



# ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

## ASSESSMENT REPORT MARCH 2019

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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# ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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## GLOSSARY

3G	Third Generation (artificial turf)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
AP	Active Partnerships
ASC	All Stars Cricket
CC	Cricket Club
CIC	Community Interest Company
CRC	Community Rugby Coaching
CSP	County Sports Partnership
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
DCB	Dorset Cricket Board
DCFA	Dorset County Football Association
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FF	Football Foundation
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
FIT	Fields in Trust
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
HC	Hockey Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LDF	Local Development Framework
LMS	Last Man Stands
NGB	National Governing Body
NHS	National Health Service
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NTP	Non Turf Pitch
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
S106	Section 106
SSE	Scottish and Southern Energy
TGR	Team Generation Rate
U	Under

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## PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

### 1.1: Introduction

Knight, Kavanagh & Page Ltd (KKP) has been commissioned by Active Dorset to assess playing pitch facility needs across the five former local authorities of East Dorset District Council, North Dorset District Council, Purbeck District Council, West Dorset District Council and Weymouth & Portland Borough. These, together with the upper tier authority Dorset County Council, became the single Unitary Authority of Dorset Council on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019.

Forming part of the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS), this is the Assessment Report. It presents a supply and demand assessment of playing pitch provision across the whole Dorset Council area in accordance with Sport England's PPS Guidance: An approach to developing and delivering a PPS. The guidance details a stepped approach that is separated into five distinct stages:

- ◀ Stage A: Preparation
  - ◀ Step 1: Clarify why the PPS is being developed
  - ◀ Step 2: Set up the management arrangements
  - ◀ Step 3: Tailor the approach
- ◀ Stage B: Information Gathering
  - ◀ Step 4: Develop an audit of playing pitches
  - ◀ Step 5: Develop a picture of demand
- ◀ Stage C: Assessment
  - ◀ Step 6: Understand how each site is being used
  - ◀ Step 7: Develop the current picture of provision
  - ◀ Step 8: Carry out scenario testing
- ◀ Stage D: Key Findings & Issues
  - ◀ Step 9: Identify key findings & issues
  - ◀ Step 10: Check and challenge key findings & issues
- ◀ Stage E: Strategy Development & Implementation
  - ◀ Step 11: Develop conclusions & recommendations
  - ◀ Step 12: Develop an action & implementation plan
  - ◀ Step 13: Adopt, monitor and review the PPS

Stages A to C are covered in this document, with Stage D and Stage E covered in the subsequent strategy document.

The PPS should be used in conjunction with the Indoor Sports and Leisure Facilities Strategy, completed in 2018. The inter-relationship between the strategies must be noted as some sports covered by the PPS also use indoor facilities for matches or training. As the Indoor Sports and Leisure Facilities Strategy includes Christchurch, this PPS should also be used in tandem with the Christchurch PPS.

### 1.2: Why the strategy is being developed

Active Dorset has commissioned this work to support higher level objectives and policies for the various local plans within Dorset Council. This includes it providing as strategic evidence to inform the drafting of the forthcoming new council local plan. It is also important for the PPS to inform potential decisions around rationalisation and investment and to account for budget restraints and look at efficiency savings and alternative delivery methods. Further, there is a need to align findings to the identified growth of the Study Area.

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In summary, to enable the above, the following outcomes of the PPS are considered key:

- ◀ An accurate audit of the supply of pitches and ancillary facilities;
- ◀ An accurate audit of the current demand for pitches;
- ◀ An understanding of the future demand for pitches;
- ◀ Detailed views on the adequacy of provision from users and pitch providers;
- ◀ An understanding of the situation at all sites available to the community;
- ◀ Whether the current Study Area is adequate to meet both current and future demand;
- ◀ The views and opinions of all relevant parties on the adequacy of provision;
- ◀ The key issues with the supply and demand for provision in the Study Area.

To achieve the outcomes, significant engagement with local sports clubs, leagues, local pitch providers, Sport England and the relevant National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs) is required. The final report (Strategy & Action Plan) will set out a significant number of individual pitch, sport and site specific recommendations which, following adoption by Dorset Council will constitute a useable strategy document which is owned by all relevant parties. It will set out a clear set of recommendations for playing pitch provision together with a prioritised sport, area and site specific action plan.

### ***Meeting Sport England PPS Requirements***

PPS requirements set out by Sport England include:

- ◀ To support the improving health and well-being and increasing participation in sport.
- ◀ Sports development programmes and changes in how the sports are played.
- ◀ The need to provide evidence to help protect and enhance existing provision.
- ◀ The need to inform the development and implementation of planning policy.
- ◀ The need to inform the assessment of planning applications.
- ◀ Potential changes to the supply of provision due to capital programmes e.g. for educational sites.
- ◀ To review budgetary pressures and ensure the most efficient management and maintenance of playing pitch provision.
- ◀ To develop a priority list of deliverable projects that will help to meet any current deficiencies provide for future demands and feed into wider infrastructure planning work.
- ◀ To prioritise internal capital and revenue investment.
- ◀ To provide evidence to help secure internal and external funding.

One of the core planning principles of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs.

Section 8 of the NPPF deals specifically with the topic of healthy communities; Paragraph 96 discusses the importance of access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation that can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.

Paragraphs 97 and 98 discuss assessments and the protection of “existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields”. A PPS will provide the evidence required to help protect playing fields to ensure sufficient land is available to meet existing and projected future pitch requirements.

Paragraphs 99 and 100 promote the identification of important green spaces by local communities and the protection of these facilities. Such spaces may include playing fields.

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## 1.3: Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach

### ***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.

A strong and effective steering group has and will continue to lead and drive the PPS forward during its development and also to ensure the delivery of its recommendations and actions. The membership of the group is balanced and representative of the different parties and key drivers behind the work and the providers and users of playing pitches in the Study Area.

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 Active Dorset, the five former councils, Sport England and the 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.
- ◀ Support 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.

### ***Agreed scope***

The Assessment Report provides detail in respect of what provision exists, its condition, distribution, accessibility and overall quality. It also considers the demand for facilities based on population distribution and planned growth. The following types of playing pitch facilities are agreed by the steering group for inclusion:

- ◀ Football pitches (including 3G pitches)
- ◀ Cricket pitches
- ◀ Rugby union pitches (including 3G pitches)
- ◀ Hockey artificial grass pitches (sand/water-based pitches)

Each sport is assessed using what is set out in Sport England's PPS Guidance. In addition, any other grass sport pitches or grass sport activity identified during the project is also included. Contained in this report are the sports of Rugby league, American football, Gaelic football, Polo, Ultimate (Frisbee) and Lacrosse.

### ***Study area***

The PPS covers the entire Dorset Council area which consists of the following former sovereign local authorities:

- ◀ East Dorset
- ◀ North Dorset
- ◀ Purbeck
- ◀ West Dorset

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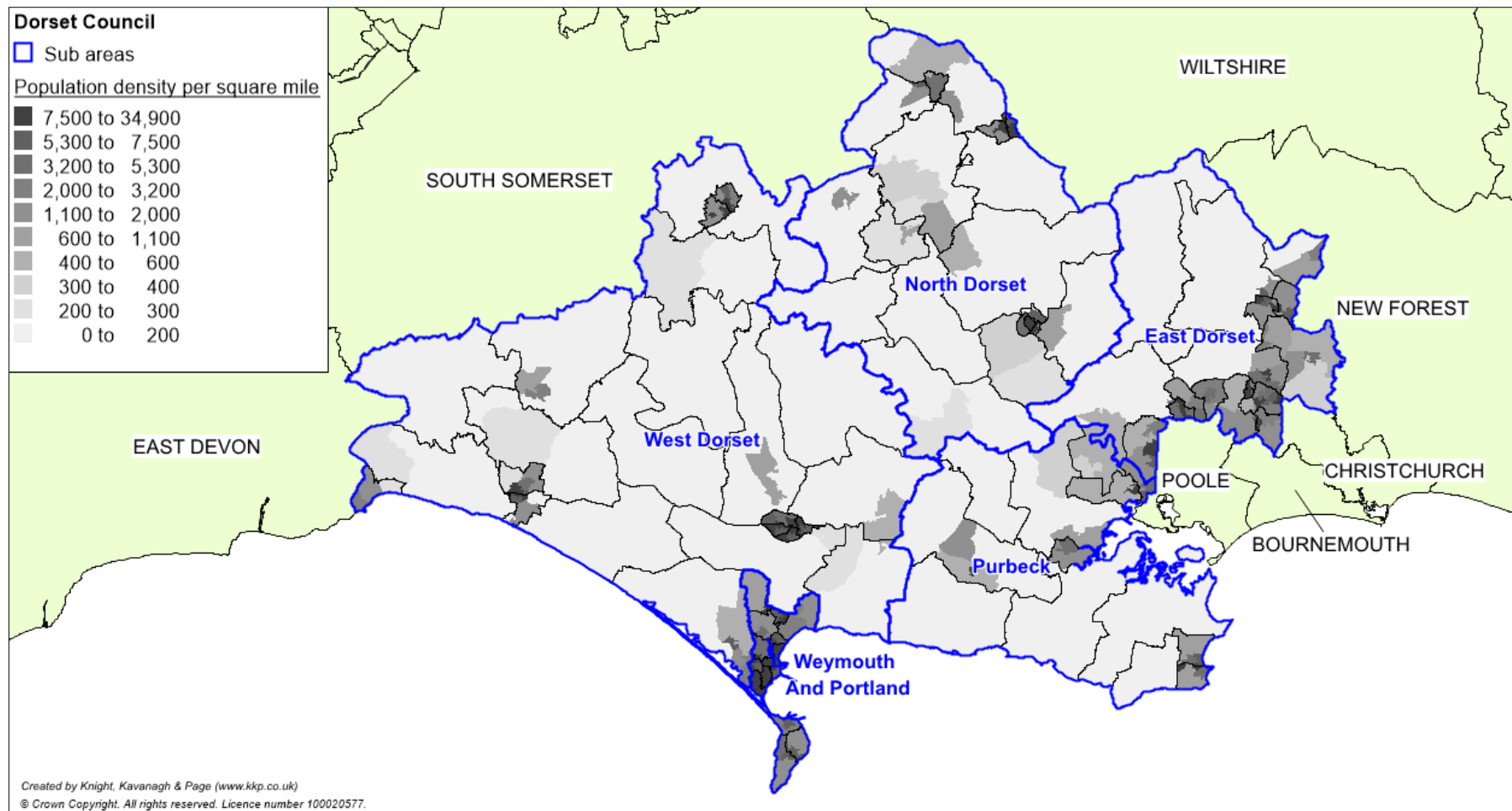
## ◀ Weymouth & Portland

For the purposes of this report, these former sovereign councils will be referred to as sub areas.

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The Study Area is the whole administrative area covered by Dorset Council. In addition, the PPS will also assess the supply and demand in Sub Area on an individual basis, thus allowing for a more localised assessment of need and an examination of provision at a local level.

Figure 1.1: Study Area map





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## 1.4: Local context

### ***Active Dorset***

Active Dorset is one of 43 Active Partnerships (AP) across England committed to working together to increase participation in sport and physical activity. It should be noted that APs, until March 2019, were known as County Sports Partnerships or CSPs. Active Partnerships work across the sporting landscape in their County, actively supporting partners to increase participation in sport and physical activity. Sport England invests core funding into them to provide a set of core services to strengthen the local delivery of NGB whole sport plans and support the achievement of NGB and Sport England targets. This investment seeks to increase the number of people aged 14 plus playing sport each week across England.

Active Dorset's vision is '*to establish Dorset as a place where people choose to enjoy an active lifestyle through participation in sport and physical activity*'. Its strategic objectives are:

- ◀ To increase participation in sport and physical activity.
- ◀ To improve health and well-being by reducing physical inactivity.
- ◀ To improve lives by establishing and increasing sport and physical activity's contribution in creating stronger, more sustainable and prosperous communities.

Active Dorset understands the importance of sport and physical activity as a vehicle to deliver health, educational, social, environmental and economic outcomes, working with key organisations from within and outside of the sport and physical activity sector. It aims to bring together partners from across sectors with a view of maximising resources to achieve shared goals through sport and physical activity.

Active Dorset states that it will pay particular focus to key points in people's lives when behaviour change is most likely, initially focusing on people diagnosed or living with a long-term condition and inactive parents of active children.

As a Community Interest Company (CIC), Active Dorset is committed to reinvesting any surpluses it generates back into the delivery of local opportunities for sport and physical activity.

### ***Dorset Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016 – 2019***

The purpose of the Health and Wellbeing Board is to improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities for Dorset residents. This will be achieved by focusing upon a number of priorities and ensuring that the relevant plans of partners and delivery organisations are taking the right approach when it comes to ensuring the continued health and wellbeing of the local population. The main principles underpinning this are:

- ◀ Recognising the enormous contribution that the local community makes to health and wellbeing in Dorset and building solutions that use and develop this asset.
- ◀ Developing a sustainable health and care system based on early intervention and prevention.
- ◀ Focusing on those actions where by working together can make the biggest difference to those in the greatest need.
- ◀ Ensuring services and activities are centred on the needs of people and what works best in order to deliver cost effective services that encourage people to take responsibility for their own health.

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- ◀ Co-ordinating actions with those of neighbouring local authority areas, particularly Bournemouth and Poole, where appropriate, but remaining focused on delivering services in localities based on local needs.
- ◀ Being clear about who is responsible for delivering which programme and how progress is monitored, specifically looking for opportunities to improve the way we work together.
- ◀ Wherever possible, take a life course approach when considering how best to focus actions to improve health and wellbeing, recognising that many poor outcomes result from an accumulation of factors and poor life chances over time.

The priorities for closing the health and wellbeing gap are:

- ◀ Reducing inequalities - the Health and Wellbeing Board will strive to ensure that partner organisations work to implement the evidence-based policy recommendations set out in *Fair Society, Healthy Lives*, where these can be locally determined:
  - ◀ Give every child the best start in life.
  - ◀ Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives.
  - ◀ Create fair employment and good work for all.
  - ◀ Ensure healthy standard of living for all.
  - ◀ Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities.
  - ◀ Strengthen the role and impact of ill-health prevention.
- ◀ Promoting healthy lifestyles and preventing ill health - this will be through an approach that supports:
  - ◀ *Individuals* – by continuing to develop signposting and support to the *Live well Dorset Health Improvement Service*, helping people to stop smoking, reduce alcohol consumption, manage their weight or increase their daily exercise, focusing on communities with the highest needs.
  - ◀ *Organisations* – to improve skills, capacity and capability of people working in statutory and voluntary sector organisations to offer support to people who may benefit from lifestyle change.
  - ◀ *Places* – recognising the natural value that Dorset has and continuing the work to develop consistent place-based (community and neighbourhood) approaches that improve health and wellbeing, such as work on active travel, availability of nutritional, sustainable food, safer and warmer homes and access to high quality green space and green care – nature-based interventions.
- ◀ Working better together to deliver prevention and early intervention at scale, high quality care and better value - many organisations with separate priorities, strategies and delivery plans contribute to this. The Board's role is to ensure that plans are aligned with Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy priorities wherever possible. The Sustainability and Transformation Plan in particular will encompass three programmes of work:
  - ◀ The *Prevention at Scale* programme will help people to stay healthy and avoid getting unwell.
  - ◀ The *Integrated Community Services* programme will support individuals who are unwell, by providing high quality care at home and in community settings.
  - ◀ The *One Acute Network* programme will help those who need the most specialist health and care support, through a single acute care system across the whole county.

### ***Our Dorset: The Sustainability and Transformation Plan for local health and care***

The vision for the Sustainability and Transformation Plan is to change the system to provide services to meet the needs of local people and deliver better outcomes. This means that it has been built around the needs of the children and adults who live in Dorset; the current

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population of 750,000 as well as the additional 50,000 people that are expected to be served by 2023 and those people from outside Dorset that use the same services.

The ambition is to see every person in Dorset stay healthy for longer and feel more confident and supported in managing their own health. The three significant challenges are:

- ◀ Health and wellbeing gap - variation in the health and wellbeing outcomes of different people across Dorset.
- ◀ Care and quality gap - difference in the quality of care received by people across the area and shortcoming in reaching national standards.
- ◀ Finance and efficiency gap – the increasing pressure on resources within the system, with shortages of some staff and the prospect of insufficient funds to maintain the health and care system in the way it currently operates.

The Prevention at Scale programme is the bottom of the tier plans, forming a foundation to underpin all the work undertaken. Prevention work also runs through the upper tiers of the triangle; the Integrated Community Services and One Acute Network programmes.

## **Local Plans**

The Study Area contains a number of adopted Local Plans and some emerging Local Plan reviews. Details of these plans and their relevant visions and objectives can be found in Appendix 1.

As part of the arrangement to form a new unitary authority, Dorset Council has a duty to prepare a Local Plan that covers the whole Study Area by 2024. The Playing Pitch Assessment will inform plan making.

## **Local Plans Reviews**

Some of the Adopted Local Plans are being reviewed. The Purbeck Review is the most advanced having been submitted to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government for examination in public in January 2019. For more information about Local Plans and Local Plan Reviews, please see [www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

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

A clear picture of supply and demand for playing pitch facilities across the Study Area needs to be provided to include an accurate assessment of quantity and quality. This is achieved through consultation with key stakeholders to ensure that they inform the subsequent strategy. It informs current demand, adequacy, usage, future demand and strategies for maintenance and investment for playing pitch facilities.

### ***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 2015 'Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order'.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>. [www.sportengland.org](http://www.sportengland.org)>Facilities and Planning> Planning Applications

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- ◀ **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 of at least 0.2ha or more which encompasses at least one playing pitch.

Although the statutory definition of a playing field sets out a minimum size, this PPS takes into account smaller sized sites that contribute to the supply side, for example, a site containing a mini 5v5 football 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).

As far as possible the assessment report aims to capture all of the playing pitch facilities within the Study Area; however, there may be instances where, for example on school sites, access was not possible and has led to omissions within the report (although facilities at sites not accessed are still included within the PPS where provision is known to exist from other data sources). Where pitches have not been recorded within the report they remain as pitches and for planning purposes continue to be so. Furthermore, exclusions of a pitch does not mean that it is not required from a supply and demand point of view.

### *Quantity*

Where known, all playing pitch facilities are included in each Sub Area irrespective of ownership, management and use. Sites were initially identified using Sport England's Active Places web based database, with the Council and NGBs supporting 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 for each Sub Area:

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

### *Accessibility*

Not all playing pitch facilities offer the same level of access to the community. The ownership and accessibility of provision also influences actual availability for community use. Each site in each Sub Area is assigned a level of community use as follows:

- ◀ **Community use** - facilities 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** - facilities 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** - facilities which as a matter of policy or practice are not available for hire or used 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.
- ◀ **Disused** – provision that is not being used at all by any users and is not available for community hire either. Once these sites are disused for five or more years they will then be categorised as 'lapsed sites'.

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- ◀ **Lapsed** - last known use was 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).

Table 1.2: Disused and lapsed sites across the Study Area

Site name	Sub Area	Sport(s)	Status (last used)	Comments
Milton Abbas Sports Club (DT11 0BB)	North Dorset	Cricket Football	<b>Lapsed (2009)</b>	Milton Abbas Sports Club is a lapsed playing field site which contained one adult football pitch and an Non Turf Pitch (NTP). Satellite imagery suggests the pitch was last formally marked circa 2009, however, it is unknown when it was last actively utilised.
Dorset Innovation Park (DT2 8ZB)	Purbeck	Cricket Football	<b>Lapsed (2013)</b>	Site previously contained two adult pitches and an NTP. Dorset Council reports it has had initial enquires from Homes England in relation to potentially developing the site.
Steeple Playing Field (BH20 5DJ)	Purbeck	Cricket Football	<b>Lapsed (2013)</b>	The site previously contained an adult pitch and a six wicket grass cricket square. The site is owned by Imery's Quarry and, based off aerial imagery, was last actively used in 2013.
Southwell Primary School	Weymouth & Portland	Football	<b>Disused (2016)</b>	The site closed in 2016 after relocating to the new Southwell Business Park less than half a mile away. The site contained one mini 7v7 pitch. Since its closure the pitch and accompanying building was returned to Dorset Council ownership with Homes England submitting a planning application to develop the entire site for housing.

### Quality

The capacity of provision 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 provision affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of a sport. In extreme circumstances it can result in a facility being unable to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off-peak times.

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

The quality of all playing pitch facilities 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 facilities and sites, a quality rating is also recorded within the audit for each. These ratings are used to help estimate the capacity to accommodate competitive and other play within the supply and demand assessment.

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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 facilities (i.e. recording how and when provision is used) is important when undertaking a supply and demand assessment.

Demand for playing pitch facilities across the Study Area tends to fall within the following categories:

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

Current and future demand for playing pitch facilities is presented on a sport by sport basis and a Sub Area by Sub Area basis within the relevant sections of this report. In addition, unmet, latent, imported and exported demand for provision is also identified within each section. Unmet and latent demand is defined as the number of additional teams that could be fielded if access to a sufficient number of playing pitch facilities (and ancillary provision) was available, whereas exported and imported demand refers to those that are playing outside of their local authority area of choice.

A variety of consultation methods were used to collate such demand information. Firstly, face to face consultation was carried out with key clubs from each sport, thus allowing for the collection of detailed demand information and an exploration of key issues to be interrogated and more accurately assessed. For all remaining clubs, an online survey (converted to postal if required) was utilised.

Local sports development officers, county associations and regional governing body officers advised which of the clubs to include in the face to face consultation and 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.

As key providers and users of playing pitch facilities, educational establishments were also consulted. This involved face to face meetings with secondary schools and colleges and an online survey being sent to primary schools, special schools and independent schools.

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## ***Future demand***

Alongside current demand, it is important for a PPS to assess whether the future demand for playing pitches can be met. Using Dorset Council (DC) 2016 based trend projections provided by DC, as well as likely participation growth informed through consultation, an estimate can be made of the likely future demand for playing pitches in each Sub Area.

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 that may arise from any population change. Future demand for pitches is calculated by adding the percentage increases to the population increases in each Sub Area. This figure is then applied to the team generation rates and is presented sport by sport.

Other information sources that were used to help identify future demand, especially for non-pitch sports (where team generation rates are not applicable) include:

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

## **1.6: Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views**

Supply and demand information gathered is used to assess the adequacy of playing pitch provision across the Study Area. It focuses 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. 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.	

As a guide, the FA, RFU, EH and the ECB have set a standard number of matches that each pitch type should be able to accommodate without adversely affecting its quality.

*Table 1.3: Capacity of playing pitches*

Sport	Pitch type	No. of match equivalent sessions		
		Good	Standard	Poor
Football	Adult pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Youth pitches	4 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Mini pitches	6 per week	4 per week	2 per week

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Sport	Pitch type	No. of match equivalent sessions		
		Good	Standard	Poor
Rugby union*	Natural Inadequate (D0)	2 per week	1.5 per week	0.5 per week
	Natural Adequate (D1)	3 per week	2 per week	1.5 per week
	Pipe Drained (D2)	3.25 per week	2.5 per week	1.75 per week
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	3.5 per week	3 per week	2 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	4 per season	0 per season
	One synthetic wicket	60 per season	60 per season	0 per season
Hockey	Full size sand/water-based pitch	4 per day	4 per day	0 per day

For other playing pitch sports (e.g. rugby league), no guidelines are set by the NGBs although it can be assumed that similar principles should be followed.

### ***Develop the current picture of provision***

Once capacity is determined on a site by site basis, actual spare capacity is calculated on an Sub Area by Sub 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.

### ***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 across the Study Area. This report seeks to identify and present the key findings and issues across the Study Area as a whole and in each Sub Area, prior to development of the Strategy and Action Plan.

### ***Develop the future picture of provision***

Modelling scenarios to assess whether existing provision can cater for unmet, latent, exported 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.

The majority of the scenario testing generally occurs in the Strategy report that proceeds this document and therefore does not form part of the Assessment Report. The Strategy will also set out a number of recommendations based on the findings of this report. This will be done for the Study Area as a whole and on a Sub Area by Sub Area, sport by sport and site by site basis.



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## PART 2: FOOTBALL

### 2.1: Introduction

The organisation primarily responsible for the development of football across Dorset Council is Dorset FA. 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 third generation pitches (3G pitches) which are the preferred AGP (artificial grass pitch) surface type for football. In 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.

#### ***Local Football Facility Plans (LFFPs)***

To support in delivery of both the current and superseding FA National Games Strategy (NGS), the FA has commissioned a nationwide consultancy project. Over the course of the next year to spring 2020, a Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) will be produced for every local authority across England. Each plan will be unique to its area as well as being diverse in its representation.

The LFFP is strategically aligned to the National Football Facilities Strategy (NFFS); a 10-year plan to change the landscape of football facilities in England. The NFFS represents a major funding commitment from the national funding partners (The FA, Premier League, DCMS, Football Foundation) to inform and direct an estimated one billion pounds of investment into football facilities over the next ten years.

Each LFFP will build upon PPS findings (where present and current) regarding the formal and affiliated game, to also include strategic priorities for investment across small sided football (recreational and informal including indoors). The LFFP will also incorporate consultation with groups outside of formal football, as well as underrepresented communities. This could include those which may be key partners with regards to football for behavioural change and groups which may be key drivers of FA NGS priorities around participation in the likes of women and girls' football, disability football and futsal.

LFFPs will identify key projects to be delivered and act as an investment portfolio for projects that require funding. As such, around 90% of all national football investment through the funding partners will be identified via LFFPs.

It is important to recognise that a LFFP is an investment portfolio of priority projects for potential investment - it is not a detailed supply and demand analysis of all pitch provision in a local area. Consequently, it cannot be used in place of a PPS and is not an accepted evidence base for site change of use or disposal. A LFFP will however build on available/existing local evidence and strategic plans and may adopt relevant actions from a PPS and/or complement these with additional investment priorities.

The LFFP for the Dorset Council area is planned to coincide with the PPS and it is important that this document is updated accordingly through the Stage E process to ensure that it is able to accurately inform the LFFP.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### Consultation

In addition to face-to-face consultation with key football clubs, an electronic survey was sent to all football clubs playing across the Study Area. Contact details were provided by Dorset FA and the invitation to complete the survey was distributed via email. Through both face to face consultation and survey responses, a total of 56 clubs responded, equating to a 48% club response rate and 77% team response rate. A summary of face to face consultation by Sub Area can be seen in the table below.

Table 2.1: Summary of face to face consultation by Sub Area

Sub area	Face to face consultation
East Dorset	Verwood Girls FC
	Wimborne Town FC
North Dorset	Blandford United Youth FC
	Gillingham Town Youth FC
Purbeck	Lytchett Matravers FC
	Upton FC
	Wareham Rangers FC
West Dorset	Bridport Youth FC
	Dorchester Town FC
	Dorchester Town Youth FC
	Sherborne Town FC
Weymouth & Portland	Weymouth Cougars FC
	Weymouth FC
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>Club response rate: 58/119 (49%)</b>
	<b>Team response rate: 386/501 (77%)</b>

In addition, consultation requests were sent to key parish and town councils across each of the five sub areas with any responses used to inform this section.

### 2.2: Supply

The audit identifies a total of 381 grass football pitches across 178 sites within the Study Area. Of these, 303 pitches are available, at some level, for community use across 132 sites, as shown below.

The remaining 78 pitches are not available for community use and are either at educational or MOD sites.

Table 2.2: Summary of grass football pitches available to the community

Sub area	No. of pitches available for community use					Totals
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
East Dorset	30	10	10	15	13	<b>78</b>
North Dorset	23	9	5	13	5	<b>55</b>
Purbeck	18	3	6	7	7	<b>41</b>
West Dorset	37	13	14	13	12	<b>89</b>
Weymouth & Portland	9	7	8	8	8	<b>40</b>
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>303</b>

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Most available pitches across the Study Area (39%) are adult sized which is, in part, due to youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches. This is not ideal for youth players at U13-U16 and is not in line with the recent FA Youth Review. Just 41 available pitches are youth 11v11 sized representing 13% of the available supply in the Study Area which is low in relation to the proportion of youth teams (110 teams – 22% of all teams) which should be playing matches on this sized pitch.

In accordance with the FA Youth Review, U17 and U18 teams can play on adult pitches. The FA's recommended pitch size for adult football is 100x64 metres. Please refer to the table below for more detail:

*Table 2.3: FA recommended grass/3G pitch sizes*

Age group	Playing format	Recommended pitch dimensions (metres excluding run offs)	Recommended pitch dimensions (metres including run offs)
Mini-Soccer U7/U8	5v5	37x27	43x33
Mini-Soccer U9/U10	7v7	55x37	61x43
Youth U11/U12	9v9	73x46	79x52
Youth U13/U14	11v11	82x50	88x56
Youth U15/U16	11v11	91x55	97x61
Youth U17/U18	11v11	100x64	106x70
Over 18/Adult	11v11	100x64	106x70

The East Dorset Sub Area is the second largest for football provision with a total of 78 pitches across 24 sites. It also hosts the most mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 in comparison to the other four authorities.

There is a total of 29 sites accommodating the 55 community available pitches in the North Dorset Sub Area. However, it has the least amount of youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 provision within the Study Area.

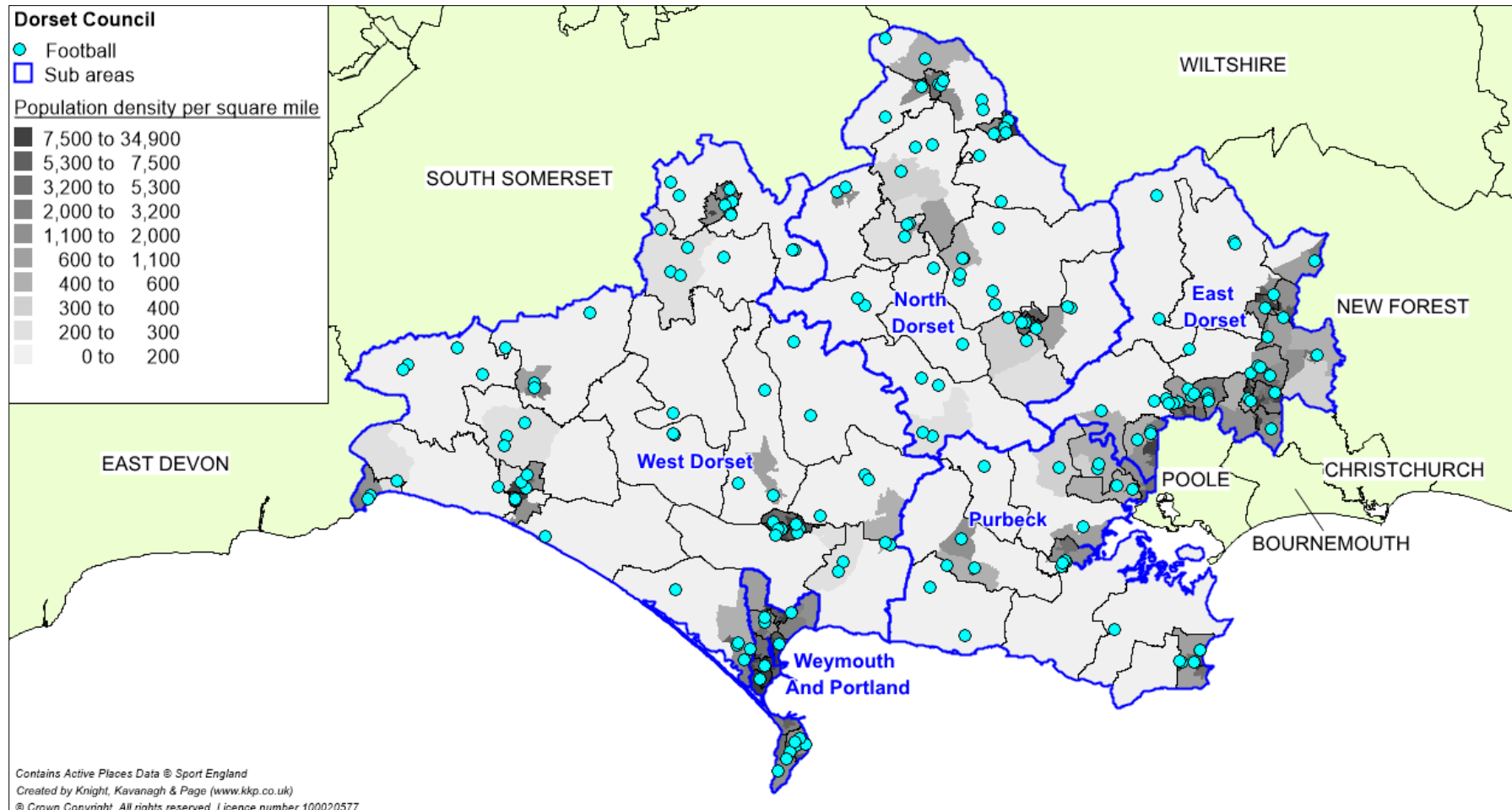
The West Dorset Sub Area has the most community available provision out of the five sub areas with 29% or 89 pitches spread across 54 sites. The Sub Area also has the most adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitch provision when compared to East Dorset, North Dorset, Purbeck and Weymouth & Portland sub areas.

The Purbeck Sub Area is the second smallest for community available football provision within the Study Area. It has the least amount of dedicated youth 11v11 pitches with only three, one each located at The Swanage School, Wareham Rangers Youth FC and Purbeck Sports Centre

The Weymouth & Portland Sub Area has the least amount of community available football pitches within the Study Area with a total of 40 pitches across ten sites. The largest site is Redlands Community Sports Hub which hosts 35% of all provision equating to 14 pitches.

# ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 2.1: Map of sites with football pitch provision across the authority of Dorset



## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Individual maps for each Sub Area can be found in Appendix 4.

### ***Informal pitches***

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

*Table 2.4: Summary of recreational pitches across the Study Area*

Site ID	Site name	Sub area	Post code	Pitches onsite
58	East Stour Playing Fields	North Dorset	SP8 5JY	1 x Adult <sup>2</sup>
141	Rixon Recreation Ground	North Dorset	DT10 1AB	1 x Mini 5v5
37	Clapps Mead Recreation Ground	West Dorset	DT6 6JS	1 x Mini 7v7
213	Troller Porcorum Recreational Area	West Dorset	DT2 0DF	1 x Mini 7v7
194	Sweethill Open Space	Weymouth & Portland	DT5 2DX	1 x Mini 7v7
246	Weston Road	Weymouth & Portland	DT5 2EY	2 x Adult
258	Rylands Lane Recreation Ground	Weymouth & Portland	DT4 9PY	1 x Adult
259	Fairview Road Recreation Ground	Weymouth & Portland	DT4 9BN	1 x Adult
260	Radipole Park	Weymouth & Portland	DT3 5EZ	1 x Mini 7v7

### ***Future provision***

A planning application has recently (2019) been approved by the former East Dorset District Council for the development of new sports facilities for use by local clubs, including Allendale FC and Wimborne RFC. It should be noted that the developer of the site, Gleasons Strategic Land Limited, will be required to complete a planning agreement with the newly formed Dorset Council which is to be finalised early Summer before works begin. The approved application is two-fold:

- ◀ An outline application for the erection of 174 dwellings.
- ◀ A full planning application for the erection of a community sports facility comprising club house, playing pitches, parking and landscaping together with the change of use of the land to leisure.

The proposal for the community sports facility comprises of one full size floodlit 3G pitch, both RFU and FA compliant, two adult rugby pitches (one of which is floodlit), one adult pitch and a dedicated training area, a clubhouse and car parking for 330 cars.

As part of the planning application, Sport England has commented (in consultation with RFU and FF) that the site layout is too cramped, however, overall it is supportive of the proposals.

Once established Wimborne Community Sports Hub will be owned by Wimborne Minster Town Council and leased to Wimborne RFC, however, the Town Council will implement a requirement for all provision to be community accessible for other clubs including the aforementioned Allendale FC.

Wyatt Homes is in discussions to create housing on the site of Wimborne Town FC. Initial plans identify the developer would build houses on the footprint of the site and relocate the Club to a new site which would be close to the abovementioned Wimborne Community

<sup>2</sup> It should be noted that upon non-technical site assessment only one set of posts was found on site.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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Sports Hub including providing mitigation of two floodlit grass football pitches, one meeting relevant Step Football requirements and one dubbed as a training pitch, and a suitable clubhouse. It should be noted that Wimborne Town FC are in favour of the relocation, however, the development it is still under consideration. Since initial consultation (Winter 2018) the Club has recently (Summer 2019) started a conversation with the DCFA and FF for a full size floodlit 3G pitch to be installed instead of the grass training pitch. It should be noted that the feasibility of creating any 3G provision at the Clubs potential new site should be examined due to its proximity to the Wimborne Community Sports Hub which already has planning permission for a full size floodlit 3G pitch.

The Vearse Farm housing development in Bridport has an area of playing field land and accompanying changing rooms included in its current plans. This area of land has been identified to provide two pitches to support local club demand. It is anticipated there will be one youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitch established on the site. This is to assist in the demand from Bridport YFC which reports struggling to access suitable provision within the locality of Bridport for its mini and youth demand.

Dorset Council reports it has had initial enquires from Homes England in relation to potentially developing the disused provision at Dorset Innovation Park. The site hosts two adult football pitches that are accessed on an ad hoc basis by employees on the site. Any loss of provision would require mitigation following Sports England NPPF guidance.

Chickerell Town Council reports it is in initial stages of creating a senior grass pitch and ancillary facilities for clubs which play in the locality such as Chickerell United FC. This provision forms part of a large development proposal on the eastern edge of the town and is subject to planning approval.

Weymouth FC, despite its name, plays its football within the West Dorset Sub Area at the Bob Lucas Stadium (owned by the Club). The land surrounding the stadium is owned by the Wessex Group which has previously expressed interest in purchasing the club's site for housing development. This has yet to occur, with one of the main issues finding a suitable new site to relocate the Club to. The Club is open to discuss potential options if a suitable location and provision is provided, until then it reports its foreseeable future is to remain onsite.

Several pitches in the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area are being relocated to the Marsh Playing Fields due to the development of a skate park and multi use games area. The pitches are to be relocated to an area of land, which until 2018, hosted a cinder athletics track. The track has recently been repurposed with the intention of being transformed into football pitches for the start of the 2019/20 season. It should be noted that the quality of land where the track used to be is poor quality and requires a substantial amount of work to make it into a usable space.

It should be noted that any new provision created should adhere to Performance Quality Standards.

### **Management**

The table below identifies the management of community available pitches across each of the five sub areas.

*Table 2.5: Summary of management of community available pitches across the Study Area*

Sub area	Management of community available pitches
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## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

	Parish/town councils	School	Sports club	Local authority	Other <sup>3</sup>
East Dorset	33	7	23	7	8
North Dorset	14	20	11	-	10
Purbeck	18	4	11	3	6
West Dorset	38	32	12	4	3
Weymouth & Portland	-	21	15	-	4
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>31</b>

As seen above, most of the pitches across the Study Area are managed by town or parish councils (103 pitches or 33%). This is followed by schools (28%), sports clubs (24%) and 'other' with 10% of community available provision. Only 14 pitches (5%) of all provision is managed by the unitary authority of Dorset Council.

It should be noted that the pitches at The Marsh Playing Fields are classified as being managed by a sports club (Weymouth Cougars FC), however, the sites ownership has recently been transferred to the newly formed Weymouth Town Council. Similarly, provision at Grove Corner Playing Fields is leased to Portland YFC with the site owned by Portland Town Council.

### Security of tenure

Most teams across the Study Area play on unitary authority, town or parish council managed pitches and are therefore considered to generally be secure, as part of the Council's maintained sports and leisure provision offering.

In contrast, schools and academies often state their own policies and are more likely to restrict levels of community use. The table below identifies the amount of pitches at education providers which are unavailable for community use.

Table 2.6: Summary of unavailable pitches at school site within the Study Area

Sub area	Pitches unavailable for community use at school sites					Totals
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
East Dorset	-	3	4	4	9	20
North Dorset	3	3	5	11	12	34
Purbeck	1	-	1	2	-	4
West Dorset	2	3	1	8	1	15
Weymouth & Portland	-	-	1	-	2	3
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>76</b>

The reasons for not allowing community use, vary. The most common example is that the schools want to protect pitches for curricular and extra-curricular purposes due to existing quality issues or to ensure their quality. Other reasons include staffing issues, health and safety issues and a lack of profitability.

Conversely, across the Study Area, 12 educational sites are being accessed by football clubs for pitches. It is crucial that community use agreements are established for clubs which access these sites, as without one, external use can be removed at any point and without notice.

<sup>3</sup> Site management includes MOD, community organisations, The National Trust and private ownership.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### *East Dorset Sub Area*

Verwood Girls FC reports it has ambitions to establish its own site for women's and girls' football within East Dorset. The Club currently shares provision at Potterne Park with Verwood Town and as a result can struggle to access suitable pitches. It reports it occasionally must export demand to Hampshire to play fixtures. Therefore, it indicates wanting to establish its own site which meets its current and future demand aspirations. Ideally this would be at Potterne Park, but Verwood Town FC is also looking to secure tenure on the site through a long term agreement.

Parley Sport FC, Parley Sports YFC and Parley CC form part of Parley Sport Club. The Sports Club has the overall lease of provision and rents the usage to the individual clubs. This lease, which is with West Parley Parish Council, expires on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019 and will not be renewed as a combined lease, and will instead, be offered as individual leases to the clubs. The clubs are concerned with how this will work, particularly in relation to the length of the leases likely to be offered and linking to the need to make improvements to the site (NGBs usually require at least 25yrs for funding applications). It should be noted that the Parish Council plans to improve the quality of both pitch and ancillary facilities before establishing new leases with the sports clubs. It should be noted that since consultation in Winter 2018 DCFA reports Parley Sports FC has either exported partial demand into Bournemouth or has formed a new club Kracken FC which affiliates to Dorset FA.

Wimborne & Holt YFC reports having secure tenure through a freehold at Holt United Football Club whereas, Cranborne FC leases the Mick Loader Memorial Recreation Ground from Cranborne Estates. In comparison, Canford FC and Corfe Mullen annually rents the use of Corfe Mullen Sports Association from Corfe Mullen Parish Council with neither club reporting an issue with this arrangement.

### *North Dorset Sub Area*

Sturminster Newton United FC reports ambitions to formalise a community use agreement for the use of the pitches at Sturminster Newton High School. The Club currently rents pitches on an annual basis and wants to secure use to allow it to apply for funding to improve pitch quality. In comparison Sturminster Newton United FC, the senior club, has a long term lease for Barnets Field (neighbouring the School) from a private landowner.

Blandford United Youth FC also rents the use of pitches but at The Blandford School on an annual basis. The Club reports it has a good working relationship with the School and considers itself to be secure, however, it still requires a formal community use agreement.

It should be noted that consultation with the Blandford School indicates there is no formal community use agreement in place for the use of the grass football pitches, however, the site has previously received Football Foundation funding. This means in order to meet terms and conditions there should be protected community access on the site, if there isn't a formal agreement in place the School would be deliver against the agreed outcomes.

Gillingham Town Youth FC rents the use of provision at Kington Magna Football Pitches from a Sports and Social Club. The Club aspires to secure long term tenure on the site in order to apply for grant funding to improve poor quality ancillary facilities.

Shaftesbury Rockies FC currently has unsecure tenure at HMP Guys Marsh. The land which the pitches are on is owned by the Prison, however, the Club has been unsuccessful in pursuing long term tenure. It aspires to secure tenure in order to apply for potential grants to improve both pitch and ancillary facility quality.



## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### *Purbeck Sub Area*

Upton Town Council leases Upton Recreation Ground from the Turbury Trust. It subsequently rents the use of the site to Upton FC. The Town Council is in the process of renewing the lease which is expected to extend beyond 25 years. It also has ambitions to acquire, through lease or freehold, an area of land neighbouring Upton Recreation Ground which is owned by Dorset County Council. The new area of land could be used to create additional provision for clubs, in particular, Upton FC in order to alleviate over marking of current pitches.

Lytchett Matravers FC forms part of Lytchett Matravers Sports Club which has a lease from the Parish Council for Lytchett Matravers Recreation Ground. The Club subsequently rents the use of the pitches from the Sports Club.

Swanage Town & Herston FC leases its home site long term from Swanage Town Council, similarly, Wool United and Wool and Winfrith FC rent the use of Wool Playing Field from Wool Parish Council.

Wareham Rangers FC rents from Purbeck Sports Centre and is considered to have unsecure tenure on site. The Club indicates that the site is dual use with The Purbeck School and as a result pitches can be protected for curriculum usage to ensure quality. The Club plays at Step 7 in the non league pyramid and requires a formal agreement to protect its usage.

### *West Dorset Sub Area*

The Stalls is owned by the Diocese of Salisbury which is leased to Chickerall Town Council and then rented to Chickerall United FC for its adult teams. Most of the Club's youth teams, however, rent provision at Budmouth Community Sports Centre.

Sherborne Town FC has 15 years remaining on its lease for its home ground from Sherborne Town Council. The site hosts one non league Step 6 pitch which accommodates the Club's senior demand. Its youth and mini teams rent the use of the Terrace Playing Fields which is also owned and managed by the Town Council.

Bridport FC leases its home ground from Bridport Town Council whereas Bridport YFC rents several sites within the locality including St Marys Playing Field, Symene Playing Fields, Salway Ash Playing Field and Salway Ash C of E Primary School to meet its demand.

Dorchester Town FC currently has a long term lease from the Duchy of Cornwall for Dorchester Town Football Club. The site is the home venue for Dorchester Town FC and several teams from Dorchester YFC. The latter club has a substantial amount of demand and also needs to rent provision at Sandringham Sports Centre (Town Council) and Thomas Hardye School.

### *Weymouth & Portland Sub Area*

Weymouth Cougars FC reports it is in the process of signing a five year management agreement with Weymouth Town Council for the football pitches at The Marsh Playing Fields. The Club aspires to have a long term agreement for the site, however, is reluctant due to cost implications. It indicates that if the initial five year agreement is viable it will examine taking the site on via an extended contract.

Portland United reports leasing its home venue from the Crown Estates, however, it does not specify the length of the agreement. In comparison, Portland United YFC leases both Grove

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Corner Playing Fields and The Bowl from Weymouth Town Council, again similarly does not indicate the length of the agreement.

### **Pitch quality**

The quality of football pitches across the Study Area have 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

Pitch quality primarily influences the carrying capacity of a site; often pitches lack the drainage and maintenance necessary to sustain levels of use. Pitches that receive little to no ongoing repair or post-season remedial work are likely to be assessed as poor, therefore limiting the number of games they are able to accommodate 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.

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 in the Study Area. In total, 13 pitches are assessed as good quality, 147 as standard quality and 144 as poor quality.

*Table 2.7: Pitch quality assessments (community use pitches)*

Sub area	Adult pitches			Youth pitches			Mini pitches		
	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor
East Dorset	-	18	12	1	15	4	-	12	16
North Dorset	5	5	13	-	6	8	-	7	11
Purbeck	1	12	6	-	6	3	-	7	7
West Dorset	4	14	19	-	18	9	-	8	17
Weymouth & Portland	2	4	3	-	7	8	-	8	8
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>59</b>

Almost half of pitches (47%) across the Study Area are rated as poor quality. This is due, in part, to the topography of the playing surfaces including slope and evenness of the pitches. Many playing field sites across the Study Area suffer with issues of unevenness and moderate to severe sloping.

In addition, most pitches are located at school, unitary authority or parish/town council sites which generally apply basic levels of maintenance such as grass cutting and line marking. It should also be noted that many of the sites are open access and as a result can suffer from problems such as dog fouling, unofficial use and littering which can negatively affect quality. The list below identifies key sites across the Study Area that are poor quality:

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 2.8: Poor quality sites by Sub Area

Sub area	Poor quality sites/pitches
East Dorset	Ford Lane Recreation Ground Fryers Field Recreation Ground Potterne Park
North Dorset	HMP Guys Marsh Sturminster Newton High School Stalbridge Playing Fields
Purbeck	Lytchett Matravers Recreation Ground Corfe Castle Sports Field
West Dorset	Barrs Lane Recreation Ground Bradford Abbas Sports and Recreational Club Netherbury Playing Field
Weymouth & Portland	Grove Corner Playing Fields The Marsh Playing Fields The Wey Valley School Weston Street

Specific comments from clubs relating to the pitch conditions at individual sites can be seen in the table below:

Table 2.9: Summary of pitch quality comments from consultation

Site ID	Site name	Club name	Comments
<b>East Dorset Sub Area</b>			
36	Churchill Close Recreation Ground	Sturminster Marshall FC	Pitch quality has improved over the last few seasons due to the Club carrying out dedicated levels of maintenance on the pitches rather than the Parish Council.
68	Holt United Football Club	Holt United and Wimborne and Holt YFC	Both clubs are looking to make improvements to the first team pitch in order to accommodate additional youth football.
125	Parley Sports Club	DCFA	Recent Regional Pitch Advisor visit (March 2019) suggests pitches are lacking in maintenance and have started to retain water due to compaction. Site would benefit from verti draining.
133	Potterne Park	Verwood Girls FC and Verwood Town FC	Pitches suffer from poor drainage, over marking and unofficial usage. The Step pitch on site requires major works to address the quality of the playing surface.
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>			
82	HMP Guys Marsh	Shaftesbury Rockies FC	The Club has aspirations to obtain a long-term lease on the site to protect its longevity. It reports plans to apply for potential grant funding to improve the quality of the pitches.
93	Kington Magna Football Pitches	Gillingham YFC	Requires upgraded maintenance equipment, however, cannot access suitable levels of funding due to its current tenure.
189	Sturminster Newton High School	Sturminster Newton United FC	Requires a community use agreement in order to access grant funding to improve the quality of the pitches. Also, looking into storage for maintenance equipment on site.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Club name	Comments
<b>Purbeck Sub Area</b>			
101	Lytchett Matravers Recreation Ground	Lytchett Matravers FC and DCFA	Poor quality pitches due to issues with unevenness, waterlogging and dog fouling. The current upkeep of the pitches is basic line marking and grass cutting with the Club suggesting quality would improve with enhanced levels of dedicated maintenance. Recent Regional Pitch Advisor visit (March 2019) confirmed issues with compaction and limited maintenance.
135	Purbeck Sports Centre	Wareham Rangers FC	The Club indicates the Step football pitch would benefit from an increased level of maintenance such as aeration in order to assist it draining more effectively.
216	Upton Recreation Ground	Various	Pitches receive dedicated levels of maintenance through the Town Council, however, due to over marking the provision is overused and overplayed.
234	Wool Playing Fields	Wool United	Pitch quality has improved since last season. It is actively working with the Parish Council to make provision better.
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>			
30	Budmouth Leisure Centre	Chickerall United	Pitches vary in quality with occasions of fixtures being postponed protecting the playing surface for curricular and extracurricular demand.
134	Puddletown Recreation Ground	Puddletown FC	Would benefit from additional maintenance equipment to carry out a higher level of dedicated maintenance. It reports if it had the equipment it would carry out the maintenance programme and as a result reduce expenditure for the Parish Council.
178	Bridport FC	Bridport FC and Bridport YFC	Pitches suffer from drainage issues due to their proximity to River Brit. The Club is in dialogue with Bridport Town Council regarding potential major drainage works on both the sites.
179	St Marys Playing Field		
204	The Stalls	Chickerell United	Decreased pitch quality since last season due to problems with drainage. It has plans to address this issue within the next couple of seasons.
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland Sub Area</b>			
73	Grove Corner Playing Fields	Portland YFC	Pitches suffer from animal burrowing affecting the playing surface.
198	The Bowl	Portland YFC	Pitches suffer from animal burrowing affecting the playing surface.
206	The Wey Valley School	Jurassic Coast Girls FC	Pitches suffer from animal burrowing affecting the playing surface. This is also causing trip hazards. Recent Regional Pitch Advisor visit (March 2019) confirmed issues in addition to limited maintenance regime.
200	The Marsh Playing Fields	Weymouth Cougars FC	Seeking a short-term agreement for the management of pitches to improve the quality through an increase in maintenance. It would also require more suitable equipment and storage facility.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Club name	Comments
222	Weyline Stadium	Portland FC	Pitches have improved in quality due to ongoing developments

### **Hybrid Pitches**

Sport England is in the process of piloting the utilisation of hybrid pitches with projects currently operating at Regents Park (City of Westminster) and Bisham Abbey (Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead). Each site has one natural grass football pitch with hybrid matting buried under the natural turf allowing grass to grow whilst helping to maintain pitch quality.

The concept of a hybrid pitch is to create additional capacity whilst ensuring it is accessible in various conditions. Current grass pitches are designed for one to three matches per week based on quality, and at times become unusable such as throughout the winter or periods of wet weather. Comparatively a hybrid pitch should be able to support approximately 20 hours of usage whilst maintaining reasonable quality in various playing conditions.

The cost of installation and annual maintenance of such provision, compared to a full size 3G pitch, is minimal and if deemed successful could be a more cost effective way to alleviate shortfalls and improve the quality of pitch provision for a variety of sports.

### **FA Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP)**

With quality of grass pitches becoming one of the biggest influences on participation in football, the FA has made it a priority to work towards improving quality of grass pitches across the country. This has resulted in the creation of the FA Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP). As part of the PIP, grass pitches identified as having quality issues undergo a pitch inspection from a member of the Institute of Groundsmanship (IOG).

In March 2019 the DCFA conducted PIP visits to the following sites across the Study with a Regional Pitch Advisor;

- ◀ Lytchett Matravers Recreation Ground
- ◀ Parley Sports Club
- ◀ The Wey Valley School

The findings of these visits have been factored into the overall quality rating to these sites.

### **Over marked pitches**

Over marking of pitches can cause notable damage to surface quality and lead to overuse beyond recommended capacity. In some cases, mini or youth pitches may be marked onto adult pitches or mini matches may be played widthways across adult or youth pitches. This can lead to targeted areas of surface damage due to a large amount of play focused on high traffic areas, particularly the middle third of the pitch.

Over marking of pitches not only influences available capacity, it may also cause logistical issues regarding kick off times; for example, when two teams of differing age formats are due to play at the same site at the same time.

There are also some football pitches across the five sub areas that are marked onto or overlapping cricket outfield. This can create availability issues at multi-sport sites as the cricket season begins in April when the football season is still ongoing and the football season begins in August as cricket fixtures are still being played.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### Ancillary facilities

Similar to football pitches, the quality of ancillary facilities across the Study Area has been assessed via a combination of site visits and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

Ancillary facility rating is primarily influenced by the type of amenities which are available on a site accompanied by their quality, such as a clubhouse, changing rooms, showering provision, car parking, dedicated official and spectator facilities and boundary fencing.

The percentage parameters used for the non-technical assessments were as follows; Good (>67%), Standard (34-66%), Poor (<34%). The final quality ratings assigned to the sites also take into account the user quality ratings gathered from consultation.

Table 2.10: Summary of ancillary quality comments from consultation

Site ID	Site name	Club name	Comments
<b>East Dorset Sub Area</b>			
133	Potterne Park	Verwood Girls FC	It indicates there is no purpose built storage for the Club onsite for its equipment.
139	Redcotts Recreation Ground	Allendale FC	It is unable to install a pitch barrier and hard standing area on site which prevents it being promoted to the non league pyramid. However, the Club is in discussions to potentially relocate to the new site in Wimborne.
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>			
10	Barnets Field	Sturminster Newton United FC	Ancillary facilities are standard quality. The Club wants to renovate certain areas of the clubhouse, such as the ladies toilets and showering facilities. It also struggles with poor quality storage facilities and is looking at funding for improvement. The Club also plans to install floodlights on its Step pitch.
82	HMP Guys Marsh	Shaftesbury Rockies FC	It previously had access to ancillary facilities, however, the site owner demolished the buildings. It aspires to secure long term tenure on the site in order to access potential grant funding to improve pitch quality and establish new changing provision on site.
93	Kington Magna Football Pitches	Gillingham Youth FC	Aspires to secure tenure to improve poor quality ancillary provision. The current clubhouse is a small basic building with issues such as leaking roof, poor heating and limited changing provision and social facilities.
197	The Blandford School	Blandford United Youth FC	Ancillary facilities are standard quality. Supplementary to this it also accesses a small poor quality community building from the School that is used for storage. It aspires to refurbish this building and create additional storage for equipment.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Club name	Comments
<b>Purbeck Sub Area</b>			
101	Lytchett Matravers Recreation Ground	Lytchett Matravers FC	Ancillary facilities recently invested in by the Parish Council. However, lack of storage onsite and there is a need for further improvement to showers and official changing rooms.
216	Upton Recreation Ground	Upton FC	Ancillary provision is poor quality and does not meet FA guidelines. The Town Council is currently securing a new lease and to access funding to improve the facilities. Storage on site is also considered insufficient.
234	Wool Playing Fields	Wool FC	The Club plans to create a new storage facility.
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>			
134	Puddletown Recreation Ground	Various	Puddletown Parish Council indicates ancillary provision is good quality, however, there is a need to modernise the kitchen area.
157	Sherborne Town FC	Sherborne Town FC	The Club indicates it main objective is to consistently maintain the sites facilities and gradually upgrade facilities, such as pitch barriers. It is also in the process of applying for grant funding in order to replace a dilapidated porta cabin that is used for storage and its public announcement system.
118	Netherbury Playing Fields	Netherbury FC	Quality of ancillary facilities is poor. The Club indicates facilities are not big enough with issues such as a leaking roof and minor vandalism.
204	The Stalls	Chickerall United FC	Reports aspirations to develop car parking and fencing facilities.
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland Sub Area</b>			
73	Grove Corner Playing Fields	Portland YFC	Ancillary facilities are poor quality. Inadequate changing facilities and no spectator provision
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub	Various	Ancillary facilities are standard quality. Several clubs report they are in need of modernisation and require updating especially with regard to the onsite car parking.
198	The Bowl	Portland YFC	Ancillary facilities are poor quality. Due to its remote location it only has one toilet.

### *FA's Safeguarding Operating Standards*

Dorset FA is now required to comply with FA safeguarding operating standards. As part of this, DCFA recognises and advocates all football pitches require, as a minimum, access to toilet facilities for players for safeguarding and health & safety purposes. Furthermore, it is expected that pitch providers work in partnership with site users to ensure that the associated changing room and toilet requirements are accessible. Though DCFA strives to obtain this as a minimum requirement across its administrative areas, it is key to acknowledge that it does not have ownership or influence over all sites used for affiliated football and whilst it is able to influence and support site provision through partnership working (especially with town and parish councils), it is not directly able to do so at all sites such as those which may be privately operated.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### *Football pyramid demand*

The National League System is a series of interconnected leagues for adult men's football clubs in England. It begins below the football league (the National League) and comprises of seven steps, with various leagues at each level and more leagues lower down the pyramid than at the top. The system has a hierarchical format with promotion and relegation between the levels, allowing even the smallest club the theoretical possibility of rising to the top of the system.

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 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.

There are no professional clubs which play within the Study Area, however, there are a total of 22 teams from 18 clubs playing within the football pyramid.

*Table 2.11: Summary of teams playing within the football pyramid structure*

Team	Sub area	League	Level
Holt United	East Dorset	Dorset Premier League	Step 7
Parley Sports	East Dorset	Dorset Premier League	Step 7
Verwood Town	East Dorset	Wessex League Division One	Step 6
Wimborne Town FC	East Dorset	Evo-Stik Premier South	Step 3
Blandford United	North Dorset	Dorset Premier League	Step 7
Gillingham Town	North Dorset	Dorset Premier League	Step 7
Shaftesbury Town (1 <sup>st</sup> )	North Dorset	Wessex Premier Division	Step 5
Shaftesbury Town (Reserves)	North Dorset	Dorset Premier League	Step 7
Sturminster Newton United	North Dorset	Dorset Premier League	Step 7
Corfe Castle FC	Purbeck	Dorset Premier League	Step 7
Swanage Town and Herston FC	Purbeck	Dorset Premier League	Step 7
Wareham Rangers FC	Purbeck	Dorset Premier League	Step 7
Bridport FC (First)	West Dorset	Western League Premier Division	Step 5
Bridport FC (Reserves)	West Dorset	Dorset Premier League	Step 7
Dorchester Sports FC	West Dorset	Dorset Premier League	Step 7
Dorchester Town FC	West Dorset	Evo-Stik Premier South	Step 3
Sherborne Town (1 <sup>st</sup> )	West Dorset	Western League Division One	Step 6
Sherborne Town (Reserves)	West Dorset	Dorset Premier League	Step 7
Weymouth FC	West Dorset	Evo-Stik Premier South	Step 3
Balti Sports FC	Weymouth & Portland	Dorset Premier League	Step 7
Portland United (First)	Weymouth & Portland	Wessex Premier Division	Step 5
Portland United (Reserves)	Weymouth & Portland	Dorset Premier League	Step 7

A common issue for clubs entering the pyramid is changing facilities. For Step 7 football (ground grading H), changing rooms must be a minimum size of 18 square metres, exclusive of shower and toilet areas.



## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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The general principle for clubs in the football pyramid is that they have to achieve the appropriate grade by March 31st of their first season after promotion, which therefore allows a short grace period for facilities to be brought up to standard.

Wimborne Town FC is potentially relocating to a new site. However, the Club reports in the immediate future its current site does not meet the minimum requirements for Step 3 football after recent promotions. It is actively searching for grant funding to improve and enhance its covered seating, changing and official rooms and creating additional toilets.

Verwood Town FC indicates the Step 7 pitch at Potterne Park is poor quality in addition to the ancillary facilities which service it. The Club has an aspiration to improve the facilities, however, it does not have long term tenure on the site. It reports wanting to secure tenure through a long term agreement in order to access potential grant funding to develop provision.

Swanage Town & Herston FC reports it has submitted plans to create a new stand, new toilets and a multi-function sports centre which will be incorporated on site. Its current facilities are poor quality and in need of modernisation.

As mentioned earlier, over the past several years there has been a potential purchase and relocation of Weymouth FC by the Wessex Group. Whilst this has been in discussion, the Club has minimised its site maintenance in order to reduce its expenditure. As a result, issues with the stadium's roof, heating system and floodlights have arisen. The Club reports these problems now need to be addressed immediately to meet ground grading requirements. It should be noted the DCFA reports that since consultation the Club has received grant funding to make the required improvements to the site.

It should be noted that Dorchester Town FC and Dorchester Sports FC both play their home fixtures on the newly established full size floodlit 3G pitch at Dorchester Town Football Club.

Portland United FC reports all facilities currently meet requirements for Step 5 football, however, if it were to be promoted it may struggle to upgrade facilities to the required level.

All remaining non league clubs either did not respond to consultation requests or reported no immediate issues regarding the facilities they access.

### ***Women's National League System***

Correspondingly there is a Women's National League System similar to the adult men's which provide structure to the women's game. This ranges from Step 1 to Step 6 with each step requiring differing ground grading requirements.

Although women's clubs still require to meet ground requirements set out by the FA these differ from the men's National League System. Ratings range from grade A to C each with differing minimum requirements. Step 1 and 2 in the Women's National League System is akin to Step 3 and four of the men's National League System, however, not exactly the same.

The system is also hierarchical format with promotion and relegation between the levels, allowing even the smallest club the theoretical possibility of rising to the top of the system.

In the 2018/19 football season there were a total of nine teams in the Study Area which played within the women's national league system:

- ◀ Verwood Town Ladies

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

- ◀ Sturminster Newton Ladies
- ◀ Wareham Rangers Ladies
- ◀ Wool and Winfrith Women
- ◀ Bridport Youth Ladies
- ◀ Dorchester Town Ladies
- ◀ Yeovil Town Ladies
- ◀ Sherborne Town Ladies
- ◀ Redlands Rebel Ladies

It should be noted that Poole Town Ladies currently imports one team into Purbeck to Upton Recreation Ground. The sites location is bordering the unitary authority of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council and is therefore anticipated to be a practical location for the team to access.

In addition, the following clubs field at least one dedicated girls' teams ranging from mini to youth age groups:

- ◀ Corfe Mullen United (Corfe Mullen)
- ◀ Verwood Girls FC (Verwood)
- ◀ Blandford United YFC (Blandford Forum)
- ◀ Gillingham Town YFC (Kington Magna)
- ◀ Shaftesbury Rockies FC (Shaftesbury)
- ◀ Swanage Town & Herston FC (Swanage)
- ◀ Wool and Winfrith (Wool)
- ◀ Bridport YFC (Bridport)
- ◀ Chickerall United YFC (Chickerall)
- ◀ Dorchester Town YFC (Dorchester)
- ◀ Jurassic Coast Girls FC (Weymouth)
- ◀ Harlequin & Weston Sports YFC (Portland)
- ◀ Redlands FC (Weymouth)
- ◀ Weymouth FC (Weymouth)

There is a focus on developing female participation across the Study Area and nationally and therefore there should be a consideration to develop relevant facilities in each of the five sub areas to assist in this engagement.

### 2.3: Demand

Through the audit and assessment, 502 teams were identified as playing within the Study Area. This consists of 144 adult men's, 16 adult women's, 176 youth boys', 24 youth girls' and 142 mini mixed teams. Adult football is the most prominent format of play, whilst mini 5v5 football is the least common.

*Table 2.12: Summary of competitive teams currently playing across the Study Area*

Sub area	No. of teams					Total
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
East Dorset	35	34	22	23	16	130
North Dorset	21	28	13	13	8	83
Purbeck	21	14	8	11	9	63
West Dorset	53	28	17	15	18	131
Weymouth & Portland	30	18	18	15	14	95
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>502</b>

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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It should be noted that not all demand is located on grass provision across the Study Area. In total 30 teams play their football on either the small size floodlit 3G provision at Potterne Park, or the full size floodlit provision at The Blandford School and Dorchester Town Football Club.

### *Dorset Ability Counts League*

Dorset FA operates the Dorset Ability Counts League which consists of four ability banded divisions and has a total of 17 teams from the following clubs across the Study Area;

- ◀ Parley Sports FC
- ◀ Wimborne Town
- ◀ Dorchester Town FC
- ◀ Dorset Abilities Group
- ◀ Weymouth Cougars

Disability grassroots football has three main pathways; pan-disability, impairment-specific and traditional mainstream. Depending on the type of football being played there are differing requirements to the provision needed such as artificial or indoor compared to a grass football pitch.

### ***Imported demand***

Imported demand refers to any demand from neighbouring local authorities that accesses facilities within the Study Area due to a lack of available facilities in other local /unitary authorities where such team or club is based.

In total there are seven clubs importing 16 teams into the Study Area. Most of these teams are imported from Poole to Upton Recreation Ground which is located in Purbeck. Poole Town FC Wessex (four teams), Poole Bay (two teams), Poole Town Ladies (one team) and Poole Wanderers FC (one team) all utilise the provision at Upton Recreation Ground as it is located near the administrative boundary with Poole. As a result, it is unlikely that any of the clubs would wish to relocate site.

There is also imported demand generated from Poole based clubs Hamworthy Recreation FC and Merley Cobham Sports Youth FC with a total of one and six teams, respectively. Both clubs use sites in the East Dorset Sub Area, St Michaels Middle School and King George V Fields, and do not have an ambition to relocate due to the sites being situated close to the border.

In addition, Yeovil Ladies FC imports its first team from South Somerset into the West Dorset Sub Area. The Club uses the 3G pitch located at Dorchester Town Football Club and relocated to the site for the start of the 2018/19 WSL season. It is unknown if it would prefer to play within its own Authority, however, as Dorchester Town Football Club is located approximately 23 miles (between 35 and 50 minutes) it is probable it would prefer to stay within South Somerset if suitable provision were made available.

### ***Exported demand***

Exported demand refers to teams that are currently accessing pitches for home fixtures outside of the Study Area, despite being registered with the unitary authority. There is no known wider exported demand; however, many teams travel between the authorities to access specific venues.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Lyme Regis FC, Netherbury FC and Wimborne & Holt FC export partial demand out of the Study Area.

Lyme Regis FC and Netherbury FC export one adult team each to the neighbouring authority of East Devon. The teams currently use provision at The Woodroffe School which is located on the boundary between East Devon District Council and Dorset Council. The School building falls in Dorset Council whereas the accompanying playing fields fall within East Devon. Neither club reports an issue with this arrangement due to its proximity to the Study Area.

Similarly, Wimborne & Holt FC access a site which is located on the border between Dorset Council and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council. The Club exports an U7s, U8s and U9s team to Canford School which is located in Poole. Likewise Lyme Regis FC and Netherbury FC, clubs do not report an issue exporting this demand due to its closeness to Dorset Council.

### **Latent demand**

Latent demand refers to potential demand; individuals who would like to participate within the sport but do not do so. This can be for a variety of reasons including a lack pitches or appropriate facilities. Clubs that report latent demand and the reasons provided for this latent demand can be seen in the table below.

*Table 2.13: Clubs that report latent demand and the reasons provided*

Club	Sub area	Need for more match pitches	Need for more/better training facilities	Need for better/more appropriate changing provision
Allendale FC	East Dorset	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cranborne FC	East Dorset	Yes	Yes	-
Parley Sports FC	East Dorset	Yes	Yes	-
Verwood Girls FC	East Dorset	Yes	Yes	Yes
Verwood Town FC	East Dorset	Yes	Yes	-
Wimborne Town FC	East Dorset	-	-	Yes
Gillingham YFC	North Dorset	-	Yes	Yes
Bere Regis FC	Purbeck	-	Yes	-
Lytchett Matravers FC	Purbeck	Yes	Yes	Yes
Swanage Town & Herston FC	Purbeck	Yes	Yes	Yes
Upton FC	Purbeck	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wool United	Purbeck	Yes	-	Yes
Bridport YFC	West Dorset	Yes	Yes	-
Chickerall FC	West Dorset	Yes	Yes	-
Dorchester YFC	West Dorset	Yes	-	-
Team Gryphon FC	West Dorset	Yes	-	-
Weymouth FC	West Dorset	Yes	-	Yes
Netherbury FC	West Dorset	Yes	Yes	Yes
Jurassic Coast Girls FC	Weymouth & Portland	Yes	Yes	Yes
Portland YFC	Weymouth & Portland	Yes	Yes	Yes
Redlands FC	Weymouth & Portland	Yes	Yes	Yes

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Club	Sub area	Need for more match pitches	Need for more/better training facilities	Need for better/more appropriate changing provision
Weymouth Cougars FC	Weymouth & Portland	-	Yes	Yes
<b>Total clubs responding</b>		<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>14</b>

Most clubs (18 clubs) which express any form of latent demand across the Study Area indicate that they would be able to field additional teams if they had access to more match pitches. A total of 17 clubs report they would be able to increase participation if they had access to better or more training provision, whereas, 14 clubs report they could increase team numbers if they had access to more or better training facilities.

It should be noted that no club quantified a specific number of teams which they believe they could grow by through latent demand; instead, they indicate general ambitions of growth across the differing age groups.

### ***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, which in turn is hindering the growth of the league. No unmet demand is expressed by responsive clubs in Study Area.

### ***Future demand***

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

#### *Participation increases*

In total 22 clubs' report aspirations to increase the number of teams; providing a predicted growth of 57 teams, as seen in the table overleaf.

*Table 2.14: Potential team increases identified by clubs*

Club	Sub area	Future demand (teams)	Pitch type required	Match equivalent sessions <sup>4</sup>
Allendale FC	East Dorset	1 x Adult Men's	Adult	1
		1 x Adult Women's		
		1 x Youth Girls	Youth 9v9	1
		1 x Youth Boys		
Sturminster Marshall FC	East Dorset	1 x Adult Men's	Adult	0.5
		1 x Mini	Mini 5v5	0.5
Verwood Girls FC	East Dorset	2 x Mini	Mini 5v5	1
Verwood Town FC	East Dorset	2 x Youth Boys	Youth 11v11	1

<sup>4</sup> 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.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Club	Sub area	Future demand (teams)	Pitch type required	Match equivalent sessions <sup>4</sup>
		1 x Mini	Mini 5v5	0.5
Wimborne & Holt YFC	East Dorset	1 x Youth Boys	Youth 9v9	0.5
		3 x Mini	Mini 5v5	1.5
Blandford YFC	North Dorset	2 x Mini	Mini 5v5	1
Shaftesbury Rockies FC	North Dorset	2 x Mini	Mini 5v5	1
Sturminster Newton United FC	North Dorset	2 x Mini	Mini 5v5	1
Lytchett Matravers FC	Purbeck	2 x Mini	Mini 5v5	1
Swanage & Herston FC	Purbeck	1 x Adult Women's	Adult	0.5
		2 x Youth Boys	Youth 11v11	1.5
		1 x Youth Girls		
		1 x Youth Boys	Youth 9v9	1
		1 x Youth Girls		
Wareham FC	Purbeck	1 x Youth Boys	Youth 11v11	0.5
Wool United	Purbeck	1 x Adult Men's	Adult	1
		1 x Adult Women's		
		2 x Youth Boys	Youth 9v9	1
		2 x Mini	Mini 5v5	1
Beaminster FC	West Dorset	1 x Youth Boys	Youth 11v11	0.5
Bridport YFC	West Dorset	1 x Youth Girls	Youth 9v9	0.5
Dorchester Town YFC	West Dorset	2 x Youth Girls	Youth 9v9	1
		2 x Mini	Mini 5v5	1
Puddletown FC	West Dorset	1 x Adult Men's	Adult	0.5
Harlequin & Weston Sports YFC	Weymouth & Portland	1 x Mini	Mini 5v5	0.5
Jurassic Coasts Girls FC	Weymouth & Portland	1 x Adult Women's	Adult	0.5
		2 x Youth Girls	Youth 11v11	0.5
			Youth 9v9	0.5
		1 x Mini	Mini 5v5	0.5
Portland United	Weymouth & Portland	1 x Adult Women's	Adult	0.5
Portland Youth FC	Weymouth & Portland	1 x Youth Boys	Youth 11v11	0.5
Redlands FC	Weymouth & Portland	1 x Adult Women's	Adult	0.5
		2 x Youth Girls	Youth 11v11	0.5
			Youth 9v9	0.5
		2 x Mini	Mini 5v5	1
Weymouth FC	Weymouth & Portland	2 x Youth Girls	Youth 11v11	0.5
			Youth 9v9	0.5
<b>Total</b>				<b>28.5</b>

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

The total future demand expressed amounts to 28.5 match equivalent sessions. The largest amount of future demand, in relation to pitch type, will be for mini 5v5 pitches, with clubs, collectively, planning an additional 23 future mini 5v5 teams equating to 11.5 match equivalent sessions per week which will need to be accommodated. This is due to clubs wanting to create teams at the youngest age group for them to progress throughout the various age groups.

*Table 2.15: Potential team increases identified by clubs by Sub Area*

Sub Area	Future demand expressed by clubs in match equivalent sessions					
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
East Dorset	1.5	1	1.5	-	3.5	7.5
North Dorset	-	-	-	-	3	3
Purbeck	1.5	2	2	-	2	7.5
West Dorset	0.5	0.5	1.5	-	1	3.5
Weymouth & Portland	1.5	2	1.5	-	2	7
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>28.5</b>

It should be noted that both Gillingham YFC and Upton FC report aspirations to increase in participation; however, neither of them quantifies a specific number of teams.

The East Dorset Sub Area has the club aspirational demand of mini 5v5 teams when comparing to the remaining four sub areas. There is a total of 7.5 match equivalent sessions of club future demand which is the joint highest within the Study Area

The North Dorset Sub Area has the lowest potential future club growth with three match equivalent sessions for demand at mini 5v5, this equates to six teams. This is accumulatively generated from Blandford YFC, Sturminster Newton United FC and Shaftesbury Rockies FC. The Purbeck Sub Area has the joint highest future demand, the same as East Dorset, with 7.5 match equivalent session or 15 teams. The Sub Area has the largest amount of youth 9v9 club future demand with two match equivalent sessions.

The future demand in the West Dorset Sub Area of 3.5 match equivalent sessions is generated from four clubs; Beaminster FC, Bridport YFC, Dorchester Town YFC and Puddletown FC.

The potential future club demand in the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area is spread across the greatest number of clubs in comparison to the other sub areas. There are six clubs (Harlequin & Weston Sports YFC, Jurassic Coasts Girls FC, Portland United, Portland YFC, Redlands FC and Weymouth FC) which in total have seven match equivalent sessions of future aspirational demand.

### *Population increases*

Team generation rates are used to calculate the number of teams likely to be generated in the future (2036) based on population growth. Please refer to the Appendix 3 for the full breakdown of team generation rates by Sub Area. Below is a summary for each Sub Area.

*Table 2.16: Team generation rates for the Study Area (2036)*

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Age group	Summary of potential team generated through populations increases					Total
	East Dorset	North Dorset	Purbeck	West Dorset	Weymouth & Portland	
Senior Mens (16-45)	-	-	-	1	-	1
Senior Women (16-45)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Youth Boys (12-15)	4	4	1	3	-	12
Youth Girls (12-15)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Youth Boys (10-11)	2	1	1	1	-	5
Youth Girls (10-11)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mini-Soccer Mixed (8-9)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mini-Soccer Mixed (6-7)	-	-	-	-	-	-

It should be noted that age group team numbers differ as forecasts are based on age rather than playing format. U17 and U18 teams affiliate to their respective County FA as juniors, however, are generally considered to play on and require adult pitches and are considered by age boundaries to be in the adult age group.

Across the East Dorset Sub Area the application of the team generation rates predicts a future growth of six teams; four youth boys (12-15) and two youth boys (10-11). This is the highest amount of growth when compared to the other sub areas.

Similarly, population projections predict growth in the North Dorset Sub Area in the same age groups. Although the anticipated growth of teams at the youth boys age group (12-15) is the same as the East Dorset Sub Area with four there is one less team predicted at the youth boys age group (10-11) with only one team.

Growth across the Purbeck area is only one team in each of the youth boys (12-15) and youth boys (10-11) age groups.

Similarly, population projections predict growth in the North Dorset Sub Area in the same age groups. Although the anticipated growth of teams at the youth boys age group (12-15) is the same as the East Dorset Sub Area with four there is one less team predicted at the youth boys age group (10-11) with only one team.

It is anticipated that the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area will see no teams generated through population increases.

In total, across the Study Area population increases predict the future growth of 18 teams, most of which (12) are in the youth boys (12-15) age group. The remaining growth is projected to be in the youth boys (10-11) with five teams and one team in the senior men's (16-45) age group.

Notwithstanding the above, it must be noted that team generation rates are based exclusively on future population forecasts and do not account for societal factors or changes in the way people may wish to play sport. Similarly, they cannot account for specific targeted development work within certain areas or focused towards certain groups, such as NGB initiatives or coaching within schools. For example, there is a focus on developing female participation within the Study Area and nationally which, as mentioned previously, is likely to lead to more women's and girls' teams in the future and therefore increase demand for pitches.

*Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) Wildcats Centres*



## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

SSE Wildcats Centres work with County FA qualified coaches to deliver local weekly sessions, which provide opportunities for girls aged five to 11 to develop fundamental skills and experience football in a safe and fun environment. There are already 200 established centres which delivered the SSE Wildcats pilot in 2017, with a further 800 centres to be in place for 2018.

As part of the expansion process, organisations extending beyond affiliated clubs to include other providers or community groups were invited to apply in late 2017 to become one of the new centres. All organisations delivering Wildcats centres receive a £900 start-up grant and 30 branded footballs in their first year of running the programme to help develop and increase girl's participation.

In light of FA aspirations to double female participation in football through its Game Changer strategy and the establishment and foreseen future effect of the SSE Wildcats programme, it is likely that the growth in affiliated women's and girl teams may exceed that shown through TGRs, however at present to what extent is not quantifiable.

### 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 affect the playing experience and people's enjoyment. In extreme circumstances, it can result in the inability of a pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off peak times.

As a guide, The FA has set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without it adversely affecting its quality. Taking into consideration the guidelines on capacity, the following ratings were used across the Study Area.

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

The tables which follow apply the above pitch ratings against the actual level of weekly play recorded to determine a capacity rating as follows:

<b>Potential capacity</b>	Play is below the level the site could sustain
<b>At capacity</b>	Play matches the level the site can sustain
<b>Overused</b>	Play exceeds the level the site can sustain

### *Education sites*

To account for curricular/extra-curricular use of education pitches it is likely that use additional to recorded community use will need to be factored into the total current weekly usage. The only time this would not happen is when a school does not use its pitches at all and the sole use is community use. The extent of use added is typically dependent on the level of play, the number of pitches onsite and whether there is access to an AGP elsewhere onsite allowing rotation and protection of impact on grass pitches.

The tables below show community usage of available pitches. Where not overlapped as a result of community use, school sites are considered to have no spare capacity to

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accommodate further community use based on assumed curricular and extracurricular activity beyond the level of community use shown in the tables below. School sites which are available for community use but currently do not have any external use have been accredited one match equivalent session per week, per pitch, to indicate use for curricular and extracurricular activity as opposed to being completely unused.

Tenure at school sites is generally considered to be unsecure given the nature of rental unless a formal community use or service level agreement (SLA) exists.

### ***Informal use***

A number of football pitches in the area are on open access sites. As such, these pitches are subject to informal use in the form of dog walkers, unorganised games of football and exercise groups. It must be noted, however, that informal use of these sites is not recorded and it is therefore difficult to quantify on a site-by-site basis. Instead, it is recommended that open access sites be protected through an improved maintenance regime.

### ***Peak time***

Across the Study Area peak time demand for adult football pitches is Saturday PM, whereas, peak time for youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 football is Sunday PM. All mini pitch formats have a peak time of Sunday morning, which negates any potential issues, such as kick-off time clashes on adult pitches which are over marked for junior and mini football, or child welfare issues at sites where there are not sufficient changing facilities to service all pitches, as junior and mini teams require exclusive changing and shower areas which need to be carefully coordinated and managed.

### ***Spare capacity***

After identifying a site's 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 friendly matches and activities that take place but are difficult to quantify on a weekly basis.

Over marked pitches which are used and exhibit potential spare capacity have not been considered available to accommodate further play in order to protect pitch quality, given the nature of repeated and sustained use over a short period of time.

Where there is potential spare capacity exhibited at school sites, this has been excluded due to a lack of formal or secure tenure offered at school sites for community use. In general, it is not appropriate to include this as potential spare capacity as it is a risk as to whether it will be continue to be offered.

### ***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). Only sites which are overplayed and have current community use have been included in the overplay summary, therefore school sites which do not currently have any community use but may be overplayed due to curriculum use and school fixtures have not been included.

### ***Match equivalent sessions***

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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 do not equate to a number of pitches. This is because a Sub Area might show three match equivalent sessions of spare capacity, however, this is likely to be spread across a number of sites. Further to this, minimal spare capacity on one site may be required to accommodate strategic reserve and as such retained. 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.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### 2.5 Capacity analysis of the East Dorset Sub Area

Table 2.17: Football pitch capacity analysis for the East Dorset Sub Area

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play (MES)	Site capacity <sup>5</sup> (MES)	Capacity balance <sup>6</sup>	Spare capacity available in peak period <sup>7</sup>	Comments
3	Alderholt Sports Club	SP6 3DF	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		2	Poor	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
6	Allenbourn Middle School	BH21 1PL	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	Played to capacity through curricular and extracurricular use.
12	Beacroft Foundation School	BH21 2SS	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
32	Castle Court School	BH21 3RF	No	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	3	Standard	0	6	6	-	Unavailable for community use.
36	Churchill Close Recreation Ground	BH21 4BH	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions.
36	Churchill Close Recreation Ground	BH21 4BH	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1	4	3	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
36	Churchill Close Recreation Ground	BH21 4BH	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Standard	1	8	7	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
36	Churchill Close Recreation Ground	BH21 4BH	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
39	Colehill First School	BH21 2LZ	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
44	Corfe Mullen Sports Association	BH21 3HU	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		6	Standard	2	12	10	4.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
44	Corfe Mullen Sports Association	BH21 3HU	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	0.5	4	3.5	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
44	Corfe Mullen Sports Association	BH21 3HU	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	2	4	2	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
44	Corfe Mullen Sports Association	BH21 3HU	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	4	2	2	-	Overplayed by two match equivalent sessions.
44	Corfe Mullen Sports Association	BH21 3HU	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.
45	Cranborne Middle School	BH21 5RP	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Good	0	6	6	-	Unavailable for community use.
45	Cranborne Middle School	BH21 5RP	No	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Good	0	8	8	-	Unavailable for community use.
55	Dumpton School	BH21 7AF	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Good	1	4	3	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
60	Emmanuel School	BH31 6JF	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Poor	0	4	4	-	Unavailable for community use.
60	Emmanuel School	BH31 6JF	No	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	0	1	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
62	Ferndown Leisure Centre	BH22 9EZ	Yes	Trust	Secure	Adult		4	Standard	0.5	8	7.5	3.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
62	Ferndown Leisure Centre	BH22 9EZ	Yes-unused	Trust	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	0	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
62	Ferndown Leisure Centre	BH22 9EZ	Yes-unused	Trust	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Poor	0	2	2	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
62	Ferndown Leisure Centre	BH22 9EZ	Yes	Trust	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
63	Ferndown Wayfarers Sports Club	BH22 9PH	Yes-unused	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
63	Ferndown Wayfarers Sports Club	BH22 9PH	Yes-unused	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
64	Ford Lane Recreation Ground	BH22 8AB	Yes-unused	Town Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
64	Ford Lane Recreation Ground	BH22 8AB	Yes-unused	Town Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
64	Ford Lane Recreation Ground	BH22 8AB	Yes-unused	Town Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
67	Fryers Field Recreation Ground	BH22 0LJ	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		2	Poor	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.
67	Fryers Field Recreation Ground	BH22 0LJ	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	0.5	4	3.5	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
67	Fryers Field Recreation Ground	BH22 0LJ	Yes-unused	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
67	Fryers Field Recreation Ground	BH22 0LJ	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.

<sup>5</sup> Based on pitch quality The FA recommends a maximum number of match equivalent sessions to be accommodate per pitch type. Please refer to Section 2.4 for the full breakdown.

<sup>6</sup> Red indicates overplay, green indicates potential spare capacity and amber indicates at capacity.

<sup>7</sup> Match equivalent sessions.

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Site ID	Site name	Post code	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play (MES)	Site capacity <sup>5</sup> (MES)	Capacity balance <sup>6</sup>	Spare capacity available in peak period <sup>7</sup>	Comments
68	Holt United Football Club	BH21 4JH	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
68	Holt United Football Club	BH21 4JH	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1	4	3	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
68	Holt United Football Club	BH21 4JH	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4		-	Pitch considered played to capacity through over marking.
68	Holt United Football Club	BH21 4JH	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
68	Holt United Football Club	BH21 4JH	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1.5	2		-	Pitch considered played to capacity through over marking.
76	Hayeswood First School	BH21 2HN	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
80	Hillside Community First School	BH31 7HE	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	2	4	2	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
89	King George V Fields	BH22 9EZ	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Adult		2	Standard	2.5	4	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
89	King George V Fields	BH22 9EZ	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Standard	1.5	4	2.5	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
97	Lockyer's Middle School	BH21 3HQ	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Standard	0	8	8	-	Unavailable for community use.
97	Lockyer's Middle School	BH21 3HQ	No	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
106	Mick Loader Memorial Recreation Ground (Cranborne Sports Club)	BH21 5QE	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
106	Mick Loader Memorial Recreation Ground (Cranborne Sports Club)	BH21 5QE	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
119	Oakhurst Community First School	BH22 0DY	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
123	Pamphill Village Green	BH21 4EE	Yes-unused	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
125	Parley Sports Club	BH22 8SQ	Yes	Sports Club	Unsecure	Adult		1	Poor <sup>8</sup>	2.5	1	1.5	-	Overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions.
125	Parley Sports Club	BH22 8SQ	Yes	Sports Club	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	0.5	4	3.5	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
125	Parley Sports Club	BH22 8SQ	Yes	Sports Club	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0.5	4	3.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
125	Parley Sports Club	BH22 8SQ	Yes	Sports Club	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
125	Parley Sports Club	BH22 8SQ	Yes	Sports Club	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
133	Potterne Park	BH21 6RS	Yes	District Council	Secure	Adult		2	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
133	Potterne Park	BH21 6RS	Yes	District Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	3	2	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent session.
133	Potterne Park	BH21 6RS	Yes	District Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Poor	5	4	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent session.
133	Potterne Park	BH21 6RS	Yes	District Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	4.5	1	3.5	-	Overplayed by 3.5 match equivalent sessions.
133	Potterne Park	BH21 6RS	Yes	District Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	2.5	1	1.5	-	Over played by 1.5 match equivalent sessions.
138	Queen Elizabeth's School Sports Field	BH21 4DR	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
139	Redcotts Recreation Ground	BH21 1EW	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	1.5	1	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.
139	Redcotts Recreation Ground	BH21 1EW	Yes-unused	Town Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
163	Sixpenny Handley Recreation Ground	SP5 5NJ	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
167	St Catherines VA Primary School	BH21 2HN	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
170	St Ives First School	BH24 2LE	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	0	4	4	-	Unavailable for community use.
177	St Marys CE VC First School	BH22 0JF	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	0	4	4	-	Unavailable for community use.

<sup>8</sup> Pitch was visited by a Regional Pitch Advisor (March 2019) with the results of the visit factoring into the overall quality score.

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Site ID	Site name	Post code	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play (MES)	Site capacity <sup>5</sup> (MES)	Capacity balance <sup>6</sup>	Spare capacity available in peak period <sup>7</sup>	Comments
180	St Michaels Middle School	BH21 7AB	Yes	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
212	Three Legged Cross Recreation Ground	BH21 6RZ	Yes-unused	Town Council	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
228	Wimborne First School	BH21 1HQ	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
229	Wimborne Town FC	BH21 4EL	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	2	2		-	Played to capacity.
229	Wimborne Town FC	BH21 4EL	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	1	1	2	-	Pitch is overplayed by two match equivalent sessions due to be overmarked with two mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches.
229	Wimborne Town FC	BH21 4EL	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	1				
229	Wimborne Town FC	BH21 4EL	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Poor	1				
232	Witchampton Sports Ground	BH21 5AU	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
232	Witchampton Sports Ground	BH21 5AU	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.

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### ***Spare capacity in the East Dorset Sub Area***

In total there is 25.5 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity across ten sites. It should be noted that 12.5 match equivalent session of spare capacity have been discounted due to poor pitch quality, whereas, 8.5 match equivalent sessions have been discounted due to unsecure tenure.

*Table 2.18: Supply and demand analysis in the East Dorset Sub Area*

Site ID	Site name	Actual spare capacity (match equivalent sessions per week)				
		Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
36	Churchill Close Recreation Ground	-	-	1	1	1
44	Corfe Mullen Sports Association	4.5	-	-	-	1
62	Ferndown Leisure Centre	3.5	-	1	-	1
63	Ferndown Wayfarers Sports Club	1	1	-	-	-
67	Fryers Field Recreation Ground	-	-	1	1	1
68	Holt United Football Club	0.5	1	-	-	1
89	King George V Fields	0.5	1	-	-	-
139	Redcotts Recreation Ground	-	-	1		
163	Sixpenny Handley Recreation Ground	0.5	-	-	-	-
212	Three Legged Cross Recreation Ground	1	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>11.5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>

### ***Overplay in the East Dorset Sub Area***

In total there is 14.5 match equivalent sessions of overplay across seven sites. The most overplayed site is Potterne Park with seven match equivalent sessions of overplay.

*Table 2.19: Supply and demand analysis in the East Dorset Sub Area*

Site ID	Site name	Overplay (match equivalent sessions per week)				
		Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
36	Churchill Close Recreation Ground	0.5	-	-	-	-
44	Corfe Mullen Sports Association	-	2	0.5	-	-
67	Fryers Field Recreation Ground	0.5	-	-		
125	Parley Sports Club	1.5	-	-	-	-
133	Potterne Park	-	3.5	1.5	1	1
139	Redcotts Recreation Ground	0.5	-	-	-	-
229	Wimborne Town FC	2	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### ***Current supply and demand analysis for the East Dorset Sub Area***

Having considered spare capacity and overplay, the table below identify the overall supply and demand analysis for the different pitch types, based on match equivalent sessions.

*Table 2.20: Supply and demand analysis in the East Dorset Sub Area*

Sub area		Match equivalent sessions per week				
		Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
East Dorset	Spare capacity	11.5	3	4	2	5
	Overplay	5	5.5	2	1	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>

There is overall current spare capacity on adult, youth 9v9 and mini pitches types across the East Dorset Sub Area, whilst youth 11v11 pitches overplayed by 2.5 match equivalent sessions.



## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### 2.6 Capacity analysis of the North Dorset Sub Area

Table 2.21: Football pitch capacity analysis in the North Dorset Sub Area

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play (MES)	Site capacity <sup>9</sup> (MES)	Capacity balance <sup>10</sup>	Spare capacity available in peak period <sup>11</sup>	Comments
8	Archbishop Wake CE School	DT11 8SW	No	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	0	1	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
10	Barnets Field (Sturminster Newton FC)	DT10 1ED	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
16	Blandford Camp (HM Forces)	DT11 8BG	Yes-unused	MOD	Unsecure	Adult		2	Poor	0	2	2	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
18	Blandford St Mary Cofe Primary School	DT11 9QD	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	0	4	4	-	Unavailable for community use.
28	Bryanston School	DT11 0PX	No	School	Unsecure	Adult		1	Good	0	3	3	-	Unavailable for community use.
38	Clayesmore Sports Centre	DT11 8LL	No	School	Unsecure	Adult		1	Good	0	3	3	-	Unavailable for community use.
38	Clayesmore Sports Centre	DT11 8LL	No	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	3	Good	0	12	12	-	Unavailable for community use.
48	Dick Draper Memorial Field	DT11 8TJ	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
53	Downlands Community School	DT11 8BG	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	0	4	4	-	Unavailable for community use.
56	Durweston Village Hall	DT11 0QA	Yes-unused	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	0	4	4	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
69	Gillingham School	SP8 4QP	No	School	Unsecure	Adult		1	Standard	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
69	Gillingham School	SP8 4QP	No	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
70	Gillingham Town Football Ground	SP8 4HX	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	1	2	1	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
77	Hazelbury Bryan Community Primary School	DT10 2ED	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
78	Hazelbury Bryan Playing Field	DT10 2EB	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
82	HMP Guys Marsh	SP7 0AH	Yes	Private	Unsecure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
82	HMP Guys Marsh	SP7 0AH	Yes	Private	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
82	HMP Guys Marsh	SP7 0AH	Yes	Private	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
82	HMP Guys Marsh	SP7 0AH	Yes	Private	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1	1		-	Pitch played to capacity.
93	Kington Magna Football Pitches	SP8 5ED	Yes-unused	Sports Club	Unsecure	Adult		1	Standard	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
93	Kington Magna Football Pitches	SP8 5ED	Yes	Sports Club	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	0.5	4	3.5	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
93	Kington Magna Football Pitches	SP8 5ED	Yes	Sports Club	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4	3	-	No spare capacity at peak time.
93	Kington Magna Football Pitches	SP8 5ED	Yes	Sports Club	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	3	2	1	-	Pitch overplayed by one match equivalent session.
93	Kington Magna Football Pitches	SP8 5ED	Yes	Sports Club	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
104	Marnhull Recreation Ground	DT10 1PH	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
107	Milborne St Andrew Sports Club	DT11 0JA	Yes-unused	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Good	0	3	3	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
107	Milborne St Andrew Sports Club	DT11 0JA	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity at peak time.

<sup>9</sup> Based on pitch quality The FA recommends a maximum number of match equivalent sessions to be accommodate per pitch type. Please refer to Section 2.4 for the full breakdown.

<sup>10</sup> Red indicates overplay, green indicates potential spare capacity and amber indicates at capacity.

<sup>11</sup> Match equivalent sessions

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play (MES)	Site capacity <sup>9</sup> (MES)	Capacity balance <sup>10</sup>	Spare capacity available in peak period <sup>11</sup>	Comments
108	Milborne St Andrew's First School	DT11 0JE	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	0	4	4	-	Unavailable for community use.
111	Milton Abbey School	DT11 0BZ	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Adult		2	Good	2	6	4	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
112	Milton on Stour Primary School	SP8 5QD	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Poor	0	4	4	-	Unavailable for community use.
115	Motcombe C of E Primary School	SP7 9NT	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
116	Motcombe Park Sports Club	SP7 9QA	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	5	Good	0	30	30	-	Unavailable for community use.
116	Motcombe Park Sports Club	SP7 9QA	No	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Good	0	4	4	-	Unavailable for community use.
116	Motcombe Park Sports Club	SP7 9QA	No	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	0	4	4	-	Unavailable for community use.
120	Okeford Fitzpaine Recreation Field	DT11 0RL	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	1	1		-	Played to capacity.
124	Park Road Recreation Ground	DT11 7BX	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	-	Pitch considered played to capacity through overmarki
136	Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field	DT11 8EL	Yes-unused	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
148	Shaftesbury Church of England Primary School	SP7 8PZ	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Poor	2	4	2	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
150	Shaftesbury Football Club	SP7 8PF	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Good	1	3	2	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
151	Shaftesbury School	SP7 8ER	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Standard	2	8	6	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
151	Shaftesbury School	SP7 8ER	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
158	Shillingstone Ceva Primary School	DT11 0TX	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
159	Shillingstone Recreation Ground	DT11 0SN	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
168	St George's Church of England School	SP8 5BN	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
181	St Nicholas C of E Primary School	DT11 8EL	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	0	4	4	-	Unavailable for community use.
181	St Nicholas C of E Primary School	DT11 8EL	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
183	Stalbridge C of E Primary School	DT10 2LP	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
184	Stour Provost Playing Fields	SP8 5RU	Yes-unused	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
185	Stower Provost Community School	SP8 5LX	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
189	Sturminster Newton High School	DT10 1DT	Yes	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0.5	2	1.5	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
189	Sturminster Newton High School	DT10 1DT	Yes	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
189	Sturminster Newton High School	DT10 1DT	Yes	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Poor	2	2		-	Played to capacity.
189	Sturminster Newton High School	DT10 1DT	Yes	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1	1		-	Played to capacity.
197	The Blandford School	DT11 7SQ	Yes	School	Unsecure	Adult		1	Standard	1	2	1	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
197	The Blandford School	DT11 7SQ	Yes	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1	4	3	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
197	The Blandford School	DT11 7SQ	Yes	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Standard	2.5	8	5.5	-	No actual spare capacity
197	The Blandford School	DT11 7SQ	Yes	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	4	2	2	-	Overplayed by two match equivalent sessions.

**ACTIVE DORSET  
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT**

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play (MES)	Site capacity <sup>9</sup> (MES)	Capacity balance <sup>10</sup>	Spare capacity available in peak period <sup>11</sup>	Comments
197	The Blandford School	DT11 7SQ	Yes	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.
201	Stalbridge Playing Fields (The Park)	DT10 2RA	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
201	Stalbridge Playing Fields (The Park)	DT10 2RA	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	2	2		-	Played to capacity.
201	Stalbridge Playing Fields (The Park)	DT10 2RA	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1.5	1	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.
201	Stalbridge Playing Fields (The Park)	DT10 2RA	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1	1		-	Played to capacity.
202	The Recreation Ground	DT10 1BY	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
202	The Recreation Ground	DT10 1BY	Yes-unused	Town Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
231	Winterborne Sports and Social Club	DT11 0NB	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
233	Woodwater Lane	SP8 4HX	Yes-unused	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Good	0	3	3	1	Actual spare capacity.
236	Wyke Primary School	SP8 4SH	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	0	4	4	-	Unavailable for community use.
236	Wyke Primary School	SP8 4SH	No	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	0	1	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
254	St Andrews CE Primary School Shaftesbury	SP7 0PF	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
257	The Abbey C of E Primary School, Shaftesbury	SP7 8HQ	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### ***Spare capacity in the North Dorset Sub Area***

In total there is 2.5 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity across two sites. It should be noted that 12 match equivalent session have been discounted due to poor pitch quality, whereas, 17 match equivalent sessions have been discounted due to unsecure tenure.

*Table 2.22: Summary of spare capacity in the North Dorset Sub Area*

Site ID	Site name	Actual spare capacity (match equivalent sessions per week)				
		Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
107	Milborne St Andrew Sports Club	1	0.5	-	-	-
233	Woodwater Lane	1	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>0.5</b>			

### ***Overplay in the North Dorset Sub Area***

In total there is four match equivalent sessions of overplay capacity across three sites. The most overplayed site is The Blandford School with 2.5 match equivalent session of overplay.

*Table 2.23: Summary of overplay in the North Dorset Sub Area*

Site ID	Site name	Overplay (match equivalent sessions per week)				
		Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
93	Kington Magna Football Pitches	-	1	-	-	-
197	The Blandford School	-	2	0.5	-	-
201	Stalbridge Playing Fields	-	0.5	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

### ***Current supply and demand analysis for the North Dorset Sub Area***

Having considered spare capacity and overplay, the table below identify the overall supply and demand analysis for the different pitch types, based on match equivalent sessions.

*Table 2.24: Supply and demand analysis in the North Dorset Sub Area*

Sub area		Match equivalent sessions per week				
		Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
North Dorset	Spare capacity	2	0.5	-	-	-
	Overplay	-	3.5	0.5	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.5</b>		

There is overall current spare capacity on adult pitches across the North Dorset Sub Area, whilst mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches are played to capacity and youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches overplayed by three and 0.5 match equivalent sessions, respectively.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### 2.7 Capacity analysis of the Purbeck Sub Area

Table 2.25: Football pitch capacity analysis in the Purbeck Sub Area

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play (MES)	Site capacity <sup>12</sup> (MES)	Capacity balance <sup>13</sup>	Spare capacity available in peak period <sup>14</sup>	Comments
13	Bere Regis Sports Club	BH20 7LA	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
13	Bere Regis Sports Club	BH20 7LA	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1	4	3	1	Actual spare capacity.
13	Bere Regis Sports Club	BH20 7LA	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
20	Bovington Garrison	BH20 6JA	No	MOD	Unsecure	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Unavailable for community use.
43	Corfe Castle Sports Field	BH20 5HB	Yes	National Trust	Unsecure	Adult		1	Poor	1	1		-	Played to capacity.
43	Corfe Castle Sports Field	BH20 5HB	Yes	National Trust	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
43	Corfe Castle Sports Field	BH20 5HB	Yes	National Trust	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
87	Journeys End	BH19 1NN	Yes-unused	Town Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
90	King Georges Field	BH19 1AR	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Adult		3	Standard	1	6	5	3	Actual spare capacity.
99	Lytchett Manor Sports Centre	BH16 6JD	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Adult		1	Good	1	3	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
99	Lytchett Manor Sports Centre	BH16 6JD	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
100	Lytchett Matravers Primary School	BH16 6DY	No	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	0	1	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
101	Lytchett Matravers Recreation Ground	BH16 6DD	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor <sup>15</sup>	1.5	4	2.5	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
101	Lytchett Matravers Recreation Ground	BH16 6DD	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor <sup>14</sup>	1	2	1	-	No actual spare capacity.
101	Lytchett Matravers Recreation Ground	BH16 6DD	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor <sup>14</sup>	2	1	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent session.
113	Morden Recreation Ground and Village Hall	BH20 7DT	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
113	Morden Recreation Ground and Village Hall	BH20 7DT	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
135	Purbeck Sports Centre	BH20 4PH	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult		2	Standard	1	4	3	1.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
135	Purbeck Sports Centre	BH20 4PH	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
142	Royal Armoured Corps Gunnery School	BH20 5PX	No	School	Unsecure	Adult		1	Standard	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
146	Sandford St Martins Ceva Primary School	BH20 7BN	Yes	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0.5	2	1.5	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
193	Swanage Town & Herston Football Club	BH19 1NN	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	1	2	1	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time,
193	Swanage Town & Herston Football Club	BH19 1NN	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	2	4	2	-	Pitch considered to be played to capacity through over marking.
193	Swanage Town & Herston Football Club	BH19 1NN	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1				
205	The Swanage School	BH19 2PH	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1	1		-	Played to capacity through curricular and extracurricular usage.
216	Upton Recreation Ground	BH16 5NF	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.
216	Upton Recreation Ground	BH16 5NF	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	2	2	2	-	Overplayed by two match equivalent

<sup>12</sup> Based on pitch quality The FA recommends a maximum number of match equivalent sessions to be accommodate per pitch type. Please refer to Section 2.4 for the full breakdown.

<sup>13</sup> Red indicates overplay, green indicates potential spare capacity and amber indicates at capacity.

<sup>14</sup> Match equivalent sessions.

<sup>15</sup> Pitch was visited by a Regional Pitch Advisor (March 2019) with the results of the visit factoring into the overall quality score.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play (MES)	Site capacity <sup>12</sup> (MES)	Capacity balance <sup>13</sup>	Spare capacity available in peak period <sup>14</sup>	Comments
216	Upton Recreation Ground	BH16 5NF	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1.5				sessions due to over marking of one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch.
216	Upton Recreation Ground	BH16 5NF	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	0.5				
216	Upton Recreation Ground	BH16 5NF	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1	4	3	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
216	Upton Recreation Ground	BH16 5NF	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Adult			Standard	2	2	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions due to over marking of one youth 9v9 pitch.
216	Upton Recreation Ground	BH16 5NF	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	0.5				
217	Wareham Recreation Ground	BH20 4PQ	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	1	1		-	Played to capacity.
218	Wareham St Mary Church of England Primary School	BH20 4PG	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
230	Winfrith Newburgh Recreation Ground	DT2 8JH	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		2	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	1.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
234	Wool Playing Field	BH20 6DL	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	1	2	1	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
234	Wool Playing Field	BH20 6DL	Yes-unused	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	0	4	4	1	Actual spare capacity.
234	Wool Playing Field	BH20 6DL	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4	3	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
234	Wool Playing Field	BH20 6DL	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	1	Actual spare capacity.
249	Wareham Rangers Youth FC	BH20 4PH	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
252	St Mark's Primary School	BH19 2PH	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	0	4	4	-	Unavailable for community use.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### ***Spare capacity in the Purbeck Sub Area***

In total there is 6.5 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity across three sites. It should be noted that 6.5 match equivalent session of spare capacity have been discounted due to poor pitch quality, whereas, seven match equivalent sessions have been discounted due to unsecure tenure.

*Table 2.26: Summary of spare capacity in the Purbeck Sub Area*

Site ID	Site name	Actual spare capacity (match equivalent sessions per week)				
		Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
13	Bere Regis Sports Club	0.5	-	-	-	1
90	King George Field	3	-	-	-	-
234	Wool Playing Field	-	-	1	-	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>3.5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2</b>

### ***Overplay in the Purbeck Sub Area***

In total there is four match equivalent sessions of overplay capacity across three sites. The most overplayed site is Upton Recreation Ground with 2.5 match equivalent session of overplay. This is primarily due to the over marking of adult pitches with youth and mini provision.

*Table 2.27: Summary of overplay in the Purbeck Sub Area*

Site ID	Site name	Overplay (match equivalent sessions per week)				
		Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
101	Lytchett Matravers Recreation Ground	-	-	1	-	-
216	Upton Recreation Ground	3	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

### ***Current supply and demand analysis for the Purbeck Sub Area***

Having considered spare capacity and overplay, the table below identify the overall supply and demand analysis for the different pitch types, based on match equivalent sessions.

*Table 2.28: Supply and demand analysis in the Purbeck Sub Area*

Sub area		Match equivalent sessions per week				
		Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
Purbeck	Spare capacity	3.5	-	1	-	2
	Overplay	3	-	1	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0.5</b>				<b>2</b>

There is minimal overall current spare capacity on adult and mini 5v5 pitches, whereas, all other pitch types are played to capacity across the Sub Area.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### 2.8 Capacity analysis of the West Dorset Sub Area

Table 2.29: Football pitch capacity analysis in the West Dorset Sub Area

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play (MES)	Site capacity <sup>16</sup> (MES)	Capacity balance <sup>17</sup>	Spare capacity available in peak period <sup>18</sup>	Comments
1	1610 Beaminster Sport & Leisure	DT8 3EP	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Standard	2	4	2	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
1	1610 Beaminster Sport & Leisure	DT8 3EP	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
4	All Saints CE VC Primary School	DT9 5NQ	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
7	Anning Road Playing Field	DT7 3EB	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1	1		-	Played to capacity.
11	Barrs Lane Recreation Ground	DT6 6PS	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
11	Barrs Lane Recreation Ground	DT6 6PS	Yes-unused	Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
15	Bishop's Caundle Playing Field	DT9 5ND	Yes-unused	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
19	Bob Lucas Stadium (Weymouth FC)	DT4 9XJ	Yes	Sport Club	Secure	Adult		1	Good	0.5	3	2.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
21	Bradford Abbas Sports and Recreational Club	DT9 6RP	Yes	Sport Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0.5	2	1.5	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
21	Bradford Abbas Sports and Recreational Club	DT9 6RP	Yes	Sport Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
21	Bradford Abbas Sports and Recreational Club	DT9 6RP	Yes	Sport Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1.5	1	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.
23	Bridport Primary School	DT6 3BJ	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Poor	0	4	4	-	Unavailable for community use.
25	Broadmayne First School	DT2 8PH	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	2	4	2	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
26	Broadmayne Playing Field	DT2 8EW	Yes	Community Organisation	Unsecure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
27	Broadwindsor C of E Primary School	DT8 3QL	No	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	0	1	1	-	Unavailable for community use.
29	Buckland Newton Parish Field	DT2 7DP	Yes-unused	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
29	Buckland Newton Parish Field	DT2 7DP	Yes-unused	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
30	Budmouth Community Sports Centre	DT4 9SY	Yes	School	Unsecure	Adult		1	Standard	3	2	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent session.
30	Budmouth Community Sports Centre	DT4 9SY	Yes	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	2	4	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
30	Budmouth Community Sports Centre	DT4 9SY	Yes	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	2	4	2	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
30	Budmouth Community Sports Centre	DT4 9SY	Yes	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	2	2		-	Played to capacity.
30	Budmouth Community Sports Centre	DT4 9SY	Yes	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
31	Burton Bradstock Playing Field	DT6 4QA	Yes-unused	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
35	Chickerell Primary Academy	DT3 4AT	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
46	Crossways Playing Field	DT2 8BQ	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
47	Davey Fort	DT7 3DW	Yes	Trust	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	1	2	1	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
49	Dorchester Middle School	DT1 2HS	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
54	Drimpton Recreation Ground	DT8 3RF	Yes-unused	Trust	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.

<sup>16</sup> Based on pitch quality The FA recommends a maximum number of match equivalent sessions to be accommodate per pitch type. Please refer to Section 2.4 for the full breakdown.

<sup>17</sup> Red indicates overplay, green indicates potential spare capacity and amber indicates at capacity.

<sup>18</sup> Match equivalent sessions.



## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play (MES)	Site capacity <sup>16</sup> (MES)	Capacity balance <sup>17</sup>	Spare capacity available in peak period <sup>18</sup>	Comments
66	Frome Valley C of E VA First School	DT2 8WR	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
71	Great Field	DT1 2FD	Yes-unused	Town Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
72	Greenford C of E Primary School	DT2 0AX	Yes	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
74	Gryphon Leisure Centre	DT9 4EQ	Yes	Council	Secure	Adult		2	Standard	1	4	3	2	Actual spare capacity.
79	Hedley Howard Memorial Playing Field	DT2 0AU	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
79	Hedley Howard Memorial Playing Field	DT2 0AU	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
88	Kennel Ground	DT2 0JJ	Yes	Private	Unsecure	Adult		1	Poor	1	1		-	Played to capacity.
92	Kingston Maurward College	DT2 8PY	Yes	School	Unsecure	Adult		1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
96	Leweston School	DT9 6EN	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Adult		1	Good	1	3	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
105	Memorial Playing Fields	DT8 3AL	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
105	Memorial Playing Fields	DT8 3AL	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
117	Nether Compton Playing Field	DT9 4QA	Yes-unused	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
118	Netherbury Playing Fields	DT6 5LJ	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	1	1		-	Played to capacity.
126	Parrett and Axe C of E Primary School	DT8 3JQ	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
128	Piddletrenthide Playing Field	DT2 7QL	Yes-unused	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
130	Portesham Playing Field	DT3 4HF	Yes-unused	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
134	Puddletown Recreation Ground	DT2 8GE	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	1	2	1	0.5	Actual spare capacity.
143	Salway Ash C of E Primary School	DT6 5JE	Yes	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	2	4	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
144	Salway Ash Playing Field	DT6 5HU	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	1	1		-	Played to capacity.
147	Sandringham Sports Centre	DT1 2TN	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1.5	4	2.5	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
147	Sandringham Sports Centre	DT1 2TN	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	2	4	2	2	Actual spare capacity.
153	Sherborne Area Youth and Community Centre	DT9 3DY	Yes-unused	Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
153	Sherborne Area Youth and Community Centre	DT9 3DY	Yes-unused	Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
156	Sherborne School Sports Centre	DT9 3AP	No	School	Unsecure	Adult		2	Good	0	6	6	-	Unavailable for community use.
156	Sherborne School Sports Centre	DT9 3AP	No	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	3	Good	0	12	12	-	Unavailable for community use.
157	Sherborne Town FC	DT9 5NS	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Good	3	3		-	Played to capacity.
162	Simsay Oval	DT2 7GD	Yes-unused	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
164	St Andrews CE Primary School	DT9 6LS	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
166	St Catherines RC Primary School	DT6 3TR	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
172	St Marys C of E First School	DT2 9RD	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
173	St Marys C of E Middle School	DT2 8SA	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1	1		-	Played to capacity through curricular and extracurricular activity.
174	St Marys C of E Primary School	DT6 5LA	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
175	St Marys C of E VC Primary School	TA20 4NE	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
178	St Mary's Field - Bridport FC	DT6 5LA	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Good	1	3	2	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
179	St Marys Playing Field	DT6 3LP	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Adult		1	Standard	2	2		-	Played to capacity.
179	St Marys Playing Field	DT6 3LP	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1.5	1	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play (MES)	Site capacity <sup>16</sup> (MES)	Capacity balance <sup>17</sup>	Spare capacity available in peak period <sup>18</sup>	Comments
182	St Osmunds Community Sports Centre	DT1 2DZ	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
186	Stratton Playing Field	DT2 9RU	Yes-unused	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
190	Sunninghill Preparatory School	DT1 1EB	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	0	4	4	-	Unavailable for community use.
195	Symene Playing Fields	DT6 6EZ	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	2	4	2	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
195	Symene Playing Fields	DT6 6EZ	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1.5	1	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.
196	Terrace Playing Fields	DT9 5NS	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		4	Standard	3	8	5	4	Actual spare capacity discounted due to over marking with rugby union and cricket.
196	Terrace Playing Fields	DT9 5NS	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Standard	2.5	8	5.5	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to over marking with rugby union and cricket.
196	Terrace Playing Fields	DT9 5NS	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4	3	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to over marking with rugby union and cricket.
196	Terrace Playing Fields	DT9 5NS	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	1	4	3	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to over marking with rugby union and cricket.
203	The Sir John Colfox Academy	DT6 3DT	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Standard	2	4	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
203	The Sir John Colfox Academy	DT6 3DT	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
204	The Stalls	DT3 4DT	Yes	Town Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	1	1		-	Played to capacity.
208	Thomas Hardye School	DT1 2HT	Yes	School	Unsecure	Adult		2	Standard	2	4	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
208	Thomas Hardye School	DT1 2HT	Yes	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Standard	2.5	4	1.5	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
208	Thomas Hardye School	DT1 2HT	Yes	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
209	Thorncombe Sports and Social Club	TA20 4PS	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		2	Poor	0.5	2	1.5	1.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
210	Thornford Playing Field	DT9 6QD	Yes-unused	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
214	Trent Youngs Endowed C of E VA Primary School	DT9 4SW	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
238	Yetminster Playing Fields	DT9 6NR	Yes-unused	Parish Council	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
238	Yetminster Playing Fields	DT9 6NR	Yes-unused	Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	0	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
244	Halstock Football Field	BA22 9QU	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
253	The Prince of Wales School	DT1 2HH	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
253	The Prince of Wales School	DT1 2HH	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### **Spare capacity in the West Dorset Sub Area**

In total there is six match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity across five sites. It should be noted that 22.5 match equivalent session of spare capacity have been discounted due to poor pitch quality, whereas, 31 match equivalent sessions have been discounted due to unsecure tenure.

Table 2.30: Summary of spare capacity in the West Dorset Sub Area

Site ID	Site name	Actual spare capacity (match equivalent sessions per week)				
		Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
19	Bob Lucas Stadium	0.5	-	-	-	-
74	Gryphon Leisure Centre	2	-	-	-	-
105	Memorial Playing Fields	0.5	-	0.5	-	-
134	Puddletown Recreation Ground	0.5	-	-	-	-
147	Sandringham Sports Centre	-	-	2	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>3.5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

### **Overlay in the West Dorset Sub Area**

In total there is 2.5 match equivalent sessions of overplay across four sites. The most overplayed site is Budmouth Community Sports Centre with one match equivalent session of overplay.

Table 2.31: Summary of overplay in the West Dorset Sub Area

Site ID	Site name	Overplay (match equivalent sessions per week)				
		Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
21	Bradford Abbas Sports and Recreational Club	-	0.5	-	-	-
30	Budmouth Community Sports Centre	1	-	-	-	-
179	St Marys Playing Fields	-	-	0.5	-	-
195	Symene Playing Fields	-	0.5	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

### **Current supply and demand analysis for the West Dorset Sub Area**

Having considered spare capacity and overplay, the table below identify the overall supply and demand analysis for the different pitch types, based on match equivalent sessions.

Table 2.32: Supply and demand analysis in the West Dorset Sub Area

Sub area		Match equivalent sessions per week				
		Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
West Dorset	Spare capacity	3.5	-	2.5	-	-
	Overplay	1	1	0.5	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>		

There is minimal overall current spare capacity on adult and youth 9v9 pitches, whereas, youth 11v11 pitches are marginally overplayed. All other pitch types are played to capacity across the Sub Area.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### 2.8 Capacity analysis of the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area

Table 2.33: Football pitch capacity analysis in the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play (MES)	Site capacity <sup>19</sup> (MES)	Capacity balance <sup>20</sup>	Spare capacity available in peak period <sup>21</sup>	Comments
5	All Saints Church of England School	DT4 9BJ	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Adult		1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
9	Atlantic Academy Portland	DT5 2NA	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Adult		1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
73	Grove Corner Playing Fields	DT5 1BZ	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	1	1		-	Played to capacity.
73	Grove Corner Playing Fields	DT5 1BZ	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1	1		-	Played to capacity.
83	HMP Portland	DT5 1DL	No	Private	Unsecure	Adult		1	Standard	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub	DT3 5AW	Yes	School	Secure	Adult		2	Standard	7	4	3	-	Overplayed by three match equivalent sessions.
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub	DT3 5AW	Yes	School	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	3	Standard	4.5	12	7.5	2	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub	DT3 5AW	Yes	School	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	3	Standard	5	12	7	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub	DT3 5AW	Yes	School	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	3	Standard	5.5	6	0.5	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub	DT3 5AW	Yes	School	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	3	Standard	5.5	6	0.5	3	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
169	St George's Community Primary School	DT5 2BD	No	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	0	4	4	-	Unavailable for community use at peak time.
198	The Bowl	DT5 1DB	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	1	4	3	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
198	The Bowl	DT5 1DB	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1	4	3	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.
198	The Bowl	DT5 1DB	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
200	The Marsh Playing Fields	DT4 0BT	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Poor	1.5	1	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.
200	The Marsh Playing Fields	DT4 0BT	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	1	4	3	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
200	The Marsh Playing Fields	DT4 0BT	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Poor	1	4	3	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
200	The Marsh Playing Fields	DT4 0BT	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
200	The Marsh Playing Fields	DT4 0BT	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to poor pitch quality.
206	The Wey Valley School	DT3 5AN	Yes-unused	School	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor <sup>22</sup>	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
206	The Wey Valley School	DT3 5AN	Yes	School	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor <sup>21</sup>	0.5	2	1.5	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
206	The Wey Valley School	DT3 5AN	Yes	School	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor <sup>21</sup>	0	1	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
206	The Wey Valley School	DT3 5AN	Yes	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor <sup>21</sup>	0.5	1	0.5	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
220	Westfield Arts College	DT3 6AA	No	School	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	0	2	2	-	Unavailable for community use.
221	Weston Street	DT5 2DF	Yes	Private	Unsecure	Adult		1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
221	Weston Street	DT5 2DF	Yes-unused	Private	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
221	Weston Street	DT5 2DF	Yes-unused	Private	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	0	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
221	Weston Street	DT5 2DF	Yes	Private	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1	1		-	Played to capacity.
222	Weyline Stadium (Portland United FC)	DT5 1BP	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult		1	Good	1	3	2	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.

<sup>19</sup> Based on pitch quality The FA recommends a maximum number of match equivalent sessions to be accommodate per pitch type. Please refer to Section 2.4 for the full breakdown.

<sup>20</sup> Red indicates overplay, green indicates potential spare capacity and amber indicates at capacity.

<sup>21</sup> Match equivalent sessions

<sup>22</sup> Pitch was visited by a Regional Pitch Advisor (March 2019) with the results of the visit factoring into the overall quality score.

**ACTIVE DORSET  
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT**

Site ID	Site name	Post code	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play (MES)	Site capacity <sup>19</sup> (MES)	Capacity balance <sup>20</sup>	Spare capacity available in peak period <sup>21</sup>	Comments
225	Weymouth College Sports Centre	DT4 7LQ	Yes	School	Unsecure	Adult		1	Good	2.5	3	0.5	-	No actual spare capacity at peak time.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### ***Spare capacity in the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area***

In total there is seven match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity across two sites. It should be noted that 5.5 match equivalent session of spare capacity have been discounted due to poor pitch quality, whereas, nine match equivalent sessions have been discounted due to unsecure tenure.

*Table 2.34: Summary of spare capacity in the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area*

Site ID	Site name	Actual spare capacity (match equivalent sessions per week)				
		Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub	-	-	3	-	2
198	The Bowl	-	-	1	-	1
<b>Total</b>		-	-	4	-	3

### ***Overplay in the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area***

In total there is 3.5 match equivalent sessions of overplay across two sites; Redlands Community Sports Hub and The Marsh Playing Fields.

*Table 2.35: Summary of overplay in the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area*

Site ID	Site name	Overplay (match equivalent sessions per week)				
		Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub	3	-	-	-	-
200	The Marsh Playing Fields	0.5	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		3.5	-	-	-	-

### ***Current supply and demand analysis for Weymouth & Portland***

Having considered spare capacity and overplay, the table below identify the overall supply and demand analysis for the different pitch types, based on match equivalent sessions.

*Table 2.36: Supply and demand analysis in the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area*

Sub area		Match equivalent sessions per week				
		Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5
Weymouth & Portland	Spare capacity	-	-	4	-	3
	Overplay	3.5	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	3.5		4		3

There is overall current spare capacity on youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 pitches, whereas, adult pitches are marginally overplayed. All other pitch types are played to capacity across the Sub Area.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### 2.9: Supply and demand analysis

Having considered supply and demand, the tables below identify the overall capacity in each of the sub areas for the different pitch types, based on match equivalent sessions. Future demand is based on application of team generation rates which are driven by population increases as well as club development plans.

#### **Adult pitch supply and demand analysis**

Table 2.37: Supply/demand balance of adult pitches

Sub area	Actual spare capacity <sup>23</sup>	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
East Dorset	11.5	5	6.5	1.5	5
North Dorset	2	-	2	-	2
Purbeck	3.5	3	0.5	1.5	1
West Dorset	3.5	1	2.5	1	1.5
Weymouth & Portland	-	3.5	3.5	1.5	5
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>

There is current spare capacity on adult pitches in each Sub Area apart from Weymouth & Portland which has a shortfall. This creates an overall current spare capacity of eight match equivalent sessions. When factoring in future demand a shortfall of provision arises in the Purbeck Sub Area with the shortfall in the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area worsening.

#### **Youth 11v11 pitch supply and demand analysis**

Table 2.38: Supply/demand balance of youth 11v11 pitches

Sub area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
East Dorset	3	5.5	2.5	2	4.5
North Dorset	0.5	3.5	3	2	5
Purbeck	-	-	-	2.5	2.5
West Dorset	-	1	1	2	3
Weymouth & Portland	-	-	-	1.5	1.5
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>16.5</b>

Overall there are current shortfalls of youth 11v11 provision in East Dorset, North Dorset and West Dorset sub areas with the remaining two sub areas being played to capacity. After factoring in future demand all of the five authorities have a shortfall. It must also be noted that a large number of youth 11v11 teams are playing on adult pitches not accounted for in the above.

<sup>23</sup> In match equivalent sessions

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### Youth 9v9 pitch supply and demand analysis

Table 2.39: Supply/demand balance of youth 9v9 pitches

Sub area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
East Dorset	4	2	2	2.5	0.5
North Dorset	-	0.5	0.5	0.5	1
Purbeck	1	1	-	2.5	2.5
West Dorset	2.5	0.5	2	2	-
Weymouth & Portland	4	-	4	1.5	2.5
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1.5</b>

Across the Study Area there is spare capacity on youth 9v9 pitches in three of the five sub areas leading to an overall current spare capacity of 7.5 match equivalent sessions. It should be noted that the North Dorset Sub Area has a minor shortfall, whereas, the Purbeck Sub Area is currently played to capacity. Once factoring in future demand an overall shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions emerges with shortfalls evident in East Dorset, North Dorset and Purbeck sub areas.

### Mini 7v7 pitch supply and demand analysis

Table 2.40: Supply/demand balance of mini 7v7 pitches

Sub area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
East Dorset	2	1	1	-	1
North Dorset	-	-	-	-	-
Purbeck	-	-	-	-	-
West Dorset	-	-	-	-	-
Weymouth & Portland	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>

There is currently minimal spare capacity of one match equivalent sessions on mini 7v7 pitches within the Study Area. As there is no future demand from clubs, the lowest age group each year (mini 5v5 teams), the level of spare capacity remains at two match equivalents session per week when factoring in future demand.

### Mini 5v5 pitch supply and demand analysis

Table 2.41: Supply/demand balance of mini 5v5 pitches

Sub area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
East Dorset	5	1	4	3.5	0.5
North Dorset	-	-	-	3	3
Purbeck	2	-	2	2	-
West Dorset	-	-	-	1	1
Weymouth & Portland	3	-	3	2	1



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Study Area	10	1	9	11.5	2.5
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Currently, mini 5v5 pitches have minimal spare capacity of nine match equivalent sessions; however, when accounting for future demand there is a predicted overall shortfall of 2.5 match equivalent sessions. This is due to high levels of future demand in each of the five authorities.

### 2.10: Conclusion

The table below is an analysis of all pitch types across the Study Area as a whole accounting for spare capacity, overplay and future demand across the five sub areas.

Table 2.42: Supply/demand for all pitch types across the Study Area

Sub area	Actual spare capacity <sup>24</sup>	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Adult	20.5	12.5	8	5.5	2.5
Youth 11v11	3.5	10	6.5	10	16.5
Youth 9v9	11.5	4	7.5	9	1.5
Mini 7v7	2	1	1	-	1
Mini 5v5	10	1	9	11.5	2.5

There is currently an overall shortfall on youth 11v11 pitches across the Study Area with all remaining pitch types having spare capacity. The current shortfalls are likely to be greater given the number of youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches. It is likely that a proportion of future demand will also play on adult pitches like many teams currently do across the Study Area though this is contrary to guidance in the FA Youth Review. As such, there is a clear need for an increase in youth 11v11 provision in order for this play to be transferred on to the correct pitch size.

When accounting for future demand from both team generation rate (TGRs) and club aspirational demand shortfall become evident on all pitch types apart from adult and mini 7v7 pitch types. Given the preference for mini 5v5 age groups to play on 3G pitches, it is likely that this future requirement for mini 5v5 pitches will be accommodated across on both grass and 3G pitches. Future demand from clubs is less for mini 7v7 pitches with most clubs planning to add mini teams at the lowest age group (U7) each year (mini 5v5).

<sup>24</sup> In match equivalent sessions per week

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### Football – grass pitch summary

- ◀ **There is currently an overall shortfall on youth 11v11 pitches across the Study Area with all remaining pitch types having spare capacity. The current shortfalls are likely to be greater given the number of youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches**
- ◀ **When accounting for future demand from both team generations rates and club aspirational demand shortfall become evident on all pitch types apart from adult and mini 7v7 pitch types.**
- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 381 grass football pitches across 178 sites within the Study Area. Of these, 303 pitches are available, at some level, for community use across 132 sites.
- ◀ There is future provision planned for the relocation of Wimborne FC, Vearse Farm, Bridport, Chickereil Town Football Club and The Marsh Playing Fields, Weymouth
- ◀ Most of the pitches across the Study Area are managed by town or parish councils (103 pitches or 33%). This is followed by schools (28%), sports clubs (24%) and 'other' with 10% of community available provision. Only 14 pitches (5%) of all provision is managed by the local authority.
- ◀ Verwood Town FC, Verwood Girls FC, Parley Sports FC, Sturminster Newton United, Blandford YFC, Gillingham Town YFC, Shaftesbury Rockies FC, Upton FC, Lytchett Matravers FC, Wareham Rangers FC and Jurassic Coast Girls FC all are considered to have unsecure tenure.
- ◀ In total, 13 pitches are assessed as good quality, 147 as standard quality and 143 as poor quality.
- ◀ Across the Study Area, 16 clubs report plans to develop their ancillary facilities.
- ◀ Across the Study Area, 17 clubs report plans to improve the quality of the pitches at their home venues.
- ◀ There a total of 22 teams from 18 clubs playing within the football pyramid.
- ◀ Through the audit and assessment, 502 teams were identified as playing within the Study Area. This consists of 144 adult men's, 16 adult women's, 176 youth boys', 24 youth girls' and 142 mini mixed teams.
- ◀ Lyme Regis FC, Netherbury FC and Wimborne & Holt FC export partial demand out of the Study Area.
- ◀ In total 22 clubs' report aspirations to increase the number of teams; providing a predicted growth of 57 teams.
- ◀ Team generation rates predict a total growth of 18 teams across various age groups across the Study Area.
- ◀ There is overall current spare capacity on adult, youth 9v9 and mini pitches types across the East Dorset Sub Area, whilst youth 11v11 pitches are overplayed by 2.5 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ There is overall current spare capacity on adult pitches across the North Dorset Sub Area, whilst mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches are played to capacity and youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches are overplayed by three and 0.5 match equivalent sessions, respectively.
- ◀ There is minimal overall current spare capacity on adult and mini 5v5 pitches in the Purbeck Sub Area.
- ◀ There is minimal overall current spare capacity on adult and youth 9v9 pitches, whereas, youth 11v11 pitches are marginally overplayed. All other pitch types are played to capacity across the West Dorset Sub Area.
- ◀ There is overall current spare capacity on youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 pitches, whereas, adult pitches are marginally overplayed. All other pitch types are played to capacity across the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area.

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

### 3.1: Introduction

There are several surface types that fall into the category of artificial grass pitch (AGP). The three main groups are rubber crumb (also known as third generation turf or 3G), sand based (filled or dressed) and water based.

*Table 3.1: AGP type and sport suitability*

Surface	Category	Comments
Rubber crumb	Long Pile 3G (60mm with shock pad)	Rugby surface – must comply with World Rugby type 22 and/or RFL Community Standard, requires a minimum of 60mm pile.
Rubber crumb	Medium Pile 3G (55-60mm)	Preferred football surface. Suitable for non-contact rugby union/league practice or play.
Rubber crumb	Short Pile 3G (40mm)	Acceptable surface for some competitive football.
Sand	Sand Filled	Competitive hockey and football training.
Sand	Sand Dressed	Preferred hockey surface and suitable for football training.
Water	Water based	Preferred hockey surface and suitable for football training if irrigated.

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

Competitive football can take place on 3G surfaces that have been FA or FIFA certified and a growing number of 3G pitches are now used for competitive match play at mini soccer and youth level. The recommended FA dimensions for a full sized 3G pitch are 100x64 metres with additional run off areas of three metres required on each side. Minimum playing area dimensions to meet performance standard criteria for competitive football are 90x45 metres (or 100x64 metres for FIFA sanctioned international matches), with additional run off areas of three metres required on each side. FIFA 3G pitch certification is required to host competitive adult match play at Step 3 and below, whilst for teams playing at Steps 1 or 2 pitches are required to have FIFA Pro standard certification, further information on which is included later in the section. Football training can take place on sand and water based surfaces but is not the preferred option.

World Rugby produced the 'Performance Specification for Artificial Grass Pitches for Rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby. The artificial surface standards identified in Regulation 22 allows matches to be played on surfaces that meet the standard. Full contact activity, including tackling, rucking, mauling and lineouts can take place. All full size World Rugby compliant 3G pitches feature on the RFU register, including expiry dates of certification<sup>25</sup>. Upon registration, World Rugby compliancy is valid for two years before renewal and retesting is required.

<sup>25</sup> <http://www.englishrugby.com/governance/club-support/facilities-kit-and-equipment/artificial-surfaces/artificial-grass-pitches>

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

Many test contractors are able to offer reduced rates through efficiency savings to carry out multiple performance tests in the same session, therefore providers seeking 3G pitch compliancy for a number of sports would be recommended to consider this opportunity.

### ***Strategic partnership investment***

Both The FA and RFU have current programmes to invest in the creation of additional 3G pitches in order to facilitate both training and match play, serving to provide better quality playing surfaces, reduce cancellation of weather affected fixtures throughout winter months and manage use of natural turf sites. Whilst both have exclusive investment programmes for 3G pitches, in some cases there may be opportunities for the development of new 3G pitches to specifications able to support use by both sports.

#### *3G pitches for football*

As stated earlier in Part 2: Football, The FA has commissioned the production of a Local Football Facility Plan for each of the local authority areas in England in order to guide future investment by itself and its partners into football facilities over the next decade. The plan focuses on four key investment priorities, one of which, is to double national full sized 3G pitch stock through development of an additional 1,000 full size 3G pitches.

#### *3G pitches for rugby union*

The RFU's Rugby 365 3G pitch programme is part of its Rugby World Cup 2015 legacy of delivering more than £57m investment over four years into the development of 100 3G pitches across England. The programme categorises the type of project investment into two distinct models:

- ◆ **'Rugby Turf'** pitches: 60 pitches on rugby club sites, operated by the RFU, to be used by the host club and other local clubs and education establishments, enabling games to be played and training to be maximised. This project is under suspension whilst current projects are being evaluated.
- ◆ **'Rugby Share'** pitches: 40 pitches on community sites with a guaranteed number of hours for use by rugby. Similar to the 'Rugby Turf' programme, the 'Rugby Share' scheme is on a hiatus until the summer of 2020 whilst projects are being assessed.

### **3.2: Current provision**

For the purposes of the PPS, full sized 3G pitches are defined as those which meet FA minimum dimension criteria for adult football (90x45 metres without run off areas). It should be noted that within other external documentation the FA typically refers to 3G pitches as 3G Football Turf Pitches (FTPs).

There is a total of four full size 3G pitches in the Study Area that fully comply with the above specifications. The West Dorset Sub Area has the most 3G pitches with two, followed by the North Dorset and Weymouth & Portland sub areas which each have one pitch. All

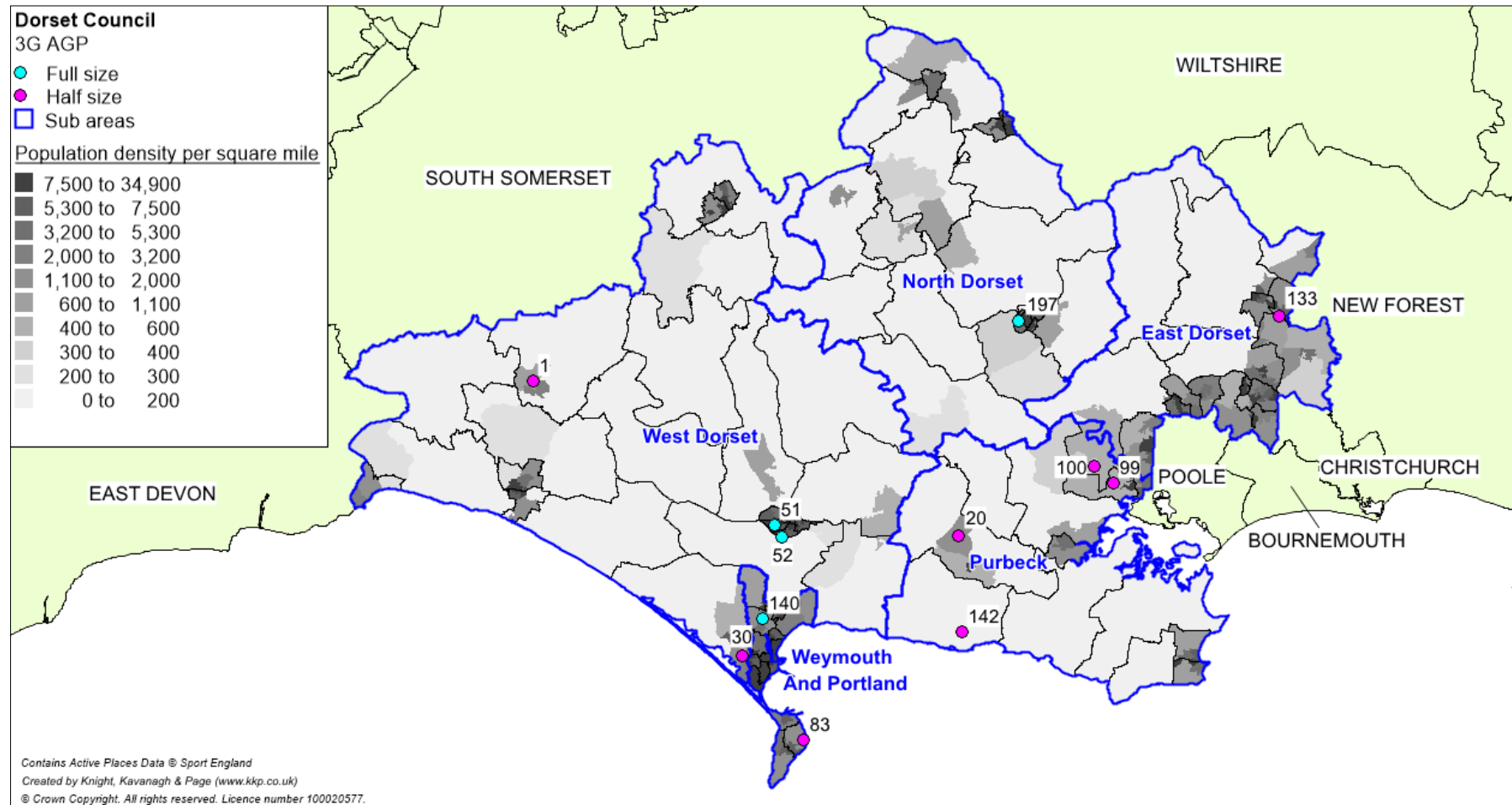
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pitches are floodlit and available for community use in some capacity. East Dorset and Purbeck sub areas are not serviced by any full size 3G provision.

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Figure 3.1: Map of sites with full size 3G pitches across the Study Area



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Table 3.2: Full size 3G pitches across the Study Area

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Community use?	Floodlit?	Surface type	Dimensions (metres)	Certification
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>							
197	The Blandford School	DT11 7SQ	Yes	Yes	Medium Pile (55-60mm)	100x65	FA
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>							
51	Dorchester Sports Centre	DT1 2HR	Yes	Yes	Medium Pile (55-60mm)	94x58	-
52	Dorchester Town Football Club	DT1 2RY	Yes	Yes	Medium Pile (55-60mm)	106x78	FIFA
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland Sub Area</b>							
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub <sup>26</sup>	DT3 5AW	Yes	Yes	Medium Pile (55-60mm)	100x65	-

<sup>26</sup> The pitch is not on the FA Pitch Register due to issues with quality and therefore is not suitable for match play.

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In addition, there are also eight smaller sized 3G pitches servicing the Study Area across eight different sites. The Sub Area of Purbeck has four whereas the Sub Area of West Dorset hosts two pitches. In comparison East Dorset and Weymouth & Portland areas host one smaller sized pitch each. The North Dorset Sub Area is not serviced by any smaller sized 3G provision.

Such pitches are generally not suitable for adult match play but can be used to accommodate youth and mini matches provided they are FA approved, of an adequate size and with adequate run-off areas. More commonly, they are used to accommodate training demand, commercial football leagues and social play.

The smaller size pitch at Potterne Park is FA approved and can therefore accommodate mini 7v7 fixtures.

Table 3.3: Additional supply of 3G pitches

Site ID	Site name	No. of pitches	Community use?	Floodlit?	Size (metres)
<b>East Dorset Sub Area</b>					
133	Potterne Park	1	Yes	Yes	58x34
<b>Purbeck Sub Area</b>					
20	Bovington Garrison	1	No	Yes	38x28
99	Lytchett Manor Sports Centre	1	Yes	Yes	72x52
100	Lytchett Matravers Primary School	1	Yes	Yes	20x38
142	Royal Armoured Corps Gunnery School	1	No	Yes	40x28
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>					
1	1610 Beaminster Sport & Leisure	1	Yes	Yes	54x36
30	Budmouth Community Sports Centre	1	Yes	Yes	60x38
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland Sub Area</b>					
83	HMP Portland	1	No	No	46x25

All pitches, apart from those at Bovington Garrison, Royal Armoured Corps Gunner School and HMP Portland, are considered to accommodate some level of football training although this is not considered extensive and as such is not thought to affect the shortfalls below identified for access to full size 3G pitches.

### Future provision

#### East Dorset Sub Area

As mentioned, planning application has recently (2019) been approved by the former East Dorset District Council for the development of new sports facilities for use by local clubs, including Wimborne RFC at Wimborne Community Sports Hub.

The proposal for the community sports facility comprises of one full size floodlit 3G pitch, both RFU and FA compliant, two adult rugby pitches (one of which is floodlit), one adult pitch and a dedicated training area, a clubhouse and car parking for 330 cars.

As part of the planning application, Sport England has commented (in consultation with RFU and FF) that the site layout is too cramped, however, overall it is supportive of the proposals.

Once established Wimborne Community Sports Hub will be owned by Wimborne Minster Town Council and leased to Wimborne RFC, however, the Town Council will implement a requirement for all provision to be accessible for other community clubs.



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Wyatt Homes is in discussions to create housing on the site of Wimborne Town FC. Initial plans identify the developer would build houses on the footprint of the site and relocate the Club to a new site which would be close to the abovementioned Wimborne Community Sports Hub including providing mitigation of two floodlit grass football pitches and a suitable clubhouse. It should be noted that Wimborne Town FC are in favour of the relocation, however, the development it is still under consideration.

Since initial consultation (Winter 2018) the Club has recently (Summer 2019) started a conversation with the DCFA and FF for a full size floodlit 3G pitch to be installed instead of the grass training pitch. It should be noted that the feasibility of creating any 3G provision at the Clubs potential new site should be examined due to its proximity to the Wimborne Community Sports Hub which already has planning permission for a full size floodlit 3G pitch.

### *North Dorset Sub Area*

Sturminster Newton United wants to create a sports partnership with Sturminster Newton High School and SturFit Leisure Centre. It aspires to create floodlit 3G provision to benefit the School as well as being community available. In preparation it hopes to formalise long term usage of the grass pitches at the School through a community use agreement.

### *Purbeck Sub Area*

Lytchett Minster and Upton Town Council aspires to create 3G provision at Upton Recreation Ground. The Council is pursuing the acquisition of additional land located adjacent to the site to develop for sports facilities which includes the potential of artificial provision. Any such provision would be primarily for the use of clubs which already use the site such as Upton FC.

Swanage Town & Herston FC indicates it is in the process of developing plans to establish 3G provision at its home venue in addition to improving onsite ancillary provision. It reports wanting to bring all its training to one central venue in order to reduce expenditure costs and bring all its demand to its home site.

The strategic need for these aspirations will be analysed in the subsequent Strategy & Action Plan document.

### *West Dorset Sub Area*

Bridport FC and Bridport YFC are working with Bridport Town Council to establish a full size 3G pitch at St Mary's Playing Field. The Council is in the process of preparing a planning application to create the pitch on the current adult grass pitch. If successful, the pitch would be serviced by ancillary provision at Bridport FC, however, these would require investment to increase their size and improve quality. It should be noted that the proposed site (St Mary's Playing Field) is located in close proximity to the River Brit. Therefore, a detailed analysis of the potential risk of flooding would also be required. In addition, thought should be given to the demand from Bridport RFC and whether the Club would also benefit from any usage of a 3G and therefore demand for it to also be World Rugby Compliant.

### **Hybrid Pitches**

Sport England is in the process of piloting the utilisation of hybrid pitches with projects currently operating at Regents Park (City of Westminster) and Bisham Abbey (Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead). Each site has one natural grass football pitch with

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hybrid matting buried under the natural turf allowing grass to grow whilst helping to maintain pitch quality.

The concept of a hybrid pitch is to create additional capacity whilst ensuring it is accessible in various conditions. Current grass pitches are designed for one to three matches per week based on quality, and at times become unusable such as throughout the winter or periods of wet weather. Comparatively a hybrid pitch should be able to support approximately 20 hours of usage whilst maintaining reasonable quality in various playing conditions.

The cost of installation and annual maintenance of such provision, compared to a full size 3G pitch, is minimal and if deemed successful could be a more cost effective way to alleviate shortfalls and improve the quality of pitch provision for a variety of sports.

### ***FA pitch register***

In order for competitive matches to be played on 3G pitches, the pitch should be FIFA or IMS tested and approved and added to the FA pitch register, which can be found at: <http://3g.thefa.me.uk/>.

Pitches undergo testing to become a FIFA Quality pitch (previously FIFA One Star) or a FIFA Quality Pro pitch (previously FIFA Two Star), with pitches commonly constructed, installed and tested in situ to achieve either accreditation. This comes after FIFA announced changes to 3G performance in October 2015 following consultation with member associations and licenced laboratories. The changes are part of FIFA's continued ambition to drive up performance standard in the industry and the implications are that all 3G pitches built through the FA framework will be constructed to meet the new criteria.

The changes from FIFA One Star to FIFA Quality will have minimal impact on the current hours of use guidelines, which suggests that One Star pitches place more emphasis on the product's ability to sustain acceptable performance and can typically be used for 60-85 hours per week with a lifespan of 20,000 cycles. In contrast, pitches built to FIFA Quality Pro performance standards are unlikely to provide the hours of use that some FIFA Two Star products have guaranteed in the past (previously 30-40 hours per week with a lifespan of 5,000 cycles). Typically, a FIFA Quality Pro pitch will be able to accommodate only 20-30 hours per week with appropriate maintenance due to strict performance measurements.

Across the Study Area, half of full size 3G pitches are on the FA Register and can therefore be used to host competitive matches. Re-testing is required every three years to ensure that this remains the case. The pitches at Dorchester Sports Centre and Redlands Community Sports Hub in Weymouth are not on the FA register.

### ***World Rugby compliant pitches***

To enable 3G pitches to host competitive rugby union matches, World Rugby has developed the Rugby Turf Performance Specification. This is to ensure that the surfaces replicate the playing qualities of good quality grass pitches, provide a playing environment that will not increase the risk of injury and are of an adequate durability.

The specification includes a rigorous test programme that assesses ball/surface interaction and player/surface interaction and has been modified to align the standard with that of FIFA. Any 3G pitch used for any form of competitive rugby must comply with this specification and must be tested every two years to retain compliance.

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The RFU investment strategy into 3G pitches considers sites where grass rugby pitches are over capacity and where a pitch would support the growth of the game at the host site and for the local rugby partnership, including local clubs and education sites.

There are no World Rugby Compliant 3G pitches located in the Study Area or the surrounding authorities, with the closest pitches located in Exeter, Bath and Southampton.

### **Management**

Across the Study Area two full size 3G pitches (50%) are managed on commercial sites; Redlands Community Sports Hub, Weymouth and Dorchester Sports Centre. Of the remaining two pitches, one is located at Blandford School and operated by the School whilst the other is located at Dorchester Town Football Club and is operated by the Club.

### **Availability**

The availability of the pitches differs across the Study Area as the majority are located at commercial sites which offer differing levels of accessibility.

All full-size 3G pitches in the Study Area are floodlit, meaning that usage is not limited by daylight hours.

*Table 3.4: Summary of 3G pitch availability*

Site ID	Site	Availability
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>		
197	The Blandford School	Pitch is utilised by the School on weekdays, however, it is available during the evening for community use 18:00 to 22:00. It is also available 08:00 until 22:00 for community use at the weekends.
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>		
51	Dorchester Sports Centre	Site is open and available 06:00 to 22:45 for community usage every day. Pitch is used on a regular basis by the Thomas Hardy School.
52	Dorchester Town Football Club	Fully available for community use outside of Dorchester Town FC and Yeovil Town Ladies FC usage.
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland Sub Area</b>		
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub	Pitch is available seven days a week 09:00 until 22:00, however, Weymouth College has first refusal on time slots to meet curricular and extracurricular demand.

### **Quality**

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

*Table 3.5: Age and quality of full size 3G pitches*

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Year installed/resurfaced	Quality
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>				

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Site ID	Site	Postcode	Year installed/ resurfaced	Quality
197	The Blandford School	DT11 7SQ	2013	Good
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>				
51	Dorchester Sports Centre	DT1 2HR	2010	Poor
52	Dorchester Town Football Club	DT1 2RY	2018	Good
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland Sub Area</b>				
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub	DT3 5AW	2011	Poor

Of the four full size 3G pitches two are rated as good quality with the remaining two rated as poor quality.

The good quality full size 3G pitches have no issues identified following site assessments and user consultation.

The pitch at Dorchester Sports Centre is assessed as poor quality as it is approaching the end of its 10 year lifespan. Dorchester Town Youth FC states that the pitch has deteriorated in quality over the last few years. It reports that the site operator, 1610, only provide basic maintenance on the pitch. As a result, the Council reports it will be resurfacing the pitch over the summer of 2019.

The pitch at Redlands Community Sports Hub is assessed as poor quality as it has undulations in the surface and is therefore unable to meet the criteria to be on the FA Register. The surface is also approaching the end of its 10 year lifespan. Preliminary discussions between Weymouth College (the operators of Redlands Community Sports Hub) and Dorset FA have taken place regarding a potential resurfacing of the pitch, with aspirations for it to become FA registered.

In addition, the small size 3G pitch at Lytchett Matravers Primary School is poor quality as it is over the recommended 10 year life span having been installed in 2008. As a result, it is in need of refurbishment within the near future.

### **Ancillary facilities**

All full size 3G pitches are accompanied by ancillary facilities that are considered adequate with no issues raised during consultation or via site assessments. However, it was stated that the changing facilities available at Redlands Community Sports Hub are dated and in need of modernisation.

### **3.3: Demand**

All full size 3G pitches currently servicing the Study Area are reported as operating at or close to capacity during midweek at desirable times, especially in the winter, with most of the demand coming from either rugby union or football with occasional usage from other pitch sports such as American Football (Jurassic Coast Raptors).

### **Rugby union**

As previously mentioned, there are no World Rugby Compliant 3G pitches located in the Study Area or the surrounding authorities. However, the following clubs report they would benefit from accessing a World Rugby Complaint 3G pitch for either training or competitive demand:

- ◀ Wimborne RFC
- ◀ Bridport RFC

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### ◀ Dorchester RFC

#### **Football**

The FA considers high quality 3G pitches as an essential tool in promoting coach and player development. The pitches can support intensive use and as such are great assets for football use. Primarily, such facilities have been installed for social use and training, however, they are increasingly used for competition, which The FA wholly supports.

#### *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.

Of clubs responding to consultation, the majority (72%) across the Study Area report that they require additional training facilities, with most of these (68%) specifically mentioning demand for 3G pitches. Some teams currently access sand-based pitches or indoor sports halls, whilst others do access 3G pitches but do so at undesirable times. The following clubs reported through consultation the need for additional training facilities:

- ◀ Swanage Town & Herston FC
- ◀ Cranborne FC
- ◀ Pymore FC
- ◀ Redlands FC
- ◀ Bridport FC
- ◀ Bridport YFC
- ◀ Portland United
- ◀ Portland United YFC
- ◀ Jurassic Coasts Girls FC
- ◀ Verwood Town FC
- ◀ Verwood Girls FC
- ◀ Corfe Mullen United
- ◀ Wool FC
- ◀ Wool & Winfrith FC
- ◀ Bere Regis FC
- ◀ Allendale FC
- ◀ Lyme Regis FC
- ◀ Parley Sports FC
- ◀ Wimborne & Holt FC
- ◀ Sturminster Marshall FC
- ◀ Wimborne Town FC
- ◀ Blandford United YFC
- ◀ Gillingham Town YFC
- ◀ Upton FC
- ◀ Wareham Rangers FC
- ◀ Dorchester Town YFC
- ◀ Sherborne Town FC
- ◀ Weymouth FC
- ◀ Weymouth Cougars FC

#### *FA training scenario including small size provision*

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.

Based on peak time access being on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, and based on full size 3G pitches being divided into thirds or quarters for training purposes, it is estimated that 38 teams can be accommodated on one full size 3G pitch. This discounts Mondays and Fridays as it is considered that most teams do not want to train in such close proximity to a weekend match, and also allows for other forms of access such as for small-sided commercial leagues and recreational play.

At present, there are four full sized 3G pitches across the Study Area. Whilst none of these pitches have been discounted, additional usage is not recommended to take place on the poor quality pitches located at Dorchester Sports Centre or Redlands Community Sports Hub until they have been resurfaced.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

In addition, there are also six smaller sized community available 3G pitches servicing the Study Area across six different sites which accommodate training demand. The Purbeck Sub Area has three pitches with two small size 3G pitches located in the West Dorset Sub Area with one pitch in the East Dorset Sub Area. There is no small size 3G pitch provision in the North Dorset or Weymouth & Portland sub areas.

The table overleaf identifies the impact on the FA training scenario if the community available small size pitches were to be included in the current supply in addition to the full size pitches. Due to their size they do not equate to one full size pitch, therefore the following measurements have been made; Potterne Park (East Dorset Sub Area) Lytchett Manor Sports Centre (Purbeck Sub Area), 1610 Beaminster Sport & Leisure (West Dorset Sub Area) and Budmouth Community Sports Centre (West Dorset Sub Area) each equates to 0.5 of a full size pitch. In comparison Lytchett Matravers Primary School (Purbeck Sub Area) each equate to 0.25 of a full size pitch.

*Table 3.6: Current demand for 3G pitches by Sub Area (based on 38 teams per pitch) including small size provision*

Sub area	Current number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Potential shortfall <sup>27</sup>
East Dorset	130	3.42	0.5	3
North Dorset	83	2.18	1	1.25
Purbeck	63	1.65	0.75	1
West Dorset	131	3.44	3	0.5
Weymouth & Portland	95	2.5	1	1.5

After factoring in small size provision, the overall shortfall across the Study Area is 7.25 full size 3G pitches. The East Dorset Sub Area has the greatest shortfall with three full size pitches. This is followed by the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area with a shortfall 1.5 3G pitches. The remaining shortfalls are 1.25 3G pitches in the North Dorset Sub Area, one 3G pitch in the Purbeck Sub Area and 0.5 3G pitches in the West Dorset Sub Area.

When considering future demand in the table below, the overall shortfall increases from seven to 8.75 3G pitches. This is an increase of 0.5 in East Dorset and Purbeck sub areas and 0.25 each in the North Dorset, West Dorset and Weymouth & Portland sub areas.

*Table 3.7: Future demand for 3G pitches by Sub Area (based on 38 teams per pitch) including small size provision*

Sub area	Current number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Potential shortfall <sup>22</sup>
East Dorset	149	3.92	0.5	3.5
North Dorset	94	2.47	1	1.5
Purbeck	80	2.10	0.75	1.25
West Dorset	143	3.76	3	0.75
Weymouth & Portland	109	2.86	1	1.75

Although there is an FA aspiration for all football teams to train on 3G pitches, in practice it is likely that a proportion of football training will be retained on sand based AGPs (this also helps to maintain financial and commercial sustainability of these pitches).

<sup>27</sup> It should be noted that the 3G requirement has not been rounded to the nearest whole number. Instead it has been rounded to the nearest 0.25, this is due any requirement over a whole number being able to be accommodated on a suitable small size floodlit 3G pitch.

# ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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## ***Rugby***

As mentioned previously, there is no World Rugby (WR) compliant 3G pitch within the Study Area; however, given identified demand from rugby clubs to access one and given the shortfalls identified within Part 5 of this report, scope exists for provision to be created in the future.

Wimborne RFC, Bridport RFC and Dorchester RFC all report demand to access WR 3G for training purposes in order to alleviate overplay at their home sites. The three club sites Leigh Park, Bridport Leisure Centre and Dorchester RFC are overplayed by five, 4.5 and six match equivalent sessions, respectively. Therefore both Wimborne RFC and Bridport RFC would benefit from the potential 3G pitches at Wimborne RFC relocation site and St Marys Playing Field to be WR Compliant.

### **3.4: Supply and demand analysis**

In conclusion, there is an insufficient supply of full size 3G equivalents to meet current and anticipated future training demand based on the FA training model across the Study Area. As such, it is determined that an increase in provision is required.

To ensure that current supply and any future supply are of a good enough standard to accommodate demand, providers are encouraged to put sinking funds in place to ensure long-term sustainability. This will allow for re-surfacing to take place when required and will ensure that FA certification remains in place.

For rugby union, there is identified demand to access WR compliant provision to accommodate training demand. Therefore, any development of 3G provision across the Study Area should also take into consideration demand from rugby union clubs. The use of non WR Compliant 3G and AGP pitches by rugby union teams for training is not conducive to rugby union development; with clubs requiring greater access to WR compliant provision.

### ***Conversion from hockey suitable AGP surface types***

As later detailed in Part 6, the current stock of hockey suitable AGPs require protecting for hockey demand, meaning conversion to 3G is not a viable option unless replacement provision is provided.

Since the introduction of 3G pitches and given their popularity for football, providers have seen this as a way to replace a worn sand or water based carpet and generate increased revenue from hiring out a 3G pitch to football and rugby clubs and commercial football providers. This has often come at the expense of hockey, with players now travelling further distances to gain access to a suitable pitch and many teams consequently displaced from their preferred area.

Due to its impact on hockey, it is appropriate to ensure that sufficient sand based AGPs are retained for the playing development of hockey. To that end, a change of surface will require planning permission as the works constitute development, and the applicants will need to show that there is sufficient provision available for hockey in the locality. Advice from Sport England and England Hockey (EH) should therefore be sought prior to any planning application being submitted.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### 3G summary

- ◀ In conclusion, there is an insufficient supply of full size 3G equivalents to meet current and anticipated future training demand based on the FA training model of 38 teams in the Study Area. As such, it is determined that an increase in provision is required.
- ◀ After factoring in small size provision, the overall shortfall across the Study Area is 7.25 full size 3G pitches. The East Dorset Sub Area has the greatest shortfall with three full size pitches. This is followed by the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area with a shortfall 1.5 3G pitches. The remaining shortfalls are 1.25 3G pitches in the North Dorset Sub Area, one 3G pitch in the Purbeck Sub Area and 0.5 3G pitches in the West Dorset Sub Area.
- ◀ There is a total of four full size 3G pitches in the Study Area. The West Dorset Sub Area has the most 3G pitches with two, followed by the North Dorset and Weymouth & Portland sub areas which each have one pitch. All pitches are floodlit and available for community use in some capacity. The East Dorset and Purbeck sub areas are not serviced by any full size 3G provision.
- ◀ There are also eight smaller sized 3G pitches servicing the Study Area across eight different sites.
- ◀ Across the Study Area two full size 3G pitches (50%) are managed on commercial sites; Redlands Community Sports Hub and Dorchester Sports Centre. Of the remaining two pitches, one is located at Blandford School and operated by the School whilst the other is located at Dorchester Town Football Club and operated by the Club.
- ◀ Of the four full size 3G pitches two are rated as good quality with the remaining two pitches being poor quality.
- ◀ The pitch at Dorchester Sports Centre is assessed as poor quality as it is approaching the end of its 10 year lifespan. Dorchester Town Youth FC states that the pitch has deteriorated in quality over the last few years.
- ◀ The pitch at Redlands Community Sports Hub is assessed as poor quality as it has undulations in the surface and is therefore unable to meet the criteria to be on the FA Register.
- ◀ When considering future demand in the FA Training Scenario, the shortfall increases by 1.5 3G pitches.
- ◀ Wimborne RFC, Bridport RFC and Dorchester RFC all report demand to access WR 3G for training purposes in order to alleviate overplay at their home sites.



# ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## PART 4: CRICKET

### 4.1: Introduction

Dorset Cricket Board (DCB) serves as the governing and representative body for cricket across the Dorset Council area. Its aim is to promote the game at all levels through partnerships with professional and recreational cricketing clubs, and other appropriate agencies.

The DCB is currently working with the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) on delivering its new five-year plan, Cricket Unleashed. Its success will be measured by the number of people who support, play and follow the whole game and is based upon five key areas (More play, great teams, inspired fans, good governance and social responsibility and strong finance and operations).

#### **Consultation**

There are 39 affiliated cricket clubs playing with the Study Area. Of these, 23 responded to either online or telephone consultation requests representing an 59% response rate. DCB originally sent out an online survey to clubs which was then followed up by reminder emails.

### 4.2: Supply

There are 70 grass wicket squares in the Study Area located across 51 sites. Of these, 52 are available for community use, with the most (35%) located in the North Dorset Sub Area. Weymouth & Portland and Purbeck sub areas have the lowest amount of grass squares available for community use with 5% and 7% respectively.

*Table 4.1: Summary of grass wicket squares available for community use*

Sub area	No. of squares
East Dorset	13
North Dorset	18
Purbeck	4
West Dorset	14
Weymouth & Portland	3
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>52</b>

In addition, there are non-turf pitches (NTPs) accompanying the grass wicket squares at the following sites:

#### *East Dorset Sub Area*

- ◆ Corfe Mullen Sports Association
- ◆ Ferndown Wayfarers Sports Club
- ◆ Mick Loader Memorial Recreation Ground (Cranborne Sports Club)
- ◆ Parley Sports Club
- ◆ Potterne Park
- ◆ Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre
- ◆ Wimborne & Colehill Cricket Club

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### *North Dorset Sub Area*

- ◀ Bryanston School
- ◀ Marnhull Recreation Ground
- ◀ Shaftesbury Cricket Club
- ◀ Shillingstone Recreation Ground
- ◀ The Blandford School
- ◀ The Park
- ◀ Buckhorn Weston Cricket Club

### *Purbeck Sub Area*

- ◀ Bere Regis Sports Club
- ◀ Purbeck Sports Centre
- ◀ Swanage Cricket Club

### *West Dorset Sub Area*

- ◀ Bradford Abbas Sports and Recreational Club
- ◀ Bridport Leisure Centre
- ◀ Cattistock Cricket Club
- ◀ Charlton Down Cricket Club
- ◀ Compton House Cricket Club
- ◀ Kingston Maurward College
- ◀ Memorial Playing Fields
- ◀ Simsay Oval
- ◀ Symene Playing Fields
- ◀ Weymouth Avenue Recreation Ground
- ◀ Sherborne Prep School
- ◀ Martinstown Cricket Club

### *Weymouth & Portland Sub Area*

- ◀ Portland Red Triangle Cricket Club

There are also 47 standalone NTPs across the Study Area. These are summarised in the table below.

*Table 4.2: Location of standalone NTPs in the Study Area*

Site ID	Site name	Sub area	Number of standalone NTPs
6	Allenbourn Middle School	East Dorset	1
32	Castle Court School	East Dorset	2
44	Corfe Mullen Sports Association	East Dorset	1
45	Cranborne Middle School	East Dorset	1
55	Dumpton School	East Dorset	3
60	Emmanuel School	East Dorset	1
97	Lockyer's Middle School	East Dorset	1
138	Queen Elizabeth's School Sports Field	East Dorset	1
180	St Michaels Middle School	East Dorset	2
219	West Moors Middle School	East Dorset	1
255	Wimborne St Giles	East Dorset	1
69	Gillingham School	North Dorset	1

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Sub area	Number of standalone NTPs
116	Motcombe Park Sports Club	North Dorset	3
151	Shaftesbury School	North Dorset	1
189	Sturminster Newton High School	North Dorset	1
99	Lytchett Manor Sports Centre	Purbeck	1
101	Lytchett Matravers Recreation Ground	Purbeck	1
146	Sandford St Martins Ceva Primary School	Purbeck	1
187	Studland Cricket Club	Purbeck	1
216	Upton Recreation Ground	Purbeck	1
217	Wareham Recreation Ground	Purbeck	1
243	Dorset Innovation Park	Purbeck	1
1	1610 Beaminster Sport & Leisure	West Dorset	1
30	Budmouth Community Sports Centre	West Dorset	2
49	Dorchester Middle School	West Dorset	1
74	Gryphon Leisure Centre	West Dorset	1
96	Leweston School	West Dorset	1
134	Puddletown Recreation Ground	West Dorset	1
156	Sherborne School Sports Centre	West Dorset	2
173	St Marys C of E Middle School	West Dorset	1
182	St Osmunds Community Sports Centre	West Dorset	1
203	The Sir John Colfox Academy	West Dorset	1
207	The Woodroffe School	West Dorset	1
208	Thomas Hardye School	West Dorset	1
241	Cheselbourne Cricket Club	West Dorset	1
242	Sherborne Prep School	West Dorset	2
5	All Saints Church of England School	Weymouth & Portland	1
206	The Wey Valley School	Weymouth & Portland	1
<b>Total</b>			<b>47</b>

NTPs not only assist with training (with the aid of mobile nets) but are also frequently used for junior matches across the country.

# ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 4.1: Summary of cricket provision across the authority of Dorset

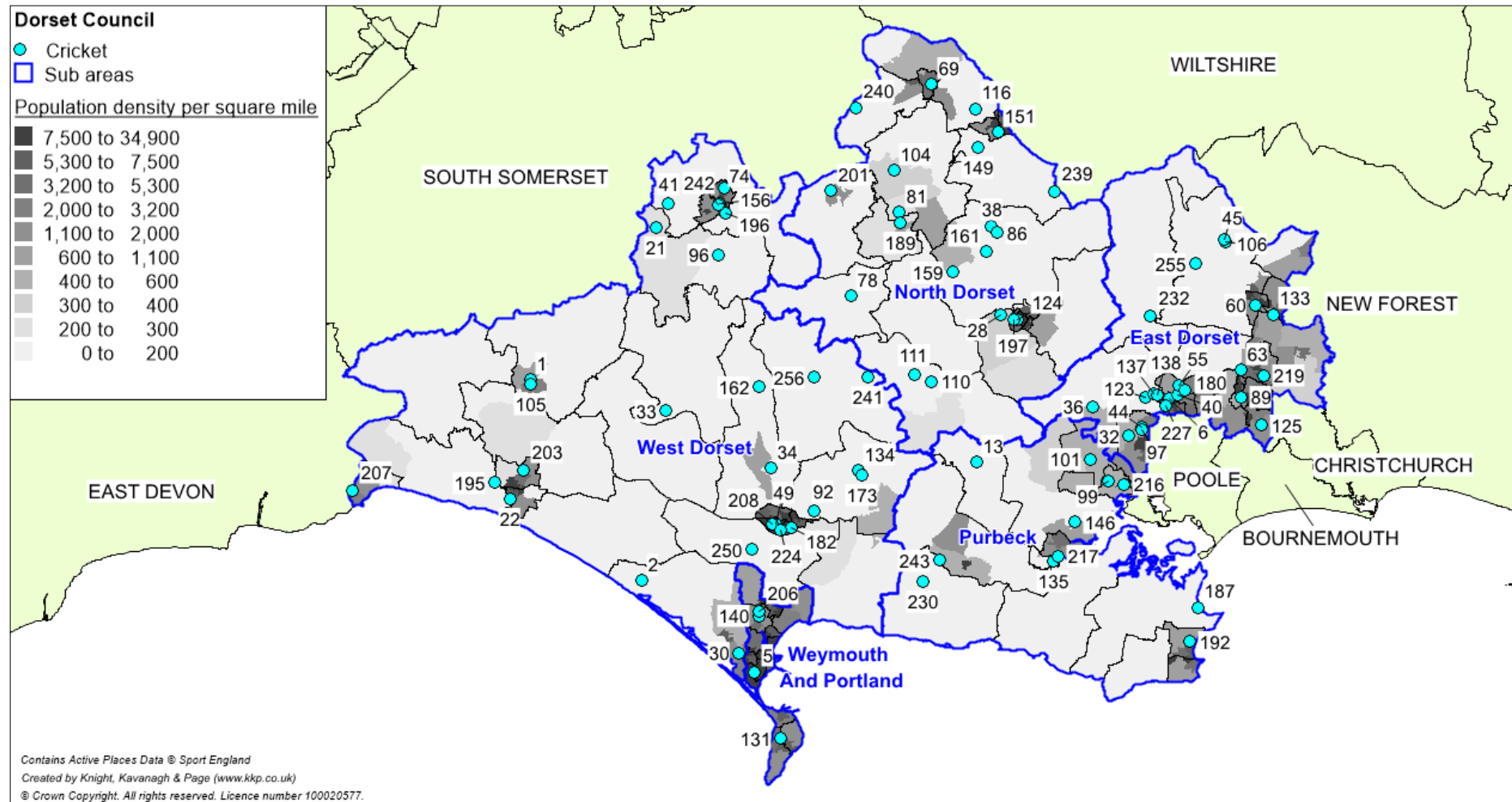


Table 4.3: Key to map of cricket pitches

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site	Sub area	Post code	Community use?	Clubs	No. of squares	Quality	No. of wickets	
								Grass	Non-turf
6	Allenbourn Middle School	East Dorset	BH21 1PL	No	-	1	Standard	-	1
32	Castle Court School	East Dorset	BH21 3RF	No	-	2	Standard	-	1
								-	1
36	Churchill Close Recreation Ground	East Dorset	BH21 4BH	Yes-unused	-	1	Standard	5	-
40	Colehill Sports & Social Club	East Dorset	BH21 2QR	Yes	Wimborne & Colehill CC	1	Good	8	-
44	Corfe Mullen Sports Association	East Dorset	BH21 3HU	Yes	Corfe Mullen CC	2	Standard	7	1
								-	1
45	Cranborne Middle School	East Dorset	BH21 5RP	No	-	1	Standard	-	1
55	Dumpton School	East Dorset	BH21 7AF	No	-	3	Good	-	1
								-	1
								-	1
60	Emmanuel School	East Dorset	BH31 6JF	No	-	1	Poor	-	1
63	Ferndown Wayfarers Sports Club	East Dorset	BH22 9PH	Yes	Ferndown Wayfarers CC	2	Standard	11	1
								3	1
89	King George V Fields	East Dorset	BH22 9PH	Yes-unused	-	1	Good	10	-
97	Lockyer's Middle School	East Dorset	BH21 3HQ	No	-	1	Standard	-	1
106	Mick Loader Memorial Recreation Ground (Cranborne Sports Club)	East Dorset	BH21 5QE	Yes	Cranborne CC	1	Standard	7	1
123	Pamphill Village Green	East Dorset	BH21 4EE	Yes	Kingston Lacy CC	1	Standard	5	-
125	Parley Sports Club	East Dorset	BH22 8SQ	Yes	Parley CC	1	Standard	7	1
133	Potterne Park	East Dorset	BH21 6RS	Yes	Verwood CC	1	Standard	7	1
137	Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre	East Dorset	BH21 4DT	Yes-unused	-	1	Good	9	1
138	Queen Elizabeth's School Sports Field	East Dorset	BH21 4DR	Yes-unused	-	1	Standard	-	1
180	St Michaels Middle School	East Dorset	BH21 7AB	No	-	2	Standard	-	1
							Good	-	1
219	West Moors Middle School	East Dorset	BH22 0DA	No	-	1	Standard	-	1
227	Wimborne & Colehill Cricket	East Dorset	BH21 1DY	Yes	Wimborne &	1	Good	13	1

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site	Sub area	Post code	Community use?	Clubs	No. of squares	Quality	No. of wickets	
								Grass	Non-turf
	Club				Colehill CC				
232	Witchampton Sports Ground	East Dorset	BH21 5AU	Yes	Witchampton CC	1	Standard	6	-
255	Wimborne St Giles	East Dorset	BH21 5NA	Yes	Wimborne St Giles CC	1	Standard	-	1
28	Bryanston School	North Dorset	DT11 0PX	Yes-unused	-	3	Good	4	-
								3	1
								4	-
38	Clayesmore Sports Centre	North Dorset	DT11 8LL	No	-	4	Good	9	-
								9	-
								8	-
								5	-
69	Gillingham School	North Dorset	SP8 4QP	No	-	1	Standard	-	1
78	Hazelbury Bryan Playing Field	North Dorset	DT10 2EB	Yes	Hazelbury Bryan CC	1	Standard	6	-
81	Hinton St Mary Recreation Ground	North Dorset	DT10 1NA	Yes	Sturminster & Hinton CC	1	Standard	14	-
86	Iwerne Minster Cricket Club	North Dorset	DT11 8NB	Yes-unused		1	Standard	8	-
104	Marnhull Recreation Ground	North Dorset	DT10 1PH	Yes	Marnhull CC	1	Standard	5	1
111	Milton Abbey School	North Dorset	DT11 0BZ	Yes-unused	-	3	Good	3	-
								5	-
								8	-
116	Motcombe Park Sports Club	North Dorset	SP7 9QA	No	-	5	Good	6	-
								4	-
								-	1
								-	1
								-	1
124	Park Road Recreation Ground	North Dorset	DT11 7BX	Yes	Blandford CC	1	Standard	12	-
149	Shaftesbury Cricket Club	North Dorset	SP7 0JA	Yes	Shaftesbury CC	1	Standard	7	1
151	Shaftesbury School	North Dorset	SP7 8ER	No	-	1	Poor	-	1
159	Shillingstone Recreation Ground	North Dorset	DT11 0SN	Yes	Shillingstone CC	1	Good	7	1
161	Shroton Cricket Club	North Dorset	DT11 8QA	Yes	Shroton CC	1	Good	6	-

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site	Sub area	Post code	Community use?	Clubs	No. of squares	Quality	No. of wickets	
								Grass	Non-turf
189	Sturminster Newton High School	North Dorset	DT10 1DT	No	-	1	Standard	-	1
197	The Blandford School	North Dorset	DT11 7SQ	Yes-unused	-	1	Standard	11	1
201	Stalbridge Playing Fields	North Dorset	DT10 2RA	Yes	Stalbridge CC	1	Good	13	1
239	Ashmore Recreation Ground	North Dorset	SP5 5AQ	Yes	Ashmore CC	1	Standard	6	-
240	Buckhorn Weston Cricket Club	North Dorset	SP8 5SS	Yes	Buckhorn Weston CC	1	Standard	7	1
13	Bere Regis Sports Club	Purbeck	BH20 7LA	Yes	Bere Regis CC	1	Good	7	1
99	Lytchett Manor Sports Centre	Purbeck	BH16 6JD	Yes-unused	-	1	Good	-	1
101	Lytchett Matravers Recreation Ground	Purbeck	BH16 6DD	Yes-unused	-	1	Poor	-	1
135	Purbeck Sports Centre	Purbeck	BH20 4PH	Yes	Identified curricular usage from consultation	1	Standard	4	1
146	Sandford St Martins Ceva Primary School	Purbeck	BH20 7BN	No	-	1	Standard	-	1
187	Studland Cricket Club	Purbeck	BH19 3AQ	Yes-unused	-	1	Standard	-	1
192	Swanage Cricket Club	Purbeck	BH19 1NQ	Yes	Swanage CC	1	Standard	7	1
216	Upton Recreation Ground	Purbeck	BH16 5NF	Yes-unused	-	1	Poor	-	1
217	Wareham Recreation Ground	Purbeck	BH20 4PQ	Yes	Wareham CC	1	Standard	-	1
230	Winfrith Newburgh Recreation Ground	Purbeck	DT2 8JH	Yes	Winfrith Newburgh CC	1	Poor	5	-
243	Dorset Innovation Park	Purbeck	DT2 8ZB	No	-	1	Poor	-	1
1	1610 Beaminster Sport & Leisure	West Dorset	DT8 3EP	Yes-unused	-	1	Standard	-	1
2	Abbotsbury Playing Fields	West Dorset	DT3 4JT	Yes	Abbotsbury CC	1	Standard	8	-
21	Bradford Abbas Sports and Recreational Club	West Dorset	DT9 3EP	Yes	Bradford Abbas Sports CC	1	Standard	3	1
22	Bridport Leisure Centre	West Dorset	DT6 5LN	Yes		1	Standard	7	1
30	Budmouth Community Sports Centre	West Dorset	DT4 9SY	Yes-unused	-	2	Standard	-	1
								-	1

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site	Sub area	Post code	Community use?	Clubs	No. of squares	Quality	No. of wickets	
								Grass	Non-turf
33	Cattistock Cricket Club	West Dorset	DT2 0JL	Yes	Cattistock CC	1	Standard	3	1
34	Charlton Down Cricket Club	West Dorset	DT2 0JL	Yes	Charlton Down CC	1	Good	4	1
41	Compton House Cricket Club	West Dorset	DT9 4DJ	Yes	Compton House CC	1	Good	9	1
49	Dorchester Middle School	West Dorset	DT1 2HS	No	-	1	Standard	-	1
74	Gryphon Leisure Centre	West Dorset	DT9 4EQ	Yes-unused	-	1	Standard	-	1
92	Kingston Maurward College	West Dorset	DT2 8PY	No	-	1	Poor	3	1
96	Leweston School	West Dorset	DT9 6EN	No	-	1	Poor		1
105	Memorial Playing Fields	West Dorset	DT8 3AL	Yes	Beaminster CC	1	Good	9	1
134	Puddletown Recreation Ground	West Dorset	DT2 8GE	Yes	Puddletown CC	1	Standard	-	1
					Puddletown RFC CC				
156	Sherborne School Sports Centre	West Dorset	DT9 3AP	No	-	9	Good	-	1
								-	1
								4	-
								5	-
								6	-
								6	-
								5	-
								12	-
2	-								
162	Simsay Oval	West Dorset	DT7 7GD	Yes	Cerne Valley CC	1	Standard	5	1
173	St Marys C of E Middle School	West Dorset	DT2 8SA	No	-	1	Standard	-	1
182	St Osmunds Community Sports Centre	West Dorset	DT1 2DZ	Yes-unused	-	1	Good	-	1
195	Symene Playing Fields	West Dorset	DT6 6EZ	Yes	Symene CC	1	Good	5	1
196	Terrace Playing Fields	West Dorset	DT9 5NS	Yes	Sherborne CC	2	Good	4	-
								12	-
203	The Sir John Colfox Academy	West Dorset	DT6 3DT	No	-	1	Standard	-	1
207	The Woodroffe School	West Dorset	DT7 3LX	No	-	1	Standard	-	1



## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site	Sub area	Post code	Community use?	Clubs	No. of squares	Quality	No. of wickets	
								Grass	Non-turf
208	Thomas Hardy School	West Dorset	DT1 2HT	No	-	1	Standard	-	1
224	Weymouth Avenue Recreation Ground	West Dorset	DT1 2RY	Yes	Dorchester CC	1	Good	9	1
					St Georges CC				
					Cosmos CC				
241	Cheselbourne Cricket Club	West Dorset	DT2 7NY	Yes	Cheselbourne CC	1	Standard	-	1
					Dewlish CC				
242	Sherborne Prep School	West Dorset	DT9 3NY	No	-	6	Good	1	-
								2	-
								3	1
								-	1
								-	1
250	Martinstown Cricket Club	West Dorset	DT2 9HA	Yes	Martinstown CC	1	Good	7	1
256	Plush Cricket Ground	West Dorset	DT2 7RJ	Yes	Plush CC	1	Poor	5	-
5	All Saints Church of England School	Weymouth & Portland	DT4 9BJ	No	-	1	Standard	-	1
131	Portland Red Triangle Cricket Club	Weymouth & Portland	DT5 2AP	Yes	Portland Red Triangle CC	1	Poor	11	1
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub	Weymouth & Portland	DT3 5AW	Yes	Weymouth CC	2	Good	12	-
							Good	8	-
206	The Wey Valley School	Weymouth & Portland	DT3 5AN	No	-	1	Standard	-	1

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### ***Future provision***

There are plans to establish a cricket square with grass wickets at Puddletown Recreation Ground. The site currently has a standalone NTP and accommodates both senior and junior demand from Puddletown CC. It is recognised that new provision requires time between establishment and accommodating demand to allow a pitch to become sustainable in the longer term. On this basis, the Club is scheduled to play all matches away from home in 2019.

### ***Ball Strike***

Where there is either new cricket provision being put in place or more commonly development which may prejudice the use of the sporting facility there would be a requirement for a full ball strike risk assessment to be undertaken and appropriate mitigation put in place as part of the development.

As such it is recommended that clubs and organisations seek to have a ball strike risk assessment undertaken. Further information can be provided by the ECB.

### ***Security of tenure***

Most responding cricket clubs across the Study Area have secure tenure at their primary home ground with the remaining clubs renting or leasing facilities on short term agreements. Five clubs own respective home grounds and as such are considered to have security of tenure.

The majority of responding clubs report that lease agreements, of varying length, are in place for site, with many of these being from town or parish councils. Only Parley CC is considered to not have security of tenure at its site, despite having a lease agreement in place, given that the length of the agreement has less than six months remaining. This should be renewed as a priority, with a recommended 25 years minimum, enabling the Club to apply for external funding with greater success.

Parley Sport FC, Parley Sports YFC and Parley CC form part of Parley Sport Club. The Sports Club has the overall lease of provision and rents the usage to the individual clubs. This lease, which is with West Parley Parish Council, expires on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019 and will not be renewed as a combined lease, and will instead, be offered as individual leases to the clubs. The clubs are concerned with how this will work, particularly in relation to the length of the leases likely to be offered and linking to the need to make improvements to the site (NGBs usually require at least 25yrs for funding applications). It should be noted that the Parish Council plans to improve the quality of both pitch and ancillary facilities before establishing new leases with the sports clubs.

Cheselbourne CC reports it has use of its site from a private landowner indicating it can use the provision as long as it formally operates as a Club.

Two clubs, Puddletown CC and Bere Regis CC, have long term lease agreements in place that are reported to not have end dates. The terms of these agreements may require further examination to ensure that neither club is at risk of losing security of tenure without significant notice.

In comparison, Portland Red Triangle CC has a 30 year lease for its home ground from the Crown Estates. It has recently approached the leaseholder to purchase the freehold of the site, however, this is only in initial stages.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### Pitch quality

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

The non-technical assessment of grass wicket squares in the Study Area found 24 squares community available squares to be good quality, 25 to be standard quality with three squares assessed as poor quality.

Table 4.4: Summary of quality for all community grass wicket squares

Sub area	Quality of grass wicket squares		
	Good	Standard	Poor
East Dorset	4	9	-
North Dorset	9	9	-
Purbeck	1	2	1
West Dorset	8	5	1
Weymouth & Portland	2	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>3</b>

The pitches at Symene Playing Fields in Bridport and Simsay Oval in Cerne Abbas are noted to be of particularly good quality. There is recognition that Park Road Recreation Ground in Blandford requires a season to restore the pitch to good quality. Other sites in the Study Area are considered to have potential to become good quality facilities.

Portland Red Triangle CC report the quality of its home square has become much poorer since last season indicating the top soil on the square has little depth which has made it difficult to maintain. It invested in a roller in 2014, however, this has not significantly improved the square quality.

Table 4.5: Quality ratings for community available grass wicket squares (site by site)

Site ID	Site	Sub area	No. of squares	Square quality
36	Churchill Close Recreation Ground	East Dorset	1	Standard
40	Colehill Sports & Social Club	East Dorset	1	Good
44	Corfe Mullen Sports Association	East Dorset	1	Standard
63	Ferndown Wayfarers Sports Club	East Dorset	2	Standard
89	King George V Fields	East Dorset	1	Good
106	Mick Loader Memorial Recreation Ground (Cranborne Sports Club)	East Dorset	1	Standard
123	Pamphill Village Green	East Dorset	1	Standard
125	Parley Sports Club	East Dorset	1	Standard
133	Potterne Park	East Dorset	1	Standard
137	Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre	East Dorset	1	Good
227	Wimborne & Colehill Cricket Club	East Dorset	1	Good
232	Witchampton Sports Ground	East Dorset	1	Standard
28	Bryanston School	North Dorset	3	Good
78	Hazelbury Bryan Playing Fields	North Dorset	1	Standard

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Site ID	Site	Sub area	No. of squares	Square quality
81	Hinton St Mary Recreation Ground	North Dorset	1	Standard
86	Iwerne Minster Cricket Club	North Dorset	1	Standard
104	Marnhull Recreation Ground	North Dorset	1	Standard
111	Milton Abbey School	North Dorset	3	Good
124	Park Road Recreation Ground	North Dorset	1	Standard
149	Shaftesbury Cricket Club	North Dorset	1	Standard
159	Shillingstone Recreation Ground	North Dorset	1	Good
161	Shroton Cricket Club	North Dorset	1	Good
197	The Blandford School	North Dorset	1	Standard
201	Stalbridge Playing Fields	North Dorset	1	Good
239	Ashmore Recreation Ground	North Dorset	1	Standard
240	Buckhorn Weston Cricket Club	North Dorset	1	Standard
13	Bere Regis Sports Club	Purbeck	1	Good
135	Purbeck Sports Centre	Purbeck	1	Standard
192	Swanage Cricket Club	Purbeck	1	Standard
230	Winfrith Newburgh Recreation Ground	Purbeck	1	Poor
2	Abbotsbury Playing Fields	West Dorset	1	Standard
21	Bradford Abbas Sports and Recreational Club	West Dorset	1	Standard
22	Bridport Leisure Centre	West Dorset	1	Standard
33	Cattistock Cricket Club	West Dorset	1	Standard
34	Charlton Down Cricket Club	West Dorset	1	Good
41	Compton House Cricket Club	West Dorset	1	Good
105	Memorial Playing Fields	West Dorset	1	Good
162	Simsay Oval	West Dorset	1	Standard
195	Symene Playing Fields	West Dorset	1	Good
196	Terrace Playing Fields	West Dorset	2	Good
224	Weymouth Avenue Recreation Ground	West Dorset	1	Good
250	Martinstown Cricket Club	West Dorset	1	Good
256	Plush Cricket Club	West Dorset	1	Poor
131	Portland Red Triangle Cricket Club	Weymouth & Portland	1	Poor
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub	Weymouth & Portland	2	Good

The majority of clubs report vandalism to either the pitches or ancillary facilities to have been an issue with a recurring theme being that these sites lack surrounding fencing to inhibit this activity. A number of clubs also report that pitches have been subject to unofficial use, dog fouling and litter which adversely impacts overall site quality.

Maintaining a high quality playing surface 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 wickets and pitches, the ECB recommends a Performance Quality Standard (PQS) assessment to determine whether a cricket square meets the Performance Quality Standards which are benchmarked by the Institute of Groundsmanship. There are three categories of measurement that relate to the overall quality of the square: structural quality, presentational quality and playing quality. Once a square has been assessed it is given a quality rating as shown in the table below.

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Table 4.6: Performance Quality Standard Ratings

Quality rating	Details
Premier (High)	Where the surface is intended for Premier League play, with those within the top quartile capable of holding minor county and 1st class one day matches. May include some of the better schools and university pitches
Club (Standard)	A Club pitch suitable for league, school and junior cricket
Basic	An acceptable level suitable for recreational cricket and where the surface is designed and maintained within tight financial limitations such as Local Authorities
Unsuitable	This is where the surface is deemed unfit or unsafe for play

DCB provides a pitch advisor service with a range of report options and cost points, where the pitch advisor is able to conclude whether a maintenance programme should be implemented or to advise a club to instruct a fine turf specialist to undertake further assessment.

### Ancillary facilities

The audit of ancillary facilities determined that 16 sites have good quality changing rooms, 18 standard quality changing rooms and four poor quality changing rooms. Neither East Dorset nor Weymouth and Portland sub areas have any ancillary facilities, supporting a community club, that are poor quality.

Table 4.7: Changing room quality (primary venues for affiliated cricket clubs)

Site ID	Site	User club	No. of squares	Changing room quality
<b>East Dorset Sub Area</b>				
40	Colehill Sports & Social Club	Wimborne & Colehill CC	1	Standard
44	Corfe Mullen Sports Association	Corfe Mullen CC	2	Standard
63	Ferndown Wayfarers Sports Club	Ferndown Wayfarers CC	2	Good
106	Mick Loader Memorial Recreation Ground (Cranborne Sports Club)	Cranborne CC	1	Good
125	Parley Sports Club	Parley CC	1	Standard
133	Potterne Park	Verwood CC	1	Standard
227	Wimborne & Colehill Cricket Club	Wimborne & Colehill CC	1	Good
232	Witchampton Sports Ground	Witchampton CC	1	Standard
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>				
78	Hazelbury Bryan Playing Field	Hazelbury Bryan CC	1	Good
81	Hinton St Mary Recreation Ground	Sturminster & Hinton CC	1	Standard
104	Marnhull Recreation Ground	Marnhull CC	1	Good
124	Park Road Recreation Ground	Blandford CC	1	Poor
149	Shaftesbury Cricket Club	Shaftesbury CC	1	Good
159	Shillingstone Recreation Ground	Shillingstone CC	1	Standard
161	Shroton Cricket Club	Shroton CC	1	Standard
201	Stalbridge Playing Fields	Stalbridge CC	1	Standard
239	Ashmore Recreation Ground	Ashmore CC	1	Good
240	Buckhorn Weston Cricket Club	Buckhorn CC	1	Standard
<b>Purbeck Sub Area</b>				
13	Bere Regis Sports Club	Bere Regis CC	1	Good
192	Swanage Cricket Club	Swanage CC	1	Good

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Site ID	Site	User club	No. of squares	Changing room quality
217	Wareham Recreation Ground	Wareham CC	1	Poor
230	Winfrith Newburgh Recreation Ground	Winfrith Newburgh CC	1	Standard
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>				
2	Abbotsbury Playing Fields	Abbotsbury CC	1	Standard
21	Bradford Abbas Sports and Recreational Club	Bradford Abbas Sports CC	1	Good
33	Cattistock Cricket Club	Cattistock CC	1	Standard
34	Charlton Down Cricket Club	Charlton Down CC	1	Good
41	Compton House Cricket Club	Compton House CC	1	Poor
105	Memorial Playing Fields	Beaminster CC	1	Good
134	Puddletown Recreation Ground	Puddletown CC Puddleton RFC CC	1	Standard
162	Simsay Oval	Cerne Valley CC	1	Good
195	Symene Playing Fields	Symene CC	1	Standard
196	Terrace Playing Fields	Sherborne CC	2	Standard
224	Weymouth Avenue Recreation Ground	Cosmos CC Dorchester CC St Georges CC	1	Good
241	Cheselbourne Cricket Club	Cheselbourne CC Dewlish CC	1	Poor
250	Martinstown Cricket Club	Martinstown CC	1	Good
256	Plush Cricket Ground	Plush CC	1	Standard
<b>Weymouth and Portland Sub Area</b>				
131	Portland Red Triangle Cricket Club	Portland Red Triangle CC	1	Good
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub	Weymouth CC	2	Standard

In the North Dorset Sub Area Blandford CC, in partnership with Sports England, Dorset Council and Blandford Forum Town Council, has recently secured planning permission<sup>28</sup> to erect a single storey extension to the clubhouse at Park Road Recreation Ground. The current facilities on site are poor quality and not suitable having been originally built for youth football.

Swanage CC in the Purbeck Sub Area report plans to build an extension on its existing clubhouse in order to provide additional changing facilities. Recent growth in participation has meant that current facilities are operating close to capacity and are now not a suitable size for the amount of teams accessing them. This may limit the potential future growth from the Club.

In the West Dorset Sub Area, Compton House CC has plans to develop ancillary provision. It indicates current facilities are poor quality as they are dated and in desperate need of modernisation being approximately 150 years old.

Three clubs identify supporting ancillary facilities as requiring modernisation to ensure that the quality does not decline further; and to improve attracting and retaining participants. Weymouth CC, Wareham CC and Ferndown Wayfarers CC all note this requirement; with it further noted that Wareham Recreation Ground requires additional toilet provision.

<sup>28</sup> Planning application 2/2018/1405/FUL (<https://planning.north-dorset.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=PG4HDRLHICF00&activeTab=summary>)

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Two clubs, Kingston Lacy CC and Wimborne St Giles CC, have limited or no supporting ancillary facilities at respective home venues; and as such have been excluded from the table.

### **Training facilities**

Access to cricket nets is important, particularly for pre-season/winter training; however, few responding clubs report access to indoor net facilities is an issue across the County.

Eleven of the responding clubs indicated a requirement for additional training provision on site in order to support continued club growth. Four clubs requirement related to an NTP on site, four clubs also reported a need for new or additional nets on site. Wareham CC reports a need for grass wickets; which would then allow training to take place on the NTP at Wareham Recreation Ground.

*Table 4.8: Summary of demand for additional training facilities*

Club	Sub area	Comments
Wimborne & Colehill CC	East Dorset	Covered outdoor nets.
Blandford CC	North Dorset	A non-turf pitch alongside existing grass wickets.
Marnhull CC	North Dorset	Mobile nets.
Shroton CC	North Dorset	A non-turf pitch alongside existing grass wickets.
Stalbridge CC	North Dorset	Refurbishment of the current NTP on site.
Bere Regis CC	Purbeck	Indoor nets.
Swanage CC	Purbeck	Indoor nets.
Wareham CC	Purbeck	Grass wickets.
Beaminster CC	West Dorset	Refurbishment of the current NTP on site.
Compton House CC	West Dorset	Mobile nets.
Sherborne CC	West Dorset	New outdoor nets, either fixed bay or mobile.

### **4.3: Demand**

There is a total of 39 clubs competing in the Study Area generating 171 teams. As a breakdown, this equates to 107 senior men's, three senior women's and 61 junior squads, one of which, is a dedicated junior girls' team. Just over half of the clubs in the Study Area (21 clubs) only have senior men's teams with no junior sections.

The West Dorset Sub Area has the largest number of clubs (18 clubs) whilst the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area has the fewest (two clubs). The distribution of these teams across the clubs can be seen in the table below.

*Table 4.9: Summary of teams*

Club name	Sub area	No. of competitive teams			
		Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys'	Junior girls'
Corfe Mullen CC	East Dorset	3	-	-	-
Cranborne CC	East Dorset	2	-	-	-
Kingston Lacy CC	East Dorset	1	-	-	-
Verwood CC	East Dorset	5	-	4	-
Wimborne & Colehill CC	East Dorset	6	-	5	-
Witchampton CC	East Dorset	5	-	-	-
Ferndown Wayfarers CC	East Dorset	5	-	3	-

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Club name	Sub area	No. of competitive teams			
		Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys'	Junior girls'
Parley CC	East Dorset	5	1	6	1
Wimborne St Giles CC	East Dorset	1	-	-	-
Ashmore CC	North Dorset	1	-	-	-
Blandford CC	North Dorset	3	-	4	-
Buckhorn Weston CC	North Dorset	1	-	1	-
Marnhull CC	North Dorset	4	1	3	-
Shaftesbury CC	North Dorset	2	-	3	-
Shillingstone CC	North Dorset	1	1	3	-
Shroton CC	North Dorset	1	-	3	-
Stalbridge CC	North Dorset	3	-	2	-
Sturminster & Hinton CC	North Dorset	3	-	1	-
Hazelbury Bryan CC	North Dorset	1	-	-	-
Bere Regis CC	Purbeck	3	-	3	-
Swanage CC	Purbeck	4	-	5	-
Wareham CC	Purbeck	1	-	1	-
Winfrith Newburgh CC	Purbeck	1	-	-	-
Puddletown CC	West Dorset	3	-	1	-
Puddletown RFC CC	West Dorset	1	-	-	-
Abbotsbury CC	West Dorset	2	-	-	-
Beaminster CC	West Dorset	2	-	3	-
Bradford Abbas Sports CC	West Dorset	1	-	-	-
Cattistock CC	West Dorset	3	-	-	-
Cerne Valley CC	West Dorset	4	-	1	-
Charlton Down CC	West Dorset	5	-	1	-
Cheselbourne CC	West Dorset	1	-	-	-
Compton House CC	West Dorset	1	-	2	-
Dorchester CC	West Dorset	5	-	-	-
Sherborne CC	West Dorset	3	-	-	-
St Georges CC	West Dorset	1	-	-	-
Symene CC	West Dorset	1	-	1	-
Martinstown CC	West Dorset	3	-	4	-
Plush CC	West Dorset	1	-	-	-
Dewlish CC	West Dorset	2	-	-	-
Cosmos CC	West Dorset	1	-	-	-
Portland Red Triangle CC	Weymouth & Portland	3	-	-	-
Weymouth CC	Weymouth & Portland	2	-	-	-
<b>Study Area Total</b>		<b>107</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>1</b>

A summary of teams by Sub Area can be seen in the table below. East Dorset and West Dorset sub areas both have the highest number of cricket teams (53 each), whilst the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area has the least with just five teams across two clubs.

The West Dorset Sub Area has the highest number of senior men's teams (40 teams), with the North Dorset Sub Area accommodating the highest number of junior boys' teams (20 teams). There is only one dedicated junior girls' team in the Study Area at Parley CC in the East Dorset Sub Area; whilst there are three senior women's teams, one in East Dorset (Parley CC) and two in North Dorset (Marnhull CC and Shillingstone CC).



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Table 4.10: Summary of teams by Sub Area

Sub area	Number of teams				Total
	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys'	Junior girls'	
East Dorset	33	1	18	1	53
North Dorset	21	2	20	-	43
Purbeck	9	-	9	-	18
West Dorset	40	-	13	-	53
Weymouth & Portland	5	-	-	-	5
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>171</b>

There is no unmet or latent demand reported by any of the clubs. In addition, there is ad hoc usage of the grass wickets at Iwerne Minster Cricket Club (North Dorset Sub Area) and Bridport Leisure Centre (West Dorset Sub Area). This is from recreational teams that do not play regular fixtures and therefore have not been included in the above figures.

### *Softball cricket*

Softball cricket is an ECB initiative aimed at women and girls to increase participation in cricket as a sport. The aim of softball cricket sections are enjoyment and participation; without pads, a hardball, a heavy bat and limited rules. Sessions follow a festival format with each session running for a maximum of two and half hours, shorter than traditional formats.

Each match consists of two teams of six to eight people, with everyone having an opportunity to bat and bowl. Each team bats once, with a pair of batters facing two or three overs. Batters are dismissed in traditional ways, but bowling can be either overarm or underarm, depending on the bowler's preference. Each batting team starts with a score of 200 runs, with runs added to this total by running between the wickets or by hitting the ball to a boundary. Two runs are added to the total for each wide ball; whilst five runs are removed when a batter is out. The highest score at the conclusion of play wins. Playing equipment is supplied by festival organisers, with all participants provided with a t-shirt for taking part.

Across the Study Area the following sites hosted Softball Festivals throughout the 2018 season; Memorial Playing Fields, Weymouth Avenue Recreation Ground, Terrace Playing Fields, Shillingstone Recreation Ground, Wimborne & Colehill Cricket Club and Ferndown Wayfarers Sports Club. In addition, the following 12 clubs participated in the festivals:

- ◀ Bere Regis CC
- ◀ Blandford CC
- ◀ Beaminster CC
- ◀ Dorchester CC
- ◀ Ferndown Wayfarers CC
- ◀ Marnhull CC
- ◀ Martinstown CC
- ◀ Sherborne CC
- ◀ Shillingstone CC
- ◀ Swanage CC
- ◀ Verwood CC
- ◀ Wimborne & Colehill CC

A relevant scenario to examine the future anticipated increase of women's and girls on supply and demand will be explored in the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document.

### ***Imported demand***

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Imported demand refers to any demand from neighbouring local authorities that accesses facilities within the Study Area due to a lack of available facilities in other local authorities where such team or club is based. There is no known imported cricket demand into the Study Area.

### ***Exported demand***

Displaced or exported demand refers to teams nominally based in the Study Area that are currently accessing pitches in alternative local authorities for their home fixtures, normally because their pitch requirements cannot be met, which is usually because of pitch supply, in some cases quality issues or stipulated league requirements for access to certain facilities.

In total there are four teams from two clubs which export demand from the Study Area. Verwood CC 3<sup>rd</sup> XI exports demand to Carvers Recreation Ground (New Forest) to access pitch provision on Saturdays; whilst Parley CC exports demand from three senior men's teams to two sites in Bournemouth (Littledown Leisure Centre and Kings Park) to also access provision on Saturdays.

### ***Last Man Stands***

Last Man Stands (LMS) was founded in 2005. The social outdoor eight-a-side T20 cricket game is played midweek, lasts approximately two hours and is generally played on non-turf 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 and is increasing in popularity.

There is no LMS operating across the Study Area, however, demand for shorter formats of the sport is currently being met through three large midweeks leagues; Dorchester and District Midweek League, Wimborne Evening League and the Ranston Evening League.

### ***Future demand***

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

The ECB unveiled a new strategic five-year plan in 2016 (available at <http://www.cricketunleashed.com>). Its success will be measured by the number of people who play, follow or support the game and the plan sets out five important headline elements: More play; great teams; inspired fans; good governance and social responsibility; strong finance and operations.

In addition, the ECB has also recently announced new five-year media rights deals, from 2020-2024. The new deals include a continuation of the ECB relationship with Sky Sports, now extending beyond broadcasting as a genuine partnership to secure significant investment and commitment to increase participation and drive engagement. The new deals also include a return to free to air television for live cricket, with the BBC to show coverage of some international and domestic matches.

Together, significant investment in participation and increased free to air media coverage could see future demand increase to levels in excess of those anticipated through the PPS and the impact should therefore be reviewed over coming years.

### ***Population forecasts***

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Team generation rates are used below as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future (2036) based on population growth. Using this there is a predicted increase of six junior boys' teams, with each Sub Area, except Weymouth and Portland, predicted to have at least one additional junior boys' teams.

Table 4.11: Team generation rates based on population growth (2036)

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate <sup>29</sup>	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
<b>East Dorset Sub Area</b>						
Senior Men's (18-55)	17,079	33	1:518	16,424	31.7	0
Senior Women's (18-55)	17,698	1	1:17,698	16,544	0.9	0
Junior Boys (7-18)	5,532	17	1:325	6,187	19.0	2
Junior Girls (7-18)	5,292	1	1:5,292	5,715	1.1	0
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>						
Senior Men's (18-55)	15,962	20	1:798	15,593	19.5	0
Senior Women's (18-55)	14,789	2	1:7,395	13,915	1.9	0
Junior Boys (7-18)	5,229	20	1:261	5,753	22.0	2
Junior Girls (7-18)	4,779	0	0	5,209	0.0	0
<b>Purbeck Sub Area</b>						
Senior Men's (18-55)	9,989	9	1:1,110	9,627	8.7	0
Senior Women's (18-55)	9,532	0	0	8,754	0.0	0
Junior Boys (7-18)	3,017	9	1:335	3,470	10.4	1
Junior Girls (7-18)	2,809	0	0	2,964	0.0	0
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>						
Senior Men's (18-55)	19,384	40	1:485	18,293	37.7	0
Senior Women's (18-55)	20,262	0	0	18,163	0.0	0
Junior Boys (7-18)	6,622	13	1:509	7,386	14.5	1
Junior Girls (7-18)	6,321	0	0	6,775	0.0	0
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland Sub Area</b>						
Senior Men's (18-55)	14,584	5	1:2,917	13,922	4.8	0
Senior Women's (18-55)	14,159	0	0	12,557	0.0	0
Junior Boys (7-18)	4,207	0	0	4,184	0.0	0
Junior Girls (7-18)	4,074	0	0	4,059	0.0	0

Please note that due to no women's or girls' teams currently existing in three of the five sub areas included in the Study Area, team generation rates automatically predict that none will be created in the future as it takes current participation as a baseline.

Junior boys' teams play an average of four home matches per season representing a further requirement for approximately 20 junior boys' match sessions per season to accommodate proposed new teams junior cricket takes place midweek and can therefore take place over a number of evenings.

Women's and girls' cricket is a national priority and there is a target to establish two girls' and one women's team in every local authority over the next five years. 8-10% of the Whole Sport Plan funding is focused around women and girls and talent ID. Currently, Marnhull CC, Shillingstone CC and Parley CC are the only community clubs with senior women's teams,

<sup>29</sup> Please note TGR figures are rounded to the lowest whole number.

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these clubs act as a focus for women's and girls' cricket development in the area and DCB and other local clubs signpost female players to them. Parley CC is also the only club in the Study Area to provide dedicated a junior girls' teams.

The ECB's refreshed strategy called "Inspiring Generations" was announced in January 2019. It builds on the strong foundations laid by Cricket Unleashed and supports the growth of cricket in England and Wales between 2020 and 2024. At the heart of this strategy is a single unifying purpose, which gets to the core of what the game can do for society both on and off the field to ensure that cricket is in an even stronger position that it is in 2019.

Inspiring Generations has six key priorities and activities including transforming women's and girls' cricket to increase the representation of women in every level of cricket by:

- ◀ Growing the base through participation and facilities investment.
- ◀ Launching centres of excellence and a new elite domestic structure.
- ◀ Investing in girls' county age group cricket.
- ◀ Delivering a girls' secondary school programme.

There will be a structured pathway for women and girls in both softball and hardball cricket. At the time of writing the pathways and clubs involved in Dorset are still in the planning stages.

The table below shows a summary of quantified club aspirations for future demand. None of the responding clubs in either the East Dorset or Weymouth and Portland sub areas reported any aspirations to establish additional teams. Both North Dorset and West Dorset clubs have ambitions to establish six new teams in respective sub areas.

*Table 4.12: Summary of future demand (club aspirations)*

Club	Future demand			
	Senior men	Senior women	Junior	Total
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>				
Blandford CC	-	1	1	<b>2</b>
Shillingstone CC	1	-	1	<b>2</b>
Stalbridge CC	-	1	1	<b>2</b>
<b>Purbeck Sub Area</b>				
Bere Regis CC	-	1	1	<b>2</b>
Swanage CC	1	1	1	<b>3</b>
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>				
Compton House CC	-	1	3	<b>4</b>
Puddletown CC	1	-	1	<b>2</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>17</b>

It is important to note that TGRs are based on population figures and cannot account for specific targeted development work within certain areas or focused towards certain groups, such as NGB initiatives or coaching within schools.

### *All Stars Cricket*

In partnership with the ECB and Chance to Shine cricket clubs in the Study Area can register to become an ECB All Stars Cricket Centre. Once registered, a club can deliver the programme which aims to introduce cricket to children aged from five to eight. Subsequently,

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this may lead to increased interest and demand for junior cricket at clubs. The programme seeks to achieve the following aims:

- ◀ Increase cricket activity for five to eight year olds in the school and club environment
- ◀ Develop consistency of message in both settings to aid transition
- ◀ Improve generic movement skills for children, using cricket as the vehicle
- ◀ Make it easier for new volunteers to support and deliver in the club environment
- ◀ Use fun small sided games to enthuse new children and volunteers to follow and play the game

A relevant scenario to examine what potential impact the All Stars programme could have on future demand will be explored in the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document.

### **Peak time demand**

An analysis of match play identifies peak time demand for senior cricket as Saturdays, with 72, of the remaining 58 teams, 20 play on Sundays and 38 play midweek.

For junior cricket, peak time demand is midweek, with the clubs generally arranging the fixtures to best suit their needs. As a result, squares have greater capacity to carry junior demand as play can be spread across numerous days (providing the squares are not overplayed).

### **4.5: 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 square per day at weekends or weekday evenings). 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 square to accommodate matches is driven by the number and quality of wickets. This section presents the current square stock available for cricket and illustrates the number of competitive matches per season per square.

As a guide, The ECB has set a standard number of matches that each grass wicket pitch type should be able to accommodate without adversely affecting its current quality (pitch capacity). Taking into consideration the guidelines on capacity the following was concluded:

Pitch quality	Matches per season
Good	5
Standard	4
Poor	0

To help calculate square capacity, the ECB suggests that a good quality natural turf wicket should be able to take five matches per season per natural turf wicket (adults). This information is used to allocate capacity ratings as follows:

<b>Potential capacity</b>	Play is below the level the site could sustain
<b>At capacity</b>	Play matches the level the site can sustain
<b>Overused</b>	Play exceeds the level the site can sustain

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Table 4.13: Capacity of cricket squares

Site ID	Site name	Sub area	Postcode	Community use?	Clubs/teams	No. of squares	Pitch quality	No. of grass wickets	Capacity (sessions per season)	Actual play (sessions per season)	Capacity rating (sessions per season)
36	Churchill Close Recreation Ground	East Dorset	BH21 4BH	Yes-unused	-	1	Standard	5	20	0	20
40	Colehill Sports & Social Club	East Dorset	BH21 2QR	Yes	Wimborne & Colehill CC	1	Good	8	40	16	24
44	Corfe Mullen Sports Association	East Dorset	BH21 3GU	Yes	Corfe Mullen CC	1	Standard	7	28	22	6
63	Ferndown Wayfarers Sports Club	East Dorset	BH22 9PH	Yes	Ferndown Wayfarers CC	2	Good	14	70	66	4
89	King George V Fields	East Dorset	BH22 9EZ	Yes-unused	-	1	Good	10	50	0	50
106	Mick Loader Memorial Recreation Ground (Cranborne Sports Club)	East Dorset	BH21 5QE	Yes	Cranbourne CC	1	Standard	7	28	16	12
123	Pamphill Village Green	East Dorset	BH21 4EE	Yes	Kingston Lacy CC	1	Standard	5	20	10	10
125	Parley Sports Club	East Dorset	BH22 8SQ	Yes	Parley CC	1	Standard	7	28	70	42
133	Potterne Park	East Dorset	BH21 6RS	Yes	Verwood CC	1	Standard	7	28	58	30
137	Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre	East Dorset	BH21 4DT	Yes-unused	-	1	Good	9	45	0	45
227	Wimborne & Colehill Cricket Club	East Dorset	BH21 1DY	Yes	Wimborn & Colehill CC	1	Good	13	65	50	15
232	Witchampton Sports Ground	East Dorset	BH21 5AU	Yes	Witchampton CC	1	Standard	6	24	36	12
28	Bryanston School	North Dorset	DT11 0PX	Yes-unused	-	3	Good	11	55	0	55
38	Clayesmore Sports Centre	North Dorset	DT11 8LL	No	-	4	Good	31	155	0	155
69	Gillingham School	North Dorset	SP8 4QP	No	-	1	Standard	1	4	0	4
78	Hazelbury Bryan Playing Field	North Dorset	DT10 2EB	Yes	Hazelbury Bryan CC	1	Standard	6	24	8	16
81	Hinton St Mary Recreation Ground	North Dorset	DT10 1NA	Yes	Sturminster & Hinton CC	1	Standard	14	56	18	38
86	Iwerne Minster Cricket Club	North Dorset	DT11 8NB	Yes-unused	-	1	Standard	8	32	0	32
104	Marnhull Recreation Ground	North Dorset	DT10 1PH	Yes	Marnhull CC	1	Standard	5	20	44	24
111	Milton Abbey School	North Dorset	DT11 0BZ	Yes-unused	-	3	Good	16	80	0	80
116	Motcombe Park Sports Club	North Dorset	SP7 9QA	No	-	2	Good	10	50	0	50
124	Park Road Recreation Ground	North Dorset	DT11 7BX	Yes	Blanford CC	1	Standard	12	48	38	10
149	Shaftesbury Cricket Club	North Dorset	SP7 0JA	Yes	Shaftesbury CC	1	Standard	7	28	28	
159	Shillingstone Recreation Ground	North Dorset	DT11 0SN	Yes	Shillingstone CC	1	Good	7	35	34	1
161	Shroton Cricket Club	North Dorset	DT11 8QA	Yes	Shroton CC	1	Good	6	30	16	14
197	The Blandford School	North Dorset	DT11 7SQ	Yes-unused	-	1	Standard	11	44	0	44
201	Stalbridge Playing Fields (The Park)	North Dorset	DT10 2RA	Yes	Stalbridge CC	1	Good	13	65	28	37
239	Ashmore Recreation Ground	North Dorset	SP5 5AQ	Yes	Ashmore CC	1	Standard	6	24	8	16
240	Buckhorn Weston Cricket Club	North Dorset	SP8 5SS	Yes	Buckhorn Weston CC	1	Standard	7	28	12	16
13	Bere Regis Sports Club	Purbeck	BH20 7LA	Yes	Bere Regis CC	1	Good	7	35	36	1
135	Purbeck Sports Centre	Purbeck	BH20 4PH	Yes	Identified curricular demand	1	Standard	4	16	4	12
192	Swanage Cricket Club	Purbeck	BH19 1NQ	Yes	Swanage CC	1	Standard	7	28	48	20
230	Winfrith Newburgh Recreation Ground	Purbeck	DT2 8JH	Yes	Winfrith Newburgh CC	1	Poor	5	0	8	8
2	Abbotsbury Playing Fields	West Dorset	DT3 4JT	Yes	Abbotsbury CC	1	Standard	8	32	14	18

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Sub area	Postcode	Community use?	Clubs/teams	No. of squares	Pitch quality	No. of grass wickets	Capacity (sessions per season)	Actual play (sessions per season)	Capacity rating (sessions per season)
21	Bradford Abbas Sports and Recreational Club	West Dorset	DT9 6RP	Yes	Bradford Abbas Sports CC	1	Standard	3	12	8	4
22	Bridport Leisure Centre	West Dorset	DT6 5LN	Yes-unused	-	1	Standard	7	28	0	28
33	Cattistock Cricket Club	West Dorset	DT2 0JL	Yes	Cattistock CC	1	Standard	3	12	24	12
34	Charlton Down Cricket Club	West Dorset	DT2 9RJ	Yes	Charlton Down CC	1	Good	4	20	34	14
41	Compton House Cricket Club	West Dorset	DT9 4DJ	Yes	Compton House CC	1	Good	9	45	21	24
92	Kingston Maurward College	West Dorset	DT2 8PY	No	-	1	Poor	3	0	0	
105	Memorial Playing Fields	West Dorset	DT8 3AL	Yes	Beaminster CC	1	Good	9	45	24	21
156	Sherborne School Sports Centre	West Dorset	DT9 3AP	No	-	7	Good	40	200	0	200
162	Simsay Oval	West Dorset	DT2 7GD	Yes	Cerne Valley CC	1	Standard	5	20	34	14
195	Symene Playing Fields	West Dorset	DT6 6EZ	Yes	Symene CC	1	Good	5	25	12	13
196	Terrace Playing Fields	West Dorset	DT9 5NS	Yes	Sherbourne CC	2	Good	16	80	23	57
224	Weymouth Avenue Recreation Ground	West Dorset	DT1 2RY	Yes	Dorchester CC St Georges CC Cosmos CC	1	Good	9	45	43	2
242	Sherborne Prep School	West Dorset	DT9 3NY	No	-	3	Good	6	30	0	30
250	Martinstown Cricket Club	West Dorset	DT2 9HA	Yes	Martinstown CC	1	Good	7	35	38	3
256	Plush Cricket Ground	West Dorset	DT2 7RJ	Yes	Plush CC	1	Poor	5	0	6	6
131	Portland Red Triangle Cricket Club	Weymouth and Portland	DT5 2AP	Yes	Portland Red Triangle CC	1	Poor	11	0	22	22
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub	Weymouth and Portland	DT3 5AW	Yes	Weymouth CC	2	Good	20	100	20	80

It should be noted that six clubs (Wareham CC, Puddletown CC, Puddleton RFC CC, Wimborne St Giles CC, Cheselbourne CC and Dewlish CC) do not currently have any grass wickets available at their respective home venues; and as such these sites have been excluded from the table above. Puddletown CC and Puddleton RFC CC will both be playing away games only for the 2019 season; as a grass square is being established on the site (Puddletown Recreation Ground). None of the NTPs used by the aforementioned four clubs is considered to be overplayed as a result of accommodating match and training demand.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### *Spare capacity*

The next step is to ascertain whether or not any identified 'potential capacity' can be deemed 'actual spare capacity' by which it is available at peak time. 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.

For senior cricket, the following table explores where spare capacity is identified on a Saturday (peak time) as this can be deemed actual spare capacity. It is considered that one square can accommodate two teams at peak time based on playing home and away fixtures (as one team only needs access every other week).

Those sites which display potential capacity of less than eight matches per season have been excluded from the capacity analysis on the basis that they do not exhibit enough spare capacity to accommodate another senior club team, based on an average of eight home matches per team each season. Pitches that are unavailable for community use; or are at education sites but are unused by community clubs have also been excluded given that these sites are not considered secure.

Of those sites that are secure, there are 22 sites which show sufficient potential spare capacity on senior natural turf squares in the Study Area, totalling 594 match sessions per season.

*Table 4.14: Summary of actual spare capacity for senior cricket*

Site ID	Site name	Sub area	Amount of spare capacity (match equivalent sessions)	Squares available in the peak period (Saturday)	Comments
36	Churchill Close Recreation Ground	East Dorset	20	1	Actual spare capacity during the peak period.
40	Colehill Sports & Social Club	East Dorset	24	0	No actual spare capacity during the peak period.
89	King George V Fields	East Dorset	50	1	Actual spare capacity during the peak period.
106	Mick Loader Memorial Recreation Ground (Cranborne Sports Club)	East Dorset	12	0.5	Actual spare capacity during the peak period.
123	Pamphill Village Green	East Dorset	10	0.5	Actual spare capacity during the peak period.
137	Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre	East Dorset	45	1	Actual spare capacity during the peak period.
227	Wimborne & Colehill Cricket Club	East Dorset	15	0	No actual spare capacity during the peak period.
78	Hazelbury Bryan Playing Field	North Dorset	16	1	Actual spare capacity during the peak period.
81	Hinton St Mary Recreation Ground	North Dorset	38	0.5	Actual spare capacity during the peak period.



## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Sub area	Amount of spare capacity (match equivalent sessions)	Squares available in the peak period (Saturday)	Comments
86	Iwerne Minster Cricket Club	North Dorset	32	1	Actual spare capacity during the peak period.
124	Park Road Recreation Ground	North Dorset	10	0	No actual spare capacity during the peak period.
161	Shroton Cricket Club	North Dorset	14	0.5	Actual spare capacity during the peak period.
201	Stalbridge Playing Fields (The Park)	North Dorset	37	0	No actual spare capacity during the peak period.
239	Ashmore Recreation Ground	North Dorset	16	0.5	Actual spare capacity during the peak period.
240	Buckhorn Weston Cricket Club	North Dorset	16	1	Actual spare capacity during the peak period.
135	Purbeck Sports Centre	Purbeck	16	1	Actual spare capacity during the peak period.
22	Bridport Leisure Centre	West Dorset	28	1	Actual spare capacity during the peak period.
41	Compton House Cricket Club	West Dorset	24	0.5	Actual spare capacity during the peak period.
105	Memorial Playing Fields	West Dorset	21	0.5	Actual spare capacity during the peak period.
195	Symene Playing Fields	West Dorset	13	0.5	Actual spare capacity during the peak period.
196	Terrace Playing Fields	West Dorset	57	1	Actual spare capacity during the peak period.
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub	Weymouth and Portland	80	1	Actual spare capacity during the peak period.
<b>Study Area Total</b>			<b>594</b>	<b>508</b>	

In practice, although 22 sites display potential spare capacity, only 18 sites have actual spare capacity at senior peak time (Saturday). Combined, the squares that can accommodate additional peak time usage provide enough spare capacity to accommodate 508 match equivalent sessions per season. The West Dorset Sub Area has the highest amount of actual spare capacity available for community use (143 match equivalent sessions); the Purbeck Sub Area has the least (16 match equivalent sessions).

Table 4.15: Actual spare capacity for senior cricket by Sub Area

Sub area	Actual spare capacity (sessions per season)
East Dorset	137
North Dorset	132
Purbeck	16
West Dorset	143
Weymouth and Portland	80
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>508</b>

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

For junior cricket, all squares with actual spare capacity for senior cricket are also considered to be able to accommodate an increase in junior demand. This is because junior matches can be spread across numerous days, with Sundays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays currently the most common.

### **Overplay**

As guidance, all pitches receiving more than the recommended capacity per wicket per season are adjudged to be overplayed. For a good quality square this is five match equivalent sessions per season, for a standard quality square this is four match equivalent session per season and for a poor quality square this is zero match equivalent sessions per season.

*Table 4.16: Summary of overplay*

Site ID	Site name	Sub area	Number of squares	Overplay (matches per season)
125	Parley Sports Club	East Dorset	1	42
133	Potterne Park	East Dorset	1	30
232	Witchampton Sports Ground	East Dorset	1	12
104	Marnhull Recreation Ground	North Dorset	1	24
13	Bere Regis Sports Club	Purbeck	1	1
192	Swanage Cricket Club	Purbeck	1	20
230	Winfrith Newburgh Recreation Ground	Purbeck	1	8
2	Abbotsbury Playing Fields	West Dorset	1	18
33	Cattistock Cricket Club	West Dorset	1	12
34	Charlton Down Cricket Club	West Dorset	1	14
162	Simsay Oval	West Dorset	1	14
250	Martinstown Cricket Club	West Dorset	1	3
256	Plush Cricket Ground	West Dorset	1	6
131	Portland Red Triangle Cricket Club	Weymouth and Portland	1	22
<b>Total</b>			<b>14</b>	<b>226</b>

#### *East Dorset Sub Area*

In total, three squares across three sites are overplayed in the East Dorset Sub Area by a total of 84 match equivalent sessions per season; Parley Sports Club, Potterne Park and Witchampton Sports Ground.

#### *North Dorset Sub Area*

Overplay is evident at only one site in the North Dorset Sub Area (Marnhull Recreation Ground), with a shortfall of 24 match equivalent sessions per season.

#### *Purbeck Sub Area*

There are 29 match equivalent sessions of overplay in the Purbeck Sub Area located at three sites, Bere Regis Sports Club, Winfrith Newburgh Recreation Ground and Swanage Cricket Club; the latter of which has the most overplay with a total of 20 match equivalent sessions.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### West Dorset Sub Area

The West Dorset Sub Area has six sites (six squares) overplayed by a combined 67 match equivalent sessions; with Abbotsbury Playing Fields having the largest amount of overplay; 18 match equivalent sessions per season.

### Weymouth and Portland Sub Area

Only one site in the Weymouth and Portland Sub Area is overplayed, Portland Red Triangle Cricket Club which has 22 match equivalent sessions of overplay per season.

Table 4.17: Overplay by Sub Area

Sub area	Overplay (sessions per season)
East Dorset	84
North Dorset	24
Purbeck	29
West Dorset	67
Weymouth and Portland	22
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>226</b>

Although it is possible to sustain certain, minimal levels of overplay providing that a regular, sufficient maintenance regime is in place, a resolution is recommended on overplayed squares to ensure there is no detrimental effect on quality over time.

Please note that inclusion of a non-turf wicket for the management of fixtures could alleviate overplay issues, however this would be subject to league rules and minimum pitch specifications (the overall ground size is 115m which can accommodate a nine strip square – see ECB S9 pitch layout). Where possible the addition of a non-turf wicket could be considered for junior cricket (up to U15s) and potentially lower league cricket which will take the burden off remaining wickets due to intensification of use. This option should be considered on a site by site basis.

### 4.5: Supply and demand analysis

Table 4.18 explores total available spare capacity over the season, considered against total overplay and future demand identified and quantified through consultation and TGRs.

Match equivalent sessions per season for future demand has been calculated using the average number of matches played per season by the respective team type (10 matches for senior men and four matches for senior women).

Table 4.18: Supply and demand analysis of cricket squares for senior cricket across the Study Area

Sub area	Actual spare capacity (sessions per season)	Demand (match sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
East Dorset	137	84	53	-	53
North Dorset	132	24	108	15	93
Purbeck	12	29	-17	18	-35
West Dorset	143	67	76	11	65
Weymouth and Portland	80	22	58	-	58

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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Study Area	504	226	278	44	234
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As seen in the above table, there is currently sufficient capacity in four of the five sub areas with Purbeck being the only Sub Area to be overplayed. This leads to an overall current spare capacity of 278 match equivalent sessions.

When factoring in future demand the shortfall in the Purbeck Sub Area worsens to 18 match equivalent sessions with the overall spare capacity reducing to 234 match equivalent sessions.

Notwithstanding the above, overplay still requires to be addressed on a site by site basis across the Study Area and this will be explored further within the Strategy and Action Plan to follow. The East Dorset and West Dorset sub areas both have a significant amount of overplay and the greatest number of sites which are overplayed, three and five respectively. In most cases, it is unrealistic for spare capacity expressed to be able to accommodate the requisite overplay expressed due to the location and spread of sites.

As previously mentioned, junior teams generally play midweek across a variety of days; consequently, spare capacity is considered to exist for junior matches both now and in the future and should be judged on a site by site basis where clubs have particular aspirations to increase the number of junior teams.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### Cricket summary

- ◀ **There is currently sufficient capacity in four of the five sub areas with Purbeck being the only Sub Area to be overplayed. This leads to an overall current spare capacity of 282 match equivalent sessions.**
- ◀ **When factoring in future demand the shortfall in the Purbeck Sub Area worsens to 31 match equivalent sessions with the overall spare capacity reducing to 238 match equivalent sessions.**
- ◀ There are 70 grass wicket squares in the Study Area located across 51 sites. Of these, 52 are available for community use.
- ◀ There are non-turf pitches (NTPs) accompanying the grass wicket squares at 30 sites across The Study Area. In addition there are 47 standalone NTPs.
- ◀ There are plans to establish a cricket square with grass wickets at Puddletown Recreation Ground. The Club is scheduled to play all matches away from home in 2019 to allow the pitch to become sustainable in the longer term.
- ◀ Most cricket clubs across the Study Area have secure tenure at their primary home ground with the remaining clubs renting their facilities.
- ◀ Parley CC is considered to have unsecure tenure, despite having a lease agreement in place, it has less than six months remaining. This should be renewed as a priority, with a recommended 25 years minimum, enabling the Club to apply for external funding with greater success.
- ◀ The non-technical assessment of grass wicket squares in the Study Area found 24 squares community available squares to be good quality, 25 to be standard quality with three squares assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ The poor quality squares are located at Portland Red Triangle Cricket Club, Winfrith Newburgh Recreation Ground and Plush Cricket Club.
- ◀ The audit of ancillary facilities determined that 16 sites have good quality changing rooms, 18 standard quality changing rooms and four poor quality changing rooms. Kingston Lacy CC and Wimborne St Giles CC do not have supporting ancillary facilities at their respective home venues.
- ◀ Poor quality facilities are located at Park Road Recreation Ground, Wareham Recreation Ground, Compton House Cricket Club and Cheselbourne Cricket Club.
- ◀ In the North Dorset Sub Area Blandford CC, in partnership with Sports England, Dorset Council and Blandford Forum Town Council, has recently secured planning permission to erect a single storey extension to the clubhouse at Park Road Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Swanage CC in the Purbeck Sub Area report plans to build an extension on its existing clubhouse in order to provide additional changing facilities.
- ◀ In the West Dorset Sub Area, Compton House CC has plans to develop ancillary provision. It indicates current facilities are poor quality as they are dated and in desperate need of modernisation being approximately 150 years old.
- ◀ There is a total of 39 clubs competing in the Study Area generating 171 teams. As a breakdown, this equates to 107 senior men's, three senior women's and 61 junior squads, one of which, is a dedicated junior girls' team.
- ◀ East Dorset and West Dorset sub areas both have the highest number of cricket teams (53 each), whilst the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area has the least with just five teams across two clubs.
- ◀ Using team generation rates, there is a predicted increase of six junior boys' teams, with each Sub Area, except Weymouth and Portland, predicted to have at least one additional junior boys' teams.
- ◀ In total there are four teams from two clubs which export demand from the Study Area. Verwood CC and Parley CC.
- ◀ In total 18 sites have actual spare capacity at senior peak time (Saturday). Combined, the squares that can accommodate additional peak time usage provide enough spare capacity to accommodate 508 match equivalent sessions per season.
- ◀ There is a total of 226 match equivalents sessions of overplay across the Study Area.

# ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## PART 5: RUGBY UNION

### 5.1: Introduction

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) is the national governing body for rugby union. It is split into six areas across the Country with a workforce team that covers development, coaching, governance and competitions, the Study Area falls in to Area 1.

A full-time development officer is responsible for Dorset (as part of the wider region) and works with all clubs to maximise their potential. This work involves developing club structures, working towards the RFU accreditation (Clubmark) and the development of school-club structures.

The rugby union playing season operates from September to May although the 7's playing programme takes places throughout the summer months.

### Consultation

There is a total of 10 clubs playing across the Study Area, of these the following four clubs were met with for face to face consultation; North Dorset RFC, Dorchester RFC, Swanage & Wareham RFC and Wimborne RFC. A further six clubs responded to either online or telephone consultation requests representing an overall response rate of 100% as highlighted in the table below.

Table 5.1: Summary of consultation with affiliated clubs

Sub area	Clubs	Responded?	Sub area response rate
East Dorset	Wimborne RFC	Yes	100%
North Dorset	North Dorset RFC	Yes	100%
	Blandford RFC	Yes	
Purbeck	Swanage & Wareham RFC	Yes	100%
	Lytchett Minster RFC	Yes	
West Dorset	Bridport RFC	Yes	100%
	Dorchester RFC	Yes	
	Puddletown RFC	Yes	
	Sherborne RFC	Yes	
Weymouth & Portland	Weymouth & Portland RFC	Yes	100%
<b>Study Area Total</b>		<b>10/10</b>	<b>100%</b>

In addition, East Dorset RFC was consulted with through an electronic survey even though it plays matches outside of the Study Area, in Bournemouth. Information provided is referenced within the section, however, the Club's demand does not factor into the overall supply and demand analysis.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### 5.2: Supply

Across the five sub areas there are 74 senior, 19 junior and 17 mini pitches provided totalling to 110 pitches. The majority of these, 63% or 69 pitches, are available for community use as detailed in the table below.

*Table 5.2: Supply of rugby union pitches available for community use*

Sub area	No. of pitches available for community use			Total
	Senior	Junior	Mini	
East Dorset	4	1	2	7
North Dorset	10	4	3	17
Purbeck	9	-	6	15
West Dorset	20	-	6	26
Weymouth & Portland	4	-	-	4
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>69</b>

The East Dorset Sub Area has the second smallest amount of community available provision with seven pitches. This is spread across four sites, one of which is Leigh Park, home to Wimborne RFU the solitary community rugby club in the Authority.

Across the North Dorset Sub Area there are 17 pitches across six sites. Over half of this provision is located at North Dorset Rugby Football Club which hosts three senior, three junior and three mini pitches.

The West Dorset Sub Area has the most amount of community available provision in the Study Area with 38% or 26 pitches. This correlates with the West Dorset area also hosting the largest amount of community rugby union clubs with four; Bridport RFC, Dorchester RFC, Puddletown RFC and Sherborne RFC.

The Purbeck Sub Area has a total of 15 pitches located across seven sites. The home venues for the two clubs operating in the Sub Area, Swanage & Wareham RFC and Lytchett Minster RFC host the majority of the total provision with six and two pitches, respectively.

There are only four community available pitches across two sites (All Saints Church of England School and Weymouth & Portland Rugby Club) in the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area which is the least amount of provision compared to the other sub areas.

The remaining 41 pitches across the Study Area are unavailable for community use, as shown below.

*Table 5.3: Supply of rugby union pitches unavailable for community use*

Sub area	No. of pitches unavailable for community use			Total
	Senior	Junior	Mini	
East Dorset	1	4	-	5
North Dorset	13	7	-	20
Purbeck	1	-	-	1
West Dorset	11	3	-	14
Weymouth & Portland	1	-	-	1
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>41</b>

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Unavailable rugby union provision in the East Dorset Sub Area is solely at educational sites namely Castle Court School, Cranborne Middle School and Emmanuel School.

The North Dorset Sub Area has the most amount of unavailable provision across the Study Area with 20 pitches. Similarly, to the East Dorset and West Dorset sub areas, all unavailable pitches are located at educational sites; Bryanston School, Clayesmore Sports Centre (Clayesmore School), Gillingham School, Milton Abbey School and Motcombe Park Sports Club (Port Regis School).

All unavailable provision in the West Dorset Sub Area (11 senior and three junior pitches) is located at Sherborne School Sports Centre and is reserved for curricular and extracurricular activities.

The only unavailable rugby union provision within the Purbeck Sub Area is located at Bovington Garrison, whereas, there is only one unavailable senior pitch in the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area located at HMP Portland.

The audit only identifies dedicated, line marked pitches. For rugby union pitch dimension sizes please see the table below.

*Table 5.4: Pitch dimensions*

Age	Pitch type	Maximum Pitch Dimensions (Metres)
U7	Mini	20x12
U8	Mini	45x22
U9	Mini	60x30
U10	Mini	60x35
U11	Mini	60x43
U12	Mini	60x43
U13	Junior	90x60 (Girls 60x43)
14-U18	Senior	100x70
Senior	Senior	<i>Recommended run off area 5m. Minimum in-goal length 6m.</i>

### **Future supply**

A planning application has recently (2019) been approved by the former East Dorset District Council for the development of new sports facilities for use by local clubs, including Allendale FC and Wimborne RFC. It should be noted that the developer of the site, Gleasons Strategic Land Limited, will be required to complete a planning agreement with the newly formed Dorset Council which is to be finalised early Summer before works begin. The approved application is two-fold:

- ◆ An outline application for the erection of 174 dwellings.
- ◆ A full planning application for the erection of a community sports facility comprising club house, playing pitches, parking and landscaping together with the change of use of the land to leisure.

The proposal for Wimborne Community Sports Hub comprises of one full size floodlit 3G pitch, both RFU and FA compliant, two adult rugby pitches (one of which is floodlit), one adult pitch and a dedicated training area, a clubhouse and car parking for 330 cars.

As part of the planning application, Sport England has commented (in consultation with RFU and FF) that the site layout is too cramped, however, overall it is supportive of the proposals.



## **ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT**

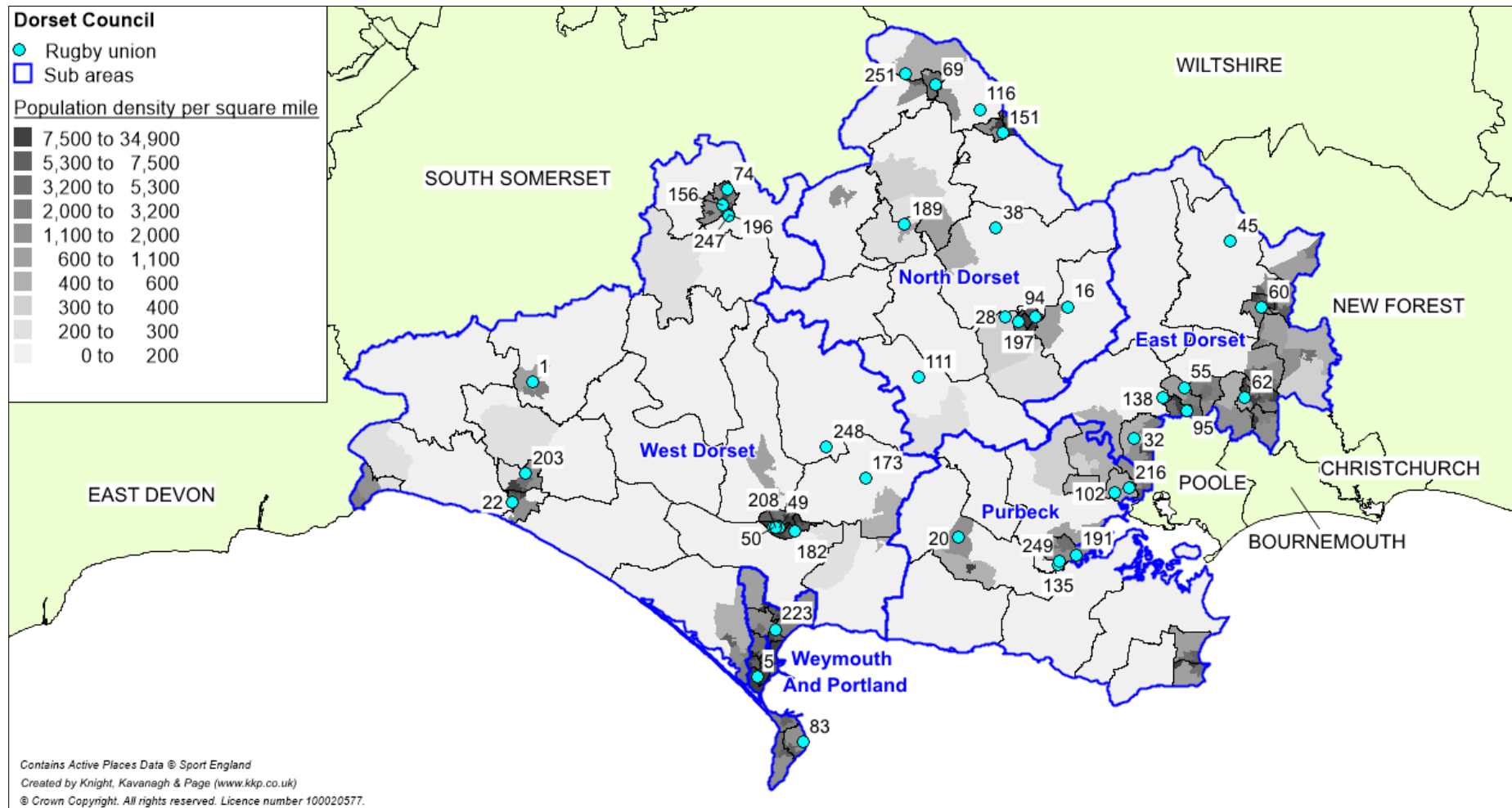
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Once established Wimborne Community Sports Hub will be owned by Wimborne Minster Town Council and leased to Wimborne RFC, however, the Town Council will implement a requirement for all provision to be accessible for other clubs including the aforementioned Allendale FC.

After the Club has relocated the future of its current home site, Leigh Park, is undecided. This being said a proportion of the site is classified as Fields in Trust which means it cannot be developed upon.

# ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 5.1: Map of sites with senior rugby union pitches within the Study Area



## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### ***Security of tenure***

In the East Dorset Sub Area, Wimborne RFC has 36 years remaining on its lease from Wimborne Minster Town Council, however, as mentioned, the Club is potentially relocating to a new site if planning permission is approved.

North Dorset RFC has secure tenure at its home site, however, it is through three separate agreements. The site is separated into three different areas of land, each of which has a differing tenure. It owns the land which accommodates the clubhouse and two senior pitches directly in front of the building.

The remainder of the site is leased from two separate landowners. The land to the left, which accommodates a junior pitch and a mini pitch, is on a lease which has over 20 years outstanding from a private landowner. The remainder of the site is leased from a different private landowner. This is separated between the area of land known as 'The Max Biles Ground' accommodating one senior, one junior and two mini pitches on a 24 year lease and the area of land which accommodates just one junior pitch and a dedicated training area which is on a 20 year lease. The Club reports it has a good working relationship with both land owners and is content with the current arrangement.

Blandford RFC currently has a rolling one year agreement for the use of the pitches and clubhouse at Larksmead Playing Field from Blandford Forum Town Council. The Club aspires to acquire a longer term arrangement on the site in order to obtain grant funding to improve the quality of the ancillary facilities.

In the Purbeck Sub Area, Swanage & Wareham RFC has a split tenure of its home ground. The Club has a freehold on the area of land which encompasses two floodlit senior pitches. The rest of the site, including two senior and two mini pitches, floodlit training area and clubhouse is rented from Wareham Town Council on an annual basis. It has an aspiration to obtain the freehold of the entire site in order to protect and sustain its current use.

Lytchett Minster RFC, which is also within the Purbeck Sub Area, leases its home venue Lytchett Park from Lytchett Minster Sports Community Trust, with the lease expiring in 2031.

Bridport RFC leases the pitches and ancillary facilities at Bridport Leisure Centre. Its current arrangement expires in 2034. Correspondingly, Dorchester RFC has a long term lease for its site.

The smallest club in the West Dorset Sub Area is Puddletown RFC which has a freehold for its two pitches at its home site of the same name.

Sherborne RFC utilises two venues for its pitch demand; its main home ground which is on a long term lease from Sherborne Town Council (including the clubhouse) and Terrace Playing Fields which is annually rented.

Weymouth & Portland RFC has secure tenure at its home site through a lease which expires in 2036 from Weymouth & Portland Borough Council. The Club is seeking to renew its lease to a minimum of 25 years in order to access grant funding for improvements.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### *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:

*Table 5.5: 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 5.6: 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 5.7: 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

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

Of the community available pitches in the Study Area, 15 are assessed as good quality, 22 as standard and 33 as poor.

*Table 5.8: Quality of rugby union pitches by Sub Area (community use only)*

Sub area	Pitch quality		
	Good	Standard	Poor
East Dorset	-	5	2
North Dorset	9	5	3
Purbeck	6	1	9
West Dorset	-	8	18
Weymouth & Portland	-	3	1
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>33</b>

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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Most pitches in the East Dorset Sub Area are standard quality, with adequate amounts of maintenance accompanied by natural adequate drainage. The only community club in the Sub Area, Wimborne RFC, reports the pitches at Leigh Park receive regular maintenance and as a result have improved in quality since last season.

The North Dorset Sub Area has the largest amount of good quality pitches with nine, all of which, are located at North Dorset RFC or private educational sites which receive consistent high quality maintenance throughout the playing season.

Blandford RFC reports it is continually being advised by the RFU regarding pitch maintenance to ensure the quality at Larksmead Playing Field.

In the Purbeck Sub Area, Swanage & Wareham Rugby Football Club has good quality pitches which are maintained by the Club to a high level on a consistent basis. Comparatively the other club in the Sub Area, Lytchett Minster RFC, has two poor quality pitches predominately due to basic levels of maintenance.

The West Dorset Sub Area has the largest number of poor quality pitches with 18, located across eight sites. This includes, Bridport Leisure Centre (Bridport RFC) and Puddletown RFC. Neither site has suitable levels of maintenance with the former club indicating the pitches at Bridport Leisure Centre suffer from regular waterlogging and as a result drain poorly. This is believed to be due to their proximity to the River Brit. Bridport RFC reports plans to install purpose built drainage on two of the pitches at Bridport Leisure Centre, however, this is dependent on the landowner relocating existing water pipes.

The pitches used by Dorchester RFC, are assessed as standard quality (M1/D2) whereas Sherborne RFC utilises one poor quality (M1/D0) and one standard quality pitch (M1/D1). The latter Club indicates it plans to invest in refurbishing the drainage on the poor quality pitch, in addition to enhancing its maintenance regime throughout 2019. It is actively attempting to find suitable levels of funding to make the abovementioned improvements.

Weymouth & Portland RFC pitches are classified as standard quality. The Club reports it has had major issues such as poor drainage and subsidence as it is located above a Council waste disposal site. The quality of the pitches has improved recently through the Club employing a dedicated maintenance regime in conjunction with the installation of a special membrane on the pitches to improve stability.

A detailed breakdown of such provision can be seen in the table overleaf.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 5.9: Site quality ratings

Site ID	Site name	Community use?	Number of pitches	Floodlit?	Pitch type	Non-technical assessment score	Quality rating	Comments
<b>East Dorset Sub Area</b>								
32	Castle Court School	No	3	No	Junior	M1/D0	Poor	Three poor quality junior pitches which receives basic levels of maintenance, however, has natural (adequate) drainage.
45	Cranborne Middle School	No	1	No	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	One standard quality senior pitch with natural (adequate) drainage.
55	Dumpton School	Yes-unused	2	No	Mini	M1/D1	Standard	Two standard quality mini pitches with natural (adequate) drainage.
55	Dumpton School	Yes-unused	1	No	Junior	M1/D1	Standard	One standard quality junior pitch with natural (adequate) drainage.
60	Emmanuel School	No	1	No	Junior	M0/D1	Poor	One poor quality junior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance, however, has natural (adequate) drainage.
62	Ferndown Leisure Centre	Yes-unused	1	No	Senior	M0/D0	Poor	One poor quality senior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance and has natural (inadequate) drainage.
95	Leigh Park	Yes	2	No	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	Two standard quality senior pitches with natural (adequate) drainage.
138	Queen Elizabeth's School Sports Field	Yes	1	No	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	One poor quality senior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance, however, has natural (adequate) drainage.
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>								
16	Blandford Camp (HM Forces)	Yes-unused	1	No	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	One standard quality senior pitch with natural (adequate) drainage.
28	Bryanston School	No	5	No	Senior	M2/D1	Good	Five good quality senior pitches which receive comprehensive levels of maintenance.
28	Bryanston School	No	1	No	Senior	M2/D0	Standard	One standard quality senior pitch which receive adequate levels of maintenance, however, has natural (inadequate) drainage.
38	Clayesmore Sports Centre	No	4	No	Senior	M2/D1	Good	Four good quality senior pitches which receive comprehensive levels of maintenance.
38	Clayesmore Sports Centre	No	3	No	Junior	M2/D1	Good	Three good quality junior pitches which receive comprehensive levels of maintenance.
69	Gillingham School	No	2	No	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	One poor quality senior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance, however, has natural (adequate) drainage.
94	Larksmead Playing Field	Yes	1	No	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	One standard quality senior pitch with natural (adequate) drainage.
94	Larksmead Playing Field	Yes	1	Yes	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	One standard quality senior pitch with natural (adequate) drainage.
111	Milton Abbey School	No	1	No	Senior	M2/D1	Good	One good quality senior pitch which receives comprehensive levels of maintenance.
116	Motcombe Park Sports Club	No	4	No	Junior	M2/D1	Good	Four good quality junior pitches which receive comprehensive levels of maintenance.
151	Shaftesbury School	Yes-unused	1	No	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	One poor quality senior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance, however, has natural (adequate) drainage.
189	Sturminster Newton High School	Yes-unused	1	No	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	One poor quality senior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance, however, has natural (adequate) drainage.
197	The Blandford School	Yes-unused	1	No	Junior	M1/D0	Poor	One poor quality junior pitch which receives adequate levels of maintenance, however, has natural (inadequate) drainage.
197	The Blandford School	Yes-unused	2	No	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	Two standard quality senior pitches with natural (adequate) drainage.
251	North Dorset Rugby Football Club	Yes	3	No	Junior	M2/D1	Good	Three good quality junior pitches which receive comprehensive levels of maintenance.
251	North Dorset Rugby Football Club	Yes	3	No	Mini	M2/D1	Good	Three good quality mini pitches which receive comprehensive levels of maintenance.
251	North Dorset Rugby Football Club	Yes	1	Yes	Senior	M2/D1	Good	One good quality senior pitch which receives comprehensive levels of maintenance.
251	North Dorset Rugby Football Club	Yes	2	No	Senior	M2/D1	Good	Two good quality senior pitches which receive comprehensive levels of maintenance.
<b>Purbeck Sub Area</b>								

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Community use?	Number of pitches	Floodlit?	Pitch type	Non-technical assessment score	Quality rating	Comments
20	Bovington Garrison	No	1	No	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	One poor quality senior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance, however, has natural (adequate) drainage.
102	Lytchett Park	Yes	1	Yes	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	One poor quality senior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance, however, has natural (adequate) drainage.
102	Lytchett Park	Yes	1	No	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	One poor quality senior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance, however, has natural (adequate) drainage.
135	Purbeck Sports Centre	Yes-unused	2	No	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	One poor quality senior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance and has natural (adequate) drainage.
191	Swanage and Wareham Rugby Football Club	Yes	2	No	Mini	M2/D1	Good	Two good quality mini pitches which receive comprehensive levels of maintenance.
191	Swanage and Wareham Rugby Football Club	Yes	2	No	Senior	M2/D1	Good	Two good quality senior pitches which receive comprehensive levels of maintenance.
191	Swanage and Wareham Rugby Football Club	Yes	2	Yes	Senior	M2/D1	Good	Two good quality senior pitches which receive comprehensive levels of maintenance.
216	Upton Recreation Ground	Yes	4	No	Mini	M0/D1	Poor	Four poor quality mini pitches which receives basic levels of maintenance and has natural (adequate) drainage.
249	Wareham Rangers Youth FC	Yes	1	No	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	One standard quality senior pitch with natural (adequate) drainage.
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>								
1	1610 Beaminster Sport & Leisure	Yes-unused	2	No	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	Two poor quality senior pitches which receives basic levels of maintenance and have natural (adequate) drainage.
22	Bridport Leisure Centre	Yes	4	No	Mini	M0/D0	Poor	Four poor quality mini pitches which receives basic levels of maintenance and has natural (inadequate) drainage.
22	Bridport Leisure Centre	Yes	1	No	Senior	M0/D0	Poor	One poor quality senior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance and has natural (inadequate) drainage.
22	Bridport Leisure Centre	Yes	1	Yes	Senior	M0/D0	Poor	One poor quality senior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance and has natural (inadequate) drainage.
49	Dorchester Middle School	Yes-unused	2	No	Mini	M0/D1	Poor	Two poor quality mini pitches which receives basic levels of maintenance, however, has natural (adequate) drainage.
50	Dorchester RFC	Yes	3	Yes	Senior	M1/D2	Standard	Three standard quality senior pitches which receive adequate levels of maintenance and have pipe drainage system in situ.
74	Gryphon Leisure Centre	Yes-unused	2	No	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	Two poor quality senior pitches which receives basic levels of maintenance, however, have natural (adequate) drainage.
156	Sherborne School Sports Centre	No	11	No	Senior	M2/D1	Good	Eleven good quality senior pitches which receive comprehensive levels of maintenance.
156	Sherborne School Sports Centre	No	3	No	Junior	M2/D1	Good	Three good quality junior pitches which receive comprehensive levels of maintenance.
173	St Marys C of E Middle School	Yes-unused	1	No	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	One poor quality senior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance, however, has natural (adequate) drainage.
182	St Osmunds Community Sports Centre	Yes-unused	1	No	Junior	M0/D1	Poor	One poor quality junior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance, however, has natural (adequate) drainage.
196	Terrace Playing Fields	Yes	2	No	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	Two standard quality senior pitches with natural (adequate) drainage. Pitches are overmarked with football and cricket.
203	The Sir John Colfox Academy	Yes-unused	2	No	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	Two standard quality senior pitches with natural (adequate) drainage.
208	Thomas Hardye School	Yes-unused	1	No	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	One poor quality senior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance and has natural (adequate) drainage.
247	Sherborne RFU	Yes	1	Yes	Senior	M1/D0	Poor	One poor quality senior pitch with natural (inadequate) drainage.
247	Sherborne RFU	Yes	1	No	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	One standard quality senior pitch with natural (adequate) drainage.
248	Puddletown RFU	Yes	1	Yes	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	One poor quality senior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance and has natural (adequate) drainage.
248	Puddletown RFU	Yes	1	No	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	One poor quality senior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance

**ACTIVE DORSET  
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT**

Site ID	Site name	Community use?	Number of pitches	Floodlit?	Pitch type	Non-technical assessment score	Quality rating	Comments
								and has natural (adequate) drainage.
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland Sub Area</b>								
5	All Saints Church of England School	Yes-unused	1	No	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	One poor quality senior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance and has natural (adequate) drainage.
83	HMP Portland	No	1	No	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	One poor quality senior pitch which receives basic levels of maintenance and has natural (adequate) drainage.
223	Weymouth & Portland Rugby Club	Yes	1	Yes	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	One standard quality senior pitch with natural (adequate) drainage.
223	Weymouth & Portland Rugby Club	Yes	2	No	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	Two standard quality senior pitches with natural (adequate) drainage.



## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### ***Ancillary facilities***

Ancillary facilities for Wimborne RFC in the East Dorset Sub Area are poor quality. The Club reports they are tired, not suitable in size for the number of teams accessing them and increasingly more difficult to maintain due to age. It indicates this is a main driver to relocate to a new site in order to obtain improved facilities which will assist in the growth of participation.

North Dorset RFC reports ancillary facilities at its home venue are generally considered good quality, however, it has a 10 year club development plan to refurbish its social area and potentially improve the quality of its car parking.

Blandford RFC playing in the North Dorset Sub Area, accesses standard quality ancillary provision at Larksmead Playing Field. The facilities on site were originally built to support youth football and are not a suitable size to accommodate senior rugby. The Club is in the process of trying to acquire long term tenure on the site in order to apply for grant funding to increase the size and quality of the building to better sustain its demand. If it manages to obtain a lease the Club aspires to apply for funding in order to enhance the social area and changing rooms.

In Purbeck, Lytchett Minster RFC and Swanage & Wareham RFC report ancillary provision at their home grounds are standard and good quality, respectively. Lytchett Minster RFC indicates no immediate issues with provision at Lytchett Park. Ancillary provision at Swanage & Wareham RFC is good quality with the Club regularly investing in improving the facilities. It reports that even though facilities are good quality it aspires to modernise its social room facilities and replace the access road into the site as it requires resurfacing.

Dorchester RFC reports the ancillary provision it accesses is good quality, however, it has plans to increase the bar and social area. In addition, the floodlights on the first pitch are suitable for training but are not of suitable quality to accommodate competitive senior demand.

Bridport RFC reports ancillary provision at Bridport Leisure Centre to be good quality and has access to showers, changing rooms, toilets, kitchen area and clubroom. Puddletown RFC also indicates accessing good quality ancillary provision at Puddletown RFU having recently (2018) invested in its clubhouse facilities.

Sherborne RFC is currently raising funds to redevelop its clubhouse. The Club reports facilities are poor quality and in need of modernisation to make them suitable for current levels of demand.

Weymouth & Portland RFC reports it is currently drafting a new five year development plan to update its changing facilities and floodlights. However, as mentioned, due to lease issues, it has not been able to secure grant funding. The clubhouse has not been modernised for over 30 years and as a result is tired, poor quality and too small for the number of teams currently accessing them. The Club has committed a certain amount of funds to update the facilities but needs grant funding in order to actualise its ambitions.

Facilities at school sites vary, although with none of them currently in use for rugby this is presently a non-factor.

### **5.3: Demand**

Demand for rugby pitches across the Study Area tends to fall within the categories of organised competitive play and organised training.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### Competitive play

There are ten community rugby union clubs based in the Study Area; one in the East Dorset Sub Area, two in the North Dorset and Purbeck sub areas, four in the West Dorset Sub Area and one in the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area.

The clubs provide a total of 122 teams. There are 24 senior teams, of which, two are women's teams; 49 junior teams and 49 mini squads. Dorchester RFC, Swanage & Wareham RFC, North Dorset RFC and Sherborne RFC all field multiple dedicated girl teams within their junior sections. Remaining female participation is generally played within mixed teams at mini age groups.

Table 5.10: Summary of club demand

Club	Sub area	No. of rugby union teams		
		Senior (19+)	Junior (13-18)	Mini (6-12)
Wimborne RFC	East Dorset	3	6	6
North Dorset RFC	North Dorset	3	8	6
Blandford RFC	North Dorset	2	1	5
Swanage & Wareham RFC	Purbeck	4	7	6
Lytchett Minster RFC	Purbeck	2	2	1
Bridport RFC	West Dorset	1	5	6
Dorchester RFC	West Dorset	4 <sup>30</sup>	8	6
Puddletown RFC	West Dorset	2	-	-
Sherborne RFC	West Dorset	2	8	7
Weymouth & Portland RFC	Weymouth & Portland	1	4	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>49</b>

Table 5.11: Summary of overall demand

Sub area	No. of rugby union teams		
	Senior	Junior	Mini
East Dorset	3	6	6
North Dorset	5	9	11
Purbeck	6	9	7
West Dorset	9	21	19
Weymouth & Portland	1	4	6

All demand for the East Dorset Sub Area is generated by Wimborne RFC, which has a total of 15 teams. The Club reports aspirations to maintain current levels of participation until it potentially relocates. Once it is at its new location it wants to increase participation, especially for women and girls.

The demand in the North Dorset Sub Area is split between North Dorset RFC with 17 teams and Blandford RFC with eight teams. The former club, similar to Wimborne RFC, wants to continue to develop female participation and create a national progression through the various age groups through to senior rugby.

<sup>30</sup> It should be noted that one of these senior teams is a joint Ladies team with Weymouth & Portland RFC.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Across the Purbeck Sub Area, there are a total of 22 teams generated by Swanage & Wareham RFC and Lytchett Minster RFC. Both clubs report participation has remained static within the past three seasons.

The West Dorset Sub Area has the largest amount of demand across the Study Area which correlates with it hosting the most community clubs. Bridport RFC, Dorchester RFC, Puddletown RFC and Sherborne RFC accumulatively have nine senior, 21 junior and 19 mini teams. Puddletown RFC does not have any dedicated junior or mini teams.

As with the East Dorset Sub Area, all demand in the Weymouth and Portland Sub Area is from one club; Weymouth & Portland RFC. The Club indicates demand at junior and mini age groups has remained static with the senior age group having a slight decrease from two teams to one. However, as a result, it has seen an increase in social rugby engagement. It also reports it is finalising a new five year development plan which will see it attempt to increase participation on an annual basis.

### **Training demand**

Most of the training demand across the Study Area takes places on floodlit senior pitches with the remaining demand on dedicated floodlit training areas. The table identifies the breakdown of training demand for each club across the five sub areas.

Table 5.12: Summary of club training provision (floodlit)<sup>31</sup>

Club	Site ID	Site name	Floodlit training provision	Match equivalent sessions
<b>East Dorset Sub Area</b>				
Wimborne RFC	95	Leigh Park	Senior pitch with portable floodlights	3
	138	Queen Elizabeth's School Sports Field	Senior pitch with portable floodlights	1
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>				
North Dorset RFC	251	North Dorset Rugby Football Club	Floodlit senior pitch	4
			Dedicated training areas	2
Blandford RFC	94	Larksmead Playing Field	Floodlit senior pitch	1.5
<b>Purbeck Sub Area</b>				
Swanage & Wareham RFC	191	Swanage and Wareham Rugby Football Club	Floodlit senior pitch one	2.5
			Floodlit senior pitch two	2.5
Lytchett Minster RFC	102	Lytchett Park	Floodlit senior pitch	1.5
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>				
Bridport RFC	22	Bridport Leisure Centre	Floodlit senior pitch	1.5
Dorchester RFC	50	Dorchester RFC	Floodlit senior pitch two	3
			Floodlit senior pitch three	3
Puddletown RFC	248	Puddletown RFU	Floodlit senior pitch	1
			Floodlit training area	0.5
Sherborne RFC	247	Sherborne RFU	Floodlit training area	3
	122	Oxley Sports Centre	Floodlit hockey suitable AGP <sup>32</sup>	1.5

<sup>31</sup> Shows only midweek demand for floodlit training provision. Some mini and junior training takes place on Sunday mornings when there is no fixture and there isn't a requirement for floodlighting.

<sup>32</sup> Training demand from Sherborne RFC on the floodlit hockey suitable AGP at Oxley Sports Centre is non contact.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Club	Site ID	Site name	Floodlit training provision	Match equivalent sessions
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland Sub Area</b>				
Weymouth & Portland RFC	223	Weymouth & Portland Rugby Club	Floodlit senior pitch	2

Wimborne RFC reports most of its training demand takes place on the floodlit senior grass pitch at Leigh Park, however, in order to alleviate this demand off the pitch throughout January and February it utilises the senior pitch at Queen Elizabeth's School Sports Field with portable floodlights.

North Dorset RFC reports its only floodlit pitch is heavily utilised for training demand. As a result, it has established dedicated training areas in order to remove some of this demand off the pitch, however, these are not floodlit and only used for mini and junior training on Sunday mornings. The Club aspires to increase the amount of floodlighting on site in order to further disperse training demand.

Swanage & Wareham RFC utilises its two floodlit pitches to accommodate the majority of its training demand, however, it reports having two smaller floodlit areas which can be used for training to alleviate demand off the pitches if required. In comparison, Lytchett Minster RFC indicates no immediate issues with training demand at Lytchett Park.

All clubs in the West Dorset Sub Area, apart from Sherborne RFC, currently train on their floodlit match grass pitches. Sherborne RFC reports that its demand is either located on a dedicated floodlit training area located adjacent to its floodlit pitch or on the hockey suitable AGP at Oxley Sports Centre.

Each pitch at Dorchester RFC is floodlit and can accommodate training demand, however, the Club reports the floodlights on Pitch One are not suitable to host competitive fixtures. Conversely, the pitch used for training at Bridport Leisure Centre is not suitable for competitive adult fixtures, with Bridport RFC reporting it is used for training and Sunday morning junior and mini demand.

Puddletown RFC reports it trains on the floodlit senior pitch and on a small floodlit training area at its home venue. It is in the process of increasing the dedicated floodlit training area so it can withstand additional demand to reduce usage of the senior pitch.

Weymouth & Portland RFC's training demand is all located on its floodlit senior pitch. The Club does not report any issues with this arrangement.

### ***Infrequent / Social play***

Weymouth & Portland RFC, Swanage & Wareham RFC, North Dorset RFC and Sherborne RFC all offer infrequent / social rugby.

The RFU has plans to encourage participants which have previously played rugby union to re-engage through participation as part of a more casual sporting offer. The league will provide opportunities for teams and players which are unable to play weekly or frequently for various reasons and will operate on an occasional basis. The league will also act as an entry point for newly created clubs and provide competitive opportunities. Matches will take place outside of peak time for senior rugby (Saturday PM), with Friday evenings or midweek being the most likely times for matches to take place.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### ***Touch rugby***

To actively encourage participation in rugby union, clubs may provide alternative offers to traditional club competition. Touch rugby is one possible format which clubs can use; touch rugby is non-contact rugby sessions, during which participants compete in teams to score tries, following similar laws to traditional rugby union formats. Clubs, schools or community organisation can establish their own touch rugby sessions or can become hosts of O2 touch rugby sessions.

O2 touch rugby are 90 minutes long and combine music, fitness and rugby skills. Sessions are mixed in terms of gender, ability and age and is based on touch rugby being a social activity.

Wimborne RFC, Bridport RFC, Sherborne RFC, Swanage & Wareham RFC, and Weymouth & Portland RFC all host their own touch rugby sessions.

### ***Rugby league***

It should be noted that there is a single team rugby league club which splits its demand between Weymouth & Portland Rugby Club and Swanage and Wareham Rugby Football Club. Dorset County Giants RFL has previously played friendly fixtures throughout 2018 at the aforementioned clubs, however, it reports it will start playing competitively in 2019 between May and August. This demand will again be split between the two sites and will therefore have a limited impact on the onsite provision.

### ***Walking rugby***

Walking rugby is a slower game of touch rugby that is accessible for disability groups and older participants, generally aged 55 years and above. The game is less physical than traditional rugby, but the general aim remains the same, with passing and scoring laws applying; and tackling involves a two-handed touch to the waist or below. Sessions for over 55's are an opportunity for participants to become physically active and for others to re-engage with rugby at a less strenuous pace. At present there are no formal walking rugby sessions taking place in the Study Area.

### ***Use of artificial pitches***

Nationally, clubs identify the use of 3G pitches for training as a method of protecting match pitches and providing a high quality surface for full contact practice. Competitive play continues to take place on grass pitches for the most part, with ad hoc use of 3G pitches for fixtures in the case of unsuitable pitches due to waterlogging or frost. Further detail on use of 3G pitches can be found in Part 3: Third Generation Artificial Pitches.

In December 2015, the RFU announced plans to increase the supply of available World Rugby (WR) certified pitches across the country as part of its Investment Strategy. This is to be made up of 60 pitches on rugby club sites, with a further 40 pitches on other community based sites with usage agreements securing capacity for use by local rugby clubs and groups. The RFU believes increased investment into 3G pitches will allow it to sustain and grow participation in the game given increasing pressure on grass pitches, changing player expectations, competition from other sports investing in artificial pitches and changing weather conditions. This programme, as of 2019, is suspended whilst current facilities are evaluated.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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As mentioned, Wimborne RFC reports its relocation includes a full size floodlit 3G pitch. In addition, Bridport RFC and Dorchester RFC report they would benefit from access to a World Rugby Complaint 3G pitch for either training or competitive demand.

### ***Displaced demand***

Displaced demand refers to existing demand which is exported outside of the Study Area and any imported demand from neighbouring authorities that accesses facilities within any of the five sub areas. This is often due to a lack of available facilities in other local authorities where such team or club is based. There is no known displaced demand from the Study Area.

### ***Unmet demand***

Unmet demand is existing demand at clubs which is not able to access sufficient supply of pitches for match play or training. It is usually expressed, for example, where a team is already training but is unable to access a match pitch or where a league or club operates a waiting list. None of the rugby clubs across the Study Area expressed unmet demand.

### ***Latent demand***

Latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision. None of the rugby union clubs across the Study Area note any latent demand.

### ***Future demand***

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

#### *Participation increases*

Given the current site restraints, Wimborne RFC will sustain current levels of participation whilst still at Leigh Park. If it relocates to a new site, it has aspirations to increase demand, especially junior girls.

North Dorset RFC has aspirations to increase by three teams; one senior men's, one senior women's and one junior girl's team. In comparison Blandford RFC aspires to establish a dedicated colts team.

Swanage & Wareham RFC wants to progress its girls' section which is currently just training, into a dedicated team for the 2019 next season. In comparison, Lytchett Minster RFC has no immediate plans to increase in team numbers.

In the West Dorset Sub Area, only Dorchester RFC indicates plans to increase participation, however, it does not quantify this in teams. The remaining clubs, Puddletown RFC, Bridport RFC and Sherborne RFC, report no current ambition to grow team numbers.

Across the Study Area, Weymouth & Portland RFC is the most ambitious club, aspiring to increase by a total of five teams. In total, the Club aspires to grow by one senior men's, one senior women's, one junior boys, one junior girl's and one mini team.

#### *Population increases*

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 (2036).

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 5.13: Team generation rates (2036)

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate (TGR)	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams (2036)	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
<b>East Dorset Sub Area</b>						
Senior Men's (19-45)	10,494	3	1:3,498	10,604	3.0	0
Senior Women's (19-45)	10,659	0	0	10,407	0.0	0
Junior Boys (13-18)	2,797	6	1:466	3,186	6.8	0
Junior Girls (13-18)	2,650	0	0	2,921	0.0	0
Mini rugby mixed (7-12)	5,377	6	1:896	5,792	6.5	0
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>						
Senior Men's (19-45)	10,377	5	1:2,075	10,563	5.1	0
Senior Women's (19-45)	9,291	0	0	9,024	0.0	0
Junior Boys (13-18)	2,853	5	1:571	3,269	5.7	0
Junior Girls (13-18)	2,441	3	1:814	2,746	3.4	0
Mini rugby mixed (7-12)	4,714	11	1:429	4,945	11.5	0
<b>Purbeck Sub Area</b>						
Senior Men's (19-45)	6,434	5	1:1,287	6,553	5.1	0
Senior Women's (19-45)	6,001	1	1:6,001	5,604	0.9	0
Junior Boys (13-18)	1,535	7	1:219	1,829	8.3	1
Junior Girls (13-18)	1,396	2	1:698	1,518	2.2	0
Mini rugby mixed (7-12)	2,934	7	1:419	3,086	7.4	0
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>						
Senior Men's (19-45)	11,661	9	1:1,296	11,717	9.0	0
Senior Women's (19-45)	11,954	1	1:11,954	11,144	0.9	0
Junior Boys (13-18)	3,571	15	1:238	4,079	17.1	2
Junior Girls (13-18)	3,393	5	1:679	3,629	5.3	0
Mini rugby mixed (7-12)	5,979	19	1:315	6,452	20.5	1
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland Sub Area</b>						
Senior Men's (19-45)	9,406	1	1:9,406	9,681	1.0	0
Senior Women's (19-45)	8,977	0	0	8,147	0.0	0
Junior Boys (13-18)	2,147	4	1:537	2,217	4.1	0
Junior Girls (13-18)	2,113	0	0	2,133	0.0	0
Mini rugby mixed (7-12)	4,021	6	1:670	3,891	5.8	0
<b>Total</b>						<b>4</b>

Forecast growth applied to team generation rates, indicate there will be growth of a total of four teams across the Study Area. This is broken down to one junior boys' team in the Purbeck Sub Area and three teams in the West Dorset Sub Area; two junior boys and one mini team.

It is important to note that team generation rates are based exclusively on population figures and do not account for specific targeted development work within certain areas or focused towards certain groups, such as Community Rugby Coaching (CRC) activity within schools linking to local clubs or NGB aims as part of the Whole Sport Plan.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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The RFU is focused on actively exploring opportunities to assist with the transition between late junior years and senior rugby with a specific focus on growing the senior game with the addition of adult teams (both men's and women's). This area has a strategic focus from the RFU and is being facilitated by encouraging casual play and midweek senior matches, along with O2 touch and cross pitch 7s. The RFU recognises the traditional reduction in participation numbers at this time and it is hoped that by addressing the decrease and offering alternative match times then clubs may be able to retain a larger number of players.

Please note that ONS population projections predict that no further demand will be created for junior girls as it takes current participation (team generation rates) as a baseline. In contrast, consultation with the RFU suggests that the development of female rugby in the Study Area is likely as it is currently a focus area for the NGB. Therefore, one additional team in each Sub Area has been factored into the overall future demand in the supply and demand analysis.

### ***Education***

Rugby union is traditionally a popular sport within independent schools; however, the RFU is also active in developing rugby union in local state schools through the All Schools programme launched in September 2012. This aims to increase the number of secondary state schools playing rugby union, with such schools linking to a local team of RFU rugby development officers (RDOs) which deliver coaching sessions and offer support to establish rugby union as part of the curricular and extracurricular programme.

### ***The peak period***

In order to fully establish actual spare capacity, the peak period needs to be established for all types of rugby. For senior teams, it is considered to be Saturday PM as all senior men's teams play at this time, with senior women's teams generally playing on Sundays.

Peak time for mini and junior rugby is Sunday AM.

### **5.4: Capacity analysis**

The capacity for pitches to regularly accommodate 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 rugby. In extreme circumstances, it can result in the inability of a 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:

- ◀ All sites that are used for competitive rugby matches (regardless of whether this is secured community use) are included on the supply side.
- ◀ Use of school pitches by schools increases demand by one match equivalent session, unless school activity levels are known.
- ◀ All competitive play is on senior sized pitches (except for where mini pitches are provided).
- ◀ From U13 upwards, teams play 15 v15 and use a full pitch.
- ◀ Mini teams (U6-U12) play on half of a senior pitch i.e. two teams per senior pitch or a dedicated mini pitch.
- ◀ For senior and youth 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).



## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

- ◀ For mini teams playing on a senior pitch, 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 of one senior pitch.
- ◀ Senior men's rugby generally takes place on Saturday afternoons.
- ◀ Senior women's rugby generally takes place on Sunday afternoons.
- ◀ Junior rugby generally takes place on Sunday mornings.
- ◀ Mini rugby generally takes place on Sunday mornings.
- ◀ Training that takes place on club pitches is reflected by the addition of match equivalent sessions to current usage levels.

As a guide, the RFU has set a standard number of matches that each pitch should be able to accommodate, set out below.

*Table 5.14: Pitch capacity (matches per week) based on quality assessments*

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

Capacity is based upon a basic assessment of the drainage system and maintenance programme ascertained through a combination of the quality assessment and consultation. This guide, however, is only a very general measure of potential pitch capacity. It does not account for specific circumstances at time of use and it assumes average rainfall and an appropriate end of season rest and renovation programme.

### **Education sites**

To account for curricular/extra-curricular use of education pitches it is likely that the carrying capacity at such sites will need to be adjusted. The only time this would not happen is when a school does not use its pitches at all and the sole use is community use. The adjustment is typically dependent on the amount of play carried out, the number of pitches on site and whether there is access to an on-site AGP.

In some cases, where there is no identified community use, there is little capacity to accommodate further play. Internal usage often exceeds recommended pitch capacity, which is further exacerbated by basic maintenance regimes that may not extend beyond grass cutting and line marking.

Table 5.15 shows community usage of available pitches. Where not overplayed as a result of community use, school sites are considered to have no spare capacity to accommodate further usage based on assumed curricular and extracurricular activity.

For school sites which are available for community use but that currently do not have any external hirers, 1 match equivalent session per week, per pitch has been accredited to indicate use for curricular and extracurricular activity as opposed to them being completely unused.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 5.15: Capacity table for rugby pitches across the Study Area

Site ID	Site name	Community use?	Security of tenure	Number of pitches	Pitch type	Non-tech score	Quality rating	Floodlit?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch Capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
<b>East Dorset Sub Area</b>												
32	Castle Court School	No	Unsecure	3	Junior	M1/D0	Poor	No	-	4.5	-	Three poor quality junior pitches that are unavailable for community use, therefore, no capacity for community rugby exists.
45	Cranborne Middle School	No	Unsecure	1	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	No	-	2	-	One standard quality senior pitch that is unavailable for community use, therefore, no capacity for community rugby exists.
55	Dumpton School	Yes-unused	Unsecure	2	Mini	M1/D1	Standard	No	2	4	2	Two standard quality mini pitches that are available to the community but unused. School usage reduces capacity by two match sessions; however, two match sessions of spare capacity remains.
55	Dumpton School	Yes-unused	Unsecure	1	Junior	M1/D1	Standard	No	1	2	1	One standard quality junior pitch that is available to the community but unused. School usage reduces capacity by one match session; however, one match session of spare capacity remains.
60	Emmanuel School	No	Unsecure	1	Junior	M0/D1	Poor	No	-	1.5	-	One poor quality junior pitch that is unavailable for community use, therefore, no capacity for community rugby exists.
62	Ferndown Leisure Centre	Yes-unused	Unsecure	1	Senior	M0/D0	Poor	No	0.5	0.5		One poor quality senior pitch that is played to capacity through curricular and extracurricular activities.
95	Leigh Park	Yes	Secure	2	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	No	4	2	2	One standard quality senior pitch that is overplayed by two match equivalent sessions. Pitch is used to accommodate competitive demand from Wimborne RFC.
									5	2	3	One standard quality senior pitch that is overplayed by three match equivalent sessions. Pitch is used to accommodate training and competitive demand from Wimborne RFC.
138	Queen Elizabeth's School Sports Field	Yes	Unsecure	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	1	1.5	0.5	One poor quality senior pitch that is available to the community and used by Wimborne RFC, 0.5 match equivalent of capacity remains.
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>												
16	Blandford Camp	Yes-unused	Unsecure	1	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	No	2	2		One standard quality senior pitch that is considered to be played to capacity by the Ministry of Defense.
28	Bryanston School	No	Unsecure	5	Senior	M2/D1	Good	No	-	15	-	Five good quality senior pitches that are unavailable for community use, therefore, no capacity for community rugby exists.
28	Bryanston School	No	Unsecure	1	Senior	M2/D0	Standard	No	-	2	-	One standard quality senior pitch that is unavailable for community use, therefore, no capacity for community rugby exists.
38	Clayesmore Sports Centre	No	Unsecure	4	Senior	M2/D1	Good	No	-	12	-	Four good quality senior pitches that are unavailable for community use, therefore, no capacity for community rugby exists.
38	Clayesmore Sports Centre	No	Unsecure	3	Junior	M2/D1	Good	No	-	9	-	Three good quality senior pitch that are unavailable for community use, therefore, no capacity for community rugby exists.
69	Gillingham School	No	Unsecure	2	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	-	3	-	Two poor quality senior pitch that are unavailable for community use, therefore, no capacity for community rugby exists.
94	Larksmead Playing Field	Yes	Unsecure	1	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	No	2.25	2	0.25	One standard quality senior pitch that is overplayed by 0.25 match equivalent sessions. Pitch is used to accommodate competitive demand from Blandford RFC.
94	Larksmead Playing Field	Yes	Unsecure	1	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	Yes	2	2		One floodlit standard quality senior pitch that is played to capacity. Pitch is used to accommodate competitive and training demand from Blandford RFC.
111	Milton Abbey School	No	Unsecure	1	Senior	M2/D1	Good	No	-	3	-	One good quality senior pitch that is unavailable for community use, therefore, no capacity for community rugby exists.
116	Motcombe Park Sports Club	No	Unsecure	4	Junior	M2/D1	Good	No	-	12	-	Four good quality senior pitches that are unavailable for community use, therefore, no capacity for community rugby exists.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site name	Community use?	Security of tenure	Number of pitches	Pitch type	Non-tech score	Quality rating	Floodlit?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch Capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
151	Shaftesbury School	Yes-unused	Unsecure	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	1	1.5	0.5	One poor quality senior pitch that is available to the community but unused. School usage reduces capacity by one match session; however, 0.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity remains.
189	Sturminster Newton High School	Yes-unused	Unsecure	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	1	1.5	0.5	One poor quality senior pitch that is available to the community but unused. School usage reduces capacity by one match session; however, 0.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity remains.
197	The Blandford School	Yes-unused	Unsecure	1	Junior	M1/D0	Poor	No	1	1.5	0.5	One poor quality junior pitch that is available to the community but unused. School usage reduces capacity by one match session; however, 0.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity remains.
197	The Blandford School	Yes-unused	Unsecure	2	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	No	2	4	2	Two standard quality senior pitches that are available to the community but unused. School usage reduces capacity by two match sessions; however, two match sessions of spare capacity remains.
251	North Dorset Rugby Football Club	Yes	Secure	3	Junior	M2/D1	Good	No	3	9	6	Three good quality senior pitches that have spare capacity of six match equivalent sessions. Pitches are used to accommodate competitive demand from North Dorset RFC.
251	North Dorset Rugby Football Club	Yes	Secure	3	Mini	M2/D1	Good	No	3	9	6	Three good quality mini pitches that have spare capacity of six match equivalent sessions. Pitches are used to accommodate competitive demand from North Dorset RFC.
251	North Dorset Rugby Football Club	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	M2/D1	Good	Yes	4.5	3	1.5	One floodlit good quality senior pitch that is overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions. Pitch is used to accommodate competitive and training demand from North Dorset RFC.
251	North Dorset Rugby Football Club	Yes	Secure	2	Senior	M2/D1	Good	No	2	6	4	Two good quality senior pitches that have spare capacity of four match equivalent sessions. Pitches are used to accommodate competitive demand from North Dorset RFC.
<b>Purbeck Sub Area</b>												
20	Bovington Garrison	No	Unsecure	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	-	1.5	-	One poor quality senior pitch that is unavailable for community use, therefore, no capacity for community rugby exists.
102	Lytchett Park	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	Yes	2	1.5	0.5	One poor quality floodlit senior pitch that is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions. Pitch is used to accommodate competitive and training demand from Lytchett Minster RFC.
102	Lytchett Park	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	1.75	1.5	0.25	One poor quality senior pitch that is overplayed by 0.25 match equivalent sessions. Pitch is used to accommodate competitive demand from Lytchett Minster RFC.
135	Purbeck Sports Centre	Yes-unused	Unsecure	2	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	2	3	1	Two poor quality senior pitches that are available to the community but unused. School usage reduces capacity by two match session; however, one match equivalent session of spare capacity remains.
191	Swanage and Wareham Rugby Football Club	Yes	Unsecure	2	Mini	M2/D1	Good	No	3	6	3	Two good quality mini pitches that have spare capacity of three match equivalent sessions. Pitches are used to accommodate competitive and training demand from Swanage & Wareham RFC.
191	Swanage and Wareham Rugby Football Club	Yes	Unsecure	2	Senior	M2/D1	Good	No	4.5	6	1.5	Two good quality senior pitches that have spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalent sessions. Pitches are used to accommodate competitive demand from Swanage & Wareham RFC.
191	Swanage and Wareham Rugby Football Club	Yes	Secure	2	Senior	M2/D1	Good	Yes	6	6		Two good quality floodlit senior pitches that are played to capacity. Pitches are used to accommodate competitive and training demand from Swanage & Wareham RFC.
216	Upton Recreation Ground	Yes	Secure	4	Mini	M0/D1	Poor	No	6	6		Four poor quality mini pitches that are played to capacity. Pitches are used by Yarrells Preparatory School and are overmarked with football youth pitches.

**ACTIVE DORSET  
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT**

Site ID	Site name	Community use?	Security of tenure	Number of pitches	Pitch type	Non-tech score	Quality rating	Floodlit?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch Capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
249	Wareham Rangers Youth FC	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	No	1	2	1	One poor quality senior pitch that is available to the community but unused. School usage reduces capacity by one match session; however, 0.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity remains.
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>												
1	1610 Beaminster Sport & Leisure	Yes-unused	<b>Unsecure</b>	2	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	-	3	3	Two standard quality senior pitches that are available for community use but unused. Spare capacity remains.
22	Bridport Leisure Centre	Yes	Secure	4	Mini	M0/D0	Poor	No	3	2	1	Four poor quality mini pitches that are overplayed by one match equivalent session. Pitches are used to accommodate competitive demand from Bridport RFC.
22	Bridport Leisure Centre	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	M0/D0	Poor	No	2.5	0.5	2	One poor quality senior pitch that is overplayed by two match equivalent sessions. Pitch is used to accommodate competitive demand from Bridport RFC.
22	Bridport Leisure Centre	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	M0/D0	Poor	Yes	2	0.5	1.5	One poor quality floodlit senior pitch that is overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions. Pitch is used to accommodate competitive and training demand from Bridport RFC.
49	Dorchester Middle School	Yes-unused	<b>Unsecure</b>	2	Mini	M0/D1	Poor	No	2	3	1	Two poor quality mini pitches that are available to the community but unused. School usage reduces capacity by two match session; however, one match equivalent sessions of spare capacity remains.
50	Dorchester RFC	Yes	Secure	3	Senior	M1/D2	Standard	Yes	13.5	7.5	6	Three standard quality floodlit senior pitches that are overplayed by six match equivalent sessions. Pitches are used to accommodate training and competitive demand from Dorchester RFC.
74	Gryphon Leisure Centre	Yes-unused	<b>Unsecure</b>	2	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	2	3	1	Two poor quality senior pitches that are available to the community but unused. School usage reduces capacity by two match session; however, one match equivalent sessions of spare capacity remains.
156	Sherborne School Sports Centre	No	<b>Unsecure</b>	11	Senior	M2/D1	Good	No	-	33	-	Eleven good quality senior pitches that are unavailable for community use, therefore, no capacity for community rugby exists.
156	Sherborne School Sports Centre	No	<b>Unsecure</b>	3	Junior	M2/D1	Good	No	-	9	-	Three good quality mini pitches that are unavailable for community use, therefore, no capacity for community rugby exists.
173	St Marys C of E Middle School	Yes-unused	<b>Unsecure</b>	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	1	1.5	0.5	One poor quality senior pitch that is available to the community but unused. School usage reduces capacity by one match session; however, 0.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity remains.
182	St Osmunds Community Sports Centre	Yes-unused	<b>Unsecure</b>	1	Junior	M0/D1	Poor	No	1	1.5	0.5	One poor quality junior pitch that is available to the community but unused. School usage reduces capacity by one match session; however, 0.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity remains.
196	Terrace Playing Fields	Yes	<b>Unsecure</b>	2	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	No	2	4	2	Two standard quality senior pitches that have spare capacity of two match equivalent sessions. Pitches are used to accommodate competitive demand from Sherborne RFC.
203	The Sir John Colfox Academy	Yes-unused	<b>Unsecure</b>	2	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	No	2	4	2	Two poor quality senior pitches that are available to the community but unused. School usage reduces capacity by two match session; however, two match equivalent sessions of spare capacity remains.
208	Thomas Hardy School	Yes-unused	<b>Unsecure</b>	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	1	1.5	0.5	One poor quality senior pitch that is available to the community but unused. School usage reduces capacity by one match session; however, 0.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity remains.
247	Sherborne RFU	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	M1/D0	Poor	Yes	2.5	2	0.5	One poor quality senior pitch that is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions. Pitch is used to accommodate competitive demand from Sherborne RFC.
				1		M1/D1	Standard	No	2.25	1.5	0.75	One standard quality senior pitch that is overplayed by 0.75 match equivalent sessions. Pitch is used to accommodate competitive demand from Sherborne RFC.

**ACTIVE DORSET  
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT**

Site ID	Site name	Community use?	Security of tenure	Number of pitches	Pitch type	Non-tech score	Quality rating	Floodlit?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch Capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Comments
248	Puddletown RFU	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	Yes	1.5	1.5		One poor quality floodlit senior pitch that is played to capacity. Pitch is used to accommodate competitive and training demand from Puddletown RFC.
248	Puddletown RFU	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	0.5	1.5	1	One poor quality senior pitch that has spare capacity of one match equivalent session. Pitch is used to accommodate competitive demand from Puddletown RFC.
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland Sub Area</b>												
5	All Saints Church of England School	Yes-unused	<b>Unsecure</b>	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	1	1.5	0.5	One poor quality senior pitch that is available to the community but unused. School usage reduces capacity by one match session; however, 0.5 match sessions of spare capacity remains.
83	HMP Portland	No	<b>Unsecure</b>	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	-	1.5	-	One poor quality senior pitch that is unavailable for community use, therefore, no capacity for community rugby exists.
223	Weymouth & Portland Rugby Club	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	Yes	2.5	2	0.5	One standard quality floodlit senior pitch that is overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions. Pitch is used to accommodate competitive and training demand from Weymouth & Portland RFC.
223	Weymouth & Portland Rugby Club	Yes	Secure	2	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	No	3.5	4	0.5	Two standard quality senior pitches that have spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions. Pitch is used to accommodate competitive demand from Weymouth & Portland RFC.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### ***The peak period***

In order to fully establish actual spare capacity, the peak period needs to be established. Peak time for senior rugby union matches is Saturday afternoons and is considered such within the sub areas, although junior and mini teams play on senior pitches on Sunday mornings. Peak time for mini and junior pitches is considered to be Sunday mornings.

### ***Actual 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.

Pitches located at education and unsecure sites which are available for community use but are currently unused are not considered to have actual spare capacity as security of use cannot be formally evidenced as guaranteed.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 5.16: Summary of actual spare capacity

Site ID	Site name	Community use?	Security of tenure	Number of pitches	Pitch type	Non-tech score	Quality rating	Floodlit?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch Capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Actual spare capacity	Comments
<b>East Dorset Sub Area</b>													
55	Dumpton School	Yes-unused	Unsecure	2	Mini	M1/D1	Standard	No	2	4	2	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
55	Dumpton School	Yes-unused	Unsecure	1	Junior	M1/D1	Standard	No	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
138	Queen Elizabeth's School Sports Field	Yes	Unsecure	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	1	1.5	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor quality.
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>													
151	Shaftesbury School	Yes-unused	Unsecure	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	1	1.5	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor quality.
189	Sturminster Newton High School	Yes-unused	Unsecure	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	1	1.5	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor quality.
197	The Blandford School	Yes-unused	Unsecure	1	Junior	M1/D0	Poor	No	1	1.5	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor quality.
197	The Blandford School	Yes-unused	Unsecure	2	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	No	2	4	2	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
251	North Dorset Rugby Football Club	Yes	Secure	3	Junior	M2/D1	Good	No	3	9	6	-	No actual spare capacity available at peak time.
251	North Dorset Rugby Football Club	Yes	Secure	3	Mini	M2/D1	Good	No	3	9	6	-	No actual spare capacity available at peak time.
251	North Dorset Rugby Football Club	Yes	Secure	2	Senior	M2/D1	Good	No	2	6	4	1.5	Actual spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalent sessions.
<b>Purbeck Sub Area</b>													
135	Purbeck Sports Centre	Yes-unused	Unsecure	2	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	2	3	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor quality.
191	Swanage and Wareham Rugby Football Club	Yes	Unsecure	2	Mini	M2/D1	Good	No	3	6	3	-	No actual spare capacity available at peak time.
191	Swanage and Wareham Rugby Football Club	Yes	Unsecure	2	Senior	M2/D1	Good	No	4.5	6	1.5	-	No actual spare capacity available at peak time.
249	Wareham Rangers Youth FC	Yes	Unsecure	1	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	No	1	2	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>													
1	1610 Beaminster Sport & Leisure	Yes-unused	Unsecure	2	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	-	3	3	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
49	Dorchester Middle School	Yes-unused	Unsecure	2	Mini	M0/D1	Poor	No	2	3	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor quality.
74	Gryphon Leisure Centre	Yes-unused	Unsecure	2	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	2	3	1	1	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor quality.
173	St Marys C of E Middle School	Yes-unused	Unsecure	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	1	1.5	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor quality.
182	St Osmunds Community Sports Centre	Yes-unused	Unsecure	1	Junior	M0/D1	Poor	No	1	1.5	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor quality.
196	Terrace Playing Fields	Yes	Unsecure	2	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	No	2	4	2	1	Actual spare capacity discounted to ensure pitch quality due to over marking.
203	The Sir John Colfox Academy	Yes-unused	Unsecure	2	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	No	2	4	2	2	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
208	Thomas Hardy School	Yes-unused	Unsecure	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	1	1.5	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor quality.
248	Puddletown RFU	Yes	Secure	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	0.5	1.5	1	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.

**ACTIVE DORSET  
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT**

Site ID	Site name	Community use?	Security of tenure	Number of pitches	Pitch type	Non-tech score	Quality rating	Floodlit?	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Pitch Capacity (sessions per week)	Capacity rating	Actual spare capacity	Comments
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland Sub Area</b>													
5	All Saints Church of England School	Yes-unused	<b>Unsecure</b>	1	Senior	M0/D1	Poor	No	1	1.5	0.5	0.5	Actual spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure and poor quality.
223	Weymouth & Portland Rugby Club	Yes	Secure	2	Senior	M1/D1	Standard	No	3.5	4	0.5	0.5	Minimal spare capacity retained to protect pitch quality.



## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

There is just one site across the Study Area which shows spare capacity. This is located at North Dorset Rugby Football Club and equates to 1.5 match equivalent sessions. All remaining potential spare capacity has been discounted due to unsecure tenure or poor quality.

### **Overplay**

There are 18 pitches across eight sites that are overplayed by a combined 19.75 match equivalent sessions across the Study Area.

*Table 5.17: Overplay summary*

Site ID	Site name	Sub area	Pitch type	Number of pitches	Overplay (match equivalent sessions per week)
95	Leigh Park (Wimborne RFC)	East Dorset	Senior	2	2
					3
94	Larksmead Playing Field (Blandford RFC)	North Dorset	Senior	1	0.25
251	North Dorset Rugby Football Club	North Dorset	Senior	1	1.5
102	Lytchett Park (Lytchett Minster RFC)	Purbeck	Senior	2	0.5
					0.25
22	Bridport Leisure Centre (Bridport RFC)	West Dorset	Senior	2	2
			Mini	4	1
50	Dorchester RFC	West Dorset	Senior	3	6
247	Sherborne RFU	West Dorset	Senior	2	1.25
223	Weymouth & Portland Rugby Club	Weymouth & Portland	Senior	1	0.5
<b>Total</b>					<b>19.75</b>

All overplay in the East Dorset Sub Area is located at Leigh Park (Wimborne RFC) across two senior pitches for a total of five match equivalent sessions.

Overplay in the North Dorset Sub Area is located across two sites, Larksmead Playing Field (Blandford RFC) and North Dorset Rugby Football Club, which have 0.25 and 1.5 match equivalents, respectively.

The Purbeck Sub Area has a total of 0.75 match equivalent sessions of overplay that is all located at Lytchett Park (Lytchett Minster RFC).

Due to accommodating the most community clubs in the Study Area, the West Dorset Sub Area has the highest amount of overplay. In total, there is 11.75 match equivalent sessions of overplay split between three sites. Bridport Leisure Centre has 3.5 match equivalent sessions of overplay, Sherborne RFU has 1.25 match equivalent session of overplay whereas Dorchester RFC has six match equivalent sessions of overplay.

The least amount of overplay within the Study Area (0.5 math equivalent sessions) is located in the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area at Weymouth & Portland Rugby Club.

# ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## 5.5: Supply and demand analysis

Having considered supply and demand, the table below identifies the overall spare capacity in each of the sub areas for senior rugby union pitches based on match equivalent sessions per week. Future demand is based on both team generation rates which are driven by population increases, as well as reported club development plans.

As mentioned earlier, the table below factors in the RFU suggestion that the development of female rugby in the Study Area is likely, therefore, one additional team (0.5 match equivalent sessions) in each Sub Area has been included into the overall future demand in the supply and demand analysis.

Table 5.18: Summary of supply and demand balance on senior rugby union pitches

Sub area	Actual spare capacity <sup>33</sup>	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand <sup>34</sup>	Future total
East Dorset	-	5	-5	0.5	-5.5
North Dorset	1.5	1.75	-0.25	2.5	-2.75
Purbeck	-	0.75	-0.75	1.5	-2.25
West Dorset	-	11.75	-11.75	1.75	-13.5
Weymouth & Portland	-	0.5	-0.5	2.75	-3.25
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>19.75</b>	<b>-17.25</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>-26.25</b>

There is a current overall shortfall of senior rugby union pitches across the Study Area, totalling 17.25 match equivalent sessions with shortfalls evident in each Sub Area. When future demand is considered the overplay worsens to 26.25 match equivalent sessions.

As there are no junior pitches with actual spare capacity during the peak time, or that are overplayed in any of the five sub areas, it is considered that the current demand is being accommodated on present supply across the Study Area.

In addition, there is also a current and future shortfall of one match equivalent session on mini pitches within the Study Area all, of which, is based at Bridport Leisure Centre. Any future demand for mini rugby has been factored into the overall supply and demand analysis for senior pitches.

## 5.6: Conclusions

In the East Dorset Sub Area, all five match equivalent sessions of overplay are located at Leigh Park (Wimborne RFC). This overplay drives from the Club only accessing two senior pitches for its training and competitive demand. In addition, the site is accompanied by poor quality ancillary facilities that could potentially affect the Club's growth, however, improving provision at Leigh Park may be redundant due to the Club's potential relocation plans.

<sup>33</sup> In match equivalent sessions

<sup>34</sup> Future demand for senior and junior age groups equates to 0.5 match equivalent sessions whereas mini teams equate to 0.25 match equivalent sessions based on a senior pitch.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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As discussed, overplay in the North Dorset Sub Area is located across two sites Larksmead Playing Field (Blandford RFC) and North Dorset Rugby Football Club, which have 0.25 and 1.5 match equivalents, respectively. The former site is only marginally overplayed and therefore qualitative improvements to the pitch could eliminate current levels of overplay. In comparison, overplay at North Dorset Rugby Football Club originates from one pitch which is used primarily for North Dorset Rugby Club training demand. This is the only floodlit pitch on the site consequently if the amount of floodlit provision increases the Club would be able to disperse its training demand across multiple pitches in order to reduce or even alleviate overplay.

One site in the Purbeck Sub Area, Lytchett Park (Lytchett Minster RFC), is overplayed marginally by 0.75 match equivalent sessions. Similar to Larksmead Playing Fields, qualitative improvements to the pitches at Lytchett Park would eliminate current levels of overplay. It should be noted that the other club in the Sub Area, Swanage & Wareham RFC, is not overplayed but has no additional capacity to grow due to its tenure.

Rugby union demand in the West Dorset Sub Area is located at the four club sites; Bridport Leisure Centre (Bridport RFC), Dorchester RFC, Sherborne RFU and Puddletown RFU.

There is a need for pitch and drainage improvements at Bridport Leisure Centre to alleviate overplay. The low carrying capacity is due to the limited amount of dedicated maintenance and poor natural drainage.

In comparison, Dorchester RFC has the highest amount of overplay across the Study Area, resulting from the Club's entire training and competitive demand accessing three pitches. As each pitch is floodlit, there is a need for the Club to access dedicated floodlit training provision, in addition to pitch maintenance improvements.

Sherborne RFU is marginally overplayed and would benefit from pitch enhancements through more regular enhancement maintenance and improvements to pitch drainage (Pitch one), in addition, there is a need to assist the Club in improving the quality of onsite ancillary provision.

Puddletown RFU is currently not overplayed, however, one of its two senior pitches is currently played to capacity. This pitch is floodlit and used to accommodate the Clubs training demand. Therefore, there is a need to assist its aspirations to increase its training area to transfer demand off the senior pitch in order to create additional capacity for potential growth.

Comparable to the East Dorset Sub Area, all overplay in the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area is from Weymouth & Portland Rugby Club. The site is currently overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions, however, after factoring in future demand from Weymouth & Portland RFC overplay increase to 2.75 match equivalent sessions. Due to the high levels of future demand a mixture of qualitative improvements and increases of floodlighting to disperse demand would be beneficial on the site. There is also a need to address the poor quality of the onsite ancillary facilities.

Further to the above, there is no current World Rugby Compliant 3G pitch in the Study Area. If there were to be a pitch created, it could have the potential to alleviate overplay across the Study Area through the transferal of training and competitive demand off natural grass pitches at club sites.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### Rugby union summary

- ◀ **Having considered supply and demand, an overall shortfall is evident to service senior pitches across the Study Area. This worsens when factoring in future demand.**
- ◀ **Each of the five sub areas has specific issues to address regarding rugby union provision, including pitch quality, security of tenure and ancillary provision.**
- ◀ Across the five sub areas there are 73 senior, 19 junior and 17 mini pitches provided totalling to 109 pitches. The majority of these, 63% or 69 pitches, are available for community use
- ◀ There are no World Rugby compliant 3G pitches located within the Study Area.
- ◀ Of the community available pitches in the Study Area, 15 are assessed as good quality, 22 as standard and 32 as poor quality.
- ◀ Lytchett Minster RFC, Bridport RFC and Puddletown RFC access poor quality pitches at their home sites.
- ◀ Bridport RFC and Sherborne RFC have plans to improve the quality of their pitches through drainage and/or maintenance improvements.
- ◀ The majority of clubs across the five sub areas have secure tenure at their home sites. The only club which does not have secure tenure is Blandford RFC. This being said Swanage & Wareham RFC and Weymouth & Portland RFC have aspirations to formalise or renew long term tenure at their sites.
- ◀ Wimborne RFC, Sherborne RFC and Weymouth & Portland RFC have issues with ancillary provision.
- ◀ Clubs provide a total of 122 teams across the Study Area. There are 24 senior teams, of which, two are women's; 49 junior teams and 49 mini squads. Dorchester RFC, Swanage & Wareham RFC, North Dorset RFC and Sherborne RFC all field multiple dedicated girls' teams within their junior sections.
- ◀ Forecasted growth from application of team generation rates indicates there will be growth of a total of four teams across the Study Area. This is broken down to one junior boys' team in the Purbeck Sub Area and three teams in the West Dorset Sub Area; two junior boys and one mini team.
- ◀ Reported club growth amounts to four teams in the North Dorset area, one team in the Purbeck Sub Area and five teams in the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area.
- ◀ There is just one site across the Study Area which has actual spare capacity; North Dorset Rugby Football Club which equates to 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ There are 18 pitches across eight sites that are overplayed by a combined 19.75 match equivalent sessions across the Study Area.
- ◀ There is a current overall shortfall of senior rugby union pitches across the Study Area totalling 17.25 match equivalent sessions with shortfalls evident in each Sub Area. When future demand is considered the overplay worsens to 26.75 match equivalent sessions.

# ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## PART 6: HOCKEY

### 6.1: Introduction

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

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

Category	Surface	Playing Level	Playing Level
England Hockey Category 1	Water surface approved within the FIH Global/National Parameters	<b>Essential</b> International Hockey - Training and matches	<b>Desirable</b> Domestic National Premier competition Higher levels of EH Player Pathway Performance Centres and upwards England
England Hockey Category 2	Sand dressed surfaces within the FIH National Parameter	<b>Essential</b> Domestic National Premier competition Higher levels of player pathway: Academy Centres and Upwards	<b>Desirable</b> All adult and junior League Hockey Intermediate or advanced School Hockey EH competitions for clubs and schools (excluding domestic national league)
England Hockey Category 3	Sand based surfaces within the FIH National Parameter	<b>Essential</b> All adult and junior club training and league Hockey EH competitions for clubs and schools Intermediate or advanced schools' hockey	<b>Desirable</b>
England Hockey Category 4	All 3G surfaces	<b>Essential</b> None	<b>Desirable</b> Lower level hockey (Introductory level) when no category 1-3 surface is available.

For senior teams, a full sized pitch for competitive matches must measure at least 91.4 x 55 metres excluding surrounding run off areas which must be a minimum of two metres at the sides & three metres at the ends. England Hockey preference is for four metre side and five metre end run offs, with a preferred overall area of 101.4 x 63 metres though a minimum overall area of 97.4 x 59 metres is accepted.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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. Training is generally midweek and requires access to a pitch and floodlights.

### **Club consultation**

There is a total of six clubs playing across the Study Area, all of which, were sent an electronic survey which resulted in an overall response rate of 67% as highlighted in the table below. Only the two clubs playing in the North Dorset Sub Area didn't respond.

*Table 6.2: Summary of consultation with affiliated clubs*

Sub area	Clubs	Responded	Sub area response rate
East Dorset	Wimborne Wayfarers HC	Yes	100%
North Dorset	Blandford & Sturminster HC	No	0%
	Gillingham HC	No	
Purbeck	Swanage & Wareham HC	Yes	100%
West Dorset	West Dorset HC	Yes	100%
Weymouth & Portland	Weymouth HC	Yes	100%
<b>Study Area Total</b>			<b>67%</b>

### **6.2: Supply**

There are currently 17 full size hockey suitable AGPs located in the Study Area, of these 15 are available for community use. The pitch at Milton Abbey School is unavailable for community use as it is reserved for curricular and extracurricular activities, whereas, the pitch at Blandford Camp is privately utilised by the Ministry of Defence.

Blandford Camp has previously been utilised for community hockey, however, this is limited and is therefore deemed to be unavailable. In addition, there are two double pitch sites; these are Bryanston School and Sherborne School Sports Centre. The table below summarises full size provision across the Study Area.

*Table 6.3: Summary of full size hockey suitable AGPs across the Study Area*

Sub area	Full size hockey suitable AGPs available for community use	Full size hockey suitable AGPs unavailable for community use	Total
East Dorset	2	-	<b>2</b>
North Dorset	5	2	<b>7</b>
Purbeck	1	-	<b>1</b>
West Dorset	6	-	<b>6</b>
Weymouth & Portland	1	-	<b>1</b>
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>17</b>

Only two of the 17 pitches are not floodlit; one of the pitches at Bryanston School and the single pitch at Milton Abbey School.

## **ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT**

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There are also two full-size, hockey suitable AGPs on the boundary of the East Dorset Sub Area. Both are located at Chapel Gate (Christchurch) and so have not been accounted for. The site is currently home to Bournemouth HC and is known to capture partial amounts of demand from the East Dorset Sub Area, however, no affiliated club demand from the Study Area access the site for match play.

# ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 6.1: Map of sites with hockey suitable provision across the authority of Dorset

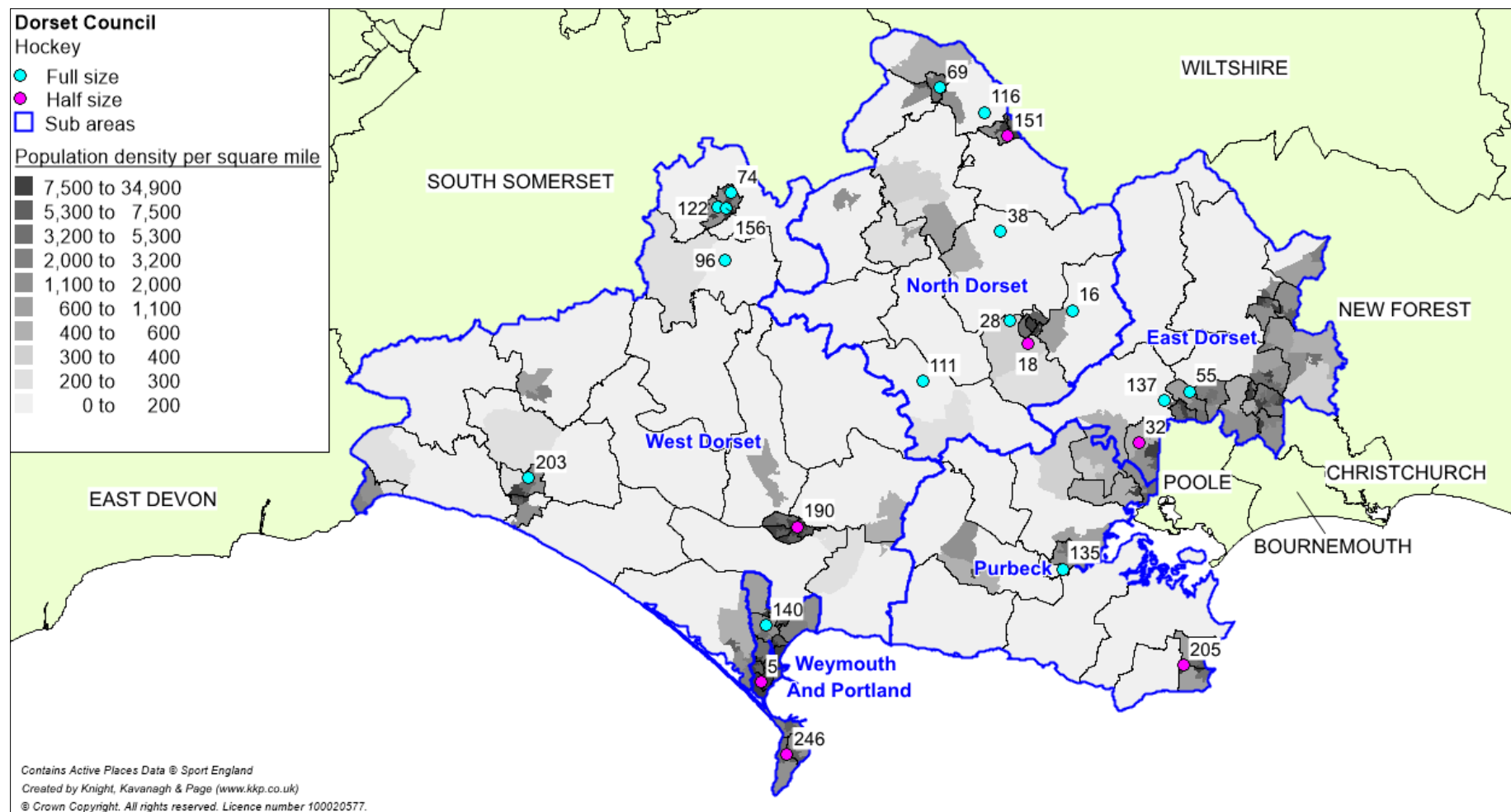


Table 6.4: Hockey suitable full size AGPs by location (including club users)



## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site	Post code	Community use?	Number of AGPs	Floodlit?	Dimensions (metres)	Home site for
<b>East Dorset Sub Area</b>							
55	Dumpton School	BH21 7AF	Yes	1	Yes	92 x 55	-
137	Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre	BH21 4DT	Yes	1	Yes	92 x 55	Wimborne Wayfarers HC
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>							
16	Blandford Camp (HM Forces)	DT11 8BG	No	1	Yes	100 x 64	-
28	Bryanston School	DT11 0PX	Yes	2	No	92 x 55	Dorset Academy Squads
					Yes	90 x 55	
38	Clayesmore Sports Centre	DT11 8LL	Yes	1	Yes	92 x 55	Blandford & Sturminster HC
69	Gillingham School	SP8 4QP	Yes	1	Yes	92 x 56	Gillingham HC
111	Milton Abbey School	DT11 0BZ	No	1	No	90 x 50	-
116	Motcombe Park Sports Club	SP7 9QA	Yes	1	Yes	92 x 56	-
<b>Purbeck Sub Area</b>							
135	Purbeck Sports Centre	BH20 4PH	Yes	1	Yes	92 x 55	Swanage & Wareham HC
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>							
74	Gryphon Leisure Centre	DT9 4EQ	Yes	1	Yes	92 x 55	-
96	Leweston School	DT9 6EN	Yes	1	Yes	90 x 55	-
122	Oxley Sports Centre	DT9 3DA	Yes	1	Yes	92 x 55	-
156	Sherborne School Sports Centre	DT9 3AP	Yes	2	Yes	90 x 54	-
						92 x 55	-
203	The Sir John Colfox Academy	DT6 3DT	Yes	1	Yes	92 x 56	West Dorset HC
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland Sub Area</b>							
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub	DT3 5AW	Yes	1	Yes	92 x 55	Weymouth HC

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 6.5: Smaller size hockey suitable AGPs by location

Site ID	Site	Post code	Number of AGPs	Available for community use?	Floodlit?	Dimensions (metres)
<b>East Dorset Sub Area</b>						
32	Castle Court School	BH21 3RF	1	Yes	No	80 x 55
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>						
18	Blandford St Mary CofE Primary School	DT11 9QD	1	No	No	35 x 15
151	Shaftesbury School	SP7 8ER	1	Yes	Yes	62 x 35
<b>Purbeck Sub Area</b>						
205	The Swanage School	BH19 2PH	1	Yes	No	36 x 18
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>						
190	Sunninghill Preparatory School	DT1 1EB	1	Yes	No	56 x 35
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland Sub Area</b>						
5	All Saints Church of England School	DT4 9BJ	1	Yes	Yes	36 x 18
246	Weston Road	DT5 2EY	1	Yes	Yes	20 x 40

There are also seven smaller size hockey suitable AGPs located across the Study Area as seen in the above table. Of which, one (Castle Court School) is of significant size (approximately 80m metres long) but does not meet recommended measurements (91.4 x 55 metres) to be suitable for competitive matches. The School reports the pitch has previously been used by Wimborne Wayfarers HC junior section on Sunday mornings to accommodate training demand.

Though too small to host competitive matches and senior training, smaller sized AGPs may be able to accommodate some junior or school training or curriculum use. The small size pitch at Sunninghill Preparatory School is used by Weymouth HC to host Back to Hockey Sessions.

### **Future Provision**

Initial talks regarding a second AGP at Clayesmore Sports Centre have taken place internally but this potential project remains in its preliminary stages.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### Quality

There are six full size hockey suitable AGPs rated as good quality; three in the North Dorset Sub Area (Bryanston School, Clayesmore Sports Centre and Motcombe Park Sports Club) two in the West Dorset Sub Area (Oxley Sports Centre and Sherborne School Sports Centre) and one in the Purbeck Sub Area (Purbeck Sports Centre).

Seven full size hockey suitable AGPs are rated as standard quality, with two located in the North Dorset Sub Area (Bryanston School and Milton Abbey School), two located in the East Dorset Sub Area (Dumpton School and Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre) and three located in the West Dorset Sub Area (Leweston School, Sherborne School Sports Centre and The Sir John Colfox Academy).

The remaining four AGPs are assessed as poor quality; two in the North Dorset Sub Area (Blandford Camp and Gillingham School), one in the West Dorset Sub Area (Gryphon Sports Centre) and one in the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area (Redlands Community Sports Hub).

Table 6.6: Summary of full size hockey AGP quality across the Study Area

Site ID	Site	Number of AGPs	Surface	Quality	Year built (refurbished)
<b>East Dorset Sub Area</b>					
55	Dumpton School	1	Sand dressed	Standard	2007
137	Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre	1	Sand dressed	Standard	2005
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>					
16	Blandford Camp (HM Forces)	1	Sand filled	Poor	1996
28	Bryanston School	2	Sand dressed	Good	2016
			Sand filled	Standard	2010
38	Clayesmore Sports Centre	1	Sand dressed	Good	2013
69	Gillingham School	1	Sand filled	Poor	2007
111	Milton Abbey School	1	Sand filled	Standard	2005
116	Motcombe Park Sports Club	1	Sand filled	Good	1992 (2018) <sup>35</sup>
<b>Purbeck Sub Area</b>					
135	Purbeck Sports Centre	1	Sand dressed	Good	2001 (2015)
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>					
74	Gryphon Leisure Centre	1	Sand filled	Poor	2005
96	Leweston School	1	Sand filled	Standard	2000
122	Oxley Sports Centre	1	Sand filled	Good	2016
156	Sherborne School Sports Centre	2	Water based	Good	2003 (2017) <sup>36</sup>
				Standard	2008
203	The Sir John Colfox Academy	1	Sand filled	Standard	2013
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland area</b>					

<sup>35</sup> Pitch is good quality due to assumed refurbishment in 2018 based on satellite imagery.

<sup>36</sup> Pitch is good quality due to assumed refurbishment it 2017 based on satellite imagery.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site	Number of AGPs	Surface	Quality	Year built (refurbished)
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub	1	Sand filled	Poor	1998

It is considered that the carpet of an AGP usually lasts for approximately 10 years (depending on levels of use), though its lifespan can be prolonged in some cases where maintenance is of particularly high quality and rigor.

As shown in the table above, all the poor quality AGPs within the Study Area have exceeded the recommended lifespan. The pitch at Blandford Camp is currently awaiting planned refurbishment whilst the pitch at Gryphon Leisure Centre is due to be resurfaced in summer 2019.

Through consultation with the Gryphon Leisure Centre, it was identified that the floodlighting for the pitch is also in need of replacement. Presently, the Leisure Centre only has the budget to resurface the pitch or replace the floodlights. Weymouth College has a long-term lease agreement for Redlands Community Sports Hub from Dorset Council. The College then rents the AGP to Weymouth HC to use as their home venue. The Club is currently negotiating a long term lease agreement directly with Dorset Council for the pitch if sufficient funds can be obtained for resurfacing works.

Standard quality pitches located at Sherborne School Sports Centre, Leweston School, Dumpton School and Milton Abbey School also exceed the recommended 10 year lifespan. All these pitches are located at private schools, where there has been a dedicated maintenance regime and limited community usage.

Conversely, the pitch at The Sir John Colfox Academy is heavily used but well maintained, with rejuvenate work undertaken on the surface every four years. The most recent work was undertaken in the summer of 2018.

The exception to this is the AGP located at Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre. The pitch was refurbished in February 2019 through deep cleaning and redressing the surface. Any damage to the lines and seams of the pitch was also repaired. However, after further consultation with Wimborne Wayfarers HC, the Club state that pitch quality is unchanged despite the works. The surface is now more slippery than it was prior to the work and rips in the seams have been patched with new replacement carpet. The pitch still drains poorly in one corner.

It should be noted that throughout the consultation process Knight, Kavanagh & Page, attempted to gain access to Sherborne School, Motcombe Park Sports Club and Dumpton School to carry out non-technical assessments, however, the schools were unresponsive.

### ***Ownership/management***

Across the Study Area, the majority of hockey suitable pitch provision is based at education sites. These sites are then managed internally or by an external lettings company. The only exceptions to this are Blandford Camp, Oxley Sports Centre and Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre.

Blandford Camp is owned and operated by the MOD whilst Oxley Sports Centre is operated commercially, despite having close ties to Sherborne Girls School.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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At present, all responsive hockey clubs in the Study Area have annual rental agreements for their respective sites.

Wimborne Wayfarers HC use the AGP located at Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre. Currently, the Club has no ambitions to formalise a long-term tenure agreement for the use of the site.

Swanage & Wareham HC indicates no ambitions or concerns with its current rental agreement for the pitch at Purbeck Sports Centre.

West Dorset HC rents the sand filled AGP at The Sir John Colfox Academy on an annual basis. The Club reports no aspirations to formalise long term tenure at the site and indicates the costs to hire the pitch is expensive for a club of its size.

As mentioned, Weymouth HC reports it is in the process of securing a lease directly with the newly formed Dorset Council for the area of land which houses the hockey suitable AGP at Redlands Community Sports Hub based on if it can obtain relevant grant funding for quality improvements.

### ***Ancillary provision***

No major concerns were expressed regarding ancillary facilities by any of the responding hockey clubs in the Study Area.

Ancillary facilities at Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre are reported to be of standard quality. However, Wimborne Wayfarers HC must currently access the dry-changing facilities located within the Leisure Centre, despite dedicated pitch-changing facilities being available. Despite this not being ideal, the Club expressed no major concerns with this current arrangement.

Swanage & Wareham HC notes that the ancillary facilities at Purbeck Sports Centre are of good quality whilst West Dorset HC state that Sir John Colfox Academy is supported by standard quality ancillary facilities.

Weymouth HC reports that the ancillary provision located at Redlands Community Sports Hub to be of standard quality. However, consultation with Weymouth College revealed that the changing facilities on site are dated and in need of modernisation.

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### 6.3: Demand

There are six community hockey clubs servicing playing demand within the Study Area. Two clubs are located in North Dorset; Blandford & Sturminster HC and Gillingham HC, with one club located in each of the four remaining sub areas.

Table 6.7: Summary of teams servicing the Study Area

Name of club	Sub area	No. of men's teams	No. of women's teams	No. of junior teams
Wimborne Wayfarers HC	East Dorset	3	3	2
Blandford & Sturminster HC	North Dorset	-	3	-
Gillingham HC	North Dorset	3	4	4
Swanage & Wareham HC	Purbeck	2	2	-
West Dorset HC	West Dorset	2	-	-
Weymouth HC	Weymouth & Portland	2	4	-
<b>Totals</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>6</b>

In addition to the abovementioned affiliated team demand the below table analysis the total membership from each club.

Table 6.8: Club membership through consultation

Club	Current adult membership (17 years and above)	Current junior membership (5 to 16)
Wimborne Wayfarers HC	96	57
Blandford & Sturminster HC	26	52
Gillingham HC	124	74
Swanage & Wareham HC	61	41
West Dorset HC	33	3
Weymouth HC	77	96
<b>Total</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>323</b>

Known participation across the Study Area totals 417 adults and 323 juniors playing hockey. Both team and membership participation numbers have been provided by England Hockey's 2018/19 affiliation data.

It should be stated that both team numbers and current junior membership figures will be factored into the New Playing Pitch Development Calculator to inform the Housing Growth scenarios in the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan report. This will allow for an accurate representation of the amount of provision required to account for both team and training demand at all age groups.

#### **Displaced demand**

Displaced or exported demand refers to registered teams in the Study Area that are currently accessing pitches outside of its respective local authority, normally because their pitch requirements cannot be met. This is usually because of pitch supply, in some cases quality

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

issues or stipulated league requirements for access to certain facilities. There is no identified displaced demand across from clubs within the Study Area.

### **Imported demand**

Imported demand refers to any demand from neighbouring local authorities that accesses facilities within the Study Area due to a lack of available facilities in other local authorities where such team or club is based.

Oxley Sports Centre report that Yeovil and Sherborne HC (South Somerset) access the AGP on site on an ad-hoc basis if multiple teams are playing at the Club's home venue. Yeovil Town Youth Ladies (South Somerset) access the AGP at Oxley Sports Centre to accommodate their training demand. Bournemouth HC (Christchurch) use the small-size AGP at Castle Court School on an ad-hoc basis for its Sunday junior training demand.

### **Latent demand**

Latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision. No clubs explicitly identify any latent demand in the Study Area.

### **Future demand**

#### *Population increases*

Team generation rates (TGRs) are used to calculate the number of teams likely to be generated in the future (2036) based on population growth. It should be noted that in order to meet age group sub section figures used in the below table are based off 2016 ONS projections.

Table 6.9: Team generation rates (2036)<sup>37</sup>

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams (2036)	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
<b>East Dorset Sub Area</b>						
Senior Men's (17-55)	17,198	3	1:5,733	18,609	3	0
Senior Women's (17-55)	17,813	3	1:5,938	19,274	3	0
Junior Boys (14-16)	1,342	-	-	1,452	-	0
Junior Girls (14-16)	1,1274	-	-	1,378	-	0
Junior Boys (11-13)	1,413	-	-	1,528	-	0
Junior Girls (11-13)	1,365	-	-	1,477	-	0
Mixed (5-10)	5,597	2	1:2,799	6,056	2	0
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>						
Senior Men's (17-55)	16,009	3	1:5,336	17,074	3	0
Senior Women's (17-55)	14,805	7	1:2,115	15,790	7	0
Junior Boys (14-16)	1,305	2	1:653	1,391	2	0

<sup>37</sup> Projections are based on 2016 ONS projections.

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Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams (2036)	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Junior Girls (14-16)	1,130	2	1:565	1,205	2	0
Junior Boys (11-13)	1,278	-	-	1,363	-	0
Junior Girls (11-13)	1,295	-	-	1,381	-	0
Mixed (5-10)	4,690	-	-	5,002	-	0
<b>Purbeck Sub Area</b>						
Senior Men's (17-55)	9,955	2	1:4,977	10,514	2	0
Senior Women's (17-55)	9,582	2	1:4,791	10,120	2	0
Junior Boys (14-16)	786	-	-	830	-	0
Junior Girls (14-16)	678	-	-	716	-	0
Junior Boys (11-13)	771	-	-	814	-	0
Junior Girls (11-13)	725	-	-	765	-	0
Mixed (5-10)	2,969	-	-	3,135	-	0
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>						
Senior Men's (17-55)	19,608	2	1:9,804	21,323	2	0
Senior Women's (17-55)	20,319	-	-	22,097	-	0
Junior Boys (14-16)	1,804	-	-	1,961	-	0
Junior Girls (14-16)	1,635	-	-	1,778	-	0
Junior Boys (11-13)	1,713	-	-	1,862	-	0
Junior Girls (11-13)	1,571	-	-	1,708	-	0
Mixed (5-10)	6,123	-	-	6,658	-	0
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland Sub Area</b>						
Senior Men's (17-55)	14,715	2	1:7,358	15,482	2	0
Senior Women's (17-55)	14,189	3	1:4,730	14,828	3	0
Junior Boys (14-16)	1,058	-	-	1,113	-	0
Junior Girls (14-16)	980	-	-	1,031	-	0
Junior Boys (11-13)	1,081	-	-	1,137	-	0
Junior Girls (11-13)	961	-	-	1,011	-	0
Mixed (5-10)	4,180	-	-	4,397	-	0

It is important to note that team generation rates are based on population projections and cannot account for specific targeted development work within certain areas or focused towards certain groups, such as NGB initiatives or coaching within schools.

Growing participation is the number one aim within EH's strategic plan and key drivers include working with clubs, universities and schools, regional and local leagues, developing opportunities for over 40s and delivering a quality programme of competition. Growth in participation will not only come from the traditional 11 aside game but from the informal, recreational ways to play hockey such as small sided hockey, which can be played at any time during the week or at weekends.

Nationally, since 2012, hockey has seen a 65% increase in juniors taking up the sport within the club environment. This increase is expected to continue across all age groups in the future, especially given the success of Great Britain's women's team in the 2016 Rio Olympics and the anticipated legacy impact.



## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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Though there remains a desire from EH to increase participation within the club/league based game, not all future demand may be realised entirely as new formalised teams playing at peak time. Some clubs may decide to offer pay and play opportunities to participants or offer small sided formats such in a bid to increase participation and club memberships by providing a different hockey offer.

Increased demand from new participants will lead to a requirement for increased capacity on available AGPs at peak time, but also midweek and on Sundays to deliver other formats of hockey activity. At present, it is not necessarily clear as to what format this may take or when it is likely to take place, however, it is clear that there will be a requirement for access to increased capacity on AGPs across the Study Area. This should be considered when assessing demand for AGPs in the future, as not only will they be needed for peak match play times and midweek training to accommodate increased participation within the formalised hockey environment, but also throughout the week and at non-peak times to offer wider opportunities for play.

Taking the above information into consideration, in addition to any club aspirations demand, a total of one senior team in each local authority has been factored into the overall future demand in the supply and demand analysis

### *Club aspirations*

Wimborne Wayfarers HC aspires to establish a third ladies' team which would also be based at Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre. This team is likely to be formed from the development squad which is operated by the Club.

Weymouth HC is currently formalising a development plan. This includes ambitions for two additional senior men's, one boy's and one girls' team. The Club also aspires to introduce walking hockey; however, this is all dependent on the resurfacing of the pitch at Redlands Community Sports Hub. Due to the poor pitch quality on site, the Club is reluctant to increase the amount of demand on the surface to preserve quality for current demand.

### ***Back to Hockey***

Back to Hockey sessions are fun, social and informal and are aimed at people who either have not played for a number of years or that are looking to play for the first time. They are generally hosted by clubs, with EH providing guidance on how to deliver the programme. Benefits of clubs being involved include:

- ◀ More members
- ◀ More casual players
- ◀ Additional income
- ◀ Extra publicity
- ◀ New volunteers

Wimborne Wayfarers HC currently runs Back to Hockey sessions throughout the summer at their home venue, Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre.

Weymouth HC also operates Back to Hockey sessions at Redlands Community Sports Hub and the small size pitch at Sunninghill Preparatory School throughout the Summer.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### Availability and usage

Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM) applies an overall peak period for AGPs of 34 hours per week (Monday to Thursday 17:00-21:00; Friday 17:00-19:00; Saturday and Sunday 09:00-17:00). Using this calculation six of the 14 full sized AGPs have full availability within the peak period, these are; Clayesmore Sports Centre, Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre, Oxley Sports Centre, Gryphon Leisure Centre, Purbeck Sports Centre and Redlands Community Sports Hub. The remaining sites are located at educational sites and not fully available at peak period due to being utilised for curricular and extracurricular activities.

The table below shows the availability of all full size hockey suitable AGP provision and a summary of use at each. The pitches Blandford Camp and Milton Abbey School have not been included as they are not available for any community use.

Table 6.10: Usage of hockey suitable AGPs (available for community use)

Site ID	Site	Quality	Number of AGPs	Floodlit	Community use hours in the peak period (per AGP)	Hockey clubs using the pitch	Midweek/training capacity	Match capacity	Comments
<b>East Dorset Sub Area</b>									
55	Dumpton School	Standard	1	Yes	Weekdays: 13 hours Weekend: 8 hours Total: 21 hours	-	No hockey demand is accommodated on the pitch, outside of curricular and extra-curricular activity.	No hockey demand is accommodated on the pitch, outside of curricular and extra-curricular activity.	The pitch is considered to have spare capacity to accommodate both midweek and weekend usage.
137	Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre	Standard	1	Yes	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekend: 16 hours Total: 34 hours	Wimborne Wayfarers HC	All Wimborne Wayfarers HC training is accommodated on site. The pitch is also hired by individual groups or clubs for football sessions. Various football teams utilise the pitches for training demand midweek.	All teams from Wimborne Wayfarers HC access the pitch for match demand on Saturdays. Infrequent match play on Sunday mornings.	There is no capacity for additional senior play on Saturday but could be accommodated on Sunday. Minimal capacity for additional midweek demand amongst football training.
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>									
28	Bryanston School	Standard	2	No	Weekdays: 0 hours Weekend: 16 hours Total: 16 hours	-	No hockey demand is accommodated on either pitch, outside of curricular and extra-curricular activity.	No hockey demand is accommodated on either pitch, outside of curricular and extra-curricular activity.	Both pitches are considered to have spare capacity to accommodate weekend usage.
		Good		Yes	Weekdays: 0 hours Weekend: 16 hours Total: 16 hours				
38	Clayesmore Sports Centre	Good	1	Yes	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekend: 16 hours Total: 34 hours	Blandford & Sturminster HC	All Blandford & Sturminster HC training is accommodated on site. The pitch is also hired by individual groups or clubs for football sessions. Various football teams utilise the pitches for training demand midweek.	All teams from Blandford & Sturminster HC access the pitch for match demand on Saturdays. Infrequent match play on Sunday mornings.	There is no capacity for additional senior play on Saturday but could be accommodated on Sunday. Minimal capacity for additional midweek demand amongst football training.
69	Gillingham School	Poor	1	Yes	Weekdays: 13 hours Weekend: 16 hours Total: 29 hours	Gillingham HC	All Gillingham HC training is accommodated on site. The pitch is also hired by individual groups or clubs for football sessions. Various football teams utilise the pitches for training demand midweek.	All teams from Gillingham HC access the pitch for match demand on Saturdays. Infrequent match play on Sunday mornings.	There is no capacity for additional senior play on Saturday but could be accommodated on Sunday. No additional usage of the pitch is recommended until it is refurbished.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site	Quality	Number of AGPs	Floodlit	Community use hours in the peak period (per AGP)	Hockey clubs using the pitch	Midweek/training capacity	Match capacity	Comments
116	Motcombe Park Sports Club <sup>3</sup>	Good	1	Yes	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekend: 12 hours Total: 30 hours	-	No hockey demand is accommodated on the pitch, outside of curricular and extra-curricular activity.	No hockey demand is accommodated on the pitch, outside of curricular and extra-curricular activity.	The pitch is considered to have spare capacity to accommodate both midweek and weekend usage.
<b>Purbeck Sub Area</b>									
135	Purbeck Sports Centre	Good	1	Yes	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekend: 16 hours Total: 34 hours	Swanage & Wareham HC	All Swanage & Wareham HC training is accommodated on site. The pitch is also hired by individual groups or clubs for football sessions. Various football teams utilise the pitches for training demand midweek.	All teams from Swanage & Wareham HC access the pitch for match demand on Saturdays. Infrequent match play on Sunday mornings.	Minimal spare capacity on a Saturday should be retained for future growth. Minimal capacity for additional midweek demand amongst football training.
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>									
74	Gryphon Leisure Centre	Poor	1	Yes	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekend: 16 hours Total: 34 hours	-	No hockey demand is accommodated on the pitch, outside of curricular and extra-curricular activity. Various football teams utilise the pitches for training demand midweek.	No hockey demand is accommodated on the pitch, outside of curricular and extra-curricular activity.	Pitch has spare capacity throughout the week to accommodate demand, however, no additional demand should take place until the pitch is refurbished.
96	Leweston School	Standard	1	Yes	Weekdays: 12.5 hours Weekend: 16 hours Total: 28.5 hours	-	No hockey demand is accommodated on the pitch, outside of curricular and extra-curricular activity.	No hockey demand is accommodated on the pitch, outside of curricular and extra-curricular activity.	Pitch has spare capacity throughout the week to accommodate demand.
122	Oxley Sports Centre	Good	1	Yes	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekend: 16 hours Total: 34 hours	Ad hoc imported demand from Yeovil & Sherborne HC.	No hockey demand is accommodated on the pitch, outside of curricular and extra-curricular activity.	Ad hoc imported demand accommodated on the pitch, outside of curricular and extra-curricular activity.	Pitch has spare capacity throughout the week to accommodate demand.
156	Sherborne School Sports Centre <sup>38</sup>	Standard	2	Yes	Weekdays: 13 hours Weekend: 16 hours Total: 29 hours	-	No hockey demand is accommodated on the pitch, outside of curricular and extra-curricular activity.	No hockey demand is accommodated on the pitch, outside of curricular and extra-curricular activity.	The pitch is considered to have spare capacity to accommodate both midweek and weekend usage.
		Good			Weekdays: 13 hours Weekend: 16 hours Total: 29 hours	-	No hockey demand is accommodated on the pitch, outside of curricular and extra-curricular activity.	No hockey demand is accommodated on the pitch, outside of curricular and extra-curricular activity.	The pitch is considered to have spare capacity to accommodate both midweek and weekend usage.
203	The Sir John Colfox Academy	Standard	1	Yes	Weekdays: 13 hours Weekend: 16 hours Total: 29 hours	West Dorset HC	All West Dorset HC training is accommodated on site. The pitch is also hired by individual groups or clubs for football sessions. Various football teams utilise the pitches for training demand midweek.	All teams from West Dorset HC access the pitch for match demand on Saturdays. No match demand takes place on site on Sundays.	Spare capacity exists on the pitch to accommodate both midweek training and weekend competitive demand.

<sup>38</sup> It should be noted that throughout the consultation process Knight, Kavanagh & Page, attempted to gain access to Motcombe Park Sports Park and Sherborne School Sports Centre to carry out non-technical assessments, gather availability data and usage information, however, the Schools were not responsive. Therefore, information for these sites has been gathered through online research and club consultation.

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Site ID	Site	Quality	Number of AGPs	Floodlit	Community use hours in the peak period (per AGP)	Hockey clubs using the pitch	Midweek/training capacity	Match capacity	Comments
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland Sub Area</b>									
140	Redlands Community Sports Hub	Poor	1	Yes	Weekdays: 18 hours Weekend: 16 hours Total: 34 hours	Weymouth HC	All Weymouth HC training is accommodated on site. The pitch is also hired by individual groups or clubs for football sessions. Various football teams utilise the pitches for training demand midweek.	All teams from Weymouth HC access the pitch for match demand on Saturdays. Infrequent match play on Sunday mornings.	Pitch has spare capacity throughout the week to accommodate demand, however, no additional demand should take place until the pitch is refurbished.

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## *Peak time demand*

Most men's and women's hockey teams currently play matches on a Saturday therefore this is considered to be the peak time for use of AGPs for competitive play. Peak time for training demand is midweek, with all teams training midweek evenings. Junior peak time is considered to be Sundays, as this is when training/fixtures regularly take place.

## **6.4: Supply and demand analysis**

The PPS Guidance considers a floodlit pitch as able to accommodate a maximum of four match equivalent sessions (MES) on a Saturday with teams playing in a home and away format, as such this equates to one AGP being able to cater for eight "home" teams. Teams play matches on home v away formats and therefore one team requires 0.5 match sessions per week on its 'home' AGP.

*Table 6.11: Capacity analysis for senior hockey matches at peak time (Saturdays)*

Sub area	Match equivalent sessions per week			
	Capacity	Current demand	Future demand	Capacity balance
East Dorset	8	2.5	1	4.5
North Dorset	20	4	0.5	15.5
Purbeck	4	2	0.5	1.5
West Dorset	24	1	0.5	22.5
Weymouth & Portland	4	2	1.5	0.5
<b>Study Area</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>44.5</b>

It should be noted that even after factoring training demand, future demand and junior demand the requirement for full size hockey suitable AGPs across the Study Area does not alter. All junior demand is accommodated on the equivalent pitches on Sundays whereas training demand can be accommodated throughout mid week.

### *East Dorset Sub Area*

Wimborne Wayfarers HC fields a total of five senior and three junior teams. The senior teams playing at peak time (Saturday) equates to 2.5 match equivalent sessions which can be accommodated one full size hockey suitable AGP.

### *North Dorset Sub Area*

Across North Dorset there are a total of eight senior teams; five from Gillingham HC and three from Blandford & Sturminster HC. This equates to four match equivalent sessions and a need for one full size hockey suitable AGP.

### *Purbeck Sub Area*

In Purbeck, the only club Swanage & Wareham HC has a total of four senior teams which is the equivalent of two match equivalent sessions which would require one full size hockey suitable pitch.

### *West Dorset Sub Area*

West Dorset HC has two senior teams which is the equivalent of one match equivalent sessions which would require one full size hockey suitable pitch.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### *Weymouth & Portland Sub Area*

Weymouth HC has a total of four senior teams which is the equivalent of two match equivalent sessions which would require one full size hockey suitable pitch.

### **6.5: Conclusions**

The current supply of hockey suitable AGPs is considered sufficient to accommodate the current level of hockey demand both at peak time, with an ability to meet current and future midweek (including for training) requirements across the Study Area.

### *East Dorset Sub Area*

As mentioned, all demand from Wimborne Wayfarers HC can be accommodated on one pitch. Therefore, the pitch the Club currently uses at Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre should be protected for hockey use. Plans should also be made to refurbish the pitch in the near future due to its age and to secure club access through a community use agreement.

### *North Dorset Sub Area*

Although demand information indicates there is a need for just one pitch in the Sub Area both pitches which are currently used for hockey, Clayesmore Sports Centre (Blandford & Sturminster HC) and Gillingham School (Gillingham HC), should be protect as hockey suitable surfaces.

This will allow for any potential future growth at Blandford & Sturminster HC and Gillingham HC to be accommodated. In addition, due to the rurality of North Dorset it is considered unfeasible for one pitch to accommodate both clubs. The two sites are located approximately 12 miles apart (26 minutes' drive) therefore it is unlikely that Blandford & Sturminster HC would travel the distance to access provision at Gillingham School and vice versa.

Furthermore, there is a need to formalise community use agreements at both these sites. Also, the poor pitch quality at Gillingham School should be rectified before any additional demand is established.

### *Purbeck Sub Area*

Similar to the East Dorset area, there is demand for one hockey suitable AGP. This pitch should be Purbeck Sports Centre as this is where Swanage & Wareham HC is currently based. A community use agreement should be explored to ensure the Club has secure longevity on the site.

### *West Dorset Sub Area*

The pitch at Sir John Colfox Academy should be retained as a hockey suitable provision to meet the demand from West Dorset HC. The quality of the pitch should be monitored in addition to attempting to secure community usage for the resident club.

### *Weymouth & Portland Sub Area*

Weymouth HC levels of demand can be accommodated on the pitch it currently uses at Redlands Community Sports Club. The priority is to refurbish the pitch as a hockey suitable surface due to its poor quality to limit any potential impact on the Club.

## ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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As there is no other suitable provision within the Sub Area, if it lost access to the pitch it would be forced to relocate out of Weymouth & Portland. Once funding has been secured for the refurbishment of the pitch secure tenure for the Club through a long term lease should be examined.

### Hockey summary

- ◀ **The current supply of hockey suitable AGPs is considered sufficient to accommodate the current level of hockey demand at peak time for both match and training demand. There is also considered sufficient supply to accommodate future demand levels.**
- ◀ **There is a need to address the quality of a number of surfaces in the Study Area, one in the North Dorset Sub Area (Gillingham School) and one in the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area (Redlands Community Sports Hub).**
- ◀ There are currently 17 full size hockey suitable AGPs located in the Study Area, of these 15 are available for community use. The pitches at Milton Abbey School and Blandford Camp are unavailable for community use.
- ◀ Initial talks regarding a second AGP at Clayesmore Sports Centre have taken place internally but this potential project remains in its preliminary stages.
- ◀ There are also seven smaller size hockey suitable AGPs located across the Study Area.
- ◀ Across the Study Area there are six good, seven standard and four poor quality pitches
- ◀ The pitches at Blandford Camp and Gryphon Leisure Centre plan to be refurbished in the near future.
- ◀ Across the Study Area, the majority of hockey suitable pitch provision is based at education sites. These sites are then managed internally or by an external lettings company. The only exceptions to this are Blandford Camp, Oxley Sports Centre and Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre.
- ◀ Weymouth HC is in the process of securing a long term lease for the pitch at Redlands Community Sports Hub subject to securing funding for resurfacing works.
- ◀ No major concerns were expressed regarding ancillary facilities by any of the responding hockey clubs in the Study Area.
- ◀ There are six clubs which play hockey across the Study Area which field a total of 12 men's, 16 women's and six junior teams. Known participation across the Study Area totals 417 adults and 323 juniors playing hockey.
- ◀ In addition, Wimborne Wayfarers HC and Weymouth HC have aspirations to increase their team numbers.

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## PART 7: OTHER SPORTS

### 7.1: American football

There is one American football team located within the Study Area, The Jurassic Coast Raptors. The Raptors were originally formed as the Bridport Vikings in January 2014 before moving to Dorchester in 2016. The Club currently compete in the BAFA Division 2 South West Conference.

The Club has previously played at Dorchester Rugby Club in 2017 and Redlands Community Sports Hub in 2018, however, it has moved training and match demand to the full size floodlit 3G pitch at Dorchester Town Football Club for the 2019 season.

However, the current site does not have suitable posts for American football. Therefore, the Club is currently exploring various funding opportunities, as well as its own crowdfunding campaign, in an attempt to raise the funds required to purchase mobile nets.

### 7.2: Lacrosse

Whilst there are no affiliated lacrosse clubs competing in the Study Area, there is a presence of the sport through private schools.

Both Milton Abbey School and Sherborne Girls School field girls' teams which regularly compete against other schools in the surrounding areas as well as the annual National Small Schools Tournament. The Sherborne Girls School team also competing in the U19 SW Rally this season.

Canford School (Poole) also field a lacrosse team. As the School is located on the border of Bournemouth Christchurch and Poole Council and Dorset, this team may capture some residual demand from the East Dorset Sub Area.

### 7.3: Ultimate (frisbee)

There are no Ultimate teams located in the Study Area. However, Poole Ultimate is based in Poole but report having players from across the East Dorset Sub Area. The Club is based at Parkstone Grammar School (Poole). It is considered that Poole Ultimate can cater for all Ultimate demand within the Study Area.

### 7.4: Rugby league

There is a single rugby league club based in the Study Area, Dorset County Giants. The one senior team plays its home fixtures split between Weymouth & Portland Rugby Club (Weymouth & Portland) and Swanage and Wareham Rugby Football Club (Purbeck) and will compete in the South West Rugby League for the upcoming 2019 season. Please note rugby league is played in the summer months.

### 7.5: Polo

Dorset Polo Club is based within the Purbeck Sub Area. The Club was founded in 2011 and aims to provide polo lessons and facilities for both experienced players and anyone interesting in trying out the sport. Club fixtures are played on Wednesdays at 6pm or Saturdays/Sundays at 11am.



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The Club also hosts the bi-annual Dorset Polo Festival which began in 2017. The festival will include a series of polo matches, a junior polo event, dog show, food and shopping stalls and a children's entertainment area.

### **7.6: Gaelic football**

Whilst there are no Gaelic football teams located in the Study Area, St Jude's GAA is located in the neighbouring authority of Bournemouth Christchurch and Poole Council. Training takes place at St Peter's School whilst matches are played at Oakmedians Rugby Club. St Jude's GAA is considered able to cater for any Gaelic football demand from the Study Area.

### **7.7: Quidditch**

There is currently no Quidditch club based in the Study Area. However, there is a Quidditch club located in the neighbouring authority of Bournemouth Christchurch and Poole Council, the Bournemouth Banshees Quidditch Club. The Club trains twice a week during term time at Slades Farm and competes with other teams around the UK. The Banshees competed at the 2018 British Quidditch Cup in Oxford and is currently fundraising to cover its travel expenses to compete at the 2019 British Quidditch Cup which will take place at Northumbria University.

# ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## APPENDIX 1: ADOPTED LOCAL PLANS

### *East Dorset Core Strategy (up to 2028, in partnership with Christchurch)*

The Core Strategy vision supports seven strategic objectives. These translate it into a series of more practical long-term objectives closely linked to the policies which will help achieve them, as seen below.

*Table 1.1: Key objective of the Core Strategy*

Number	Objective
1	To manage and safeguard the natural environment of Christchurch and East Dorset.
2	To maintain and improve the character of the towns and villages, and to create vibrant local centres.
3	To adapt to the challenges of climate change.
4	To enable the mixed economy of Christchurch and East Dorset to grow, and to develop new employment sectors.
5	To deliver a suitable, affordable and sustainable range of housing to provide for local needs.
6	To reduce the need for the communities to travel, and to do so more easily by a range of travel choices.
7	To help its communities to thrive and to help people support each other.

The policies within the Core Strategy which refer to sport and community facilities are Policy HE4: provide the recommended accessibility standards for outdoor sport spaces and recreational areas; and Policy LN7: provide sports facilities and services to support existing and future population growth and changes in the age profile.

### **East Dorset Local Plan Review**

The Council is progressing work on a review of its Local Plan in order to produce documents to help shape the nature of future growth and development in the local area. A decision was made in February 2018 to produce separate local plans for Christchurch and East Dorset, with them previously having a joined-up approach. When adopted, the new Local Plan will replace the existing version (adopted 2002) and the Christchurch and East Dorset Core Strategy.

The draft Local Plan vision is supported by seven strategic objectives:

- ◀ To manage and safeguard the natural environment.
- ◀ To maintain and improve the character of the towns and villages, and to create vibrant local centres.
- ◀ To adapt to the challenges of climate change.
- ◀ To enable the mixed economy of East Dorset to grow, and to develop new employment sectors.
- ◀ To deliver a suitable, affordable and sustainable range of housing to provide for local needs.
- ◀ To reduce the need for people to travel and to have more travel choices.
- ◀ To help our communities to thrive and help people support each other.

Draft Policy 4.30 states that open spaces and leisure facilities will be protected unless the following criteria are met:

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- ◀ Replacement provision is provided in a suitable location to meet the needs of the catchment population; or
- ◀ It can be demonstrated that it is no longer practical or viable to retain the facility in its current use and the development provides alternative community benefit which outweighs the loss of the facility; or
- ◀ It can be demonstrated that the facility is no longer needed to serve the needs of the community.

### ***North Dorset Local Plan (2011-2031)***

Adopted in January 2016, the Local Plan states that by 2031 North Dorset will:

- ◀ Be a District that has played a positive role in addressing the causes and effects of climate change;
- ◀ Have more sustainable forms of development that are adequately served by infrastructure (including sustainable transport solutions) and make prudent use of natural resources (including previously developed land);
- ◀ Have expanded thriving market towns collectively providing homes, jobs and services for those living within them and within the communities they serve;
- ◀ Have sustainable smaller rural communities providing local services which enable day-to-day needs to be met locally;
- ◀ Have a conserved and enhanced locally distinctive historic and natural environment that retains the qualities that make the District's urban and rural areas even more attractive and desirable places to live, work and visit;
- ◀ Have more housing, and in particular more affordable housing, that better meets the diverse needs of the District;
- ◀ be a District that has advanced towards more cohesive communities; that has recognised the needs of the older population; and where the life chances for children and young people have been enhanced;
- ◀ Have a more robust and prosperous economy (including sustainable tourism) with high quality jobs and skills, focused in locations that best support the District's growing population; and
- ◀ Have a range of community, leisure, cultural and recreational facilities in locations that are accessible to the local population.

To achieve this vision, one of the objectives is to improve the quality of life, by:

- ◀ Encouraging the provision of viable community, leisure and cultural facilities both in the main towns and rural communities;
- ◀ Retaining the current range of healthcare and education services and ensuring that additional healthcare and education facilities are provided in accessible locations;
- ◀ Ensuring that a network of multi-functional green infrastructure including sport and recreation facilities, open and natural space, is provided across the district;
- ◀ Securing an integrated approach to private and public transport (including parking provision and management), which improves accessibility to services; and
- ◀ Ensuring that development makes a positive contribution to enhancing existing and providing new transport infrastructure.

### ***Purbeck Corporate Strategy 2016 – 2021***

The Vision of the Council is to have “thriving communities in balance with the natural environment”. An ambition to meet the needs of local people whilst protecting the District's outstanding environment underpins the Strategy. The Council understands that it cannot do

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everything and has identified key corporate priorities for the next five years. Each priority has a number of targets to allow progress to be monitored, as evidenced in the table below.

Themes	Targets
Protecting and enhancing the local environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Maintain a sound local plan to direct where development will go</li> <li>◀ Prioritise development on previously developed land.</li> <li>◀ Maintain what is unique about Purbeck's natural and historic environment.</li> <li>◀ Work with the Dorset Waste Partnership to reduce the amount of waste produced</li> <li>◀ Support local communities to adapt to the risks of flooding and coastal erosion.</li> </ul>
Meeting the housing needs of local people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Increase the amount of affordable housing to rent or buy:</li> <li>◀ Promote low cost home ownership including self-build, starter homes and shared ownership.</li> <li>◀ Help to bring long term empty homes back into occupation.</li> <li>◀ Work with partners to reduce the number of under-occupied homes in the social housing sector.</li> <li>◀ To promote quality design and build.</li> <li>◀ Improve the energy efficiency and use of renewable energy resources.</li> </ul>
Improving the local economy and infrastructure	<p>Work with the Local Enterprise Partnership and others to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Promote opportunities to enhance the economy of Purbeck.</li> <li>◀ Ensure that business rates are invested in appropriate infrastructure at Dorset Green.</li> <li>◀ Ensure Dorset Green becomes a vibrant business park.</li> <li>◀ Enhance the viability of Holton Heath Industrial Estate.</li> <li>◀ Support skills and inward investment.</li> <li>◀ Work with providers to deliver fast access to the internet and mobile phone networks across the whole of Purbeck for all residents and businesses.</li> <li>◀ Support the development of knowledge-based and highly skilled jobs.</li> <li>◀ Support the development and retention of work space across the District with appropriate infrastructure.</li> <li>◀ Work with partners to influence transport strategy to meet the evolving needs of local communities and businesses.</li> <li>◀ Ensure timely delivery of infrastructure for significant housing developments.</li> </ul>
Enhancing local communities and involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Work with partners to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour:</li> <li>◀ Promote active participation in sport and active recreation for all age groups.</li> <li>◀ Support young people to engage with their local community by understanding the democratic process.</li> <li>◀ Support local vulnerable people through organisations such as the Citizens Advice Bureau.</li> <li>◀ Support villages to remain vibrant communities.</li> </ul>
Being an efficient and effective council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Achieve high levels of customer satisfaction with Council services:</li> <li>◀ Provide key services that are amongst the best in the country.</li> <li>◀ Spend your taxes wisely.</li> <li>◀ Communicate effectively.</li> <li>◀ Have highly motivated and trained councillors and staff.</li> <li>◀ Work in partnership where it benefits local people.</li> </ul>

### ***Purbeck Local Plan (2018 – 2034) submission draft***

Purbeck District Council submitted a new local plan for examination in January 2019. Oral examination hearings for the plan are likely to take place in late summer. The local plan includes policies based around four key topic areas:

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- ◀ Environment
- ◀ Housing
- ◀ Economy
- ◀ Infrastructure.

The local plan includes a planning policy relating to recreation, sport and open space (Policy 14). The policy requires developers who submit planning applications for residential development to make appropriate provision for recreation and sport through open space on development sites. It also includes requirements relating to safeguarding existing open space and sport/recreation areas and replacement open space and sport/recreation areas. The local plan's glossary defines the terms 'green infrastructure' and 'open space', and the policies map identifies these areas within the District's boundaries.

### **Policy 14: Recreation, Sport and Open Space**

#### *New Facilities*

Residential development will be required to make provision for formal and informal recreation, sport and/or open space facilities on-site to achieve the identified Fields in Trust benchmark guidelines. Facilities should be designed to provide for lifetime use. In exceptional circumstances only, the Council will consider a financial contribution to provide and/or enhance facilities off-site.

#### *Safeguarding Existing Facilities*

All open space, sport and recreation areas will be protected in accordance with national policy. Any loss of these uses will only be permitted where there is a proven excess of such provision and the proposed loss will not result in a current or future shortfall in the plan period and/or suitable replacement facilities are provided.

#### *Replacement facilities*

Any replacement provision will take account of the needs of the area and current standards of open space, sport and/or recreational provision but should be equivalent to, or an improvement upon, the existing resource, in terms of size, attractiveness, quality and accessibility.

### **West Dorset and Weymouth & Portland Local Plan (2011-2031)**

This document is a joint Local Plan between the two authorities of West Dorset and Weymouth and Portland. It forms the main basis for making decisions on key items, such as planning applications. It has identified a vision and key objectives up to 2031 for both authorities:

- ◀ Support the local economy to provide opportunities for high quality, better paid jobs.
- ◀ Meet local housing needs for all as far as is possible.
- ◀ Regenerate key areas including Weymouth Town Centre, to improve the area's retail, arts, cultural and leisure offer; and increase employment opportunities.
- ◀ Support sustainable, safe and healthy communities with accessibility to a range of services and facilities.
- ◀ Protect and enhance the outstanding natural and built environment, including its landscape, biodiversity and geodiversity, and the local distinctiveness of places within the area.

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- ◀ Reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change, both by minimising the potential impacts and by adapting to those that are inevitably at risk.
- ◀ Provide greater opportunities to reduce car use; improve safety; ensure convenient and appropriate public transport services; and seek greater network efficiency for pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians.
- ◀ Achieve high quality and sustainability in design, reflecting local character and distinctiveness of the area.

To ensure healthy, sustainable communities, the Local Plan highlights the importance of having good quality accessible playing pitch facilities. The criteria-based policies which underpin this are:

- ◀ COM4. This highlights that any new or improved local recreational facilities would need to be accessible and protects both the countryside and the coastal environment.
- ◀ COM5 lists the policies to ensure that local recreational facilities are retained and protected unless it will be enhancing or replacing existing provision.

It is noted that both councils have embarked on a review of the Local Plan (October 2015) as recommended by the Local Plan Inspector. This review is currently ongoing.

### ***Summary of local context***

The core message running through local strategies is a recognition that all existing leisure facilities require protection in order to achieve the aims and objectives of the local authorities, unless evidence is in place to warrant the loss of facilities. The PPS will provide such evidence in relation to playing pitches, should it exist, as well as making it clear where improvements/additions are needed in relation to the current stock.

Further, the importance active participation in different sports and leisure activities can have on improving the health of residents and those using local services is noted. There is an understanding that partnership work across voluntary, public and private organisations will be essential to driving increases in physical activity and that there will be ongoing financial constraints across all key delivery agents.

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## APPENDIX 2: SPORTING CONTEXT

The following section outlines a series of national, regional and local policies pertaining to the study and which will have an important influence on the Strategy.

### National context

The provision of high quality and accessible community playing pitch 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.

### ***Department of Media Culture and Sport Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation (2015)***

The Government published its strategy for sport in December 2015. This strategy confirms the recognition and understanding that sport makes a positive difference through broader means and that it will help the sector to deliver five simple but fundamental outcomes: physical health, mental health, individual development, social and community development and economic development. In order to measure its success in producing outputs which accord with these aims it has also adopted a series of 23 performance indicators under nine key headings, as follows:

- ◀ More people taking part in sport and physical activity.
- ◀ More people volunteering in sport.
- ◀ More people experiencing live sport.
- ◀ Maximising international sporting success.
- ◀ Maximising domestic sporting success.
- ◀ A more productive sport sector.
- ◀ A more financially and organisationally sustainable sport sector.
- ◀ A more responsible sport sector.

### ***Sport England: Towards an Active Nation (2016-2021)***

In 2016 Sport England released its five year strategy 'Towards an Active Nation'. The aim is to target the 28% of people who do less than 30 minutes of exercise each week and will focus on the least active groups; typically women, the disabled and people from lower socio-economic backgrounds.

Sport England will invest up to £30m on a plan to increase the number of volunteers in grassroots sport. Emphasis will be on working with a larger range of partners with less money being directed towards National Governing Bodies.

The Strategy will help deliver against the five health, social and economic outcomes set out in the Government's Sporting Future strategy.

- ◀ Physical Wellbeing
- ◀ Mental Wellbeing
- ◀ Individual Development
- ◀ Social & Community Development
- ◀ Economic Development

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### ***National Planning Policy Framework (2019)***

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 (2018-2021)***

The FA launched its new National Game Strategy in July 2018 which aims to inspire a life-long journey in football for all. To achieve this, the strategy will focus on five key aspects of the game:

- ◀ A high quality introduction to football
- ◀ Developing clubs and leagues
- ◀ Embrace all formats of football and engage all participants
- ◀ Recruit, develop and support the workforce
- ◀ Develop sustainable facilities

Through these five pillars, The FA's objectives are to:

- ◀ Increase the number of male affiliated and recreational players by 10%.
- ◀ Double the number of female affiliated and recreational players via a growth of 75%.
- ◀ Increase the number of disability affiliated and recreational players by 30%.
- ◀ Ensure affiliated Futsal is available across the country in order to increase the number of Futsal affiliated and recreational players.



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The sustainable football facilities should provide support to an agreed portfolio of priority projects that meet National Football Facility Strategy (NFFS) investment priorities.

### *Local Football Facility Plans*

To support in delivery of the NFFS, The FA has commissioned a national project. Over the next year to 2020, a Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP) will be produced for every local authority across England. Each plan will be unique to its area as well as being diverse in its representation, including currently underrepresented communities.

Identifying strategic priorities for football facilities across the formal, recreational and informal game, LFFPs will establish a ten-year vision for football facilities that aims to transform the playing pitch stock in a sustainable way. They will identify key projects to be delivered and act as an investment portfolio for projects that require funding. As such, around 90% of all will be identified via LFFPs. LFFPs will guide the allocation of 90% of national football investment (The FA, Premier League and DCMS) and forge stronger partnerships with local stakeholders to develop key sites. This, together with local match-funding will deliver over one billion pounds of investment into football facilities over the next 10-years.

It is important to recognise that a LFFP is an investment portfolio of priority projects for potential investment - it is not a detailed supply and demand analysis of all pitch provision in a local area. Therefore, it cannot be used as a replacement for a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) and it will not be accepted as an evidence base for site change of use or disposal.

A LFFP will; however, build on available/existing local evidence and strategic plans and may adopt relevant actions from a PPS and/or complement these with additional investment priorities.

### ***England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Cricket Unleashed 5 Year Plan***

The England and Wales Cricket Board unveiled a new strategic five-year plan in 2016 (available at <http://www.cricketunleashed.com>). Its success will be measured by the number of people who play, follow or support the whole game.

The plan sets out five important headline elements and each of their key focuses, these are:

- ◀ **More Play** – make the game more accessible and inspire the next generation of players, coaches, officials and volunteers. Focus on:
  - *Clubs and leagues*
  - *Kids*
  - *Communities*
  - *Casual*
- ◀ **Great Teams** – deliver winning teams who inspire and excite through on-field performance and off-field behaviour. Focus on:
  - *Pathway*
  - *Support*
  - *Elite Teams*
  - *England Teams*
- ◀ **Inspired Fans** – put the fan at the heart of our game to improve and personalise the cricket experience for all. Focus on:
  - *Fan focus*
  - *New audiences*
  - *Global stage*
  - *Broadcast and digital*

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- ◀ **Good Governance and Social Responsibility** – make decisions in the best interests of the game and use the power of cricket to make a positive difference. Focus on:
  - *Integrity*
  - *Community programmes*
  - *Our environments*
  - *One plan*
- ◀ **Strong Finance and Operations** – increase the game’s revenues, invest our resources wisely and administer responsibly to secure the growth of the game. Focus on:
  - *People*
  - *Revenue and reach*
  - *Insight*
  - *Operations*

### ***The Rugby Football Union Strategic Plan (2017-2021)***

The RFU has released its new strategic vision for rugby in England. The strategy is based on four main elements which are; Protect, Engage, Grow and Win. It covers all elements of rugby union ranging from elite rugby to grassroots, although the general relevancy to the PPS is centred around growing the game.

The RFU exists to promote and develop rugby union in England and ensure the long-term sustainability of clubs by growing player numbers and retaining them across all age groups. Responding to wider market influences, work will continue on developing new ways to take part in all forms of the game, without comprising the sports traditions. This will ensure a lasting legacy from elite success by attracting new players and encouraging current male and female adult players to play.

The four key aims to ensure long term sustainability are to:

- ◀ Improve player transition from age grade to adult 15-a-side rugby
- ◀ Expand places to play through Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs)
- ◀ Engage new communities in rugby
- ◀ Create a community 7's offering

### ***The Rugby Football League Facility Strategy***

The RFL's Facilities Strategy was published in 2011. The following themes have been prioritised:

- ◀ Clean, Dry, Safe & Playable
- ◀ Sustainable clubs
- ◀ Environmental Sustainability
- ◀ Geographical Spread
- ◀ Non-club Facilities

The RFL Facilities Trust website [www.rflfacilitiestrust.co.uk](http://www.rflfacilitiestrust.co.uk) provides further information on:

- ◀ The RFL Community Facility Strategy
- ◀ Clean, Dry, Safe and Playable Programme
- ◀ Pitch Size Guidance
- ◀ The RFL Performance Standard for Artificial Grass Pitches
- ◀ Club guidance on the Annual Preparation and Maintenance of the Rugby League Pitch

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Further to the 2011 Strategy detail on the following specific programmes of particular relevance to pitches and facility planning are listed below and can be found via the trust link (see above):

- ◀ The RFL Pitch Improvement Programme 2013 – 2017
- ◀ Clean, Dry and Safe programmes 2013 - 2017

### **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.

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.

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### ***‘The right pitches in the right places’<sup>39</sup>***

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 placed 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***

EH’s new Club Strategy will assist hockey clubs to retain more players and recruit new members to ultimately grow their club membership. EH will be focusing on participation growth through this strategy for the next two years. The EH Strategy is based on seven core themes.

These are:

- 1 Having great leadership
- 2 Having Appropriate and Sustainable Facilities
- 3 Inspired and Effective People
- 4 Different Ways to Play
- 5 Staying Friendly, Social and Welcoming
- 6 Being Local with Strong Community Connections
- 7 Stretching and developing those who want it

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<sup>39</sup>

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

# ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## APPENDIX 3: FOOTBALL TEAM GENERATION RATES

Team generation rates are used to calculate the number of teams likely to be generated in the future (2036) based on population growth. The table below provides the full breakdown of team generation rates by Sub Area.

It should be noted that age group team numbers differ as forecasts are based on age rather than playing format. U17 and U18 teams affiliate to their respective County FA as juniors, however, are generally considered to play on and require adult pitches and are considered by age boundaries to be in the adult age group.

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate (TGR)	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams (2036)	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
<b>East Dorset Sub Area</b>						
Senior Mens (16-45)	11,919	37	1:322	12,183	37.8	0
Senior Women (16-45)	12,013	2	1:6,007	11,850	2.0	0
Youth Boys (12-15)	1,800	27	1:67	2,129	31.9	4
Youth Girls (12-15)	1,710	3	1:570	1,964	3.4	0
Youth Boys (10-11)	909	19	1:48	1,020	21.3	2
Youth Girls (10-11)	880	3	1:293	953	3.2	0
Mini-Soccer Mixed (8-9)	1,830	23	1:80	1,892	23.8	0
Mini-Soccer Mixed (6-7)	1,839	16	1:115	1,819	15.8	0
<b>North Dorset Sub Area</b>						
Senior Mens (16-45)	11,969	22	1:544	12,296	22.6	0
Senior Women (16-45)	10,589	2	1:5,295	10,398	2.0	0
Youth Boys (12-15)	1,651	23	1:72	1,997	27.8	4
Youth Girls (12-15)	1,496	2	1:748	1,825	2.4	0
Youth Boys (10-11)	787	12	1:66	863	13.2	1
Youth Girls (10-11)	803	1	1:803	850	1.1	0
Mini-Soccer Mixed (8-9)	1,606	13	1:124	1,562	12.6	0
Mini-Soccer Mixed (6-7)	1,543	8	1:193	1,510	7.8	0
<b>Purbeck Sub Area</b>						
Senior Mens (16-45)	7,195	18	1:400	7,511	18.8	0
Senior Women (16-45)	6,385	3	1:2,128	6,354	3.0	0
Youth Boys (12-15)	1,023	11	1:93	1,154	12.4	1
Youth Girls (12-15)	896	3	1:299	1,018	3.4	0
Youth Boys (10-11)	472	8	1:59	558	9.5	1
Youth Girls (10-11)	454	0	0	491	0.0	0
Mini-Soccer Mixed (8-9)	1,129	11	1:103	1,015	9.9	0
Mini-Soccer Mixed (6-7)	2,767	9	1:307	965	3.1	0
<b>West Dorset Sub Area</b>						
Senior Mens (16-45)	13,446	50	1:269	13,734	51.1	1
Senior Women (16-45)	13,694	6	1:2,282	12,942	5.7	0
Youth Boys (12-15)	2,316	22	1:105	2,689	25.5	3
Youth Girls (12-15)	2,139	3	1:713	2,407	3.4	0
Youth Boys (10-11)	1,029	16	1:64	1,152	17.9	1
Youth Girls (10-11)	968	1	1:968	1,085	1.1	0
Mini-Soccer Mixed (8-9)	2,002	15	1:133	2,040	15.3	0
Mini-Soccer Mixed (6-7)	1,944	18	1:108	1,921	17.8	0

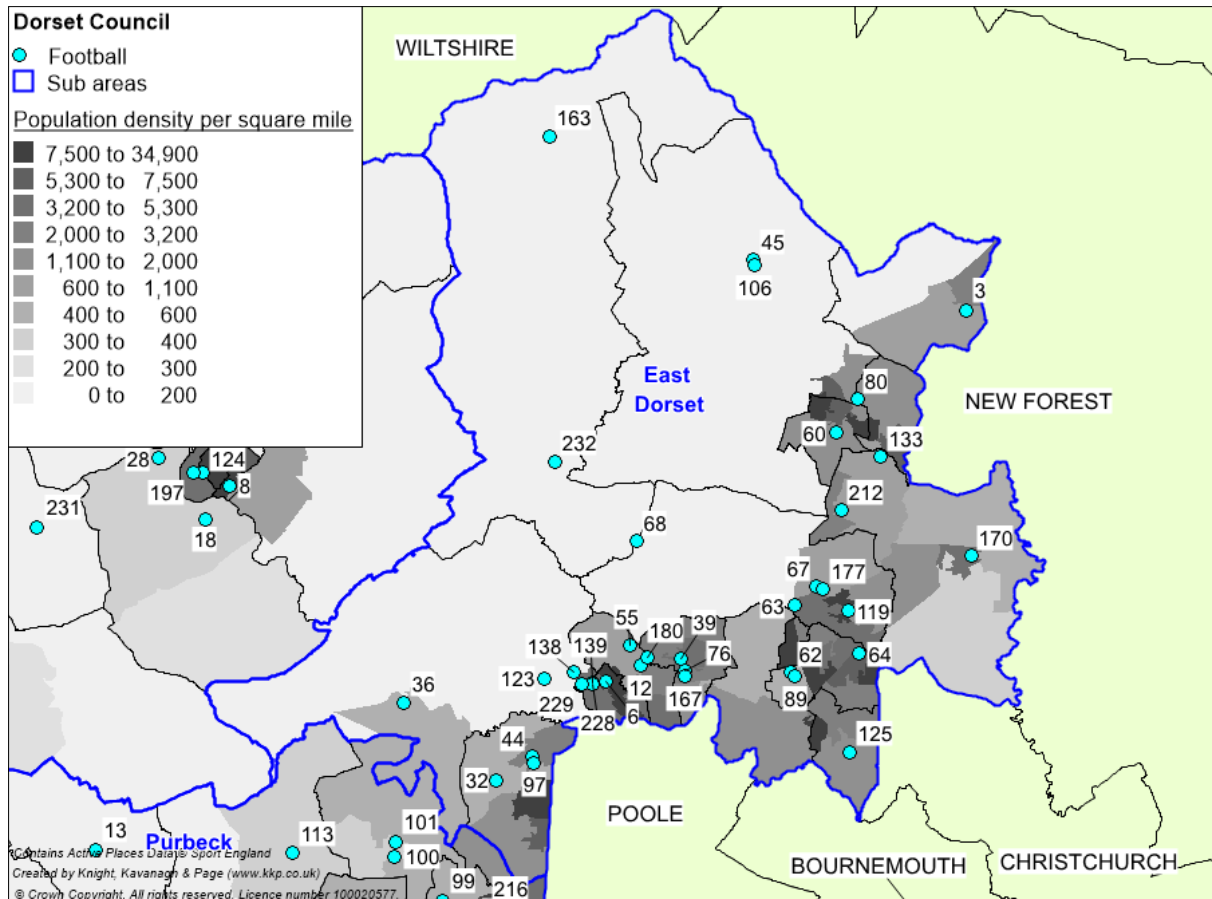
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Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate (TGR)	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams (2036)	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
<b>Weymouth &amp; Portland Sub Area</b>						
Senior Mens (16-45)	10,514	29	1:363	10,832	29.9	0
Senior Women (16-45)	10,095	4	1:2,524	9,237	3.7	0
Youth Boys (12-15)	1,365	12	1:114	1,404	12.3	0
Youth Girls (12-15)	1,318	3	1:439	1,378	3.1	0
Youth Boys (10-11)	670	14	1:48	665	13.9	0
Youth Girls (10-11)	630	4	1:158	647	4.1	0
Mini-Soccer Mixed (8-9)	1,412	15	1:94	1,278	13.6	0
Mini-Soccer Mixed (6-7)	1,349	14	1:96	1,242	12.9	0
<b>Total</b>						<b>18</b>

# ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

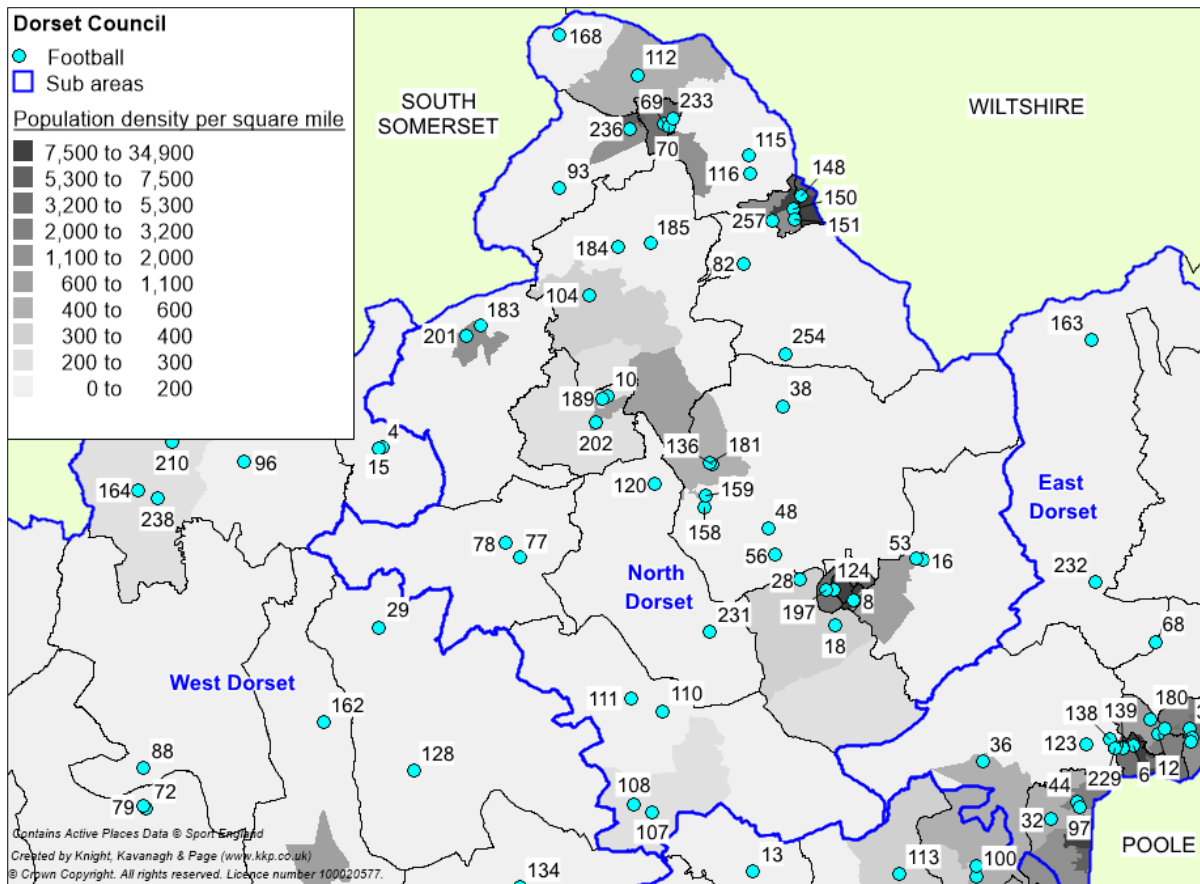
## APPENDIX 4: FOOTBALL MAPPING BY SUB AREA

Figure 2.2: Map of sites with football pitch provision across the East Dorset Sub Area



# ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 2.3: Map of sites with football pitch provision across the North Dorset Sub Area





# ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 2.4: Map of sites with football pitch provision across the Purbeck Sub Area

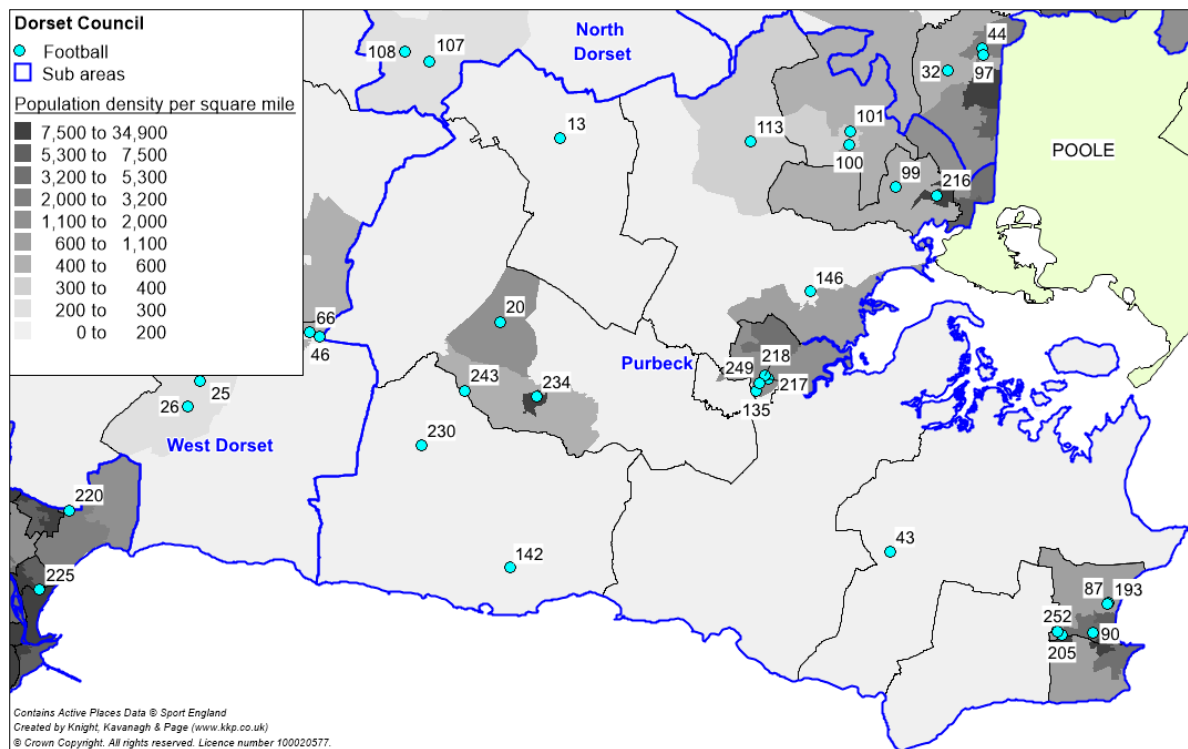
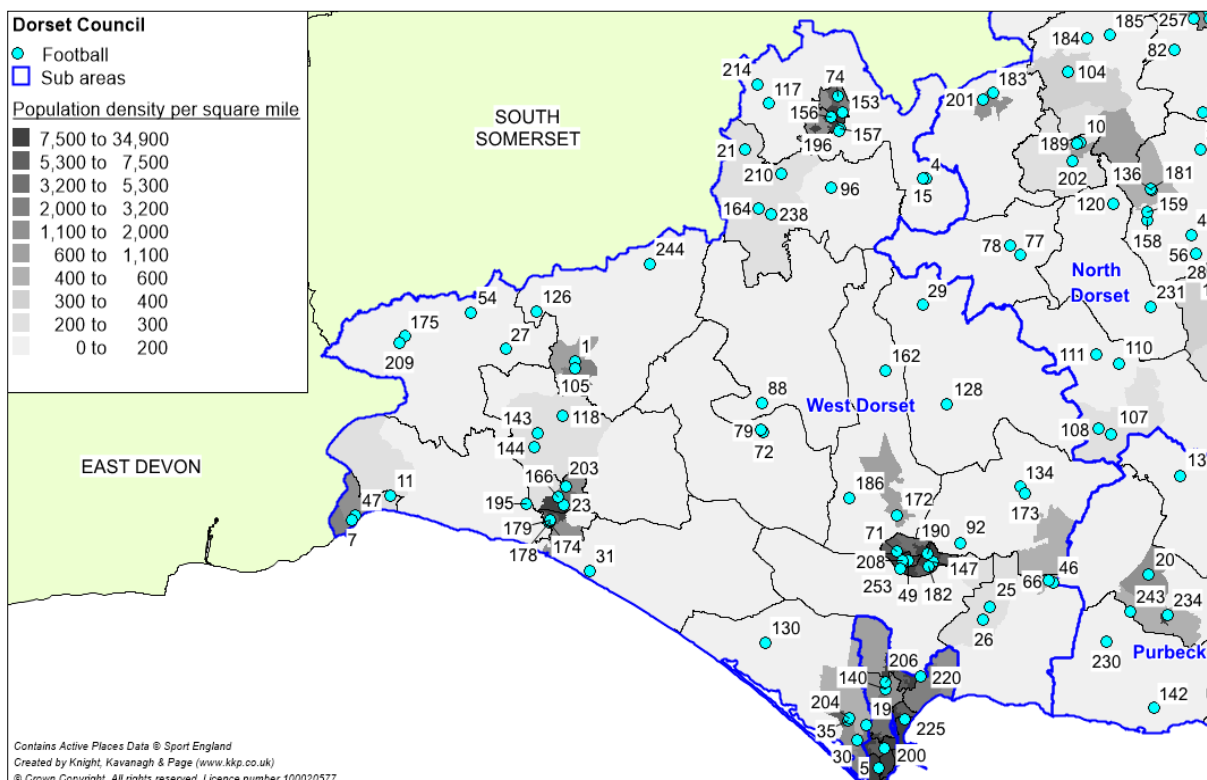


Figure 2.5: Map of sites with football pitch provision across the West Dorset Sub Area



# ACTIVE DORSET PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 2.6: Map of sites with football pitch provision across the Weymouth & Portland Sub Area

