

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

ASSESSMENT REPORT

FEBRUARY 2016

Integrity, Innovation, Inspiration

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GLOSSARY

AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
3G	Third Generation Turf
NGB	National Governing Body
FA	Football Association
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
RFU	Rugby Football Union
S106	Section 106
FIT	Fields in Trust
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LDF	Local Development Framework
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
FE	Further Education
HE	Higher Education
TGR	Team Generation Rate

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PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

This is the Playing Pitch Assessment Report prepared by Knight Kavanagh & Page (KKP) for Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC) and its partners.

This report presents a supply and demand assessment of playing pitch facilities in accordance with Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance: An approach to developing and delivering a playing pitch strategy. It has been followed to develop a clear picture of the balance between the local supply of, and demand for, playing pitches and other outdoor sports facilities.

The guidance details a stepped approach to developing a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS). These steps are separated into five distinct sections:

- ◀ Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach (Step 1)
- ◀ Stage B: Gather information and views on the supply of and demand for provision (Steps 2 & 3)
- ◀ Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views (Steps 4, 5 & 6)
- ◀ Stage D: Develop the strategy (Steps 7 & 8)
- ◀ Stage E: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date (Steps 9 & 10)

Stages A to C are covered in this report.

Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach

Why the PPS is being developed

The Council's previous Playing Pitch Strategy (2010) is now out of date and there is a need to review and update the 2010 report in order to identify current provision levels within the Borough and for the strategy to be in line with Sport England's latest guidance "Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance - An approach to developing and delivering a playing pitch strategy" (October 2013). This will enable the Council to analyse the existing provision within the Borough and reveal the likely future levels of demand during the lifetime of the Borough Plan.

The vision for the Playing Pitch Strategy is:

"To ensure that there is a sound evidence base upon which to make informed decisions about the provision of quality and adequate sports playing pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth for the life of the strategy."

The key objectives for the Playing Pitch Strategy are:

- ◀ Integration with other strategic work streams and regeneration activity to ensure a co-ordinated and strategic approach to sports facilities and provision for the Borough.
- ◀ Providing a clear investment strategy for outdoor sports facility provision within the local authority area.
- ◀ Providing a clear framework for all outdoor sports facility providers, including the public, private and third sectors.
- ◀ Clearly addressing the needs of pitch sports within the local area and picking up particular local demand issues and deficiencies in provision, both in distribution and in relation to gaps in provision identified through community consultation.

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- ◀ Being future proof and addressed issues of population growth, and or major growth/regeneration areas. The ability for regular monitoring and update processes (in accordance with Stage E of the guidance to enable changes to be identified and assessed against population growth etc.).
- ◀ Addressing issues of cross boundary facility provision.
- ◀ Addressing issues of surplus and deficiency, accessibility, quality and management with regard to facility provision. Note: consideration also needs to be given to the leagues requirements where changing accommodation is specified as essential and our ability to meet this need) particularly in relation to the key sports.
- ◀ Being robust, and capable of adoption as a technical document, standing up to scrutiny at a public inquiry and compliant with the National Planning Policy Framework. This requires evidence of a robust consultation process which the consultants will be required to produce.

Agreed scope

The following types of outdoor sports facilities were agreed by the steering group for inclusion in the Assessment and Strategy:

- ◀ Football pitches
- ◀ Rugby union pitches
- ◀ Cricket pitches
- ◀ Artificial grass pitches
- ◀ Outdoor tennis courts
- ◀ Outdoor bowling greens

Management arrangements

A Project Team from the Council has worked with KKP to ensure that all relevant information is readily available and to support the consultants as necessary to ensure that project stages and milestones are delivered on time, within the cost envelope and to the required quality standard to meet Sport England methodology.

Further to this, the Steering Group is and has been responsible for the direction of the PPS from a strategic perspective and for supporting, checking and challenging the work of the project team. The Steering Group is made up of representatives from the Council, Sport England and NGBs.

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

- ◀ Be a champion for playing pitch provision in the area and promote the value and importance of the PPS.
- ◀ Ensure implementation of the PPS's recommendations and action plan.
- ◀ Monitor and evaluate the outcomes of the PPS.
- ◀ Ensure that the PPS is kept up to date and refreshed.

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What makes Nuneaton and Bedworth different?

The Borough is located in the centre of the County of Warwickshire and benefits from good communication links by rail and road to surrounding areas. The largest town is Nuneaton and Council leisure facilities are managed on behalf of the Council by Sport and Leisure Management (SLM Ltd).

The population of Nuneaton and Bedworth is approximately 126,174¹. There is a lower proportion of 20-24 year olds (Nuneaton and Bedworth- 5.8%, West Midlands- 6.9%), there are, however, more in the age groups from 45-69 (Nuneaton and Bedworth- 32.5%, West Midlands- 30.6%). 91.3%² of the population is White, compared with 85.4% nationally.

Active People Survey (APS) 8 (October 2013-October 2014) shows that just over a third (30.75%) of adults participated in at least 1 x 30 minutes moderate intensity sport per week. This was below the national average (35.8%) and the regional average (33.5%). According to the Department of Health's 2009 report 'Be Active Be Healthy', the annual cost to the NHS of physical inactivity in Nuneaton and Bedworth is estimated at £1,921,954.

Study area

The study area will comprise the whole of the Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC) administrative area. It is one of five Boroughs in Warwickshire, covering approximately 30 square miles. The area is surrounded by Hinckley and Bosworth, Rugby, Coventry and North Warwickshire. Largely urban in nature the Borough has three main settlements; Nuneaton, Bedworth and Bulkington. These are separated by areas of countryside, designated as Green Belt. Approximately 126,174³ people reside in the Borough.

The authority will be broken down into smaller analysis areas to provide a more localised assessment of provision and examination of playing pitch surplus and deficiencies at a local level. Use of analysis areas also allows local circumstances and issues to be taken into account. To assist with planning, in Nuneaton and Bedworth these will reflect the locality boundaries used by the Council, and consist of the following areas, also illustrated in Figure 1.1:

- ◀ Abbey and Wem Brook
- ◀ Arbury and Stockingford
- ◀ Bedworth North and West
- ◀ Bede and Poplar
- ◀ Camp Hill and Galley Common
- ◀ Weddington and St Nicolas
- ◀ Whitestone and Bulkington

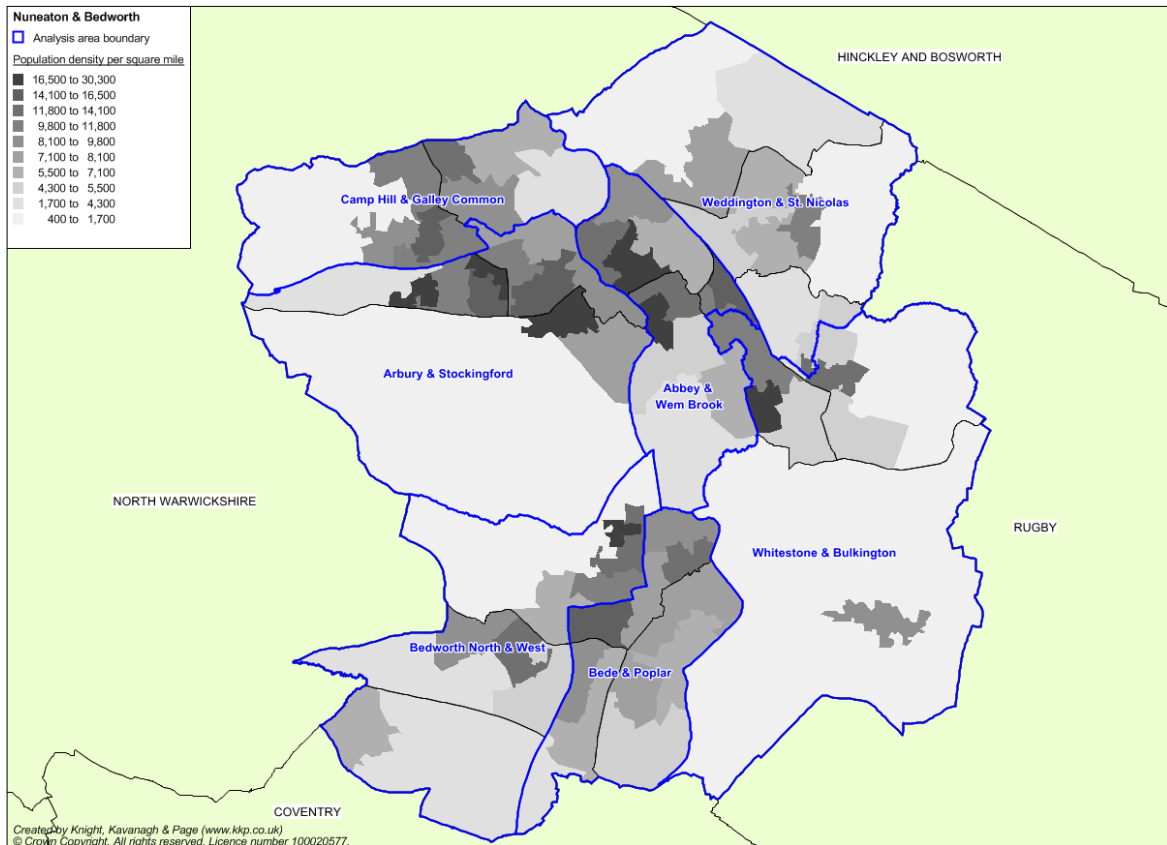
¹ ONS 2014 Mid Year Estimate

² ONS 2011 census of population

³ ONS Mid Year Estimates 2014

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Figure 1.1: Nuneaton and Bedworth by locality boundary/analysis areas



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Stage B: Gather information and views on the supply of and demand for provision

It is essential that a PPS is based on the most accurate and up-to-date information available for the supply of and demand for playing pitches. This section provides details about how this information has been gathered in Nuneaton and Bedworth.

Gather supply information and views – an audit of playing pitches

PPS guidance uses the following definitions of a playing pitch and playing field. These definitions are set out by the Government in the 2010 'Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order'.⁴

- ◀ ***Playing pitch*** – a delineated area which is used for association football, rugby, cricket, hockey, lacrosse, rounders, baseball, softball, American football, Australian football, Gaelic football, shinty, hurling, polo or cycle polo.
- ◀ ***Playing field*** – the whole of a site which encompasses at least one playing pitch.

This PPS counts individual grass pitches (as a delineated area) as the basic unit of supply. The definition of a playing pitch also includes artificial grass pitches (AGPs).

Quantity

All playing pitches are included irrespective of ownership, management and use. Playing pitch sites were initially identified using Sport England's Active Places web based database. The Council and NGBs supported the process by checking and updating this initial data. This was also verified against club information supplied by local leagues. For each site the following details were recorded in the project database (which will be supplied as an electronic file):

- ◀ Site name, address (including postcode) and location
- ◀ Ownership and management type
- ◀ Security of tenure
- ◀ Total number, type and quality of pitches

Accessibility

Not all pitches offer the same level of access to the community. The ownership and accessibility of playing pitches also influences their actual availability for community use. Each site is assigned a level of community use as follows:

- ◀ ***Available for community use and used*** - pitches in public, voluntary, private or commercial ownership or management (including education sites) recorded as being available for hire and currently in use by teams playing in community leagues.
- ◀ ***Available but unused*** - pitches that are available for hire but are not currently used by teams which play in community leagues; this most often applies to school sites but can also apply to sites which are expensive to hire.
- ◀ ***No community use*** - pitches which as a matter of policy or practice are not available for hire or use by teams playing in community leagues. This should include professional club pitches along with some semi-professional club pitches where play is restricted to the first or second team.

⁴ www.sportengland.org>Facilities and Planning> Planning Applications

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- ◀ **Disused** – pitches that are not being used at all by any users and are not available for community hire either. Once these sites are disused for five or more years they will then be categorised as ‘lapsed sites’.
- ◀ **Lapsed** - last known use was as a playing field more than five years ago (these fall outside of Sport England’s statutory remit but still have to be assessed using the criteria in paragraph 74 of the National Planning Policy Framework).

In addition, there should be a good degree of certainty that the pitch will be available to the community for at least the following three years. A judgement is made based on the information gathered and a record of secured or unsecured community use put against each site.

Quality

The capacity of pitches to regularly provide for competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by their quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of a pitch affects the playing experience and people’s enjoyment of a sport. In extreme circumstances it can result in a pitch being unable to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off peak times.

It is not just the quality of the pitch itself which has an effect on its capacity but also the quality, standard and range of ancillary facilities. The quality of both the pitch and ancillary facilities will determine whether a pitch is able to contribute to meeting demand from various groups and for different levels and types of play.

The quality of all pitches identified in the audit and the ancillary facilities supporting them are assessed regardless of ownership, management or availability. Along with capturing any details specific to the individual pitches and sites, a quality rating is recorded within the audit for each pitch.

These ratings are used to help estimate the capacity of each pitch to accommodate competitive and other play within the supply and demand assessment.

In addition to undertaking non-technical assessments (using the templates provided within the guidance and as determined by NGBs), users and providers were also consulted on the quality and in some instances the quality rating was adjusted to reflect this.

Gather demand information and views

Presenting an accurate picture of current demand for playing pitches (i.e. recording how and when pitches are used) is important when undertaking a supply and demand assessment. Demand for playing pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth tends to fall within the following categories:

- ◀ Organised competitive play
- ◀ Organised training
- ◀ Informal play

In addition, unmet and displaced demand for provision is also identified on a sport by sport basis. Unmet demand is defined as the number of additional teams that could be fielded if access to a sufficient number of pitches (and ancillary facilities) was available.

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Displaced demand refers to teams that are generated from residents of the area but due to any number of factors do not currently play within the area.

Alongside current demand, it is important for a PPS to assess whether the future demand for playing pitches can be met. Using population projections, and proposed housing growth (if available), an estimate can be made of the likely future demand for playing pitches.

The resident population in Nuneaton and Bedworth is recorded as 126,174⁵. By 2031, the Borough's population is projected to increase to 139,042⁶.

Team generation rates are used to provide an indication of how many people it may take to generate a team (by gender and age group), in order to help estimate the change in demand for pitch sports that may arise from any population change in the study area.

Future demand for pitches is calculated by adding the percentage increases, to the ONS population increases in each analysis area. This figure is then applied to the TGRs and is presented on a sport by sport basis within the relevant sections of this report.

Other information sources that were used to help identify future demand include:

- ◀ Recent trends in the participation in playing pitch sports.
- ◀ The nature of the current and likely future population and their propensity to participate in pitch sports.
- ◀ Feedback from pitch sports clubs on their plans to develop additional teams.
- ◀ Any local and NGB specific sports development targets (e.g. increase in participation).

Current and future demand for playing pitches is presented on a sport by sport basis within the relevant sections of this report.

A variety of consultation methods were used to collate demand information about leagues, clubs, county associations and national/regional governing bodies of sport. Face to face consultation was carried out with key clubs from each sport. This allowed for the collection of detailed demand information and an exploration of key issues to be interrogated and more accurately assessed.

For data analysis purposes an online survey (converted to postal if required) was utilised. This was sent to all clubs not covered by face to face consultation.

Local sports development officers, county associations and regional governing body officers advised which of the clubs to include in the face to face consultation. Sport England was also included within the consultation process prior to the project commencing. Issues identified by clubs returning questionnaires were followed up by telephone or face to face interviews.

⁵ ONS 2014 Mid Year Estimate

⁶ Office for National Statistics 2012-based population projections 2012-2037 (data released May 2014)

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Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views

Supply and demand information gathered within Section B was used to assess the adequacy of playing pitch provision in Nuneaton and Bedworth. It focused on how much use each site could potentially accommodate (on an area by area basis) compared to how much use is currently taking place.

Understand the situation at individual sites

Qualitative pitch ratings are linked to a pitch capacity rating derived from NGB guidance and tailored to suit a local area. The quality and use of each pitch is assessed against the recommended pitch capacity to indicate how many match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket) a pitch could accommodate.

This is compared to the number of matches actually taking place and categorised as follows, to identify:

Potential spare capacity: Play is below the level the site could sustain.	
At capacity: Play is at a level the site can sustain.	
Overused: Play exceeds the level the site can sustain.	

Develop the current picture of provision

Once capacity is determined on a site by site basis, actual spare capacity is calculated on an area by area basis via further interrogation of temporal demand. Although this may have been identified, it does not necessarily mean that there is surplus provision. For example, spare capacity may not be available when it is needed or the site may be retained in a 'strategic reserve' to enable pitch rotation to reduce wear and tear.

Capacity ratings assist in the identification of sites for improvement/development, rationalisation, decommissioning and disposal.

Develop the future picture of provision - scenario testing

Modelling scenarios to assess whether existing provision can cater for unmet, displaced and future demand is made after the capacity analysis. This will also include, for example, removing sites with unsecured community use to demonstrate the impact this would have if these sites were to be decommissioned in the future.

Identify the key findings and issues

By completing Steps 1-5 it is possible to identify several findings and issues relating to the supply, demand and adequacy of playing pitch provision in Nuneaton and Bedworth. This report seeks to identify and present the key findings and issues, which should now be checked, challenged and agreed by the Steering Group prior to development of the Strategy (Section D).

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The following sections summarise the local administration of the main grass pitch sports in Nuneaton and Bedworth. Each provides a quantitative summary of provision and a map showing the distribution of facilities. It also provides information about the availability of facilities to/for the local community and, the governing body of each sport and regional strategic plan (where they exist). Local league details are provided in order to outline the competitive structure for each sport. The findings of club consultation and key issues for each sport are summarised.

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PART 2: FOOTBALL

2.1: Introduction

The Birmingham County FA is the primary organisation responsible for the development (and some elements of administration) of football in Nuneaton and Bedworth. It is also responsible for the administration, in terms of discipline, rules and regulations, cup competitions and representative matches, development of clubs and facilities, volunteers, referees, coaching courses and delivering national football schemes.

This section of the report focuses on the supply and demand for grass football pitches. Part 3 captures supply and demand for artificial grass pitches (AGPs). In the future it is anticipated that there will be a growing demand for the use of 3G pitches for competitive football fixtures, especially to accommodate mini and youth football.

Consultation

In addition to face to face consultation with key football clubs, an electronic survey was sent to all clubs playing in Nuneaton and Bedworth. Contact details were provided by the Birmingham County FA, and the invitation to complete the survey was distributed via email. The survey was returned by 49 clubs (including face to face interviews) which equates to a club response rate of 64% and a team response rate of 85%. The results of which consultation are used to inform key issues within this section of the report. The following clubs were met with face to face:

- ◀ Bedworth United
- ◀ Bulkington Sports JFC
- ◀ Bulkington Sports and Social JFC
- ◀ Nuneaton Griff JFC
- ◀ Bedworth United FC Juniors
- ◀ Bedworth United FC Ladies
- ◀ Ambleside Sports and Social Club

Additionally, the general secretary of the Nuneaton and District Sunday League was also consulted.

2.2: Supply

The audit identifies a current total of 113 grass football pitches within Nuneaton and Bedworth across 53 sites. Of these, 85 pitches are available for community use across 35 sites, as presented in the table below. Grass provision within Nuneaton and Bedworth is distributed reasonably evenly across the analysis areas with Weddington & St Nicolas having the most provision with 24 pitches. Camp Hill and Galley Common has the least amount of provision within Nuneaton and Bedworth with three pitches.

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Table 2.1: Summary of grass football pitches available to the community

Analysis area	Available for community use					Totals
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
Abbey & Wem Brook	7	-	4	-	-	11
Arbury & Stockingford	12	-	-	2	-	14
Bedworth North and West	4	-	-	1	-	5
Bede and Poplar	5	4	2	3	-	14
Camp Hill & Galley Common	2	-	1	-	-	3
Weddington & St. Nicolas	9	3	4	5	3	24
Whitestone & Bulkington	10	-	1	2	1	14
Nuneaton & Bedworth	49	7	12	13	4	85

The table identifies a large number of adult pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth when compared to other pitch sizes, which reflects that the majority of teams use adult pitches. It should be noted, however, that many youth 11v11 teams are playing on adult pitches, which may in part be due to a lack of dedicated youth 11v11 pitches rather than a preference for adult pitches.

In total, 27 youth 11v11 teams (U13-16 age groups) currently use adult pitches for home matches, which is not ideal for youth players and is not in line with the FA Youth Review.

The sites below contain adult pitches that are used by U13s-U16s teams:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ Bermuda Phoenix Centre ◀ Blackberry Lane ◀ Bulkington Rec ◀ George Elliot School ◀ Haunchwood Rec ◀ Nicolas Chamberlaine College | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◀ North Warwickshire & Hinckley College ◀ Nuneaton Town FC ◀ Pauls Land ◀ Sandon Park ◀ Stockingford AA ◀ Windmill Sports and Social Club |
|---|--|

The FA's recommended pitch sizes can be seen in the table below:

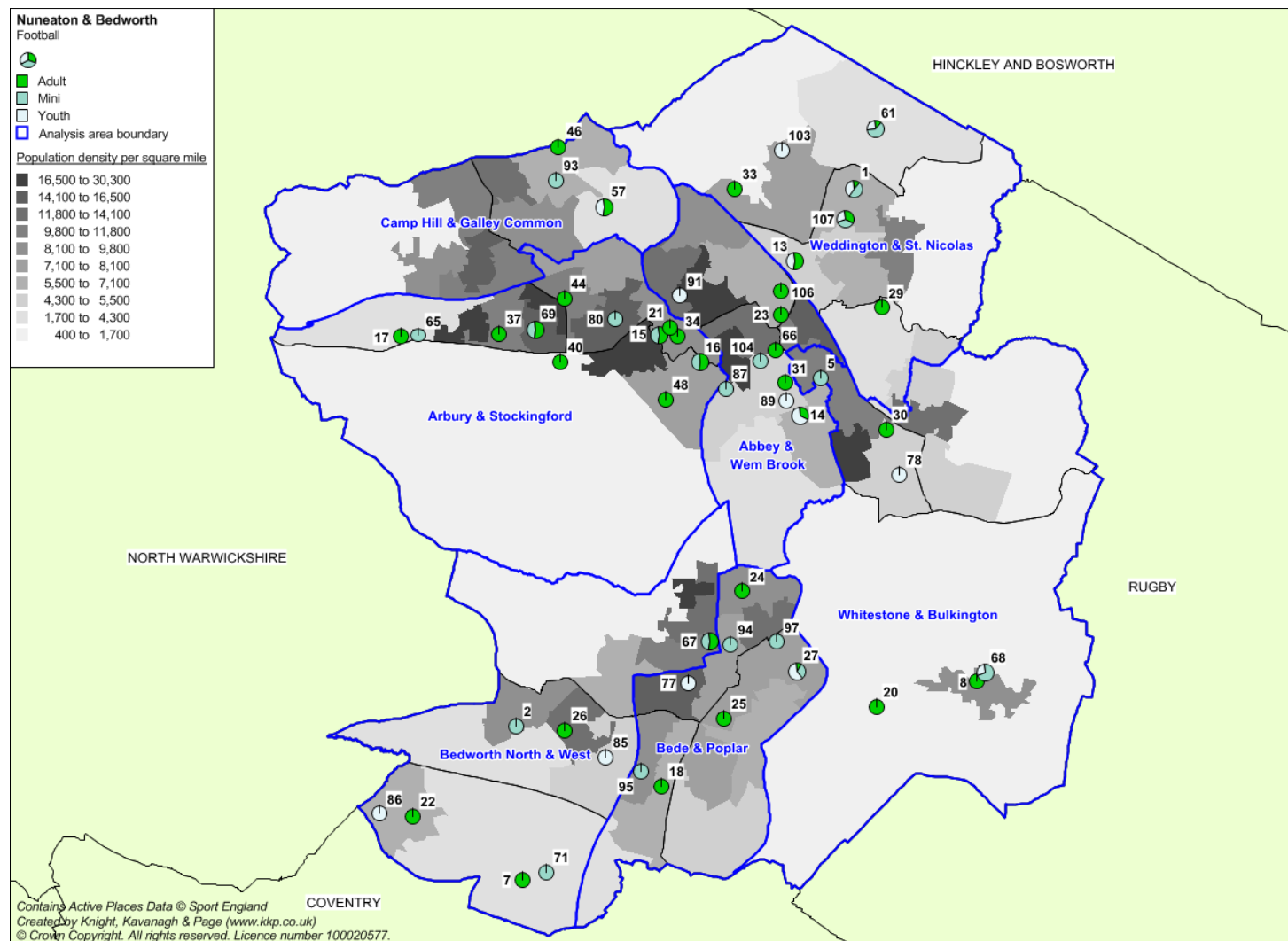
Age grouping	Type	Recommended size without run off		Recommended size including run off		Recommended size of goal posts	
		Length x width (yards)	Length x width (yards)	Length x width (yards)	Length x width (yards)	Height x width (ft.)	Height x width (ft.)
U7/U8	5v5	40	30	46	36	6	12
U9/U10	7v7	60	40	66	46	6	12
U11/U12	9v9	80	50	86	56	7	16
U13/U14	11v11	90	55	96	61	7	21
U15/U16	11v11	100	60	106	66	8	24
U17/U18	11v11	110	70	116	76	8	24
Over 18	11v11	110	70	116	76	8	24

Source: The FA Guide to Pitch and Goalpost Dimensions

There are also two full sized 3G pitches suitable for football matches in Nuneaton and Bedworth, located at Nuneaton Academy and Bedworth United FC.

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Figure 2.1: Location of all football pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth mapped by type



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Accessibility

The football club survey reveals that most players travel between two and five miles to access pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth.

Pitch quality

The quality of football pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth has been assessed via a combination of site visits (using non-technical assessments as determined by The FA) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

The FA Regional Pitch Advisor from the Institute of Groundsmanship also accompanied the site assessor to some visits, in order to ensure consistency and to maintain quality of assessment.

Pitch quality primarily influences the carrying capacity of a site; often pitches lack the drainage and maintenance necessary to sustain levels of use. It is likely that pitches which receive little to no ongoing repair or post-season remedial work will be assessed as poor, therefore limiting the number of games able to take place each week without it having a detrimental effect on quality. Conversely, well maintained pitches that are tended to regularly are likely to be of a higher standard and capable of taking a number of matches without a significant reduction in surface quality.

Private sites (e.g. sports clubs) typically offer better quality facilities than council parks/playing fields and school pitches. In general, such sports clubs tend to have dedicated ground staff or volunteers working on pitches and the fact that they are often secured by fencing prevents unofficial use. The maintenance of council sites tends to be less frequent and unofficial use of these sites can further exacerbate quality issues.

The percentage parameters used for the non-technical assessments were as follows; Good (>80%), Standard (50-80%), Poor (<50%). The final quality ratings assigned to the sites also take into account the user quality ratings gathered from consultation.

The table below summarises the quality of pitches that are available for community use with most pitches 108 being assessed as standard quality.

Table 2.2: Pitch quality assessments (community use pitches)

Adult pitches			Youth pitches			Mini pitches		
Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor
1	41	7	2	12	5	1	14	2

The non-technical pitch quality audit shows that the majority of pitches are poor or standard quality, particularly at local authority sites. All sites managed by the Council receive a basic level of maintenance, with budgets not allowing for any further level of upkeep. The majority of pitches within schools also receive basic maintenance, which in most cases is contracted to external companies. Maintenance of pitches at club sites varies; some clubs hire dedicated ground staff whilst others depend on remedial work by volunteers that is often limited by cost and a lack of specialised equipment.

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Sites containing poor quality pitches are as follows:

- ◀ Higham Lane School
- ◀ Heckley Fields
- ◀ Jubilee Sports Centre (Nuneaton)
- ◀ Miners Welfare Park
- ◀ Pingles
- ◀ Milby Primary School
- ◀ Middlemarch School
- ◀ Queens C of E Academy

In general, league and club consultation indicates pitch quality has not changed or got worse since the previous season. Whilst 21% of clubs indicate that pitch quality has improved, 21% also state that quality has reduced, which is attributed mainly to a reduced rate of maintenance and attention on the playing pitches. The clubs that identify reduced quality are:

- ◀ Stockingford White Lion- Jubilee Sports Centre (Nuneaton)
- ◀ Woodlands FC- Heckley Fields
- ◀ FC Attack- Pingles
- ◀ Haunchwood Sports Juniors FC- Haunchwood
- ◀ North Warwickshire and Hinckley College FC- North Warwickshire and Hinckley College
- ◀ Attleborough Royal Oak FC- Pingles
- ◀ Bedworth Conservative Club FC- Miners Welfare Park

Of responding clubs just 5% state grass pitches have become much worse in quality over the last three years and all refer to council pitches. Further to this, 16% of clubs state that facilities have become slightly poorer quality, whilst 18% clubs state that the pitches used have become slightly better. However, most clubs (58%) report no difference in quality of pitches.

Stockingford Allotment Association's site has got significantly better due to £5,000 investment on drainage, reed removal and re-seeding.

Specific comments relating to the pitch conditions at individual sites can be seen in the table below. The comments are a combination of club and league feedback and site assessment information.

Table 2.3: Site specific quality comments

Site	Club comments
Pauls Land	"Lack of cutting of the grass is a major concern and the amount of dog foul we have to pick up on a regular basis"
Jubilee Centre	"Grass is cut infrequently, cuttings left on pitch, people walk dogs on pitch. Recent group of travellers caused damage" "Pitch is terrible, grass is rarely cut, can't see lines, ruts in pitch make it dangerous when dry"
Stockingford Allotment Association	"We have just paid £5,000 to have the ground renovated (improved drainage, removal of weeds, re-seeding etc). The clubs that use this pitch provided this money. We also plan to spend £13,000 on improvements to the changing rooms, showers & toilets"
Heckley Fields	"Pitches are becoming worn with dips appearing. No preseason maintenance is done on goalmouths. These need to be on 'camber' so water does not collect during the winter. Penalty areas generally require work on them in the close season."
Miners Welfare Park	"Pitches are becoming worn with dips appearing. No preseason

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Site	Club comments
	maintenance is done on goalmouths” “Bedworth Cricket has secured to increase the number of changing rooms which will enable both cricket and football to take place at the same time.”
Pingles	“Lack of work on the pitches during the summer, the teams finished playing some six weeks before works were undertaken.”
Haunchwood Rec	“Very little maintenance being carried out” “Grass left too long and small areas of pitch sinking. Showers since being renovated are not able to control temperature”
Queens Academy	“Pitch needs dressing to level out bumps. Changing rooms are minimum size.”
Windmill Sport & Social	“Grass level is way too high on one half of the pitch”
Nicholas Chamberlaine School	“Pitch needs grass cutting and better drainage”
Vale View	Quality of soil on main pitch (central area area) very poor needed frequent fertilising to maintain grass growth. Drainage on both pitches not adequate frequent cancellations due to weather conditions limiting the amount of usage by the teams.
North Warwickshire and Hinckley College	“We struggle to get the pitch cut to a good standard.”
Higham Lane School	“Poor pitch drainage and an adequate maintenance regime.”

Ancillary facilities

Changing facilities are generally viewed as being adequate by clubs with 41% rating provision as good and a further 27% rating provision as standard. However, 32% of clubs deem changing accommodation to be poor. These are:

- ◀ Stockingford White Lion- Jubilee Sports Centre
- ◀ Stockingford AA Pavilion Ladies FC- Stockingford AA Pavilion Ground
- ◀ Blue Bear FC- Sandon Park
- ◀ North Warwickshire and Hinckley College FC- North Warwickshire and Hinckley College
- ◀ Phoenix Sports FC- Paul’s Land
- ◀ Saunders FC- Heckley Fields

Stockingford AA Pavilion Ladies FC has explored making an application to a Big Lottery Fund to make much needed improvements to the changing facilities. However, it would appear that it is not possible due to restrictions imposed by the land owner.

Changing facilities at Sandon Park are reported to be too small for senior men’s teams, the showers are not always working and urinals are not available. In addition, one changing room is used as a storage facility, leaving just seven for facility users.

The Pingles Stadium offers the minimum size changing rooms needed to support Nuneaton Griff and Coton FC at Step 6. Any advancement in the National League System will mean additional requirement, including larger changing facilities.

Club feedback suggests that since renovating the changing facilities at Heckley Fields, the rooms are now good quality but are too small to accommodate teams.

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North Warwickshire and Hinckley College changing facilities are not specific for football and are accessible to the general public (using health and fitness facilities) However, arrangements are made when minors are using the facilities. It is difficult for teams to accommodate two matches at once due to a lack of separate lockable changing facilities.

Bedworth CC have acquired Sport England funding to develop a new changing facility which will allow both the cricket and Woodlands FC to use the facility at the same time, and also allow additional teams to play at the site during the peak play period.

Saunders FC report changing facilities at Heckley Field are too small since they were refurbished. The facility now struggles to accommodate four teams on a match day. The Club indicate that an additional two changing rooms to meet the facility adequate to clubs which use the playing pitches.

Users of Sandon Park state that of the eight changing rooms, just seven are available as one is used for storage. There are just three cubicle toilets and no urinals for up to eight teams. Showers are not always working and there are not enough for up to eight teams and the changing rooms are generally too small for up to 15 adults to change in.

At Vale View, the changing rooms are not specific for football teams and are open to the general public while teams are in, special arrangements have to be made when minors are using the facilities. There are not enough showers and it is difficult to accommodate two games at the same time as there are not sufficient separate lockable changing rooms available without blocking use of facilities to members of the public. The changing rooms and toilets are too far away from pitches with players having to cross internal roads to access them. Users suggest that pitches need high fencing behind goals to avoid balls hitting bystanders or cars parked.

Security of tenure

Two clubs in Nuneaton and Bedworth own their own sites, North Warwickshire and Hinckley College FC and Jet Blades FC. In addition, six clubs lease facilities. Three of these are from the Council, however, Chess FC lease facilities from Camp Hill Primary School and Mills Athletics FC lease from Windmill Sports and Social Club. The clubs did not share the details of these lease arrangements.

The majority of clubs renting pitches do so from Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council. The Bermuda Phoenix Centre and Stockingford Allotment Association LTD are independent facilities and also hire facilities to a number of clubs.

Table 2.4: Clubs owning pitches

Name of club	Site
North Warwickshire and Hinckley College FC	North Warwickshire and Hinckley College
Jet Blades FC	Jet Blades FC

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Table 2.5: Clubs leasing pitches

Name of club	Site	Leased from
Bedworth United FC	The Oval	Council
Nuneaton Griff FC	Pingles Athletics Track	Council
Mills Athletics FC	Windmill Sports and Social Club	Sports Club
Chess FC	Camp Hill Primary	School
White Lion Bulkington FC	Bulkington	Council
Ambleside AFC	Ambleside Sports Club	Sports Club

2.3: Demand

Through the audit and assessment, a total of 187 teams are identified as playing within Nuneaton and Bedworth.

Table 2.6: Summary of competitive teams currently playing in Nuneaton and Bedworth

Analysis area	No. of teams playing					Totals
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
Abbey & Wem Brook	10	4	3	2	1	20
Arbury & Stockingford	14	6	-	1	-	21
Bedworth North and West	2	1	-	-	-	3
Bede and Poplar	17	16	6	6	3	48
Camp Hill & Galley Common	3	2	1	1	-	7
Weddinton & St. Nicolas	15	16	10	8	6	55
Whitestone & Bulkington	12	6	5	5	5	33
Nuneaton and Bedworth	73	51	25	23	15	187

Clubs were asked whether there had been a change in the number of teams over the previous three years. The response rates for those which answered the relevant questions can be seen in the table below.

Table 2.7: Change in the number of teams over the previous three years

Team type	Clubs response club (no of teams change)		
	Increased	Decreased	Stayed the same
Adult	5 clubs (6 teams)	6 clubs (7 teams)	27 clubs
Youth	2 clubs (2 teams)	8 clubs (13 teams)	17 clubs
Mini	4 clubs (9 teams)	3 clubs (4 teams)	20 clubs

Six clubs report a reduction in adult teams over the past three years. This is reportedly due to the lack of finances and lack of quality players. Five clubs report an increase in number adult of teams, a result of starting reserves and U21 teams. However, most clubs (27) report no change in adult teams.

There was also a loss of 13 youth teams from eight clubs due to lack of both players and volunteers. However, two additional youth teams have been created from two clubs in the past three seasons. Most clubs (17) report no change in the number of youth teams.

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Four mini teams have been lost over the past three years due to lack of volunteers. Four clubs report an increase of nine mini teams in total. Most clubs (20) report no change in the number of mini teams.

Nuneaton and District Sunday League report they had to remove a division from its structure due to lack of demand, reducing to five divisions from six.

Football pyramid

Three men's and three ladies' clubs in Nuneaton and Bedworth play within the football pyramid:

- ◀ Nuneaton Town FC (Step 2)
- ◀ Bedworth United FC (Step 3)
- ◀ Nuneaton Griff FC (Step 6)
- ◀ Nuneaton Town LFC (Step W1*)
- ◀ Coventry United LFC (Step W1*)
- ◀ Bedworth United LFC (Step W4*)
- ◀ Stockingford AA Pavilion LFC (Step W4*)

*For the Women's FA National League System, Step 1 (Women's Super League 1) ground requirements correspond with the Men's Step 3 and 4 system in terms of ground requirements. This is displayed in Appendix 2.

Clubs within the step system must adhere to ground requirements set out by the FA. The higher the level of football being played the higher the requirements. Clubs cannot progress into the league/step above if the ground requirements do not meet the correct specifications. Ground grading assesses grounds from A to H, with 'A' being the requirements for Step 1 clubs. In Nuneaton and Bedworth, Nuneaton Town FC play at the highest level (Step 2) and as such its home ground must adhere to the grading for that level (B). Appendix 2 highlights all requirements from Grade A to H.

Although all clubs currently meet the requirements of their leagues the majority would need to make ground improvements or potentially move sites in order to progress through the football pyramid. Furthermore, a number of the current sites require qualitative improvements to create financial sustainability.

Unmet demand

Unmet demand is existing demand that is not getting access to pitches. It is usually expressed, for example, when a team is already training but is unable to access a match pitch, or when a league has a waiting list due to a lack of pitch provision. In Nuneaton and Bedworth there is no report of unmet demand.

Latent demand

During the consultation process nine clubs identify that if more pitches were available at their home ground or in the local area, they could develop more teams in the future (latent demand). The table overleaf highlights latent demand expressed by the clubs that could *potentially* be fielded if more pitches were available.

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Table 2.8: Summary of latent demand expressed by clubs

Club	Analysis area	Latent demand	Pitch requirement	
			Number ⁷	Type
Nuneaton Griff FC	Abbey and Wem Brook	1 x adult	0.5	Adult
Nuneaton Griff JFC	Abbey and Wem Brook	4 x youth	2	Youth
Crown FC	Arbury and Stockingford	2 x adult	1	Adult
Stockingford AA Pavilion Ladies FC	Arbury and Stockingford	1 x adult	0.5	Adult
		1 x youth	0.5	Youth
Chess FC	Camp Hill and Galley Common	3 x mini	1.5	Mini
Mills Athletic FC	Camp Hill and Galley Common	2 x adult	1	Adult
		2 x youth	1	Youth
North Warwickshire and Hinckley College FC	Weddington and St Nicolas	2 x adult	1	Adult
Fife Street FC	Whitestone and Bulkington	1 x adult	0.5	Adult
Total			4.5	Adult
			3.5	Youth
			1.5	Mini

Displaced demand

Displaced demand refers to teams that are currently accessing pitches for their home fixtures outside of the area in which they are registered. Within this definition there appears to be four teams from one club playing outside of Nuneaton and Bedworth.

Table 2.9: Displaced demand expressed by clubs

Club	Team	Latent demand	Local authority area
Haunchwood Sports Juniors FC	U10	Spring Hill Field, Arley	North Warwickshire Borough Council
	U11	Arley Leisure Centre	North Warwickshire Borough Council
	U12	Hartshill School	North Warwickshire Borough Council
	U14	Hartshill School	North Warwickshire Borough Council

Hartshill School, used by Haunchwood Sports JFC, is on the boundary of Nuneaton and Bedworth and draws members from both in and outside of the authority area.

Future demand

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

⁷ Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis. Therefore 0.5 pitches can therefore be seen in the table where there is latent demand for one team.

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Population forecasts

Team generation rates are used below as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future (2031) based on population growth. It is predicted that there will be an increase of just over two senior teams, 15 youth teams (rounded up from 14.8) and five mini teams (rounded up from 4.8).

Table 2.10: Team generation rates

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams (2021)	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Mens (16-45)	23,707	70	1:339	24,424	72.1	2.1
Senior Women (16-45)	24,154	3	1:8051	24,211	3.0	0.0
Youth Boys (10-15)	4,251	73	1:58	5,096	87.5	14.5
Youth Girls (10-15)	4,251	2	1:2126	4,923	2.3	0.3
Mini-Soccer Mixed (6-9)	5,840	37	1:158	6,597	41.8	4.8

Participation increases

Ten clubs express plans to increase the number of teams it provides. These are outlined in the table below.

Table 2.11: Future demand

Club	Analysis area	Planned increase	Pitch requirement	
			Number ⁸	Type
Attleborough Fox FC	Whitestone and Bulkington	1 x adult	0.5	Adult
Attleborough Sports JFC	Abbey and Wem Brook	1 x mini	0.5	Mini
Chess FC	Camp Hill and Galley Common	1 x mini	0.5	Mini
Chetwynd AFC	Whitestone and Bulkington	1 x youth (9v9)	0.5	Youth
		2 x mini	1	Mini
Collycroft Sports	Bede and Poplar	1 x adult	0.5	Adult
Grove Farm Junior Football Club	Abbey and Wem Brook	2 x mini	1	Mini
Saunders FC	Bede and Poplar	1 x adult	0.5	Adult

⁸ Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis. Therefore 0.5 pitches can therefore be seen in the table where there is latent demand for one team.

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Club	Analysis area	Planned	Pitch requirement	
Stockingford AA Pavilion Ladies FC	Arbury and Stockingford	1 x adult women	0.5	Adult
		1 youth (11v11)	0.5	Youth
TNT FC	Weddington and St Nicolas	1 x adult	0.5	Adult
Woodlands WMMC	Bede and Poplar	1 x adult	0.5	Adult
Total			3	Adult
			1	Youth
			3	Mini

2.4: Capacity analysis

The capacity for pitches to regularly provide for competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of a pitch affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of playing football. In extreme circumstances it can result in the inability of the pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off peak times. Pitch quality is often influenced by weather conditions and drainage.

As a guide, The FA has set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without adversely affecting its current quality (pitch capacity). Taking into consideration the guidelines on capacity the following ratings were used in Nuneaton and Bedworth.

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

Table 2.12 applies the above pitch ratings against the actual level of weekly play recorded to determine a capacity rating as follows:

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

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Peak time

Potential spare capacity can only be considered if such pitches are available at peak time (actual spare capacity). The peak time varies for different pitch types. The peak time for adult pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth is Sunday AM, Sunday PM for youth (11v11) pitches, Sunday AM for youth (9v9) pitches, Sunday AM for mini (7v7) pitches and Sunday AM for mini (5v5) pitches. The table overleaf identifies whether or not spare capacity can actually be considered as such, based on whether pitches are available at peak time.

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Table 2.12: Grass football pitch capacity analysis

Site ID	Site name	Community use?	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Site capacity	Potential to accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period	Other usage
19	Higham Lane School	Yes	Weddington & St. Nicolas	Adult		1	Standard	1	2	-1	-	
				Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1.5	4	-2.5	-	
				Mini	(7v7)	2	Poor	1.5	4	-2.5	0.5	
				Youth	(11v11)	2	Poor	4	2	2	-	
				Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	2	1	1	-	
2	Anderton Road Pitch	Yes unused	Bedworth North and West	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0	4	-4	1	
5	Attleborough Sports Club	Yes	Whitestone & Bulkington	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1.5	4	-2.5	-	
7	Blackberry Lane	Yes	Bedworth North and West	Adult		1	Standard	0.5	2	-1.5	1	Adult pitch also used for youth (11v11)
8	Bulkington	Yes	Whitestone & Bulkington	Adult		3	Standard	2	6	-4	2	Adult pitches also used for youth (11v11)
13	Etone Sports Centre	Yes unused	Weddington & St. Nicolas	Adult		1	Standard	0	2	-2	1	
				Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	0	4	-4	1	
14	George Eliot School	Yes	Abbey & Wem Brook	Adult		1	Standard	2	2	0	-	Adult pitch also used for youth (11v11)
				Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	1	4	-3	1.5	
15	Greenmoor Road	Yes unused	Arbury & Stockingford	Adult		1	Standard	0	2	-2	1	
				Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0	4	-4	1	
16	Griff And Coton Sports & Miners Welfare Club	Yes	Arbury & Stockingford	Adult		1	Standard	1	2	-1	-	
				Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	0.5	6	-5.5	0.5	
17	Haunchwood	Yes	Arbury & Stockingford	Adult		1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	-	Adult pitch also used for youth (11v11)
18	Heckley Fields	Yes	Bede and Poplar	Adult		2	Poor	2.5	2	0.5	-	
20	Jet Blades Football Club	Yes	Whitestone & Bulkington	Adult		1	Standard	1	2	-1	1	
21	Jubilee Sports Centre (Nuneaton)	Yes	Arbury & Stockingford	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	-0.5	0.5	
22	Keresley Recreation Ground	Yes	Bedworth North and West	Adult		2	Standard	0	4	-4	2	
23	King Edward VI College Pitches	No	Abbey & Wem Brook	Adult		2	Standard	0	4	-4	-	
24	Marston Lane	Yes	Bede and Poplar	Adult		1	Standard	0.5	2	-1.5	0.5	
25	Miners Welfare Park	Yes	Bede and Poplar	Adult		1	Poor	1.5	1	0.5	-	
26	Newdigate Recreation Ground	Yes	Bedworth North and West	Adult		1	Standard	1	2	-1	-	
27	Nicholas Chamberlaine Technology College	Yes	Bede and Poplar	Adult		1	Standard	2	2	0	-	
				Mini	(7v7)	3	Standard	2	12	-10	3	
				Youth	(11v11)	4	Standard	4.5	8	-3.5	-	
				Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	1	4	-3	2	
29	Nuneaton Town Football Club	Yes	Weddington & St. Nicolas	Adult		1	Standard	3	2	1	-	Adult pitch also used for youth (11v11)
30	Pauls Land	Yes	Whitestone & Bulkington	Adult		6	Standard	7	12	-5	2.5	Adult pitches also used for youth (11v11)
31	Pingles	Yes	Abbey & Wem Brook	Adult		2	Poor	2	2	0	-	

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Site ID	Site name	Community use?	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Site capacity	Potential to accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period	Other usage
33	Sandon Park	Yes	Weddington & St. Nicolas	Adult		4	Standard	4	8	-4	1	Adult pitches also used for youth (11v11)
34	St Thomas More Catholic School And Technology College	No	Arbury & Stockingford	Adult		2	Standard	0	4	-4	-	
37	Stockingford Allotment Association Ltd	Yes	Arbury & Stockingford	Adult		1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	-	Adult pitch also used for youth (11v11)
40	The Nuneaton Academy Sports College	No	Arbury & Stockingford	Adult		1	Standard	0.5	2	-1.5	-	Adult pitch also used for youth (11v11)
44	Vale View	Yes	Arbury & Stockingford	Adult		4	Standard	1	8	-7	3	
46	Windmill Sports and Social Club	Yes	Camp Hill & Galley Common	Adult		1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	-	Adult pitch also used for youth (11v11)
48	Bermuda Phoenix Centre	Yes	Arbury & Stockingford	Adult		1	Standard	2	2	0	-	Adult pitch also used for youth (11v11)
57	Camp Hill Primary	Yes	Camp Hill & Galley Common	Adult		1	Good	0	3	-3	1	Youth (9v9) pitch also used for mini (7v7) football
				Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	1	4	-3	0.5	
61	Milby Primary School	Yes	Weddington & St. Nicolas	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	-1	1	
				Mini	(5v5)	2	Standard	3.5	8	-4.5	0.5	
				Mini	(7v7)	2	Standard	0	8	-8	2	
				Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	1.5	4	-2.5	0.5	
65	Park Lane Primary School	No	Arbury & Stockingford	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	0	4	-4	-	
66	Pingles Athletics Track	Yes	Abbey & Wem Brook	Adult		1	Standard	1.5	2	-0.5	1	Adult pitch also used for youth (11v11)
67	Race Leys School	No	Bedworth North and West	Adult		1	Good	0	3	-3	-	
				Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	0	6	-6	-	
68	St James School	Yes	Whitestone & Bulkington	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1.5	4	-2.5	-	
				Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1.5	4	-2.5	-	
				Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1.5	2	-0.5	-	
69	Stockingford Primary School	No	Arbury & Stockingford	Adult		1	Standard	0	2	-2	-	
				Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	0	4	-4	-	
71	Wheelwright Lane	No	Bedworth North and West	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0	4	-4	-	
77	Canon Evans Infant School	No	Bede and Poplar	Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	0	4	-4	-	
78	Chetwynd Junior School	No	Whitestone & Bulkington	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	0	2	-2	-	
80	Croft Junior School	No	Arbury & Stockingford	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0	4	-4	-	
85	Goodyers End Primary School	No	Bedworth North and West	Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	0	4	-4	-	
86	Keresley Newland Primary Academy	No	Bedworth North and West	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	0	2	-2	-	
87	Middlemarch School	No	Abbey & Wem Brook	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0	2	-2	-	
				Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	-2	-	
89	Oak Wood Primary School	No	Abbey & Wem Brook	Youth	(9v9)	2	Good	0	8	-8	-	
91	Queens Academy	Yes	Abbey & Wem Brook	Youth	(9v9)	2	Poor	2	2	0	-	Youth (9v9) pitch also used for mini (7v7) and (9v9)

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Site ID	Site name	Community use?	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Site capacity	Potential to accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period	Other usage
93	St. Anne's Catholic Primary School	No	Camp Hill & Galley Common	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0	4	-4	-	
94	St. Francis Catholic Primary School	No	Bede and Poplar	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0	4	-4	-	
95	St. Giles Junior School	No	Bede and Poplar	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	0	4	-4	-	
				Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0	4	-4	-	
97	St. Michael's Primary School, Bedworth	No	Bede and Poplar	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	0	4	-4	-	
				Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0	4	-4	-	
103	Weddington Primary School	No	Weddington & St. Nicolas	Youth	(9v9)	3	Standard	0	6	-6		
104	Wembrook Primary School	No	Abbey & Wem Brook	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0	4	-4	-	
107	North Warwickshire & Hinckley College	Yes	Weddington & St. Nicolas	Adult		1	Standard	2	2	0	-	
				Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0.5	4	-3.5	0.5	
				Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	3	2	1	-	

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2.5: Supply and demand analysis

Spare capacity

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

The table below considers site by site the capacity of the pitches to accommodate further play and for them to be deemed as having 'actual spare capacity'. A pitch is only said to have 'actual spare capacity' if it is available for community use and available at the peak time for that format of the game. Any pitch not meeting these criteria has been discounted.

Match sessions

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

At this stage match equivalent sessions does not equate to the number of pitches which are required/surplus. For example, an analysis area might show three match equivalent sessions of spare capacity but you would need to cross reference back to individual sites to determine where the spare capacity originates from. If it is spread across a number of sites then there is minimal spare capacity within the site which may be required to accommodate strategic reserve. If the spare capacity is on one pitch then it might indicate a need to create a different type of pitch to address a deficiency. This will be fully determined and recommendations will be made accordingly within the Strategy and Action Plan.

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Table 2.13: Actual spare capacity on grass football pitches

Site ID	Site name	Community use?	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Site capacity	Potential to accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
1	Ambleside Sports Club	Yes	Weddington & St. Nicolas	Mini	(7v7)	2	Poor	1.5	4	-2.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
2	Anderton Road Pitch	Yes	Bedworth North and West	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0	4	-4	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
7	Blackberry Lane	Yes	Bedworth North and West	Adult		1	Standard	0.5	2	-1.5	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
8	Bulkington	Yes	Whitestone & Bulkington	Adult		3	Standard	2	6	-4	2	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
13	Etone Sports Centre	Yes	Weddington & St. Nicolas	Adult		1	Standard	0	2	-2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
				Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	0	4	-4	1	
14	George Eliot School	Yes	Abbey & Wem Brook	Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	1	4	-3	1.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
15	Greenmoor Road	Yes	Arbury & Stockingford	Adult		1	Standard	0	2	-2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
				Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0	4	-4	1	
16	Griff And Coton Sports & Miners Welfare Club	Yes	Arbury & Stockingford	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	0.5	6	-5.5	0.5	Minimal spare capacity to be retained in order to protect quality.
20	Jet Blades Football Club	Yes	Whitestone & Bulkington	Adult		1	Standard	1	2	-1	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
21	Jubilee Sports Centre (Nuneaton)	Yes	Arbury & Stockingford	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	-0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
22	Keresley Recreation Ground	Yes	Bedworth North and West	Adult		2	Standard	0	4	-4	2	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
24	Marston Lane	Yes	Bede and Poplar	Adult		1	Standard	0.5	2	-1.5	0.5	Minimal spare capacity to be retained in order to protect quality.
27	Nicholas Chamberlaine Technology College	Yes	Bede and Poplar	Mini	(7v7)	3	Standard	2	12	-10	3	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
				Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	1	4	-3	2	
30	Pauls Land	Yes	Whitestone & Bulkington	Adult		6	Standard	7	12	-5	2.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
33	Sandon Park	Yes	Weddington & St. Nicolas	Adult		4	Standard	4	8	-4	1	Minimal spare capacity to be retained in order to protect quality.
44	Vale View	Yes	Arbury & Stockingford	Adult		4	Standard	1	8	-7	3	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
57	Camp Hill Primary	Yes	Camp Hill & Galley Common	Adult		1	Good	0	3	-3	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
				Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	1	4	-3	0.5	

**NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
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Site ID	Site name	Community use?	Analysis area	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Site capacity	Potential to accommodate additional play (-)	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
61	Milby Primary School	Yes	Weddington & St. Nicolas	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	-1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
				Mini	(5v5)	2	Standard	3.5	8	-4.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
				Mini	(7v7)	2	Standard	0	8	-8	2	
				Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	1.5	4	-2.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
66	Pingles Athletics Track	Yes	Abbey & Wem Brook	Adult		1	Standard	1.5	2	-0.5	1	Minimal spare capacity to be retained in order to protect quality.
107	North Warwickshire & Hinckley College	Yes	Weddington & St. Nicolas	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0.5	4	-3.5	0.5	Minimal spare capacity to be retained in order to protect quality.

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Actual spare capacity has been aggregated up by area and by pitch type in the table below.

Table 2.14: Actual spare capacity summary

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (match sessions per week)				
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
Abbey & Wem Brook	2	-	1.5	1	-
Arbury & Stockingford	4	-	-	-	-
Bedworth North and West	3	-	-	1	-
Bede and Poplar	-	-	2	3	-
Camp Hill & Galley Common	1	-	0.5	-	-
Weddinton & St. Nicolas	1	-	1.5	2	0.5
Whitestone & Bulkington	5.5	-	-	-	-
Nuneaton and Bedworth	16.5	0	5.5	7	0.5

There are 29.5 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity expressed across Nuneaton and Bedworth, the majority of which is on adult pitches (16.5).

Overplay

Overplay occurs when there is more play accommodated on a site than it is able to sustain (which can often be due to the low carrying capacity of the pitches). There are 11 pitches overplayed in Nuneaton and Bedworth across eight sites by a total of 7.5 match equivalent sessions.

Six of the 11 overplayed pitches were assessed as poor quality and as such have low carrying capacity. An improvement in quality at these sites will result in a reduction in overplay.

Table 2.15: Overplay summary

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Site capacity rating
1	Ambleside Sports Club	Weddinton & St. Nicolas	Youth (11v11)	Poor	2	2
			Youth (9v9)	Poor	1	1
17	Haunchwood	Arbury & Stockingford	Adult	Standard	1	0.5
18	Heckley Fields	Bede and Poplar	Adult	Poor	2	0.5
25	Miners Welfare Park	Bede and Poplar	Adult	Poor	1	0.5
29	Nuneaton Town Football Club	Weddinton & St. Nicolas	Adult	Standard	1	1
37	Stockingford Allotment Association Ltd	Arbury & Stockingford	Adult	Standard	1	0.5

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Agreed quality rating	No. of pitches	Site capacity rating
46	Windmill Sports and Social Club	Camp Hill & Galley Common	Adult	Standard	1	0.5
107	North Warwickshire & Hinckley College	Weddington & St. Nicolas	Youth (11v11)	Standard	1	1

The majority of overplay occurs on adult pitches and is evident in five different analysis areas. Weddington and St Nicolas have the most amount of overplayed pitches (five). Four of the adult pitches are also accessed by youth (11v11) teams. These are:

- ◀ Haunchwood (Arbury & Stockingford)
- ◀ Stockingford Allotment Association Ltd (Arbury & Stockingford)
- ◀ Windmill Sports and Social Club (Camp Hill & Galley Common)
- ◀ Nuneaton Town FC (Weddington & St. Nicolas)

Transferring this play to dedicated youth (11v11) pitches will result in overplay reducing across Nuneaton and Bedworth by nine match sessions per week.

In addition, there are numerous community available pitches in the area that are played to capacity. Any further play on these pitches without an improvement in quality will result in overplay.

Table 2.16: Pitches played to capacity

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Capacity rating
14	George Eliot School	Abbey & Wem Brook	Adult	1	Standard	0
27	Nicholas Chamberlaine Technology College	Bede and Poplar	Adult	1	Standard	0
31	Pingles	Abbey & Wem Brook	Adult	2	Poor	0
48	Bermuda Phoenix Centre	Arbury & Stockingford	Adult	1	Standard	0
91	Queens Academy	Abbey & Wem Brook	Youth (9v9)	2	Poor	0
107	North Warwickshire & Hinckley College	Weddington & St. Nicolas	Adult	1	Standard	0

Four of the pitches being used to capacity are poor quality, the other four are standard quality. An improvement in quality would increase the capacity of the pitches.

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2.6: Conclusions

Having considered supply and demand, the tables below identify current demand (i.e. spare capacity taking away overplay and any latent/unmet/displaced demand) in each of the analysis areas for the different pitch types, based on match equivalent sessions. Future demand is based on team generation rates (TGRs) which are driven by population increases as well as club development plans to increase the number of teams.

Table 2.17: Spare capacity/ overplay of adult pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ⁹	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent/unmet demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Abbey & Wem Brook	2	-	0.5	1.5	0.5	1
Arbury & Stockingford	4	1	1.5	2.5	1	1.5
Bedworth North and West	3	-	-	3	-	3
Bede and Poplar	-	1	-	-1	2	-3
Camp Hill & Galley Common	1	0.5	1	-0.5	-	-0.5
Weddinton & St. Nicolas	1	1	1	-1	1	-2
Whitestone & Bulkington	5.5	-	0.5	5	1	4
Nuneaton and Bedworth	16.5	3.5	4.5	9.5	6.5¹⁰	3

Overall in Nuneaton and Bedworth there is current actual spare capacity equating to 9.5 match equivalent sessions on adult pitches. When accounting for future demand and TGRs, this reduces to three match equivalent sessions overall. However, three analysis areas show small shortfalls of match sessions to meet current and future demand.

Table 2.18: Spare capacity/ overplay of youth 11v11 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹¹	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent/unmet demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Abbey & Wem Brook	-	-	1	-1	-	-1
Arbury & Stockingford	-	-	0.5	-0.5	1	-1.5
Bedworth North and West	-	-	-	0	-	0
Bede and Poplar	-	-	-	0	2	-2
Camp Hill & Galley Common	-	-	0.5	-0.5	0	-0.5
Weddinton & St. Nicolas	-	3	-	-3	2	-5
Whitestone & Bulkington	-	-	-	0	1	-1
Nuneaton and Bedworth	0	3	2	-5	10¹²	-15

⁹ In match equivalent sessions

¹⁰ Future demand includes team generation rate increases

¹¹ In match equivalent sessions

¹² Future demand includes team generation rate increases

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The table above shows that there is a current overall shortfall of youth 11v11 match equivalent sessions amounting to five; which is expected to increase to a shortfall of 11 in future.

Table 2.19: Spare capacity/ overplay of youth 9v9 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹³	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent/unmet demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Abbey & Wem Brook	1.5	-	1	0.5	1	-0.5
Arbury & Stockingford	-	-	-	0	1	-1
Bedworth North and West	-	-	-	0	-	0
Bede and Poplar	2	-	-	2	2	0
Camp Hill & Galley Common	0.5	-	0.5	0	-	0
Weddinton & St. Nicolas	1.5	1	-	0.5	2.5	-2
Whitestone & Bulkington	-	-	-	0	2	-2
Nuneaton and Bedworth	5.5	1	1.5	3	12¹⁴	9

Overall there is current actual spare capacity on youth 9v9 pitches equating to three match equivalent sessions. When accounting for future demand and TGRs this changes and there is a shortfall of nine match equivalent sessions.

Table 2.20: Spare capacity/overplay of mini 7v7 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹⁵	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent/unmet demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Abbey & Wem Brook	1	-	-	1	0.5	0.5
Arbury & Stockingford	-	-	-	0	0	0
Bedworth North and West	1	-	-	1	0	1
Bede and Poplar	3	-	-	3	0	3
Camp Hill & Galley Common	-	-	1	-1	0.5	-1.5
Weddinton & St. Nicolas	2	-	-	2	1	1
Whitestone & Bulkington	-	-	-	0	1.5	-1.5
Nuneaton and Bedworth	7	0	1	6	5¹⁶	1

¹³ In match equivalent sessions

¹⁴ Future demand includes team generation rate increases

¹⁵ In match equivalent sessions

¹⁶ Future demand includes team generation rate increases

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Overall there is current actual spare capacity on mini 7v7 pitches equating to six match equivalent sessions. When accounting for future demand and TGRs this reduces to 1 match equivalent session.

Table 2.21: Spare capacity/overplay of mini 5v5 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹⁷	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent/unmet demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Abbey & Wem Brook	-	-	-	0	2.5	-2.5
Arbury & Stockingford	-	-	-	0	-	0
Bedworth North and West	-	-	-	0	-	0
Bede and Poplar	-	-	-	0	1	-1
Camp Hill & Galley Common	-	-	0.5	-0.5	-	-0.5
Weddinton & St. Nicolas	0.5	-	-	0.5	1	-0.5
Whitestone & Bulkington	-	-	-	0	1.5	-1.5
Nuneaton and Bedworth	0.5	0	-0.5	0	7¹⁸	-7

Overall in Nuneaton and Bedworth there is current actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions on mini 5v5 pitches. However, when accounting for future demand and TGRs this results in a shortfall of seven match equivalent sessions.

Table 2.22: Spare capacity/overplay summary

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity ¹⁹	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent/unmet demand	Current Total	Future demand	Total
Adult	16.5	3.5	4.5	9.5	6.5	3
Youth 11v11	-	3	2	-5	10	-15
Youth 9v9	5.5	1	1.5	3	12	-9
Mini 7v7	7	-	1	6	5	1
Mini 5v5	0.5	-	0.5	0	7	-7

As the table above shows there is currently a undersupply of youth 11v11 pitches across Nuneaton and Bedworth and a further shortfall once future demand and TGRs are taken into consideration. Similarly, there will be a shortage of supply in the future for both youth 9v9 pitches and mini 5v5 pitches.

¹⁷ In match equivalent sessions

¹⁸ Future demand includes team generation rate increases

¹⁹ In match equivalent sessions

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Football – grass pitch summary

- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 113 football pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth on 53 sites. Of these, 85 are available, at some level, for community use.
- ◀ Of the pitches available for community use, four are assessed as good quality, 67 as standard and 14 as poor quality.
- ◀ In total, 187 teams within 62 clubs were identified as existing within Nuneaton and Bedworth, consisting of 73 adult teams, 76 youth teams and 38 mini teams.
- ◀ There has been a change in the number of teams over the previous three years, with a decrease of one adult team, 11 youth teams and increase of five mini teams overall.
- ◀ Peak time demand is Sunday AM for adult pitches, Sunday PM for youth (11v11) pitches, Sunday AM for youth (9v9) pitches, Sunday AM for mini (7v7) pitches and Sunday AM for mini (5v5) pitches.
- ◀ Team generation rates predict an increase of two senior teams, 15 youth teams and five mini teams by 2031. Future demand expressed by clubs predicts an increase of three adult teams, one youth and three mini teams.
- ◀ There is a total of 29.5 match sessions of actual spare capacity across Nuneaton and Bedworth, the majority of which (16.5) is on adult pitches.
- ◀ There are 11 pitches overplayed across eight sites, by a total of 7.5 match sessions. All overplay is located on pitches of standard or poor quality.
- ◀ There is a current shortfall on youth (11v11) pitches. Some spare capacity exists on adult, youth (9v9), mini (7v7) and mini (5v5) pitches, however, this is not significant levels
- ◀ Factoring in future demand results in shortfalls in youth (11v11) youth (9v9) and mini (5v5)pitches.

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PART 3: THIRD GENERATION TURF (3G) PITCHES

3.1 Introduction

Competitive football can take place on 3G surfaces with an FA approved certificate and a growing number of 3G pitches are now used for competitive match play at mini soccer and youth level. The preferred surface is medium pile 3G (55-60mm). Only competition up to (but not including) regional standard can take place on short pile 3G (40mm).

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

Table 3.1: 3G type and sport suitability

Surface	Category	Comments
Rubber crumb	Long pile 3G (65mm with shock pad)	Rugby surface – must comply with World Rugby type 22, requires a minimum of 60mm. Football surface.
Rubber crumb	Medium pile 3G (55-60mm)	Preferred football surface.
Rubber crumb	Short pile 3G (40mm)	Acceptable surface for some competitive football.

3.2 Supply

As seen in the table below, there are two full size 3G AGPs within Nuneaton and Bedworth.

Table 3.2: Full size AGPs in Nuneaton and Bedworth

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type
40	The Nuneaton Academy Sports College	Arbury & Stockingford	Medium pile 3G
41	The Oval	Bede and Poplar	Medium pile 3G

Both 3G pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth are available for community use. The pitch at the 'The Oval' is home of Bedworth United FC, and priority for access is given teams within the club. Access is allowed for other community teams given time slots are available for the pitch.

Nuneaton Academy's 3G pitch is extensively used by both the academy and the public. Both pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth are FA approved.

There is currently one 60x40 yard pitch located at Wembrook Primary School. In addition, there is one 40x20 yard pitch at the Jubilee Sports Centre and one 40x20 yard pitch located at St Thomas More Catholic School. There is also a sand based AGP at Etone Sports Centre, however this is not the preferable surface for football.

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Figure 3.1: Location of AGPs in Nuneaton & Bedworth

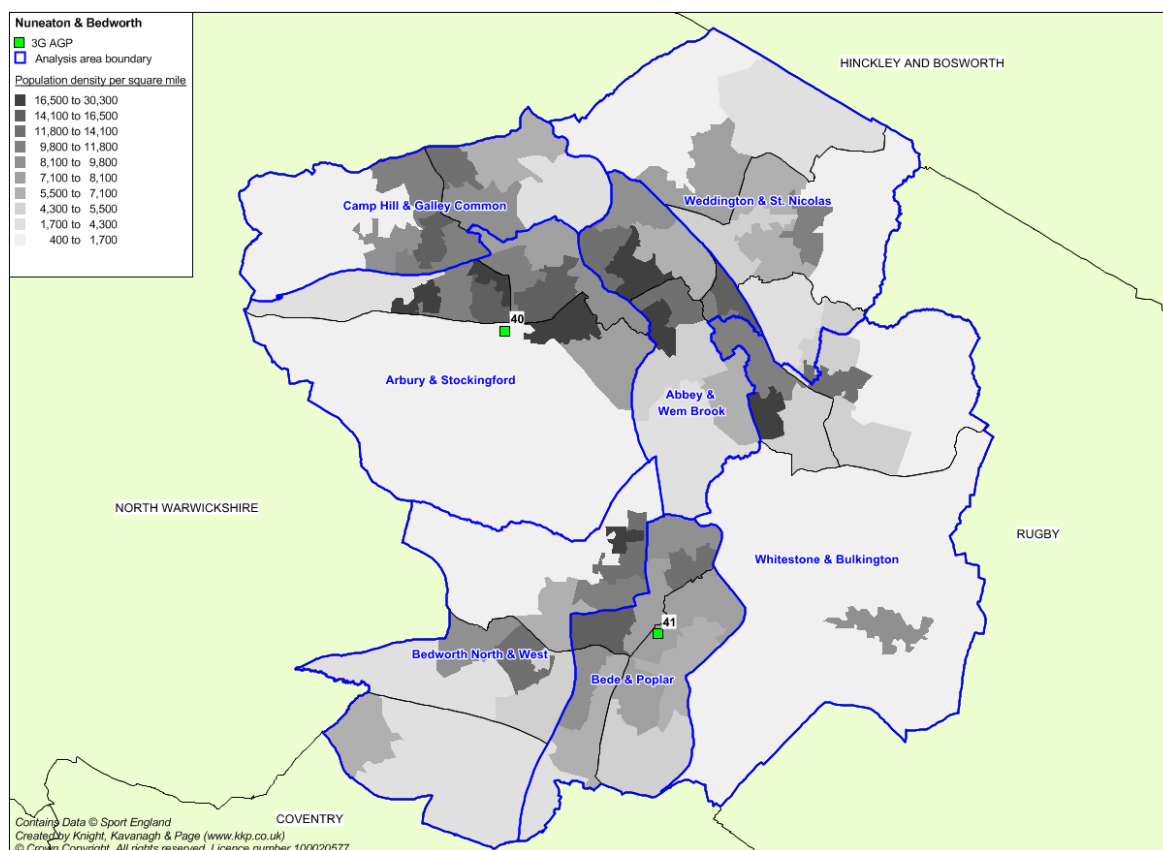


Table 3.3: Key to map

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Total
40	The Nuneaton Academy Sports College	Arbury & Stockingford	1
41	The Oval	Bede and Poplar	1

Quality

Both full size 3G pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth are assessed as good quality.

The carpet of an AGP usually lasts for approximately 10 years, dependent on the maintenance regime. The pitch at Nuneaton Academy was built in 2012, whilst the pitch at The Oval was built in 2014. As with all AGPs, it is recommended that a sinking fund is put in place in order to ensure that refurbishment can go ahead if and when required.

3.3 Demand

The FA considers high quality 3G pitches to be an essential tool in promoting coach and player development. They can support intensive use and as such are great assets for both playing and training. Primarily such facilities have been installed for community use and training, however, are increasingly used for competition which The FA wholly supports, as long as the pitch has been assessed and appears on the FA Football Turf Pitch Register (<http://3g.thefa.me.uk/>).

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Training demand

Getting access to good quality, affordable training facilities is a problem for many clubs throughout the Country. In the winter months, midweek training is only possible at floodlit facilities.

The following clubs which currently play within Nuneaton and Bedworth indicate they have additional demand for 3G pitches:

- ◀ Stockingford White Lion FC
- ◀ Woodlands WMC FC
- ◀ Haunchwood Sports Jnr FC
- ◀ North Warwickshire & Hinckley College FC
- ◀ Nuneaton Griff FC
- ◀ Jet Blades FC
- ◀ Mills Athletic FC
- ◀ Fifa Street FC
- ◀ St Nicolas FC

Many teams currently use grass pitches or indoor sports halls, whilst other teams travel outside of Nuneaton and Bedworth in order to access more suitable training provision in neighbouring local authorities.

The FA's long term ambition is to provide every affiliated team in England the opportunity to train once per week on a floodlit 3G surface, together with priority access for every Charter Standard Community Club through a partnership agreement. The FA Standard is calculated by using the latest Sport England research "AGPs State of the Nation March 2012".

Assuming that 51% of AGP usage is by sports clubs, when factoring in the number of training slots available per pitch at peak time, it is estimated that one full size AGP can service 42 teams.

On the basis that there are 187 teams playing competitive football in Nuneaton and Bedworth, there is a recommended need for at least five (rounded up from 4.45) full size 3G pitches. There are currently two suitable 3G pitch, resulting in a shortfall of three.

The sand based AGP at Etone Sports Centre is also used for football training currently, however the FA do not take this into account when advising on the ratios for football teams, as 3G is the preferred surface for football.

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Alternatively, the table below considers the number of 3G pitches required if every team was to remain within their respective analysis area for training.

Table 3.4: 3G pitch requirements in each analysis area:

Analysis area	Current number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Potential shortfall
Abbey & Wem Brook	20	1	-	1
Arbury & Stockingford	21	1	1	-
Bedworth North and West	3	1	-	1
Bede and Poplar	48	2	1	1
Camp Hill & Galley Common	7	1	-	1
Weddington & St. Nicolas	55	2	-	2
Whitestone & Bulkington	33	1	-	1
Nuneaton and Bedworth	187	9	2	7

Based on the number of teams in each analysis area, demand is being met in the Arbury & Stockingford Analysis Area. Weddington & St. Nicolas Analysis Area has the most demand for 3G pitches with two required to meet demand. All remaining analysis areas have a shortfall of one 3G pitch.

Moving match play to 3G pitches

Improving pitch quality is one way to increase the capacity at sites but given the cost of doing such work and the continued maintenance required (and associated costs) alternatives need to be considered that can offer a more sustainable model for the future of football.

The alternative to grass pitches is the use of AGPs for competitive matches and the FA is supporting this, particularly for mini football. Currently, five teams play regular competitive matches on the AGP at The Oval (Bedworth United FC). Experience confirms that the more pitches that are certified, the more teams are likely to transfer match play from grass pitches to AGPs.

The following table tests a scenario which assumes that all 5v5 and 7v7 football is moved to 3G pitches. A programme of play has been created based on the current peak time (Sunday AM).

Table 3.5: Moving all mini matches to 3G pitches

Time	AGP	Total games/teams
9.30am – 10.30am	4 x 5v5	4/8
10.30am – 11.30am	2 x 7v7	2/4
11.30am – 12.30pm	2 x 7v7	2/4
12.30pm – 1.30pm	2 x 7v7	2/4

At present, 15 mini 5v5 teams (which require two [rounded up from 1.88] 3G pitches and 23 mini 7v7 teams (which require two 3G pitches [rounded up from 1.92]). Therefore, based on the above programming and separate start times for 5v5 and 7v7 matches,

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the overall need is for two 3G pitches to accommodate all mini football demand within Nuneaton and Bedworth.

Alternatively, all youth 11v11 matches could be moved to 3G pitches. As many youth 11v11 teams within Nuneaton and Bedworth currently use adult pitches, removing this play would reduce overplay and in the long term improve quality. The peak time for youth 11v11 football is Sunday AM, whilst the second most common time is Sunday PM; therefore, both morning and afternoon timeslots have been accommodated.

Table 3.6: Moving all youth 11v11 matches to 3G pitches

Time	AGP 1	Total games/teams
10am – Noon	1 x 11v11	1/2
Noon – 2pm	1 x 11v11	1/2
2pm – 4pm	1 x 11v11	1/2

In the above programme, the 51 youth 11v11 teams playing within Nuneaton and Bedworth would require nine (rounded up from 8.5) pitches if they all played on the same day. If teams continued to play on the same day as they currently do, seven (rounded up from 6.16) pitches would be required (as 37 teams play on a Sunday). A more realistic aim would be to transfer all youth 11v11 teams currently using adult pitches (20) onto 3G pitches, which would require four (rounded up from 3.33) 3G pitches.

Usage

Nuneaton Academy reports its 3G pitch to be operating close to capacity during the week. The pitch is managed by Nuneaton and Bedworth Leisure Trust and more investigation is required to find out about the pitches usage during weekends. It is reserved for use by the College 08:00-17:00 during weekdays and booked by the community thereafter, with only limited spare capacity existing at more undesirable times such as Monday 20:00-21:00.

It should be noted that most teams have preferred days (generally Tuesday to Thursday) in which they want to access 3G pitches and although pitches may show spare capacity it does not mean that a team is willing to access it during the available time slots. For example, sites may have slots available on Monday and Friday evenings but teams are unlikely to take advantage of this for training purposes as they do not wish to train in such close proximity to a weekend match.

During weekends, the pitch at The Oval (Bedworth United FC) is generally used by associated teams of the football club (mens,ladies, U21s, juniors), Coventry Ladies and Bedworth Woodlands FC.

3.4 Supply and demand analysis

There is currently limited spare capacity on the 3G pitch at The Oval (Bedworth United FC). The pitch is used extensively through the week and weekend by a variety of community clubs for training. As there is no educational facility based on site, the pitch has spare capacity Monday – Friday 09:00 – 17:00.

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The pitch located at Nuneaton Academy Sports College is also reported to be at capacity for midweek use. For weekend usage and potential spare capacity further investigation is required.

The FA model suggests that to meet training demand there is a need for at least five community available full sized 3G pitches within Nuneaton and Bedworth, of which there are currently two.

Priority should therefore be placed on the creation of new 3G pitches in order to reduce shortfalls. Potential sites which can suitably accommodate a pitch should be identified within each analysis area.

3G pitch summary

- ◀ There are two full size 3G pitches available for community use in Nuneaton and Bedworth. Both pitches are FA approved; The Nuneaton Academy Sports College and The Oval.
- ◀ Both full size 3G pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth are assessed as good quality.
- ◀ The Oval (Bedworth United FC) has no spare capacity in the peak period.
- ◀ Nine clubs from the Nuneaton and Bedworth highlight the specific need for additional 3G training facilities.
- ◀ On the basis that 187 teams are playing competitive football in Nuneaton and Bedworth, in order to satisfy training demand, there is a recommended need for at least five full size 3G pitches.
- ◀ Based on the number of teams in each analysis area, demand is being met in the Arbury & Stockingford Analysis Area. Weddington & St. Nicolas has the most demand for 3G pitches with two required to meet team demand. All remaining analysis areas have a shortfall of one 3G pitch.
- ◀ Moving all competitive mini football matches from grass pitches to 3G pitches would require two AGPs.
- ◀ Moving all youth 11v11 football would require seven pitches if they all played on the same, or nine pitches if they continued to play on the same day as they currently do. Transferring youth 11v11 teams from adult pitches would require four 3G pitches.

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PART 4: RUGBY UNION

4.1: Introduction

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) is the national governing body responsible for grassroots and elite rugby in England. The RFU is split into six areas across the country with a workforce team that covers development, coaching, governance and competitions. Warwickshire RFU administers the sport across Nuneaton and Bedworth with a County Development Manager and a team of community rugby coaches that deliver core programmes in schools and clubs. The variety of programmes, which include 15-a-side, 10-a-side, 7-a-side, Tag and the O2 Touch programme, all aiming to increase and retain participation within the game. In order to sustain and increase participation in the game, facilities need to be appropriate, affordable and accessible. The rugby union playing season operates from September to May.

The following five clubs are based in Nuneaton and Bedworth:

- ◀ Bedworth RFC
- ◀ Coventry Welsh RFC
- ◀ Manor Park RFC
- ◀ Nuneaton RFC
- ◀ Nuneaton Old Edwardians RFC

Keresely Rugby Club is not located within the boundaries of Nuneaton and Bedworth, it sits just over the border in Coventry. The club however, receive a lot of support from Nuneaton and Bedworth Council

Consultation

Of the clubs, Nuneaton RFC and Bedworth RFC were met with face to face, whilst Nuneaton Old Edwardians RFC and Manor Park RFC completed an online survey. Coventry Welsh RFC were unresponsive, thus resulting in a response rate of 80%.

Professional club Wasps RFC and Warwickshire RFU were also consulted to provide a strategic overview of rugby union within Nuneaton and Bedworth. The results from such consultation are used to inform key issues within this section of the report.

4.2: Supply

Current supply

In total, there are 12 senior grass rugby union pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth located across nine sites. Ten pitches are available to the community, whilst pitches at Nicholas Chamberlaine College and Nuneaton Academy are unavailable. Etone College and George Elliot School report no community demand, despite being available.

Additionally, there are six mini pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth located across two sites. Five of the pitches are located at Nuneaton RFC and are available for community use, whereas the remaining pitch is located at Keresley Newland Primary Academy School and is not available to the community.

At present there are no World Rugby compliant artificial 3G pitches within Nuneaton and Bedworth.

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Please note that the audit only identifies dedicated, line marked pitches. For the purposes of this report, being available for community use refers to pitches in public, voluntary, private or commercial ownership or management (including education sites) that are recorded as being available for use/hire by teams/clubs.

For rugby union pitch dimension sizes please refer to RFU 'Grass Pitches for Rugby' at: <http://www.rfu.com/managingrugby/clubdevelopment/facilitiesandequipment/~media/files/2009/facilitiesandequipment/facilities%20guidance%20note%202.ashx>

Future supply

Nuneaton Discovery Academy (the former Manor Park School site) is planning to create one new senior pitch on its site in partnership with Manor Park RFC. The Club will use the pitch for training/matches and also manage its maintenance as part of a contract with the School.

Accessibility

Club consultation suggests that the majority of players travel between two and five miles to play at their respective clubs. There is recognition, however, that some players at Nuneaton RFC, particularly senior players, travel in excess of ten miles to play at the club's home ground.

Wasps RFC

Wasps is a professional rugby union club that currently play in the Aviva Premiership. Since December 2014 the Club has been based at the Ricoh Arena in Coventry, relocating from London.

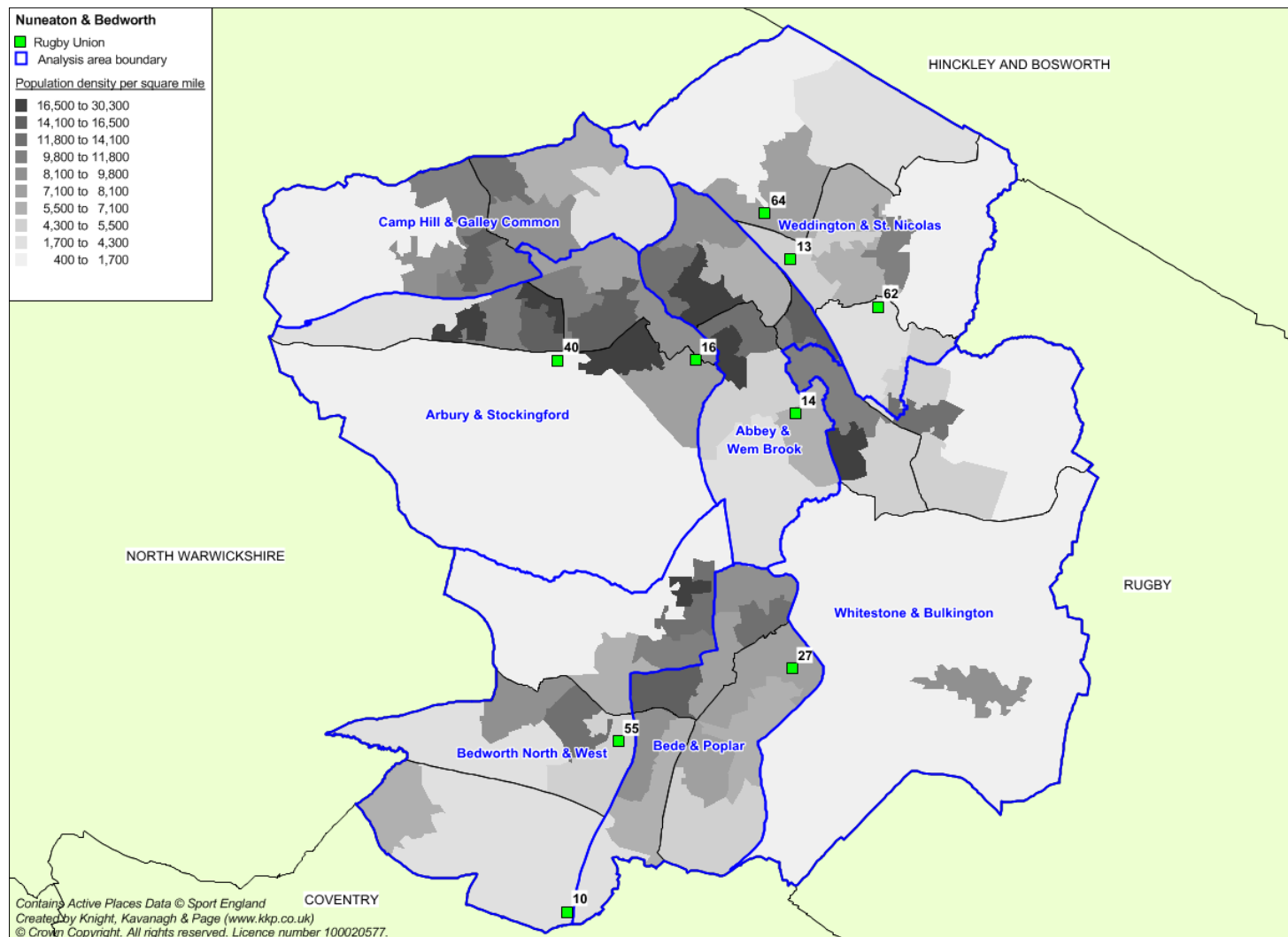
At present Wasps RFC has no plans to expand into Nuneaton and Bedworth. The Club is in the process of transferring its training demand from its London base to move closer to the Ricoh Arena Stadium but is likely to remain within Coventry.

Due to the locality of the Club, however, the community department is looking to work with local primary and secondary schools in Nuneaton and Bedworth. The aim is to deliver five week blocks of basic coaching to encourage participation and healthy lifestyles in the area.

In addition, both Bedworth RFC and Nuneaton RFC have partnership arrangements in place which results in Wasps RFC delivering occasional coaching sessions.

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Figure 4.1: Location of rugby pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth



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Table 4.1: Key to map

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of pitches
10	Burbages Lane (Coventry Welsh RFC)	Bedworth North and West	Yes	1
13	Etone College	Weddington & St Nicolas	Yes	1
14	George Elliot School	Abbey & Wem Brook	Yes	1
16	Griff & Coton Sports Club (Manor Park RFC)	Arbury & Stockingford	Yes	1
27	Nicholas Chamberlaine College	Bede and Poplar	No	1
40	Nuneaton Academy	Arbury & Stockingford	No	1
55	Bedworth Rugby Club	Bedworth North and West	Yes	2
62	Nuneaton Rugby Club	Weddington & St Nicolas	Yes	4
64	Nuneaton Old Edwardians Rugby Club	Weddington & St Nicolas	Yes	3
86	Kersesley Newland Primary Academy School	Bedworth North and West	No	1

Ownership/management

Bedworth RFC currently leases its two pitches and clubhouse from Glebe Estates. When this agreement ends in March 2017, Glebe Estates has plans to develop the site for housing. In line with Sport England's National Planning Policy Framework, the developer will be required to provide the Club with a site of equal or better quantity and quality provision in a suitable location. No agreed location has yet been identified, however, Glebe Estates reports that it is happy to carry out the necessary requirements.

The Club are currently in the process of looking for a potential location for its reprovision. The Club expect to replicate what's on its current site of two senior pitches (one floodlit), a car park, clubhouse and changing provision up to the latest RFU specifications.

All other clubs own their respective pitches, with the exception of Manor Park RFC. Manor Park RFC are on an annual lease from the Griff & Coton Sports Club. The site is shared with Griff & Coton FC and Griff & Cotton CC.

Nuneaton RFC has previously owned a football stadia pitch on site, with the Club having no tenure on the facility. The stadium is now home of Nuneaton FC and on occasion the rugby club access the pitch to play fixtures on an adhoc basis.

Pitch quality

The methodology for assessing rugby pitch quality looks at two key elements; the maintenance programme and the level of drainage on each pitch. An overall quality based on both drainage and maintenance can then be generated.

The agreed rating for each pitch type also represents actions required to improve pitch quality. A breakdown of actions required based on the ratings can be seen below.

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Table 4.2: Definition of maintenance categories

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

Table 4.3: Definition of drainage categories

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

Table 4.4: Quality ratings based on maintenance and drainage scores:

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

Of the 13 senior pitches available for community use, five are classified as standard quality with the remaining seven pitches assessed as poor quality.

The four senior pitches at Nuneaton Rugby Club are assessed as M1/D1 (standard). The natural drainage of all four pitches is adequate with no concerns raised by the Club during consultation. All maintenance of pitches is done in house by volunteers, this consists of regular aeration, sand dressing and fertilising.

The pitch at Burbages Lane (Coventry Welsh RFC) is also assessed as M1/D1 (standard) due to natural, adequate drainage and adequate maintenance.

The pitches at Bedworth Rugby Club are assessed as M0/D1 (poor). Pipe drainage was installed when the pitches were established 25 years ago, which the Club reports is still effective. In line with RFU guidelines, however, drainage must be considered natural adequate as the system is over eight years old. Maintenance at the Club is carried out completely by volunteers and consequently pitches are vulnerable to being neglected. Generally, the pitches are cut and lined by the Club.

The pitch at Griff & Coton Sports Club (Manor Park RFC) is assessed as M1/D0 (poor) as no drainage system is in place and the natural drainage is said to be inadequate. On average the Club loses seven games a season due to water collecting in one corner of the pitch. The Club report that pitch is aerated, fertilised, weed killed once per season and never sand dressed.

The pitches at Nuneaton Old Edwardians Rugby Club assessed as M1/D0 (poor) as a consequence five games were postponed due to waterlogging last season. The Club report that the pitches are regularly aerated and fertilised throughout the season,

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however are not sand dressed. The pitches are weed killed twice per season and seeded each summer.

A summary of all the pitch quality ratings can be seen in the table below.

Table 4.5: Quality ratings of senior pitches available for community use.

		Maintenance		
		Poor (M0)	Standard (M1)	Good (M2)
Drainage	Natural Inadequate (D0)	-	4	-
	Natural Adequate (D1)	4	5	-
	Pipe Drained (D2)	-	-	-
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	-	-	-

Of the two senior pitches unavailable for community use, the pitch at Nuneaton Academy is assessed as M0/D2 (standard) and the pitch at the Nicholas Chamberlaine College is assessed as M0/D0 (poor). All six mini pitches are assessed as M1/D1 (standard).

Agreed quality ratings for all pitches are shown in Table 4.9.

Ancillary facilities

All clubs in Nuneaton and Bedworth have access to changing room facilities at their respective home grounds. The quality of facilities varies from site to site but changing facilities are generally described as good or acceptable. Only Bedworth RFC describes changing provision as poor. This is due to its pavilion being dated and its changing facilities being inadequate in size and quality for the needs of the club.

Nuneaton RFC have previously been successful in obtaining Sport England funding to develop changing facilities for Ladies. Nuneaton Old Edwardians RFC have registered an ambition to develop the changing rooms at its home site and to bring them up to current RFU standards.

At present no club within Nuneaton and Bedworth has ancillary provision upto the RFU's or Sport England latest specifications.

4.3: Demand

Demand for rugby pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth tends to fall within the categories of organised competitive play and organised training.

Competitive play

There are a total of 22 competitive rugby union teams within Nuneaton and Bedworth. A breakdown of the number of teams within each club is shown in the following table.

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Table 4.6 Summary of demand by analysis area

Club	Analysis area	No. of rugby union teams		
		Senior	Junior	Mini
Bedworth RFC	Bedworth North and West	2	-	-
Coventry Welsh RFC	Bedworth North and West	2	-	-
Manor Park RFC	Arbury & Stockingford	2	-	-
Nuneaton RFC	Weddington & St Nicolas	2	5	6
Nuneaton Old Edwardians RFC	Weddington & St Nicolas	3	-	-
Total		11	5	6

Training

Many teams train at their home ground on match pitches. As a result, usage is concentrated which reduces the capacity for match play on these pitches and means they are more likely to be overplayed. A key factor in determining the extent of training on match pitches is the presence of floodlighting.

Manor Park RFC have constructed its own mobile floodlights which it uses for senior training at its home site. The floodlights are reported to be of a poor standard.

Coventry Welsh RFC trains twice a week on its pitch at Burbages Lane, as does Manor Park RFC on its pitch at Griff & Coton Sports Club (albeit without floodlighting). Due to the impact this has on maintenance, Manor Park RFC is planning on transferring its training demand to Nuneaton Discovery Academy when its new pitch is developed.

Nuneaton Old Edwardians RFC reports that it uses its second match pitch for all its training in order to alleviate use on the first team pitch. Similarly, Bedworth RFC also uses its second match pitch for training, although to a lesser extent as it also uses an indoor facility at Camp Farm.

Nuneaton RFC have a dedicated training pitch which is although does not have its own floodlighting, is overlooked by industrial buildings which shine onto the pitch, allowing night time training. The Club also indicates that it would like to use this land to develop a World Rugby compliant (Regulation 22) 3G pitch in order to better cater for its own need and also the needs of other clubs in the area.

All training demand is factored into the usage figures within the capacity table (Table 4.9).

Unmet demand

Unmet demand is existing demand that is unable to gain access to pitches. It is usually expressed, for example, where a team is training but is unable to access a match pitch or where a league has a waiting list due to a lack of pitch provision, which in turn is hindering growth. There is no specific unmet demand identified by any of the five clubs within Nuneaton and Bedworth.

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Future demand

Consultation with clubs suggests that there is a desire to increase the number of teams.

Bedworth RFC indicates that it would like to develop a junior section. The Club currently has seven U16 players and is hoping it could develop these players and recruit to have an U17 team next season (2016/17).

Manor Park RFC also states plans to develop a junior team as a new pitch at Nuneaton Discovery Academy will provide the Club with greater capacity. The Club is also looking to create a third senior men's team through increased advertising.

Nuneaton RFC reports plans to develop a ladies side in the coming seasons. The Club previously had a successful ladies team and believes it has a strong infrastructure in place which could now sustain female rugby. The Club is also keen to develop a third senior men's team as the current U18 team progresses into senior rugby next season.

Nuneaton Old Edwardians RFC reports it would like to develop a third senior team which can enter into a league and two mini sides (U7s and U12s) in the coming seasons. The Club believes that links with local schools is key to this happening.

In addition, team generation rates can also be used as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future based on population growth.

Table 4.7: Team generation rates

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams (2031)	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Men (19-45)	21,226	9	1:2358	21,891	9.3	0.3
Senior Women (19-45)	21,792	0	0	21,812	0.0	0.0
Junior Boys (13-18)	4,707	6	1:785	5,091	6.5	0.5
Junior Girls (13-18)	4,535	0	0	4,861	0.0	0.0
Mini rugby mixed (7-12)	8,401	6	1:1400	9,948	7.1	1.1

Population growth (2031) in Nuneaton and Bedworth is expected to create one additional mini team. This would equate to an additional 0.25 match equivalent sessions per week assuming such play takes place on a senior pitch and 0.5 match equivalents if it took place on a mini pitch.

4.4: Capacity analysis

The capacity for pitches to regularly provide for competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by quality. At minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of a pitch affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of playing rugby. In extreme circumstances it can result in the inability of the pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off peak times.

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

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- ◀ All sites that are used for competitive rugby matches (regardless of whether this is secured community use) are included on the supply side.
- ◀ All competitive play is on senior sized pitches (with the exception of where mini pitches are provided).
- ◀ From U13 upwards, teams play 15-a-side rugby and use a full pitch.
- ◀ Mini teams (U7-12) play across half one adult team i.e. two teams per senior pitch.
- ◀ For senior and junior teams the current level of play per week is set at 0.5 for each match played based on all teams operating on a traditional home and away basis (assumes half of matches will be played 'away').
- ◀ For mini teams, play per week is set at 0.25 for each match played based on all teams operating on a traditional home and away basis and playing across half one adult team.
- ◀ All male adult club rugby takes place on a Saturday afternoon.
- ◀ All U13-18 rugby takes place on a Sunday morning.
- ◀ Training that takes place on club pitches is reflected by addition of team equivalents.
- ◀ Team equivalents have been calculated on the basis that 30 players (two teams) train on the pitch for 90 minutes (team equivalent of one) per night.

As a guide, the RFU has set a standard number of matches that each pitch should be able to accommodate. Capacity is based upon a basic assessment of the drainage system and maintenance programme ascertained through a combination of the quality assessment and the club survey as follows:

Table 4.8: Pitch capacity (matches per week) based on quality assessments

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

This guide should only be used as very general measure of potential pitch capacity and does not account for specific circumstances at time of use and assumes average rainfall and an appropriate end of season rest and renovation programme.

The figures are based upon a pipe drained system at 5m centres that has been installed in the last eight years and a slit drained system at 1m centres completed in the last 5 years.

The peak period

In order to fully establish actual spare capacity, the peak period needs to be established. Peak time for senior rugby union pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth is Saturday afternoon with 10 senior teams accessing pitches at this time. Peak time for mini pitches is Sunday morning.

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Table 4.9: Rugby union quality and capacity summary for sites available for community use

Site ID	Site name	Security of tenure	Analysis area	Pitch type	Agreed quality rating	Floodlit?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
55	Bedworth RFC	Unsecure	Bedworth North and West	Senior	M0 / D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	Pitch only used for senior matches. Although the pitch shows space capacity there is no actual capacity as it is at capacity during peak time.
				Senior	M0 / D1 (Poor)	Yes	2	1.5	-0.5	Floodlit pitch used for all training demand.
10	Burbages Lane (Coventry Welsh RFC)	Secure	Bedworth North and West	Senior	M1/D1 (Standard)	Yes	2.5	2	-0.5	Floodlit pitch accommodates all training and match demand.
16	Griff & Coton Sports Club (Manor Park RFC)	Secure	Arbury & Stockingford	Senior	M1 / D0 (Poor)	No	2	1.5	0.5	Pitch accommodates all training and match demand.

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Site ID	Site name	Security of tenure	Analysis area	Pitch type	Agreed quality rating	Floodlit?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
62	Nuneaton RFC	Secure	Weddington & St.Nicolas	Senior	M1 / D1 (Standard)	Yes	1.5	2	0.5	Floodlit first team pitch used by one senior team a week and multiple junior teams on a Sunday.
				Senior	M1 / D1 (Standard)	No	1.5	2	0.5	Second team pitch used by one senior team a week and multiple junior teams on a Sunday.
				Senior	M1 / D1 (Standard)	No	1	2	1	Additional pitch used mainly for occasional senior matches and junior training/matches.
				Senior	M1 / D1 (Standard)	No	3.5	2	-1.5	Dedicated training area. Pitch uses lights from industrial works nearby as the pitches floodlighting.
				Mini	M1/D1 (Standard)	No	1	2	1	Mini pitch used for mini match play/training.
				Mini	M1/D1 (Standard)	No	1	2	1	Mini pitch used for mini match play/training.
				Mini	M1/D1 (Standard)	No	1	2	1	Mini pitch used for mini match play/training.
				Mini	M1/D1 (Standard)	No	1	2	1	Mini pitch used for mini match play/training.
				Mini	M1/D1 (Standard)	No	1	2	1	Mini pitch used for mini match play/training.

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Site ID	Site name	Security of tenure	Analysis area	Pitch type	Agreed quality rating	Floodlit?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
64	Nuneaton Old Edwardians RFC	Secure	Weddington & St.Nicolas	Senior	M1/D0 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	Main pitch used exclusively for match play by both senior sides.
				Senior	M1/D0 (Poor)	Yes	1	1.5	0.5	Pitch used for both training and senior matches.
				Senior	M1/D0)	Yes	1	1.5	0.5	Floodlit pitch is used solely for training.
13	Etone College	Secure	Weddington & St. Nicolas	Senior	M0/D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	Used by the school for PE lessons (not necessarily rugby use). Further investigation is needed to fully understand community use aspects.
14	George Elliot School	Secure	Abbey & Wem Brook	Senior	M0/ D1 (Poor)	No	1	1.5	0.5	Used by the school for PE lessons (not necessarily rugby use). Further investigation is needed to fully understand community use aspects.

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4.5 Supply and demand analysis

Spare capacity

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

A senior pitch at Bedworth RFC shows spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week, however, this cannot be considered actual spare capacity as it is fully used during the peak period (Saturday PM).

Spare capacity exists at Etone College and the George Elliot School as both sites are currently unused by the community. Beyond school use, both sites could accommodate an additional 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week. Further engagement is needed with the schools to fully understand community use aspects before this spare capacity can be considered actual spare capacity.

There are a total of five match equivalents of spare capacity on mini pitches at Nuneaton RFC which can be considered actual spare capacity.

Overplay

Of the 16 senior pitches within Nuneaton and Bedworth, four are currently overplayed by a total of four match equivalent sessions per week.

Table 4.10: Overplay summary

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Capacity rating
55	Bedworth RFC	Bedworth North and West	-0.5
10	Coventry Welsh RFC	Bedworth North and West	-0.5
16	Griff & Coton Sports Ground (Manor Park RFC)	Arbury & Stockingford	-1.5
62	Nuneaton RFC	Weddington & St Nicolas	-1.5

Overplay at each site can be attributed to training taking place on match pitches. Each overplayed pitch accommodates at least two training sessions (two match equivalent sessions) each week and therefore removing this play would result in overplay being alleviated.

Conclusions

Having considered supply and demand above, the table below identifies the overall spare capacity on senior pitches in each of the analysis areas, based on match equivalent sessions. As the majority of mini pitches have spare capacity, capacity for an increase in mini teams is considered to exist (although the increased training demand as a result of future demand may affect the capacity of senior pitches).

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Table 4.11: Spare capacity of match equivalent sessions per week

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ²⁰	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Unmet demand	Current demand	Future demand	Total
Abbey & Wembrook	-	-	-	0	-	0
Arbury & Stockingford	-	-1.5	-	-1.5	1	-2.5
Bedworth North and West	-	-1	-	-1	0.5	-1.5
Bede and Poplar	-	-	-	0	-	0
Camp Hill & Galley Common	-	-	-	0	-	0
Weddington & St Nicolas	3.5	-1.5	-	2	2	0
Whitestone & Bulkington	-	-	-	0	-	0
Total	3.5	-4	-	-0.5	3.5	-4

Overall, the table identifies that there is a shortfall of 1 match equivalent session per week on senior pitches to meet both current and future demand.

The main reason for overplay is training on match pitches. As such, there is evidence to suggest the need for alternative training venues of which a site with a World Rugby compliant AGP would offer benefit. The pitch could be used for training purposes during the week but could also offer additional match sessions if demand increases further.

Improving quality of pitches will also help to provide greater capacity and help to alleviate overplay throughout Nuneaton and Bedworth. First and foremost this can be done through the installation of a drainage system at sites as no pitches currently have an adequate system in place. Improved maintenance on pitches is also recommended.

Priority should also be directed towards new developments in relation to Manor Park RFC at Nuneaton Discovery Academy and Bedworth RFC if its relocation goes ahead. It must be ensured that any new pitches are provided to a good quality so that usage can be maximised.

As Coventry Welsh were not respondent to the survey, further engagement is needed to fully understand the Club's needs.

²⁰ In match equivalent sessions

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Rugby union summary

- ◀ In total, there are 16 senior grass rugby union pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth located across nine sites. Of the 16 pitches, 13 are available for community use.
- ◀ Of the 13 grass pitches available for community use, five pitches are classified as standard quality and eight are assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ There are five dedicated mini pitches available for community use all of which are located at Nuneaton RFC.
- ◀ Bedworth RFC currently has unsecure tenure on its site, with its lease expiring in 2017.
- ◀ Coventry Welsh RFC, Nuneaton RFC and Nuneaton Old Edwardians RFC all have freehold tenure on their current sites.
- ◀ There are a total of 22 competitive rugby union teams within Nuneaton and Bedworth; 11 senior teams, five junior teams and six mini teams.
- ◀ Consultation suggests that there is a desire to increase the number of teams within each club, whilst population growth (by 2031) in Nuneaton and Bedworth is expected to create an additional mini team.
- ◀ Peak time for senior rugby union matches in Nuneaton and Bedworth is Saturday afternoon. Peak time for mini pitches is Sunday morning.
- ◀ Spare capacity exists on senior pitches at Nuneaton RFC and Nuneaton Old Edwardians RFC
- ◀ In total, four pitches are currently overplayed in Nuneaton and Bedworth by a total of 4 match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ As the majority of mini pitches have spare capacity, capacity for an increase in mini teams is considered to exist.
- ◀ Overall, there is a shortfall of 1 match equivalent session per week on senior pitches to meet both current and future demand. Shortfalls are attributed to pitch quality and training on competitive pitches.

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PART 5: HOCKEY

5.1: Introduction

Hockey in England is governed by England Hockey (EH) and is administered locally by the Staffordshire Hockey Association and the Midland Region Hockey Association.

Competitive league hockey matches can only be played on sand based, sand dressed or water based artificial grass pitches (AGPs). Although competitive play cannot take place on third generation turf pitches (3G), 40mm pitches may be suitable, in some instances, for school training and are preferred to poor grass or tarmac surfaces. For senior teams, a full size pitch for competitive matches must measure at least 100x60 metres.

It is considered that a hockey pitch can accommodate a maximum of four matches on one day (peak time) provided that the pitch has floodlighting.

Club consultation

Nuneaton Hockey Club is the only community hockey club based within the Borough and operates independent men's and ladies' sections under one overarching club name. Face to face consultation was carried out with both sections.

5.2: Supply

There is currently one full size floodlit sand filled AGP located at Etone College which is suitable for competitive hockey. It is a dual use facility, owned by Warwickshire County Council and operated by Everyone Active, a third party operator, outside of school hours.

Quality

In terms of quality, sand based AGPs are rated on the scale below.

Table 5.2: AGP quality scale

Good	Standard	Poor

The pitch at Etone College is assessed as standard quality. It was built in 1980 and subsequently resurfaced in 2015. Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council has a ten year agreement with Etone College that the facility is made available outside of school hours for community use.

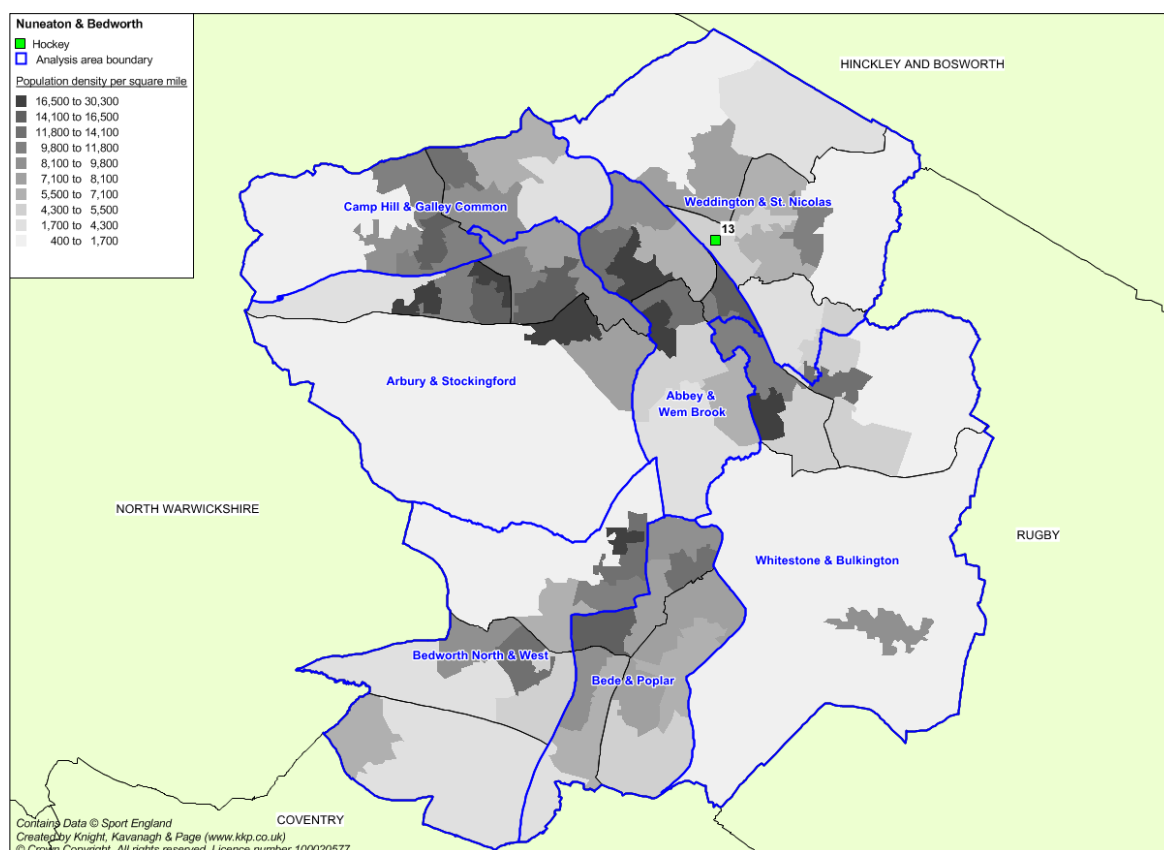
It is considered that the carpet of an AGP usually lasts for approximately 10 years (dependant on levels of use). The Etone College AGP is used extensively both for hockey and football, both within the curriculum and for community bookings.

Ancillary provision

Nuneaton Hockey Club has access to toilet and changing facilities at the Etone Sports Centre and all teams have adequate access to changing. Nuneaton Hockey Club mens' teams access catering and bar facilities after matches at Ambleside Sports Centre, while the women's teams access social facilities at Nuneaton Old Edwardians RFC.

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Figure 5.1: Sand based AGPs in Nuneaton and Bedworth



5.3: Demand

Current demand

There are seven senior teams playing hockey as part of Nuneaton Hockey Club, consisting of four senior men's teams and three ladies' teams. The number of players has increased by 15% in the past year adding to the existing senior sides. The senior sides all train on a Wednesday evening and matches are on Saturdays.

The Club reports that there is a mixed junior section of approximately 25 members, ranging from 6-13 years old. The juniors train on a Sunday morning but do not currently play formal fixtures due to lack of players at any one age group.

The cost of renting the AGP at Etone College is considered the largest expense of the Club and it would like to work with Everyone Active to negotiate accessing the pitch at otherwise quiet times to develop further sessions. In addition, the Club can only hire the facility by the hour, so pay for an unused facility for 30 minutes each week, as training finishes on the half hour.

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The closest suitable alternative hockey provision is located in Atherstone and Earl Shilton. The Club expresses demand for additional pitch access to allow it to run various satellite groups which are currently run inside school sports halls and on tennis court surfaces. The Club further indicates that the expense of booking the pitch for small groups is the biggest limiting factor to hockey development in Nuneaton and Bedworth.

Wembrook Primary School 3G pitch has been offered to the Club for use as an alternative training venue, however it is not a hockey suitable surface and therefore not adequate for the Clubs needs.

Future demand

Team generation rates (TGRs) based on future population indicate that no additional teams are likely to be created in Nuneaton and Bedworth across all age groups. Any increases in participants are likely to result in new players becoming part of existing squads/teams rather than creation of new teams requiring additional pitch space.

The Club states it would like to develop a competitive junior section in coming years and expand the number of juniors currently training to develop full age group teams.

Peak time demand

All men's and women's teams (seven) currently play their matches on a Saturday.

School use

There is limited hockey played in schools due to the costly nature of travel to access such facilities elsewhere. All schools in Nuneaton and Bedworth, excluding Etone College report that girls play hockey on grass pitches or MUGAs.

5.4 Supply and demand analysis

A full size floodlit hockey AGP is able to accommodate up to four hockey matches at senior peak time (Saturday). Given that there are seven senior teams currently playing on a home and away basis, one pitch is required to accommodate current demand.

Conclusions

Future demand does not predict an increase in the number of teams expected in Nuneaton and Bedworth. However, should there be a significant increase in future demand at peak time a second pitch would need to be accessible by the Club.

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Hockey summary

- ◀ There is one full size sand AGP suitable for competitive hockey within Nuneaton and Bedworth, located at Etone College.
- ◀ The pitch is sand dressed and is assessed as standard quality. The surface has recently been replaced.
- ◀ Nuneaton Hockey Club is the only club based in the area with the men's and ladies' sections operating almost exclusively. There are four senior men's teams and three ladies teams.
- ◀ There are no competitive junior hockey teams in Nuneaton and Bedworth. However, there is a junior section of around 25 members.
- ◀ Demand has increased by 15% at the Club within the last year, however, players have joined existing teams. The Club would like to develop an established junior section in the coming years.
- ◀ Neither section of the Club highlights issues regarding pitch access for matches or training as all block bookings are made at the beginning of the season.
- ◀ The cost of pitch hire is considered the largest expense of the Club and it would like to work with Everyone Active to negotiate accessing the pitch at otherwise quiet times.
- ◀ Given that there are seven senior teams currently playing on a home and away basis, one pitch is required to accommodate current demand.
- ◀ Future demand does not predict an increase in the number of teams expected in Nuneaton and Bedworth. However, should there be a significant increase in future demand at peak time a second pitch would need to be accessed by the Club.

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

PART 6: CRICKET

6.1: Introduction

Warwickshire County Cricket Board (WCCB) is the main governing and representative body for cricket within Warwickshire County, under which Nuneaton and Bedworth falls. WCCB works closely with the ECB and has four core roles and responsibilities: strategic planning, programme management, performance management, and effective governance. WCCB is responsible for participation, club accreditation, club members, coaching roles, volunteer roles and player development.

Consultation

An electronic survey was distributed to cricket clubs by email and supported by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB). In addition, face to face consultation took place with the following six cricket clubs:

- ◀ Ambleside Cricket Club
- ◀ Bedworth Cricket Club
- ◀ Bulkington Cricket Club
- ◀ Collycroft Cricket Club
- ◀ Griff and Coton Cricket Club
- ◀ Nuneaton Cricket Club

Responses were gained from all clubs playing in Nuneaton and Bedworth. Results are used to inform key issues within this section of the report.

6.2: Supply

Quantity

In total, there are 11 grass wicket squares in Nuneaton and Bedworth and four standalone non-turf wicket pitches all of which are available for community use.

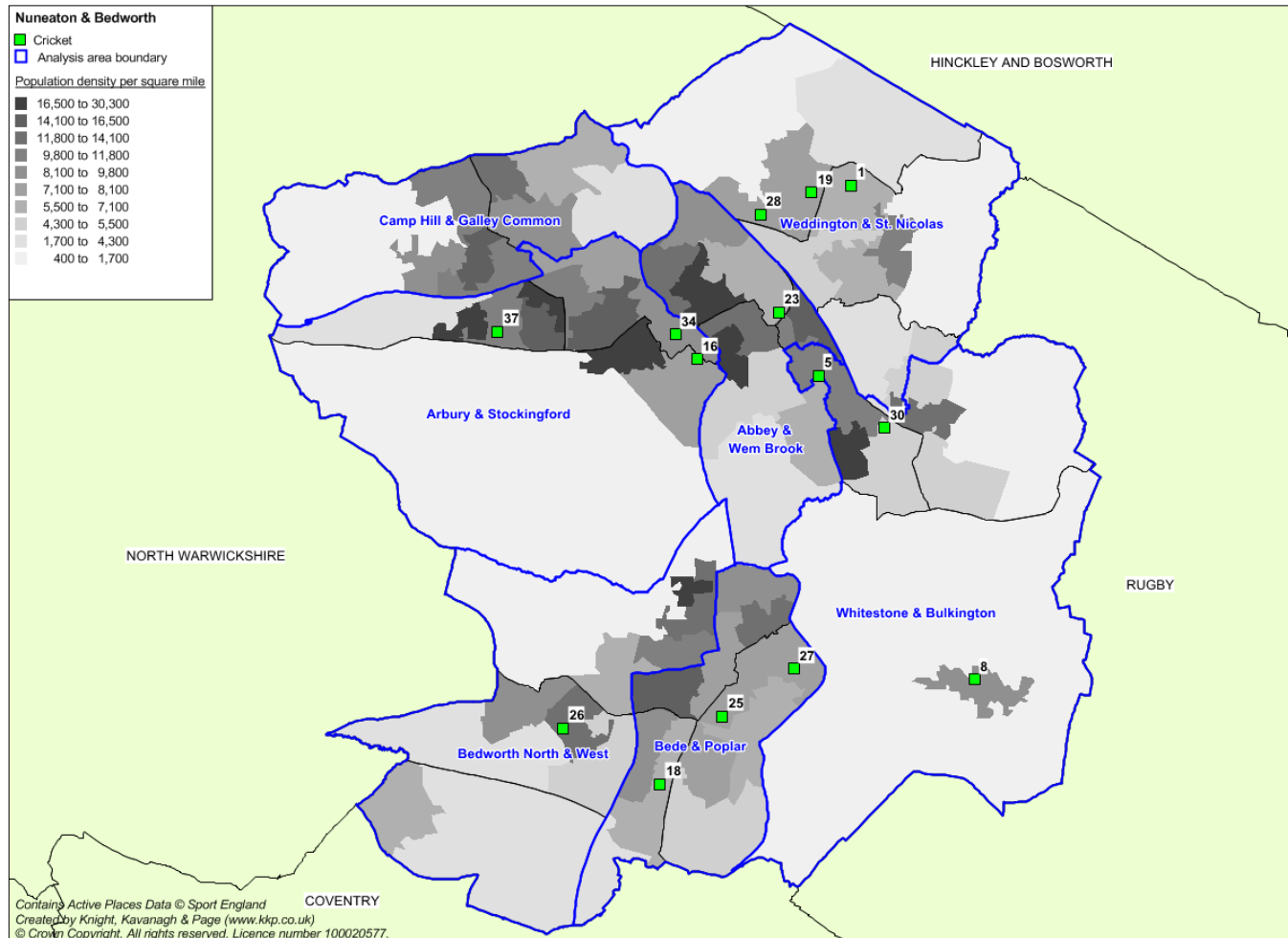
Table 6.1: Summary of cricket provision

Analysis area	Available for community use
Abbey and Wem Brook	1
Arbury and Stockingford	3
Bedworth North and West	1
Bede and Poplar	3
Camp Hill and Galley Common	-
Weddington and St. Nicolas	4
Whitestone and Bulkington	3
NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH	15

The table shows that the Camp Hill and Galley Common analysis area does not have cricket pitch provision. Most provision is found in the Weddington and St. Nicolas Analysis Area with four pitches. The map below identifies the location of all cricket pitches within Nuneaton and Bedworth. For a key to the map see Table 6.2.

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Figure 6.1: Location of cricket pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth



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Table 6.2: Key to map of cricket pitches

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of grass pitches	No. of grass pitches with non-turf wicket	No. of standalone non-turf pitches
1	Ambleside Sports Club	Weddington and St. Nicolas	Yes	1	1	-
5	Attleborough Sports Club	Whitestone and Bulkington	Yes	1	-	-
8	Bulkington	Whitestone and Bulkington	Yes	1	1	-
16	Griff And Coton Sports and Miners Welfare Club	Arbury and Stockingford	Yes	1	1	-
18	Heckley Fields	Bede and Poplar	Yes	1	-	-
19	Higham Lane School	Weddington and St. Nicolas	Yes	-	-	1
23	King Edward VI College Pitches	Abbey and Wem Brook	Yes-unused	-	-	1
25	Miners Welfare Park	Bede and Poplar	Yes	1	1	-
26	Newdigate Recreation Ground	Bedworth North and West	Yes	1	-	-
27	Nicholas Chamberlaine Technology College	Bede and Poplar	Yes-unused	-	-	1
28	Nuneaton Cricket Club	Weddington and St. Nicolas	Yes	2	1	-
30	Pauls Land	Whitestone and Bulkington	Yes	1	-	-
34	St Thomas More Catholic School and Technology College	Arbury and Stockingford	Yes-unused	-	-	1
37	Stockingford Allotment Association Ltd	Arbury and Stockingford	Yes	1	-	-
Totals				11	4	4

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Quality

The audit of grass wicket pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth found three pitches to be good quality, 13 assessed as standard quality and none rated as poor. The four pitches assessed as good quality are located at Ambleside CC, Miners Welfare Park and Stockingford AA. Bedworth Cricket Club (Miners Welfare Park CC) did win the ECB Ground of the Year in 2013.

Of the standalone non-turf wicket pitches, all four are rated as standard. All four are on educational sites and are rarely used. Higham Lane School provides the standalone non-turf wicket pitch which is used by the community (Ambleside CC).

The table below highlights the results of the pitch audit assessments. There is one site that has not been assessed via this method; Stockingford AA and Haunchwood CC due to the site not being accessible. Club surveys in addition to anecdotal evidence has been used to establish an appropriate score. The table below shows the scores produced.

Consulted clubs did express concerns over the reduction, or potential reduction, in maintenance on Council maintained pitches.

Table 6.3: Cricket pitch quality

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch quality
1	Ambleside Sports Club	Weddington and St Nicolas	Good
5	Attleborough Sports Club	Whitestone and Bulkington	Standard
8	Bulkington	Whitestone and Bulkington	Standard
16	Griff and Coton Sports and Miners Welfare Club	Arbury and Stockingford	Standard
18	Heckley Fields (Collycroft CC)	Bede and Poplar	Standard
19	Higham Lane	Weddington and St. Nicolas	Standard
23	King Edward VI College	Abbey and Wem Brook	Standard
25	Miners Welfare Park (Bedworth CC)	Bede and Poplar	Good
26	Newdigate Recreation Ground	Bedworth North and West	Standard
27	Nicholas Chamberlaine College	Bede and Poplar	Standard
28	Nuneaton Cricket Club	Weddington and St. Nicolas	Standard
28	Nuneaton Cricket Club	Weddington and St. Nicolas	Standard
30	Pauls Land	Whitestone and Bulkington	Standard
34	St Thomas More College	Arbury and Stockingford	Standard
37	Stockingford Allotment Association	Arbury and Stockingford	Good
91	Queens C of E Academy	Abbey and Wem Brook	Standard

Maintaining high pitch quality is the most important aspect of cricket. If the wicket is poor, it can affect the quality of the game and can, in some instances, become dangerous. To obtain a full technical assessment of wicket and pitches, the ECB recommends a Performance Quality Standard Assessment (PQS). The PQS looks at a cricket square to ascertain whether the pitch meets the Performance Quality Standards which are benchmarked by the Institute of Groundsmanship. The report identifies surface issues

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and suggests options for remediation together with likely costs. At present no clubs in the Nuneaton and Bedworth area have had a PQS assessment take place.

Ancillary facilities

All clubs in Nuneaton and Bedworth have access to changing room facilities at their respective home grounds. The quality of facilities varies from site to site but changing facilities are generally described as good or acceptable. Only Bulkington CC describes the changing provision as poor. This is due to the pavilion being dated and the changing facilities inadequate in size and quality for the needs of the club.

Bedworth CC has recently acquired £75,000 from a Sport England grant to go towards the development of a new clubhouse facility. In partnership with the local authority, plans have been developed to develop and refurbish the sports pavilion site as a multi hub sports facility over the next 3-5 years.

Security of tenure

All cricket pitch sites in Nuneaton and Bedworth are currently considered to be secured i.e. pitches will continue to be provided over the next three years. In addition security of tenure is generally not an issue for clubs.

The only club that has a lease length that requires extending is Bedworth CC which has only seven years remaining on its current lease. The Club has an in principle agreement with Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council for a 21 year lease, which is developed further due to partnership working for a 30 year lease to develop the sports pavilion into a multi sport hub site.

Table 6.4: Tenure of cricket clubs

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Tenure
1	Ambleside Cricket Club	Weddington and St. Nicolas	The Club has a 999 year lease from the Highham Lane Leisure Association (which has charitable status) and pays no rent.
5	Attleborough CC	Whitestone and Bulkington	The Club owns its pitches and ancillary provision.
8	Bulkington	Whitestone and Bulkington	Long term lease from Nuneaton and Bedworth Council.
16	Griff and Coton CC	Arbury and Stockingford	Long term lease from Griff and Coton Sports and Miners Welfare Charity.
18	Collycroft CC	Bede and Poplar	Long term lease from Nuneaton and Bedworth Council.
25	Bedworth CC	Bede and Poplar	The Club has seven years left of its tenure but a 21 year lease in principle with NBBC.
26	Newdigate CC	Bedworth North and West	64 year lease left on council owned site.
28	Nuneaton CC	Weddington and St. Nicolas	The Club has a 999 year lease from the Cleaver/Old Edwardians Trust and pays no rent.
37	Stockingford AA	Arbury and Stockingford	The Club owns its pitches and ancillary

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Tenure
	and Haunchwood CC		provision.

Training

Access to cricket nets is important, particularly for pre-season/winter training. None of the clubs have access to indoor nets on site and therefore must travel off site to access practice facilities in the winter. An indoor specialist cricket training facility funded by the Midland Cricket Foundation, 'Bounce', is available to hire for all community clubs in the area and is frequently used by clubs and members of the local community.

Indoor net facilities are available at the Etone Sports Centre, Jubilee Sports Centre and Nuneaton Academy Sports Centre.

All clubs report additional need for summer training facilities. Bulkington CC has adequate provision with an artificial strip, outdoor nets and mobile nets but reports that it is prone to regular vandalism which inhibits training.

Non-turf wickets

Other than for junior's, competitive league play is not generally sanctioned (by the leagues) on non-turf wickets but informal games and other social leagues can take place. The ECB's TS6 Guidance on performance standards sets requirements for match pitches that are non-turf wickets. The ECB highlights that pitches which follow this guidance are suitable for high level play. It should be noted that this is guidance for clubs and not standards.

There are a total of eight non-turf wickets identified in Nuneaton and Bedworth, all of which are available to the community. Bulkington CC, Bedworth CC, Griff and Coton CC and Nuneaton CC all have an artificial wicket and the four remaining are standalone non-turf wickets located at education sites. Of wickets within education sites, three are currently unused by the community due to a reported lack of demand whilst the standalone non-turf wicket at Higham Lane School is used by Ambleside CC. The table below highlights the location of all non-turf wickets.

Table 6.5: Location of non-turf wickets

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Available for community use?	No. of wickets
8	Bulkington Cricket Club	Whitestone and Bulkington	Yes	1
16	Griff and Coton CC	Arbury and Stockingford	Yes	1
19	Higham Lane School	Weddington and St Nicolas	Yes	1
23	King Edward VI College	Abbey and Wem Brook	Yes-unused	1
25	Miners Welfare Park (Bedworth CC)	Bede and Poplar	Yes	1
27	Nicolas Chamberlain Technology	Bede and Poplar	Yes-unused	1

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Available for community use?	No. of wickets
	College			
28	Nuneaton Cricket Club	Weddington and St. Nicolas	Yes	1
34	St Thomas More Catholic School and Technology College	Arbury and Stockingford	Yes-unused	1
91	Queens Church of England Academy	Abbey and Wembrook	Yes- unused	1

6.3: Demand

Five clubs in Nuneaton and Bedworth have at least two adult teams and a junior team. Four clubs currently have no junior sides and have no aspirations to develop a junior section. Demand for cricket is good with a total of nine clubs generating 55 teams. There are a total of 36 senior and 19 junior teams.

The split of senior teams playing across Nuneaton and Bedworth is very heavily focused on Saturday cricket with 62% of teams playing on this day. Thursday night cricket in Nuneaton is popular with all clubs playing within the Nuneaton Thursday Cricket League equating to 25% of total play. Sunday play is the least favoured day of play with just five teams competing from four clubs totalling just 13% of overall play.

Table 6.6: Summary of teams by analysis area

Analysis area	No. of competitive teams		
	Senior men	Senior women	Junior
Abbey and Wem Brook	-	-	-
Arbury and Stockingford	6	-	2
Bedworth North and West	2	-	-
Bede and Poplar	7	-	7
Camp Hill and Galley Common	-	-	-
Weddington and St. Nicolas	13	-	9
Whitestone and Bulkington	9	-	1
Nuneaton and Bedworth	36	-	19

In line with national trends, local cricket is currently experiencing a reduction in participation. Bedworth CC, Nuneaton CC and Stockingford and Haunchwood CC all report a reduction in senior playing numbers. No team within the Borough has reported an increase in senior membership in recent years.

The previous Nuneaton and Bedworth Playing Pitch Strategy (2010), identified 15 cricket clubs within the Borough yet only only nine clubs are identified as playing within 2015 season.

Nuneaton CC is the only club to report increased junior membership. All remaining clubs either do not run junior programmes or report a decline.

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Queens Cricket Club is a newly set up Club which have ambitions to play within the Warwickshire League in the 2016/2017 season. The Club plan to play home fixtures at Queen Junior School in the Abbey and Wembrook analysis area on an artificial wicket.

Women's and girls' cricket

Women's and girls' cricket is a national priority and there is a target to establish more female teams in each local authority over the next five years. To ensure this, 8-10% of the whole sport plan funding is focused around women and girls participation and talent I.D.

There are currently no female teams playing within Nuneaton and Bedworth, however, girls can play in mixed junior teams. Griff and Coton CC states that it has aspirations to establish a women's side in the next few seasons but envisages that it would be difficult to sustain.

Unmet demand

None of the clubs report current unmet demand for pitches, that is, no clubs report that teams are unable to play due to a lack of pitches.

Latent demand

No latent demand was expressed during consultation, however; Sport England's Segmentation Tool enables analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in cricket but are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies latent demand of 499 people in Nuneaton and Bedworth, 94 (18.8%) of which is the segment 'Kev – Pub league team mates'.

Displaced demand

Griff and Coton CC currently uses a pitch located at Willow Cricket Club located in Rugby which is six miles from the clubs homeground. The pitch is used to accommodate play for the club's third team on a Saturday. Ideally it would like to play within Nuneaton and Bedworth but cannot find a suitable pitch to host play.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and using population forecasts. Team generation rates are used below as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future based on population growth.

Table 6.7: Team generation rates

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Future population within age group	Predicted future teams	Potential additional teams
Senior Men(18-55)	31,029	37	31,779	37.9	0.9
Senior Women (18-55)	31,498	0	31,129	0.0	0.0
Junior Boys (7-17)	8,058	19	9,302	21.9	2.9
Junior Girls (7-17)	7,968	0	8,937	0.0	0.0

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Increases in population equates to the potential growth of two junior boys' teams.

In addition to potential increases from population growth a number of clubs state that they wish to increase the number of teams they currently have. This growth amounts to three junior boys' teams and one senior women's team.

Table 6.8: Club growth aspirations

Club	Analysis area	No. of competitive teams		
		Senior men	Senior women	Junior
Nuneaton CC	Weddington and St Nicolas	-	-	1
Newdigate CC	Bedworth North and West	-	-	1
Bedworth CC	Bede and Poplar	-	-	1
Griff and Coton CC	Arbury and Stockingford	-	1	-

Last Man Stands

Last Man Stands (LMS) was founded in 2005, in London. This social outdoor eight-a-side T20 cricket game is played midweek, lasts approximately two hours and can only be played on non-turf wickets as opposed to grass wickets. All eight wickets are required to bowl a team out so when the seventh wicket falls, the 'Last Man Stands' on his own. This shorter format of the game has encouraged more people to participate in the sport.

LMS does not currently operate in Nuneaton and Bedworth and is not a target location at the present time, particularly due to the popularity of the Nuneaton Thursday League, which would be in direct competition with LMS.

Peak time demand

An analysis of match play identifies that peak time demand for cricket pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth is Saturday for senior cricket and Sunday for junior cricket. In total, 23 senior teams play on Saturdays, five play on Sundays and eight play midweek. For juniors, there are 16 teams playing Sundays. Occasional junior games are played mid-week depending on league fixtures.

6.4: Capacity analysis

Capacity analysis for cricket is measured on a seasonal rather than weekly basis. This is due to playability (i.e. only one match is generally played per pitch per day at weekends or weekday evening). Wickets are rotated throughout the season to reduce wear and allow repair. Therefore, it is more accurate to assess capacity seasonally rather than weekly. The capacity of a pitch to accommodate matches is driven by the number and quality of wickets. This section presents the current pitch stock available for cricket in Nuneaton and Bedworth. It illustrates the:

- ◀ Number of grass and artificial cricket wickets per pitch
- ◀ Number of competitive matches per season per pitch

To help calculate pitch capacity, the ECB suggests that a good quality wicket should be able to take:

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- ◀ 5 matches per season per grass wicket (adults)
- ◀ 60 matches per season per synthetic wicket (adults)

This information is used to allocate capacity ratings as follows:

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

Non-turf wicket capacity

Non-turf wickets are installed at four club sites in Nuneaton and Bedworth. As no senior cricket is played on these wickets due to respective league requirements, potential capacity from these wickets has been removed from the capacity table to give an accurate portrayal of site capacity.

Non-turf wickets within educational sites have also been discounted from the table due to rarely being used. Spare capacity is therefore deemed to exist for junior cricket on all standalone non-turf wickets.

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Table 6.9: Cricket pitch capacity

Site ID	Site name	Clubs located at site	Analysis area	No. of pitches	No. of wickets	No. of non-turf wickets	Actual play (sessions per season)	Capacity (sessions per season)	Capacity rating (sessions per season)
1	Ambleside Sports Club	Ambleside CC	Weddington and St. Nicolas	1	12	-	45	60	-15
5	Attleborough Sports Club	Attleborough CC	Whitestone and Bulkington	1	8	-	40	40	0
8	Bulkington	Bulkington CC	Whitestone and Bulkington	1	8	1	36	40	-4
16	Griff and Coton Sports and Miners Welfare Club	Griff and Coton CC	Arbury and Stockingford	1	12	1	38	60	-22
18	Heckley Playing Fields	Collycroft CC	Bede and Poplar	1	11	-	29	55	-26
25	Miners Welfare Park	Bedworth CC	Bede and Poplar	1	15	1	90	75	15
26	Newdigate Recreation Ground	Newdigate CC	Bedworth North and West	1	10	-	19	50	-31
28	Nuneaton Cricket Club	Nuneaton CC	Weddington and St. Nicolas	2	18	1	90	90	0
					10	-	50	50	0
30	Pauls Land	Bedworth CC	Whitestone and Bulkington	1	9	-	20	45	-20
37	Stockingford Allotment Association	Stockingford AA and Haunchwood CC	Arbury and Stockingford	1	10	-	17	50	-33

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6.5: Supply and demand analysis

Spare capacity

The next step is to ascertain whether or not any identified 'potential capacity' can be deemed 'spare capacity'. There may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to regularly operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of regular training sessions, or to protect the quality of the site.

There are seven sites that show potential spare capacity. The extent to which these are available at peak time for senior cricket (Saturdays) is highlighted below.

Table 6.10: Actual spare capacity

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of pitches	Spare capacity*	Pitches available in peak period	Comments
1	Ambleside Sports Club	Weddington and St. Nicolas	1	-15	0	No spare capacity at peak time
8	Bulkington	Whitestone and Bulkington	1	-4	0	No spare capacity at peak time
16	Griff and Coton Sports and Miners Welfare Club	Arbury and Stockingford	1	-22	0	No spare capacity at peak time
18	Heckley Playing Fields	Bede and Poplar	1	-26	0	No spare capacity at peak time
26	Newdigate Recreation Ground	Bedworth North and West	1	-31	0	No spare capacity at peak time
30	Pauls Land	Whitestone and Bulkington	1	-20	0	No spare capacity at peak time
37	Stockingford Allotment Association	Arbury and Stockingford	1	-33	0.5	One team could play Saturday cricket on a home/away basis at this site.

*Sessions per season

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Table 3.10 shows that only one site (Stockingford Allotment Association) within Nuneaton and Bedworth has spare capacity at peak time for senior cricket. As there is no spare capacity available on the remaining squares at peak time, this suggests that there is an opportunity for further play on the squares but that the play must take place midweek or on a Sunday. This lends itself to junior cricket which allows clubs to grow these sections if demand exists in the future (as well as the use of non-turf wickets).

Overplay

Overplay occurs when more play is accommodated at a site than it is able to sustain. One site is considered to be overplayed beyond capacity. When sites are well maintained they are able to accommodate a certain amount of overplay, however, continued overplay can have a detrimental effect on pitch quality.

Miners Welfare Park (Bedworth CC) is the only site within Nuneaton and Bedworth that is overplayed. It is currently overplayed by 16 match sessions a season, leading to the Club rating the pitch as poor.

6.6 Conclusions

Consideration must be given to the extent to which existing provision can accommodate current and future demand. The table below looks at available spare capacity at peak time for senior cricket (Saturdays) considered against overplay and future demand.

Future demand for junior teams has been discounted from the table as junior cricket can be accommodated on non-turf wickets and is generally played on Sunday. Therefore, spare capacity is deemed to exist across Nuneaton and Bedworth both now and in the future for junior cricket as no non-turf wickets are overplayed or at capacity during peak time (Sunday).

In order to translate match sessions of overplay to pitches, an average square of ten wickets (50 match equivalent sessions) has been used. Overplay of current pitches equates to a total of 16 match sessions, suggesting that it could be accommodated on four wickets (0.4 of a pitch).

Table 6.11: Capacity of cricket pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (matches)	Demand (pitches)			
		Overplay	Future demand	Displaced demand	Total
Abbey and Wem Brook	-	-	-		0
Arbury and Stockingford	0.5	-	0.5	0.5	-0.5
Bedworth North and West	-	-	-		0
Bede and Poplar	-	0.4	-		-0.4
Camp Hill and Galley Common	-	-	-		0
Weddington and St. Nicolas	-	-	-		0
Whitestone and Bulkington	-	-	-		0
Nuneaton and Bedworth	0.5	-0.4	0.5	0.5	-0.9

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Table 3.11 highlights that current and future demand can be accommodated in all analysis areas, with the exception of the Arbury and Stockingford and Bede and Poplar Analysis Areas, which has a shortfall of 0.4 pitches as a result of overplay.

Expressed future demand from Griff and Coton CC (Arbury and Stockingford Analysis Area) for a senior women's team can be accommodated at the Club's homeground as women's cricket in the Warwickshire League is played midweek when spare capacity exists. This means actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalents remains in the Arbury and Stockingford Analysis Area at Stockingford Allotment Association.

At present there is only one pitch overplayed at Miners Welfare Park (Bedworth CC). Transfer of more junior play from grass wickets to the club's non-turf wicket would allow the Club to accommodate all use without the grass wickets being overplayed. Extending the number of grass wickets on site may also be an option.

The 3rd team representing Griff and Coton CC currently plays outside of Nuneaton and Bedworth in Rugby at Willow CC. Ideally, the Club would prefer this play to occur within the Arbury and Stockingford Analysis Area. A solution to this would be for the Club to transfer its displaced demand to Stockingford AA and Haunchwood CC as the site has spare capacity during peak time. In order for this to occur, however, consideration must be given to the pitch hire costs involved and the impact additional play would have on pitch quality at Stockingford AA and Haunchwood CC. For use of Willow CC, Griff and Coton CC currently pays £300 per season.

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Cricket summary

- ◀ There are 11 senior grass cricket pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth all of which are available for community use.
- ◀ Three pitches are considered to be good quality and 13 pitches are considered to be standard quality.
- ◀ There are a total of eight non-turf wickets in Nuneaton and Bedworth. Three accompany grass wicket squares, whilst five are standalone non-turf wickets at educational sites.
- ◀ All five standalone non-turf wickets are assessed as standard and are available for community use.
- ◀ Although most clubs report that ancillary facilities are good or standard, Bulkinton CC describes its changing rooms and clubhouse as poor quality.
- ◀ The only club which has a lease length that requires extending is Bedworth CC. This will provide greater security of tenure and help secure the site for its new clubhouse.
- ◀ Most clubs report demand for additional or new training provision.
- ◀ Demand for cricket is good with a total of nine clubs generating 55 teams. There are a total of 36 senior and 19 junior teams.
- ◀ Griff and Coton CC 3rd team are displaced to Willow CC in Rugby, but would prefer to play within Nuneaton and Bedworth. A potential solution to explore would be for the Club to use Stockingford Allotment Association as the site has spare capacity during peak time.
- ◀ There are four clubs that express intention to grow their number of teams. Griff and Coton CC report future demand for one senior women's team, whilst three clubs want to grow by one junior boys' team each. With Bedworth Cricket Club receiving recent Sport England Investment, it has targets to increase womens and girls cricket.
- ◀ Potential spare capacity exists on seven grass wicket squares, however, only Stockingford Allotment Association contains spare capacity during peak time for senior cricket (Saturday).
- ◀ Overplay of 16 match equivalent sessions is present at Miners Welfare Park (Bedworth CC). Greater use of the artificial wicket by junior teams will alleviate overplay. Extending the number of grass wickets could also be an option.
- ◀ Spare capacity is deemed to exist across Nuneaton and Bedworth both now and in the future for junior cricket as no non-turf wickets are overplayed or at capacity during peak time (mid-week).
- ◀ Current and future demand for senior cricket can be accommodated in all analysis areas, with the exception of the Arbury and Stockingford and the Bede and Poplar analysis areas, which are overplayed by 0.9 matches in total.

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PART 7 TENNIS

7.1: Introduction

The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) is the organisation responsible for the governance of tennis and administers the sport locally in Nuneaton and Bedworth.

Consultation

There is one LTA tennis club in Nuneaton and Bedworth; Nuneaton Lawn Tennis Club. The Club completed an online survey to inform this report. A smaller recreational club (Ambleside Tennis Club) also exists as part of Ambleside Sports Club and was also consulted as part of this study.

The LTA was also consulted as part of this process although Nuneaton and Bedworth is not currently a priority area; locally the focus is on larger areas of population and growth potential, such as Coventry, Wolverhampton and Birmingham.

7.2: Supply

Quantity

There are a total of 32 tennis courts in Nuneaton and Bedworth, provided across ten sites, including sports clubs, schools and recreation grounds. Of these, 84% are categorised as being available for community use across nine sites. Although there is some casual use of the council courts, only the courts at Ambleside Sports Club and Nuneaton Tennis Club are reported to have any regular use. The courts unavailable for community use are both located at education sites, Etone Sports Centre (four courts) and George Eliot School (one court). There are no formal tennis courts identified at primary schools.

Please note that for the purposes of this report, being available for community use refers to courts in public, voluntary, private or commercial ownership or management (including education sites) recorded as being available for hire by individuals, teams or clubs.

Table 7.1: Summary of the number of tennis courts by analysis area

Analysis area	Courts available for community use	Courts not available for community use
Abbey & Wem Brook	11	1
Arbury & Stockingford	4	-
Bedworth North and West	-	-
Bede and Poplar	8	-
Camp Hill & Galley Common	-	-
Weddinton & St. Nicolas	2	4
Whitestone & Bulkington	2	-
Nuneaton & Bedworth	27	5

As indicated in Table 7.1, the Abbey and Wembrook Analysis Area contains the most courts available for community use (11), while Bedworth North and West and Camphill and Galley Common do not have any courts.

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Indoor facilities

There are no indoor facilities within the boundaries of Nuneaton and Bedworth. However, indoor facilities are located at the University of Warwickshire and Virgin Active Warwickshire, both in neighbouring Coventry City. There is no reported demand for additional indoor facilities by either club.

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Table 7.2: Tennis courts in Nuneaton and Bedworth

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Ownership	Availability for community use?	No. of courts	Floodlit?	Court type	Court quality ²¹
1	Ambleside Sports Club	Weddington and St Nicolas	Sports Club	Yes	2	Yes	Macadam	Average
8	Bulkington	Whitestone & Bulkington	Council	Yes	2	No	Macadam	Average
13	Etone Sports Centre	Weddington & St. Nicolas	School	No	4	No	Macadam	Poor
14	George Eliot School	Abbey & Wem Brook	School	No	1	No	Macadam	Poor
16	Griff And Coton Sports & Miners Welfare Club	Arbury & Stockingford	Sports Club	Yes	1	No	Macadam	Poor
23	King Edward VI College Pitches	Abbey & Wem Brook	School	Yes- unused	2	No	Macadam	Average
25	Miners Welfare Park	Bede and Poplar	Council	Yes	4	No	Macadam	Poor
27	Nicholas Chamberlaine Technology College	Bede and Poplar	School	Yes- unused	4	No	Macadam	Good
32	Pingles Leisure Centre	Abbey & Wem Brook	Council	Yes	4	Yes	Macadam	Poor
40	The Nuneaton Academy Sports College	Arbury & Stockingford	School	Yes- unused	3	Yes	Macadam	Average
52	Nuneaton Lawn Tennis Club	Abbey & Wem Brook	Club	Yes	2	Yes	Artificial Turf	Average
					3	Yes	Macadam	Average

²¹ Assessed using a non technical site assessment pro forma and also takes account of user comments.

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Quality

In terms of quality, tennis courts are rated on the scale below.

Table 7.3: Tennis court green quality scale

Good	Average	Poor

All facilities that are unavailable for community use are rated as poor. Of provision that is available for community use, 15% (four courts) are rated as good, 52% (14 courts) are rated as average and one third (nine courts) are rated as poor. The good quality courts are located at the Nicholas Chamberlaine Technology College.

Nuneaton LTC rates its own courts as average quality, and the non technical assessment rated the courts as good. This is possibly due to user experience at the site, which was used to inform this report. The Club does have aspirations to resurface two courts from tarmac surface to artificial grass or clay, however, funding has not yet been secured for this. The main reason for this resurfacing is higher demand for an artificial surface rather than the quality of the tarmac courts per se.

Ambleside Sports Club also assessed its courts as average, which was also in line with the non technical site assessment. This is due to the surface, which is also used for netball activity.

Table 7.4: Summary of the quality of courts by analysis area

Analysis area	Good	Average	Poor
Abbey & Wem Brook		7	4
Arbury & Stockingford		3	1
Bedworth North and West			
Bede and Poplar	4		4
Camp Hill & Galley Common			
Weddinton & St. Nicolas		2	-
Whitestone & Bulkington		2	
Nuneaton & Bedworth	4	14	9

Bede and Poplar is the only Analysis Area which contains good quality courts located at the Nicholas Chamberlaine Technology College. Abbey and Wem Brook and Bede and Poplar have the majority of poor quality courts, four in each analysis area.

Maintenance

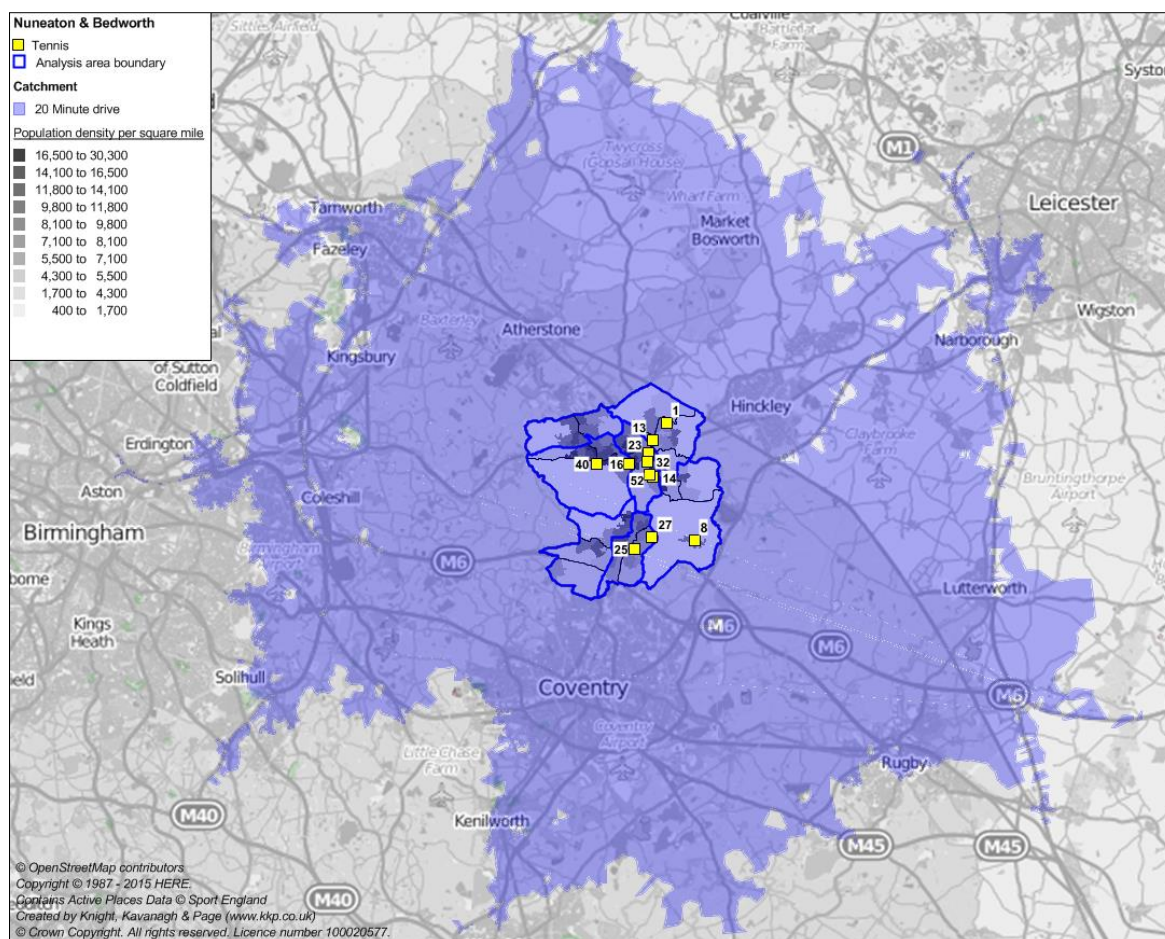
Nuneaton LTC owns its facility and is therefore also responsible for the maintenance of the courts. Ambleside TC is responsible for the maintenance of the courts at Ambleside Sports Club. There is minimal, if any, regular maintenance works carried out on courts that are not owned by clubs i.e. schools and council sites.

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Accessibility

Nuneaton LTC and Ambleside TC both state that the majority of players travel between two and five miles to access the facilities. Figure 7.1 below shows that the majority of the Borough and much wider is within a 20 minute drive of a tennis court in Nuneaton and Bedworth.

Figure 7.1: Tennis courts in Nuneaton and Bedworth



Floodlights

Nuneaton LTC has five floodlit courts, providing additional opportunity to access courts for training and matches during the evenings. Ambleside TC has two floodlit tennis courts which extends usage into the evenings. There are four floodlit courts at Pingles Leisure Centre and three at the Nuneaton Academy Sports College.

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Ownership/management

The table overleaf highlights the management arrangements of courts within each analysis area. Of community accessible courts, just over half (52%) are located on council sites and almost a third (30%) are located on club sites.

Table 7.5: Courts by management arrangements

Analysis area	No. of club/private courts	No. of Council courts	No. of educational courts
Abbey & Wem Brook	5	4	2
Arbury & Stockingford	1	-	3
Bedworth North and West	-	-	-
Bede and Poplar	-	8	-
Camp Hill & Galley Common	-	-	-
Weddinton & St. Nicolas	2	-	-
Whitestone & Bulkington	-	2	-
Nuneaton & Bedworth	8	14	5

Ancillary provision

Nuneaton LTC and Ambleside TC both report standard quality ancillary facilities with access to standard changing and good car parking. Ambleside Sports Club has recently invested in refurbishing and extending the pavilion on site, which has benefitted all members, including Ambleside TC.

7.3: Demand

Current demand

Competitive tennis

There are two community clubs in Nuneaton and Bedworth providing a total of 110 senior and 50 junior members, Nuneaton LTC and Ambleside TC.

Nuneaton LTC reports that there has been an increase in membership over the past three years due to improved facilities and improved coaching for both junior and senior. It currently enters five men's teams into the Coventry and District Lawn Tennis League, two men's teams in the Rugby and District League and one mixed team in the Rugby Mixed Tennis League. There is also a selection of junior and individual teams for different age groups.

Table 7.7: Summary of club membership

Club	Number of members	
	Seniors	Juniors
Nuneaton Lawn Tennis Club	90	50
Ambleside Tennis Club	20	0
Nuneaton and Bedworth	110	50

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Ambleside TC is a small social club, with members generally participating in friendly fixtures locally, using the courts on a Monday and Wednesday evening. The Club would like to develop an air hall on the courts, to improve conditions for winter activity; however, this is not conducive to the netball activity that also occurs on the same courts.

Future demand

Nuneaton LTC expresses a desire to increase membership further by an additional 20 senior and 20 junior players, which can be accommodated at the current facility. Ambleside TC has no plans to increase club membership.

The LTA do not report any initiatives targeted at Nuneaton and Bedworth to increase participation further at this time, however, recognise that Nuneaton and Bedworth is a potential area for community tennis growth.

Latent demand

It is not considered that additional tennis courts in the area would lead to an increase in club membership. In effect, the perception is that any planned increases can be accommodated at existing facilities. Neither club operates a waiting list and would welcome new members.

Informal tennis

Improving park courts is a national priority for the LTA; however, it reports that unless tennis courts are supported by changing facilities, a café and floodlighting, it becomes harder to run a sustainable tennis programme, which therefore makes it more difficult to generate external investment. The LTA is aware of planned work by the Council to work to develop tennis activity in Miners Welfare Park, Bedworth. Any created demand could be accommodated at current facilities.

No education sites which are available for community use report any regular demand from the community.

7.4: Supply and demand analysis

Based on LTA guidelines, a floodlit court provides capacity for 60 members and a non-floodlit court provides capacity for 40 members. Using this calculation in Nuneaton and Bedworth, the table below shows the estimated spare capacity at the current club site.

Table 7.8: Club capacity

Club	No. of courts		Estimated capacity	Members	Comments
	Flood-lights?	No flood-lights?			
Nuneaton Lawn Tennis Club	5	0	300	140	Club has potential spare capacity
Ambleside Tennis Club	2	0	120	20	Club has potential spare capacity

Capacity analysis based on LTA guidelines, suggests that there is spare capacity at both sites to accommodate more players. This also appears to be reflective of club consultation.

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Tennis summary

- ◀ There are a total of 31 tennis courts across ten sites identified in Nuneaton and Bedworth with 84% categorised as being available for community use.
- ◀ Just over half (52%) of community accessible courts are available on council sites; however, the quality of the courts is poor or standard.
- ◀ Of the provision that is available for community use, 15% (four courts) are rated as good quality, 52% (14 courts) are rated as average and one third (nine courts) are rated poor.
- ◀ There are two tennis clubs in Nuneaton and Bedworth, Nuneaton LTC and Ambleside TC. Both sites are owned by the sports clubs. Courts at both sites are rated average. Nuneaton LTC intends to resurface two macadam courts to artificial turf to meet demand.
- ◀ There are 11 floodlit courts, all located at club sites and available for community use. Seven courts are regularly used for club activity.
- ◀ Both clubs report adequate access to ancillary facilities, with good parking and standard changing facilities available.
- ◀ The LTA reports that unless tennis courts located in parks are supported by changing facilities, a café and floodlighting, it becomes harder to run a sustainable tennis programme.
- ◀ No education sites which are available for community use report any regular demand from the community.
- ◀ Based on LTA guidelines, both clubs in Nuneaton and Bedworth are operating with potential spare capacity and would be able to accommodate new players.
- ◀ On the whole, it is believed that the current level of provision can accommodate current and predicted future demand.

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PART 8: BOWLS

8.1: Introduction

The majority of bowling greens in Nuneaton and Bedworth are crown greens. The British Crown Green Bowling Association is the National Governing Body for crown green bowls with overall responsibility for ensuring effective governance of crown green bowls.

There is also one flat green located at Ambleside Sports Club (Nuneaton Bowls Club). Bowls England is the National Governing Body for flat green bowls with overall responsibility for ensuring effective governance of flat green bowls. Both bowling seasons runs from May to September.

8.2 Crown green bowls

Consultation

There are 12 crown green bowls clubs identified that access greens in Nuneaton and Bedworth. Of these, 11 responded to an online survey and are listed below:

- ◀ Attleborough Bowling Club
- ◀ Bedworth Bowls Club
- ◀ Bedworth Ex-servicemans Bowls Club
- ◀ Bermuda Phoenix Bowls Club Phoenix Foxes
- ◀ Bulkington Bowls Club
- ◀ Griff and Coton Sports and Miners Welfare Bowls Club
- ◀ Haunchwood Bowls
- ◀ Plough Inn Bowls Club
- ◀ Stockingford AA Bowls Club
- ◀ Windmill Sports and Social Club

Newdigate Colliery Bowls Club, Weddington Bowls Club and Attleborough Bowls Club did not respond to consultation requests.

8.3: Supply

Quantity

There are 18 crown greens across 12 sites in Nuneaton and Bedworth. The majority of these are located in the Arbury and Stockingford Analysis Area, while there are none in Abbey and Wem Brook Analysis Area.

Table 8.1: Summary of the number of greens by analysis area

Analysis area	Number of greens
Abbey & Wem Brook	-
Arbury & Stockingford	6
Bedworth North and West	1
Bede and Poplar	3
Camp Hill & Galley Common	2
Weddinton & St. Nicolas	3
Whitestone & Bulkington	3
Nuneaton & Bedworth	18

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Although there are no indoor bowls facilities in Nuneaton and Bedworth, the Barwell Indoor Bowls Club is located in neighbouring Hinckley and B
osworth Borough, Tamworth and District Indoor Bowls Club in Tamworth Borough and Erdington Court Bowls Club in Birmingham City. These facilities are accessed by clubs from Nuneaton and Bedworth.

Quality

In terms of quality, bowls greens are rated on the scale below.

Table 8.2: Bowls green quality scale

Good	Average	Poor

Following a non technical assessment of greens that were accessible, eight are assessed as good quality and nine as average quality. The table below summarises the quality of bowling greens in Nuneaton and Bedworth, and the relative change in quality compared to last season, according to the clubs on site.

Table 8.3: Bowling greens in Nuneaton and Bedworth

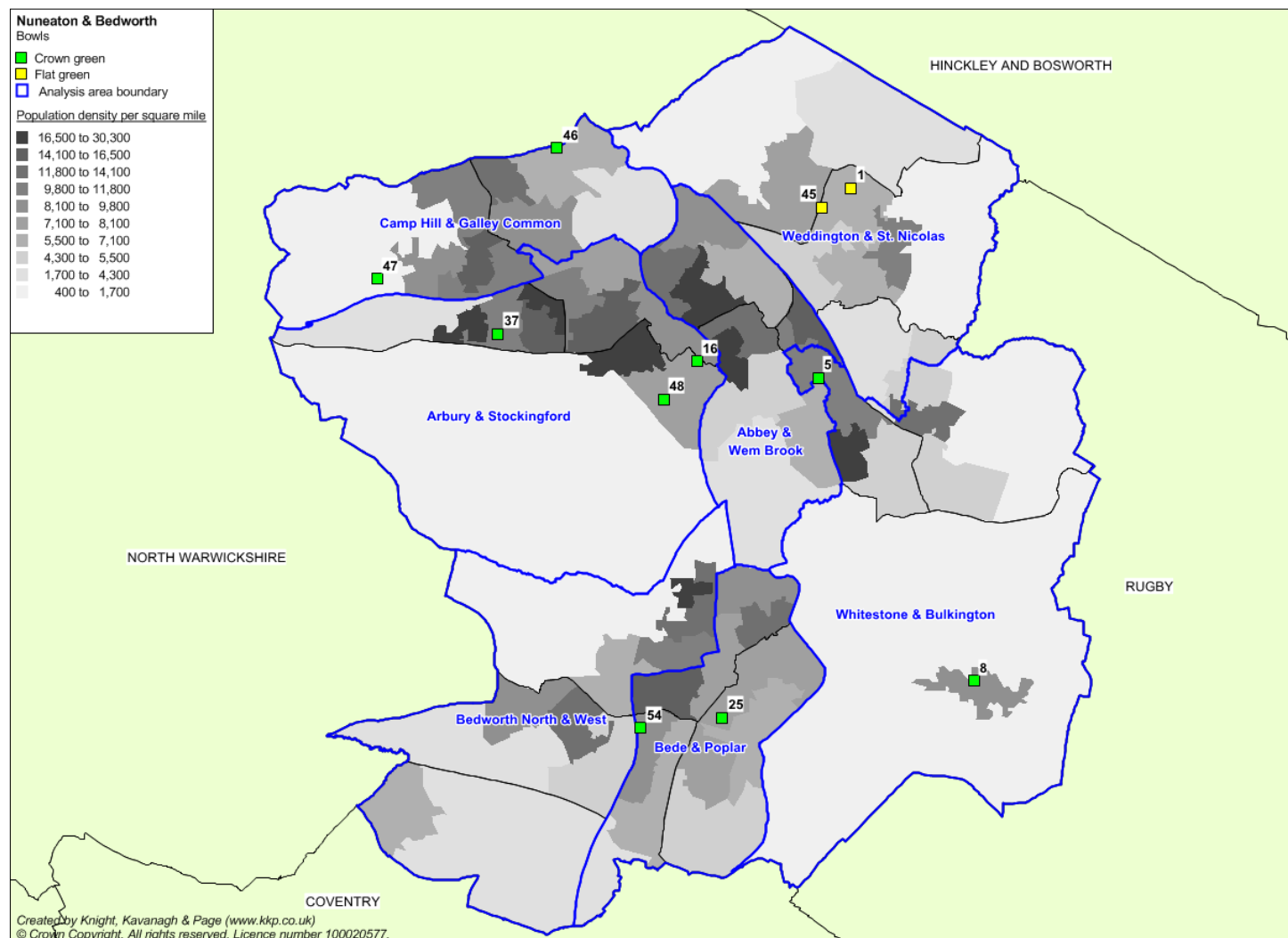
Site ID	Site name	Number of greens	Quality of green	Quality in comparison to last season
5	Attleborough Sports Club	2	Good	-
8	Bulkington	1	Good	Much better
16	Griff And Coton Sports & Miners Welfare Club	2	Average	Slightly better
25	Miners Welfare Park	1	Good	No difference
37	Stockingford Allotment Association Ltd	2	Average	No difference
45	Nuneaton Bowling Club	1	Good	No difference
46	Windmill Sports and Social Club	1	Average	Slightly poorer
47	Haunchwood Bowling Club	1	Good	Much better
48	Bermuda Phoenix Centre	2	Good	Slightly better
54	Bedworth Bowls Club	2	Average	No difference
108	Newdigate Colliery & District S&S Club	1	Average	-
109	Weddington Social Club	2	Average	-

Haunchwood, Plough Inn and Bulkington bowls clubs all report that the quality of their green has got much better since last season due to work carried out by members and groundsmen. Similarly, Griff and Coton Sports and Miners Welfare Club is reported to have slightly improved in quality for the same reasons.

Windmill Sports and Social Club states that the green quality of its green has got slightly poorer since last season due to limited finances. Stockingford AA Bowls Club report issues with damage to the green caused by foxes.

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Figure 8.1: Bowling facilities in Nuneaton and Bedworth



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Maintenance

There is one bowling green maintained by the Council which is located in Miners Welfare Park. Clubs are responsible for the maintenance of all other greens in the area.

Accessibility

Half of clubs consulted state that most players travel up to two miles to access facilities and all clubs state that up to 25% of players are from outside the Nuneaton and Bedworth area.

Ownership/management

Four clubs own their own facilities, Haunchwood, Plough Inn, Griff and Coton and Stockingford AA bowling clubs.

Nuneaton Bowling Club and Windmill Sports and Social Club lease facilities from Nuneaton Town Bowling Ground Ltd and Lafarge Tarmac respectively. Nuneaton Bowling Club has 98 years left on a 99 year lease. Windmill Sports and Social Club has ten years left on a lease.

The other clubs that responded to consultation rent facilities and all but one is responsible for their own maintenance on the sites. Miners Welfare Park is maintained by the Council.

All clubs are based at their preferred home ground.

Ancillary facilities

The majority of clubs (90%) access a clubhouse/pavilion on site and all sites offer spectator seating and all aside from Miners Welfare Park offer access to toilets. This is an issue for the Club based at this site.

Further to this, 60% rate ancillary facilities as good and 40% as average and there are no poor quality ancillary facilities reported by clubs. However, 80% of clubs consulted have plans to improve the ancillary facilities at their sites.

Floodlights

Most clubs (60%) access facilities with floodlights, providing additional opportunity to access courts for training and matches during the evenings. This figure includes all four clubs that own facilities.

Windmill Sports and Social Club and Bedworth Ex Servicemen's Bowling Club both report demand for floodlights to enable members to bowl in the evenings.

Club challenges

Consultation with clubs highlights a small number of challenges that some clubs face. These are listed by club overleaf.

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Table 8.4: Current club issues

Club name and site	Issue to be resolved
Bedworth Bowling Club	Membership recruitment/retention is an issue for the Club.
Bedworth Ex Servicemen's Bowling Club (Miners Welfare Park)	Lack of toilets and floodlights are an issue for the Club. The bowling green is used by members of the public at times when it has not been booked by the bowling club. It would be used more if facilities for hiring of equipment were available.
Bulkington Bowls Club (Bulkington)	Club is considering the installation of a watering system to allow green to be watered at night.
Griff and Coton Sports and Miners Welfare Bowls Club	The Club requires shelter against the weather and repairs to the bowling green edges and clubhouse, no funding secured.
Haunchwood Bowling Club	Future plans include general improvements around bowling greens.
Nuneaton Bowling Club	The Club has plans to develop new windows, internal floor repairs, car park resurface.
Phoenix Foxes Bowling Club (Bermuda Phoenix Centre)	The Club plan to improve facilities but require approval from the Bermuda Phoenix Centre first. This would include planting trees and then form a wind break for the green. A small amount of vandalism has recently been suffered. A shelter was damaged and the back of our small pavilion was damaged (panel was loosed but no entry was gained).
Stockingford Allotment Association Bowls Section	The Club has plans to improve the facility but no funding has yet been secured. Stones thrown on to the playing surface by passing school children causing damage to the green, which is repaired by volunteers. The Club struggles with lack of internal funding (subs/fundraising), lack of external funding, lack of voluntary assistance and damage to the green by foxes. The surrounding paths around the greens require improving as they are uneven Shelters required around greens for protection against weather conditions.
Windmill Sports and Social Club	The Club intends to make improvements walkways, green etc. No funding has been applied for. The quality of the green has suffered due to lack of finances. The Club has suffered a break in at the Club, with stolen mowers and tools. Issues for the Club include lack of appropriate local facilities and membership recruitment/retention. The Club does have many members wanting to access facilities in evenings, but require floodlights. In addition, green improvement is needed.

8.4: Demand

Current demand

There are 13 clubs using the 17 bowling greens on 12 sites in Nuneaton and Bedworth. Membership of those clubs that shared data amounts to 641 adult members and 23 junior members. This does not include Newdigate Colliery Bowls Club, Weddington Bowls Club and Attleborough Bowls Club. The table overleaf lists which clubs play at each site.

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Table 8.5: Clubs located at sites

Site ID	Site name	Club located at site
5	Attleborough Sports Club	Attleborough Bowls Club
8	Bulkington	Bulkington Bowls Club
16	Griff And Coton Sports & Miners Welfare Club	Griff and Coton Sports and Miners Welfare Bowls Club
25	Miners Welfare Park	Bedworth Ex-servicemens Bowls Club
37	Stockingford Allotment Association Ltd	Stockingford Bowls Club
45	Nuneaton Bowling Club	Nuneaton Bowling Club
46	Windmill Sports and Social Club	Windmill Sports and Social Club
47	Haunchwood Bowling Club	Haunchwood Bowling Club
48	Bermuda Phoenix Centre	Phoenix Foxes Bowls Club
54	Bedworth Bowls Club-	Bedworth Bowling Club
108	Newdigate Colliery & District S&S Club	Newdigate Colliery Bowls Club
109	Weddington Social Club	Weddington Bowls Club
110	Plough Inn Bowls Club	Plough Inn Bowls Club

The largest club, in terms of membership, is Griff and Coton Bowling Club, where junior and senior figures have stayed stable over the past three years. Despite a national trend of declining membership, just two clubs report a decline in senior members and two clubs report a decline in junior members.

Table 8.6: Current club membership for bowls clubs in Nuneaton and Bedworth

Club name	Current				Change in numbers in the past three years	
	Senior male	Senior female	Junior	Total	Senior	Junior
Bedworth Bowling Club	51	28	4	83	Decreased due to lack of members	Stayed the same
Bedworth Ex Servicemen's Bowling Club	29	24	1	54	Stayed the same	-
Bulkington Bowls Club	56	12	-	68	Increased due to new Thursday league team	-
Griff and Coton Sports and Miners Welfare Bowling Club	65	35	4	104	Stayed the same	Stayed the same
Haunchwood Bowling Club	52	20	2	74	Decreased by two teams due to players leaving club	Stayed the same
Nuneaton Bowling Club	52	27	1	80	Increased	Decreased
Phoenix Foxes Bowling Club	18	9	2	29	Stayed the same	Stayed the same
Plough Inn Bowls Club	25	15	3	43	Stayed the same	Stayed the same

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Club name	Current				Change in numbers in the past three years	
	Senior male	Senior female	Junior	Total	Senior	Junior
Stockingford Allotment Association Bowls Section	56	22	1	79	Increased by one team due to member wanting to play on additional day	Stayed the same
Windmill Sports and Social Club	25	20	5	50	Stayed the same	Decreased due to lack of juniors
Nuneaton and Bedworth	429	212	23	664	-	-

Clubs enter teams in a variety of the following leagues:

- ◀ North Midlands Crown Green Bowling League
- ◀ North Midlands Ladies Crown Green Bowling League
- ◀ Coventry and District Saturday League
- ◀ Coventry and District Sunday League
- ◀ Nuneaton and District Men's League
- ◀ Nuneaton and District Ladies' League
- ◀ Coventry Ladies League
- ◀ Hinckley and District Triples League

Future demand

Using ONS projections (2012-based projections 2012-2037 released May 2014), the number of persons aged 65 and over is likely to increase continuously from 21,976 in 2012, to 33,200 in 2031, representing an increase of 51% and will account for 24% of Nuneaton and Bedworth future population (compared to 17.4% currently). Due to this age band being the most likely to play bowls, demand for bowling greens is likely to increase.

The table below outlines the planned membership growth of clubs in the area. Five clubs identify plans to increase membership which will total an additional 42 seniors and 15 junior players. One club did not specify how many additional members are expected. Clubs state that advertising, word of mouth, flyers and open days will all contribute to the planned increase in membership.

Table 8.7: Future planned growth in bowls clubs in Nuneaton and Bedworth

Club name	Current membership	Plans to increase	Aim to increase
Bedworth Bowling Club	83	Yes	12 seniors 4 juniors
Bedworth Ex Servicemen's Bowling Club	54		
Bulkington Bowls Club	68	Yes	Not stated
Griff and Coton Sports and Miners Welfare Bowls Club	104	No	
Haunchwood Bowling Club	74	No	

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Club name	Current membership	Plans to increase	Aim to increase
Nuneaton Bowling Club	80	Yes	15 seniors 3 juniors
Phoenix Foxes Bowling Club	29	Yes	5 senior 2 junior
Plough Inn Bowls Club	43	No	
Stockingford Allotment Association Bowls Section	79	No	
Windmill Sports and Social Club	50	Yes	10 seniors 6 juniors
Nuneaton and Bedworth	664	-	42 seniors 15 juniors

Latent demand

Two clubs suggest that an additional bowling green at their ground or in the area would lead to an increase in club membership. Windmill Sports and Social Club state that two junior teams of eight would be developed and Griff and Coton Sports and Miners Welfare Bowls Club state the potential for an additional senior men's team. Given levels of spare capacity elsewhere, it is unlikely that new teams will require a new green and could be accommodated elsewhere in the Borough.

8.5 Supply and demand analysis

It is considered that bowling clubs in Nuneaton and Bedworth generally have spare capacity, meaning that current membership and an increase in membership is sustainable and clubs are able to accept additional members should demand increase. Although two clubs express a demand for additional green space, it appears that there is sufficient spare capacity across the rest of the Borough to accommodate new players. The remaining clubs report that identified future demand can be accommodated on greens currently available to them.

Priority should be placed on ensuring that green quality and ancillary provision at sites is sustained and improved where necessary in order to allow for continued use.

8.6 Flat green bowls

In addition to the crown greens in Nuneaton and Bedworth, there is also one facility at Ambleside Sports Club with one flat green with six rinks. The Club based at the facility has a total of 74 members and plays in many leagues throughout the summer. In winter the Club uses indoor facilities at Barwell Indoor Bowls Club in neighbouring Hinckley and Bosworth.

The Club maintains the green itself and has its own small pavilion, built two years ago, it is intended that the Club will extend this pavilion in the near future. In addition, members and visiting players have access to changing and toilet facilities at the recently refurbished Ambleside Sports Club clubhouse.

Ambleside Sports Club does not have any immediate plans to actively increase membership and numbers have been stable for the past three years. However, the Club does have capacity should it attract additional members.

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Crown green bowls summary

- ◀ There are 18 crown green bowling rinks across 12 sites in Nuneaton and Bedworth.
- ◀ Eight crown green rinks are assessed as good quality and nine as average quality.
- ◀ Clubs state that the quality of greens have either got much better or slightly better since last season.
- ◀ Clubs are responsible for maintenance on all but one of the greens.
- ◀ Most users of the facilities travel up to 2 miles to access the greens.
- ◀ 90% of clubs can access ancillary facilities at the club site and 80% of clubs intend to improve ancillary facilities.
- ◀ 60% of clubs use facilities with floodlights, allowing training and match play on evenings.
- ◀ There are 13 clubs using 18 greens, providing activity for 664 members in Nuneaton and Bedworth, all clubs enter formal leagues.
- ◀ Despite a national trend of declining membership, just two clubs report a decline in the number of senior teams and two clubs report a loss of junior teams in the past three years. Bedworth Ex Servicemen's Bowling Club, Griff and Coton Sports and Miners Welfare Bowls Club, the Phoenix Foxes Bowling Club and the Plough Inn Bowls Club all report static membership numbers.
- ◀ Five clubs plan to increase membership and all are confident that this can be accommodated at existing sites.
- ◀ Future population projections suggest that almost a quarter the Nuneaton and Bedworth population by 2031 will be over 65+, the most likely age band to play bowls.
- ◀ Generally, through consultation, it is considered that most bowling greens in Nuneaton and Bedworth have spare capacity, meaning current membership and an increase in membership is sustainable.
- ◀ Priority should therefore be placed on ensuring green quality and ancillary provision is sustained and improved where necessary.
- ◀ Bowling clubs in Nuneaton and Bedworth have spare capacity, meaning that current membership and an increase in membership is sustainable and clubs are able to accept additional members should demand increase. It would appear that there are enough greens to accommodate both the current and future demand.

Flat green bowls summary

- ◀ There is one flat green bowling green with six rinks located at Ambleside Sports Club.
- ◀ The Club has 74 members with no active plans to increase membership further
- ◀ Ambleside Sports Club bowls green is maintained by the Club, that also has its own pavilion on site
- ◀ There is enough capacity at the facility if membership does increase in the future.

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APPENDIX 1: SPORTING CONTEXT

National context

The provision of high quality and accessible community outdoor sports facilities at a local level is a key requirement for achieving the targets set out by the Government and Sport England. It is vital that this strategy is cognisant of and works towards these targets in addition to local priorities and plans.

Sport England: A Sporting Habit for Life (2012-2017)

In 2017, five years after the Olympic Games, Sport England aspires to transforming sport in England so that it is a habit for life for more people and a regular choice for the majority. Launched in January 2012 the strategy sets out how Sport England will invest over one billion pounds of National Lottery and Exchequer funding during the five year plan period. The investment will be used to create a lasting community sport legacy by growing sports participation at the grassroots level following the 2012 London Olympics. The strategy will:

- ◀ See more people starting and keeping a sporting habit for life
- ◀ Create more opportunities for young people
- ◀ Nurture and develop talent
- ◀ Provide the right facilities in the right places
- ◀ Support local authorities and unlock local funding
- ◀ Ensure real opportunities for communities

The vision is for England to be a world leading sporting nation where many more people choose to play sport. There are five strategic themes including:

- ◀ Maximise value from current NGB investment
- ◀ Places, People, Play
- ◀ Strategic direction and market intelligence
- ◀ Set criteria and support system for NGB 2013-17 investment
- ◀ Market development

The aim by 2017 is to ensure that playing sport is a lifelong habit for more people and a regular choice for the majority. A specific target is to increase the number of 14 to 25 year olds playing sport. To accomplish these aims the strategy sets out a number of outcomes:

- ◀ 4,000 secondary schools in England will be offered a community sport club on its site with a direct link to one or more NGBs, depending on the local clubs in a school's area.
- ◀ County sports partnerships will be given new resources to create effective links locally between schools and sport in the community.
- ◀ All secondary schools that wish to do so, will be supported to open up, or keep open, their sports facilities for local community use and at least a third of these will receive additional funding to make this happen.
- ◀ At least 150 further educational colleagues will benefit from a full time sports professional who will act as a College Sport Maker.
- ◀ Three quarters of university students aged 18-24 will get the chance to take up a new sport or continue playing a sport they played at school or college.
- ◀ A thousand of our most disadvantaged local communities will get a Door Step Club.
- ◀ Two thousand young people on the margins of society will be supported by the Dame Kelly Holmes Legacy Trust into sport and to gain new life skills.

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- ◀ Building on the success of the Places People Play, a further £100 million will be invested in facilities for the most popular sports.
- ◀ A minimum of 30 sports will have enhanced England Talent Pathways to ensure young people and others fulfil their potential.

National Planning Policy Framework

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out planning policies for England. It details how these changes are expected to be applied to the planning system. It also provides a framework for local people and their councils to produce distinct local and neighbourhood plans, reflecting the needs and priorities of local communities.

The NPPF states the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. It identifies that the planning system needs to focus on three themes of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. A presumption in favour of sustainable development is a key aspect for any plan-making and decision-taking processes. In relation to plan-making the NPPF sets out that Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs.

The 'promoting healthy communities' theme identifies that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficiencies or surpluses in local areas should also be identified. This information should be used to inform what provision is required in an area.

As a prerequisite the NPPF states existing open space, sports and recreation buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

In order for planning policies to be 'sound' local authorities are required to carry out a robust assessment of need for open space, sport and recreation facilities.

The FA National Game Strategy (2011 – 2015)

The Football Association's (FA) National Game Strategy provides a strategic framework that sets out key priorities, expenditure proposals and targets for the national game (i.e., football) over a four year period. The main issues facing grassroots football are identified as:

- ◀ Growth and retention (young and adult players)
- ◀ Raising standards and behaviour
- ◀ Better players
- ◀ Running the game
- ◀ Workforce
- ◀ Facilities

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'The National Game Strategy' reinforces the urgent need to provide affordable, new and improved facilities in schools, clubs and on local authority sites. Over 75% of football is played on public sector facilities. The leisure budgets of most local authorities have been reduced over recent years, resulting in decaying facilities that do not serve the community and act as a disincentive to play football. The loss of playing fields has also been well documented and adds to the pressure on the remaining facilities to cope with the demand, especially in inner city and urban areas.

The growth of the commercial sector in developing custom built five-a-side facilities has changed the overall environment. High quality, modern facilities provided by Powerleague, Goals and playfootball.net for example, have added new opportunities to participate and prompted a significant growth in the number of five-a-side teams in recent years.

The FA National Facilities Strategy (2013 – 2015)

The recently launched National Facilities Strategy sets out the FA's long term vision for development of facilities to support the National Game. It aims to address and reflect the facility needs of football within the National Game. The National Game is defined as all non-professional football from Steps 1-7 of the National League System down to recreational football played on open public space. The role of facilities will be crucial in developing the game in England. One of the biggest issues raised from 'the Big Grassroots Football Survey' by that of 84% respondents, was 'poor facilities'.

The FA's vision for the future of facilities in England is to build, protect and enhance sustainable football facilities to improve the experience of the nation's favourite game. It aims to do this by:

- ◀ Building - Provide new facilities and pitches in key locations to FA standards in order to sustain existing participation and support new participation.
- ◀ Protecting - Ensure that playing pitches and facilities are protected for the benefit of current and future participants.
- ◀ Enhancing - Invest in existing facilities and pitches, ensuring that participation in the game is sustained as well as expanded.

The Strategy commits to delivering in excess of £150m (through Football Foundation) into facility improvements across the National Game in line with identified priorities:

- ◀ Natural grass pitches improved – target: 100
- ◀ A network of new AGPs built – target 100
- ◀ A network of refurbished AGPs – target 150
- ◀ On selected sites, new and improved changing facilities and toilets
- ◀ Continue a small grants programme designed to address modest facility needs of clubs
- ◀ Ongoing support with the purchase and replacement of goalposts

It also commits to:

- ◀ Direct other sources of investment into FA facility priorities
- ◀ Communicate priorities for investment across the grassroots game on a regular basis
- ◀ Work closely with Sport England, the Premier League and other partners to ensure that investment is co-ordinated and targeted

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Champion Counties – England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Strategic Plan (2013 – 2017)

“Champion Counties” - continues to focus on the four pillars, as identified in the ECB’s previous strategy: “Grounds to Play”. The pillars are:

- ◀ Energising people and partnerships through effective leadership and governance
- ◀ Building a Vibrant domestic game through operational excellence and delivering a competition structure with appointment to view
- ◀ Engaging participants through the maintenance of existing facilities, supporting club/school links , supporting volunteers and expanding women’s and disabilities cricket
- ◀ Delivering Successful England teams and world class global events

The key measures for the life span of the plan are as follows:-

- ◀ Increase the subset of participation measured by Sport England’s Active People Survey from 183,400 to 197,500.
- ◀ Increase attendances at LV= CC, YB50 and FLT20 by 200,000.
- ◀ Complete sponsorship and broadcasting agreements through 2019.
- ◀ Win the World Test Championship and Women’s World Cup in 2017.
- ◀ Win The Ashes and World Cup in 2015.
- ◀ Expand the number of clubs participating in NatWest Cricket Force from 2,000 to 2,200.
- ◀ Complete co-operation agreements for each of the 39 County Boards with their First Class County or Minor County partner.
- ◀ Deliver two world class global events in 2017 which exceed budget and exceed customer satisfaction targets.
- ◀ Increase the number of cricket’s volunteers to 80,000 by 2017.
- ◀ Expand the number of participants in women’s and disabilities cricket by 10% by 2017.
- ◀ Award all Major Matches through 2019 by December 2014.
- ◀ To increase the number of TwelfthMan members from 220,000 to 250,000 by 2017.
- ◀ Complete an approved Community Engagement programme with all 18 First Class Counties and MCC.
- ◀ Provide First Class Counties with total fee payments of £144m between 2014 and 2017.
- ◀ For each £1 provided in facility grants through the Sport England Whole Sport Plan grant programme ensure a multiplier of 3 with other funding partners.
- ◀ Provide a fund of £8.1m of capital investment to enhance floodlights, sightscreens, replay screens, power sub-stations and broadcasting facilities at First Class County venues.
- ◀ Provide an interest-free loan fund to community clubs of £10 million.
- ◀ Leverage the 2014 tour by India to engage with a minimum of 10,000 cricket supporters of Asian origin. Qualify and engage 50 Level 4 coaches to support the development of professional cricketers.
- ◀ Expand the number of coaches who have received teacher level 1, 2 or 3 qualifications to 50,000.
- ◀ Deliver an annual fixture for the Unicorns against a touring (Full, A or U19) ICC member nation.
- ◀ Provide a fund of £2 million for community clubs to combat the impact of climate change.
- ◀ Introduce a youth T20 competition engaging 500 teams by 2017.

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The Rugby Football Union National Facilities Strategy (2013-2017)

The recently launched RFU National Facility Strategy 2013-2017 provides a framework for development of high-quality, well-managed facilities that will help to strengthen member clubs and grow the game in communities around them. In conjunction with partners, this strategy will assist and support clubs and other organisations, so that they can continue to provide quality opportunities for all sections of the community to enjoy the game. It sets out the broad facility needs of the sport and identifies investment priorities to the game and its key partners. It identifies that with 470 grass root clubs and 1500 players there is a continuing need to invest in community club facilities in order to:

- ◀ Create a platform for growth in club rugby participation and membership, especially with a view to exploiting the opportunities afforded by RWC 2015.
- ◀ Ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of rugby clubs, through supporting not only their playing activity but also their capacity to generate revenue through a diverse range of activities and partnerships.

In summary the priorities for investment which have met the needs of the game for the Previous period remain valid:

- ◀ Increase the provision of changing rooms and clubhouses that can sustain concurrent adult and junior male and female activity at clubs
- ◀ Improve the quality and quantity of natural turf pitches and floodlighting
- ◀ Increase the provision of artificial grass pitches that deliver wider game development

It is also a high priority for the RFU to target investment in the following:

- ◀ Upgrade and transform social, community and catering facilities, which can support the generation of additional revenues
- ◀ Facility upgrades, which result in an increase in energy-efficiency, in order to reduce the running costs of clubs
- ◀ Pitch furniture, including rugby posts and pads, pitch side spectator rails and grounds maintenance equipment

England Hockey (EH) - A Nation Where Hockey Matters (2013-2017)

EH have a clear vision, a powerful philosophy and five core objectives that all those who have a role in advancing Hockey can unite behind. With UK Sport and Sport England's investment, and growing commercial revenues, EH are ambitious about how they can take the sport forward in Olympic cycles and beyond.

"The vision is for England to be a 'Nation Where Hockey Matters'. A nation where hockey is talked about at dinner tables, playgrounds and public houses, up and down the country. A nation where the sport is on the back pages of our newspapers, where children dream of scoring a goal for England's senior hockey team, and where the performance stirs up emotion amongst the many, not the few"

England Hockey aspires to deepen the passion of those who play, deliver and follow sport by providing the best possible environments and the best possible experiences. Whilst reaching out to new audiences by making the sport more visible, available and relevant and through the many advocates of hockey.

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Underpinning all this is the infrastructure which makes the sport function. EH understand the importance of volunteers, coaches, officials, clubs and facilities. The more inspirational people can be, the more progressive Hockey can be and the more befitting the facilities can be, the more EH will achieve. The core objectives are as follows:

- ◀ Grow our Participation
- ◀ Deliver International Success
- ◀ Increase our Visibility
- ◀ Enhance our Infrastructure
- ◀ Be a strong and respected Governing Body

England Hockey has a Capital Investment Programme (CIP) that is planned to lever £5.6 million investment into hockey facilities over the next four years, underpinned by £2m million from the National Governing Body. With over 500 pitches due for refurbishment in the next 4-8 years, there will be a large focus placed on these projects through this funding stream. The current level of pitches available for hockey is believed to be sufficient for the medium term needs, however in some areas, pitches may not be in the right places in order to maximize playing opportunities

'The right pitches in the right places'²²

In 2012, EH released its facility guidance which is intended to assist organisations wishing to build or protect hockey pitches for hockey. It identifies that many existing hockey AGPs are nearing the end of their useful life as a result of the installation boom of the 90's. Significant investment is needed to update the playing stock and protect the sport against inappropriate surfaces for hockey as a result of the rising popularity of AGPs for a number of sports. EH is seeking to invest in, and endorse clubs and hockey providers which have a sound understanding of the following:

- ◀ Single System – clubs and providers which have a good understanding of the Single System and its principles and are appropriately places to support the delivery.
- ◀ ClubsFirst accreditation – clubs with the accreditation are recognised as producing a safe effective and child friendly hockey environment
- ◀ Sustainability – hockey providers and clubs will have an approved development plan in place showing their commitment to developing hockey, retaining members and providing an insight into longer term goals. They will also need to have secured appropriate tenure.

England Hockey Strategy

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

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

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

²²

<http://englandhockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=1143§ionTitle=The+Right+Pitches+in+the+Right+Places>

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The 3 main objectives of the facilities strategy are:

1. PROTECT: To conserve the existing hockey provision

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

2. IMPROVE: To improve the existing facilities stock (physically and administratively).

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

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

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

2015-2018 British Tennis Strategy

The new strategy is presented in a concise one page framework that includes key strategies relating to three participation "focus" areas, six participation "drivers" and three participation "enablers". To achieve success, the 12 strategy areas will need to work interdependently to stem the decline and unlock sustainable growth:

The three participation "focus" areas are where tennis is consumed:

- ◀ Deliver great service to clubs
- ◀ Build partnerships in the community, led by parks
- ◀ Enhance the tennis offer in education

The six participation "drivers" are the areas that will make the biggest difference where tennis is consumed. They must all be successful on a standalone and interconnected basis and include:

- ◀ Becoming more relevant to coaches
- ◀ Refocusing on recreational competition
- ◀ Providing results orientated facility investment
- ◀ Applying best in class marketing and promotion
- ◀ Jump starting the peak summer season
- ◀ Establishing a "no compromise" high performance programme with focus

The final layer is comprised of three participation "enablers" that underpin our ability to be successful. These enablers are rooted in how the LTA will get better; how the entire network of partners must be harnessed to work together and the need to raise more financial resources to fund our sport's turnaround. They include:

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- ◀ Becoming a more effective and efficient LTA
- ◀ Harnessing the full resource network
- ◀ Generating new revenue

For further information and more detail on the framework please go to <http://www.lta.org.uk/about-the-lta/structure-vision>

British Crown Green Bowling Association

Please note there is no current facility guidance provided by British Crown Green Bowling Association responsible for crown green bowls in England.

<http://crowngreenbowls.sharepoint.com/Pages/default.aspx>

Bowls England: Strategic Plan 2014-2017

Bowls England will provide strong leadership and work with its stakeholders to support the development of the sport of bowls in England for this and future generations.

The overall vision of Bowls England is to:

- ◀ Promote the sport of outdoor flat green bowls.
- ◀ Recruit new participants to the sport of outdoor flat green bowls.
- ◀ Retain current and future participants within the sport of flat green bowls.

In order to ensure that this vision is achieved, ten key performance targets have been created, which will underpin the work of Bowls England up until 31st March 2017.

- ◀ 115,000 individual affiliated members.
- ◀ 1,500 registered coaches.
- ◀ Increase total National Championship entries by 10%.
- ◀ Increase total national competition entries by 10%.
- ◀ Medal places achieved in 50% of events at the 2016 World Championships.
- ◀ County development officer appointed by each county association.
- ◀ National membership scheme implemented with 100% uptake by county associations.
- ◀ Secure administrative base for 1st April 2017.
- ◀ Commercial income to increase by 20%.

Despite a recent fall in affiliated members, and a decline in entries into National Championships over the last five years, Bowls England believes that these aims will be attained by following core values. The intention is to:

- ◀ Be progressive.
- ◀ Offer opportunities to participate at national and international level.
- ◀ Work to raise the profile of the sport in support of recruitment and retention.
- ◀ Lead the sport.
- ◀ Support clubs and county associations.

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APPENDIX 2: REQUIREMENTS OF STEP SYSTEM

Step/ Grade	Min Capacity	Pitch Barrier	Technical area	Floodlights	Turnstiles	Spectator Accommodation	Press seating	Toilets within ground	Players Changing	Match Officials Changing
7 Step W3- Grade C Women' s NLS	No minimum and no boundar y fencing required	Post and rope around all sides that accommo date spectator s. Minimum of 1.83m (ideally 2m) away from touchline and if hard standing exists (not compulsory) it should be minimum of 0.9 metres width.	Not essential but its desirable that a technical area exists within the laws of the game	Not compulsory	Not required, however where one exists it must be fixed and fully operational	No specific requirements for accommodation	None Required	Provision should be made for adequate toilet facilities	Existing must be 12m2, with 4 shower heads and adequate toilets for players .New build 18m2.	Minimum 4m2,1 shower and access to toilets (not necessarily inside the changing room). New build 6m2. Provision for both male and female officials required.

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Step/ Grade	Min Capacity	Pitch Barrier	Technical area	Floodlights	Turnstiles	Spectator Accommodation	Press seating	Toilets within ground	Players Changing	Match Officials Changing
Entry to Step 6/ H	No minimum, but ground must be enclosed with fencing 1.83m high	1.1m high and 1.83 m away from touchline (ideally 2m). Hard standing width of 0.9m on spectator side of barrier on a minimum of 2 adjacent sides from the entrance.	Same side of pitch, ideally 3m apart and seat 8 people or 4m in length	Average lux of 120 for existing or 180 lux must be provided for new	1 required or a pay box.	Can be on 1 side only. 50 minimum covered. No allocation required for Directors	None Required	2 WC's should be required	Existing must be 12m2, with 4 shower heads, 1 wash hand basin, 1 WC. New build 18m2.	Minimum 4m2,1 shower, 1 WC (exclusive use but not necessarily en suite)and 1 wash hand basin. New build 6m2. Provision for both male and female officials required.
6/ G Step W2- Grade B Women' s NLS	No minimum, but ground must be enclosed with fencing 1.83m high	1.1m high and 1.83 m away from touchline (ideally 2m). Hard standing width of 0.9m on spectator side of barrier on a minimum of 2 sides on adjacent sides from the entrance.	Same side of pitch, ideally 3m apart and seat 8 people or 4m in length	Average lux of 120 for existing or 180 lux must be provided for new	1 required or a pay box.	Can be on 1 side but preferably 2 sides. 100 minimum covered of which 50 must be seated and located in one stand. No allocation required for Directors	None Required	Male: 2 urinals or equivalen t and 1 WC. Female: 2WC's	Existing must be 12m2, with 4 shower heads, 1 wash hand basin, 1 WC. New build 18m2.	Minimum 4m2,1 shower, 1 WC and 1 wash hand basin. New build 6m2. Provision for both male and female officials required.

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Step/ Grade	Min Capacity	Pitch Barrier	Technical area	Floodlights	Turnstiles	Spectator Accommodation	Press seating	Toilets within ground	Players Changing	Match Officials Changing
5/ F	No minimum, but ground must be enclosed with fencing 1.83m high	1.1m high and 1.83 m away from touchline (ideally 2m). Hard standing width of 0.9m on spectator side of barrier on a minimum of 3 sides.	Same side of pitch, ideally 3m apart and seat 8 people or 4m in length	Average lux of 120 for existing or 180 lux must be provided for new	1 required or a pay box.	Can be on 1 side but preferably on 2 sides of ground. 200 minimum covered of which 100 must be seated (can be 2 stands each 50) 16 seats allocated to Directors. Public address system required.	None Required	Male: 2 urinals or equivalent and 1 WC. Female: 2WC's	Existing must be 12m2, with 4 shower heads, 1 wash hand basin, 1 WC. New build 18m2.	Minimum 4m2, 1 shower, 1 WC and 1 wash hand basin. New build 6m2. Provision for both male and female officials required.

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Step/ Grade	Min Capacity	Pitch Barrier	Technical area	Floodlights	Turnstiles	Spectator Accommodation	Press seating	Toilets within ground	Players Changing	Match Officials Changing
Seeking promotion from 5-4/ E Step W1 Grade A Women's NLS	1,000	1.1m high and 1.83 m away from touchline (ideally 2m). Must be in filled so ball can't pass through. 0.9m hard standing on all 4 areas of the ground	Same side of pitch, ideally 3m apart and seat 8 people or 4m in length	Average lux of 120 for existing or 180 lux must be provided for new	2 required with 0.9m hard standing to all spectator areas.	Preferably on at least 2 sides of ground. 250 minimum covered of which 150 must be seated in not more than 2 stands (no stand can have less than 50 seats). 16 seats allocated to Directors. Also need separate Directors room for hospitality serving minimum 16 people. Separate medical room required, not accessed through changing rooms. Public address system required.	Minimum 2 with lights and writing facilities	Male: 2 urinals or equivalent and 1 WC. Female: 2WC's	Existing must be 12m2, with 4 shower heads, 1 wash hand basin, 1 WC. New build 18m2.	Minimum 4m2, 1 shower, 1 WC and 1 wash hand basin. Bell buzzer required. New build 6m2. Provision for both male and female officials required.

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Step/ Grade	Min Capacity	Pitch Barrier	Technical area	Floodlights	Turnstiles	Spectator Accommodation	Press seating	Toilets within ground	Players Changing	Match Officials Changing
4/ D Step S2- Grade B Women's NLS	1,300 with potential to increase to 1,950	1.1m high and 1.83 m away from touchline (ideally 2m). Must be in filled so ball can't pass through. 0.9m hard standing on all 4 areas of the ground	Same side of pitch, ideally 3m apart and seat 8 people or 4m in length	Average lux of 120 for existing or 180 lux must be provided for new	2 required with 0.9m hard standing to all spectator areas.	Preferably on at least 2 sides of ground. 300 minimum covered of which 150 must be seated in not more than 2 stands (no stand can have less than 50 seats). 24 seats allocated to Directors. Also need separate Directors room for hospitality serving minimum 24 people. Separate medical room required, not accessed through changing rooms. Public address system required.	Minimum 2 with lights and writing facilities	Male: 2 urinals or equivalent and 1 WC. Female: 2WC's	Existing must be 12m2, with 4 shower heads, 1 wash hand basin, 1 WC. New build 18m2.	Minimum 4m2, 1 shower, 1 WC and 1 wash hand basin. Bell buzzer required. New build 6m2. Provision for both male and female officials required.

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Step/ Grade	Min Capacity	Pitch Barrier	Technical area	Floodlights	Turnstiles	Spectator Accommodation	Press seating	Toilets within ground	Players Changing	Match Officials Changing
3/ C Step S1- Grade A Women' s NLS	1,950, with potential to increase to 3,000	1.1m high and 1.83 m away from touchline (ideally 2m). Must be in filled so ball can't pass through. 0.9m hard standing on all 4 areas of the ground	Same side of pitch, ideally 3m apart and seat 8 people or 4m in length	Average lux of 120 for existing or 180 lux must be provided for new	3 required with 0.9m hard standing to all spectator areas.	Preferably on 2 sides of ground. 500 minimum covered of which 250 must be seated (no more than 2 stands, minimum of 50 per stand). 24 seats allocated to Directors. Also need separate Directors room for hospitality serving minimum 24 people. Separate medical room required, not accessed through changing rooms. Public address system required.	4 with lights and writing facilities	Male: 4 urinals or equivalent and 2 WC's. Female: 2WC's	Existing must be 12m2, with 4 shower heads, 1 wash hand basin, 1 WC. New build 18m2.	Minimum 4m2, 1 shower, 1 WC and 1 wash hand basin. Bell buzzer required. New build 6m2. Provision for both male and female officials required.

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Step/ Grade	Min Capacity	Pitch Barrier	Technical area	Floodlights	Turnstiles	Spectator Accommodation	Press seating	Toilets within ground	Players Changing	Match Officials Changing
2/ B	3,000, with potential to increase to 4,000	1.1m high and 1.83 m away from touchline (ideally 2m). Must be in filled so ball can't pass through. 0.9m hard standing on all 4 areas of the ground	Same side of pitch, ideally 3m apart and seat 11 people or 5.5m in length	Average lux of 180	6 required with 0.9m hard standing to all spectator areas.	Preferably on 2 sides of ground. 500 minimum covered of which 250 must be seated and located in one stand. 24 seats allocated to Directors. Also need separate Directors room for hospitality serving minimum 24 people. Separate medical room required, not accessed through changing rooms. Public address system required	6 with lights and writing facilities	Male: 4 urinals or equivalent and 2 WC's. Female: 2WC's	Must be 18m2, with 4 shower heads, 1 wash hand basin, 1 WC.	Minimum 4m2, 1 shower, 1 WC and 1 wash hand basin. Bell buzzer required. New build 6m2. Provision for both male and female officials required.

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Step/ Grade	Min Capacity	Pitch Barrier	Technical area	Floodlights	Turnstiles	Spectator Accommodation	Press seating	Toilets within ground	Players Changing	Match Officials Changing
1/ A	4,000, with potential to increase to 5,000	1.1m high and 2.25 m away from touchline (ideally 2.75m). Must be in filled so ball can't pass through. 1m hard standing on all 4 areas of the ground	Same side of pitch, ideally 3m apart and seat 11 people or 5.5m in length	Average lux of 250	8 required with 1m hard standing to all spectator areas.	Preferably on 2 sides of ground. 500 minimum covered of which 250 must be seated and located in one stand. 24 seats allocated to Directors. Also need separate Directors room for hospitality serving minimum 24 people. Separate medical room required, not accessed through changing rooms. Public address system required	12 with lights and writing facilities	Male: 4 urinals or equivalent and 2 WC's. Female: 2WC's	Must be 18m2, with 4 shower heads, 1 wash hand basin, 1 WC and 2 urinals.	Minimum 6m2, 1 shower, 1 WC and 1 wash hand basin. Bell buzzer required. New build 6m2. Provision for both male and female officials required.