

Northern Devon Playing Pitch Strategy

Stage C

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND FOOTBALL

Final

for

North Devon Council

Torridge District Council

See also:

- **Stage C Needs Assessment - Part 2: Cricket, Rugby, Hockey and Bowls**
- **Full Site Overviews**
- **Stage B: Northern Devon PPS Appendix 1E**

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prepared by

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1 INTRODUCTION

Background

1.1 North Devon Council (NDC) and Torrington District Council (TDC) commissioned the preparation of a Northern Devon Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) for the period 2017 – 2027 in November 2016. The PPS was to be prepared in compliance with Sport England Guidance to ensure current and future playing pitch provision is understood and meets the needs of the districts and to provide both Councils with a needs based understanding of pitch requirements. The area denoted as Northern Devon represents the two authorities of North Devon and Torrington.

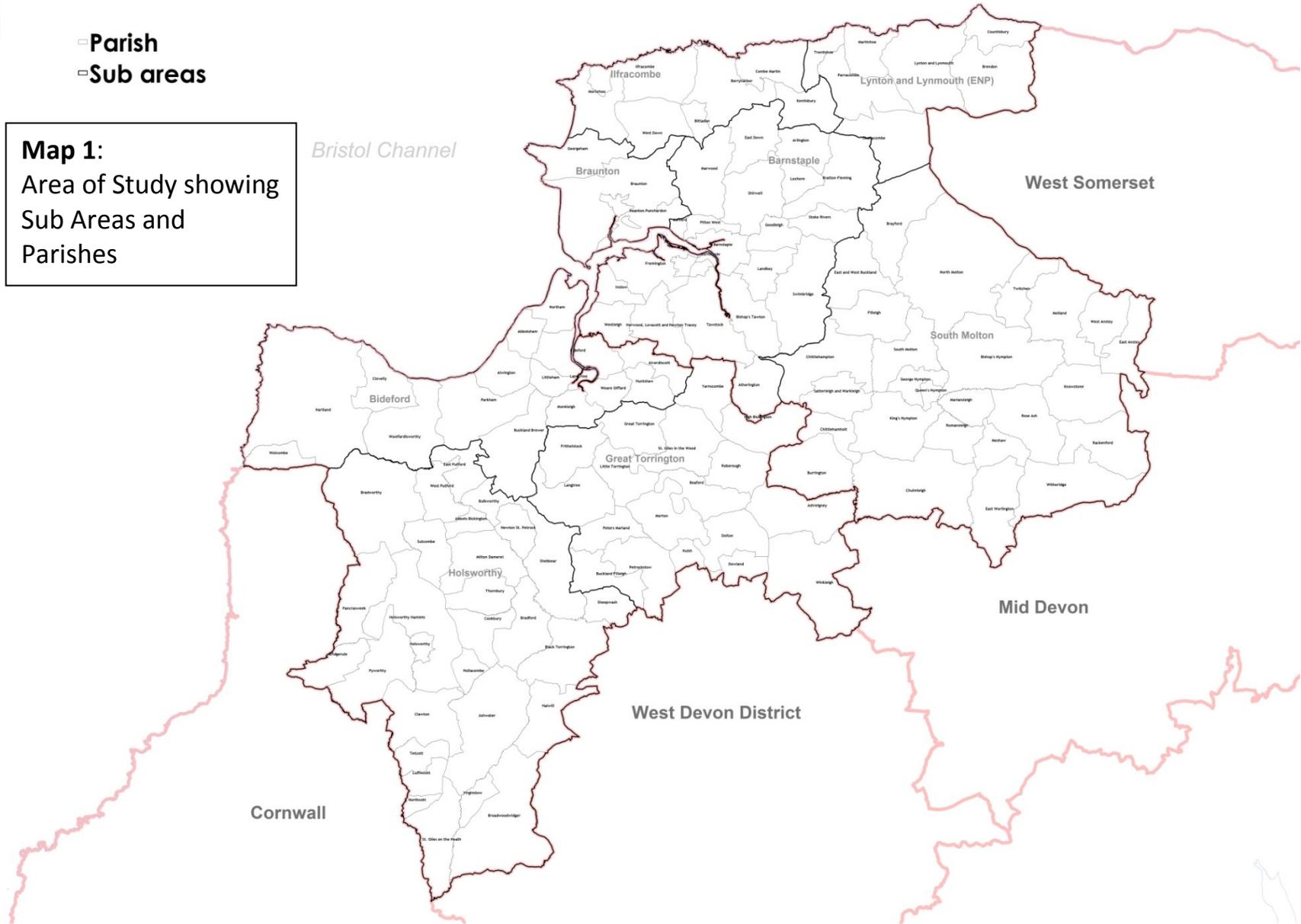
1.2 The strategy is being developed in order:

- To provide, protect and enhance sports pitches and recreational sites
- To enable the effective implementation of the policies of North Devon and Torrington Local Plan, to secure new and enhanced playing pitch provision to address needs generated by development and to safeguard and enhance existing and provide new pitches and recreation assets.
- To update the current PPS previously prepared by Devon County Council
- To determine whether there are sufficient playing pitches of sufficient quality and in the right locations to meet local demand up to 2027.
- To provide justification for or disprove the need for a new Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) as part of the new Leisure Centre Facilities in Barnstaple as part of the Tarka Tennis Centre Extension or on the school site at Pilton Community College.
- To determine the need for a new AGP in Bideford.
- To predict future use and demand for sports pitches, and associated facilities
- To recognise and accommodate the change in demographics in planned playing pitch provision.
- To recognise the importance of health and wellbeing through provision of playing pitches.
- To identify playing pitch delivery opportunities on a locational basis, to support on-site delivery through the planning process, off-site contributions to existing or new sites, or investment in current provision.
- To prioritise allocation and use of developer contributions based on increase in development.
- To recognise the role played by School sites in providing community access to their facilities and provide guidance on how this can be secured/safeguarded.

1.3 The geographical area of the study is the local planning authority geographies of North Devon and Torrington (i.e. the administrative boundaries of Torrington and North Devon District Councils) excluding the areas of North Devon District located within Exmoor National Park.

- ▣ Parish
- ▣ Sub areas

Map 1:
Area of Study showing
Sub Areas and
Parishes



The vision and objectives for the strategy

Strategy Vision

1.4 The Vision is:

“To fully understand the quantity and quality of our current stock of playing pitches and changing provision to ensure that we: Protect the facilities that are used and valued by our current population; Provide new facilities in the right locations to cater for increased demand and population; and Enhance facilities to ensure that quality meets twenty-first century expectations and attracts new and existing users.”

1.5 The strategy considers the period of 2017-2027 (since amended with the agreement of the Steering Group to 2031 to be on a par with the Local Plan), clearly identifying the districts’ requirements based on population, local participation trends and national guidance. Gaps in provision are identified, with specific reference to suitable locations. Where facilities are inadequate or poor quality, recognition of investment is specified. In scenarios where there is potential over provision, a justifiable recommendation for future use or withdrawal or change of use is mapped out, giving detailed evidence and clarification of the current and future position. The vision is linked to housing growth and wider infrastructure planning.

1.6 Sport England has a prescribed methodology for local authorities to follow when producing playing pitch strategies. This Needs Assessment report has been carried out, and provides the evidence in full compliance with this methodology and will form the basis for the development of the Strategy. The ten steps involved are set out below:

Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach (STEP 1)

1.7 In compliance with Sport England Guidance, the authorities established a Steering Group comprising representatives from:

- Members/officers of North Devon District Council:
 - Cllr Dick Jones (NDC Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing)
 - Andrew Austen (NDC Planning Policy)
 - Richard Slaney (NDC Parks, Leisure and Estates)
 - Lucinda Tomlinson (NDC Project and Procurement Officer)
 - Mark Kentell (NDC Contracts Delivery Manager)
- Members/officers of Torridge District Council
 - James Jarroudi (TDC Community Engagement Officer)
 - Sean Kearney (TDC Commercial and Leisure Services Manager)
 - Dawn Burgess (TDC Senior Planning Policy Officer)
 - Cllr Phillip Pennington (TDC Portfolio Holder - Community Culture & Leisure)
 - Andrew Waite (TDC Property Manager)
- Sport England (Owen Neal)
- Football Association (Lee Rider)
- Devon County Football Association (Chris French)
- Rugby Football Union (Jon Bendle)
- Devon Cricket Board (Matt Theedom)
- England Hockey (Barbara Reynolds)
- Active Devon (James Bogue)

1.8 Further to the Stage A meeting that was held on 6/9/16, it was agreed that representation should be expanded to include invites to:

- Bowls England
- MoD – RMB Chivenor
- A representative from North Devon Health and Wellbeing Forum
- DCC (public health)

1.9 High level political support from the two local authorities involved is evidenced by the following statement from Cllrs Jones and Pennington from North Devon Council and Torridge District Council:

Councillor Dick Jones (Lead Member for Health and Wellbeing at North Devon Council) says “Playing pitches are vitally important to our communities, especially local sports clubs and the people within those clubs. The Playing Pitch Strategy has been developed to ensure that our residents have access to the best facilities possible and that these facilities are provided in the right locations to serve areas of demand. This document will help ensure that both Councils are suitably informed to ensure that any funding available is used in a way to maximise the impact for our residents and contributes effectively towards improving the overall health and wellbeing within our communities.”

Councillor Philip Pennington (Lead Member for Community, Culture & Leisure at Torridge District Council) says “The Playing Pitch Strategy provides Northern Devon with a current baseline for the supply, demand and quality of each of the pitch sports in the area. This provides an evidence base for use as part of the planning process to ensure new developments contribute accordingly towards improving this provision. In collaboration with Sport England and the National Governing Bodies for Football, Rugby Union, Cricket, Hockey and Bowls; we have been able to formulate an action plan that prioritises how future investment is allocated. We believe this strategy will provide the necessary platform to help achieve our shared vision and aspirations for future pitch provision across North Devon and Torridge.”

Stage B: Gather information and views on the supply of & demand for provision (STEPS 2 & 3)

1.10 This Needs Assessment builds up a clear picture of supply and demand for playing pitches in North Devon and Torridge, and also provides an accurate assessment of the quality of pitches.

1.11 The audit of existing playing pitch and changing room provision and non-technical playing pitch assessments was undertaken by the consultants. Consultation with key stakeholders (clubs, schools, facility owners), in conjunction with the national governing bodies of sport was also undertaken by consultants. The consultants have worked closely with the two District Councils and NGBs to ensure that as much information as possible has been gathered and that key gaps in knowledge have been filled.

1.12 In particular, this Needs Assessment:

- presents the findings from the club surveys which were undertaken for each sport. The following high response rates were achieved, which is very unusual for a study of this type (Sport England’s benchmark is 75%).
 - Football 187 teams out of 196 teams = 95% (46 clubs out of 51)
 - Cricket 83 teams out of 90 = 92%
 - Rugby 5 clubs out of 5

- Hockey Both clubs
- presents a comprehensive, up to date audit of the quality, quantity and accessibility of pitches, assessing pitch quality using the templates agreed by each sport under the new methodology and in consultation with the Council and the respective National Governing Bodies.
- highlights where there is any surplus or deficit in supply in relation to both current and anticipated future demand for pitches. This includes a district wide breakdown of which team is playing on which site and on which days/times they play. It identifies which pitches are being used to capacity, under capacity or over capacity and any pitches which are lapsed or disused. The next stage of the process will be to develop recommendations about where improvements to pitch quality and/or type might allow pitches to be used to a fuller potential and deliver a positive impact on participations levels.
- provides a clear picture of current artificial pitch provision reflecting the surface type, condition and usage, as well as a detailed breakdown of the priorities for each of the governing bodies for future artificial pitch provision.
- identifies the needs and demand for each of the different sports on each site through consultation with governing bodies, sports clubs and other stakeholders. In particular, consideration of future demand for newer forms of the sports (e.g. junior and youth sized pitches) and also possible surges in demand associated with major events (e.g. Rugby Union World Cup 2015) have been taken into account.
- makes reference to the provision of playing pitches immediately adjacent to the District where relevant and highlights cross-boundary movements to ensure a full picture of local provision is available.
- identifies where improvement in the quality and quantity of floodlighting on both grass and artificial surfaces would significantly lead to an increase in the ability of clubs to play and train at a wider range of times and days, and have positive participation benefits.
- presents a full overview of pitches and usage on education sites which can support and inform any future capital investment decisions.

Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views (STEPS 4, 5 & 6)

1.13 In line with Sport England’s Playing Pitch Guidance Stage C, this Needs Assessment document achieves an in depth understanding of playing pitch provision and the need for sport in the District using the supply and demand information and by assessing local views from stakeholders and service users in light of local and national information from new and existing documents including the following;

- Sport England Active People Survey
- Sport England Market Segmentation
- Current and accredited feedback from User and Non-User Surveys that are currently available from Council / Partners.

1.14 Each section assesses the adequacy of facilities for the sports of Football, Cricket, Rugby, and Hockey in the following manner:

- An overview of facility supply:
- An overview of demand
- The pattern of play
- A review of the capacity and adequacy of current provision for the sport across Northern Devon, including an understanding of activity at individual sites (see individual site overviews)
- The future picture of provision

1.15 The following is encompassed within this Needs Assessment and the Site Overviews:

1.16 *Step 4 (Understand the situation at individual sites)*

- A breakdown of the up to date number of sites, pitches and clubs utilising each site in Northern Devon.
- An overview of the key issues of provision and capacity for play available at the site (including comments from clubs about current condition and capacity of pavilions/support infrastructure)
- Consideration of where potential savings can be made by rationalisation of pitches.
- Consideration of any sites which have asset transfer potential.
- Consideration of which sites are most in need of investment, and where investment may deliver the greatest returns in terms of increasing participation levels.
- Tables and map-based analysis, where appropriate, to identify deficiencies in quality and accessibility, and surpluses and deficiencies in quality, supported by written commentary

1.17 *Step 5 (Develop the current and future picture of provision):*

- An analysis of the current and future picture concerning the quality, quantity and accessibility of playing pitch provision across Northern Devon. This includes the range of changing facilities linked to playing pitches, which is particularly important on multi pitch sites.
- An analysis of existing and potential future deficits in playing pitch provision, will help inform local policies and the creation or enhancement of playing pitch provision required in relation to new development proposals.
- Evidence as to whether any sites are clearly surplus to requirements and to support potential recommendations based upon demand for alternative sporting or open space use on those sites.
- Scenarios can be run to anticipate future issues around provision. If necessary, these can be agreed with the relevant National Governing Bodies as part of the Stage C sign off.

1.18 *Step 6 (Identify the key findings and issues):*

- Identification of key issues for supply and demand provision for Northern Devon,

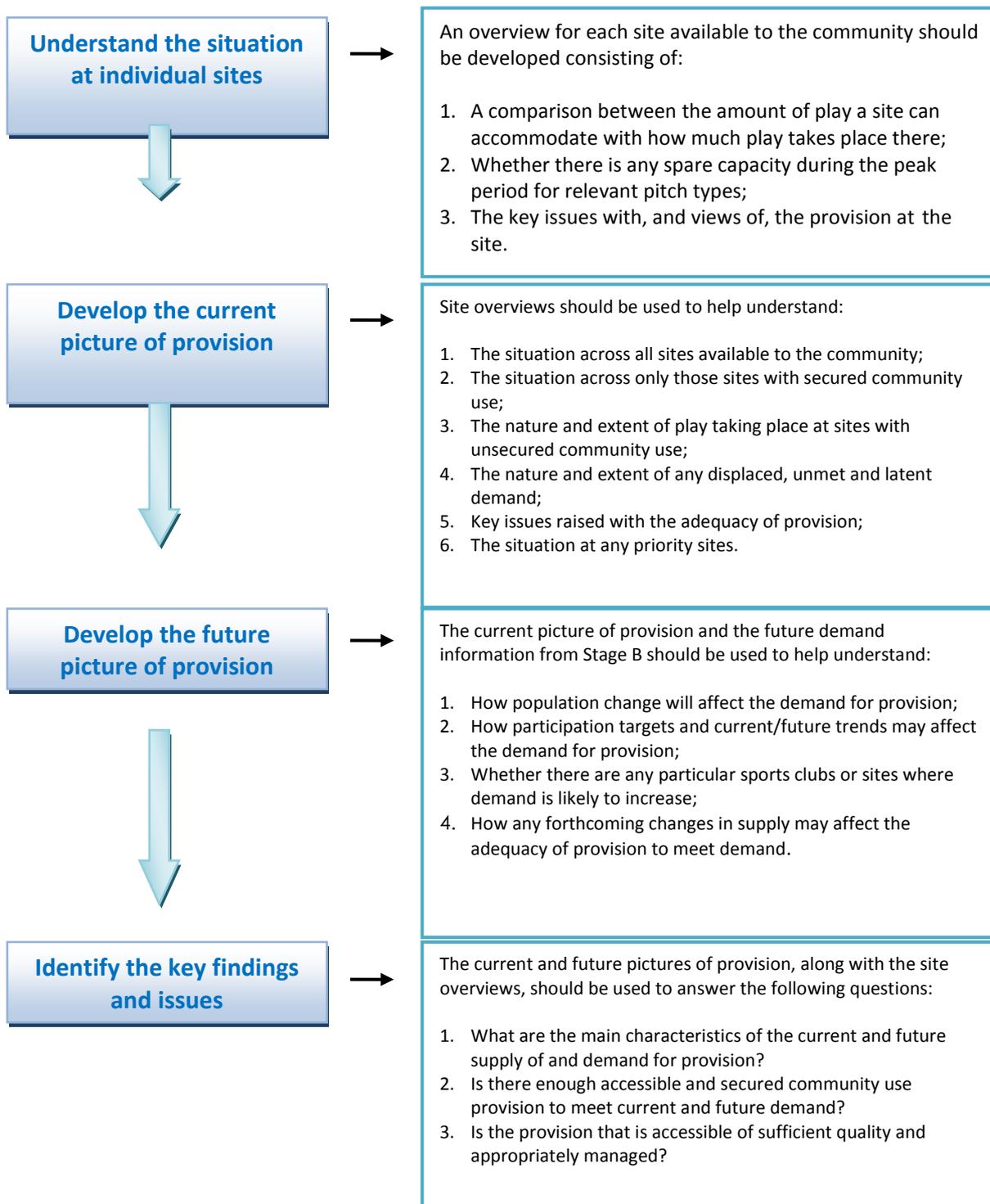
now and in the future, across the entire stock of playing pitches. This has included assessing the scope of current and possible future use of community sites such as school sites.

1.19 The following are also presented within Step 6 of the Sport England Methodology and these will be an outcome of the Stage C Discussion and sign off:

- Identification of strategic priorities for investment for each of the sports subject to this analysis in North Devon and Torridge to provide evidence and support for bids to external funders and investment decisions.
- The provision of recommendations to ensure the most efficient management and maintenance of playing pitch provision, including a review of existing artificial pitch provision, consideration of where artificial pitches may offer wider development and capacity benefits to natural turf pitches, and identifying shared priorities among Governing Bodies.
- The provision of clear standards of provision (quality, quantity, catchment and accessibility) for playing pitch and changing room provision in Northern Devon to ensure the correct level of pitch and changing room provision is sought from developers through the planning process.

1.20 Figure 1 below sets out detail of the process used to analyse the adequacy of provision.

Figure 1 – Overview of the Assessment Process



Stage D: Develop the Strategy (STEPS 7 & 8)

1.21 This stage will follow the sign off of this Needs Assessment document and will involve the drafting of a comprehensive Playing Pitch Strategy for Northern Devon, in particular by (but not limited to):

- delivering recommendations supported by evidence to allow Council officers and partners to review the Playing Pitch Strategy draft.
- presenting recommendations in a District wide context, along with any other breakdowns that might become apparent as being of significant relevance or interest, as agreed at the end of Stage B.
- setting out clear options for the future that can be used to inform the vision, development and the promotion and provision of sport in North Devon and Torridge in the short, medium and long term.
- recommending specific action plans for each site, considering both sport specific and multi-sport options where appropriate.

1.22 **Step 7** comprises the development of the recommendations and action plan (as above)

1.23 **Step 8** involves writing and adopting the strategy encompassing the following tasks:

- Draft the strategy document
- Seek comments on the draft strategy from the steering group and NGBs
- Finalise the draft strategy
- Carry out wider consultation
- Amend strategy following consultation; provide final version

Stage E: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date (STEPS 9 & 10)

1.24 For this we need to:

- Ensure the Steering Group is clear on how the strategy applies to their area of work
- Establish an approach to regular review & monitoring
- Begin delivering the strategy & monitoring the action plan
- Implement an approach to reviewing the strategy

Key Deliverables

1.25 The research and analysis contained within this Needs Assessment, and the accompanying recommendations will inform the updated Playing Pitch Strategy. This will be a public document and will be used in conjunction with other evidence to inform policy makers across planning, facility management and maintenance, individual sports and the education sector, as well as to support applications for external funding for priority sites.

1.26 The strategy will be prepared in consultation with North Devon and Torridge Council officers and partners, and the recommendations provided will be backed with evidence and outline the impact of each recommendation in developing the Playing Pitch Strategy. This Strategy document will have clear sport, area and site specific recommendations and a prioritised action plan. It will give advice concerning solutions and policy development to address quantitative and qualitative deficiencies and underused/unused provision.

1.27 The evidence and analysis contained within this Needs Assessment is currently supported by appropriate reports and data for each key stage of the playing pitch strategy as prescribed by Sport England's guidance 'Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance: An approach to developing and delivering a playing pitch strategy' (2013), as follows:

- A single document within which the supply, demand and assessment information is collated and presented on an individual site and team basis which allows for the information to be interrogated and kept up to date (Master Database; Appendix 1e)
- A complete set of audit data collected as part of this project as part of the appendices (Pitch Sport Assessment Summaries)
- In addition, in compliance with Stage C, there are Site Overviews for each of the pitch sport sites in the District, comprising aerial photos and summaries of the quantity and quality of the pitches, the clubs using them and their views about the on-site facilities, the capacity analysis and key issues to take forward.

1.28 The proposed timetable and plan for the project is set out below:

2 STRATEGIC CONTEXT

2.1 An understanding of the local strategic context, population and sports participation trends is essential in order to ensure that the assessment and strategy is tailored to the characteristics, profile and aspirations for the local area.

2.2 This section therefore briefly summarises the key policies that impact upon the preparation of this assessment and strategy and provides an overview of the demographics and sports participation trends of the district, and assesses the impact of this on demand for pitch sports. It provides an overview only - sport specific issues and participation is discussed in Sections 3 – 6.

Strategic Context - National Level

2.3 At a national level, there are several key policies that impact upon the preparation of this Playing Pitch Strategy. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) clearly establishes the requirement that local plans ensure that there is proper provision of community and cultural facilities to meet local needs. The NPPF's expectations for the development of local planning policy for sport and physical activity/recreation, is set out in paragraphs 73 and 74 which require there to be a sound (i.e. up-to-date and verifiable) evidence base underpinning policy and its application. Paragraph 73 indicates that

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

2.5 Paragraph 74 states that 'Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

2.6 The NPPF requires that planning policies are based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision are required. The guidance refers local authorities to Sport England's guidance on how to assess the need for sport and recreation facilities.

2.7 Sport England has been a statutory consultee on planning applications affecting playing pitches since 1996 and has a long established policy of retention, which is the precursor to the National Planning Policy Framework guidance above. Sport England also

advises that informed decisions on playing pitch matters require all local authorities to have an up to date assessment of need and a strategy emanating from this. Sport England recommend that a strategy is monitored and updated annually and refreshed every three years. This assessment will support the two Councils' in implementing a robust strategic approach to the delivery of pitches across their areas. Sport England's Youth and Community Strategy (2012 – 2017) and its newly published Strategy 'Towards An Active Nation 2016-2021' both underpin this playing pitch assessment. 'Towards An Active Nation' will help to deliver against the five outcomes of physical well-being, mental well-being, individual development, social and community development and economic development as set out in the Government's Sporting Future Strategy published in December 2015.

2.8 National Governing Body Facility Strategies: The Football Association (FA), England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), Rugby Football Union (RFU), Rugby Football League (RFL) and England Hockey all set out strategies guiding the provision of facilities for their specific sport as follows:

- The FA National Game Strategy for Participation and Development 2015-2019
- Champion Counties – ECB Strategic Plan 2014 – 2017
- The Rugby Football Union National Facilities Strategy 2013 - 2017
- England Hockey Facilities Strategy 2017

Strategic Context - Local Level

2.9 The North Devon and Torridge area comprises about 1,903 square kilometres and has a population of around 157,500 (Census 2011) people living in a network of historic market towns, rural settlements and coastal resorts. The sea and the moors define the limits of the area and the pattern of development shows the maritime influence and the rurality of the area. Approximately half of the population of North Devon & Torridge live in the main settlements around the Taw Torridge estuary.

2.10 Barnstaple is the sub regional centre for North Devon and provides many key provisions for the sub-region, including further and higher education, the District General Hospital and comparatively major shopping facilities. Bideford has a significant complementary role and is linked to Barnstaple by the A39. These settlements together provide the economic, commercial and administrative focus for many of the strategic service needs of the wider rural area.

2.11 Braunton, Ilfracombe, South Molton, Chulmleigh (North Devon) and Northam (including Appledore and Westward Ho!), Holsworthy, Great Torrington (Torridge) have a range of facilities that serve wider rural populations across the rest of Northern Devon.

2.12 The emerging Local Plan for North Devon and Torridge includes policies to deliver at least 17,200 dwellings over the plan period 2011-2031. The planned focus for housing growth is Barnstaple and Bideford, each providing for approximately 4,100 additional dwellings over the plan period. Elsewhere significant growth is planned for Ilfracombe, Northam and South Molton. This Strategy has calculated future demand for playing pitches based on outstanding housing allocations for the period 2016 – 2031 and using an occupancy rate of 2.2. This projects the following increases in population for each sub area for the duration of the strategy: Barnstaple Sub Area (4080 dwellings – 8976 people); Braunton (347 dwellings – 763 people); Ilfracombe (1337 dwellings – 2941 people); South Molton (1659 dwellings (3650 people); Bideford (5622 dwellings – 12,368 people); Torrington (872 dwellings – 1918 people), and Holsworthy (636 dwellings – 1399 people)) (see Table 2.1 below).

2.13 The North Devon Link Road (A361) and the Atlantic Highway (A39) run east-west, connecting the area to the M5 and to north Cornwall. The only rail link is the Tarka Line

running between Barnstaple and Exeter. North-south transport links are poorer in quality and many rural communities are relatively isolated.

2.14 Exmoor National Park lies to the northeast and Dartmoor forms a barrier to the south. The area includes the majority of the catchments of the Rivers Taw and Torridge and their tributaries, which define the extent of the North Devon Biosphere Reserve, and to the west the headwaters of the River Tamar. The coastline is defined as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Heritage Coasts, which adjoins Exmoor National Park. The North Devon Coast Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty covers 9% of northern Devon. Only about 5% of the plan area is urbanised. Most of the area is farmed and about 12% of the land area is wooded.

2.15 Participants tend to use personal vehicles to travel to sports pitches as public transport combined with rural nature of the area makes access to facilities difficult. It is therefore important to recognise the importance of travel times within the strategy. The study area has been divided into seven sub areas for analysis, reflecting those used for community planning purposes.

2.16 NDC currently secure developer contributions for public open space and built recreation by means of a Section 106 agreement. Draft CIL 123 lists for each Council are being prepared as part of implementation of the emerging joint local plan. It is anticipated that key items of infrastructure will be specifically itemised on the CIL 123 list, with pitch based requirements still being secured by way of S106 agreements necessitated by scale and location of specific developments.

2.17 Local Strategic Reports which will be used to inform the development of the Strategy include:

- Green Infrastructure Study for North Devon and Torridge Councils
- North Devon Council Leisure and Health Strategy May 2013 Update
- North Devon Council Strategic Needs Assessment (ANOG) for Replacement of North Devon Leisure Centre 2016
- Torridge District Council Cultural Strategy
- Health and Well Being Northern Locality Leads

2.18 Table 2.1 below shows the projected population growth from allocated housing growth in North Devon and Torridge for the period 2011 – 2031, in particular the outstanding commitments for 2016 – 2031. Totals may not tally exactly due to rounding and there are some minor discrepancies where development that has taken place counter to little or no allocation being made. Map 2 presents these totals pictorially by sub area.

2.19 It should also be noted that numbers of houses under planned development (16,625 for the period 2011-2031) do not quite equate to the overall plan requirement of 17,200 dwellings. This is because there is a 'floating, non-assigned' element to the population increase in that 595 houses across both areas (1,309 people) have not been assigned to particular locations. However, the total plan requirement has been taken into account when assessing the demand for pitches overall.

Table 2.1a: Allocated housing growth in Northern Devon 2011-2031/North Devon

NORTH DEVON/Parish	Sub area	Local Plan Requirement 2011-31	Overall Total 2011-2015 Completions	Outstanding commitments 2016-2031	Population increase 2016 - 2031 (x 2.2 occupancy rate)
Landkey	Barnstaple	1,223	50	1,173	2581
Tawstock	Barnstaple	1,015	44	971	2136
Fremington	Barnstaple	1,016	123	893	1965
Barnstaple	Barnstaple	993	191	802	1764
Pilton West	Barnstaple	123	0	123	271
Remainder of sub area	Barnstaple	193	75	118	260
	BARNSTAPLE TOTAL	4563	483	4080	8976
Heanton Punchardon	Braunton	255	16	239	526
Braunton	Braunton	139	59	80	176
Remainder of sub area	Braunton	54	26	28	62
	BRAUNTON TOTAL	448	101	347	763
Ilfracombe	Ilfracombe	1,429	163	1,266	2785
Remainder of sub area	Ilfracombe	128	57	71	156
	ILFRACOMBE TOTAL	1557	220	1337	2941
South Molton	South Molton	1,240	67	1,173	2581
Chulmleigh	South Molton	162	20	142	312
North Molton	South Molton	141	14	127	279
Witheridge	South Molton	81	15	66	145
Burrington	South Molton	59	3	56	123
Remainder of sub area	South Molton	155	60	95	209
	SOUTH MOLTON TOTAL	1838	179	1659	3650
	NORTH DEVON TOTAL	8406	983	7423	16331

Table 2.1b: Allocated housing growth in Northern Devon 2011-2031/TORRIDGE

TORRIDGE/Parish	Sub area	Local Plan Requirement 2011-31	Overall Total 2011-2015 Completions	Outstanding commitments 2016-2031	Population increase 2016 - 2031 (x 2.2 occupancy rate)
Bideford	Bideford	4,127	530	3,597	7913.4
Northam	Bideford	1,916	96	1,820	4004
Buckland Brewer	Bideford	113	22	91	200.2
Hartland	Bideford	104	44	60	132
Remainder of sub area	Bideford	80	26	54	118.8
	BIDEFORD AREA	6340	718	5622	12368.4
Great Torrington	Great Torrington	632	55	577	1269.4
Merton	Great Torrington	89	7	82	180.4
High Bickington	Great Torrington	95	24	71	156.2
Winkleigh	Great Torrington	60	11	49	107.8
Remainder of sub area	Great Torrington	119	26	93	204.6
	GT. TORRINGTON TOTAL	995	123	872	1918.4
Holsworthy	Holsworthy	670	105	565	1243
Remainder of sub area	Holsworthy	214	143	71	156.2
	HOLSWORTHY TOTAL	884	248	636	1399.2
	TORRIDGE TOTAL	8219	1089	7130	15686

Map 2:
 Allocated Housing Growth in
 Northern Devon by Sub Area:
 Outstanding commitments 2016 -
 2031

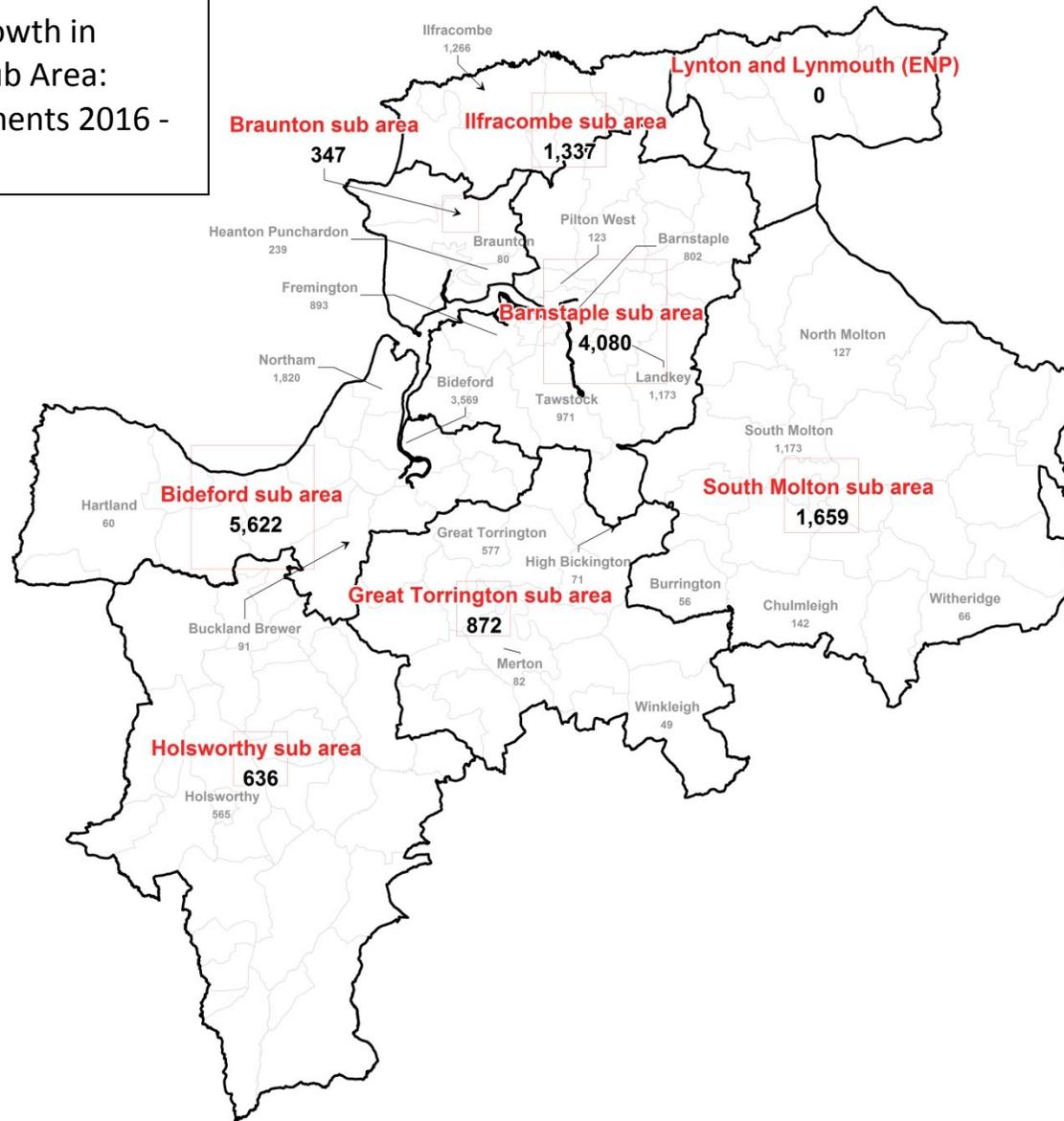


Table 2.2: Allocated Housing Growth in Northern Devon 2011 – 2031: Summary

Sub area	Local Plan Requirement 2011-31	Overall Total 2011-2015 Completions	Outstanding commitments 2016-2031	Population increase 2016 - 2031 (x 2.2 occupancy rate)
NORTH DEVON				
BARNSTAPLE TOTAL	4563	483	4080	8976
BRAUNTON TOTAL	448	101	347	763
ILFRACOMBE TOTAL	1557	220	1337	2941
SOUTH MOLTON TOTAL	1838	179	1659	3650
NORTH DEVON TOTAL	8406	983	7423	16331
TORRIDGE				
BIDEFORD TOTAL	6340	718	5622	12368
GT. TORRINGTON TOTAL	995	123	872	1918
HOLSWORTHY TOTAL	884	248	636	1399
TORRIDGE TOTAL	8219	1089	7130	15686

Population and Participation in Sport

2.20 An understanding of population trends and overall participation in sport underpins the evaluation of the adequacy of facilities for football, cricket, rugby, hockey and bowls in later sections. It provides an understanding of potential participation and latent demand as well as current levels of participation in sport and physical activity. As such, it provides an important context for playing pitch provision.

2.21 This summary of key issues and trends draws on the findings from the Sport England Active People surveys and Sport England’s Market Segmentation tool including: population trends, sports participation trends and the sporting profile of participants in North Devon and Torridge. The theoretical information summarised in this section will then be used to inform the sport specific assessments set out in Sections 3 to 6.

Population Profile and Trends – North Devon and Torridge

2.22 Analysis of the population profile provides a context for the interpretation of participation in pitch sports. This is extracted from Office for National Statistics (ONS) 2014-based Subnational Population Projections for Local Authorities, published in May 2016.

2.23 The Playing Pitch Strategy has to calculate ‘Team Generation Rates’ for each of the main pitch sports, and to do this population projections are required for different age and gender categories, depending on the specific requirements of the pitch sport governing bodies. These are looked at further under ‘Future Demand’ in each sport section

2.24 The tables below show the forecasted population change in North Devon and Torridge for each year from 2016/17 to 2031 which is the end date for the Playing Pitch Strategy.

North Devon

Table 2.3: Population Projections for North Devon 2016-2031 (000s)

2016/7	2019	2021	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	% Change 2017-2031
94.7	95.3	96.0	96.8	97.2	97.5	97.9	98.3	98.7	99.0	99.4	99.7	5.3

Source: Office of National Statistics, 2014-based Subnational Population Projections: 2017-2031(May 2016)

Table 2.4: ONS Population Projections for North Devon by age group: 2016-2031

Age Group	2016	2031	Change 2016-2031	% Change 2016-2031
0-4	5013	5060	47	0.94%
5-9	5296	5407	111	2.10%
10-14	5104	5581	477	9.35%
15-19	4835	5354	519	10.73%
20-24	4461	4347	-114	-2.56%
25-29	5116	4480	-636	-12.43%
30-34	4613	4691	78	1.69%
35-39	4896	5305	409	8.35%
40-44	5032	5532	500	9.94%
45-49	6408	5371	-1037	-16.18%
50-54	7161	5501	-1660	-23.18%
55-59	6701	5943	-758	-11.31%
60-64	6177	7241	1064	17.23%
65-69	6561	7415	854	13.02%
70-74	6315	6367	52	0.82%
75-79	4295	5220	925	21.54%
80-84	3274	5227	1953	59.65%
85+	3405	5668	2263	66.46%
Total Pop.	94663	99710	5047	5.33%

Source: ONS 2014-based Sub National Population Projections (May 2016)

- 2.25 If these changes are analysed by age groups, it can be seen that, of the projected increase in population of 5,047 (5.3%) over the 14 year period 2016-2031, the age groups projected to increase are the 0-19 years, 30-44 years and 60 years plus, with the other age groups, notably the 20-29 years and 45-59 years, seeing a decline in numbers over this period.
- 2.26 If these changes are analysed in accordance with the different age groups that generally take part in different pitch sports, the situation is expected to be as follows:

Table 2.5: Population Change in North Devon by Pitch Sport Age Groups: 2016-2031

Age group	Population 2016	Population 2031	Change 2016-2031	% Change 2016-2031
Mini pitch sports (5-9)	5296	5407	111	2.1%
Youth/junior pitch sports (10-19)	9939	10935	996	10.0%
Adult pitch sports (20-34)	14190	13518	-672	-4.7%
Adult pitch sports (35-45)	11126	11938	812	7.3%
Adult pitch sports (46-54)	12371	9772	-2599	-21.0%
Adult pitch sports (55-69)	19439	20599	1160	6.00%
Overall 'active participation' age groups (5-69)	72361	72168	-193	-0.3%

Source: ONS 2014-based Sub National Population Projections (May 2016)

2.27 It can be seen from the above analysis of ONS population projections for North Devon that

- There is hardly any change in the numbers of people in the 'active participation' age group between 2016 and 2031. Whilst the overall population of North Devon is expected to increase by 5,047 (5.3%) in the next 14 years, the number of people in the overall 'active participation' age group (5-69) is projected to marginally decrease (by -0.3%)
- The age groups within the 'active participation' group that are projected to see an increase in numbers in the period to 2031 are the 5-19 years age group (mini and youth/junior pitch sports), the 35-45 years age group (part of the adult pitch sport range) and the 55-69 years age group (the older section of vets pitch sports – depending on the sport).
- The age groups predicted to see a decline in numbers in the period to 2031 are the younger adult pitch sport age range (-4.7%) and noticeably the 46-54 years age range (the bulk of the vets pitch sport age range, down by 21%).

Torrige

Table 2.6: Population Projections for Torrige 2016-2031 (000s)

2016/7	2019	2021	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	% Change 2016-2031
67.2	68.3	69.5	70.6	71.2	71.7	72.2	72.7	73.2	73.7	74.1	74.6	11.0

Source: Office of National Statistics, 2014-based Subnational Population Projections: 2016-2031(May 2016)

Table 2.7: ONS Population Projections for Torridge by age group: 2016-2031

Age Group	2016	2031	Change 2016-2031	% Change 2016-2031
0-4	3316	3491	175	5.3%
5-9	3633	3830	197	5.4%
10-14	3406	3996	590	17.3%
15-19	3316	3782	466	14.1%
20-24	2923	2922	-1	0.0%
25-29	3350	2946	-404	-12.1%
30-34	2968	3201	233	7.9%
35-39	3225	3775	550	17.1%
40-44	3424	4063	639	18.7%
45-49	4431	3889	-542	-12.2%
50-54	5096	4134	-962	-18.9%
55-59	5120	4636	-484	-9.5%
60-64	4950	5911	961	19.4%
65-69	5347	6198	851	15.9%
70-74	4897	5354	457	9.3%
75-79	3257	4379	1122	34.4%
80-84	2322	4107	1785	76.9%
85+	2205	3942	1737	78.8%
Total Pop.	67186	74557	7371	11.0%

Source: ONS 2014-based Sub National Population Projections (May 2016)

- 2.28 If these changes are analysed by age groups, it can be seen that, of the projected increase in population of 7,371 (11%) over the 14 year period 2016-2031, the age groups projected to increase are the 0-19 years, 30-44 years and 60 years plus, with the other age groups, notably the 25-29 years and 45-59 years, seeing a decline in numbers over this period.
- 2.29 If these changes are analysed in accordance with the different age groups that generally take part in different pitch sports, the situation is expected to be as follows:

Table 2.8: Population Change in Torridge by Pitch Sport Age Groups: 2016-2031

Age group	Population 2016	Population 2031	Change 2016-2031	% Change 2016-2031
Mini pitch sports (5-9)	3633	3830	197	5.4%
Youth/junior pitch sports (10-19)	6721	7778	1057	15.7%
Adult pitch sports (20-34)	9240	9070	-170	-1.8%
Adult pitch sports (35-45)	6649	7838	1189	17.9%
Adult pitch sports (46-54)	9527	8023	-1504	-15.8%
Adult pitch sports (55-69)	15417	16741	1324	8.6%
Overall 'active participation' age groups (5-69)	51189	53284	2095	4.1%

Source: ONS 2014-based Sub National Population Projections (May 2016)

2.30 It can be seen from the above analysis of ONS population projections Torridge that:

- There is an increase in the numbers of people in the 'active participation' age group between 2016 and 2031. The overall population of Torridge is expected to increase by 7371 (11%) in the next 14 years, and the number of people in the overall 'active participation' age group (5-69) is projected to increase by 4.1%.
- The age groups within the 'active participation' group that are projected to see an increase in numbers in the period to 2031 are the 5-19 years age group (mini and youth/junior pitch sports), the 35-45 years age group (part of the adult pitch sport range) and the 55-69 years age group (the older section of vets pitch sports – depending on the sport).
- The age groups predicted to see a decline in numbers in the period to 2031 are the younger adult pitch sport age range (-1.8%) and noticeably the 46-54 years age range (the bulk of the vets pitch sport age range, down by 15.8%.

Comparing the rates of change for North Devon and Torridge shows the following:

Table 2.9 Change in Pitch Sport Age Playing Ranges 2016-2031: Summary

	Change in population 2016-2031			
	North Devon		Torridge	
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%
Mini/Youth (5-19 years)	1107	7.30%	1254	12.10%
Adult pitch sports (20-45 years)	140	0.60%	1019	6.40%
Adult pitch sports (46-69 years)	-1439	-4.50%	-180	-0.70%
Overall 'active participation'(5-69 years)	-193	-0.30%	2095	4.10%
Change in total population (all ages)	5047	5.3%	7371	11.0%

Adult Participation in Sport

Active Lives and Active People

2.31 Sport England’s current measure of sporting activity is based on their Active Lives Survey (2016). This is intended to give a much broader insight into the physical activity habits of the nation than Active People (listed below to show trends in sporting activity), as it now includes walking, cycling for travel and dance in addition to the activities previously reported on. It also considers patterns of behaviour over a twelve month period rather than just four weeks.

2.32 The below table shows comparative levels of sporting activity:

Table 2.10: Comparative Levels of Sporting Activity according to Active Lives Survey 2016

All adults (16+)	Inactive (<30 minutes per week)	Fairly Active (30-149 minutes per week)	Active (> 150 minutes per week)
England	22%	12.6%	65.4%
Devon	17.9%	11.8%	70.2%
North Devon	19.1%	13.3%	67.6%
Torrige	21.6%	12.1%	66.3%

Active Lives Survey (2016)

2.33 The table shows people who live in North Devon are slightly more active than the people who live in Torrige. Compared to an average of 65.4% of the population who are ‘active’ for more than 150 minutes per week (across a range of activities including walking, cycling for travel and dance) in England, the figure for North Devon’s population is 67.6% and for Torrige, 66.3%.

2.34 Sport England’s previous measure of sport activity was based on the percentage of adults (aged 16+) playing for at least 30 minutes of sport at moderate intensity at least once a week, measured by the Active People Survey (APS). This continuously measured the number of people taking part in sport across the nation and in local communities and forms the basis of the data below.

Table 2.11: Adult Participation in Sport by year and demographic breakdown (where available)

Group	North Devon 2015/16	Torrige 2015/16	South West 2015/16	England 2015/16
Overall	33.6%	27.3%	35.9%	36.1%
Male	35.6%	26.3%	38.7%	40.7%
Female	31.8%	28.2%	33.2%	31.7%

Source: Data from Sport England Active People Interactive APS10Q2

2.35 The ‘1 x 30’ indicator does not include recreational walking or recreational cycling. It does include more strenuous walking activities, such as hill walking, rambling and power walking. For those aged 65 and over, it includes light intensity activities such as yoga, pilates, bowls, archery and croquet. It also includes cycling if done at least once a week at moderate intensity for 30 minutes.

2.36 The latest available APS results (APS10 Q2) cover the period from October 2015 to April 2016. An analysis of the Active People data from 2005-2016 is provided by Sport England in a series of Local Sports Profiles which are available for each local authority area in England.

Table 2.12: Active People: North Devon and Torridge

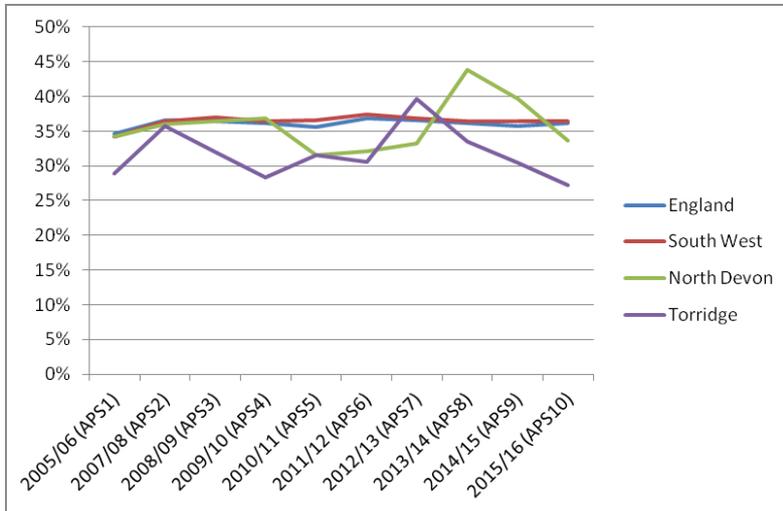


Table 2.13 Male and female sports participation rates in North Devon

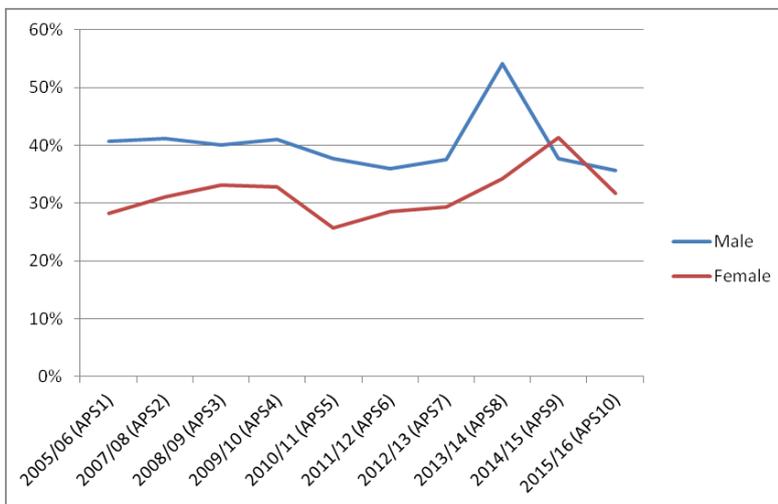
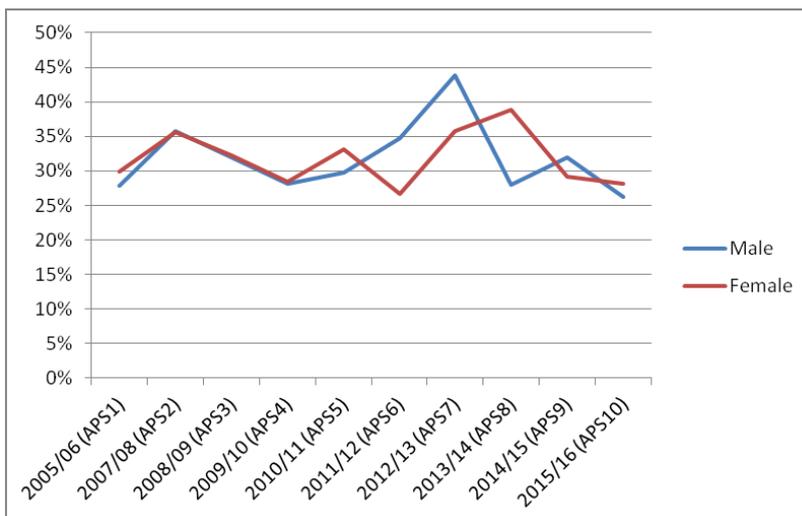


Table 2.14 Male and female Sports Participation Rates in Torridge



Commentary

2.37 The above survey data shows the following:

- According to Active Lives, people who live in Devon are slightly less 'inactive' and more 'active' (according to Sport England's classifications) than the level of sporting activity recorded nationally. People who live in North Devon are slightly more 'active' than the people who live in Torridge (defined as being 'active' for more than 150 minutes per week (across a range of activities including walking, cycling for travel and dance))
- Since the first Active People Survey in 2005/06, once a week sports participation in North Devon has decreased slightly from 34.2% to 33.6% in 2015/16.
- Since the first Active People Survey in 2005/06, once a week sports participation in Torridge has decreased slightly from 28.9% to 27.3% in 2015/16.
- In 2013/14, participation rates in North Devon increased quite dramatically to above the regional and national averages but have dropped back now to below both.
- Rates in Torridge have been consistently below regional and national averages in 2012/13 but are now significantly below both.

Market Segmentation

2.38 Sport England's market segmentation tool has been designed to help understand the life stages and attitudes of different population groups – and the sporting interventions most likely to engage them.

2.39 The market segmentation data builds on the results of Sport England's Active People survey, the Department of Culture, Media and Sport's Taking Part survey, and the Mosaic tool from Experian. From this data it is possible to:

- present a picture of the dominant social groups in a given local authority area;
- estimate the proportion of the population within each market segment group that *do* participate in specific sports and how this compares to county, regional and national figures; and
- estimate how many people *would like* to participate (or participate more) in specific sports.

2.40 The table below shows the percentage rates of the North Devon and Torridge population that fall into each of the 19 sports market segmentation groups, together with regional and national comparisons.

Table 2.15 Percentage of Sport England’s market segment groups in North Devon and Torrington

	North Devon 2015/16 %	Torrington 2015/16 %	South West 2015/16 %	England 2015/16 %
Philip (Comfortable Mid Life Males)	9.7	9.6	9.7	8.6
Tim (Settling Down Males)	8.8	8.7	9.2	8.8
Roger and Joy (Early Retirement Couples)	9.4	8.9	8.6	6.8
Elsie and Arnold (Retirement Home Singles)	8.8	8.1	8.3	8
Ralph and Phyllis (Comfortable Retired Couples)	6.9	9	6.2	4.2
Elaine (Empty Nest Career Ladies)	7.2	7.6	7	6.1
Jackie (Middle England Mums)	4.9	4.5	4.9	4.9
Ben (Competitive Male Urbanites)	5	4.8	5	4.9
Chloe (Fitness Class Friends)	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.7
Helena (Career Focused Females)	4.9	4.8	4.9	4.5
Frank (Twilight Year Gents)	4.6	4.3	4.4	4
Alison (Stay-at-home Mums)	4	3.9	4.4	4.4
Kev (Pub League Team Mates)	3.9	3.8	3.9	5.9
Brenda (Older Working Women)	3.7	3.9	3.5	4.9
Jamie (Sports Team Drinkers)	3.4	3.3	4.5	5.4
Leanne (Supportive Singles)	2.9	3	3.7	4.3
Terry (Local Old Boys)	3	3.2	2.9	3.7
Paula (Stretched Single Mums)	2.4	1.9	2.6	3.7
Norma (Later Life Ladies)	1.5	1.6	1.5	2.1
Total	99.8%	99.8%	100%	99.9%

2.41 The table above and the charts below show that the dominant market segmentation groups in North Devon and Torrington are:

Philip: *Mid-life professional, sporty males with older children*

- Sporting activity levels are above the national average.
- The top sports that Philip participates in are: cycling, 16% of this segment do this at least once a month, almost double the national average.
- Philip also enjoys keep fit/gym, swimming, football, golf and athletics (running). His participation in most of his top sports is above the national average.

Tim: *Sporty male professionals, settling down with partner*

- Tim is an active type that takes part in sport on a regular basis.
- The top sports that Tim participates in are cycling (21% of this segment take part in cycling compared to 9% of all adults); 20% of this segment take part in keep fit/gym, compared to 17% of all adults.
- Swimming, football and athletics or running are also popular sports for Tim.

Roger & Joy: *Early Retirement Couples*

- Slightly less active than the general population.
- Roger and Joy’s top sports are keep fit/ gym (13%), swimming (13%), cycling (8%), golf (6%), and angling (2%)

Elsie & Arnold: *Retirement Home Singles*

- Elsie and Arnold are much less active than the average adult.
- Their top sports are keep fit/ gym (10%), swimming (7%), bowls (3%), golf (1%) and cycling (1%).

Ralph & Phyllis: *Retired couples enjoying active and comfortable life styles*

- Ralph & Phyllis are less active than the average adult, but sportier than other segments of the same age group.
- Ralph & Phyllis' top sports are keep fit/gym, swimming. Golf, bowls and cycling

Elaine: *Empty Nest Career Ladies*

- Elaine's sporting activity levels are similar to the national average.
- Elaine's top sports are keep fit gym (21%), swimming (18%), cycling (7%), athletics including running (3% and tennis (2%).

2.42 The above 6 segments represent 50.8% of North Devon's population and 51.9% of Torridge's compared to less than 43% of England's population. 'Philip' and 'Elaine' have sports participation rates above the national average and 'Tim' takes part on a par with the national average. 'Roger and Joy', 'Elsie and Arnold' and 'Ralph' & 'Phyllis' are less active, to varying degrees, than the average adult and the dominance of these older and retired market segments reflects the demography of both North Devon and Torridge.

3 FOOTBALL IN NORTH DEVON AND TORRIDGE

3.1 This section assesses the adequacy of pitches for football in North Devon and Torridge by presenting the following:

- An overview of pitch supply:
- An overview of demand for football
- The pattern of play of football
- A review of the capacity and adequacy of current provision across North Devon and Torridge, including an understanding of activity at individual sites
- The future picture of provision for football in North Devon and Torridge

OVERVIEW OF PITCH SUPPLY

Quantity

3.2 A list of football pitches in North Devon and Torridge is set out below in Table 3.1. The letters in the 'Community Use' column signify the following, as set out in Sport England's latest Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance, October 2013.

- A Available for community use and used
- B Available for community use and unused
- C Not available for community use, as matter of policy and practice
- D Not available as disused. Any sites where pitches were once, but are no longer marked out and remain undeveloped.

*Those sites marked with an asterisk are those where there is community use but there are no formal CUAs in place

3.3 In all the tables, information is presented according to Sub Areas in the following order:

North Devon

- Barnstaple - NDBA
- Braunton - NDBR
- Ilfracombe - NDIL
- South Molton - NDSM

Torridge

- Bideford - TOBI
- Torrington - TOGT
- Holsworthy - TOHO

Table 3.1: Grass Football Pitches in North Devon

This table and Table 3.2 do not list pitches at schools for which there is no information or it is known that there is no community use or likelihood of such. These school pitches are listed in the Schools Table following, however, and are referred to in later capacity assessments.

NORTH DEVON									
Site Ref No	Site Name	Owner/ Manager	Adult football	Junior 11V11	Junior 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Community Use	Shared Site?
NDBA.03	Barnstaple Town FC	LA/Sports Club	1					A	
NDBA.04	Beechfield Playing Field, Fremington	Town/Parish Council	1					A	
NDBA.05	Bratton Fleming Sports Club	Sports Club	1					A	Yes
NDBA.05	Bratton Fleming Sports Club	Sports Club	1					D	
NDBA.06	Landkey FC	Comm Org/ Sports Club	2					A	
NDBA.09	Old Ammies Pitches, Mill Road	LA/Sports Club	1			1		A	
NDBA.10	Petrock College	Education	1					A	
NDBA.12	Pilton Community College	Education		2				C	
NDBA.13	Rock Park, Barnstaple	Town/Parish Council	1		1			A	Yes
NDBA.14	Seven Brethren Playing Field	Local Authority (NDC)	2					A	
NDBA.15	Sticklepath Community School	Education				2		A	
NDBA.16	Tews Lane, Barnstaple	Town/Parish Council	2			1		A	
NDBA.17	The Park Community School	Education		1				B	
NDBA.17	The Park Community School	Education				1		A	
NDBR.01	Braunton Academy: 2 football/rugby	Education						C	
NDBR.03	Braunton Recreation Ground	Town/Parish Council	1					A	
NDBR.06	Georgeham Playing Field	Town/Parish Council	1					A	
NDBR.07	Lobb Field, Braunton	LA/Sports Club	2		1		2	A	
NDBR.08	RMB Chivenor	MoD	1					A	
NDBR.08	RMB Chivenor	MoD	1					D	
NDIL.01	Combe Martin FC, Hollands Park	LA/Sports Club	1					A	
NDIL.02	Ilfracombe Academy	Education			1			C	
NDIL.03	Killacleave Ilfracombe Academy	Education	2					A	
NDIL.05	Ilfracombe Town FC, Malborough Park	Sports Club	1					A	
NDIL.06	Meadow Playing Fields, Woolacombe	Town/Parish Council	1		1			A	
NDSM.02	Chittlehampton Playing Field	Town/Parish Council	1					A	
NDSM.04	Chulmleigh Playing Field	Town/Parish Council			1		1	A	
NDSM.05	Chulmleigh Community	Education			1			C	

NORTH DEVON										
Site Ref No	Site Name	Owner/ Manager	Adult football	Junior 11V11	Junior 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Community Use	Shared Site?	
	College									
NDSM.07	North Molton Sports Club	LA/Sports Club	2					A	Yes	
NDSM.07	North Molton Sports Club	LA/Sports Club	2		1			D		
NDSM.08	South Molton Community College				2			C		
NDSM.09	South Molton Football Club	Sports Club	1			1		A		
NDSM.11	Witheridge Sportsfield, Edgedown Park	Playing Field Trust	1					A		

Table 3.2: Grass Football Pitches in Torridge

TORRIDGE									
Site Ref No	Site Name	Owner/ Manager	Adult football	Junior 11V11	Junior 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Community Use	Shared Site?
TOBI.01	Abbotsham Village Playing Field	Town/Parish Council				1		D	
TOBI.02	Bideford College (Moreton Park)	Education	1					A	
TOBI.05	Bideford Sports Ground	LA/Sports Club	1					A	
TOBI.06	Blackhorse Field, Buckland Brewer	Town/Parish Council	1					D	
TOBI.07	Clovelly AFC, Higher Clovelly	Parish Council/Community Organisation	1					A	
TOBI.08	Glebe Field, Parkham	Parish Council/Sports Club	1					A	
TOBI.09	Hartland Playing Field	Parish Council/Sports Club	1					A	
TOBI.10	King George V Playing Fields, Bideford	Local Authority	1		1			A	Yes
TOBI.11	Kingsley School	Independent School			1	1		C	
TOBI.12	Marshford, Appledore	Sports Club	1					A	
TOBI.14	Northam Lions FC	Parish Council/Sports Club	1					A	
TOBI.15	Pollyfield, East-the-Water	Local Authority	1					A	
TOBI.16	Sandymere Sports Centre	Sports Club	1		1			A	
TOBI.17	Woolsery Sports &	Parish Council/Trust	1					A	

TORRIDGE									
Site Ref No	Site Name	Owner/ Manager	Adult football	Junior 11V11	Junior 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Community Use	Shared Site?
	Community Hall								
TOGT.02	Clinton Hall, Merton	Parish Council/Trust	1					A	
TOGT.03	Dolton Playing Field	Parish Council	1					A	
TOGT.04	Donnacroft, Torrington	Parish Council/Sports Club	3					A	
TOGT.05	Great Torrington School	Education	1		1			A	
TOGT.06	High Bickington Playing Fields	Town/Parish Council	1					A	Yes
TOGT.09	Torrington FC	Town Council/Sports Club	1					A	
TOGT.11	Winkleigh Sports Centre	Parish Council/Trust	1					A	
TOHO.01	Black Torrington Playing Field	Parish Council	1					D	
TOHO.02	Bradworthy Football Gnd	Parish Council/Education	1					A	
TOHO.03	Halwill Junction Playing Field	Parish Council/Sports Club	1					A	
TOHO.05	Holsworthy Community College	Education			1			C	
TOHO.06	Shebbear College	Independent School						C	
TOHO.07	Shebbear Football Pitch	Sports Club	1					A	
TOHO.09	Stanhope Park, Holsworthy	Town Council			1	1		A	Yes
TOHO.10	Upcott Field, Holsworthy	Parish Council/Sports Club	1					A	
TOHO.11	Vinnicombe Park, Bridgerule	Town/Parish Council	1					A	

Table 3.3 Football Pitches: North Devon – Summary by Sub Area

	Adult football	Junior 11V11	Junior 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	TOTAL
Barnstaple	12	3	1	5		21
Braunton	5		1		2	8
Ilfracombe	5		2			7
South Molton	5		4	1	1	11
TOTAL	27	3	8	6	3	47

Table 3.4 Football Pitches: Torridge – Summary by Sub Area

	Adult football	Junior 11V11	Junior 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	TOTAL
Bideford	11	0	3	1	0	15
Torrington	9	0	1	0	0	10
Holsworthy	5	0	2	1	0	8
TOTAL	25	0	6	2	0	33

Table 3.5 Ownership/Management of Pitches in North Devon

	Total Pitch Provision	School	Sports Club	NDC	Parish/ Town Council/ Trust	Other
Adult	27	3	12	2	9	1
Junior 11v11	4	3				
Junior 9 v 9	7	5	1		2	
Mini 7v7	6	2	2		2	
Mini 5v5	3		2		1	
TOTAL	47	13	17	2	14	1

Table 3.6 Ownership/Management of Pitches in Torridge

	Total Pitch Provision	School	Sports Club	TDC	Parish/ Town Council/ Trust	Other
Adult	25	2	13	2	8	
Junior 11v11	0	0	0	0	0	
Junior 9 v 9	6	3	1	1	1	
Mini 7v7	2	1	0	0	1	
Mini 5v5	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL	33	6	14	3	10	

Commentary

3.4 This shows the following...

- There are 47 football pitches in total in North Devon: 27 adult, 4 junior 11v1, 7 junior 9v9, 6 mini 7v7 and 3 mini 5v5. 45% are in the Barnstaple Sub Area. There are disused pitches at Bratton Fleming (1 adult), and North Molton Sports Club (2 adult in use, but 2 adult and 1 junior no longer marked out). The small size adult pitches at Petroc and Seven Brethren, Barnstaple restricts the level/standard of play.
- 13 of the pitches are on school sites (mostly junior/mini pitches), 17 are on sites owned or managed by sports club and 14 are on Town or Parish Council or Trust sites. 2 are on North Devon Council sites. Of the 13 on school sites, 6 are available and used by the community.
- There are 33 football pitches in total in Torrridge: 25 adult, 6 junior 9v9 and 2 mini 7v7. 45% are in the Bideford Sub Area. There are disused pitches at Abbotsham Playing Field (mini); and Blackhorse Field, Buckland Brewer and Black Torrington (both adult pitches).
- 6 of the pitches are on school sites (mostly junior/mini pitches), 14 are on sites owned or managed by sports club and 10 are on Town or Parish Council or Trust sites. 3 are on Torrridge District Council sites. Of the 6 on school sites, both adult pitches and 1 out of 3 junior pitches (0 out of 1 mini) are available and used by the community.
- Compared to the situation some 5-10 years ago, there is a trend towards more pitches being leased and managed by sports clubs.

3.5 Table 3.7 sets out pitch facilities at educational establishments in the District. This composite table is presented here as it is more informative to see the schools in their entirety and the range of facilities they have at this stage of the assessment. It includes:

- all secondary schools whether or not they have community use
- any primary or independent schools which are known to have some community use
- all known AGPs (small and full size) on school sites whether or not they have community use (in the interests of completeness)
- There may be additional primary schools in the district which have a grass area on which pitches could/may be marked out (these are still being checked).
- However, we are confident that the table lists all known pitches with community use at schools.

KEY

G (cricket)	Grass wicket	NFL	Not floodlit
A (cricket)	Non turf wicket	AGP	Artificial grass pitch
FL	Floodlit	CUA	Community Use Agreement

Table 3.7 Summary of grass and artificial grass pitches at educational establishments in North Devon and Torridge

Site Ref	Type of School	Name	Adult football	Junior 11V11	Junior 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Rugby	Cricket	AGP - full size	AGP - small	Community Use	Notes
NORTH DEVON													
NDBA.17	Secondary	The Park School		1				4	1 NTW			B	No evidence of use by community teams
NDBA.17	Secondary	The Park School								1 – sand based FL		A	Extensive programme of use by two hockey clubs and local football teams for training.
NDBA.17	Secondary	The Park School – Pill Lane				1						A	Used by Eastside Youth FC – u11s, u10s & u8s
NDBA.12	Secondary	Pilton Community College		2				1	1 NTW			B	Pitches not currently used by the community or likely to be, due to waterlogging
NDBA.12	Secondary	Pilton Community College									1 half size sand filled 60m x 50m	A	
NDBA.15	Primary	Stocklepath Community School				2						A`	Used by Fremington Youth
NDBA.10	College	Petroc College	1									A	Community use
NDBA.18	Independent School	West Buckland School									Full size floodlit 100x60m sand AGP	C	No community use recorded
NDBR.01	Secondary	Braunton Academy						2				B	No evidence of community teams (Tweedies)

Site Ref	Type of School	Name	Adult football	Junior 11V11	Junior 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Rugby	Cricket	AGP - full size	AGP - small	Community Use	Notes
NDBR.01	Secondary	Braunton Academy									1 half size 3G AGP	A	
NDIL.02	Secondary	Ilfracombe Academy			1							B	No evidence of community use.
NDIL.02	Secondary	Ilfracombe Academy									1 half size 3G AGP	A	
NDIL.03	Secondary	Ilfracombe Academy Killacleave	2					1	1 NTW			A	
NDSM.05	Secondary	Chulmleigh Community College - School			1			1				B	
NDSM.05	Secondary	Chulmleigh Community College – Langley Lane						1				B	
NDSM.05	Secondary	Chulmleigh Community College									Small sand 36m x 18m	A	
NDSM.08	Secondary	South Molton Community College			2			1	1NTW			A	Rugby pitch used by local club; no recorded community use of football
NDSM.08	Secondary	South Molton Community College									60m x 50m 3G	A	
TORRIDGE													
TOBI.02	Secondary	Bideford College (Moreton Park)	1					2				A	Football pitch used by Bideford Community AFC & Bideford Youth; no community use of rugby pitches.
TOBI.02	Secondary	Bideford College								Full size 3G		A	No matchplay; training use is high

Site Ref	Type of School	Name	Adult football	Junior 11V11	Junior 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Rugby	Cricket	AGP - full size	AGP - small	Community Use	Notes
TOBI.11	Independent	Kingsley School			1	1		1		Full size sand AGP		C	No community use
TOGT.05	Secondary	Great Torrington School	1		1			1		Half size floodlit 3G		A	No recorded community use of grass pitches
TOHO.05	Secondary	Holsworthy Community College			1			1	1 NTW			B	No recorded community use
TOHO.05	Secondary	Holsworthy Community College								Half size sand		A	
TOHO.06	Independent School	Shebbear College							1			C	Extensive grass pitches but no community use other than one cricket team from outside Torridge
TOHO.06	Independent School	Shebbear College								Almost full size sand AGP		C	Some community use, but intermittent and not secure

Quality

Rating of sites

- 3.6 The scores given to both the pitch quality and built facilities are based upon Sport England's playing pitch strategy guidance and are recorded in Appendix 1e. The VQA (Visual Quality Assessment) pitch quality rating is based upon the amalgamation of a score for the playing surface (grass length/cover, size/slope/evenness of pitch and any problem areas) with a score for the pitch maintenance programme (frequency and adequacy of grass cutting, seeding and application of remedial dressings). Below is a summary from site visits and from consultation with clubs and other users. Three sites have been assessed by the Institute of Groundsmanship and these ratings are also recorded.

Table 3.8: Football pitch quality rating from VQA and consultation with clubs /North Devon

Site Ref	Ground	VQA Pitch quality rating	VQA Built facilities rating	Club rating of overall pitch quality	Club rating of built facilities	Notes
NDBA.03	Barnstaple Town FC	Good	Good	Good	Good	Pitch surface in good condition. Parking is a problem.
NDBA.04	Beechfield Playing Field, Fremington	Standard	Poor	N/R	N/R	Restricted pitch with tight margins, appears well used and cared for. Has training lights for one end of pitch. Changing comprises old prefabricated hut, now condemned
NDBA.05	Bratton Fleming Sports Club	Good	Good	Standard	Standard	Was previously another pitch on site, posts remain but grass uncut and not used for years.
NDBA.06	Landkey FC – Pitch 1	Standard	Standard	Good	Good	Well used pitch; club comment: ongoing issue with dog fouling – serious problem esp. for youth football (seeking S106 to address), very poor drainage and soil is poor. Plus need crowd barriers etc for pitch (part of Premier Regulations)
NDBA.06	Landkey FC – Pitch 2	Poor	Poor			PQA: separate smaller pitch; good posts, faint markings. Does not appear to be sustaining much use. Molehills.
NDBA.09	Old Ammies Pitches (Boca Seniors)	Good	Good	Standard	Good	PQA: good and 2 clubs rated good. PQA comments: none. Club/users say dog fouling is a problem, car parking is poor.
NDBA.10	Petroc College	Standard	Standard	N/A	Standard	Small adult pitch because College development has encroached on playing pitch area). College team can only play to Category 3 level because of this.
NDBA.12	Pilton Community College	Standard	Standard	N/A	n/A	2 adult football pitches and one slightly smaller (junior) pitch. PQA rated pitch as standard.
NDBA.13	Rock Park	Standard	None	Good for junior	None	PQA rated pitch as standard: both well maintained pitches. Adult pitch does not appear to be sustaining much use; dog fouling is a big problem. No club comments. Junior 9v9: PQA rated as standard but posts are removed and again, dog fouling is a big problem.

Site Ref	Ground	VQA Pitch quality rating	VQA Built facilities rating	Club rating of overall pitch quality	Club rating of built facilities	Notes
						Club rated this as good. Agreed as standard. Site has previously contained 3 adult pitches; changing dictates otherwise. Club commenting say that pitches are easier to maintain now that no Sunday adult teams play.
NDBA.14	Seven Brethren	Standard	Good	Good	Good	PQA rated both pitches as standard and noted: Larger of the two pitches appears prone to some waterlogging along one touchline. Club says: has potential to be a very good playing surface with a little more maintenance and improved drainage. 2 nd pitch rated as PQA as standard and does not appear to have sustained much recent use. Club using rated as good; agreed rating as standard. Club said better drainage would help this pitch too.
NDBA.15	Sticklepath Community school	Standard		None	None	Well used pitches sustaining a lot of school use as well as club.
NDBA.16	Tews Lane, Barnstaple	Standard	Good	Standard	Standard	Well used pitches. Club have drainage and dog fouling as issues and capacity of changing facilities is a restriction;
NDBA.17	The Park Community School (Pill Lane)	Poor	Only in school	N/A	N/A	Poor, sloping site with regular community use. Faint markings and posts for one 7v7 pitch, room for another.
NDBR.03	Braunton Recreation Ground	Standard	Good	N/R	N/R	Pitch doesn't appear to be sustaining much use. A diagonal path is being trodden across pitch; posts removed; separate kickabout goal. Changing recently refurbished
NDBR.06	Georgeham Playing Field	Standard	Standard	Standard	Poor	Narrow pitch (52m) restricted by hedgerows. Good grass. Club rated as standard and say they look after the parish owned pitch which they use free of charge.

Site Ref	Ground	VQA Pitch quality rating	VQA Built facilities rating	Club rating of overall pitch quality	Club rating of built facilities	Notes
NDBR.07	Lobb Field, Braunton	Standard (Agreed)	Good	Poor	Good	Site on slight slope but optimum use made of available space. Well cared for. PQA rated as standard, club say poor and that they would like to improve quality of playing surface and the quality of car parking area. [For capacity purposes, considered standard]
NDBR.08	RMB Chivenor	Standard	Good	Good (Agreed)	Good	Football and rugby is on cricket outfield. PQA rated pitch as standard, club (Chivenor FC) rated good.
NDIL.01	Combe Martin FC, Hollands Park	Standard (Agreed)	Standard	Good	Standard	Dog fouling is a problem here. Club would like to update changing facilities.
NDIL.02	Ilfracombe Academy on site	Standard				Not available for community use
NDIL.03	Ilfracombe Academy, Killacleave	Standard		Poor		Club (IYouth FC) rated as poor and said the pitches have the potential to be very good as they are level and could have drainage work done, but other than the cutting the grass, there is no maintenance done to the pitches by the school.
NDIL.05	Ilfracombe Town FC, Malborough Park	Good	Good	Good	Standard	Floodlit, enclosed, adult football pitch. PQA and club rate as good. Floodlights not working.
NDIL.06	Meadow Playing Fields, Woolacombe	Poor		Good		PQA rated as poor, although this score represents an unused pitch currently not receiving any maintenance rather than any inherent pitch problems.
NDSM.02	Chittlehampton Playing Field	Standard (Agreed)	Standard	Good	Good	Narrow pitch in reasonable condition. Club said good; but that line marking poor and fouling by dogs is a problem. Agreed as standard.
NDSM.04	Chulmleigh Playing Fields	Standard	Standard	Good	Poor	PQA rated standard; club rated as good; agreed as

Site Ref	Ground	VQA Pitch quality rating	VQA Built facilities rating	Club rating of overall pitch quality	Club rating of built facilities	Notes
		(Agreed)				good. Junior and mini pitch set in the footprint of an unmarked adult pitch. Good grass.
NDSM.05	Chulmleigh Community College	Poor		Poor		No community use due to poor quality
NDSM.07	North Molton Sports & Social Club	Good	Good	Good	Good	Two adult pitches currently in use. Main pitch is floodlit.
NDSM.08	South Molton Community College	Standard				No community use
NDSM.09	South Molton FC, Alswear Old Road	Standard	Standard	Standard	Standard	PQA and club both rate adult pitch as standard. PQA: appears well used. Club says: perimeter fencing often has to be secured to prevent casual use. Club would like clubhouse.
NDSM.11	Witheridge Sportsfield, Edgedown Park	Standard (Agreed)	Good	Good	Good	1 adult pitch (with full floodlights and covered stand) and a small, unmarked grass area with training lights which could be coned for junior play. PQA marked as standard – pitch was badly cut up. Club rate as good and would like to improve drainage (agreed as standard).

Table 3.9: Football pitch quality rating from VQA and consultation with clubs/Torridge

Torridge Site Ref	Ground	VQA Pitch quality rating	VQA Built facilities rating	Club rating of overall pitch quality	Club rating of built facilities	Notes
TOBI.01	Abbotsham Village Playing Field					Occasional football pitch, no club use – village playing field
TOBI.02	Bideford College	Standard				Not assessed
TOBI.05	Bideford Sports Ground	Good	Good	Poor	Poor	Well tended stadium pitch. Club rated ‘poor’: problems with dog fouling as public RoW goes through the site.. Maintenance specification bears out good rating for pitch which is agreed. Club say changing rooms are outdated and too small; grandstand problems with heath & safety.
TOBI.06	Blackhorse Field, Buckland Brewer					Disused ground
TOBI.07	Clovelly AFC, Higher Clovelly	Standard	Good	Good	Good	Recently constructed dug outs/spectator cover and fencing, prone to waterlogging. Club rate as good; say pitch needs a fairly substantial investment for drainage which has gradually got worse over the past few years.
TOBI.08	Glebe Field, Parkham	Standard				No comments
TOBI.09	Hartland Playing Field	Good	Good	Standard	Standard	PQA states: sideways slope exposed site, good grass and well maintained. Club would like floodlights.
TOBI.10	King George V Playing Fields, Bideford	Good	Good	Standard	Standard	Well tended pitches in municipal park.
TOBI.11	Kingsley School					Not assessed. No recorded community use.
TOBI.12	Marshford, Appledore	Good	Good	Good	Standard	PQA rated good: well established and maintained ground. Tight margins. Club rate pitch as good; say no floodlights and pitch being slightly too small

Torridge Site Ref	Ground	VQA Pitch quality rating	VQA Built facilities rating	Club rating of overall pitch quality	Club rating of built facilities	Notes
						restrict expansion/development of club (no further details)
TOBI.14	Northam Lions FC	Standard	Good	Standard	Good	PQA rated standard: worn goalmouths. Pitch dips. Club rated as good. No further comments. Agreed as standard.
TOBI.15	Pollyfield, East-the-Water	Good	Good		Good	PQA rated as good: exposed, well drained pitch. Club rate as good: club maintain pitch & changing rooms themselves.
TOBI.16	Sandymere Sports Centre	Good	Good	Good	Good	Small adult pitch (84m x 54m); junior 9v9 pitch with 2 x 7v7 pitches inside. PQA: rated as good; overmarking is confusing as all lines in white and touchline is common to both 7v7 pitches preventing simultaneous play. Club rate pitches as good; no further comments
TOBI.17	Woolsery Sports & Community Hall	Standard (agreed)	Good	Poor	Good	PQA rated standard; grass pitch reasonable and space for more pitches. Club rated pitch as poor; drainage, dog fouling, pitch maintenance and litter all poor. Rating agreed as standard.
TOGT.02	Clinton Hall, Merton	Standard (agreed)	Good	Good	Good	No comments
TOGT.03	Dolton Playing Field	Poor	Standard	n/a	n/a	1 adult pitch; PQA rated poor: rural village pitch does not appear to be currently used. Scores poor due to lack of maintenance. No club commenting
TOGT.04	Donnacraft, Torrington	Good	Good	Good	Good	PQA: well maintained site with 3 good pitches. Main pitch (closest to changing facilities) will shortly have spectator stand. Club rate as good: League has said cannot have simultaneous play on 2 adjacent adult pitches. Club would like floodlights. Applying for planning permission for clubhouse.

Torrige Site Ref	Ground	VQA Pitch quality rating	VQA Built facilities rating	Club rating of overall pitch quality	Club rating of built facilities	Notes
TOGT.05	Great Torrington School	Standard	n/a	Good (Agreed)	Standard	PQA rated standard; club rate as adult pitch as good. Agreed as good.
TOGT.06	High Bickington Playing Fields	Standard	Standard	Standard	Standard	PQA standard: considerable sideways slope. Cricket square is right in the middle of football pitch. Club also rate as standard and say gradient is poor. Training lights for pitch.
TOGT.09	Torrington FC	Good	Good	Good	Good	PQA: well established town centre ground in good condition. Club: drainage, litter and car parking considered poor. Full match floodlights
TOGT.11	Winkleigh Sports Centre	Standard		Standard		PQA rated standard; grass too long and lots of leaf litter. No club commenting
TOHO.01	Black Torrington Playing Field					Closed site. Now village green
TOHO.02	Bradworthy Football Gnd	Standard	Standard	Standard	Standard	PQA: pitch regularly used by adjacent primary school. Prone to puddling; faint markings of running track. Club rate as standard: pitch is reasonably good. Lack of floodlights. Storage poor, poor access to ladies' toilets.
TOHO.03	Halwill Junction Playing Field	Standard	Good	Good	Good	PQA – pitch cut up and boggy in places, although slit drainage was being undertaken at time of visit. Agreed PQA is good. Club say would like to improve drainage of pitch and spectator area and have floodlights.
TOHO.05	Holsworthy Community College	Standard				No community use
TOHO.06	Shebbear College					Extensive pitches but no community use.

Torridge Site Ref	Ground	VQA Pitch quality rating	VQA Built facilities rating	Club rating of overall pitch quality	Club rating of built facilities	Notes
						Independent school.
TOHO.07	Shebbear Football Pitch	Standard	Good	Standard	Standard	Room for additional junior/mini pitch as has been in the past but currently no trace. PQA rated standard; molehills. Club would like floodlights and perimeter fencing close to housing.
TOHO.09	Stanhope Park, Holsworthy	Poor/ Standard (agreed)	Poor	Good		Currently junior (71m x 30m) (9v9 closest to this) and mini (52m x 37m) 7v7 pitch. PQA rated junior pitch as poor; severe sideways slope, worn goalmouths and peculiar dimensions add up to make this a poor pitch. PQA rated mini pitch as standard (on cricket outfield). Club rated both pitches as good. Agreed as poor and standard.
TOHO.10	Upcott Field, Holsworthy	Good	Good	Standard	Standard	PQA rated as good: tidy stadium with new? Floodlights. Club rate pitch as standard; security, maintenance and cleaning of changing rooms considered poor. Agreed PQA as standard. Club would like additional pitch
TOHO.11	Vinnicombe Park, Bridgerule	Standard	Standard	Good	Good xxx	PQA rated as standard: narrow pitch with tight touchlines, badly churned up. Club rates as good, although says drainage is poor. Agreed as standard.

- 3.7 The main findings in respect of quality for North Devon football pitches are:
- In general, football pitches are rated as 'standard' and there is scope to improve provision. Out of 29 sites/ grounds whose pitches were assessed in North Devon, 5 were rated 'good' and 4 as 'poor' (rest rated as 'standard').
 - The good rated pitches are at: Barnstaple Town FC, Bratton Fleming Sports Ground, Old Ammies in Barnstaple, Ilfracombe Marlborough Park (Ilfracome Town FC) and North Molton Sports Clubs.
 - The poor rated pitches were Landkey Tanners Road, Meadow Playing Fields Woolacombe and pitches at Chulmleigh Community College and The Park Community School .
 - The common issues for the poor and standard rated grounds are issues with drainage and those associated with the public use of open space sites, mainly dog fouling and litter. Poor car parking is a problem at Mill Road, Barnstaple. Poor maintenance did not emerge as a particular issue.
- 3.8 A similar picture emerges in Torrington, although pitches were overall of slightly better quality.
- Out of 26 sites/ grounds whose pitches were assessed in Torrington, 9 were rated 'good' and 1 as 'poor' (rest rated as 'standard').
 - The good rated pitches are at: Bideford Sports Ground; Hartland Playing Fields; King George V Playing Fields, Bideford; Marshford in Appledore; East-the-Water (Pollyfield); Sandymere; Donnacroft in Torrington; Torrington FC, and Upcott Field, Holsworthy.,
 - The poor rated pitch was at Dolton Playing Fields.
 - The common issues for the poor and standard rated grounds are issues with drainage, notably at: Vinnicombe Park, Bridgerule and Torrington FC (although rated good overall). There are similarly issues associated with the public use of open space sites, mainly dog fouling (specifically highlighted at 3 sites in Torrington) and litter. However, poor maintenance did not emerge as a particular issue in Torrington either.

Issues with Maintenance and Drainage

3.9 Sites where there have been particular problems identified in respect of drainage and maintenance are presented below:

Table 3.10 North Devon: Football pitches identified with particular issues regarding drainage and maintenance

Site Ref	Name	Problem with drainage	Problem with maintenance
NDBA.06	Landkey Football Club	Yes	
NDBA.14	Seven Brethren Bank Playing Field (Tarka Tennis Centre)	Yes	
NDBA.15	Sticklepath Community School	Yes	
NDBA.16	Tews Lane Community Sports Recreation Association	Yes	
NDBR.08	RMB Chivenor	Yes	
NDIL.03	Ilfracombe Academy (Killacleave Sports Field)	Yes	Yes
NDSM.11	Witheridge Sports Field, Edge Down Park	Yes	
TOBI.07	Clovelly AFC Ground	Yes	
TOBI.17	Woolsery Sports And Community Hall	Yes	Yes
TOGT.09	Torrington Football Club	Yes	
TOHO.11	Vinnicombe Park	Yes	

General Standard of Pitches

3.11 There are Site Overview sheets for all sites covered in this Playing Pitch Strategy which contain in more detail the comments made by clubs and others regarding the quality of the facilities. In addition, the Master Database – Appendix 1e – also records all comments made. A balance has been sought between those sites on which clubs have commented and those where no user feedback is available. In the latter cases, the assessments rely mainly on the Visual Quality Assessment (VQA) carried out by the consultants. Key points are as follows.

3.12 Clubs were asked if there are any specific issues with pitches and ancillary facilities at their sites. Fouling by dogs was repeatedly highlighted as an issue on playing fields, specifically in North Devon at: Chittlehampton Playing Field, Combe Martin Football Club, Landkey Football Club, Old Ammies Pitches (Boca Seniors), Rock Park, Seven Brethren Bank Playing Field (Tarka Tennis Centre) and Tews Lane Community Sports Recreation Association. Dog fouling was also mentioned as an issue on football pitches in Torridge at: Bideford Sports Ground, Pollyfield and Woolsery Sports And Community Hall.

3.13 Clubs were also asked whether there any factors that make it difficult for your club to accommodate all its home matches, expand its activities and/or progress to higher divisions or leagues?

3.14 The following comments on restrictive factors were received from North Devon football clubs:

Club/North Devon	Restrictive factors
Chittlehampton FC	Lack of floodlights
Chulmleigh FC	With only one full size pitch and no floodlights our growth is limited. We have enough land available to cater for a full size senior pitch and a 9v9 junior pitch but there would need to be substantive work carried out.
Combe Martin FC	Would like a second pitch to run youth teams.
Georgeham & Croyde AFC	We have only one pitch so are limited to two teams.
Ifracombe Town Youth FC (ref. Killacleave)	The school are now aware of potential overuse as we have continually informed them and at present allow us (our club) to monitor the wear and tear on the pitches from our use which we do successfully as long as no other parties are involved. It is not possible to do this if unknown clubs or teams are allowed to hire the pitches unexpectedly as has happened in the past. There are no flood lights available for the pitches, perimeter fencing down one side of the site borders farmland and this is inadequate as balls are constantly lost to the irritation of farmer and therefore the balls are not returned.
Ifracombe Town FC	Floodlights need urgent upgrade and attention unable to use at this time
Eastside Youth AFC (ref. Landkey FC)	Pitch shared with adult team, so not always available. And not available in poor weather conditions for fear of damaging the pitch for the mens team.
Landkey FC	Premier league says the pitch must have a crowd barrier - which the club is seeking funding for.
Braunton FC	As we train on the pitches the quality of the pitches are difficult to maintain. Would like to expand with ladies / Girls and possibly disability football but have saturated the use of our facilities.
Petroc	We would like to play in Barnstaple as our pitch is quite small and we can only play at Category 3 level due to this.
Sporting Barum FC (ref. Tarka Tennis Centre)	Overuse as three teams using the same pitch.
South Molton FC	The single pitch we have is massively over used with all the junior and adult teams playing matches and training on it. The perimeter fencing is under constant maintenance to try and make the ground as safe as possible.
Fremington Youth FC	Lack of pitches, overuse, no floodlights, pitch condition, inferior changing facilities, etc.
Witheridge AFC	Having 3 teams, one has to find alternative venue.

3.15 The following comments were received from Torridge football clubs:

Club/Torridge	Restrictive factors
Bradworthy FC	Overuse, especially during the winter months. Lack of floodlights
Clovelly FC	Drainage problems.
Torridgeside FC (ref. Donnacroft)	Lack of floodlights.
Appledore Lions FC (ref. Great Torrington School)	Pitch cannot be played on after a certain date
Halwill FC	Lack of floodlights
Hartland AFC	Lack of floodlights
High Bickington FC	Lack of floodlights
Bideford AFC Youth	Overuse at Bideford College
Appledore FC	No floodlights and pitch slightly too small.
Shamwicksire Rovers FC	Lack of floodlights and perimeter fencing adjacent to housing.
Bideford Blues & Appledore JFC	Would like more pitches available locally to take pressure off our pitches particularly the senior one. Ideally we would like an extra (or enlarged) astro for training and matches. This is not a plea for a full sized astro at Sandymere but for more in North Devon!
Park United FC (ref. Sandymere)	No floodlights, Pitch size is just about big enough for mens football.
Holsworthy FC (ref. Upcott Field)	Too many teams on one pitch (stadia pitch).

3.16 Clubs were also asked: are you satisfied with the overall provision of football pitches and ancillary provision within North Devon & Torridge?

22 clubs in North Devon responded: 10 said 'yes they were satisfied and 12 said no they were not:

Reasons for clubs' dissatisfaction was:

- Pitch quality, mentioned by 10 clubs
- Amount of pitches the right size, 8 clubs
- Quality of changing rooms, 5 clubs

3.17 23 clubs in Torridge responded: 11 said ‘yes they were satisfied and 12 said no they were not.

Reasons for clubs’ dissatisfaction was:

- Pitch quality, mentioned by 8 clubs
- Access to pitches, 7 clubs
- Quality of changing rooms, 7 clubs
- Security of tenure, lack of 3G provision and amount of pitches the right size were also mentioned.

OVERVIEW OF DEMAND

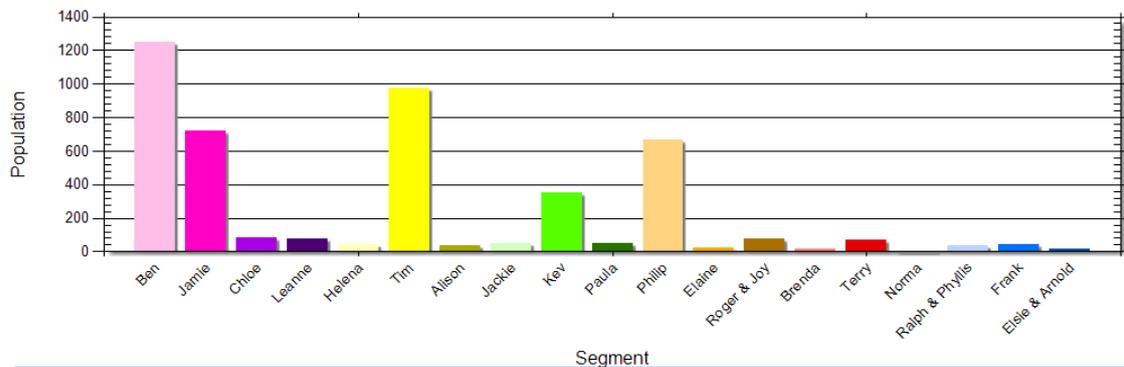
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North Devon

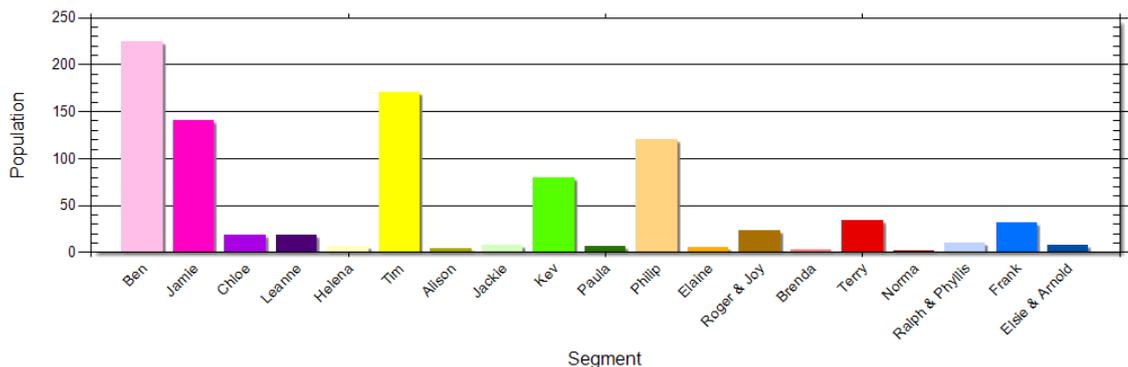
3.18 For North Devon, from the Active People Survey and Market Segmentation data it is possible to estimate:

- the proportion of the local adult population within each market segment group that **currently** participate in football (4,575)
- how many adults **would like** to participate (or participate more) in football (ie latent demand (915). The following figures present this information pictorially.

Population within catchment area participating in: Football



Population within catchment area wanting to participate in: Football

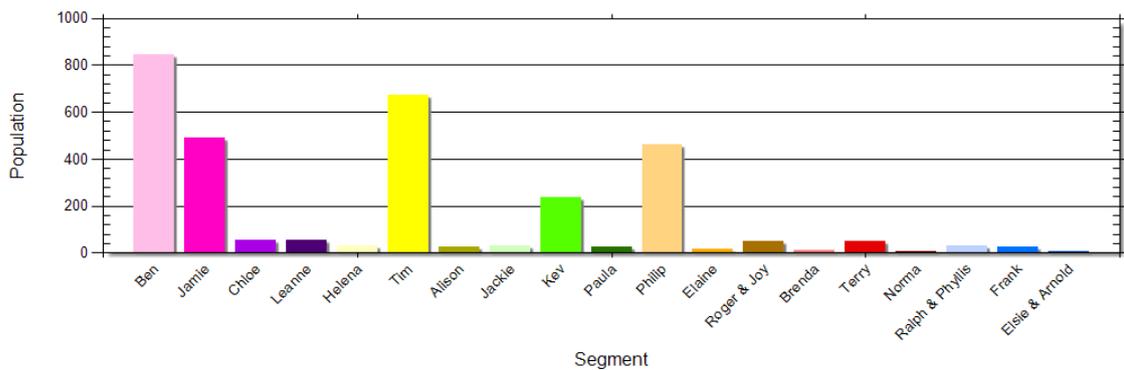


Torrige

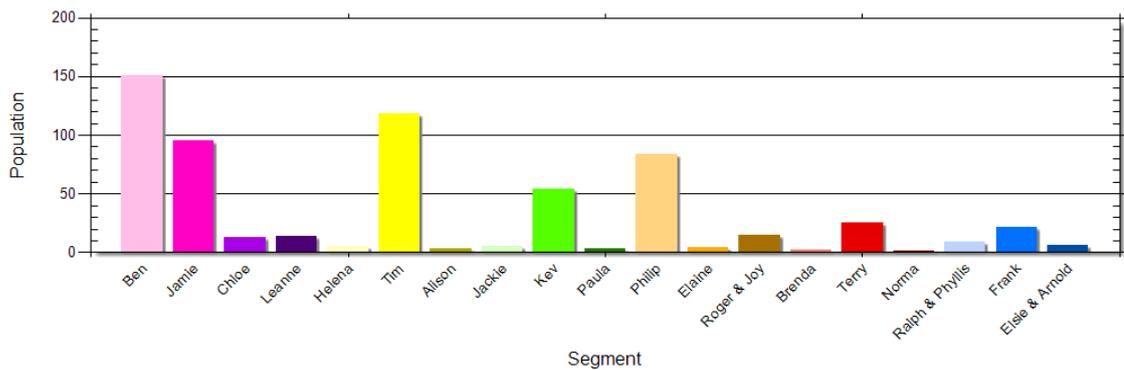
3.19 For Torrige, from the Active People Survey and Market Segmentation data it is possible to estimate:

- the proportion of the local adult population within each market segment group that **currently** participate in football (3,139)
- how many adults **would like** to participate (or participate more) in football (ie latent demand (628). The following figures present this information pictorially.

Population within catchment area participating in: Football 



Population within catchment area wanting to participate in: Football 



3.20 The key participants in football in both North Devon and Torrige come from those market segments groups that are most likely to play football nationally. However, the relative proportion of the population that participates from each group differs from national rates due to the make-up of the local population. For football, the main market segmentation groups in both authorities are:

- **Ben:** competitive male urbanite, mainly aged 18-25, single, graduate professional.
- **Tim:** settling down male, mainly aged 26-45, married or single, may have children, professional.

- **Philip:** comfortable mid-life male, mainly aged 46-55, married with children, full time employment and owner occupier.
- **Jamie:** sports team lad, mainly aged 18-25, single, vocational student.
- **Keve:** pub league team mate, mainly aged 36-45, married or single, may have children, vocational job.

3.21 The main female segment participating in football in North Devon and Torridge is **Leanne:** Young busy mums and their supportive college mates.

3.22 The following tables list the teams playing in North Devon and Torridge for the 2016/17 season

Table 3.11: List of Football Clubs and Teams (as at December 2016) in North Devon and recorded trends in membership

Area	Club	Adult Men TOTAL	Adult Ladies TOTAL	Junior Girls TOTAL	Junior Boys TOTAL	U18	U17	U16	U15	U14	U13	U12	U11	Minis Total	U10	U9	U8	U7	GRAND TOTAL	Increase/decrease trends over last three years (where supplied)
NDBA	Barnstaple FC	2																	2	
NDBA	Barnstaple Town FC	2																	2	Decrease
NDBA	Barnstaple Youth FC				5			1		1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	9	Increase
NDBA	Boca Seniors FC	1																	1	
NDBA	Eastside Youth AFC				5			1	1		1	1	1	3	1		1		7	
NDBA	Equalizers FC	1																	1	
NDBA	Fremington FC	2			5														2	
NDBA	Fremington Youth FC			2	4			1		2	1	2	1	4	1	1	1	1	11	Increase
NDBA	Haxton Rangers FC	1																	1	
NDBA	J A Vets	1																	1	
NDBA	Landkey FC	2																	2	
NDBA	Petroc	3																	3	
NDBA	Pilton Academicals FC	1																	1	
NDBA	SAS Soccer Club			2	2					2		2		5	2		2	1	9	Increase
NDBA	Sporting Barum FC	1																	1	
NDBR	Braunton FC	4			9			1	2		3	2	1	5	1	1	1	2	18	Decrease
NDBR	Chivenor FC	1																	1	
NDBR	Georgeham & Croyde	2																	2	

Area	Club	Adult Men TOTAL	Adult Ladies TOTAL	Junior Girls TOTAL	Junior Boys TOTAL	U18	U17	U16	U15	U14	U13	U12	U11	Minis Total	U10	U9	U8	U7	GRAND TOTAL	Increase/decrease trends over last three years (where supplied)
	AFC																			
NDIL	Combe Martin FC	2																	2	Increase
NDIL	Ilfracombe Town FC	3	1																4	
NDIL	Ilfracombe Town Youth FC			2	6			1	1	1		3	2	3	1	2			11	Increase
NDSM	Chittlehampton FC	1																	1	Decrease
NDSM	Chulmleigh FC	4			2						1		1	2		1		1	4	Increase
NDSM	North Molton Sports Club FC	2			1			1											3	
NDSM	South Molton FC	1			5				1	1	1	1	1	2	1		1		8	
NDSM	Witheridge AFC	4			1							1							5	Increase

Table 3.12: List of Football Clubs and Teams (as at December 2016) in Torridge and recorded trends in membership

Area	Club	Adult Men TOTAL	Adult Ladies TOTAL	Junior Girls TOTAL	Junior Boys TOTAL	U18	U17	U16	U15	U14	U13	U12	U11	Minis Total	U10	U9	U8	U7	GRAND TOTAL	Increase/decrease trends over last three years (where supplied)
TOBI	Appledore FC	2																	2	Decrease
TOBI	Bideford AFC Youth			2	6			1	1	2	1	2	1	4	2	1	1		12	Increase
TOBI	Bideford Blues & Appledore JFC				11			1	2	3	3	2	1	7	3	1	2		18	
TOBI	Bideford Community AFC	2																	2	Increase
TOBI	Bideford FC	1	1																2	Increase
TOBI	Clovelly FC	1																	1	
TOBI	Hartland AFC	2																	2	Decrease
TOBI	Northam Lions FC	2																	2	
TOBI	Park United FC	1																	1	
TOBI	Putford FC	1																	1	
TOBI	Shamwickshire Rovers FC	3																	3	
TOBI	Woolsey FC	1																	1	
TOGT	Appledore Lions FC	1																	1	
TOGT	High Bickington FC	1																	1	
TOGT	Merton FC	1																	1	
TOGT	Torridgeside FC	3			3					1		1	1	2	1		1		8	
TOGT	Torrington FC	2																	2	

Area	Club	Adult Men TOTAL	Adult Ladies TOTAL	Junior Girls TOTAL	Junior Boys TOTAL	U18	U17	U16	U15	U14	U13	U12	U11	Minis Total	U10	U9	U8	U7	GRAND TOTAL	Increase/decrease trends over last three years (where supplied)
TOGT	Winkleigh FC	1																	1	
TOHO	Bradworthy FC	2		1	1					1	1			1		1			5	Increase
TOHO	Bridgerule FC	1																	1	
TOHO	Halwill FC	2																	2	
TOHO	Holsworthy FC	3																	3	
TOHO	Holsworthy Youth FC				4			1		1	1		1	3	1	1	1		7	Increase
TOHO	Shebbear United AFC	2			1			1											3	

3.23 In total the number of teams by Sub Area are:

Table 3.13 Number of Football Teams by Age Range and Sub Area

	Adult Men Total	Adult Ladies Total	Junior Girls	Junior Boys	Minis	Total
Barnstaple Sub Area	17	0	4	17	16	53
Braunton Sub Area	7	0	0	9	5	21
Ifracombe Sub Area	5	1	2	6	3	17
South Molton Sub Area	12	0	0	9	4	21
North Devon Total	41	1	6	41	28	112
Bideford Sub Area	16	1	2	17	11	47
Torrington Sub Area	9	0	0	3	2	14
Holsworthy Sub Area	10	0	1	6	4	21
Torridge Total	35	1	3	26	17	82
TOTAL BOTH DISTRICTS	76	2	9	67	45	194

Leagues and structure of football in North Devon and Torrridge

3.24 The salient points are:

Adult play - Saturdays

- The senior teams in the area are Barnstaple Town FC and Bideford FC who both play in the Southern League Division 1 South West. This is Step 4 of the football pyramid. Bideford FC especially run and influence a number of teams in the area through their youth and ladies section. Barnstaple Town FC currently run just a first team and occasional vets XI.
- The next team in order of progression is Witheridge FC who play in the Premier Division of the South West Peninsula League. Beneath this are Appledore FC and Torrriageside FC who play in Division 1 East and Holsworthy playing in Division 1 West.
- Then we have the long established North Devon League (NDL) which currently has 4 divisions playing 58 teams. All but 4 of these teams are located in either North Devon or Torrridge districts. At the same level as the NDL is the Devon & Exeter League, in which 5 teams in the south of the area play: 2 teams each from Witheridge, Halwill FC and Winkleigh FC.
- The disbanded Kingsley League played on Saturdays and Sundays and catered for teams from North Cornwall and Torrridge. Its last full season was 2015/16 when 7 teams were playing (5 from Torrridge). 4 of the 5 Torrridge teams since joined the NDL.

Adult play - Sundays

- The North Devon Sunday League last operated in season 2013-14 with just 6 teams. The teams playing in the league diminished from 20 to 6 in the 4 years prior to it ceasing.
- There are thus currently no Sunday Leagues in North Devon but there are affiliated Sunday cups which are running and involve approximately 24 teams, of which the following play in the study area: Bridgerule FC, Bideford CAFC & Reserves, Shebbear Utd FC & Reserves, Merton FC, Woolsery FC, Holsworthy Reserves, Appledore Lions, Bradworthy FC & Reserves, Northern Lion Reserves, Clovelly FC and Putford FC. These teams play 2 or 3 times a season depending on cup success.
- The only recorded adult play on Sunday in the area is with vets football (for players aged 35 years and over) and Women’s football that both tend to play on Sunday afternoons.
- The demise of 11-a-side, Sunday morning football for adults is a situation that has been noted in other areas throughout the region and is by no means unique to north Devon.

Junior play

- The North Devon Youth League cater for over 140 teams from under 16’s to under 8’s and all identified demand for competitive junior football in North Devon and Torridge is through this league. They play their matches on Sunday mornings.
- They also cater for approximately 18 girls’ teams in addition to the girls playing in the mixed mini formats of the game.

3.25 There are a number of youth football clubs running upwards of 7 teams. The largest in North Devon are Braunton FC based at Lobb Fields, running 14 teams and Bideford AFC Youth, running 13 teams, and in Torridge, Bideford Blues and Appledore JFC based at Sandymere, running 18 teams. The larger youth football clubs all use multiple sites to accommodate the different age ranges, although the ideal situation is for a junior club to have a number of various size pitches, artificial training surface and clubhouse on one site.

Table 3.14 Main Youth Football Clubs in North Devon and Torridge

Area	Club	Home ground(s)	No of youth/mini teams
NDBA	Barnstaple Youth FC	Tews Lane Community Sports Recreation Association	10
NDBR	Braunton FC	Lobb Sports Field/Braunton Recreation Ground	14
NDBA	Eastside Youth AFC	Landkey Football Club/ The Park Community School	7
NDBA	SAS Soccer Club	Rock Park	9
NDIL	Ilfracombe Town Youth FC	Ilfracombe Academy (Killacleave Sports Field)/ Marlborough Park	9
NDSM	South Molton FC	South Molton FC	7
TOBI	Bideford AFC Youth	King George V Playing Fields/ Bideford Sports Ground/ Bideford College (Moreton Park)	13
TOBI	Bideford Blues &	Sandymere Sports Centre	18

Area	Club	Home ground(s)	No of youth/mini teams
	Appledore JFC		
TOHO	Holsworthy Youth FC	Stanhope Park	7

PATTERN OF PLAY AND ASSESSMENT OF CAPACITY

PATTERN OF PLAY

Matchplay

3.26 In assessing whether there is sufficient capacity to accommodate footballing activity at existing playing fields, it is necessary to understand the pattern of play and the training that takes place.

3.27 The pattern of play across North Devon and Torridge is shown below.

Table 3.15 Pattern of play for football in North Devon

	Sat pm	Sun am	Sun pm	Total number of teams
Senior Football Men	34 (89%)		4 (11%)	38
Ladies			2 (100%)	2
Adult total	34 (85%)		6 (15%)	40
Youth		39 (100%)		39
Minis		35 (100%)		35
TOTAL	34 (30%)	74 (65%)	6 (5%)	114

Table 3.16 Pattern of play for football in Torridge

	Sat pm	Sun am	Sun pm	Total number of teams
Senior Football Men	33 (94%)		2 (6%)	35
Ladies			1 (100%)	1
Adult total	33 (92%)		3 (8%)	36
Youth		26 (100%)		26

Minis		20 (100%)		20
TOTAL	33 (40%)	46 (56%)	3 (4%)	82

Training

3.28 Football teams train on a variety of surfaces, on their pitches, on grass areas alongside (either floodlit or not) and artificial surfaces, sand based and 3G. The picture is very mixed and we have sought to use information from clubs and booking records of AGPs etc to put it together.

3.29 Clubs frequently train at or on their home ground, especially in the lighter evenings. Where clubs have indicated this is the case, they are marked with (H). In most cases, off site provision (either indoor or AGP) is used in addition and the table below records teams' responses.

Table 3.17 Training Arrangements: North Devon Clubs

Sub area	Club	Off-site training venue
BA	Barnstaple FC (H)	
BA	Barnstaple Town FC (H)	South Molton CC 3G
BA	Barnstaple Youth FC (H)	
BA	Boca Seniors FC (H)	Pilton School AGP
BA	Eastside Youth AFC (H – Rock Park)	Park School AGP and sports hall
BA	Equalizers FC	Park School AGP
BA	Fremington Youth FC (H – Sticklepath Primary School)	Pilton School AGP and sports hall
BA	Haxton Rangers FC (H)	Pilton School AGP
BA	Landkey FC (H)	Park School AGP
BA	Petroc (H)	
BA	Pilton Academicals FC	Pilton School AGP
BA	SAS Soccer Club	Pilton School AGP and Park School sports hall
BA	Sporting Barum FC	Pilton School AGP
BR	Braunton FC (H)	Braunton School 3G
BR	Chivenor FC (H)	
BR	Georgeham & Croyde AFC (H)	Braunton School 3G
IL	Combe Martin FC (H)	Ilfracombe Academy 3G
IL	Ilfracombe Town FC (H)	Ilfracombe Academy 3G
IL	Ilfracombe Town Youth FC	Ilfracombe Academy 3G
SM	Chittlehampton FC	South Molton CC (occasionally)
SM	Chulmleigh FC	Chulmleigh CC Hall and MUGA.
SM	North Molton Sports Club FC (H)	
SM	South Molton FC (H)	South Molton CC 3G
SM	Witheridge AFC (H)	Tiverton AGP and Chilmleigh MUGA

Table 3.18 Training Arrangements: Torridge Clubs

Sub area	Club	Off-site training venue
BI	Appledore FC	Sandymere 3G
BI	Appledore Lions FC	Bideford College 3G
BI	Bideford AFC Youth	Bideford College 3G and sports hall
BI	Bideford Blues & Appledore JFC	Sandymere 3G
BI	Bideford Community AFC (H)	Bideford College 3G and sports hall
BI	Bideford FC (H)	Bideford College 3G and sports hall
BI	Clovelly FC (H)	Bideford College 3G
BI	Hartland AFC (H)	Bideford College 3G
BI	Northam Lions FC (H)	
BI	Park United FC	Sandymere 3G
BI	Shamwickshire Rovers FC (H)	Bideford College 3G
BI	Woolsery FC	Bideford College 3G
GT	High Bickington FC (H)	
GT	Merton FC	Clinton Hall MUGA
GT	Torridgeside FC	Torrington School 3G
GT	Torrington FC (H)	Torrington School 3G
HO	Bradworthy FC (H)	Holsworthy CC AGP and Budehaven AGP
HO	Bridgerule FC	Holsworthy CC AGP
HO	Halwill FC (H)	
HO	Holsworthy FC (H)	Holsworthy CC AGP
HO	Holsworthy Youth FC (H)	Holsworthy CC AGP
HO	Shebbear United AFC (H)	Shebbear College AGP

CAPACITY

3.30 Supply and demand is measured through the use of match equivalents to ensure that a comparison is possible. Both the adequacy of pitch provision to meet demand over the course of a week, and the capacity of a pitch to meet demand at peak time are measured. To measure demand, a team playing home fixtures every other week would generate the equivalent of 0.5 match equivalents per week (one fixture every other week). Match equivalent values are also used to measure the use of pitches by educational establishments and the impact of casual access and training.

Peak Time Demand

3.31 The ability of a pitch to accommodate demand at peak time is as important as the overall capacity of the site over a week. The local leagues currently have specific kick off times and it is important that there are enough pitches available when teams are scheduled to play.

3.32 Based on the information presented in Table 3.15 and 3.16 above, peak time in football is as follows:

- Senior Football overall
 - Senior men
 - Ladies
 - Youth football
 - Mini football
- Saturday afternoon
(all apart from Vets & Ladies)
Saturday afternoon
Sunday afternoon
Sunday morning (all)
Sunday morning (all)

3.33 It should be noted that pitches can only be considered to have spare capacity at peak time when they are not already utilised to their full capacity over the course of a week. An adult pitch that is not used on a Saturday afternoon (district wide peak time), but is used at other times (e.g. Sunday afternoon) would not be considered able to sustain additional play at peak time, even though no one would be using the facility then, as this would be detrimental to the quality of the pitch.

Capacity scores

3.34 FA guidelines on playing pitch capacity are used to measure supply – pitch capacity is based upon the quality of the pitch and the consequential number of matches that it can sustain per week. The assumptions used are set out in Table 3.8 below. This means that a ‘good’ adult football pitch can sustain the equivalent of 3 matches a week; a ‘standard’ mini pitch can sustain the equivalent of 4 mini soccer matches a week.

Table 3.19: Capacity Scores based upon Pitch Quality

Agreed pitch quality rating	Number of match equivalent sessions a week		
	Adult football pitch	Youth football pitch	Mini soccer pitch
Good	3	4	6
Standard	2	2	4
Poor	1	1	2

Situation at Individual Sites

3.35 Table 3.20 etc below presents an analysis of activity on a site specific basis and considers;

- the amount of play that a site is able to sustain (based upon its quality and the facilities and pitches available);
- how much play takes place at each site, as well as the impact of educational and informal or casual use;
- whether there is any spare capacity at the site based upon a comparison between the capacity of the site and the actual usage; and
- the key issues relating to the site.

3.36 Where a school pitch does not have community use, the figures in Column 6 (‘Current carrying capacity for community use’) are in brackets and have not been included in any totals.

3.37 Under the Playing Pitch Methodology, sites/pitches are classified into one of three types as set out below; shorthand words are used in the table

- Potentially able to accommodate some additional play: POTENTIAL
- Being played to the level the site can sustain: SUSTAINABLE
- Being overplayed: OVERPLAYED

3.38 Not all the figures underpinning this table are presented below. As well as the 'difference' column, the excel spreadsheet contains a column for 'Extent of spare capacity for community use' which takes into account any overplay and other factors which may limit the amount of match equivalents available. In the interests of clarity, this column is not presented below but has been taken into account in the comments and when assessing the level of capacity at each site. Reducing everything down to bald figures at each site does not always reflect the complexity of the situation on each pitch, especially when overmarking is involved.

3.39 Further information to support this table is contained within the individual Site Overviews and in Stage B - Appendix 1e.

Table 3.20 Capacity Assessment of Football Pitches in North Devon

3.20A Adult Pitches – North Devon

Adult	Site Name	Type of Community Use	Pitch Type	No. of Pitches	Match equivalents			Assessment	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period (match equivs)	Capacity Issues and Views
					Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference			
NDBA.03	Barnstaple Town FC	A	Adult	1	3	1.5	1.5	Potential	0.5	Basically one team playing every other week at peak time with occasional Vets so potential to accommodate more play, even with training on pitch.
NDBA.04	Beechfield Playing Field, Fremington	A	Adult	1	2	4	-2.0	Overplayed	0	Pitch is being overplayed: Supporting 2 adult and up to 5 youth sides. There is no peak time spare capacity
NDBA.05	Bratton Fleming Sports Club	A	Adult	1	3	0.5	2.5	Potential	0.5	One Saturday team playing on good rated pitch so considerable potential to accommodate more play. Plus another pitch on site could be brought back into use if required.
NDBA.06	Landkey FC	A	Adult	1	2	2.5	-0.5	Overplayed	0	Pitch is being overplayed and casual use from dog walking etc is not assisting capacity. No peak time capacity.
NDBA.06	Landkey FC	A	Adult	1	1	1	0	Sustainable	0	Pitch is being played to level it can sustain, due to poor quality.

Adult	Site Name	Type of Community Use	Pitch Type	No. of Pitches	Match equivalents			Assessment	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period (match equivs)	Capacity Issues and Views
					Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference			
NDBA.09	Old Ammies Pitches, Barnstaple	A	Adult	1	3	1.5	1.5	Potential	0	No spare capacity at peak time (Saturday) but spare on Sundays and in week.
NDBA.10	Petroc College	A	Adult	1	2	2	0	Sustainable	0	Probably playing to level site can sustain due to college use and College teams. May be possibility of accommodating one team at weekends.
NDBA.13	Rock Park	A	Adult	1	2	1.5	0.5	Sustainable	0	Youth Football Club mixes and matches pitches and uses cones to divide up depending on age ranges. Site would appear to be operating to the level it can sustain with perhaps some spare capacity, depending on the age mix each Sunday.
NDBA.14	Seven Brethren	A	Adult	2	4	2	2	Sustainable	0	Considerable spare capacity? but appears that games cannot take place simultaneously as pitches too close together. One club said pitch was overused as all 3 teams using it.
NDBA.16	Tews Lane, Barnstaple	A	Adult	2	4	3.5	0.5	Sustainable	0	High number of teams and site is playing to level it can sustain (just). One adult pitch mainly

Adult	Site Name	Type of Community Use	Pitch Type	No. of Pitches	Match equivalents			Assessment	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period (match equivalents)	Capacity Issues and Views
					Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference			
										kept for 2 adult teams, 9 youth teams play on adult o/m as 9v9 or 7v7 as necessary plus other 7v7 pitch. A little spare capacity depending on age ranges
NDBR.03	Braunton Recreation Ground	A	Adult	1	2	1.5	0.5	Potential	0	Used as back up facility to Lobb Field for Braunton FC, 3 rd & 4 th s not playing every week. Spare capacity outside of peak time.
NDBR.06	Georgeham Playing Field	A	Adult	1	2	1.5	0.5	Potential	0	Pitch sustains 2 Saturday sides and some casual use. Some spare capacity outside of peak time
NDBR.07	Lobb Sports Field, Braunton	A	Adult	2	4	4	0	Sustainable	0	2 adult pitches being played to the level they can sustain. 2 adult teams and 6 youth teams. May be slight spare capacity Sunday mornings depending on age ranges playing.
NDBR.08	RMB Chivenor	A	Adult	1	3	3	0	Sustainable	0	Sustains one community team on Saturdays but considered full as MoD.

Adult	Site Name	Type of Community Use	Pitch Type	No. of Pitches	Match equivalents			Assessment	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period (match equivalents)	Capacity Issues and Views
					Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference			
NDIL.01	Combe Marton FC, Holland Park	A	Adult	1	2	1.5	1.5	Potential	0	Pitch has potential to accommodate additional use on Sundays and during the week.
NDIL.03	Ilfracombe Academy (Killacleave)	A	Adult	2	4	5	-1	Overused	0	12 teams – 1 adult, 7 junior and 3 mini playing off two adult pitches with cones to overmark. Site at capacity and if school use is being overplayed.
NDIL.05	Ilfracombe Town FC, Marlborough Park	A	Adult	1	3	2	1	Potential	0	Good rating of pitch means some spare capacity in week despite pitch supporting 4 teams. No peak time spare capacity.
NDIL.06	Meadow Playing Fields, Woolacombe	A	Adult	1	1	0	1	Potential	1	No play at present, but pitch could be reinstated if new team forms as anticipated for 2017/18
NDSM.02	Chittlehampton Playing Field	A	Adult	1	2	1	1	Potential	0.5	Potential to accommodate additional play at peak time and in week, although some casual use.

Adult	Site Name	Type of Community Use	Pitch Type	No. of Pitches	Match equivalents			Assessment	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period (match equivalents)	Capacity Issues and Views
					Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference			
NDSM.07	North Molton Sports & Social Club	A	Adult	2	6	2	4	Potential	1	Considerable spare capacity; as pitches are rated 'good' all current teams (2 adults, 1 Vets and 1 youth) could play off one pitch. Plus room for more pitches on site
NDSM.09	South Molton FC, Alswear Old Road	A	Adult	1	2	2	0	Sustainable	0	Pitch operating to level it can sustain; junior matches played on adult pitch using cones.
NDSM.11	Witheridge Sportsfield, Edgedown Park	A	Adult	1	2	2	0	Sustainable	0	Site operating to level it can sustain with up 4 teams based here. U12s play 8 times a season.
		TOTAL	ADULT							

3.20B Junior Pitches – North Devon

Junior	Site Name	Type of Community Use	Pitch Type	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			Assessment	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period (match eqivs)	Capacity Issues and Views
					Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference			
NDBA.12	Pilton Community College	A	Junior 11v11	2	(4)			Potential		Spare capacity for football, rugby and cricket as no community use at present but need to take education use into account
NDBA.13	Rock Park	A	Junior 9v9	1	2	1.5	0.5	Sustainable	0.5	Youth Football Club mixes and matches pitches and uses cones to divide up depending on age ranges. Site would appear to be operating to the level it can sustain with perhaps some spare capacity, depending on the age mix each Sunday. Up to 4 mini games can be played concurrently on a Sunday morning.
NDBA.17	The Park Community School	C	Junior 11v11	1	(2)			Potential		Need to check availability – school use

Junior	Site Name	Type of Community Use	Pitch Type	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			Assessment	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period (match equivs)	Capacity Issues and Views
					Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference			
NDBR.07	Lobb Sports Field, Braunton	A	Junior 9v9	1	2	1.5	0.5	Potential	0.5	3 teams using this pitch; a little spare capacity at peak time.
NDIL.02	Ilfracombe Academy on site	B	Junior 9v9	1	(2)			Potential		Available for community use (S106) but not used.
NDIL.06	Meadow Playing Fields, Woolacombe	A	Junior 9v9	1	1	0	1	Potential	1	No play at present, but pitch could be reinstated if and when required.
NDSM.04	Chulmleigh Playing Field	A	Junior 9v9	1	2	1	1	Potential	0.5	Flexible use of space to accommodate changing participation patterns. Appears to be sufficient room at present with some spare capacity at peak times and in week.
NDSM.05	Chulmleigh Community College	C	Junior 9v9	1	(1)			Potential		Poor quality pitch and no community use as a result.
NDSM.08	South Molton Community College	C	Junior 9v9	2	(2)			Potential		No community use

3.20C Mini Pitches – North Devon

Mini	Site Name	Type of Community Use	Pitch Type	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			Assessment	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period (match eqivs)	Capacity Issues and Views
					Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference			
NDBA.09	Old Ammies Pitches, Barnstaple	A	Mini 1 7v7	1	6	0	6	Potential	6+	No use at present
NDBA.16	Tews Lane, Barnstaple	A	Mini 7v7	1	4	2	2	Sustainable	1	High number of teams and site is playing to level it can sustain. One adult pitch mainly kept for 2 adult teams, 9 youth teams play on adult o/m as 9v9 or 7v7 as necessary plus other 7v7 pitch. A little spare capacity depending on age ranges
NDBA.17	The Park Community School – Pill Lane pitch	A	Mini 7v7	1	2	1.5	0.5	Sustainable	0.5	Need to check availability – school use. May be spare capacity for one or 2 mini teams.
NDBA.15	Sticklepath Community School	A	Mini 7v7	2	8	8	0	Sustainable	0	Fremington Youth minis: mini of 4 teams (also use Beechfield) + school use means no spare capacity.
NDBR.07	Lobb Sports Field, Braunton	A	Mini 7v7	2	8	2.5	5.5	Potential	3	With 2 mini pitches and 5 teams there is spare capacity at peak time as up to 4

Mini	Site Name	Type of Community Use	Pitch Type	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			Assessment	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period (match equivs)	Capacity Issues and Views
					Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference			
										matches can be played on sequence.
NDSM.04	Chulmleigh Playing Field	A	Mini	1	4	1	3	Potential	1.5	Flexible use of space to accommodate changing participation patterns. Appears to be sufficient room at present with some spare capacity at peak times and in week.
NDSM.09	South Molton FC, Alswear Old Road	A	Mini	1	4	1.5	2.5	Potential	2.5	u10 & u8 as playing on mini pitch, in which case spare capacity

Table 3.21 Capacity Assessment of Football Pitches in Torridge

3.21A Adult Pitches – Torridge

Adult	Site Name	Type of Community Use	Pitch Type	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			Assessment	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period (match equivalents)	Capacity Issues and Views
					Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference			
TOBI.01	Abbotsham Village Playing Field									No longer a playing pitch – has reverted to village green
TOBI.02	Bideford College	A	Adult	1	2	2	0	Sustainable	0	School pitch catering for one adult team and also used by Bideford Youth FC. No spare capacity
TOBI.05	Bideford Sports Ground	A	Adult	1	3	2	1	Potential	0	Good rating of pitch means that pitch has slight spare capacity outside of peak times. If pitch is standard quality, sites is being used to the level it can sustain
TOBI.06	Blackhorse Field, Buckland Brewer									Disused pitch
TOBI.07	Clovelly AFC, Higher Clovelly	A	Adult	1	2	1.5	0.5	Sustainable	0.5	This pitch is accommodating some school use which the club feel is having a deleterious effect on the pitch, especially as drainage requires improvement. Possible

Adult	Site Name	Type of Community Use	Pitch Type	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			Assessment	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period (match equivs)	Capacity Issues and Views
					Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference			
										spare capacity for one adult team on Saturdays, depending on drainage
TOBI.08	Glebe Field, Parkham	A	Adult	1	2	0.5	1.5	Potential	0.5	Standard quality pitch supporting one adult side; potential to accommodate more play on Saturday peak time and throughout the week.
TOBI.09	Hartland Playing Field	A	Adult	1	3	2	1	Potential	0	Good rated pitch sustaining 2 adult teams means spare capacity outside of peak time.
TOBI.10	King George V Playing Fields, Bideford	A	Adult	1	3	1	2	Potential	0.5	Considerable spare capacity at ground if only one adult team, as recorded, playing on it. Spare capacity at peak time and through week.
TOBI.12	Marshford, Appledore	A	Adult	1	3	1	2	Potential	0	Rating as good pitch means that there is spare capacity through week as hosting two Saturday sides (so not at peak time)
TOBI.14	Northam Lions FC	A	Adult	1	2	1	1	Potential	0	One adult pitch supporting two Saturday teams so spare capacity outside of peak time.

Adult	Site Name	Type of Community Use	Pitch Type	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			Assessment	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period (match equivs)	Capacity Issues and Views
					Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference			
TOBI.15	Pollyfield, East-the-Water	A	Adult	1	3	2	1	Potential	0	Good rated pitch means it could sustain additional play outside of peak time.
TOBI.16	Sandymere Sports Centre	A	Adult	1	3	3.5	-0.5	Sustainable	0	Small adult pitch and junior 9v9 pitch (o/m by 7v7 pitches) are catering for 15+ teams. Technically overplayed by apparently managing to accommodate with occasional spare slots.
TOBI.17	Woolsey Sports & Community Hall	A	Adult	1	2	1	1	Potential	0.5	Have allowed for equivalent of 1 match per week, which is probably overstating use. There is spare capacity here at peak time and throughout the week, as supporting just one adult team.
TOGT.02	Clinton Hall, Merton	A	Adult	1	2	1	1	Potential	0.5	Adult pitch sustaining one Saturday team and some primary school use. Spare capacity at peak time and throughout week
TOGT.03	Dolton Playing Field	A	Adult	1	1	0.5	0.5	Potential	0.5	Some casual use but no community team based here. Spare capacity at peak time although poor pitch.

Adult	Site Name	Type of Community Use	Pitch Type	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			Assessment	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period (match equivs)	Capacity Issues and Views
					Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference			
TOGT.04	Donnacroft, Torrington	A	Adult	3	9	3	6	Potential	1.5	3 good adult pitches supporting 3 Saturday sides; and 5 youth/mini. Ample spare capacity at peak time and during the week.
TOGT.05	Great Torrington School	A	Adult	1	3	3	0	Sustainable	0	Good rated pitch but not possible to accommodate another Saturday side and other play, as also used by school use
TOGT.06	High Bickington Playing Fields	A	Adult	1	2	1	1	Potential	0.5	Rural pitch sustaining one adult team and training. Spare capacity at peak time and during the week.
TOGT.09	Torrington FC	A	Adult	1	3	1.5	1.5	Potential	0	Good quality stadium pitch supporting two Saturday sides. Spare capacity outside of peak time.
TOGT.11	Winkleigh Sports Centre	A	Adult	1	2	0.5	1.5	Potential	0.5	Rural ground supporting one Saturday side so spare capacity at peak time and in week.
TOHO.01	Black Torrington Playing Field	D								Disused pitch. Closed site – now used as village green

Adult	Site Name	Type of Community Use	Pitch Type	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			Assessment	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period (match equivs)	Capacity Issues and Views
					Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference			
TOHO.02	Bradworthy Football Gnd	A	Adult	1	2	2.5	-0.5	Overplayed	0	Pitch sustaining 2 adult, 3 mini and school and casual use. Is being overplayed.
TOHO.03	Halwill Junction Playing Field	A	Adult	1	3	1.5	1.5	Potential	0	Good quality pitch with spare capacity outside of peak time.
TOHO.06	Shebbear College	D								Extensive playing fields but no community use. Not assessed for capacity purposes
TOHO.07	Shebbear Football Pitch	A	Adult	1	2	1.5	0.5	Potential	0	Standard adult pitch sustaining 2 adult teams and u16s plus occasional other use. Some spare capacity outside of peak time.
TOHO.10	Upcott Field, Holsworthy	A	Adult	1	2	2	0	Sustainable	0	Site is being played to level site can sustain although approaching overuse – catering for 2 senior and 3 older youth teams...sometimes u16 & u14 matches have to be cancelled.

					Match Equivalents					
Adult	Site Name	Type of Community Use	Pitch Type	No. of Pitches	Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference	Assessment	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period (match equivs)	Capacity Issues and Views
TOHO.11	Vinnicombe Park, Bridgerule	A	Adult	1	2	2.5	1.5	Potential	0.5	One Saturday team playing; pitch can accommodate additional play at peak time and during week.

3.21B Junior Pitches – Torrington

Junior	Site Name	Type of Community Use	Pitch Type	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			Assessment	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period (match eqivs)	Capacity Issues and Views
					Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference			
TOBI.10	King George V Playing Fields, Bideford	A	Junior 9v9	1	4	5.5	-1.5	Overplayed	0	9v9 pitch overmarked as 7v7 and 5v5 when required. Sustaining a total of 11 junior teams from u16 – u8, playing 66 matches in total. Overused.
TOBI.16	Sandymere Sports Centre	A	Junior 9v9	1	4	4	0	Sustainable	0	Small adult pitch and junior 9v9 pitch (o/m by 7v7 pitches) are catering for 15+ teams. Technically overplayed but apparently managing to accommodate with occasional spare slots.
TOHO.05	Holsworthy Community College	A	Junior 9v9	1	(2)			Potential		No community use
TOHO.09	Stanhope Park, Holsworthy	A	Junior 9v9	1	1	1	0	Sustainable	0	Pitch accommodating u12s and sometimes u11s but very poor quality and cannot take more use. Being played to level site can sustain.

Table 3.21C Mini Pitches – Torridge

Mini	Site Name	Type of Community Use	Pitch Type	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			Assessment	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period (match equivs)	Capacity Issues and Views
					Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference			
TOHO.09	Stanhope Park, Holsworthy	A	Mini	1	4	3.5	0.5	Potential	0.5	Mini matches can run concurrently (up to 4 matches per morning depending on age group). Small spare capacity for another 2 teams say at peak time or in week but really approaching capacity.

Table 3.22 SUMMARY OF CAPACITY FOR FOOTBALL IN NORTH DEVON BY SUB AREA

Table 3.22A: Summary of Capacity for football in North Devon by Sub Area: Adult pitches

Sub Area	Pitch Type	Number	Match equivalents			
			Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period
Barnstaple	Adult	12	26	20	6	1
Braunton	Adult	5	11	10	1	0
Ilfracombe	Adult	5	10	8.5	1.5	1
South Molton	Adult	5	12	7	5	1.5
TOTAL	Adult	27	59	45.5	13.5	3.5

Table 3.22B: Summary of Capacity for football in North Devon by Sub Area: Junior pitches

Sub Area	Pitch Type	Number	Match equivalents			
			Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period
Barnstaple	Junior	4	2	1.5	0.5	0.5
Braunton	Junior	1	2	1.5	0.5	0.5
Ilfracombe	Junior	2	1	0	1	1
South Molton	Junior	4	2	1	1	0.5
TOTAL	Junior	11	7	4	3	2.5

Table 3.22C: Summary of Capacity for football in North Devon by Sub Area: Mini pitches

Sub Area	Pitch Type	Number	Match Equivalents			
			Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period
Barnstaple	Mini	5	20	11.5	8.5	7.5
Braunton	Mini	2	8	2.5	5.5	3
Ilfracombe	Mini	1	1	0	1	1
South Molton	Mini	2	8	2.5	5.5	4
TOTAL	Mini	10	37	16.5	20.5	15.5

Table 3.23: SUMMARY OF CAPACITY FOR FOOTBALL IN TORRIDGE BY SUB AREA

Table 3.23A: Summary of Capacity for football in Torridge by Sub Area: Adult pitches

Sub Area	Pitch Type	Number	Match Equivalents			
			Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period
Bideford	Adult	11	28	17	11	2
Torrington	Adult	9	2.2	10.5	11.5	3.5
Holsworthy	Adult	5	11	8	3	0.5
TOTAL	Adult	25	61	35.5	25.5	6

Table 3.23B: Summary of Capacity for football in Torridge by Sub Area: Junior pitches

Sub Area	Pitch Type	Number	Match Equivalents			
			Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period
Bideford	Junior	2	8	9.5	-1.5	0
Torrington	Junior	0				
Holsworthy	Junior	1	1	1	0	0
TOTAL	Junior	3	9	10.5	-1.5	0

Table 3.23C: Summary of Capacity for football in Torridge by Sub Area: Mini pitches

Sub Area	Pitch Type	Number	Match Equivalents			
			Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period
Bideford	Mini	0				
Torrington	Mini	0				
Holsworthy	Mini	1	4	3.5	0.5	0
TOTAL	Mini	1	4	3.5	0.5	0

Commentary on Capacity

3.40 The Sport England Playing Pitch Guidance has 3 pre-determined descriptions for the assessment of capacity at pitch sport sites:

- Potentially able to sustain more play
- Being played to the level the site can sustain
- Being overplayed

3.41 A site which has been assessed as being overplayed means that the pitches are accommodating more play than the pitch has been assessed as being able to cope with without damage (given its quality rating). In practice good management of a site, good maintenance and over-marking of pitches means that the sites where overmarking has been identified (e.g. Martock Recreation Ground) can support more play than one might normally expect. It does not mean that all the ‘excess use’ on these sites should be moved to other sites, but is an indication of the large amount of play taking place.

3.42 The figures on capacity have been carefully calibrated, taking into account training and casual activity on the pitches, as well as matches played. Clubs comments and our own understanding of the site and pattern of play have also been considered. In some cases, the mathematical calculations do not show the whole picture and this has been explained where necessary in the comments. Sometimes overmarking of pitches means that more matches can be accommodated than the theoretical capacity would suggest.

CAPACITY SUMMARY – NORTH DEVON

3.43 The situation on a sub area basis for North Devon is as follows:

Table 3.24A– Barnstaple Sub Area : Summary of capacity of football pitches by type of pitch

Pitch	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			
		Total Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Total Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period
Adult	12	26	20	6	1
Junior	4	2	1.5	0.5	0.5
Mini	5	20	11.5	8.5	7.5

3.44 Barnstaple Sub Area

Barnstaple

- Within Barnstaple itself, there is room for 1 more Saturday adult team at Barnstaple Town FC (although that would be a club team rather than another football club’s team).

- Rock Park in Barnstaple currently accommodates one senior and one junior pitch catering for 9 junior teams. However, there is room for another adult pitch there and there may be some spare capacity on the existing adult pitch, depending on the exact pattern of usage by the youth football club. Potentially 2, and possibly 3 more Saturday adult teams could be accommodated at this site.
- Of the junior pitches available, there is room for one extra junior team at present – at Rock Park on the 9v9 pitch.

Outside Barnstaple

- There is room for another Saturday adult team at Bratton Fleming Sports Ground.
- The adult pitch at Beechfield, Fremington is being overplayed - supporting 2 adult and up to 5 youth sides
- The junior 11v11 junior pitches at Pilton Community College and The Park Community School cannot really be considered as being available for community use as the former experience severe waterlogging and the latter is on a slope and sometimes used for rugby.
- There is considerable spare capacity for additional mini play in the sub area particularly as the mini pitch at Old Ammies ground in Barnstaple is not currently being used.

Table 3.24B – Braunton Sub Area : Summary of capacity of football pitches by type of pitch

Pitch	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			
		Total Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Total Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period
Adult	5	11	10	1	0
Junior	1	2	1.5	0.5	0.5
Mini	2	8	2.5	5.5	3

3.45 Braunton Sub Area

- There are no spare slots for Saturday adult play in the Braunton sub area.
- There is room for possibly one additional junior team (depending on age and size of pitch required) at Lobb Field Braunton on the junior pitch
- There is spare capacity for mini play in the sub area at the mini pitch at Lobb Field.

Table 3.24C – Ilfracombe Sub Area : Summary of capacity of football pitches by type of pitch

Pitch	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			
		Total Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Total Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period
Adult	5	10	8.5	1.5	1
Junior	2	1	0	1	1
Mini	0	0	0	0	0

3.46 Ilfracombe Sub Area

- There is 1 spare slot – i.e. room for 2 new Saturday adult teams – in the Ilfracombe sub area but this is accounted for by Meadow Playing Fields, Woolacombe where the pitch could be reinstated if the club reforms. There is no spare capacity at peak time in Ilfracombe (at either Malborough Park or Killacleave). The pitches at Killacleave are being overplayed.
- There is similarly 1 spare slot (i.e. room for 2 junior teams) – but only if the junior pitch at Woolacombe is reinstated.
- The junior 9v9 pitch at Ilfracombe Academy (Worth Road) has a Community Use Agreement but is currently not used; it therefore has capacity and would support junior teams.
- There are no mini pitches recorded in this sub area.

Table 3.24D – South Molton Sub Area : Summary of capacity of football pitches by type of pitch

Pitch	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			
		Total Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Total Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period
Adult	5	12	7	5	1.5
Junior	4	2	1	1	0.5
Mini	2	8	2.5	5.5	4

3.47 South Molton Sub Area

- In the South Molton area, there is room for 3 additional Saturday teams: 1 team at Chittlehampton Playing Field and 2 teams at North Molton Sports and Social Club (on existing marked out pitches).
- There are 2 junior 9v9 pitches at South Molton Community College but without community use at present.
- There is space for more mini teams on the mini pitch at South Molton FC
- In the Chulmleigh area, 1 additional junior team could be accommodated at Chulmleigh Playing Fields junior 9v9 pitch. There is one junior pitch at Chulmleigh Community College but without community use at present.
- There is space for more mini teams on the mini pitch at Chulmleigh Playing Fields.

Table 3.24E –Summary of capacity of football pitches by type of pitch for North Devon District TOTAL (match equivalents)

Pitch	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			
		Total Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Total Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period (match equivalents)
Adult	27	59	45.5	13.5	3.5
Junior	11	7	4	3	2.5
Mini	9	36	16.5	19.5	14.5

3.48 North Devon Total

- There is hardly any spare capacity for adult Saturday or junior Sunday play in North Devon and we would conclude that the existing pitch stock is at capacity for both adult and junior play.
- There is plenty of spare capacity across the district as a whole for expansion in mini football.
- With regard to education pitches in North Devon:
 - Adult pitches at Petroc College, Barnstaple and Ilfracombe College (Killacleave) and mini pitches at The Park Community School, Barnstaple and Sticklepath Primary School are available and used by the community.
 - There are junior pitches at Pilton Community College, Barnstaple, The Park Community School, Barnstaple, Chulmleigh Community College and South Molton Community College which do not appear to be available for community use.

- Across North Devon as a whole, to give a general overview of capacity, the following pertains (this applies to capacity throughout the week as a whole, not just at peak time):
 - Out of 22 adult pitch sites assessed, 2 are being overplayed (Beechfield, Fremington and Ilfracombe Academy (Killacleave), 10 sites are being played to the level the site can sustain and 10 sites have the potential to accommodate additional use
 - Out of 9 junior pitch sites assessed, 1 is being played to the level the site can sustain (Rock Park), the remainder have potential to accommodate additional use
 - Out of 8 mini pitch sites assessed, 3 are being played to the level the site can sustain and the remainder have potential to accommodate additional use

CAPACITY SUMMARY – TORRIDGE

3.49 The situation on a sub area basis for Torrridge is as follows:

Table 3.25A: Bideford Sub Area : Summary of capacity of football pitches by type of pitch

Pitch	No. of Pitches	Match equivalents			
		Total Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Total Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period
Adult	11	28	17	11	2
Junior	2	8	9.5	-1.5	0
Mini	0				

3.50 Bideford Sub Area

- There is room for an additional 4 adult Saturday teams in the Bideford sub area: one team at each of Clovelly Sports Ground, Glebe Field Parkham, Woolserly Sports Field and King George V Playing Field in Bideford.
- The junior pitch at King George V Playing Field is being overplayed and should really record a negative figure – it is being overplayed by the equivalent of 3 junior teams at peak time. The junior pitch at Sandymere is technically overplayed, but seems to be just about managing, with some teams playing on the 3G half size AGP and by using the adult pitch.
- There are no mini pitches being used for mini football

Table 3.25B – Torrington Sub Area : Summary of capacity of football pitches by type of pitch

Pitch	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			
		Total Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Total Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period
Adult	9	22	10.5	11.5	3.5
Junior	0				
Mini	0				

3.51 Torrington Sub Area

- An additional 7 Saturday teams could be accommodated in the Torrington sub area, including 3 in Great Torrington itself (at Donnacroft). Elsewhere there are spare 0.5 slots (one team) at each of: Clinton Hall, Merton; Dolton, High Bickington and Winkleigh. This reflects rural grounds which are sustaining just one Saturday side.
- There are no junior or mini pitches sustaining junior or mini play in the Torrington Sub Area

Table 3.25C - Holsworthy Sub Area : Summary of capacity of football pitches by type of pitch

Pitch	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			
		Total Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Total Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period
Adult	5	11	8	3	0.5
Junior	1	1	1	0	0
Mini	1	4	3.5	0.5	0

3.52 Holsworthy Sub Area

- There is 0.5 of a spare slot – i.e. room for 1 additional team here – at Vinnicombe Park in Bridgerule. There is no capacity for Saturday adult play in Holsworthy itself
- There is no spare capacity for junior play on the one junior pitch at Stanhope Park. If the pitch at Holsworthy Community College was available this could assist.

- A new adult pitch is being provided in Holsworthy.
- There is room for one or more mini teams on the mini pitch at Stanhope Park, Holsworthy.

Table 3.25E –Summary of capacity of football pitches by type of pitch for Torridge District TOTAL

Pitch	No. of Pitches	Match Equivalents			
		Total Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Total Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of any spare capacity for community use during the peak period
Adult	25	61	35.5	25.5	6
Junior	3	9	10.5	-1.5	0
Mini	1	4	3.5	0.5	0

3.53 Torridge Total

- There is some limited spare capacity for adult Saturday play in Torridge. However there is no spare capacity for junior and mini play across the district.
- With regard to education pitches in Torridge:
 - Adult pitches at Bideford College and Great Torrington School are available and used by the community.
 - There is a junior pitch at Holsworthy Community College which does not appear to be available for community use. Pitches at Shebbear College (private) do not have community use.
- Across Torridge as a whole, to give a general overview of capacity, the following pertains (this applies to capacity throughout the week as a whole, not just at peak time):
 - Out of 23 adult pitch sites assessed, 1 is being overplayed (Bradworthy Football Ground). 5 sites are being played to the level the site can sustain and 17 sites have the potential to accommodate additional use
 - Out of 4 junior pitch sites assessed, 1 is being overplayed (at King George V Playing Fields, Bideford), 2 are being played to the level the site can sustain and 1 has potential to accommodate additional use.
 - The 1 mini pitch site assessed –at Stanhope Park, Holsworthy - has potential to accommodate additional use

Other Factors to take into account in consideration of capacity

Junior Football Pitch Sizes

3.54 The FA has now produced national pitch sizes for mini soccer, 9v9, youth football and adult football.

Table 3.26 : FA recommended pitch sizes

		Recommended size without run-off		Recommended size including runoff		Recommended size of goalposts	
Age	Type	Length x width (m)		Length x width (m)		Height x width (m)	
Mini soccer U7/U8	5v5	37	27	43	33	1.83	3.66
Mini soccer U9/U10	7v7	55	37	61	43	1.83	3.66
Youth U11/U12	9v9	73	46	79	52	2.13	4.88
Youth U13/U14	11v11	82	50	88	56	2.13	6.40
Youth U15/U16	11v11	91	55	97	61	2.44	7.32
Youth u17/U18	11v11	100	64	106	70	2.44	7.32
Over 18 (senior ages)	11v11	100	64	106	70	2.44	7.32

3.55 It is now mandatory to play u11s & u12s on 9v9 pitches. Sites where pitches are overmarked are listed below. As well as overmarking, flexibility of pitch sizes can come from using cones to partition large pitches for junior and mini play, this was noted at Donnacroft, South Molton FC and Witheridge amongst others.

3.56 Out of 11 junior pitches recorded in North Devon, 3 are 11v11 and 8 are 9v9. The 3 x 11v11 pitches are at Pilton Community College and The Park Community School, Barnstaple and do not have community use. Of the 8 x 9v9 pitches, 4 are on school sites (Chulmleigh Community College, South Molton Community College, Ilfracombe Academy (on school site) and The Park Community School) and do not have community use. The remaining 4 x 9v9 pitches are at Rock Park, Barnstaple, Lobb Field, Braunton, The Meadow Playing Fields, Woolacombe and Chulmleigh Playing Field.

3.57 No junior 11v11 pitches have been recorded in Torridge. 3 x 9v9 pitches with community use recorded at: KGV, Bideford; Sandymere Sports Centre and Stanhope Park, Holsworthy. There is a junior 9v9 which is not available for community use at Holsworthy Community College.

3.58 The lack of junior 11v11 pitches has not emerged as an issue from this study or been highlighted by any clubs. However, the need for appropriately sized pitches will be considered further within the strategy.

Table 3.27 : Overmarking of pitches

North Devon		
Site ref	Ground	Details
NDBA.16	Tews Lane Community Sports Recreation Association	Adult pitch over marked (box to box) with 7v7 pitch (59x40m)
NDIL.03	Ilfracombe Academy (Killacleave)	12 teams – 1 adult, 7 junior and 3 mini playing off two adult pitches with cones to overmark.
NDBA.13	Rock Park	1 adult & 1 junior pitch: Youth Football Club mixes and matches pitches and uses cones to divide up depending on age ranges
Torridge		
TOBI.10	King George V Playing Fields	7v7 pitch marked within 9v9 (box to box)
TOBI.16	Sandymere Sports Centre	9v9 pitch with 2x 7v7 (50x28m) pitches inside.

3.59 Overmarking is undertaken when appropriate and necessary and can change from season to season (especially with mini pitches). Clubs seem happy with a 9v9 pitch being marked within an adult pitch. There are several instances of older youth teams playing on adult pitches but again, this has not been highlighted as an issue by any of the clubs. The report has already presented where club teams are split between different sites. Nevertheless, it is important to ensure going forward that there are enough dedicated 11v11 and 9v9 pitches on new sites.

3.60 Overmarking can result in intensive use and in fact of the five sites identified above, 2 (Ilfracombe Academy (Killacleave) and KGV Playing Fields in Bideford are being overused; the other 3 sites are playing at the level the site can sustain. It can be difficult to precisely establish the amount of use, as the age range for the matches played on junior and mini pitches often vary from week to week depending on the fixture list. Clubs are flexible in adapting and coning ut available areas.

3.61 Cancellations: Information is not available for all sites but where it is, although some matches were cancelled it has not emerged as an issue for clubs in terms of matches lost or bunching of matches at the end of the season due to postponements. This is probably because the number of pitches and sites involved across the two districts means that there is spare capacity overall to accommodate the postponed games.

3.62 Clubs were asked whether they have experienced difficulties in obtaining pitches for home matches or facilities for training.

Table 3.28 : Responding clubs from North Devon who have had difficulties in obtaining facilities for training or home matches

Club	Training facilities	Match pitches
Boca Seniors FC	Yes – no details	
Chittlehampton FC	Very costly and hard to find at right price	
Chulmleigh FC		When we had a senior team the pitch was damaged on occasions particularly in the winter months. Last year, as did many teams, we had consecutive weeks when none of our teams could play.
Equalizers FC	Yes - sometimes hard to get available time slots on AGP	Yes - sometimes clashing with other senior side
Fremington Youth FC		More of an issue for matches, due to lack of space, growing demand, and poor drainage/pitch condition.
Ilfracombe Town FC		Yes - The use of the Kilacleave playing fields for our 3 rd adult team
Ilfracombe Town Youth FC	Yes – no details	
Petroc		We juggle fixtures so that only one team plays on the pitch a week, our match days are Wednesdays, in the unlikely event that we have fixture clashes we go to the council and use Tarka pitches.
SAS Soccer Club	Yes - Training facilities for the winter are difficult to source especially early evening.	Yes - Pitches are easier to find now there is no adults Sunday League.
Witheridge AFC	Availibility in winter is very difficult	

Table 3.29 : Responding clubs from Torridge who have had difficulties in obtaining facilities for training or home matches

Club	Training facilities	Match pitches
Appledore Lions FC	Yes - too few available	
Bideford AFC Youth	Yes - as club has grown, cost is a big issue at Bideford College. Also availability of pitches and astro.	Yes - as club has grown, cost is a big issue at Bideford College. Also availability of pitches and astro.
Bideford Blues & Appledore JFC	Yes - Most teams would like more than one training session but this is difficult with the number of teams we have. Another astro would be ideal!	
Halwill FC	Yes - Bad weather in winter	Yes - Bad weather in winter
Hartland AFC		Only due to clashes between team matches - especially if there is a cup match
Holsworthy Youth FC		Our under 14's and 16's quite often find games cancelled due to main senior club prioritising senior football at Upcott Field
Torrington FC	Yes - too many teams using same facility (understand refers to Great Torrington School AGP)	

3G FOOTBALL TURF PITCHES

Quantity, Quality and Accessibility

3.63 During the last decade 3G AGPs have played an increasing role within the national game and they are regarded by the FA as the optimum facility for training by clubs. They also provide opportunities for casual, small sided football and in recent seasons have become more popular for competitive matches. It makes sense within this Needs Assessment to look at 3G football turf pitches as part of the analysis before a consideration of future provision, which then covers both grass and football turf pitches.

3.64 The FA has changed the standard code of rules regarding the use of 3G football turf pitches from the 2014/15 season. Provided a football turf pitch has been tested and appears on the FA Register it will be allowed to be used for match play in all competitions outside the National League System (NLS) i.e. Step 7 and below including womens and youth football. The test is based on the British Standard for synthetic turf sports surfaces – BS EN 15330-1 and must be carried out by a

recognized test house accredited by FIFA and/or having ISO 17025 accreditation by UKAS . The facility operator should commission and pay for the cost of this. The accreditation remains valid for three years.

3.65 There are a variety of different surfaces of AGPs and their suitability for football is as follows:

- Long pile 3G with shock pad – suitable
- Long pile 3G – preferred surface for football
- Short pile 3G – acceptable surface for some competitive football and football training
- Sand filled – acceptable surface for football training
- Sand dressed – acceptable surface for football training
- Water based – acceptable surface for football training if irrigated.

3.66 Of particular relevance here is the use of sand-based AGPs for training by local football teams. Current relevant guidance produced by Sport England, in association with the NGBs ‘Selecting the Right Surface for Hockey, Football, Rugby League’ suggests that such surfaces are suitable for modified forms of training/matches, but not for serious training and matches. It would therefore be wrong to ignore this type of surface, given de facto use by local football clubs in North Devon and Torridge of some sand based facilities. However, they do not form part of the analysis in respect of determining the existing and future needs for serious training later in this section.

3.67 The following table, therefore, for ease of consideration, lists all known artificial grass pitches in North Devon and Torridge – both 3G and sand based. (The sand based pitches are considered further under hockey in Section 6). The overall pitch quality rating (right hand column) is based upon the total score of all the characteristics assessed using the template VQA (visual quality assessment) in Sport England’s playing pitch strategy guidance. A score of 80%+ is considered ‘good’.

3.68 Key to Community Use Column

The letters in the ‘Community Use’ column signify the following, as set out in Sport England’s latest Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance, October 2013.

- A Available for community use and used
- B Available for community use and unused
- C Not available for community use, as matter of policy and practice
- D Not available as disused.

Table 3.30 : Artificial Grass Pitches in North Devon and Torridge.

NORTH DEVON Site Ref/ Post code	Name (Year Built/Refurbished)	AGP type	Ownership/ Management Type	Sports Lighting	AGP Length	AGP Width	Indicative playing size	Community Use	Overall Pitch Quality Rating
NORTH DEVON									
NDBA.17 EX32 9AX	Park School (2007R)	Full size sand dressed	Education Academy/School in house	Yes	100	60	Y 11v11	A	Good
NDSM.08 EX36 4LA	South Molton Community College (2007)	Half size 3G on FA Register	Education Academy/School in house	Yes	60	50	7V7	A	Good
NDIL.02 EX34 9JB	Ilfracombe Academy (2014)	Half size 3G on FA Register	Education Academy/ School in house	Yes	55	37	7V7	A	Good
NDBA.12 EX31 1RB	Pilton Community College, Barnstaple (2003)	Half size sand filled	Education Academy/School in house	Yes	60	50	7V7	A	Good
NDBR.01 EX33 2BP	Braunton Academy (2006)	Half size 3G on FA register	Education Academy/School in house	Yes	66	46	7V7	A	Good
NDSM.05 EX18 7AA	Chulmleigh Sports Centre (2006)	Sand filled MUGA	Education Academy/School in house	Yes	36	18	MUGA	A	Good

NORTH DEVON Site Ref/ Post code	Name (Year Built/Refurbished)	AGP type	Ownership/ Management Type	Sports Lighting	AGP Length	AGP Width	Indicative playing size	Community Use	Overall Pitch Quality Rating
NDBA.18 EX32 0SX	West Buckland School (2004)	Full size sand filled	Independent Education/School in house	Yes	100	60	Y 11v11	C	n/a
NDBR.08 EX31 4AZ	RMB Chivenor (2014)	3G – Full Size – no further details	MOD					C	n/a
TORRIDGE									
TOBI.02 EX39 3AR	Bideford College (2011)	Almost full size floodlit 3G	Education Academy/School in house	Yes	91.4	55	Y 11v11	A	Good
TOGT.02 EX20 3EQ	Clinton Hall Merton (1999)	Sand filled MUGA	Community Organisation	Yes	36	18	MUGA	C	Standard
TOGT.05 EX38 7DJ	Great Torrington School (2006)	Half size 3G	Education Academy/School in house	Yes	60	40	7v7	A	Poor (requires resurfacing)
TOHO.05 EX22 6JD	Holsworthy Community School	Half size sand filled	Education Academy/School in house	Yes	61	50	7v7	A	Poor
TOBI.11 EX39 3LY	Kingsley School (2016R)	Near full size sand filled	Independent Education/School in house	Yes	84	51	Y 11v11	C	n/a

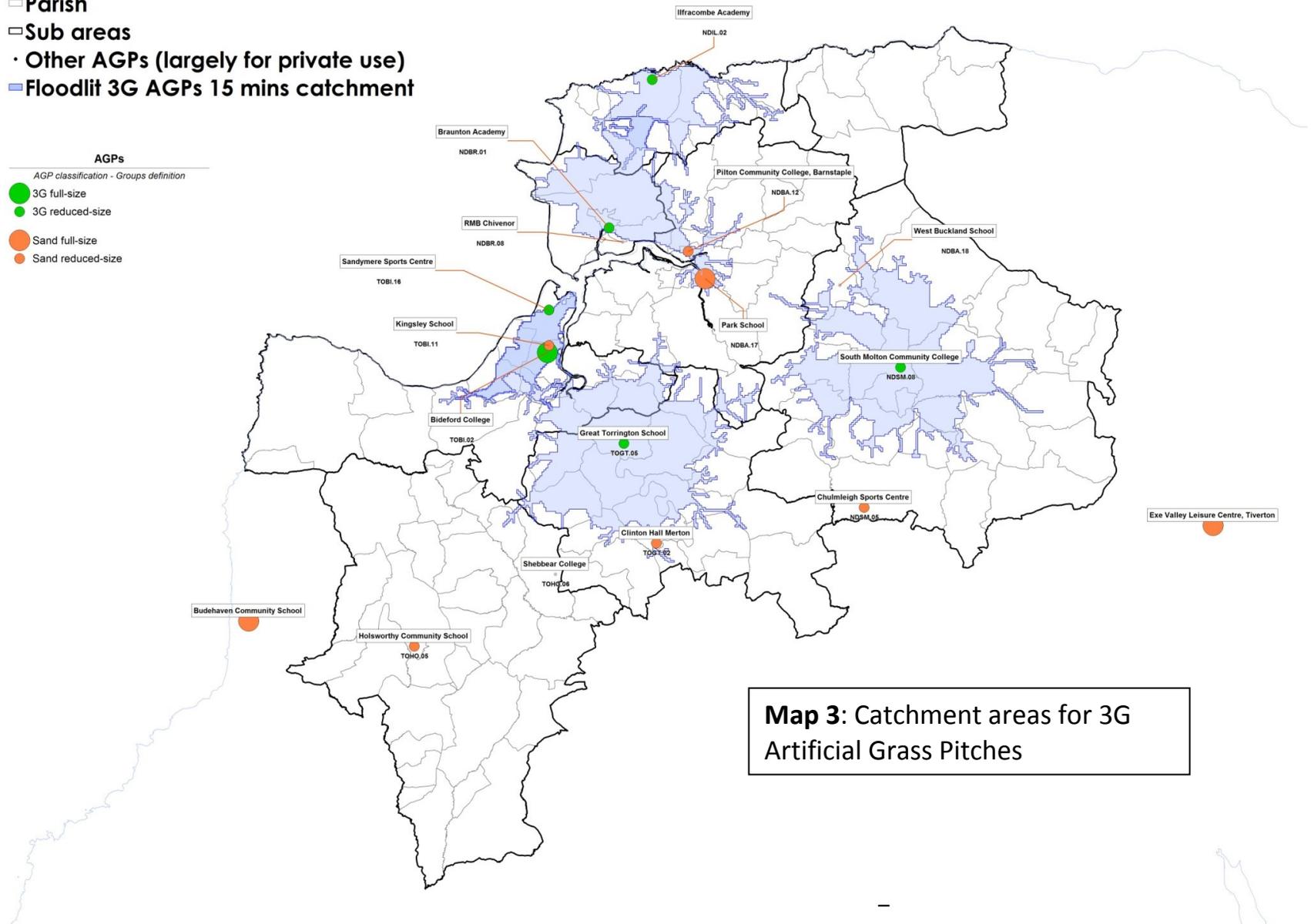
NORTH DEVON Site Ref/ Post code	Name (Year Built/Refurbished)	AGP type	Ownership/ Management Type	Sports Lighting	AGP Length	AGP Width	Indicative playing size	Community Use	Overall Pitch Quality Rating
TOBI.16 EX39 1XX	Sandymere Sports Centre (2010R)	Half size 3G on FA register	Sports Club	Yes	60	40	7v7	A	Good
TOHO.06 EX21 5HJ	Shebbear College (2010)	Full size sand filled	Independent Education/School in house	Yes	100	60	Y 11v11	C	Good
FULL SIZE FLOODLIT AGPS JUST OUTSIDE NORTH DEVON AND TORRIDGE									
TORRIDGE Site Ref	Name (Year Built/Refurbished)	AGP type	Ownership/ Management Type	Sports Lighting	AGP Length	AGP Width	Indicative playing size	Community Use	Overall Pitch Quality Rating
Mid Devon EX 16 6SG	Exe Valley Leisure Centre, Tiverton (2009R)	Full size sand filled	Local Authority	Yes	97	60	Y 11v11	A	n/a
Cornwall EX23 8AW	Budehaven Community School (2009R)	Full size sand dressed	Education Academy/School in house	Yes	100	60	Y 11v11	A	n/a

Table 3.31 Summary of Artificial Grass Pitch Provision in North Devon and Torridge

	Full size floodlit sand based	Half size floodlit sand	MUGA floodlit sand	Full size floodlit 3G	Half size floodlit 3G (* on FA Register)
North Devon with Community Use	Park School (100x60m)	Pilton Community College (60x50m)	Chulmleigh Community College		South Molton Community College* (60x50m) Ilfracombe Community College* (55x37m) Braunton Community College* (66x46m)
Torridge with Community Use	Kingsley School, Bideford (85x51m)	Holsworthy Community College (61x50m)	Clinton Hall, Merton	Bideford College (almost full size) (91.4x55m)	Great Torrington School (60x40m) Sandymere Sports Centre* (60x40m)
Not or ltd community Use	North Devon: West Buckland School (100x60m) Torridge: Shebbear College (100x60m)			North Devon: RMB Chivenor – n/a	

- Parish
- Sub areas
- Other AGPs (largely for private use)
- Floodlit 3G AGPs 15 mins catchment

- AGPs**
- AGP classification - Groups definition*
- 3G full-size
 - 3G reduced-size
 - Sand full-size
 - Sand reduced-size



Map 3: Catchment areas for 3G Artificial Grass Pitches

3.69 The key points with regard to the quantity of AGPs in North Devon and Torridge are:

- There is one full size floodlit sand AGP available for community use at The Park Community School in Barnstaple. This is the home of Taw Valley Hockey Club and North Devon Hockey Club
- There is a slightly undersize (91m x 51m) floodlit sand based AGP at Kingsley School (independent school in Bideford) which has community use
- There are 2 other full size floodlit sand based AGPs at independent schools in North Devon and Torridge but these are effectively not available for community use.
- There are two half size floodlit sand AGPs – at Pilton Community College (North Devon) and Holsworthy Community College (Torridge). There are sand MUGAs at Chulmleigh Community College (North Devon) and Merton (Torridge).
- There is a slightly under full size floodlit 3G AGP or Football Turf Pitch (FTP) at Bideford College; this is not on the FA Register.
- There are 3 half size floodlit 3G FTPs, all of which are on the FA Register in North Devon: at South Molton, Ilfracombe and Braunton Community Colleges.
- There are 2 half size floodlit 3G FTPs in Torridge. The FTP at Sandymere is floodlit and on the FA Register; the FTP at Great Torrington School is floodlit but not on the FA Register.
- All the AGPs are rated as good apart from the half size pitch at Holsworthy (poor); the half size pitch at Great Torrington School (poor) and the sand MUGA in Merton (Torridge)
- There is no 3G facility serving the Holsworthy Sub Area within Torridge. Clubs in this area have indicated their desire for suitable training facilities.

Suitability for Matchplay

3.70 In order for league football matches to be played on 3G FTP surfaces:

- The surface must be FA accredited
 - Standard Code of Rule states that if it is on the FA Register the pitch can be used for matches
- The pitch must be large enough to meet the FA's and relevant league's requirements on pitch dimensions.

3.71 It is understood that the 3G at Sandymere hosts mini football matches but that there is no match play on the other half size 3Gs in the study area (which are for matchplay purposes, of 7v7 size). The pitch at Bideford College was assessed for the FA Register some five years ago but did not pass the accreditation; however it is possible that now the pitch has bedded down it would reach the required standard. It is very heavily used for training but is a facility which cannot yet be included as being appropriate for senior matchplay and this situation needs to be clarified.

3.72 At the moment therefore, there is no full size 3G FTP in North Devon or Torridge which is agreed, registered and sanctioned by all parties as being appropriate to accommodate adult matches.

ASSESSMENT OF USE AND CAPACITY FOR ARTIFICIAL TURF PITCHES

- 3.73 The adequacy of AGPs to accommodate demand for football, taking into account both training and competitive fixtures, is an important issue. Demand for hockey is considered later (Section 6); there can often be competing demands from these two sports as both are reliant upon AGPs. However, it is useful at this stage of the analysis to show the capacity and usage of AGPs in North Devon and Torridge.
- 3.74 Supply and demand has been measured on a site-specific basis according to the Sport England Playing Pitch Guidance which considers peak time capacity and usage by comparing:
- The amount of play that a site is able to sustain - based upon the number of hours that the pitch is accessible to the community during peak periods (up to a maximum of 34 hours per week). Peak periods have been deemed to be Monday to Thursday 17:00 to 21:00; Friday 17:00 to 19:00 and Saturday and Sunday 09:00 to 17:00, although individual sites differ according to their own policy, planning restrictions etc;
 - the amount of play that takes place (measured in hours); and
 - whether there is any spare capacity at the site based upon a comparison between the capacity of the site and the actual usage.
- 3.75 Pitch bookings and information from pitch operators has been used to compile usage for AGPs. Whilst the analysis seeks to represent the regular weekly usage, it is clear that there is significant variation in usage from season to season, and maybe even from week to week. The peak time capacity for AGPs is midweek evenings.
- 3.76 The following table presents the number of hours that each of the AGPs with community use are accessible to the community during peak periods and then an estimation of the number of hours during that time they are in use. The table also shows whether there is significant capacity either during the week or at weekends, together with accompanying notes on the breakdown between football and hockey use.

Table 3.32 Usage of AGPs in North Devon and Torrington

Venue name	Pitch Type	Key clubs using facilities	Estimated spare hours available Weekday evenings	Estimated spare hours available Weekends	Notes on Capacity
Sand based AGPs with Community Use					
Park Community School	Full size floodlit sand	Important venue for local hockey clubs: North Devon HC; Taw Valley HC; Landkey Town AFC; Eastside Youth FC; Equalizers FC; Barnstaple FC; Barnstaple Vets; Barnstaple Youth FC; North Devon Development Centre	0	5	Very well used AGP. Out of a possible: 14 hours midweek: 4 hours hockey; rest football Weekends: out of possible 14 hours - 4 hours hockey matches and 3 hours football on Saturdays and 1 hr hockey and 1 hr football (5 hrs empty) on Sundays.
Pilton Community College	Half size floodlit sand AGP	SAS Soccer School; Fremington Youth FC; BOCA seniors; Pilton Academicals; Sporting Barum	3	10	Around 3 hours spare midweek evenings but more at weekends – 10 hours
Holsworthy Community School	Half size floodlit sand AGP	Holsworthy FC; Holsworthy YFC; Exeter City FC; Bradworthy FC; Bridgerule FC	1	14	Size and condition of AGP restricts community use, although seems well used in week but not at weekends. Schools says that there is scope to increase size and therefore use
Chulmleigh Sports Centre	Sand MUGA floodlit	Chulmleigh FC (u7,u9,u11,u13)	n/k	n/k	Local group use
Clinton Hall Merton	Sand MUGA floodlit		0	0	Little club use

Venue name	Pitch Type (*on FA Register)	Key clubs using facilities	Estimated hours available Weekday evenings	Estimated hours available Weekends	Notes on Capacity
3G AGPs with community use					
Bideford College	Almost full size floodlit 3G FTP	Bideford AFC Youth; Shamwicksire Rovers FC; Appledore Lions FC; Clovelly FC; Woolsery FC; Hartland AFC; Devon Walking Football, Bideford RFC	2	8	Difficult to obtain a formal programme of use, but the evidence is that use is considerable during the week, and by several clubs and age groups. In addition Bideford RUFC has stated that it sometimes uses the pitch for training. Spare capacity at weekends; no matches
South Molton Community College	Half size floodlit 3G FTP*	South Molton FC; Barnstaple Town FC plus private hire	6	12	Appears to be a significant degree of spare capacity: up to 6 hrs midweek evenings and 12 hrs at weekends. No matchplay
Ilfracombe Academy	Half size floodlit 3G FTP*	Ilfracombe Town FC; Ilfracombe Town Youth FC; Ilfracombe RFC, Combe Martin FC, Exeter City community	0	7	Spare capacity on Sundays – no recorded use. But full with football training, rugby and community teams on weekday eves and Saturdays. No matchplay
Braunton Academy	Half size floodlit 3G FTP*	Braunton FC; Braunton Youth FC; Georgeham & Croyde AFC, Witheridge FC	2	8	Busy in week and Saturdays for football training and 2 hours Sunday morning. No matchplay
Great Torrington School	Half size floodlit 3G FTP	Torrington FC; Torrington Youth FC (Torridgeside), Plymouth Argyle FITC	3	8	At weekends availability depends when school pool/ hall is open. Estimate 3 hours spare weekday evenings and 8+ at weekends. FA would like to see increased use, but quality needs improvement. No matchplay
Sandymere Sports Centre	Half size floodlit 3G FTP*	Bideford Blues and Appledore JFC (all ages); Appledore FC	2	4	This is a small-size 3G pitch, that is FA funded and appears on the 3G register of pitches. It is occasionally used for mini matches at weekends and has little spare capacity.

Venue name	Pitch Type (*on FA Register)	Key clubs using facilities	Estimated hours available Weekday evenings	Estimated hours available Weekends	Notes on Capacity
Other – Not Available for Community Use					
West Buckland School	Full size floodlit sand AGP	None	0	0	Largely unavailable. ATP currently has limited external/community use on it, due to: safeguarding measures required as the school is a boarding school; pitch has only been floodlit since October 2016, and football is not permitted on it (hockey and tennis only).
Kingsley School	Full size sand not floodlit AGP		0	0	This is a near full-size sand AGP at an independent school (not floodlit). No evidence of community use.
Shebbear College	Full size floodlit sand AGP	Shebbear United FC	0	0	There is some use by local groups, but this is not secure, and at the schools discretion. There is also evening use by the school.
RMB Chivenor			0	0	Unavailable

Commentary

3.76 The salient points with regard to the capacity of AGPs for football training and matches are:

- Football teams are training on both 3G FTP and sand based AGPs, depending on their location and availability
- All facilities, apart from the half size 3G at South Molton Community College record less than 3 hours spare capacity on weekday evenings. All weekday evening use is for football training, except for 4 hours hockey training on the full size sand AGP at Park Community School.
- There is less use of all facilities at weekends. All AGPs have the equivalent of a day when they are not being used at the weekends: the exceptions are the Park Community School, where hockey matches are played, and Sandymere, where mini football matches are played
- The full size 3G at Bideford College is not reistered by the FA and there is no matchplay on it. .

PPS Scenario: Increasing the use of 3G Football Turf Pitches (FTPs)

3.77 With this in mind, the following scenario has been compiled by the FA to help understand what demand there may be for full size¹ floodlit 3G AGPs in North Devon and Torridge, if increased amounts of training were to take place on them. In order to do so information from the ‘Assessment’ stage of developing this PPS, alongside details from the FA, have been used to help answer the following question:

How many full size floodlit 3G AGPs may be required to meet demand within North Devon and Torridge if all teams playing competitive football had access to a full size floodlit 3G AGP to train on once a week?

3.78 The calculations set out below are based on full sized floodlit FTPs which have full community use during peak periods². These details have been used to help inform the presentation of key issues and findings and will be used in the development of the PPS’s recommendations and action plan.

3.79 As a guide the FA suggest that 1 full size FTP could potentially accommodate this training demand from 42 teams (Ratio of 1:42³). The information from the Assessment stage of this PPS indicates that there are 114 teams playing competitive football in North Devon and 82 in Torridge. Therefore, using the FA’s 1: 42 ratio suggests that 2.7 full size floodlit 3G AGPs would be required to meet this increased training use within North Devon and 1.8 in Torridge. However this does not take into account sand based provision and 3G FTP provision in neighbouring authorities, so is agreed to be slightly less.

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¹ A full size 3G AGP measuring 106m x 70m including run off/safety margins.

² Weekdays 17:00 - 21:00 (or 19:00 on Fridays) and 09:00 - 17:00 on weekends.

³ [The training ratio was developed on the back of The FA facilities strategy vision to providee all affiliated clubs with access to a 3G for training. The original ratio of 1:56 was based on full size pitch providing 56 slots per week of availability (6-9pm Mon- Thurs 6-8pm Fri).The 1:42 ratio is a revised ratio from the previous. This is following a number of local authorities reaching the perceived required number of 3G AGP facilities yet they still evidencing latent demand. Further analysis of 3G AGP facility usage has shown that many affiliated teams seek more than one slot for training and significant amounts of non affiliated and recreational demand takes up peak demand time, creating a need for further 3G provision and revision to the previously issued ratio.

Table 3.33 Current demand for 3G Football Turf Pitches in North Devon and Torridge for training (based on 42 teams per pitch)

	Population (from 2016)	Playing Population (5-44) (2016)	No of affiliated teams in LA (mini soccer, youth & adult 11v11)	Number of full sized 3G Football Turf pitches required per LA based on 42 teams per pitch	Number of full sized 3G Football Turf pitches required per LA based on 1:15000 playing Population	Current Number of Full sized 3G Football Turf pitches (Community accessible)	Current Number of 60x40 3G Football Turf pitches	Current number 3G Football Turf pitches (< under 60 x 40)	Proposed number of NEW full size 3G Football Turf pitches
North Devon	94,663	40,551	112	2.7	2.7	0	1	2	1
Torridge	67,186	27,067	82	2.0	1.8	1	2	0	1
							South Molton*	Ilfracombe*	
								Braunton*	
						Bideford College	Gt. Torrington		
							Sandymere*		

Matchplay requirements

3.80 Modelling for matchplay on 3G FTPs in North Devon and Torridge will not be undertaken until this has been discussed further at the Stage C Steering Group Meeting. (This is now presented in the Strategy document).

Extent of demand from clubs for 3G football turf pitches for matches and training

3.81 Other points to bear in mind are:

- A significant number of clubs are already training on 3G pitches where available
- There appears to be demand from many clubs for 3G training facilities who may not be using them at present
- There is little spare capacity for weekday evening slots for football training – either on sand based or 3G AGPs. Any growth in demand will require new provision. This demand will come from the teams generated by new housing provision as well as from any general growth in participation.
- There is anecdotal evidence that teams find it hard to find weekday evening slots for training
- Barnstaple Town FC train at South Molton half size 3G
- Pilton Community College wish to be considered as a potential day time user of a 3G at Tarka Tennis Centre if this project progresses.
- If a 3G FTP were to be provided in Barnstaple a significant amount of demand is likely to transfer from the sand based AGP at Park School. This will free up more time for hockey, so making this more of a hockey destination site which may benefit both hockey clubs and hockey development.
- The FA has a target for 50% of adult and mini soccer matches to be played on appropriate 3G FTPs by 2020.
- The FA's own modelling assesses there is a need for a full size 3G FTP in Barnstaple for training (which would also be used for matchplay). Its modelling also assesses that there is a need for additional provision in Bideford (not necessarily full size). Evidence gathered through this study supports this assessment.
- The 3G FTP at Bideford College is virtually full with football training but because it is not FA accredited it cannot host matchplay. This anomaly needs to be clarified before a realistic assessment can be made of the size of additional 3G provision required in the Bideford area.
- The FA suggest the following questions may guide the discussion around future levels of provision:
 - What is the likelihood that this scenarios would be taken forward locally e.g. is there the desire locally to do so (LA, FA, clubs), does the geography of the area and the location of demand lend itself to increasing the use of full size floodlit 3G AGPs?
 - How is the game currently played locally (e.g. current use of central venues for youth football) and what is the ease with which the scenario could be implemented?

- How are existing full sized 3G AGPs used and are there currently enough to meet the potential increased demand?
- Are existing full size 3G AGPs in the right place to meet the increased demand with the right access and level of availability?
- If there is not enough provision can existing full size 3G AGPs be enhanced to provide increased capacity to help meet the demand (e.g. lighting, securing greater access to educational provision)?
- Is there potential to convert other types of full size AGPs to a 3G surface to help meet this demand without adversely affecting other sports?
- If new full size 3G AGPs are required are there any existing or new sites where more than one can be located to create a hub site?

FUTURE PICTURE OF PROVISION

3.82 The future requirement for football pitches in North Devon and Torridge will be impacted by several factors, including;

- A Changes to the number of people living in the area and/or to the demographic profile of the population;
- B General changes in participation trends and in how pitch sports are played;
- C Consideration of latent, unmet and displaced demand
- D Club specific development plans and aspirations; and
- E Amendments to the current facility stock either through the provision of new pitches or the loss of current pitches.

A Population changes – North Devon and Torridge

ONS Population projections (2016-2031) (this section is relevant to each of the sports following)

3.83 It can be seen from the analysis of ONS population projections for North Devon that: The population of North Devon is currently 94,663 (2017); projected to increase by 5.3% to 99,710. Torridge's population is projected to increase by 11% over the same period from 67,186 to 74,557. The main impact from the changing population on the pitch sports is a growth in the minis and junior age ranges; minimal change in the 20-34 but some growth in the 35-45 year age ranges, and a larger drop off in the younger element of the vets pitch sport age range (46-54 years). Combining age ranges shows the following:

Table 3.34 Change in Population in Pitch Sport Playing Age Ranges 2016 - 2031

	Change in population 2016-2031			
	North Devon		Torrige	
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%
Mini/Youth (5-19 years)	1107	7.30%	1254	12.10%
Adult pitch sports (20-45 years)	140	0.60%	1019	6.40%
Adult pitch sports (46-69 years)	-1439	-4.50%	-180	-0.70%
Overall 'active participation' age groups (5-69 years)	-193	-0.30%	2095	4.10%

3.84 The tables below present the potential impact on the number of football teams from projected population increases based on housing growth. It uses Team Generation Rates derived from the existing population and number of teams.

Table 3.35 Team Generation Rates for Football

	North Devon	Torrige
Senior football (16-45 male)	378.8	273.2
Senior football (16-45 female)	7,389.5	9,788.0
Junior football (10-15 male)	107.9	106.8
Junior football (10-15 female)	591.4	662.7
Mini-soccer (6-9 mixed gender)	120.7	143.5

Table 3.36 : New teams for football arising from housing growth in North Devon by Sub Area: 2016 – 2031

2016 AGE GROUPS	2016 TEAMS	BARNSTAPLE NEW TEAMS	BRAUNTON NEW TEAMS	ILFRACOMBE NEW TEAMS	SOUTH MOLTON NEW TEAMS	EXTRA TEAMS YIELDED BY NEW POPULATION
Senior football (16-45 male)	38	3.7	0.3	1.3	1.6	6.9
Senior football (16-45 female)	2	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.4
Junior football (10-15 male)	34	3.3	0.3	1.1	1.4	6.1
Junior football (10-15 female)	5	0.5	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.9
Mini-soccer (6-9 mixed gender)	35	3.4	0.3	1.2	1.4	6.3
NORTH DEVON FOOTBALL TOTAL	114	11.1	0.9	3.9	4.7	20.6

Table 3.37 : New teams for football arising from housing growth in the Torridge by Sub Area: 2016 – 2031

2016 AGE GROUPS	2016 TEAMS	BIDEFORD NEW TEAMS	GREAT TORRINGTON NEW TEAMS	HOLSWORTHY NEW TEAMS	EXTRA TEAMS YIELDED BY NEW POPULATION
Senior football (16-45 male)	35	6.4	1.1	0.7	8.2
Senior football (16-45 female)	1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2
Junior football (10-15 male)	23	4.2	0.7	0.5	5.4
Junior football (10-15 female)	3	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.7
Mini-soccer (6-9 mixed gender)	20	3.7	0.6	0.4	4.7
TORRIDGE FOOTBALL TOTAL	82	15.0	2.5	1.7	19.2

B General changes in participation trends and how sport is played

3.85 Although population growth will influence demand, changes in participation may perhaps have the most significant impact on demand for playing pitches. As demonstrated earlier in this section, it appears that demand from both mini soccer and junior football is increasing in North Devon and Torridge. Changes to youth football have only been introduced fairly recently (including the creation of 5 v 5 and 9 v 9) and as such, the impact is still becoming apparent. The FA indicate that the introduction of these new formats have seen an increase in the number of teams playing and there is some evidence of greater retention of players through the older age groups.

3.86 The FA therefore believe that there will be an increase in the overall number of teams (and participants) in future years as a result of the youth review and that higher levels of demand will occur as a result. In this event:

- The existing stock of 5v5, 7v7 and 9v9 pitches would need to be retained;
- As these teams age they will require larger pitches and therefore it is beneficial if sites with 9v9, 7v7 and 5v5 pitches have the capacity to enlarge or accommodate larger pitches if necessary.
- If issues relating to the drop off in the transition between junior and senior football were addressed however, the limited spare capacity currently seen in adult football pitches may become further constrained.

3.87 Table 3.38 below has been provided to us and shows how the number of youth and mini teams have been gradually increasing in the North Devon Youth League. Map 4 depicts the projected increase in teams across the study area by sub area.

- Parish
- Sub areas
- Existing football teams
- Future total teams

Map 4: Projected increases in football teams to 2031 by Sub Area

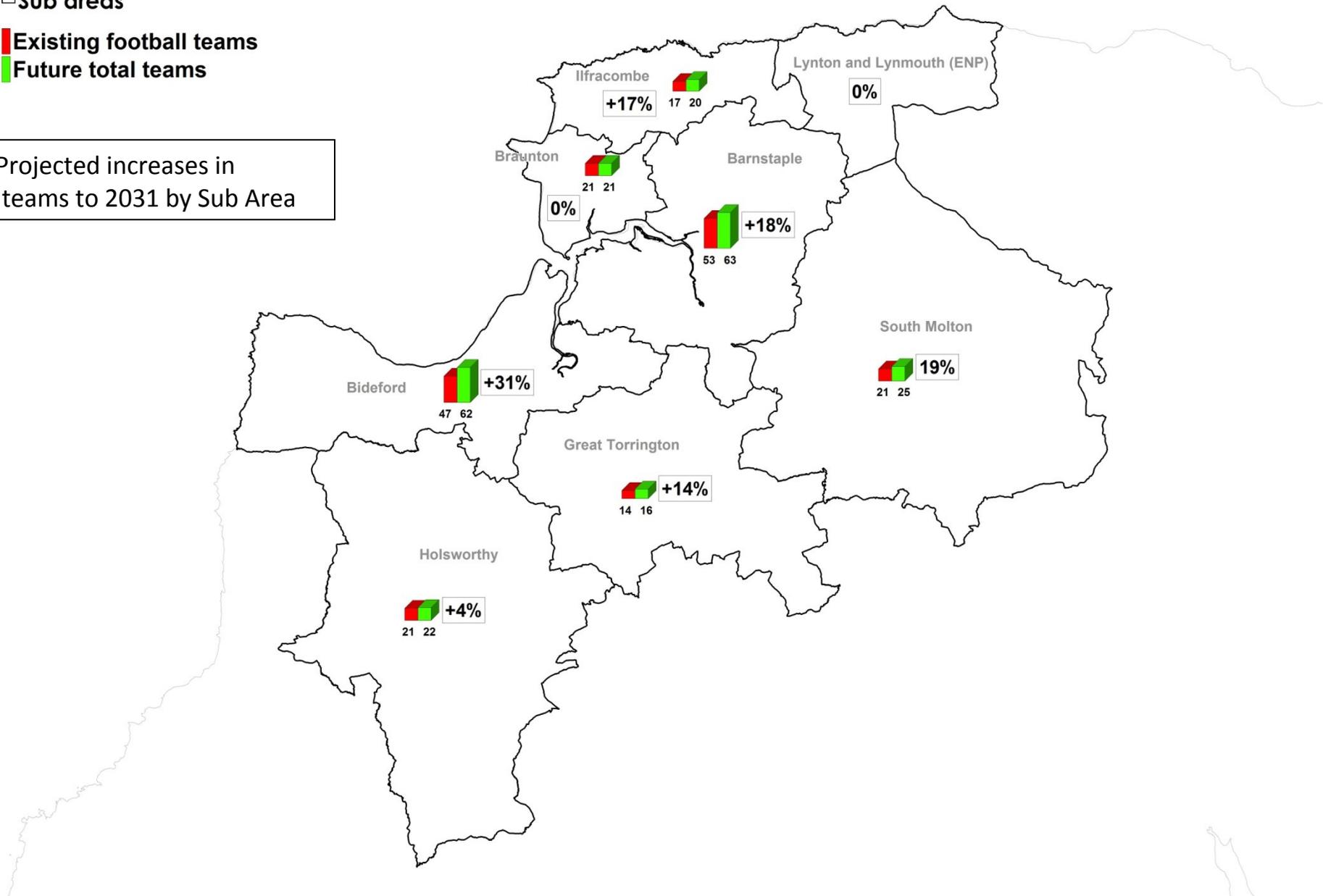


Table 3.38 : Changes to number of clubs and teams in Football Leagues covering North Devon and Torridge 2010/11 – 2016/17

	2010/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	14/16	16/17	
Under 8	8 clubs (many have more than 1 team playing – 13 teams?)	9 clubs (some have more than 1 team playing – 14 teams?)	7 clubs (some have more than 1 team playing – 10 teams?)	9 clubs (some have more than 1 team playing – 13 teams?)	11 clubs (most have more than 1 team playing – 18 teams?)	10 clubs (some have more than 1 team playing – 14 teams?)	10 clubs (most have more than 1 team playing – 17 teams?)	
Under 9	League from u 9 8 teams	League from u 9 8	10 clubs (some have more than 1 team playing – 14 teams?)	10 clubs (some have more than 1 team playing – 16 teams?)	13 clubs (some have more than 1 team playing – 19 teams?)	13 clubs (most have more than 1 team playing – 21 teams?)	13 clubs (most have more than 1 team playing – 22 teams?)	Are clubs running more than one team with round robins? If so more players are involved in matches
Under 10	12	10	League from u10 11	10 clubs (some have more than 1 team playing – 14 teams?)	11 clubs (most have more than 1 team playing – 18 teams?)	13 clubs (most have more than 1 team playing – 22 teams?)	12 clubs (some have more than 1 team playing – 17 teams?)	
Under 11	11	15	11	League from u11 15	10 clubs (some have more than 1 team playing – 15 teams?)	13 clubs (some have more than 1 team playing – 16 teams?)	13 clubs (a few have more than 1 team playing – 16 teams?)	
Under 12	11	11	16	13	League from u12 14	League from u12 16	League from u12 16	
Under 13	13	9	9	12	14	13	16	
Under 14	13	10	6	9	12	12	12	
Under 15	6	12	10	6	7	11	11	
Under 16	8	5	11	10	6	9	10	
Girls	3 age groups numbers? (3-4 clubs per age group?)	3 age groups numbers? (3-4 clubs per age group?)	3 age groups numbers? (3-4 clubs per age group?) – numbers dwindling	no	no	no	U10 – 5 clubs U12- 6 U14 - 7	
Total no. teams not including girls	95	94	98	109	123	134	137	
Adults								
N.Devon Saturday	59	61	59	62	61	56	59	
Sunday	15	14	12	6	-	-	-	
Kingsley	16	14	13	12	8	7	-	
Total adult teams	90	89	84	80	67	63	59	

3.89 Evidence from the table above and other studies suggests, in North Devon and Torridge:

- Since the introduction of The FA Youth Review in 2012 youth male and mini soccer has continued to grow, albeit slowly, which is supported by new formats in mini soccer (5v5 , 7v7 and 9v9), reflected in the above table.
- Adult male provision is a big area of concern nationally and locally with teams decreasing season after season, this has seen the Sunday League fold Informal recreation play such as veterans football, flexi leagues, walking football and small sided provision are being introduced to combat the decline and seem to have better uptake due to the flexible and accommodating formats.
- Adult female and youth female continues to grow at slow rate, and the FA are launching a Girls Mini Soccer programme in December 2016, which will help drive provision, where there is currently a gap in the market.
- Disability provision is stable and a county wide league currently takes places throughout the season, playing on 3G FTPs (Barnstaple Youth FC play in this league)

3.90 Some reasons which have been advanced to explore why there has been a decline in adult football in North Devon and Torridge (reflecting nationwide trends) might include:

- too much competitive football from a young age - are players bored with football by the time they reach 17? Need time to look at long term impact of 2012 changes.
- football overkill - TV, media, Internet etc -
- Working habits changing - people often have to work on Saturday afternoons now or have to negotiate to have a Saturday afternoon off
- Although pitches are better there are fewer of them, limiting the possible number of teams
- Financial - 6th formers and students often need to work to earn money at weekends
- Administration. Does the increased weight put capable people off from running teams?
- Introduction of fines especially for admin errors, making it harder to recruit and retain volunteers
- Less street football
- growth of individual sports - cycling, running - and gym attendance (which can be fitted around work and family commitments more readily than team games
- Has the success of rugby led to the loss of some players from football?
- If junior football matches rained off/postponed during winter months, may lose players to other sports

C Consideration of latent, unmet and displaced demand

3.91 As well as being used to estimate the numbers of people in North Devon and Torridge who currently play football, Sport England Market Segmentation data can also be used to estimate the number of people who would like to play (or play more). This data suggests that there is potential to increase adult football participation by up to 20% in North Devon (around 4575 adults currently play football and around 915 residents indicate that they would like to play or play more). The corresponding figures are 3139 adults playing in Torridge and 628 indicating that they would like to play more – a potential increase of 20%

again. This potential rate of increase is similar to county and national figures. Most of this latent demand is from residents in the main market segments that currently play.

3.92 If the adults who would like to play football is proportionately split into roughly 92% male/8% female, this would suggest around 841 adult males wanting to play more football in North Devon and 577 in Torridge. It is not possible to say whether these would be drawn more to playing 11v11 on grass, or small sided soccer on artificial surfaces, but if we assume grass, 841 adult males is equivalent to around 2 teams in North Devon (TGR = 378) and 577 males is equivalent to 2 teams in Torridge (TGR = 273). The number of women wishing to play more football is not large enough to generate a team.

3.93 One of the characteristics of TGRs is that if there are no teams or a very low number of teams currently playing (so that the number required to generate one team is very high) increases in population in the relevant age playing range may not ‘trigger’ an extra team. The TGR for women’s football is currently very high, but there is evidence that more women’s and girls teams may develop in the future in North Devon and Torridge.

3.94 Any displaced teams also need to be included but there is no cross boundary movement between North Devon and Torridge and adjacent districts .

D Club specific development plans and aspirations

3.95 Several football clubs have aspirations to grow and this will impact both on demand across Northern Devon as a whole but also more locally at a site specific level. Clubs were asked if they wanted to run more teams:

Table 3.39: Aspirations to grow of football teams/North Devon

	Adult	Ladies	Youth Boys	Youth Girls	Minis	Reasons which may inhibit growth
Barnstaple FC			X			Shortage: good quality grass adult and senior grass pitches, all weather pitches for training and matches, coaches and volunteers
Barnstaple Town FC	X		X			Shortage good quality senior grass pitches. Good quality junior grass pitches. Cost of travelling to compete and train.
Boca Seniors FC	X		X			Shortage of: coaches/volunteer, indoor training facilities, cost of hiring/using facilities.
Braunton FC				X		Shortage: good quality junior grass pitches, coaches or volunteers, playing members
Chittlehampton FC	X					Shortage coaches/volunteers, cost of facilities, falling membership/shortage of members
Chulmleigh FC	X		X			Shortage: quality junior grass pitches, coaches or volunteers. Shortage of members
Combe Martin FC			X			Shortage: good quality senior grass pitches, AGPs for matches. Lack of external funding.
Eastside Youth AFC	X		X			Shortage: good quality junior grass pitches, AGPs for matches, coaches and volunteers.
Fremington Youth FC	Youth girls, Poss U17/18 merger with adult club to provide pathway into senior football.					Shortage: good quality grass adult and senior grass pitches, all weather pitches for training and matches.

	Adult	Ladies	Youth Boys	Youth Girls	Minis	Reasons which may inhibit growth
Ilfracombe Town FC	X					Shortage good quality senior grass pitches; poor changing; cost of using/hiring
Ilfracombe Town Youth FC	X					Shortage: good quality senior grass pitches, poor quality changing rooms, lack of external funding.
Landkey FC	X	X	X	X	X	Shortage: good quality junior grass pitches, AGP's for matches, coaches and volunteers.
Petroc	X	X				Shortage good quality senior grass pitches, AGP for matches, AGP for training
SAS Soccer Club	X				X	Shortage of: AGPs for training, coaches and volunteers, indoor training facilities
South Molton FC	X		X	X	X	Shortage good quality senior grass pitches; AGP for training; coaches/volunteers
Sporting Barum FC	X				X	Shortage quality junior grass pitches, cost of travelling, lack of external funding.
Witheridge AFC	V		X			Shortage good quality senior grass pitches; AGP for training; coaches/volunteers

3.96 The following North Devon clubs said they did not wish to run more teams:

Chivenor FC
Equalizers FC
Georgeham & Croyde AFC
Haxton Rangers FC
North Molton Sports Club FC
Pilton Academicals FC

Table 3.40 : Aspirations to grow of football teams/Torridge

	Adult	Ladies	Youth Boys	Youth Girls	Minis	Reasons which may inhibit growth
Bradworthy FC					X	Shortage: good quality junior grass pitches, AGP for training, coaches and volunteers
Torridgeside FC			X			Shortage of coaches/volunteers
Halwill FC		X				Shortage coaches/ volunteers. Cost of facilities. Lack of external funding.
Bideford AFC Youth	X	X	X	Disabled		Shortage: good quality grass pitches, all weather pitches for training. Cost of facilities.
Shamwicksire Rovers FC			X	X		Shortage: junior grass pitches, AGP and cost of facilities

	Adult	Ladies	Youth Boys	Youth Girls	Minis	Reasons which may inhibit growth
Bideford Blues & Appledore JFC				X	X	Shortage ; AGP for training, AGP for matches, suitable indoor training facilities
Park United FC	X					Shortage good quality senior grass pitches. Internal and external financing
Shebbear United AFC	Poss vets					Falling membership/shortage of members
Holsworthy Youth FC			X	X	X	Shortage: good quality grass adult and senior grass pitches, all weather pitches for training and matches.
Holsworthy FC	X		X			Shortage: good quality senior and junior grass pitches and AGP for matches
Bridgerule FC	X					
Woolery FC	X + VETS		X	X	X	Shortage good quality senior grass pitches. AGP's for training. Cost of facilities.

3.97 The following Torridge clubs said they did not wish to run more teams.

Bideford FC
Bradworthy FC
Merton FC
Clovelly FC
Appledore Lions FC
Hartland AFC
High Bickington FC
Appledore FC
Torrington FC

3.98 These aspirations have been considered conservatively; some of them are dependent upon access to more/better pitches and changing facilities, but others will depend on the availability of support personnel especially coaches. Some of them can be considered as thwarted or unmet demand in that the teams would run if there were pitches available; in practice this is difficult to disaggregate from future aspirations.

- In North Devon, this suggests that clubs would like to run in total around an additional 7 men’s teams, 1 women’s teams, 6 youth boys, 2 youth girls and 4 minis.
- In Torridge, this suggests that clubs would like to run in total around an additional 4 men’s teams, 1 women’s teams, 4 youth boys, 1 youth girls and 4 minis.

3.99 The following table underpins the assessment on a sub area basis of additional football teams to be accommodated in North Devon and Torridge to the end of the plan period (2031).

Explanation of Tables

- A. Teams from population growth through new housing
- B. Trends in Participation
- C. Latent/unmet/displaced demand
- D. Aspirations
- E. Total number of teams
- F. Match/slot equivalents (home/away)
- G. Equates to number of pitches (approx – as depends on pattern of play)

Table 3.41 : Total number of new teams projected to be generated 2016 – 2031 in North Devon

	Reason for more teams	Men's teams	Ladies' teams	Youth male	Youth female	Minis
A	Population growth through new housing	6.9	0.4	6.1	0.9	6.3
B	Trends in participation	-2		2	3	2
C	Latent/unmet demand/displaced demand	2				
D	Aspirations	3	1	4	2	2
E	TOTAL	9.9	1.4	12.1	5.9	10.3
F	Match/Slot equivalents (home/away)	5	1	6	3	5
G	Number of pitches (approx. as depends on pattern of play)	5		7		3

Table 3.42 : Total number of new teams projected to be generated 2016 – 2031 in Torridge

	Reason for more teams	Men's teams	Ladies' teams	Youth male	Youth female	Minis
A	Population growth through new housing	8.2	0.2	5.4	0.7	4.7
B	Trends in participation	-2		2	3	2
C	Latent/unmet demand/displaced demand	2				
D	Aspirations	2	1	2	2	2
E	TOTAL	10.2	1.2	9.4	5.7	8.7
F	Match/Slot equivalents (home/away)	5	1	5	1	3
G	Number of pitches (approx. as depends on pattern of play)	6		6		3

SUB AREA BREAKDOWNS OF THESE FIGURES ARE PRESENTED IN THE STRATEGY

3.100 Match equivalent sessions are estimated on basis of home/away fortnightly for adult and 11v11 youth and slightly less for 9v9 youth and minis. However, this would suggest the need for the minimum following pitches:

	Adult	9v9	Mini
North Devon	7	7	4
Torrige	6	6	4
TOTAL	13	13	8

3.101 The above table analyses requirements from the point of view of teams generated (demand). It does not take into account the situation regarding the pitches themselves (supply) which may also result in a requirement for additional provision for example:

- Pitches which are being overplayed where it would be of benefit to have additional provision
- Pitches required to meet demand from specific clubs as their team numbers increase
- Teams which are not able to play at their preferred venue/settlement because of lack of pitch space
- Pitches where issues of quality mean that replacement provision would be beneficial

3.102 The need for pitch space does not just have to be met through new provision. There are various other ways of providing increased capacity:

- Reinstating pitches at sites where pitches have existed in the past and /or creating new pitches where there is room on existing sites
- Securing (greater) community use of pitches on school sites
- Improving the quality of pitches to increase their capacity (although this does not solve the problem of peak time demand)
- Moving training off marked out formal pitches to increase their capacity for matchplay
- Encouraging football teams to both train and play matches on 3G FTPs, thus freeing up space on grass pitches and sand-based artificial grass pitches
- Encouraging new teams to play on pitches where there is currently spare capacity (this may mean teams playing away from their club's 'home ground')

3.103 This is not a significant number of new pitches. However, as presented earlier in this section there is very little spare capacity within existing provision for any growth in the number of teams to be accommodated, except for within the town of Great Torrington for adult play and for mini teams in several areas. It is therefore suggested that the increase in teams will largely need to be met through new provision, but this can be further refined once figures are agreed and a more detail sub area analysis is presented. It will also take into account specific sites where pressure to accommodate new teams has already been highlighted, such as Fremington.