

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Introduction

- 3.1 This section sets out the relevant audit findings and key issues for each of the typologies in terms of the quantity, quality and accessibility of provision.
- 3.2 In terms of quantity analysis the sites have been identified through a variety of methods including a postal and telephone survey to all parish councils and parish groups within the District, site visits for quality assessment, consultation and information provided by council officers and plotting sites using GIS. Where there has been no response from a parish council, sites have been identified via the alternative methods. In addition, sites have been verified via site visits across the District in order to provide a comprehensive assessment as far as possible.
- 3.3 All identified sites have been plotted using GIS and the total size of these sites (hectares) has been determined via this method, to provide an indication of the level of provision across the District and within each area. Both quantity and quality analysis has been undertaken on a District and area basis. From this information standards have been set for each area and for the District as a whole.
- 3.4 Figure 3.1 details the parishes in each area. These are based around the Local Area Partnership areas and have been compiled by council officers. For the purpose of this study, all parishes have been linked to a local town in West Dorset. It must be appreciated that some parishes may have stronger links to towns outside the District e.g. Chard, Yeovil, Crewkerne or Weymouth.

Figure 3.1 - Parishes contained within each Area

Area	Parish
Bridport	Allington, Askerswell, Bettiscombe, Bothenhampton, Bradpole, Bridport, Burton Bradstock, Catherston Leweston, Chideock, Chilcombe, Loders, Marshwood, North Poorton, Pilsdon, Powerstock, Puncknowle, Shipton Gorge, Stanton St Gabriel, Stoke Abbot, Swyre, Symondsburry, Whitchurch Canonorum, Wootton Fitzpaine
Beaminster	Beaminster, Broadwindsor, Burstock, Chedington, Corscombe, East Chelborough, Halstock, Hooke, Mapperton, Mosterton, Netherbury, Rampisham, Seaborough, South Perrott, Thorncombe, West Chelborough, Wraxall
Chickerell	Chickerell
Dorchester	Abbotsbury, Alton Pancras, Athlehampton, Bincombe, Bradford Peverell, Broadmayne, Buckland Newton, Burlston, Cattistock, Cerne Abbas, Charminster, Cheselbourne, Chilfrome, Compton Valance, Crossways, Dewlish, Dorchester, Evershot, Fleet, Frampton, Frome St Quinton, Frome Vauchurch, Godmanstone, Kingston Russell, Langton Herring, Littlebredy, Litton Cheney, Long Bredy, Maiden Newton, Melbury Sampford, Melcombe Horsey, Minterm Magna, Nether Cerne, Osmington, Owermoigne, Piddlehinton, Piddletrenthide, Portesham, Poxwell, Puddletown, Stinsford, Stratton, Sydling St. Nicholas, Tincleton, Toller Fratrum, Toller Porcorum, Tolpuddle, Up Cerne, Warmwell, West Knighton, West Stafford, Whitcombe, Winterbourne Abbas, Winterborne Came, Winterborne Herrington, Winterborne Monkton, Winterbourne Steepleton, Winterborne St Martin, Woodsford, Wynford Eagle
Lyme Regis	Charmouth, Lyme Regis
Sherborne	Alweston, Batcombe, Beer Hackett, Bishop's Caundle, Bradford Abbas, Castleton, Caundle Marsh, Chetnole, Clifton Maybank, Folke, Goathill, Haydon, Hermitage, Hilfield, Holnest, Holwell, Leigh, Leweston, Lillington, Longburton, Melbury Bubb, Melbury Osmond, North Wootton, Osborne, Over & Nether Compton, Poyntington, Purse Caundle, Queen Thorne, Ryme Intrinseca, Sandford Orcas, Sherborne, Stockwood, Thornford, Trent, Yetminster

- 3.5 Figure 3.2 summarises the key assessment criteria applied to each of the typologies when rating quality at each site.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Figure 3.2 - Quality Assessment Criteria for outdoor

TYPOLOGY	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrance areas • Presence and quality of signage and information • Boundary fencing and hedges • Tree management • The quality of key furniture including seats, bins, toilets • The quality of maintenance, grass cutting, pathways • Cleanliness • The quality of specific facilities including play provision, bowling greens, multi-use games areas etc. (these are shown as a separate assessment)
Natural & Semi Natural Greenspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrance areas • Presence and quality of signage and information • Boundary fencing and paths • Tree management • The quality of key furniture including seats and bins • Cleanliness
Amenity Greenspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presence and quality of signage and information • The quality of key furniture including seats and bins (excluding visual amenity areas) • The quality of grassed areas • Cleanliness
Allotments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrance areas • The presence of water supply • Whether the site is served by toilets • Secure fencing around the site • Signage to identify management, usage arrangements, special events and the availability of plots • The presence of facilities such as composting bins, a shop and car parking.
Provision for Children and Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play value assessed against RoSPA play value assessment considers elements more than equipment
Formal Outdoor Sport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrance areas • Presence and quality of signage and information • Presence and quality of parking and lighting • The quality of key furniture including seats and bins • The quality of grassed areas • Cleanliness • The quality of specific facilities including pitches, bowling greens and tennis courts
Cemeteries and Crematoria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrance areas • Presence and quality of signage and information • Boundary fencing and hedges • Tree management • The quality of key furniture including seats and bins • The quality of maintenance, grass cutting, pathways • Cleanliness • The overall maintenance of graves

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Formal Open Space (Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds)

3.6 Formal Open Space or Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds provide accessible, high quality opportunities for a range of informal recreation, formal sporting opportunities and community events. This typology also includes recreation grounds. Many of these sites have community value and a long heritage.

Definition

'Accessible, high quality opportunities for informal recreation and community events. Recreation Grounds are defined as sites with formal pitches that also have alternative amenities on the site such as a children's play area, multi-use games area (MUGA) or are used as informal areas for recreation.'

3.7 This typology has been sub-categorised into 'Local Parks or Recreation Grounds' and 'Formal Gardens' on the basis of discussions with council officers about the primary role and function of this provision across the District. The provision of attractive and valuable open spaces within West Dorset is affected by quantity, quality and accessibility, which in turn can affect the value of the current facilities when meeting the Council objectives.

Quantity: Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds

3.8 The audit has revealed a total of **59** sites occupying **123.21 hectares** across West Dorset District. The sites identified as parks, gardens and recreation grounds are shown in Appendix 3. The provision is as follows:

- 8 Formal Gardens (27.93 hectares)
- 51 Local parks or recreation grounds (95.28 hectares)

Figure 3.3 - West Dorset District: Current Parks and Gardens Provision

Area	Population	Sub Typology	No. of Sites	Hectares	Hectares per 1,000 Population
Beaminster	9,118	Local park or recreation ground	7	17.57	1.93
Bridport	20,473	Formal garden	3	26.01	1.27
		Local park or recreation ground	12		
Chickerell	5,618	Formal garden	1	1.89	0.34
		Local park or recreation ground	2		
Dorchester	41,448	Formal garden	1	48.92	1.18
		Local park or recreation ground	19		
Lyme Regis	5,137	Formal garden	1	7.74	1.51
		Local park or recreation ground	2		
Sherborne	18,378	Formal garden	2	21.08	1.15
		Local park or recreation ground	9		
District Total	100,172	Formal garden	8	123.21	1.23
		Local park or recreation site	51		
		Total	59		

3.9 The identified provision of parks, gardens and recreation grounds covers **123.21 ha** across the District. From the Figure 3.3, a number of observations can be made:

- The amount of provision across the District equates to 1.23 hectares per 1,000 population.
- A large proportion of sites (86%) have been classified as local parks or recreation grounds.
- The Chickerell area has the least provision per head of population with 0.34 ha per 1,000 population.
- The Beaminster area has the highest provision of parks and gardens with 1.93 ha per 1,000 population.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Quality: Parks, Gardens and Recreation Grounds

- 3.10 Quality Inspections have been undertaken via site visits to **58** of the **59 sites** (A quality audit was not undertaken in Langmoor Gardens, Lyme Regis due to refurbishment at the time of our visit). The quality assessment is based on a number of key criteria encompassing the quality aspects of the Green Flag Programme, ILAM (Institute of Leisure and Amenity Management) Parks Management Guidance and the Tidy Britain Scheme. The assessment considered the physical, social and aesthetic qualities of each individual site.
- 3.11 The quality audit provides an indicative rating of quality out of 100%. It is important to note that the quality score represents a “snapshot” in time and records the quality of the site at the time of the visit. The quality audits were undertaken between July and October 2006. Figure 3.4 lists the overall quality of sites categorised as parks, gardens and recreation grounds. It must be noted that individual facilities on each site e.g. play areas, playing pitches, bowling greens etc. have been quality scored separately and can be found later within this section of the report.

Figure 3.4– West Dorset District: Quality of Parks and Gardens and Recreation Grounds

Area	Site Name	Quality Score
Beaminster	Beaminster Memorial Playing Fields	49%
	Beaminster School Playing Fields	52%
	Drimpton Playing Field	46%
	Millennium Green Playing Field, South Perrott	37%
	Mosterton Playing Field	29%
	Netherbury Playing Field	25%
	Salway Ash Playing Field	43%
Beaminster Area Average		40%
Bridport	Allington Hill & Cooper's Wood, Bridport	54%
	Borough Gardens, Bridport	49%
	Burton Bradstock Playing Field	59%
	Cemetery Fields Play Area, Bridport	21%
	Chideock Recreation Ground	37%
	Church Street Playing Field, Puncknowle	50%
	Court Orchard Play Area, Bridport	54%
	Loders Village Playing Field	50%
	Millennium Gardens, Bridport	79%
	Pageants Close, Bridport	43%
	Plottingham Playing Fields	53%
	Riverside Gardens, Bridport	52%
	Shipton Gorge Playing Field	58%
	St Mary's Playing Field, Bridport	60%
Wootton Fitzpaine Village Hall	34%	
Bridport Area Average		50%
Chickerell	Old School Playing Fields, Chickerell	35%
	Peto Memorial Garden, Chickerell	56%
	Willowbed Field, Chickerell	68%
Chickerell Area Average		53%
Dorchester	Borough Gardens, Dorchester	65%
	Broadmayne Playing Field	37%
	Buckland Newton Playing Field	52%
	Castle Park Playing Field, Dorchester	59%
	Cerne Abbas Playing Field	50%
	Elizabeth Place Playing Field, Dorchester	46%
Holmead Walk Park, Poundbury	44%	

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Area	Site Name	Quality Score
	Jubilee Field, Bradford Peverell	35%
	Kings Road Playing Field, Dorchester	55%
	Kingston Maurward Park	55%
	Litton Cheney Recreation Ground	37%
	Long Bredy Playing Field	38%
	Piddletrethide Recreation Ground	71%
	Portesham Playing Field	53%
	Puddletown Recreation Ground	51%
	Salisbury Field, Dorchester	70%
	Sandringham Centre, Dorchester	60%
	Stratton Playing Field	30%
	Toller Porcorum Recreation Area	37%
	Woodlands Crescent, Poundbury	42%
Dorchester Area Average		50%
Lyme Regis	Anning Road Playing Field, Lyme Regis	36%
	Charmouth Playing Field	47%
Lyme Regis Area Average		42%
Sherborne	Alweston Playing Fields	48%
	Bishops Caundle Playing Fields	42%
	Church Close Playing Field, Chetnole	53%
	Lambs Field, Sherborne	30%
	McCreery Road Play Area, Sherborne	36%
	Melbury Osmond Recreation Ground	41%
	Midleaze Park, Sherborne	31%
	Paddock Gardens, Sherborne	65%
	Pageant Gardens, Sherborne	55%
	Ridgeway Playing Fields, Sherborne	38%
Terrace Playing Fields, Sherborne	56%	
Sherborne Area Average		45%
District Area Average		48%

3.12 58 of the 59 (98%) identified parks, gardens and recreation grounds have been audited and given a quality rating. The key findings of the quality audit for this typology include;

- The District wide average percentage score rating (for those sites audited) is 48% or a rating of 'good' when measured against the quality value line.
- Millennium Gardens in Bridport has the highest quality score at 79% (excellent).
- The lowest rated site is Cemetery Fields Play Area in Bothenhampton (Bridport area). This has a quality score of 21% (poor).
- 17 sites (29%) have no form of signage.
- 21 sites (36%) have no bins.
- 18 sites (31%) have no seating.

Accessibility

3.13 Accessibility has been assessed using a variety of techniques including mapping exercises and consultation. The key findings show that:

- 190 out of 270 respondents (70%) to the household survey reported that they visit parks, gardens and recreation grounds.
- 80% of respondents walk to parks, gardens and recreation grounds. Of the remaining respondents who use these facilities, 18% drive, 1% cycle and 1% use the bus.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

- 63% of respondents who use parks, gardens and recreation grounds rated the provision above average in terms of quality.
- The most common reasons given as a barrier to use of this type of open space provision were lack of time (27%), not feeling safe (15%), age/disability (15%) and dog fouling (12%).
- The average acceptable travel time to parks, gardens and recreation grounds is 7.42 minutes which equates to either 0.37 miles if walking (at 3mph) or 2.47 miles by car (at 20mph)

Recommended Standard	
Quantity	1.23 ha per 1000 population
Quality	To achieve 48% or above
Accessibility	A travel time of 7.42 minutes

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace

Definition

'Sites such as accessible nature reserves, woodlands and commons that benefit wildlife conservation, biodiversity and raising environmental education awareness and countryside recreation'

Quantity: Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace

- 3.14 The audit undertaken has revealed that there are **36 sites** occupying **1071.1 hectares** that have been classified as natural and semi natural greenspace. The sites identified within this typology are attached in appendix 3
- 3.15 Figure 3.5 provides a summary of natural and semi natural greenspace provision throughout West Dorset.

Figure 3.5– West Dorset District: Current Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace Provision

Area	Population	No. of Sites	Hectares	Hectares per 1000 Population
Beaminster	9,118	2	9.03	0.99
Bridport	20,473	14	331.72	16.20
Chickerell	5,618	2	10.14	1.80
Dorchester	41,448	11	666.68	16.08
Lyme Regis	5,137	1	4.15	0.81
Sherborne	18,378	6	49.38	2.69
District Total	100,172	36	1071.10	10.69

- 3.16 The identified natural and semi-natural greenspace provision covers **1071.1 ha** across the District. From the Figure, a number of observations can be made:
- The District has 10.69 ha per 1,000 population of semi natural greenspace.
 - A significant proportion of semi natural greenspace is located within the Bridport and Dorchester areas. Both areas contain large sites such as Powerstock Common (151.57 ha), Puddletown Forest (320.30 ha), Black Down and Hardy Monument (122.73 ha), Valley of Stones NNR (99.13 ha) and Hog Cliff NNR (88.15 ha).
 - Due to the variable nature in the size of each site the provision of natural and semi natural greenspace varies significantly from 0.81 ha per 1,000 population in the Lyme Regis area to 16.20 ha per 1,000 in the Bridport area.

Quality: Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace

- 3.17 Quality inspections have been undertaken via a site visit to, and completion of a scored proforma for, all 36 sites. The quality assessment proforma is based on a number of key criteria encompassing the quality aspects of Green Flag, Tidy Britain and ILAM Parks Management best practice. The assessment considered the physical, social and aesthetic qualities of each individual site.
- 3.18 Given that areas of countryside and woodland are likely to have less formal facilities than a park or formal garden, the focus of the quality assessment was on pathways, general access, signage, provision of bins where appropriate, maintenance etc.. Quality ratings are summarised in Figure 3.6.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Figure 3.6 – West Dorset District: Quality of Natural and Semi-natural Green Space Provision

Area	Site Name	Quality Score
Beaminster	Boyden Wood, Broadwindsor	42%
	Pucketts Wood, Beaminster	46%
Beaminster Area Average		44%
Bridport	Asker's Meadow LNR, Bridport	43%
	Beningfield Wood, West Milton	43%
	Bothenhampton LNR	43%
	Champernhayes Marsh, Wootton Fitzpaine	31%
	Conegar Hill, Wootton Fitzpaine	29%
	Coneygar Hill and Woodland Walk, Bridport	45%
	Coney's Castle, Whitechurch Canoniconum	41%
	Eype Down, Symondsburry	21%
	Jellyfields LNR, Bridport	37%
	Lamberts Castle Hill, Marshwood	56%
	Langdon Hill, Chideock	59%
	Little Giant Wood, Netherbury	46%
	Powerstock Common	56%
South Mill Lane Greenspace, Bridport	28%	
Bridport Area Average		41%
Chickerell	Chickerell Downs	52%
	Crookhill Brick Pit LNR, Chickerell	46%
Chickerell Area Average		49%
Dorchester	Black Down & Hardy Monument	60%
	Hog Cliff NNR, Maiden Newton	45%
	Maumbury Rings, Dorchester	70%
	Mill Stream Nature Reserve, Dorchester	44%
	Poundbury Hill, Dorchester	37%
	Prince's Plot LNR, Charminster	48%
	Puddletown Forest	35%
	Shatcombe Lane Picnic Area, West Compton	37%
	Thorncombe Wood LNR, Higher Bockhampton	54%
	Tibbs Hollow Picnic Site, Frampton	42%
	Valley of Stones NNR, Littlebredy	43%
Dorchester Area Average		47%
Lyme Regis	Slopes Farm, Lyme Regis	56%
Lyme Regis Area Average		56%
Sherborne	Brounlie Wood, Beer Hackett	35%
	Folke Wood, Alweston	34%
	Hilfield Hill LNR, Hilfield	52%
	Lenthay Common, Sherborne	32%
	The Quarr LNR, Sherborne	51%
	Vecklands, Yetminster	50%
Sherborne Area Average		42%
District Average		44%

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Quality Line – Open Space (Parks, Natural, Green Corridors, Amenity)

0% - 15%	16% - 30%	31% - 45%	46% - 60%	61% - 75%	76% +
Very Poor	Poor	Average	Good	Very Good	Excellent

3.19 A total of 36 sites (100% of all identified sites) have been assessed for quality.

- The average quality score across the District is 44%. This rates as 'average' when compared to the quality value line.
- The highest scoring site is Maumbury Rings in Dorchester scoring 70%. This was the only natural or semi natural greenspace to rate as 'very good' on the quality line.
- The lowest scoring sites were Eype Down (21%) and South Mill Lane Greenspace (28%) both rated as 'poor' and located in the Bridport Area.
- 5 of the audited sites (14%) have no signage
- 28 sites (78%) have no bins
- 23 sites (64%) have no seating

Accessibility: Natural and Semi Natural Green Space

3.20 Accessibility has been assessed using a variety of techniques including mapping exercises and consultation. The key findings show that:

- The average acceptable travel time to this provision is 11.81 minutes which equates to either 0.59 miles if walking or 3.94 miles by car
- 140 of 269 respondents (52%) said they visited 'wild areas'.
- 49% of users walk to semi natural green spaces, a further 49% drive, the remaining 2% cycle.
- 50% of respondents who visit this provision rated them as good, very good or excellent

Natural England (formerly English Nature) Standards

3.21 In assessing natural and semi natural greenspace, consideration has been given to Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards. Natural England present a number of recommendations in relation to provision levels, specifically:

- No person should live more than 300m from their nearest area of natural greenspace of at least 2ha in size
- Provision of 1ha of Local Nature Reserve per 1000 population
- There should be one 20ha natural greenspace within 2km from peoples homes

3.22 **Assessment against Natural England Standards of Provision** (encompassing woodland, commons and natural greenspace sites) is considered in more detail within Section IV of the report (Standards of Provision). Initial findings reveal that:

- There are deficiencies across West Dorset against the standards set by Natural England. West Dorset does not achieve the standard as large areas within each area are lacking identified sites of accessible natural and semi natural greenspace. (See Section V Applying Provision Standards)
- It is important to recognise that the ANGS standards are very much set for urban areas and do not consider the role the wider countryside plays in compensating for this deficiency. West Dorset is primarily a rural area and, as such, people are on the whole surrounded by countryside: the beach and cliff tops also have a significant role to play and have to be recognised as potentially redressing this deficiency. It is also important to note that due to the rural nature of the District many sites within other typologies may address the deficiency identified through the provision of areas of natural and semi natural habitat within them.

Recommended Standard

Quantity	10.69 ha per 1000 population
Quality	To achieve 46% or above
Accessibility	A travel time of 11.81 minutes

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Amenity Greenspace

3.23 Amenity greenspace includes sites that are usually near to people's homes and may include other facilities such as a play area but may simply be valuable aesthetic space.

Definition

'Opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas'

3.24 The amenity greenspaces in West Dorset have been categorised into three types:

- Active amenity greenspace – highly accessible areas which provide opportunities for informal activities e.g. dog walking
- Visual amenity greenspace – areas that improve the visual appearance of residential or other areas
- Civic space – Civic and market squares and other hard surfaces designed for pedestrians

Quantity: Amenity Greenspace

3.25 The audit undertaken has revealed that there are **31 sites** occupying **11.24 hectares** that have been classified as amenity greenspace. The sites identified within this typology are attached in appendix 3.

3.26 Figure 3.7 provides a summary of amenity greenspace provision within West Dorset District Council. The provision is as follows:

- 16 active amenity greenspace sites (7.50 hectares)
- 13 visual amenity greenspace sites (3.40 hectares)
- 2 civic spaces (0.34 hectares)

Figure 3.7 – West Dorset District: Amenity Greenspace Provision

Area	Population	Sub Typology	No of Sites	Hectares	Hectares per 1000 Population
Beaminster	9,118	Visual Amenity Greenspace	2	0.24	0.03
Bridport	20,473	Active Amenity Greenspace	2	1.85	0.09
		Civic Space	1		
		Visual Amenity Greenspace	1		
Chickerell	5,618	Active Amenity Greenspace	2	1.6	0.28
		Visual Amenity Greenspace	3		
Dorchester	41,448	Active Amenity Greenspace	9	4.9	0.12
		Visual Amenity Greenspace	6		
Lyme Regis	5,137	Civic Space	1	0.29	0.06
Sherborne	18,378	Active Amenity Greenspace	3	2.36	0.13
		Visual Amenity Greenspace	1		
District Total	100,172	Active Amenity Greenspace	16	11.24	0.11
		Visual Amenity Greenspace	13		
		Civic Space	2		
		Total	31		

3.27 From the Figure, a number of observations can be made:

- The identified amenity greenspace provision covers 11.24 ha across the District.
- There is a District wide provision of 0.11 hectares per 1,000 population.
- Provision of amenity greenspace is significantly varied across each area from 0.03 ha per 1,000 population in the Beaminster area to 0.28 ha per 1,000 in the Chickerell area.
- The average size of amenity greenspace is 0.36ha (this should be used as a guide to the minimum size of any future provision)

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Quality: Amenity Greenspace

- 3.28 Quality Inspections have been undertaken via a site visit to **30** of the **31 sites** (A quality audit was not undertaken at the Roman Villa in Dorchester due to refurbishment work at the time of our visit).
- 3.29 The quality assessment proforma is based on a number of key criteria encompassing the quality aspects of Green Flag, Tidy Britain and ILAM Parks Management best practice. The assessment considered the physical, social and aesthetic qualities of each individual site. Quality ratings are summarised in Figure 3.8.

Figure 3.8 – West Dorset District: Quality of Amenity Greenspace Provision

Area	Site Name	Quality Score
Beaminster	Barnes Lane Amenity, Beaminster	64%
	Yarn Barton Open Space, Beaminster	51%
Beaminster Area Average		57%
Bridport	Bucky-Doo Square, Bridport	72%
	Gore Cross, Bradpole	44%
	Howard Road Amenity Area, Bridport	58%
	Path by River Simene, Bridport	54%
Bridport Area Average		57%
Chickerell	Cobham Drive, Charlestown	50%
	Everdene Drive, Charlestown	53%
	Glennie Way Amenity, Chickerell	52%
	Putton Lane Amenity, Chickerell	38%
	Victoria Old Hall, Charlestown	37%
Chickerell Area Average		46%
Dorchester	Arnhem Green, Dorchester	56%
	Bowling Alley Way & West Walk, Dorchester	77%
	Cerne Giant viewpoint and picnic area, Cerne Abbas	73%
	Cheselbourne Village Hall Playing Field	43%
	Fordington Green, Dorchester	76%
	Fortress Green, Dorchester	67%
	Gabriel Green, Dorchester	58%
	Holy Trinity Church Gardens, Dorchester	63%
	Langton Herring Amenity Area	54%
	Millennium Field, Bradford Peverell	32%
	Millennium Field, Piddlehinton	53%
	South Walks, Dorchester	78%
	Sydling St Nicholas Village Green	41%
	Syward Close, Dorchester	40%
Dorchester Area Average		58%
Lyme Regis	Church Cliff, Lyme Regis	61%
Lyme Regis Area Average		61%
Sherborne	Abbots Way Amenity, Sherborne	35%
	Hermitage Green	45%
	Lenthay Close Amenity, Sherborne	31%
	Roselyn Crescent, Alweston	36%
Sherborne Area Average		37%
District Average		53%

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

3.30 The key findings of the quality audit are:

- The District average for all audited sites is 53% (good).
- The quality range varies from 31% (average) at Lenthay Close Amenity, Sherborne to 78% (excellent) at South Walks, Dorchester
- Amenity greenspaces in the Sherborne area scored below the District average with an average quality score of 37%.
- Of the 16 active amenity sites audited, 8 sites (50%) have no signage, 7 sites (44%) no bins and 7 sites (44%) no seating
- 10 of the 12 visual amenity sites have no signage (83%)
- Both civic spaces have bins and seating present

Accessibility: Amenity Greenspace

3.31 Accessibility has been assessed using a variety of techniques including mapping exercises and consultation. The key findings show that:

- 213 of 270 respondents (79%) in the door to door survey stated they use amenity greenspace.
- 64% of those people who use amenity greenspace, do so on a daily or weekly basis.
- 93% of those users stated they walk to amenity greenspace, 6% drive and 1% cycle.
- 68% of users rated amenity greenspace as good, very good or excellent (above average).
- The average acceptable travel time to amenity greenspace is 4.58 minutes which equates to 0.23 miles if walking or 1.53 miles by car.

Recommended Standard

Quantity	0.11 ha per 1000 population
Quality	To achieve 53% or above
Accessibility	A travel time of 4.58 minutes

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Allotments

- 3.32 Allotments provide a key type of provision within the overall portfolio of open space, sport and recreation facilities. From the consultation undertaken, the value of allotments is significant, providing facilities for physical activity in addition to the promotion of healthy eating and educational value. The provision of allotments is a statutory function for local authorities under a number of legislative acts including the 1950 Allotment Act.
- 3.33 Allotments like other open space sites can provide a number of wider community benefits and hit a number of sustainability targets as well as the primary use of growing produce. These include:
- **Conservation** Allotments can be an important genetic resource for the conservation of rare species
 - **Recycling** Allotments holders are encouraged to recycle and offer the potential for community composting sites
 - **Transport** Home grown food means there is less transport (less air miles) and less packaging
 - **Employment and Training** New skills and opportunities whether promotional, managerial or cultivation
 - **Education** Links with schools, special needs and adult learning. Close contact with wildlife can lead to a lifelong interest
 - **Leisure** Promoting local tourism - arts, crafts and volunteering
 - **Sustainable neighbourhoods** - revitalising allotments and neighbourhoods
 - **Community Development** Co-operation across ethnic age and other barriers. Allotment societies often play a wider role in community schemes, becoming involved with local schools as well as programmes for the mentally and physically ill or disabled providing people from differing cultural backgrounds the opportunity to meet and share experiences
 - **Health** Increased consumption of fresh foods and more exercise and relief from stress, and therapy for those with mental health problems
 - Providing opportunity for **social inclusion** and cohesion
 - Creating opportunities for people to participate in **recreation**

Definition

'Opportunities for those people who wish to grow their own produce as part of the long term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion.'

Quantity: Allotments

- 3.34 The audit undertaken has revealed that there are **33 sites** occupying **20.48 hectares** that are dedicated as allotment sites. The sites identified within this typology are attached in appendix 3.
- 3.35 Figure 3.9 provides a summary of the identified allotment provision within West Dorset. The provision and location of the sites have been identified via the original survey to Parish Councils, through site visits, a non-technical visual inspection and also through the use of GIS mapping.

Figure 3.9 – West Dorset District: Provision of Allotments

Area	Population	No. of Sites	Hectares	Hectares per 1000 Population
Beaminster	9,118	2	1.76	0.19
Bridport	20,473	7	3.21	0.16
Chickerell	5,618	1	0.09	0.02
Dorchester	41,448	13	9.66	0.23
Lyme Regis	5,137	1	1.17	0.23
Sherborne	18,378	9	4.59	0.25
District Total	100,172	33	20.48	0.20

- 3.36 The audit has identified 33 allotment sites in West Dorset occupying 20.48 hectares. From the Figure 3.9, a number of observations can be made:
- The average size of an allotment is 0.62 hectares.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

- The size of provision varies from 0.09 ha in the Chickerell area (1 site) to 9.66 ha in the Dorchester area (13 sites).
- There is a District wide average of 0.20 ha per 1,000 head of population.
- The Sherborne area has the highest provision per head of population with current provision at 0.25 ha per 1,000 population
- The Chickerell area has substantially less provision than other areas with only 0.02 ha per 1,000 population.

Quality: Allotments

3.37 Quality Inspections have been undertaken via a site visit to all **33** sites within this typology. The quality assessment proforma is based on a number of key criteria specific to allotment sites. In summary, the scoring included the criteria of:

- Entrance areas
- The presence of a water supply
- Whether the site is served by toilets
- Secure fencing around the site
- Signage to identify management, usage arrangements, special events and the availability of plots
- The presence of facilities such as composting bins, a shop and car parking.

3.38 The quality audit provides an indicative rating of quality out of 100%. It is important to note that the quality score represents a “snapshot” in time and records the quality of the site at the time of the visit.

Figure 3.10 – West Dorset District: Quality of Allotment Provision

Area	Site Name	Quality Score
Beaminster	Beaminster Allotments	35%
	Broadwindsor Allotments	18%
Beaminster Area Average		26%
Bridport	Burton Bradstock Allotments	40%
	Flaxhayes Allotments	58%
	Luke Lane Allotments, Swyre	33%
	North Allington Allotment Gardens	23%
	Priory Lane Allotments, Bridport	20%
	St Mary's Allotment Gardens, Bridport	58%
	Walditch Allotments	33%
Bridport Area Average		38%
Chickerell	Chickerell Allotments	25%
Chickerell Area Average		25%
Dorchester	Abbotsbury Allotments	23%
	Cerne Abbas Allotments	40%
	Chalky Road Allotments, Broadmayne	35%
	Charminster Allotments	23%
	Fenway Close Allotments, Dorchester	38%
	Herringston Road Allotments, Dorchester	60%
	Maiden Newton Allotments	30%
	Max Gate Allotments, Dorchester	73%
	Mill Stream Allotments, Dorchester	50%
	Poundbury Allotments	35%
	Poundbury Crescent Allotments, Dorchester	48%
	St Georges Road Allotments, Dorchester	45%
	Toller Porcorum Allotments	48%
Dorchester Area Average		42%
Lyme Regis	Lyme Regis Allotments	18%
Lyme Regis Area Average		18%

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Area	Site Name	Quality Score
Sherborne	Allotments adj to Sherborne Primary School	33%
	Bradford Abbas Allotments	58%
	Bristol Road Allotments, Sherborne	33%
	Harbour Road Allotments, Sherborne	10%
	Lenthay Road Allotments, Sherborne	50%
	Nether Compton Allotments	38%
	South Court Allotments, Sherborne	48%
	St Aldhelm's Road, Sherborne	58%
	Yetminster Allotments	45%
Sherborne Area Average		41%
District Average		39%

3.39 Site audits were undertaken to provide a scored assessment of quality. The key findings of the quality audit are:

- The average quality rating for allotments is 39% (Poor).
- The lowest rated site is Harbour Road Allotments, Sherborne scoring only 10% (Very Poor).
- The highest rated site was Max Gate Allotments, Dorchester achieving a quality score of 73% (Good).
- 18 of the 33 sites audited (55%) have no water supply
- No toilet facilities were found at any of the allotment sites
- 21 sites (64%) have no parking on site
- 21 sites (64%) have no signage

Accessibility: Allotments

3.40 It has not been possible during the timeframe of this research to engage with allotment holders. However a total of 14 town councils, parish councils and allotment societies were consulted regarding their allotment provision. In total these represent 24 allotment sites with a total of 881 plots. An average of 37 plots per site.

3.41 The average annual rental charge for a 10 rod plot (300 square yards) is £9.46. Only one town council (Sherborne) reported vacant plots and no waiting list. Reported issues include rabbit and deer damage, vandalism and lack of water.

3.42 Allotments are a demand led provision and further discussion is required in this area to assess accessibility. From the door to door survey only 7 people identified themselves as allotment users.

Recommended Standard	
Quantity	0.20 ha per 1000 population
Quality	To achieve 60% or above
Accessibility	A travel time of 13.17 Minutes

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Provision for Children and Young People

3.43 Provision for children and young people consists of equipped play areas and specialist provision for young people, including skateparks, multi-use games areas (MUGAs) and Teen Shelters. The provision of facilities for children and young people is important in facilitating opportunities for physical activity and the development of movement and social skills.

Definition

'Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play areas, multi-use games areas, skateboard areas and teenage shelters'.

Quantity: Provision for Children & Young People

3.44 The audit undertaken has revealed that there are **88 sites** that have provision for children and young people, occupying **12.33 hectares**. The provision is split between sites that are specifically provided for children and young people (i.e. stand alone play areas) and provision within other typologies. The total number of play areas classified as 'stand-alone sites' is **42**, with the remaining **46** play areas located on sites classified as other typologies.

3.45 The quantity standards for children and young people are based on the population of children aged 2-19. The data was obtained from Dorset County Council using the 2005 Patient Register. Figure 3.11 provides a summary of provision for children and young people within West Dorset. The provision is as follows:

- 46 play areas within other typologies (3.28 hectares)
- 42 stand alone play areas (9.05 hectares)

3.46 It is important to note that the 3.28 ha of land occupied by play areas within other typologies has already been calculated within the typologies they occupy. This is taken into consideration when calculating the standards for play within Section IV.

Figure 3.11 – West Dorset District Council: Children's Play Provision

Area	Children's Population Aged 2-19	Site	No. of Sites	Hectares	Hectares per 1,000 Population
Beaminster	1,697	Other Typology	6	1.54	0.91
		Stand Alone	3		
Bridport	3,635	Other Typology	9	1.79	0.49
		Stand Alone	8		
Chickerell	1,117	Other Typology	1	0.04	0.04
		Stand Alone	1		
Dorchester	8,287	Other Typology	19	5.53	0.67
		Stand Alone	20		
Lyme Regis	808	Other Typology	2	0.13	0.16
		Stand Alone	1		
Sherborne	4,452	Other Typology	9	3.3	0.74
		Stand Alone	9		
District Totals	19,996	Other Typology	46	12.33	0.62
		Stand Alone	42		
		Total	88		

3.47 The identified provision for children and young people in total covers **12.33 ha** across the District. From the Figure 3.11, a number of observations can be made:

- Across the District there is 0.62 hectares of provision per 1,000 population of children and young people.
- The Chickerell and Lyme Regis areas have significantly less provision than the District average.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

- The Dorchester area has the most play areas with 39 in total.
- It must be noted that the quality and accessibility of provision is more important than the amount of provision, given the small amount of area the sites generally cover.

Provision for Teenagers

3.48 16 MUGAs have been identified within the District. The quality of these facilities has been assessed and the findings are listed later within this section. 5 fit-for-purpose skate parks and 2 BMX tracks were also identified within the District. The quality ratings for both Skate Parks and BMX tracks have been included within the rating of the overall site.

Quality: Provision for Children and Young People

3.49 Quality Inspections have been undertaken via site visits to **87** of the **88** sites with play equipment and play features. The play area at Borough Gardens, Dorchester could not be assessed at the time of our visit due to refurbishment.

3.50 The quality assessment proforma for play areas has been based on the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA) "Play Value Assessment" and looks at a variety of criteria including the overall appearance of the site, the ambience and the type of equipment by age range. The quality inspections consider the following:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| • Balancing | • Jumping |
| • Climbing | • Rotating |
| • Crawling | • Sliding |
| • Gliding | • Rocking |
| • Group Swinging | • Agility Bridges |
| • Single Swinging | • Viewing Platform |
| • Ball Play | • Wheeled Play |

3.51 A copy of the proforma is contained within the appendices to this report. In summary the criteria have been used to rate quality and value of local play facilities.

3.52 It is important to note that play provision is not simply about providing equipment but is also about the environment that equipment is situated in. The proforma therefore considers a range of elements that best practice play areas have been found to promote. These include diversity in textures, use of wildflowers and landscaping. It is also good practice to design play areas so as to reflect any local significance of the site, in order to support the generation of a sense of place. For example, a play area near a railway line might include themed equipment designed around trains and railways.

3.53 Site scores not only consider the condition of the equipment but also consider the play value of the entire designated play area. This includes consideration for the different types of activity that the play area allows including:

- **Overall site features** including access gates, whether the area is pollution and noise free, presence of shade, access for the disabled, appropriate signage, locally related features and seating
- **Ambience** including layout, visual appeal, presence of litter or graffiti
- **Equipment for Toddlers, Juniors and Teenagers** have been assessed as discrete elements within the overall play value assessment

3.54 The assessment proforma allows compilation of a quality score (presented as a percentage) to reflect variances in the quality of facilities across the District. The score can be rated against a value line that reflects the overall quality of the site. The value lines are outlined below:

Site Overall Value				
0% - 29%	30% - 41%	42% - 51%	52% - 68%	69% +
Very Poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Toddler, Junior and Teenage Play

<25%	25%-40%	41%- 50%	51%-65%	66% +
Poor	Below Average	Average	Good	Excellent

3.55 The quality audit provides an indicative rating of quality out of 100%. It is important to note that the quality score represents a “snapshot” in time and records the quality of the site at the time of the visit. The quality assessment ratings for each site are shown in Figure 3.12.

Figure 3.12 – West Dorset District: Quality of Play Areas

Area	Site Name	Overall Play Score	No. of Pieces of Equipment	Toddler Score	Junior Score	Teenager Score
Beamminster	Beamminster Memorial Playing Fields	48%	8	38%	24%	-
	Bernards Place, Broadwindsor	65%	7	26%	31%	25%
	Corscombe Play Area	36%	6	24%	31%	-
	Drimpton Playing Field	54%	7	21%	14%	5%
	Millennium Green Playing Field, South Perrott	32%	4	6%	15%	5%
	Mosterton Playing Field	45%	5	21%	19%	5%
	Netherbury Playing Field	36%	7	6%	17%	8%
	Salway Ash Playing Field	43%	9	18%	17%	-
	Thorncombe Children's Play Area	41%	11	26%	29%	23%
Beamminster Area Average		44%	7	21%	22%	12%
Bridport	Bridport Leisure Centre	30%	7	6%	12%	-
	Burton Bradstock Playing Field	49%	11	47%	34%	-
	Cherry Tree Play Area, Bridport	41%	3	9%	5%	-
	Chideock Recreation Ground	42%	8	6%	15%	-
	Church Street Playing Field, Puncknowle	55%	7	24%	25%	20%
	Court Orchard Play Area, Bridport	38%	2	-	15%	10%
	Flaxhayes Play Area, Bridport	42%	6	18%	24%	10%
	John Holt Play Area, Bothenhampton	55%	6	12%	15%	-
	Loders Village Playing Field	51%	9	18%	22%	-
	Meadowlands Play Area, Wych	43%	4	21%	17%	-
	Pageants Close, Bradpole	46%	5	12%	15%	8%
	Peter Foot Play Area, Allington	49%	4	-	8%	-
	Plottingham Playing Fields	30%	6	9%	14%	15%
	Shipton Gorge Playing Field	51%	6	9%	20%	20%
	Skilling Oval, Bridport	48%	5	6%	17%	8%
	St Mary's Play Area, Bridport	39%	6	18%	12%	-
Whitchurch Canonicorum Play Area	51%	5	18%	25%	-	
Bridport Area Average		45%	6	15%	17%	13%
Chickerell	Fisherman's Close Play Area, Chickerell	28%	2	-	3%	-
	Old School Playing Fields, Chickerell	26%	2	9%	10%	-
Chickerell Area Average		27%	2	9%	7%	-
Dorchester	Alfred Road Play Area, Dorchester	33%	8	15%	12%	-
	Broadmayne Playing Field	42%	8	9%	25%	15%
	Butt Close Play Area, Puddletown	17%	2	3%	2%	-
	Castle Park Playing Field, Dorchester	59%	12	24%	37%	40%

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Area	Site Name	Overall Play Score	No. of Pieces of Equipment	Toddler Score	Junior Score	Teenager Score
	Cattistock Play Area	48%	8	18%	12%	-
	Cedar Grove Play Area, Charlton Down	30%	3	12%	-	-
	Cerne Abbas Playing Field	41%	3	15%	24%	10%
	Charles Street Skatepark, Dorchester	32%	1	-	10%	15%
	Charminster Play Area	32%	10	15%	22%	15%
	Church Playground, Stratton	17%	3	21%	-	-
	Clyfe View Play Area, Crossways	30%	4	12%	10%	-
	Combe Way Play Area, Crossways	23%	3	18%	-	-
	Edward Road Play Area, Dorchester	52%	4	18%	20%	-
	Elizabeth Place Playing Field, Dorchester	35%	8	15%	17%	20%
	Holmead Walk Park, Poundbury	64%	5	38%	36%	10%
	Jubilee Field, Bradford Peverell	28%	4	6%	12%	8%
	Kensington Walk Play Area, Dorchester	48%	5	12%	17%	-
	Kings Road Playing Field, Dorchester	46%	10	38%	41%	40%
	Langton Herring Amenity Area	41%	4	12%	12%	10%
	Litton Cheney Recreation Ground	43%	4	15%	15%	15%
	Long Bredy Playing Field	35%	4	6%	12%	13%
	Maiden Newton Play Area	29%	8	15%	8%	-
	Melstock Avenue Play Area, Dorchester	43%	10	15%	29%	18%
	Millennium Field, Piddlehinton	30%	7	32%	19%	3%
	Osmington Village Hall Playing Field	33%	6	18%	8%	8%
	Owermoigne Playing Field	23%	6	6%	12%	8%
	Piddletrenthide Recreation Ground	45%	3	12%	19%	-
	Portesham Playing Field	33%	6	12%	19%	-
	Poundbury Crescent Play Area, Dorchester	36%	9	15%	10%	-
	Puddletown Recreation Ground	29%	5	3%	12%	-
	Salisbury Field, Dorchester	54%	10	21%	24%	-
	Sandringham Centre, Dorchester	30%	3	-	24%	30%
	Sydling St. Nicholas Play Area	33%	7	6%	17%	5%
	Syward Close Play Area, Dorchester	45%	8	15%	22%	15%
	Toller Porcorum Recreation Area	45%	1	-	3%	25%
	Warmwell Leisure Resort, Crossways	17%	14	-	14%	3%
	West Stafford Play Area	33%	7	15%	12%	-
	Woodlands Crescent, Poundbury	51%	11	41%	32%	15%
Dorchester Area Average		37%	6	16%	18%	15%
Lyme Regis	Anning Road Playing Field, Lyme Regis	42%	6	6%	14%	-
	Charmouth Playing Field	54%	9	12%	20%	-
	Henry's Way Playground, Lyme Regis	35%	3	15%	-	-
Lyme Regis Area Average		43%	6	11%	17%	-
Sherborne	Alweston Playing Fields	43%	5	15%	17%	-
	Bishops Caundle Playing Fields	46%	9	15%	34%	-
	Blackberry Lane Play Area, Sherborne	48%	6	3%	24%	8%
	Bradford Abbas Playing Area	42%	9	15%	20%	8%

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Area	Site Name	Overall Play Score	No. of Pieces of Equipment	Toddler Score	Junior Score	Teenager Score
	Brierley Hay Play Area, Yetminster	41%	4	9%	12%	-
	Church Close Playing Field, Chetnole	33%	3	6%	7%	-
	Culverhayes Play Area, Sherborne	33%	6	6%	5%	-
	Granville Way Play Area, Sherborne	38%	3	-	10%	-
	Lambs Field, Sherborne	26%	2	6%	3%	-
	Leigh Play Area	26%	6	9%	12%	-
	McCreery Road Play Area, Sherborne	38%	5	-	20%	-
	Melbury Osmond Recreation Ground	26%	4	3%	10%	-
	Midleaze Park, Sherborne	41%	5	18%	-	-
	Play Area opposite St. Cuthbert's Church, Osborne	33%	2	9%	3%	-
	Ridgeway Playing Fields, Sherborne	43%	10	6%	20%	-
	St Paul's Green Play Area, Sherborne	35%	7	-	15%	-
	Terrace Playing Fields, Sherborne	35%	4	9%	5%	-
	Trent Village Hall Play Area	30%	4	3%	14%	-
Sherborne Area Average		37%	5	9%	14%	8%
Overall Average		39%	6	15%	17%	14%

3.56 Key findings relating to the overall quality of children's play areas include:

- The average rating of play areas across the District is 39%.
- On average each site contains 6 pieces of equipment.
- The highest scoring facility in terms of quality was the play area at Bernards Place, Broadwindsor in the Beaminster area. This rated 65% which achieves the 'good' rating.
- The toddler scores ranged from 3% to 47%
- The junior scores ranged from 2% to 41%
- The teenager scores ranged from 3% to 40%
- 30 sites (34%) have no signage
- 20 sites (23%) have no bins
- 11 sites (13%) have no seating
- 34 sites (39%) have no appropriate shade
- 34 sites (39%) have no disabled access
- 64 sites (74%) have no wheelchair friendly surfacing

Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAs)

3.57 14 of the 16 identified multi-use games areas were assessed for quality. The quality ratings are shown in Figure 3.13. The quality inspections consider the following factors:

- Surface quality
- Fencing
- Posts
- Nets
- Goals
- Line markings
- Secured entrance
- Correct size
- Floodlighting
- Information boards/contact details
- Vandalism

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Figure 3.13 – West Dorset District: Quality of MUGAs

Area	Site Name	Quality Score
Beaminster	Beaminster School Playing Fields	53%
	Mosterton Playing Field	25%
Bridport	-	-
Chickerell	Budmouth Community Sports Centre	45%
Dorchester	Broadmayne Playing Field	23%
	Cerne Abbas Playing Field	40%
	Kings Road Playing Field, Dorchester	50%
	Litton Cheney Recreation Ground	40%
	Puddletown Recreation Ground	82%
	St Osmund's Sports Centre, Dorchester	80%
	Stratton Playing Field	22%
	Warmwell Leisure Resort, Crossways	42%
Lyme Regis	-	-
Sherborne	Bradford Abbas Sports Ground	50%
	Sherborne Youth Centre Playing Fields	52%
	Stoneyacres, Yetminster	62%
District Average		48%

3.58 Key findings relating to the audited MUGAs include:

- The average rating of MUGAs across the District is 48%.
- No MUGAs are located in the Bridport or Lyme Regis areas.

Accessibility: Provision for Children and Young People

3.59 Accessibility has been assessed using a variety of techniques including mapping exercises and consultation. The key findings show that:

- Of the 270 residents that stated they use open space 79 said they visit children's play areas (29%).
- 85% of respondents stated they were less than 10 minutes walk from their nearest children's play area.
- 84% of residents access their nearest play area by walking, the remaining 15% use their car and 1% cycle.
- The average acceptable travel time to children's play areas is 6.58 minutes which equates to 0.33 miles if walking or 2.19 miles by car.

Recommended Standard

Quantity	0.62ha per 1000 population
Quality	To achieve 60% or above
Accessibility	A travel time of 6.58 minutes

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Cemeteries

Definition

“The primary purpose is for the burial of the dead and for quiet contemplation but also for the promotion of wildlife conservation and to enhance the ecological value of an area or provide a link to the past”

- 3.60 Cemeteries can provide a valuable contribution to the portfolio of open space provision within an area. For many, they can provide a place for quiet contemplation in addition to their primary purpose as a final resting place. They often have wildlife conservation and biodiversity value. In the context of this study, it is important to acknowledge that cemeteries are not created with the intention of providing informal or passive recreation opportunities.
- 3.61 Cemeteries can make a significant contribution to the provision of urban green space sometimes providing a sanctuary for wildlife in urban areas devoid of greenspace. Although many have restricted access they still provide a useful resource for the local community. A wide variety of habitats can be often be found supporting the other open space types such as areas of semi-natural and natural areas.
- 3.62 Within urban areas, cemeteries may be among the few areas of greenspace where the local community is able to have some contact with the natural world. Within rural communities they often provide a strong link to the past.

Quantity: Cemeteries

- 3.63 There are no national or local standards for the quality of cemeteries. Increasingly though a number of local authorities have entered cemeteries for the Green Flag Award.
- 3.64 Large cemeteries were identified by town/parish councils, district council officers and GIS mapping. In most cases these sites are managed by the parish or town council.

Figure 3.14 – Large Cemeteries in West Dorset

Area	Population	No. of Sites	Hectares	Hectares per 1,000 Population
Beaminster	9,118	-	-	-
Bridport	20,473	2	3.08	0.15
Chickerell	5,618	-	-	-
Dorchester	41,448	7	6.31	0.15
Lyme Regis	5,137	1	1.96	0.38
Sherborne	18,378	1	2.25	0.12
District Total	100,172	11	13.60	0.14

- 3.65 Key findings relating to cemeteries include:
- 11 large cemeteries were located across the District equating to 13.6 ha of land
 - For cemeteries there is a provision of 0.14 ha per 1,000 population
 - No cemeteries are located in the Beaminster or Chickerell areas. However smaller burial facilities at churchyards have not been included in the study.
- 3.66 The distribution of cemeteries across the District varies significantly and no standards are to be set for future provision. However it is still important to consider the quality of provision that currently exists.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Quality

3.67 Quality inspections have been undertaken via a site visit and completion of a scored proforma. The quality was broadly based on the scoring system used for other accessible types of open space. The key criteria include:

- Main entrance safety and cleanliness
- Signage
- Upkeep and safety of graves
- Quality of roads and pathways
- Provision of bins and seats

3.68 It is important to consider wider facilities that could be developed further at some of the sites. These would include recycling facilities for visitors to dispose of flowers etc. The key findings of the quality assessments undertaken are provided in Figure 3.15 below.

Figure 3.15 - Summary of Quality Assessment Findings

Area	Site Name	Quality Score
Beaminster	-	-
Bridport	Chideock Cemetery	27%
	Walditch Cemetery	87%
Chickerell	-	-
Dorchester	Charminster Cemetery	54%
	Cranes Meadow Cemetery, Buckland Newton	46%
	Dorchester Cemetery	77%
	Fordington Cemetery, Dorchester	66%
	Maiden Newton Cemetery	47%
	Poundbury Cemetery	58%
	St Martin's Church, Broadmayne	37%
Lyme Regis	Lyme Regis Cemetery	56%
Sherborne	Sherborne Cemetery	65%
District Average		56%

3.69 The results of the quality assessments can be summarised as:

- The average quality score across the District is 56% "Good"
- Of the 11 sites audited, 2 sites (18%) have no signage, 3 sites (27%) have no bins and 3 sites (27%) have no seating.

Accessibility

3.70 Accessibility to cemeteries is difficult to assess. In regard to their overall contribution to open space, given their primary purpose and factors affecting location and provision levels, the assessment has not included a focus on distribution, location or distance thresholds.

3.71 People make use of this type of provision for a variety of reasons. In terms of physical access, a number of sites had poor access for those with mobility difficulties or visiting in a wheel chair, particularly through to the graves themselves.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Outdoor Sports Facilities

Definition

“Participation in outdoor sports such as pitch sports, tennis, bowls etc.”

- 3.72 Outdoor sports facilities, for the purposes of the assessment have been sub-divided into the following facilities:
- **Playing Pitches** – provision for Football, Cricket, Rugby and Hockey have been assessed using the prescribed methodology detailed within “Towards a Level Playing Field”. The assessment methodology is provided in more detail within the appendices to this report
 - **Bowling Greens** have been assessed separately as discrete sports facilities. Where they are present in parks, bowling greens have formed part of the overall quality score for the facility
 - **Tennis Courts** have been assessed as discrete sports facilities and where they are present in parks, have contributed to the overall score for the park/open space
 - **Golf Courses** have been assessed on the basis of access and opportunities to play
- 3.73 Sites that are not exclusively used for sport have been included within other typologies. For example, a park containing sports pitches will be included in the ‘parks, gardens and recreation grounds’ typology. The various types of outdoor sports facilities are considered below.
- 3.74 The Audit has identified that West Dorset has a total of **68 sites** used exclusively for outdoor sports. For the purpose of this assessment only publicly accessible sites with sports provision have been included. The list of sites includes bowling greens, golf courses, tennis courts, playing fields and schools with secured community use. Sports facilities at recreation sites have been included in the parks, gardens and recreation grounds typology.
- 3.75 A further 38 school sites with no secured community use have been identified in West Dorset. In total these sites occupy 25.90 hectares of land and should be considered prior to developing new sites for outdoor sport.

Figure 3.16 – Sites classified as Formal Outdoor Sport

Area	Population	No. of Sites	Hectares	Hectares per 1,000 Population
Beaminster	9,118	6	58.47	6.41
Bridport	20,473	9	63.49	3.10
Chickerell	5,618	4	27.16	4.83
Dorchester	41,448	29	150.58	3.63
Lyme Regis	5,137	4	42.93	8.36
Sherborne	18,378	16	101.45	5.52
District Total	100,172	68	444.08	4.43

- 3.76 Key findings relating to those sites classified as Outdoor Sport include:
- There is a total of **444.08 ha** within West Dorset. This equates to 4.43 ha per 1,000 population.
 - Golf Courses make up a large proportion of outdoor sport. The 12 identified courses equate to 345.07 ha. Without golf the provision of outdoor sport is 99.01 ha (0.99ha per 1000 population).
 - It is important to recognise that pitches are provided within other typologies and the footprint is included within the calculation for other typologies. However in order to give a true reflection the calculations in section four are based on the overall pitch provision.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Quantity: Playing Pitches

3.77 The facility audit has revealed the total number of pitches and outdoor sport provision for each site within **all typologies**. The overall supply spreadsheet is attached as appendix 4. Information has been obtained via questionnaire, site visits and GIS. The identified pitch provision is summarised in the Figure below 3.17:

Figure 3.17 – West Dorset District: Current Community Accessible Pitches on all sites

Area	Population	Mini	Junior	Senior	Cricket	Rugby	Hockey	STP*	Total	No. of people per pitch
Beaminster	9,118	2	3	11	5	3	0	0	24	380
Bridport	20,473	4	5	7	4	4	0	1	25	819
Chickerell	5,618	3	2	5	2	0	0	0	12	468
Dorchester	41,448	13	17	26	18	9	2	1	86	482
Lyme Regis	5,137	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	4	1284
Sherborne	18,378	5	7	12	8	3	1	3	39	471
Total	100,172	27	35	63	38	19	3	5	190	527

*STP = Synthetic Turf Pitch

3.78 The key observations from the level of pitch provision across the District are:

- The audit identified a total of 190 pitches across the District accessible to the public. These include mini, junior and senior football, rugby, cricket and synthetic turf pitches
- The Dorchester area has the most pitches (86 pitches) which reflect its population density.
- The Beaminster area has the highest number of pitches per head of population.
- The Lyme Regis area has the least number of pitches with only 4, with a total of 1,284 residents per pitch.
- There are more Senior Football pitches than any other type of pitch across the District. (63 pitches which equates to 33% of all pitch provision)
- In addition to those pitches that are available for community use there are also 38 school sites that do not currently have any formal community use. This equates to 25.9 ha of land.

Quality: Playing Pitches

3.79 Quality inspections have been undertaken via site visits and completion of a non-technical visual inspection. The pitch visit proforma provided as part of the Sport England Electronic Toolkit has been used. This will allow comparison with pitch quality findings in future years with other local authorities who have completed local assessments. The key qualitative aspects of provision include:

- Pitch Slope
- Pitch Evenness
- Grass Cover
- Condition of equipment
- Presence of ancillary facilities
- Presence of common problems
- Proximity to transport network
- Presence of training facilities

3.80 As identified earlier the playing pitch quality is measured against the quality value line as outlined below.

Quality Line – Playing Pitches

0% - 30%	31% - 39%	40% - 59%	60% - 89%	90% +
Poor	Below Average	Average	Good	Excellent

3.81 The results of the quality assessments are summarised in figure 3.18. For sites with more than one pitch a mean score of the pitch scores has been taken.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Figure 3.18 – West Dorset District: Playing Pitch Quality Assessment Findings

Area	Site Name	Pitch Quality Score
Beaminster	Beaminster Memorial Playing Fields	75%
	Beaminster School Playing Fields	48%
	Broadwindsor Playing Fields	67%
	Drimpton Playing Field	52%
	Halstock Playing Field	57%
	Melplash Cricket Ground	60%
	Netherbury Playing Field	62%
	Salway Ash Playing Field	62%
	Thorncombe Children's Play Area	40%
	Thorncombe Sports Ground	77%
Beaminster Area Average		60%
Bridport	Bridport Football Club	72%
	Bridport Leisure Centre	79%
	Burton Bradstock Playing Field	54%
	Cemetery Fields Play Area, Bridport	44%
	Chideock Recreation Ground	38%
	Court Orchard Play Area, Bridport	48%
	Sir John Colfox School, Bridport	74%
	St Mary's Playing Field, Bridport	62%
	St. Andrews Road, Bridport	62%
	Symene Playing Field, Symondsbury	70%
	The Weir Sports Club Field, Nettlecombe	71%
	Wootton Fitzpaine Village Hall	40%
Bridport Area Average		60%
Chickerell	Budmouth Community Sports Centre	53%
	Old School Playing Fields, Chickerell	63%
	Wessex Stadium	87%
Chickerell Area Average		68%
Dorchester	Abbotsbury Cricket Club	63%
	Broadmayne Playing Field	38%
	Buckland Newton Playing Field	62%
	Cattistock Cricket Ground	58%
	Cattistock Recreation Ground	75%
	Cerne Abbas Cricket Ground	77%
	Charlton Down Playing Field	58%
	Crossways Sports Field	60%
	Dorchester Rugby Club	79%
	Dorchester Town Football Club	87%
	Evershot Playing Field	55%
	Hedley Howard Memorial Playing Field, Frome Vauchurch	27%
	Kings Road Playing Field, Dorchester	48%
	Little Bredy Cricket Ground	67%
	Litton Cheney Recreation Ground	52%
	Martinstown Cricket Ground	58%
	Old Farm Way, Crossways	51%
	Piddletrenthide Recreation Ground	62%
	Portesham Playing Field	55%

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Area	Site Name	Pitch Quality Score
	Puddletown Recreation Ground	72%
	Puddletown Rugby Club	70%
	Sandringham Centre, Dorchester	57%
	St Mary's Catholic First School, Dorchester	57%
	St Mary's CofE First School, Charminster	58%
	St Mary's CofE Middle School, Puddletown	53%
	St Osmund's Sports Centre, Dorchester	67%
	Stratton Playing Field	52%
	TA Barracks Playing Field, Dorchester	72%
	Thomas Hardy Leisure Centre, Dorchester	61%
	Toller Porcorum Recreation Area	52%
	Weymouth Avenue Sports Ground, Dorchester	70%
Dorchester Area Average		60%
Lyme Regis	Charmouth Playing Field	42%
	Lyme Regis Football Club	48%
Lyme Regis Area Average		45%
Sherborne	Bishops Caundle Playing Fields	62%
	Bradford Abbas Sports Ground	67%
	Church Close Playing Field, Chetnole	65%
	Church Road Playing Field, Bradford Abbas	40%
	Nether Compton Playing Field	40%
	Ridgeway Playing Fields, Sherborne	48%
	Sherborne Youth Centre Playing Fields	65%
	Stoneyacres, Yetminster	58%
	Terrace Playing Fields, Sherborne	60%
	Thornford Recreation Ground	73%
	Yetminster Playing Fields	61%
Sherborne Area Average		58%
District Average		60%

Figure 3.19 – West Dorset District: Summary of Quality Assessment Findings

Type of Pitch	No. of Pitches Audited	Quality Range	Average	Rating
Mini Football	13	40%-70%	55%	Average
Junior Football	19	38%-77%	52%	Average
Senior Football	36	27%-87%	62%	Good
Cricket Pitch	29	48%-83%	65%	Good
Rugby Pitch	9	53%-82%	69%	Good
Totals	107	40%-87%	61%	Good

*STPs not rated using pitch proforma

3.82 The quality audit of pitches has revealed that:

- A total of 107 pitches were rated on 69 different sites (56% of all identified pitches that are available for community use). This figure is low due to most of the audits taking place in summer when winter games pitches are not always identifiable.
- Quality varies across sites with ratings varying from 40% (average) through to 87% (excellent).
- The average across all sites is 61% (good) when measured against the quality value line.
- **Senior football pitches** had the greatest quality range from 27% (poor) to 87% (excellent). This variation in quality was also found on the **junior and mini football pitches**.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

- 29 **Cricket pitches** were rated and quality scores varied from 48% through to 83%. The average pitch score was 65% (good) when measured against the quality value line.
- The quality of **Rugby pitches** varied from a score of 53% through to 82%. The average score was 69% (good) when measured against the quality value line.
- **Hockey pitches (Synthetic Turf Pitches)** were not rated as part of this audit.

3.83 These ratings provide a comprehensive guide to the varying quality across the District, but need to be treated with caution for the following reasons:

- The inspections were non-technical, based on a visual assessment only
- The inspections are a snapshot view of provision – scores are recorded based on what is seen on site at one particular visit
- The presence of changing room facilities (regardless of their quality) also boosts the score for a pitch.

Accessibility: Playing Pitches

3.84 Access to pitch provision is influenced by a number of factors and needs to be viewed differently to access factors for more general open space provision. The following factors need to be considered:

- The need for ancillary facilities, such as changing rooms and car parking, to ensure that some league standards are met
- The level of fees and charges for use of the facility – playing pitches have been assessed from the perspective of being formal sports facilities
- The demand “unit” is different to that of other types of open space. A team may not necessarily comprise residents from the same locality
- From the residents’ survey the average acceptable travel time to sports pitches is 8.34 minutes which equates to 0.42 miles if walking or 2.78 miles by car.

Audit of Current Demand

3.85 The following numbers of clubs and teams have been identified as playing regular fixtures throughout the 2006/07 season:

Figure 3.20 - Numbers of Clubs & Teams across West Dorset District

Sport	Number of clubs	Number of teams
Football	47	129
Cricket	15	42
Rugby Union	4	44
Hockey	2	4
Total	68	219

3.86 The figure shows that football and cricket have the largest number of individual clubs. The four rugby clubs also generate a large number of teams. A more detailed breakdown of teams and clubs by area is illustrated in Figure 3.21.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Figure 3.21 - Breakdown of Clubs and Teams by Area

Sport	Beaminster		Bridport		Chickerell		Dorchester		Lyme Regis		Sherborne		Totals	
	No. of Clubs	No. of Teams	No. of Clubs	No. of Teams	No. of Clubs	No. of Teams	No. of Clubs	No. of Teams	No. of Clubs	No. of Teams	No. of Clubs	No. of Teams	No. of Clubs	No. of Teams
Football	5	10	6	17	8	18	15	46	2	13	11	25	47	129
Cricket	1	1	1	7	0	0	8	17	0	0	4	10	15*	42*
Rugby	0	0	1	10	0	0	2	20	0	0	1	14	4	44
Hockey	0	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4
TOTAL	6	11	10	38	8	18	25	83	2	13	16	49	68	219

* West Dorset Cricket Association has 7 teams that play at various locations throughout the District

3.87 Figure 3.21 demonstrates a variation in the number of clubs and teams participating in the four main sports of football, cricket, rugby and hockey across the six areas. Football has the highest demand with 129 teams identified in 47 clubs, cricket has 42 identified teams from 15 clubs (West Dorset Cricket Association has 7 teams that play at various locations throughout the District and do not have a home ground). Only four clubs have been identified for rugby but they generate 44 teams. Hockey is the least popular of the four sports with 2 clubs generating 4 teams (partly due to the requirement for a synthetic turf pitch to play hockey to a reasonable standard of game). Only three of the six areas have an accessible synthetic turf pitch with community use.

3.88 Figure 3.22 provides a detailed breakdown of the team types within each area by sport.

Figure 3.22 – Team types within areas

Sport	Team type	Area						Total
		Beaminster	Bridport	Chickerell	Dorchester	Lyme Regis	Sherborne	
Football	Mini soccer	0	0	1	15	4	4	24
	Junior Football	1	9	10	15	3	13	51
	Senior Football	9	8	7	16	6	8	54
	Total	10	17	18	46	13	25	129
Cricket	Junior	0	4	0	3	0	4	17
	Senior	1	3	0	14	0	6	25
	Total	1	7	0	17	0	10	42*
Rugby	Mini	0	2	0	6	0	6	14
	Junior	0	5	0	7	0	4	16
	Senior	0	3	0	7	0	4	14
	Total	0	10	0	20	0	14	44
Hockey	Junior	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Senior	0	4	0	0	0	0	4
	Total	0	4	0	0	0	0	4
TOTAL		11	38	18	83	13	49	219

* West Dorset Cricket Association has 7 teams that play at various locations throughout the District

3.89 The Dorchester area has the largest number of teams with 83 (46 football, 17 cricket and 20 rugby) whilst the Beaminster area has the lowest number of teams with 11 across all sports (10 football and 1 cricket). All figures do need to be treated with caution; the results are reliant upon a response to a questionnaire survey, research of league handbooks, the internet and information from appropriate governing bodies. Teams who do not play in leagues but play casual friendlies may not have been recorded.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Inclusions and Exclusions

- 3.90 The assessment methodology requires an assessment of the facilities' and teams' suitability to be included and excluded within the methodology. In this study, the Sport England Methodology includes key clubs within local communities, which contribute to the development of sporting opportunities for local people. These community clubs are often the key clubs within the local area and have open membership policies and sports development opportunities where otherwise they may not exist, despite them owning their own grounds, and having exclusive team use of the pitches thereon. These local factors must be taken into account when establishing the quantitative analysis of playing provision within the area.
- 3.91 The **facilities not** covered by assessment can be identified as follows:
- Industrial facilities which are reserved for the team associated with the site
 - Educational establishment facilities, which have no formal community use agreement and are not available for hire by the public.
 - Sports pitches which are not available for public use e.g. Prison Service
- 3.92 The **facilities that are** included in the assessment can be identified as follows:
- Local Authority owned facilities, which have established community access arrangements.
 - Educational establishment facilities which have formal community use agreement and are available for hire by the public
 - Voluntary and private facilities which are available to the public to hire
 - Private clubs who own their own grounds
 - Teams which play on the above facilities
- 3.93 The assessment of Demand is more difficult to apply strict criteria to. Many teams and sports clubs comprise members that live in neighbouring areas or settlements so it is not always easy to identify "where" a team comes from. People do not live their daily lives within the confines of council boundaries. Inevitably there are some "grey areas" relating to some clubs and whether they should be included within the assessment or not. It is important that the assessment reflects the way sport operates on a local level. As a result, only teams that play their home venues within the District have been included.
- 3.94 It is important to note that all figures are calculated from the teams that have responded to a questionnaire survey and a follow up telephone call. Teams are also identified through league fixture handbooks and web based research. However several local teams may not be affiliated to a league and may simply play friendlies, some of these teams may not have been included within the calculations. The calculations are developed through the Sport England Level playing field electronic toolkit and are very much demand led calculations.

Sport-by-Sport Assessment – Key Findings

- 3.95 The findings of the assessment of playing pitch provision undertaken are considered on a sport-by-sport basis, in relation to Football, Cricket, Rugby Union and Hockey. No Rugby League teams were identified or other key pitch sports (for example, Gaelic Football or Lacrosse).

Football Assessment

Pitch Quantity

- 3.96 **Numbers of clubs and teams.** The study has identified **47 football clubs** that play in West Dorset. From the research undertaken, these clubs generate **129 teams**. The number of teams generated by each club varies significantly, from single team clubs to those with in excess of ten teams.(Appendix 4a contains teams and club data for football)
- 3.97 These teams are detailed by the number within each identified "type" of team in Figure 3.23 overleaf.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Figure 3.23 – Football Teams in West Dorset District

Team Type	Number of teams
Mini Soccer (Under 7 & Under 8)	12
Mini Soccer (Under 9 & Under 10)	12
Junior Football – Boys (Under 11 – Under 16)	37
Junior Football – Girls (Under 11 – Under 16)	13
Junior Football – Mixed (Under 11 – Under 16)	1
Senior Football – Men’s (Over 16)	50
Senior Football – Women’s (Over 16)	4
TOTAL NUMBER OF TEAMS	129

- 3.98 **Number of pitches.** The study research has identified **125 football pitches with community use**; these are included in the assessment calculation. A summary of the pitches included is detailed in Figure 3.24. Football pitches are categorised as “Mini”, “Junior” or “Senior”, in accordance with the requirements of the Football Association for age-group football. Football pitches are located on a number of different sites including schools, recreation grounds, playing fields and private sports clubs.

Figure 3.24 - Football Pitches in West Dorset

Area	Population	Mini	Junior	Senior	Total
Beaminster	9,118	2	3	11	16
Bridport	20,473	4	5	7	16
Chickerell	5,618	3	2	5	10
Dorchester	41,448	13	17	26	56
Lyme Regis	5,137	0	1	2	3
Sherborne	18,378	5	7	12	24
Total	100,172	27	35	63	125

- 3.99 **Home Games per week.** Calculations are based on teams playing home and away league fixtures with a demand for 0.5 pitches per week (1 home game every fortnight), reflecting that only half the teams will play “at home” each week. Based on this assumption the estimated number of home games per week are 12 mini soccer games, 26 junior games and 28 senior games.
- 3.100 **Anomalies.** In order to assess the surplus or deficiency of pitches several calculations were made with the final figure being a rounded one. This results in discrepancies between figures of +/- 1. This can result in the final totals differing slightly. This type of anomaly occurs through the sections relating to supply and demand.
- 3.101 **Temporal Demand for Games.** The assessment reveals that most games are played on a Sunday (62% of all football games). With regard to the type of demand: the District has **67** games played per week across the different age groups of football.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Figure 3.25 – Football Type and Demand by Area

Area	Senior Pitches			Junior Pitches			Mini Pitches		
	Sat	Sun	Mid-Week	Sat	Sun	Mid-Week	Sat	Sun	Mid-Week
Beaminster	4	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Bridport	2	2	1	1	4	0	0	0	0
Chickerell	2	1	1	0	5	0	0	1	0
Dorchester	6	2	1	3	4	1	0	8	0
Lyme Regis	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0
Sherborne	1	3	0	1	6	0	1	2	0
Total*	18	8	1	5	21	1	1	12	0

*Refer to section 3.100 on Anomalies

- 3.102 **Mini soccer:** The Figure shows that peak demand for mini soccer is on Sundays with 8 games played in the Dorchester area, 2 games in the Lyme Regis and Sherborne areas and 1 game in the Chickerell area. Only one mini soccer game is played on Saturdays in the Sherborne area.
- 3.103 **Junior Football:** the Figure shows peak demand for junior games is on Sundays. 21 junior games are played throughout the District. 5 junior games are played on Saturdays and 1 mid-week junior game is played in the Dorchester area.
- 3.104 **Senior Football:** the Figure shows that peak demand for senior football is Saturday with 18 games played per week. 8 senior games are played on Sundays and 1 game during the week.

Figure 3.26 – Temporal Demand

Team Type	Saturday Games	Sunday Games	Mid-week Games	Total demand
Mini Soccer	1	12	0	13
Junior Football	5	21	1	27
Senior Football	18	8	1	27
TOTAL NUMBER OF GAMES*	24	41	2	67

*Refer to section 3.100 on Anomalies

- 3.105 **Identified Surplus / Deficiencies in pitch provision** are identified in Figure 3.27. Essentially this identifies whether the total number of pitches is sufficient to meet the demand generated by the total number of teams identified. The results of the assessment have been completed on a District and area basis and indicate whether deficiencies or surpluses in playing pitch provision exist. It is important to note that a surplus in pitches does not mean the pitches are not used, merely that they are not played to their full capacity. Where deficiencies are identified the pitches are likely to be over played.
- 3.106 All figures need to be kept in a rural context with local teams needing access to pitches close to where they live. It is unlikely that a team will travel from one side of the District to the other to play fixtures.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Figure 3.27 - Identified Surplus / Deficiencies in pitch provision

Area	Senior Pitches			Junior Pitches			Mini Pitches		
	Sat	Sun	Mid-Week	Sat	Sun	Mid-Week	Sat	Sun	Mid-Week
Beaminster	+6	+10	+10	+3	+3	+3	+2	+2	+2
Bridport	+5	+6	+7	+5	+1	+5	+4	+4	+4
Chickerell	+3	+4	+5	+2	-3	+2	+3	+3	+3
Dorchester	+21	+26	+27	+14	+13	+17	+13	+6	+13
Lyme Regis	-1	+2	+2	+1	-1	+1	0	-2	0
Sherborne	+11	+9	+12	+6	+2	+7	+5	+4	+5
District Total	+45	+55	+62	+31	+15	+35	+27	+16	+27

3.107 From the Figure above the demand for pitches on an area basis clearly fluctuates. The results show that:

- There is a clear surplus of all types of pitch on a District-wide basis.
- Deficiencies of 1 senior pitch for Saturday, 1 junior pitch for Sunday and 2 mini pitches for Sunday were recorded in the Lyme Regis area.
- A deficiency of 3 junior football pitches was recorded for Sundays in the Chickerell area.

Mini Football

3.108 Peak demand for mini soccer is on a Sunday with 92% of all fixtures played on this day. The number of mini soccer pitches currently in secured public use is shown by the assessment to be **deficient** in the Lyme Regis area by 2 pitches on a Sunday. This demand is created by Lyme Regis FC (Youth Section) and there are proposed plans to develop a new site for recreation opposite the existing ground on Charmouth Road (Strawberry Field) in partnership with the Town Council. Alternatively secured community use could be secured at one of the three schools identified within the Lyme Regis area. These are St. Michael's C. of E. Primary School, The Woodroffe School and Charmouth Primary School.

3.109 Mini pitches do not endure as much use as senior pitches (with regard to length of game) and there is a possibility that some pitches can accommodate a "rolling" programme of matches, with perhaps two games played one after the other.

Junior Football

3.110 Peak demand for junior football is on a Sunday with 78% of fixtures played on this day. The model demonstrates a deficiency of 3 junior pitches on Sunday in the Chickerell area and 1 pitch in the Lyme Regis area on Sunday. The deficiency in the Chickerell area could be met by converting senior pitches into junior pitches and/or securing community use at a local school e.g. Chickerell Primary School. The deficiency in the Lyme Regis area could be served in a similar way to that suggested for mini pitches.

Senior Football

3.111 The majority of senior football is played on a Saturday with 67% of fixtures taking place on a Saturday. All areas were demonstrating a surplus of senior pitches with the exception of the Lyme Regis area. The model demonstrates a deficiency of one senior pitch on Saturdays. This deficiency could be served by securing community use at a local school or proceeding with the Strawberry Field development.

Latent Demand

3.112 Latent Demand can be described as demand for a pitch that is "suppressed" or is not met, due to a range of factors including:

- No pitch facilities in local area
- The team is unable to afford to rent a pitch or participate in leagues that require significant travel for away fixtures
- There is a shortage of officials
- Schools restricting community use

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

- 3.113 An attempt was made to assess levels of latent demand in the District. This was predominantly conducted through consultation with sports clubs who were asked to identify issues with provision. No clubs specifically expressed unmet demand, with the exception of Weymouth FC who felt there was a need for increased youth playing facilities in and around the Weymouth area – this includes Chickerell.

Future Demand

- 3.114 Future demand for playing pitches is difficult to ascertain, as there are many factors which can contribute to a change in the demand for playing pitches, including the success of local teams, sports development initiatives and the quality/accessibility of local facilities and nature/scope of local leagues. Team Generation Rates and the findings of club consultation have been used. Future demand has been calculated on a District basis only. The County Council were unable to provide population projections on the basis of the areas used in this report.
- 3.115 Team Generation rates (TGRs) can be used as a guide. Team generation rates are calculated by dividing the number of football teams (by type) within the study area by the population. The TGR for each team type is the estimated number of residents within the age group required to generate one team. The derived ratios can then be applied to projected population increases to assess future pitch requirements.

Figure 3.28 – Team Generation Rates for Football in West Dorset

Football Team Type	Age- Group Population	Current Population	Current number of teams	Current Team Generation Rate
Mini-Soccer (U7-U10)	6-9 year olds	4,075	24	1:170
Junior Football: Boys	10-15 year olds	3,512	37	1:95
Junior Football: Girls	10-15 year olds	3,835	14	1:274
Senior Football: Men	16-45 year olds	15,471	50	1:309
Senior Women	16-45 year olds	16,895	4	1:4,224

- 3.116 The TGRs and Population projections have been used to identify likely changes to demand and supply over the next 5 years. Assuming the population of West Dorset will increase by 4.47% between 2005-2012 (ONS sub-national population projections) the projections for 2012 are detailed below:

Figure 3.29 – Projected changes to team numbers

Football Team Type	Current Population	Current Teams	2012 Population	Expected Teams in 2012
Mini-Soccer (U7-U10)	4,075	24	4,257	25
Junior Football: Boys	3,512	37	3,669	39
Junior Football: Girls	3,835	14	4,006	15
Senior Football: Men	15,471	50	16,160	52
Senior Women	16,895	4	17,647	4

Team numbers based on current TGRs

- 3.117 If TGRs remain the same, then team numbers, and subsequently demand will change. The change in the number of pitches is estimated on the basis of peak demand remaining at the same time. On this basis there is likely to be:

- Demand for a total of 12 mini pitches in 2012

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

- Demand for a total of 22 junior pitches in 2012
- Demand for a total of 19 senior pitches in 2012

- 3.118 Given the current levels of supply, and surpluses in football, there is no requirement for additional pitch provision at a District wide level. However this model has not been run at an area level (due to the lack of population projection data) and local deficiencies may occur. The audit has revealed a number of school sites not currently accessed by the community. It is possible that some pitches not currently in community use could be made available, or alternatively some pitches could be re-assigned to address any local deficiencies that may occur.
- 3.119 Clubs have also provided an indication of whether their membership is likely to increase or decrease in the coming years. The consultation completed would appear to suggest that clubs, particularly those catering for juniors, anticipate a steady increase in their membership.
- 3.120 TGRs can also be used to identify if demand levels are low or high if compared to other similar areas. A number of other similar authorities have been used for comparison purposes in Figure 3.30 below:

Figure 3.30 – Comparison of Football TGRs

Team Type: Football	West Dorset DC	North Dorset DC	West Oxfordshire DC	Slough BC	Hyndburn BC	Cannock Chase DC
Mini Soccer	1:170	1:158	1:130	1:371	1:226	1:219
Junior Boys	1:95	1:94	1:72	1:142	1:98	1:156
Junior Girls	1:274	1:282	1:480	n/a	n/a	1:3,838
Senior Men	1:309	1:330	1:270	1:325	1:539	1:467
Senior Women	1:4,224	1:10,602	1:9,807	1:28,865	1:16,448	n/a

- 3.121 The comparisons suggest the following:
- Relatively high levels of Mini Soccer teams.
 - Relatively high level of junior girls' and senior women's teams.
 - Average rates for junior boys' and senior men's teams.

Summary of Key Issues for Football

- 3.122 The key issues for football facility provision across the District:
- Deficiencies of pitches in the Lyme Regis and Chickerell areas at a local level, although this is not the case on a District wide basis.
 - Due to a projected population increase, there is likely to be a slight increase in the number of teams in the future (clubs also anticipated their membership would remain static or increase slightly).
 - Pitch quality appears to be a key issue with the average for football across the District equating to a rating of 55% for mini soccer pitches (average) and 52% for junior pitches (average). Only senior pitches scored in the 'good' category with an average quality score of 62%.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Cricket Assessment

Pitch Quantity

- 3.123 The study research has identified **15 cricket clubs** based within the District. From the research undertaken, these clubs generate **42 teams**. The number of teams generated by each club varies significantly, from single team clubs to one club with 8 teams. (Appendix 4b contains team and club data for cricket) The breakdown of teams is shown Figure 3.31.

Figure 3.31 – Cricket Teams in West Dorset

Team Type	Number of teams
Junior Cricket (11-17 year old)	17
Senior Men's Cricket (18-55 year olds)	25
TOTAL NUMBER OF CRICKET TEAMS	42

- 3.124 The study research has identified **38 pitches**, which are included in the assessment calculation. These pitches all have community use. No differentiation has been made between junior and senior pitches. Junior fixtures often make use of the same pitch or ground.
- 3.125 Calculations are based on teams playing home and away league fixtures with a demand for 0.5 pitches per week (1 home game every fortnight), reflecting that only half the teams will play “at home” each week. Based on this assumption, the estimated number of home games per week is 9 junior games and 13 senior games.
- 3.126 **Temporal Demand for Games.** The assessment reveals that senior demand is spread across the week, whilst the majority of junior games are played on a Sunday or mid-week. With regard to the type of demand:

Figure 3.32 – Temporal Demand

Team Type	Saturday Games	Sunday Games	Mid-week Games	Total demand
Junior Cricket	0	6	11	17
Senior Cricket	9	9	7	25
TOTAL NUMBER OF GAMES	9	15	18	42

Note: Rounding up or down of figures may lead to slight anomalies in figures.

- 3.127 **Pitches required** to meet demand and the identified peaks are identified below in Figure 3.33.

Figure 3.33 – Pitches required to meet identified demand

Demand	Number of pitches required to meet demand
Saturday	5
Sunday	7
Midweek	9

- 3.128 **Identified Surplus / Deficiencies in pitch provision** are identified in Figure 3.34. On a District wide basis, this essentially identifies whether the total number of pitches within the District is sufficient to meet the demand (and peaks) generated by the total number of teams identified. The results indicate that the following deficiencies / surpluses in playing pitch provision exist.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Figure 3.34 - Surplus / Deficiency in pitch provision for cricket

Area	Shortfall / surplus		
	Sat	Sun	Mid-Week
Beaminster	+5	+5	+5
Bridport	+4	+4	+2
Chickerell	+2	+2	+2
Dorchester	+15	+16	+14
Lyme Regis	+1	+1	+1
Sherborne	+7	+7	+7
District Total	+34	+31	+29

- 3.129 The results show that there is currently a surplus of cricket pitches across the District. Some of these may exist on school sites that have secured community use but are currently only used for school or casual use.
- 3.130 On an area basis the level of supply varies significantly from a surplus of 1 pitch in the Lyme Regis area to a surplus of 16 pitches in the Dorchester area.

Latent Demand

- 3.131 Latent Demand can be described as demand for a pitch that is “suppressed” or is not met, due to a range of factors including:
- No pitch facilities in local area
 - The team is unable to afford to rent a pitch or participate in leagues that require significant travel for away fixtures
 - There is a shortage of officials
 - There is a shortage of coaches and Team managers
- 3.132 An attempt was made to assess levels of latent demand in the District. This was predominantly conducted through consultation with sports clubs who were asked to identify issues with provision. No key issues relating to suppressed demand were identified.

Future Demand

- 3.133 Future demand for playing pitches is difficult to ascertain as there are many factors which can contribute to a change in the demand for playing pitches, including the success of local teams, sports development initiatives and the quality/accessibility of local facilities and nature/scope of local leagues.
- 3.134 **Team Generation rates** (TGRs) can be used as a guide. Team generation rates are calculated by dividing the number of cricket teams (by type) within the study area by the area population. The TGR for each team type is the estimated number of residents within the age group required to generate one team. The derived ratios can then be applied to projected population increases to assess future pitch requirements and compare rates with other areas.

Figure 3.35 – Team Generation Rates for Cricket in West Dorset

Cricket Team Type	Age- Group Population	Current Population	Current number of teams	Current Team Generation Rate
Junior Boys	11-17 year olds	4,119	17	1:242
Junior Girls	11-17 year olds	4,498	0	0
Senior Men	18-55 year olds	20,799	25	1:832
Senior Women	18-55 year olds	22,713	0	0

- 3.135 Team generation rates show the number of people required to create a new team. From the above cricket TGR's it is clear that future team generation rates vary significantly across the age ranges. No female cricket teams were identified within the District.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

- 3.136 The TGRs and population projections have been used to identify likely changes to demand and supply over the next 5 years. Assuming the population of West Dorset will increase by 4.47% between 2005-2012 (ONS sub-national population projections) the projections for 2012 are detailed below:

Figure 3.36 – Projected changes to team numbers

Cricket Team Type	Current Population	Current number of teams	2012 Population	Projected number of teams
Junior Boys	4,119	17	4,303	18
Senior Men	20,799	25	21,726	26

Team numbers based on current TGRs

- 3.137 Population projections indicate that population will increase by 2012. If TGRs remain the same, then team numbers, and subsequently demand will increase slightly by one team for each age group. The increase in the number of teams is estimated on the basis of peak demand remaining on the same days. On this basis in 2012 there is likely to be:

- Demand equating to 13 senior games per week, resulting in a requirement for a total of 5 senior pitches at peak time
- Demand equating to 9 junior games per week, resulting in a requirement for a total of 6 junior pitches at peak time

- 3.138 Given the current levels of supply, and surpluses in cricket, there is no requirement for additional pitch provision.

- 3.139 Clubs have also provided an indication of whether their membership is likely to increase or decrease in the coming years. The consultation would appear to suggest that local clubs are expecting a small increase or for membership to remain static over the next few years. On the basis of the consultation results, TGRs and population projections, it is unlikely that there will be a need for additional cricket provision within the next few years.

- 3.140 TGRs can also be used to identify if demand levels are low or high if compared to other similar areas. A number of other similar authorities have been used for comparison purposes in figure 3.37. The comparisons suggest average rates for both junior and senior men's cricket teams in West Dorset.

Figure 3.37 – Comparison of Cricket TGRs

Cricket	West Dorset DC	North Dorset DC	West Oxfordshire DC	Slough BC	Hyndburn BC	Cannock Chase DC
Junior Boys	1:242	1:116	1:77	1:425	1:207	1:4246
Senior Men	1:832	1:374	1:402	1:2249	1:975	1:8040

Summary of key issues for cricket

- There are no identified supply issues relating to cricket, with a current surplus of pitches, and sufficient pitch provision to cater for future demand.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Rugby Union Assessment

Pitch Quantity

- 3.141 **Numbers of clubs and teams.** The study research has identified **4 rugby clubs** based within West Dorset District. From the research undertaken, these clubs generate **44 teams**. (Appendix 4c contains team and club data for rugby)These teams are detailed by the number within each identified “type” of team in Figure 3.38 below.

Figure 3.38 – Rugby Union Teams in the West Dorset area

Team Type	Number of teams
Mini Rugby - Mixed (8-12 year olds)	14
Junior Rugby – Boys (13-17 year olds)	14
Junior Rugby – Girls (16-17 year olds)	2
Senior Rugby: Men (18-45 year olds)	13
Senior Rugby: Women (18-45 year olds)	1
TOTAL NUMBER OF RUGBY UNION TEAMS	44

- 3.142 **Number of pitches.** The study research has identified pitches, which are included in the assessment calculation. A summary of the pitches included is detailed in Figure 3.39 below.

Figure 3.39 – Pitches with secured public use in the West Dorset area

Pitch Type	Number of pitches
Rugby*	19
TOTAL NUMBER OF PITCHES IN SECURED PUBLIC USE	19

*No differentiation has been made between Junior and Senior pitches. Unlike football, pitches are not separate designated pitch areas. Junior fixtures make use of the same pitch as senior teams. Consideration needs to be given to pitch counting, as Senior Rugby pitches can accommodate 4 or 2 mini pitches (dependent on age group).

- 3.143 **Home Games per week.** Calculations for senior and junior teams are based on teams playing home and away league fixtures with a demand for 0.5 pitches per week (1 home game every fortnight), reflecting that only half the teams will play “at home” each week. The following considerations need to made:

- U7 and U8 teams: 4 games can be accommodated onto one senior pitch
- U9, U10, U11 and U12 age groups: 2 games can be accommodated onto one senior pitch

- 3.144 Based on this assumption the estimated number of home games per week are 1 mini game, 4 junior games and 4 senior games.

- 3.145 **Temporal Demand for Games.** The assessment reveals that most senior games are played on a Saturday (64%) and all junior and mini games are played on a Sunday, as illustrated in Figure 3.40 below. With regard to the type of demand:

Figure 3.40 – Temporal Demand

Team Type	Total demand	Saturday Games	Sunday Games	Mid-week Games
Mini Rugby	14	0	14	0
Junior Rugby	16	0	16	0
Senior Rugby	14	9	5	0
TOTAL NUMBER OF GAMES	44	9	35	0

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

3.146 **Pitches required** to meet demand and the identified peaks are identified in Figure 3.41:

Figure 3.41 - Pitches required to meet identified demand

Demand	Number of pitches required to meet demand*
Midweek	0
Saturday	4
Sunday	12

*Based on assumption U7s/U8s require 1 pitch to accommodate 4 games

*Based on assumption U9s/U12s require 1 pitch to accommodate 2 games

3.147 **Identified Surplus / Deficiencies in pitch provision** are identified in Figure 3.42. On a District-wide basis, this essentially identifies whether the total number of pitches is sufficient to meet the demand (and peaks) generated by the total number of teams identified. Due to the lack of mid-week demand this has been excluded from the Figure. The results of the assessment indicate that the following deficiencies / surpluses in playing pitch provision exist:

Figure 3.42 – Surplus / Deficiency in pitch provision

Area	Saturday			Sunday		
	No. of games*	No. of pitches	Surplus/deficiency	No. of games*	No. of pitches	Surplus/deficiency
Beaminster	0	3	+3	0	3	+3
Bridport	1	4	+3	3	4	+1
Chickerell	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dorchester	2	9	+7	5	9	+4
Lyme Regis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sherborne	1	3	+2	4	3	-1
District Total	4	19	+15	12	19	+7

* Based on senior pitch equivalent

3.148 The results show that :

- There is currently **surplus provision** of rugby pitches across the District to meet peak demand. However due to the size of the District it should be assumed that local clubs require local facilities.
- It is clear to see that rugby is only played in three of the six areas at present.

Latent Demand

3.149 Latent Demand can be described as demand for a pitch that is “suppressed” or is not met, due to a range of factors including:

- No pitch facilities in local area
- The team is unable to afford to rent a pitch or participate in leagues that require significant travel for away fixtures
- There is a shortage of officials and coaches

3.150 There were no comments made by local clubs relating to suppressed demand.

Future Demand

3.151 Future demand for playing pitches is difficult to ascertain as there are many factors which can contribute to a change in the demand for playing pitches, including the success of local teams, sports development initiatives and the quality/accessibility of local facilities and nature/scope of local leagues.

3.152 **Team Generation rates** can be used as a guide to assessing future demand. Team generation rates are calculated by dividing the number of rugby union teams (by type) within the study area by the area population.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

- 3.153 The TGR for each team type is the estimated number of residents within the age group required to generate one team. The derived ratios can then be applied to projected population increases to assess future pitch requirements.

Figure 3.43 – Team Generation Rates for Rugby Union in West Dorset

Rugby Team Type	Age Group	Current Population	Current number of teams	Current Team Generation Rate
Mini-Rugby - mixed	8-12 year olds	5,699	14	1:407
Junior Rugby: Boys	13-17 year olds	2,952	14	1:211
Junior Rugby: Girls	16-17 year olds	3,224	2	1:1,612
Senior Rugby: Men	18-45 year olds	14,280	13	1:1,098
Senior Rugby: Women	18-45 year olds	15,595	1	1:15,595

- 3.154 Team generation rates show the number of people required to create a new team and these differ within each age category. The TGRs demonstrate the need for a hierarchical approach of provision.
- 3.155 The TGRs and population projections have been used to identify likely changes to demand and supply over the next 5 years. Assuming the population of West Dorset will increase by 4.47% between 2005-2012 (ONS sub-national population projections) the projections for 2012 are detailed in figure 3.44 below:

Figure 3.44 – Projected changes to team numbers

Rugby Team Type	Current Population	Current number of teams	2012 Population	Projected number of teams
Mini-Rugby - mixed	5,699	14	5,953	15
Junior Rugby: Boys	2,952	14	3,084	15
Junior Rugby: Girls	3,224	2	3,368	2
Senior Rugby: Men	14,280	13	14,917	14
Senior Rugby: Women	15,595	1	16,289	1

Team numbers based on current TGRs

- 3.156 Population projections indicate that population will increase slightly. If TGRs remain the same, then team numbers, and subsequently demand will increase slightly. The reduction in the number of pitches is estimated on the basis of peak demand remaining at the same time. On this basis there is likely to be:
- Demand equating to the equivalent of a total of 13 senior pitches at peak time in 2012
- 3.157 Given the current levels of supply, there is no requirement for additional pitch provision. The audit has also revealed a small number of pitches not currently accessed by the community which could be brought into play. On the basis of the TGRs and population projections, it is unlikely that there will be a need for additional provision within the next few years.
- 3.158 TGRs can also be used to identify if demand levels are low or high if compared to other similar areas. A number of other similar authorities have been used for comparison purposes in Figure 3.45 overleaf.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Figure 3.45 – Comparison of Rugby TGRs

Team Type: Rugby	West Dorset DC	North Dorset DC	West Oxfordshire DC	Slough BC	Cannock Chase DC
Mini-Rugby	1:407	1:351	1:630	1:1,393	n/a
Junior Boys	1:211	1:348	1:248	1:1,039	n/a
Junior Girls	1:1,612	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Senior: Men	1:1,098	1:1,553	1:2,252	1:6,683	1:9,009
Senior Women	1:15,595	1:9,921	1:18,450	1:27,396	0

3.159 The comparisons suggest there is a relatively high number of teams at all age levels in West Dorset.

Hockey Assessment

Pitch Quantity

3.160 **Numbers of clubs and teams.** The study research has identified 2 hockey clubs based in West Dorset. Both clubs are based at Sir John Colfox School in the Bridport area.(Appendix 4d contains club and team data for hockey) From the research undertaken, the clubs generate 4 teams. Both clubs have a junior section but there were no identified junior league games played.

Figure 3.46 – Hockey Teams in West Dorset

Team Type	Number of teams
Senior Hockey: Men (16-45 year olds)	2
Senior Hockey: Women (16-45 year olds)	2
TOTAL NUMBER OF HOCKEY TEAMS	4

3.161 **Number of pitches.** The study research has identified **4 full size Artificial Turf pitches**, which are included in the assessment calculation. The STP at Gryphon Leisure Centre has been excluded due to its size. Three grass pitches have been identified; these are not included in the assessment as they are not used for league fixtures.

3.162 **Home Games per week.** Calculations are based on teams playing home and away league fixtures with a demand for 0.5 pitches per week (1 home game every fortnight), reflecting that only half the teams will play “at home” each week:

- An artificial turf pitch can accommodate a significantly higher number of games than a grass pitch. Matches on STPs can be played on a rolling basis with up to 3-4 games played on a match day (assumption that each game accommodates a maximum 2-hour slot and the pitch is floodlit and available for a 7-8 hour period).

3.163 The estimated number of home games per week are: 2 fixtures on Saturday and 1 on a Sunday

3.164 **Identified Surplus / Deficiencies** in pitch provision are identified in Figure 3.47. At present no matches are played mid-week.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Figure 3.47 – Surplus / Deficiency in pitch provision

Area	Saturday			Sunday		
	No. of games	No. of pitches	Surplus/ deficiency	No. of games	No. of pitches	Surplus/ deficiency
Beaminster	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bridport	2	1	+1	1	1	+1
Chickerell	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dorchester	0	1	+1	0	1	+1
Lyme Regis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sherborne	0	2	+2	0	2	+2
District Total	2	4	+4	1	4	+4

3.165 Although this does appear to show a surplus of STP facilities it should be noted that other groups access these facilities for training and casual use. There are currently no facilities for hockey in the Beaminster, Chickerell or Lyme Regis areas.

Latent Demand

3.166 Latent Demand can be described as demand for a pitch that is “suppressed” or is not met, due to a range of factors including:

- No pitch facilities in local area
- The team is unable to afford to rent a pitch or participate in leagues that require significant travel for away fixtures
- There is a shortage of officials and coaches

3.167 There were no comments made by local clubs relating to suppressed demand.

Future Demand

3.168 Future demand for playing pitches is difficult to ascertain, as there are many factors, which can contribute to a change in the demand for playing pitches, including the success of local teams, sports development initiatives and the quality/accessibility of local facilities and nature/scope of local leagues.

3.169 **Team Generation rates** can be used as a guide to assessing future demand. Team generation rates are calculated by dividing the number of teams within the study area by the area population. The TGR for each team type is the estimated number of residents within the age group required to generate one team. The derived ratios can then be applied to projected population increases to assess future pitch requirements.

Figure 3.48 – Team Generation rates for Hockey in West Dorset

Team Type	Age Group	Current Population	Current number of teams	Team Generation Rate
Junior Hockey: Boys	11-15 year olds	2,929	0	n/a
Junior Hockey: Girls	11-15 year olds	3,198	0	n/a
Senior Hockey: Men	16-45 year olds	15,471	2	1:7,735
Senior Women	16-45 year olds	16,895	2	1:8,447

No junior hockey teams playing within leagues were identified within the District

3.170 The TGRs and population projections have been used to identify likely changes to demand and supply over the next 5 years. Assuming the population of West Dorset will increase by 4.47% between 2005-2012 (ONS sub-national population projections) the projections for 2012 are detailed in figure 3.49 below:

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Figure 3.49 – Future Teams

Hockey Team Type	Current Population	Current number of teams	2012 projected population	Projected number of teams
Senior Men	15,471	2	16,160	2
Senior Women	16,895	2	17,647	2

- 3.171 Population projections indicate that population levels will increase. If TGRs remain the same, then team numbers, and subsequently demand will remain the same. This is estimated on the basis of peak demand remaining at the same time.
- 3.172 Clubs have also provided an indication of whether their membership is likely to increase or decrease in the coming years. The consultation completed would appear to suggest that local clubs are expecting a slight increase in their membership. On the basis of the consultation results, TGRs and population projections, it is unlikely that there will be a need for additional provision within the next few years.
- 3.173 TGRs can also be used to identify if demand levels are low or high if compared to other similar areas. A number of other similar authorities have been used for comparison purposes in the Figure 3.50 below :

Figure 3.50 – Comparison of Hockey TGRs

Team Type: Hockey	West Dorset DC	North Dorset DC	West Oxfordshire DC	Slough BC
Junior Boys	n/a	1:1181	1:1555	1:2185
Junior Girls	n/a	1:1050	1:531	1:1921
Senior Men	1:7,735	1:3958	1:6385	1:7077
Senior Women	1:8,447	1:2120	1:4904	1:14433

- 3.174 The comparisons suggest the following:
- Team generation for hockey is average at senior level

Pitch Quality

- 3.175 All four STPs were visited and were considered of good quality although the pitch at Thomas Hardy Leisure Centre is beginning to show signs of wear and tear and is due for renewal in the next few years.

Club Consultation

- 3.176 Clubs were asked about facility related issues that affected their club:
- The cost of hiring the STP at Sir John Colfox School was identified as a possible barrier for use.
 - One hockey club is also struggling to identify sources of funding for the club.
 - The average travel time for club members is 15 minutes to the facility.

Summary of key issues for Hockey

- 3.177 There are no major supply issues facing hockey, with current provision adequate to meet current demand. The cost of hiring the STP at Sir John Colfox School, Bridport could be considered a barrier for use as this cost is passed down to the club members/players.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Synthetic Pitches – Training Facilities

- 3.178 Access to training facilities was a common key issues cited by local clubs. The audit undertaken has revealed four full size synthetic turf pitches and one medium sized pitch currently used for outdoor sport. The assessment methodology relating to natural turf pitches focuses on demand for facilities to play competitive matches e.g. local league fixtures. It is also important to consider the demand for, and supply of, facilities for training, particularly synthetic turf pitches.
- 3.179 There is a need to develop a hierarchy of provision to enable people to access good quality provision within their local area. It has to be accepted that people in rural areas will have to travel to a nearby village to access the limited provision i.e. a good quality pitch and changing facilities or to a nearby town to access more comprehensive facilities that cater for several sports at once. What is important is that local people have access to the right level of provision to meet their local needs.

Accessibility to pitches by residents (not members of teams)

- 3.180 It is important to recognise that playing pitches and sports pitches also serve the wider community as amenity space and whilst not used for the primary purpose local people may use these sites informally for example to jog or walk the dog.

Bowling Greens

- 3.181 Bowling Greens as sports facilities accommodate a range of formal and casual use. Demand manifests itself through differing uses, such as formal bowling teams using facilities for league games, or for individuals to bowl on a more casual or informal basis. Bowling greens across the District are provided as public and private facilities.

Quantity: Bowling Greens

- 3.182 The audit has identified a total of 6 bowling greens throughout the District. The distribution of these facilities is illustrated in Figure 3.51. The size of a bowling green is based on an average size of 0.16 ha.

Figure 3.51 – Quantity of Bowling Greens in West Dorset

Area	Population	No. of Bowling Greens
Beaminster	9,118	0
Bridport	20,473	1
Chickerell	5,618	0
Dorchester	41,448	2
Lyme Regis	5,137	2
Sherborne	18,378	1
Total	100,172	6

- 3.183 Figure 3.52 identifies the amount of provision in terms of hectares occupied by bowling greens across the District and the 6 areas.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Figure 3.52 – Quantity of Bowling Greens in West Dorset per 1,000 population

Area	Population	No. of Greens	Hectares	Provision per 1,000 Population (ha)
Beaminster	9,118	No Provision	No Provision	No Provision
Bridport	20,473	1	0.16	0.01
Chickerell	5,618	No Provision	No Provision	No Provision
Dorchester	41,448	2	0.32	0.01
Lyme Regis	5,137	2	0.32	0.06
Sherborne	18,378	1	0.16	0.01
Total	100,172	6	0.96	0.01

- 3.184 The figure shows a variance in the provision of bowling greens throughout the District at an area level. The current standard of provision is 0.01 ha per 1,000 people across the District, only Lyme Regis has a higher standard at 0.06 ha of provision per 1,000 population. The Beaminster and Chickerell areas have no provision for bowls.
- 3.185 It is important to note that no recognised standard of provision exists for bowling greens at a national level and it must be recognised that bowling is a demand led sport. It is also important to note that a number of the identified greens are included within the footprint of other typologies. The breakdown above is primarily to give an indication of the current provision. Further research beyond the scope of this assessment namely via the actual users is needed to calculate the level of use and peak demand.

Quality: Bowling Greens

- 3.186 The quality of bowling greens has been assessed with visits to all 6 sites (100%). Bowling greens were rated via a non-technical visual assessment, using a standard proforma. A number of criteria have been examined, specifically:
- Presence of floodlighting
 - Surface / turf
 - Benches
 - Condition of gullies / backboards
 - Whether the facility is served by a pavilion
- 3.187 Bowling green quality is measured against the quality value line as outlined below. The results of the audit are summarised in Figure 3.53.

Quality Line – Bowling Greens

0% - 19%	20% - 39%	40% - 59%	60% - 79%	80% +
Very Poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Figure 3.53 – Summary of Quality Assessment Findings – Bowling Greens

Area	Site Name	Quality Score
Beaminster	No Provision	Not applicable
Bridport	Bridport Bowling Club	80%
Chickerell	No Provision	Not applicable
Dorchester	Borough Gardens, Dorchester	84%
	Dorchester Bowling Club	84%
Lyme Regis	Charmouth Playing Field	42%
	Lyme Regis Bowling Club	76%
Sherborne	Sherborne Lawn Bowls Club	60%
District Average		71%

3.188 From the quality assessments undertaken, the main findings are:

- A variance in quality across the current supply with scores ranging from 42% (Average) through to 84% (Excellent)
- Only 1 of the 6 sites is served by floodlighting
- All of the bowling greens have clubhouse facilities
- With the exception of Charmouth Playing Field all of the bowling greens in West Dorset are 'good' or 'excellent' when compared to the quality value line.

Accessibility: Bowling Greens

3.189 A number of factors affect the accessibility of Bowling Greens. These include the geographical location of facilities, fees and charges applicable, and in the case of club facilities the membership policy. Other factors such as the presence of floodlighting will also have an impact.

- Due to a poor response from the bowling club questionnaires we were unable to obtain sufficient data on cost of usage.

Tennis Courts

3.190 Tennis courts are provided in a variety of settings, including schools, recreation grounds and through private sports clubs. They are provided for casual opportunities and formal competitive play. As with bowls, the demand for tennis is varied, ranging from facilities to accommodate formal league matches to casual games between friends and family.

3.191 Tennis courts have been identified through site visits, questionnaires to known tennis clubs and via consultation. The audit has identified a total of **24** sites with **71** tennis courts (either casual access or via club membership / formal hire) across the District. 27 of the 71 courts have floodlighting (38%). The distribution of these courts is shown in the figure below.

3.192 Tennis court quality has been assessed on the basis of a non-technical visual assessment of all identified courts with community use. (The results of sites audited are attached in Appendix 3**). The assessment has considered the following factors:

- Presence of floodlighting
- Quality and condition of the playing surface and fencing
- Access to ancillary facilities

3.193 Based on a simple scoring system, each facility has the potential to score a maximum of 100%. 24 sites were audited with tennis provision. The range of scores for these facilities across the District are summarised in figure 3.54 overleaf.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

3.194 Tennis court quality is measured against the quality value line as outlined below.

Quality Line – Tennis Courts

0% - 19%	20% - 39%	40% - 59%	60% - 79%	80% +
Very Poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent

Figure 3.54 – West Dorset District : Quantity of Tennis Courts

Area	Site Name	No. of Courts	Quality Score
Beaminster	Beaminster School Playing Fields	4	67%
Beaminster Area		4	Average 67%
Bridport	Plottingham Playing Fields	2	78%
	Sir John Colfox School	6	69%
Bridport Area Average		6	Average 74%
Chickerell	Budmouth Community Sports Centre	6	60%
Chickerell Area Average		6	Average 60%
Dorchester	Borough Gardens	3	73%
	Broadmayne Playing Field	1	51%
	Piddletrenthide Recreation Ground	1	82%
	Cattistock Tennis Courts	2	55%
	Dorchester Tennis & Squash Club	3	95%
	Goose Hill Field	1	25%
	St Marys CofE Middle School	2	44%
	St Osmund's Sports Centre	6	93%
Dorchester Area Average		19	Average 65%
Lyme Regis	Charmouth Playing Field	3	67%
	Lower Sea Lane Tennis Courts	4	76%
Lyme Regis Area Average		7	Average 72%
Sherborne	Alweston Playing Fields	2	73%
	Bishops Caundle Playing Fields	2	27%
	Melbury Osmond Recreation Ground	1	75%
	Terrace Playing Fields	8	73%
	Acreman Street Tennis Courts	2	80%
	Bradford Abbas Sports Ground	2	62%
	Gryphon Leisure Centre	6	73%
	Sherborne Youth Centre Playing Fields	1	55%
	Sherborne School STP & Tennis	2	65%
	Yetminster Playing Fields	1	75%
Sherborne Area		28	Average 66%
District		71	Average 66%

3.195 The Figure clearly shows a variation in tennis court provision across the District with higher populated parishes such as Dorchester and Sherborne having a greater number of accessible courts.

3.196 Key findings relating to the assessment of quality include:

- In general, tennis courts in West Dorset rated 'good' with an overall average of 66%
- Quality ratings varied from 44% (average) through to 95% (excellent)
- The key reasons for lower quality scores are lack of floodlighting, no information boards at the courts, and no clubhouse facilities.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

3.197 The LTA suggests that the tennis 'playing population' reflects 2% of the overall population. It recommends a standard of 1 court per 45 players or 1 court per 60 players as a minimum. In relation to West Dorset, the 'playing population' represents 2003 people (2% of 100,172). This would suggest a requirement for 45 courts in the District to meet suggested demand, or 34 floodlit courts.

3.198 The audit has identified a provision of 71 courts in total, 27 of which are floodlit, which demonstrates an overprovision in the total number, but a deficiency in floodlit courts available for players. However, this does not take into account the accessibility of these courts. Many of the identified courts are situated on school sites, or private clubs which may reduce the availability.

Accessibility: Tennis Courts

3.199 As with bowling greens, a number of key factors affect access. These include location of facilities, marketing and promotion of facilities, hire fees, charges and the membership policies of private clubs.

3.200 Four tennis clubs responded to the consultation (50% response rate). Full adult membership varies from £15 to £72 per annum. Membership numbers vary from 15 to 86 members. Three of the four clubs have a junior section (under 16s). From the consultation, average travel time for members was found to be 10 minutes.

Golf

3.201 There are 12 golf courses located across the District providing a range of opportunities for local residents to play golf. Of the 12 courses, 8 are private and 4 are 'pay and play'. The following figure lists the sites located in West Dorset.

Figure 3.55 – Provision of Golf Courses in West Dorset

Golf Course	Course Description	No. of Holes
Bridport and West Dorset Golf Club	Private Members Club	18
Came Down Golf Club, Winterborne Came CP	Private Members Club	18
Cheddington Court Golf Club, South Perrott CP	Private Members Club	18
Folke Golf Course, Alweston	Pay and play	9
Halstock Golf Club	Private Members Club	18
Highlands End Farm Golf Course, Lower Eype	Pay and play	9
Lyme Regis Golf Club	Private Members Club	18
Sherborne Golf Club	Private Members Club	18
Wessex Golf Centre, Chickerell	Pay and play	9
Weymouth Golf Club ³ , Chickerell	Private Members Club	18
Wolfedale Golf Club, Charminster	Pay and play	18
Yeovil Golf Club (Old Course – 18 holes and Newton Course – 9 holes), Bradford Abbas CP	Private Members Club	27

3.202 Telephone consultation with golf clubs has revealed the following in relation to membership / usage arrangements. Questions asked included queries on:

- Whether clubs were publicly accessible or private
- The cost of joining fee and membership fee
- How much a casual round for a non member would cost
- Whether clubs were taking on new members

3.203 The findings were as follows:

- Private clubs made up 8 of the 12 courses in West Dorset
- Yeovil, Sherborne and Lyme Regis currently charge a one off joining fee between £35 and £600. There is no joining fee for the Newton Course (9 hole) at Yeovil Golf Club

³ This club is located partly within Chickerell and partly within Weymouth & Portland Borough.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

- Full annual membership starts at £375 per year for the Newton Course at Yeovil Golf Club and rises to £671 charged by Sherborne Golf Club
- The average membership fee for an 18 hole private golf club is £520
- All private clubs allow visitors to play a round of golf without a member accompanying them. Green fees for weekday play vary from £11 (Halstock) up to £35 (Yeovil Old Course)
- A 9 hole round of golf at a pay and play facility ranges from £6 (Wessex) to £8 (Folke Golf Course)

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Indoor Facility Planning Analysis

- 3.204 SLL has undertaken an initial assessment of supply and demand of existing public and commercial facilities, with a focus on swimming pools, sports halls and health and fitness provision. The level of demand for facilities has been ascertained using the following:
- Demand modelling using the Sport England Planning Model (FPM) to assess likely demand for Sports Hall and Swimming Pool facilities
 - Demand modelling using known market penetration rated for Health and Fitness facilities
- 3.205 The Sport England Facilities Planning Model parameters have been used to provide an indication of the quantity of sports hall and swimming provision required.
- 3.206 The modelling for sports halls and swimming pools has been undertaken using the Sport England Revised Parameters 2004, whereas the Health and Fitness modelling was based on the published market penetration rate of 11.8% (Fitness Industry Association, 2006 State of the Industry Report). The detailed results for all demand modelling exercises can be found in Appendix 5.

Swimming Pools

- 3.207 The demand analysis (2004) for swimming pool provision within West Dorset based on the 2001 ONS Census population identifies that there is a demand range of between **591 sq m to 845 sq m** (this figure takes into account the 30% 'comfort figure' for swimming pool provision suggested by the Sport England FPM). Swimming pools are provided via the public, private and education sectors.
- 3.208 Figure 3.56 below identifies the results of the facility audit, showing the current supply of all identified water space in West Dorset. The current supply is **2,263 sq m (includes public, private and education facilities)**.

Figure 3.56 – Existing Supply of water space in West Dorset

Current Pool Facilities	Area	Square metres
Beamminster School Sports Centre	Beamminster	172.5
Bridport Leisure Centre	Bridport	325
Dorset Snow Sports Centre/ Warmwell Leisure Centre, Crossways	Dorchester	425
Highlands End Farm Leisure Club, Lower Eype	Bridport	180
Sherborne School for Girls*	Sherborne	375
Sherborne School for Boys Sports Centre	Sherborne	200
Thomas Hardy Leisure Centre, Dorchester	Dorchester	225
Thomas Hardy Leisure Centre (Learner Pool) , Dorchester	Dorchester	105
Bridport Leisure Centre	Bridport	90
Moonfleet Manor Swimming Pool, Fleet	Dorchester	72
Moonfleet Manor Swimming Pool (Learner Pool), Fleet	Dorchester	33.84
Summer Lodge Hotel and Spa, Evershot	Dorchester	60
Total Waterspace		2,263 sqm

*NB – the swimming pool at Sherborne School for Girls is not yet open

- 3.209 It would appear from the Figure above that the District has a healthy supply of water provision. However, it must be noted that the modelling exercise has not taken into account the accessibility factor, which relates to the level of community use of the facilities. Facilities provided on school sites will often have certain times that are inaccessible to the public due to curriculum time. A number of schools throughout the District have private swimming facilities used primarily by the school but that are occasionally let out for group use e.g. Damers First School, Dorchester. These have not been included within the calculations.
- 3.210 In addition, the private market bases its usage on membership packages and does not facilitate pay and play access to sites, which reduces accessibility considerably in the District.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

3.211 Figure 3.57 below provides a more accurate analysis of the 'accessible' water space within the District, in terms of community accessibility. The following assumptions have been made in analysing the accessibility of provision:

- Council-run facilities are 100% accessible due to the subsidy of facilities and pricing policies employed
- The exception to this is dual use sites which cater for community and curriculum use. In this case an accessibility factor of 60% has been applied
- Private sector facilities are deemed to be accessible to a proportion of the population due to the nature of the facilities being specifically targeted to the higher income groups on the whole. An accessibility factor of 28% has been applied in this case as a result of an assessment of the official labour market statistics for West Dorset shows that 28% of the working population falls within the categories of managers, senior officials and professional occupations.

Figure 3.57 – Analysis of 'Accessible' Water Space in West Dorset

Facility	Water Space sq m	Accessibility %	Pool size sq m	Accessible Water Space sq m
Beaminster School Sports Centre	172.5	60%	172.5	103.5
Bridport Leisure Centre	325	100%	325	325
Dorset Snow Sports Centre	425	28%	425	119
Highlands End Farm Leisure Club	180	28%	180	50.4
Sherborne School for Girls	375	60%	375	Not included as not yet open
Sherborne School Sports Centre	200	60%	200	120
Thomas Hardy Leisure Centre	225	60%	225	135
Thomas Hardy Leisure Centre	105	60%	105	63
Bridport Leisure Centre	90	100%	90	90.00
Moonfleet Manor Swimming Pool	72	28%	72	20.16
Moonfleet Manor Swimming Pool	33.84	28%	33.84	9.48
Summer Lodge Hotel and Spa	60	28%	60	16.80
Total			2,263 sq m	1,052 sq m

3.212 Taking the above assumptions into account, the total amount of accessible provision is **1,052 sq m**. When applied to the Facility Planning Model this demonstrates a surplus of water provision equal to **461 sq m** ($1052 - 591 = 461$), which equates to 2 pools (25m x 4 lane). If the Sport England 'comfort factor' of 30% for swimming provision is applied the demand level for swimming provision rises to **845 sq m**. Based on this level of demand the surplus is reduced to **208 sq m** ($1,052 - 845 = 208$) which equates to 1 pool (25m x 4-lane).

3.213 The 'comfort' factor that has been applied reflects the higher demand levels expected through the implementation of Game Plan (Sport England's strategy for delivering the Government's sport and physical activity objectives) and targets for increased participation in sport and physical activity as a result of initiatives and interventions.

Sports Halls

3.214 Based on 2001 ONS Census population statistics, the demand analysis (2004) for sports hall provision in West Dorset identifies that there is a demand for **27** badminton courts (taking into account the 30% 'Comfort Factor').

3.215 Figure 3.58 provides an accurate analysis of badminton courts in West Dorset. The analysis of supply is based on 3 badminton court halls being the minimum acceptable "unit" of provision, and the following Figure identifies the provision of such facilities in West Dorset. The facility audit has identified a total of **36** courts within the District in facilities with 3 courts or above.

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Figure 3.58 – Current Supply of Badminton Courts in West Dorset (3 courts or above)

Facility	Area	No. of Courts
Bridport Leisure Centre	Bridport	4
Budmouth Community Sports Centre	Chickerell	4
Gryphon Leisure Centre	Sherborne	4
Sherborne School for Girls	Sherborne	5
Sherborne School for Boys Sports Centre	Sherborne	3
St Osmunds Community Sports Centre	Dorchester	4
The Sir John Colfox School	Bridport	4
The Woodroffe School	Lyme Regis	4
Thomas Hardy Leisure Centre	Dorchester	4
Total		36

- 3.216 The facility planning analysis therefore suggests that there is a surplus of **9 courts**, which is the equivalent of 3 sports halls within West Dorset.
- 3.217 It should be noted that some of these courts will not offer full pay and play accessibility and that there are a number of single court facilities that have been identified (notably at Beaminster School, Kingston Maurward College, The Gymnasium, YMCA Dorchester, Sherborne Youth and Community Centre and Whitchurch Canonicorum). These are often limited as to their usage which supports the inclusion of only 3 courts or above as an acceptable 'unit' in the analysis model.
- 3.218 Taking into account only those facilities with 3 courts or above **that offer pay and play access**, there is a total of **27 courts** which currently meets the demand.
- 3.219 On the whole, the demand modelling shows a sufficiency of accessible sports hall provision in West Dorset which meets the current level of demand.

Health & Fitness Market

- 3.220 Demand modelling for health and fitness facilities has been undertaken utilising the Health and Fitness Penetration rate for 2006 (11.8%). (Fitness Industry Association). It should be noted that this 11.8% rate is a national average figure and does not take into account the peaks and troughs in demand.
- 3.221 The demand modelling for West Dorset indicates that there is a demand for **313** fitness stations within the District. The actual supply of fitness stations is **370** stations as shown in Figure 3.59.

Figure 3.59 – Supply of Fitness Stations within West Dorset

Facility	Area	No. of Stations
Beaminster School Sports Centre	Beaminster	0
Bridport Leisure Centre	Bridport	38
Budmouth Community Sports Centre	Chickerell	24
Dorchester Health Club	Dorchester	32
Gryphon Leisure Centre	Sherborne	30
Herrison Health Club and Spa Ltd	Dorchester	17
Highlands End farm Leisure Club	Bridport	13
Physiques and Shapes Health Club	Dorchester	100
Sherborne School for Girls	Sherborne	20
Sherborne School Sports Centre	Sherborne	25
St Osmunds Community Sports Centre	Dorchester	22
Summer Lodge Hotel and Spa	Dorchester	4
The Woodroffe School	Lyme Regis	20
Thomas Hardy Leisure Centre	Dorchester	25
Totals		370

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

3.222 If the total amount of overall provision was applied to the demand modelling this would indicate a significant surplus of 57 stations (370 - 313 = 57). However, as with swimming provision, the level of accessibility for health and fitness provision varies according to the provider. If the accessibility factors are applied to health and fitness provision in the same way as the other provision there would be 195 'accessible' stations which equates to a deficit of - 118 stations.

Assessment of Indoor Facilities - Quality

- 3.223 The quantity analysis suggests an overview of provision in relation to the population overall. Key issues currently affecting access to existing sports and leisure facilities in the District also relate to the quality and location of the facilities.
- 3.224 The quality of the existing leisure facilities is a key factor in planning for the future, given the level of investment required to maintain or enhance the standard of provision.
- 3.225 The quality assessments of the 5 key facilities within West Dorset, undertaken through site visits to and non-technical visual assessments of, are provided in Figure 3.60. The quality assessments take into consideration factors such as general condition, need for capital investment, specific facility quality, disabled access and development potential.

Figure 3.60 – Indoor facility quality assessments

Facility	Facilities	Quality Assessment Rating
Bridport Leisure Centre	The centre is managed by Bridport and West Dorset Sports Trust. Facilities include a 25 metre swimming pool and learner pool, sports hall (suitable for badminton, volleyball, basketball, five-a-side football plus many more activities), squash courts, real tennis court, sports pitches, aerobic studio and fitness gym.	71% (Good)
Budmouth Community Sports Centre	Fitness Suite, Sports Hall (suitable for badminton, volleyball, basketball, five-a-side football plus many more activities), football pitches, tennis courts	53% (Average)
Gryphon Leisure Centre	The centre has a main sports hall, two competition standard squash courts, an aerobics/dance studio and a fully air conditioned fitness suite. Outdoor facilities include six tennis courts or five netball courts, plus a new floodlit astroturf pitch.	62% (Good)
Thomas Hardye Leisure Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 metre swimming pool • 15 metre small pool • Multi purpose sports hall • Activity/Dance Studio • 23 station fitness suite and free weights area • Artificial turf pitch • 7 grass football pitches and cricket square 	51% (Average)
St. Osmunds Community Sports Centre	Facilities include a sports hall, floodlit tennis/netball courts, outdoor football pitches, fitness suite, outdoor athletics track plus indoor and outdoor cricket nets.	59% (Average)

3.226 In addition to the site visits, the responses to the door to door residents' survey provided some insight into the opinions of the leisure centre users as to the quality and accessibility of provision. Key findings include:

- 32.2% of respondents use indoor leisure centres; 40.8% of which use Thomas Hardye Leisure Centre, 12.4% use Gryphon Leisure Centre, 20.1% use Bridport Leisure Centre, 4.1% use St. Osmunds' Community Sports Centre and 0.6% use Budmouth Community Sports Centre. 21.9% stated they use other facilities which include Axminster Swimming Pool, Weymouth Swimming Pool and Flamingo Pool
- The following percentages of respondents rate these facilities as 'good' or above: Thomas Hardye Leisure Centre 67.7%, Gryphon Leisure Centre 95.5%, Bridport Leisure Centre 86%, St Osmunds Community Sports Centre 75% and the one respondent who uses Budmouth Community Sports Centre rated the quality as 'good'

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

- The most common reasons cited for not using leisure centres were lack of time (32.4%) followed by age/disability (18.7%), facilities too far away (8.7%), cost (8.2%) and quality of provision (5.8%)
- The average travel time to indoor leisure centres is 11.10 minutes which equates to 0.56 miles if walking or 3.70 by car
- 56% of those who use indoor leisure centres travel by car, 35.2% walk to leisure centres, 6.9% cycle and 1.9% take the bus

Facility Location and Distribution

3.227 An assessment of quality and reasons for non- participation, alongside mapping the provision with the relevant catchment buffers provides an overview of current position and a context in which to assess the identified surpluses/ deficiencies. The following observations can be made:

New developments

3.228 There are a number of potential new developments that could influence the level of supply of provision in West Dorset and impact on the accessibility to quality leisure facilities. Those new developments that have been identified include;

- New swimming pool at Sherborne School for Girls
- Potential new Dorchester swimming pool (likely to be located at Thomas Hardye School)
- Possible new 2 court sports hall facility at Beaminster School Sports Centre to be funded through County and District Councils

Additional Indoor Leisure Facilities

3.229 Other key facilities that provide opportunities for sport and recreation include:

- Dorchester Snow Sports Centre/ Warmwell Leisure Centre, Warmwell, near Dorchester: includes indoor pool, wave machine, water slide, ski slope, fishing, and skating rink
- Moonfleet Manor Hotel & Country Club, Chickerell, which includes swimming pool, bowls, tennis and squash
- Dorchester YMCA, Sawmills Lane, Weymouth Avenue, Dorchester
- Dorchester Tennis and Squash Club, Sawmills Lane, Dorchester
- Hyde Real Tennis Court, Walditch – owned by Bridport and West Dorset Sports Trust

Community Centres

3.230 In addition to the formal sports and leisure facilities in West Dorset, there are a number of additional facilities that are used for more informal recreation. These facilities are considered important provision as, whilst they may not be 'fit-for-purpose' sports facilities, they are often the only place in which people can take part in sport and physical activity in their local area. However, these are considered alongside the more formal provision but not included in the modelling assessment of formal sports halls, water space or health and fitness provision.

3.231 The assessment of indoor community provision includes facilities such as Community Centres, Church Halls, Scout Huts and Civic Halls. These can all provide valuable indoor space for a range of sport and recreation activities, particularly of an informal nature

3.232 From the consultation with residents 37% of those people who identified using community facilities use church halls, 21% make use of their school hall and 18% use their local community centre. 57% of the people who identified using community based facilities believe they have enough community type facilities in their local area.

3.233 67% of the respondents who make use of community facilities identified that they walk to the facility.

3.234 Figure 3.61 shows those identified community centres which provide some form of facilities that cater for sport and physical activity in the District:

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Figure 3.61 – Identified Community Centres and Halls in West Dorset

Area	Parish	Site Name	Community Use	Comments re Usage	Quality	Additional Comments
Beaminster	Beaminster	Beaminster Public Hall	Yes	Hall for various activities - line dancing, antique fairs, horticultural society fairs, indoor bowls, coffee mornings - pre-booked	Good quality	need to ensure facilities complement and do not compete with others in the Town i.e. Beaminster School, Strode Room
	Mapperton Parish	Mapperton School Hall	Yes	Parish meetings	Not rated	No comment given
	Mosterton	Mosterton Village Hall	Yes	Table tennis. Pre booked	Good quality	In process of fundraising for a new hall- £25k raised, £180k left
	Parrett and Axe Group	Cheddington Village Hall	Yes	No comment given	Excellent quality	2 windows smashed. Volunteers good at maintenance 3
	Parrett and Axe Group	South Parrett Village Hall	Yes	No comment given	Excellent quality	No comment given
	Rampisham	Rampisham Village Hall	Yes	Simply a meeting place	Poor Quality	Poor condition, falling apart and needs constant fundraising to keep it standing. Constant battle. Low population means relatively low demand for use.
	Thorncombe	Thorncombe Village Hall	Yes	Keep fit, pilates, short tennis. Pre-booked	Good quality	key issues include maintenance
	Beaminster	Beaminster School Gym	Yes	School Gym 1 court- used by Beaminster badminton club and also for basketball, indoor football and volleyball	Not rated	No comment given
	Beaminster	Beaminster School Sports Hall		TO BE BUILT BY SEPT 2007	Not rated	County Council/ WDDC/ School funded
	Broadwinder	Broadwindsor Primary school	No	Sports Hall and school gym not hired	Not rated	would not consider community use
	Mosterton	Parrett and Axe Primary	No	School hall	average	no community use - security

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Area	Parish	Site Name	Community Use	Comments re Usage	Quality	Additional Comments
	Beaminster	St Mary's Primary School	No	Sports hall (N/a badminton) - no community use	Good quality	No comment given
	Netherbury	Salway Ash Primary	No	School hall - no community use	average	No comment given
Bridport	Bothenhampton and Walditch	Bothenhampton Village Hall	Yes	Men's club - snooker activities	good quality	Main Street
	Bothenhampton and Walditch	Walditch Real Tennis Court	Yes	No comment given	No comment given	Indoor - 1 court - only 3 in the country.
	Bothenhampton and Walditch	Walditch Village Hall	Yes	No comment given	average	right in Walditch Centre
	Bridport	Bridport Mountfield	Yes	marriage/ meeting room - available by request and booking procedures	very good quality	Hearing Loop available
	Bridport	Bridport Town Hall	Yes	main hall and large committee room - open at request. Pre-booked.	Good quality	Limited disabled access at Town Hall. Hearing Loop available
	Bridport	Bridport Arts Centre	Yes	No comment given	No comment given	No comment given
	Char Valley	James Hargreaves Hall	Yes	Hall - Indoor Games	No comment given	No comment given
	Char Valley	Whitchurch Canonorum Hall	Yes	Hall - Indoor Games	No comment given	No comment given
	Char Valley	Wootton Fitzpaine Hall	Yes	Hall - Indoor Games	No comment given	No comment given
	Puncknowle and Swyre Group	Puncknowle Village Hall	Yes	No comment given	Poor Quality	recently purchased and run by Village Hall management committee. Needs work
	Shipton Gorge	Shipton Gorge Village Hall	Yes	table tennis. Pre booked	Excellent quality	No comment given
	Bridport	Bridport Primary School	No	1 court	No comment given	No comment given
Bridport	Bridport St Mary's C of E School	No	large hall	very good	possibly looking to extended schools for community use of school facilities	

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Area	Parish	Site Name	Community Use	Comments re Usage	Quality	Additional Comments
	Bradpole	St Catherine's RC Primary	No	school gym	No comment given	would not consider community use
Chickerell	Chickerell	Willowbed Hall	Yes	Function Room - 8.30am - 11pm every day of the week. Pre-booked	Very good	No comment given
	Chickerell	Budmouth Technology College	Yes	4ct sports hall and 2ct gym	sports hall excellent. Gym good	£30/ £19 per hour
	Chickerell	Chickerell County Primary School	Yes	1 court hall used by Easton Francis black belt academy	Good condition but too small for indoor games	£25 per session
Dorchester	Abbotsbury	Strangways Hall	Yes	No comment given	No comment given	No comment given
	Bradford Peverell	Bradford Peverell Village Hall	Yes	village hall, kitchen, seating and audio - popular - also WI, Multi-media. All new sprung floor for line dancing	Excellent quality	Have good facilities for small village (150) but being a small village having sufficient volunteers to keep everything going is sometimes difficult and funding is always an area of concern
	Broadmayne	Broadmayne Village Hall	Yes	sports hall, stage, committee room, kitchen - activities badminton, beavers and clubs, ballroom dancing, table tennis, line dancing, martial arts, kick boxing, old time dancing, bridge, keep fit, yoga, lunch club, short mat bowls (Pre booked)	sports hall and stage - very good. Committee room and kitchen - good.	currently looking at possibility of improving/extending the facilities and will probably be seeking funding/ grants to make this possible
	Buckland Newton	Buckland Newton Parish Room	Yes	toilets, kitchen. Room. Pre-booked	Good	No comment given
	Buckland Newton	Buckland Newton Village Hall	Yes	Hall. Has had lottery grant	Excellent quality	100yds from Recreation Ground
	Cerne Valley Group	Cerne Valley Village Hall	Yes	new - 1 month old. Bowling and stage. (also marked out for badminton). Pre-booked	Excellent quality	No comment given

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Area	Parish	Site Name	Community Use	Comments re Usage	Quality	Additional Comments
	Charminster	Charminster Village Hall	Yes	No comment given	No comment given	Village Hall Committee manage
	Charminster	Herrison Hall	Yes	No comment given	No comment given	Village Hall Committee manage
	Commons, Toller and Wynford	Commons, Toller and Wynford Village Hall	Yes	No comment given	No comment given	small village hall
	Crossways	Crossways Village Hall	Yes	village hall management committee manage facility	No comment given	No comment given
	Dewlish	Dewlish Village Hall	Yes	very small hall - not suitable for sport	average	small community - no need for facilities
	Dorchester	Municipal Buildings	Yes	No comment given	No comment given	No comment given
	Dorchester	Dorchester Arts Centre	Yes	Tai Chi and some dance classes	No comment given	No comment given
	Frampton	Frampton Village Hall (Metlands)	Yes	No sports facilities - well used for other functions and is a registered charity run by trustees	No comment given	No comment given
	Litton Cheney	Litton Cheney Church Hall	Yes	No comment given	No comment given	Church Hall Management Committee. There are plans to build a village hall but views are that it will not get off the ground
	Maiden Newton	Maiden Newton Village Hall	Yes	Maiden Newton Village Hall Committee run	No comment given	No comment given
	Maiden Newton	Youth and Community Centre	Yes	Youth and Community Centre Committee	No comment given	No comment given
	Owermoigne	Owermoigne Village Hall	Yes	No comment given	No comment given	No comment given
	Piddle Valley	Piddletrethide Memorial Hall	Yes	No comment given	No comment given	No comment given

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Area	Parish	Site Name	Community Use	Comments re Usage	Quality	Additional Comments
	Piddle Valley	Piddlehinton Hall	Yes	No comment given	No comment given	No comment given
	Piddle Valley	Piddlehinton Sportshall	Yes	Bowls, Badminton	No comment given	No comment given
	Puddletown	Puddletown Recreation Gr. Pavilion	Yes	No comment given	Excellent quality	newly built in 2004 - Sport England funded PRIDE management committee
	Puddletown	Puddletown Village Hall	Yes	pre booked	No comment given	Village Hall management committee
	Puddletown	Puddletown Church Hall	Yes	No comment given	No comment given	Church Hall committee
	Stratton	Stratton Village Hall	Yes	sports hall - badminton, squash, indoor football. Portable stage and changing rooms with shower facilities. Function room and kitchen, Youth Club. Includes external facilities (boules court) Bookings via committee.	Excellent quality	Stratton Village Hall management Committee - charitable status
	Sydling St. Nicholas	Sydling St. Nicholas Village Hall	Yes	short mat bowls, badminton, 55 years and new extension. Pre booked	Very Good	Old Village hall but still very functional. Managed by Management Committee
	Toller Porcorum	Toller Porcorum Village Hall	Yes	Kitchen, Hall, Stage. Pre-booked	Excellent quality	Quality Excellent but does not have alcohol license. 6/7 years old near to Recreation Ground
	Winterborne St Martin	Winterborne St Martin Village Hall	Yes	No comment given	No comment given	No comment given
	Winterborne St Martin	Winterborne St Martin Church Hall	Yes	No comment given	No comment given	No comment given
	Winterborne St Martin	Winterborne St Martin Communal Hall	Yes	No comment given	No comment given	Manor Grove. MAGNA Housing Association
	Broadmayne	Broadmayne First School	Yes	School Hall -community use (£5 per hour) but no community use of the sports hall	No comment given	No comment given

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Area	Parish	Site Name	Community Use	Comments re Usage	Quality	Additional Comments
	Dorchester	Dorchester Middle School	Yes	School Gym	No comment given	£20 per week
	Stinsford	Kingston Maurward College	No	small general area - no community use - mainly used as briefing/preparation area for outdoor activities. Also Fitness room - no community use	General area - Poor quality. Fitness Room - average	would consider community use if controlled/organised/ regulated. Plans to build sports hall in 2008 through government grant and college funds
	Frome Vauchurch	Greenford CE Primary	Yes	Hall - very small - used for adult yoga	Good quality	No comment given
	Dorchester	Manor Park First School	No	multi purpose school hall - no community use	No comment given	No comment given
	Portesham	Portesham CE Primary School	No	school hall - not for hire	No comment given	No comment given
	Portesham	Portesham Village Hall	Yes	No comment given	Very good quality	No comment given
	Dorchester	St Mary's Catholic First School	Yes	School Hall	average	future build - larger school hall
	Charminster	St Mary's CE First School	No	Assembly Hall - no community use	average	would consider lettings policy
	Puddletown	St Mary's CE Middle School	Yes	1 court sports hall - adult community use	Good quality	No comment given
Lyme Regis	Charmouth	Charmouth Community Hall	Yes	Badminton	No comment given	not owned by Parish Council
	Lyme Regis	Woodmead Halls	Yes	short mat bowls - also to hire	No comment given	No comment given
	Lyme Regis	Woodroffe School	Yes	School hall - 1 Court	No comment given	No comment given
	Lyme Regis	Lyme Regis Arts Centre	Yes	No comment given	No comment given	No comment given

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Area	Parish	Site Name	Community Use	Comments re Usage	Quality	Additional Comments
	Lyme Regis	St Michael's CE VA Primary	No	school hall no community use	Good quality	would not consider community use - not many facilities to use
Sherborne	Bishops Caundle	Bishops Caundle Village Hall	Yes	hall with marked badminton court - also used by bowls club for short mat bowls, available for hire for various activities, has toilets and room that can be used for changing, small meeting room available	very good quality	No comment given
	Bradford Abbas	Bradford Abbas Social Club	Yes	3 x football. Tennis, snooker, entertainments	Excellent quality	No comment given
	Cam Vale Group	Long Burton Village Hall	Yes	stage, hall, short mat bowls. Pre-booked	Good quality	may get new village hall - redundant site - just in planning stage
	Cam Vale Group	Leigh Village Hall	Yes	Community Hall		Planning permission for new additional hall
	Chetnole and Stockwood	Chetnole Village Hall	Yes	Main Hall, Kitchen, Bar - Pre-booked - arts club, gardeners parties	Good quality	Health and safety - hard to keep up - electrics need upgrading
	Folke	Folke Alwestern Village Hall	Yes	pre booked	Recently refurbished - kitchen, no bar - excellent quality	No comment given
	Holwell	Holwell Village Hall	Yes	very limited facilities, currently indoor short mat bowls - possibly suitable for folk dancing. No ball games		No comment given
	Melbury Osmond	Melbury Osmond Village Hall	Yes	Village Hall on Recreation Ground - bar, pool/ billiards, Hall - pre-booked	Excellent quality	active village hall committee keeps facility in v. good order
	Queen Thorne Group	Nethercompton Village Hall	Yes	No comment given	Excellent quality	No comment given
	Queen Thorne Group	Sandford Orcus Village Hall	Yes	No comment given	Excellent quality	No comment given

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

Area	Parish	Site Name	Community Use	Comments re Usage	Quality	Additional Comments
	Queen Thorne Group	Trent Village Hall	Yes	No comment given	Excellent quality	Currently seeking grant funding
	Sherborne	Digby Hall	Yes	Community halls, kitchen, bar, stage-sound and lighting equipment. No marked sports courts. Used for bridge, mahjong, slimming, keep fit classes, dancing, etc. Pre booked	Excellent quality	No comment given
	Sherborne	Digby Memorial Church Hall	Yes	No comment given	No comment given	No comment given
	Sherborne	West End Hall	Yes	Hall plus bar area	No comment given	No comment given
	Sherborne	Sherborne School for Girls	Yes	5ct Sports hall used for 5-a-side, climbing, badminton, and dance studio (keep fit, aerobics, dance)	No comment given	£20 per hour - Indoor Swimming Pool (25m, 6 lane) to be built late 2007 funded solely through the school
	Sherborne	The Gryphon School	Yes	4ct sports hall Dual Use with Leisure Centre hence indoor facilities	Excellent quality	through leisure centre
	Bishops Caundle	All Saints Primary School	No	1 court	Good quality	No comment given
	Sherborne	Sherborne Abbey Primary School	No	school gym – no community use	Good quality	No comment given
	Sherborne	Sherborne Primary	No	school hall - no community use	No comment given	No comment given

SECTION III - AUDITING LOCAL PROVISION

3.235 The audit of community centres focuses on the extent and location of existing provision, rather than the quality. The current level of provision (quantitative and qualitative findings), has been informed by both consultation, and a survey to Parish Councils within the District. Given the wide range of halls, their provision and focus, it is difficult to make meaningful comparisons in relation to quality, as there are few similarities between the different buildings, how they are operated, and the purposes for which they are used. However, it is important to know the distribution of community halls provision, as it has potential to contribute to outreach sport development work in terms of accessing hard to reach groups to encourage them to participate in sport and physical activity, and being able to accommodate activities at local level.

3.236 From Figure 3.61, the following observations can be made:

- Existing community centre/hall provision is reasonably well distributed across the District
- Many Primary schools have some hall provision but are rarely available for community use
- Church Halls often serve a useful purpose for hosting meetings
- The level and type of provision is varied across each of the Areas
- Many types of informal recreation and activities are hosted in the community indoor provision such as short mat bowls, line dancing, karate, aerobics, boxing, table tennis, Pilates, youth clubs and groups' activities, and such like
- Badminton Courts that are specifically marked for and available for community use for this purpose have been identified in the following Halls:
 - Beaminster School Gym (used by Beaminster badminton club and also used for basketball, indoor football and volleyball),
 - Broadmayne Village Hall,
 - Stratton Village Hall,
 - Charmouth Community Hall,
 - Sydling St Nicholas Village Hall,
 - Bishops Caundle Village Hall, and also at
 - Sherborne School for girls
 - Cerne Valley Village Hall
- Bishops Caundle Badminton club and Charmouth Badminton club responded to the survey. Charmouth Badminton Club play at Charmouth Centre and commented that the floor is good quality but the lighting is relatively poor

3.237 There are a number of accessibility issues in relation to community recreation facilities. These include:

- Limited opening times. Opening times and access arrangements vary greatly, from facilities with fixed, managed opening times to those where opening is on demand
- Transport to these facilities is also an issue; there are few public transport routes which provide direct access to these facilities
- Some facilities will operate close to capacity, while others have fewer bookings/activities.
- Some facilities provide only limited space, which restricts the type of activity for which it can be used.
- Cost of hire often varies and may be a barrier to use for some

3.238 Local residents from the door to door survey identified an average travel time to their local community centre of 0.41 miles (walking) and 2.74 miles (driving)

Current participation in Sport and Leisure across the District

3.239 An analysis of the current participation rates against key performance indicators (that are relevant in Comprehensive Performance Assessments and such like) provide an overall picture to assist with planning and identifying need for future provision and interventions. Key findings regarding current participation in sport and leisure in West Dorset include:

- In relation to the CPA score for 'choice and opportunity' Sport England record a score of 33.2% for West Dorset. (This is the percentage of the population **within 20 minutes travel time (Urban areas – by walk; Rural areas – by car) of a range of three different sports facility types of which one has achieved a quality assured standard**)
- The 'Active People' survey results (December 2006) demonstrate that the current participation rate in West Dorset is 20.4% compared with a national average of 21.3% (In Dorset County the average is 21.5% overall). The current level of volunteering in West Dorset is 6.1%, compared with a national average of 5.0% (the Dorset County average is 5.3%)