

Chelmsford Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy and Action Plan



2016 – 2036

(Part D of the Chelmsford Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Needs Assessment)

Report produced on behalf of Chelmsford City Council by Leisure and the Environment in association with Ethos Environmental Planning



Chelmsford Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy and Action Plan

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Glossary of Terms

Term	Meaning
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch(es)
ANOG	Assessment of Needs and Opportunities Guide
APS	Active People Survey(s)
BDA	Bowls Development Alliance
DPD	Development Plan Document(s)
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FIFA	Federation of International Football Associations
LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
RFU	Rugby Football Union

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

1.1.1 This is one of six reports provided within the overall Chelmsford Open Space, Sports and Recreational Facilities Study. The six reports are:

- 1 Chelmsford Community and Stakeholder Consultation Report (Local Needs Assessment);
- 2 Chelmsford Open Space Study (comprising a main report and six area profiles);
- 3 Chelmsford Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Needs Assessment (Part A, B and C);
- 4 Chelmsford Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy and Action Plan (this report - part D of the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Needs Assessment); and
- 5 Chelmsford Indoor/Built Sports Facility Sport Needs Assessment.
- 6 Indoor/Built Sports Facility Sport Strategy and Action Plan.

1.1.2 This report is Part D of the Chelmsford Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Needs Assessment. It is a strategy and action plan for playing pitches and other outdoor sport for Chelmsford City Council, and covers the period to 2036.

1.1.3 This document is based on a substantial needs assessment (The Chelmsford Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Needs Assessment) and associated community consultation undertaken for the City Council, and following recognised national guidance.

1.1.4 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires local planning authorities to set out policies to help enable communities to access high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation. These policies need to be based on a thorough understanding of local needs for such facilities and opportunities available for new provision. The Government's public health initiatives have seen local authorities assume more responsibility for improving levels of public health. Studies show that living a healthy lifestyle and maintaining a healthy weight can reduce the risk of developing chronic disease, improves quality of life and increases life expectancy. The Council is now responsible for many factors which impact on mental and physical health, including sports and leisure provision in the area, environmental health, green spaces and housing standards. The Council is therefore now aiming to support its residents and encourage health improvements by implementing the new Public Health Strategy alongside the Council's other policies and strategies.

1.1.5 Other national policy and strategies also point to the critical role of local authorities in both providing and facilitating new and improved sports provision to provide not just sports but also wider recreation and health benefits.

1.2 Remit

1.2.1 The remit of the strategy covers the major 'pitch sports': Association Football; Cricket; Hockey; and Rugby. Other outdoor sports covered are netball, tennis, bowls, and golf. Most of these other outdoor sports can also rely on indoor facilities, and so indoor tennis, indoor bowls, indoor netball as well as athletics are covered in complementary guidance produced by the City Council.

1.3 Application

1.3.1 The Strategy and Action Plan will be used to inform the preparation of statutory planning policy, and supplementary planning documents. It can be used in the applying the Community Infrastructure Levy and developing Section 106 agreements. The detailed information can also be used to inform other investment decisions on the part of both the Council, and its partners; and, developing bids for external funding.

1.4 Method and governance

1.4.1 The Strategy and Action Plan, as well as the underpinning Needs Assessment follows national guidance produced by Sport England, and the entire project has been overseen by a Steering Group comprising representatives of relevant authorities and organisations, and these are listed **Appendix 1**.

1.4.2 The report is made up of the following sections:

- A summary of the context for preparing this strategy;
- A summary of the main issues that have been identified as affecting each sport, now and in the coming years;
- Strategic vision, aims and recommendations to guide the actions and decisions of the City Council and its partners over the coming years (The Strategy);
- A sport-by-sport and site-by-site schedule of recommendations covering each sport considered (The Action Plan); and,
- How the Strategy should be kept up-to-date, and its implementation resourced.

2.0 CONTEXT

2.1 General

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

2.1.2 The information provided in sections 2.2 and 2.3 below has been taken from the context section (section 3) of the Chelmsford Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Needs Assessment, which should be referred to for more detail.

2.2 Population

2.2.1 As at 2015 Chelmsford City Council area was estimated to have a population of 172,370. This figure is based upon population projections commissioned by the City Council. The same projections calculate that by the year 2036 the population will have increased 195,880. This figure is itself only based upon previous trends, and does not necessarily take into account the impact of planned new residential growth yet to be determined. This growth will affect the local demography in different ways. The following diagram shows the impact it is likely to have on key age groups. Beyond 2021, the City Council will assume that the requirement for new homes up to an extended time horizon (up to 2036) will run at around 775 per annum. This is based on Chelmsford's Objectively Assessed Housing Need figure. This shows a population increase of 22,549 for period 2015-2025¹

2.3 Issues

2.3.1 The new government strategy 'Sporting Future – A new strategy for an active nation', identifies the importance of addressing flat-lining levels of participation in sports, and it has redefined ways of measuring success for sport in respect of physical and mental health and well-being, individual development, social and community development, economic development. Public investment in sport will reach children as young as five years. Funding will also be targeted at groups who have low participation rates to encourage those who do not take part in sport and physical activity to get involved. This includes supporting women, disabled people, those in lower socio-economic groups and older people.

2.3.2 In response to the government's strategy, Sport England's new strategy vision is that that everyone in England, regardless of age, background or ability, feels able to take part in sport or activity. Sport England's new vision and its supporting aims will therefore contribute to achieving the government's strategy.

2.3.3 In terms of participation in sport and active recreation, the local authority has many things in its favour. The general affluence of the population facilitates relatively high levels of participation within the local population. However, there are geographical pockets within the urban area that exhibit quite high levels of economic and social deprivation, and where levels

¹ This is based on the EPOA Phase Report 7 report from Edge (POPGROUP). This shows a population increase of 22,549 for period 2015-2025.

of participation in sport and active recreation are depressed as a consequence. Improving prospects for participating should be a priority for the local authority and its partners in these areas, with the consequent health and economic benefits.

2.3.4 The above should be major determinants in influencing local planning for sport and active recreation. In addition to the above, the following will influence demand into the foreseeable future:

- A growing population, which may be further accentuated by planned new residential growth that has not yet been allocated.
- The strong representation within the local population of adult age groups with characteristics that make them more likely to take part in sport and active recreation;
- High existing levels of regular participation compared with the national averages, which suggest that any further growth in participation levels will develop an already strong base.
- The character of the local authority's population continues to change and this has a profound effect on the types of sport, play and leisure activity appealing to local people
- The Council is working in a financially challenging environment- this brings problems, but it also presents a clear opportunity for reviewing and transforming the Council's leisure service and facilities it operates. Similarly, many agencies, groups and organisations have shared aspirations in respect of the 'health agenda' and great potential exists for collaboration between public and voluntary sectors, as well as social and commercial enterprises to realise these aspirations.
- The importance of the wider agenda on physical activity/ prevention/ health and wellbeing, and the need for the City Council and its partners to embrace this in respect to the actions in this strategy.

2.4 A remit that is based on meeting Community Needs, and providing Community Use

2.4.1 Fundamentally, this strategy seeks to create a facility base that meets community needs: facilities best placed to meet such needs have to provide certain conditions to allow community use to flourish. At its simplest 'community use' is a term that is used to describe the extent to which a given sport or recreation facility is available for use by members of the general community- either on a pay-as-you go informal basis, or as part of an organised club or group.

2.4.2 In practice, the above definition of community use will include a wide range of management regimes whose admission policies will span informal 'pay-as-you-go' access, by the general community; and, through to use by organised clubs and groups by booking or longer-term agreements etc. Whether individual facilities are considered to be available for significant community use depends of several factors, including:

- Type of facility (and whether its size and design might be of use to the community at large, or at least significant groups within the community);
- The cost of using facilities, and whether these might generally be considered to be affordable;

- The times and days of availability (times of most demand for the general community are likely to be in the evenings and at the weekends, as well as during mid-week lunchtime (a popular for people at work); and,
- The extent to which such use by the community is 'assured' over the longer-term.

2.4.3 In terms of utility for the general community different facilities will therefore have diverse value by nature of because of their varying scale, location, and management/pricing policies. This is not to deny the importance of other smaller provision for local clubs and groups, as well as those residents who prefer to pay for access to private/commercial facilities.

3.0 KEY ISSUES

3.1 General

3.1.1 The following is a summary of the key issues taken from the technical report Chelmsford Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Needs Assessment (Parts A, B, and C). The report was prepared to inform the preparation of this strategy and action plan.

3.1.2 The following represents a non-technical summary, and the detailed evidence and calculations with technical explanations are included in the Needs Assessment. This summary is largely on a sport-by-basis. There are, however, some observations that impact upon all the sports covered, and the principal factors in this regard are:

- Potential rapid population change within the local authority, that will be fuelled largely by additional planned housing growth.
- The need to anticipate and meet the needs of this growing and changing population, which will greatly depend on providing and improving provision where geographically relevant to the locations of this planned new growth.
- The existing high levels of participation in many sports, relative to other parts of the country, and the challenge in continuing to sustain these levels, whilst also catering for new demands.
- Getting more children into sport, as well as those groups within society who traditionally have been less physically active than other sections of the population. This is the challenge now set by national policy.

3.2 Key Issues for Football

3.2.1 Wet weather really impacts upon the ability of pitches to absorb play and training. Investigation of an improved local authority maintenance programme on local authority pitch sites would support the ability of pitches to absorb play and training.

3.2.2 There is a desperate need for more AGPs both for training and, increasingly, for matchplay to help deal with wet weather, and increased demand leading to wear and tear. If there were to be geographical priority areas for additional facilities, they would be located in the vicinity of existing hub and spoke clubs; on school sites; and on good communication links. Additional facilities in the north, south, and central zones of the Chelmsford urban area would be the most appropriate overall locations.

3.2.3 There are geographical hotspots of demand where access to pitches is extremely problematic.

3.2.4 Various multi-team clubs have to spread their play over a number of sites, leading to no focal point for some clubs.

3.2.5 Increased population levels will heighten demand for pitches in some locations, in coming years.

3.2.6 It might be an aim to get as much junior matchplay onto AGPs as possible.

3.2.7 The quality of changing facilities at some sites requires attention.

3.2.8 Table 1 below shows the predicted change in team numbers from 2015 to 2036

Table 1 Football (Predicted change in team numbers 2015-2036)

A. Extra teams from population growth		B. Extra teams for aspirational growth		Combined teams (A+B)	Grass pitches required	Impact on net peak-time supply based on existing stock	Note
Adult	11.3	Adult	23	34.3	17.1	+24 (down from +41)	Assumes 2 games/pitch/week
Junior	18.9	Junior	20	38.9	19.5	-55 (down from -36)	Assumes 2 games/pitch/week
Mini	5.7	Mini	17	23.4	5.8	n.a.	Assumes 4 games/pitch/week

3.3 Key Issues for Cricket

3.3.1 The concept of a central venue for casual cricket should be promoted, with the provision of non-turf wickets. This would help develop team-based (as opposed to club-based cricket for those who cannot commit to regular and frequent games).

3.3.2 Some of the larger clubs require access to more than one ground to help grow participation.

3.3.3 There are some sites (in rural areas) that are under-used- what is their future? The underuse of sites in rural areas needs to be explored and understood. For example, how are they being marketed, is the booking process as easy as it can be? Are the right stakeholders being engaged with i.e. partnerships between clubs, schools, leagues, casual teams and other potential users?

3.3.4 With some sites where there is multi-age group play there are/will be problems with the capacity to absorb matchplay, especially where there are burgeoning numbers in the junior age groups. Access to grass wickets at an appropriate age may put some wickets under pressure.

3.3.5 The impression from this study is that the larger clubs have much better access to T20 competitions and other short- game derivatives. Smaller clubs may wish to consider the potential impact on traditional matchplay in the medium to long term if young people want to focus on the shorter game and are therefore drawn increasingly to the larger clubs.

3.3.6 The need for a coherent and sustainable long term plan for the maintenance of sites

3.3.7 Table 2 below shows the predicted change in team numbers from 2015 to 2036.

Table 2 Cricket (Predicted change in team numbers 2015-2036)

A. Extra teams from population growth		B. Extra teams for aspirational growth		Extra matches (A+B)	Grass Fields required
Adult	4.3	Adult	3	7.3	1-2
Junior	6.8	Junior	9	15.8	1 (share the above)

3.4 Key Issues for Rugby

3.4.1 Rugby activity at Coronation Park and Saltcoats Park is hindered by overused facilities.

3.4.2 The Coronation Park facilities are especially over-used, and the conditions on the training pitch can be dire.

3.4.3 Drainage/surface improvements are required at Coronation Park.

3.4.4 The potential utility of a rugby-compliant AGP for training and mini-rugby should also be considered at an appropriate location.

3.4.5 Consider asset transfer of clubhouse facility at Saltcoats Park to the rugby club.

3.4.6 Table 3 below shows the predicted change in team numbers from 2015 to 2036.

Table 3 Rugby (Predicted change in team numbers 2015-2036)

Extra teams from population growth		Extra teams for aspirational growth		Extra matches (A+B)	Grass pitches required (assuming 2 games per pitch/week)
Adult	0.7	Adult	1	1.7	1
Junior	1.6	Junior	2	3.6	1
Mini/midi	6.9	Mini/midi	2	8.9	1

3.5 Key Issues for Hockey

3.5.1 Resolution of the replacement of the sand-based pitch at Chelmer Park is critical to the future of the Chelmsford HC. The Hockey Club and the City Council should continue to negotiate towards an agreed and mutually beneficial investment project for Chelmer Park based on the following:

- The sand pitch will be replaced by a sand-dressed surface predominantly for hockey use whilst continuing to be shared with football based on an agreed programme;
- Recognition of the importance of retaining football; income is 2/3 football, 1/3 hockey;
- The timescale for replacement remains at some point over the 2016/17 and 2017/18 financial years;
- A 'joint' refurbishment programme could be the aim, so that both the Council and the club can enjoy economies in scale in re-surfacing both pitches within an integrated project (each to a sand-dressed surface); and,
- A review of fees and charges for hockey will be part of a wider consideration of different financial models covering capital funding, revenues and ongoing management of the facilities, creating a sinking fund, VAT efficient bookings, membership options (junior subsidies) etc.

3.5.2 Recognise and protect the value of the sand based pitch at Chelmsford Girls County High School for community hockey.

3.5.3 Table 4 below shows the predicted change in team numbers from 2015 to 2036.

Table 4 Hockey (Predicted change in team numbers 2015-2036)

2015 AGE GROUPS	2015 AGE GROUPS (k)	2015 TEAM S	2015 TGRs	2036 AGE GROUPS (k)	2036 TEAMS	CHANGE (+/-)
Junior hockey (11-15 male)	4.92	4	1229	5.70	4.6	0.6
Junior hockey (11-15 female)	4.59	4	1146	5.40	4.7	0.7
Senior hockey (16-45 male)	32.22	7	4602	34.74	7.5	0.5
Senior hockey (16-45 female)	32.15	8	4018	33.63	8.4	0.4

3.6 Key Issues for Outdoor Tennis

3.6.1 The LTA have identified Chelmsford as one of their focus areas, and have committed to working with the local authority to investigate the opportunity for development of tennis in the area with the potential to consider infrastructure development if appropriate.

3.6.2 It is hoped that this report will complement the first strategic aim that has been accepted 'To create a high quality, financially sustainable facility stock across Chelmsford to meet the future demands of the local community.'

3.6.3 Park-based facilities should play a core role in the above strategy, in encouraging people into tennis who might otherwise not want to (initially) join a club.

3.6.4 It will be important that any development of local authority facility provision should be considerate of surfacing, markings, and is of a configuration that allows it to be used by a variety of activities. Park site development should also consider the introduction of amenities such as a kiosk and improved toilets etc.

3.6.5 It is recognised that there is a lack of indoor provision in the area currently which needs to be considered as part of the wider tennis infrastructure development planning.

3.6.6 Continue to support the clubs to offer high quality facilities and environment to retain existing and encourage new members.

3.7 Key Issues for Outdoor Bowls

3.7.1 The promotion of (further) taster sessions, linked to '3-generation, family membership' might be a way of bolstering the type of environment which might encourage more young people into the game.

3.7.2 There does not appear to be a need for additional outdoor bowls facilities, currently; although population change in some areas may cause this to be reviewed at some point in the future.

3.7.3 Conversely, there is no convincing argument to suggest that the current level of provision is more than required.

3.8 Key Issues for Outdoor Netball

3.8.1 Demand is increasing but is frustrated by lack of facilities, locally.

3.8.2 A major hub venue of between 10-12 outdoor and 1 indoor court, may be required for further significant growth- this could be either a new standalone facility, or else an extension of an existing venue. This issue takes on added importance given the likely loss of facilities at New Hall School. Chelmsford Netball League do not have assured use of their current facility at New Hall School. If the arrangement were to cease it will have serious implications for netball in Chelmsford potentially leaving the biggest league in East without a suitable venue. Security of tenure of an assured alternative venue should be sought, ideally with outdoor and indoor courts.

3.8.3 Whilst the above cannot be a short-term aspiration, the potential should be explored for a shorter-term 'fix' based on exiting venues, and/or improving access to existing courts, currently not used for community netball, but having potential.

3.8.4 The need of netball interests to therefore have an assured local netball centre with both outdoor and indoor facilities.

3.9 Key Issues for Golf

3.9.1 Demand generated by a larger population suggests a need to keep the level of local provision under review, which might be addressed through extending an existing facility, at an appropriate time: this however, is likely to be a commercial project, and subject to normal land-use planning, and other policies governing overall acceptability.

4.0 THE STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

4.1 General

4.1.1 The Strategy provides the strategic vision, aims and recommendations to guide the actions and decisions of the City Council and its partners over the coming years (The Strategy).

4.1.2 The new government strategy 'Sporting Future – A new strategy for an active nation', identifies the importance of addressing flat-lining levels of participation in sports, and it has redefined ways of measuring success for sport in respect of physical and mental health and well-being, individual development, social and community development, economic development. Public investment in sport will reach children as young as five years. Funding will also be targeted at groups who have low participation rates to encourage those who do not take part in sport and physical activity to get involved. This includes supporting women, disabled people, those in lower socio-economic groups and older people.

4.1.3 In response to the government's strategy, Sport England's new strategy vision is that that everyone in England, regardless of age, background or ability, feels able to take part in sport or activity. Sport England's new vision and its supporting aims will therefore contribute to achieving the government's strategy.

4.1.4 The 2012 Corporate plan for the City has aims that are consistent with the Government's new aims, and in particular:

- reduce health inequalities by promoting healthier behaviours, more physically active lifestyles and addressing the causes of poor health and well-being
- modernise, refurbish and maintain Council owned sports and leisure facilities to ensure that they continue to be of a high standard for users
- extend and improve the sports and recreation facilities at Melbourne Park, including its dedication as the Queen Elizabeth II Park, as part of the 'Fields in Trust' Diamond Jubilee programme
- tackle obesity levels throughout the city by enhancing exercise and fitness opportunities
- maximise the benefits of Leisure Plus to encourage greater participation in sport and the arts
- from the 2012 Olympics & Paralympics build a legacy amongst local people

4.2 Vision and aims

4.2.1 The **vision and key aims** for this strategy are therefore identified to be:

To create an environment for local sport and physical activity which helps in:

- *Improving the overall physical and mental health and wellbeing of residents*
- *Encourages individual, social and community development*
- *Promotes participation amongst children, to help develop habits for life in respect of participation*

- *Promotes participation amongst those groups within the community that do not traditionally have good levels of participation*

4.2.2 Five strategic recommendations are proposed in the following section, in order to achieve the above vision and aims. Each strategic recommendation is stated, along with a justification. Together with the Vision and Aims, these strategic recommendations help to shape the tone and direction of the Action Plan.

4.3 Strategic recommendations

4.3.1 **SR1: Conserve and improve the existing stock of outdoor sports facilities of existing and potential value for outdoor sport**

4.3.2 **Reasoning:** It is fundamental to the achievement of the vision and aims of the strategy, that the local authority's stock of outdoor sports sites is conserved. This will mean the outright protection and improvement of many sites, but it may also mean potentially the redeployment of some sites that are or were used for outdoor sport. In terms of the latter, 'redemption' may mean simply making a decision not to invest in maintaining sports facilities, but also that the site is still suited to other recreation activity. In other far more limited circumstances it might be appropriate to release sites for alternative built development. The emphasis is therefore on overall conservation of the stock of local facilities, given the need for facilities to change to best meet current needs as reflected in the Vision and Aims.

4.3.3 **What to look for in the Action Plan:** Apart from the above it is an aspiration to improve the quality of the overall stock of facilities, to make them more 'playable' and therefore attractive to use. A typology of sites has been identified to help achieve this and other strategic recommendation. Taking into account the findings of the Needs Assessment, it is clear that sites can be classified generally into one of four groupings by type, depending on the role that they serve. No one group is more important than any other, as each grouping represents sites with contrasting but nevertheless vital functions in terms of providing opportunities.

4.3.4 The groups are as follows:

- Priority Parks and recreation grounds;
- Multi-pitch sports sites;
- Smaller sports sites; and,
- Un(der)used Sites with Strategic Potential.

4.3.5 Beyond the above there are sites of limited utility and/or potential. There are also other institutionally controlled facilities (including many schools) that are not used for community sports, but which have a primary function in meeting the needs of their client groups. The introduction of community use to these facilities may be an aspiration, but not a short-term priority of the Strategy.

4.3.6 A large number of sporting facilities are located on education sites and making these available to sports clubs can offer significant benefits to both the school/college and the local clubs. The Council and other key partners must work with schools and colleges to develop an

understanding of the issues that restrict or affect community access. Support should be provided, where appropriate, to address underlying problems.

4.3.7 It is not uncommon for school pitch stock not to be fully maximised for community use. Even on established community use sites, access to grass pitches for community use is limited.

4.3.8 The four groups (together with sites considered to be of limited utility and/or potential) are explained below, and linked to the Strategic Policy recommendations. This typology has been used to inform site and sports specific actions identified in the Action Plan. Where operational education facilities serve a significant role for community sport covered by this Strategy, they are categorised under one or more of the above. Where they do not currently appear to have a significant role in the above respect. They have been listed as 'Other Education'.

4.3.9 Where sites have been identified for new and/or improved facilities, the quality target should be to achieve a good standard of construction as recognised by the relevant Governing Bodies of Sport, and detailed in the Needs Assessment.

4.3.10 The local stock of outdoor sports facilities can sometimes be conserved and improved by encouraging some clubs that exhibit the capacity and willingness, to assume some additional responsibility for the management and maintenance of facilities. This might sometimes include formal asset transfer of sites or ancillary facilities (such as pavilions) to clubs. Some potential projects in this regard have been identified in the Action Plan B, but other projects might exist. However, the ability of local clubs to take control of facilities should not be overestimated. Although a select number of clubs might already have the capacity and expertise to achieve this, the large majority won't and, if they want to progress toward this goal, they will need help. The Council should work towards adopting a policy which supports community management and ownership of assets to local clubs, community groups and trusts- but only where this is appropriate. This presents sports clubs and national governing bodies with opportunities to assume a stronger and more responsible role in the management and safekeeping of facilities; it may also provide non-asset owning sports clubs with their first chance to take on a building.

4.3.11 There are some sites in the local authority where security of tenure for the club/user needs to be assured. This also often refers to education sites where formal community use agreements are not in place. NGBs can often help to negotiate and engage with schools, particularly academies where the local authority may not have direct influence.

4.3.12 In addition there are a number of examples where long term leases could be put into place for the continued use of a site. Each candidate club in this regard should be required to meet service and/or strategic recommendations. However, an additional set of criteria should be considered, which takes into account the quality of the club, aligned to its long term development objectives and sustainability. It is increasingly important for the Council to work with voluntary sector organisations in order that they may be able to take greater levels of ownership and support the wider development and maintenance of facilities. To facilitate this, the Council should support and enable clubs to generate sufficient funds to allow this.

4.3.13 In addition, the Action Plan B identifies locations where there is potential to create new facilities to meet existing and future demands. For example, locations for new AGPs or grass pitches.

4.3.14 Finally, there are recommendations for including appropriate policies and other statements to be included in statutory and supplementary planning documents. (See Action Plan A).

4.3.15 SR2: Provide new and improved opportunities and facilities that stand the best chances of encouraging participation amongst those groups that don't traditionally take part in sport and active recreation in high numbers

4.3.16 **Reasoning:** Sport and active recreation has much to offer in improving the individual health, as well as encouraging social and community development. However, it needs to embrace the changing nature of society and accept that the terms of engagement with potential participants are changing, and new forms of provision and facility management may be required to encourage the identified target groups into sport and active recreation.

4.3.17 **What to look for in the Action Plan:** As identified in Section 2, there are some parts of the local authority that have comparatively low levels of participation in sport, and these tend to coincide with areas of relatively high levels of social and economic deprivation when measured by government indicators. Some sites have therefore been highlighted for this reason, and initiatives for these sites should be aimed at improving participation in the surrounding areas.

4.3.18 SR3: Provide new and improved opportunities for children with the aim of helping develop a 'habit for life' in sport and active recreation.

4.3.19 **Reasoning:** In recent years some sports (notably pitch sports like football) have developed forms of the game that have enjoyed considerable success in encouraging children and young people into sport. Such opportunities and age-appropriate facilities should be the bedrock of any serious attempt to encourage even higher levels of participation amongst children and young people.

4.3.20 **What to look for in the Action Plan:** Facilities that are suited to hosting child-friendly versions of sports are encouraged at various sites- this might be achieved by simple initiatives such as reviewing and re-marking pitches, but also more structural changes, such as improved and expanded ancillary buildings. There are schools that do not appear to currently offer much community use, which are located in or close to areas of relatively high social and economic deprivation, and which might offer the potential for getting children from relatively deprived backgrounds into sport.

4.3.21 A few sites are also identified where there may be scope for more use, and perhaps through working in tandem with local primary schools.

4.3.22 SR4: Provide new and improved opportunities that help retain and allow for progression of participants.

4.3.23 Reasoning: Successfully encouraging new participants is just one challenge to be faced in growing participation in sport and active recreation: retaining new and long-standing participants is the other challenge. To achieve this will require the opportunities for those who wish to stay and progress in a given sport with the facilities and pathways to enable them so to do. Enthusiasm should not be thwarted by a lack of facilities of right type and appropriate quality.

4.3.24 What to look for in the Action Plan: This Strategy and Action Plan does not provide for facilities to be used by the elite performance level, but by the general community. However, the priority sites will be of a kind that will help budding sportspersons to play to a good level. Below these priority sites there will be smaller sites, which will still be important entry level venues.

4.3.25 SR5: Develop and maintain a range of sites and opportunities essential to the achievement of SR4

4.3.26 Reasoning: Part of the solution required to address the requirements of SR4 is the development of a range of facilities, so that those that want to can move up (and down) the level of performance.

4.3.27 What to look for in the Action Plan: These Strategic recommendations have been linked to specific action points in the following Action Plan. The Plan identifies a range of site types.

4.4 The Action Plan

4.4.1 The Action Plan has two parts:

- Part A (**table 5**) - which provides general actions; and
- Part B (**table 7**) - which has site and sports-specific Actions.

4.4.2 The Strategy and Action Plan has been prepared and agreed by the City Council, Sport England and relevant Governing Bodies of Sport. These stakeholders must therefore cooperate in achieving the strategic and site specific actions proposed. The land-use planning system will be a principal vehicle for addressing many of the actions. The sports and site-specific actions contained in Action Plan B have been graded as to their agreed priority, and practical involvement and leadership in achieving the implementation of actions must be agreed between members of the on-going steering group.

4.4.3 Section 5 of this documents explains how the Strategy and Action Plan will be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis. However, the steering group should be constantly alert to new issues and opportunities that emerge over the course of time, and the Strategy and Action Plan is therefore not intended to be inflexibly prescriptive.

Action Plan A: General actions

Key: Time-frame (Short=0-2 years; Medium=2-4 years; Long=5 years +)

Implementation partners (CCC=Chelmsford City Council; FA=Football Association; ECB=England and Wales Cricket Board; RFU= Rugby Football Union; EH=England Hockey; BE= Bowls England; BDA=Bowls Development Alliance; LTA=Lawn Tennis Association; EN=England Netball)

Table 5 Action Plan Part A (General Actions)

Strategic Recommendation	Action	Time-frame
SR1	<p>Planning policies: Develop planning policies for conservation and improvement of the stock of playing fields and other outdoor sports facilities as identified by SR1.</p> <p>Include policies and proposals in the Development Plan which are consistent with paragraphs 73 and 74 of the National Planning Policy Framework guidance and, in particular, include reference to the recommendations contained in this Strategy and Action Plan.</p> <p>Include sites specific proposals that cover the relevant recommendations included in this Action Plan, and especially in Part B.</p> <p>In circumstances where proposals for development and use of a site are contrary to those contained in the recommendations of this Strategy and Action Plan, they should only be approved where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or • the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or • the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.' 	Short

Strategic Recommendation	Action	Time-frame
	<p>Include statements in all relevant supplementary planning documents relating to the policy and actions in this Strategy.</p> <p>SPD and CIL: Include reference to all relevant recommendations contained in this Strategy and Action Plan in CIL Regulation 123 List, and any other supplementary planning documents of relevance, that are to be prepared by the Council.</p> <p>Site typology: Develop and maintain a typology of sites to guide planning and investment in line with table 6 (below)</p>	
SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4, SR5	<p>Implementation through steering group: Achieve implementation of the policies and recommendations in this strategy and action plan through the establishment of a steering group.</p> <p>Implementation is also covered in Section 5 of this document. The existing project steering group should continue, and its membership tailored to cover the generic and site specific issues covered by the strategy and action plan- additional and/or changed membership might cover Active Chelmsford, local education interests, local NGB and league interests.</p> <p>An immediate priority of the steering group will be to establish a 'Year 1' series of projects to be pursued in accordance with the priority ratings and time-frames indicated in the Action Plan.</p> <p>Year 1 project initiatives may not only include active pursuit of the high priority projects, but also could include projects that are easy to implement and achieve in the short-term.</p>	Short
SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4, SR5	<p>Monitoring review through steering group: This is to be achieved in accordance with Section 5 of this strategy.</p>	Short
SR1, SR2	<p>Develop capacity of club volunteers to use a central resource of pitch maintenance facilities: Training programmes allied to the creation of a</p>	On-going

Strategic Recommendation	Action	Time-frame
	<p>central bank of maintenance equipment to help clubs to maintain the quality of grass pitches.</p> <p>Develop capacity of clubs, where appropriate to assume greater responsibility in respect of the ownership, tenure, management, and maintenance of facilities. Local sports clubs should be supported by partners including the Council, NGBs or the County Sports Partnership (CSP) to achieve sustainability across a range of areas including management, membership, funding, facilities, volunteers and partnership working. For example, support club development and encourage clubs to develop evidence of business and sports development plans to generate an income through their facilities.</p> <p>Maximise community use of outdoor sports facilities where there is a need so to do. A working group, led by a partner from the education sector but supported by a range of other sectors including sport and leisure is established to implement the strategic direction in relation to the increased/better use of school facilities. Broadly speaking, its role should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To secure a better understanding of current community use; • To ensure community use agreements are upheld; • To identify and pilot one school/club formal community use agreement with a view to rolling out the model across the area; • To ensure that funding to improve the quality of the facilities is identified and secured; • As part of any agreement secure a management arrangement for community access, which does not rely on existing school staff structures; • To ensure that pitch provision at schools is sufficient in quality and quantity to be able to deliver its curriculum. 	

Strategic Recommendation	Action	Time-frame
	Once this has been achieved provision could contribute to overcoming deficiencies in the area.	

Table 6: Typology of sites

Groups/Typologies
(1) Priority Park and Recreation Grounds: these are pitches available in the Council's larger parks and public recreation grounds that provide important opportunities for small clubs to have regular access to football pitches and accompanying facilities of a basic but decent quality. The types of clubs and teams that benefit from such sites are either newly established with no facilities of their own; and/or, longer-standing clubs, that do not have the resources or aspiration to own their home ground. Such venues may also be important for other sports, such as cricket, tennis and bowls.
(2) Multi-pitch Sports Sites: these are sites that are (almost) entirely devoted to outdoor sport, and will contain multiple pitches, and perhaps of various age-appropriate dimensions. These might be local authority, or club-controlled. The key defining characteristic will however be that they are quite big, and therefore allow for high volumes of play, as well as offering at least the potential for further development and improvement for the benefit of mass participation in outdoor sport.
(3) Smaller Sports Sites: these are smaller sites- perhaps of no more than one or two pitches, (and perhaps courts and/or greens) that value for sport, and potentially for individual clubs. These sites might already be controlled by local clubs, but they may also be controlled by the Council, and have the potential to be offered by leasehold to suitable local clubs with a willingness and capacity to self-manage.
(4) Un(der)used Sites with Strategic Potential: these are sites that are currently unused or underused for community sport generally but have playing fields which offer the potential to make a strategically significant contribution to the local stock of football sites (or other pitch sports). These sites can include (disused) education playing fields, amongst others.
Sites of limited utility: There are other sites that do not fit comfortably into any of these categories, and these will tend to be sites of poor quality, and limited utility and/or potential for sports. These sites might be considered for alternative uses to sport, including for other open space functions or, where appropriate, built development.

Action Plan B: Site and sports-specific actions

Key: Time-frame (Short=0-2 years; Medium=2-4 years; Long=5 years +)

Key Implementation partners (CCC=Chelmsford City Council; FA=Football Association; ECB=England and Wales Cricket Board; RFU= Rugby Football Union; EH=England Hockey; BE= Bowls England; BDA=Bowls Development Alliance; LTA=Lawn Tennis Association; EN=England Netball; SG=Steering Group generally)

Colour coding of sites

	No specific site
	Sites largely controlled by local authorities (City Council or town/parish councils) available for community use.
	Other sites generally available for community use.
	Sites currently not generally available for community use.

Table 7 Action Plan Part B (Site and sports-specific actions)

Name		Ownership	Sub Area	Ward	Sports on-site	Site Grouping	Strategic Recommendations met through this Action (justification for action)	Action	High Priority?	Time-frame
No specific site		N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4	Netball: Search and locate a suitable venue for netball, ideally to accommodate both indoor and outdoor multi-court provision. This is to counter the potential loss of facilities at New Hall School.	Yes	Medium
No specific site		N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4	Football: Search and locate sites for at least 5 full-size floodlit 3G pitches to be built to FA recommended standards. These should be well located in relation to existing and potential future demand. Some venues that might be considered have been identified elsewhere in this Action Plan. Investigation should include accommodating an FA Park Life Facility model of a minimum of 2 x full size floodlit 3G pitches on one site with associated changing, clubhouse and coach education accommodation and grass pitches.	Yes	Short
No specific site		N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4	Football: Investigation of an improved local authority maintenance programme on local authority pitch sites would support the ability of pitches to absorb play and training. This could be linked to measures to expand the capacity of clubs through use of a central resource of pitch maintenance facilities. (Table 5 of Action Plan A, page 25/6.	Yes	Medium
Vicinity of Beaulieu Park development		N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4, SR5	All Sports: Ensure that the provisions of this strategy, and the information contained in the Needs Assessment are used in the detailed planning of this major new allocation in respect of sports provision.	Yes	Short
Admirals Park		LA	Chelmsford urban area	St. Andrews	cricket, football, tennis	Priority Park and Recreation Grounds	SR1, SR2	Cricket: Provide non-turf wicket for potential casual matches.	Yes	Short
								Target Groups: This venue is located in a ward with relatively high deprivation in some parts, and sports initiatives, at this site should be aimed at such groups.	Yes	Short

Name		Ownership	Sub Area	Ward	Sports on-site	Site Grouping	Strategic Recommendations met through this Action (justification for action)	Action	High Priority?	Time-frame
Andrews Park		LA	Chelmsford urban area	Patching Hall	football, tennis	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1	Football: Under-used football pitch site, which would suit as a base for a youth football club.	Yes	Short/Med
								Tennis: involve with LTA local initiatives.	Yes	Short/Med
								Target Groups: This venue is located in a ward with relatively high deprivation in some parts, and sports initiatives, at this site should be aimed at such groups.	Yes	Short/Med
Angel Meadow		LA	Rural area	Broomfield and The Walthams	football	Multi-pitch Sports Sites	SR1	Football: Improve and expand changing.		Medium
								Football: Explore scope with resident club and parish council to acquire access to additional land for football, on adjacent land.		Short
								Football: Review pitch sizes and remark as appropriate.		Short
Beaulieu Park Sports Fields		LA	Chelmsford urban area	Chelmer Village and Beaulieu Park	football, tennis, netball	Multi-pitch Sports Sites	SR1, SR2	All sports: Expanded pavilion to better accommodate sports as well as other uses (including). Cricket also uses this site, and pavilion is currently used by a playgroup.		Medium
								All sports: Minor improvements to maintenance and drainage.		
Bell Playing Field		LA	Rural area	Rettendon and Runwell	football	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1	Football: Seek single/two team club to use this site		Medium
Boreham Recreation Ground		LA	Rural area	Boreham and The Leighs	cricket, football	Multi-pitch Sports Sites	SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4	All sports: Site may be too small for aspirations. In the longer-term perhaps this should be redeveloped with larger alternative multi-sport provision provided elsewhere in the village		Long
Broomfield CC		LA	Rural area	Broomfield and The Walthams	cricket	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1, SR2	Cricket: Refurbish and expand pavilion for wider use by gender and age-group		Medium
Central Park		LA	Chelmsford urban area	Moulsham and Central	tennis, bowls	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4, SR5	Tennis: Work with LTA initiatives to encourage more use of these courts (re. LTA capital strategy for Chelmsford)		Medium
Chancellor Park		LA	Chelmsford urban area	Chelmer Village and Beaulieu Park	football, tennis, netball, bowls	Priority Park and Recreation Grounds	SR1, SR2, AR3	Netball & tennis: Football will take priority of the courts at this venue due to conversion of the facility. If at all possible a multi-sport surface should be used to enable these other sports to continue to be played		Medium
Chase Field		LA	Rural area	Boreham and The Leighs	Football	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1	Football: Seek single/two team club to use this site (perhaps as overflow from Boreham Recreation Ground- see reference to Boreham Recreation Ground)		Medium
Chelmer Park		LA	Chelmsford urban area	Galleywood	football, cricket, tennis, netball,	Priority Park and Recreation Grounds	SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4, SR5	Football: Potential youth football dedicated site (either this or Melbourne Park). Implications for adequacy of changing facilities and remarking.		Medium

Name		Ownership	Sub Area	Ward	Sports on-site	Site Grouping	Strategic Recommendations met through this Action (justification for action)	Action	High Priority?	Time-frame
					hockey					
								Hockey: Ensure Chelmer Park retains two AGPs that can be used both for hockey training as well as matchplay. The preferred 'mix' for hockey is, ultimately, two sand-dressed pitches.	Yes	Short
								Netball & tennis: Subject to strategic aims of Tennis, Netball could be the immediate priority court sport, until such time as the local leagues establishes a new hub site.	Yes	Short
Church Meadow, Rettendon		LA	Rural area	Rettendon and Runwell	cricket	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1	Cricket: Provide sightcreens.		Medium
Coronation Park		LA	Chelmsford urban area	Trinity	rugby, cricket	Multi-pitch Sports Sites	SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4, SR5	Rugby: improved grass pitch drainage and maintenance.	Yes	Short
Ford End Playing Field		LA	Rural area	Broomfield and The Walthams		Smaller Sports Sites	SR1, SR3	Football: Seek to establish junior club at this site (perhaps in association with local junior school)- joint action		Medium
Good Easter Sports Field		Commercial	Rural area	Chelmsford Rural West		Sites of limited utility	SR1	All sports: Limited utility for anything other than informal recreation. Suitable venue for kick around goals	N.A.	N.A.
Great and Little Leighs Playing Field		LA	Rural area	Boreham and The Leighs	football	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1, SR3	Football: Seek to establish junior club at this site (perhaps in association with local junior school)- joint action		Medium
Great Baddow Recreation Ground		LA	Chelmsford urban area	Great Baddow West	cricket, football, tennis, bowls	Priority Park and Recreation Grounds	SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4, SR5	Cricket: Protect long-term protection for cricket table, in this multi-functional park.	Yes	Short/Med
								Cricket and football: drainage improvement and maintenance on outfield (of benefit to both sports).		Medium
								Tennis: Work with LTA initiatives to encourage more use of these courts (re. LTA capital strategy for Chelmsford)		Medium
Great Waltham Recreation Ground		LA	Rural area	Broomfield and The Walthams	football	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1	Football: New changing facilities		Long
Hannas Field		LA	Rural area	Bicknacre and East and West Hanningfield	football	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1, SR3	Football: Dog-fouling signs and bins.	Yes	Medium
								Football: Encourage establishment of youth football at this site, which has the space to absorb more play.		Short
Jubilee Park		LA	Chelmsford urban area	Galleywood		Sites of limited utility	SR1	All sports: Limited utility for anything other than informal recreation. Suitable venue for kick around goals	N.A.	N.A.
Lionmede Park		LA	Chelmsford urban area	Trinity	tennis	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4, SR5	Tennis: Work with LTA initiatives to encourage more use of these courts (re. LTA capital strategy for Chelmsford)		Medium
Lodge Road Playing Field		LA	Rural area	Bicknacre and East and West Hanningfield	football	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1, SR2, SR3	Football: Improve changing accommodation		Long

Name		Ownership	Sub Area	Ward	Sports on-site	Site Grouping	Strategic Recommendations met through this Action (justification for action)	Action	High Priority?	Time-frame
Manor Hall Community Hall		LA	South Woodham Ferrers urban area	South Woodham-Elmwood and Woodville	bowls	Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Margaretting Village Playing Field		LA	Rural area	South Hanningfield, Stock and Margaretting	football	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1, SR2, SR4	Football and cricket: Improve changing provision for football and cricket.		Medium
								Cricket: Re-establish cricket activity at this site		Medium
Melbourne Park		LA	Chelmsford urban area	St. Andrews	football, tennis	Priority Park and Recreation Grounds	SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4, SR5	Football: Potential youth football dedicated site (either this or Chelmer Park). Implications for adequacy of changing facilities and remarking.	Yes	Medium
								Tennis: Work with LTA initiatives to encourage more use of these courts (re. LTA capital strategy for Chelmsford)	Yes	Medium
								Target Groups: This venue is located in a ward with relatively high deprivation in some parts, and sports initiatives, at this site should be aimed at such groups.	Yes	Medium
New Bowers Way (Springfield Parish Centre)		LA	Chelmsford urban area	Springfield North	football	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1	Football: Seek regular junior use of this site (perhaps as overflow site from other local venues)		Medium
Nursery Sports Field		LA	Rural area	South Hanningfield, Stock and Margaretting	football, tennis	Multi-pitch Sports Sites	SR1, SR3	Football: This facility appears under-used and has spare capacity. Find potential additional football use. Given its location, clubs from Billericay might be the most suited for using this venue further.		Medium
Oaklands Park, Chelmsford Museum		LA	Chelmsford urban area	Moulsham and Central	tennis	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1, SR2, SR4	Pitch sports: Use only for recreation versions of pitch sports- site too small to be viable for anything else.		Medium
								Tennis: Work with LTA initiatives to encourage more use of these courts (re. LTA capital strategy for Chelmsford)		Medium
Pleshey Village Hall		Other	Rural area	Chelmsford Rural West	football, cricket, tennis	Sites of limited utility	SR2	All sports: Limited utility for anything other than informal recreation. Suitable venue for kick around goals	N.A.	N.A.
Roxwell Recreation Ground		LA	Rural area	Chelmsford Rural West	football	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1, SR4	Cricket: Encourage a return of regular cricket to this site, which has a potentially good facility for local cricket.		Medium
Runwell Playing Field		LA	Rural area	Rettendon and Runwell	football	Multi-pitch Sports Sites	SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4	Football: Review and remark pitches.		Short
								Football: Improve drainage and maintenance.		Medium
								Football: improve changing accommodation commensurate to site usage.		Medium

Name		Ownership	Sub Area	Ward	Sports on-site	Site Grouping	Strategic Recommendations met through this Action (justification for action)	Action	High Priority?	Time-frame
Saltcoats Park		LA	South Woodham Ferrers urban area	South Woodham-Chetwood and Collingwood	football, cricket, rugby	Priority Park and Recreation Grounds	SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4	All sports: Assess potential for asset transfer of pavilions to allow for club development.		Medium
								All sports: Potential for additional land next to Park should be explored to allow for extra pitches on a multi-sport basis. (n.b. It is understood that drainage works have now been undertaken on pitches (2015)).	Yes	Medium
South Woodham Village Hall Playing Field		Other	South Woodham Ferrers urban area	South Woodham-Elmwood and Woodville	football	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1	Football: Drainage and maintenance improvements to pitch areas.		Long
Springfield Hall Park		LA	Chelmsford urban area	The Lawns	football	Multi-pitch Sports Sites	SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4, SR5	Football: Review pitch sizes and remark as appropriate.		Medium
								Football: Potential asset transfer of pavilion		Medium
								Football: Provision of changing lights		Medium
								Football: Some improvements to drainage.		Medium
The Common		LA	Rural area	South Hanningfield, Stock and Margaretting	cricket	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1	Cricket: Ensure long-term security of cricket club on site (review of leasehold for clubhouse)	Yes	Long
The Hooe Playing Field		LA	Rural area	Bicknacre and East and West Hanningfield	football	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1, SR4	Football: Potential second ground for Danbury & Bicknacre FC. (See reference to the Priory County Primary School)		Short
Tower Gardens		LA	Chelmsford urban area	St. Andrews	bowls	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1	Bowls: safeguard facility		Ongoing
Boreham Bowling Club		LA		Boreham and The Leighs	bowls	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1	Bowls: safeguard facility		Ongoing
Broomfield Football Club		Club	Rural area	Broomfield and The Walthams	cricket, football	Multi-pitch Sports Sites	SR1, SR2	Football & cricket: Linked with Actions for Angel Meadow as both used by the same club		Medium
Chignal Cricket Club		Club	Rural area	Chelmsford Rural West	cricket	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1, SR4	Cricket: Seek additional use of this cricket site (perhaps as a 2nd site for other clubs).		Medium
Clarks Field		Other	Chelmsford urban area	Galleywood	cricket, football	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1, SR2	Cricket: Provide new practice nets.		Medium
								Cricket: Provide improved boundary security and maintenance.		Medium
								Football: improved drainage, and pavilion (referee's accommodation)		Medium
Dawsons Field		Club	Rural area		cricket, football,	Multi-pitch Sports Sites	SR2	Cricket: new surface for non-turf wicket.		Med/

Name		Ownership	Sub Area	Ward	Sports on-site	Site Grouping	Strategic Recommendations met through this Action (justification for action)	Action	High Priority?	Time-frame
				Little Baddow, Danbury and Sandon	bowls, tennis					Long
								Football: Improve/enlarge changing facilities to service more games at one time		Med/ Long
Essex Police College		Club	Chelmsford urban area	Trinity	football, rugby	Un(der)used Sites with Strategic Potential	SR1, SR2, SR3, SR5	Rugby & Football: EFA and the RFU to cooperate in protecting and securing use of this site for their sports. It is suitable as a venue for a <u>football and rugby-compliant AGP</u> .	Yes	Long
										Long
Falcon Bowls Club		Club	Chelmsford urban area	Broomfield and The Walthams	Bowls	Smaller Sports Sites				
Great Hanningfield CC		Private	Rural area	Bicknacre and East and West Hanningfield	cricket	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1, SR2	Cricket: Provide new practice nets		Medium
								Cricket: Provide non-turf strip		Medium
Great Waltham Cricket Club		Club	Rural area	Broomfield and The Walthams	cricket	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1, SR2	Cricket: Provide non-turf strip		Medium
Little Baddow Cricket Club		Club	Rural area	Little Baddow, Danbury and Sandon	cricket	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1, SR2	Cricket: Provide non-turf strip		Medium
Little Waltham Cricket Club		Club	Rural area	Broomfield and The Walthams	cricket	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1	Cricket: develop initiatives with local primary school to encourage junior membership.		Medium
Mannex MR FC		Commercial	Chelmsford urban area	Waterhouse Farm	football	Sites of limited utility	SR1, SR2, SR3, SR4, SR5	Football: Explore scope for converting this venue to a 3G pitch. Otherwise this single-pitch site appears of little value and is under-used	Yes	Short
Marconi Sports Centre		Club	Chelmsford urban area	Great Baddow East	football, cricket	Multi-pitch Sports Sites	SR1, SR2, SR3	Football: Drainage and maintenance improvements. Cricket: Provide non-turf strip.		Medium
								Football: Potential remarking of pitches to allow for dedicated girls/ladies pitch, if possible.	High	Short
Princess Marie Louise Bowls Club		Club	Chelmsford urban area	Moulsham and Central	bowls	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1	Bowls: safeguard facility		Ongoing
Old Chelmsfordians Association		Club	Rural area	Writtle	football, cricket, tennis	Multi-pitch Sports Sites	SR1, SR2	Cricket: Provide non-turf strip.		Medium
								Football: Explore need for pitch remarking.		Medium
Pleshey CC		Other	Rural area	Chelmsford Rural West	na	n.a.	SR1	n.a. (no longer of any potential use for sport)	N.A.	NA

Name		Ownership	Sub Area	Ward	Sports on-site	Site Grouping	Strategic Recommendations met through this Action (justification for action)	Action	High Priority?	Time-frame
RHP Bowls Club		Club	Chelmsford urban area	St. Andrews	bowls	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1	Bowls: safeguard facility		Ongoing
Runwell Hospital F.C		Other	Rural area	Rettendon and Runwell	football, rugby, bowls	Multi-pitch Sports Sites	SR1, SR2	General: this site is already planned to have upgraded sports facilities as a result of planned new development in the area. The following actions should be included within this upgrade.	Yes	Medium
								Football & Rugby: Improved drainage and maintenance.	Yes	Medium
								Football/rugby: Provide portable training lights	Yes	Medium
Sandford Mill Lane		Commercial	Chelmsford urban area	Chelmer Village and Beaulieu Park	football	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1, SR3	Football: Review pitch markings and sizes.		Short
								Football: Improve drainage and maintenance.		
Sandon Sports Club		Other	Rural area	Little Baddow, Danbury and Sandon	football, cricket	Multi-pitch Sports Sites	SR1, SR2	Football: Seek renewal of resident club lease.	Yes	Short/Med
								Football: Provide training lights.		Medium
								Cricket: Provide non-turf strip		Medium
Stock & Buttsbury Bowls Club		Club	Rural area	South Hanningfield, Stock and Margaretting	bowls	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1	Bowls: safeguard facility		Ongoing
Stock United FC		Commercial	Rural area	South Hanningfield, Stock and Margaretting	football	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1	Football: Seek renewal of resident club's lease, and to a longer-term footing to provide greater security of tenure.	Yes	Short
Tufnell Hall		Commercial	Rural area	Broomfield and The Walthams	football	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1	Football: Clarify status of this site, which is used by community football		Short
Willowbrook Sports Ground		Club	Rural area	South Hanningfield, Stock and Margaretting	rugby, cricket, tennis	Multi-pitch Sports Sites	SR1	All sports: Largely used by Billericay teams and relates better to that urban area. However, the site should be protected for sport by Chelmsford City Council policies		Short
Writtle Sports and Social Club		LA	Rural area	Writtle	football, cricket, tennis	Multi-pitch Sports Sites	SR1, SR2	Football: Enlarge/improve changing accommodation.		Medium
								Football: Provide training lights.		Medium
								Cricket: Provide non-turf strip.		Medium

Name		Ownership	Sub Area	Ward	Sports on-site	Site Grouping	Strategic Recommendations met through this Action (justification for action)	Action	High Priority?	Time-frame
								Tennis: involve with LTA local initiatives		Medium
Writtle Bowls Club		Club	Rural Area	Writtle	bowls	Smaller Sports Sites	SR1	Bowls: safeguard facility		Ongoing
Bedford Playing Fields, King Edward School		Education	Rural area	Broomfield and The Walthams	cricket, football	Multi-pitch Sports Sites	SR1	All sports: Seek protection of this site for community sport through a community use agreement		Medium
Broomfield Primary School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Broomfield and The Walthams	football	Other Education /institutional	SR1	All sports: Regularise community use potential through community use agreement		Medium
Chetwood School		Education	South Woodham Ferrers urban area	South Woodham-Chetwood and Collingwood	football	Other Education /institutional	SR1	All sports: Regularise community use potential through community use agreement		Medium
Elmwood Primary School		Education	South Woodham Ferrers urban area	South Woodham-Elmwood and Woodville	football	Other Education /institutional	SR1	All sports: Regularise community use potential through community use agreement		Medium
Kings Road Primary School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Marconi	football	Un(der)used Sites with Strategic Potential	SR1	All sports: Regularise community use potential through community use agreement.	Yes	Medium
								Target Groups: This venue is located in a ward with relatively high deprivation in some parts, and sports initiatives, at this site should be aimed at such groups	Yes	Medium
Parkwood Academy (Melbourne Park Primary School)		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Patching Hall	football	Un(der)used Sites with Strategic Potential	SR1	All sports: Regularise community use potential through community use agreement.	Yes	Medium
								Target Groups: This venue is located in a ward with relatively high deprivation in some parts, and sports initiatives, at this site should be aimed at such groups.	Yes	Medium
St John Payne Catholic School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Patching Hall	football	Un(der)used Sites with Strategic Potential	SR1	All sports: Review community use potential through community use agreement. It is understood that this site is subject to a community use agreement but, given its strategic location, the content of this agreement should be examined and reviewed to include the grass pitches and other outdoor sports facilities, if this is not currently the case.	Yes	Medium
								Target Groups: This venue is located in a ward with relatively high deprivation in some parts, and sports initiatives, at this site should be aimed at such groups	Yes	Medium
The Priory County Primary School		Education	Rural area	Bicknacre and East and West Hanningfield	football	Other Education /institutional	SR1	All sports: Regularise community use potential through community use agreement		Medium

Name		Ownership	Sub Area	Ward	Sports on-site	Site Grouping	Strategic Recommendations met through this Action (justification for action)	Action	High Priority?	Time-frame
The Sandon School		Education	Rural area	Little Baddow, Danbury and Sandon	football	Other Education /institutional	SR1	All sports: Regularise community use potential through community use agreement		Medium
Trifarm		Commercial	Rural area	Boreham and the Leighs	Triathlon (running, cycling, swimming)	n.a.	SR1	Triathlon: within accepted planning policy principles for affecting this location, support the development of a clubhouse and shower at this facility.		Medium
William de Ferrers School		Education	South Woodham Ferrers urban area	South Woodham- Elmwood and Woodville	football, tennis	Other Education /institutional	SR1	All sports: Regularise community use potential through community use agreement. The grass pitches on campus have the potential to serve as an overflow site for clubs and teams in the area, and this should be overtly recognised in policies and actions of the Council and its partners.		Medium
Woodville Primary School		Education	South Woodham Ferrers urban area	South Woodham- Elmwood and Woodville	football	Other Education /institutional	SR1	All sports: Regularise community use potential through community use agreement		Medium
Writtle College Sports Ground		Education	Rural area	Writtle	football, cricket, rugby, tennis	Multi-pitch Sports Sites	SR1	All sports: Regularise community use potential through community use agreement		Medium
Ford End School		Education	Rural area	Broomfield and The Walthams		Other Education /institutional	SR1, SR3	Football: Seek to establish junior club at this site (perhaps in association with local junior school)- joint action		Medium
The Boswells School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	The Lawns	football, tennis	Other Education /institutional	SR3	All Sports: Promote community use as auxiliary site to Springfield Hall Park.	Yes	Medium
								Football: Consider feasibility as a potential site for a 3G AGP .	Yes	Medium
Baddow Hall Junior School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Great Baddow East		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Baddow Hall Schools		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Great Baddow East		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Beehive Lane County Primary School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Great Baddow West		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Boreham Primary School		Education	Rural area	Boreham and The Leighs		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Chancellor Park Primary		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Chelmer Village and Beaulieu Park		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short

Name		Ownership	Sub Area	Ward	Sports on-site	Site Grouping	Strategic Recommendations met through this Action (justification for action)	Action	High Priority?	Time-frame
Chelmer Valley High School		Education	Rural area	Broomfield and The Walthams	netball	Un(der)used Sites with Strategic Potential	SR1	Consider feasibility as a potential site for full-size 3G AGP . Community use of grass pitches might help meet increased demand from growth areas in this part of the local authority		Short
Chelmsford County High School for Girls		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Patching Hall	netball, hockey	Un(der)used Sites with Strategic Potential	SR1	All sports: Regularise community use potential through community use agreement.	Yes	Medium
								Target Groups: This venue is located in a ward with relatively high deprivation in some parts, and sports initiatives, at this site should be aimed at such groups.	Yes	Medium
								Football: This would be a good site for the development of a girls' football development initiative.	Yes	Medium
								Hockey: Seek protection and maintenance of the existing AGP for use by community hockey clubs.		
Collingwood Primary School		Education	South Woodham Ferrers urban area	South Woodham-Chetwood and Collingwood		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
De Beauvoir Arms (closed)		Club	Rural area	South Hanningfield, Stock and Margaretting		n.a.	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
East Hanningfield Primary School		Education	Rural area	Bicknacre and East and West Hanningfield		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Galleywood Infant School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Galleywood		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Great Baddow High School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Great Baddow West	football, tennis	Other Education /institutional	SR1	There is small covered 3G AGP onsite which is used by community clubs, but there is no record of community clubs using the grass pitches on a regular basis. The potential for community use of the grass pitches should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Great Waltham Church of England Primary School		Education	Rural area	Broomfield and The Walthams		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Highwood County Primary School		Education	Rural area	Chelmsford Rural West		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Hylands School		Education	Rural area	Writtle		Un(der)used Sites with Strategic Potential	SR1	Community use of grass pitches should be promoted.	Yes	Medium

Name		Ownership	Sub Area	Ward	Sports on-site	Site Grouping	Strategic Recommendations met through this Action (justification for action)	Action	High Priority?	Time-frame
								Football: Consider feasibility as a potential site for full-size 3G AGP given its proximity to areas of existing and potential future demand. (n.b. it is acknowledged that there are already proposals for a small-size AGP)	Yes	Medium
King Edward VI Grammar School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Marconi		Un(der)used Sites with Strategic Potential	SR1	All sports: Regularise community use potential through community use agreement. (n.b. this could be achieved through the development of a Sports Hall that is proposed for the campus.)	Yes	Medium
								Target Groups: This venue is located in a ward with relatively high deprivation in some parts, and sports initiatives, at this site should be aimed at such groups.	Yes	Medium
Larkrise Primary School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Great Baddow West		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Lawford Mead Junior, Infant and Nursery School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	St. Andrews		Un(der)used Sites with Strategic Potential	SR1	All sports: Regularise community use potential through community use agreement.	Yes	Medium
								Target Groups: This venue is located in a ward with relatively high deprivation in some parts, and sports initiatives, at this site should be aimed at such groups.	Yes	Medium
Little Waltham C of E Primary School		Education	Rural area	Broomfield and The Walthams		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Meadgate Primary School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Great Baddow East		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Mildmay Infant School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Goat Hall		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Mildmay Junior School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Goat Hall		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Moulsham High School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Moulsham Lodge		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Moulsham Junior School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Moulsham Lodge		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
New Hall School		Education	Rural area	Boreham and The Leighs	netball	Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy. This is especially important given the potential loss of an important community netball venue on this campus. There should be negotiations with the school to retain access to the facility until a replacement central venue can be located and/or developed.	Yes	Short

Name		Ownership	Sub Area	Ward	Sports on-site	Site Grouping	Strategic Recommendations met through this Action (justification for action)	Action	High Priority?	Time-frame
New Hall School Cricket Field		Education	Rural area	Boreham and The Leighs		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Newlands Spring Primary School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	St. Andrews		Un(der)used Sites with Strategic Potential	SR1	All sports: Regularise community use potential through community use agreement.	Yes	Short/
										Medium
								Target Groups: This venue is located in a ward with relatively high deprivation in some parts, and sports initiatives, at this site should be aimed at such groups.	Yes	Medium
Our Lady Immaculate Primary School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Moulsham and Central		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.	Low	Short
Perryfields Infant School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	The Lawns		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Perryfields Junior School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	The Lawns		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Rettendon Primary School		Education	Rural area	Rettendon and Runwell		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Runwell Community Primary School		Education	Rural area	Rettendon and Runwell		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Springfield Primary School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Springfield North		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
St Cedds School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Moulsham and Central		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
St Johns C of E Primary School		Education	Rural area	Little Baddow, Danbury and Sandon		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
St Mary's Church of England Primary School		Education	Rural area	Bicknacre and East and West Hanningfield		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
St Peters C Of E Primary School		Education	Rural area	Bicknacre and East and West Hanningfield		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Stock C Of E Primary School		Education	Rural area	South Hanningfield, Stock and Margaretting		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short

Name		Ownership	Sub Area	Ward	Sports on-site	Site Grouping	Strategic Recommendations met through this Action (justification for action)	Action	High Priority?	Time-frame
The Thriftwood School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Galleywood		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
The Tyrrells Primary School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	The Lawns		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Trinity Road Primary School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Trinity		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Westlands Community Primary School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Waterhouse Farm		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Widford Lodge Preparatory School		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Moulsham Lodge		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
Writtle Primary School		Education	Rural area	Writtle		Other Education /institutional	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy.		Short
St Peter's College		Education	Chelmsford urban area	St. Andrews		Un(der)used Sites with Strategic Potential	SR1	The potential for community use should be recognised in local plan policy, and discussions should be initiated between the Steering Group and the Education Authority in this regard.	Yes	Short
								Football: Consider feasibility as a potential site for full-size 3G AGP given its proximity to areas of existing and potential future demand.	Yes	Medium
								Target Groups: This venue is located in a ward with relatively high deprivation in some parts, and sports initiatives, at this site should be aimed at such groups.		
Un-named playing fields (between Chelmsford Golf Course and London Road)		Education	Chelmsford urban area	Goat Hall		Other Education /institutional	SR1	Football & cricket: Establish ownership and status of this site, and whether there is any availability for community use		Short

5.0 IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW

5.1 Delivery

5.1.1 The PPS seeks to provide guidance for maintenance/management decisions and investment made across Chelmsford local authority. By addressing the issues identified in the Assessment Report and using the strategic framework presented in this PPS, the current and future sporting and recreational needs of the local authority can be satisfied. The PPS identifies where there is a deficiency in provision and identifies how best to resolve this in the future.

5.1.2 It is important that this document is used in a practical manner, is engaged with partners and encourages partnerships to be developed, to ensure that outdoor sports facilities are regarded as a vital aspect of community life and which contribute to the achievement of Council priorities.

5.1.3 The production of this PPS should be regarded as the beginning of the planning process. The success of the PPS and the benefits that are gained are dependent upon regular engagement between all partners involved and the adoption of a strategic approach.

5.1.4 Each member of the steering group should take the lead to ensure the PPS is used and applied appropriately within their area of work and influence. The role of the steering group should not end with the completion of the PPS document.

5.1.5 To help ensure the PPS is well used it should be regarded as the key document within the study area guiding the improvement and protection of playing pitch provision. It needs to be the document people regularly turn to for information on the how the current demand is met and what actions are required to improve the situation and meet future demand. In order for this to be achieved the steering group need to have a clear understanding of how the PPS can be applied and therefore delivered.

5.1.6 The process of developing the PPS will hopefully have already resulted in a number of benefits that will help with its application and delivery. These may include enhanced partnership working across different agendas and organisations, pooling of resources along with strengthening relationships and understanding between different stakeholders and between members of the steering group and the sporting community. The drivers behind the PPS and the work to develop the recommendations and action plan will have also highlighted, and helped the steering group to understand, the key areas to which it can be applied and how it can be delivered.

5.1.7 An immediate priority of the steering group will be to establish a 'Year 1' series of projects to be pursued in accordance with the priority ratings and time-frames indicated in the Action Plan.

5.1.8 Year 1 project initiatives may not only include active pursuit of the high priority projects, but also could include projects that are easy to implement and achieve in the short-term.

5.2 Monitoring and updating

5.2.1 It is important that there is regular annual monitoring and review against the actions identified in the PPS. This monitoring should be led by the local authority and supported by all members of, and reported back to, the steering group. Understanding and learning lessons from how the PPS has been applied should also form a key component of monitoring its delivery. This should form an on-going role of the steering group.

5.2.2 As a guide, if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years of the PPS being signed off by the steering group, then Sport England and the NGBs would consider the PPS and the information on which it is based to be out of date.

5.2.3 The nature of the supply and in particular the demand for playing pitches will likely to have changed over the three years. Therefore, without any form of review and update within this time period it would be difficult to make the case that the supply and demand information and assessment work is sufficiently robust.

5.2.4 Ideally the PPS could be reviewed on an annual basis from the date it is formally signed off by the steering group. This will help to maintain the momentum and commitment that would have been built up when developing the PPS. Taking into account the time to develop the PPS this should also help to ensure that the original supply and demand information is no more than two years old without being reviewed.

5.2.5 An annual review should not be regarded as a particularly resource intensive task. However, it should highlight:

- How the delivery of the recommendations and action plan has progressed and any changes required to the priority afforded to each action (e.g. the priority of some may increase following the delivery of others)
- How the PPS has been applied and the lessons learnt
- Any changes to particularly important sites and/or clubs in the area (e.g. the most used or high quality sites for a particular sport) and other supply and demand information, what this may mean for the overall assessment work and the key findings and issues
- Any development of a specific sport or particular format of a sport
- Any new or emerging issues and opportunities.

5.2.6 Once the PPS is complete the role of the steering group should evolve so that it:

- Acts as a focal point for promoting the value and importance of the PPS and playing pitch provision in the area
- Monitors, evaluates and reviews progress with the delivery of the recommendations and action plan

- Shares lessons learnt from how the PPS has been used and how it has been applied to a variety of circumstances
- Ensures the PPS is used effectively to input into any new opportunities to secure improved provision and influence relevant programmes and initiatives
- Maintains links between all relevant parties with an interest in playing pitch provision in the area;
- Reviews the need to update the PPS along with the supply and demand information and assessment work on which it is based.

5.2.7 Further to review the group should either:

- Provide a short annual progress and update paper;
- Provide a partial review focussing on particular sport, pitch type and/or sub area; or
- Lead a full review and update of the PPS document (including the supply and demand information and assessment details).

5.2.8 Alongside the regular steering group meetings a good way to keep the PPS up to date and maintain relationships may be to hold annual sport specific meetings with the pitch sport NGBs and other relevant parties. These meetings could look to update the key supply and demand information, if necessary amend the assessment work, track progress with implementing the recommendations and action plan and highlight any new issues and opportunities.

5.2.9 These meetings could be timed to fit with the annual affiliation process undertaken by the NGBs which would help to capture any changes in the number and nature of sports clubs in the area. Other information that is already collected on a regular basis such as pitch booking records for local authority and other sites could be fed into these meetings. The NGBs will also be able to indicate any further performance quality assessments that have been undertaken within the study area. Discussion with the league secretaries may also indicate annual league meetings which it may be useful to attend to pick up any specific issues and/or enable a review of the relevant club details to be undertaken.

5.2.10 The steering group should regularly review and refresh area by area plans taking account of any improvements in pitch quality (and hence increases in pitch capacity) and also any new negotiations for community use of education sites in the future.

5.2.11 It is important that the Council maintains the data contained with the accompanying Playing Pitch Database. This will enable it to refresh and update area by area plans on a regular basis. The accompanying databases are intended to be refreshed on a season by season basis and it is important that there is cross-departmental working, including for example, grounds maintenance and sports development departments, to ensure that this is achieved and that results are used to inform subsequent annual sports facility development plans. Results should be shared with partners via a consultative mechanism.

APPENDIX 1: Steering Group composition

The project Steering Group comprised representatives of the following organisations:

- Active Essex
- Chelmsford City Council
- England Hockey
- Sport England
- The England and Wales Cricket Board
- The Football Association
- The Lawn Tennis Association
- The Rugby Football Union

The group met on 2 occasions:

- Review of the Needs Assessment
- Review of the draft Strategy and Action Plan

The Steering Group will continue to exist to oversee the implementation and review/updating of the Strategy and Action Plan, as detailed elsewhere in this document.