

## Protect - Ensure the quantity of pitches and support services is sufficient to meet local needs.

**Protect** – There is a need to protect all existing pitches and changing accommodation due to the pressures that currently exist on the Councils facility and privately owned Sporting Clubs

The actions should be clear as to the need to protect playing pitch provision irrespective of ownership and the degree of community access and use.

	Action	Strategic Recommendation	Impact (1-4)	Impact summary	Indicative Cost	Comments
<b>Protect</b>  Ensure the quantity of pitches and support services is sufficient to meet local needs.	Continue with current level of essential maintenance of changing accommodation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changing accommodation to be installed at all Council pitch sites; existing accommodation to be modernised and upgraded as required to ensure all lie within the 'Good' quality classification.</li> </ul>	1	Changing and ancillary services to fall into state of disrepair due to lack of necessary investment.	£0	Current annual budget equating to approx. £3.8K maintenance per changing room
	Continue with current level of essential maintenance of playing pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council reviews its pitch maintenance and monitoring procedures, benchmarking them with industry gold standards to ensure all its pitches are assessed as being within the 'Good' classification</li> </ul>	1	Continuation of the ongoing problem in relation to the cancellation and postponement of games due to poor pitch quality especially during the Autumn and Winter seasons	£0	Current annual budget equating to approx. £1.85K maintenance per pitch
	Support for Sport Grant Aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council continues to support sports development programmes in partnership with clubs, schools, governing bodies and statutory agencies to maximise participation including underrepresented groups. In addition, further engage with clubs to build capacity in relation to preparing sports development plans and applying for funding for community-based projects.</li> <li>The Council to continue to work with clubs in accordance to their needs.</li> </ul>	2	Enables more people to be more active more often to address low participation rates and contribute to a healthier society	£0	£60k for Support for Sport Grant Aid in Sports Development budget  30 clubs awarded up to a maximum of £2,000

<p>Officers continue to provide guidance, support and advice on external funding opportunities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council continues to support sports development programmes in partnership with clubs, schools, governing bodies and statutory agencies to maximise participation including underrepresented groups. In addition, further engage with clubs to build capacity in relation to preparing sports development plans and applying for funding for community-based projects.</li> <li>• The Council to continue to work with clubs in accordance to their needs.</li> </ul>	<p>2</p>	<p>Possibility of securing external funding to help address pitches shortfall and/or lack of pitch quality</p>	<p>£0</p>	
<p>Use the identified need of the PPS to inform the assessment of planning applications that affect playing fields or Councils support of proposed creations of new facilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council continues to support sports development programmes in partnership with clubs, schools, governing bodies and statutory agencies to maximise participation including underrepresented groups. In addition, further engage with clubs to build capacity in relation to preparing sports development plans and applying for funding for community-based projects.</li> </ul>	<p>2</p>	<p>Informs the development and implementation of planning policy by adding to the evidence base of PPS and local community plans</p> <p>Will focus investment and development where most required as per PPS</p>	<p>£0</p>	

## Enhance - Ensure the quality of pitches meets current and future need.

**Enhance** - The actions should look to make the best use of existing provision ensuring better quality, access and management. This may help to meet both current and future demand instead of, or alongside, new additional provision.

Possible solutions to help enhance the provision of playing pitches;

- Improving the quality of the playing surface (e.g. drainage works/maintenance schedule)
- Providing enhanced ancillary facilities (e.g. sports lighting and changing provision)
- Securing community use at sites which do not currently provide such use but have indicated that they are willing to do so and are in a suitable location to help meet demand
- Improving the maintenance arrangements at a site or across a number of sites, especially those that are well used but of poor quality
- Sharing knowledge, skills and expertise in the management and maintenance of pitches
- Investigating whether any asset transfers are appropriate for any sites where they will be of clear benefit for the provision of pitches and all parties concerned.
- Improving the programming and timetabling of the use of pitches/sites
- Considering other management options to meet demand during peak periods such as extending the playing season, encouraging leagues to allow the staggering of kick off times and introducing reduced pricing of pitches for less popular days and times
- Directing casual use to other areas of the site to help reduce wear and tear (e.g. removing / repositioning goal posts, protecting the cricket square).

	Action	Strategic Recommendation	Impact (1-4)	Impact summary	Indicative Cost	Comments
<b>Enhance</b>  Ensure the quality of pitches meets current and future need.	Carry out work on prioritised list of changing accommodation to achieve 'Good' Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changing accommodation to be installed at all Council pitch sites; existing accommodation to be modernised and upgraded as required to ensure all lie within the 'Good' quality classification.</li> </ul>	3	Ensuring that the stock of changing accommodation includes appropriate accommodation where it is needed to comply with league regulations and to meet minimum toilet and handwashing facilities for younger teams	£275,000 (5 years)	Increased changing room maintenance budget  22 pavilions @ £2.5K per unit  Additional £55,000

					maintenance programme required annually
Implement an enhanced pitch maintenance programme involving increased frequency in cutting, additional sanding, verti-draining and pest control.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council reviews its pitch maintenance and monitoring procedures, bench marking them with industry gold standards to ensure all its pitches are assessed as being within the 'Good' classification</li> <li>The Council to continue to work closely with clubs in accordance to their needs. (</li> </ul>	3	<p>Upgraded pitch maintenance programme ensure that grass pitches are of appropriate quality both to retain existing levels of capacity and to enhance player experience.</p> <p>Avoid postponement and cancellation of matches due to poor pitch quality</p> <p>Reduce the need for capital investment for replacement facilities if condition of pitch were to continue to deteriorate due to an inadequate pitch maintenance programme</p>	£460,000 (5 years)	<p>Increased pitch maintenance budget</p> <p>46 pitches @ £2,000 per pitch</p> <p>Additional £92,000 maintenance programme required annually</p>
Implement Playing Pitch Maintenance Grant Aid for local clubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capital Investment Programme for sports clubs be established to recognise sports facility providers as delivering community benefit within their current and future membership.</li> <li>The Council to continue to work closely with clubs in accordance to their needs.</li> </ul>	3	<p>Improving the ongoing quality of playing surfaces/drainage works</p> <p>Reduces the need for large scale capital investment in replacement facilities</p> <p>Removes the need to develop and maintain Council owned facilities in these particular areas</p>	£300,000 (5 years)	<p>£60k annual budget</p> <p>£2k per club x 30 clubs per annum</p>
Small Capital Investment Programme open to Sports Clubs who own and maintain their facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capital Investment Programme for sports clubs be established to recognise sports facility providers as delivering community benefit within their current and future membership.</li> <li>The Council to continue to work closely with clubs in accordance to their needs.</li> <li>The Council continues to support sports development programmes in partnership with</li> </ul>	4	<p>Support clubs in developing and upgrading facilities to meet membership needs and future demands.</p> <p>Support clubs in leveraging additional funding into the Council area</p>	£1,250,000 (5 years)	<p>Up to £50,000 per club for 5 clubs per year</p> <p>Fund up to maximum of 75% of overall project costs</p>

		clubs, schools, governing bodies and statutory agencies to maximise participation including underrepresented groups. In addition, further engage with clubs to build capacity in relation to preparing sports development plans and applying for funding for community-based projects.		Removes the need to develop and maintain Council owned facilities in these particular areas  Address pressure on Council's current playing pitch provision to meet National Governing Body ground criteria for local clubs		
	Carry out work on prioritised pitches below 'Good' Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council reviews its pitch maintenance and monitoring procedures, benchmarking them with industry gold standards to ensure all its pitches are assessed as being within the 'Good' classification</li> <li>The Council to continue to work closely with clubs in accordance to their needs.</li> </ul>	4	Implement replacement schemes to re-drain and re-surface those pitches who do not achieve 'good' quality rating and who will not achieve that level through an enhanced maintenance programme.	£350,000 (5 years)	1 pitch upgrade a year at a cost of £70,000
	Increase Support for Sport Grant Aid Programme to maximise participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council continues to support sports development programmes in partnership with clubs, schools, governing bodies and statutory agencies to maximise participation including underrepresented groups. In addition, further engage with clubs to build capacity in relation to preparing sports development plans and applying for funding for community-based projects.</li> <li>The Council to continue to work closely with clubs in accordance to their needs.</li> </ul>	3	Enables more people to be more active more often to address low participation rates and contribute to a healthier society	£200,000 (5 years)	£40,000 increase on existing £60,000 Support for Sport Grant Aid budget  50 clubs awarded £2,000 annually
	Work in partnership with Education Authority to secure usage of schools pitches stock for community usage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support partnership with the educational sector to expand on community use</li> <li>The Council continues to support sports development programmes in partnership with clubs, schools, governing bodies and statutory agencies to maximise participation including underrepresented groups. In addition, further</li> </ul>	3	Ensure that formal agreements are secured for the long-term use of facilities.  Address pitches deficit as identified within PPS	£50,000 (5 Years)	Annual licence @£2,500 per site based on 4 sites annually



engage with clubs to build capacity in relation to preparing sports development plans and applying for funding for community-based projects.

- The Council to continue to work closely with clubs in accordance to their needs.

Will enable Council to rotate pitches and 'rest' sites and avoid over usage particularly in autumn/winter seasons

## Provide - Develop facilities support increasing participation and promote sustainable club development.

Provide - Alongside the enhancement of existing provision, new natural and/or artificial grass pitches are required to meet current and/or future demand.

Possible solutions to help provide new playing pitches:

- Providing and then maintaining additional pitches on specific existing sites where space allows
- Developing new sites in the most appropriate locations to best meet demand
- Allocating land for new provision within Development Plan documents
- Providing a required number and type of pitches on-site, or appropriate provision off-site, to meet the specific needs of major development proposals.

	Action	Strategic Recommendation	Impact (1-4)	Impact summary	Indicative Cost	Comments
<b>Provide</b>  <b>Develop facilities support increasing participation and promote sustainable club development.</b>	Large Capital Investment Programme open to clubs who own/maintain their facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capital Investment Programme for sports clubs be established to recognise sports facility providers as delivering community benefit within their current and future membership.</li> <li>• The Council to continue to work closely with clubs in accordance to their needs.</li> <li>• The Council continues to support sports development programmes in partnership with clubs, schools, governing bodies and statutory agencies to maximise participation including underrepresented groups. In addition, further engage with clubs to build capacity in relation to</li> </ul>	4	<p>Support clubs in developing and upgrading facilities to meet membership needs and future demands.</p> <p>Support clubs in leveraging additional funding into the Council area. A minimum additional £100,000 against Councils investment (per project)</p> <p>Removes the need to develop and maintain Council owned facilities in these particular areas</p>	£1,000,000 (5 years)	<p>Up to £100,000 per 2 clubs per year</p> <p>Partnership funding requirement</p> <p>Council not fund in excess of 50% of project</p>

		preparing sports development plans and applying for funding for community-based projects.		Address pressure on Council's current playing pitch provision to meet National Governing Body ground criteria for local clubs		
	Construction/ purchase of new pre-fabricated changing accommodation at existing sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changing accommodation to be installed at all Council pitch sites, existing accommodation to be modernised and upgraded as required to ensure all lie within the 'good' quality classification</li> <li>The Council to continue to work closely with clubs in accordance to their needs</li> </ul>	3	<p>Ensuring that the stock of changing accommodation includes appropriate accommodation where it is needed to comply with league regulations and to meet minimum toilet and handwashing facilities for younger teams.</p> <p>Have a shelf life and will eventually need replaced.</p>	£1,050,000 (5 years)  10 units	<p>Purchase of 2 pre-fab 4 block changing £80,000 each</p> <p>Installation and connection of services £25,000</p> <p>Approx. £105,000 per unit</p>
	Construction of purpose built changing accommodation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changing accommodation to be installed at all Council pitch sites, existing accommodation to be modernised and upgraded as required to ensure all lie within the 'good' quality classification</li> </ul>	4	<p>No requirement to replace</p> <p>More cost effective to maintain – (heating etc.)</p>	£2,500,000 (5 years)  10 units	<p>Construction of 2 x 4 block changing accommodation</p> <p>Approx. £250,000 each</p>
	Development and construction of new single use sports pitches to address pitch deficit -- grass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council reviews its pitch maintenance and monitoring procedures, benchmarking them with industry gold standards to ensure all its pitches are assessed as being within the 'Good' classification</li> </ul>	4	<p>May be required to address specific need in a rural location where demand for a 3G facility is not justified.</p> <p>Limited usage per week (10 -11 hrs)</p> <p>Ongoing maintenance costs</p>	£750,000 (5 Years)	<p>Approx. £150,000 and 1 sit per year.</p> <p>Site to be council owned with existing pitch provision</p> <p>Does not include changing upgrade</p>
	Address deficit issues identified throughout DCSDC area for all sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council continues to support sports development programmes in partnership with clubs, schools, governing bodies and statutory agencies to maximise participation including underrepresented groups. In addition, further</li> </ul>	4	<p>Addresses pitches deficits for all sports</p> <p>Enables considerable more usage per week (40 + hrs usage per week)</p>	£3,000,000 (one off investment for 1 site)	Based on greenfield site with no existing provision



	<p>through the creation of a Multi-Sport 3G to be used for both matches and training</p>	<p>engage with clubs to build capacity in relation to preparing sports development plans and applying for funding for community-based projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council to continue to work closely with clubs in accordance to their needs.</li> </ul>		<p>Cater for training demands for numerous clubs within the catchment area</p> <p>Income generation potential</p> <p>Address pressure on Council's current playing pitch provision to meet National Governing Body ground criteria for local clubs</p>		
	<p>Identify where community use of schools sports pitches is feasible and most needed to address any identified deficits in pitch provision</p> <p>Jointly develop new facilities in partnership with school site</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support partnership with the educational sector to expand on community use</li> <li>The Council continues to support sports development programmes in partnership with clubs, schools, governing bodies and statutory agencies to maximise participation including underrepresented groups. In addition, further engage with clubs to build capacity in relation to preparing sports development plans and applying for funding for community-based projects.</li> <li>The Council to continue to work closely with clubs in accordance to their needs.</li> </ul>	3	<p>Limited availability for clubs during curriculum time and directly after school</p> <p>Substantial amount of the permitted 40hrs usage be week taken up during curriculum time (over usage will reduce the lifespan of the surface)</p> <p>Access issues to school sites at weekends ----potential staffing costs</p> <p>Development of good school – club links</p>	<p>£700,000 (one off investment for one site)</p> <p>Partnership funding required</p>	<p>50% funding towards development of a 3G multi-Sport facility on an existing school site</p> <p>50% funding = £600,000 plus £20,000 yearly maintenance</p>