



CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE

FEBRUARY 2025

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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GLOSSARY

3G	Third Generation (artificial turf)
AP	Active Partnership
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
ASC	All Stars Cricket
BARLA	British Amateur Rugby League Association
CAT	Community Asset Transfer
CASC	Community Amateur Sports Club
CC	Cricket Club
CCB	Cheshire Cricket Board
CFA	Cheshire Football Association
CW&C	Cheshire West & Chester
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FF	Football Foundation
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
FIT	Fields in Trust
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GMA	Grounds Management Association
GPMF	Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund
HC	Hockey Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LFFP	Local Football Facility Plans
LMS	Last Man Stands
LPR	Local Plan Review
NGB	National Governing Body
NHS	National Health Service
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NTP	Non Turf Pitch
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
RFL	Rugby Football League
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
S106	Section 106
SE	Sport England
TGR	Team Generation Rate
WR	World Rugby
U	Under

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PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This update report sets out the key changes in the demand for and supply of playing pitches in Cheshire West & Chester (CW&C) since the original Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) was produced in 2021. This was commissioned by the Council and delivered by Knight, Kavanagh & Page (KKP).

The document highlights key changes that have taken place since 2021 and includes updates to the overall supply and demand analysis found in the original Assessment Report for each of the included sports. It then also renews relevant sections from the Strategy & Action Plan document including the sport-by-sport recommendations, the site-by-site Action Plan and the housing growth scenarios.

To inform the report, information has been provided by the Council and the relevant National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs). This is primarily in regards to alterations in supply (e.g., quantity, accessibility, availability and quality) and demand (informed via updated affiliation data) since the 2021 update.

A PPS is said to have a lifespan of three years, although this can be increased by keeping it robust and up-to-date. As such, conducting a review such as this will help to keep the PPS for CW&C useable, although moving forward the process should ideally take place on an annual basis. There will also come a point in time where the Steering Group will conclude that there has been significant enough change to entail the need for a full refresh of the study.

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PART 2: FOOTBALL

2.1: Introduction

Cheshire FA is the primary organisation overseeing the development (and some elements of administration) of football in CW&C. It is responsible for growing participation, promoting diversity and regulating the sport for everyone to enjoy.

Facility development for football is largely the responsibility of the Football Foundation (FF), which is a charity, linked to and funded by the Premier League, The FA and the Government (via Sport England), that helps communities improve their local football facilities through grant funding. It is committed to improving the experience of playing football for everyone involved in the game. The FF also acts on behalf of The FA as the strategic NGB for football in supporting development of the PPS.

Consultation

In order to update the data in this section of the report, consultation has been carried out with Cheshire FA, the FF and the Council. Additionally, updated affiliation data (2023/24) has been acquired as well as PitchPower quality assessments.

2.2: Supply

As seen in the table below, there has been a large increase in community available provision on an authority-wide level. There are now 345 pitches available for community use, compared to 287 that were available in 2021, representing an increase of 58 pitches. This is significant.

Table 2.1: Comparison of supply of community available football pitches (2021-2024)

Analysis area	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
2021						
Chester	34	8	10	18	10	80
Ellesmere Port & Neston	34	8	7	7	11	67
Northwich	24	6	14	9	13	66
Rural North	16	1	7	9	5	38
Rural South	5	-	1	1	1	8
Winsford	17	-	3	6	2	28
Total	130	23	42	50	42	287
2024						
Chester	38	9	15	22	13	97
Ellesmere Port & Neston	29	10	11	12	15	77
Northwich	25	8	21	13	13	80
Rural North	15	3	8	10	6	42
Rural South	5	1	2	3	5	16
Winsford	17	-	7	7	2	33
Total	129	31	64	67	54	345

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Some notable changes in provision have come at Water Tower Pitch (one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch) and Netherpool Road (three adult and one mini 5v5 pitch) which were previously unused. Further alterations have derived from pitch reconfigurations and previous unavailable sites becoming accessible, with this being the case at sites such as Queen's Park High School, Sir John Deane's College, The County High School, Weaverham High School, Winsford Academy and Rudheath Primary Academy.

Conversely, there has been a reduction of grass pitch provision at Helsby High School due to the development of an 11v11 size sports lit 3G pitch. In the 2021 study, the site had three adult and two youth 9v9 pitches, whereas it now accommodates the aforementioned 3G provision in addition to two youth 11v11 and two youth 9v9 pitches.

Informal pitches

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

Table 2.2: Pitch quality assessments (community use pitches)

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Post code	Comments
54	Jubilee Playing Fields	Chester	CH3 6DQ	One mini 7v7 size pitch with goal posts.
60	Lakehouse Field	Northwich	CW8 3HX	One adult pitch with one set of goal posts.
141	Canterbury Road	Chester	CH1 5BW	One mini 5v5 and one mini 7v7 size pitch with goal posts.
143	Cherry Grove Recreation Ground	Chester	CH3 5EG	One mini 7v7 size pitch with goal posts.
145	Clough Wood Playing Field	Northwich	CW8 1LA	One youth 11v11 pitch.
151	Greville Drive Playing Field	Winsford	CW7 3ER	One youth 9v9 pitch with one set of goal posts.
155	Linnards Lane Playing Field	Northwich	CW9 6ED	Area smaller than a mini 5v5 with posts.
165	Over Recreation Ground Playing Pitch	Winsford	CW7 2DJ	One mini 7v7 size pitch with goal posts.
174	The Green. Hartford	Northwich	CW8 1QA	Goalposts provided on site for recreational football.
179	Wharton Road Recreation Ground	Winsford	CW7 3EW	One mini 5v5 and one mini 7v7 size pitch with goal posts.
245	Pulford Playing Pitch	Chester	CH4 9EN	One mini 5v5 size pitch with goal posts.
267	Duddon Playing Area	Rural North	CW6 0HD	Area smaller than a mini 5v5 with posts.

The above has not altered much since the 2021 study, with only The Green, Hartford added. More detail on this is in the disused section, below.

Disused provision

The following table identifies all disused sites in CW&C that previously provided football pitches. Changes from the previous study are identified in the comment's column as well as any new sites which are no longer available.

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Table 2.3: Pitch quality assessments (community use pitches)

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Post code	Comments
69	Mount Pleasant Playing Fields	Chester	CH4 8PD	Identified as unused in 2021 study, the pitch is used on an ad hoc basis season by season. According to affiliation data, it was not accessed for the 2023/24 season, although it was marked out for use in 2022 based on satellite imagery.
87	Sealand Road Pitches	Chester	CH1 4LS	Identified in the 2021 study; however, it has since been developed upon with relevant S106 monies being obtained.
95	Tarporley Wanderers Football Club	Rural North	CW6 9BS	Identified in the 2021 study as a disused adult pitch which has been out of use since 2012 after the Club folded. This is still accurate in 2024.
105	The Grove Sports & Social Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	CH66 2NZ	Based on the 2021 audit, the site accommodated two adult (poor quality) and one youth 9v9 pitch (poor quality). Evidence provided by the relevant NGBs indicate all community access has stopped on the site. The site was last used for circa 2023/24.
174	The Green. Hartford	Northwich	CW8 1QA	Identified in 2021 study as disused, with an area of land leased to Hartford FC but that is not required by the Club. The site is now used for recreational football with a set of goalposts now onsite.
-	Former Handley Hill Primary School	Winsford	CW7 1EW	Identified in the 2021 study as a closed Community School (2009), with attached playing field approximately 1.7 hectares in size. A residential development has been approved on site, and as part of this development, there is a S106 agreement which allocates funding for replacement and new pitch provision. This development has since taken place.

Since the collation of the data for this document it should be noted that demand (Lache JFC) for the use of Mount Pleasant Playing Fields has identified following S106 funding for modular changing rooms. The site is anticipated to accommodate one adult pitch with potential over markings for youth and/or mini provision.

In addition, an adult pitch that used to be marked at Davenham Cricket Club (Northwich – CW9 8JF) is also no longer in use. However, the site is still actively used for cricket so cannot be classified as disused.

The main change for disused provision since the 2021 study has been the closure of The Groves Sports & Social Club. Groves FC (22 teams), Whitby Rangers FC (one team) and Woodlands FC (one team) all accessed the site to meet its 2023/2024 demand; however, they it will no longer be accommodating demand for the forthcoming 2024/2025 season. Online information indicates that Groves FC has secured the use of 3G provision and local authority provision to meet its demand.

It should be noted that the closure of The Groves Sports & Social Club will put a future strain on provision in the surrounding locality that will not be captured within the document. This

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should be reviewed as part of the ongoing Stage E process and eventual full refresh of the PPS.

Future provision

There are to be two mini 7v7 pitches reinstated at Huntington Community Primary School (Chester Analysis Area – CH3 6E) which will come online shortly.

As part of the Ledsham Garden Village development, there will be several football pitches established - initial plans outline two adult pitches to the north, a youth 9v9 and mini 7v7 pitch to the east and one adult and a youth 9v9 to the west. However, an exact timescale of when these pitches will become operational is unknown at this time.

The Council is to deliver a 3G pitch at Wrexham Road site, with the project to be fully funding through S106 monies from the development of the same name. It is also anticipated that there will be two grass youth 11v11 pitches accompanying the artificial provision.

Quality

The quality of football pitches across CW&C in 2021 was assessed via a combination of site visits (using non-technical assessments as determined by the FA¹) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◆ Good
- ◆ Standard
- ◆ Poor

For this review, the quality ratings have been revisited via consultation with the football partners and the Council as well as through utilising more recent PitchPower reports. This is to ensure the findings align.

The table below compares the quality of pitches that are available for community use in CW&C from the 2021 PPS and the update (2024).

Table 2.4: Pitch quality assessments (community use pitches)

Analysis area	Adult pitches			Youth pitches			Mini pitches		
	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor
2021									
Chester	6	16	12	3	9	6	6	14	8
Ellesmere Port & Neston	2	9	24	0	11	4	1	17	1
Northwich	2	12	10	2	12	6	0	15	7
Rural North	3	1	11	1	1	6	2	4	7
Rural South	1	1	3	1	0	0	0	2	0
Winsford	0	1	16	0	2	1	0	4	4
Total	14	40	76	7	35	23	9	56	27
2024									
Chester	13	13	12	6	9	9	4	15	16
Ellesmere Port & Neston	5	8	16	-	10	11	2	19	6

¹ See Appendix 3 for the non-technical assessment for football pitches

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Analysis area	Adult pitches			Youth pitches			Mini pitches		
	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor
Northwich	3	9	13	1	20	8	1	18	7
Rural North	3	2	10	1	1	9	3	5	8
Rural South	2	1	2	3	-	-	5	3	-
Winsford	-	6	11	-	3	4	-	5	4
Total	26	39	64	11	43	41	15	65	41

Broadly there has been an increase in quality since the previous study, with the percentage of good quality community available grass pitches rising from 10% to 15%. This is substantial, especially given there are now more community accessible pitches overall across CW&C. It is considered that most changes have primarily come as a result as of the S106 contributions and Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (GPMF), which is linked to PitchPower assessments.

In total, 10 sites across CW&C have received PitchPower assessments over the last couple of years, with the findings of these resulting in quality changes within this PPS review. A further summary of the sites included and the changes that have been resultant can be seen in the table below.

Table 2.5: Summary of quality changes based on Pitch Power reports and FF consultation

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Comments
15	Boughton Hall Cricket Club	Chester	Three adult, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 all rated as either good or advanced within their PitchPower report (Dec 2023). For the PPS, one adult pitch has changed from standard to good quality with all remaining pitches staying as good quality.
21	Cheshire County Sports Club	Chester	Previously identified one adult and two mini 7v7 pitches all of which were good quality. Recent PitchPower report (Dec 2023) identifies three poor quality adult pitches and two youth 9v9 pitches (one standard and one good quality).
28	Butchers Stile	Northwich	One adult pitch previously rated as poor quality, with this confirmed as poor by its PitchPower report (March 2024).
36	Field of Dreams	Chester	One adult pitch previously rated as standard and confirmed as this by its PitchPower report (June 2024).
39	Garrison Ground	Chester	Two adult and one youth 9v9 pitch changed from standard to good quality based on PitchPower report (December 2023).
52	Johnston Recreation Grounds	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Previously two quality standard adult pitches that are now one adult, one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch. Based on PitchPower report (December 2022), the mini pitch is poor quality; however, renovations have since taken place (summer 2024).
61	Little Heath (King Georges Field)	Chester	One adult pitch which remains good quality following an advanced rating in PitchPower report (November 2023).
96	Tattenhall Recreation Club	Rural South	Previously one poor quality adult pitch; however, based on recent PitchPower report (November 2023) the site now accommodates one standard

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Comments
			quality mini 5v5 pitch and one adult, one youth youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, three mini 5v5 and two mini 7v7 pitches that are good quality.
121	Weaverham Road Playing Field	Northwich	One mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 rated as poor in the PPS and confirmed as poor quality PitchPower report (April 2023).
262	Cassia Green, Whitegate	Northwich	One adult pitch previously rated as standard in the PPS and confirmed as standard by PitchPower report (January 2024).

In addition to the above, some pitch improvements have recently taken place at Moss Farm Leisure Complex, whilst plans are also in place at Knights Grange Sports Complex. Work is scheduled for the 2025/2026 season.

Pitch improvement

The FA has a Pitch Improvement Programme aimed at improving the standard of grass pitches across the Country. For provision included in the programme, clubs can utilise the services of the FF's PitchPower web app to carry out an on-site assessment of their pitches. This then provides the Grounds Management Association (GMA) with the detail needed to create a personalised, informative report to advise on how improvements can be made. Clubs then receive bespoke advice and support to help with any future actions, funding applications and equipment, with clubs getting access to discounted rates for machinery and consumables through local partnerships.

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

PitchPower is less restricted by the seasonal window of in-season play than the non-technical assessments within the PPS guidance, instead being able to be undertaken all year round, with assessments completed and submitted within one of three windows: September - October, November – March or April – June. Organisations receiving FF funding to improve their grass pitches must carry out two assessments a year, with at least one in the mandatory November – March window.

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

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

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Table 2.6: Agreed equivalent PPS quality rating for PQS ratings

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

In addition to PitchPower, the FA has a general pitch improvement strategy, in partnership with the GMA. As part of this, it has a Pitch Advisory Service that can be utilised by clubs with the aim of improving knowledge, skills and therefore the quality of pitches. The key principles behind the service are to provide clubs with advice and practical solutions in a range of areas, with the simple aim of improving playing surfaces. This is designed to help clubs on sites that they themselves manage and maintain but can also be used to advise local authority-maintained sites.

The FF and the FA have also recently developed a new GPMF that allows eligible organisations to apply for funding for maintenance assistance, consumables and/or equipment. Whilst local authorities are currently ineligible applicants through this fund, eligible organisations using local authority sites, typically clubs and leagues can apply provided they have evidenced landlord permission via a service level agreement.

Funding is awarded over a six-year period, with this including up to 100% of the total cost for years one and two and 66% of the cost in years three and four, which furthers tapers down to 33% for years five and six. Although a six-year fund, the grant terms and conditions cover a 10-year period to instil commitment from the recipient clubs.

2.3: Demand

As seen in the table below, there has been an overall increase in demand for football in CW&C, with a total increase of 53 teams. There has been a particular growth in adult women's, youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 demand, although this partly offset by a decrease in adult men's and mini 7v7 activity.

Table 2.7: Summary of competitive teams currently playing in CW&C by age group

Analysis area	Adult men's	Adult women's	Youth 11v11 boys	Youth 11v11 girls	Youth 9v9 boys	Youth 9v9 girls	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
2021									
Chester	42	3	51	10	36	2	48	45	237
Ellesmere Port & Neston	53	1	51	-	24	1	37	54	221
Northwich	26	3	46	26	25	32	44	32	234
Rural North	10	1	18	2	11	-	12	11	65
Rural South	3	1	2	-	2	-	1	-	9
Winsford	6	-	18	1	8	-	10	7	50
CW&C	140	9	186	39	106	35	152	149	816
2024									
Chester	47	7	58	8	41	8	50	60	279
Ellesmere Port & Neston	43	2	57	5	36	2	40	40	225

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Analysis area	Adult men's	Adult women's	Youth 11v11 boys	Youth 11v11 girls	Youth 9v9 boys	Youth 9v9 girls	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
Northwich	14	14	38	15	27	19	28	24	179
Rural North	12	2	22	4	13	5	14	18	90
Rural South	5	-	3	-	3	-	6	6	23
Winsford	8	2	18	2	15	6	12	10	73
CW&C	129	27	196	34	135	40	150	158	869
% change	9%	200%	5%	13%	27%	14%	1%	6%	6%

Of the 869 teams referenced, a total of 234 regularly access 3G provision to meet their demand and therefore do not add demand to grass pitches. This is an increase from the 2021 study of 32% (it was 177 teams).

Please note the above information does not include any imported demand and is solely CW&C based clubs.

Imported/exported demand

There are still high levels of imported demand into CW&C, mainly from the Cheshire Girls Football League which utilises the following on a central venue basis:

- ✦ Blacon Avenue (King George V Sports Hub) – Chester Analysis Area
- ✦ Hartford High School – Northwich Analysis Area
- ✦ Moss Farm Leisure Complex – Northwich Analysis Area

Notwithstanding the above, the large majority of this demand takes place on 3G provision and therefore will not impact the supply and demand analysis within this section.

Comparatively, there is little exported demand from CW&C.

Future demand

Using updated demand figures, with the same analysis of future population as the 2021 study (to 2030), there is an increase in anticipated growth in projected team numbers. The previous figures identified four adult men's, five youth 11v11 girls', 14 youth 9v9 boys', four youth 9v9 girls' and 17 mini teams, whilst there is now a predicted increase of four adult men's, four youth girls, 18 youth boys, four youth girls, 12 mini and 11 mini teams. This totals seven more teams.

2.4: Capacity analysis

Table 2.9 below provides an update capacity analysis based on the updated supply and demand findings. This uses the same process as the 2021 study, with the following capacity guidelines utilised:

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

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Using the above, the following is then determined on a pitch-by-pitch basis at each site:

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

Demand is identified as match equivalent sessions. This is because, whilst the main usage of pitches is likely to be for matches, other forms are also taking place e.g., training sessions, curricular activity and informal use.

Peak time for each format of play remains unaltered since 2021. This means that it is Saturday afternoons for adult football and Saturday mornings for all remaining pitch types. Peak time is based on when most teams are playing matches.

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

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

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

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

The table below identifies the way capacity balance is represented in Table 2.9.

Table 2.8: Capacity balance examples

Spare capacity in peak period (examples)	Explanation of capacity balance
1	Highlighted in green with a number denotes that the pitches have actual spare capacity at peak time.
-	With a dash, this indicates that the pitch is unavailable in the peak period. If it were to be made available, actual spare capacity could exist.
0	Highlighted in orange with a zero, this indicates the pitch is played to capacity, either overall or during the peak period.

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Spare capacity in peak period (examples)	Explanation of capacity balance
1	Not highlighted but with a value, this indicates that the pitch has spare capacity in the peak period; however, capacity has been discounted. This may be due to unsecure tenure and/or poor pitch quality.
1	Highlighted in red with a number denotes that the pitches are overplayed and have no spare capacity across the week. This includes at peak time, despite any availability at peak time which may exist.

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Table 2.9: Capacity balance examples

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity ³ (match sessions)	Capacity balance (match sessions)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
1	Abbey Gate College	CH3 6EN	No	Unsecure	Education	Rural South	Adult		Standard	3	3	6	3	3	Unavailable for community use
5	Aston By Sutton Primary School	WA7 3DB	No	Unsecure	Education	Rural North	Mini	(5v5)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use
6	Barnton Cricket Club	CW8 4QL	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Northwich	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	-	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity
6	Barnton Cricket Club	CW8 4QL	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Northwich	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	-	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity
6	Barnton Cricket Club	CW8 4QL	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	-	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity
7	Barnton Football Club	CW8 4LH	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Northwich	Adult		Standard	1	1	2	1	-	Played to capacity at peak time
9	Barton Stadium (Winsford United Football Club)	CW7 3AE	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Winsford	Adult		Standard	1	1	2	1	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to Step club usage
10	Belmont Road	CW9 7HS	Yes	Secure	Council	Northwich	Adult		Poor	1	0.5	1	0.5	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality
12	Bishops Blue Coat C of E High School	CH3 5XF	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Adult		Standard	2	2	4	2	2	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure
12	Bishops Blue Coat C of E High School	CH3 5XF	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Youth	(11v11)	Standard	1	2	2		-	Pitch played to capacity
12	Bishops Blue Coat C of E High School	CH3 5XF	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	2	2.5	4	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure
14	Blacon High School	CH1 5JH	Yes	Secure	Council	Chester	Adult		Standard	1	1	2	1	0.5	Actual spare capacity
14	Blacon High School	CH1 5JH	Yes	Secure	Council	Chester	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity
15	Boughton Hall Cricket Club	CH3 5EL	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Chester	Adult		Good	3	5.5	9	3.5	1.5	Actual spare capacity
15	Boughton Hall Cricket Club	CH3 5EL	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Chester	Mini	(5v5)	Good	2	3.5	12	8.5	-	Played to capacity at peak time
15	Boughton Hall Cricket Club	CH3 5EL	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Good	1	4.5	6	1.5	-	Played to capacity at peak time
15	Boughton Hall Cricket Club	CH3 5EL	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Chester	Youth	(9v9)	Good	1	5	4	1	-	Overplayed
16	Cairns Crescent	CH1 5JE	Yes	Secure	Council	Chester	Adult		Standard	1	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity
16	Cairns Crescent	CH1 5JE	Yes	Secure	Council	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	2	2		-	Pitch played to capacity
16	Cairns Crescent	CH1 5JE	Yes	Secure	Council	Chester	Youth	(11v11)	Poor	1	1.5	1	1.5	0.5	Overplayed
18	Capenhurst Electricity Sports & Social Club	CH1 6ER	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Poor	2	2.5	2	0.5	0.5	Overplayed
18	Capenhurst Electricity Sports & Social Club	CH1 6ER	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1	2	1	-	Played to capacity at peak time
21	Cheshire County Sports Club	CH2 1PR	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Chester	Adult		Good	3	5.5	3	2.5	1	Overplayed
21	Cheshire County Sports Club	CH2 1PR	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Chester	Youth	(9v9)	Good	2	3	6	3	-	Played to capacity at peak time
25	Christleton Sports Centre (High School)	CH3 7AS	Yes	Secure	Trust	Chester	Adult		Standard	2	4.5	4	0.5	2	Overplayed
25	Christleton Sports Centre (High School)	CH3 7AS	Yes	Secure	Trust	Chester	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	2	2		-	Pitch played to capacity
28	Butchers Stile	CW9 8JF	Yes	Secure	Council	Northwich	Adult		Poor	1	1	1		1	Pitch played to capacity

² Unless local information suggests otherwise it can be assumed that the availability of all pitches in Council, town and parish council and sports club ownership will be secure.

³ Based on pitch quality The FA recommends a maximum number of match equivalent sessions to be accommodate per pitch type. Please refer to Section 2.4 for the full breakdown.

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity ³ (match sessions)	Capacity balance (match sessions)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
28	Butchers Stile	CW9 8JF	Yes	Secure	Council	Northwich	Mini	(5v5)	Poor	1	0	2	2	1	Poor quality
28	Butchers Stile	CW9 8JF	Yes	Secure	Council	Northwich	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1	2	1	-	Played to capacity at peak time
30	Dog Lane	CW6 0RP	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Rural North	Adult		Poor	1	0	1	1	1	Poor quality
31	Duddon Village Hall	CW6 0HD	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	Rural North	Adult		Poor	1	1.5	1	0.5	1	Overplayed
32	Ellesmere Port Catholic High School	CH65 7AQ	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Standard	3	4	6	2	3	Unsecure tenure
32	Ellesmere Port Catholic High School	CH65 7AQ	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	5	5	20	15	5	Unsecure tenure
32	Ellesmere Port Catholic High School	CH65 7AQ	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Unsecure tenure
34	Elton Primary School	CH2 4LT	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Rural North	Adult		Poor	1	1	1	1	1	Unsecure tenure
34	Elton Primary School	CH2 4LT	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Rural North	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Unsecure tenure
35	Festival Park	CH65 8HS	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Poor	1	0.5	1	0.5	1	Poor quality
36	Field of Dreams	CH4 9FB	Yes	Secure	Commercial	Chester	Adult		Standard	1	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity
36	Field of Dreams	CH4 9FB	Yes	Secure	Commercial	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	2	4	2	-	Played to capacity at peak time
39	Garrison Ground	CH4 7ER	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Chester	Adult		Good	2	3	6	3	1.5	Actual spare capacity
39	Garrison Ground	CH4 7ER	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Chester	Youth	(9v9)	Good	1	3	4	1	-	Played to capacity at peak time
41	Green Bank Playing Fields	CW8 1LB	Yes	Secure	Council	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	0	1	1	1	Poor quality
43	Water Tower Pitch, Handbridge	CH4 7HS	Yes	Secure	Council	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Poor quality
43	Water Tower Pitch, Handbridge	CH4 7HS	Yes	Secure	Council	Chester	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	1.5	1	0.5	-	Overplayed
44	Hartford Cricket Club	CW8 1LU	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Northwich	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	2	-	8	8	2	Actual spare capacity
45	Hartford High School	CW8 1LU	Yes	Secure	Education	Northwich	Adult		Good	1	1	3	2	1	Actual spare capacity
45	Hartford High School	CW8 1LU	Yes	Secure	Education	Northwich	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	0	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity
45	Hartford High School	CW8 1LU	Yes	Secure	Education	Northwich	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	0	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity
45	Hartford High School	CW8 1LU	Yes	Secure	Education	Northwich	Youth	(11v11)	Standard	1	3.5	2	1.5	0.5	Overplayed
45	Hartford High School	CW8 1LU	Yes	Secure	Education	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Good	1	2.5	4	1.5	-	At capacity at peak time
47	Helsby High School	WA6 0HY	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Rural North	Youth	(11v11)	Poor	3	2.5	2	0.5	2	Overplayed
47	Helsby High School	WA6 0HY	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Rural North	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	2	2	2		-	Pitches played to capacity
49	Hoole Primary School	CH2 3HB	No	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use
49	Hoole Primary School	CH2 3HB	No	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use
50	J H Godwin Primary School	CH1 5JG	Yes	Secure	Education	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	2	4	2	1	Actual spare capacity
51	John Street	CH65 2HB	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Poor	1	0	1	1	1	Poor quality

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity ³ (match sessions)	Capacity balance (match sessions)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
52	Johnston Recreation Grounds	CH64 2TN	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Standard	1	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity
52	Johnston Recreation Grounds	CH64 2TN	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	2	2		-	Pitch played to capacity
52	Johnston Recreation Grounds	CH64 2TN	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(11v11)	Poor	1	1	1		1	Pitch played to capacity
52	Johnston Recreation Grounds	CH64 2TN	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	1.5	2	0.5	-	Played to capacity at peak time
53	Jubilee Fields	CW8 4EE	Yes	Secure	Council	Northwich	Adult		Poor	1	0	1	1	1	Poor quality
55	Kelsall Primary School	CW6 0PU	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Rural North	Mini	(5v5)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unsecure tenure
57	King George V Playing Field, Tarvin	CH3 8EG	Yes	Secure	Council	Rural North	Youth	(11v11)	Poor	1	1	1		1	Pitch played to capacity
58	Kingsway Sports Pitches	CH2 2LB	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Adult		Good	2	1	6	5	1.5	Unsecure tenure
59	Knights Grange Sports Complex	CW7 2PT	Yes	Secure	Council	Winsford	Adult		Standard	4	8	6	2	3.5	Spare capacity discounted to protect site quality
59	Knights Grange Sports Complex	CW7 2PT	Yes	Secure	Council	Winsford	Adult		Poor	6	6	4	2	5	Poor quality
59	Knights Grange Sports Complex	CW7 2PT	Yes	Secure	Council	Winsford	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	2	4.5	2.5	-	Overplayed
59	Knights Grange Sports Complex	CW7 2PT	Yes	Secure	Council	Winsford	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	3	3	3		-	Pitches played to capacity
61	Little Heath	CH3 7AH	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Chester	Adult		Good	1	2	3	1	0.5	Actual spare capacity
62	Lostock Gralam Football Club	CW9 7PJ	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Northwich	Adult		Good	1	2	3	1	-	At capacity at peak time
63	Luton Road	CH65 7DW	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Poor	1	0.5	1	0.5	1	Poor quality
63	Luton Road	CH65 7DW	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	1.5	1	0.5	-	Overplayed
64	Malpas & District Sports Club	SY14 7EJ	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Rural South	Adult		Standard	1	1	2	1	0.5	Actual spare capacity
65	Malpas Sports Centre (Bishop Heber High School)	SY14 8HT	No	Secure	Trust	Rural South	Adult		Standard	1	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use
66	Middle Lane	WA6 6TZ	Yes	Secure	Trust	Rural North	Adult		Poor	1	0	1	1	1	Poor quality
67	Moss Farm Leisure Complex	CW8 4BG	Yes	Secure	Trust	Northwich	Adult		Standard	3	4	6	2	2.5	Spare capacity discounted due to onsite developments
67	Moss Farm Leisure Complex	CW8 4BG	Yes	Secure	Trust	Northwich	Youth	(11v11)	Standard	2	7	5	3	-	Overplayed
67	Moss Farm Leisure Complex	CW8 4BG	Yes	Secure	Trust	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	3	9.5	6	3.5	-	Overplayed
70	Ness Playing Fields	CH64 4AT	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Poor	1	1	1		-	Played to capacity
72	Neston Primary School	CH64 9RE	No	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use
73	Neston High School	CH64 9NQ	Yes	Secure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Standard	1	4	2	2	2	Overplayed

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity ³ (match sessions)	Capacity balance (match sessions)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
73	Neston High School	CH64 9NQ	Yes	Secure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Poor	2	2	2		1	Played to capacity
73	Neston High School	CH64 9NQ	Yes	Secure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	3.5	1	2.5	-	Overplayed
74	Netherpool Road	CH66 1TH	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Good	3	3	9	6	1.5	Actual spare capacity
74	Netherpool Road	CH66 1TH	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(5v5)	Good	1	1	6	5	-	Played to capacity at peak time
75	Newton Primary School	CH2 2LA	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	1.5	4	2.5	-	Played to capacity at peak time
75	Newton Primary School	CH2 2LA	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	0.5	4	3.5	0.5	Unsecure tenure
75	Newton Primary School	CH2 2LA	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	1	2	1	-	Played to capacity at peak time
76	Norley Road Playing Field	CW8 2LB	Yes	Secure	Community	Northwich	Youth	(11v11)	Poor	1	4	1	3	1	Overplayed
76	Norley Road Playing Field	CW8 2LB	Yes	Secure	Community	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	2.5	1	1.5	-	Overplayed
79	Over Hall Community School	CW7 1LX	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Winsford	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	2	5	8	3	-	Played to capacity at peak time
81	Queen Elizabeth Playing Fields	CH1 5BU	Yes	Secure	Council	Chester	Adult		Poor	1	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Poor quality
82	Queen's Park High School	CH4 7AE	Yes	Secure	Education	Chester	Youth	(11v11)	Poor	4	4	4		4	Played to capacity
84	Rudheath Leisure Centre (UCAN)	CW9 7EL	Yes	Secure	Trust	Northwich	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Poor quality
84	Rudheath Leisure Centre (UCAN)	CW9 7EL	Yes	Secure	Trust	Northwich	Youth	(11v11)	Poor	1	1	1		1	Played to capacity
85	Saltworks Farm	WA6 7NZ	Yes	Secure	Trust	Rural North	Adult		Poor	2	3	2	1	1	Overplayed
85	Saltworks Farm	WA6 7NZ	Yes	Secure	Trust	Rural North	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	2	2	2		2	Played to capacity
86	Seacombe Drive Recreation Ground	CH66 2QN	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Poor	2	0.5	2	1.5	2	Poor quality
88	Seymour Drive	CH66 1SY	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Poor	2	0	2	2	2	Poor quality
89	Sir John Deane's College	CW9 8AF	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Adult		Standard	1	1	2	1	1	Unsecure tenure
89	Sir John Deane's College	CW9 8AF	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed
90	St Nicholas Catholic High School	CW8 1JW	No	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Adult		Standard	2	2	4	2	2	Unavailable for community use
90	St Nicholas Catholic High School	CW8 1JW	No	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use
90	St Nicholas Catholic High School	CW8 1JW	No	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	1	1		1	Played to capacity
91	St Saviours Catholic Primary School	CH66 2BD	No	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use
91	St Saviours Catholic Primary School	CH66 2BD	No	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity ³ (match sessions)	Capacity balance (match sessions)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
92	Stanney Grange	CH65 5HN	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(11v11)	Poor	2	2.5	2	0.5	1.5	Overplayed
92	Stanney Grange	CH65 5HN	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	2	2	2		-	Played to capacity
94	Tarporley High School & Sixth Form College	CW6 0BL	Yes	Secure	Education	Rural North	Adult		Good	3	3	9	6	3	Actual spare capacity
94	Tarporley High School & Sixth Form College	CW6 0BL	Yes	Secure	Education	Rural North	Youth	(9v9)	Good	1	1	4	3	1	Actual spare capacity
96	Tattenhall Recreation Club	CH3 9QF	Yes	Secure	Commercial	Rural South	Adult		Good	1	1	3	2	0.5	Actual spare capacity
96	Tattenhall Recreation Club	CH3 9QF	Yes	Secure	Commercial	Rural South	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	0.5	4	3.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity
96	Tattenhall Recreation Club	CH3 9QF	Yes	Secure	Commercial	Rural South	Mini	(5v5)	Good	3	1.5	18	16.5	1.5	Actual spare capacity
96	Tattenhall Recreation Club	CH3 9QF	Yes	Secure	Commercial	Rural South	Mini	(7v7)	Good	2	1.5	12	10.5	1	Actual spare capacity
96	Tattenhall Recreation Club	CH3 9QF	Yes	Secure	Commercial	Rural South	Youth	(11v11)	Good	1	-	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity
96	Tattenhall Recreation Club	CH3 9QF	Yes	Secure	Commercial	Rural South	Youth	(9v9)	Good	1	1	4	3	-	Played to capacity at peak time
97	Thackeray Drive Playing Fields	CH3 5LP	Yes	Secure	Council	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1.5	2	0.5	-	Played to capacity at peak time
98	The Catholic High School Chester	CH4 7HS	Yes	Secure	Education	Chester	Adult		Standard	2	2	4	2	2	Actual spare capacity
100	The County High School Leftwich	CW9 8EZ	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Adult		Poor	2	2	2		2	Played to capacity
100	The County High School Leftwich	CW9 8EZ	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	1	1		-	Played to capacity
102	The Dale Barracks	CH2 4BD	Yes	Unsecure	MOD	Chester	Adult		Standard	1	4	2	2	0.5	Overplayed
102	The Dale Barracks	CH2 4BD	Yes	Unsecure	MOD	Chester	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	2	1.5	4	2.5	0.5	Unsecure tenure
106	The King's School	CH4 7QL	No	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Adult		Good	5	5	15	10	5	Unavailable for community use
106	The King's School	CH4 7QL	No	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(5v5)	Good	2	2	12	10	2	Unavailable for community use
106	The King's School	CH4 7QL	No	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Good	2	2	12	10	2	Unavailable for community use
106	The King's School	CH4 7QL	No	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Youth	(11v11)	Good	2	2	8	6	2	Unavailable for community use
109	The University of Law (Chester)	CH3 7AB	No	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Adult		Poor	1	1	1		1	Played to capacity
110	Tilston Playing Fields	SY14 7HB	Yes	Secure	Community	Rural South	Adult		Poor	1	0	1	1	1	Poor quality
111	University Primary Academy Weaverham	CW8 3BD	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	2	2	2	-	Unsecure tenure
111	University Primary Academy Weaverham	CW8 3BD	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	2	2		-	Played to capacity
112	The Ellesmere Port CE College	CH65 6RS	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(11v11)	Standard	2	2	4	2	2	Unsecure tenure
113	Former Sutton High School (Princes Villa Junior Football Club)	CH66 3NG	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	2	1.5	8	6.5	0.5	Unsecure tenure

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity ³ (match sessions)	Capacity balance (match sessions)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
113	Former Sutton High School (Princes Villa Junior Football Club)	CH66 3NG	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	2	1	8	7	1	Unsecure tenure
113	Former Sutton High School (Princes Villa Junior Football Club)	CH66 3NG	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(11v11)	Standard	1	1.5	2	0.5	1	Unsecure tenure
113	Former Sutton High School (Princes Villa Junior Football Club)	CH66 3NG	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	2	2		-	Played to capacity
115	Vauxhall Sports & Social Club	CH66 1NJ	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Good	2	4.5	6	1.5	-	At capacity at peak time
115	Vauxhall Sports & Social Club	CH66 1NJ	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	2	3	8	5	-	At capacity at peak time
115	Vauxhall Sports & Social Club	CH66 1NJ	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(11v11)	Standard	2	5.5	4	1.5	-	Overplayed
115	Vauxhall Sports & Social Club	CH66 1NJ	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	3	2	1	-	Overplayed
118	Wealstone Lane Playing Field	CH2 1HB	Yes	Secure	Council	Chester	Adult		Poor	1	2	1	1	0.5	Overplayed
120	Weaverham High School	CW8 3HT	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Adult		Poor	3	3	3		3	Played to capacity
120	Weaverham High School	CW8 3HT	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	1	1		1	Played to capacity
121	Weaverham Road Playing Field	CW8 2SQ	Yes	Secure	Community	Northwich	Mini	(5v5)	Poor	1	1	2	1	-	At capacity at peak time
121	Weaverham Road Playing Field	CW8 2SQ	Yes	Secure	Community	Northwich	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1.5	2	0.5	-	At capacity at peak time
124	Westminster Park	CH4 8JQ	Yes	Secure	Trust	Chester	Adult		Poor	2	-	2	2	2	Poor quality
124	Westminster Park	CH4 8JQ	Yes	Secure	Trust	Chester	Mini	(5v5)	Poor	3	1	6	4	1	Poor quality
124	Westminster Park	CH4 8JQ	Yes	Secure	Trust	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	2	2	4	2	-	At capacity at peak time
124	Westminster Park	CH4 8JQ	Yes	Secure	Trust	Chester	Youth	(11v11)	Poor	1	2.5	1	1.5	1	Overplayed
124	Westminster Park	CH4 8JQ	Yes	Secure	Trust	Chester	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Poor quality
125	Whetstone Hey	CH66 3JX	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Poor	1	0.5	1	0.5	1	Poor quality
125	Whetstone Hey	CH66 3JX	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(11v11)	Poor	1	-	1	1	1	Poor quality
126	Whitby High School	CH66 2NU	No	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Standard	2	2	4	2	2	Unavailable for community use
127	Whitby Park	CH65 9QP	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Poor	1	0	1	1	1	Poor quality
127	Whitby Park	CH65 9QP	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(5v5)	Poor	1	1.5	2	0.5	-	At capacity at peak time

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity ³ (match sessions)	Capacity balance (match sessions)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
127	Whitby Park	CH65 9QP	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1	2	1	-	At capacity at peak time
127	Whitby Park	CH65 9QP	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(11v11)	Poor	1	0.5	1	0.5	1	Poor quality
127	Whitby Park	CH65 9QP	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Poor quality
128	Whitby Sports & Social Club	CH65 6QF	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Standard	3	5	6	1	1.5	Actual spare capacity
128	Whitby Sports & Social Club	CH65 6QF	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	3	2.5	12	9.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity
128	Whitby Sports & Social Club	CH65 6QF	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	-	At capacity at peak time
130	Wincham Park (Witton Albion Football Club)	CW9 6DA	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Northwich	Adult		Good	1	1	3	2	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to being Step club
131	Winnington Park Recreation Club	CW8 4EB	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Northwich	Adult		Standard	1	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity
131	Winnington Park Recreation Club	CW8 4EB	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity
132	Winsford Academy	CW7 2BT	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Winsford	Adult		Poor	2	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Poor quality
132	Winsford Academy	CW7 2BT	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Winsford	Adult		Standard	1	2	2		2	Played to capacity
132	Winsford Academy	CW7 2BT	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Winsford	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed
135	Winsford High Street Community Primary School	CW7 2AU	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Winsford	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unsecure tenure
136	Wolverham Park	CH65 5DN	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Poor	1	0	1	1	1	Poor quality
138	Woodlands Primary School	CH66 2JT	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	2	2		0.5	Played to capacity
138	Woodlands Primary School	CH66 2JT	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	1	1		0.5	Played to capacity
139	Burrows Hill Playing Fields	CW8 3AA	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	Northwich	Adult		Standard	1	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity
144	Deva Stadium (Chester Football Club)	CH1 4LT	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Chester	Adult		Good	1	0.5	3	2.5	1	Discounted due to Step football usage
147	Coronation Playing Fields	CH2 3HG	Yes	Secure	Council	Chester	Adult		Poor	2	1	2	1	1.5	Poor quality
147	Coronation Playing Fields	CH2 3HG	Yes	Secure	Council	Chester	Mini	(5v5)	Poor	1	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Poor quality
149	Eaton Road Playing Pitches	CH4 7EW	Yes	Secure	Council	Chester	Adult		Standard	2	0	4	4	2	Actual spare capacity
150	Great Barrow Field	CH3 7JJ	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	Rural North	Adult		Poor	1	1	1		1	Played to capacity
152	Griffith Park Football Field	CW9 7DS	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	Northwich	Adult		Poor	1	1.5	1	0.5	1	Overplayed

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity ³ (match sessions)	Capacity balance (match sessions)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
153	Helsby Community Sports Club	WA6 0DL	Yes	Secure	Sports club	Rural North	Adult		Standard	1	2	2		-	Played to capacity
154	King George's Field	CH1 5BD	Yes	Secure	Council	Chester	Adult		Poor	2	0	2	2	2	Poor quality
157	Lower Robin Hood Lane Playing Field	WA6 0BN	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	Rural North	Adult		Poor	1	0	1	1	1	Poor quality
157	Lower Robin Hood Lane Playing Field	WA6 0BN	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	Rural North	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	0	1	1	1	Poor quality
158	Main Road Playing Pitches, Moulton	CW9 8PB	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity
167	Parks Field	CH64 6RX	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult		Poor	1	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Poor quality
167	Parks Field	CH64 6RX	Yes	Secure	Council	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Poor quality
169	Profitts Lane, Helsby	WA6 9JX	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	Rural North	Mini	(5v5)	Poor	1	0	2	2	1	Poor quality
170	Queens Park Road Playing Pitches	CH4 7AD	Yes	Secure	Education	Chester	Adult		Poor	1	1	1		1	Played to capacity
170	Queens Park Road Playing Pitches	CH4 7AD	Yes	Secure	Education	Chester	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	1	1		1	Played to capacity
171	Saughall Colts Football Club	CH1 6BJ	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Chester	Mini	(5v5)	Poor	2	1	4	3	-	At capacity at peak time
171	Saughall Colts Football Club	CH1 6BJ	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Chester	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	2	4	2	-	At capacity at peak time
171	Saughall Colts Football Club	CH1 6BJ	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	2	3	4	1	-	At capacity at peak time
171	Saughall Colts Football Club	CH1 6BJ	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Chester	Youth	(11v11)	Good	2	3	8	5	2	Actual spare capacity
171	Saughall Colts Football Club	CH1 6BJ	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Chester	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	3.5	2	1.5	-	Overplayed
173	Tarporley Playing Fields	CW6 0DL	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	Rural North	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	0	2	2	1	Poor quality
177	Verdin Exchange	CW7 2BP	Yes	Secure	Council	Winsford	Adult		Poor	2	0.5	2	1.5	2	Poor quality
177	Verdin Exchange	CW7 2BP	Yes	Secure	Council	Winsford	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	0	1		1	Played to capacity
178	Waverton Village Hall	CH3 7QT	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	Chester	Adult		Poor	1	3	1	2	1	Overplayed
180	Whitegate Football Pitch (Plough Playing Fields)	CW7 2RZ	Yes	Secure	Council	Winsford	Adult		Poor	1	0	1	1	1	Poor quality
180	Whitegate Football Pitch (Plough Playing Fields)	CW7 2RZ	Yes	Secure	Council	Winsford	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	0	2	2	1	Poor quality
185	The Arches Community Primary School	CH1 5EZ	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	2	2	0	0	Played to capacity
186	Cuddington Primary School	CW8 2NY	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unsecure tenure
187	Tushingham-with-Grindley C of E Primary School	SY13 4QS	No	Unsecure	Education	Rural South	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use
188	St Chad's C of E Primary School	CW7 4AT	No	Unsecure	Education	Winsford	Adult		Standard	1	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use
189	Leftwich Community Primary School	CW9 8DH	No	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use
190	Meadow Primary School	CH66 4SZ	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	1.5	4	2.5	-	At capacity at peak time

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Site ID	Site name	Post code	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity ³ (match sessions)	Capacity balance (match sessions)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
190	Meadow Primary School	CH66 4SZ	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	3	4	1	-	At capacity at peak time
191	Kingsley Community Primary School	WA6 6TZ	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Rural North	Mini	(5v5)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unsecure tenure
192	Wimboldsley Community Primary School	CW10 0LN	No	Unsecure	Education	Winsford	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use
193	Sandiway Primary School	CW8 2ND	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	1	2	1	1	Unsecure tenure
194	Greenbank School	CW8 1LD	No	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use
195	Charles Darwin CP School	CW8 1BN	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	2	4	2	-	Played to capacity
195	Charles Darwin CP School	CW8 1BN	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1.5	4	2.5	0.5	Unsecure tenure
195	Charles Darwin CP School	CW8 1BN	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	1.5	2	2.5	0.5	Unsecure tenure
196	Oldfield Primary School	CH3 5LB	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	2	2	1	1	Unsecure tenure
197	Dee Point Primary School	CH1 5NF	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	2	4	3	-	At capacity at peak time
198	Great Budworth CE Primary School	CW9 6HQ	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Winsford	Mini	(5v5)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unsecure tenure
198	Great Budworth CE Primary School	CW9 6HQ	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Winsford	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unsecure tenure
199	Moulton School	CW9 8PB	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	1	1		-	Played to capacity
200	Over St Johns CE Primary	CW7 2LU	No	Unsecure	Education	Winsford	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use
201	Kingsmead Primary School	CW9 8WA	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	1	1		1	Played to capacity
202	Clutton C of E Primary School	CH3 9ER	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Rural South	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unsecure tenure
203	Christ Church C of E Primary School	CH65 6TQ	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	1	2	1	1	Unsecure tenure
204	Frodsham Manor House School	WA6 7LE	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Rural North	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unsecure tenure
205	St Winefride's Catholic Primary	CH64 9RW	No	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use
205	St Winefride's Catholic Primary	CH64 9RW	No	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	1	1		1	Played to capacity
206	Cherry Grove Primary School	CH3 5EG	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unsecure tenure
207	Belgrave Primary School	CH4 7QS	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unsecure tenure
208	The Delamere CE Primary Academy	CW6 0ST	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Rural North	Mini	(5v5)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unsecure tenure
208	The Delamere CE Primary Academy	CW6 0ST	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Rural North	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unsecure tenure
209	Brookside Primary School	CH66 2EE	No	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use
210	St Clares Catholic Primary School	CH4 8HX	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unsecure tenure
211	Acresfield Primary School	CH2 1LJ	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unsecure tenure
212	Barrow CE Primary School	CH3 7HW	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Rural North	Mini	(7v7)	Good	1	1	6	5	1	Unsecure tenure
213	Christleton Primary School	CH3 5QE	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unsecure tenure

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Site ID	Site name	Post code	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity ³ (match sessions)	Capacity balance (match sessions)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
214	Eaton Primary School	CW6 9AN	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Rural North	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unsecure tenure
215	Farndon Primary School	CH3 6QP	No	Unsecure	Education	Rural South	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use
216	St Oswalds C E Aided Primary School	CH1 6LG	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(5v5)	Good	1	1	6	5	1	Unsecure tenure
217	Rudheath Primary Academy	CW9 7JL	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	1.5	4	2.5	0.5	Unsecure tenure
217	Rudheath Primary Academy	CW9 7JL	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	2	4	2	-	At capacity at peak time
218	Tilston Parochial C of E Primary School	SY14 7HB	No	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use
219	The Acorns Primary & Nursery School	CH65 7ED	No	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use
219	The Acorns Primary & Nursery School	CH65 7ED	No	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use
220	Weaverham Forest Primary School	CW8 3EY	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Mini	(7v7)	Good	1	1.5	6	4.5	0.5	Unsecure tenure
221	Sutton Green Primary School	CH66 4NW	No	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use
222	Byley Primary School	CW10 9NG	No	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use
223	Whitegate CE Primary School	CW8 2AZ	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Winsford	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unsecure tenure
223	Whitegate CE Primary School	CW8 2AZ	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Winsford	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unsecure tenure
224	Tarporley C of E Primary School	CW6 0AN	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Rural North	Mini	(5v5)	Good	2	5	12	9	-	At capacity at peak time
225	St Mary of the Angels Primary	CH66 1QJ	No	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	2	2	4	2	2	Unavailable for community use
226	Saighton C of E Primary School	CH3 6EG	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Rural South	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unsecure tenure
227	Mickle Trafford Village School	CH2 4EF	No	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(5v5)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unavailable for community use
228	Weaver Vale Primary School	WA6 7PZ	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Rural North	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unsecure tenure
228	Weaver Vale Primary School	WA6 7PZ	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Rural North	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	1	2	1	1	Unsecure tenure
229	Mill View Primary School	CH2 1HB	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Poor	1	1	2	1	1	Unsecure tenure
230	Boughton Heath Academy	CH3 5RW	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unsecure tenure
231	Duddon St Peter's C of E Primary School	CW6 0EL	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Rural North	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	2	4	2	-	At capacity at peak time
232	Guilden Sutton Primary School	CH3 7ES	No	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use
234	Rivacre Valley Primary School	CH66 1LE	No	Unsecure	Education	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use
235	St Bede's Catholic Primary School	CW8 3BY	No	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Available for community use?	Type of tenure ²	Management	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity ³ (match sessions)	Capacity balance (match sessions)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
236	Tattenhall Park Primary School	CH3 9AH	No	Unsecure	Education	Rural South	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unavailable for community use
237	Dodleston Sports Ground	CH4 9NL	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Good	1	0.5	6	5.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity
239	Bostock Green	CW10 9JP	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	Northwich	Mini	(5v5)	Poor	2	1	4	3	1	Poor quality
240	Limewood Playing Fields	CH2 2HD	Yes	Secure	Council	Chester	Adult		Poor	2	1	2	1	1.5	Poor quality
243	Whalley Road Playing Field	CW9 5QB	Yes	Secure	Parish Council	Northwich	Adult		Poor	1	0	1	1	1	Poor quality
244	Ashton Hayes Playing Field	CH3 8AA	Yes	Secure	Council	Rural North	Adult		Poor	1	2.5	1	1.5	-	Overplayed
244	Ashton Hayes Playing Field	CH3 8AA	Yes	Secure	Council	Rural North	Youth	(9v9)	Poor	1	2.5	1	1.5	-	Overplayed
246	Carden Park Hotel	CH3 9DQ	Yes	Unsecure	Commercial	Rural South	Adult		Good	1	0	3	3	1	Unsecure tenure
246	Carden Park Hotel	CH3 9DQ	Yes	Unsecure	Commercial	Rural South	Youth	(9v9)	Good	1	0	4	4	1	Unsecure tenure
247	Waverton Primary School	CH3 7QT	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	2	2	6	4	2	At capacity at peak time
248	Barnton Primary School	CW8 4QL	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Adult		Standard	1	2.5	2	0.5	1	Overplayed
248	Barnton Primary School	CW8 4QL	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	1.5	4	3.5	-	At capacity at peak time
248	Barnton Primary School	CW8 4QL	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1.5	4	3.5	-	At capacity at peak time
248	Barnton Primary School	CW8 4QL	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	2	2		-	Played to capacity
249	Cransley School	CW9 6HN	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unsecure tenure
249	Cransley School	CW9 6HN	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unsecure tenure
250	Saighton Playing Fields	CH3 6BS	Yes	Secure	Council	Chester	Adult		Standard	1	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity
251	Oak View Academy	CW7 2LZ	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Winsford	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Unsecure tenure
252	Upton Heath Primary School	CH2 1ED	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Chester	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unsecure tenure
253	Ellesmere Port Sea Cadets	CH65 7EP	Yes	Secure	Community	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	2.5	4	1.5	-	At capacity at peak time
253	Ellesmere Port Sea Cadets	CH65 7EP	Yes	Secure	Community	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	2	4	2	-	At capacity at peak time
254	Darnhall Primary School	CW7 1JL	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Winsford	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unsecure tenure
256	Kingsley St John School	WA6 8EF	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Rural North	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	1	4	3	1	Unsecure tenure
257	Farndon Sports & Social Club	CH3 6NN	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	Rural South	Adult		Poor	1	2	1	1	0	Overplayed
258	Laburnum Playing Fields	CW9 8HR	Yes	Secure	Council	Northwich	Mini	(5v5)	Standard	1	0	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity
260	Lavender Drive	CW9 7JL	Yes	Secure	Council	Northwich	Adult		Poor	3	0	3	3	3	Poor quality
262	Cassia Green, Whitegate	CW8 2BP	Yes	Secure	Council	Northwich	Adult		Standard	1	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity
262	Cassia Green, Whitegate	CW8 2BP	Yes	Secure	Council	Northwich	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	0	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity
263	The Grange School Playing Fields	CW8 3AN	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Youth	(11v11)	Standard	3	4	6	2	3	Unsecure tenure
263	The Grange School Playing Fields	CW8 3AN	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	2	2	4	2	2	Unsecure tenure
265	Brook Road Playing Fields	CW6 9LU	Yes	Secure	Council	Rural North	Adult		Standard	1	0.5	2	1.5	1	Actual spare capacity
265	Brook Road Playing Fields	CW6 9LU	Yes	Secure	Council	Rural North	Mini	(7v7)	Standard	1	4	4		-	Played to capacity
266	Comberbach Primary School	CW9 6BG	Yes	Unsecure	Education	Northwich	Youth	(9v9)	Standard	1	2	2		-	Played to capacity

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Using the table above, a full review of capacity has been carried out on a site-by-site basis. The findings of this process is then illustrated below on a local authority-wide as well as area-by-area.

Actual spare capacity

In 2021, actual spare capacity totalled 29.5 match equivalent sessions per week. Upon refreshing the supply and demand data, this has now increased to a total of 42.5 match equivalent sessions per week, as seen in the following table.

Table 2.10: Summary of actual spare capacity in match equivalent sessions per week

Analysis area	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
2021						
Chester	8.5	0	1	2	0	11.5
Ellesmere Port & Neston	1.5	0	0	0	2.5	4
Northwich	2.5	1	0	3.5	3	10
Rural North	2.5	0	1	0	0	3.5
Rural South	0.5	0	0	0	0	0.5
Winsford	0	0	0	0	0	-
Total	15.5	1	2	5.5	5.5	29.5
2024						
Chester	10	2	1	1.5	0	14.5
Ellesmere Port & Neston	4	0	0	0	0.5	4.5
Northwich	3.5	-	2	3	5	13.5
Rural North	4	-	1	-	-	5
Rural South	1	1	-	1	2	5
Winsford	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	22.5	3	4	5.5	7.5	42.5

Most actual spare capacity is still identified on adult pitches, although some is also identified on the remaining pitch types.

Assessing each analysis area individually, there has been an increase in five of the six analysis areas, with only Winsford not experience a rise. There remains no actual spare capacity within it.

The increase in actual spare capacity can be linked to several factors, including an increase in the number of available pitches, an overall increase in quality and increase in the number of teams using 3G pitches rather than grass. This offsets the growth in team numbers.

Overplay

In CW&C, in the 2021 PPS, overplay totalled 63.5 match equivalent sessions per week. In comparison it now totals 44.5 match equivalent sessions. This represents a decrease of 19 match equivalent sessions.

The comparison is further shown via the table below.

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Table 2.11: Summary of overplay in match equivalent sessions per week

Analysis area	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
2021						
Chester	13	2.5	1.5	0	0	17
Ellesmere Port & Neston	11.5	6.5	2.5	0	0	20.5
Northwich	7	3	0	0	0	10
Rural North	8.5	2.5	0	1.5	0	12.5
Rural South	1.5	0	0	0	0	1.5
Winsford	2	0	0	0	0	2
Total	43.5	14.5	4	1.5	0	63.5
2024						
Chester	8	3	3	0	0	14
Ellesmere Port & Neston	2.5	2	4	0	0	8.5
Northwich	1	7.5	5.5	0	0	14
Rural North	3	0.5	1.5	0	0	4
Rural South	1	0	0	0	0	1
Winsford	0	0	3	0	0	3
Total	15.5	13	17	0	0	44.5

In particular, there has been a significant level of reduction in overplay on adult pitches across CW&C, especially in the Chester, Ellesmere Port & Neston, Northwich and Rural North analysis areas. This will be assisted by there now being fewer adult teams.

2.5: Supply and demand analysis

Having considered supply and demand, the tables below identify current demand (i.e. spare capacity taking away overplay) in each of the analysis areas for each pitch type, based on match equivalent sessions. Future demand from population projections is then added.

As mentioned, the closure of The Groves Sports & Social Club will put a future strain on provision in the surrounding locality that will not be captured within the document. This should be reviewed as part of the ongoing Stage E process and eventual full refresh of the PPS.

Adult pitch analysis

Table 2.12: Supply/demand balance of adult pitches in match equivalent sessions per week

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
2021					
Chester	8.5	13	4.5	3.5	8
Ellesmere Port & Neston	1.5	11.5	10	1.5	11.5
Northwich	2.5	7	4.5	0.5	5
Rural North	2.5	8.5	6	0	6
Rural South	0.5	1.5	1	0	1
Winsford	0	2	2	1	3
Total	15.5	43.5	28	6.5	34.5
2024					
Chester	10	8	2	1	1
Ellesmere Port & Neston	4	2.5	1.5	0.5	1

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Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Northwich	3.5	1	2.5	0.5	2
Rural North	4	3	1	0	1
Rural South	1	1	0	0	0
Winsford	0	0	0	0	0
Total	22.5	15.5	7	2	5

Since the original collation of data, the supply and demand balance of adult pitches has altered significantly. There was a previous shortfall of 28 match equivalent sessions, whilst spare capacity of seven match equivalent sessions now exists.

Youth 11v11 pitch analysis

Table 2.13: Supply/demand balance of youth 11v11 in match equivalent sessions per week

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
2021					
Chester	0	2.5	2.5	2	4.5
Ellesmere Port & Neston	0	6.5	6.5	2	8.5
Northwich	1	3	2	2.5	4.5
Rural North	0	2.5	2.5	0	2.5
Rural South	0	0	0	0	0
Winsford	0	0	0	0.5	0.5
Total	1	14.5	13.5	7	20.5
2024					
Chester	2	3	1	1	2
Ellesmere Port & Neston	0	2	2	0.5	2.5
Northwich	-	7.5	7.5	0.5	8
Rural North	-	0.5	0.5	0	0.5
Rural South	1	0	1	0	1
Winsford	-	0	0	0	0
Total	3	13	10	2	12

Shortfalls on youth 11v11 pitches across CW&C have marginally decreased from 13.5 match equivalent session per week in 2021 to ten match equivalent sessions per week in 2024.

Youth 9v9 pitch analysis

Table 2.14: Supply/demand balance of youth 9v9 in match equivalent sessions per week

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
2021					
Chester	1	1.5	0.5	2.5	3
Ellesmere Port & Neston	0	2.5	2.5	5	7.5
Northwich	0	0	0	2.5	2.5
Rural North	1	0	1	0	1
Rural South	0	0	0	0	0
Winsford	0	0	0	2	2
Total	2	4	2	12	14

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Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
2024					
Chester	1	3	2	4	6
Ellesmere Port & Neston	0	4	4	3	7
Northwich	2	5.5	3.5	3	6.5
Rural North	1	1.5	0.5	0.5	1
Rural South	-	0	0	0	0
Winsford	-	3	3	0.5	3.5
Total	4	17	13	11	24

The supply and demand analysis for youth 9v9 pitches has significantly changed, with a previous shortfall of two match equivalent sessions per week increasing to 13 match equivalent sessions. When factoring in future population increases within this age group the future shortfall grows to 24 match equivalent sessions from 14.

Mini 7v7 pitch analysis

Table 2.15: Supply/demand balance of mini 7v7 in match equivalent sessions per week

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
2021					
Chester	2	0	2	2.5	0.5
Ellesmere Port & Neston	0	0	0	2	2
Northwich	3.5	0	3.5	2.5	1
Rural North	0	1.5	1.5	0	1.5
Rural South	0	0	0	0	0
Winsford	0	0	0	1	1
Total	5.5	1.5	4	8	4
2024					
Chester	1.5	0	1.5	2	0.5
Ellesmere Port & Neston	0	0	0	2	2
Northwich	3	0	3	2	1
Rural North	0	0	0	0.5	0.5
Rural South	1	0	1	0	1
Winsford	0	0	0	0	0
Total	5.5	0	5.5	6.5	1

Broadly, the analysis of mini 7v7 pitches has remained the same with current spare capacity being 5.5 match equivalent session, compared to four match equivalent sessions in 2021. Similar to the previous study, when considering future demand, a minor shortfall of one match equivalent sessions arises.

Mini 5v5 pitch analysis

Table 2.16: Supply/demand balance of mini 5v5 in match equivalent sessions per week

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
2021					
Chester	0	0	0	11	11

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Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Ellesmere Port & Neston	2.5	0	2.5	3.5	1
Northwich	3	0	3	1.5	1.5
Rural North	0	0	0	0.5	0.5
Rural South	0	0	0	1	1
Winsford	0	0	0	1.5	1.5
Total	5.5	0	5.5	19	13.5
2024					
Chester	0	0	0	1.5	1.5
Ellesmere Port & Neston	0.5	0	0.5	1.5	1
Northwich	5	0	5	1.5	3.5
Rural North	0	0	0	0.5	0.5
Rural South	2	0	2	-	2
Winsford	0	0	0	0.5	0.5
Total	7.5	0	7.5	5.5	2

Currently, mini 5v5 pitches have minimal spare capacity of 7.5 match equivalent sessions per week. This has marginally increased by two match equivalent sessions compared to 2021.

2.6: Conclusion

Using the supply and demand analysis tables, it is determined that there is current spare capacity on adult, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches, with shortfalls on youth 11v11 and youth 9v9. However, after factoring in future demand from anticipated population growth, shortfalls become evident on mini 7v7 pitch types.

Table 2.17: Summary of supply and demand in match equivalent sessions per week

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
2021					
Adult	15.5	43.5	28	6.5	34.5
Youth 11v11	1	14.5	13.5	7	20.5
Youth 9v9	2	4	2	12	14
Mini 7v7	5.5	1.5	4	8	4
Mini 5v5	5.5	0	5.5	19	13.5
2024					
Adult	22.5	15.5	7	2	5
Youth 11v11	3	13	10	2	12
Youth 9v9	4	17	13	11	24
Mini 7v7	5.5	0	5.5	6.5	1
Mini 5v5	7.5	0	7.5	5.5	2

When compared to 2021, the overall supply and demand has changed quite substantially. This is particularly the case for adult football, where a large shortfall was previously present compared to overall spare capacity now existing. This is a consequence of their being fewer adult teams now in existence, whilst pitch quality improvements and a transfer of demand to 3G has also assisted.

In contrast, the opposite affect has been experienced for youth 9v9 pitches, with pitch shortfalls increasing. This is due to a large growth in demand for this format of play.

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There has been less alteration for youth 11v11, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches.

Football – grass pitch summary

- ◆ **It is determined that there is current spare capacity on adult, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches, with shortfalls on youth 11v11 and youth 9v9.**
- ◆ **When compared to 2021, the overall supply and demand has changed significantly in CW&C, particularly for adult pitches (for the better) and youth 9v9 pitches (for the worse).**
- ◆ **The closure of The Groves Sports & Social Club will put a future strain on provision in the surrounding locality that will not be captured within the document. This should be reviewed as part of the ongoing Stage E process and eventual full refresh of the PPS.**
- ◆ There has been a large increase in community available provision on an authority-wide level, with 345 pitches now available for community use compared to 287 that were available in 2021 (representing an increase of 58 pitches).
- ◆ The main change for disused provision since the 2021 study has been the closure of The Groves Sports & Social Club.
- ◆ Broadly there has been an increase in quality since the previous study, with the percentage of good quality community available grass pitches rising from 10% to 15%.
- ◆ There has been an overall increase in demand for football in CW&C, with a total increase of 53 teams.
- ◆ There has been a particular growth in adult women's, youth 11v11, youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 demand, although this partly offset by a decrease in adult men's and mini 7v7 activity.
- ◆ In 2021, actual spare capacity totalled 29.5 match equivalent sessions per week, whereas this has now increased to a total of 42.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◆ In the 2021 PPS, overplay totalled 63.5 match equivalent sessions per week, whilst it now totals 44.5 match equivalent sessions.

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

3.1: Introduction

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

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

Competitive rugby league play and contact practice is permitted to take place on 3G pitches which are deemed by the Rugby Football League (RFL) to meet its Performance Standard. Pitches fall under two categories; community club pitches which require retesting every two years and elite stadia pitches which require an annual retest. Much of the criteria within the RFL performance standard test also forms part of the World Rugby test, meaning World Rugby certified 3G pitches are considered by the RFL to be able to meet rugby league requirements, subject to passing an additional RFL performance standard test.

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

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

Consultation

In order to update this section, consultation has been carried out with Cheshire FA and the FF as well as other relevant NGBs (e.g., the RFU and RFL).

3.2: Supply

In total across CW&C, there are 17 11v11 size 3G pitches, all of which are sports lit and available for community use. This equates to seven in the Chester Analysis Area, five in the Ellesmere Port & Neston Analysis Area, two each in the Northwich and Rural North analysis areas and one in the Winsford Analysis Area (there is no 11v11 size 3G pitch in the Rural South Analysis Area).

Since the 2021 study there has been an increase of two 11v11 size 3G pitches, with additional provision provided at Blacon Avenue / King George V Sports Hub (Chester Analysis Area) and Helsby High School (Rural North Analysis Area).

The current supply is summarised site-by-site in the table overleaf.

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Table 3.1: 11v11 size 3G pitches in CW&C

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Com use?	Post code	Sports lighting?	Measurements ⁴	Certification	Expiry
13	Blacon Avenue (King George V Sports Hub)	Chester	Yes	CH1 5BD	Yes	105 x 70	FIFA	31/05/25
14	Blacon High School	Chester	Yes	CH1 5JH	Yes	100 x 60	FIFA	31/05/27
21	Cheshire County Sports Club	Chester	Yes	CH2 1PR	Yes	100 x 60	FA	31/05/27
21	Cheshire County Sports Club	Chester	Yes	CH2 1PR	Yes	100 x 60	FA	31/05/27
24	Chester Rugby Union Football Club	Chester	Yes	CH3 7DB	Yes	110 x 72	FA WR	31/05/27 21/05/26
25	Christleton Sports Centre	Chester	Yes	CH3 7AS	Yes	105 x 70	FA	31/05/25
45	Hartford High School	Northwich	Yes	CW8 1LH	Yes	105 x 70	FA	31/05/27
47	Helsby High School	Rural North	Yes	WA6 0HY	Yes	105 x 70	FIFA	31/05/25
67	Moss Farm Leisure Complex	Northwich	Yes	CW8 4BG	Yes	105 x 70	FA	31/05/26
73	Neston High School	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Yes	CH64 9NQ	Yes	105 x 70	FA	31/05/27
112	Ellesmere Port CE College / University Church of England Academy	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Yes	CH65 6RS	Yes	100 x 60	Expired	-
114	University of Chester (Main Campus)	Chester	Yes	CH1 4BJ	Yes	100 x 60	Expired	-
115	Vauxhall Sports & Social Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Yes	CH66 1NJ	Yes	105 x 64	FIFA	31/05/25
115	Vauxhall Sports & Social Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Yes	CH66 1NJ	Yes	100 x 60	FIFA	31/05/25
132	Winsford Academy	Winsford	Yes	CW7 2BT	Yes	105 x 68	FA	31/05/27
153 ⁵	Helsby Community Sports Club	Rural North	Yes	WA6 0DL	Yes	106 x 70	FIFA WR	31/05/27 24/07/26
261 ⁶	Ellesmere Port Sports Village	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Yes	CH65 9LB	Yes	100 x 60	FA	31/05/26

⁴ Size is in metres

⁵ Re-allocated from 46.

⁶ Re-allocated from 33.

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As additional context that has been provided by the FF since the 2021 study, if a new pitch is proposed to measure below recommended 11v11 dimensions, then justification must be provided for this in relation to the identified needs it will provide for and/or site constraints. In doing so, the impacts of a reduced pitch size in meeting current and future needs must be considered e.g., a pitch not providing the recommended dimensions for adult match play and/or only being able to accommodate one rather than two overmarked 9v9 pitches. This justification needs to be included in the planning application details submitted to the relevant Local Planning Authority for the new pitch.

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

Smaller sized

In total there are 17 smaller sized 3G pitches, of which 14 are available for community use. All community available provision is sports lit and split between the Chester (nine), Rural South (one) and Ellesmere Port & Neston (four) analysis areas. There is no community available smaller sized pitches in the Rural North, Northwich or Winsford analysis areas.

Similar to the 11v11 size 3G pitches, there has been an increase of two smaller sized pitches since 2021 with one each at Goals Soccer Centre and Malpas & District Sports Club. Both were established circa 2022, with the latter being a conversion of a small size hockey suitable AGP.

Table 3.2: Small size 3G pitches in CW&C

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Sports lighting?	Size (metres)
40	Goals Soccer Centre	CH1 4LT	Chester	Yes	Yes	40 x 25
40	Goals Soccer Centre	CH1 4LT	Chester	Yes	Yes	40 x 25
40	Goals Soccer Centre	CH1 4LT	Chester	Yes	Yes	30 x 20
40	Goals Soccer Centre	CH1 4LT	Chester	Yes	Yes	30 x 20
40	Goals Soccer Centre	CH1 4LT	Chester	Yes	Yes	30 x 20
40	Goals Soccer Centre	CH1 4LT	Chester	Yes	Yes	30 x 20
40	Goals Soccer Centre	CH1 4LT	Chester	Yes	Yes	30 x 20
40	Goals Soccer Centre	CH1 4LT	Chester	Yes	Yes	30 x 20
64	Malpas & District Sports Club	SY14 7EJ	Rural South	Yes	Yes	35 x 30
102	The Dale Barracks	CH2 4BD	Chester	Yes	Yes	45 x 30
128	Whitby Sports & Social Club	CH65 6QF	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Yes	Yes	30 x 20
128	Whitby Sports & Social Club	CH65 6QF	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Yes	Yes	30 x 20
128	Whitby Sports & Social Club	CH65 6QF	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Yes	Yes	30 x 20
128	Whitby Sports & Social Club	CH65 6QF	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Yes	Yes	30 x 20

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Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Sports lighting?	Size (metres)
209	Brookside Primary School	CH66 2EE	Ellesmere Port & Neston	No	No	33 x 17
221	Sutton Primary School	CH66 4NW	Ellesmere Port & Neston	No	No	30 x 20
238	Thornton Science Park	CH2 4NU	Ellesmere Port & Neston	No	Yes	30 x 20

Governing Body Certification

The 11v11 size pitch at University of Chester (Main Campus) was previously both FA and World Rugby compliant; however, the certification for these has since expired. This means it should no longer be used for football or rugby union match play.

Further analysis is required as part of the ongoing Stage E process to understand if this is required to be retested to meet rugby union demand. Previous demand from the University is now located at Chester Rugby Union Football Club.

The 11v11 size pitches at Ellesmere Port CE College / University Church of England Academy also has expired certification in relation to football.

For the remaining 11v11 size pitches, all are either FA or FIFA certified allowing for both training and competitive demand. Two are also World Rugby compliant at Chester Rugby Union Football Club and Helsby Community Sports Club.

No smaller sized pitches are accredited for either sport.

Future provision

In the 2021 study, there were a number of potential 3G projects identified. The below provides updates on these, where known, in addition to any new developments. As mentioned, the projects at Blacon Avenue (King George V Sports Hub), Helsby High School and Malpas & District Sports Club have been delivered, meaning these are no longer included within this section.

A planning application was approved in August 2024 (24/01441/FUL) for the development of sporting facilities at Moss Farm Leisure Complex which will see the creation of a second full size sports lit 3G pitch (adjoining the current 3G pitch). This pitch will replace a grass adult football pitch once established. Recent information provided by the FF indicates the project was funded in late 2024 with construction currently under way in early 2025.

Planning was approved in December 2023 for the creation of a 11v11 size sports lit 3G pitch at Weaverham High School (Northwich Analysis Area). The provision will be situated on an area of playing field land which is currently unused due to its poor quality, although historically it has accommodated a youth 11v11 pitch. It will be built to meet FIFA certification and accommodate a shock pad. It is to be partly funded by the FF. Similar to the above the FF report the project was funded early 2024 with development currently underway.

It should be identified that a shock pad does not allow for rugby union activity to take place as a World Rugby Certification is required. Any relevant certification will need to be driven by

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the Schools aspiration as there is currently no interest from local community rugby union clubs to utilise the pitch on a regular basis.

A planning application (23/01062/FUL) was submitted in March 2023 for the erection of a third 11v11 size 3G pitch at Vauxhall Sports & Social Club. The plan indicates that the proposed provision will replace an adult grass football pitch and accompany the two 11v11 size 3G pitches already in situ. A decision on the matter is still awaiting at the time of writing.

As discussed in Part 2: Football, the Council is to deliver a 3G pitch at Wrexham Road site, with the project to be fully funding through S106 monies from the development of the same name. It is also anticipated that there will be two grass youth 11v11 pitches accompanying the artificial provision.

Conversely, a proposed development of a 11v11 size 3G pitch at Knights Grange Sports Complex was not progressed in 2023 as the PPS had not identified a shortfall in the area, meaning that external funding could not be secured. Priority has now been placed on grass pitch and ancillary improvements.

Quality

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

The table below examines the age and quality of all 11v11 size pitches in CW&C from the 2021 PPS and their current quality (2024).

Table 3.3: Age and quality of community available 11v11 size 3G pitches

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Year installed/ resurfaced	Quality (2021)	Quality (2024)
13	Blacon Avenue (King George V Sports Hub)	Chester	2022	N/A	Good
14	Blacon High School	Chester	2016	Good	Standard
21	Cheshire County Sports Club	Chester	2017	Good	Standard
21	Cheshire County Sports Club	Chester	2020	Good	Good
24	Chester Rugby Union Football Club	Chester	2018	Good	Good
25	Christleton Sports Centre	Chester	2013	Standard	Standard
45	Hartford High School	Northwich	2016	Good	Standard
46	Helsby Community Sports Club	Rural North	2020	Good	Good
47	Helsby High School	Rural North	2024	N/A	Good
67	Moss Farm Leisure Complex	Northwich	2015	Good	Standard
73	Neston High School	Ellesmere Port & Neston	2020	Good	Good
112	University Church of England Academy	Ellesmere Port & Neston	2012	Standard	Poor
114	University of Chester (Chester Campus)	Chester	2011	Standard	Poor
115	Vauxhall Sports & Social Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	2018	Good	Standard

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Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Year installed/ resurfaced	Quality (2021)	Quality (2024)
115	Vauxhall Sports & Social Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	2018	Good	Standard
132	Winsford Academy	Winsford	2016	Good	Standard
261	Ellesmere Port Sports Village	Ellesmere Port & Neston	2015	Good	Standard

As shown, the overall quality of 11v11 size pitches has lessened mainly due to the aging of the playing surfaces. In particular, the pitches at University of Chester and University Church of England Academy are now rated as poor quality with both no longer on the FA register. The pitch at Christleton Sports Centre is still standard quality, although due to its age it is anticipated to become poor quality before the next full PPS, if it is not resurfaced.

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3.3: Demand

The table below summarises the current availability and usage levels of 3G pitches in CW&C, based on 2024 supply and demand findings. This also utilises Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM), which applies an overall peak period for AGPs of 34 hours per week (Monday to Thursday 17:00-21:00; Friday 17:00-19:00; Saturday and Sunday 09:00-17:00).

The only pitch which is not readily available throughout the week is located at the University of Chester (Chester Campus), with the University reporting that the pitch is predominately utilised internally throughout the week with any community availability limited to weekend mornings and infrequent evening slots. It should be noted that there is a CUA in situ however due to the substantial demand from the University at peak time the only available slots are those which are deemed less favourable by community clubs.

As referenced in Part 2 of this report, there are 234 football teams using 3G for matches. This represents significant usage and is an increase on 2021 findings (177 teams).

Table 3.4: Summary of availability of full size 3G pitches

Site ID	Site	Availability	Usage
13	Blacon Avenue (King George V Sports Hub)	Generally available Monday to Friday 09:00 to 22:00. Weekend availability 09:00 to 17:00.	Fully available based on FPM modelling (34 hours) with around six hours free at the weekend and limited availability midweek (around two hours). Approximately 24% free capacity mostly weekend afternoons.
14	Blacon High School	Reserved for school use until 17:30 during the week. Available to the community from 17:30 until 22:00 Monday to Friday and from 10:00 until 21:00 Saturday to Sunday.	Current usage unknown.
21	Cheshire County Sports Club	Available to the community from 09:00 until 21:00 on throughout the week, although Upton-by-Chester High School has first option until 17:00.	Fully available based on FPM modelling (34 hours) Current usage unknown. Based on the 2021 study each pitch has approximately 14 hours available (41%) with 11 of these being on Saturday and Sunday. Limited availability midweek.
24	Chester Rugby Club	Available to the community every day from 08:00 until 22:00 although the majority of capacity is reserved for internal use.	Fully available based on FPM modelling (34 hours) with around one hour free at the weekend and limited availability midweek (around four hours). Approximately 15% free capacity.

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Site ID	Site	Availability	Usage
25	Christleton Sports Centre	Reserved for school use until 17:30 during the week. Available to the community from 17:30 until 21:30 Monday to Friday and from 09:00 until 17:00 Saturday to Sunday.	Available for 31.5 / 34 hours based on FPM modelling. Around eight hours free at the weekend and limited availability midweek (around four hours). Approximately 37% free capacity mostly weekend afternoons.
45	Hartford High School	Reserved for school use until 17:00 during the week. Available to the community from 17:00 until 22:00 Monday to Friday and from 10:00 until 22:00 Saturday to Sunday.	Available for 32 / 34 hours based on FPM modelling. Around eight hours free at the weekend. Approximately 25% free capacity mostly weekend afternoons.
46	Helsby Community Sports Club	Available to the community midweek from 09:00 until 22:00 and 08:30 to 22:00 at the weekend.	Current usage unknown.
47	Helsby High School	Reserved for school use until 17:00 during the week. Available to the community from 17:00 until 22:00 Monday to Friday and from 08:30 until 22:00 Saturday to Sunday.	Fully available based on FPM modelling (34 hours) with around six hours free at the weekend and limited availability midweek (around four hours). Approximately 29% free capacity with most capacity on weekend afternoons.
67	Moss Farm Leisure Complex	Available to the community every day from 08:00 until 22:00.	Fully available based on FPM modelling (34 hours) with limited spare capacity available.
73	Neston High School	Reserved for school use until 17:00 during the week. Available to the community from 17:00 until 22:00 Monday to Friday, from 08:00 until 20:00 Saturday to Sunday.	Fully available based on FPM modelling (34 hours) with around ten hours free at the weekend and limited availability midweek. Approximately 30% free capacity with most capacity on weekend afternoons.
112	University Church of England Academy	Reserved for school use until 17:30 during the week. Available to the community from 17:30 until 21:30 Monday to Friday and from 09:00 until 21:30 at the weekend.	Available for 31.5 / 34 hours based on FPM modelling. Around eight hours free at the weekend and eight hours free midweek (around four hours). Approximately 50% free capacity mostly weekend afternoons.
114	University of Chester (Chester Campus)	Available for community use, however, access is limited for external clubs as the pitch is predominantly used by the University's multiple sports teams.	Fully available based on FPM modelling (34 hours) however external usage is limited due to University demand.
115	Vauxhall Sports & Social Club	Available to the community every day from 08:00 until 22:00 although the majority of capacity is reserved for internal use.	Both pitches are fully available based on FPM modelling (34 hours) with limited to no capacity for additional demand. This being said online booking details indicate the pitches are closed for external hiring.

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Site ID	Site	Availability	Usage
132	Winsford Academy	Reserved for school use until 17:00 during the week. Available to the community from 17:00 until 22:00 Monday to Friday, from 08:00 until 22:00 Saturday to Sunday.	Fully available based on FPM modelling (34 hours) with around 5 hours free at the weekend and limited midweek (around six hours). Approximately 32% free capacity mostly weekend afternoons and Monday evenings.
261	Ellesmere Port Sports Village	Available to the community from 06:30 until 22:00 Monday to Friday and from 08:00 until 20:00 Saturday to Sunday.	Fully available based on FPM modelling (34 hours) with around ten hours free at the weekend and limited availability midweek. Approximately 30% free capacity with most capacity on weekend afternoons.

In summary most 11v11 size 3G pitches across CW&C are operating at, or close to capacity midweek, with some availability for additional usage at the weekends. With this being said the time at the weekends that are available is often outside of peak time for match play and therefore will likely remain not utilised. Further research is required to understand the exact usage of the pitches at Helsby Community Sports Centre and Blacon High School.

3.4: Supply and demand analysis

FA training scenario

As in the 2021 study, it is estimated that one 11v11 size 3G pitch can service by up 38 football teams for training purposes. However, a slightly different methodology is now used, with the inclusion of smaller sized provision. To calculate their contribution, a pitch large enough to cater for youth matches (but not adult) is considered to be the equivalent of half a 11v11 size pitch (0.5 pitches), whilst a pitch that is large enough for mini matches (but not youth or adult) is the equivalent of quarter of a 11v11 size pitch (0.25 pitches). Any pitch smaller than this remains discounted as they are considered too small to accommodate purposeful training activity (although it is recognised that they can meet wider community needs), as are any pitches that are unavailable for community use.

Notwithstanding the above, only the smaller sized 3G pitch in CW&C that can be factored into the scenario is located at Malpas & District Sports Club (35 x 30 metres). This is because it is the only pitch which is available for community use, is of suitable size and is accompanied by sports lighting. It equates to 0.25 11v11 size equivalents in the Rural South Analysis Area.

Provision at Goals Soccer Centre and Whitby Sports & Social Club is considered too small to accommodate any meaningful demand, whereas the pitches at Brookside Primary School, Sutton Primary School and Thornton Science Park are all unavailable for community use. The pitch at The Dale Barracks has also not been factored in as it is located on a MOD site, meaning tenure is unsecure and access could be prevented at short notice.

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As seen in the table below, there is a need for 22.75 11v11 size 3G pitches in CW&C, with this using latest affiliation data (2023/2024). This means a currently shortfall of 8.5 pitches.

Table 3.5: Current demand for 3G pitches in CW&C for affiliated football team training

Analysis area	Current number of teams	Current requirement	Current number of 11v11 size 3G pitches	Current shortfall
2021				
Chester	237	6	6	1
Ellesmere Port & Neston	221	6	5	1
Northwich	234	6	2	4
Rural North	65	2	1	1
Rural South	9	-	-	0
Winsford	50	1	1	0
2024 (new analysis)				
Chester	279	7.34 – 7.25	4	3.25
Ellesmere Port & Neston	225	5.9 - 6	5	1
Northwich	179	4.7 – 4.75	2	2.75
Rural North	90	2.36 – 2.25	2	0.25
Rural South	23	0.6 – 0.5	0.25	0.25
Winsford	73	1.9 - 2	1	1

Since 2021, there has been an increase of two 11v11 size 3G pitch equivalents with one in each of the Chester (Blacon Avenue) and Rural North (Helsby High School) analysis areas. However, the shortfall has increased by 1.5 pitches due to a growth in demand and the exclusion of pitches at Chester Rugby Club (because of rugby union use) and University of Chester (due to University use).

The shortfall has increased in the Chester and Winsford analysis areas, whereas in the Northwich Analysis Area it has decreased, despite no new provision being established. This is partly due to some of the demand relocating to utilise the newer 3G provision and the removal of any imported demand which use the provision as a central venue, as these clubs and teams would likely want to train within the own authority.

The table below explores what the requirement for 3G provision would be when factoring in the future demand (from population projections) referenced in Part 2: Football.

Table 3.6: Future demand for 3G pitches in CW&C for affiliated football team training

Analysis area	Current number of teams	Current requirement	Current number of 11v11 size 3G pitches	Current shortfall
2021				
Chester	237	6	6	1
Ellesmere Port & Neston	221	6	5	1
Northwich	234	6	2	4
Rural North	65	2	1	1
Rural South	9	-	-	0
Winsford	50	1	1	0
2024 (new analysis)				

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Analysis area	Current number of teams	Current requirement	Current number of 11v11 size 3G pitches	Current shortfall
Chester	298	7.84 – 7.75	4 ⁷	3.75
Ellesmere Port & Neston	240	6.3 – 6.25	5	1.25
Northwich	194	5.1 – 5	2	3
Rural North	93	2.44 – 2.5	2	0.5
Rural South	23	0.6 – 0.5	0.25	0.25
Winsford	75	1.97 - 2	1	1

Overall, the shortfall is projected to increase to 9.75 11v11 size pitches when considering future demand. This entails an increase in shortfalls in the Chester (0.5), Ellesmere Port & Neston (0.25), Northwich (0.25) and Rural North (0.25) analysis areas.

Linked to the large shortfall identified in the Chester Analysis Area, discussions with the FF and CFA indicates that the following clubs have issues accessing relevant 3G provision for training and match play demand.

- ✦ AFC Tattenhall
- ✦ Tarporley Victoria JFC
- ✦ Tarvin Athletic FC
- ✦ Tarvin Rex FC
- ✦ Tattenhall JFC
- ✦ Vicars Cross Dynamos FC

These six clubs have a total of 65 teams accumulatively and are generally located in the Rural North and Rural South analysis areas bordering close to the south of the Chester Analysis Area, with most accessible 11v11 size 3G pitches in the region located to the north (i.e., at Blacon High School and Cheshire County Sports Club). It is therefore suggested that any new 11v11 size 3G provision within the Chester Analysis Area is located in a suitable location which services the Tattenhall and Tarvin areas in order to be accessed by the abovementioned clubs.

Future developments

As mentioned earlier in the section there are two 11v11 size 3G pitches currently under construction namely at Moss Farm Leisure Complex and Weaverham High School. The table below analyses the potential 3G shortfall when including these developments which are both within the Northwich Analysis Area.

Table 3.7: 3G pitches in CW&C for affiliated football team training (inclusion of developments)

Analysis area	Current number of teams	Current requirement	Current number of 11v11 size 3G pitches	Current shortfall
2024				
Chester	279	7.34 – 7.25	4	3.25
Ellesmere Port & Neston	225	5.9 - 6	5	1
Northwich	179	4.7 – 4.75	4	0.75

⁷ Please note this figure does not include the provision at Chester Rugby Club (primarily used for rugby union demand) and University of Chester (primarily used for educational demand).

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Analysis area	Current number of teams	Current requirement	Current number of 11v11 size 3G pitches	Current shortfall
Rural North	90	2.36 – 2.25	2	0.25
Rural South	23	0.6 – 0.5	0.25	0.25
Winsford	73	1.9 - 2	1	1
2024 (future analysis)				
Chester	298	7.84 – 7.75	4 ⁸	3.75
Ellesmere Port & Neston	240	6.3 – 6.25	5	1.25
Northwich	194	5.1 – 5	2	1
Rural North	93	2.44 – 2.5	2	0.5
Rural South	23	0.6 – 0.5	0.25	0.25
Winsford	75	1.97 - 2	1	1

When including these pitches in the supply the currently shortfall within the Northwich Analysis Area reduces from 2.75 to 0.75 11v11 size 3G pitch equivalents. After considered future demand this goes from a need to three to just one.

Rugby union and rugby league

There are two 11v11 size sports lit 3G pitch that are currently World Rugby compliant, with these located at Chester Rugby Union Football Club and Helsby Community Sports Club. As such, even though there are identified shortfalls for grass rugby union pitches (Part 5), clubs and the RFU indicate that there are no proactive aspirations to access additional artificial provision. Clubs often prefer to keep demand on their own sites with steps such as pitch/drainage enhancements and creation of additional sports lighting and pitches preferred to alleviate shortfalls.

Rugby league is also played on the 3G pitches at Cheshire County Sports Club and Chester Rugby Union Football Club (Chester Analysis Area – CH3 7DB). The former is used for training by Chester Gladiators RLFC, whereas the latter is used by Chester Mavericks RLFC (University of Chester) for competitive and training demand. Access to this provision is considered sufficient to meet rugby league demand with no additional provision required.

3.5: Conclusion

For football, there remains an insufficient supply of 11v11 size 3G pitches to meet current and anticipated future demand based on the FA training model in CW&C. As such, it is determined that an increase in provision is required. This need has also increased since 2021 findings, despite some new pitches being provided.

Furthermore, to ensure that the current supply and any future supply are maintained to a good enough standard to accommodate demand, providers are encouraged to put pitch replacement funds in place to ensure long-term sustainability. This will allow for re-surfacing to take place as and when required and will ensure that FA/FIFA Registration can be achieved/retained.

In relation to other sports, no action is required in relation to 3G provision other than to sustain what stock currently exists.

⁸ Please note this figure does not include the provision at Chester Rugby Club (primarily used for rugby union demand) and University of Chester (primarily used for educational demand).

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3G summary

- ◀ **For football, there remains an insufficient supply of 11v11 size 3G pitches to meet current and anticipated future demand based on the FA training model in CW&C.**
- ◀ **There is a need for 22.75 11v11 size 3G pitches, which means a currently shortfall of 8.5 pitches in comparison to a deficit of seven in 2021.**
- ◀ **When including the ongoing developments at Moss Farm Leisure Complex and Weaverham High School the current shortfall in the Northwich Analysis Area reduces to 0.75 with the future shortfall reducing to one 11v11 size 3G pitch equivalent.**
- ◀ Since the 2021 study, there has been an increase of two 11v11 size 3G pitches, with additional provision provided at Blacon Avenue / King George V Sports Hub (Chester Analysis Area) and Helsby High School (Rural North Analysis Area).
- ◀ Similar to the 11v11 size 3G pitches, there has been an increase of two smaller sized pitches since 2021 with one each at Goals Soccer Centre and Malpas & District Sports Club.
- ◀ Planning and funding have been approved for new 11v11 size 3G pitches at Moss Farm Leisure Complex and Weaverham High School with construction for both pitches underway (as of early 2025).
- ◀ There are aspirations at Vauxhall Sports & Social Club to create a third 11v11 size 3G on the site.
- ◀ The overall quality of 11v11 size pitches has lessened mainly due to the aging of the playing surfaces - in particular, the pitches at University of Chester and University Church of England Academy are now rated as poor quality with both no longer on the FA register.

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PART 4: CRICKET

4.1: Introduction

The Cheshire Cricket Board (CCB) is the main governing and representative body for cricket for CW&C. Working closely with the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), it is responsible for the management and development of every form of recreational cricket for men, women and children within the area.

The CC is also currently working with the ECB on delivering and laying the foundations for its Strategy, Inspiring Generations, with an updated mission to inspire a generation to say “cricket is a game for me.” The Strategy has recently been refreshed with its 2028 Vision to:

- ◆ Become the most inclusive team sport.
- ◆ Unite and grow the game
- ◆ Lead the game through global transformation

For adult cricket in CW&C there are three main offerings; Saturday, Sunday and midweek cricket. The youth league structure tends to be club based matches which are played mid-week.

County Facilities Strategy

The CCB has recently completed its County Facilities Strategy in partnership with the ECB. This is a ten-year plan which involves engagement with key stakeholders, including leagues, active partnerships, county pitch advisors and Sport England. The following facilities are considered as part it:

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

The CFS is to be used to shape investment decisions and priorities for CCB moving forward.

Consultation

In order to update this section of the report, consultation has been carried out with the CCB and the ECB as well as the Council.

4.2: Supply

As seen in the table below, there has been a decrease of two community available grass wicket cricket squares since the 2021 PPS. There are now 24 accessible squares, compared to 26 identified previously.

Table 4.1: Summary of number of grass wicket squares across CW&C

Analysis area	Squares available for community use
2021	
Chester	6
Ellesmere Port & Neston	5
Northwich	6
Rural North	6
Rural South	2

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Analysis area	Squares available for community use
Winsford	1
CW&C	26
2024	
Chester	6
Ellesmere Port & Neston	3
Northwich	6
Rural North	6
Rural South	2
Winsford	1
CW&C	24

The only squares not available for community use are located at The King's School; it has three squares with two reserved for curricular and extracurricular activities.

The two pitches lost were The Groves Sports & Social Club and Saughall Cricket Club.

Non-turf pitches

There are non-turf pitches (NTPs) accompanying 11 grass wickets squares, all of which are available to the community. The NTPs are provided at:

- ✦ Alvanley Cricket Club
- ✦ Barrow Cricket Club
- ✦ Broughton Cricket Club (x2)
- ✦ Cheshire County Sports Club
- ✦ Frodsham Cricket Club
- ✦ Hartford Cricket Club
- ✦ Neston Cricket Club
- ✦ The Croft (Kingsley Cricket Club)
- ✦ The King's School
- ✦ Westminster Park

In addition, there are 10 standalone NTPs currently provided. Of these, two are available to the community and used (at Dodleston Sports Ground and Oulton Park Cricket Club), whilst five are available but unused. These are at:

- ✦ The Grange School
- ✦ Tarporley High School & Sixth Form College (x2)
- ✦ Christleton Sports Centre
- ✦ Queen's Park High School

Three are unavailable to the community. These are accommodated at:

- ✦ Abbey Gate College
- ✦ The King's School
- ✦ Weaverham High School

All of the NTP supply remains unaltered since the 2021 study.

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Table 4.2: Summary of cricket squares

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Post code	Community use?	No. of squares	No. grass wickets	No. NTPs
1	Abbey Gate College	Rural South	CH3 6EN	No	1	0	1
3	Alvanley Cricket Club	Rural North	WA6 9DB	Yes	1	10	1
6	Barnton Cricket Club	Northwich	CW8 4QL	Yes	1	9	0
8	Barrow Cricket Club	Rural North	CH3 7JN	Yes	1	9	1
15	Boughton Hall Cricket Club	Chester	CH3 5EL	Yes	1	12	1
15	Boughton Hall Cricket Club	Chester	CH3 5EL	Yes	1	7	1
21	Cheshire County Sports Club	Chester	CH2 1PR	Yes	1	8	1
25	Christleton Sports Centre (High School)	Chester	CH3 7AS	Yes-unused	1	0	1
27	Davenham Cricket Club	Northwich	CW9 8JF	Yes	1	11	0
37	Frodsham Cricket Club	Rural North	WA6 7AE	Yes	1	7	1
44	Hartford Cricket Club	Northwich	CW8 1LU	Yes	1	7	1
61	Little Heath (Christleton CC)	Chester	CH3 7AH	Yes	1	13	0
64	Malpas & District Sports Club	Rural South	SY14 7EJ	Yes	1	7	0
71	Neston Cricket Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	CH64 6QJ	Yes	1	13	0
71	Neston Cricket Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	CH64 6QJ	Yes	1	12	1
77	Oakmere Cricket Club	Rural North	CW8 2EL	Yes	1	10	0
78	Oulton Park Cricket Club	Rural North	CW6 9BS	Yes	1	11	0
78	Oulton Park Cricket Club	Rural North	CW6 9BS	Yes	1	0	1
82	Queen's Park High School	Chester	CH4 7AE	Yes-unused	1	0	1
94	Tarporley High School & Sixth Form College	Rural North	CW6 0BL	Yes-unused	1	0	1
94	Tarporley High School & Sixth Form College	Rural North	CW6 0BL	Yes-unused	1	0	1
96	Tattenhall Recreation Club	Rural South	CH3 9QF	Yes	1	14	0
101	The Croft (Kingsley Cricket Club)	Rural North	WA6 8HH	Yes	1	9	1
106	The King's School	Chester	CH4 7QL	Yes	1	16	1
106	The King's School	Chester	CH4 7QL	No	1	14	0
106	The King's School	Chester	CH4 7QL	No	1	5	0
106	The King's School	Chester	CH4 7QL	No	1	0	1

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Post code	Community use?	No. of squares	No. grass wickets	No. NTPs
119	Weaverham Cricket Club	Northwich	CW8 3LZ	Yes	1	10	0
120	Weaverham High School	Northwich	CW8 3HT	No	1	0	1
124	Westminster Park	Chester	CH4 8JQ	Yes	1	5	1
131	Winnington Park Recreation Club	Northwich	CW8 4EB	Yes	1	14	0
133	Winsford Cricket Club	Winsford	CW7 2PT	Yes	1	11	0
140	Burton County Cricket Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	CH64 5TH	Yes	1	10	0
237	Dodleston Sports Ground	Chester	CH4 9NL	Yes	1	0	1
255	Northwich Cricket Club	Northwich	CW8 4BG	Yes	1	9	0
263	The Grange School Playing Fields	Northwich	CW8 3AN	Yes-unused	1	0	1

Disused sites

As mentioned above, there are two grass squares which are now considered as disused, one each located in the Ellesmere Port & Neston Analysis Area (The Groves Sports & Social Club) and Chester Analysis Area (Saughall Cricket Club)

The Groves Sports & Social Club (CH65 7AQ) closed in May 2024 due to an accumulation of serious repairs issues both on and off the playing field as well as inflated running costs. The Groves CC had one Saturday team which played at the site in the 2024 season; however, it is believed that the Club has now folded due to the closure of its site and will not take part in the 2025 season. The site as a whole accommodated and eight wicket grass square with an NTP (as well as grass football pitches).

Saughall Cricket Club (CH1 6DH) provided a 9-wicket wicket square prior to its closure after the 2021 playing season. Saughall CC, which used the site, now accesses The King's School.

Furthermore, another disused cricket square has recently been identified at Cherry Hill Cricket Pavilion (SY14 7EP – Rural South). This site is under private ownership with the former square accommodate four grass wickets. Exact details surrounding the usage of the site are unknown with anecdotal evidence suggesting there are aspirations to bring it back into use from local clubs.

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Although not considered disused as they are still actively used for other sports, there are also four sites which previously had NTPs within them that are no longer provided. These are:

- ✦ Bishops Blue Coat C of E High School (Chester – CH3 5XF)
- ✦ Ellesmere Port Catholic High School (Ellesmere Port & Neston– CH65 7AQ)
- ✦ Neston High School (Ellesmere Port & Neston – CH64 9NQ)
- ✦ Queens Park Road Playing Fields (Chester – CH4 7AD)

These are all school sites.

In addition to the above, there has also historically been grass cricket provision located at Moss Farm Leisure Complex. A 4-wicket square was in place with its last known usage unknown, although ariel imagery indicates it was potentially circa 2003.

Future developments

The proposed developments at Moss Farm Leisure Complex does not impact the provision at Northwich Cricket Club; however, it has been reported that the creation of a second 3G pitch on site could potentially impact reinstating the aforementioned disused cricket square.

Quality

As part of the PPS guidance, there are three levels to assessing the quality of cricket pitches: good, standard and poor. Maintaining high pitch quality is the most important aspect of cricket; if the wicket is poor, it can affect the quality of the game and can, in some instances, become dangerous.

The assessments in 2021 identified 19 squares as good quality and seven as standard quality, with none assessed as poor. These ratings have been reviewed for this study, with no changes considered to be required, outside of the squares that have fallen out of use.

Table 4.3: Quality ratings for community available grass wicket squares (site by site)

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	No. of squares	Square quality (2021)	Square quality (2024)
3	Alvanley Cricket Club	Rural North	1	Standard	Standard
6	Barnton Cricket Club	Northwich	1	Good	Good
8	Barrow Cricket Club	Rural North	1	Good	Good
15	Boughton Hall Cricket Club	Chester	2	Good	Good
21	Cheshire County Sports Club	Chester	1	Good	Good
27	Davenham Cricket Club	Northwich	1	Good	Good
37	Frodsham Cricket Club	Rural North	1	Good	Good
44	Hartford Cricket Club	Northwich	1	Standard	Standard
61	Little Heath	Chester	1	Good	Good
64	Malpas & District Sports Club	Rural South	1	Standard	Standard
71	Neston Cricket Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	2	Good	Good
77	Oakmere Cricket Club	Rural North	1	Good	Good
78	Oulton Park Cricket Club	Rural North	1	Good	Good
96	Tattenhall Recreation Club	Rural South	1	Good	Good
101	The Croft (Kingsley Cricket Club)	Rural North	1	Good	Good

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Site ID	Site	Analysis area	No. of squares	Square quality (2021)	Square quality (2024)
105	The Groves Sports & Social Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	1	Good	Disused
106	The King's School	Chester	1	Good	Good
119	Weaverham Cricket Club	Northwich	1	Good	Good
124	Westminster Park	Chester	1	Standard	Standard
131	Winnington Park Recreation Club	Northwich	1	Good	Good
133	Winsford Cricket Club	Winsford	1	Good	Good
140	Burton County Cricket Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	1	Standard	Standard
172	Saughall Cricket Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	1	Standard	Disused
255	Northwich Cricket Club	Northwich	1	Standard	Standard

PitchPower reports, which are now utilised by the ECB, have recently been carried out at Frodsham Cricket Club, Malpas & District Sports Club, Hartford Cricket Club and Winnington Park Recreation Club. These all indicate that the facilities are basic, with need for improvements via increased in post and pre-season work. More information surrounding the specific details of PitchPower can be found in Part 2: Football.

As part of this update report, CCB has also provided recent data gathered through its own club consultation process. This identifies the following:

- Alvanley CC indicates that its outfield is situated on a slope and is undulating which requires investigations into possible solutions.
- Barrow CC reports it needs assistance in providing covers in order to assist in keeping the square drier.
- Home grounds for both Christleton CC and Davenham CC suffer from poor drainage with the clubs exploring potential grant options to remedy the situations.
- Northwich CC is exploring the potential of installing hybrid wickets in order to create additional capacity for future growth.
- Winsford CC reports that due to previous identified developments at Knights Grange Sports Complex now not taking place (see Part 2), it needs to find alternative approaches to secure funding to improve both square and outfield quality.

Ancillary and training facilities

Similar to square quality, clubs have been asked to provide to CCB with an update on ancillary and training facility provision to assist with this PPS review. Findings of this are outlined in the table below.

Table 4.4: Summary of ancillary and training facilities updates from clubs since 2021

Club	Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Comments
Alvanley CC	3	Alvanley Cricket Club	Rural North	Parking is inadequate. The Club is looking to extend its clubhouse to accommodate more women and girl's demand.
Barnton CC	6	Barnton Cricket Club	Northwich	Training nets need refurbishing.

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Club	Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Comments
Barrow CC	8	Barrow Cricket Club	Rural North	Training nets need refurbishing or replacing.
CCO CC	21	Cheshire County Sports Club	Chester	Aspirations to install training nets.
Chester Boughton Hall CC	15	Boughton Hall Cricket Club	Chester	Aspirations to improve social space and changing facilities for women and girl's demand.
Christleton CC	61	Little Heath (Christleton CC)	Rural North	Parking is inadequate with solar panels being installed in 2024. Some evidence of vandalism. Aspirations for a mobile netting cage.
Davenham CC	27	Davenham Cricket Club	Northwich	New three bay fixed net replaced in 2024. Parking is inadequate.
Frodsham CC	37	Frodsham Cricket Club	Rural North	Some evidence of vandalism.
Hartford CC	44	Hartford Cricket Club	Northwich	Early discussions with Hartford Parish Council regarding a new build pavilion / remodel. Need some form of practice provision.
Neston CC	71	Neston Cricket Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Some evidence of vandalism. Looking to improve rear pitch pavilion. New four bay fixed net installed 2024.
Northwich CC	255	Northwich Cricket Club	Northwich	Aspirations to improve social space and changing facilities for women and girl's demand. Practice nets need replacing with a desire for a NTP.
Oakmere CC	77	Oakmere Cricket Club	Rural North	Aspirations for an NTP. New practice provision installed in 2024.
Oulton Park CC	78	Oulton Park Cricket Club	Rural North	Aspirations to refurbish its practice nets prior to 2025.
Tattenhall CC	96	Tattenhall Recreation Club	Rural South	Some evidence of vandalism.
Weaverham CC	119	Weaverham Cricket Club	Northwich	Some evidence of vandalism. Nets need refurbishing.
Westminster Park CC	124	Westminster Park	Chester	Ancillary facilities still not fully developed, needs for a roller, covers and hot water for showers. Aspirations for a mobile netting cage and fixed bay provision.
Winnington Park CC	131	Winnington Park Recreation Club	Northwich	Repairs currently required on storage sheds, and the front of the scoreboard. New practice facilities in 2022.
Winsford CC	133	Winsford Cricket Club	Winsford	Investment required for ancillary and practice facilities.

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4.3: Demand

As seen in the table below, overall demand figures have increased since the 2021 study by 19% (29 teams). All demographics have seen growth, especially women's (367% growth) and girls' (350% growth) cricket.

Table 4.5: Summary of number of competitive teams in CW&C

Club	Analysis area	Senior male	Senior female	Junior boys	Junior girls	Total
2021						
Alvanley CC	Rural North	3	-	6	2	11
Barnton CC	Northwich	3	-	3	-	6
Barrow CC	Rural North	3	-	3	-	6
Burton CC	Ellesmere Port & Neston	3	-	-	-	3
CCO CC	Chester	3	-	-	-	3
Chester Boughton Hall CC	Chester	5	2	10	-	17
Christleton CC	Rural North	3	-	6	-	9
Davenham CC	Northwich	5	-	8	-	13
Frodsham CC	Rural North	4	-	2	-	6
Hartford CC	Northwich	1	-	-	-	1
Kingsley CC	Rural North	4	-	4	-	8
Malpas CC	Rural South	2	-	3	-	5
Neston CC	Ellesmere Port & Neston	5	-	6	-	11
Northwich CC	Northwich	3	-	3	-	6
Oakmere CC	Rural North	3	1	6	-	10
Oulton Park CC	Rural North	4	-	3	-	7
Saughall CC	Ellesmere Port & Neston	2	-	-	-	2
Tattenhall CC	Rural South	5	-	4	-	9
The Groves CC	Ellesmere Port & Neston	1	-	-	-	1
Weaverham CC	Northwich	2	-	2	-	4
Westminster Park CC	Chester	2	-	-	-	2
Winnington Park CC	Northwich	3	-	4	-	7
Winsford CC	Winsford	2	-	-	-	2
Total	-	71	3	73	2	149
2024						
Alvanley CC	Rural North	3	2	8	3	16
Barnton CC	Northwich	3	-	-	-	3
Barrow CC	Rural North	5	1	6	-	12
Burton CC	Ellesmere Port & Neston	3	-	-	-	3
CCO CC	Chester	3	-	1	-	4
Chester Boughton Hall CC	Chester	6	2	10	4	22

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Club	Analysis area	Senior male	Senior female	Junior boys	Junior girls	Total
Christleton CC	Rural North	3	1	3	-	7
Davenham CC	Northwich	5	-	13	-	18
Frodsham CC	Rural North	3	-	2	-	5
Hartford CC	Northwich	1	-	1	-	2
Kingsley CC	Rural North	4	2	5	-	11
Malpas CC	Rural South	3	-	2	-	5
Neston CC	Ellesmere Port & Neston	7	2	13	1	23
Northwich CC	Northwich	4	1	4	-	9
Oakmere CC	Rural North	4	2	5	1	12
Oulton Park CC	Rural North	2	1	3	-	6
Saughall CC	Ellesmere Port & Neston	1	-	-	-	1
Tattenhall CC	Rural South	5	-	2	-	7
The Groves CC	Ellesmere Port & Neston	-	-	-	-	0
Weaverham CC	Northwich	2	-	-	-	2
Westminster Park CC	Chester	3	-	1	-	4
Winnington Park CC	Northwich	3	-	2	-	5
Winsford CC	Winsford	1	-	-	-	1
Total	-	74	14	81	9	178
Percentage change	-	4%	367%	11%	350%	19%

It should be noted that despite The Groves CC fielding one senior men's team in the 2024 season, it is represented as having no teams in the above tabel. This is due to the fact that the Club has since folded.

Future demand

Using updated demand figures, with the same analysis of future population as the 2021 study (to 2030), there is an increase in anticipated growth in projected team numbers. The previous figures identified an expected growth of eight junior boy's teams, whereas growth of one junior girls' team is now also forecast.

When growth is broken down by analysis area, two teams are expected to be generated in the Chester and Northwich analysis areas, three in the Rural North Analysis Area (including the junior girls' team) and one in the Rural South Analysis Area.

4.4: Capacity analysis

Table 4.6 below provides an update capacity analysis based on the updated supply and demand findings. This uses the same process as the 2021 study, with it measured on a seasonal rather than a weekly basis. For good quality squares, capacity is considered to be five matches per wicket per season, a standard quality square has capacity for four matches and poor quality squares have no capacity (as such provision is not deemed safe for play).

The above is used to allocate capacity ratings as follows:

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

Please note that NTPs remain discounted from the analysis. This is because no NTPs are recorded as accommodating more than 60 matches per season, meaning all NTPs are considered to have spare capacity. This generally translates to actual spare capacity for junior cricket as peak time is midweek, whereby non-turf wickets are more commonly used and matches can be played on a variety of days.

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Peak time remains the same as the 2021 study, with this being Saturday afternoon's for senior men's cricket, Sunday afternoon's for senior women's cricket and midweek for junior cricket. This means that capacity across Saturday's, Sunday's and midweek requires consideration, which the following analysis looks to provide.

Table 4.6: Capacity analysis of community available grass cricket squares

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Post code	Tenure	Type of wicket	Pitch quality	No. of grass wickets	Capacity (sessions per season)	Actual play (sessions per season)	Capacity rating (sessions per season)	Potential spare capacity for senior cricket? (Saturday)	Potential spare capacity for senior cricket? (Sunday)	Potential spare capacity for junior cricket?
3	Alvanley Cricket Club	Rural North	WA6 9DB	Secure	Senior	Standard	10	40	74	34	No	No	No
6	Barnton Cricket Club	Northwich	CW8 4QL	Secure	Senior	Good	9	45	29	16	No	Yes	Yes
8	Barrow Cricket Club	Rural North	CH3 7JN	Secure	Senior	Good	9	45	55 ⁹	10	No	No	No
15	Boughton Hall Cricket Club	Chester	CH3 5EL	Secure	Senior	Good	12	60	58	4	No	No	No
15	Boughton Hall Cricket Club	Chester	CH3 5EL	Secure	Senior	Good	7	35	38	3	No	No	No
21	Cheshire County Sports Club	Chester	CH2 1PR	Secure	Senior	Good	8	40	28	12	No	Yes	Yes
27	Davenham Cricket Club	Northwich	CW9 8JF	Secure	Senior	Good	11	55	71	16	No	No	No
37	Frodsham Cricket Club	Rural North	WA6 7AE	Secure	Senior	Good	7	35	32	3	No	Yes	Yes
44	Hartford Cricket Club	Northwich	CW8 1LU	Secure	Senior	Standard	7	28	12	21	Yes	Yes	Yes
44	Hartford Cricket Club	Northwich	CW8 1LU	Secure	Junior	Standard	1	4	4		No	No	No
61	Little Heath	Chester	CH3 7AH	Senior	Senior	Good	13	65	48	17	No	No	Yes
64	Malpas & District Sports Club	Rural South	SY14 7EJ	Secure	Senior	Standard	7	28	30	2	No	Yes	Yes
71	Neston Cricket Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	CH64 6QJ	Secure	Senior	Good	13	65	56	9	No	No	No
71	Neston Cricket Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	CH64 6QJ	Secure	Senior	Good	12	60	56	4	No	No	No
77	Oakmere Cricket Club	Rural North	CW8 2EL	Secure	Senior	Good	10	50	57	7	No	No	No
78	Oulton Park Cricket Club	Rural North	CW6 9BS	Secure	Senior	Good	11	55	35	20	No	Yes	Yes
78	Oulton Park Cricket Club	Rural North	CW6 9BS	Secure	Junior	Good	5	25	9	16	No	No	Yes
96	Tattenhall Recreation Club	Rural South	CH3 9QF	Secure	Senior	Good	14	70	48	22	No	No	Yes
101	The Croft (Kingsley Cricket Club)	Rural North	WA6 8HH	Secure	Senior	Good	9	45	67	22	No	No	No
106	The King's School	Chester	CH4 7QL	Secure	Senior	Good	16	80	15 ¹⁰	65	Yes	Yes	Yes
119	Weaverham Cricket Club	Northwich	CW8 3LZ	Secure	Senior	Good	10	50	22	28	No	Yes	Yes
119	Weaverham Cricket Club	Northwich	CW8 3LZ	Secure	Junior	Good	2	10	-	10	No	No	Yes
124	Westminster Park	Chester	CH4 8JQ	Secure	Senior	Standard	5	40	25	15	No	Yes	Yes
131	Winnington Park Recreation Club	Northwich	CW8 4EB	Secure	Senior	Good	14	70	27	43	No	Yes	Yes
131	Winnington Park Recreation Club	Northwich	CW8 4EB	Secure	Junior	Good	2	10	8	2	No	No	Yes
133	Winsford Cricket Club	Winsford	CW7 2PT	Secure	Senior	Good	11	55	12	43	Yes	Yes	Yes
140	Burton County Cricket Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	CH64 5TH	Secure	Senior	Standard	10	40	18	22	Yes	Yes	Yes
255	Northwich Cricket Club	Northwich	CW8 4BG	Secure	Senior	Standard	9	36	53	17	No	No	No

⁹ Barrow CC third Saturday team plays on the NTP at Doddleston Cricket Club and therefore not be accredited to its home site.

¹⁰ Demand from Saughall CC has been attributed to the site (despite the club not moving to the site until the start of the 2021 season) to ensure that spare capacity is accurately reflected.

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4.5: Supply and demand analysis

Below is the overall supply and demand analysis for cricket across the three peak times of Saturday, Sunday and Midweek, including a comparison to 2021 findings.

Please note that previously both population growth and clubs aspirations were included in the future demand assessment. However, due to a change in approach agreed with NGBs and Sport England, only increases through population increases are now included in order to provide a more representative approach.

Saturday cricket capacity balance

As seen below, the overall supply and demand analysis across CW&C for Saturday cricket has worsened since the 2021 assessment. This can be explained through the increase in the number of Saturday teams, the loss of pitches (i.e., at The Groves Sports & Social Club and Saughall Cricket Club now disused) and the increase in levels of overplay particularly within the Northwich and Rural South analysis areas.

Table 4.7: Capacity balance for Saturday cricket in match equivalent sessions per season

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (match equivalent sessions per season)	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
2021					
Chester	30	0	30	0	30
Ellesmere Port & Neston	30	0	30	10	20
Northwich	10	7	3	10	7
Rural North	0	34	34	40	74
Rural South	0	0	0	0	0
Winsford	10	0	10	10	0
CW&C	80	41	39	70	31
2024					
Chester	10	3	7	0	7
Ellesmere Port & Neston	10	0	10	0	10
Northwich	10	33	23	0	23
Rural North	0	73	73	0	73
Rural South	0	2	2	0	2
Winsford	10	0	10	0	10
CW&C	40	111	71	0	71

Sunday cricket capacity balance

For Sunday cricket, there has been a shift from overall spare capacity to overplay when compared to 2021 findings. This is assisted by the fact there has been a significant increase in women's cricket demand.

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Table 4.8: Capacity balance for Sunday cricket in match equivalent sessions per season

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (match equivalent sessions per season)	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
2021					
Chester	30	0	30	5	25
Ellesmere Port & Neston	40	0	40	5	35
Northwich	30	5	23	5	18
Rural North	5	34	29	20	49
Rural South	5	0	5	5	0
Winsford	5	0	5	0	5
CW&C	115	41	74	40	34
2024					
Chester	32	3	29	0	29
Ellesmere Port & Neston	5	0	5	0	5
Northwich	35	33	2	0	2
Rural North	22	73	51	0	51
Rural South	12	2	2	0	2
Winsford	10	0	10	0	10
CW&C	126	111	15	0	41

Midweek (Junior) cricket capacity balance

No supply and demand analysis was carried out for midweek cricket in 2021, with overall spare capacity considered to exist based on general availability being higher when play is not restricted to one day, and because NTPs can also accommodate play. However, the 2024 analysis is provided below, with more guidance now provided by the ECB in relation to this playing format.

Table 4.9: Capacity balance for Midweek cricket in match equivalent sessions per season

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (match equivalent sessions per season)	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
2024					
Chester	20	3	17	12	5
Ellesmere Port & Neston	5	0	5	0	5
Northwich	25	33	8	12	20
Rural North	10	73	63	18	79
Rural South	0	2	2	6	8
Winsford	10	0	10	0	10
CW&C	70	111	41	42	83

As seen, an overall shortfall exists amounting to 41 match equivalent sessions currently and 83 match equivalent sessions when incorporating future demand.

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4.6: Conclusion

The overall supply and demand analysis for cricket in CW&C has worsened since the 2021 PPS. Significant growth and the loss of two pitches has meant that shortfalls have increased for Saturday crickets, whilst actual spare capacity no longer exists for Sunday or midweek cricket.

Cricket summary

- ▶ **The overall supply and demand analysis for cricket in CW&C has worsened since the 2021 PPS.**
- ▶ **Significant growth in demand and the loss of two pitches has meant that shortfalls have increased for Saturday cricket, whilst actual spare capacity no longer exists for Sunday or midweek cricket.**
- ▶ There has been a decrease of two community available grass wicket cricket squares since the 2021 PPS (there are now 24 accessible squares, compared to 26 identified previously).
- ▶ There are three disused cricket squares in CW&C.
- ▶ The NTP supply remains unaltered since the 2021 study.
- ▶ The assessment in 2021 identified 19 squares as good quality and seven as standard quality, with none assessed as poor - these ratings have been reviewed for this study, with no changes considered to be required, outside of the squares that have fallen out of use.
- ▶ Overall demand figures have increased since the 2021 study by 19% (29 teams).
- ▶ All demographics have seen growth, especially women's (367% growth) and girls' (350% growth) cricket.

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PART 5: RUGBY UNION

5.1: Introduction

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) is the NGB for rugby union and is split into four areas across the country with a workforce team that covers development, coaching, governance and competitions. Club developers, coach developers, club volunteers and teachers deliver programmes in schools and clubs across CW&C.

The RFU governs a variety of formats and programmes, including 15-a-side, 10-a-side, 7-a-side and Tag rugby as well as The Touch Union programme. Its aim is to increase and retain participation within the game, with facilities needing to be appropriate, affordable and accessible in order to enable this.

The rugby union playing season operates from September to May, with senior men's fixtures generally being held on Saturday afternoons whilst ladies, juniors and mini fixtures usually taking place on Sundays.

Consultation

In order to update this section of the report, consultation has been carried out with the RFU as well as the Council.

5.2: Supply

It should be noted that since the PPS in 2021, the RFU has redefined its pitch sizes. These are outlined in the table below.

Table 5.1: Rugby union pitch dimensions

Team reference	Age group	Team type	Pitch type
Senior men	Over 18 years old	Senior	Senior
Senior women	Over 18 years old	Senior	Senior
Colts	17-18 years old	Under 17 - Under 18	Senior
Age grade boys	13-16 years old	Under 13 - Under 16	Age grade
Age grade girls	13-16 years old	Under 13 - Under 16	Age grade
Age grade mixed	7-12 years old	Under 7 - Under 12	Age grade

As seen in the table overleaf, the overall number of senior pitches in CW&C has remained broadly the same, although there has been an increase of one senior pitch in the Chester Analysis Area. This is due to two senior pitches being included at Chester Rugby Union Football Club that were previously unaccounted for, although this is partly offset via the loss of a pitch at Cheshire County Sports Club.

In addition, only pitches serviced by goalposts are now considered, as advised by the RFU, with unposted pitches only considered temporary. As such, the previously identified mini pitches are no longer considered within the supply.

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Table 5.2: Supply of community available rugby union pitches across CW&C

Analysis area	No. of senior pitches	No. of age grade junior pitches	No. of age grade mini pitches
2021			
Chester	7	-	2
Ellesmere Port & Neston	3	-	-
Northwich	7	-	-
Rural North	3	-	-
Rural South	-	-	-
Winsford	-	-	-
CW&C	20	-	2
2024			
Chester	8	-	-
Ellesmere Port & Neston	3	-	-
Northwich	7	-	-
Rural North	3	-	-
Rural South	-	-	-
Winsford	-	-	-
CW&C	21	-	-

Disused provision

The previously disused site of Sealand Road Sports Ground, which contained a senior union pitch, has now been developed for housing. Mitigation for the site has been actioned.

Future provision

A planning application was approved in August 2024 (24/01441/FUL) for the development of sporting facilities at Moss Farm Leisure Complex which will see the creation of a second full size sports lit 3G pitch (adjoining the current 3G pitch). In conjunction with this, there has been a land swap between rugby union and football in order to bring relevant provision closer together, with this now completed albeit a one-year rest period will now take place to ensure high quality. The senior rugby union pitch that was previously situated next to the sports lit senior rugby union pitch has swapped with the football pitch that was adjacent to the full size hockey suitable AGP. Northwich RUFC is to acquire a long term lease for the revised parcel of land.

It should also be noted that the approved planning permission includes the development of additional parking provision on the current unused scrub land to the north of the hockey suitable AGP.

Quality

The quality of rugby pitches across CW&C were assessed for the 2021 study via a combination of site visits (using non-technical assessments as determined by RFU) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

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These scores have now been revisited for this study via a check and challenge process with the RFU. In addition, Pitch Advisory Reports have been obtained to ensure the findings are aligned.

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

Table 5.3: Definition of maintenance categories

Category	Definition
M0	Action is significant improvements to maintenance programme
M1	Action is minor improvements to maintenance programme
M2	Action is no improvements to maintenance programme

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

Table 5.4: Definition of drainage categories

Category	Definition
D0	Action is pipe drainage system is needed on pitch
D1	Action is pipe drainage is needed on pitch
D2	Action is slit drainage is needed on pitch
D3	No action is needed on pitch drainage

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

Table 5.5: Quality ratings based on maintenance and drainage scores

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

Please see table overleaf for the full, updated quality breakdown.

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Table 5.7: Summary of rugby union grass pitch quality in CW&C

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Post code	Community use?	Tenure	No. of pitches	Pitch type	Sports lit?	Non tech score	Quality rating
12	Bishops Blue Coat C of E High School	Chester	CH3 5XF	Yes-unused	Unsecure	1	Senior	No	M1/D1	Standard
18	Capenhurst Electricity Sports & Social Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	CH1 6ER	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	No	M0/D1	Poor
24	Chester Rugby Union Football Club	Chester	CH3 7DB	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	Yes	M1/D1	Standard
24	Chester Rugby Union Football Club	Chester	CH3 7DB	Yes	Secure	2	Senior	No	M1/D1	Standard
24	Chester Rugby Union Football Club	Chester	CH3 7DB	Yes	Secure	2	Senior	No	M1/D0	Poor
25	Christleton Sports Centre	Chester	CH3 7AS	Yes-unused	Secure	1	Senior	No	M1/D1	Standard
32	Ellesmere Port Catholic High School	Ellesmere Port & Neston	CH65 7AS	No	Unsecure	1	Senior	No	M1/D0	Poor
45	Hartford High School	Northwich	CW8 1LH	Yes-unused	Secure	1	Senior	No	M1/D1	Standard
46	Helsby Community Sports Club	Rural North	WA6 0DL	Yes	Secure	2	Senior	No	M0/D1	Poor
47	Helsby High School	Rural North	WA6 0HY	No	Unsecure	1	Senior	No	M1/D0	Poor
65	Bishop Heber High School (Malpas Sports Centre)	Rural South	SY14 8HT	No	Secure	2	Senior	No	M1/D1	Standard
67	Moss Farm Leisure Complex	Northwich	CW8 4BG	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	Yes	M2/D2	Good
67	Moss Farm Leisure Complex	Northwich	CW8 4BG	Yes	Secure	2	Senior	No	M0/D0	Poor
89	Sir John Deane's College	Northwich	CW9 8AF	No	Unsecure	1	Senior	No	M1/D1	Standard
90	St Nicholas Catholic High School	Northwich	CW8 1JW	No	Secure	2	Senior	No	M1/D0	Poor
94	Tarporley High School & Sixth Form College	Rural North	CW6 0BL	Yes-unused	Secure	1	Senior	No	M1/D1	Standard
98	The Catholic High School	Chester	CH4 7HS	Yes-unused	Secure	1	Senior	No	M1/D1	Standard
100	The County High School Leftwich	Northwich	CW9 8EZ	No	Unsecure	1	Senior	No	M1/D1	Standard
102	The Dale Barracks	Chester	CH2 4BD	No	Unsecure	1	Senior	No	M1/D1	Standard
126	Whitby High School	Ellesmere Port & Neston	CH66 2NU	No	Unsecure	2	Senior	No	M1/D1	Standard
128	Whitby Sports & Social Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	CH65 6QF	Yes	Secure	2	Senior	No	M0/D0	Poor
132	Winsford Academy	Winsford	CW7 2BT	No	Unsecure	1	Senior	No	M0/D0	Poor
182	Winnington Park Rugby Club	Northwich	CW8 3AA	Yes	Secure	2	Senior	Yes	M0/D1	Poor
182	Winnington Park Rugby Club	Northwich	CW8 3AA	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	No	M0/D1	Poor

The good quality pitch at Moss Farm Leisure Complex is the pitch that has recently been established following the land swap with football. This is a consequence of the work that has gone into creating the provision.

Consultation with the RFU indicates that Capenhurst RUFC is going to receive a pitch maintenance funding which should improve the quality of the pitch at Capenhurst Electricity Sports & Social Club. It also states that two of the pitches at Chester Rugby Union Football Club suffer from poor drainage.

As was the case in the previous study, Section 106 funding has been secured from numerous developments for improvements to playing pitch sites that contain rugby union pitches. This includes money ringfenced for Winnington Park Rugby Club, where improvements are yet to take place.

Ancillary provision

The RFU reports there is a need to improve the poor quality ancillary provision for Northwich RUFC at Moss Farm Leisure Complex, with this requiring significant levels of investment. Any improvements ideally should take place as part of the wider development of the site as the Club cannot currently access relevant funding streams until it acquires a new lease agreement. Any enhancements in particular needs to consider the increase in women and girls' participation in the Club has seen over recent years.

Chester RUFC have just refurbished its social area at Chester Rugby Union Football Club, although there is still a need for separate women and girls' changing rooms, with safeguarding a noted concern.

Changing rooms at Winnington Park Rugby Club also need an upgrading to cater for increasing levels of demand.

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5.3: Demand

Competitive play

Since the 2021 PPS, there has been an increase of 22 teams playing rugby union across CW&C. This represents a 34% rise in participation. The growth is mainly within the age grade boys and age grade mixed demographics.

Table 5.8: Summary of number of rugby union teams in CW&C

Club	Analysis area	Senior men	Senior women	Age grade boys	Age grade girls	Age grade mixed	Total
2021							
Capenhurst RUFC	Ellesmere Port & Neston	1	-	-	-	-	1
Chester RUFC	Chester	4	1	6	3	6	20
Chester Centurions RUFC	Chester	1	-	-	-	-	1
Christleton RUFC	Chester	1	-	-	-	-	1
Ellesmere Port RUFC	Ellesmere Port & Neston	2	-	1	3	1	7
Helsby RUFC	Rural North	1	-	-	-	1	2
Northwich RUFC	Northwich	4	-	1	-	6	11
Winnington Park RUFC	Northwich	5	1	6	3	6	21
	Total	19	2	14	9	20	64
2024							
Capenhurst RUFC	Ellesmere Port & Neston	1	-	-	-	-	1
Chester RUFC	Chester	3	1	7	4	6	21
Chester Centurions RUFC	Chester	1	-	-	-	-	1
Christleton RUFC	Chester	1	-	-	-	-	1
Ellesmere Port RUFC	Ellesmere Port & Neston	2	-	5	-	5	12
Helsby RUFC	Rural North	2	-	6	-	5	13
Northwich RUFC	Northwich	4	1	7	-	5	17
Winnington Park RUFC	Northwich	4	1	7	2	6	20
	Total	18	3	32	6	27	86

In addition to the above, the University of Chester fields two men's teams and one women's team which play in BUCS leagues. This demand has remained the same since the 2021 study, with the teams using the World Rugby compliant 3G pitch located at Chester Rugby Union Football Club rather than the one at University of Chester (Chester Campus) as its WR compliancy has expired.

Both Chester RUFC and Helsby RUFC also utilise World Rugby compliant 3G provision, at Chester Rugby Union Football Club and Helsby Community Sports Club, respectively. More information in relation to these can be found in Part 3 of this report.

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Demand figures for Capenhurst RUFC, Chester RUFC, Chester Centurions RUFC, Christleton RUFC and Winnington Park RUFC have all remained broadly the same. In comparison, there has been substantial levels of growth at Ellesmere Port RUFC, Helsby RUFC and Northwich RUFC.

Future demand

Using updated demand figures, with the same analysis of future population projections as the 2021 study (2030), there has been an increase in anticipated growth in team numbers. The previous figures identified potential growth of one senior men's, one age grade boys' and one age grade girls' teams as well as two mixed age grade teams, whereas there is now anticipated growth of one senior men's, three age grade boys, one age grade girls and three mixed age grade teams. This is an increase of two age grade boys and one mixed age grade team.

5.4: Capacity analysis

Due to the substantial increase in participation since the previous study, it has been decided to review the capacity and supply and demand analysis for those sites used by community rugby union clubs. The capacity at the remaining sites (educational and MOD) is anticipated to have remained the same due to the lack of club-based activity.

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

- ✦ All sites that are or could be used for competitive rugby matches (regardless of whether this is secured community use) are included on the supply side.
- ✦ All competitive play is on senior sized pitches, with age grade teams playing on overmarked pitches, unless dedicated age grade pitches are known to be instead.
- ✦ From U13s upwards, teams play 15v15 and use a full pitch.
- ✦ For senior and age grade boys'/girls' teams, the current level of play per week is set at 0.5 match equivalent sessions for each match played based on all teams operating on a home and away basis.
- ✦ Age grade mixed teams (U6s-U12s) play on half of a senior pitch, meaning two matches and four teams can be accommodated at any one time.
- ✦ Play per week for age grade mixed teams is set at 0.25 match equivalent sessions for each match played based on teams operating on a home and away basis.
- ✦ Training that takes place on marked pitches is reflected by the addition of match equivalent sessions to current usage levels (one training session is one match equivalent session).
- ✦ Internal use of school pitches is added to current play, where community availability is offered, as determined on a site-by-site basis depending on levels of activity.
- ✦ Other usage of pitches (e.g., by football teams) is added as match equivalent sessions based on the level and regularity of play.

Peak time for the formats of play remains the same as 2021. It is Saturday PM for senior men's rugby, Sunday afternoon for women's and girls' rugby, and Sunday AM for all remaining age grade activity.

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Table 5.9: Capacity table for rugby union pitches in CW&C used by community clubs

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Number of pitches	Pitch type	Quality rating	Sports lit?	Pitch capacity	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Training equivalent sessions (per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
18	Capenhurst Electricity Sports & Social Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	1	Senior	M0/D1	No	1.5	2	1	1.5	Overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions
24	Chester Rugby Union Club	Chester	1	Senior	M1/D1	Yes	2	1	-	1	Potential spare capacity
24	Chester Rugby Union Club	Chester	2	Senior	M1/D1	No	4	4	-		Pitches played to capacity
24	Chester Rugby Union Club	Chester	2	Senior	M1/D0	No	3	1	-	2	Potential spare capacity
46	Helsby Community Sports Club	Rural North	2	Senior	M0/D1	No	3	5.25	-	2.25	Overplayed by 2.25 match equivalent sessions
67	Moss Farm Leisure Complex	Northwich	1	Senior	M0/D1	Yes	3	2	4	3	Overplayed by 3 match equivalent sessions
67	Moss Farm Leisure Complex	Northwich	2	Senior	M0/D0	No	1	5.25	-	4.25	Overplayed by 4.25 match equivalent sessions
128	Whitby Sports & Social Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	2	Senior	M0/D0	No	1	4.75	3.5	7.25	Overplayed by 7.25 match equivalent sessions
182	Winnington Park Rugby Club	Northwich	2	Senior	M0/D1	Yes	3	5.5	5	7.5	Overplayed by 7.5 match equivalent sessions
182	Winnington Park Rugby Club	Northwich	1	Senior	M0/D1	No	1.5	2.75	-	1.25	Overplayed by 1.25 match equivalent sessions

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5.5: Supply and demand analysis

The table below examines the 2021 supply and demand analysis against the most recent analysis, with this factoring in changes to pitch quality and levels of demand. There is now no actual spare capacity across pitches in CW&C as they are all either at capacity at peak time, overplayed or poor quality.

Table 5.10: Supply/demand balance of rugby union pitches in match equivalent sessions

Analysis area	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
2021					
Chester	1.5	3.5	2	1.5	3.5
Ellesmere Port & Neston	0.5	4.5	4	-	4
Northwich	-	15	15	2.5	17.5
Rural North	1.5	-	1.5	5	3.5
Rural South	-	-		-	
Winsford	-	-		-	
CW&C	3.5	23	19.5	9	28.5
2024					
Chester	-	-		0.5	0.5
Ellesmere Port & Neston	-	8.75	8.75	0.75	9.5
Northwich	-	16	16	1.25	17.25
Rural North	-	2.25	2.25	0.75	3
Rural South	-	-		-	
Winsford	-	-		-	
CW&C	-	27	27	3.25	30.25

As seen, the overall current shortfall of rugby union provision has increased from 19.5 to 27 match equivalent sessions per week. This is mainly due to the increases in competitive and training demand from Ellesmere Port RUFC, Helsby RUFC and Northwich RUFC in cohesion with pitch quality generally remaining the same.

The future shortfall is also more than what was identified in 2021, although the difference is smaller. However, this is due to only population projections now being considered, as opposed to club aspirations. This has been advised by Sport England to provide a more reasonable assessment.

5.6: Conclusion

There remains a significant deficit of rugby union provision to meet demand levels, with this increasing since 2021. As such, there is still a potential need for additional sports lighting, further pitch quality improvements and/or increased access to World Rugby compliant 3G pitches. These are in conjunction with a consistent need to improve changing facilities to appropriately accommodate concurrent male/female and senior/age grade use.

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Rugby union summary

- ▶ **The overall shortfall of rugby union provision has increased from 19.5 to 27 match equivalent sessions per week.**
- ▶ **The increase is mainly due to the growth in competitive and training demand from Ellesmere Port RUFC, Helsby RUFC and Northwich RUFC in cohesion with pitch quality generally not improving.**
- ▶ The overall number of senior pitches in CW&C has remained broadly the same, although there has been an increase of one senior pitch in the Chester Analysis Area.
- ▶ There has been a land swap between rugby union and football in order to bring relevant provision closer together at Moss Farm Leisure Complex; the new provision is undergoing a one-year rest period and has been established at a high quality.
- ▶ Consultation with the RFU indicates that Capenhurst RUFC is going to receive a pitch maintenance grant which should improve the quality of the pitch at Capenhurst Electricity Sports & Social Club.
- ▶ Section 106 funding has been secured and ringfenced for Winnington Park Rugby Club.
- ▶ Two pitches at Chester Rugby Union Football Club previously unaccounted for suffer from poor drainage.
- ▶ Since the 2021 PPS, there has been an increase of 22 teams playing rugby union across CW&C.
- ▶ The growth represents a 34% rise in participation and is mainly within the age grade boys and age grade mixed demographics.

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PART 6: HOCKEY

6.1: Introduction

Hockey in England is governed by England Hockey (EH) and is administered locally by the Cheshire Hockey Association. EH is launching a new five-year Strategy, known as 'Creating A Future for Our Game Together', which aims to make the sport more visible, relevant and accessible.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Consultation

In order to update this section of the report, consultation has been carried out with EH as well as the Council.

6.2: Supply

The audit identifies 11 hockey suitable AGPs in CW&C with details surrounding this pitch in the table below. The quantity has not changed since the 2021 study, meaning there are still three each in the Rural South and Chester analysis areas and two each in the Northwich, Ellesmere Port & Neston and Northwich analysis areas.

Table 6.2: Full size hockey suitable pitches in CW&C

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Post code	Com use?	Sports lit?	Size (metres)
1	Abbey Gate College	Rural South	CH3 6EN	Yes	Yes	96 x 59
29	Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club	Rural South	CW6 9NA	Yes	Yes	98 x 60
65	Bishop Heber High School (Malpas Sports Centre)	Rural South	SY14 8HT	Yes	Yes	95 x 60
67	Moss Farm Leisure Complex	Northwich	CW8 4BG	Yes	Yes	105 x 65
71	Neston Cricket Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	CH64 6QJ	Yes	Yes	95 x 60
73	Neston High School	Ellesmere Port & Neston	CH64 9NQ	Yes	Yes	100 x 60
89	Sir John Deane's College	Northwich	CW9 8AF	No	Yes	95 x 60
98	The Catholic High School (Chester)	Chester	CH4 7HS	Yes	Yes	102 x 63
104	The Grange School	Northwich	CW8 1LU	Yes	Yes	100 x 60
106	The King's School	Chester	CH4 7QL	Yes	Yes	98 x 60
114	University of Chester (Main Campus)	Chester	CH1 4BJ	Yes	Yes	100 x 60

Smaller sized provision

In addition to the full size AGPs, there are also 13 smaller sized pitches provided in CW&C, as summarised below. Eight of these are available to the community and nine are serviced by sports lighting. There has, however, been a minor reduction in this supply following conversion of a pitch at Malpas & District Sports Club in 2022.

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Table 6.3: Smaller sized AGPs in CW&C

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Postcode	Community use?	Sports lit?	Size (metres)
21	Cheshire County Sports Club	Chester	CH2 1PR	No	Yes	90 x 50
26	Cloughwood Academy	Northwich	CW8 1NU	Yes	Yes	34 x 22
29	Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club	Rural South	CW6 9NA	Yes	Yes	35 x 28
38	Frodsham Leisure Centre	Rural North	WA6 6RX	Yes	Yes	70 x 42
84	Rudheath Leisure Centre (UCAN)	Northwich	CW9 7EL	Yes	Yes	40 x 32
94	Tarporley High School & Sixth Form College	Rural North	CW6 0BL	Yes	No	85 x 40
100	The County High School Leftwich	Northwich	CW9 8EZ	Yes	Yes	50 x 40
102	The Dale Barracks	Chester	CH2 4BD	No	Yes	30 x 20
107	The Queen's School	Chester	CH1 2NN	No	No	45 x 30
120	Weaverham High School	Northwich	CW8 3HT	Yes	No	80 x 50
195	Charles Darwin CP School	Northwich	CW8 1BN	No	No	20 x 12
197	Dee Point Primary School	Chester	CH1 5NF	No	No	25 x 15
259	Upton-by-Chester High School	Chester	CH2 1NN	Yes	Yes	47 x 35

It should be noted that there is no known external community hockey usage on small sized AGPs with all demand being located on full size AGPs. Although those located on educational sites will be used to meet curricular and extracurricular hockey demand.

Future supply

A planning application (24/01441/FUL)¹² has been submitted for the wider development of sporting provision at Moss Farm Leisure Complex. This involves the protection and refurbishment of the currently unused AGP as a hockey suitable surface. An exact timeframe has not been established for its refurbishment; however, it is anticipated that once completed its former users, Winnington Park HC, will return to the site.

There is no community use or lease agreement approved at this stage; however, a community use agreement will be put into place to ensure that hockey is given high priority once the pitch is resurfaced. This will protect future hockey demand. The Council also aspires for the provision to be used for a variety of sports including, but not limited to, tennis and netball.

¹²<https://pa.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=SDSHY5TEGEH00>

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Security of tenure

The table below identifies the hockey club in CW&C, the sites they use and their tenure agreement. Broadly this has remained the same since the previous study; however, the pitch at Sir John Deane's College is no longer in use by Winnington Park HC, with the Club now operating solely out of The Grange School.

Table 6.4: Full size hockey suitable pitches in CW&C

Hockey club	Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Tenure
Chester HC	1	Abbey Gate College	Rural South	Long term agreement – Secure
Chester HC	106	The King's School	Chester	Annual rental (Education) – Unsecure
Chester HC	114	University of Chester (Main Campus)	Chester	Annual rental (Education) – Unsecure
Deeside Ramblers HC	29	Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club	Rural South	Freehold – Secure
Deeside Ramblers HC	65	Bishop Heber High School (Malpas Sports Centre)	Rural South	Annual rental (Education) – Unsecure
Deeside Ramblers HC	106	The King's School	Chester	Annual rental (Education) – Unsecure
Neston HC	71	Neston Cricket Club	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Freehold – Secure
Neston HC	73	Neston High School	Ellesmere Port & Neston	Annual rental (Council) – Secure
Northop Hall HC (Imported demand)	98	The Catholic High School (Chester)	Chester	Annual rental (Education) – Unsecure
University of Chester HC	114	University of Chester (Main Campus)	Chester	Freehold through University - Secure
Winnington Park HC	104	The Grange School	Northwich	Annual rental (Education) – Unsecure

Quality

Depending on use, it is considered that the carpet of an AGP usually lasts for approximately ten years and it is the age of the surface, together with maintenance levels, that most commonly affects quality. An issue for hockey nationally is that many providers did not financially plan to replace the carpet when first installed.

The following table indicates when each of the full size AGPs within CW&C were installed or last resurfaced, together with the currently agreed quality rating (following a check and challenge process with EH) and the original PPS ratings used in 2021.

Table 6.5: Summary of 2024 full size pitch quality in comparison to the 2021 PPS

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Site ID	Site	Year installed/ resurfaced	2021 quality rating	2024 quality rating
1	Abbey Gate College	2017	Good	Standard
29	Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club	2013	Good	Standard
65	Bishop Heber High School (Malpas Sports Centre)	2015	Standard	Standard
67	Moss Farm Leisure Complex	2002	Poor	Poor
71	Neston Cricket Club	2016	Good	Good
73	Neston High School	2018	Good	Good
89	Sir John Deane's College	2015	Standard	Standard
98	The Catholic High School (Chester)	2016	Good	Standard
104	The Grange School	2011	Standard	Standard
106	The King's School	2013 / 2022	Good	Good
114	University of Chester (Main Campus)	2011	Standard	Standard

As seen, the pitches at The Catholic High School, Abbey Gate College and Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club have all dropped from good to standard quality. This is mainly due to them aging and the upcoming need for refurbishment.

Conversely, the pitch at The King's School has recently been fully refurbished (2022) and therefore remains as good quality. The pitches at Bishop Heber High School, Moss Farm Leisure Complex, Neston Cricket Club, Neston High School, Sir John Deane's College, The Grange School and University of Chester are also all identified as being the same quality as in the 2021 PPS.

Availability

Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM) applies an overall peak period for AGPs of 34 hours per week (Monday to Thursday 17:00-21:00; Friday 17:00-19:00; Saturday and Sunday 09:00-17:00). Based on this, it is considered that the pitches at Abbey Gate College, Bishop Heber High School, Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club, Neston High School and Neston Cricket Club are all fully available.

In contrast, the pitches at The King's School, The Grange School, The Catholic High School and University of Chester have reduced access across both midweek and weekends due to curricular/extracurricular demand. I

The pitches at Moss Farm Leisure Complex and Sir John Deane's College are considered unavailable for hockey usage due to quality aspects at the former and a management decision at the latter. This differs from 2021 findings when both were included on the supply side of its analysis.

6.3: Demand

There are five hockey clubs within CW&C, with the table below summarising each clubs current team and participation figures in comparison to the 2021 PPS.

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Table 6.6: Summary of number of hockey clubs playing in CW&C

Name of club	No. of competitive teams				No. of members	
	Senior Men	Senior Women	Junior	Other	Senior	Junior
2021						
Chester HC	6	4	10	3	205	180
Deeside Ramblers HC	7	4	3	5	206	285
Neston HC	8	5	4	-	134	283
University of Chester HC	1	2	-	-	57	20
Winnington Park HC	4	2	2	-	47	75
CW&C	26	17	19	8	649	843
2024						
Chester HC	6	4	10	2	205	180
Deeside Ramblers HC	7	4	6	8	223	323
Neston HC	6	5	6	-	148	196
University of Chester HC	-	2	-	-	55	-
Winnington Park HC	3	3	1	1	66	90
CW&C	22	18	23	11	697	789

As seen, there has been an increase in dedicated senior women and junior teams since 2021; however, there has been a minor decrease in senior men's teams. This decrease is however offset by an increase in 'other' teams such as mixed and masters teams.

When looking at club participation figures, there has been significant growth at both Deeside Ramblers HC and Winnington Park HC, whilst both Neston HC and University of Chester HC have seen a decrease in demand particularly at a junior level.

Imported demand

There is now some imported demand into CW&C by Northop Hall HC. It uses provision at The Catholic High School for two senior men's teams, although this is not regular with the Club only utilising the venue when it cannot access its regularly provision at Hawarden High School (in Flintshire).

6.4: Supply and demand analysis

As was the case in 2021, the PPS Guidance suggests that a sports lit pitch is able to accommodate four match equivalent sessions on one day. With teams playing on a home and away basis, this equates to one pitch being able to cater for eight 'home' teams

Currently in CW&C, there is a level of supply to accommodate 34 match equivalent sessions or 68 teams per week. This accounts for the pitches at Moss Farm Leisure Complex and Sir John Deane's College no longer being available for community use, and with pitches at The King's School and The Grange School only being available for a maximum of three match equivalent sessions rather than for four. With 38 senior teams currently playing on Saturday, this means that there is theoretically a sufficient level of supply.

Based on the above, there is enough hockey suitable provision across CW&C to meet current demand. However, there are localised capacity issues that need to be taken into consideration, particularly those affecting Winnington Park HC in the Northwich Analysis Area. This requires the refurbishment of the pitch at Moss Farm Leisure Complex.

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6.5: Conclusion

Although there is a sufficient supply of hockey suitable pitches to meet demand, there are capacity issues within the Northwich Analysis Area. This therefore needs resolving, primarily through bringing the pitch at Moss Farm Leisure Complex back into use, as planned. This is more pressing than in 2021 following the loss of access to Sir John Deane's College.

Elsewhere, all pitches continue to require protection for hockey as they are all currently used for the sport, either through curricular and extracurricular demand or via community activity. As part of this, quality enhancements should still be sought for pitches that are over 10 years old.

Hockey summary

- ◀ **Although there is a sufficient supply of hockey suitable pitches to meet demand, there remains a capacity issue within the Northwich Analysis Area.**
- ◀ **To eradicate the problem, the pitch at Moss Farm Leisure Complex requires bringing back into use, with this now more pressing than in 2021 following the loss of access to Sir John Deane's College.**
- ◀ **All other stock still requires protection for hockey and quality improvements where surfaces have reached the end of their lifespan.**
- ◀ The audit identifies 11 hockey suitable AGPs in CW&C; this has not changed since the 2021 study.
- ◀ In addition to the full size AGPs, there are also 13 smaller sized pitches provided, which is a minor reduction in this supply following conversion of a pitch at Malpas & District Sports Club in 2022.
- ◀ A planning application (24/01441/FUL) has been submitted for the wider development of sporting provision at Moss Farm Leisure Complex, with this involving the protection and refurbishment of the currently unused AGP as a hockey suitable surface.
- ◀ The pitches at The Catholic High School, Abbey Gate College and Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club have all dropped from good to standard quality due to them aging and the upcoming need for refurbishment.
- ◀ The pitch at The King's School has recently been fully refurbished (2022) and therefore remains as good quality.
- ◀ There has been an increase in dedicated senior women and junior teams since 2021; however, there has been a minor decrease in senior men's teams.
- ◀ There is now some imported demand into CW&C by Northop Hall HC.

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PART 7: RUGBY LEAGUE

7.1: Introduction

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

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

Senior rugby league is played on a field measuring 100 x 68 metres. The preferred pitch size for u7s, u8s and u9s is 60 x 40 metres, whereas for u10s and u11s it is 80 x 30 metres. U12s and above generally play on senior pitches. Teams from u7s to u11s are known as primary teams, with teams from u12s to u18s known as junior teams.

Consultation

In order to update this section of the report, consultation has been carried out with the RFL and the Council.

7.2: Supply

The number of rugby league pitches in CW&C has slightly changed since the 2021 PPS, with just one pitch now provided at Cheshire County Sports Club (Chester Analysis Area – CH2 1PR). The pitch that was identified at Kingsway Sports Pitches (Chester Analysis Area – CH2 2LB) is now marked for rugby union.

The pitch at Cheshire County Sports Club is still used for football during the winter and then changed to accommodate rugby league from February until October. It should also be noted that it is also used for adult American football during the summer months (via Chester & Flintshire Romans American Football Club).

Rugby league is also played on the 3G pitches at Cheshire County Sports Club and Chester Rugby Union Football Club (Chester Analysis Area – CH3 7DB). The former is used for training by Chester Gladiators RLFC whereas the latter is used by Chester Mavericks RLFC (University of Chester) for competitive and training demand.

Future developments

Consultation with the RFL indicates Chester Gladiators RLFC plans to relocate from Cheshire County Sports Club to Blacon Avenue. The Club, anecdotally, is being priced out of using both the grass and 3G provision at Cheshire County Sports Club which has forced it to reduce the number of teams it fields.

In order to increase its levels of participation it plans to establish a senior pitch at Blacon Avenue as well as access the onsite 3G provision for training. The area of land which is aspires to establish the pitch has previously been two youth 11v11 football pitches and requires improved maintenance to address a drainage issue. It would also need access to

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relevant ancillary provision including posts. It should be noted that posts are required to formally recognise the site as accommodating a pitch.

Quality

The grass pitch at Cheshire County Sports Club has reduced from standard to poor quality based upon recent PitchPower reports (February 2024). The methodology behind this is outlined in greater detail in Part 2: Football.

7.3: Demand

Competitive play

In 2021, there were a total of eight competitive rugby league teams playing in CW&C, including one team from the University of Chester (Chester Mavericks RLFC). The table below examines the changes since the original data to current demand figures, with an overall reduction of six teams identified.

Table 7.1: Summary of rugby league demand in CW&C

Club name	Senior	Junior	Primary	Total
2021				
Chester Gladiators RLFC	2	2	3	7
Chester Mavericks RLFC	1	-	-	1
Total	3	2	3	8
2024				
Chester Gladiators RLFC	1	-	-	1
Chester Mavericks RLFC	1	-	-	1
Total	2	-	-	2

Chester Gladiators RLFC has seen a reduction of one senior, two junior and three primary teams since the previous study. Anecdotal evidence indicates that the Club is being priced out of using the provision (Grass and 3G) at Cheshire County Sports Club. Due to the increases in cost, it can only afford to field one senior team.

As mentioned, the Club aspires to relocate to a more affordable site which will allow it to reinstate a second senior teams and restart its primary and junior set up.

Future demand

Based on the previous study, team generation rates used to calculate the future number of teams likely were based on population growth to 2030 (in line with the Local Plan). However, there was not enough growth to indicate the creation of future teams across any age group, with this remaining the case currently.

7.4: Supply and demand analysis

In the previous study, the pitch at Cheshire County Sports Club was overplayed by a total of 1.25 match equivalent sessions (when accounting for rugby league and American football demand). Despite some demand from American football being relocated to the 3G pitch on site (one match equivalent sessions), overplay has actually remained the same due to the quality of the pitch going from standard to poor.

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7.5: Conclusion

Although there is currently considered to be a sufficient quantity of grass rugby league provision within CW&C to cater for the competitive demand it should be noted that the provision at Cheshire County Sports Club is not considered accessible, particularly for Chester Gladiators RLFC. Therefore, assistance should be provided to the Club to establish Blacon Avenue as its new home venue with relevant access to grass, 3G and ancillary provision to meet its current and future demand. This may require improvements to the playing field area.

It is also imperative that both Chester Gladiators RLFC and Chester Mavericks RLFC remain serviced by 3G provision. Without this, the grass provision will come under more pressure that pitch quality improvements will not be able to resolve.

Rugby league summary

- ✦ **Although there is currently considered to be a sufficient quantity of grass rugby league provision within CW&C to cater for the competitive demand it should be noted that the provision at Cheshire County Sports Club is not considered accessible, particularly for Chester Gladiators RLFC.**
- ✦ **Assistance should be provided to the Club to establish Blacon Avenue as its new home venue with relevant access to grass, 3G and ancillary provision to meet its current and future demand. This may require improvements to the playing field area.**
- ✦ **It is also imperative that both Chester Gladiators RLFC and Chester Mavericks RLFC remain serviced by 3G provision in order to accommodate their training demand.**
- ✦ The number of rugby league pitches in CW&C has slightly changed since the 2021 PPS, with just one pitch now provided at Cheshire County Sports Club.
- ✦ The pitch that was identified at Kingsway Sports Pitches is now marked for rugby union.
- ✦ The grass pitch at Cheshire County Sports Club has reduced from standard to poor quality based upon recent PitchPower reports (February 2024).
- ✦ In 2021, there were a total of eight competitive rugby league teams playing in CW&C, with an overall reduction of six teams.
- ✦ Chester Gladiators RLFC has seen a reduction of one senior, two junior and three primary teams since the previous study. Anecdotal evidence indicates that the Club is being priced out of using the provision (Grass and 3G) at Cheshire County Sports Club. Due to the increases in cost, it can only afford to field one senior team.

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PART 8: OTHER SPORTS

8.1: Gaelic

A Gaelic football pitch did exist at Blacon Avenue, although this has now not been the case for several years. It was converted firstly to a rugby union pitch for use by the University of Chester and then to a football pitch to accommodate demand from Chester FC and its Community Foundation. Now, the area of land has been converted into a 11v11 size 3G pitch. The former club which operated in CW&C, Chester GAA St Patrick, has not been active since circa 2017. It is therefore considered that there is no demand for the sport and therefore no requirement for a dedicated grass pitch.

8.2: American football

Chester & Flintshire Romans American Football Club is the only club in the CW&C and operates several teams, all of which are located at Cheshire County Sports Club. Similar to the 2021 study, it uses the grass pitch for its senior demand, with this being overmarked by an adult football pitch and doubling up as a rugby league pitch. The Club then also utilises the onsite 3G provision to meet its training demand.

In addition, there has been occasional Flag Football played by the University of Chester on the 3G pitch at the University of Chester (Chester Campus). Online research identifies that the team was active in 2023, with it also training in early 2024.

Through both rugby league and American football activity, the pitch at Cheshire County Sports Club is overplayed by 1.25 match equivalent sessions per week and is assessed as poor quality. As such, there is a need to improve its standard to increase its carrying capacity to a suitable level.

8.3: Lacrosse

Similar to the previous study (2021), there are still no community lacrosse clubs in CW&C, although it is played by the University of Chester and the Queen's School. The University of Chester fields two teams (one men's and one women's) in BUCS leagues and uses a grass pitch provided at the University's Kingsway Campus for matches and the 3G provision at its Chester Campus for training.

The Queen's School utilises a grass lacrosse pitch at its site for curricular and extra-curricular activity. It has an aspiration to establish a 11v11 size 3G pitch where the pitch is currently provided, although this is not considered to be an issue as lacrosse activity can take place on a 3G surface. It reports that no community demand has ever been received.

8.4: Polo

There are two sites containing polo pitches within CW&C. Cheshire Polo Club, located in Tarporley, contains five pitches, whereas an additional pitch is located at Chester Racecourse and is used by Chester Polo Club. Further detail is unknown as neither club have been able to be contacted for consultation, as was the case in 2021.

Other sports summary

- There have been no significant alterations for the other sports in CW&C since the 2021 study with the current supply and demand considered sufficient.

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PART 9: STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS

It should be noted that even though there have been some alterations in the overall supply and demand analysis, the strategic recommendations made in the 2021 Strategy & Action Plan (2021) remain broadly applicable. This is because shortfalls still exist, and have in many cases worsened, particularly for cricket and rugby union.

Notwithstanding the above, any specific alterations to the sport-by-sport recommendations have been highlighted below, in yellow. However, these are not necessarily the result of the updated findings, and are in many instances only linked to a change in NGB priorities as well as in preferred wording from a planning policy perspective.

Grass football pitch recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of pitches, including disused provision, in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ As there are current identified shortfalls for football, rugby union and cricket ensure disused provision is protected with options explored to bring them back into use to alleviate identified overplay.
- ◀ Utilise the Football Foundation's PitchPower app to assist in the improvement and ongoing maintenance of provision.
- ◀ Support eligible organisations to access funding to improve pitches at their sites, such as through the Football Foundation's Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (GPMF).
- ◀ Convert pitches to a more appropriate pitch type where such demand is already being received and where no teams will be adversely affected (i.e., adult to youth 11v11).
- ◀ Transfer play from sites which remain overplayed to alternative sites with spare capacity or to sites which are not currently available for community use.
- ◀ Seek to gain access to currently unavailable sites, particularly multi-pitch sites.
- ◀ Work to accommodate future demand at sites which are not operating at capacity or at sites which are not currently available for community use.
- ◀ Provide security of tenure for clubs using unsecure sites through community use agreements and support negotiation with operators to secure appropriate access.
- ◀ Support proposals at Moss Farm Leisure Complex.
- ◀ Where appropriate, develop partnerships and/or lease arrangements with large, sustainable, development-minded clubs to manage their own sites.
- ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where there is a demand to do so and where it can benefit the wider footballing offer.
- ◀ Explore transfer of match play from grass pitches onto 3G.
- ◀ Ensure clubs playing within, or with aspirations to play within, the National League System have access to the required extent and quality of facilities to progress.
- ◀ Explore opportunities for club-led management and maintenance models at sites where appropriate.
- ◀ Ensure provision of toilets as a minimum requirement to service football pitch sites.
- ◀ Focus on the development of good quality pavilion provision at key strategic multi-pitch sites, club/league managed sites and those with a focus on growth of women and girls participation.
- ◀ Where sports lighting is provided, encourage conversion of halogen systems to LED in order to improve energy efficiency and reduce environmental impact.
- ◀ Assess the need for new football provision linked to any large housing development.
- ◀ Where a housing development is not of a size to justify on-site football provision, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality, with priority placed on priorities and needs identified in the PPS Action Plan and the LFFP.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site football provision, focus on the creation of multi-pitch sites that reduce existing shortfalls.

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3G pitch recommendations

- ◀ Protect current stock of 3G pitches.
- ◀ Ensure developments of new 3G pitches takes place at Moss Farm Leisure Complex and Weaverham High School.
- ◀ Seek to resurface existing stock of 3G pitches that have exceeded recommended lifespan (10 years).
- ◀ Develop additional 3G pitches to alleviate identified football shortfalls – as part of this, revisit Knights Grange Sports Complex as a potential option given that a deficit in the area now exists.
- ◀ Support creation of additional 3G pitches above and beyond football training shortfalls if it can satisfy rugby union demand, or explore creation of 3G pitches that are both football and rugby appropriate when alleviating shortfalls.
- ◀ Enable partners to work collaboratively to agree preferred surfaces when AGPs are proposed to ensure sustainability across all relevant sports.
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches are constructed to meet FA/World Rugby recommended dimensions and quality performance standards to meet performance testing criteria.
- ◀ Ensure all 3G providers have a sinking fund in place for long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Seek FA testing of existing and new 3G pitches to allow for competitive matches to be played on the surface and ensure that all pitches currently on the FA Register are re-tested every three years to sustain certification.
- ◀ Ensure that all existing and new pitches that are World Rugby compliant are re-tested every two years to sustain certification.
- ◀ Pursue RFL Field Test Certificates for 3G pitches accessed for Rugby League.
- ◀ Encourage more football match play demand to transfer to 3G pitches, focusing on mini and youth 11v11 play.
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches with external funding have community use agreements in place and seek to use this to also tie in access to grass pitch and other sporting provision, where relevant.
- ◀ Ensure walking football can continue to be hosted at current venues and explore additional venues to accommodate potential growth (i.e. AGPs).

Cricket recommendations

- ◀ Protect all cricket squares in current use, and disused provision, in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ As there are current identified shortfalls for football, rugby union and cricket shortfalls, ensure disused provision is protected with options explored to bring them back into use to alleviate identified overplay.
- ◀ Ensure relevant mitigation of former cricket provision at Moss Farm Leisure Complex to improve provision at Northwich Cricket Club
- ◀ Work with clubs and grounds staff to review quality issues on squares to ensure appropriate quality is achieved at sites assessed as standard and sustained at sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Address overplay via quality improvements, installation of hybrid wicket, the transfer of play to sites with actual spare capacity and through an increase in NTPs accompanying grass wickets.
- ◀ Consider options to increase and improve stock of suitable practice facilities.
- ◀ Improve ancillary provision where it is required.
- ◀ Ensure clubs can realise future growth plans and continue to monitor increases in demand to ensure additional teams can be fielded.
- ◀ Explore options to provide both clubs with suitable training provision at their home ground/s.

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- ◀ Where new housing or building developments are under consideration adjacent to existing cricket facilities, ensure a ball strike risk assessment is undertaken and ensure any clubs which could be affected are signposted to the ECB.
- ◀ Continue to deliver the Dynamos and All Stars cricket as well as women & girls programmes and seek to increase junior and female participation as a result.
- ◀ Work to increase women and girls' participation in line with the emerging Inspiring Generations ECB Strategy and protect existing provision so that women and girls have a suitable place to practise and play.
- ◀ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning on an individual basis.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site cricket provision, ensure that any proposals for new squares will attract adequate demand.
- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site cricket provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.

Grass rugby union recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of rugby union pitches, including disused provision, in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ Following the now completed land swap at Moss Farm Leisure Complex, ensure relevant security of tenure is secured for new footprint of land. Explore the potential of also improving ancillary provision within the development.
- ◀ Explore options for improve ancillary provision, particularly to support women and girls development, for Chester RUFC, Northwich RUFC and Winnington Park RUFC.
- ◀ Ensure any ringfenced S106 monies for pitch improvements are actualised, if not already, particularly at Moss Farm Leisure Complex and Winnington Park Rugby Club.
- ◀ Improve pitch quality at all sites used by clubs through improved maintenance and/or the installation of drainage systems, particularly at sites containing overplayed pitches that are not a result of training demand.
- ◀ Utilise the Football Foundation's PitchPower app to assist in the improvement and ongoing maintenance of provision (Capenhurst Sports Club).
- ◀ Consider installation of additional sports lighting at club sites to allow for training demand to be either spread across a greater number of pitches or removed from pitches altogether (Winnington Park RUFC).
- ◀ Support the delivery of a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch (or pitches) with associated partner rugby clubs providing that they would be sustainable, and that usage would be maximised.
- ◀ Consider working in partnership with football partners to deliver 3G pitches that are compliant for both sports, sustaining World Rugby certification with regular re-testing.
- ◀ Assess the need for new rugby union provision linked to any large housing development.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site rugby union provision, ensure that any proposals for new pitches will attract adequate demand.
- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site rugby union provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.

Hockey recommendations

- ◀ As a minimum, protect the ten full size AGPs currently available to hockey clubs, unless replacement provision is provided and agreed upon by EH.

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- ◀ Ensure the pitch at Moss Farm Leisure Complex is refurbished as part of the wider site development plan and secure availability for future hockey usage via a community use agreement once undertaken.
- ◀ Explore re-establishing community use of the pitch at Sir John Deane's College and look to ensure that it remains a hockey suitable surface.
- ◀ Encourage providers to have sinking funds in place at all sites to ensure long-term sustainability. Priority for refurbishment based on age of surface and usage are the pitches at Moss Farm Leisure Complex, The Grange School, Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club and University of Chester (Main Campus).
- ◀ Pursue long-term security of tenure for all clubs, particularly those using education sites, through community use agreements (The King's School, University of Chester, Bishop Heber High School, Neston High School, The Catholic High School and The Grange School).
- ◀ Seek to maximise hockey use of AGPs where unmet demand exists through the transfer of other demand (e.g. football) to existing and new 3G pitches.
- ◀ Ensure that no 3G pitch conversions take place that are detrimental to hockey and revisit hockey demand when and if a conversion is proposed to ensure that the pitch in question is not required.
- ◀ Ensure planning applications for all proposed AGP conversions are submitted to ensure robust consultation with NGBs and Sport England, and that the conversion is sustainable and fit for purpose.
- ◀ Enable partners to work collaboratively to agree preferred surfaces when AGPs are proposed to ensure sustainability across all relevant sports.
- ◀ Ensure that future demand from EH's initiative, Hockey Heroes (aimed at growing participation for under 10s), can be accommodated.
- ◀ When 3G pitch stock increases, encourage the transfer of football demand from the sand-based AGPs in order to free up increased capacity for hockey activity, whilst ensuring enough football demand is retained for long-term financial sustainability.
- ◀ Assess the need for new hockey provision linked to any large housing development.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site hockey provision, ensure that any proposals for new pitches will attract adequate demand.
- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site hockey provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.

Grass rugby league recommendations

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of rugby league pitches, including disused provision, in line with national (i.e. the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy) and local planning policy.
- ◀ Assist Chester Gladiators RLFC in establishing Blacon Avenue as its new home venue with relevant access to grass pitch, 3G and ancillary provision to cater for its current and future demand.
- ◀ Support Chester Mavericks RLFC (Chester Rugby Union Football Club / Chester County Sports Club) to continue to access relevant provision for both training and competitive demand on grass and artificial provision, where appropriate.
- ◀ Assess the need for new rugby league provision linked to any large housing development.
- ◀ Where a development is of a size to justify on-site rugby league provision, ensure that any proposals for new pitches will attract adequate demand.
- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site rugby league provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.

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Other sport (Gaelic football/American football/lacrosse/polo) recommendations

- ◀ Further investigation is required to determine whether a dedicated Gaelic football pitch is required within CW&C.
- ◀ Retain lacrosse pitches and sustain quality.
- ◀ Retain American football pitch and improve quality to eradicate overplay (in conjunction with rugby league improvements).
- ◀ Retain polo pitches.

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PART 10: ACTION PLAN

Based on the findings from this update report, the Action Plan from the 2021 study has been updated, as seen in the tables overleaf. Any alterations made have been highlighted in yellow.

For more details surrounding the terminology within this section please review the adopted CW&C Strategy & Action Plan (2021).

Table 10.1: Headline findings

Analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance ¹³	Future supply/ demand balance
Football – grass pitches			
Chester	Adult	Actual spare capacity 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 1 match session
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 1 match session	Shortfall of 2 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 2 match sessions	Shortfall of 6 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match session	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 1.5 match sessions
Ellesmere Port & Neston	Adult	Actual spare capacity 1.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 1 match session
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 2 match sessions	Shortfall of 2.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 4 match sessions	Shortfall of 7 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 2 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1 match session
Northwich	Adult	Actual spare capacity 2.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 2 match sessions
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 7.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 8 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 6.5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 3 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 1 match session
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity 5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 3.5 match sessions
Rural North	Adult	Actual spare capacity 1 match session	Actual spare capacity 1 match session
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions
Rural South	Adult	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Youth 11v11	Actual spare capacity 1 match session	Actual spare capacity 1 match session
	Youth 9v9	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 1 match session	Actual spare capacity 1 match session
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 2 match sessions
Winsford	Adult	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Youth 11v11	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 3 match sessions	Shortfall of 3.5 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Mini 5v5	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions
CW&C	Adult	Actual spare capacity 7 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 5 match sessions

¹³ Current demand is calculated from an analysis of overplay and spare capacity only.

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Analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance ¹³	Future supply/ demand balance
	Youth 11v11	Shortfall of 10 match sessions	Shortfall of 12 match sessions
	Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 13 match sessions	Shortfall of 24 match sessions
	Mini 7v7	Actual spare capacity 5.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 1 match session
	Mini 5v5	Actual spare capacity 7.5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity 2 match sessions
Football – 3G pitches			
Chester	11 v11 size	3.75 pitches	N/A
Ellesmere Port & Neston	11 v11 size	1.25 pitches	N/A
Northwich	11 v11 size	0.75 pitch when included developments at Moss Farm Leisure Complex and Weaverham High School	N/A
Rural North	11 v11 size	0.5 pitches	N/A
Rural South	11 v11 size	0.25 pitches	N/A
Winsford	11 v11 size	1 pitch	N/A
CW&C	11v11 size	7.75 pitches	N/A
Cricket			
Chester	Saturday	Actual spare capacity of 7 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 7 match sessions
	Sunday	Actual spare capacity of 29 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 29 match sessions
	Midweek	Actual spare capacity of 17 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 5 match sessions
Ellesmere Port & Neston	Saturday	Actual spare capacity of 10 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 10 match sessions
	Sunday	Actual spare capacity of 5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 5 match sessions
	Midweek	Actual spare capacity of 5 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 5 match sessions
Northwich	Saturday	Shortfall of 23 match sessions	Shortfall of 23 match sessions
	Sunday	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 2 match sessions
	Midweek	Shortfall of 8 match sessions	Shortfall of 20 match sessions
Rural North	Saturday	Shortfall of 73 match sessions	Shortfall of 73 match sessions
	Sunday	Shortfall of 51 match sessions	Shortfall of 51 match sessions
	Midweek	Shortfall of 63 match sessions	Shortfall of 79 match sessions
Rural South	Saturday	Shortfall of 2 match sessions	Shortfall of 2 match sessions
	Sunday	Shortfall of 2 match sessions	Shortfall of 2 match sessions
	Midweek	Shortfall of 2 match sessions	Shortfall of 8 match sessions
Winsford	Saturday	Actual spare capacity of 10 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 10 match sessions
	Sunday	Actual spare capacity of 10 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 10 match sessions
	Midweek	Actual spare capacity of 10 match sessions	Actual spare capacity of 10 match sessions
CW&C	Saturday	Shortfall of 71 match sessions	Shortfall of 71 match sessions

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Analysis area	Pitch type	Current supply/ demand balance ¹³	Future supply/ demand balance
	Sunday	Shortfall of 15 match sessions	Shortfall of 41 match sessions
	Midweek	Shortfall of 41 match sessions	Shortfall of 83 match sessions
Rugby union			
Chester	Senior	Demand is being met	Shortfall of 0.5 match sessions
Ellesmere Port & Neston	Senior	Shortfall of 8.75 match sessions	Shortfall of 9.5 match sessions
Northwich	Senior	Shortfall of 16 match sessions	Shortfall of 17.25 match sessions
Rural North	Senior	Shortfall of 2.25 match sessions	Shortfall of 3 match sessions
Rural South	Senior	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Winsford	Senior	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
CW&C	Senior	Shortfall of 27 match sessions	Shortfall of 30.25 match sessions
Rugby league			
CW&C	Senior	Shortfall of provision	Shortfall of provision
Hockey			
CW&C	AGP	Sufficient quantity but need to address quality and access issues, particularly at Moss Farm Leisure Complex.	Sufficient quantity but need to address quality and access issues, particularly at Moss Farm Leisure Complex.

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CHESTER ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁴	Cost ¹⁵	Aim
12	Bishops Blue Coat C of E High School	Football	School	Two adult, one youth 11v11 and two 9v9 pitches assessed as standard quality. All pitches are unused by the community but spare capacity has been discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Pursue security of tenure for potential club users via community use agreements and seek to maximise access given identified actual spare capacity.	School FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Provide
		Cricket		A disused standalone NTP.	Consider replacement of wicket for school use and explore community use options for potential transfer of junior teams.	School ECB		L	S	L	
		Rugby union		A standard quality senior pitch which is available to the community but has unsecure tenure.	Explore community use options to reduce local shortfalls.	School RFU		L	S	L	
13	Blacon Avenue (King George V Sports Hub – Pitch renovations and refurbished changing rooms since previous PPS)	3G AGP	University / Chester FC Community Trust	One good quality 11v11 size sports lit 3G pitch which is FIFA certified. Built in 2022. Managed by Chester FC Community Trust. Aspirations to be used by Chester Gladiators RLFC.	Sustain pitch quality through appropriate maintenance. Maximise usage for both training and competitive demand. Ensure a pitch replacement fund is in situ. Ensure pitch is retested when relevant to remain FIFA compliant. Explore options to provide affordable regular access for Chester Gladiators RLFC.	Council FF FA RFU	Local	L	L	L	Protect
13	Blacon Avenue	Rugby league	Council	An area of playing field land that has previously accommodate football pitches. Aspirations to establish a senior rugby league pitch on the site for Chester Gladiators RLFC.	Assist in establishing a senior rugby league pitch, including posts, on the site with relevant improvements in quality to meet demand from Chester Gladiators RLFC. Explore options to provide Chester Gladiators RLFC with relevant security of tenure on the site.	Council Sports club RFL	Local	H	S	L	Protect Provide Enhance
14	Blacon High School	Football	School	One adult and one 9v9 pitch assessed as standard. Actual spare capacity of 0.5 and one match equivalent session, respectively.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to better support curricular, extracurricular and community demand. Reconfigure adult pitch to better accommodate youth 11v11 demand.	School FF FA	Key Centre	L	M	L	Protect Provide
		3G AGP		A 11v11 size sports lit 3G pitch that is FIFA tested for competitive matches. Assessed as standard quality having been installed in 2016. Pitch is fully available for community use.	Sustain quality and encourage a pitch replacement fund to be put into place for long-term sustainability. Re-test for FIFA certification so matches can be hosted and maximise match play usage.	School FF FA		M	M	M	

¹⁴ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

¹⁵ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

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Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁴	Cost ¹⁵	Aim
15	Boughton Hall Cricket Club	Football	Club	Two adult, one 9v9, one 7v7 and two 5v5 pitches. All pitches are good quality following PitchPower reports. Adult pitches have actual spare capacity whereas the youth 9v9 pitch is overplayed. All good quality pitches are overmarked on cricket outfields. Chester Nomads FC has plans to extend the clubhouse and social space on site although this is currently on hold.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to protect pitch quality and cricket outfield.	Club FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
		Cricket		Two good quality grass wicket squares which are played to capacity during peak time. The main square on site has 12 wickets whilst the second square has seven wickets. NTPs accompany both squares. Neither square has capacity for additional demand with the latter marginally overplayed. The Club aspires to improve ancillary provision for women and girl's demand.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Explore options to improve ancillary provision and methods to reduce marginal levels of overplay.	Club CCB ECB		L	M	M	
16	Cairns Crescent (Pitch renovations and spectator rails since previous PPS)	Football	Sports club	One adult, one youth 11v11 and one mini 5v5 pitch. The adult pitch is of standard quality whilst the youth and mini pitches are of poor quality. The adult pitch has actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week whilst the youth 11v11 is overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week. The mini 5v5 pitch is played to capacity at peak time.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to alleviate overplay.	Council FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
21	Cheshire County Sports Club	Football	Club	Three adult and two youth 9v9 pitches all of which are good quality. One adult pitch is overmarked for rugby league and American football demand. Adult pitches are overplayed.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain good quality and high levels of use.	Club FF FA	Hub Site	L	L	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		3G AGP		Two 11v11 size sports lit 3G pitches with both FA certified. The pitches are used close to capacity during the week. The older pitch (2017) is standard quality whereas the newer pitch (2020) is good.	Sustain quality and encourage a sinking fund to be put into place for long-term sustainability.	Club FF FA		L	L	L	
		Cricket		A good quality square with eight grass wickets and an accompanying NTP. The square is played to capacity on Saturdays but can accommodate further play on Sundays and midweek. The Club aspires for training nets.	Sustain square quality through appropriate maintenance regime. Explore options to install training nets.	Club ECB		L	S	L	

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Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁴	Cost ¹⁵	Aim
		Rugby league / American football		A good quality rugby league pitch used by Chester Gladiators RFLC and Chester Romans American Football Club. Overplayed.	Sustain pitch quality through appropriate maintenance. Explore creating a dedicated pitch for just rugby league and American football.	Club RFL		M	S	L	
		Hockey		A small sized sand-based AGP which is floodlit but unavailable for community use. The pitch is in poor condition.	Explore feasibility of reinstating community lettings on site. Improve pitch quality through resurfacing.	Club EH FA		L	S	H	
24	Chester Rugby Union Football Club	Rugby union	Club	Three standard quality (M1/D1) senior rugby union pitches on of which is sports lit. Two poor quality pitches (M1/D0) with no sports lighting which suffer from ineffective drainage. Spare capacity discounted due to quality. The Club aspires to improve ancillary provision for women and girl's demand.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity. Explore the feasibility of installing additional sports lighting to greater disperse demand. Explore options to improve drainage on poor quality pitches. Explore options to improve ancillary provision for women and girl's demand.	Club RFU	Key Centre	H	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
		3G		One good quality, full-size 3G pitch which is sports lit and available for community use. The pitch is World Rugby and FA compliant and operated by the RFU.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary. Retain World Rugby certification via regular retesting.	Club RFU		L	L	L	
25	Christleton Sports Centre	Football	School	Two adult and one 9v9 pitch assessed as standard quality which are available to the community. The adult pitches are overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions and the youth 9v9 is played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance in order to better accommodated curricular, extracurricular and community demand.	School FF FA	Key Centre	L	M	L	Protect Enhance Provide
		3G AGP		One standard quality (2013), 11v11 size 3G pitch which is sports lit and available for community use. Pitch is FA certified. The pitch is played to capacity during the week.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure pitch replacement fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary. Ensure it is retested when relevant to remain FA certified.	School FA FF Brio Leisure		H	M	H	
		Cricket		One poor quality standalone NTP which is available for community use but unused.	Improve wicket quality through replacement to support curricular and potential recreational demand.	School ECB		L	S	L	
		Rugby union		A standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitch available to the community but used to capacity through curricular demand.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to support community use. Retain the pitch for rugby union demand.	School RFU		L	L	L	

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁴	Cost ¹⁵	Aim
36	Field of Dreams	Football	Private	One standard quality adult and mini 7v7 pitch. The former has 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week of actual spare capacity with the latter played to capacity at peak time. Site has been for sale for a prolonged period.	Review status after the site is sold to determine whether it will continue to provide playing pitches. If it will, protect quality and seek to provide users with security of tenure. If it does not, seek replacement of provision to an equal or better quantity and quality elsewhere in the locality, in accordance with national, local and Sport England Policy requirements.	Council FF FA	Local	M	L	L	Protect
39	Garrison Ground	Football	Club	Two good quality adult pitches which have 0.5 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity per week. One good quality youth 9v9 pitch played to capacity at peak time. Ancillary facilities on site are assessed as poor quality. Chester Nomads FC hope to construct a permanent facility on site.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain usage. Explore options to improve onsite ancillary provision.	Council FF FA	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance Provide
40	Goals Soccer Centre (Chester)	3G	Commercial	Eight small-size 3G pitches that are sports lit and available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary.	Commercial FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
43	Water Tower Pitch, Handbridge	Football	Council	One youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch both of which are poor quality. The former pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions whereas the latter is played to capacity at peak time.	Improve pitch quality with an enhanced maintenance regime.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
49	Hoole Primary School	Football	School	A 9v9 pitch and a 7v7 pitch assessed as standard quality and unavailable to the community.	Explore community use options with the School to reduce local shortfalls.	School FA	Local	L	S	L	Provide Protect
50	J H Godwin Primary School	Football	School	A 7v7 pitch assessed as standard quality. Available to the community and has actual spare capacity.	Pursue security of tenure for clubs via community use agreements.	School FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
54	Jubilee Playing Fields (Plans to improve pitch quality and access)	Football	Parish Council	Informal football provision.	Improve quality and access through relevant methods.	Council FF FA	Local	H	S	L	Protect Enhance
58	Kingsway Sports Pitches	Football	University	Two good quality adult football pitches, overmarked with a Lacrosse pitch and a Rugby union pitch, that have actual spare capacity although this has been discounted due to unsecure tenure. A revised community use agreement will be implemented later this year to provide security of tenure.	Ensure the revised CUA is in implemented in full to help address local shortfalls in football and rugby league.	University FA FF RFU	Local	L	S	L	Protect
61	Little Heath (Christleton Cricket Club)	Football	Club	A good quality adult pitch with actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week. Christleton FC is planning to redevelop the clubhouse on site.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to protect pitch quality and the cricket outfield.	Club FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁴	Cost ¹⁵	Aim
		Cricket		A good quality square with 13 grass wickets. Parking is inadequate with solar panels being installed in 2024. Some evidence of vandalism. Aspirations for a mobile netting cage. The square has capacity for additional play on Midweek.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Assist the Club, where possible, in is mobile netting cage aspirations and parking issues.	Club ECB		M	S	L-M	
69	Mount Pleasant Playing Fields	Football	Council	A poor quality adult pitch that now lies disused.	Site has the potential to alleviate identified shortfalls. Determine future use of the provision based on the following priority order of options: 1) Retain/allocate site as strategic reserve. 2) Explore feasibility to bring back into use. 3) Use as open space to meet local needs. 4) Redevelop site and mitigate loss to meet Sport England Playing Field Policy requirements.	Council FF FA	Local	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
75	Newton Primary School	Football	School	One 9v9, one 7v7 and one 5v5, all of standard quality. The pitches are available for community use and have spare capacity although this has been discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Pursue security of tenure for clubs via community use agreements. Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
81	Queen Elizabeth Playing Fields	Football	Avenue Services	A poor quality adult pitch which has capacity although this has been discounted due to poor quality. No changing facilities on site which causes issues for users.	Consider rationalisation of site given its low value providing that contributions go towards replacing the provision at an improved site in the locality, in accordance with national, local and Sport England Policy requirements.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	M	Enhance
82	Queen's Park High School	Football	School	Four poor quality youth 11v11 pitches that are available to the community and have spare capacity although this has been discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Improve pitch quality in order to enable community access.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide
82	Queen's Park High School	Cricket	School	One poor quality standalone NTP which is available for community use but unused.	Improve wicket quality through replacement to support curricular and potential recreational demand.	School ECB	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
97	Thackeray Drive Playing Fields	Football	Parish Council	One poor quality mini 7v7 football pitch which is played to capacity at peak time. The site is reported to drain poorly.	Improve pitch quality as required.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
98	The Catholic High School	Football	School	Two standard quality adult pitches which are available the community and have two match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity.	Explore options to maximise community usage.	School FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁴	Cost ¹⁵	Aim
		Rugby union		One standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitch which is available to the community but unused. Pitch is played to capacity through curricular demand.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to support community use.	School RFU		L	S	L	
		Hockey		A full size hockey suitable AGP with sports lighting used by imported demand Northop Hall HC. Standard quality having been built in 2016.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate maintenance. Refurbish the pitch, when required, as a hockey suitable surface. Explore options on how to secure long term community use.	School EH		M	M	M	
102	The Dale Barracks	Football	MOD	One adult and two 9v9 pitches assessed as standard quality. The adult pitch is overplayed by two match equivalent session whereas the 9v9 pitch has spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Improve pitch quality as appropriate to meet levels of demand.	MOD FF FA	Local	M	L	L	Protect Enhance
		3G		One small-size 3G pitch which is sports lit and available for community use.	Sustain pitch quality through dedicated maintenance regime. Ensure sinking fund is in place for refurbishment when necessary.	MOD FF FA		L	L	L	
		Rugby union		A standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitch which is unavailable to the community.	Retain for internal use and as strategic reserve for potential community use.	MOD RFU		L	L	L	
106	The King's School	Football / 3G	School	Five adult, two 11v11, two 7v7 and two 5v5 pitches assessed as good quality. The pitches are available for hire but cannot be accessed on a regular basis.	Explore increased community use options to reduce local shortfalls, especially given high volume of pitches.	School FF FA Council	Key Centre	L	L	L	Protect Provide
		Cricket		Three grass wicket squares, one of which is supported by an NTP and one standalone NTP, all of which are good quality. The cricket square supported by an NTP is used by Saughall CC with the remaining being unavailable for community use. Spare capacity at all peak times.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Look to utilise spare capacity for cricket growth.	School ECB		L	S	L	
		Hockey		A full size, sports lit, sand based AGP which was resurfaced in 2022. Chester HC and Deeside Ramblers HC use the pitch as an overspill site and are in discussion about formalising a long-term tenure agreement.	Protect surface type to retain hockey use. Ensure long-term tenure is agreed to secure club usage. Encourage sinking fund for long-term sustainability.	School EH		H	L	L	
107	The Queen's School	Hockey	School	One small-size, sand based AGP which is without sports lighting and unavailable for community use.	Retain pitch for curricular demand.	School EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect
109	The University of Law (Chester)	Football	University	A poor quality adult pitch unavailable to the community.	Improve pitch quality for university use and re-assess community use options.	University FF FA	Local	L	S	L-M	Enhance Provide Protect
		Rugby union		A poor quality senior pitch unavailable to the community.	Improve pitch quality for internal use.	University RFU		L	S	L	

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁴	Cost ¹⁵	Aim
114	University of Chester (Parkgate Campus)	3G	University	One poor quality 11v11 size, sports lit 3G which is available for community use. Built in 2011. It has dropped off the FA and WR register due to quality issues.	Look to refurbish the pitch as it is over its recommended lifespan of 10 years. Once refurbished look to retest to regain FA and WR certification.	University FF FA RFU	Key Centre	H	S	H	Protect Enhance
		Sand AGP		A full size, sports lit, sand based AGP, which is of standard quality (2011). Available to the community and running at capacity through curricular and club demand.	Protect surface type to retain hockey use. Look to refurbish the pitch as it is over its recommended lifespan of 10 years.	University EH		H	S	H	
118	Wealstone Lane Playing Field	Football	Parish Council	A poor quality adult pitch that is overplayed by one match equivalent session per week. Protected by Fields in Trust and has outstanding contributions for pitch improvements.	Improve pitch quality with outstanding contributions to reduce overplay. Consider re-allocating some demand away from the site to alleviate overplay.	Council FF FA	Local	H	S	L-M	Enhance Protect
124	Westminster Park (Pitch renovations since previous PPS)	Football	Council	Protected by Fields in Trust. Two adult, one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and three mini 5v5 pitches all of which are poor quality. Youth 11v11 pitch is overplayed with the rest having spare capacity discounted due to quality. Pitches are said to drain poorly, Westminster Park FC have taken on maintenance and have been awarded an FF grant for pitch improvements. Ancillary provision on site is said to be in poor condition. S106 funds have recently been allocated to the site for pitch improvements.	Use s106 monies once obtain to improve pitch quality in order to alleviate overplay. Explore feasibility of improving ancillary provision and rectifying drainage issues on site. Once	Council FF FA	Local	H	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
		Cricket		A standard quality square with five grass wickets and one NTP. Actual spare capacity for Sunday and Midweek cricket. Ancillary facilities still not fully developed, needs for a roller, covers and hot water for showers. Aspirations for a mobile netting cage and fixed bay provision.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Look to provide suitable ancillary and training facilities on site. Look to utilise actual spare capacity for future growth.	Council ECB		M	M	L-M	
144	Deva Stadium (Chester Football Club)	Football	Club	A good quality stadia adult pitch used for Step football.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Ensure site meets relevant requirement for Step football.	Club FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
147	Coronation Playing Fields (Pitch renovations and new changing facility since previous PPS)	Football	Council	Two poor quality adult pitches and one poor quality mini 5v5 that have discounted spare capacity.	Improve pitch quality in order to provide actual spare capacity.	Council FA	Local	M	S	H	Protect Enhance Provide LFFP

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁴	Cost ¹⁵	Aim
149	Eaton Road Playing Pitches	Football	Council	Two standard quality adult football pitches that are currently unused.	Ensure utilisation of spare capacity on site to support local shortfalls.	Council FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect
154	King Georges Field (Blacon)	Football	Trust	Two poor quality adult pitch that are unused. Spare capacity is discounted due to poor pitch quality. Listed in the clubhouse improvements.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime. Support plans to improve changing facilities on site. Seek to maximise usage.	Council FF FA	Local	M	S	L-M	Protect Enhance
170	Queens Park Road Playing Pitches	Football	School	One adult and one 9v9 pitch of poor quality. Available to the community, however, unused. Managed by Queen's Park High School.	Improve pitch quality and look to provide potential users with security of tenure to activate spare capacity.	School FF FA	Local	M	S	L-M	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Two disused standalone NTPs.	Consider replacement of wicket for school use and explore community use options for potential transfer of junior teams.	School ECB		L	S	L	
171	Saughall Colts Junior Football Club	Football	Sports Club	Pitches are compacted causing drainage issues. Location next to the River Dee can cause flooding. Club has ambitions to develop a facility at its site. Two youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and three 5v5 pitches. Youth 9v9 is overplayed with the rest at capacity at peak time. Youth 11v11 is good, youth 9v9 and one mini 5v5 are standard with the rest being poor quality.	Improve pitch quality to provide further spare capacity. Explore options to accommodate latent and future demand on site.	Sports Club FF FA	Local	M	M	L	Protect Enhance
172	Saughall Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	A disused nine grass wickets square. Previously used by Saughall CC.	Site has the potential to alleviate identified shortfalls. Determine future use of the provision based on the following priority order of options: 1) Retain/allocate site as strategic reserve. 2) Explore feasibility to bring back into use. 3) Use as open space to meet local needs. 4) Redevelop site and mitigate loss to meet Sport England Playing Field Policy requirements.	ECB	Local	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
185	The Arches Community Primary School	Football	School	A poor quality 7v7 pitch available to the community but played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality to sustain usage. Pursue security of tenure for club users via community use agreements.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect
196	Oldfield Primary School	Football	School	A poor quality 7v7 pitch available to the community and used to capacity.	Improve pitch quality to sustain usage. Pursue security of tenure for club users via community use agreements.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁴	Cost ¹⁵	Aim
197	Dee Point Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 5v5 pitch available to the community but unused. The school has a community use agreement in place.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
197	Dee Point Primary School	Hockey	School	One small-size, sand based AGP which is without sports lighting and unavailable for community use.	Retain pitch for curricular demand.	School EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect
206	Cherry Grove Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch available to the community but has discounted spare capacity due to unsecure tenure.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
207	Belgrave Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch available to the community but unused.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
210	St Clares Catholic Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch available to the community but unused.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
211	Acresfield Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 5v5 pitch available to the community but unused.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
213	Christleton Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch available to the community but unused.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
227	Mickle Trafford Village School	Football	School	A poor quality 5v5 pitch unavailable to the community.	Improve pitch quality for school use and re-assess community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Provide Protect
229	Mill View Primary School	Football	School	One 7v7 pitch assessed as poor quality. The pitch is unused by the community despite being available.	Improve pitch quality for school use and re-assess community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect
230	Boughton Heath Academy	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch available to the community but unused.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
232	Guilden Sutton Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch unavailable to the community.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
237	Dodleston Sports Ground	Football	Parish Council	One good quality mini 7v7 pitch which is available to the community but unused.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality.	Parish Council FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect
		Cricket		One standalone NTP which is available for community use.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality.	Parish Council ECB		L	S	L	
240	Limewood Playing Fields	Football	Council	Two poor quality adult pitches. Spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Improve pitch quality in order to provide actual spare capacity.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L-M	Enhance Protect
247	Waverton Primary School	Football	School	Two 7v7 pitches assessed as standard quality. Available to the community and used to capacity at peak time.	Pursue security of tenure for club users via community use agreements. Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁴	Cost ¹⁵	Aim
250	Saighton Playing Fields	Football	Private	A standard quality adult pitch that is unused by the community. Previously had the interest of Boughton Athletic FC for Step 7 purposes.	Explore lack of community demand and communicate with Boughton Athletic FC to understand if interest still exists.	Council Club FA FF	Local	L	S	L	Protect
252	Upton Heath C of E Primary School	Football	School	A 5v5 pitch assessed as standard quality. Used by the community but has discounted spare capacity due to unsecure tenure.	Pursue security of tenure for club users via community use agreements.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
264	Huntington CP School	Football	School	There are to be two mini 7v7 pitches reinstated which will come online shortly.	Ensure the pitches comes online as planned. Support clubs to agree long-term access arrangements.	School FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Provide

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

ELLESMERE PORT & NESTON ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁶	Cost ¹⁷	Aim
18	Capenhurst Electricity Sports & Social Club	Football	Club	Two adult and one mini 7v7 football pitch that are all poor quality. The adult pitches are overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions whereas the latter is played to capacity at peak time.	Improve pitch quality in order to provide actual spare capacity.	Club FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Rugby union		A poor quality (M0/D1) senior pitch which is overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions. Capenhurst RUFC is going to receive a pitch maintenance grant which should improve the quality of the pitch.	Assist the Club, where required, to use pitch maintenance grant to improve pitch quality.	Club RFU		H	S	L	
32	Ellesmere Port Catholic High School	Football	School	Three adult, one 9v9 and five mini 5v5 pitches, all of standard quality. All pitches have discounted spare capacity due to unsecure tenure.	Pursue security of tenure for club users via community use agreements. Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality.	School FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Two disused standalone NTPs.	Look to replace for curricular use.	School ECB		L	L	L	
		Rugby union		A poor quality (M1/D0) senior pitch unavailable to the community due to poor drainage.	Improve pitch quality for curricular and extra-curricular activity.	School RFU		L	S	L-M	
35	Festival Park	Football	Council	Poor quality adult pitch unused by the community.	Consider rationalisation of site given its low value providing that contributions go towards replacing the provision at an improved site in the locality, in accordance with national, local and Sport England Policy requirements	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L-M	Enhance
51	John Street	Football	Council	Poor quality adult pitch unused by the community.	Consider rationalisation of site given its low value providing that contributions go towards replacing the provision at an improved site in the locality, in accordance with national, local and Sport England Policy requirements	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L-M	Enhance
52	Johnston Recreation Grounds (Pitch renovations since previous PPS)	Football	Trust	One adult and one youth 9v9 (standard/basic) and one youth 11v11 and one mini 7v7 pitch (Poor/poor) based on PitchPower report (December 2022). Only the adult pitch has actual spare capacity of one match equivalent session.	Improve pitch quality through an enhanced maintenance regime to create additional capacity.	Council FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Enhance Protect
63	Luton Road	Football	Council	One adult and one youth 9v9 both of which are poor quality. The latter pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity and alleviate overplay.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect
70	Ness Playing Fields	Football	Council	Poor quality adult pitch which is played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect

¹⁶ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

¹⁷ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁶	Cost ¹⁷	Aim
71	Neston Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	Two good quality grass wicket squares, one of which is accompanied by an NTP. No spare capacity exists. Looking to improve rear pitch pavilion. New four bay fixed net installed 2024.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Assist the Club, where possible, to improve rear pitch pavilion.	Club ECB	Key Centre	M	M	M	Protect Enhance
		Hockey		A full size, sports lit, sand-based AGP, of good quality. Played to capacity by Neston HC.	Protect surface type to retain hockey use. Encourage sinking fund for long-term sustainability.	Club EH		L	L	L	
72	Neston Primary School	Football	School	Poor quality 7v7 pitch unavailable to the community.	Improve quality for school use and then re-examine community use aspects given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect
73	Neston Recreation Centre (Neston High School)	Football	Brio Leisure	One adult pitch assessed as standard and two adult and one 9v9 pitch assessed as poor quality. The standard adult pitch is overplayed by two match equivalent sessions per week whilst the youth 9v9 pitch is overplayed by 2.5 match equivalent sessions per week. The poor adult pitches are played to capacity.	Improve quality in order to alleviate overplay.	Brio Leisure School FF FA	Key Centre	M	S	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide
		3G		One good quality full-size 3G pitch which is sports lit and available for community use. FA registered.	Sustain quality and encourage a sinking fund to be put into place for long-term sustainability. Ensure pitch is retested as required to remain FA certified.	Brio Leisure School FF FA		L	L	L	
		Cricket		A disused standalone NTP.	Look to re-provide the wicket for curricular and extra-curricular Demand.	Brio Leisure School ECB		L	S	L	
		Hockey		A full size, sports lit, sand-based AGP of good quality. The pitch is used as an overspill venue by Neston HC.	Protect surface type to retain hockey use. Encourage sinking fund for long-term sustainability.	Brio Leisure School EH		L	L	L	
74	Netherpool Road (Naylor Close)	Football	Council	Three adult and one mini 5v5 pitch all of which are good quality. The former has actual spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalent sessions whereas the latter is played to capacity at peak time.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Look to use actual spare capacity.	Council FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
86	Seacombe Drive Recreation Ground	Football	Council	Two poor quality adult pitches that are played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect
88	Seymour Drive	Football	Council	Two poor quality adult pitches with discounted spare capacity. Outstanding contributions are available for pitch improvements at this site or at Netherpool Road.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity.	Council FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Enhance Protect
91	St Saviours Catholic Primary School	Football	School	A 9v9 and a 7v7 pitch both assessed as standard. Unavailable to the community.	Retain for school use and explore community use aspects to support local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁶	Cost ¹⁷	Aim
92	Stanney Grange (Thornton Road) (Pitch renovations and new pitch construction since previous PPS)	Football	Council	Two youth 9v9 and two youth 11v11 football pitches. The former are played to capacity with the latter overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.	Improve pitch quality to alleviate overplay or seek the transfer of demand to sites with spare capacity.	Council FF FA	Local	M	S	L-M	Enhance Protect
105	The Groves Sports & Social Club	Football (Disused) Cricket (Disused)	Club	Based on the 2021 audit the site accommodated one eight wicket grass cricket square with NTP (good quality), two adult and one youth 9v9 pitch (poor quality). Evidence provided by the relevant NGBs indicate all community access has stopped on the site. The site was last used for circa 2023/24. Anecdotal evidence suggests The Grove Sports & Social Club closed in May 2024 due to an accumulation of serious repairs issues both on and off the playing field as well as inflated running costs.	Site has the potential to alleviate identified shortfalls. Determine future use of the provision based on the following priority order of options: 1) Retain/allocate site as strategic reserve. 2) Explore feasibility to bring back into use. 3) Use as open space to meet local needs. 4) Redevelop site and mitigate loss to meet Sport England Playing Field Policy requirements.	ECB FF FA	Local	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
112	The Ellesmere Port CE College (previously University Church of England Academy)	Football 3G	School	Two standard quality youth 11v11 pitches that have spare capacity due to unsecure tenure. A sports lit 3G pitch provided in 2012 and available to the community. The pitch is of poor quality. Previously FA registered.	Sustain pitch quality as appropriate to meet demand. Look to refurbish the pitch as it is over its recommended lifespan of 10 years. Once refurbished look to retest to regain FA certification.	School FF FA School FF FA	Key Centre	L H	L S	L H	Protect Enhance
113	Former Sutton High School	Football	School	One 11v11, one 9v9, two 7v7 and two 5v5 pitches, all of standard quality. Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure. Princes Villa have recently formalised a lease agreement for the site and are expected to begin utilising the pitches in the upcoming season.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Look to secure tenure for Princes Villa JFC. Potentially look to create additional pitch provision following a planning condition of the Academy High School.	School FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect
115	Vauxhall Sports & Social Club	Football	Club	Two adult pitches, two 11v11, one 9v9 and two 7v7 pitches. The adult pitches are of good quality whilst the remaining pitches are of standard quality. The 11v11 and 9v9 pitches are overplayed by 1.5 and one match equivalent session per week respectively whilst the 7v7 pitches are played to capacity at peak time.	Improve pitch quality to reduce overplay.	Club FA	Key Centre	M	S	L	Protect Enhance Provide

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁶	Cost ¹⁷	Aim
		3G AGP		Two full size sport lit 3G pitches which are assessed as standard quality having been resurfaced in 2018. Available to the community, however, the majority of use is taken up by the Club itself. Club wishes to install an additional 3G pitch.	Sustain quality and encourage a sinking fund to be put into place for long-term sustainability. Re-test every three years so that matches can continue to be hosted. Explore creation of additional 3G pitch, especially if can satisfy rugby demand (including from Wirral-based clubs).	School FA		L	L	L	
125	Whetstone Hey	Football	Parish council	An adult and a youth 11v11 football pitch. Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.	Improve pitch quality to reduce overplay. Seek the transfer of demand to sites with spare capacity to alleviate overplay.	Council FF FA	Local	M	S	L-M	Protect Enhance
126	Whitby High School	Football	School	Two adult pitches of standard quality. Unavailable to the community due to drainage issues.	Correct drainage issues and explore community use options with the School to reduce local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
		Rugby union		Two standard (M1/D1) quality senior rugby union pitches that are unavailable for community use.	Explore community use options in order to reduce local shortfalls.	School RFU		M	S	L	
127	Whitby Park (Pitch renovations and drainage since previous PPS)	Football	Council	One adult, one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 all of which are poor quality. No actual spare capacity.	Improve pitch and ancillary quality to attract usage and provide actual spare capacity.	Council FF FA	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
128	Whitby Sports & Social Club	Football	Club	Three adult, one 7v7 and three 5v5 pitches assessed as standard quality. The adult and 5v5 pitches have actual spare capacity whilst the 7v7 pitch is played to capacity at peak time.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality.	Club FF FA	Key Centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
		3G		Four small size sports lit 3G pitches that are available for community use.							
		Rugby union		Two senior pitches assessed as poor (M0/D0) quality. The pitches are overplayed by 7.5 match equivalent sessions combined.	Improve pitch quality in order to reduce overplay through installation of drainage system and/or improved maintenance. Explore further options to alleviate overplay.	Club RFU		H	S	M	
136	Wolverham Park	Football	Council	A poor quality adult pitch with one match equivalent session of discounted spare capacity.	Consider rationalisation of site given its low value providing that contributions go towards replacing the provision at an improved site in the locality, in accordance with national, local and Sport England Policy requirements	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance
138	Woodlands Primary School	Football	School	One youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 which are poor quality and played to capacity.	Pursue security of tenure for club users through a community use agreement. Improve pitch quality as appropriate.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁶	Cost ¹⁷	Aim
140	Burton County Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	A standard quality square with 10 grass wickets. Actual spare capacity across all peak times.	Review quality issues in an attempt to improve quality to good. Utilise spare capacity to accommodate any future demand and explore opportunities for other clubs to gain access if required.	Club ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect
167	Parks Field	Football	Council	One adult and one 7v7 pitch, both of poor quality. Additional pitches are now marked at Parks Field after a loss of playing fields at Mostyn House School.	Improve pitch quality to attract usage and consider asset transfer.	Council FF FA	Local	M	S	L-M	Enhance Provide Protect
190	Meadow Primary School	Football	School	One mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch, both of which are standard quality, which are unused by the community despite being available.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
203	Christ Church C of E Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 9v9 pitch which is unused by the community despite being available.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
205	St Winefride's Catholic Primary	Football	School	A poor quality 9v9 and a poor quality 7v7 pitch unavailable for community use.	Improve quality for school use and examine community aspects.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect Provide
209	Brookside Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch unavailable for community use.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
209	Brookside Primary School	3G	School	One small size 3G pitch that is not available for community use nor sports lit.	Sustain pitch quality as appropriate to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
216	St Oswalds C of E Aided Primary School	Football	School	A good quality 5v5 pitch unused by the community despite being available.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
219	The Acorns Primary and Nursery School	Football	School	A 7v7 and a 5v5 pitch of standard quality. Unavailable to the community.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Provide Protect
221	Sutton Green Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch unavailable to the community.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Provide
225	St Mary of the Angels Primary	Football	School	Two poor quality 7v7 pitches unavailable to the community.	Improve pitch quality and then further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect Provide
234	Rivacre Valley Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch unavailable to the community.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Provide
238	Thornton Science Park	3G AGP	University	A small size, floodlit 3G pitch measuring 30 x 20 metres and unavailable for community.	Retain for continued university use.	University FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
253	Ellesmere Port Sea Cadets	Football	Community	One mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch which are standard quality. At capacity at peak time.	Sustain pitch quality as appropriate to meet demand.	Community FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance

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PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁶	Cost ¹⁷	Aim
261	Ellesmere Port Sports Village	3G AGP	Council / Brio Leisure	A 11v11 size 3G pitch built in 2015 and assessed as standard quality. FA tested to host competitive matches.	Sustain quality and encourage a pitch replacement fund to be put into place for long-term sustainability. Re-test every three years so that competitive matches can continue to be hosted and seek to maximise match play usage.	FA FF Brio Leisure	Key centre	M	M	L	Protect

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NORTHWICH ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁸	Cost ¹⁹	Aim
6	Barnton Cricket Club	Football	Club	One 9v9, one 7v7 and one 5v5 pitch, all of standard quality. The pitches are overmarked on a cricket outfield. Each pitch has spare capacity of one match equivalent session.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to protect cricket outfield and sustain usage.	Club FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
		Cricket		A good quality square with nine grass wickets. Spare capacity on Sundays and Midweek Training facilities are said to be in need of refurbishment.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Consider installation of a non-turf wicket for the transfer of junior teams. Assist the Club in improving training facilities.	Club ECB		L	M	L	
7	Barnton Football Club	Football	Club	A standard quality adult stadia pitch used for Step 6 football.	Ensure users can progress through the football pyramid.	Club FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
10	Belmont Road	Football	Council	A poor quality adult pitch with discounted spare capacity.	Consider rationalisation of site given its low value providing that contributions go towards replacing the provision at an improved site in the locality, in accordance with national, local and Sport England Policy requirements	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance
26	Cloughwood Academy	Hockey	School	A small-size, sports lit, sand based AGP which is available for community use.	Sustain quality for curricular and extra-curricular use.	School EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect
27	Davenham Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	A good quality square with 11 grass wickets. The square is reported to drain poorly. Parking facilities are said to be inadequate. The square is overplayed by 12 match sessions per season.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance. Explore transfer of junior teams to NTPs in order to alleviate overplay and consider installation of an NTP on site.	Club ECB	Local	M	S	L	Enhance Protect Provide
28	Butchers Stile	Football	Parish Council	One adult pitch previously rated as poor and confirmed as poor by PitchPower report (March 2024). In addition to one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch. Spare capacity discounted due to quality.	Improve pitch quality in order to encourage usage.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L-M	Enhance Protect
41	Green Bank Playing Fields (Saxons Lane)	Football	Council	A poor quality 9v9 pitch currently unused by the community. Pitch improvement works have been recently undertaken on site.	Ensure pitch quality is improve and then seek to attract usage to the site.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	M	Protect Enhance
44	Hartford Cricket Club	Cricket	Parish Council	A standard quality square with seven grass wickets and one NTP. Spare capacity across all peak times. Early discussions with Hartford Parish Council regarding a new build pavilion / remodel. Need some form of practice provision.	Review quality issues in an attempt to improve quality to good. Explore the potential of improving ancillary and training facilities where possible.	Parish Council ECB	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance

¹⁸ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

¹⁹ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

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Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁸	Cost ¹⁹	Aim
		Football		Two standard quality mini 5v5 pitches with actual spare capacity of one match equivalent session per week.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to protect cricket outfield and sustain usage.	Parish Council FF FA		L	S	L	
45	Hartford High School	Football	School	An adult pitch and a 9v9 pitch of good quality as well as a youth 11v11, 7v7 and a 5v5 pitch of standard quality. Youth 11v11 pitch is overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent session, whilst the adult, mini 5v5 and mini 7v7 pitches each have one match equivalent session of spare capacity.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality.	School FF FA	Key Centre	L	S	L	Protect
		3G AGP		An FA certified 11v11 size 3G pitch assessed as standard quality having been built in 2016. The pitch is sports lit and available to the community. The pitch is played to capacity during the week.	Sustain quality and encourage a sinking fund to be put into place for long-term sustainability.	School FF FA		L	S	L	
		Rugby union		A standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitch which is available to the community, but is unused. It is played to capacity through curricular use.	Retain for school use and retain as community available should demand exist in the future.	School RFU		L	S	L	
53	Jubilee Field	Football	Town Council	One poor quality adult football pitch which is currently unused.	Improve pitch quality to create spare capacity.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L-M	Protect Enhance
62	Lostock Gralam Football Club	Football	Club	A good quality adult pitch which is played to capacity at peak time. The pitch is reported to drain poorly.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality.	Club FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
67	Moss Farm Leisure Complex (Pitch renovations since previous PPS) (Plans to refurbish hockey suitable AGP and create new 3G)	Football	Brio Leisure	Three adult, two youth 11v11 and three youth 9v9 pitches all of which are standard quality. The youth 11v11 pitches are overplayed by three match equivalent sessions and the youth 9v9 pitches are overplayed by 3.5 match equivalent sessions. The site is subject to a planning application which will see a land swap of one of the football pitches with a rugby union pitch.	Improve all grass pitch provision with enhanced levels of maintenance in order to alleviate overplay. Improve ancillary provision.	Council FA FF RFU Sport England	Hub Site	H	S	H	Protect Enhance Provide

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Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁸	Cost ¹⁹	Aim
		3G		A sports lit 11v11 size 3G pitch assessed as good quality having been built in 2015. FA tested to host competitive matches. The site is subject to a planning application which will see the creation of a second 11v11 size 3G pitch (replacing a grass football pitch). It should be noted that planning and funding has been approved with construction of the 3G underway.	Create a second 11v11 size sports lit 3G pitch in order to provide additional capacity to the site. Ensure both pitches remain suitable for the FA pitch register and have sinking funds in place for long-term sustainability.	Council FA FF ECB Sport England					
		Rugby union		One good quality senior pitch following a recent land swap with football and two poor quality senior pitches. Ancillary provision needs improving. Accumulatively overplayed by 7.25 match equivalent sessions.	Improve remaining grass pitch provision with enhanced levels of maintenance in order to alleviate overplay. Explore installing additional sports lighting in order to greater disperse demand. Ensure security of tenure for Winnington Park RUFC. Improve ancillary provision.	Council FA FF RFU Sport England					
		Hockey		A full size, sports lit, sand-based AGP which now lies disused, although plans exist to bring it back into use with a new carpet. The pitch was previously used by Winnington Park HC before the pitch fell into a state of disrepair. Changing facilities on site are said to be dated and in poor condition.	As a priority, refurbish the disused AGP with a relevant hockey suitable surface and ensure its longevity. Ensure security of tenure for future hockey usage via a community use agreement. Improve ancillary provision.	Council EH Sport England					
		Cricket		There has also historically been grass cricket provision located at the site which is currently used for football (grass and 3G) and rugby union demand. A four wicket square was in place, with its last though to be circa 2003.	Explore if mitigation is required for the former onsite cricket provision, or if there is a way a cricket square could be reinstated in addition to wider site plans.	Council FA FF ECB Sport England					
76	Norley Road Playing Field	Football	Parish Council	One youth 11v1 and one youth 9v9 pitch, both of poor quality. Overplayed by three and 1.5 match equivalent sessions respectively. Pitches are reported to drain poorly and have prominent bare patches. Changing facilities on site are unsuitable for senior football.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Improve changing facilities.	Council FF FA	Local	H	S	L-M	Protect Enhance
84	Rudheath Leisure Centre (UCAN)	Football	Brio Leisure	A poor quality youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 pitch with no spare capacity. Outstanding contributions have been earmarked for the site to support with pitch maintenance.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Utilise actual spare capacity through the transfer of demand from overplayed sites or via future demand.	Brio Leisure School FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
84	Rudheath Leisure Centre (UCAN)	Hockey	School	A smaller sized, sand based AGP. Available to the community. The surface is significantly over its recommended lifespan.	Resurface to support curricular and community use.	School EH	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁸	Cost ¹⁹	Aim
89	Sir John Deane's College	Football	College	One adult and one youth 9v9 pitch with the latter overplay by 0.5 match equivalent sessions. Available for community use and used.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance regime to reduce overplay. Look to transfer demand to alternate site(s) with actual spare capacity to alleviate overplay.	College FF FA	Key Centre	H	S	L	Protect Provide
		Rugby union		A standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitch which is unavailable to the community.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	College RFU		L	L	L	
		Hockey		A full size, sport lit, sand-based AGP which was resurfaced in 2015. Was well used by Winnington Park HC before lettings were suspended. Ancillary provision is said to be dated and in poor condition.	Ensure lettings recommence as soon as possible and seek to make this as secure and as long-term as possible for hockey. Protect surface type to retain hockey use, unless Winnington Park HC can be fully accommodated elsewhere. Encourage sinking fund for future refurbishment.	College EH		H	S	L	
90	St Nicholas Catholic High School	Football	School	Two adult, one mini 7v7 and one 9v9 pitch assessed as poor quality. Pitches are not available for community use.	Improve pitch quality as appropriate to meet demand.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
		Rugby Union		Two poor quality (M1/D0) senior pitches that are unavailable for community use.	Retain for curricular use.	School RFU		L	S	L	
100	The County High School Leftwich (Pitch renovations and drainage since previous PPS)	Football	School	Two adult and one 9v9 pitch assessed as poor quality. Pitches are not available for community use.	Improve pitch quality as appropriate to meet demand.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Provide
		Rugby union		A standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitch unavailable to the community.	Retain for school use.	School RFU		L	S	L	
		Hockey		A smaller sized (50x40 metres) sand-based AGP which is floodlit.	Retain for continued activity.	School		L	L	M	
104	The Grange School	Hockey	School	A full size sand based AGP of standard quality (2011) which is sports lit, available for community use and used by Winnington Park HC. The Club has increased its usage since loss of access to Sir John Deane's College and Moss Farm Leisure Complex. Sports lighting on site is said to be in poor condition. The pitch can only be used from 08:00-21:00 during the week and from 09:00-20:00 on Sundays and Bank Holidays. It cannot be used for community football.	Look to refurbish the pitch as soon as possible, due to age, and replace with a suitable hockey surface. Look to secure increased pitch access and resolve sports lighting quality issues on site. Seek to extend hours that sports lighting can be used. Provide long-term security of tenure to Winnington Park HC. Encourage sinking fund for future refurbishment. Protect surface type to retain hockey use.	School	Local	H	S	L	Provide Protect
		Cricket		One poor quality standalone NTP which is available for community use but unused.	Improve wicket quality through replacement to support curricular and potential recreational demand.	School ECB		L	S	L	

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Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁸	Cost ¹⁹	Aim
111	University Primary Academy Weaverham	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 and a standard quality 9v9 pitch. The pitches are available to the community but suffer from unsecure tenure. Played to capacity at peak time.	Pursue security of tenure for users via community use agreements. Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Provide
119	Weaverham Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	A good quality square with ten grass wickets. Played to capacity on Saturdays but has capacity on Sundays and mid-week. Nets need refurbishing.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Explore utilising spare capacity for future demand and/or to alleviate overplay. Explore options to refurbish training facilities.	Club ECB	Local	L	S	L	Protect
120	Weaverham High School	Football / 3G	School	Three adult and one 9v9 pitch of poor quality. Pitches are available for community use but unused. Planning was approved in December 2023 for the creation of a 11v11 size sports lit 3G pitch. The provision will be situated on an area of playing field land which is currently unused due to its poor quality, however, historically it has accommodated a youth 11v11 pitch. It will be built to meet FIFA certification and accommodate a shock pad to allow for rugby demand. It should be noted that planning and funding has been approved with construction of the 3G underway.	Pursue security of tenure for users via community use agreements. Improve quality to create actual spare capacity. Ensure 3G pitch is built in accordance with agreed planning approval.	School FF FA	Key Centre	H	S	H	Enhance Protect Provide
		Cricket		A standard quality standalone NTP. Unavailable to the community.	Retain for school use and explore community use options for the potential transfer of junior teams.	School ECB		L	S	L	
		Sand AGP		A smaller sized (80x50 metres) sand-based AGP which is available to the community but without floodlighting.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Encourage sinking fund for future refurbishment. Protect surface type to retain hockey use.	School EH		L	S	M	
121	Weaverham Road Playing Field	Football	Council	One mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 rated as poor and confirmed as poor quality by PitchPower report (April 2023). Play to capacity at peak time.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect
130	Wincham Park (Witton Albion Football Club)	Football	Club	An adult stadia pitch assessed as good quality and played to capacity.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality.	Club FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
131	Winnington Park Recreation Club	Football	Club	One adult and one youth 9v9 pitch which are standard quality, with one and 0.5 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity, respectively.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Utilise spare capacity to accommodate future demand / alleviate shortfalls.	Club FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect

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Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁸	Cost ¹⁹	Aim
		Cricket		A good quality square with 14 grass wickets. Played to capacity on Saturdays but has capacity on Sundays and midweek. Repairs currently required on storage sheds, and the front of the scoreboard.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Explore options to improve ancillary provision.	Club ECB		L	S	L	
139	Burrows Hill Playing Fields	Football	Parish Council	A standard quality adult pitch which is currently unused.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Look to utilise actual spare capacity on site.	Parish FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
152	Griffith Park Football Field	Football	Parish Council	One poor quality adult football pitch which has discounted spare capacity.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity.	Parish FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
158	Main Road Playing Pitches	Football	Parish Council	A standard quality 9v9 pitch that has spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate maintenance. Look to utilise actual spare capacity on site.	Parish FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
182	Winnington Park Rugby Club	Rugby union	Club	Three senior pitches of poor (M0/D1) quality of which two are sports lit. Pitches are overplayed by a cumulative total of 8.75 match equivalent sessions per week. The RFU indicates the Club has plans to extend the changing rooms and clubhouse on site. Site is subject to land swap subject to Moss Farm development.	Improve pitch quality to reduce overplay through installation of drainage system and/or improved maintenance. Seek installation of sports lighting to better accommodate training demand. Look to support Winnington Park RFC's aspirations to improve ancillary facilities on site. Ensure land swap takes place with relevant security of tenure obtained.	Club RFU	Local	H	S	M	Enhance Protect
186	Cuddington Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch that is unused by the community.	Pursue security of tenure for potential users via a community use agreement.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
189	Leftwich Community Primary School	Football	School	A poor quality 7v7 pitch unavailable to the community.	Improve pitch quality and then further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect
193	Sandiway Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 9v9 pitch that is unused by the community.	Pursue security of tenure for potential users via a community use agreement.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
194	Greenbank School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch unavailable to the community.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
195	Charles Darwin CP School	Football	School	A standard quality 9v9, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitch that have no spare capacity at peak time.	Pursue security of tenure for users via a community use agreement.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
199	Moulton School	Football	School	A poor quality 9v9 pitch which is played to capacity through curricular demand.	Improve pitch quality to attract usage.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect
201	Kingsmead Primary School	Football	School	A poor quality 9v9 pitch which is played to capacity through curricular demand.	Improve pitch quality to attract usage.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect

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Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁸	Cost ¹⁹	Aim
217	Rudheath Primary Academy	Football	School	A standard quality 5v5 and a standard quality 7v7 pitch unavailable to the community.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
220	Weaverham Forest Primary School	Football	School	A good quality 7v7 pitch which is available for community use and used.	Pursue security of tenure for users via a community use agreement.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
222	Byley Primary School	Football	School	A poor quality 7v7 pitch unavailable for community use.	Improve pitch quality and then further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect
235	St Bede's Catholic Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch unavailable to the community.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
239	Bostock Green	Football	Parish Council	Two 5v5 pitches. Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity.	Parish FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect
243	Whalley Road Playing Field	Football	Parish Council	Poor quality adult pitch currently unused by the community.	Consider rationalisation of site given its low value providing that contributions go towards replacing the provision at an improved site in the locality, in accordance with national, local and Sport England Policy requirements	Parish FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance
248	Barnton Primary School	Football	School	One adult, one youth 9v9, one 7v7 and one 5v5 pitch assessed as standard quality. Adult pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions with no spare capacity at peak time on the other pitches.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain current usage. Pursue security of tenure for users via a community use agreement.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
249	Cransley School	Football	School	A 7v7 and a 5v5 pitch of standard quality. Unused by the community but spare capacity is discounted.	Pursue security of tenure for users via a community use agreement.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
255	Northwich Cricket Club	Cricket	Brio Leisure	A standard quality square with nine grass wickets. Square is overplayed by 17 match sessions per season. Aspirations to improve social space and changing facilities for women and girl's demand. Practice nets need replacing with a desire for an NTP. Explore securing mitigation from Moss Farm development to carry out improvements.	Review quality issues in an attempt to improve quality to good and remove overplay. Look to utilise mitigation monies to provide additional capacity on the site in order to alleviate overplay, including but not limited to, installation of NTP, hybrid wicket and practice facilities.	Club ECB	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
258	Laburnum Playing Fields	Football	Parish Council	A standard quality 5v5 pitch with one match equivalent session of actual spare capacity.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain current usage.	Council FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
260	Lavender Drive	Football	Parish Council	Three poor quality adult pitches with discounted spare capacity.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ¹⁸	Cost ¹⁹	Aim
262	Cassia Green, Whitegate	Football	Parish Council	An adult pitch and a mini 7v7 pitch, both of standard quality. A total of 0.5 and one match equivalent session of actual spare capacity, respectively.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Look to utilise actual spare capacity on site.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
263	The Grange School Playing Fields	Cricket	School	A standard quality standalone NTP which is available to the community but unused.	Retain for school use and explore community use options should any community demand exist in the future.	School ECB	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
		Football		Three youth 11v11 and two youth 9v9 pitches of standard quality. The pitches are available for community use but spare capacity is discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Retain for school use and retain as community available should demand exist in the future.	School FF FA		L	L	L	
-	The Green, Hartford	Football	Club	Disused football pitches. An area of land leased to Hartford FC but not wanted by the Club.	Future priority order of options: 1) Retain/allocate site as strategic reserve. 2) Explore feasibility to bring back into use. 3) Use as open space to meet local needs. 4) Redevelop site and use developer contributions to improve other playing pitch sites (quantity and/or quality).	Council FF FA	Local	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

RURAL NORTH ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ²⁰	Cost ²¹	Aim
3	Alvanley Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	A standard quality square with 10 grass wickets and one NTP. The outfield is reported to be sloped and undulated. Parking is inadequate. The Club is looking to extend its clubhouse to accommodate more women and girl's demand. The square is overplayed by 34 match sessions per season.	Improve square quality to reduce overplay. Explore options to alleviate overplay such as greater utilisation of onsite NTP, creation of hybrid wickets, relocation of demand to sites with spare capacity. Explore options to assist the Club in improving ancillary provision.	Club ECB	Local	M	S	L-M	Protect Enhance
5	Aston by Sutton Primary School	Football	School	A poor quality 5v5 pitch which is played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality and explore community use options given future local shortfall.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect
8	Barrow Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	A good quality square with nine grass wickets. The square is overplayed by 10 match sessions per season. Barrow CC aspires to install an NTP on site. Training nets also need refurbishing/replacing.	Support the Club's aspirations to install an NTP on site to alleviate overplay. Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain current usage. Explore options to refurbish/replace training nets.	Club ECB	Local	M	S	L-M	Protect Provide
30	Dog Lane	Football	Commercial	A poor quality adult pitch unused by the community.	Consider rationalisation of site given its low value providing that contributions go towards replacing the provision at an improved site in the locality in accordance with national, local and Sport England Policy requirements	Commercial FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance
31	Duddon Village Hall (Pitch renovations since previous PPS)	Football	Council	A poor quality adult pitch which is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week. The pitch drains poorly and receives basic maintenance.	Improve pitch quality to alleviate overplay.	Council FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Enhance Protect
34	Elton Primary School	Football	School	One adult and one 7v7 pitch assessed as poor quality. Both pitches have discounted spare capacity.	Improve quality to alleviate overplay. Pursue security of tenure for club users via community use agreements.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect
37	Frodsham Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	A good quality square with seven grass wickets and one NTP. Minimal spare capacity on the square not enough for any further demand.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain current usage. Better utilise the NTP on site.	Club ECB	Local	L	S	L	Protect
38	Frodsham Leisure Centre	Hockey	Brio Leisure	A smaller sized (70x50 metres) sand-based AGP which is sports lit. Provision is not currently used for external hockey.	Replace pitch and consider conversion to 3G based on identified shortfalls of provision and a lack of need for hockey.	Brio Leisure EH	Local	M	S	M	Protect Enhance
46	Helsby Community Sports Club	Football	Club	A standard quality adult pitch which is played to capacity at peak time. Ancillary facilities on site are considered to be in good condition.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality.	Club FF FA	Key Centre	L	S	L	Protect

²⁰ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

²¹ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ²⁰	Cost ²¹	Aim
		3G		One good quality full-size 3G pitch which is available for community use and sports lit. Helsby RUFC has aspirations for a rugby specific clubhouse to be provided pitch side. The Club also hopes to use the pitch for training demand although it is not World Rugby compliant.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Encourage sinking fund for future refurbishment. Test the pitch on site with the aim of achieving WR certification.	Club FF FA		L	S	L	
46	Helsby Community Sports Club	Rugby union	Club	Two poor (M0/D1) quality senior pitches. There is a total of 2.25 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity across the two pitches. S106 funding is ringfenced for the site.	Improve pitch quality via the installation of a drainage system and/or improved maintenance. Support Helsby RUFC's ambition to provide a clubhouse at Helsby Community Sports Club.	Club RFU	Local	L	S	M	Enhance Protect
47	Helsby High School	Football / 3G	School	Three youth 11v11 and two youth 9v9 pitches all of which are poor quality. The former is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions whereas the latter are played to capacity. Pitch layout and quantity has changed due to a sport lit 11v11 size 3G pitch being created. Pitch is FIFA certified.	Improve pitch quality to alleviate overplay. Ensure security of tenure for users via a community use agreement. Sustain 3G quality with appropriate maintenance and ensure it is retested as required to remain FIFA certified. Ensure a pitch replacement fund is in situ.	School FF FA	Local	H	S	L-M	Enhance Protect
		Rugby union		A senior pitch assessed as poor (M1/D0) quality with drainage issues. Unavailable for community use.	Improve pitch quality for school activity and then explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School RFU		L	S	L-M	
55	Kelsall Primary School	Football	School	A poor quality 5v5 pitch available to the community and played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality to sustain usage.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect
57	King George V Playing Field, Tarvin (Pitch renovations since previous PPS)	Football	Parish Council	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch which is played to capacity. The site is reported to drain poorly.	Improve pitch quality through enhanced maintenance.	Council FF FA	Local	H	S	L	Enhance Protect
66	Middle Lane	Football	Council	Poor quality adult pitch with one match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity discounted due to quality issues.	Improve pitch quality to provide actual spare capacity.	Council FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Enhance Protect
77	Oakmere Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	A good quality square with 10 grass wickets. Oakmere CC aspires to install an NTP on site. The square is overplayed by seven match session per season.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Support installation of an NTP for the transfer of junior teams.	Club ECB	Local	M	S	L	Protect Provide
78	Oulton Park Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	Two squares. One good quality with ten grass wickets and a standalone NTP. The grass square is played to capacity on Saturdays but has actual spare capacity on Sundays and midweek. Aspirations to refurbish its practice nets prior to 2025.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Assist, where possible, with the refurbishment of practice nets.	Club ECB	Local	L	S	L	Protect

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ²⁰	Cost ²¹	Aim
85	Saltworks Farm (Pitch renovations since previous PPS and pitch reconfiguration) (Further pitch and changing facility improvements planned)	Football	Parish Council	Two adult and two 9v9 pitches assessed as poor quality. The adult pitches are overplayed by one match equivalent session per week whilst the 9v9s are played to capacity. Frodsham Veterans Athletic FC is working with the Council to take over management of the site. The site is identified for pitch and ancillary improvements.	Improve pitch and ancillary quality on site to alleviate overplay. Support asset transfer aspirations.	Parish Club FF FA	Key Centre	M	S	M	Enhance Protect Provide
94	Tarporey High School & Sixth Form College (Potential site for investments in the future, however, given good quality other sites in the Tarporey area should be prioritised. Including but not limited to Brook Road)	Football	School	Three adult and one 9v9 pitch assessed as good quality. Available to the community and both pitch formats have actual spare capacity. This equates to a cumulative total of four match equivalent sessions per week.	Explore lack of community demand given local shortfalls and seek to maximise access.	School FF FA	Key Centre	M	S	L	Provide
		Cricket		Two standalone NTPs that are available for community use but unused.	Retain for school use and retain as community available should demand exist in the future.	School ECB		L	S	L	
		Rugby union		A senior pitch of standard (M1/D1) quality. Available to the community, however, unused.	Retain for school use and retain as community available should demand exist in the future.	School RFU		L	S	L	
		Hockey		A smaller sized sand-based AGP which is available for community use. Minimal community use is recorded due to lack of floodlighting.	Retain for school use and as community available should demand exist in the future.	School EH		L	S	L	
95	Tarporey Wanderers FC	Football	Sports Club	One adult football pitch which has been disused since 2012 after the Club folded.	Site has the potential to alleviate identified shortfalls. Determine future use of the provision based on the following priority order of options: 1) Retain/allocate site as strategic reserve. 2) Explore feasibility to bring back into use. 3) Use as open space to meet local needs. 4) Redevelop site and mitigate loss to meet Sport England Playing Field Policy requirements.	Sports Club FF FA	Local	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
101	The Croft (Kingsley Cricket Club)	Cricket	Club	A good quality square with nine grass wickets and an NTP. The square is overplayed by 22 match sessions per season.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Support installation of an NTP for the transfer of junior teams.	Club ECB	Local	M	S	L	Protect
150	Great Barrow Field (Pitch renovations since previous PPS)	Football	Parish Council	One poor quality adult football pitch played to capacity.	Improve pitch quality to provide capacity.	Parish Council FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance
169	Profitts Lane, Helsby	Football	Parish Council	A poor quality 5v5 pitch currently unused by the community.	Consider rationalisation of site given its low value providing that contributions go towards replacing the provision at an improved site in the locality in accordance with national, local and Sport England Policy requirements	Parish FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ²⁰	Cost ²¹	Aim
191	Kingsley Community Primary School	Football	School	A poor quality 5v5 pitch currently unused by the community.	Improve pitch quality and further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect
204	Frodsham Manor House School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch available to the community, however, unused.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
208	Delamere CE Primary Academy	Football	School	A poor quality 7v7 pitch and a poor quality 5v5 pitch unused by the community despite being available.	Improve pitch quality to attract usage given local shortfalls.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect
212	Barrow CE Primary School	Football	School	A good quality 7v7 pitch available to the community but unused.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
214	Eaton Primary School	Football	School	A poor quality 7v7 pitch unused by the community despite being available.	Improve pitch quality and further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Enhance Protect
224	Tarporley C of E Primary School	Football	School	Two good quality 5v5 pitch which is used by the community although spare capacity is discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Pursue security of tenure for club users via a community use agreement.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
228	Weaver Vale Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 9v9 pitch and a standard quality 7v7 pitch which are available to the community but unused.	Pursue security of tenure for potential club users via a community use agreement.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
231	Duddon St Peter's C of E Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch which is available to the community but unused.	Further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
244	Ashton Hayes Playing Field	Football	Parish Council	One poor quality adult pitch and one poor quality youth 9v9 each overplayed by one match equivalent session.	Improve pitch quality to alleviate overplay.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L-M	Protect Enhance
256	Kinglsey St John School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch which is available to the community but unused.	Pursue security of tenure for club users via a community use agreement.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
265	Brook Road Playing Fields (Potential site for future investment)	Football	Council	One adult and one mini 7v7 both of which are standard quality. Adult pitch has spare capacity at peak time whereas the latter is played to capacity.	Improve quality as required to meet levels of demand.	Council FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

RURAL SOUTH ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ²²	Cost ²³	Aim
1	Abbey Gate College	Football	School	Three standard quality adult pitches unavailable for community use.	Retain for school use and explore whether demand exists for community use.	School FF FA	Key centre	L	L	L	Protect
		Cricket		A standard quality standalone NTP unavailable to the community.	Retain for school use.	School ECB		L	S	L	
		Hockey		A full size sand-based AGP assessed as standard quality having been installed in 2017. Used by Chester HC.	Protect for continued hockey use and encourage a sinking fund to be put into place for long-term sustainability.	School EH		L	L	L	
29	Deeside Ramblers Hockey Club	Hockey	Club	A full size sand-based AGP and a smaller sized (40x30 metres) sand-based AGP, both of which are standard quality, sports lit and running at capacity. Deeside Ramblers HC aspires to install a second full-size AGP on site.	Protect surface type to retain hockey use. Encourage sinking funds to be put in place for long-term sustainability. Further explore options in relation to creating a second full size AGP on site, to be informed via a site master-planning process.	Club EH	Local	L	L	L	Protect
64	Malpas & District Sports Club	Football	Club	One adult pitch of standard quality which has 0.5 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality.	Club FF FA	Key Centre	L	S	L	Enhance Protect
		3G		One recently converted 3G (from AGP) which is sports lit and available for community use.							
		Cricket		A standard quality square with seven grass wickets marginally overplayed.	Improve quality with enhanced maintenance. Consider installation of an NTP for the transfer of junior teams.	Club ECB		L	S	L	
65	Bishop Heber High School (Malpas Sports Centre)	Football	School	A standard quality adult pitch which is unavailable to the community.	Retain for school use and explore whether demand exists for community use.	School FF FA	Key Centre	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Rugby union		Two standard (M1/D1) quality senior pitches unavailable to the community.	Improve pitch quality for school activity then re-explore community use options.	School RFU		L	S	L-M	
		Hockey		A full size, sports lit , sand-based AGP which was provided in 2015. Used by Deeside Ramblers HC. Some spare capacity remains. Goals on site are not official hockey goals and so the pitch is unsuitable for high-level play. Changing facilities on site are reported to be dated and of poor quality.	Protect surface type to retain hockey use. Encourage sinking fund for future refurbishment.	School EH		L	L	L	

²² Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

²³ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ²²	Cost ²³	Aim
96	Tattenhall Recreation Club	Football	Club	Previously one poor quality adult pitch, however, based on recent PitchPower reports (November 2023) the site now accommodates one basic/standard mini 5v5 pitch, one adult, three mini 5v5 and two mini 7v7 pitches rated as good quality and one youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitch which are also good. Spare capacity on all pitches apart from on the youth 9v9 pitch.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Look to utilise spare capacity to alleviate overplay and/or accommodate future demand.	Club FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
		Cricket		A good quality square with 14 grass wickets. Played to capacity over the weekend but has actual spare capacity during the week.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Consider installation of an NTP for the transfer of junior teams.	Club ECB		L	S	L	
110	Tilston Playing Fields	Football	Parish Council	A poor quality adult pitch which is unused by the community despite being available. Protected by Fields in Trust.	Consider rationalisation of site given its low value providing that contributions go towards replacing the provision at an improved site in the locality, in accordance with national, local and Sport England Policy requirements	Parish FF FA	Local	L	S	L	N/A
187	Tushingham-with-Grindley C of E Primary School	Football	School	A poor quality 7v7 pitch unavailable to the community.	Retain for school use (no local demand).	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
202	Clutton C of E Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 5v5 pitch unused by the community despite being available.	Retain for school use (no local demand).	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
215	Farndon Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch unavailable to the community.	Retain for school use (no local demand).	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
218	Tilston Parochial C of E Primary School	Football	School	A poor quality 7v7 pitch unavailable to the community.	Improve pitch quality and then further explore community use options given local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Provide Protect Enhance
226	Saighton C of E Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch unused by the community despite being available.	Retain for school use (no local demand).	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
236	Tattenhall Park Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch unavailable to the community.	Retain for school use (no local demand).	School FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
246	Carden Park Hotel	Football	Private	One adult and one 9v9 pitch assessed as good quality. Available to the community, however, spare capacity is discounted due to unsecure tenure.	Sustain good quality. Pursue security of tenure for potential club users via a community use agreement.	Private FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
257	Farndon Sports & Social Club	Football	Club	A poor quality adult pitch which suffers from poor drainage. The pitch is overplayed by one match equivalent session per week.	Improve pitch quality to alleviate overplay.	Club FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Protect Enhance

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ²²	Cost ²³	Aim
268	Cherry Hill Cricket Pavilion	Cricket (Disused)	Private	The disused square has recently been identified at Cherry Hill Cricket Pavilion (SY14 7EP – Rural South). This site is under private ownership with the former square accommodate four grass wickets. Exact details surrounding the usage of the site are unknown with anecdotal evidence suggesting there are aspirations to bring it back into use from local clubs.	Future priority order of options: 5) Retain/allocate site as strategic reserve. 6) Explore feasibility to bring back into use. 7) Use as open space to meet local needs. Redevelop site and use developer contributions to improve other playing pitch sites (quantity and/or quality).	Private ECB	Local	N/A	N/A	N/A	Protect

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

WINSFORD ANALYSIS AREA

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ²⁴	Cost ²⁵	Aim
9	Barton Stadium (Winsford United Football Club)	Football	Club	One standard quality adult stadia pitch which is played to capacity. The pitch is used for Step 5 football and so is unavailable for wider community use.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Ensure site meets relevant requirements for Step football.	Club FF FA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
59	Knights Grange Sports Complex (Plans to improve grass pitches and changing facilities)	Football	Council	Four standard adult, six poor adult, one standard youth 9v9 and three poor youth 9v9 pitches. The standard youth 9v9 pitches are overplayed by 2.5 match equivalent sessions. The pitches on site suffer from poor drainage. Onsite ancillary provision needs improving.	Improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Look to improve ancillary facilities on site. Re-visit as a potential option for a 3G pitch given that a local shortfall now exists.	Council FF FA	Key Centre	M	S	M	Enhance Protect LFFP
79	Over Hall Community School	Football	School	Two 7v7 pitch both of standard quality. Played to capacity at peak time.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Pursue security of tenure for potential club users via a community use agreement.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
132	Winsford Academy	Football	School	Three adult and one 9v9 pitch. Two adult pitches are poor quality, whilst the remaining pitches are standard. The youth 9v9 pitch is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions with no spare capacity on the rest. Pitches are available for community use.	Improve pitch quality to better accommodate curricular, extracurricular and community demand.	School FF FA	Key Centre	L	S	M	Enhance Provide Protect
		3G AGP		A 11v11 3G pitch assessed as standard quality having been built in 2016. FA tested to host competitive matches. Also, reportedly built with a shock pad, potentially making it suitable for rugby activity.	Sustain quality and encourage a pitch replacement fund to be put into place for long-term sustainability. Re-test every three years so that competitive matches can continue to be hosted and seek to maximise match play usage. Consider World Rugby testing should it be determined that local demand from clubs exists.	School Council FA RFU		L	L	L	
		Rugby union		A poor (M0/D0) quality senior pitch unavailable to the community due to drainage issues.	Improve pitch quality for school activity.	School RFU		L	S	L	
133	Winsford Cricket Club	Cricket	Club	A good quality square with 11 grass wickets. Actual spare capacity across all peak times. Investment required for ancillary and practice facilities.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality. Utilise spare capacity for future demand and/or alleviating overplay. Explore options to assist the club with ancillary and training provision enhancements.	Club ECB	Local	L	S	L	Protect

²⁴ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

²⁵ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

Site ID	Site (Comments)	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales ²⁴	Cost ²⁵	Aim
135	Winsford High Street Community Primary School	Football	School	A poor quality 7v7 pitch unused by the community despite being available. Pitch has been improved with a CUA nearly finalised for Winsford Town FC.	Improve quality as needed to meet curricular, extracurricular and community demand. Ensure CUA is formalised.	School FF FA	Local	M	S	L	Enhance Protect
177	Verdin Exchange (Plans to refurbish changing facility)	Football	Town Council	Two adult and one youth 9v9 pitch, all of poor quality. The 9v9 is played to capacity whilst the adult pitches have discounted spare capacity. S106 funding has already been allocated for the provision of changing facilities	Utilise ring fenced monies to improve ancillary provision quality.	Town Council FF FA	Local	H	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
180	Whitegate Football Pitch (Plough Playing Fields)	Football	Council	One adult and one mini 7v7 pitch, both of poor quality. Spare capacity is discounted from both pitches.	Improve pitch quality to create actual spare capacity.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
188	St Chad's C of E Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality adult pitch unavailable to the community.	Retain for school use (no local demand).	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
198	Great Budworth CE Primary School	Football	School	A mini 7v7 and a mini 5v5 pitch both assessed as poor. Unused by the community despite being available.	Improve pitch quality to attract usage. Pursue security of tenure for potential club users via a community use agreement.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect Enhance
200	Over St Johns CE Primary	Football	School	A poor quality 7v7 pitch unavailable to the community.	Improve pitch quality and then explore community use options with the School to reduce local shortfalls.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Provide Protect Enhance
223	Whitegate CE Primary School	Football	School	A 5v5 and a 7v7 pitch both of which are standard quality. Available to the community but unused.	Further explore community use options with the School in order to maximise use.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Provide Protect
251	Greenfields Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 9v9 pitch which is played to capacity.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain quality.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
254	Darnhall Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch which is unused by the community despite being available.	Further explore community use options with the School in order to maximise use.	School FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect
262	Cassia Green Whitegate	Football	Council	An adult and a 7v7 pitch both of standard quality. Pitch formats have 0.5 and one match equivalent session of actual spare capacity, respectively.	Explore options to maximise use of the site.	Council FF FA	Local	L	S	L	Protect

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PART 11: HOUSING SCENARIOS

The original PPS provided an estimate of demand for pitch sport based on population forecasts and club consultation to 2030. This future demand was translated into teams likely to be generated, rather than actual pitch provision required, with The Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator (PPC) adding to this. This was through updating the likely demand generated for pitch sports based on housing increases and converting the demand into match equivalent sessions and the number of pitches required. It also gives the associated costs of supplying the increased pitch provision. The PPC splits the total pitch requirement into natural turf pitches to meet peak period demand, artificial grass pitches to meet training demand, and the additional number of changing rooms required to support the new demand.

The scenarios below has been re-run from the 2021 study utilising the updated supply and demand findings and latest Sport England cost guidance. It provides an example of how the PPC can continue to be used in order to understand the potential additional demand for pitch sports from housing growth in addition to potential associated costs. An occupancy rate of 2.3 people per dwelling is still utilised to estimate what the likely resident population will be.

The figures from 2021 have been included in the relevant tables for comparison.

It should be noted that the below scenarios are based on current housing projections, however, these are in the process of being reviewed with revised targets anticipated to be known in early 2025. It is therefore advised that this element of the PPS is reviewed as part of the ongoing Stage E process.

Allocated housing developments without planning permission

The Council's housing target set out in its Local Plan is for an additional 22,000 new homes to be provided for the period 2010-2030.

Since the Local Plan was adopted, there have been 14,993 net completions, meaning a remaining requirement of 7,007 dwellings. However, there are 9,709 commitments with extant planning permission and a further 2,011 dwellings that are allocated without planning permission (plus 805 dwellings designated as small site windfall).

Based on the above, the scenario below examines the likely demand for pitch sports generated by providing the further 2,011 dwellings that are allocated without planning permission. The population increase for 2,011 new homes in CW&C is estimated at 4,625 people (based on an average of 2.3 people per household).

Table 11.1: Likely demand for pitch sports generated from housing developments without planning permission

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 2,011 dwellings	
	Match demand per week ²⁶	Training demand ²⁷
2021		
Adult football	0.99	10.89 hours
Youth football	2.44	
Mini soccer	2.01	

²⁶ As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

²⁷ Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

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Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 2,011 dwellings	
	Match demand per week ²⁶	Training demand ²⁷
Rugby union	0.34	0.37 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.00	0.00
Adult hockey	0.31	0.92 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.23	0.32 hours
Cricket	17.9	-
2024		
Adult football	0.96	11.54 hours
Youth football	2.86	
Mini soccer	1.95	
Rugby union	0.43	0.47 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	0.05	0.05 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	0.33	0.98 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	0.16	0.29 hours
Cricket	20.94	-

Based on 2024 demand figures, population increases equates to accumulated 5.77 match equivalent sessions of demand per week for football, 0.43 match equivalent sessions for rugby union and 0.05 match equivalent sessions for rugby league. This is an increase from the original figures of 5.44, 0.34 and 0 match equivalent sessions, respectively.

Demand for cricket has also marginally increased from 17.9 to 20.94 match equivalent sessions a season, whilst demand for AGPs for hockey has marginally decreased due to a reduction in junior participation (membership).

Training demand now equates to 11.54 hours of use per week for football on 3G pitches, which has risen from 10.89 hours. Training demand for both rugby codes has also increased with union going from 0.37 to 0.47 match equivalent sessions and rugby league going from zero to 0.05 match equivalent sessions. When considering hockey training demand (adult and junior combined), this has gone from 1.24 hours to 1.27 hours.

The table below translates estimated demand into new pitch provision with associated capital and lifestyle costs. These are based on Sport England Facilities Costs (Third Quarter 2023).

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Table 11.2: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	Number	Capital cost
2021					
Adult football	0.99	£96,884	£20,443	1.98	£334,250
Youth football	2.44	£191,673	£40,251	3.01	£508,151
Mini soccer	2.01	£49,260	£10,345	0.00	£0
Rugby union	0.34	£46,740	£10,002	0.68	£115,181
Rugby league	0.00	£0	£0	0.00	£0
Cricket	0.39	£112,834	£22,792	0.78	£131,958
Sand based AGPs	0.08	£68,243	£2,116	0.17	£28,366
3G	0.29	£279,396	£10,549	0.57	£96,875
Total	6.54	£845,030	£116,498	7.19	£1,214,781

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost	Lifecycle Cost (per annum)	Number	Capital cost
2024					
Adult football	0.96	£104,256	£20,538	1.91	£372,005
Youth football	2.86	£255,045	£51,519	3.26	£632,864
Mini soccer	1.95	£57,885	£11,461	0.00	£0
Rugby union	0.43	£69,559	£12,868	0.85	£165,467
Rugby league	0.05	£7,069	£1,308	0.10	£19,135
Cricket	0.45	£155,270	£28,570	0.91	£176,648
Sand based AGPs	0.09	£80,569	£2,095	0.17	£33,288
3G	0.3	£342,668	£10,384	0.61	£117,980
Total	7.09	£1,072,322	£138,743	7.81	£1,517,386

As seen in the table above, there have been increases in all aspects using 2024 demand data, particularly surrounding costs. This not only takes into account for the increased need in pitches, but also inflation which has been substantial since 2021.

Conclusions

The scenario indicates that, over the remaining course of the Local Plan period, housing developments will result in increased pitch demand in CW&C; however, the total level is now relatively minimal. In reality, the requirements will be staggered, with existing provision able to meet some if not all of the needs when developments are considered on a case-by-case or area-by-area basis. This would be achieved through contributions being directed towards improvements of existing provision rather than through new provision.

Experience shows that only significantly large housing sites are likely to generate demand for new provision to be created in their own right, with smaller developments unlikely to emanate enough demand to equate to a whole pitch for any of the sports. However, the cumulative impact of such developments must also be taken into account.

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Based on the above, new pitches should only be considered as a requirement where enough demand exists to warrant providing multi-pitch sites, with suitable ancillary provision, including appropriate clubhouse/changing facilities and car parking. Single pitch sites which have been provided traditionally by developers are not considered to offer long-term sustainability. As such, if numerous developments in an area warrant new pitch provision, but not even for multi-pitch provision, consideration should be given to pooling resources to create one larger site, rather than numerous smaller sites.