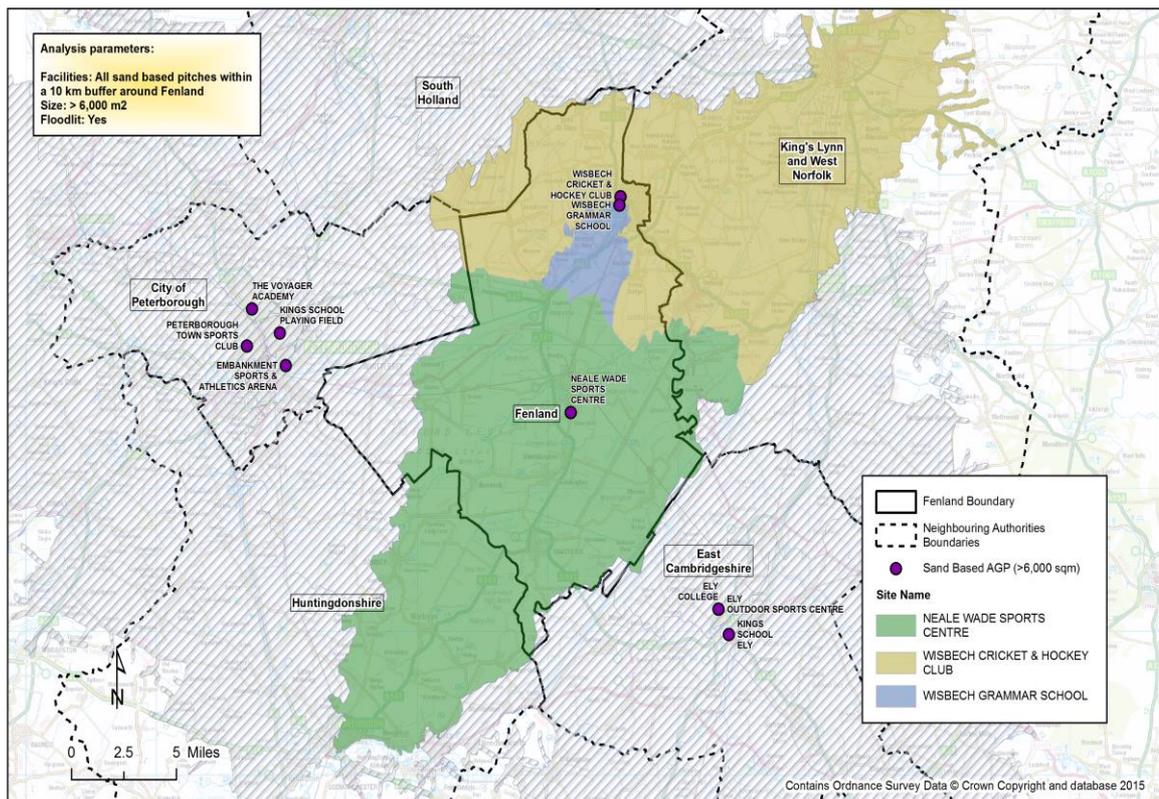
6.3.3 The following table, 6.1, provides a detailed breakdown of sand-based AGP pitches across Fenland. Pitches that have been identified as unsuitable for hockey have not been included.

6.3.4 Table 6.1. and information from the Sport England Facilities Planning Model FPM (May 2015) identifies that the Neale Wade facility was built in 1998 and has been refurbished in 2011, which involved replacing the carpet. Wisbech Hockey site was built in 1995 and Wisbech Grammar in 2003. Neither has any recorded refurbishment. Wisbech Hockey club site is therefore in need of a carpet replacement. Wisbech Grammar School would also be due a replacement carpet due to their 10-year average lifespan. If this work is not undertaken in the near future then there is a risk that these facilities will not be available for community use.

6.3.5 The above table also illustrates that none of the suitable Hockey facilities are under the control of the local authority and whilst as schools and a club site they are all deemed public facilities it would be advised to ensure that community use agreements are in place to secure community access into the future. Wisbech Grammar is an independent school and Neale Wade is now an Academy so both schools manage their operations completely independently of any Council direction so they are not obliged to offer community access. If these sites were not available for community use there would be significant issues for the delivery of hockey and wider activity in the area.

6.3.6 The location of the AGP's in terms of distribution shows that one is based in March and two are based in Wisbech. This means that in terms of direct provision in the district the other two main market towns and sub areas of Whittlsey (Sub-area 4) and Chatteris (Sub-area 3) do not have direct Hockey facility provision. Isolation however does not automatically justify a case for need; the Sport England FPM model (May 2015) highlights that 92.1% of demand for AGP's by Fenland is satisfied through the supply of facilities within Fenland and neighbouring authorities. The FPM also highlights that this figure is significantly higher than the National (81.9%), Regional (80.4%) and County (85.4%) averages and although the distribution of facilities is limited they are still accessible when applying a 20 minute drive time model catchment area around each facility. Map 6.1 below identifies the location and 30-minute drive time service area of sand based/filled AGP's within Fenland and the neighbouring districts that are suitable for Hockey, as illustrated by the purple and green dots. The map demonstrates that the whole of the Fenland population have access to a suitable full size Hockey AGP within a 30 minute journey by car.

Map 6.1. Fenland and neighbouring district Sand based AGP's 30-minute drive time service areas.



Sand based AGP's (>=6,000 sqm) service area (up to a 30 minute drive time)



6.4 Demand

Current Demand

- 6.4.1 There are only two hockey clubs in the borough as identified previously. Through responses to the online survey, the following hockey clubs have provided team numbers: Wisbech Hockey Club (9 teams) and March Town Hockey Club (5 teams). The AGP at Wisbech Grammar School was identified as being available for community use but was not being used by any community club at the time of this study. Consultation with the local Hockey club identified that the Wisbech Grammar School AGP had been used for some training in the past but there were access barriers as the school required a member of staff to be available so that the AGP could be made accessible outside of school hours.
- 6.4.2 The team profile and demand for pitches in the borough is summarised in Table 6.2 below

Table 6.2 – Team profile for Hockey in Fenland

CLUB NAME	ANALYSIS AREA	ADULT TEAMS			JUNIORS	TOTAL
		SENIOR MEN	SENIOR WOMEN	MIXED		
Wisbech Hockey Club	Fenland	4	3	1 (Cup team only)	1 (Sunday training team)	9
March Town Hockey Club	Fenland	2	1	0	2	5

- 6.4.3 The table above indicates that Wisbech Hockey Club is the biggest club in the district with the highest number of senior, mixed and junior teams. However, should the facility at Wisbech Hockey Club fall into a condition where it is no longer safe or suitable for matches or training, then a new AGP would be required that is floodlit, securely available to the community and the appropriate surface on which the play hockey.

Future Demand

6.4.4 In order to calculate the future demand for Hockey in Fenland, a Team Generation Rate (TGR) has been calculated using the current number of teams and the current population. This measure allows the size of the population to be calculated (for various age groups) to determine whether an increase in the population will typically cause enough demand for new hockey teams.

Table 6.3 – Future hockey demand for Fenland 2031

Age group	Current pop. Within age group 2015	Current no. Of teams	TGR	Estimated future population for Fenland 2031	Predicted future number of teams 2031	Additional provision needed to accommodate new teams
Adult – M (16-55)	24,187	6	4,031	25,124	6	0
Adult – F (16-55)	23,822	4	5,955	22,842	4	0
Juniors (11-15)	5,623	3	1,874	5,795	3	0

6.4.5 Table 6.3 illustrates that, in line with population projections for 2031, Fenland will require no additional Hockey teams. This is due to a relatively low population projection increase for the relevant Hockey age ranges for adults (16-55 year olds) and juniors (11-15 year olds).

Sport England Facilities Planning Model

6.4.6 The Sport England Facilities Planning Model (FPM, May 2015) for Hockey in Fenland identified the following.

- The total VPWPP (visits per demanded by the residents of Fenland is 431, in comparison to supply capable of providing 600. This provides a relatively significant oversupply of 169 VPWPP, or 39% of the total demand.
- Of the 431 VPWPP demanded 397 are modelled to be met by the supply both within Fenland and through facilities provided in neighbouring authorities. In % terms this equates to a satisfied demand figure of 92.1%.
- Of the demand that is met 92% of the visits were made by people travelling by car. This figure is higher than the National (89.8) average but slightly lower than the Regional (93%) figures. This highlights further the reliance on personal transport to get to AGP sites and with almost 18% of the community not having access to personal transport this does raise concerns.

- 34 VPWPP are not being met by the current levels of supply within the district or via facilities provided by neighbouring authorities. This equates to just 7.9% of the overall demand, which is significantly lower than the National (18.1%) Regional (19.6%) and County (14.6%) averages. The 34 equates to the equivalent of 0.05 of a pitch spread across the whole district, which is a very low figure.
- When analysing the individual facilities Neale Wade is deemed to be 100% full, Wisbech Hockey Club 82% and Wisbech Grammar School 72%. These estimates are superseded by the supply and demand balance captured for each site by 4global (See section 6.5).
- When taking into account the availability of the three pitches for community use in the peak period it was identified that 16 hours of hockey is available in the peak period (Saturdays and Sundays) on each site each week. These available community use hours concur with the data collected by 4global.
- Based on Fenland's population and demographic the demand is for approximately 0.6 AGP's. With a supply of 0.8 this results in an oversupply of 0.23 of a pitch across the district.
- Fenland is a net importer of activity of 111 VPWPP that does indicate that a number of neighbouring authorities have limited supplies. However, on the two Wisbech sites this does not appear to have caused major capacity issues with both sites identified as having spare capacity. The March site at Neale Wade is deemed to be 100% full in the Sport England FPM however the 4global assessment identified the site as having spare capacity which supersedes these findings (See section 6.5).
- Two of the sites (Wisbech Hockey Club and Wisbech Grammar School) have no recorded investment since they were originally developed, which concurs with the site assessments undertaken, and as a 1995 and 2003 facility they are likely to be in need of investment. If these facilities were not available for community use for any reason moving forward then there could be significant implications for Fenland residents accessing hockey opportunities.

6.4.7 These statements from the FPM further reinforce the need to ensure that community use agreements are formally clarified with Neale Wade Academy (for March Hockey Club) and that the required refurbishment of Wisbech Hockey Club's AGP is carried out before the facility becomes unsuitable for use.

6.4.8 In consultation, March Hockey Club raised the issue of too much football taking place at the Neale Wade Sports Centre AGP. The research undertaken by 4global supports this statement as a total of 20 hours of midweek football training was identified as taking place on the Neale Wade AGP from four separate Football clubs (see overleaf for further details).

6.5 Supply and Demand Balance

6.5.1 Table 6.4 illustrates supply and demand balances for Hockey sites in Fenland. The supply and demand balances are split into weekdays Saturday and Sunday, the numbers in the table below have been presented in the form of available hours. The demands for mid week training has been calculated on the basis that teams generally use half a full size AGP for training purposes.

Table 6.4 – Supply and Demand Hockey Balance by site

Site name	Weekday			Saturday			Sunday			Total Balance (hours available)
	Supply (Hours)	Demand (hours)	Balance	Supply	Demand	Balance	Supply	Demand	Balance	
March Hockey Club (Neale Wade Sports Centre)	20	2.5	+13.5	8	5	+3	8	0	+8	+28.5
Wisbech Cricket & Hockey Club	20	4	+16	8	9	-1	8	0	+8	+23
Wisbech Grammar School	20	2	+18	8	0	+8	8	0	+8	+34

6.5.2 Table 6.4 shows that there is a significant surplus compared to demand in the midweek training capacity for both hockey sites. However the above analysis does not take into account the impact of football on the current AGP's.

6.5.3 Analysis undertaken of Football clubs identified that both the AGP at Wisbech Hockey Club and Neale Wade Sport Centre are used by Football clubs for midweek training who benefit from the floodlights available at both sites. The AGP at Wisbech Grammar School was not used by football clubs for training.

6.5.4 20 hours of midweek football training was identified as taking place on the Neale Wade AGP linked to the following clubs:

- March Saracens F.C, 2 teams 1 hours each = 2 hours
- Estover Park Youth F.C. 4 teams 1 hour each = 4 hours
- Benwick Youth F.C, 2 teams 1 hour each = 2 hours.

- March Rangers Youth F.C, 6 teams 2 hour each = 12 hours

6.5.5 19 hours of midweek football training was identified as taking place on Wisbech Hockey Club AGP. This was linked to one team, Wisbech St. Mary F.C who have 19 hours of midweek training. Consultation with the NGB and the club identified that the Hockey club are happy with the current level of football training that takes place on the AGP as it a source of additional revenues for the club via pitch hire.

6.5.6 We have calculated football training demand as 0.5 for every hour of training based on the assumption that each football team would generally use half of the full size AGP for each hour of midweek training. This would equate to a total of 10 hours of football training impacting on the supply of weekday hours at Neale Wade AGP and 9 hours of weekday football training impacting on the supply at Wisbech Hockey Club.

6.5.7 Table 6.5 takes into account the impact of Football demand for the AGP's at Neale Wade and Wisbech Hockey Club.

Table 6.5. Supply and Demand Hockey Balance including Football use on AGP's and the impact this has on supply of available hours for Hockey during peak use

Site name	Weekday			Saturday			Sunday			Total Balance (hours available)
	Supply (Hours)	Dem and (hours)	Balance	Supply	Demand	Balance	Supply	Demand	Balance	
March Hockey Club (Neale Wade Sports Centre)	10	2.5	+7.5	8	5	+3	8	0	+8	+18.5
Wisbech Cricket & Hockey Club	11	4	+6	8	9	-1	8	0	+8	+13
Wisbech Grammar School	20	2	+18	8	0	+8	8	0	+8	+34

6.5.8 The table above demonstrates that there is an overall positive balance at all three Hockey sites in Fenland when Football demand is taken into account. Wisbech Hockey club are over capacity for matches on Saturday and should consider moving some matches to Sundays to cater for current and future demand generated by the addition of new teams. March Hockey Club expressed the desire to add one additional adult men's team and would have capacity to do so based on the above balance calculations.

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- 6.5.9 Both sites are recorded as showing a surplus of provision on Sunday. Consultation with England Hockey identified that the Hockey league currently stipulates all games should be played on a Saturday, which would help explain the demand for Saturday fixtures instead of Sunday's. The NGB also explained that this stipulation is currently being reviewed due to the demand it places on clubs to secure venues for Saturday fixtures.
- 6.5.10 The AGP at Wisbech Grammar school is used by Wisbech Hockey Club for midweek training. The AGP at the school is surplus to provision on the weekends and could be used to cater for the existing Saturday match demand of Wisbech Hockey Club.
- 6.5.11 The surplus in provision identified at Neale Wade Sport Centre contradicts the findings of the Sport England FPM Model that states the AGP is 100% full and cannot accommodate any additional Hockey usage. There are 18.5 hours of spare availability at Neale Wade sport centre during peak usage.
- 6.5.12 The FA have identified March as a priority area for a new full size 3G AGP. This addition to the area would create more 3G (football specific) supply in the area and as a result potentially free up peak hours availability on the Sand-Based AGP at Neale Wade for Hockey. However as there is currently surplus peak hours on the AGP at Neale Wade during midweek, Saturdays and Sundays there is sufficient capacity for the AGP to service any future Hockey demand from March Hockey club without the need of a 3G AGP to displace the current football demand on the site.

6.6 Strategic Sites for Protection and Enhancement

6.6.1 Based on the evidence collated in the PPS for hockey pitch provision, it can be concluded that there are certain hockey pitch sites in Fenland which, because of a combination of factors, are recorded as high value sites. The factors which contribute towards a site being recorded as a high value site include;

- Available for community use and used
- High quality assessment score
- Good security of tenure for user groups
- Provides pitches within an area where there is calculated to be a deficiency of pitches now or in the future

6.6.2 Table 6.6 provides a detailed analysis of each hockey site with a justification, if required, for Protection, Enhancement or Provision. Where applicable, these justifications will then be reflected in the Action Plan and site-by-site strategy.

Table 6.6 Strategic Hockey sites in Fenland for protection, enhancement and provision

Site Name	Pitch Type and Size	Pitch assessment score	Supply and Demand Balance for Hockey (peak hours available weekday and weekend)	Total Supply and Demand Balance including football use (peak hours available weekday and weekend)	Justification for Protection (PR), Enhancement (E) or Provision (PV)	
Wisbech Cricket and Hockey Club (Sub area 1)	Sand-dressed (100 x 60m)	45 - Poor	+23	+13	PR	As the only hockey appropriate AGP with formally secured community use, it is recommended that Wisbech Hockey Club AGP is protected and enhanced in order to ensure ongoing access to community hockey in Fenland
					E	<p>It is recommended that remodelling is undertaken of the existing clubhouse to accommodate a kitchen and enable the club to provide hot meals for matches and maximise revenues from visiting teams and community events.</p> <p>Wisbech St. Mary Football club use the Sand dressed AGP for midweek training (equivalent of 9 hours per week) contributing to the weekly demand and wear and tear of the AGP. Sand dressed AGP's are not an ideal surface for Football and it is recommended that the football. Consultation with the Hockey club identified that they are happy with the level of football being played on the AGP as it generates revenues for the Hockey club via pitch hire. It is recommended that relationships between the football clubs using the pitch and the Hockey club are maintained to enable a sustainable revenue stream.</p>

Site Name	Pitch Type and Size	Pitch assessment score	Supply and Demand Balance for Hockey (peak hours available weekday and weekend)	Total Supply and Demand Balance including football use (peak hours available weekday and weekend)	Justification for Protection (PR), Enhancement (E) or Provision (PV)	
						<p>Wisbech Grammar School is located in close proximity to Wisbech Hockey club but there are currently no arrangements in place to enable the Hockey club to access and use the AGP at the Grammar School. Although this is not a priority it is recommended that a relationship between the two venues could provide mutual benefit via the recruitment of new players for the club and sharing of coaching expertise with the school in order to increase and sustain participation for Hockey in the local area.</p>
					PV	<p>The age of the AGP is over 19 years old and in a poor condition and requires replacing. This will help to reduce the number of games cancelled and subsequent loss of revenues generated by visiting teams and families.</p> <p>The clubhouse changing block requires replacing. It is recommended that a new changing block is built behind the current clubhouse (as to not affect the view from the National Trust building). There are plans for the club to invest in the new changing block, which is supported by the National trust with some potential investment/support to be provided by the Harecroft Hudson Trust Committee. The approximate cost for facility improvements would be £300,000.</p>

Site Name	Pitch Type and Size	Pitch assessment score	Supply and Demand Balance for Hockey (peak hours available weekday and weekend)	Total Supply and Demand Balance including football use (peak hours available weekday and weekend)	Justification for Protection (PR), Enhancement (E) or Provision (PV)	
Neale Wade Sport Centre (March Town Hockey Club, Sub area 2)	Sand-dressed (100 x 60m)	73 -Standard	+28.5	+18.5	PR	The site and AGP should be protected in the local plan to secure the current and future development of Hockey in March and surrounding areas of Fenland.
					E	<p>The site is owned and managed by the school. It is therefore recommended that a long term community use agreement is put in place between the club and the school to provide long term security of tenure for March Town Hockey Club.</p> <p>The club use Neale Wade Sports Centre as their home pitch and have use of the pavilion on the March Town Cricket Club site for use as their clubhouse. The ramifications of any proposed developments would have to be ascertained from a hockey context to ensure that March Town Hockey Club continue to have access to the facility.</p> <p>There is a considerable amount of football played on the sand dressed AGP (equivalent of 10 hours midweek) from four different Football clubs. The provision of a new 3G full size floodlit AGP in the March area would help elevate the demand placed on the AGP at Neale Wade.</p>

Site Name	Pitch Type and Size	Pitch assessment score	Supply and Demand Balance for Hockey (peak hours available weekday and weekend)	Total Supply and Demand Balance including football use (peak hours available weekday and weekend)	Justification for Protection (PR), Enhancement (E) or Provision (PV)	
Wisbech Grammar School (Wisbec, Sub area 1)	Sand Filled (100 x 60m)	73 - Standard	+34	+34	PR	The AGP s on this site is owned by the school and available for community use but not currently used by community clubs. A current barrier for community use is need for the school to have a member of staff available out side of school hours so that the community can use the pitches on site. It is recommended that the AGP is protected in the local plan for the current and future development of Hockey in the area.

6.7 Hockey Summary

6.7.1 A summary of the Hockey findings identified in section 6 are summarised in the table (6.5) below.

6.7.2 Table 6.5 – Summary of Hockey Findings for Fenland

Hockey Summary Box
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ There is an overall sufficient supply of appropriate sized Hockey AGP's and clubs within Fenland to cater for the existing and future demand for Hockey.➤ There are three suitable full size sand based AGP's for Hockey in Fenland located at Wisbech Cricket and Hockey Club, Neale Wade Sport Centre and Wisbech Grammar School. Only Wisbech Cricket and Hockey Club and Neale Wade Sport Centre are available for community use and used by Hockey Clubs.➤ There are two Hockey clubs in the district, Wisbech Hockey Club (based at the namesake site) and March Hockey Club, based at Neale Wade Sport Centre.➤ Wisbech Hockey Club are the larger of the two clubs with 9 teams, March Town HC has 5 teams.➤ When taking into account Team Generation Rates (TGR) based on future population projections (2031) it was identified that there would not be a significant increase in adult or junior teams.➤ There are no suitable AGP's for Hockey based in the Chatteris (sub-area 3) or Whittlesey (sub-area 4), despite this 92% of the demand for Hockey in Fenland is satisfied by the current AGP's within the district and those in neighbouring authorities when applying a 20 minute drive time catchment area around each facility.➤ When analysing the supply and demand for Hockey AGP's in Fenland. It was identified that there is sufficient supply of appropriately sized and suitable sand based AGP's in the district to cater for the current and future demand for Hockey.➤ Both AGP's at Wisbech HC and March Town HC (Neale Wade Sport Centre) have a surplus in hours during peak time usage on weekday and Sundays. There is a surplus on Saturdays at March Town HC but a slight deficit at Wisbech HC.➤ Both sites are recorded as showing a surplus of provision on Sunday. Consultation with England Hockey identified that the Hockey league currently stipulates all games should be played on a Saturday, which would help explain the demand for Saturday fixtures instead of Sunday's. The NGB also explained that this stipulation is currently being reviewed due to the demand it places on clubs to secure venues for Saturday fixtures.

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- The AGP at Wisbech Hockey Club was built in 1995 and is over 19 years old and in need of refurbishment or replacement to prevent the existing provision from falling into a state where it is no longer usable, or further discourages local participation in hockey.
 - An alternative to replacing the AGP at Wisbech Cricket and Hockey club could be to use the appropriate Hockey AGP based at the nearby Wisbech Grammar School. The AGP is not currently being used for community use so has potential as an alternative location but securing a long term lease and community use agreement of the site by the club could be difficult to obtain.
 - Wisbech HC requires additional changing provision for weekend match days.
 - Wisbech HC are looking to significantly refurbish the interior of their ancillary, including a new kitchen to make the pavilion more welcoming to members and visiting players, gain revenue from external hires and attract new members.
 - The AGP use by March Town at Neale Wade Sport Centre has recently been refurbished in 2011.
 - March Town Hockey Club have no secure longstanding agreement for usage on Neale Wade Sports Centre's AGP and it is vital that a community use agreement is put in place to secure long term use of the site by the Hockey Club.

7 Additional Sports

7.1.1 As part of the PPS scope, the Council requested that the following sports are also included in the analysis for Fenland:

- Tennis
- Bowls
- Athletics
- Cycling

7.1.2 As these sports do not have a signed off guidance from the National Governing Body and Sport England, it is not possible to undertake a detailed supply and demand analysis as previously shown for the four key PPS sports.

7.1.3 The following sections therefore utilise Sport England data sources, as well as the results from a non-PPS club survey undertaken with clubs across Fenland and consultation with the National Governing Bodies.

7.2 Tennis

Supply

7.2.1 Fenland has 37 Tennis courts within the district and Tennis clubs located in and around the four major market towns. Table 7.1 below provides an overview of the Tennis sites in Fenland.

Table 7.1 Tennis Sites in Fenland. Source LTA.org and web-based research

Site Name	Sub Area	Access Type	Courts	Court Surface
Chatteris St Peter's Tennis Club	Chatteris	Membership	4	2x hard-court, 2x grass
Wisbech Tennis Club	Wisbech	Membership	3	Floodlit synthetic clay courts
March Tennis Club	March	Membership	8	Floodlit hard-courts
Manor Leisure Centre - Whittlesey	Whittlesey	Subscription	2	Floodlit hard-courts
Benwick Recreation Ground	Chatteris	Unknown	2	Grass
Leverington Sport and Social Club	Wisbech	Unknown	3	Hard-courts
Parkfield Sports Club	March	Membership	1	Synthetic grass
Neale Wade Sports Centre - March	March	Subscription	7	Hard-courts
LK Tennis Academy (Thomas Clarkson Community College) - Wisbech	Wisbech	Subscription	5	Floodlit hard-courts
Sir Harry Smith Community College - Whittlesey	Whittlesey	Unknown	2	Hard-court

7.2.2 Table 7.1 shows that there are at least two Tennis sites in each sub area that are available for the community to use. The largest Tennis sites are located in March at March Tennis Club, that has 8 courts that are floodlit, and Neale Wade Sport Centre, that has 7 courts.

7.2.3 A number of Tennis courts are located on school sites that include Neale Wade Sport Centre, Sir Harry Smith Community College and Thomas Clarkson Academy where the LK Tennis Academy is located.

7.2.4 Access to free courts is not widely available across the area, as most of the sites identified require the customer to take out a membership or subscription in order to use them. However, courts are available for one-off payments in March, Wisbech and Whittlesey.

Table 7.2. Ratio of Tennis Courts to Population of Major Settlements. Source: Cambridgeshire Population and Dwelling Stock Estimates: mid-2012.

Measure	Fenland		Whittlesey		March		Wisbech (Inc. Wisbech St Mary's)		Chatteris	
	Total	Floodlit	Total	Floodlit	Total	Floodlit	Total	Floodlit	Total	Floodlit
Tennis Courts	37	18	4	2	15	8	8	8	4	0*
Population	96,000		7,220		9,880		10,960		4,770	
Ratio of courts to residents	1: 2,595	1: 5,333	1: 1,805	1: 3,610	1: 659	1: 1,235	1: 1,370	1: 1,370	1: 1,193	1: 2,385 (should floodlights be granted)

*Bid to add floodlighting to 2 courts has been submitted.

7.2.5 Table 7.2 illustrates that there is relatively even distribution of courts across the study area with an average of one court to every 2,595 residents.

7.2.6 48% of the courts across Fenland are floodlit meaning one floodlit court to every 5,333 residents. Chatteris St Peter's Tennis Club are currently applying to add floodlighting to two courts. If successful, this would mean Fenlands floodlit court to resident ratio would improve to 1: 4,800 people.

7.2.7 March has the best court to resident ratio with one court to every 659 residents. March also has the best floodlit courts to residents' ratio.

7.2.8 Whittlesey is the town with the highest ratio of all the major settlements across Fenland. Two of its four courts are located on the Sir Harry Smith Community College site and access to these courts for local residents is unknown. However, the courts at the Manor Leisure Centre are recently resurfaced, floodlit and available for hire to all for £6.70 per hour

Table 7.3 Tennis court provision across the region.

Type	Fenland	Ipswich	Babergh	Mid Suffolk	Suffolk Coastal
Tennis Courts	37	51	22	26	35
Provision per 1,000 population	2.60	2.62	3.98	3.72	3.55

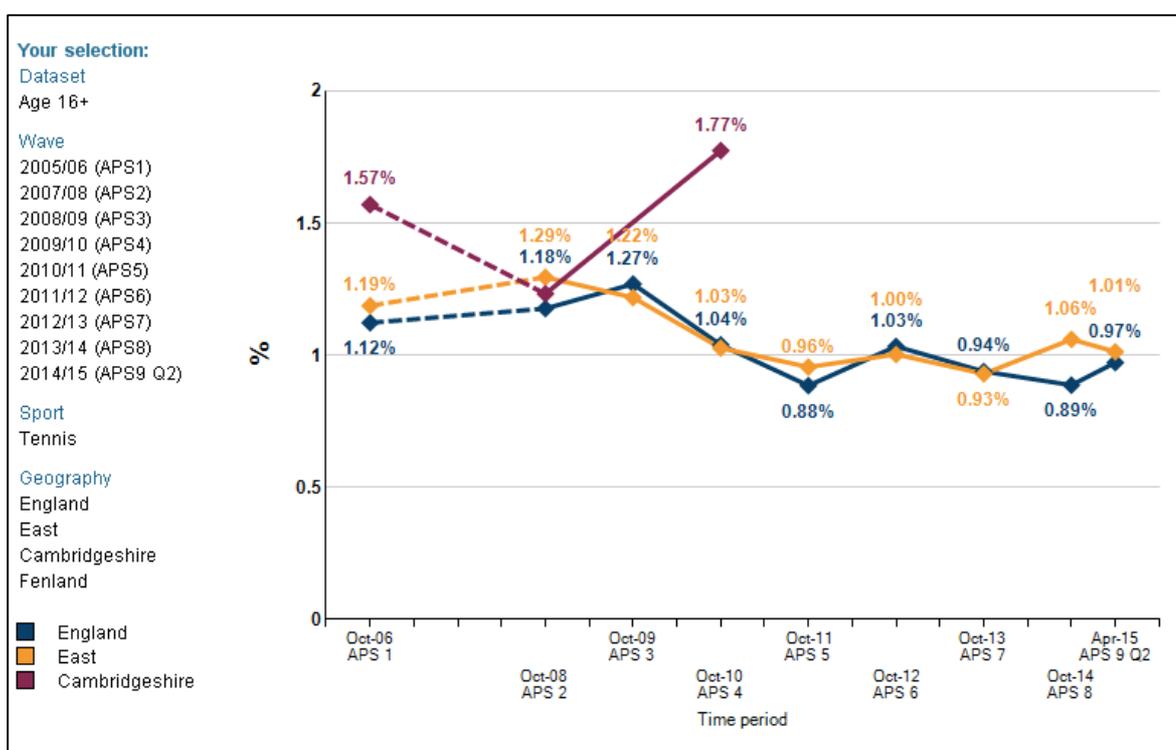
7.2.9 The table below demonstrates that, in terms of tennis court provision per number of residents, Fenland has a better ratio than many of the surrounding districts.

7.2.10 Fenland has similar ratios of provision to Ipswich, an urban area. In comparison to similarly rural districts, Fenland performs favorably with around 1,000 fewer residents sharing access to each court.

Demand

7.2.11 The most recent significant recording of Tennis participation in the region was captured by Sport England's Active People Survey, which identified that 1.77% of Cambridge residents over the age of 16 played tennis at least once per week for a minimum of 30 minutes in 2010 (APS 4). This was significantly higher than the regional and national average of 1.03 and 1.04%. Data for Fenland specifically was not available from Active People due to the sample size being too small therefore Cambridge has been used as the closest comparison.

Chart 7.1 Tennis Participation Trends 2005-2015. Source: Sport England Active People Survey: Residents aged 16+ taking part in a minimum of one session of at least 30 minutes once per week



7.2.12 Chart 7.1 highlights that there has been an insignificant sample size since the 2010 Active People Survey to provide an accurate Tennis participation percentage for Cambridgeshire, which is the closest comparison to Fenland. Since 2010 the regional and national tennis participation figures have seen a trend declining participation with a regional increase in 2014 to 1.06%. The absence of participation data for Cambridgeshire since the Active People 4 results would suggest that the county and local Districts, such as Fenland, would have also witnessed a declining trend in Tennis participation since 2010 alongside the regional and National trend.

7.2.13 Consultation was undertaken with the LTA to help provide a view on the levels of demand for tennis in Fenland and how well supply of courts is meeting current demand.

Consultation

7.2.14 The LTA did not see Fenland as an area of strategic importance. In terms of geographical areas of priority, the LTA are currently focusing on areas where there is high population and where there is evidence that there is a major need and a strong commitment from local authorities to support tennis delivery in park settings.

7.2.15 A key priority for the LTA is to increase access to recreational and easy-access pay and play courts, in line with trend in people not wanting to be tied into a club membership.

7.2.16 The LTA is currently prioritising its investment and development focus on trying to stimulate greater participation in park tennis – i.e. causal and not club-led tennis. It aspires to have a network of good quality and sustainable tennis courts with a proactive coaching programme in place.

7.2.17 The LTA are focusing on working with local authorities to increase public use of public sites for recreational/informal use and competitions e.g. Tennis leagues virtual leagues online.

7.2.18 Key products and interventions developed by the LTA as part of their Whole Sport Plan (2013-17) to attract and obtain new members are:

- Mini Tennis Programme.
- Cardio Tennis.
- Touch Tennis (mini tennis for adults).

7.2.19 The majority of courts in Fenland are provided by private members' clubs or leisure centres (pay and play). The lack of courts open to the general public indicates an incompatibility with the current LTA plan.

7.2.20 The LTA did not feel there is much un-met demand in Fenland, but acknowledged there is always some demand for indoor tennis. The closest indoor provision is located in David Lloyd at Peterborough plus Eastern College and a David Lloyd Cambridge and Hills Road High Performance Centre.

7.2.21 The LTA are focusing on funding projects that can be most readily used for growing the game especially targeting clubs wishing to add floodlights to courts. There are several funding schemes available for clubs and local authorities to help develop and improve their facilities.

Summary and Analysis

7.2.22 Table 7.4 below summarises the supply and demand analysis for tennis under the sub-areas of Quantity, Quality and Accessibility.

Table 7.4 – Summary of Tennis analysis for Fenland

Measure	Assessment Findings
Quantity	There is a relatively good level of provision with 37 courts across the study area. This ensures a good ratio of courts to residents, compared with neighbouring authorities
Quality	Due to the limited survey response from tennis clubs there was not a significant amount of data gathered to provide an overall view of the quality of Tennis courts in the District. During the consultation with the LTA, however the quality of courts was not raised as a major issue.
Accessibility	<p>There is adequate access to facilities in Fenland. This is especially the case for those participants who are prepared to pay memberships or pay and play at leisure centre courts.</p> <p>There is a short fall in free to use Tennis courts across Fenland. This could create a case to the LTA to invest in development initiatives around the main market towns to help increase the number of easily accessing facilities and reduce the barriers to entry of existing sites.</p>
Summary	<p>Provision requirements – needs and issues</p> <p>The council could consider the benefits of investing in the upgrading or reinstatement of tennis courts at local parks working in partnership with the LTA to increase the amount of casual/recreational Tennis being played outside of clubs and private facilities.</p> <p>Supporting bids from clubs to maintain and develop their facilities should also be seen as a priority as these are the main court providers in the area.</p>

7.3 Bowls

Supply

- 7.3.1 Fenland has 19 Bowling sites located within the district that are capable of supplying provision of the required standard for competitive Lawn Bowls.
- 7.3.2 Two of these sites, Benwick and Doddington, are currently out of use for competitive bowls. Both sites have not been used for competitive bowls within the last 2 years at least.
- 7.3.3 A further two sites, Wimblington and Guyhirn are also at risk of falling out of regular use due to a lack of players.
- 7.3.4 Table 7.5 shows the supply of bowling greens by town. It shows that both March and Wisbech are well supplied with greens. Whittlesey also has a good supply of bowls.

Table 7.5. Outdoor Lawn Bowls provision in Fenland by Town. Source: consultation with March and District Bowls League

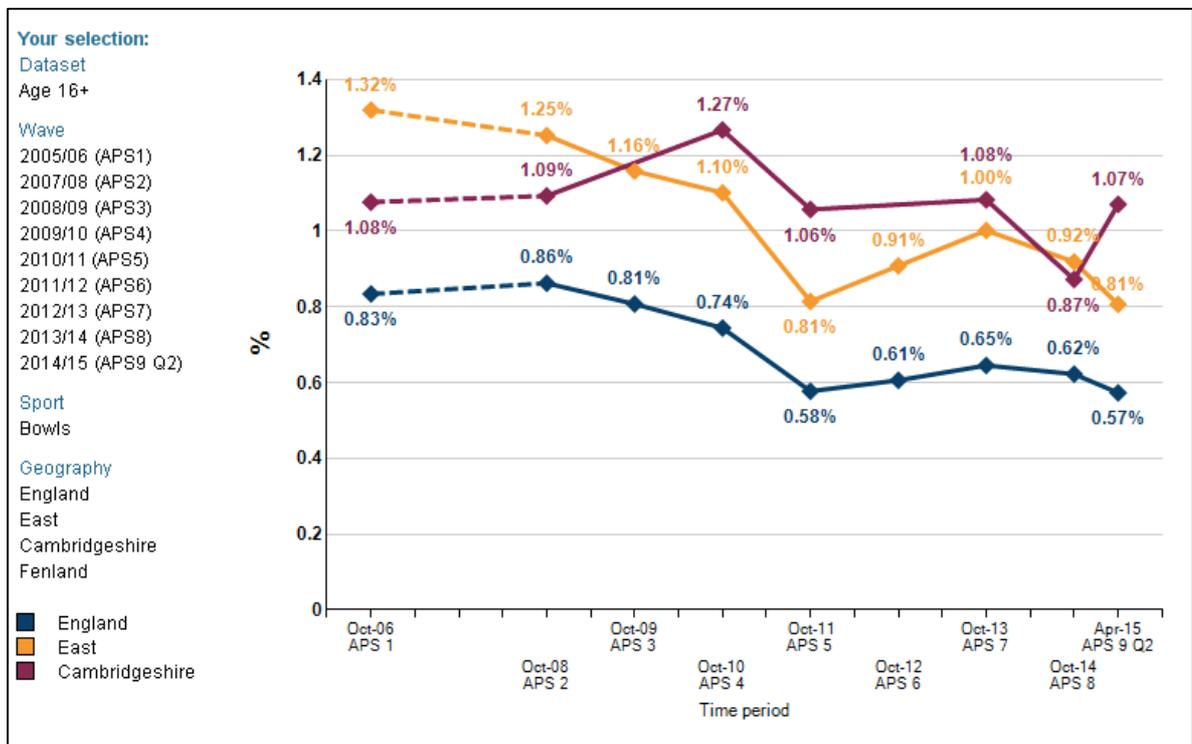
Town	Number of greens	Risk of Sites falling out of use	Threats
March	6	Low-Medium	Increasing average age of members
Wisbech	3	Low-Medium	Increasing average age of members
Murrow	1	Medium	Village based club with an increasing average age of members
Christchurch	1	Low-Medium	Village based club with an increasing average age of members
Gorefield	1	Medium	Village based club with an increasing average age of members
Whittlesey	2	Low-Medium	Increasing average age of members
Chatteris	1	Low-Medium	Increasing average age of members
Wimblington	1	High	Lack of players
Guyhirn	1	High	Lack of players
Benwick	1	Very High	No regular use
Doddington	1	Very High	No regular use
Parson Drove	1	Medium	Village based club with an increasing average age of members
Newton	1	Medium	Village based club with an increasing average age of members

7.3.5 The table shows that there is a good supply of bowls clubs across the area with multiple greens in the major towns. Further to this, Whittlesey, March and Wisbech all have large indoor bowls centres.

Demand

7.3.6 Chart 7.2 describes the trends in participation for bowls (1 x 30 minutes per week, Sport England Active People) across Cambridgeshire, the East of England region and Nationally. Active People Data is not available for Fenland due to the sample size being too small therefore Cambridgeshire has been used as the closest comparison.

Chart 7.2. Bowls Participation Trends 2005-2015. Source: Sport England Active People Survey: Residents aged 16+ taking part in a minimum of one session of at least 30 minutes once per week



7.3.7 This data indicates that 1.07% of people aged 16 and over that play bowls in Cambridgeshire at least once per week for a minimum of 30 minutes (data for Fenland is not available due to the sample size being insignificant). Bowls participation has declined year on year from 2010 to 2014 by c.0.21% following the national and regional trend but has seen a recent spike in participation since 2014.

7.3.8 Bowls participation in Cambridge for 2014/15 is almost double the national participation level (0.57% of people participate in bowls at least once per week across England). Cambridgeshire is also higher than the Eastern region, with 0.81% participation compared to Suffolk's 1.07%.

7.3.9 Lawn bowls demand in Fenland is serviced by three main leagues:

- The March and District League,
- The Wisbech Rural League
- The Banks League

7.3.10 Clubs based in Whittlesey play in the Peterborough League.

7.3.11 There are also numerous club competitions to satisfy demand for bowls.

Table 7.6. Bowls Clubs based in Fenland/

Clubs	Town	Greens
March Town	March	2
CMB	Wisbech	1
Murrow	Murrow	1
Christchurch	Christchurch	1
GER	March	1
Upwell	Upwell	1
Gorefield	Gorefield	1
Wimblngton	Wimblington	1
Guyhirn	Guyhirn	1
Upwell Park	March	1
March Conservatives	March	1
Alexandra Road	Wisbech	1
Braza	March	1
Benwick	Benwick	1
Doddington	Doddington	1
Chatteris Town	Chatteris	1
Whittlesey Town	Whittlesey	1
Whittlesey Manor	Whittlesey	1
Newton	Newton	1
Parsons Drove	Parsons Drove	1

**This is based on limited consultation with the March and District League and web-based research. It is not an exhaustive audit but provides an indication of the rough demand for competitive bowls from the clubs.*

Consultation

7.3.12 Consultation was carried out with a representative from the March and District League. This league represents one of the main leagues servicing bowls in Fenland.

7.3.13 The main outcomes from this consultation highlighted that demand for bowls in Fenland is declining. Evidence for this is in reduction of clubs being able to field teams consistently in the league. This would concur with the Sport England Active People Data showing a year on year decline in participation.

7.3.14 The March and District League has reduced in size from 20 teams to just 16 over the last 5 years. The league felt that Guyhirn and Wimblington would be the most 'at risk' clubs in terms of falling out of the league.

7.3.15 The main issues highlighted by the league were:

- The increasing average age of players and members at clubs
- The lack of a volunteer pipeline to help run clubs and leagues
- The absence of younger players being attracted to the sport
- The increased demand for housing threatening some greens

7.3.16 The league felt that the standard of most greens in the area were quite high and good enough to continue playing competitive bowls upon.

7.3.17 Although the greens are mainly in good condition, the ancillary facilities available at many clubs were considered to be of a lower standard. Several clubs are currently applying for grants to improve the standard of their bowls club.

Summary and Analysis

7.3.18 In terms of provision, bowls in Fenland is well catered for with many small sized populations having good access to a bowling green of decent standard.

7.3.19 Results from the consultation with the March and District League indicate that Fenland, much like the rest of the country, is facing a sharp decline in participation, is failing to attract younger players to the sport, is seeing an increase in the average age of its players and is failing to replace volunteers to run clubs and competitions.

7.3.20 Clubs have identified better ancillary facilities might be away of attracting people to their sport and keeping them there. As a result, several clubs from the area have submitted grant applications to refurbish or extend their ancillary facilities.

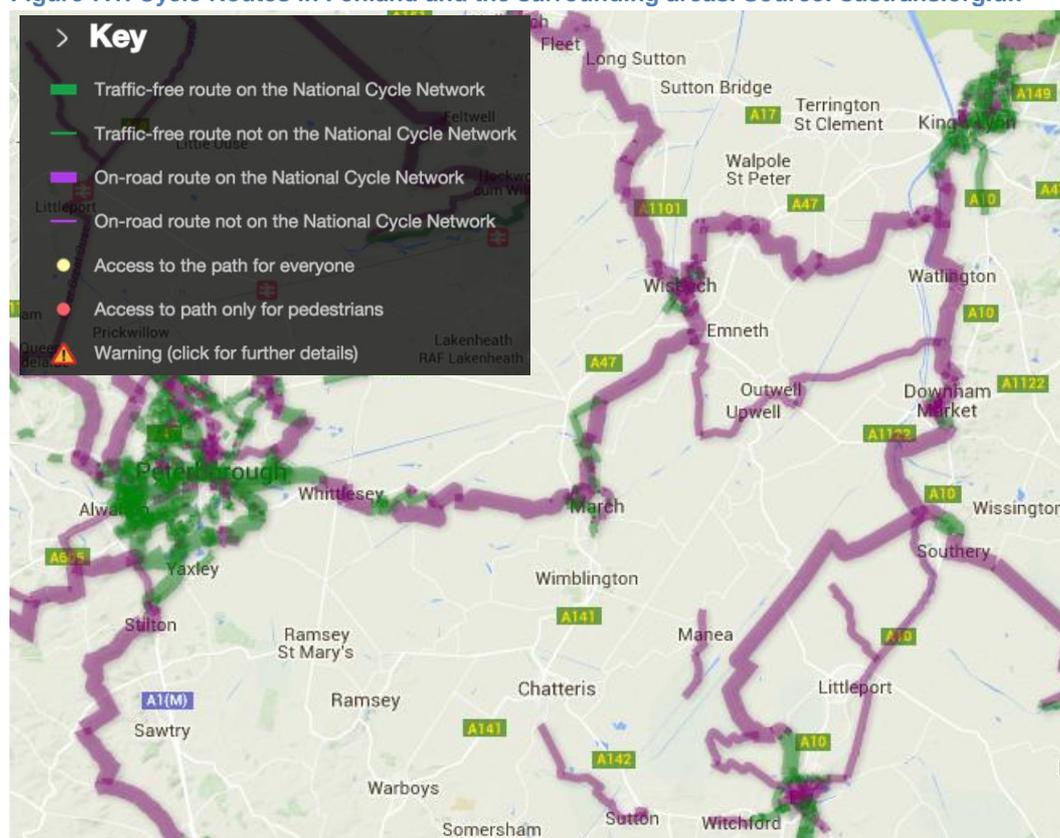
7.4 Cycling

Supply

7.4.1 Fenland is considered highly suitable for cycling. This reputation comes by virtue of the district's flat topography, relatively quiet road-traffic and picturesque scenery.

7.4.2 The figure below shows the distribution of cycle appropriate routes in Fenland and the surrounding areas.

Figure 7.1. Cycle Routes in Fenland and the surrounding areas. Source: sustrans.org.uk



7.4.3 Figure 7.1 shows that major routes of the national cycling network (NCN) that pass through Fenland. These include:

- Route 63, which runs from Burton on Trent to Wisbech. This passes through Fenland for 23.7 miles. The route enters/exists in the west of the district and travels through Whittlesey and March. Route 63 terminates in Wisbech.
- The North Sea Cycle route, which goes from Dover to the Shetland Island, passes through Fenland for 5.6 miles. The route comes into Wisbech from the northwest before continuing north via Leverington and Tydd Gote.

- 7.4.4 In addition to the two cycle routes referred to above there are additional “local”, on-road routes that do not form part of the NCN. These routes can be seen in Figure 7.1. The major routes noted in Figure 7.1 run south of Chatteris towards Sutton, from Welches Dam to Manea train station and south from Wisbech toward Upwell and Outwell before heading east out of the district toward Downham Market.
- 7.4.5 Figure 7.1 illustrates that the non-traffic cycle paths are concentrated in or near to the major market towns of Whittlesey, March and Wisbech. Such a distribution indicates there is a gap in this distribution around Chatteris.
- 7.4.6 There are other cycle routes available to residents in Fenland that are not included in Figure 7.1. These are used by local residents and cycling clubs. These routes utilise local roads. A sample of these routes is listed in the table below

Table 7.7 Popular Road Cycle Routes in Fenland. Source: Cycle-routes.com

Route Name	Route Length (miles)	Major Settlements passed through
Benwick to Ramsey Hollow figure of '8'	14.5	Benwick - Ramsey Forty Foot - Ramsey
March to Outwell Loop	28.2	March – Wimblington – Christchurch – Upwell – Outwell – Friday Ridge - Coldham - March
Wisbech to Walpole St Peter Loop	11.92	Wisbech – West Walton – Walpole St Peter – Walton Highway – Wisbech
Whittlesey to Doddington Loop	27.87	Whittlesey – Pondesbridge – Ramsey Forty Foot – Wimblington – Benwick – Eastrea – Whittlesey

- 7.4.7 Given the lack of long non-traffic routes in Fenland it is recommended to encourage greater use of the above and similar routes to help increase active travel and recreational cycling that in turn will impact on improving levels of participation in sport and physical activity for Fenland residents. Fenland District Council could therefore take steps toward the installation of dedicated cycle lanes and awareness/warning signs to road-traffic along popular routes to maximize cyclist safety, as well as keeping the road surface in a suitable condition to encourage cycling participation.

7.4.8 Such measures fit into existing strategies being adopted in Fenland such as the Wisbech 'Ditch the Car' project, the 'Balanceability' classes offered by FDC and the 'Campaign on cyclist safety' being managed by the Fenland Youth District Council.

7.4.9 The 'Jubilee Tree' junction on Herecroft Road in Wisbech has been repeatedly mentioned as a particular danger spot for cyclists.

NGB Consultation

7.4.10 British Cycling highlighted that there is a general trend of an increase in Cycling participation (1 x 30 minutes per week) across England.

7.4.11 Fenland Clarion Cycling Club and Peterborough Cycling club were identified as the key clubs in the area. Fenland Clarion Cycling club has an under 16 junior section and actively develops junior cycling.

7.4.12 The NGB highlighted that the majority of Cycling in Fenland is road Cycling. There are no purpose built Cycling facilities or Velodrome in the area. A purpose built Velodrome would also be a low priority for Fenland due to the low population density of the District.

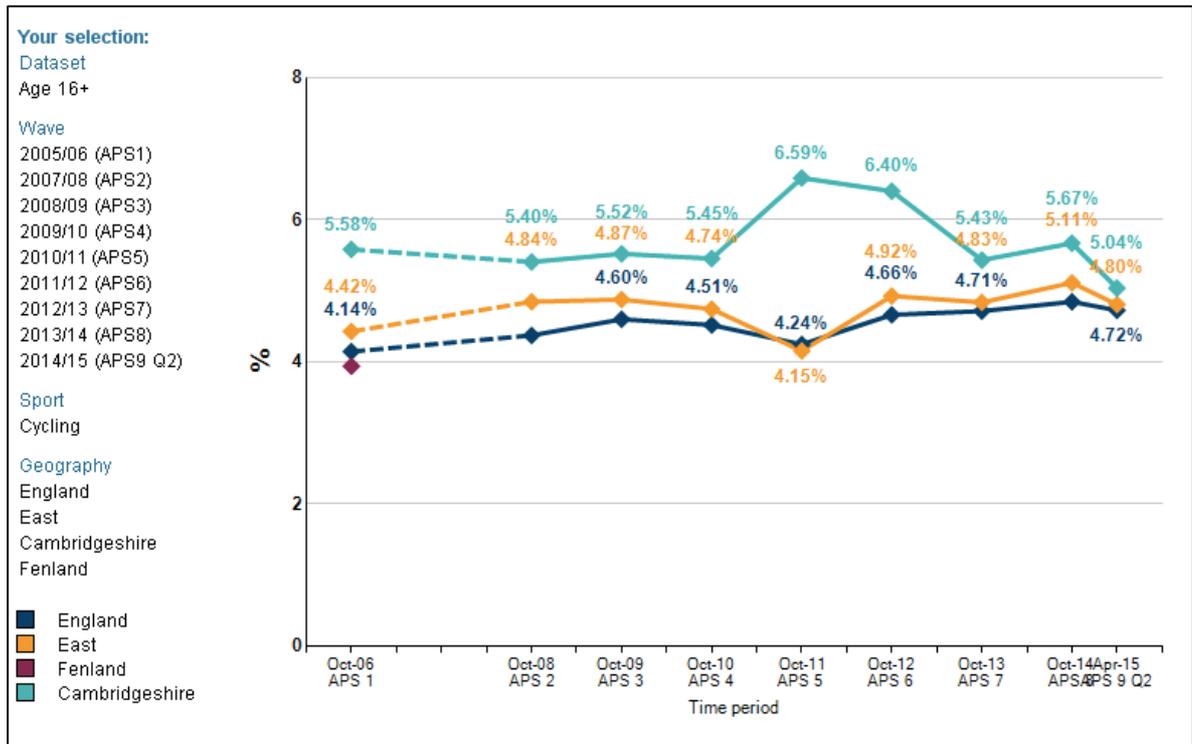
7.4.13 Discussions have taken place with Fenland District Council and Peterborough District Council on a closed road circuit but no plans have yet to be put in place or implemented.

Demand

7.4.14 Data (2014/15) published by Sport England's Active People Survey indicates that 5.04% of Cambridge residents over the age of 16 cycle at least once per week for a minimum of 30 minutes (data for Fenland is not available due to the sample size being insignificant).

7.4.15 Chart 7.3. (overleaf) demonstrates how cycling participation in Cambridgeshire compares with that the regional and national levels.

Chart 7.3. Participation Trends 2005-2015. Source: Sport England Active People Survey: Residents aged 16+ taking part in a minimum of one session of at least 30 minutes once per week



7.4.16 The regular participation rate for cycling in Cambridgeshire of 5.04% is significantly higher than the rest of the region (4.8%) and the rest of the country (4.72%).

7.4.17 Cycling participation in Cambridgeshire grew considerably between 2006 and 2011 compared to the national and regional average. In 2011 6.50% of the Cambridge population Cycled at least once a week compared to the national (4.24%) and regional average (4.15%). Since 2011 however Cycling participation has seen a decline to a level in line with the national and regional averages.

Club Activity

- 7.4.18 Wisbech Wheelers are the major cycling club in Fenland. The club has between three and four sessions per week and offers group cycling and time-trials for all abilities. The club meets in Wisbech before beginning its rides on Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays.
- 7.4.19 Fenland Clarion Cycling Club was also identified by the NGB as a key club in the area.
- 7.4.20 Wisbech Wheelers are the only established Cycling club in Fenland. Chatteris Cycling Club and March Cycling Club are registered on physical activity app Strava and use Twitter and other social media to make local residents aware of their presence. Both have received coverage from local media indicating a growing presence but are not yet established.
- 7.4.21 Fenland exports much of its cycling demand to large clubs such as Peterborough Cycling Club, CTC Peterborough, Fenland Clarion Cycling Club (near Peterborough), Ely and District Cycling Club and Kings Lyn Cycling Club. These clubs are long established and have many members

Summary and Analysis

- 7.4.22 The high local activity in cycling activity within the district and the provision of key clubs such as Fenland Clarion and Wisbech Wheelers indicate that cycling in Fenland is a key participation sport within the district.
- 7.4.23 The establishment and growth of two new cycling clubs in the area (Chatteris Cycling Club and March Cycling Club) also indicates that demand is growing for formal cycling within the district with a concentration around the main market towns.
- 7.4.24 Due to the nature of the sport, much of participation takes place on an informal or individual basis and cannot be captured in club demand alone. This however is a good thing from an overall council priority of increasing people's levels of sport, physical activity and health due to Cycling having low barriers to entry for new participants with no restrictions on location, time or facilities and relatively low equipment costs.
- 7.4.25 The presence of two major arteries of the National Cycling Network (NCN), plus several additional non-traffic routes, means that cyclists in Fenland have established provision across the borough. However, there is an absence of such routes in the south of the district.
- 7.4.26 The presence of several established or commonly used cycling circuits within the borough further indicates the use of Fenlands roads for cycling.

7.4.27 Fenland District Council should ensure that its roads, especially those commonly used by cyclists, should have dedicated cycle lanes where possible and ensure signage and road markings are present to help increase cyclist safety and encourage more people to cycle. Furthermore, the surfaces of these roads should be maintained to be adequate for the purposes of road cycling. Such steps are expected to preserve or even increase current cycling participation rates within Fenland.

7.5 Athletics

Supply

7.5.1 There are no permanent cinder, grass or synthetic athletic tracks in the study area.

7.5.2 There are synthetic athletics tracks located in Cambridge and Peterborough.

7.5.3 There is a "J Track" located in March

7.5.4 There is a limited supply of formal athletic events organised within Fenland. Regular annual events run in (or running through) the borough include:

- **The Hereward Relay:** Beginning in Peterborough, the race is formed by a staged relay, with two of the stages taking place in Fenland.
- **March Spud Run:** Starting from the Elm Road Sports Field, this 5-mile event takes place off road.
- **The Frostbite League:** A series of six "closed" running races for senior and junior runners from 16 road-running clubs based mainly around the Peterborough area including 2 based in Fenland (March Athletics Club and Fenland Running Club). The races are staged between October to March. Each of the 6 races is hosted by one of the participating clubs. Currently, March Athletics Club hosts one of these races.

7.5.5 In addition to these races, March Athletics Club, Sport Chatteris Jogging Club and Fenland Running Club provide organized training sessions and internal events for their members,

7.5.6 In addition to these races, there are additional events provided outside of Fenland District. These include (but not limited to):

- **Park Run:** 5 km races organized by local volunteers. Park Run commenced in Fenland in February 2016 based in March. Outside of

Fenland the closest Park Run events are based in Peterborough, Cambridge, Huntingdon and Kings Lynn.

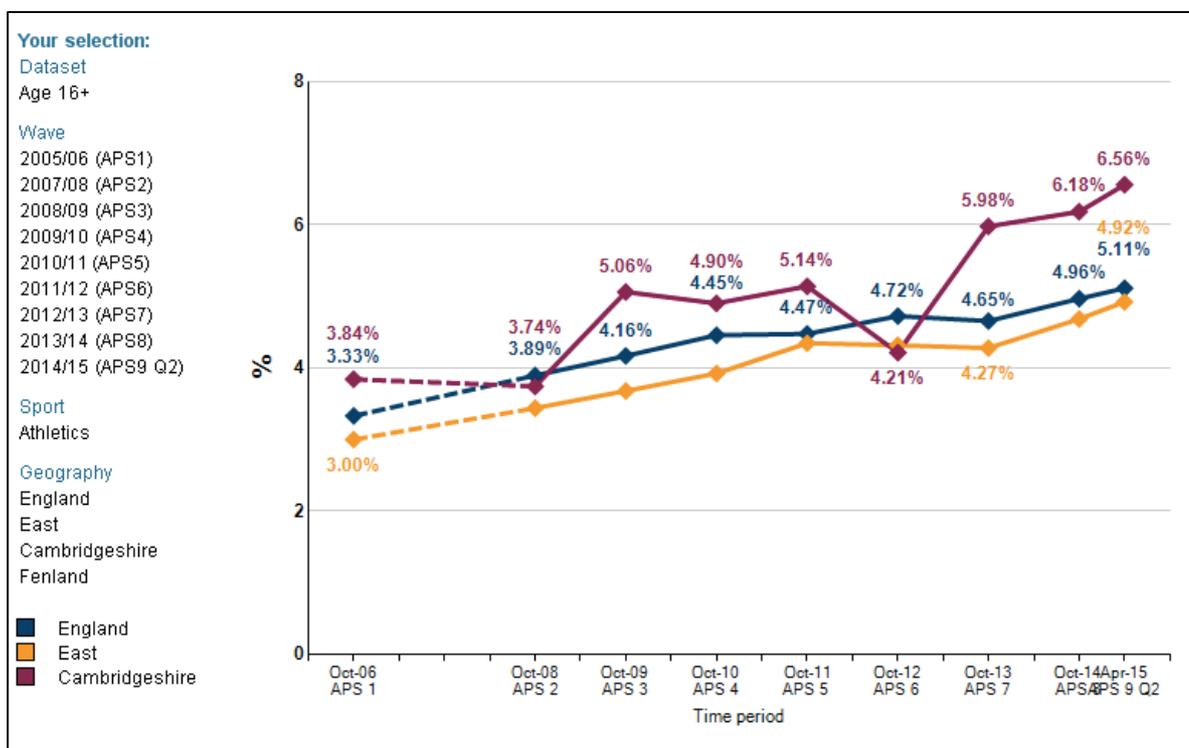
- **Fen 10:** Starting in West Walton, this is a 10mile circuit
- **Grand East Anglia Run:** 10km race around Kings Lynn.
- **Perkins Great Eastern Run:** Half marathon race around Peterborough
- **Cambridge Half Marathon:** Half marathon course around Cambridge.
- **Town and Gown:** 10 km race held in Cambridge.
- **Grafham Water Marathon:** Huntingdon Marathon.
- The Birketts Round Norfolk Relay: 24hr multi-stage relay race.

Demand

7.5.7 In consultation with England Athletics, it was confirmed that participation rates in Fenland were below the regional and national level.

7.5.8 Data (2014/15) published by Sport England's Active People Survey indicates that 6.56% of Cambridgeshire residents over the age of 16 participate in athletics at least once per week for a minimum of 30 minutes (data for Fenland is not available due to the sample size being insignificant). This is higher than both the regional and national rates of 4.92% and 5.11% respectively.

Chart 7.4. Participation Trends 2005-2015. Source: Sport England Active People Survey: Residents aged 16+ taking part in a minimum of one session of at least 30 minutes once per week



7.5.9 Cambridge has matched the considerable increase in both regional and national participation rates in athletics. Active People Data shows that participation in athletics has grown by 70% over the past decade. This compares to a 64% increase regionally and 53.45% increase nationally.

7.5.10 Unlike the regional and national participation rates that have continuously increased since 2005/6, Cambridge has seen a decrease in participation rates in athletics in 2012 followed by a sharp increase in 2013.

Club Activity

7.5.11 As mentioned above there are three major athletics clubs in Fenland:

- March Athletics Club:** A well established club, this club trains two or three times a week with casual training on Sundays for all standards and speed training on Tuesdays or Thursdays for more serious runners. The club competes regularly in the Hereward Relay, Norfolk Round, March 'Spud' Run and the Frostbite league (in which it hosts one event). The club also runs an internal 5km club championship. The club operates out of Elm Road Sports Field.

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- **Fenland Running Club:** An established, England Athletics Affiliated club, Fenland were formed in 1992 from an amalgamation of Emfield Joggers and Wisbech Athletic Club. The club is based in Wisbech and meets at Wisbech Rugby Club. The club has four ability groups that people can choose to run with depending on their running ability. The club regularly enters various local events including the Norfolk Round, Hereward and Peterborough Relays and the Frostbite league and other internal and social events. The club meets twice per week on Tuesday and Thursday nights and caters for all abilities.
 - **Sport Chatteris Jogging Club:** Established in 2011, Chatteris is less well established than the other two clubs. The club has competed regularly at numerous local events including the Great Eastern Run, March 'Spud' Run and various half marathons and 10km races across the region. The club runs training for all abilities out of the King Edward Centre in Chatteris every Tuesday evening.
 - **Thorney Running Club:** The club has been established for over 25 years and is based in Thorney and the neighbouring village of Whittlesey at Manor Leisure Centre. The club provides training on Monday, Wednesday and Sundays at Manor Leisure centre providing running for both adults and juniors.

NGB Consultation

7.5.12 The consultation with England Athletics identified that Fenland is not a priority area for the NGB as their priority is to target areas which host core cities in England such as London and Manchester.

7.5.13 The consultation revealed that clubs in Fenland would be eligible to benefit from the satellite club funding scheme and the capital funding scheme (although access to the latter is considered limited).

Summary and Analysis

7.5.14 Participation rates for athletics in Cambridgeshire have grown by 70% over the past ten years showing a continuous upwards trend in participation since 2005 (Sport England Active People Survey, 2005/2015) with participation rates exceeding regional and national averages.

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- 7.5.15 England Athletics whole sport plan priorities (2013-17) have a focus on investment and development of Athletics clubs and events within major cities and therefore have not identified Fenland as a priority area for development. Despite this England Athletics provide continued club and coach development support and Satellite club and capital funding is available for clubs to apply for.
- 7.5.16 The residents of Fenland have numerous open and closed (formal) events in which to compete. Fenland is a participant exporter as only one formal athletics event takes place wholly within the study area. This means participants must travel to compete in formal events.
- 7.5.17 There are four main clubs based in Fenland within the market towns of March (March Athletics Club), Wisbech (Fenland Running Club), Chatteris (Chatteris Jogging Club) and Whittlesey (Thorney Running Club, based at Manor Leisure Centre as well as Thorney in Peterborough). All clubs provide structured and recreational running provision and cater to the needs of multiple levels of commitment and ability.

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- Participation rates for athletics in Cambridgeshire have grown by 70% over the past ten years showing a continuous upwards trend in participation since 2005 (Sport England Active People Survey, 2005/2015). Participation rates however remain below regional and national levels.
 - England Athletics whole sport plan priorities (2013-17) have a focus on investment and development of Athletics clubs and events within major cities and therefore have not identified Fenland as a priority area for development. Despite this England Athletics provide continued club and coach development support and Satellite club and capital funding is available for clubs to apply for.
 - The residents of Fenland have numerous open and closed (formal) events in which to compete. Fenland is a participant exporter as only one formal athletics event takes place wholly within the study area. This means participants must travel to compete in formal events.
 - There are four main clubs based in Fenland within the market towns of March (March Athletics Club), Wisbech (Fenland Running Club), Chatteris (Chatteris Jogging Club) and Whittlesey (Thorney Running Club, based at Manor Leisure Centre as well as Thorney in Peterborough). All clubs provide structured and recreational running provision and cater to the needs of multiple levels of commitment and ability.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS / ACTION PLAN

8.1 Overview

- 8.1.1 The provision of a network of high quality and accessible facilities will contribute to the overall priority for healthier lifestyles in Fenland, across all age groups. Facilitating opportunities to be more physically active, more often is also important, to contribute to a reduction in health inequalities across Fenland, and help people to live and age better, because they are more active
- 8.1.2 Table 9.1 below shows the recommendations from the Fenland PPS, broken down by sport and with clear owners and timescales.
- 8.1.3 It should be noted that Short term; 1 – 3 years, Medium term; 3 – 5 years and Long term; 5 – 10 years

Table 9.1– Fenland Playing Pitch Strategy Action Plan 2015

Site	Action ID	Issue / opportunity to be addressed	Key Action(s) Numbering indicates order of preference	Delivery Owners (Bold indicates lead)	Resource Implications	Timescales	Priority -
Wisbech Sub Area							
Parsons Drove	Wisbech Foot 1	The adult pitch is of poor quality and at full capacity, which is impacting on the carrying capacity for adult matches and training and restricting club development.	1. Improvements to the maintenance procedures currently undertaken on the pitch by the parish council	Parish Council (PC) Fenland District Council (FDC)	Increase in time allocated and quality of pitch maintenance	Short	Low
Gorefield Playing Field	Wisbech Foot 2	The two adult pitch are poorly maintained and therefore reducing the number of matches that the pitches can cater for on a weekly basis.	1. The Charity that owns the pitch should invest in improving the maintenance regime to enhance quality of the pitches and their carrying capacity.	Charity (Owners) FDC	Improvements to the current maintenance regime.	Medium	Low
Guyhirn Playing Fields	Wisbech Foot 3	The ancillary provision is of poor quality, in particular the changing facilities, and needs to be replaced to support the future development of Guyhirn Youth F.C., which is a growing club. The pitches are over capacity and alternative pitch solutions are required to cater for the demand from Guyhirn Youth F.C	1. Replace the existing changing facilities with new male and female changing rooms, showers and toilets. 2. The club should use the pitches at Wisbech St. Mary Community Sport Centre or Coldham Playing Fields to reduce the latent demand for the pitches at Guyhirn Playing Fields.	Parish Council The Club FDC Cambs FA Guyhirn FC Wisbech St. Mary FC	Ancillary funding (Approx £200k) FDC Officer time. Cambs FA officer time.	Short	Medium
Leverington Sport and Social Club	Wisbech Foot 4	The adult and youth pitches are rated as poor quality and the drainage of the pitches is to be improved to reduce water logging and cancellation of games.	1. Investment in improved drainage system. 2. Greater prioritisation of maintenance procedure by club.	Leverington Sport and Social Club	Funding for drainage improvement. Staff/volunteer time from club committed to	Short	Medium

Site	Action ID	Issue / opportunity to be addressed	Key Action(s) Numbering indicates order of preference	Delivery Owners (Bold indicates lead)	Resource Implications	Timescales	Priority -
					maintenance programme.		
Thomas Clarkson Academy	Wisbech Foot 5	<p>The full size 3G AGP is rated as standard quality and 10+ years old and will require resurfacing within the next 3 years.</p> <p>The 3G AGP is not being fully utilised by local football clubs for matches and training predominately due to their preference to play and train on lower cost grass pitches.</p>	<p>1. Replacement of the AGP surface within the next 3 years.</p> <p>2. Develop a community use agreement between the school and local clubs, which can provide preferential rates for key clubs in the area. Potential to explore partnership opportunity of club coaches providing coaching/mentoring of school teams in exchange for reduced pitch hire and priority booking.</p>	<p>The School Cambs F.A. FDC Local clubs – Wisbech St. Mary F.C. Parsons Youth F.C. Wisbech Town Acorns F.C. Guyhirn F.C</p>	<p>Pitch resurfacing costs (approx. £200 - £250k)</p> <p>FDC, Cambs FA officer time</p>	Medium	Medium
Wisbech Cricket and Hockey Club	Wisbech Cricket 1	<p>The aging facility is in need of development including a new changing block and remodelling of the clubhouse to accommodate a kitchen.</p> <p>The artificial wicket is in need of refurbishment.</p> <p>The club is over capacity for grass wickets due to the demand placed on them the existing number of club teams.</p>	<p>1. Create a new changing block to be built behind the current clubhouse (as to not effect the view from the National Trust Building) and remodeling of clubhouse.</p> <p>2. Replace the Sand dressed AGP with a new like for like Sand dressed AGP.</p> <p>3. Refurbishment of the artificial cricket wicket.</p>	<p>Cricket & Hockey Club. The National Trust. FDC. ECB. England Hockey. Wisbech Grammar School. Leverington Sport and Social Club.</p>	<p>1,2,3: Approx £300k for new 2 team changing block and remodelling. Private funds (Cricket and Hockey Club). Harecroft Hudson Trust Committee. FDC. ECB. EH. Sport England facility funding.</p> <p>4: Cricket club time with ECB</p>	Short	High
	Wisbech Hockey 1	<p>The Sand dressed AGP is over 19 years old in poor condition and requires replacing.</p>	<p>4. The cricket club to develop a community use agreement with Wisbech Grammar School (who said they would be willing to discuss opportunities with local clubs) for use of their cricket pitches. An alternative option would be the Cricket pitches at</p>				

Site	Action ID	Issue / opportunity to be addressed	Key Action(s) Numbering indicates order of preference	Delivery Owners (Bold indicates lead)	Resource Implications	Timescales	Priority -
			Leverington Sports and Social Club.		support to help shape community use agreement.		
Wisbech RFC	Wisbech Rugby 1	<p>Enhancing the level of drainage and maintenance at the site would enhance the quality of the pitches and their carrying capacity for matches.</p> <p>Increasing the level of floodlighting at the club to enable the club to increase mid week training.</p> <p>Improvements to the ancillary provision to enable the club to increase revenues from private hire.</p>	<p>1. Investment into improving the drainage on two pitches.</p> <p>2. Investment into improving the maintenance programme on all three pitches.</p> <p>3. Investment into the provision of additional floodlighting.</p> <p>4. Additional investment for the internal ancillary to further develop the social/community space.</p>	Wisbech RFC FDC. RFU.	<p>Funding for drainage improvements (approx. £30-£50k)</p> <p>Enhanced effort/training and development to improve maintenance programme.</p> <p>Funding for floodlighting (approx. £30k)</p> <p>Funding for internal ancillary improvements.</p>	Short	High

Site	Action ID	Issue / opportunity to be addressed	Key Action(s) Numbering indicates order of preference	Delivery Owners (Bold indicates lead)	Resource Implications	Timescales	Priority -
March Sub Area							
Neale Wade Sport Centre	March Foot 1	<p>This is one of two potential locations for a new full size 3G AGP in the March area (the other being Estover Playing Fields) identified by the F.A. and supported by this study. The 3G AGP would be in addition to the Sand dressed AGP already located at Neale Wade. Car parking would have to be enhanced to cater for additional usage generated by the 3G AGP.</p> <p>Access to the ancillary and changing provision should be improved to reduce the currently barriers expressed by clubs using the site for matches and training.</p> <p>The existing grass pitches at Neale Wade are surplus to demand and could cater for the latent demand identified at March Town F.C and March Soccer School F.C.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The delivery of an options appraisal, feasibility study and in depth consultation with key stakeholders to determine whether a full size 3G AGP should be placed at Neale Wade sport centre. 2. Improvement to the accessibility of the ancillary and changing provision during community use hours. 3. Encourage consultation between March Town F.C. and the school to enhance community use of the existing grass pitches at Neale Wade and offset the latent demand on the pitch at March Town F.C. 	<p>Neale Wade School Cambs FA FDC March Town F.C Local clubs in March</p>	<p>A new full size 3G AGP Approx £550k with a six figure contribution from the F.A.</p> <p>Developer contributions towards the 3G AGP from housing developments in the March area.</p> <p>Cambs FA, FDC officer time.</p> <p>Local officer or Consultancy time to undertake feasibility study and options appraisal.</p>	Short	High

Site	Action ID	Issue / opportunity to be addressed	Key Action(s) Numbering indicates order of preference	Delivery Owners (Bold indicates lead)	Resource Implications	Timescales	Priority -
	March Hock 1	The Sand dressed AGP is owned and managed by the school. A community use agreement should be put in place between the club and the school to provide long term security of tenure for March Town Hockey Club.	1. Secure a long term use agreement for March Town Hockey Club to protect the current and future provision of Hockey in the area.	March Town Hockey Club Neale Wade School. ECB. FDC.	Volunteer/staff /officer time of club, school, FDC and ECB.	Short	High
	March Cricket 1	The artificial wicket at Neale Wade is used by March Town Cricket Club for adult and junior training. It is of poor quality and in need of replacing.	1. Replacement of the artificial Cricket Wicket.	Neale Wade School March Town Cricket Club ECB FDC	Artificial wicket replacement costs (approx. £20k)	Short	Medium
Estover Playing Fields	March Foot 2	<p>The three grass pitches and ancillary facilities are of poor quality and require investment into levelling the pitches and providing a new ancillary.</p> <p>This site is one of two potential locations for a new full size 3G AGP in the March area (the other being Neale Wade Sport Centre) identified by the F.A. and supported by this study. There is significant space on the site to accommodate a new 3G AGP and ancillary (including club house and changing facilities) whilst also retaining the existing grass pitches.</p>	<p>1. Invest in levelling and improving the quality of the existing grass pitches and provide a new ancillary.</p> <p>2. The delivery of an options appraisal, feasibility study and in depth consultation with key stakeholders to determine whether a full size 3G AGP should be placed at Estover Playing Fields.</p>	Estover Playing Fields Association and Recently established CIC FDC Cambs FA	<p>Funding to level pitches and provide new ancillary.</p> <p>A new full size 3G AGP Approx £550k with a six figure contribution from the F.A.</p> <p>Funding provided by CIC from Estover investment fund, approx. £300k.</p>	Short	High

Site	Action ID	Issue / opportunity to be addressed	Key Action(s) Numbering indicates order of preference	Delivery Owners (Bold indicates lead)	Resource Implications	Timescales	Priority -
					Local officer or Consultancy time to undertake feasibility study and options appraisal.		
Coldham Playing Fields	March Foot 3	<p>The site is in close proximity to Guyhirn playing fields which is over capacity due to the demand placed on the pitches by Guyhirn youth F.C. Coldham Playing Fields should therefore be used as an overflow pitches for Guyhirn Youth F.C.</p> <p>Improvements are required to the ancillary facility. Temporary changing rooms currently exist which are a very old design and are of poor quality. Developing the ancillary would help the site cater for the additional demand from Guyhirn youth F.C.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide a new and up to date ancillary changing block on the site. 2. Undertake discussions with Guyhirn Youth F.C and Coldham United F.C. regarding ground share arrangements. 	Parish Council FDC Football club. Cambs F.A	<p>Funding for new ancillary changing block. (approx. £240k for a two team changing block)</p> <p>Cambs FA, FDC Officer/volunteer time</p>	Short	Medium
Elm Road Sports Field	March Foot 4	<p>March Rangers Youth F.C. use the one adult pitch on the site for their youth and mini soccer team matches using over marked youth and mini pitches on the adult pitch. The club could increase their youth and mini teams If additional pitches were available. It is recommended that the club take the opportunity to</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. March Rangers Youth F.C. to access the available pitches at Neale Wade Sport centre to accommodate youth and mini football growth and development. 	Neale Wade Sport Centre The Football club. Cambs F.A. FDC.	Officer and volunteer time	Short	Low

Site	Action ID	Issue / opportunity to be addressed	Key Action(s) Numbering indicates order of preference	Delivery Owners (Bold indicates lead)	Resource Implications	Timescales	Priority -
		use the youth and mini pitches at Neale Wade sport centre to cater for existing and future team growth.					
	March Rugby 1	<p>The site marginally over capacity. Enhancing the drainage and maintenance on the site to improve the carrying capacity of the pitch for matches and training of March Bears RFC.</p> <p>The provision of floodlighting would increase the capacity for midweek training by March Bears RFC.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve the drainage and maintenance procedure of the 1 adult pitch. 2. Provide new floodlighting. 	<p>Elm Road Sports Field Association (ERSFA) RFU FDC</p>	<p>Funding for drainage improvements. (approx £30 – £50k)</p> <p>Funding for new floodlighting. (approx. £30k)</p> <p>Improving ground maintenance effort and quality via training and development.</p>	Short	High
March Town United F.C.	March Foot 5	The 1 adult pitch it not available for community use but is over capacity due to the amount of match and training demand by the club. Alternative local pitches should be sought to alleviate the demand.	1. March Town F.C. should access local grass pitches (Elm Road, Estover Playing Fields, Neale Wade Sport Centre) where there is surplus capacity.	<p>March Town F.C. Cambs F.A. Neale Wade. Local clubs (for negotiations regarding ground sharing)</p>	Club/NGB/Vol unteer officer time.	Short	High

Site	Action ID	Issue / opportunity to be addressed	Key Action(s) Numbering indicates order of preference	Delivery Owners (Bold indicates lead)	Resource Implications	Timescales	Priority -
Westwood Community School	March Foot 6	The pitches on the site are over capacity and poor quality. Improve the pitch quality and drainage of the mini pitches at the school to increase capacity for matches and training by March Soccer School F.C.	1. Improve the drainage of the mini 5v5 and 7v7 pitch.	The School FDC Cambs F.A	Funding for drainage improvements (approx. £20k)	Short	Medium
All Saints Inter Church Aided School	March Foot 7	The pitch on the site is of poor quality and at capacity and used by March Soccer School F.C for training. The pitch quality requires improvements to drainage and levelling out to enhance carrying capacity.	1. Improve the drainage of the pitch to enhance the carrying capacity.	The School FDC Cambs F.A	Funding for drainage improvements (approx. £20k)	Short	Low
March Town Cricket Club	March Cricket 2	The grass wickets are over capacity. Additional local wickets should be sought to reduce the demand placed on the wickets at March Town Cricket Club. The club currently use Benwick Road recreation ground grass wickets in addition to their own.	1. Increase use of the grass wickets at Benwick Road recreation ground. 2. Improve the quality of the artificial grass wicket at Neale Wade Sport Centre (See Neale Wade REF March Cricket 1). 3. Use the artificial wicket at Parkfield Sports Club via a ground share agreement with Wimblington Cricket Club. 4. Install new wickets on the outfield at March Town C.C. to cater for the demand from junior club cricket.	March Town C.C. ECB FDC	Volunteer/ office time to negotiate additional site use 4. New wicket approx. cost £20k	Short	High
Chatteris Sub Area							

Site	Action ID	Issue / opportunity to be addressed	Key Action(s) Numbering indicates order of preference	Delivery Owners (Bold indicates lead)	Resource Implications	Timescales	Priority -
Peacock Paddock	Chatteris Foot 1	<p>The football pitch is at capacity. The football ancillary is poor quality and in need of replacement to support the current and future demand. Chatteris Cricket Club, who have a good quality ancillary facilities, are situated on the same site and the Football pitch and Cricket pitch segregated by a hedge.</p> <p>Chatteris Town F.C should explore additional pitches to cater for matches and training and reduce the demand at Peacock Paddock.</p>	<p>1. Removal of the hedge to create an open and dual use site. Use the better quality Cricket pavilion to service and benefit both sports and remove the poor quality football ancillary. This would require a dual use agreement between the two clubs.</p> <p>2.The football club should use local pitches and 3G AGP at Cromwell Community College to offset the demand on Peacock Paddock.</p>	<p>Chatteris Cricket Club & Chatteris Town F.C. Private Land Owner Cambs F.A. ECB FDC</p>	<p>Labour costs/time to remove the central hedge.</p> <p>Volunteer/offic e time of local clubs and NGB's.</p>	Short	Medium
Cromwell Community College	Chatteris Foot 2	<p>There was no recorded club use on the pitches or 3G AGP for competitive matches resulting in surplus provision. The site is therefore a key solution in providing pitch capacity to offload the demand placed on the majority of grass pitches situated in the Chatteris sub area which have been identified as being over capacity (Fairledes, Benwick Road Rec, Wimblington Road Rec, Memorial Playing Field). Improvements are required to the management and booking arrangements of the Football pitches and 3G AGP to improve access and availability for</p>	<p>1. It is recommended that the management and booking arrangements of the pitches and AGP be evaluated to provide consistency and improve access and communication for community bookings. A possible solution could be transferring the management and booking of the pitches and AGP to the local council who currently manage community access for indoor facilities on the site such as the Gym.</p>	<p>The College & FDC</p>	<p>Officer / Staff time to negotiate and develop community management agreement.</p>	Short	High

Site	Action ID	Issue / opportunity to be addressed	Key Action(s) Numbering indicates order of preference	Delivery Owners (Bold indicates lead)	Resource Implications	Timescales	Priority -
		community clubs.					
Fairledes Field	Chatteris Foot 3	The pitch is over capacity. Improvements are required to the drainage of the pitch to improve pitch quality and enhance carrying capacity. Access to additional pitches is required to support the junior development of the club (Chatteris Town Youth F.C) .	1. Invest in improving the drainage on the pitch to improve. 2. The grass pitches and 3G AGP at Cromwell Community College should be accessed by the club to support club development and reduce demand at Fairledes Field.	Parish Council The Club FDC Cams F.A	Funding for drainage improvements (approx. £30k-£50k)	Short	High
Benwick Road Recreation Ground	Chatteris Foot 4	The pitch is over capacity and rated as poor quality. Improvements are required to the maintenance of the pitch to enhance carrying capacity and support the demand from Doddington F.C. The club should consider using additional local pitches to cater for match and training demand.	1. Improvements are required to the maintenance programme of the grass pitch. 2. The club should use the nearby pitches at Parkfield Sports Club to help cater for their demand. This would require discussions with Wimblington Road F.C regarding ground share arrangements.	Parish Council The Clubs FDC Cams F.A.	Enhancement to the ground maintenance effort and quality. Club volunteer/ officer time.	Short	High
Memorial Playing Field	Chatteris Foot 5	The youth 9v9 pitch has three teams using it including two youth teams and an adult team.	1. There is sufficient land on the site to mark out a full size adult pitch in addition to the current pitch. This should be done to increase the carrying capacity of the pitch to cater for the current demand	Parish Council	Time and equipment to mark an additional pitch	Short	Medium

Site	Action ID	Issue / opportunity to be addressed	Key Action(s) Numbering indicates order of preference	Delivery Owners (Bold indicates lead)	Resource Implications	Timescales	Priority -
Wimblington Road Recreation Ground	Chatteris Foot 6	The pitches are over capacity and rated as poor quality. Improvements are required to the maintenance of the pitch.	1. Improve the maintenance programme to enhance the quality and carrying capacity of the Adult and mini pitches.	Parish Council The Clubs FDC Cambs F.A.	Enhancement to the ground maintenance effort and quality. Club volunteer/officer time.	Short	High
Chatteris Cricket Club	Chatteris Cricket 1	Improvements are required to the practice facilities, which are poor quality. The pitch is at capacity and additional wickets should be sourced to help cater for the club demand. Chatteris Town F.C. play football on the same site with the football and Cricket Pitches divided by a central hedge. The Football ancillary requires replacing however and one option would be for the Football club to share the use of the Cricket Pavillion. Future security of tenure is uncertain on the land. There is seven years remaining on the lease and there is some uncertainty regarding what the private landowners plans are for the site.	1. Security of tenure is required to renew and extend the lease of the land for the club. 2.The provision of additional grass wickets on the site can be achieved by removing the central hedge, which would create enough space for additional wickets. 3. Investment is required enhance the practice facilities.	Chatteris Cricket Club & Chatteris Town F.C. Private Land Owner Cambs F.A. ECB FDC	Labour costs/time to remove the central hedge. Volunteer/ office time of local clubs and NGB's Funding for enhancement to the practice facilities. (approx. £20k)	Short	Medium

Site	Action ID	Issue / opportunity to be addressed	Key Action(s) Numbering indicates order of preference	Delivery Owners (Bold indicates lead)	Resource Implications	Timescales	Priority -
Whittlesey Sub Area							
Field of Dreams	Whittlesey Foot 1	The three temporary mobile changing rooms do not contain shower facilities or separate changing for males and females.	1. A permanent and fixed ancillary solution should be provided that includes shower, toilet and changing facilities.	Whittlesey Junior F.C FDC Cambs FA	Funding for new ancillary (approx. £240k)	Medium	Low
Sir Harry Smith Community College	Whittlesey Foot 2	This site has the most mini 7v7 grass pitches in the sub area however they are not available for community use. Access to these pitches would enable local club Coates Athletic F.C. to displace demand from Feldale Field where youth teams are playing on adult pitches.	1. A community use agreement should be put in place between the school and local clubs with junior teams to enable the mini and youth pitches to be used.	School Cambs FA Local Clubs	Volunteer/ school staff and NGB officer time.	Medium	Low

9 Appendix

9.1 Appendix 1 – PPS Stage B supply and demand data extracts for PPS Sports (Football, Cricket, Rugby, Hockey)

- 9.1.1 The following information includes extracts of the original Stage B supply and demand data that was collected from site assessments and demand consultations with clubs. The information contained in the main body of the report includes updated versions of the original stage b data following consultation on Stage C and D with the National Governing Bodies of Sport.
- 9.1.2 In addition to the extracts provided in the appendix all Fenland playing pitch supply and demand information is held on the online portal www.playingpitch.com the council have access to the platform.

9.2 Football Stage B Factsheet

PROJECT DETAILS	
CLIENT NAME	Fenland District Council
ASSIGNMENT TITLE	Fenland Playing Pitch Strategy
DATE OF REPORT	15th July 2015
PURPOSE OF REPORT	FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION DATA COLLECTION SUMMARY AND SIGN OFF
INTERACTIVE MAP LINK	http://arcg.is/1Ghtjkc

Summary update:

- All football sites visited and assessed by project team
- Quality scores provided for all sites
- Supply and demand information held within the Playing Pitch Platform
- Initial supply and demand modelling undertaken

Sign off required as follows:

- Table 4: Detailed AGP breakdown
- Table 5 and 6: Club breakdown and process
- Appendix A: Club responses
- Appendix B: Pitch supply
- Appendix C: Pitch quality score

9.2.1 Pitch supply (including AGPs)

9.2.2 Introduction

An overview of the supply of football pitches in Fenland is provided in this section. There are 5 types of pitches that are used by football teams from the ages of Under 7 through to Adults. The pitches are as follows:

- Adult 11v11
- Youth 11v11
- Youth 9v9
- Mini soccer 7v7
- Mini soccer 5v5

Artificial grass pitches (AGPs) are also used by football teams and have been included in this data collection summary.

9.2.3 Quantity Overview

The table below provides an overview of the number of football pitches across Fenland as well as detailing provision by size of pitch and community use category. The 4 global site assessor identifies pitches as 'Available for community use' or 'Not available for community use'. Sites that are identified as 'Available for community use' also require the security of their use to be identified.

Sites/pitches that are secure are expected to have an agreement that ensures that the land will be available for community use as a football pitch and isn't at risk of loss due to development/ownership decisions.

Table 1 - Pitch Supply

Fenland		Number of pitches						
		Adult football	Youth football		Mini soccer		AGPs	
		11v11	11v11	9v9	7v7	5v5	3G	Sand based
Available for community use	Secured	31	2	7	2	4	2	6
	Unsecured	4	0	0	0	0	0	1
No community use		3	1	0	3	2	0	0
Total		38	3	7	5	6	0	0

Appendix B of this data collection summary details the supply of pitches at each site along with community use and security of community use. Appendix C details the quality of each pitch at every site. These appendices provide the baseline supply information that will be used when the full supply and demand modeling is undertaken; therefore it is imperative that this information is signed off by the Football Association to allow the project to progress to the next stage.

9.2.4 Tenure/Management Overview

The table below details how the ownership of football pitch sites is split across the area. The two main owners of sites are Parish Councils and Education providers. This is important to understand, as the owners of football pitches can affect their community use and potentially inhibit their use, or provide the opportunity for new/increased use.

Table 2 - Site Ownership

Ownership (%)	Number of pitches						
	Adult football	Youth football		Mini soccer		AGPs	
	11v11	11v11	9v9	7v7	5v5	3G	Sand based
Local Authority	18%	0%	0%	20%	17%	0%	0%
Education	24%	33%	29%	80%	67%	100%	57%
Higher Education	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Further Education	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Charity/Trust	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Parish/Town Council	21%	0%	57%	0%	17%	0%	0%
Sports Club/Community Association	11%	67%	0%	0%	0%	0%	14%
Privately owned	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	28%

Unsure	21%	0%	14%	0%	0%	0%	0%
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9.2.5 Site assessor overview

The site assessments carried out by 4 global feed into the 'Carrying Capacity' of a football pitch. This capacity determines the number of matches a pitch per week without having a detrimental effect on the quality. A pitch receives a score identified through the assessment that determines the quality as 'good', 'standard' or 'poor'. The effect this has on carrying capacity for adult pitches is as follows:

- Poor = 1 match equivalent carrying capacity per week
- Standard = 2 match equivalent carrying capacity per week
- Good = 3 match equivalent carrying capacity per week

For Youth Football 11v11 and 9v9 pitches, carrying capacity is affected differently due to the difference in nature and length of play. The effect of the quality scores on these pitches is as follows:

- Poor = 1 match equivalent carrying capacity per week
- Standard = 2 match equivalent carrying capacity per week
- Good = 4 match equivalent carrying capacity per week

For Mini soccer 7v7 and 5v5 pitches, the quality score affects carrying capacity as follows:

- Poor = 2 match equivalent carrying capacity per week
- Standard = 4 match equivalent carrying capacity per week
- Good = 6 match equivalent carrying capacity per week

The table below provides a general overview of the scores received for the different pitch types across the area. Full details of individual pitch scores can be found in Appendix C of this data collection summary.

Table 3 - Pitch Quality Summary

Quality score	Adult football	Youth football		Mini soccer	
	11v11	11v11	9v9	7v7	5v5
Good (80-100%)	20	3	5	4	3
Standard (50-79.9%)	6	0	1	0	0
Poor (0-49.9%)	6	0	1	0	0

9.2.6 Detailed AGP breakdown

Football training and matches can also be played on artificial grass pitches (matches can only be played on FA certified rubber-crumb 3G pitches), therefore the tables and information summarised below inform the provision of Artificial Grass Pitches in the area. Due to the low number of AGPs in comparison to football pitches, the detailed information gathered has been presented in the main part of this summary. This supply information is another aspect of the document that requires sign-off from the Football Association.

Table 4 - AGP breakdown

Site Name	Pitch Type (3G; Sand dressed; Sand filled; water based)				Ownership	Community use category	Security of use	Pitch score
Cromwell Community College	Medium Pile 3G - (55-60mm)	SIZE 110 x 70m 7700 sqm	FLOODLIT Yes	AGE 3 years	Education	Available for community use and used	Secured	75 - Standard
Manor Leisure Centre	Sand Dressed	30 x 20m 600 sqm	Yes	2-5 years	Local Authority	Available for community use and used	Secured	75 - Standard

Site Name	Pitch Type (3G; Sand dressed; Sand filled; water based)				Ownership	Community use category	Security of use	Pitch score
Neale Wade Sports Centre	Sand Dressed	Size 110 x 70m 7700 sqm	Floodlit Yes	5-10 years	Education	Available for community use and used	Secured	73 - Standard
Parkfield Sports Club	Sand Filled	30 x 20m 600 sqm	Yes	10+ years	Council	Available for community use and used	Secured	60 - Standard
Sir Harry Smith Community College	Sand Dressed	30 x 40m 1200 sqm	Yes	2-5 years	Education	Available for community use and used	Secured	65 - Standard
Sir Harry Smith Community College	Medium Pile 3G - (55-60mm)	40 x 40m 1600 sqm	Yes	3 years	Education	Available for community use and used	Secured	67 - Standard
Thomas Clarkson Academy	Sand Dressed	110 x 70m 7700 sqm	Yes	3-5 years	Education	Available for community use and used	Secured	75 - Standard
Wisbech Cricket & Hockey Club	Sand Filled	110 x 70m 7700 sqm	Yes	10+ years	Charity	Available for community use and used	Secured	45 - Poor

Site Name	Pitch Type (3G; Sand dressed; Sand filled; water based)				Ownership	Community use category	Security of use	Pitch score
Wisbech Grammar School	Sand Dressed	110 x 70m 7700 sqm	Yes	5-10 years	Education	Available for community use and used	Unsecured	73 - Standard

CLUB	ADULT TEAMS		YOUTH TEAMS				MINI TEAMS		TOTALS
	MENS	LADIES	BOYS		GIRLS		MINI SOCCER		
			11 V 11	9 V 9	11 V 11	9 V 9	7 V 7	5 V 5	
Estover Park Youth F.C.	0	0	2	1	2	0	1	0	5
Guyhirn F.C.	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Leverington Sports F.C.	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Manea United F.C.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Manea United Strikers F.C.	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
March Rangers F.C.	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
March Rangers Youth F.C.	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	0	6
March Saracens F.C.	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
March Soccer School F.C.	0	0	4	4	0	0	5	4	17
March Town United F.C.	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	5
Whittlesey Junior F.C.	0	0	5	4	0	0	5	6	20
Wisbech St Mary F.C.	5	1	7	2	1	1	3	4	24
Wisbech Town Acorns F.C.	0	0	3	1	0	0	2	2	8

9.2.9 Section Two: Non-responding clubs

Table 6 - Team breakdown of non-responding clubs

CLUB	ADULT TEAMS		YOUTH TEAMS				MINI TEAMS		TOTALS
	MENS	LADIES	BOYS		GIRLS		MINI SOCCER		
			11 V 11	9 V 9	11 V 11	9 V 9	7 V 7	5 V 5	
Upwell Town F.C.	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Chatteris Town F.C.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elm F.C.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Leverington Sports Youth F.C.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Murrow Bell 2007 F.C.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Parson Drove Youth F.C.	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
The Railway AFC	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Thorney F.C.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Walsoken United F.C.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Whittlesey Blue Star F.C.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Wimblington F.C.	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

9.2.10 Overall team profile

Table 7 - Overall team profile following club breakdown

AREA	ADULT TEAMS		YOUTH TEAMS				MINI TEAMS		TOTALS
	MENS	LADIES	BOYS		GIRLS		MINI SOCCER		
			11 V 11	9 V 9	11 V 11	9 V 9	7 V 7	5 V 5	
Fenland	41	1	35	18	5	1	21	17	139

9.2.11 Supply and demand balance figures

Following the gathering of supply side and demand side information, the capacity analysis ('balance') for pitches/sites can be undertaken. The tables below split the balance figures across the 5 different football pitch types. The tables identify the supply of pitches in terms of quantity and overall carrying capacity (given that some pitches on the same site may be identified as different qualities), the demand placed on the pitches by clubs (matches and training) and then provides the balance (the difference between capacity and demand match equivalents). This capacity analysis will inform the site-by-site action plan in the final report.

9.2.12 Pitch type balance figures

Table 8 - Adult Football

ADULT PITCH PROVISION - SITE	NUMBER OF PITCHES	PITCH CAPACITY	DEMAND (MATCH EQUIVALENTS)	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CAPACITY & DEMAND MATCH EQUIVALENTS	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
Barton Road Recreation Ground	1	2	0.5	1.5	
Begdale Road Playing Field	1	2	0.5	1.5	
Benwick Road Recreation Ground	1	1	4	-3	
Chatteris Town Fc	2	6	0	6	
Coldham Playing Fields	1	2	1.5	0.5	
Cromwell Community College	4	8	0	8	
Elm Road Sports Field	1	2	0.5	1.5	
Estover Playing Field	3	3	2	1	
Fairlees	1	1	3	-2	
Feldale Field	2	4	1.5	2.5	
Gorefield Playing Field	2	2	1.5	0.5	
Guyhirn Playing Field	1	2	7.5	-5.5	
Leverington Sports And Social Club	2	2	1.5	0.5	
Manor Leisure Centre	2	4	5.5	-1.5	
March Town United Football Club	1	3	12	-9	

ADULT PITCH PROVISION - SITE	NUMBER OF PITCHES	PITCH CAPACITY	DEMAND (MATCH EQUIVALENTS)	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CAPACITY & DEMAND MATCH EQUIVALENTS	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
Neale Wade Sports Centre	2	4	1	3	
Parkfield Sports Club	2	4	1.5	2.5	
Parsons Drove Sports Pavilion	1	1	1	0	
Thomas Clarkson Academy	1	3	0	3	
Wimbilington Road Recreation Ground	2	2	2.5	-0.5	
Wisbech St Mary Sports And Community Centre	5	12	7.5	4.5	

Table 9 - Youth (11x11)

YOUTH 11 V 11 PITCH PROVISION - SITE	NUMBER OF PITCHES	PITCH CAPACITY	DEMAND (MATCH EQUIVALENTS)	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CAPACITY & DEMAND MATCH EQUIVALENTS	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
Peacock Paddock	2	4	4	0	
Sir Harry Smith Community College	1	2	0	2	

Table 10 - Youth (9x9)

YOUTH 9 V 9 PITCH PROVISION - SITE	NUMBER OF PITCHES	PITCH CAPACITY	DEMAND (MATCH EQUIVALENTS)	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CAPACITY & DEMAND MATCH EQUIVALENTS	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
Christchurch Bowls & Recreation Field	1	2	0	2	
Leverington Sports And Social Club	1	1	0	1	
Memorial Playing Field	1	2	0.5	1.5	
Murrow Bank Playing Field	1	2	0	2	

Table 11 - Youth (7x7)

MINI SOCCER 7 V 7 PITCH PROVISION - SITE	NUMBER OF PITCHES	PITCH CAPACITY	DEMAND (MATCH EQUIVALENTS)	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CAPACITY & DEMAND MATCH EQUIVALENTS	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
Neale Wade Sports Centre	1	4	0	4	
Sir Harry Smith Community College	2	8	0	8	
Westwood Community Junior School	1	2	5	-3	
Wisbech St Mary Sports And Community Centre	1	4	1.5	2.5	

Table 12 - Mini (5x5)

MINI SOCCER 5 V 5 PITCH PROVISION - SITE	NUMBER OF PITCHES	PITCH CAPACITY	DEMAND (MATCH EQUIVALENTS)	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CAPACITY & DEMAND MATCH EQUIVALENTS	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
Neale Wade Sports Centre	2	8	4	4	
Park Lane Primary And Nursery School	1	2	2	0	
Westwood Community Junior School	1	2	5	-3	
Wimblington Road Recreation Ground	1	2	2	0	

9.2.13 Appendix A – Club response breakdown

This appendix details the clubs identified by the Football Association and their response to 4 global's data gathering exercise. This requires sign-off from the Football Association.

Club completion rate: 17/29 (58%)

Team completion rate: 101/155 (65%)

CLUB NAME	RESPONSE STATUS	PROJECT TEAM CONTACT 1			PROJECT TEAM CONTACT 2			SUGGESTED ACTION
Benwick Athletic F.C.	Completed	16/06/15	10:00	CB	16/06/15	11:30	C	No action required
Chatteris Town Youth F.C.	Completed	15/06/15	15:00	C			VM	No action required
Coates Athletic F.C.	Completed	15/06/15	17:25	VM	17/06/15	11:40		No action required
Coldham United F.C.	Completed	16/06/15	10:50	C			C	No action required
Doddington United F.C.	Completed	16/06/15	11:00	CB	16/06/15	12:15		No action required
Guyhirn F.C.	Completed	15/06/15	16:50	C			C	No action required

Leverington Sports F.C.	Completed	16/06/15	12:00	VM	17/06/15	12:50		No action required
Manea United F.C.	Completed	16/06/15	13:05	C			VM	No action required
Manea United Strikers F.C.	Completed	16/06/15	13:00	NA	18/06/15	17:10		No action required
March Rangers F.C.	Completed	16/06/15	12:05	NA	16/06/15	16:20		No action required
March Rangers Youth F.C.	Completed						C	No action required
March Saracens F.C.	Completed	16/06/15	12:07	VM	17/06/15	14:25		No action required
March Soccer School F.C.	Completed	15/06/15	16:30	C				No action required
March Town United F.C.	Completed						C	No action required
Whittlesey Junior F.C.	Completed	15/06/15	17:00	CB				No action required

Wisbech Town Acorns F.C.	Completed	15/06/15	18:00	C				No action required
Upwell Town F.C.	Completed	16/06/15	12:40	VM	17/06/15	14:00	C	No action required
Wisbech St Mary F.C.	Completed	15/06/15	15:35	VM	17/06/15	14:36		No action required
Chatteris Town F.C.	Incomplete	16/06/15	10:10	VM	17/06/15	11:00		Further consultation
Elm F.C.	Incomplete							Allocate demand
Estover Park Youth F.C.	Completed	16/06/15	10:15	CB	17/06/15	12:45		No action required
Leverington Sports Youth F.C.	Incomplete	15/06/15	17:35	CB			VM	Further consultation
Murrow Bell 2007 F.C.	Incomplete	16/06/15	12:20	VM	17/06/15	13:07	VM	Allocate demand
Parson Drove Youth F.C.	Incomplete						VM	Allocate demand

The Railway AFC	Incomplete						VM	Allocate demand
Thorney F.C.	Incomplete	16/06/15	10:40	VM	17/06/15	13:00		Allocate demand
Walsoken United F.C.	Incomplete	16/06/15	12:50	VM	17/06/15	14:05	CB	Allocate demand
Whittlesey Blue Star F.C.	Incomplete	16/06/15	12:55	VM	17/06/15	14:10	VM	Allocate demand

9.2.14 Appendix B – Detailed pitch supply

This appendix details the overall pitch supply across Fenland.

SITE NAME	ANALYSIS AREA (WHOLE OR SUB AREA)	SECURED COMMUNITY USE/UNSECURED COMMUNITY USE/NO USE	TYPE OF PITCH - AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE ON SITE					TOTAL
			ADULT	YOUTH		MINI		
				11V11	9V9	7V7	5V5	
Chatteris Town Fc	Fenland	Not available for community use	2	0	0	0	0	2
March Town United Football Club	Fenland	Not available for community use	1	0	0	0	0	1
Park Lane Primary And Nursery School	Fenland	Not available for community use	0	0	0	0	1	1
Sir Harry Smith Community College	Fenland	Not available for community use	0	1	0	2	0	3
Westwood Community Junior School	Fenland	Not available for community use	0	0	0	1	1	2
Barton Road Recreation Ground	Fenland	Available for community use and used	1	0	0	0	0	1
Begdale Road Playing Field	Fenland	Available for community use and used	1	0	0	0	0	1
Benwick Road Recreation Ground	Fenland	Available for community use and used	1	0	0	0	0	1
Christchurch Bowls & Recreation Field	Fenland	Available for community use and used	0	0	1	0	0	1
Coldham Playing Fields	Fenland	Available for community use and used	1	0	0	0	0	1
Cromwell Community College	Fenland	Not available for community use	4	0	0	0	0	4
Elm Road Sports Field	Fenland	Available for community use and used	1	0	0	0	0	1
Estover Playing Field	Fenland	Available for community use and used	3	0	0	0	0	3
Fairlees	Fenland	Available for community use and used	1	0	0	0	0	1
Feldale Field	Fenland	Available for community use and used	2	0	0	0	0	2
Gorefield Playing Field	Fenland	Available for community use and used	2	0	0	0	0	2
Guyhirn Playing Field	Fenland	Available for community use and used	1	0	0	0	0	1
Leverington Sports And Social Club	Fenland	Available for community use and used	2	0	1	0	0	3

Manor Leisure Centre	Fenland	Available for community use and used	2	0	0	0	0	2
Memorial Playing Field	Fenland	Available for community use and used	0	0	1	0	0	1
Murrow Bank Playing Field	Fenland	Available for community use and used	0	0	1	0	0	1
Neale Wade Sports Centre	Fenland	Available for community use and used	2	0	1	1	2	6
Parkfield Sports Club	Fenland	Available for community use and used	2	0	0	0	0	2
Parsons Drove Sports Pavilion	Fenland	Available for community use and used	0	0	0	0	0	0
Peacock Paddock	Fenland	Available for community use and used	0	2	0	0	0	2
Thomas Clarkson Academy	Fenland	Available for community use and used	1	0	0	0	0	1
Wimbilington Road Recreation Ground	Fenland	Available for community use and used	2	0	0	0	0	2
Wisbech Cricket & Hockey Club	Fenland	Available for community use and used	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wisbech Grammar School	Fenland	Not available for community use	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wisbech St Mary Sports And Community Centre	Fenland	Available for community use and used	5	0	0	1	1	7
Wisbech Town Park	Fenland	Available for community use and used	0	0	1	0	0	1

9.2.15 Appendix C – Pitch quality scores by site

This appendix provides the quality scores attributed to each football pitch by the project site assessor.

SITE	PITCH TYPE	QUALITY SCORE	QUALITY RATING	ANCILLARY SCORE	SITE SPECIFIC COMMENTS
Barton Road Recreation Ground	Adult Football	60.00%	Standard	84.62%	
Begdale Road Playing Field	Adult Football	60.00%	Standard	52.31%	
Benwick Road Recreation Ground	Adult Football	48.00%	Poor	84.62%	
Chatteris Town Fc	Adult Football	80.00%	Good	92.31%	
Chatteris Town Fc	Adult Football	80.00%	Good	92.31%	
Christchurch Bowls & Recreation Field	Youth Football 9v9	60.00%	Standard	30.77%	
Coldham Playing Fields	Adult Football	50.67%	Standard	30.77%	
Cromwell Community College	Adult Football	66.67%	Standard	84.62%	
Cromwell Community College	Adult Football	66.67%	Standard	84.62%	
Cromwell Community College	Adult Football	66.67%	Standard	84.62%	
Cromwell Community College	Adult Football	66.67%	Standard	84.62%	
Cromwell Community College	AGP	75.00%	Standard		
Elm Road Sports Field	Adult Football	77.33%	Standard	70.77%	
Estover Playing Field	Adult Football	42.67%	Poor	30.77%	
Estover Playing Field	Adult Football	42.67%	Poor	30.77%	
Estover Playing Field	Adult Football	42.67%	Poor	30.77%	
Fairlees	Adult Football	0.00%	Poor	0.00%	
Feldale Field	Adult Football	74.67%	Standard	84.62%	

Feldale Field	Adult Football	74.67%	Standard	84.62%	
Gorefield Playing Field	Adult Football	48.00%	Poor	84.62%	
Gorefield Playing Field	Adult Football	48.00%	Poor	84.62%	
Guyhirn Playing Field	Adult Football	60.00%	Standard	27.69%	
Leverington Sports And Social Club	Adult Football	48.00%	Poor	84.62%	
Leverington Sports And Social Club	Adult Football	48.00%	Poor	84.62%	
Leverington Sports And Social Club	Youth Football 9v9	48.00%	Poor	84.62%	
Manor Leisure Centre	Adult Football	60.00%	Standard	69.23%	
Manor Leisure Centre	Adult Football	60.00%	Standard	69.23%	
Manor Leisure Centre	AGP	75.00%	Standard		
March Town United Football Club	Adult Football	80.00%	Good	92.31%	
Memorial Playing Field	Youth Football 9v9	60.00%	Standard	7.69%	
Murrow Bank Playing Field	Youth Football 9v9	60.00%	Standard	7.69%	
Neale Wade Sports Centre	Adult Football	58.67%	Standard	63.08%	
Neale Wade Sports Centre	Adult Football	58.67%	Standard	63.08%	
Neale Wade Sports Centre	Mini Soccer 5v5	58.67%	Standard	63.08%	
Neale Wade Sports Centre	Mini Soccer 5v5	58.67%	Standard	63.08%	
Neale Wade Sports Centre	Mini Soccer 7v7	58.67%	Standard	63.08%	
Neale Wade Sports Centre	Youth Football 9v9	58.67%	Standard	63.08%	
Neale Wade Sports Centre	AGP	73.00%	Standard		
Park Lane Primary And Nursery School	Mini Soccer 5v5	48.00%	Poor	23.08%	
Parkfield Sports Club	AGP	60.00%	Standard		
Parkfield Sports Club	Adult Football	77.33%	Standard	70.77%	
Parkfield Sports Club	Adult Football	77.33%	Standard	70.77%	
Parsons Drove Sports Pavilion	Adult Football	48.00%	Poor	84.62%	
Peacock Paddock	Youth Football 11v11	60.00%	Standard	23.08%	

Peacock Paddock	Youth Football 11v11	60.00%	Standard	23.08%	
Sir Harry Smith Community College	Youth Football 11v11	66.67%	Standard	84.62%	
Sir Harry Smith Community College	Mini Soccer 7v7	66.67%	Standard	84.62%	
Sir Harry Smith Community College	Mini Soccer 7v7	66.67%	Standard	84.62%	
Sir Harry Smith Community College	AGP	65.00%	Standard		
Sir Harry Smith Community College	AGP	67.00%	Standard		
Thomas Clarkson Academy	Youth Football 9v9	80.00%	Good	92.31%	
Thomas Clarkson Academy	AGP	75.00%	Standard		
Thomas Clarkson Academy	Adult Football	80.00%	Good	92.31%	
Westwood Community Junior School	Mini Soccer 5v5	48.00%	Poor	23.08%	
Westwood Community Junior School	Mini Soccer 7v7	0.00%	Poor	0.00%	
Wimbilington Road Recreation Ground	Adult Football	48.00%	Poor	53.85%	
Wimbilington Road Recreation Ground	Adult Football	48.00%	Poor	53.85%	
Wimbilington Road Recreation Ground	Mini Soccer 5v5	48.00%	Poor	53.85%	
Wisbech Cricket & Hockey Club	AGP	45.00%	Poor		
Wisbech Grammar School	AGP	73.00%	Standard		
Wisbech St Mary Sports And Community Centre	Adult Football	77.33%	Standard	84.62%	
Wisbech St Mary Sports And Community Centre	Adult Football	77.33%	Standard	84.62%	
Wisbech St Mary Sports And Community Centre	Adult Football	77.33%	Standard	84.62%	
Wisbech St Mary Sports And Community Centre	Mini Soccer 5v5	77.33%	Standard	84.62%	
Wisbech St Mary Sports And Community Centre	Mini Soccer 7v7	77.33%	Standard	84.62%	
Wisbech St Mary Sports And Community Centre	Adult Football	80.00%	Good	92.31%	
Wisbech St Mary Sports And Community Centre	Adult Football	80.00%	Good	92.31%	
Wisbech Town Park	Youth Football 9v9	60.00%	Standard	7.69%	

9.2.16 Appendix D – Site-by-site balance figures

This appendix provides an overview of the current supply and demand balance figures across each site (pitch type split per site).

SITE	PITCH TYPE	QUANTITY OF PITCH	SUPPLY (PITCH CAPACITY)	DEMAND (MATCH EQUIVALENT)	BALANCE (SUPPLY MINUS DEMAND)
Barton Road Recreation Ground	Adult Football	1	2	0.5	1.5
Begdale Road Playing Field	Adult Football	1	2	0.5	1.5
Benwick Road Recreation Ground	Adult Football	1	1	4	-3
Chatteris Town Fc	Adult Football	2	6	0	6
Christchurch Bowls & Recreation Field	Youth Football 9v9	1	2	0	2
Coldham Playing Fields	Adult Football	1	2	1.5	0.5
Cromwell Community College	Adult Football	4	8	0	8
Elm Road Sports Field	Adult Football	1	2	0.5	1.5
Estover Playing Field	Adult Football	3	3	2	1
Fairlees	Adult Football	1	1	3	-2
Feldale Field	Adult Football	2	4	1.5	2.5
Gorefield Playing Field	Adult Football	2	2	1.5	0.5
Guyhirn Playing Field	Adult Football	1	2	7.5	-5.5
Leverington Sports And Social Club	Adult Football	2	2	1.5	0.5

Leverington Sports And Social Club	Youth Football 9v9	1	1	0	1
Manor Leisure Centre	Adult Football	2	4	5.5	-1.5
March Town United Football Club	Adult Football	1	3	12	-9
Memorial Playing Field	Youth Football 9v9	1	2	0.5	1.5
Murrow Bank Playing Field	Youth Football 9v9	1	2	0	2
Neale Wade Sports Centre	Adult Football	2	4	1	3
Neale Wade Sports Centre	Mini Soccer 5v5	2	8	4	4
Neale Wade Sports Centre	Mini Soccer 7v7	1	4	0	4
Neale Wade Sports Centre	Youth Football 9v9	1	2	0	2
Park Lane Primary And Nursery School	Mini Soccer 5v5	1	2	2	0
Parkfield Sports Club	Adult Football	2	4	1.5	2.5
Parsons Drove Sports Pavilion	Adult Football	1	1	1	0
Peacock Paddock	Youth Football 11v11	2	4	4	0
Sir Harry Smith Community College	Mini Soccer 7v7	2	8	0	8
Sir Harry Smith Community College	Youth Football 11v11	1	2	0	2
Test Site-1	Adult Football	1	0	0	
Thomas Clarkson Academy	Adult Football	1	3	0	3

Thomas Clarkson Academy	Youth Football 9v9	1	4	0	4
Westwood Community Junior School	Mini Soccer 5v5	1	2	5	-3
Westwood Community Junior School	Mini Soccer 7v7	1	2	5	-3
Wimbilington Road Recreation Ground	Adult Football	2	2	2.5	-0.5
Wimbilington Road Recreation Ground	Mini Soccer 5v5	1	2	2	0
Wisbech St Mary Sports And Community Centre	Adult Football	5	12	7.5	4.5
Wisbech St Mary Sports And Community Centre	Mini Soccer 5v5	1	4	2	2.0
Wisbech St Mary Sports And Community Centre	Mini Soccer 7v7	1	4	1.5	2.5
Wisbech Town Park	Youth Football 9v9	1	2	0	2

9.2.17 4 global Playing Pitch Platform Assumptions

- The 4 global Playing Pitch Platform has been developed specifically in line with Sport England methodology. The standard assumptions within the supply and demand model are applied on the platform:
 - **Pitch quality assumptions** - Adult, Youth and Mini soccer carrying capacities are generated through non-technical site assessment results.
 - **Match play and training demand** – matches and training form match equivalents on the platform in line with those set out in the guidance (e.g. 0.5 match equivalents per week for an adult team). Training and matches are distinguished between grass and AGP use.
 - **Capacity analysis** – supply and demand are factored together to provide an overall view of the balance as well as on a site-by-site basis. Pitches with no community use are not factored into balance calculations.
 - **Overmarking** – Overmarked pitches are identified and demand from teams on those pitches has been scaled down to represent any difference in time and nature of play.

9.3 Stage B Cricket Factsheet

Summary update:

- All cricket sites have been revisited during season to provide cricket quality assessments.
- Cricket clubs have been contacted by 4 global project team (response rate 100% – 6/6 clubs)
- Supply and demand analysis has been carried out for the current response rates

➤ Sign-off required from the NGB:

- Table 1: Supply breakdown of community used pitches
- Table 3: Pitch quality scores
- Table 4: Cricket clubs that have responded
- Table 6: Capacity analysis

9.3.1 1. SUPPLY OF PITCHES

Full supply table – this requires sign off from the ECB.

The following table provides a full overview of all cricket pitches that are currently being used for community use by cricket clubs in the area.

Table 1: Community used cricket sites

Playing Pitch Sites – currently providing community use for cricket	Secured community use	Squares	Wickets (grass)	Wickets (artificial)	Supply: grass - artificial
Benwick Road Recreation Ground	Secured	1	7	1	35-60
Chatteris Cricket Club	Secured	1	9	1	45-60
Gorefield Playing Field	Secured	1	0	1	0-60
Leverington Sports And Social Club	Secured	1	7	0	35-0
Manor Leisure Centre	Secured	1	5	1	25-60
March Town Cricket Club	Secured	1	11	1	55-60
Neale Wade Sports Centre	Secured	1	0	1	0-60

Playing Pitch Sites – currently providing community use for cricket	Secured community use	Squares	Wickets (grass)	Wickets (artificial)	Supply: grass - artificial
Parkfield Sports Club	Secured	1	0	1	0-60
Sir Harry Smith Community College	Secured	1	8	1	40-60
Wisbech Cricket & Hockey Club	Secured	3	18	1	90-60

The following sites also provide cricket pitches/wickets yet do not currently have community use at the site (this is not to say that community use isn't available, only that is not currently utilised for community use)

Playing Pitch Sites – currently providing community use for cricket	Secured community use	Squares	Wickets (grass)	Wickets (artificial)	Supply: grass - artificial
Wisbech Grammar School	N/A	3	23	0	115-0
Cromwell Community College	N/A	1	0	1	0-60

Tenure/ management breakdown

The following table provides a breakdown of the cricket pitches in the area by ownership (please note that this table refers to pitches and not sites).

Table 2:

Pitch ownership	Ownership of available cricket pitches	Ownership of unavailable cricket pitches
Education	2	4
Private	2	0
County Council	0	0
Local Authority	2	0
Charity/Trust	5	0
Unknown	2	0

Quality assessment

The 4 global project team has visited and assessed all cricket sites in the area. Each site (and pitch) has been provided with quality ratings for 5 areas (as per Sport England guidance) that can be seen in the table below.

Table 3: Pitch quality scores

Site	Outfield	Grass wickets	Non-turf practice	Artificial wickets	Changing/Pavilion	Overall Scoring	Rating
Benwick Road Recreation Ground	50.00%	100.00%	0.00%	85.71%	100.00%	83.93%	Good
Chatteris Cricket Club	100.00%	100.00%	66.67%	85.71%	100.00%	80.48%	Standard
Cromwell Community College	70.00%	0.00%	0.00%	57.14%	100.00%	75.71%	Standard
Gorefield Playing Field	70.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	100.00%	61.43%	Standard
Leverington Sports And Social Club	86.70%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	83.33%	Good
Manor Leisure Centre	50.00%	100.00%	0.00%	85.71%	100.00%	83.93%	Good
March Town Cricket Club	100.00%	100.00%	50.00%	85.71%	100.00%	77.14%	Standard
Neale Wade Sports Centre	70.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	100.00%	61.43%	Standard
Parkfield Sports Club	70.00%	0.00%	0.00%	85.71%	100.00%	85.24%	Good
Sir Harry Smith Community College	60.00%	100.00%	0.00%	85.71%	100.00%	86.43%	Good
Wisbech Cricket &	100.00%	100.00%	66.67%	0.00%	100.00%	79.17%	Standard

Site	Outfield	Grass wickets	Non-turf practice	Artificial wickets	Changing/Pavilion	Overall Scoring	Rating
Hockey Club							
Wisbech Cricket & Hockey Club	100.00%	100.00%	66.67%	0.00%	100.00%	79.17%	Standard
Wisbech Cricket & Hockey Club	100.00%	0.00%	66.67%	85.71%	100.00%	75.60%	Standard
Wisbech Grammar School	50.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	83.33%	Standard
Wisbech Grammar School	50.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	83.33%	Standard
Wisbech Grammar School	50.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	83.33%	Standard

9.3.2 2. DEMAND FOR PITCHES

This section provides an overview of the clubs in the area. Section one provides a summary breakdown of clubs that have responded to 4 global. Section 2 provides a breakdown of clubs that have yet to respond, along with action already undertaken and suggested further action required.

Table 4: Responding cricket clubs

Club	No. of competitive teams			Total
	Senior men	Senior women	Juniors	
March Town CC	7	1	3	11
Wisbech Town CC	7	0	6	13
Chatteris CC	3	0	4	7
Leverington CC	2	0	0	2
Wimblington CC	4	0	4	8
Whittlesey CC	2	0	0	2
Total	26	1	17	44

Section two: Non-responded cricket clubs

Table 5: Non responding cricket clubs

Club	4G contact	4G contact 2	Reason for no contact
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

9.3.3 3. Supply and demand balance – capacity analysis

The table below presents the supply and demand capacity analysis for cricket in the area.

Table 6: Capacity Analysis

Site Name	No of Pitches	No of wickets	No of Non-Turf wickets	Games Per Season		Site Comments
				Games played – (Adult – Junior)	Capacity	
Benwick Road Recreation Ground	1	7	1	23-0	35-60	Currently under capacity for grass/non turf wickets
Chatteris Cricket Club	1	9	1	29-16	45-60	Currently at capacity for grass wickets/ under capacity for non turf wickets
Leverington Sports And Social Club	1	7	0	24-0	35-0	Currently under capacity for grass wickets
March Town Cricket Club	1	11	1	63-17	55-60	Currently over capacity for grass wickets / under capacity for non turf wickets
Parkfield Sports Club	1	0	1	34-20	0-60	Currently under capacity for non turf wickets
Sir Harry Smith Community College	1	8	1	20-0	40-60	Currently under capacity for grass/non turf wickets
Wisbech Cricket & Hockey Club	3	18	1	90-36	90-60	Currently over capacity for grass wickets/ under capacity for non turf wickets

Table 6.1: Additional Usage

The table below shows additional (non-league) Cricket demand in the area*

Site	Matches	Adult/Junior	Length of match	Number of matches
Leverington Sports And Social	20/20	adult	1 day	5
Chatteris Cricket Club	Cambs over 60's	adult	1 day	2
March Town Cricket Club	U12 county	junior	1 day	1
	U17 county	junior	1 day	1
	Cambs Over 60's	adult	1 day	2
	Cambs County CC	adult	3 days	1
	friendlies	adult	1 day	4
	Cambs Over 50's	adult	1 day	1
Wisbech Cricket & Hockey Club	U12 county	junior	1 day	1
	U17 county	junior	2 days	1
	Cambs County CC	adult	3 days	1
	ECB regional softball competition	junior	2 days	1 round
	Cambs over 50's	adult	1 day	1
	Cambs over 60's	adult	1 day	3
Parkfield Sports Club				
Sir Harry Smith Community College				

***Note: this demand has been added accordingly to each site in table 6**

9.4 Stage B Rugby Factsheet

PROJECT DETAILS	
CLIENT NAME	Fenland District Council
ASSIGNMENT TITLE	Fenland Playing Pitch Strategy
DATE OF REPORT	22/06/2015
PURPOSE OF REPORT	RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION DATA COLLECTION SUMMARY AND SIGN OFF
INTERACTIVE MAP LINKS	http://arcg.is/1Ghtjkc

➤ **Summary update:**

- All Fenland rugby sites visited and assessed
- All information entered into the 4 global Playing Pitch Platform

➤ **Rugby Football Union sign-off required as follows:**

- Table 1 and 2: Pitch supply
- Table 5: Pitch quality scores
- Table 7: Team profile

9.4.1 Pitch supply

The number of rugby pitches in Fenland has been detailed in the two tables below. Pitches have been split into those that are/are not currently used by rugby teams in Fenland. It is important to understand where there may be potential further supply should the capacity analysis inform us that there is overplay within Fenland.

Table 1: Sites with current community use of rugby

Site name	Analysis Sub Area	Secured Community Use/Unsecured Community Use/	Ownership	Type of Pitch - available for community use			
				Adult non-floodlit	Adult floodlit	Junior	Mini/Midi
Elm Road Sports Field	Fenland	Secured	Private	1	0	0	0
Wisbech Rugby Club	Fenland	Secured	Private	3	0	0	0

Table 2: Sites with no current community use of rugby

Site name	Analysis Sub Area	Secured Community Use/Unsecured Community Use/	Ownership	Type of Pitch - available for community use			
				Adult non-floodlit	Adult floodlit	Junior	Mini/Midi
Wisbech Grammar School	Fenland	Secured	Education	5	0	0	0
Neale Wade Sports Centre	Fenland	Secured	Education	1	0	0	0
Sir Harry Smith Community College	Fenland	Unsecured	Education	0	0	1	0

9.4.2 Tenure/Management

The table below identifies the split in ownership of all rugby pitches in Fenland.

Table 3: Ownership and management rugby pitches in Fenland

Ownership (%)	Number of pitches	
	Senior	Mini
Local Authority	0%	0
Education	60%	100%
Higher Education	0	0
Further Education	0%	0
Charity/Trust	30%	0
Parish/Town Council	0	0
Sports Club/Community Association	10%	0

9.4.3 Management of pitches

Management (%)	% of pitches	
	Senior	Mini
Local Authority	0%	0%
Education	60%	100%
Higher Education	0%	0%
Further Education	0%	0%
Charity/Trust	0%	0%
Parish/Town Council	0%	0%

Management (%)	% of pitches	
	Senior	Mini
Sports Club/Community Association	40%	0%

9.4.4 Quality assessment

The 4 global site assessor has visited all sites and non-technical site assessments have been performed to provide an overall quality score that is in line with the RFU guidance provided below. The maintenance and drainage scores determine the capacity of a pitch.

Table 4: RFU pitch assessment guidance

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

The table below provides the pitch scores provided by the 4 global site assessor following a non-technical quality assessment of the rugby pitches that are used for rugby in Fenland. This allows us to understand the capacity of each pitch and in turn the capacity of the site as a whole.

Table 5: Site and individual pitch capacity

Site Name	Analysis area	Type of pitch	Pitch maintenance score	Drainage Score	Pitch Capacity	Overall capacity of site
Elm Road Sports Field	Fenland	Senior	2 - Poor (M0)	D2	1.75	1.75
Wisbech Rugby Club	Fenland	Senior	0 - Poor (M0)	D1	1.5	4.75
		Senior	0 - Poor (M0)	D1	1.5	
		Senior	2 - Poor (M0)	D2	1.75	

9.4.5 Pitch demand

9.4.6 Club breakdown

There are only 2 rugby clubs that operate within the Fenland area. The breakdown of teams in both clubs has been provided overleaf. Unfortunately, despite email and phone call follow up, 4 global has not received a response from March Bears RFC. As such, the supply and demand calculations from the RFU have been used to give an initial view of team profile.

Table 6: Team profile of clubs in Fenland

Club	Area	Adult teams	18-19 years youth teams	Junior teams (U13-17)	Mini/Midi teams (U7-12)	Totals
March Bears RFC	Fenland	2	0	0	0	2
Wisbech RFC	Fenland	2	0	3	6	11

9.4.7 Supply and demand balance

9.4.8 Site-by-site balance figures

The table below details the site-by-site capacity analysis for all sites used by rugby clubs in Fenland. Capacity analysis has not been carried out for sites where there is no demand for rugby (mainly educational sites). These sites have been detailed in table 2 above.

Table 7: Rugby site capacity analysis

Site Name	Pitch type	Quantity	Supply (Capacity)	Demand (Matches + training in match equivalents)	Balance (Supply minus demand)
Elm Road Sports Field	Senior Rugby	1	1.75	2	0.25
Wisbech Rugby Club	Senior Rugby	3	1.5	9	-1.63
	Senior Rugby		1.5		
	Senior Rugby		1.75		

9.5 Stage B Hockey Factsheet

PROJECT DETAILS	
CLIENT NAME	Fenland District Council
ASSIGNMENT TITLE	Fenland Playing Pitch Strategy
DATE OF REPORT	22/06/2015
PURPOSE OF REPORT	ENGLAND HOCKEY DATA COLLECTION SUMMARY AND SIGN OFF
INTERACTIVE MAP LINK	http://arcg.is/1Ghtjkc

Summary update:

- All hockey sites visited and assessed by the project team
- All hockey clubs have responded to the information gathering exercise
- All information is entered into the 4 global Playing Pitch Platform

➤ **England Hockey sign-off required as follows:**

- Table 1: AGP breakdown
- Table 3: AGP availability
- Table 5: Club analysis

9.5.1 Pitch supply

9.5.2 Quantity overview

There is a total of 7 sand dressed/sand filled in Fenland, all of which are available for community use. 3 AGP are half-size (60x50m). 3 AGPs are over 10 years old, suggesting that they may require replacement of the carpet. Small-sided AGPs are not suitable for hockey use therefore have been removed from the following table.

Table 1: Sites with full sized sand-based Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs) that provide community use.

Site Name	Analysis Sub Area	Ownership	Size	Sand Filled /Sand dressed	Floodlit	Age of surface	Condition (Quality score)
Neale Wade Sports Centre	Fenland	Education	110v70	Sand Dressed	Yes	5-10 years	73 - Standard
Thomas Clarkson Academy	Fenland	Education	110x70	Sand Dressed	No	2-5 years	75 - Standard
Wisbech Cricket & Hockey Club	Fenland	Charity	110x70	Sand Filled	Yes	Over 10 years	45 - Poor
Wisbech Grammar School	Fenland	Education	110x70	Sand Dressed	Yes	5-10 years	73 - Standard

The table below provides a summary of the scores provided to each site following the 4 global site assessment. The assessment of Artificial Grass Pitches was carried out in line with the England Hockey non-technical quality assessment aligned with the Sport England Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance.

Table 2: Overview of quality ratings

Quality rating	AGP
Good (80-100%)	0
Standard (50-79.9%)	6
Poor (0-49.9%)	1

The table below details the availability of AGPs at sites where they are utilized for hockey club use. This has been presented in the form of match slots (= c.2 hours AGP use). Although mid-week demand is mainly for training purposes, some matches may take place therefore in the demand section of this paper, training has been converted to match slots to allow for consistent measures. The availability of AGPs at hockey sites requires sign off from England Hockey.

Table 3: AGP availability at hockey club sites

Site name	AGP type (size)	Weekday peak hours available	Saturday match slots available	Sunday match slots available
Neale Wade Sports Centre	Sand Dressed (70x110m)	20	4	4
Wisbech Cricket & Hockey Club	Sand filled (70x110m)	20	4	4
Total		40	12	12

The table below summarises the ownership of AGPs in Fenland. It is clear that the majority of sites are owned by educational entities. The two sites currently used by Hockey clubs are Neale Wade Community Sports Centre and Wisbech Cricket and Hockey Club. Neale Wade is a sport centre owned by an educational facility while the Wisbech site is owned by the Harecroft Hudson Trust Committee and National Trust.

9.5.3 Tenure/Management breakdown

Ownership type	Percentage
Education	57%
Local Authority	29%
Charity	14%

9.5.4 Pitch demand

The table below provides analysis of the 2 hockey clubs in Fenland. Both of these clubs have responded to consultation. This section requires sign off from England Hockey.

9.5.5 Club/Team profile

Table 4: Club analysis

CLUB NAME	ANALYSIS AREA	ADULT TEAMS			JUNIORS	TOTAL
		SENIOR MEN	SENIOR WOMEN	MIXED		
Wisbech Hockey Club	Fenland	4	3	1 (Cup team only)	1 (Sunday training team)	9
March Hockey Club	Fenland	2	1	0	2	5

The table below highlights how the profile of Hockey teams across Fenland creates demand for competitive match slots throughout the week. A match slot consists of 2 hours of full AGP use.

Table 5: Competitive match slot demand

	Number of teams	Competitive Match slots required		
		Weekday	Saturday	Sunday
Senior teams (16-65)	10	0	5	0
Junior teams (11-15)	3	0	0	0

The table below highlights how the profile of hockey teams across Fenland creates demand for AGP training hours throughout the week. Senior teams train midweek however some junior teams/development centres may train on weekends. It is important to understand that this will impact on capacity analysis when considered with the competitive match slots required above.

Table 6: Training hours required

	Number of teams	Training hours required		
		Weekday	Saturday	Sunday
Senior teams (16-65)	10	7	0	0
Junior teams (11-15)	3	0	2	2

9.5.6 Site-by-site capacity analysis

The two tables below provide capacity analysis for the hockey club AGP sites in Fenland.

Table 7: AGP capacity analysis at hockey club sites

Site name	Supply (Match slots)			Demand (Match slots required)			Balance (Match slots)		
	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday
Neale Wade Sports Centre	10	4	4	0.5	2.5	0	9.5	1.5	4
Wisbech Cricket & Hockey Club	10	4	4	3	3.5	1	7	0.5	3

9.5.7 Sport England FPM Analysis

Sport England carried out Facilities Planning Model analysis in May 2015 that provided an overall conclusion on the supply and demand of AGPs in Fenland, which is as follows:

- Fenland is modelled to enjoy a decent supply of AGP provision for the delivery of hockey. It has 3 sites, all with 16 hours per week allocated. On this basis the vast majority of hockey needs are met in the district and those that are not are spread across the district and of limited numbers.
- Only two towns have their own direct provision but the other two market towns are not poorly served, based on a 20-minute drive time model. Whittlesey residents will pre-dominantly be served by facilities in Peterborough and those in Chatteris by those in March and Ely. Whilst a reliance on facilities in neighbouring authorities can be a risk the data is suggesting that it would be hard to justify any further hockey provision in the district