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1. Introduction

- 1.1. This is the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (PPOSS) for Copeland Borough Council (CBC) and its partners. It has been developed in accordance with Sport England guidance and under the direction of a steering group led by the Council and including National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs).
- 1.2. It builds upon the preceding Playing Pitch Assessment Reports and is capable of:
- Providing adequate planning guidance to assess development proposals affecting outdoor sports facilities, as appropriate, directing open space contributions secured through development and informing and shaping local planning policy;
 - Informing the protection and provision of playing pitches;
 - Informing land use decisions in respect of future use of existing playing pitch areas and playing fields (capable of accommodating pitches);
 - Providing a strategic framework for the provision and management of playing pitches;
 - Supporting external funding bids and maximising support for playing pitches; and
 - Providing the basis for ongoing monitoring and review of the use, distribution, function, quality, and accessibility of playing pitches
- 1.3. The PPOSS builds upon an Assessment Report. The assessment report identifies the quantity and quality of the supply and the demand for each sport and provides an assessment of capacity for each site and playing pitch. The PPOSS provides a framework and action plan for future provision and management of sports pitches to serve existing and new communities across the borough.
- 1.4. The PPOSS covers the following playing pitches (grass and artificial) and outdoor pitch sports:
- Artificial Grass Pitches
 - Football pitches;
 - Rugby League pitches
 - Rugby Union pitches;
 - Cricket pitches;
 - Hockey – artificial grass pitches.
 - Netball courts,
 - Tennis courts
 - Bowling Greens

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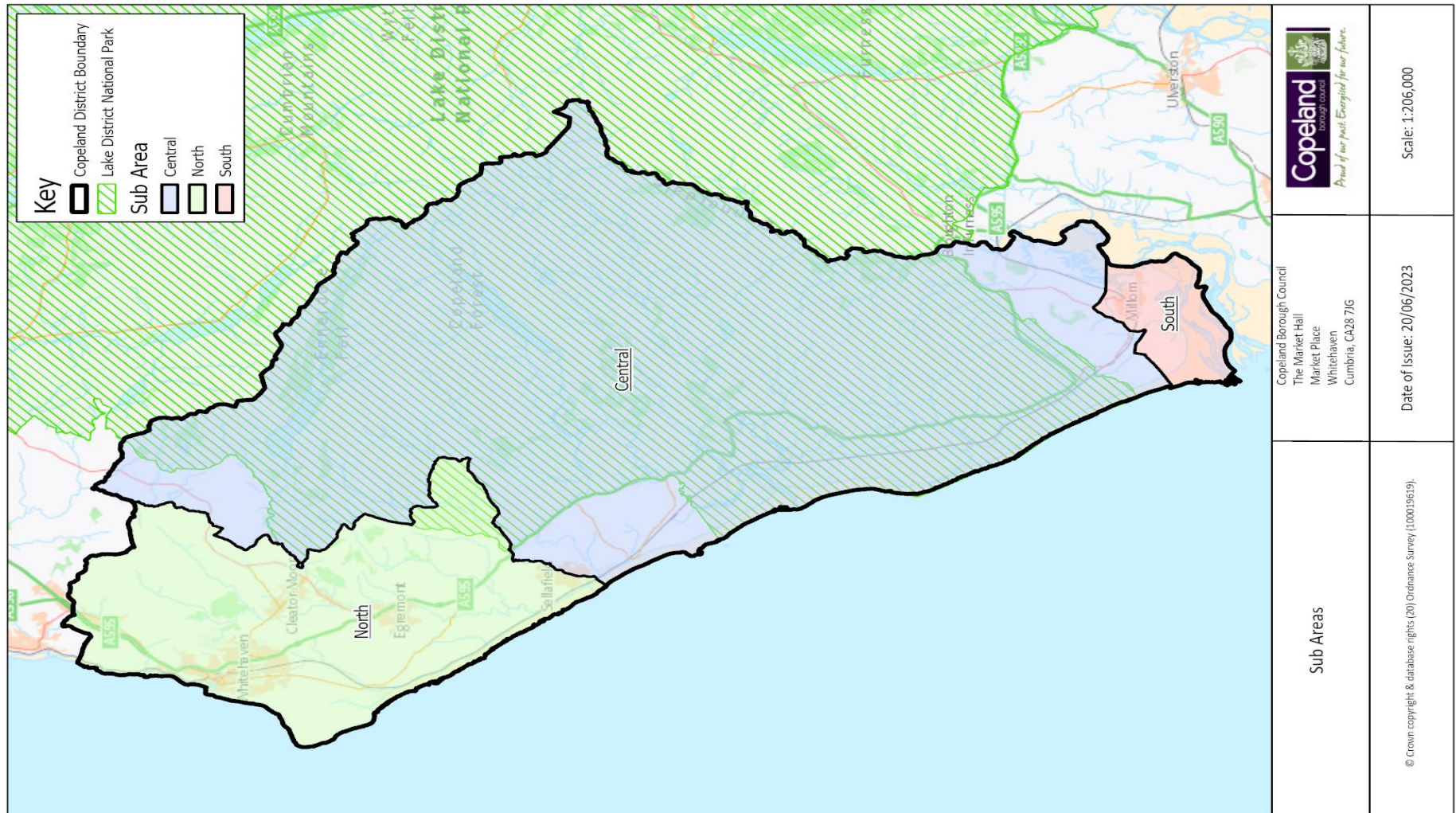
- 1.5. The objectives of the PPOSS are:
1. Identify changes in how the sports are played and levels of affiliated and unaffiliated participation;
 2. Gather evidence to help protect and enhance existing provision;
 3. To inform the development and implementation of planning policy;
 4. To inform the assessment of planning applications;
 5. To understand the supply of provision due to capital programmes e.g. for educational sites;
 6. Establish the need to develop a priority list of deliverable projects which will help to meet any current deficiencies, provide for future demands and feed into wider infrastructure planning work;
 7. Prioritisation of internal capital and revenue investment; and
 8. The need to provide evidence to help secure internal and external funding
- 1.6. There is a need to build key partnerships between the Borough Council, National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs), Sport England, schools, further education providers, community clubs and private landowners to maintain and improve playing pitch provision. In the latter instances, the potential for the Council to take a strategic lead is more limited. This document will provide clarity about the way forward and allow key organisations to focus on the key issues that they can directly influence and achieve.
- 1.7. The PPOSS has been developed in partnership with a range of agencies and been overseen by a steering group made up of representatives from:
- Sport England;
 - Copeland Borough Council;
 - England and Wales Cricket Board;
 - Cumbria Cricket Board;
 - England Hockey;
 - Football Foundation;
 - Cumberland FA;
 - Lancashire FA;
 - Rugby Football Union;
 - Rugby Football Union;
 - Bowls England;
 - England Netball
 - Lawn Tennis Association

Copeland Borough Council Study Area

- 1.8. The study area is the whole of the CBC Local Authority Boundary. Further to this, analysis areas have been created to allow for a more localised assessment of provision and examination of playing pitch supply and demand. These sub areas have been agreed by the Steering Group and make up the sub areas shown within figure 1 below.

Sub Areas

Figure 1: Map of sub areas within CBC



Approach

1.9. The approach comprises of 10 steps (See Figure 2) which are grouped into the following five stages:

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

Figure 2: The 10 steps to delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy



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- 1.10. For other sports - netball, tennis, athletics and bowls, a similar approach is adopted to assess need, following current Sport England guidance: 'Assessing Needs & Opportunities Guide for Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities' (ANOG) published by Sport England in July 2014:
<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport/planning-tools-and-guidance/assessing-needs-and-opportunities-guidance/>
- 1.11. The PPOSS is for the borough. However, the Council has a lead role to play in understanding and planning for future demand, including highlighting the need to secure investment. The PPOSS must consider the context of reducing budgets for local authorities that could, for example, result in a reduction of resources available to maintain playing pitches and ancillary facilities.
- 1.12. Lapsed and disused playing field sites that formerly accommodated playing pitches but are no longer used for formal or informal sports use within the last five years (lapsed) or longer (disused) are included in the PPOSS audit.
- 1.13. “Any playing field site or sport facility that is not included in this PPS is purely an accidental omission. The lack of inclusion should not be considered that the sport facility is surplus and any planning application that would result in the loss or prejudice the use of an omitted site should be considered against paragraph 99 of the NPPF.”

Context

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) revised July 2021

- 1.14. The National Planning Policy Framework 2021 (NPPF) sets out the Government’s planning policies and how these should be applied. It provides a framework within which locally prepared plans for housing and other development can be produced. The NPPF has a key focus in achieving sustainable development and states that the overarching social objective of the planning system is:

“To support strong, vibrant, and healthy communities....by fostering a well-designed, beautiful and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities’ health, social and cultural wellbeing.”

- 1.15. Paragraphs 98, 99 and 187 of the NPPF outline the planning policies for the provision and protection of sport and recreation facilities:

Paragraph 98: “Access to a network of high-quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and well-being of communities, and can deliver wider benefits for nature and support efforts to address climate change. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport, and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate.”

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Paragraph 99: “Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- 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 benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.”

Paragraph 187: “Planning policies and decisions should ensure that new development can be integrated effectively with existing businesses and community facilities (such as places of worship, pubs, music venues and sports clubs). Existing businesses and facilities should not have unreasonable restrictions placed on them as a result of development permitted after they were established. Where the operation of an existing business or community facility could have a significant adverse effect on new development (including changes of use) in its vicinity, the applicant (or ‘agent of change’) should be required to provide suitable mitigation before the development has been completed.”

- 1.16. In line with the Government’s National Planning Policy Framework, the PPS assesses existing outdoor sports provision including pitches and infrastructure along with the future need for such provision (irrespective of whether it is in public, private, MoD, or educational ownership and regardless of the nature and level of use).
- 1.17. The future picture of provision has been assessed based on potential changes in supply (both committed and planned projects within the Borough and its catchment area), forecast changes in the resident population informed by the targets for new housing in the Council’s adopted Local Plan to 2038, national trends in participation and the development aspirations of the clubs based in the area.
- 1.18. The Stage D report will look to explore scenarios, agreed with Sport England, National Governing Bodies and Copeland Borough Council, around the potential implications of specific facility development, the improvement of existing provision and an increased amount of future housing development. The document is broken down into individual sports, and links throughout with the Stage C assessment document. All figures, data and information below, have been generated by work undertaken at Stage C.

Headline findings of the evidence base for each sport

- 1.19. Table 1 highlights the quantitative headline shortfalls for the main pitch sports across Copeland. The qualitative findings and site-specific findings are identified in the individual sections of this report.
- 1.20. The future demand in table 1 is calculated by identifying the increased facility need that will be generated by future population growth and latent demand. The impact of specific housing development will be explored later in the document.

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Table 1: Headline Findings - Copeland Shortfalls in Demand Football Grass Pitches, 3G AGP, Cricket, Hockey, Rugby League & Rugby Union

Sport	Current demand		Future Demand 2038	
	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision
Football 3G AGPs – Full Size Only	North	-1.4	North	-2.4
	Central	-0.1	Central	-0.1
	South	-0.5	South	-0.6
	Copeland Total	-2	Copeland Total	-3.1
Football Grass Pitches (Adult 11 v 11)	North	-13 MES ¹	North	-17.5 MES
	Central	-2.5 MES	Central	-2.5 MES
	South	-1 MES	South	-1.5 MES
	Copeland Total	-16.5 MES	Copeland Total	-21.5 MES
Football Grass Pitches (Youth 11 v 11)	North	-6.25 MES	North	-9.75 MES
	Central	No current shortfall (0 MES)	Central	No shortfall (0 MES)
	South	No current shortfall (1 MES available)	South	No current shortfall (0.5 available)
	Copeland Total	-5.25 MES	Copeland Total	-9.25 MES
Youth 9v9	North	-14 MES	North	-16.75 MES
	Central	No current shortfall (0 MES)	Central	No shortfall (0 MES)
	South	No current shortfall (0 MES)	South	No shortfall (0 MES)
	Copeland Total	-14 MES	Copeland Total	-16.75 MES
Youth 7v7	North	-7 MES	North	-9 MES
	Central	No current shortfall (2 MES available)	Central	No current shortfall (2 MES available)

¹ MES – Match Equivalent Sessions

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Sport	Current demand		Future Demand 2038	
	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision
	South	No current shortfall (3 MES available)	South	No current shortfall (3 MES available)
	Copeland Total	-2 MES	Copeland Total	-4 MES
Youth 5v5	North	No provision	North	No provision
	Central	No provision	Central	No provision
	South	No provision	South	No provision
	Copeland Total	No provision	Copeland Total	No provision
Hockey (Sand AGPs)	North	-1	North	-1
	Central	No current shortfall	Central	No current shortfall
	South	No current shortfall	South	No current shortfall
Copeland Total	-1	Copeland Total	-1	
Rugby Union (Grass)	North	Training – 0 MES / Matchplay - -0.5 MES	North	Training – -5 MES / Matchplay - -5.75 MES
	Central	-	Central	-
	South	Training – -2 MES / Matchplay - 0 MES	South	Training – 0 MES / Matchplay - -1.25 MES
Copeland Total	Training – -2 MES / Matchplay - -0.5 MES	Copeland Total	Training – -5 MES / Matchplay - -7 MES	
Rugby League (Grass)	North	-48.5 MES	North	-50.75 MES
	Central	-	Central	-
	South	-16.25 MES	South	-17.25 MES
Copeland Total	-64.75	Copeland Total	-68 MES	
Cricket (adult)	North	No current shortfall (77 MPS spare capacity)	North	No shortfall (17 MPS spare capacity)
	Central	No current shortfall (8 MPS spare capacity)	Central	-8 MPS
	South	No current shortfall (39 MPS spare capacity)	South	-29 MPS

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Sport	Current demand		Future Demand 2038	
	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision
	Copeland Total	No current shortfall (118 MPS spare capacity)	Copeland Total	-20 MPS

- 1.21. To develop the recommendations/actions and to understand their potential impact, several relevant scenarios are tested against the key issues in this section for each playing pitch sport.

2. Football – 3G AGP Summary Key Issues

1. There are currently 3 full-size 3G AGPs across Copeland, two of these 3G AGPs are World Rugby compliant, located at St Benedict's Catholic High School and Cleator Moor Activity Centre
2. There are also 3 small sided 3G AGPs in the study area, situated at Cumbria Sports Academy, Egremont RUFC and St Benedict's RUFC.
3. Across the Borough there is a current deficit of 2 full size 3G AGP pitches for community football usage, when considering all full size 3G AGP provision.
4. New population growth and latent demand will result in further demand for 3G AGP pitches. By 2038 the total shortfall will be 1.8 full-size 3G pitches when considering all sizes of 3G AGP provision.
5. If only taking into account full size 3G provision, there is likely to be a future deficit of 3.1 across the study area.
6. The recently approved proposals at Whitehaven Academy would result in the development of an additional 1 3G AGP and 1 sand dressed AGP.

Current 3G Pitch Provision

- 2.1. Table 2 below highlights the current full and small sided 3G AGP provision in Copeland.
- 2.2. There are currently three full size 3G AGPs across Copeland, all of which are available to the community. St Benedict's High School is an education site with no community use during the day, Monday to Friday. There are also 3 small sided 3G pitch sites at Cumbria Sport Academy, Egremont RUFC and St Benedict's RUFC. Cumbria Sport Academy holds four 5v5 3G pitches.
- 2.3. Both Cleator Moor Activity Centre and St Benedict's High School are World Rugby Compliant and provide for rugby union and rugby league usage, therefore reducing the peak times available for community football.

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Table 2: Summary of all current 3G AGP provision in Copeland

Site Name	Sub Area	Availability	Security of Use	Surface Type	FA 3G Pitch Register	Pitch Type	Size (M)	Age of Surface	Floodlit	Pitch Rating
Cleator Moor Activity Centre	North	Available	Secure	3G	Yes	Full	100x62	2021	Yes	Good
St Benedict's High School	North	Available	Secure	3G	Yes	Full	105x70	2019	Yes	Good
Whitehaven AFC	North	Available	Secure	3G	Yes	Full	105x70	2005	Yes	Good
Cumbria Sport Academy	North	Available	Secure	3G	No	5v5 x 4	80x30	2006	Yes	Poor
Egremont RUFC	North	Available	Secure	3G	No	5v5	36x20	2010	Yes	Standard
St Benedict's RUFC	North	Available	Secure	3G	No	7v7	60x42	2009	Yes	Standard

Table 3: Current and future total demand for 3G AGP (Football) across Copeland

Sub Area	Current Number of Teams	Full Size 3G AGP required (1:38)	Existing Available Full Size 3G AGPs	Current Shortfall	Future Number of Teams	Future Shortfall
North	167	4.4	3	1.4	205	2.4
Central	4	0.1	0	0.1	4	0.1
South	19	0.5	0	0.5	23	0.6
Total	190	5	3	2	232	3.1

- 2.4. Table 3 above highlights the current and future shortfalls of full size 3G AGP pitches in Copeland. There are currently three full size 3G AGPs in Copeland. When applying the 1:38 team ratio for full size provision, there is a current Copeland-wide deficit of 2 AGPs. The majority of this shortfall is located in the north sub area (1.4), whilst there is a deficit of 0.5 in the south sub area and 0.1 in the central area.
- 2.5. By 2038, the current shortfall is predicted to increase to 3.1 across Copeland, due to population growth and latent demand from football clubs. Again, a large amount of this increase will be generated by teams in the north sub area where there will be a deficit of at least 2 full size 3G pitches by 2038. The south sub area will see an increase in deficit of 0.1, resulting in a total deficit by 2038 of 0.6. The central sub area will be unchanged.
- 2.6. Any 3G AGP developments should be located in the areas of greatest need, based on current and future demand.

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2.7. Based on the summary above, the following scenarios will be considered within this section of the report:

- **3G AGP scenarios:**

- FA scenario for competitive use of 3G pitches – test how many 3G pitches are required to meet demand for all mini soccer (5v5/7v7), and 9v9, on full size 3G pitches, and whether this could be met by existing supply or whether additional 3G AGPs would be required.
- The impact of new full-size 3G AGP provision (with secured community use) at:
 - ❖ Whitehaven Academy – Football demand only
 - ❖ The conversion of Millom School sand dressed AGP to 3G AGP – 100% midweek football usage
 - ❖ The conversion of Millom School sand dressed AGP to 3G AGP – 80% football and 20% rugby league usage
 - ❖ Whitehaven AFC – Football demand only

- **Grass pitch scenarios:**

- Loss of access to unsecured grass pitch sites presently used by clubs for community football and the impact of this demand on overall capacity balance should it be displaced from these unsecured sites.
- Improvement of poor quality secure sites by one quality increment (poor to standard) and effect on overall capacity.
- Improvement of all club/league maintained sites to good quality and the effect on overall capacity.
- Improvement of previously identified LFFP grass pitch improvement project sites to good and effect on overall capacity. Test of validity of these projects and question whether any others should be considered within the LFFP update.

Scenario 1 - Moving all mini soccer 5v5, 7v7 and junior 9v9 to full size 3G AGP

2.8. Table 4 tests the scenario of moving all 5v5, 7v7 and 9v9 football to 3G pitches. There are currently 39 5v5 teams, 56 7v7 teams and 28 junior 9v9 teams.

2.9. A total of 6.91 full size 3G pitches are required to accommodate all mini and junior 9v9 teams on this surface. This is on the basis that all three playing formats can be accommodated on one day using staggered kick off times.

2.10. Given that there are 3 full size 3G AGPs in Copeland, there is a current deficit of 3.91 to meet demand for all 5v5, 7v7 and 9v9 teams. With a further two pitches required to meet current training demand for football, if met would result in five full size 3G pitches, still 1.91 pitches short of accommodating all mini and 9v9 play on 3G pitches. However, this total of five full size 3G pitches would be sufficient to meet all mini soccer play on 3G pitches, which would require 4.72 pitches.

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Table 4: Full size 3G pitches required for transfer of all Mini and Junior 9v9 football demand

Format	No. of teams at peak time	No. of matches at peak time	3G units per match	Total units required formats	3G pitches required
	(x)	(y) = x/2	(z)	(A)=(y)*(z)	B= (A)/64
Mini Soccer 5V5	39	19.5	4	78	1.22
Mini Soccer 7V7	56	28	8	224	3.5
Junior Soccer 9V9	28	14	10	140	2.19
Total					6.91

Scenario 2 – The impact of new full size 3G AGP provision in Copeland

- 2.11. This scenario analyses the development of additional full size 3G AGPs across Copeland, all of which are referenced in the Stage C document.
- 2.12. The development of additional 3G pitches should work towards alleviating the shortfall for training Monday – Friday and then consider match play on a Saturday and Sunday, as well as providing recreational and informal opportunities. All of these programmes support the sustainability of the pitches and provide relevant income needed for an appropriate sink fund for pitch refurbishments after 10 years.
- 2.13. When considering full size 3G pitches for community football use, there is a current deficit of 2 3G AGPs and a predicted future deficit of 3.1 by 2038.

Table 5: Current and future shortfalls in 3G AGP provision based on existing supply – all pitch sizes

Sport	Current demand 2022		Future Demand 2035	
	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision
Football 3G AGPs – All Sizes	North	0.1 Full size 3G AGP	North	1.1 Full size 3G AGPs
	Central	0.1 Full size 3G AGPs	Central	0.1 Full size 3G AGPs
	South	0.5 Full size 3G AGPs	South	0.6 Full size 3G AGPs

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Sport	Current demand 2022		Future Demand 2035	
	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision
	Copeland Total	0.7 3G AGPs	Copeland Total	1.8 3G AGPs

Table 6: Current and future shortfalls in 3G AGP provision based on existing supply – full size only

Sport	Current demand 2022		Future Demand 2035	
	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision
Football 3G AGPs – Full size only	North	1.4 Full size 3G AGP	North	2.4 Full size 3G AGPs
	Central	0.1 Full size 3G AGPs	Central	0.1 Full size 3G AGPs
	South	0.5 Full size 3G AGPs	South	0.6 Full size 3G AGPs
	Copeland Total	2 Full Size 3G AGPs	Copeland Total	3.1 Full Size 3G AGPs

- 2.14. When considering only full-size AGP provision, the greatest current and future shortfall is in the North Sub-Area with 1.4 AGP current deficit and 2.4 by 2038. This is due to the significantly higher number of teams and population in the sub area.
- 2.15. Any 3G AGP developments should be considered in the areas of most need. All current 3G AGPs are located in the North, this is due to the high concentration of football teams within this area. As considered below, there is potential to develop 3G AGPs at Whitehaven Academy, Whitehaven AFC, Egremont RUFC and Kells RLFC in the north sub area and at Millom School in the south. This would reduce the deficit of 3G AGPs and support the growth and sustainability of football across the Borough.

Scenario 2a - Developing 3G AGP Pitches: Whitehaven Academy

- 2.16. The proposed development at Whitehaven Academy would include 1 full size 3G AGP, 1 full size sand dressed AGP and other sporting facilities such as tennis courts and athletics sprint track. The 3G AGP is expected to provide for community football activity during peak hours.

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- 2.17. When considering only full sized 3G AGPs, there is a current shortfall of 1.4 in the North Sub-Area and 2 across Copeland. Due to latent demand and population growth, this shortfall is expected to worsen by 2038 to a deficit 2.4 in the North and 3.1 full size pitches across the study area.
- 2.18. This scenario demonstrates the impact of the proposed full-size 3G AGPs, with full community use during peak times (5-9pm Mon-Thur, 5-7pm Fri and 9-5pm weekends)

Table 7: Impact of proposed full size 3G pitch at Whitehaven Academy

Site Name	Sub Area	Nett Gain of 3G	Community Use available in hours	Clubs currently using this facility	Number of teams potentially serviced by this facility
Whitehaven Academy	North	1	34	0 (new)	38

- 2.19. **Full Sized 3G AGP only (Borough Wide)** – There are currently 114 teams across the Study Area serviced by full sized 3G pitch provision, meaning that currently 76 teams cannot be serviced by full sized 3G provision. By developing the additional 3G AGP at Whitehaven Academy, the current number of teams without use of a 3G AGP would reduce from 76 to 38. In this instance there would still be an undersupply of at least 1 full-size 3G AGP.
- 2.20. **Full Sized 3G AGP only (North Sub Area)** – When only focussing only on the north sub area where the development is located, there are 53 teams that cannot be serviced by full size 3G provision, resulting in a deficit of 1.4 pitches. By developing the proposed 3G pitch at Whitehaven Academy, 38 additional teams from the north sub area could be provided for by full size 3G AGPs. The remaining 15 teams that do not have access to full size 3G provision, create a remaining shortfall of 0.4 full size 3G pitches.

Scenario 2b - Developing 3G AGP Pitches: The conversion of Millom School sand dressed to 3G AGP - 100% mid-week football usage

- 2.21. There is a desire to convert the current sand dressed AGP at Millom School into a full size 3G AGP. This scenario will consider the implications of developing the 3G pitch and providing for 100% football usage during peak hours Monday to Friday.

Table 8: Conversion of Millom School sand dressed AGP to 3G AGP

Site Name	Sub Area	Nett Gain of 3G	Football clubs currently using this facility (hours)	Number of new teams serviced by this facility
Millom School	South	1	0 (new)	38

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- 2.22. There is currently a deficit of 0.5 full size equivalent 3G AGPs in the south sub area, as there are 19 teams in the area that are not serviced by 3G provision.
- 2.23. The proposal to convert the current sand dressed AGP into a 3G AGP at Millom School could potentially provide for an additional 38 teams, therefore eliminating the current deficit.
- 2.24. There are currently 4 teams in the central sub area that are not provided for by 3G provision. If these teams were also to use the proposed new 3G pitch at Millom School, there would only be 2 teams remaining across the central and south areas that would not have access to 3G provision. However, it must be noted that teams from the central area may be more likely to use 3G facilities in the north sub area than the south, due to travel times.
- 2.25. **Full Sized 3G AGP Only** – In the context of the Copeland as a whole, and when only considering full sized 3G AGPs, the development at Millom School would reduce the shortfall from 3.1 to 2.1. However, this is not realistic due to the distances and travel times involved between the North and South sub areas.

Scenario 2c - Developing 3G AGP Pitches: The conversion of Millom School sand dressed to 3G AGP – 80% mid-week football usage and 20% mid-week rugby league usage

- 2.26. Due to the sporting nature of Copeland, this scenario will also consider the shared usage of the potential 3G pitch at Millom School. In this instance we will factor 80% football usage and 20% rugby league usage. For rugby league usage to be possible, the 3G development is required to be World Rugby Compliant. Although this would increase the scope of the pitch to provide a wider range of community use, this must be caveated with the needs of the school and the cost implications.
- 2.27. For the purpose of this scenario, we can assume that 30 football clubs will have access to 3G provision (80% of 38). Rugby teams would receive 8 hours of access, during the mid-week peak period.
- 2.28. When only considering the south sub area and full-sized pitches, the ability to provide for 30 additional football teams with 3G AGP provision would eradicate any current and future shortfall of 3G AGPs for football.
- 2.29. In terms of rugby league teams, the Millom School development would allow for 3.2 hours of access. Millom RLFC are the only club in the sub area and currently have 10 teams (3 adult, 4 junior and 3 mini. Although the proposed level of access would not cater for all rugby training demand, it is unlikely that Millom RLFC would want to move all training on to 3G AGP due to cost and a preference to using their own facilities. Any use of external facilities, would reduce the opportunity for secondary spending and other revenue generation at their home site.

Scenario 2d - Developing 3G AGP Pitches: Whitehaven AFC

- 2.30. Whitehaven AFC have discussed developing an additional 3G AGP on their existing site. The proposed development would result in the site holding two full size 3G pitches, and one high quality grass pitch. There is already a large amount of community use of the existing 3G, mainly by the club, providing for its thriving junior section. The proposed new 3G pitch would also provide for other community football activity i.e. other community clubs).
- 2.31. As previously stated, there is a current shortfall of at least 2 3G AGPs across Copeland, 1.4 of which is generated by demand in the north sub area. Due to latent demand and population growth, this shortfall is expected to worsen by 2038 to a deficit of 3.1 full size pitches in the study area. There will be an expected shortfall of 2.4 full size 3G AGPs in the north sub area.
- 2.32. This scenario will demonstrate the impact of the proposed full-size 3G AGP, with full community use during peak times.

Table 9: Impact of proposed full size 3G pitch at Whitehaven AFC

Site Name	Sub Area	Nett Gain of 3G	Community Use available in hours	Clubs currently using this facility	Number of teams potentially serviced by this facility
Whitehaven AFC	North	1	34	0 (new)	38

- 2.33. **Full Sized 3G AGP only**²- There are currently 114 teams across the Study Area serviced by full sized 3G pitch provision, meaning that currently 76 teams cannot be serviced by full sized 3G provision. By developing the additional 3G AGP at Whitehaven AFC, the current number of teams without use of a 3G AGP would reduce from 76 to 38. In this instance there would still be an undersupply of 1 3G AGP in the South sub area.
- 2.34. **Full Sized 3G AGP only** – However when only focussing only on the north sub area where the development is located, there are 53 teams that cannot be serviced by full size 3G provision, resulting in a deficit of 1.4 pitches. By developing the proposed 3G pitch at Whitehaven AFC, 38 additional teams from the north sub area could be provided for by full size 3G AGPs. The remaining 15 teams that do not have access to full size 3G provision, this is a remaining shortfall of 0.4 full size 3G pitches.
- 2.35. However, if a stadia pitch is to be developed, which is a possibility, then there may be less available mid-week hours due to an increased demand for match play. This should be considered further when the extent of potential development is clearer.

² Full size 3G AGP refers to any 3G pitch that has the minimum dimensions of 100m x 64m. This does not include included a runoff area surrounding the pitch. Further information is included in the glossary.

Fulfilling future demand through AGPs

- 2.36. This section will explore the implications of developing each proposed 3G AGP, and its impact on meeting the predicted future demand for football up to 2038. The section will again be split into two, considering both full sized 3G pitches only, as well as all sizes of 3G provision.
- 2.37. Table 9 demonstrates the potential growth in football demand due to population growth and latent demand up to 2038. It shows that the north sub area is expected to generate an additional 38 teams, across all age groups and in both male and female games. There is no growth in the central sub area and 4 additional expected teams in the south sub area.

Table 10: current and future number of football teams per sub area

	Analysis Sub Area	Current Number of Teams - 2022	Analysis Sub Area	Future Number of Teams - 2038	Potential Growth
Projected Growth of Football Demand	North	167	North	205	38
	Central	4	Central	4	0
	South	19	South	23	4
	Copeland Total	190	Copeland Total	232	42

Fulfilling future demand – Full sized 3G AGP only

- 2.38. The demand for 3G pitch provision is expected to increase by 2038 as a result of population growth and latent demand from clubs. Table 10 below shows that when only considering full size 3G pitches, there is expected to be a deficit of 3.1 full size 3G pitches by 2038.

Table 11: current and future shortfalls of 3G AGP provision in Copeland – full sized only

Sport	Current demand 2022		Future Demand 2035	
	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision
Football 3G AGPs – Full size only	North	1.4 Full size 3G AGP	North	2.4 Full size 3G AGPs
	Central	0.1 Full size 3G AGPs	Central	0.1 Full size 3G AGPs

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Sport	Current demand 2022		Future Demand 2035	
	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision
	South	0.5 Full size 3G AGPs	South	0.6 Full size 3G AGPs
	Copeland Total	2 Full Size 3G AGPs	Copeland Total	3.1 Full Size 3G AGPs

2.39. Table 12 shows the impact of all proposed 3G developments discussed earlier, both as individual projects and collectively. The data is highlighting the implications by sub area, as well as Copeland-wide.

Table 12: Impact of all proposed developments across Copeland

Site Name	Sub Area	Net Gain of 3G	Community Use available in hours	Number of teams serviced by this facility
Whitehaven Academy	North	1	34	38
Whitehaven AFC	North	1	34	38
Total North	North	2	68	76
Millom School (100% Football)	South	1	16	38
Millom School (80% Football) *	South	1	12.8*	30*
Total South		1	16 (12.8*)	38 (30*)
Total		3	84 (80.8*)	114 (106*)³

2.40. Table 12 demonstrates that if all proposed new 3G facilities were developed, they could provide for an additional 114 football teams across Copeland. Cross referencing this with the information in 1.16 stating that 76 teams currently cannot be serviced by full size 3G provision, and table 10, which suggests that there will be 42 new teams by 2038, leaves us with 118 teams that would have no access to full size 3G AGPs. Of those clubs that responded to consultation, almost all highlighted difficulty in accessing 3G provision as a key issue and stated their belief there is a need for additional 3G development.

³ *The figure in brackets relates to the number of teams facilitated by the facility if there was only 80% football use.

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- 2.41. If all proposed developments were delivered, they would provide for an additional 114 teams, if 100% football access was allowed. This would still leave 4 teams that could not be provided for, resulting in a remaining shortfall of 0.1 full size 3G AGPs.
- 2.42. If the Millom School development was to allow for 20% rugby league usage, then there would be 12 football teams remaining without use of a full size 3G pitch, resulting in a deficit of 0.3.
- 2.43. It must also be considered that the development of two full size 3G pitches in the in the north sub area, is insufficient in alleviating the predicted future shortfall of 2.4 full size 3G AGPs in the area. In the rugby league and rugby union sections of this Stage D report, further World Rugby Compliant 3Gs will be considered in the north sub area. It should be a priority to secure some community football access to these potential sites.

3G Pitch Recommendations

1. Protect the existing stock of 3G pitches, ensuring community use is kept, particularly on school sites.
2. Ensure that additional WR22 compliant 3G pitches are developed, or ensure that priority access is secured for rugby union and rugby league teams on existing WR22 pitches.
3. The scenarios provide sites where 3G pitch provision has been proposed to be developed to first and foremost meet shortfalls for community football, as highlighted in table 1. These could be provided at the following:

North Sub Area:

- **Whitehaven Academy – 1 full size 3G AGP on the school site**
- **Whitehaven AFC – 1 additional full size 3G AGP, on existing sports club stadia pitch.**

Provision of 2 additional 3G AGPs, alongside the existing stock in the north sub area, will provide sufficient training and match play facilities for existing football teams in the sub area. However, they will be insufficient in providing for future demand in the north. It should be an objective to gain some community football access to rugby specific 3G AGPs that are also proposed for future development, such as Egremont RUFC and Kells ARLFC that will be considered in rugby union and rugby league sections of this report, in order to help meet football demand and support the business case for these proposals.

South Sub Area

- **Millom School - development of 1 x 3G AGP as a replacement to the current sand-dressed AGP on site.**

The resurfacing of the current sand dressed AGP, would allow for all current and future teams in the south sub area to be provided for by 3G provision, if there was only football use of the facility.

If there was to be only 80% of available time midweek used for football demand, with 20% rugby league (subject to compliancy), all football teams in the south sub area would still be catered for. Rugby league teams would have access to 3.2 hours during peak midweek hours.

It is known that there is no hockey use of the pitch, and England Hockey had no objections to the conversion of the pitch to a 3G surface.

3. Football (Grass) – Stage D Findings

Football – Grass Pitch Summary Key Issues

- The audit identifies 33 grass football pitches within Copeland that are available for community use and have been used during the 2021/22 season.
- Of the 33 available pitches used by community football clubs in the 2021/22 season there are: 18 adult 11v11, 4 youth 11v11, 5 junior 9v9, 6 mini soccer 7v7 and 0 mini soccer 5v5 pitches. (33)
- 30 (91%) pitches used during the 2021/22 season across Copeland provide secured community use access (i.e., pitches owned or leased by local authorities or clubs/associations). 3 (9%) pitches are unsecured community use pitches, generally provided at education sites.
- 190 teams from within 22 clubs are identified as playing within Copeland. This consists of 37 adult men's, 1 adult women's, 26 youth 11v11 boys', 3 youth 11v11 girls', 22 junior boys' 9v9 teams, 6 junior girls' 9v9 teams, 56 7v7 and mini soccer teams and 39 5v5 mini soccer teams. There is demand across all age groups of football in Copeland.
- Actual spare capacity across Copeland totals 23 match equivalent sessions per week.
- Overplay in Copeland at peak times is -60.75 MES across all age groups
- Weekly demand is expected to increase by 13.75 MES by 2038, due to population growth and latent demand estimations.
- Weekly demand exceeds weekly capacity, pitches are being overplayed across all formats of the game, other than mini 7v7 where there is currently a neutral position. However, by 2038, this there will also be overplay of this pitch type.
- Across all other formats of the game there is currently a short fall of appropriately sized pitches currently and by 2038.
- There is the need to improve current grass football pitches to cater effectively for the current and future pitch demand, using the Pitchpower tool to inform this and make accurate assessments where possible. It is also important for local collaboration between clubs and organisations to secure access to potential investment to enable this improvement.

- Developing a number of high-quality 3G artificial pitches would have a significant impact on the undersupply of MES, specific scenarios will be discussed in detail in the section below.
- As there are no 5v5 pitches in Copeland, demand is being met on larger pitches. The size of pitch meeting this demand varies dependent on the site, but a reduced MES has been factored in to reflect the type of demand on each pitch.

Scenario 3 – Loss of access to unsecured grass pitch sites used during 2021/22 season

- 3.1 This scenario considers the impact of community clubs losing access to unsecured sites and the impact that this would have on demand on overall pitch capacity across the borough.
- 3.2 Of the 33 pitches used during the 2021/22 season, only 3 (9%) have unsecured community use and all are located in the north sub area. They are at the following sites:
- Bishop's Park – 1x Adult 11v11 - Poor (1 MES)
 - Moor Row Community Primary School – 1x Youth 11v11 - Poor (1 MES)
 - St Bees School – 1x Adult 11v11 – Standard (2 MES)
- 3.3 The current combined pitch capacity of the sites is 4 MES per week, as both Bishops Park and Moor Row Community Primary School are rated as poor and St Bees School is of standard quality.
- 3.4 During the 2021/22 season, on a weekly basis there was a 9 MES demand for these pitches at peak times, resulting in a balance of -5.5 MES. This can be further broken down by pitch type, with the unsecured adult 11v11 pitches being overplayed by 1 MES and the youth 11v11 pitch being overplayed by 4.5 MES.
- 3.5 Table 13 shows the current and future balance for adult and youth 11v11 pitches in the north sub area (the only unsecured, used sites are located in the north sub area).

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Table 13: Current and future position for unsecured sites used during 2021/22 season – North sub area

Pitch Type	Actual Spare capacity MES	Total overplay (MES)	Current position (MES)	Unmet/Latent demand (MES)	Future demand – population growth (MES)	Future position (MES)
Adult 11v11	9	-21	-12	3.5	1	-16.5
Youth 11v11	5	-10.25	-5.25	2.5	1	-8.75

- 3.6 If access to the three unsecured sites used during the 2021/22 season was lost, the current and future positions for both pitch types would be worsened. Adult 11v11 pitches would lose 3 MES of capacity per week, whilst Youth 11v11 pitches would lose 1 MES of capacity per week. As shown in table 14, this would result in a current deficit of -15 MES for adult 11v11 pitches and -6.25 MES for youth 11v11 pitches. However, all three pitches are used by teams playing different formats of the game (e.g. 5v5, 7v7, 9v9), which would mean the relocation of teams from different age categories. As a result, the loss of these pitches would have a negative effect on all grass pitch playing provision.

Table 14: Current and future position if unsecured sites used during 2021/22 season were lost – North sub area

Pitch Type	Current position (MES)	Reduction in supply of MES if unsecured pitches lost (MES)	Position with unsecured sites removed (MES)	Future position (MES)	Reduction in supply of MES if unsecured pitches lost (MES)	Future position (MES)
Adult 11v11	-12	3	-15	-16.5	3	-19.5
Youth 11v11	-5.25	1	-6.25	-8.75	1	-9.75

- 3.7 When this is considered in the wider context of Copeland as a whole, there would be a current deficit of -18.5 MES per week for adult 11v11 pitches and -5.25 for youth 11v11 pitches. However, by 2038, these deficits will increase to -23.5 MES and -9.25 MES respectively.
- 3.8 If unsecured sites that were used during the 2021/22 season were lost, there would be an overall current deficit across all pitch types of -36.75 MES per week, increasing to -50.5 MES by 2038.
- 3.9 Whilst not always possible, securing community use through formal use agreements between providers and users would ensure that supply continues to be provided for in the long-term. Where there is potential external investment on school sites, there are opportunities to secure community use as part of the funding or approval agreement. For such agreements, it is important to ensure that provision is both accessible at peak time and affordable.

Scenario 4 – Improvement of poor quality secure sites by one quality increment (poor to standard) and the effect on overall capacity pitch quality

3.10 This scenario explores the impact of improving all poor quality football pitches, and the impact this would have on the playing capacity across the Borough.

Table 15: All current poor quality football pitches by sub area

North Sub Area	Adult Pitches	Youth 11v11 Pitches	Youth 9v9 Pitches	Mini Pitches
Adams Recreation Ground	1	1	1	1
Bishop's Park	1			
Moor Row Community Primary School		1		
Moresby RUFC			1	
The Sports Field		1		
Thornhill Playing Fields	1		1	
Whitehaven Miners Social Welfare	1	1		
Total Available Pitches – North	4	4	3	1
Central Sub Area	Adult Pitches	Youth 11v11 Pitches	Youth 9v9 Pitches	Mini pitches
Coniston Ave Playing Field	1			
Gosforth C of E School				1
Total Available Pitches – Central	1	0	0	1
South Sub Area	Adult Pitches	Youth 11v11 Pitches	Youth 9v9 Pitches	Mini pitches
Millom School	1			1
Total Available Pitches – South	1	0	0	1

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- 3.11 Table 15 above highlights all poor quality pitches in each sub area. There are 6 adult 11v11, 4 youth 11v11, 3 9v9 and 3 mini pitches that have been rated as poor quality based on site assessments and through consultation, agreed amongst the steering group. There are a total of 16 poor quality pitches across the study area.
- 3.12 The tables 16, 17 and 18 below demonstrate that changes in capacity balance for each poor grass pitch in Copeland, if they were to improve by one quality increment. This is also broken down by sub area.

Table 16: Poor quality pitches improved by one quality increment – North sub area

Site name	Sub-Area	Availability	Security of use	Pitch supply	Pitch capacity MES	Pitch demand MES	Improved Pitch Capacity (Poor to Standard)	New Balance Weekly (MES)	New Peak period (MES)
Adams Recreation Ground	North	Available	Secured	1x Adult 11v11	1	0.5	2	1.5	1
Adams Recreation Ground	North	Available	Secured	1x Youth 11v11	1	2.5	2	-0.5	No spare capacity
Adams Recreation Ground	North	Available	Secured	1x Youth 9v9	1	3	2	-1	No spare capacity
Adams Recreation Ground	North	Available	Secured	1x Mini 7v7	2	5	4	-1	No spare capacity
Bishops Park	North	Available	Unsecured	1 Adult 11v11	1	3	2	-1	No spare capacity
Moor Row Community Primary School	North	Available	Unsecured	1 Youth 11v11	1	5.5	2	-3.5	No spare capacity
Moresby RUFC	North	Available	Secured	1 Youth 9v9	1	13	2	-11	No spare capacity
The Sports Field	North	Available	Secure	1 Youth 11v11	1	0	2	2	1
Thornhill Playing Fields	North	Available	Secured	1 Adult 11v11	1	1	2	1	1

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Site name	Sub-Area	Availability	Security of use	Pitch supply	Pitch capacity MES	Pitch demand MES	Improved Pitch Capacity (Poor to Standard)	New Balance Weekly (MES)	New Peak period (MES)
Thornhill Playing Fields	North	Available	Secured	1 Youth 9v9	1	0	2	2	1
Whitehaven Miners Social Welfare	North	Available	Secured	1 Adult 11v11	1	6.5	2	-4.5	No spare capacity
Whitehaven Miners Social Welfare	North	Available	Secured	1 Youth 11v11	1	5.25	2	-3.25	No spare capacity

Table 17: Poor quality pitches improved by one quality increment – Central sub area

Site name	Sub-Area	Availability	Security of use	Pitch supply	Pitch capacity MES	Pitch demand MES	Improved Pitch Capacity (Poor to Standard)	New Balance Weekly (MES)	New Peak period (MES)
Coniston Avenue Playing Field	Central	Available	Secured	1 Adult 11v11	1	0	2	2	1
Gosforth C of E School	Central	Available	Unsecured	1 Mini 7v7	2	1	4	3	1

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Table 18: Poor quality pitches improved by one quality increment – South sub area

Site name	Sub-Area	Availability	Security of use	Pitch supply	Pitch capacity MES	Pitch demand MES	Improved Pitch Capacity (Poor to Standard)	New Balance Weekly (MES)	New Peak period (MES)
Millom School	South	Available	Unsecured	1 Adult 11v11	1	1	2	1	1
Millom School	South	Available	Unsecured	1 Mini 7v7	2	1	4	3	1

3.13 Tables 19, 20, 21, and 23 below show the impact of improving the standard of poor quality pitches on the overall balance, by pitch type and sub area.

Table 19: Adult 11v11 Supply and Demand Analysis – Improved pitch quality ratings

Analysis Area	Current Actual Spare capacity MES	Current Total overplay (MES)	Current position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Current Position (MES)	Unmet/Latent demand (MES)	Future demand (MES)	Current Future position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Future Position (MES)
North	8	-21	-13	-9	3.5	1	-17.5	-13.5
Central	1	-3.5	-2.5	-2.5	0	0	-2.5	-2.5
South	0	-1	-1	0	0	0.5	-1.5	-0.5
Copeland	9	-25.5	-16.5	-11.5	3.5	1.5	-21.5	-16.5

3.14 Table 18 shows that improving the standard of poor quality pitches to a standard rating, would have an impact of reducing the current and future deficit by 5 MES per week. However, there would still be a significant shortfall of adult 11v11 grass pitches in the study area, and in particular the north sub area.

3.15 The most significant impact would be in the north, with a small decrease in deficit in the south. There would be no change to the balance in the central sub area.

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Table 20: Youth 11v11 Supply and Demand Analysis – Improved pitch quality ratings

Analysis Area	Current Actual Spare capacity MES	Current Total overplay (MES)	Current position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Current Position (MES)	Unmet/Latent demand (MES)	Future demand (MES)	Current Future position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Future Position (MES)
North	5	-11.25	-6.25	-3.25	2.5	1	-9.75	-6.75
Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South	1	0	1	1	0.5	0	0.5	0.5
Copeland	6	-11.25	-5.25	-2.25	3	1	-9.25	-6.25

3.16 Improving poor quality youth 11v11 pitches by one increment to standard, would reduce the current and future overplay on sites by 3 MES per week in the north sub area. There would be no impact made in the central or south areas.

3.17 Although a minor reduction in the shortfall would be made, grass youth 11v11 pitches in the north would still be overplayed by 6.75 MES per week.

Table 21: Youth 9v9 Supply and Demand Analysis – Improved pitch quality ratings

Analysis Area	Current Actual Spare capacity MES	Current Total overplay (MES)	Current position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Current Position (MES)	Unmet/Latent demand (MES)	Future demand (MES)	Current Future position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Future Position (MES)
North	2	-16	-14	-12	1.25	1.5	-16.75	-14.75
Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Copeland	2	-16	-14	-12	1.25	1.5	-16.75	-14.75

3.18 When considering youth 9v9 grass pitches, there would be minimal impact if poor quality pitches were improved to standard quality in the study area. Only the north sub area has improvement but would remain in a current deficit of -12 MES per week.

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3.19 This is largely due to the significant overplay of Moresby RUFC 9v9 pitch. Through consultation, it was highlighted that there is significant use of the Moresby site for training demand, and the pitch is used to meet some additional demand for weekend match play from a number of clubs.

Table 22: Mini 7v7 Supply and Demand Analysis – Improved pitch quality ratings

Analysis Area	Current Actual Spare capacity MES	Current Total overplay (MES)	Current position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Current Position (MES)	Unmet/Latent demand (MES)	Future demand (MES)	Current Future position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Future Position (MES)
North	1	-8	-7	-5	0.75	1.25	-9	-7
Central	2	0	2	2	0	0	2	2
South	3	0	3	3	0	0	3	3
Copeland	6	-8	-2	0	0.75	1.25	-4	-2

3.20 By improving the quality of grass mini 7v7 pitches, the current position would become balanced, with no deficit or spare capacity. However, there is still predicted to be a deficit of -2 MES per week by 2038 due to population growth and latent demand from clubs.

Table 23: Total Copeland Supply and Demand Analysis – Improved pitch quality ratings

Analysis Area	Current Actual Spare capacity MES	Current Total overplay (MES)	Current position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Current Position (MES)	Unmet/Latent demand (MES)	Future demand (MES)	Current Future position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Future Position (MES)
Adult 11v11	9	-25.5	-16.5	-11.5	3.5	1.5	-21.5	-16.5
Youth 11v11	6	-11.25	-5.25	-2.25	3	1	-9.25	-6.25
9v9	2	-16	-14	-12	1.25	1.5	-16.75	-14.75
Mini 7v7	6	-8	-2	0	0.75	1.25	-4	-2
Copeland	23	-60.75	-37.75	-25.75	8.5	5.25	-51.5	-39.5

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- 3.21 As shown in table 23, there would be a total reduction in the current deficit by 12 MES per week, as a result of improving pitches from poor quality to standard. However, there would remain a shortfall of all pitch types other than mini 7v7. The largest impact would be in the north sub area, where the deficit would reduce by 5, to -11 MES per week. This is because most current poor quality pitches are located in this subarea.
- 3.22 By 2038, if all poor quality pitches were improved, there would remain a deficit of -39.5 MES per week. Although this is an improvement it does little to reduce the significant shortfall of grass provision.
- 3.23 This scenario highlights that the improvement of poor quality pitches does little to decrease the large deficit of match equivalent sessions. However, a County FA target is to improve all poor and standard quality pitches to good, which would improve many by more than one increment. As there are a large number of existing teams, particularly in the north sub area, which is expected to increase in the future, providing high quality grass pitches should remain a key priority for Copeland Borough Council, and commitment to grass pitch improvement is vital to further support football demand in the area.. The development of 3G AGP provision across the study area, alongside grass pitch improvements, will provide teams with high quality training facilities, is the most effective way of reducing the significant shortfall or grass pitch provision in Copeland.

Scenario 5 - Improvement of all club maintained sites to good quality and the effect on overall capacity.

- 3.24 This scenario tests the impact of improving all sites maintained by sports clubs to good quality on the overall supply and demand for pitches. Table 24 below shows all sites across Copeland that are maintained by clubs and the balance of each site if the quality was improved to a rating of good.

Table 24: Impact of improvement to good quality pitches on individual sites managed by sports clubs

Site name	Sub-Area	Availability	Security of use	Pitch supply	Pitch capacity MES	Pitch demand MES	Improved Pitch Capacity to Good	New Balance Weekly (MES)	New Peak period (MES)
Bishops Park	North	Available	Unsecured	1 Adult 11v11	1	3	3	0	No spare capacity
Cleator Moor Celtic FC	North	Available	Secured	1 Adult 11v11	3	1.5	3	1.5	No spare capacity
Distington ARLFC	North	Available	Secured	1 Youth 11v11	2	3	4	1	No spare capacity
Lowca ARLFC	North	Available	Secured	1 Adult 11v11	2	1.5	3	1.5	No spare capacity
Moresby RUFC	North	Available	Secured	1 Youth 9v9	1	13	4	-9	No spare capacity

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Site name	Sub-Area	Availability	Security of use	Pitch supply	Pitch capacity MES	Pitch demand MES	Improved Pitch Capacity to Good	New Balance Weekly (MES)	New Peak period (MES)
St Benedict's RUFC / Mirehouse FC	North	Available	Secure	1 Adult 11v11	3	1.5	3	1.5	No spare capacity
Thornhill Playing Fields	North	Available	Secured	1 Adult 11v11	1	1	3	2	1
Thornhill Playing Fields	North	Available	Secured	1 Youth 9v9	1	0	4	4	1
Whitehaven AFC	North	Available	Secured	1 Adult 11v11	3	7.5	3	-4.5	No spare capacity
Whitehaven AFC	North	Available	Secured	1 Mini 7v7	6	6.25	6	-0.25	No spare capacity
Whitehaven Miners Social Welfare	North	Available	Secured	1 Adult 11v11	1	6.5	3	-3.5	No spare capacity
Whitehaven Miners Social Welfare	North	Available	Secured	1 Youth 11v11	1	5.25	4	-1.25	No spare capacity
Bootle AFC	Central	Available	Secured	1 Adult 11v11	2	4.5	3	-1.5	No spare capacity
Millom RLFC – Hanna Field	South	Available	Secured	1 Adult 11v11	3	2	3	1	No spare capacity
Millom RUFC	South	Available	Secured	1 Adult 11v11	2	3	3	0	No spare capacity
Millom RUFC	South	Available	Secured	2 Mini 7v7	8	3	12	9	No spare capacity
Millom St James	South	Available	Secured	1 Adult 11v11	2	1	3	2	No spare capacity

3.25 It must be noted that although improvement to the quality of sites increases overall capacity, it does not increase the peak time capacity if there are existing teams already using the pitches at that time.

3.26 Tables 25, 26, 28 and 29 below highlight the changes in supply and demand balance to each pitch type, split by sub area.

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Table 25: Impact of improvement to good quality, on sports club managed adult 11v11 pitches

Analysis Area	Current Actual Spare capacity MES	Current Total overplay (MES)	Current position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Current Position (MES)	Unmet/Latent demand (MES)	Future demand (MES)	Current Future position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Future Position (MES)
North	8	-21	-13	-9	3.5	1	-17.5	-13.5
Central	1	-3.5	-2.5	-1.5	0	0	-2.5	-1.5
South	0	-1	-1	0	0	0.5	-1.5	-0.5
Copeland	9	-25.5	-16.5	-10.5	3.5	1.5	-21.5	-15.5

3.27 Tables 25 states that there would be a 6 MES decrease in current and future deficit for adult 11v11 pitches across Copeland if all sports club maintained sites improved to good quality. It would result in there being a current shortfall of -10.5 MES per week, which is expected to worsen to -15.5 MES per week by 2038. The most significant impact would be made in the north sub area.

3.28 If all Adult 11v11 pitches were improved to good quality, the south sub area pitches would be in balanced position. However due to population growth, there would be a very small shortfall of -0.5 MES by 2038.

Table 26: Impact of improvement to good quality, on sports club managed youth 11v11 pitches

Analysis Area	Current Actual Spare capacity MES	Current Total overplay (MES)	Current position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Current Position (MES)	Unmet/Latent demand (MES)	Future demand (MES)	Current Future position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Future Position (MES)
North	5	-11.25	-6.25	-2.25	2.5	1	-9.75	-5.75
Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South	1	0	1	1	0.5	0	0.5	0.5
Copeland	6	-11.25	-5.25	-1.25	3	1	-9.25	-5.25

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- 3.29 Tables 26 suggests if improved to good quality, the north sub area would reduce its current deficit of -6.25 MES for youth 11v11 pitches to -2.25 MES. By 2038 this is expected to increase to only -5.75 MES. There would be no impact on the central or south sub areas.
- 3.30 If the afore mentioned changes were implemented, there would be a current deficit of -1.25 MES, rising to -5.25 MES by 2038 when considering the whole of Copeland, an improvement of 4 MES in total.

Table 27: Impact of improvement to good quality, on sports club managed youth 9v9 pitches

Analysis Area	Current Actual Spare capacity MES	Current Total overplay (MES)	Current position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Current Position (MES)	Unmet/Latent demand (MES)	Future demand (MES)	Current Future position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Future Position (MES)
North	2	-16	-14	-11	1.25	1.5	-16.75	-13.75
Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Copeland	2	-16	-14	-11	1.25	1.5	-16.75	-13.75

- 3.31 Improving all 9v9 sports club maintained pitches to good quality, would reduce the current deficit from -14 MES to -11 MES. This is due to improvements in the north sub area. There would be no impact to the central or south areas.
- 3.32 The future projected balance would also improve from -16.75 to -13.75 MES.

Table 28: Impact of improvement to good quality, on sports club managed mini 7v7 pitches

Analysis Area	Current Actual Spare capacity MES	Current Total overplay (MES)	Current position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Current Position (MES)	Unmet/Latent demand (MES)	Future demand (MES)	Current Future position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Future Position (MES)
North	1	-8	-7	-7	0.75	1.25	-9	-9
Central	2	0	2	2	0	0	2	2
South	3	0	3	3	0	0	3	3
Copeland	6	-8	-2	-2	0.75	1.25	-4	-4

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- 3.33 There would be no impact to the supply and demand balance for 7v7 pitches across Copeland, if all sports club managed pitches were improved to a rating of good. There would remain a current deficit of -2 MES and a future deficit of -4.
- 3.34 However, all of this deficit is generated through large demand in the north sub area, where this is a current shortfall of -7 and a future shortfall of -9. Both central and south sub areas have spare capacity of mini 7v7 pitches.

Table 29: Impact of improvement to good quality, on sports club managed pitches - Copeland

Analysis Area	Current Actual Spare capacity MES	Current Total overplay (MES)	Current position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Current Position (MES)	Unmet/Latent demand (MES)	Future demand (MES)	Current Future position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Future Position (MES)
Adult 11v11	9	-25.5	-16.5	-10.5	3.5	1.5	-21.5	-15.5
Youth 11v11	6	-11.25	-5.25	-1.25	3	1	-9.25	-5.25
9v9	2	-16	-14	-11	1.25	1.5	-16.75	-13.75
Mini 7v7	6	-8	-2	-2	0.75	1.25	-4	-4
Copeland	23	-60.75	-37.75	-24.75	8.5	5.25	-51.5	-38.5

- 3.35 Table 29 demonstrates the impact of improving all sports club managed pitches to good quality, for each pitch type across Copeland. The current total deficit would be reduced from -37.75 MES to -24.75 MES per week. The biggest impact comes from the adult 11v11 pitches, where there would be a reduction of 6 MES when compared with the current shortfall.
- 3.36 By 2038, the total deficit is expected to be -51.5 MES, with no changes to pitch quality. However, if the scenario was implemented, the future deficit would be 38.5 MES per week.
- 3.37 As mentioned in 1.71 there would still be a significant deficit across all pitch types if improvements were made, this indicates that pitch quality is not the only answer to making an impactful difference in reducing the shortfall of grass pitch provision. The development of additional 3G AGP provision, alongside grass pitch improvement, is also necessary to provide quality facilities for clubs and reduce the stress on all grass pitch types for training and fixtures.

Scenario 6 - Improvement of previously identified LFFP grass pitch improvement project sites to good and effect on overall capacity. Test of validity of these projects and question whether any others should be considered within the LFFP update.

3.38 The Local Football Facilities Plan, published in July 2020 prioritised 8 key grass pitch sites, 5 of which were considered a priority for improvement. The prioritisation was based on the rationale of selecting sites with pitches that are in poor condition which reflects the Copeland Borough Council’s strategic focus to improve pitches which provide for club play. Since 2020, the demand for football has changed slightly, club and team numbers have been impacted, and the markings of pitches may also have been altered to cope with different teams, sometimes across different age groups.

3.39 The following sites were suggested as priority grass improvements within the LFFP, the below shows the difference in pitch numbers between the LFFP and PPS.

Table 30: Impact of LFFP identified sites as Good

Pitch Site	Sub Area	Pitches Stated in LFFP (2020)	Pitches stated in PPS (2022)
Whitehaven AFC	North	1x full size 3G FTP	1x full size 3G FTP 1x adult 11v11 1x mini 7v7
SASRA Sports Complex	North	3x adult 11v11	2x adult 11v11 1x youth 9v9 1x mini 7v7
Adams Recreation Ground	North	2x adult 11v11	1x adult 11v11 1x youth 11v11 1x youth 9v9 1x mini 7v7
Whitehaven Miners Sports and Social Club	North	3x adult 11v11	1x adult 11v11 1x youth 11v11
Millom FC (Hanna Field)	South	1x adult 11v11	1x adult 11v11
Total			

3.40 Assuming these pitches are all improved to ‘Good’, the pitches would be impacted positively as demonstrated in table 30 below:

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Table 31: Impact of LFFP priority sites being improved to a 'good' rating

Site name	Sub-Area	Availability	Security of use	Pitch supply	Pitch capacity MES	Pitch demand MES	Improved Pitch Capacity to Good	New Balance Weekly (MES)	New Peak period (MES)
Whitehaven AFC	North	Available	Secured	1 Adult 11v11	3	7.5	3	-4.5	No spare capacity
Whitehaven AFC	North	Available	Secured	1 Mini 7v7	6	6.25	6	-0.25	No spare capacity
SASRA Sports Complex	North	Available	Secured	2 Adult 11v11	4	2	6	4	2
SASRA Sports Complex	North	Available	Secured	1 Youth 9v9	2	0.5	4	3.5	1
SASRA Sports Complex	North	Available	Secured	1 Mini 7v7	4	4.5	6	1.5	No spare capacity
Adams Recreation Ground	North	Available	Secured	1x Adult 11v11	1	0.5	3	2	No spare capacity
Adams Recreation Ground	North	Available	Secured	1x Youth 11v11	1	2.5	4	1.5	No spare capacity
Adams Recreation Ground	North	Available	Secured	1x Youth 9v9	1	3	4	1	No spare capacity
Adams Recreation Ground	North	Available	Secured	1x Mini 7v7	2	5	6	1	No spare capacity
Whitehaven Miners Social Welfare	North	Available	Secured	1 Adult 11v11	1	6.5	3	-3.5	No spare capacity
Whitehaven Miners Social Welfare	North	Available	Secured	1 Youth 11v11	1	5.25	4	-1.25	No spare capacity
Millom RLFC – Hanna Field	South	Available	Secured	1 Adult 11v11	3	2	3	1	No spare capacity

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- 3.41 Although improving the quality rating of the pitches in table 30 to good is positive, it has a minimal impact on the capacity balance due to lack of peak period availability of sites. The impact that has been made through analysis of this scenario is highlighted below in table 32.

Table 32: Impact of LFFP priority sites being improved to a 'good' rating – Copeland

Analysis Area	Current Actual Spare capacity MES	Current Total overplay (MES)	Current position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Current Position (MES)	Unmet/Latent demand (MES)	Future demand (MES)	Current Future position (MES)	Improved Quality Ratings – Future Position (MES)
Adult 11v11	9	-25.5	-16.5	-13.5	3.5	1.5	-21.5	-18.5
Youth 11v11	6	-11.25	-5.25	-1.25	3	1	-9.25	-5.25
9v9	2	-16	-14	-13	1.25	1.5	-16.75	-15.75
Mini 7v7	6	-8	-2	0	0.75	1.25	-4	-2
Copeland	23	-60.75	-37.75	-27.75	8.5	5.25	-51.5	-41.5

- 3.42 By improving the priority sites as highlighted in the 2020 LFFP, the current deficit of grass pitches in Copeland would reduce only to -27.75, and no spare peak time capacity would be created. The predicted future deficit of -51.5 MES would also decrease by 5 MES per week to -41.5 MES.
- 3.43 Improving priority grass pitch sites to good standard, increases the overall carrying capacity of some sites, however, does not go far enough to eliminate any deficit or shortfall in provision.
- 3.44 However, it has been highlighted by the County FAs, that for clubs to achieve and implement grass pitch improvements effectively, there needs to be a joint strategic approach between clubs, the FA/FF and other local partners to access the required match funding contributions.

Scenario 7 – The impact of removing training demand from grass pitches.

- 3.45 A number of grass pitches across Copeland are subject to overplaying as a result of catering for significant training demand. This scenario will explore the impact of removing training activity from these pitches.
- 3.46 Table 32 shows the sites that are affected by training demand from clubs, the current position of the grass pitches and their capacity balance if all training demand was removed.

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Table 33: Impact of training demand being removed from grass pitches

Site name	Sub-Area	Pitch supply	Pitch capacity MES	Pitch demand MES	Pitch demand if training removed (MES)	New Balance Weekly (MES)	New Peak period (MES)
Adams Recreation Ground	North	1x Adult 11v11	1	0.5	0	1	1
Adams Recreation Ground	North	1x Youth 11v11	1	2.5	1.5	-0.5	No spare capacity
Adams Recreation Ground	North	1x Youth 9v9	1	3	2	-1	No spare capacity
Adams Recreation Ground	North	1x Mini 7v7	2	5	3	-1	No spare capacity
Cleator Recreation Ground	North	1 Adult 11v11	2	6	3.5	-1.5	No spare capacity
Cleator Recreation Ground	North	1 Youth 9v9	2	4	2	0	No spare capacity
Cleator Recreation Ground	North	1 Mini 7v7	4	8.25	6.5	-2.5	No spare capacity
Moresby RUFC	North	1 Youth 9v9	1	13	2	-1	No spare capacity
St Benedict's RUFC / Mirehouse FC	North	1 Adult 11v11	3	1.5	0.5	2.5	1
Whitehaven Miners Social Welfare	North	1 Adult 11v11	1	6.5	2.5	-1.5	No spare capacity
Whitehaven Miners Social Welfare	North	1x Youth 11v11	1	5.25	2.5	-1.5	No spare capacity
Bootle AFC	Central	1 Adult 11v11	2	4.5	2.5	-0.5	No spare capacity
Gosforth Playing Field	Central	1 Adult 11v11	2	3	1	1	1

3.47 Table 34 shows impact of the above capacity changes on the overall balance for Copeland for each pitch type.

Table 34: Impact of the removal of training demand on grass pitch provision in Copeland

Analysis Area	Current Actual Spare capacity MES	Current Total overplay (MES)	Current position (MES)	Training removed – Current position (MES)	Unmet/Latent demand (MES)	Future demand (MES)	Current Future position (MES)	Training removed – Current position (MES)
Adult 11v11	9	-25.5	-16.5	-13	3.5	1.5	-21.5	-18
Youth 11v11	6	-11.25	-5.25	-1.5	3	1	-9.25	-5.5

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Analysis Area	Current Actual Spare capacity MES	Current Total overplay (MES)	Current position (MES)	Training removed – Current position (MES)	Unmet/Latent demand (MES)	Future demand (MES)	Current Future position (MES)	Training removed – Current position (MES)
9v9	2	-16	-14	0	1.25	1.5	-16.75	-2.75
Mini 7v7	6	-8	-2	1.75	0.75	1.25	-4	-0.25
Copeland	23	-60.75	-37.75	-12.75	8.5	5.25	-51.5	-26.5

- 3.48 By removing training demand from grass pitches, the current capacity deficits are significantly reduced. Although the largest impact is made on 9v9 pitches, this is solely a result of the Moresby RUFC pitch losing the majority of its current demand. Almost all of the reduction in deficits would be made in the North sub area. Although, improvements would be made, there would still likely be a current deficit of adult 11v11 and youth 11v11, and all pitch types would remain in a future deficit by 2038.
- 3.49 Removing all training demand from grass pitches would also increase the demand for 3G AGPs across Copeland, particularly in the north sub area. As there is already a deficit in 3G provision, it would not be possible to facilitate this without additional development.
- 3.50 Removing training demand from grass pitches, makes a significant impact on reducing the overall shortfalls for football in Copeland, and will provide opportunities for improvement in pitch maintenance and quality thereafter. However, this must be done in conjunction with the development of additional 3G AGP facilities.

Football Recommendations

1. Protect existing quantity of pitches (unless replacement provision is agreed upon and provided before the loss occurs).
2. Seek to bring lapsed or disused pitches back into use or secure replacements if they are promoted for alternative development.
3. Where pitches are overplayed and/or assessed as 'Poor' or 'Standard' quality, prioritise investment and review maintenance regimes to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain use and improve quality to a 'good' standard. This would have a particular impact at SASRA Sports Complex and Adams Recreation Ground, both of which are referenced in the LFFP and would create and increase spare capacity at the sites. Whitehaven Miners Social Welfare would also benefit from this pitch improvement, as there is currently a large deficit which would be significantly reduced.

4. Implement a joint strategic approach with clubs and other local partners to secure match funding contributions for grass pitch improvements.
5. Work to accommodate future demand as well as unmet and latent demand at sites which are not operating at capacity, or at sites not currently available for community use that could become so, moving forward. A key site where demand could be located is at St Benedict's Catholic High School, where the new grass pitches currently have no use outside of curriculum hours. The site already has significant community use of its 3G AGP.
6. Work with providers, clubs and the local authority to provide long-term security of tenure for clubs using remaining unsecured sites through community use agreements, where possible.
7. Improve ancillary facilities where there is a demand to do so and where it can benefit the wider footballing offer, particularly for women and girls.
8. Any potential investment in 3G facilities, should focus on the making 5v5 pitches a key feature, reducing the need for mini soccer demand to be met on junior and adult grass pitches.
9. Transfer a greater proportion of match play to 3G pitches where new facilities are developed, coupled with qualitative improvements to grass pitch supply, to increase carrying capacity of grass pitch stock whilst reducing level of demand causing overuse.

4. Hockey – Stage D Findings

Hockey Pitch Summary – key Issues

1. There is currently no hockey provision in the Copeland study area. Previously there has been one club, Western Lakes HC who were based at Cleator Moor Activity Centre. However, in 2021, the pitch was resurfaced as a 3G AGP and at this time, the club were forced to relocate out of the borough to a hockey suitable pitch.
2. Millom School in the south sub area is the only sand dressed AGP in the study area, but there is no community or extra-curricular hockey activity on site and there are plans for the redevelopment of the pitch to a 3G also (proposals approved by England Hockey).
3. There is a proposal for the development of a full-size sand dressed AGP at Whitehaven Academy, CBC has approved planning permission for that development (Ref: 4/22/2118/0F1), the view from England Hockey is that Western Lakes HC will be based on site and will grow hockey in Copeland.

- 4.1 Based on the above key issues, the scenario that will be considered in regard to hockey is the development of one full size sand dressed AGP at Whitehaven Academy.

Scenario 8 – Development of Sand Dressed AGP at Whitehaven Academy

- 4.2 There is currently one full size sand dressed AGP in Copeland, in the south sub area. However, there is no hockey provision, and the pitch is likely to be resurfaced as a 3G AGP in the medium term (proposals approved by England Hockey).
- 4.3 Western Lakes HC previously played at Cleator Moor Activity Centre before the resurfacing of the pitch, but currently do not undertake any hockey activity due to lack of playing facilities. However, through consultation with England Hockey, it is believed that the club will return to the area if a suitable facility is provided.
- 4.4 The proposed development at Whitehaven Academy will include one full size sand dressed AGP, as well as a full size 3G AGP, tennis/netball courts and an athletics sprint straight. The sand dressed pitch will have one full sized with two small, sided pitches marked out and will have artificial sports lighting. The proposals led by Whitehaven Academy indicate that the sports facilities will be available to the community at weekday evenings and at weekend, with long-term security of tenure on the site for community clubs, including Western Lakes HC.

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- 4.5 During consultation, England Hockey suggested that there will likely initially be demand for 6 junior teams and 2 senior teams at Whitehaven Academy. Table 35 below sets out the proposed timetable for hockey use of the AGP.

Table 35: Proposed Hockey usage of Whitehaven Academy

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
08.00							
09.00						Hockey	Available to the community
10.00						Hockey	Hockey
11.00						Hockey	Hockey
12.00						Hockey	Hockey
13.00						Hockey	Hockey
14.00						Hockey	Available to the community
15.00						Hockey	Available to the community
16.00						Hockey	Available to the community
17.00	Available to the community	Hockey	Hockey	Available to the community	Available to the community		
18.00	Available to the community	Hockey	Hockey	Available to the community	Available to the community		
19.00	Available to the community	Hockey	Hockey	Available to the community			
20.00	Available to the community	Hockey	Hockey	Available to the community			
21.00							

- 4.6 Table 35 above suggests there 6 hours of junior training demand and 2 hours of senior training demand for the pitch would be available during mid-week. 8 hours of Saturday usage and 4 hours of Sunday would cater for match play, junior training and hockey festivals. This means there would be a total demand for 20 hours of hockey usage per week at Whitehaven Academy, based on England Hockey feedback.

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- 4.7 The Peak period according to the PPS methodology is Mon-Thurs 5pm to 9pm, Friday 5pm to 7pm; and Saturdays and Sundays 9am to 5pm, totalling 34 hours of peak period capacity. If 20 hours of peak time is taken for hockey usage, this leaves 14 hours of peak time where the AGP can cater for the future growth of hockey, or other sporting use ee.g. football. Of this 14 hours, 10 hours would be mid-week and 4 hours would be on a Sunday.
- 4.8 Sand dressed surfaces are not necessarily the chosen pitch type for football, although they are able to be used for some training and casual demand. However, it is not possible to provide a detailed analysis for the impact this could have for football in the area, and most football demand is likely to be catered for by the new 3G AGP that will be adjacent.
- 4.9 The sand dressed AGP at Whitehaven Academy will also cater for significant curriculum use between the hours of 8am and 5pm Monday – Friday.

Hockey Recommendations

1. Develop the proposed full-sized sand dressed AGP at Whitehaven Academy.
2. Secure a minimum of 20 hours of usage for hockey activity. This should be broken down into 8 hours mid-week for training demand, 8 hours Saturday for match play and 4 hours Sunday for additional junior training or other hockey usage.
3. Allow additional peak time capacity for the future growth of hockey and to support the demand for other sports such as football.
4. Ensure the pitch is financially sustainable by developing more activities on the pitch.

5. Cricket – Stage D Findings

5.1 To help develop the recommendations/actions and to understand their potential impact, several relevant scenario questions are tested against the key issues in this section for each playing pitch sport, resulting in sport specific recommendations.

Cricket – Grass Pitch Summary key issues

1. There is spare capacity across all sub areas on the whole, however there is overplay at Whitehaven Cricket Club due to high levels of demand. In the north sub area, there is currently 71 Matches Per Season (MPS) of spare capacity, 8 MPS spare in the central area and 39 MPS of spare capacity in the south sub area.
2. New population growth, latent demand expectations and the growth of women's and girls' cricket will lead to an expected shortfall in provision by 2038 in the central (-8 MPS) and south (-19 MPS) sub areas. The current large amount of spare capacity in the north sub area is expected to reduce to 23 MPS.
3. The current overall spare capacity is predicted to turn into a shortfall by 2038. When considering population growth, latent demand and the development of the female game, it is predicted that there will be a shortfall of 20 MPS by 2038. This is most significant in the south sub area, where there is likely to be a future position of -29 MPS, whilst the central sub area will have a future position of -8.
4. Even when future demand is considered, the north sub area will have 17 MPS of spare capacity. However, the amount of spare capacity in the north, is heavily influenced by the large amount spare capacity at Gillfoot Park, where the current over supply of 50 MPS is unlikely to change significantly by 2038. This is in contrast to Whitehaven Cricket Ground, also in the north, where there is a current deficit of -1 MPS, rising to an expected shortfall of -17 MPS by 2038. This is a capacity difference of 67 MPS between two sites in the same sub area.
5. Where possible, facilities should have improved pavilions and clubhouses, practice nets, and car parking at existing facilities.

5.2 Through consultation with Sport England the following scenarios have been identified to be considered within this section of the report:

- The impact of the loss of all unsecured sites from Copeland's supply
- The impact of all junior cricket moving to non-turf wickets

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5.3 It must be stated, that although it is important for these scenarios to be explored, Cumbria Cricket and the ECB do not condone the loss of any unsecured sites from the current supply, or wish for all junior cricket to be moved to NTPs (further information regarding junior cricket and NTPs can be found in para 5.20). The purpose of the scenarios is to identify the impact that each would have on the position of cricket provision in Copeland.

Scenario 9 - The impact of the loss of all unsecured sites from Copeland's supply

5.4 This scenario considers the impact of the loss of unsecured cricket sites and the impact that this would have on demand on overall pitch capacity across the Copeland.

5.5 Of the 11 pitches in Copeland, 4 (36.3%) have unsecured community use and 2 are located in the north sub area and 2 in the south sub area. All unsecured pitches in Copeland on education sites. They are the following:

- St Bees School – No wicket – 0 MES of supply
- St Benedict's Catholic High School – 4 wickets – Standard quality - 16 MES of supply
- Millom School 1 – 1 wicket – Good quality - 7 MES of supply (caters for junior cricket)
- Millom School 2 – 1 wicket – Standard quality – 4 MES of supply

5.6 The current combined capacity of the sites is 27 MES per week, as both St Benedict's High School and Millom School 2 are rated as standard and Millom School 2 is rated as good. St Bees School is standard quality. During the 2021 season, on a weekly basis there was a combined demand for 12 MPS on these pitches, which would result in a balance of +15 MPS.

5.7 Table 36 shows the current and future position for cricket when included the unsecured sites. Table 36 shows the current and future positions if the four unsecured sites were to be lost.

Table 36: Current and Future Position for Adult Grass Wickets

Analysis Area	Site capacity	Current demand	Current position	Total Future demand	Future position
North	210	139	71	193	17
Central	48	40	8	56	-8
South	121	82	39	150	-29
Total - Copeland	379	261	118	399	-20

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Table 37: Current and Future Position for Adult Grass Wickets – Loss of unsecured sites

Analysis Area	Site capacity with loss of unsecured sites	Current demand	Current position with loss of unsecured sites	Total Future demand	Future position with loss of unsecured sites
North	194	139	55	193	1
Central	48	40	8	56	-8
South	110	82	28	150	-40
Total - Copeland	352	261	91	399	-47

- 5.8 Table 37 suggests that if unsecured sites were lost, the current spare capacity would reduce from 118 MPS to 91 MPS. This would be most noticeable in the north sub area where there would be a reduction of 16 MPS. The south sub area would experience a loss of 11 MPS, reducing its current capacity to 28 MPS.
- 5.9 When considering the future impact of the loss of unsecure sites, the north sub area would see its future position reduce to just 1 MPS of spare capacity, whilst the south sub area would have a shortfall of -40 MPS. This would leave a total deficit of -47 MPS for cricket pitches across Copeland.
- 5.10 However, it must be considered that all unsecured sites in Copeland are education sites, that do not currently cater for any community club demand. Therefore, the impact of the loss of the sites, would be a reduction in the amount of curricular and extra-curricular cricket that could be played by schools. This demand may be exported to local community cricket clubs, who would in turn see a slight increase in their demand.
- 5.11 Whilst not always possible, securing community use through formal use agreements between providers and users would ensure that supply continues to be provided for in the long-term. Where there is potential external investment on school sites, there are opportunities to secure community use as part of the funding or approval agreement. For such agreements, it is important to ensure that provision is both accessible at peak time and affordable.

Scenario 10 - The impact of all junior cricket moving to non-turf wickets

- 5.12 This scenario considers the impact on the supply and demand balance of grass wickets in Copeland, if all junior cricket was moved to non-turf wickets.
- 5.13 In the 2021 season, there were 13 junior teams, equating to a demand for 104 MPS (8 MPS per junior team). Table 37 below provides an overview of the junior cricket provision in Copeland.

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Table 38: Junior cricket demand by club - 2021

Club	Sub-Area (Home Ground Location)	No. of junior teams	Demand MPS
Seascale CC	Central	1	8
Egremont CC	North	3	24
Cleator CC	North	2	16
Whitehaven CC	North	3	24
Haverigg CC	South	2	16
Millom CC	South	2	16
Total		13	104

- 5.14 If this is broken down into sub areas, there would be a demand of 64 MPS from the north sub area, 8 MPS from the central area and 32 from the south. Table 39 shows the impact to the current supply and demand balance at individual sites if all junior cricket was placed onto non-turf wickets.

Table 39: Supply and demand balance for cricket sites in Copeland if junior cricket was removed from grass wickets

Playing Pitch Sites	Sub Area	Secured Community Use	Squares	Quality of Provision*	Grass Wickets (Grass)	Grass Supply (MPS)	Current Demand (Grass)	Current Balance (MPS)	Demand without junior cricket (MPS)	Balance without junior cricket (MPS)
Seascale Sports Hall	Central	Secured	1	Standard	8	32	30	2	22	10
Gillfoot Park	North	Secured	1	Good	18	90	40	50	16	74
JD Campbell Memorial Ground	North	Secured	1	Standard	10	40	28	12	12	28
Whitehaven Cricket Ground	North	Secured	1	Standard	16	64	65	-1	41	23
Millom Cricket Club	South	Secured	1	Good	8	40	36	4	20	20
Haverigg Cricket Club	South	Secured	1	Good	14	70	40	30	24	46

- 5.15 Table 39 shows that relocating all junior cricket to non-turf wickets, would significantly increase the spare capacity at individual sites. The most significant impact would be seen at Whitehaven Cricket Ground, where the balance would turn from a deficit of -1 MPS to 23 MPS of spare capacity.

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- 5.16 However, it is also important to understand how the scenario will impact each sub area and Copeland as a whole, currently and by 2038. Table 39 again highlights the current and future position for grass wickets in Copeland, with junior cricket being met on grass wickets. Table 40 sets out the predicted growth of junior cricket through population growth and latent demand by 2030. Table 40 suggests that there will be 11 new junior teams by 2038, equating to additional demand of 88 MPS. This can be broken down into sub areas, with the junior cricket in the north demanding an additional 24 MPS by 2038, the central sub area will have an extra 16 MPS, and the largest increase of 48 MPS is found in the south sub area.

Table 40: Current and Future Position for Grass Wickets

Analysis Area	Site capacity (MPS)	Current demand (MPS)	Current position (MPS)	Total Future demand (MPS)	Future position (MPS)
North	210	139	71	193	17
Central	48	40	8	56	-8
South	121	82	39	150	-29
Total - Copeland	379	261	118	399	-20

Table 41: Total projected future junior cricket team growth by Sub Area by 2038

Analysis Area	Junior Teams		Total Additional Teams	Total Additional Demand (MPS)
	Population Growth	Latent Demand		
North	1	2	3	24
Central	0	2	2	16
South	1	5	6	48
Total - Copeland	2	9	11	88

- 5.17 All information above can then be filtered into table 40 which highlights the current and future position for grass wickets in Copeland, if all junior cricket demand was met by non-turf wickets.

Table 42: Current and Future Position for Grass Wickets – Junior demand met on non-turf wickets

Analysis Area	Site capacity (MPS)	Current demand (MPS)	Current position (MPS)	Total Future demand (MPS)	Future position (MPS)
North	210	75	135	169	41

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Analysis Area	Site capacity (MPS)	Current demand (MPS)	Current position (MPS)	Total Future demand (MPS)	Future position (MPS)
Central	48	32	16	40	8
South	121	50	71	102	19
Total - Copeland	379	157	222	311	68

- 5.18 The impact of the scenario is significant. There would be an increase in the current spare capacity across Copeland from 118 MPS to 222 MPS. The north would see an increase of 64 MPS, capacity in the central area would increase by 8 MPS and the south's spare capacity would increase by 32 MPS. The biggest impact would be made when considering the future position. The current predicted deficit of -20 across the study area would turn into 68 MPS of spare capacity by 2038, with all sub areas have an oversupply.
- 5.19 However, Copeland does not have the non-turf wicket infrastructure to support all junior cricket. Currently there is just one non-turf wicket at Millom CC in the south sub area. ECB guidelines state a good quality artificial wicket can support 80 MPS for junior cricket. In the 2021 season there was a demand for 104 MPS of junior cricket, and there will be a demand for 212 MPS of junior cricket by 2038. This suggests that there is a need for a total of 3 non-turf wickets in Copeland (including Millom CC). Ideally, each site that is meeting demand for junior cricket would develop its own non-turf wicket, as this would allow for capacity at peak times.
- 5.20 However, moving junior cricket activity onto NTPs would significantly reduce the quality of junior cricket across Copeland, and dependent on pitch quality, may cause some safety concerns. The cost of implementing and maintaining NTPs can be detrimental for clubs, and additional NTPs may involve the loss of grass wickets if there is a shortage of space on sites. Cumbria Cricket, the ECB and local clubs would all prefer for demand to be met by grass wickets, and preferably on existing club sites.

Cricket Recommendations

- Develop secure community use agreements at education sites in Copeland. This would minimise the impact of team growth and the shortfall in grass wickets that is predicted by 2038.
- Once community use agreements are secured, encourage clubs who have a shortfall of provision to engage with the education sites, particularly at St Benedict's Catholic High School.
- Develop additional non-turf wickets to meet some junior cricket demand, therefore creating extra capacity on grass wickets for adult provision. Although each site would benefit from this, prioritise Whitehaven Cricket Ground where there is a current shortfall of provision.

6. Rugby League – Stage D Findings

Rugby League Pitch Summary – Key Issues

- There are 14 rugby league sites in Copeland, with a total of 16 pitches. The highest concentration of pitches is in the north sub area which holds 75% (12) of all rugby league pitches in the study area.
- There is only one junior rugby league pitch identified in Copeland, which means that junior and mini demand is having to be met by senior pitches.
- There are 9 clubs in Copeland with a total of 66 teams. 85% of this demand is located in the north sub area.
- 71.4% of pitches have secured community use, and 100% are available to the community. However, there are significant deficit levels and over playing across Copeland.
- The quality of rugby league provision in Copeland is generally of adequate quality. There are three pitches identified as poor (18.8%), 43.8% of pitches are rated as good and 37.5% rated as standard quality.
- There is a current shortfall of -64.75 MES across Copeland. 48.5 MES of this shortfall is generated by the north sub area, and the remaining 16.25 MES is from the south. There is no rugby league provision in the central sub area.
- It is predicted that there will a total of 10 new rugby league teams by 2038, bring the total to 76. There is likely to be 1 new senior male team, 2 junior new teams and 3 new mini teams. Due to the growth of women and girls' activity, it is also predicted that there will be an additional 4 female teams by 2038. This will bring an extra 3.25 MES per week to the study area
- By 2038 the shortfall is expected to increase to -68 MES as a result of population increase and the growth of the women and girls' game.
- Overplay of rugby league grass pitches is a significant issue, with major deficits in provision throughout Copeland. Gillfoot Park, Hensingham ARLFC, Kells ARLFC (Welfare Ground), Lowca ARLFC, Wath Brow RLFC and Millom RLFC are all catering for up to 4 times the amount of demand they are capable of.

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6.1 Based on the key issues above and through consultation with the RFL the following scenarios will be developed:

- The impact of the loss of all unsecured sites from the supply
- Improving all grass pitches to a 'good' standard.
- Development of Kells Welfare Road 3G Pitch
- The impact of relocating all football activity away from St Benedict's Catholic High 3G pitch and the increase rugby league usage this may allow

Scenario 11 – The impact of the loss of all unsecured sites

6.2 This scenario considers the impact of the loss of unsecured rugby league sites and the impact that this would have on demand on overall pitch capacity across the Copeland.

6.3 Of the 16 pitches in Copeland, 5 (31.25%) are available but unsecured for community use. Although the loss of these 5 pitches will be analysed in terms of the potential supply and demand position, **it must be noted that these pitches do not currently cater for any community rugby league provision.** They are the following:

- Frizington Jubilee Field – 1x poor quality senior pitch – 1 MES of supply – 0 MES demand
- Whitehaven Academy – 1x standard quality pitch – 2 MES of supply – 2 MES demand (curriculum use)
- The Sports Field – 1x standard quality pitch – 2 MES of supply – 0 MES demand
- Millom School Senior – 1x standard quality pitch – 2 MES of supply – 2 MES demand (curriculum use)
- Millom School Junior - 1x standard quality pitch – 2 MES of supply – 2 MES demand (curriculum use)

6.4 The current combined capacity of the sites is 9 MES per week. During the 2021 season there was no community club use of the unsecured sites. Whitehaven Academy and both Millom School pitches cater for some curriculum use. Table 43 shows the current and future position for rugby league when included the unsecured sites. Table 42 shows the current and future positions if the four unsecured sites were to be lost, broken down by sub area. There is no rugby league provision in the central area.

Table 43: Current and Future Position for Rugby League

Analysis Area	Site capacity (MPS)	Current demand (MPS)	Current position (MPS)	Total Future demand (MPS)	Future position (MPS)
North	25	73.5	-48.5	75.75	-50.75
South	8	24.25	-16.25	25.25	-17.25
Total - Copeland	33	97.75	-64.75	101	-68

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Table 44: Current and Future Position for rugby league – Loss of unsecured sites

Analysis Area	Site capacity with loss of unsecured sites (MPS)	Current demand (MPS)	Current position with loss of unsecured sites (MPS)	Total Future demand (MPS)	Future position with loss of unsecured sites (MPS)
North	20	73.5	-53.5	75.75	-55.75
South	4	24.25	-20.25	25.25	-21.25
Total - Copeland	24	97.75	-73.75	101	-77

- 6.5 Table 44 suggests that if unsecured sites were to be lost, the already significant shortfall would increase from -64.75 MES to -73.75 MES. The north sub area's deficit would increase by 5 MES, whilst the south sub area would worsen by 4 MES.
- 6.6 When considering the future impact of the loss of unsecure sites, the north sub area would see its future as a deficit of -55.75 MES and the south sub area would have a shortfall of -21.25 MPS. This would leave a total deficit of -77 MPS for rugby league pitches across Copeland.
- 6.7 Again, it must be noted however, that none of the unsecure sites that have been lost as part of this scenario, currently cater for any community club rugby league. Only Whitehaven Academy and Millom School cater for any demand and this is generated through curriculum time. Both Whitehaven and Millom Schools are also likely to develop 3G pitches on site in the near future. Although the Whitehaven Academy is not likely to be rugby compliant, it will likely cater for much of the curriculum use that currently takes place on the grass pitch. The development at Millom School, although not confirmed may be a rugby compliant pitch, which not only would cater for much of the schools curricular demand, but also for community clubs in the area. This scenario has been considered in the 3G AGP section of this document.
- 6.8 It is also important to consider that, through consultation with the RFL, it is apparent that Frizington Jubilee Field is unlikely to be used by any rugby league club in the future. This is due to lack of demand and the fact it is now utilised by two football clubs, so would not have the capacity or peak time availability for additional usage.
- 6.9 Millom School, although available for rugby league usage, could only cater for demand from Millom RLFC, as the site is inaccessible for clubs in other sub areas due to travel time. As there is no demand for the pitches from Millom RLFC, it is unlikely the site will sustain future rugby league usages.
- 6.10 The grass pitch at Whitehaven Academy, due to quality and drainage issues, could only be used to meet training demand from clubs in the north sub-area. However, as the pitch is not floodlit it is not suitable to meet this demand, suggesting it is unlikely to be utilised by rugby league clubs now or in the future.

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6.11 Whilst not always possible, securing community use through formal use agreements between providers and users would ensure that supply continues to be provided for in the long-term. Where there is potential external investment on school sites, there are opportunities to secure community use as part of the funding or approval agreement. For such agreements, it is important to ensure that provision is both accessible at peak time and affordable.

Scenario 12 – Improving all grass pitches to a ‘good’ standard

6.12 This scenario tests the impact of improving all rugby league sites to good quality on the overall supply and demand for pitches. Table 43 below shows the balance of each site in Copeland if the quality was improved to a rating of good.

6.13 As stated in Stage C, the capacity of grass pitches is dependent on their quality. A poor quality pitch can hold 1 MES per week, a standard quality pitch is capable of holding 2 MES and a good quality pitch can hold 3 MES per week.

6.14 However, when considering pitches that host Tier 3 Conference or higher matches, good quality pitches are only allowed to support 2 MES per week. Therefore, Whitehaven RLFC has been assigned 2 MES of capacity in table 45 below.

Table 45: Impact of improvement to good quality pitches on individual sites

Site name	Sub-Area	Availability	Security of use	Pitch supply	Current Pitch capacity MES	Pitch demand MES	Improved Pitch Capacity to Good	New Balance Weekly	New Peak period
Fairfield (Arlecdon ARLFC)	North	Available	Secured	1x Senior	2	3.25	3	-0.25	Site is overplayed so there is no spare peak time capacity
Frizington Jubilee Field	North	Available	Unsecure	1x Senior	1	0	3	3	2
Distington ARLFC	North	Available	Secured	1x Senior	3	6.75	3	-3.75	Site is overplayed so there is no spare peak time capacity

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Site name	Sub-Area	Availability	Security of use	Pitch supply	Current Pitch capacity MES	Pitch demand MES	Improved Pitch Capacity to Good	New Balance Weekly	New Peak period
Gillfoot Park	North	Available	Secured	1x Senior	3	15	3	-12	Site is overplayed so there is no spare peak time capacity
Hensingham ARLFC	North	Available	Secured	1x Senior	1	12	3	-9	Site is overplayed so there is no spare peak time capacity
Kells ARLFC – Haig Pit	North	Available	Secured	1x Senior	2	2	3	1	1
Kells ARLFC – Welfare Ground	North	Available	Secured	1x Senior	1	9	3	-6	Site is overplayed so there is no spare peak time capacity
Lowca ARLFC	North	Available	Secured	1x Senior	3	12.25	3	-9.25	Site is overplayed so there is no spare peak time capacity
Whitehaven RLFC	North	Available	Secured	1x Senior	2*	0.5	2*	1.5	1
Whitehaven Academy	North	Available	Unsecure	1x Senior	2	2	3	1	1
The Sports Field	North	Available	Unsecure	1x Senior	2	0	3	3	2

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Site name	Sub-Area	Availability	Security of use	Pitch supply	Current Pitch capacity MES	Pitch demand MES	Improved Pitch Capacity to Good	New Balance Weekly	New Peak period
Wath Brow Hornets RLFC	North	Available	Secured	1x Senior	3	12.75	3	-9.75	Site is overplayed so there is no spare peak time capacity
Millom RLFC 1	South	Available	Secured	1x Senior	3	11.75	3	-8.75	Site is overplayed so there is no spare peak time capacity
Millom RLFC 2	South	Available	Secured	1x Senior	3	12.5	3	-9.5	Site is overplayed so there is no spare peak time capacity
Millom School Senior	South	Available	Unsecure	1x Senior	2	2	3	1	1
Millom School Junior	South	Available	Unsecure	1x Junior	2	2	3	1	1

- 6.15 Table 45 suggests that if all pitches were improved to a 'good' standard, there would be a total weekly deficit of -56.75 MES. This equates to a reduction in the current deficit of 8 MES.
- 6.16 Although there is a significant deficit of weekly and peak time availability in Copeland, there are currently, 4 MES available at peak time in the study area. These are located at The Sports Field (2 MES), Whitehaven RLFC (1 MES) and Frizington Jubilee Field (1 MES). If all grass pitches were improved to good, then there would be an additional 5 MES per week created at peak times at specific sites. However, 3 of these peak time sessions are located at educational sites (Whitehaven Academy and Millom School), where there is no current community use and the only demand comes though curriculum time.
- 6.17 It is important to note that, as highlighted in scenario 7 (para 6.8 – 6.10), Whitehaven Academy, Frizington Jubilee Field and Millom School are unlikely to be used to meet any current or future rugby league demand, due to accessibility, quality and floodlighting issues.

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- 6.18 It must be noted that although improvement to the quality of sites increases overall capacity, it does not increase the peak time capacity if there are existing teams already using the pitches at that time.
- 6.19 Although improvements to pitch quality have a positive effect of reducing the overall deficit of pitch provision slightly, there remains a large shortfall of grass rugby league provision in Copeland. Many of the key rugby league sites, such as Millom RLFC, Wath Brow Hornets, Lowca ARLFC, Gillfoot Park and Distington ARLFC, already have good quality pitches, yet these sites are responsible for -53 MES of the current -64.75 MES deficit.
- 6.20 It must also be noted that although some pitches are currently rated as 'good', until PitchPower assessments are undertaken it is difficult to be sure of the accuracy of assessments. The RFL believe that many 'good' pitches may actually be operating at a 'standard' quality, therefore making the overall deficit of provision significantly worse. All clubs should be encouraged to commission PitchPower reports and act on their recommendations.
- 6.21 The Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (GPMF) is available for clubs to help with the improvement in quality of grass pitches.

Scenario 13 – The impact of the development of a rugby league compliant 3G pitch at Kells ARLFC – Welfare Ground

- 6.22 Through consultation with Kells ARLFC and the RFL, it is apparent that the club aspire to develop a full size, community standard 3G pitch (as per RFL specifications⁴) on their current site. The current site consists of 1 senior rugby league pitch and 1 adult 11v11 football pitch. The proposal suggests that the 3G pitch is to replace the existing rugby league pitch, which is of poor quality. To ensure the pitch is financially viable, the remaining capacity would need to be met by demand from community football and casual use.
- 6.23 Kells ARLFC currently run 10 teams (2x adult male, 4x junior and 4x mini). All training and match play demand from the club would be met by the 3G pitch.
- 6.24 When considering training only, this would create a demand of 10 MES per week, Monday - Friday.
- 6.25 For match play, we can presume that due to home and away fixtures, each adult and junior team will generate 0.5 MES per week. Mini rugby league does not require use of a whole 3G pitch, therefore we presume that 0.25 MES of match play demand for each of these teams. In total there is a possible demand for weekend match play of 4 MES.
- 6.26 This leaves a total demand for 14 MES per week. If each training session lasts 1 hour, and each match is 1.5 hours, then this can be converted into 10 hours of mid-week demand and 6 hours use at weekends, a total of 16 hours per week of demand.

⁴ https://www.rugby-league.com/uploads/docs/RFL%20Performance%20Standard%20for%20Synthetic%20Turf%20Pitches_2020%20Edition.pdf

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- 6.27 A full-size 3G AGP, with full community use (5-9pm Mon-Thur, 5-7pm Fri and 9-5pm weekends), offers 34 hours of peak time availability (18 hours mid-week and 16 hours at weekends), leaving 18 hours of spare capacity. This suggests that the development of a 3G pitch would comfortably cater for the needs of Kells ARLFC.
- 6.28 18 hours of spare capacity, equates to 0.5 of a full size 3G AGP. When considering only full sized 3G AGPs, there are currently 53 football teams in the north sub area that do not have access to full size 3G provision, which translates to a shortfall of 1.4 pitches. The development of a full size 3G at Kells ARLFC, would help to reduce this deficit to 0.9 full size 3G AGPs.

Scenario 14 – The impact of removing all training demand from senior grass pitches

- 6.29 A number of grass rugby league pitches, support a significant amount of training demand from clubs. This scenario will explore the impact of removing this demand from senior rugby league pitches, on the overall capacity balance in Copeland. Table 46 highlight the current position, compared with the potential position if demand was removed.

Table 46: Impact of improvement to good quality pitches on individual sites

Site Name	Carrying Capacity (MES)	Current Demand (MES)			Balance if Training Demand Removed
		Training	Match	Supply and Demand Balance	
Fairfield (Arlecdon ARLFC)	2	2	1.25	-1.25	0.75
Frizington Jubilee Field	1	0	0	1	1
Distington ARLFC	3	5	1.75	-3.75	1.25
Gillfoot Park	3	11	4	-12	-1
Hensingham ARLFC	1	9	3	-11	-2
Kells ARLFC – Haig Pit	2	0	2	0	0
Kells ARLFC – Welfare Ground	1	7	2	-8	-1
Lowca ARLFC	3	10	2.25	-9.25	0.75
Whitehaven RLFC	2*	0	0.5	1.5	1.5
Whitehaven Academy	2	0	0	2	2

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Site Name	Carrying Capacity (MES)	Current Demand (MES)			Balance if Training Demand Removed
		Training	Match	Supply and Demand Balance	
Wath Brow Hornets RLFC	3	9	3.75	-9.75	-0.75
The Sports Field	2	0	0	2	2
Millom RLFC	6	20	4.25	-18.25	1.75
Millom School	2	0	0	2	2
TOTAL COPELAND				-64.75 MES	8.25

- 6.30 If all training demand was removed from senior grass pitches in Copeland, there would be a reduction in use of 73 MES per week, turning the significant deficit of -64.75 MES into 8.25 MES of spare capacity.
- 6.31 However, training demand must be relocated to alternative provision, and the current infrastructure of floodlit grass training areas and 3G AGP pitches is not adequate to support this. Although there is currently some use of 3G pitches for rugby league training, there is a deficit of 3G provision across Copeland, so moving rugby league onto these would either be impossible or worsen the capacity issues for other sports. Rugby league use of 3G provision is also dependent on clubs willingness to use it. It is often expensive, and many clubs prefer to play on at their own site.
- 6.32 The addition of floodlighting on unused areas of current rugby league sites, to create a 'training area' may be an option, but many sites have no spare ground where this would be possible. If these areas are heavily used, then they will also quickly become overplayed and unusable in wet weather.
- 6.33 Focus should be on a partnership approach by clubs, local authority and community partners to providing floodlit areas on existing sites and securing access to new 3G developments to support the high level of training demand.

Rugby League Recommendations

- Develop secure community use agreements at education sites in Copeland. This would help to minimise the current and future shortfall in grass rugby league pitches.
- Improve grass pitches to a 'good' standard where possible. Although this does not go far enough to make a significant reduction in the existing shortfall, it does help to minimise some over-play as well as creating availability at 5 additional peak time slots.

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- Secure access to 3G pitch provision, to help meet training and match play demand. This should be considered in both the north and south sub areas. Specific sites where this may be possible are Millom School and Whitehaven Academy. Although these are not yet developed, and compliance for rugby league is not yet confirmed, they could help to meet the demand of several clubs. It should be a priority for new 3G development to be Rugby League community standard compliant, or access to existing 3G pitches be secured for rugby league clubs.
- Consider the development of a shared use 3G AGP at Kells – Welfare Road, to meet the needs of Kells ARLFC, but also to reduce the current significant deficit of 3G provision for football in the north sub area.
- Secure longer lease agreements with Copeland Borough Council, improving the security of tenure on LA owned sites and allowing clubs better access to capital funding opportunities.

7. Rugby Union – Stage D Findings

Rugby Union Pitch Summary – Key Issues

- There are 9 rugby union sites in Copeland, with a total of 13 pitches. 85% of these pitches are located in the north sub area, and 15% in the south. There is no rugby union provision in the central sub area. Only St Bees School is unavailable to the community. 54% of pitches in Copeland are owned by the Local Authority or sports clubs and have secured community use. The remaining 46% are all located on educational sites.
- 31% of pitches are rated as good, 54% are of standard quality and 15% are poor.
- There are no mini or junior rugby union pitches in Copeland, which means that junior and mini demand is having to be met by senior pitches.
- There are 40 teams identified in the study area, with the highest concentration in the north sub area (77.5%). 20% of teams are adult male, 40% youth and 40% mini. Although all current female rugby demand is displaced outside of the area, it is predicted that this will return in the very near future. Although this is a significant positive, ancillary facilities at some sites may need updating to ensure the safeguarding and privacy of all participants is protected.
- There is currently an under supply of -2 MES for training and 0.5 MES for match play across the study area. The undersupply of training provision is in the south sub area, whilst the -0.5 MES for fixtures comes from the north. The sites with the most amount of overplaying occurring are Millom RUFC (-2 MES) and St Benedict's RUFC (-2 MES). The only site with spare total capacity is Whitehaven Rugby Club, which has an oversupply of 2.25 MES
- Based on population growth, latent demand and expected increase in female participation, it is estimated that there will be a total of 15 new teams in Copeland by 2038, the end of the Local Plan period. The majority of this growth is predicted to come from latent demand. Although most of this growth is based in the north sub area, the largest growth from a single club is expected to come from Millom RUFC. 9 of the potential new teams (60%) are expected to come from youth age groups, 2 (13.3%) from minis and 4 (26.7%) from senior age groups.
- The under supply of pitches is expected to increase to -7 MES for training sessions and -7 MES for match play. There is no expected change in the supply of rugby union pitches in Copeland, therefore it is likely that current supply will not meet the demand in 2038.

Scenario 15 – The impact of unsecured sites

- 7.1 This scenario considers the impact of the loss of unsecured rugby union sites and the impact that this would have on demand on overall pitch capacity across the Copeland.
- 7.2 Of the 13 pitches in Copeland, 6 are unsecured for community use. Although the loss of these 6 pitches will be analysed in terms of the potential supply and demand position, **it must be noted that these pitches do not currently cater for any community rugby union provision.** All unsecured pitches in Copeland are located in the north sub area. They are the following:
- St Bees School – 2x Senior Rugby Union pitches – D0/M2 – 4 MES capacity
 - St Benedict’s Catholic High School – 2x Senior Rugby Union pitches – D0/M1 – 3 MES capacity
 - The Whitehaven Academy – 1x Senior Rugby Union pitch – D1/M1 – 2 MES capacity
 - West Lakes Academy - 1x Senior Rugby Union pitch – D1/M1 – 2 MES capacity
- 7.3 The current combined capacity of the sites is 11 MES per week. During the 2021 season there was no community club use of the unsecured sites, however all pitches cater for some curricular use during term time. This curricular use was considered in the stage C supply and demand analysis, and all education sites were placed in a neutral position, as was recommended through consultation.
- 7.4 Considering the figures and reasoning above, even if educational sites were secured for community use via secure community use agreements, there would not be an impact of the shortfalls identified in the Stage C Assessment Report, given that all pitches at the aforementioned sites are considered to be at capacity. Relocating any demand from club home venues to the educational sites, would simply relocate overplay to the school sites.
- 7.5 Whilst not always possible, securing community use through formal use agreements between providers and users would ensure that supply continues to be provided for in the long-term. Where there is potential external investment on school sites, there are opportunities to secure community use as part of the funding or approval agreement. For such agreements, it is important to ensure that provision is both accessible at peak time and affordable. Pitch improvements works would also need to be carried out to ensure there was adequate levels of capacity to support demand from education and sports clubs.

Scenario 16 – The impact on rugby union of the development of a WR22 3G pitch at Egremont RUFC

- 7.6 Through consultation with Egremont RUFC and the RFU, it is apparent that the club aspire to develop a full size WR22 3G pitch on their current site. It is suggested that the club would hold 80% of its activity on the proposed 3G pitch. To ensure the pitch is financially viable, the remaining capacity would need to be satisfied by other activity.

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- 7.7 As of the 2021/22 season Egremont RUFC had 9 teams (1x adult male, 4x junior and 4x mini). The club suggested that 1 adult male and 1 junior team train twice per week and have 1 match each per week. The junior teams, all train once and play once each week. Mini teams will use the pitch simultaneously for 1 hour per week. All teams play home and away fixtures means that they only require match play slots every other week. However, one match play slot for adults will be retained each week in case of rearrange fixtures.
- 7.8 For match play, we can presume that each team requires 1.5 hours and each training session lasts 1 hour. Based on the information provided by the club, this results in 8 hours of training demand per week and 4.5 for match play.
- 7.9 This leaves a total demand from the club for 12.5 hours per week. If, as highlighted earlier, the club were to use the pitch for 80% of their activity, they would generate a demand for 10 hours per week.
- 7.10 A full-size 3G AGP, with full community use (5-9pm Mon-Thur, 5-7pm Fri and 9-5pm weekends), offers 34 hours of peak time availability (18 hours mid-week and 16 hours at weekends), leaving 21.5 hours of spare capacity. This suggests that the development of a 3G pitch would comfortably cater for the needs of Egremont RUFC.
- 7.11 21.5 hours of spare capacity, equates to 0.6 of a full size 3G AGP. When considering only full sized 3G AGPs, there are currently 53 football teams in the north sub area that do not have access to full size 3G provision, which translates to a shortfall of 1.4 pitches. The development of a full size 3G at Egremont RUFC, would help to reduce this deficit to 0.8 full size 3G AGPs.
- 7.12 When considering potential rugby league usage, there are 7 clubs in the north sub-area which currently have a demand for 53 hours of training per week. Rugby league grass pitches in Copeland are significantly overplayed, so moving some training activity to 3G AGPs would help to reduce this. If the spare capacity after Egremont RUFC usage, was available for rugby league teams, then this development could help to meet up to 40% of the training demand for teams in the north sub area.

Scenario 17 – The impact on improved pitch maintenance regimes at Rugby Union club sites in Copeland

- 7.13 This scenario will explore the impact on capacity if pitches rugby union club sites were maintained to a higher standard. An overview of how maintenance affects pitch capacity is provided in table 46.

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Table 47: Match Equivalent Calculation for Rugby Pitches.

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

7.14 Table 48 provides a current breakdown of the rugby union club sites in Copeland.

Table 48: Rugby Union Site Information – Current Pitch Quality

Site Name	Sub area	Ownership	Senior Pitches	Pitch Quality	Current Pitch Quality	Floodlighting
Egremont RUFC	North	Sports Club	1	Good	D3 / M2	Yes
Millom RUFC	South	Sports Club	2	Standard	D1 / M0	Yes (1)
Moresby RUFC	North	Sports Club	1	Poor	D0 / M0	No
St Benedict's RUFC	North	Local Authority	1	Good	D3 / M2	No
Whitehaven Rugby Club	North	Sports Club	2	Standard	D2 / M1	No

7.15 Table 48 shows how this current maintenance score effects training and match play capacity.

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Table 49: Supply and Demand Capacity Balance by Site (All Figures in MES) - Current

Site	Sub Area	Availability	Security	Number of Floodlit Pitches	Mid-Week Day/Training			Weekend Match Day Senior/ Junior			Weekend Match Day Mini		Total Senior/Junior Match Pitch Balance	Unmet Mini Demand Placed on Senior Match Pitches (50% of Senior ME)	Total Senior Match Pitch Balance
					Supply	Demand	Balance	Supply	Demand	Balance	Supply	Demand			
Egremont RUFC	North	Available	Secured	1	0	0	0	3 (3.5)	2.5	0.5	0	1.25	0.5	-1.25	-0.75
Moresby RUFC	North	Available	Secured	0	0	0	0	0.5	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Millom RUFC	South	Available	Secured	1	0	2	-2	4	3.5	0.5	0	0.5	-1.5	-0.5	-2
St Benedict's RFC	North	Available	Secured	0	0	0	0	3 (3.5)	4	-1	0	1	-1	-1	-2
Whitehaven Rugby Club	North	Available	Secured	0	0	0	0	5	1.5	3.5	0	1.25	3.5	-1.25	2.25
Overview of Secure Available Sites				2	0	2	-2	15.5	12	3.5	0	4	1.5	-4	-2.5

7.16 Table 49 shows the impact of all pitch maintenance scores being increased to M2.

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Table 50: Supply and Demand Capacity Balance by Site (All Figures in MES) – Improved pitch maintenance

Site	Sub Area	Availability	Security	Number of Floodlit Pitches	Mid-Week Day/Training			Weekend Match Day Senior/ Junior			Weekend Match Day Mini		Total Senior/Junior Match Pitch Balance	Unmet Mini Demand Placed on Senior Match Pitches (50% of Senior ME)	Total Senior Match Pitch Balance
					Supply	Demand	Balance	Supply	Demand	Balance	Supply	Demand			
Egremont RUFC	North	Available	Secured	1	0	0	0	3 (3.5)	2.5	0.5	0	1.25	0.5	-1.25	-0.75
Moresby RUFC	North	Available	Secured	0	0	0	0	2	0.5	1.5	0	0	1.5	0	1.5
Millom RUFC	South	Available	Secured	1	3	2	1	4	3.5	0.5	0	0.5	1.5	-0.5	1
St Benedict's RFC	North	Available	Secured	0	0	0	0	3 (3.5)	4	-1	0	1	-1	-1	-2
Whitehaven Rugby Club	North	Available	Secured	0	0	0	0	6.5	1.5	5	0	1.25	5	-1.25	3.75
Overview of Secure Available Sites				2	3	2	1	18.5	12	6.5	0	4	7.5	-4	3.5

7.17 Table 50, suggests that by improving maintenance of all pitches, the deficits for training and match play are eradicated and spare capacity is created. There will be 1 MES available for training, 3.5 MES spare for senior and junior match play across Copeland. Table 51 provides a break down of the capacity balance for rugby union pitches in Copeland by sub area.

Table 51: Current Position for All Community Available Rugby Grass Provision – Maintenance Improvements

Sub Area	Current Balance		Current Balance – Improved Maintenance	
	Training	Match	Training	Match
North	0	-0.5	0	2.5
South	-2	0	1	1
Copeland Study Area	-2	-0.5	1	3.5

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- 7.18 This increase in capacity will affect the overall position for grass rugby pitches in the Borough, as highlighted in table 51. In the north, the existing deficit for match play will turn into 2.5 MES of spare capacity. In the south, the current deficit for training and match play would also change into a small level of spare capacity (1 MES).
- 7.19 When considering the future position, the deficit of match play in the north would decrease to -2.5 MES and in the south the deficit would decrease to 0.25 MES. This would leave an improved Copeland-wide deficit of -4 MES for training and -2.75 MES for match play by 2038, if all population growth and latent demand were realised.

Scenario 18 – The installation of drainage systems at all rugby club sites

- 7.20 This scenario will identify the impact of installing formal drainage systems Moresby RUFC to improve these ratings to D2. Although Millom RUFC does not have pipe drainage, it is already classed as D3 due to the quality of soil composition which contributes to good drainage. All other community used pitches already have formal drainage systems in place so will not be changed as part of this scenario. For the purpose of this scenario maintenance scores will not change. Table 58 provides further detail on the capacity of pitches with differing drainage scores.
- 7.21 Table 52 summarises the current maintenance and drainage scores for pitches with community use in Copeland and potential changes due to improvements in pitch drainage.

Table 52: Rugby Site Breakdown

Site Name	Sub area	Senior Pitches	Pitch Quality	Current Pitch Quality	Floodlighting	Current Capacity Per Pitch	Pitch Quality with Improved Drainage	Capacity Per Pitch with Improved Drainage
Egremont RUFC	North	1	Good	D3 / M2	Yes	3.5	D3/M2	3.5
Millom RUFC	South	2	Standard	D3 / M0	Yes (1)	2	D3/M0	2
Moresby RUFC	North	1	Poor	D0 / M0	No	0.5	D2/M0	1.75
St Benedict's RUFC	North	1	Good	D3 / M2	No	3.5	D3 / M2	3.5
Whitehaven Rugby Club	North	2	Standard	D2 / M1	No	2.5	D2 / M1	2.5

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7.22 Table 53 below demonstrates the potential changes in supply and demand balances if drainage systems were installed at club sites across Copeland.

Table 53: Supply and Demand Capacity Balance by Site (All Figures in MES)

Site	Sub Area	Availability	Security	Number of Floodlit Pitches	Mid-Week Day/Training			Weekend Match Day Senior/ Junior			Weekend Match Day Mini		Total Senior/Junior Match Pitch Balance	Unmet Mini Demand Placed on Senior Match Pitches (50% of Senior ME)	Total Senior Match Pitch Balance
					Supply	Demand	Balance	Supply	Demand	Balance	Supply	Demand			
Egremont RUFC	North	Available	Secured	1	0	0	0	3 (3.5)	2.5	0.5	0	1.25	0.5	-1.25	-0.75
Moresby RUFC	North	Available	Secured	0	0	0	0	1.75	0.5	1.25	0	0	1.25	0	1.25
Millom RUFC	South	Available	Secured	1	0	2	-2	4	3.5	0.5	0	0.5	-1.5	-0.5	-2
St Benedict's RFC	North	Available	Secured	0	0	0	0	3 (3.5)	4	-1	0	1	-1	-1	-2
Whitehaven Rugby Club	North	Available	Secured	0	0	0	0	5	1.5	3.5	0	1.25	3.5	-1.25	2.25
Overview of Secure Available Sites				2	0	2	-2	15.5	12	3.5	0	4	1.5	-4	-2.5

7.23 Table 54 shows the impact on capacity in individual sub-areas and Copeland-wide if drainage was installed at each site.

Table 54: Current and Future Position for All Community Available Rugby Grass Provision – Drainage Improvements

Sub Area	Current Balane		Current Balance – Improved Drainage	
	Training	Match	Training	Match
North	0	-0.5	0	0.75
South	-2	0	-2	-0
Copeland Study Area	-2	-0.5	-2	0.75

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- 7.24 The impact on the overall position for capacity as a result of drainage installation, would be minimal. As highlighted in Table 54, although there would be small amount of current spare capacity for match play (0.75 MES), the overall position for rugby provision in Copeland by 2038 would remain in a deficit for both training (-7 MES) and match play (-5.75 MES).
- 7.25 Although the impact of drainage solutions would be low, when done in conjunction with maintenance improvements, the level of additional capacity created would be significant. The Grounds Management Association (GMA), in partnership with the RFU offer clubs the opportunity to develop technical reports and receive maintenance recommendations through their pitch advisory service. If GMA reports were carried out on each site, key recommendations could be provided to clubs on how to improve their pitch quality. It should be a priority for all sites with community use to engage with this service.

Rugby Union Recommendations

- Develop secure community use agreements at education sites in Copeland. This would increase the availability of match play sessions, particularly in the north sub area. Weekend access to Whitehaven Academy, West Lakes Academy and St Benedict's Catholic High would eradicate the current and future match play deficits.
- Improve grass pitch maintenance quality, to increase capacity for training and match play at club sites across Copeland.
- Install a formal drainage solution at Moresby RUFC to increase the capacity for match play on site.
- Develop sports lighting on grass rugby pitches at Moresby RUFC, St Benedict's RUFC and Whitehaven RUFC, to allow for additional mid-week training capacity.
- Secure access to 3G pitch provision, to help meet training demand. This should be considered in both the north and south sub areas. The development of a 3G pitch at Egremont RUFC would satisfy the clubs demand in the north sub area, alleviate overplay on the grass pitch, and provide spare capacity for use from football clubs in the area. However, access to 3G provision in the south sub area is still not available. The proposed resurfacing of the Millom School pitch to a 3G surface, may pose an opportunity for a sharing agreement between football, rugby league and rugby union, if this was desired.
- Protection of all rugby union sites that support community use.
- Additional development and enhancement of ancillary facilities to ensure they meet RFU guidelines and can cater for mini, junior and female activity, whilst upholding safeguarding standards.

8. Copeland Borough Council Planning Consideration Findings

Copeland Borough Council PPS – The impact of increased housing delivery per year

- 8.1 This scenario will explore the impact of increased housing delivery on the supply and demand analysis for 3G AGPs, grass football, rugby union, rugby league and cricket.
- 8.2 When analysing the future population growth in Copeland and how it affects each sport, Stage C considered the impact of 146 houses being developed per year between 2021 and 2038, with an average number of people per house of 2.4. This calculation suggested that the current population of 68,400 (2018 ONS data) would increase by 5,956 (8.7%) to 74,356 by 2038.
- 8.3 This scenario will consider the impact on supply and demand of 200 houses (2.4 people per house) being delivered across the study area per year. This would result in a population increase of 8,160 by 2038, creating a future population of 76,560. This is an 11.9% increase.
- 8.4 By using Team Generation Rates (TGR), it will be possible to see the predicted growth in team numbers for each sport by 2038. The additional teams created will be added to the latent demand predictions to show an increase in the overall demand for each sport and how this relates to the supply of pitches.
- 8.5 All figures have been rounded to the nearest number.

Football

Table 55: Future demand driven by population growth – 200 house delivery per year

Age Groups	Current no. of teams	Current population	Future population (11.9% increase by 2038)	Current TGR*	Population change	Projected team no. change
North Sub-Area						
Adult Men 11v11 (16-45yrs)	28	8857	9911	316	1054	3
Adult Women 11v11 (16-45yrs)	1	8857	9911	8857	1054	0
Youth Boys 11v11 (12-15yrs)	23	1171	1310	50	139	3

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Age Groups	Current no. of teams	Current population	Future population (11.9% increase by 2038)	Current TGR*	Population change	Projected team no. change
Youth Girls 11v11 (12-15yrs)	3	1171	1310	391	139	0
Youth Boys 9v9 (10-11yrs)	18	604	676	34	72	2
Youth Girls 9v9 (10-11yrs)	6	604	676	101	72	1
Mini Soccer Mixed 7v7 (8-9yrs)	54	1223	1369	23	146	6
Mini Soccer Mixed 5v5 (6-7yrs)	34	1223	1369	36	146	4
North - Total projected new teams by 2038						19
Central Sub-Area						
Adult Men 11v11 (16-45yrs)	3	1036	1159	345	123	0
Adult Women 11v11 (16-45yrs)	0	1036	1159	0	123	0
Youth Boys 11v11 (12-15yrs)	0	145	162	0	17	0
Youth Girls 11v11 (12-15yrs)	0	145	162	0	17	0
Youth Boys 9v9 (10-11yrs)	0	75	84	0	9	0
Youth Girls 9v9 (10-11yrs)	0	75	84	0	9	0
Mini Soccer Mixed 7v7 (8-9yrs)	0	150	168	0	18	0
Mini Soccer Mixed 5v5 (6-7yrs)	1	150	168	150	18	0
Central - Total projected new teams by 2038						0
South Sub-Area						
Adult Men 11v11 (16-45yrs)	6	925	1035	154	110	1
Adult Women 11v11 (16-45yrs)	0	925	1035	0	110	0
Youth Boys 11v11 (12-15yrs)	3	136	152	45	16	0
Youth Girls 11v11 (12-15yrs)	0	136	152	0	16	0
Youth Boys 9v9 (10-11yrs)	4	71	79	17	8	0

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Age Groups	Current no. of teams	Current population	Future population (11.9% increase by 2038)	Current TGR*	Population change	Projected team no. change
Youth Girls 9v9 (10-11yrs)	0	71	79	0	8	0
Mini Soccer Mixed 7v7 (8-9yrs)	2	127	142	64	15	0
Mini Soccer Mixed 5v5 (6-7yrs)	4	127	142	32	15	0
South - Total projected new teams by 2038						1

- 8.6 Table 55 indicates that the north sub area is projected to see the largest increase in team numbers, where it is predicted there will be a requirement of 19 new teams to meet demand created by population growth by 2038. When compared to growth predicted based on 146 houses per year, this is an increase of 4 additional teams.
- 8.7 The central sub area will see no increased growth, even when factoring in housing growth of 200 houses per year. The south sub area will see a demand for 1 additional team, which is the same as when considering the smaller amount of housing development.
- 8.8 Table 54 demonstrates that there is an anticipated total increase of 20 teams across all sub areas in Copeland due to population growth, based on 200 houses per year. This is an increase of 4 teams when compared to the figures generated by the 146 houses per year calculation.
- 8.9 Tables 56 below shows, how the additional demand generated through population growth will be allocated throughout different age groups and sub areas. The data, shown in MES, assumes that teams will require access to 1MES every two weeks, as they will play alternatively home and away.

Table 56: Future demand driven by population growth by sub area in MES – 200 house delivery per year.

Local Authority Area	Adult 11v11		Youth 11v11		Youth 9v9		Mini		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	Mixed 7v7	Mixed 5v5	
North	1.5	0	1.5	0	1	0.5	3	2	9.5
Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5
Copeland	2	0	1.5	0	1	0.5	3	2	10

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- 8.10 Based on the population growth predictions, there is likely to be an additional 10 MES of demand for grass football provision in Copeland by 2038. This is an increase of 2 MES from the 146 house per year calculations. 9.5 MES of this additional demand is located in the north sub area, with the largest increase generated by 7v7 and 5v5 age groups.
- 8.11 Tables 57, 58, 59 and 60 below show how the additional demand generated through population growth will affect the capacity balances of all pitch types in each sub area. Each table will include a comparison between predicted growth based on both 146 and 200 house per year development. Latent demand predictions remain consistent.

Table 57: Adult 11v11 Supply and Demand Analysis - Peak. All Figures in MES

Analysis Area	Current position	Unmet/Latent demand	Population growth demand (146 houses per year)	Future position (146 houses per year)	Population growth demand (200 houses per year)	Future position (200 houses per year)
North	-13	3.5	1	-17.5	1.5	-18
Central	-2.5	0	0	-2.5	0	-2.5
South	-1	0	0.5	-1.5	0.5	-1.5
Copeland	-16.5	3.5	1.5	-21.5	2	-22

Table 58: Youth 11v11 Supply and Demand Analysis - Peak. All Figures in MES

Analysis Area	Current position	Unmet/Latent demand	Population growth demand (146 houses per year)	Future position (146 houses per year)	Population growth demand (200 houses per year)	Future position (200 houses per year)
North	-6.25	2.5	1	-9.75	1.5	-10.25
Central	0	0	0	0	0	0
South	1	0.5	0	0.5	0	0.5
Copeland	-5.25	3	1	-9.25	1.5	-9.75

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Table 59: Youth 9v9 Supply and Demand Analysis - Peak. All Figures in MES

Analysis Area	Current position	Unmet/Latent demand	Population growth demand (146 houses per year)	Future position (146 houses per year)	Population growth demand (200 houses per year)	Future position (200 houses per year)
North	-14	1.25	1.5	-16.75	2	-17.25
Central	0	0	0	0	0	0
South	0	0	0	0	0	0
Copeland	-14	1.25	1.5	-16.75	2	-17.25

Table 60: Mini 7v7 Supply and Demand Analysis - Peak. All Figures in MES

Analysis Area	Current position	Unmet/Latent demand	Population growth demand (146 houses per year)	Future position (146 houses per year)	Population growth demand (200 houses per year)	Future position (200 houses per year)
North	-7	0.75	1.25	-9	3	-10.75
Central	2	0	0	2	0	2
South	3	0	0	3	0	3
Copeland	-2	0.75	1.25	-4	3	-5.75

- 8.12 There are currently no 5v5 grass pitches in Copeland, highlighting that all 5v5 demand is being met on larger pitches. There are currently 39 5v5 teams in Copeland, however based on latent demand and population growth due to an additional 200 houses per year, there is likely to be a demand for 46 5v5 teams by 2038. As demand is being met by larger pitches, each 5v5 team is allocated 0.25 MES per week, resulting in a demand of 11.5 MES per week by 2038. This is 0.25 MES higher than when only calculating for 146 houses being built per year.
- 8.13 Table 61 below provides a summary of the capacity balance position for each pitch type across Copeland, including a comparison between figures based on 146 houses per year and 200 houses per year.

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Table 61: Summary of Supply and Demand Copeland Peak time of Play

Analysis Area	Current position	Unmet/Latent demand	Population growth demand (146 houses per year)	Future position (146 houses per year)	Population growth demand (200 houses per year)	Future position (200 houses per year)
Adult 11v11	-16.5	3.5	1.5	-21.5	2	-22
Youth 11v11	-5.25	3	1	-9.25	1.5	-9.75
Youth 9v9	-14	1.25	1.5	-16.75	2	-17.25
Mini 7v7	-2	0.75	1.25	-4	3	-5.75
Mini 5v5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-37.75	8.5	5.25	-51.5	8.5	-54.75

- 8.14 Table 61 shows that there is an increase of 3.25 MES in the overall, Copeland-wide, deficit when factoring in the higher level of house building.
- 8.15 The largest impact is seen in the mini 7v7 pitch type, where there is 1.75 MES of additional demand. Adult 11v11, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 all see an increase in demand of only 0.5 MES per week.
- 8.16 When considering 146 houses being developed per year until 2038, there is predicted to be an overall deficit of -51.5 MES across all pitch types in Copeland. If the increased level of 200 houses of development per year is factored in, the shortfall of grass pitch provision in Copeland rises to -54.75 MES per week.

3G Artificial Grass Pitches

- 8.17 As highlighted at Stage C there are currently 3 full size 3G AGPs in Copeland, all of which are located in the north sub area, at Whitehaven AFC, St Benedict's Catholic High School and Cleator Moor Activity Centre. Using the FA's suggested ratio of 1:38, these pitches can cater for 114 teams. As there are 167 teams in the north sub area alone, and 190 across Copeland, this clearly highlights a current shortfall of -2 in full size 3G provision. This is outlined in Table 61 below.
- 8.18 However, when also considering small sided 3G provision, an additional 50 teams can be catered for, resulting in a deficit of -0.7 3G pitches in Copeland. This is also highlights in Table 61.
- 8.19 Table 62 also demonstrates the impact of future demand on the capacity balance. This takes into account additional teams from latent demand predictions and population growth based on 146 new dwellings per year until 2038.

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Table 62: Current position of 3G AGPs in Copeland – 146 houses per year

Sport	Current demand		Future Demand 2038 – 146 dwellings per year	Future Demand 2038 – 200 dwellings per year
	Analysis Sub Area	Shortfall in Provision (No. of full size equivalent pitches)	Shortfall in Provision (No. of full size equivalent pitches)	Shortfall in Provision (No. of full size equivalent pitches)
Football 3G AGPs – Full Size Only	North	-1.4	-2.4	-2.5
	Central	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
	South	-0.5	-0.6	-0.6
	Copeland Total	-2	-3.1	-3.2
Football 3G AGPs – Including small sided	North	-0.1	-1.1	-1.2
	Central	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
	South	-0.5	-0.6	-0.6
	Copeland Total	-0.7	-1.8	-1.9

- 8.20 When considering latent demand and 146 new dwellings per year, 42 additional teams were predicted. 38 of these teams were located in the north sub area and 4 in the south. As is shown in table 61, this equates to the need for an extra 1 full size 3G AGP in the north, and 0.1 in the south.
- 8.21 However, if the larger number of housing development is taken into consideration, there will be an additional 46 teams, 42 of which will be located in the north and 4 in the south. As table 53 shows, this would create a need for an additional 1.1 full size 3G AGPs in the north, and 0.1 in the south.
- 8.22 When only considering full size 3G pitches and factoring in 200 dwellings per year, there will be a shortfall of -3.2 in the study area by 2038, 2.5 of which is located in the north sub area. Copeland-wide, this is 0.1 higher than when only considering 146 dwellings per year.
- 8.23 If small sided 3G pitches are also accounted for, then there is predicted to be deficit of 1.9 3G AGPs across Copeland by 2038. Again, this is only 0.1 higher than when calculating for 146 houses being developed per year.

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Rugby League

- 9.1. Table 63 below highlights the current number of rugby league teams, by sex and age group, current population of each age range and current team generation rate (TGR). The table also shows the future population based on housing growth of 200 dwellings per year until 2038 (11.9% increase). Based on this predicted population growth, we can calculate the number of potential new teams that will be generated by 2038.
- 9.2. As stated in stage C, 4 additional teams have been factored into the growth projections to account for the growth in women's and girls' rugby.

Table 63: Future Demand Projections for Rugby League Teams in Copeland

Age group	Current Population 2018	Current Teams	TGR	Future Population (11.9% increase)	Population Change	Potential New Teams	Total Teams in 2038
Rugby League Adult Men (19-45yrs)	9832	15	655	11002	1170	2	17
Rugby League Adult Women (19-45yrs)	9832	0	0	11002	1170	2	2
Rugby League Junior Boys (12-18yrs)	2428	18	135	2716	289	2	20
Rugby League Junior Girls (12-18yrs)	2428	0	0	2716	289	2	2
Rugby League Minis (7-11yrs)	3750	33	114	4196	446	4	37
Total						12	78

- 9.3. Compared with predictions based on 146 new dwellings per year, there is likely to be an additional 2 teams by 2038, resulting in a total of 78 teams across Copeland. The additional teams are generated in the adult male and mini age groups.
- 9.4. Tables 64 and 65 show the current and future positions for rugby league, based on TGR calculations for 146 dwellings per year and 200 dwellings per year. The tables are also split by sub area. There is no rugby league provision in the central sub area.

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Table 64: Current and future position – 146 dwellings per year

Analysis Area	Site capacity MPS	Current demand MPS	Current position MPS	Total Future demand – 146 dwellings per year	Future position
North	25	73.5	-48.5	75.75	-50.75
South	8	24.25	-16.25	25.25	-17.25
Total - Copeland	33	97.75	-64.75	101	-68

Table 65: Current and future position – 200 dwellings per year

Analysis Area	Site capacity MPS	Current demand MPS	Current position MPS	Total Future demand – 200 dwellings per year	Future position
North	25	73.5	-48.5	76.75	-51.75
South	8	24.25	-16.25	25.25	-17.25
Total - Copeland	33	97.75	-64.75	102	-69

- 9.5. As there is only a small increase in the predicted growth of teams between the two housing scenarios, there is limited impact on the future position. The significant deficit of -68 MES per week, increases only slightly to -69 MES per week when considering an increase in the number of houses to be developed.

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Rugby Union

- 10.1. As with other sports above, Table 65 below highlights the current number of rugby union teams, by sex and age group, current population of each age range and current team generation rate (TGR). The table also shows the future population based on housing growth of 200 dwellings per year until 2038 (11.9% increase). Based on this predicted population growth, we can calculate the number of potential new teams that will be generated by 2038.

Table 66: Future Demand Projections for Rugby Union Teams in Copeland Based on TGR Data

North Sub Area							
Age Group	No. of teams	Current population in age group	Future population (11.9% increase)	Current TGR	Population Change	Potential Change in Team no.	Total teams by 2038
Rugby Union Senior Men (19-45yrs)	6	8062	9021	1461	959	1	7
Rugby Union Senior Women (19-45yrs)	0	8062	9021	0	959	0	0
Rugby Union Youth Boys (13-18yrs)	11	1664	1862	151	198	1	12
Rugby Union Youth Girls (13-18yrs)	0	1664	1862	0	198	0	0
Rugby Union Mini/Midi Mixed (7-12yrs)	14	3646	4080	260	434	2	16
South Sub Area							
Age Group	No. of teams	Current population in age group	Future population (11.9% increase)	Current TGR	Population Change	Potential Change in Team no.	Total teams by 2038
Rugby Union Senior Men (19-45yrs)	2	835	934	416	99	0	2
Rugby Union Senior Women (19-45yrs)	0	835	934	0	99	0	0
Rugby Union Youth Boys (13-18yrs)	5	192	215	38	23	1	6
Rugby Union Youth Girls (13-18yrs)	0	192	215	0	23	0	0
Rugby Union Mini/Midi Mixed (7-12yrs)	2	403	451	202	48	0	2
Total – Copeland						5	45

- 10.2. Table 66 predicts that there will be an increase of 5 rugby union teams due to population growth by 2038, resulting in a total of 45 teams. This is 2 teams higher than the growth predictions based of 146 dwellings per year.

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- 10.3. Table 67 shows the population growth figures, alongside latent demand projections. Given the strategic priority of England Rugby (RFU) to increase women and girls' rugby across the country, a projected increase of 1 senior women's team has been added to the future growth projections. In addition to this, 3 junior girls' teams have also been added to the future growth projections. This projected growth in female rugby union has been allocated to the north sub area to reflect the current distribution in participation.

Table 67: Future Growth – Population Growth and Latent Demand for Rugby Union in Copeland – Team Numbers

Sub Area	Adult Male	Adult Female	Youth Boys	Youth Girls	Mini/Midi	Total
North	3	1	5	3	2	14
South	1	0	2	0	1	4
Total	4	1	7	3	3	18

- 10.4. Table 67 suggests that there will be a total of 18 new teams by 2038, due to population growth (200 dwellings per year), latent demand and the growth of female rugby union. 14 of these teams will be generated in the north sub area, and 4 in the south. There will remain no provision in the central area.
- 10.5. Table 68 sets out the current balance for training and match play, the projected balance based on 146 dwellings per year and the projected balance based on 200 dwellings per year.

Table 68: Current and Future Position for All Community Available Rugby Grass Provision

Sub Area	Current Balance		Projected Balance – 146 dwellings per year		Projected Balance – 200 dwellings per year	
	Training	Match	Training	Match	Training	Match
North	0	-0.5	-5	-5.75	-6.5	-7
South	-2	0	-2	-1.25	-3.75	-1.75
Copeland Study Area	-2	-0.5	-7	-7	-10.25	-8.75

- 10.6. By increasing the number of houses built per year, the deficit of both training and match play availability increases. The shortfall for training worsens by 3.25 MES per week. The shortfall for match play worsens by 1.75 MES per week. Across Copeland there is predicted to be a deficit of -10.25 MES for training and -8.75 MES for match play.

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Cricket

11.1. Table 69 below highlights the current number of rugby union teams, by sex and age group, current population of each age range and current team generation rate (TGR). The table also shows the future population based on housing growth of 200 dwellings per year until 2038 (11.9% increase). Based on this predicted population growth, we can calculate the number of potential new teams that will be generated by 2038.

Table 69: Impact of Population Projections on the Need for Cricket Provision in Copeland (TGRs by Sub Area)

North Sub Area						
Age group	No. of teams in age group within the area	Current population in age group within the area	Future population. in age group within the area (11.9% increase)	Current TGR	Population Change in Age Group	Change in Team Numbers in Age Group (numbers rounded up or down)
Cricket Open Age Men's (18-55yrs)	10	12,241	13,698	1224	1457	1
Cricket Open Age Women's (18-55yrs)	0	12,241	13,698	0	1457	2
Cricket Junior Boys(7-18yrs)	8	3,222	3605	402	383	1
Cricket Junior Girls (7-18yrs)	0	3,222	3605	0	383	0
Total						4

Central Sub Area						
Age group	No. of teams in age group within the area	Current population in age group within the area	Future population. in age group within the area (11.9% increase)	Current TGR	Population Change in Age Group	Change in Team Numbers in Age Group (numbers rounded up or down)
Cricket Open Age Men's (18-55yrs)	4	1,566	1752	392	186	0
Cricket Open Age Women's (18-55yrs)	0	1,566	1752	0	186	0
Cricket Junior Boys (7-18yrs)	1	401	449	401	48	0
Cricket Junior Girls (7-18yrs)	0	401	449	0	48	0
Total						0

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South Sub Area						
Age group	No. of teams in age group within the area	Current population in age group within the area	Future population. in age group within the area (11.9% increase)	Current TGR	Population Change in Age Group	Change in Team Numbers in Age Group (numbers rounded up or down)
Cricket Open Age Men's (18-55yrs)	4	1,260	1410	315	150	0
Cricket Open Age Women's (18-55yrs)	0	1,260	1410	0	150	1
Cricket Junior Boys (7-18yrs)	4	363	406	91	43	0
Cricket Junior Girls (7-18yrs)	0	363	406	0	43	1
Total						2

11.2. After calculating the team generation rates based on the new housing figures of 200 dwellings per year from 2021 to 2038, it is evident that there is no change in the number of teams when compared to population growth generated by the development of 146 dwellings per year. Therefore, the total wicket analysis, as stated in the cricket section of stage C, and highlighted again in table 69, remains valid.

Table 70: Current and Future Position for Adult Grass Wickets

Analysis Area	Site capacity	Current demand	Current position	Total Future demand	Future position
North	210	139	71	193	17
Central	48	40	8	56	-8
South	121	82	39	150	-29
Total - Copeland	379	261	118	399	-20

9. Tennis Overview

Table 71: Key PPS Findings for Tennis in Copeland

Key Question	Analysis
What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?	Courts are distributed well throughout the study area, with 6 sites in the more densely populated areas of the north and south and three in the more rural central area. Of the 21 courts available for community use, 16 are of good or standard quality. Club sites are operating at 46% capacity and public courts at 16.5% capacity. There are no floodlit courts in the study area.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?	There is enough accessible community use provision to meet current demand. There is a total monthly demand from members and non-members of 491 sessions. This means that courts in Copeland are operating at around 11.1% capacity.
Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?	<p>5 courts are rated as poor quality, which equates to 23.8% of the total supply. Of these 5 courts, 2 (40%) are located in the south sub area, and 3 (60%) are located in the north. 47.6% of courts are rated as good and the generally the maintenance of courts in Copeland is adequate. The court at Haverigg has been highlighted by the LTA as a priority for funding to improve the quality of the surface, however the LTA's Parks investment funding may be difficult to access due to it being a single court site.</p> <p>Another key LTA priority in the area is to maintain access to and protect the courts for Whitehaven Community Tennis Club at Whitehaven Academy. Although the courts are rated as 'poor' quality, they cater for a substantial amount of demand from the tennis club. The club would benefit from an improvement of the courts as will be provided by the new development at Whitehaven Academy. However the LTA still believe it is important to protect the existing courts, as it is unclear of the amount of use that will be secured for the club on the new courts.</p>
What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?	<p>If participation continues to grow in line with population the playing population will increase by 8.7%. This means that club sites are estimated to be operating at 50% of capacity and public courts at 17.9% of capacity in the future. However, WCTC operates in a different way as it operates out of an education site, therefore does not have access to courts during curriculum time.</p> <p>However it must be noted as Whitehaven Community Tennis Club operate out of Whitehaven Academy, their access is limited to outside of school hours. Due to this the actual utilisation of accessible time at club sites may be significantly higher.</p>
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?	Even when considering population growth to 2038, there is expected to be enough secured community use provision to meet future demand. However depending on where the growth from development in the Local Plan is to be located this may need to be considered in any PPS annual reviews or future new Playing Pitch Strategies.

Recommendations for Tennis

1. Protect existing quantity of tennis courts and community access to them. This includes gaining security of tenure on sites without long-term agreements in place (Whitehaven Academy). Responsibility of CBC, Sports Club, Facility Owners.
2. Improve the quality of the public courts in Haverigg
3. Support grounds staff to review quality issues on courts to ensure appropriate quality is achieved at sites assessed as standard and sustained at sites assessed as good. Responsibility of, LTA, CBC and Sports Clubs where appropriate.
4. Ensure club future demand can be accommodated on existing supply of courts. Responsibility of LTA, CBC and Sports Clubs where appropriate.
5. Ensure that any large housing developments provide for tennis and need is assessed by use of Sport England's ANOG Guidance.
6. Where developments would benefit from floodlights on site to provide additional evening capacity, work with facility owners to determine the viability of these investments.

10. Netball Overview

Table 72: Key PPS Findings for Netball in Copeland

Key Question	Analysis
What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?	All outdoor netball provision is situated on education premises, of which there are 5 sites with a total of 8 courts. Although there is a successful netball league within Copeland, all netball activity occurs indoors as there are no floodlit courts in the study area.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?	Although there are 8 outdoor courts, all of good or standard quality, 3 of the courts, all on primary school sites are unavailable to the community. None of the courts are suitable for formal netball provision due to the lack of floodlights.
Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?	The available courts at St Benedict's Catholic High are rated as good, while the courts at Millom School are of standard quality, neither of the sites have floodlit courts. St Benedict's Catholic High is an excellent site, with 3 newly laid artificial courts.
What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?	Whilst almost all current provision takes place indoors, there could be significant capacity on the available outdoor courts to meet any future demand, if floodlighting was installed.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?	62.5% of outdoor courts are available for community use. However as there is no regular formal netball activity taking place on them, there is no security currently. England Netball encourage all outdoor and indoor netball activity, however due to poor weather conditions during the winter, outdoor courts are often not appropriate or preferred for use. Due to this, and the lack of floodlighting on courts in Copeland, England Netball accept that all netball activity currently is met by indoor facilities.

Recommendations for Netball

1. Protect existing quantity of netball courts. Responsibility of CBC, Sports Club, Facility Owners.
2. Ensure club future demand can be accommodated on through existing indoor provision and supplemented through existing supply of outdoor courts, working with facility owners/managers to provide both indoor and outdoor netball. Responsibility of England Netball, CBC and Sports Clubs where appropriate.
3. Ensure that any large housing developments provide for netball, need should be assessed by use of Sport England's ANOG Guidance.
4. Where developments would benefit from floodlights on site to provide additional evening capacity, work with facility owners to determine the viability of these investments.

11. Outdoor Bowls Overview

Table 73: Key PPOSS Findings for Bowls in Copeland

Key Question	Analysis
What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?	There are currently 6 sites across Copeland with 7 greens and a total of 36 rinks. There are 6 clubs in the Study Area with a total estimated membership of 125 players. 5 of the 7 greens in Copeland are located in the North sub area, with Seascale being located in the central area and Millom Park in the south. Due to population and club membership statistics, we understand that the majority of the demand is also generated in the north sub area, due to areas of higher population density such as Whitehaven, Cleator Moor and Egremont.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?	All 6 sites in the study are secured for community use, and most are operating under their capacity. Club's membership figures were negatively affected by the Covid pandemic and some have difficulty attracting new members due to financial and volunteering pressures, however due to initiatives such as Bowls Big Weekend, membership may begin to rise.
Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?	Of the 6 available sites, 5 were rated as good quality and the other rated as standard. Maintenance of the greens is thought to be of good to adequate level despite most of the clubs relying on volunteers. Seascale, Cleator Moor and Whitehaven clubs all have good quality ancillary facilities, whilst Egremont is rated as standard. Frizington and Millom Park's ancillary facilities are both rated as poor due to lack of infrastructure and quality.
What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?	Future population projections indicate a potential of 15 additional players by 2038. There are no proposed changes to the current provision.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?	The potential increase in demand of 15 participants by 2038 is able to be met by the current green and club supply.

Recommendations for Outdoor Bowls

1. Protect existing quantity of all facilities. Responsibility of CBC, Sports Club, Facility Owners.
2. Support grounds staff to review quality issues on greens to ensure appropriate quality is achieved at sites assessed as standard and sustained at sites assessed as good. Responsibility of Bowls bodies, CBC and Sports Clubs where appropriate.
3. Ensure club future demand can be accommodated on existing supply of greens. Responsibility of Bowls bodies, CBC and Sports Clubs where appropriate.

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4. Work with clubs and bowls bodies to further assess the need for improved ancillary facilities at Frizington and Millom Park.
5. Work with clubs to support development and growth of the sport.

12. Summary of Recommendations

Table 74: Summary of Recommendations

Objective	Recommendation
<p>OBJECTIVE 1: To protect the existing supply of outdoor sports facilities to meet current and future needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation 1: Ensure, that all existing outdoor sports facilities are protected through the implementation of local planning policy; • Recommendation 2: Secure tenure and access to sites for participation-focused development clubs, through a range of solutions and partnership agreements; and • Recommendation 3: Ensure continued use of education facilities where there is a need, these should have long-term security agreements where possible.
<p>OBJECTIVE 2: To enhance outdoor sports provision and ancillary facilities through improving quality and management of sites</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation 4: Improve quality of playing pitches and ancillary facilities; • Recommendation 5: Work with facility owners, operators and sports clubs to ensure there is an appropriate maintenance regime on all pitches being improved • Recommendation 6: Secure external funding in partnership with other stakeholders; and • Recommendation 7: Secure developer contributions.
<p>OBJECTIVE 3: To provide new outdoor sports facilities where there is current or future demand to do so</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation 8: Identify opportunities to add to the overall stock to accommodate both current and future demand; and • Recommendation 9: Rectify quantitative shortfalls through the current stock. • Recommendation 10: develop facilities in the area of greatest demand to minimise travel time for residents

13. Action Plan

16.1. The Sport Specific Action Plan provides individual sport recommendations and individual site recommendations by geographic area and reflect the outcomes of the scenarios and identified quantitative and quality improvements identified in Section 3 and in Section 4 of this report.

16.2. The Sport Specific and Individual Site Action Plans are given timescales to deliver:

Short Term Delivered against or worked towards within three years (ahead of the first full review of the PPS);	Medium Term. Delivered within 6 years; and	Long Term. No specific date – In many instances the action is an aspiration and is general support for clubs or other bodies to progress with and is not an action the Council or the Playing Pitch Steering Group have control over.
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16.3. The strategic actions within the Sport Specific Action Plan have also been ranked as low, medium, or high based on cost. These are based on Sport England’s estimated facility costs. The range in which these sit are:

(L) - Low - less than £50k	(M) - Medium - £50k-£250k	(H) - High £250k and above
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16.4. In addition to using the planning system to lever in developer contributions, it is recognised that external partner funding will need to be sought to deliver much of the action plan. Although seeking developer contributions in applicable situations and other local funding/community schemes could go some way towards meeting deficiencies and/or improving provision, other potential/match sources of funding should be investigated e.g. look to apply for grants and work with NGBs and Sport England to seek partnership funding for several projects.

16.5. It is important that the PPS Steering Group keep this strategy alive. This will be achieved by:

- Monitoring the delivery of the recommendations and actions;
- Providing up to date annual supply and demand for pitch stock; and
- Addressing changing trends and formats for the different pitch sports as they develop and monitoring participation of these changes and trends.