

Torbay Playing Pitch Strategy

November 2022

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Table of Contents

1 INTRODUCTION	3
Rationale and scope.....	3
Typology and Study Area	4
Delivering Change	7
2 STRATEGY VISION AND THEMES.....	7
3 STRATEGY FOCUS AND PRIORITIES.....	10
A FOOTBALL	11
B CRICKET	20
C RUGBY	25
D HOCKEY	30
E ATHLETICS	33
F TENNIS.....	36
G NETBALL	40
H BOWLS.....	42
I ARCHERY.....	44
J OTHER SPORTS.....	45
4 DELIVERY OF STRATEGIC SITES - OPTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES.....	46
5 DELIVERY OF THE STRATEGY	48
APPENDIX 1: THE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY “TEN STEP APPROACH” TO DEVELOPING A PPS.....	62
APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY OF PITCH SPORT DATA	63
APPENDIX 3: PROPOSALS FOR PITCH PROVISION AT TORBAY SCHOOLS	72
GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND PITCH SIZES.....	75

1 INTRODUCTION

Rationale and scope

1.1 A Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) plays a number of important roles in sport, leisure and planning terms, and also has a direct link into the health and wellbeing agenda both in relation to formal club-based sport but also social, casual and informal sport aimed at getting people more active (with positive outcomes for mental as well as physical health). This PPS will play a vital role in encouraging increased sporting activity and promoting health and wellbeing in Torbay by helping to ensure that there is a good supply of high-quality playing pitch facilities to meet the current and future needs of the area's residents. Torbay Council as a major sports facility landowner, motivator and manager will play a key role in the delivery of the Strategy.

1.2 At its basic level, the PPS provides an audit of the quality, quantity and accessibility of playing pitches, establishes the current levels of demand (and therefore whether pitches are being over or under used), and projects forward demand likely to arise by the end of the strategy period (2040) so that the appropriate pitch and facility provision can be planned for the future. What the strategy does not and cannot do is provide a precise blueprint for change to 2040. The strategy can present options based on evidence and the assessment of it (and indeed recommendations) but cannot do the work necessary (for example, logistical, feasibility and viability work) required to confirm actions with 100% certainty and make things happen 'on the ground'.

1.3 Delivery of the strategy and its recommendations will be the responsibility of various bodies (such as Torbay Council, sports governing bodies and Sport England) and other key stakeholders (such as clubs, providers, owners and managers of pitches) following the strategy's adoption. The delivery stage of the PPS (known as "Stage E" in the Sport England guidance) should include six monthly meetings of the Steering Group (which will become a Delivery Group) to monitor, action and help deliver change. A wider strategy review should take place every 3 years. This strategy has been developed following the steps set out in the Sport England Guidance (see Appendix 1 for a summary of the steps).

1.4 The Torbay Local Plan (adopted in 2015) runs to 2030 and the Council is in the early stages of consulting on an update to this plan. It has been agreed that the Torbay PPS will have a forward-looking scenario to 2040 to ensure facilities and land are safeguarded if likely to be required. In order to provide a 'future proof' scenario, the longer-term population estimate for planning for pitches uses the current ONS population data with a potential housing growth adjustment. This conservative estimate of a population of 145,900 people in 2028 (5 year time frame for the PPS) and 160,420 to 2040 ensures that under-provision is not 'baked in' to the Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan for future plans. It is stressed that these numbers are only

for providing a scenario for longer term estimations of sports team generation for playing pitches and are not intended for planning for or assessing housing land supply.

1.5 An analysis of ONS population projections across the different age ranges for Torbay 2022 - 2040 shows that there will be a relative decline in the U10s age group and that the proportion of the population in the 10-34 year old age group will stay mostly the same, so proportionately little demand will be fed by an increase in young people. An ageing population of the scale presented highlights the growing challenges in Torbay for increasing participation in sport and physical activity, as well as for the health and caring services and for access to transport and other everyday activities.

1.6 Ensuring that deprived areas have easy access to high quality physical activity opportunities is a driving force behind health and wellbeing initiatives in the Bay. The existing high levels of deprivation in areas of Torbay have become more urgent to address in 2022, accelerated and exacerbated by the cost-of-living crisis and recently recognised by Torbay Council in its declaration of a 'Cost of Living Emergency' in the Bay. Analysis of how many young people live within 20 minutes' walk of some of the key sports locations within Torbay and the relative deprivation of these catchment areas demonstrates that sports facilities at Torquay Academy, Barton Downs and Paignton Academy are especially valuable in addressing the activity and sporting needs of deprived areas. The Strategy should prioritise addressing basic deficiencies and poor-quality facilities on sites such as these (and others within areas of high deprivation) which are well located to serve their local communities and where there is demonstrable demand for their continued use or reintroduction of formal sport.

1.7 The most recent Active Lives Survey (May 2020 to 2021) (recorded during the first Covid-19 lockdown) indicates that Torbay had a slightly higher percentage of residents in the Active (150+ minutes a week activity) category compared to England as a whole (63% compared to 61%), but less than in the county of Devon (67%). The 'Torbay on the Move' project is focusing on encouraging people to become more active, and this PPS will be an important component of this initiative.

Typology and Study Area

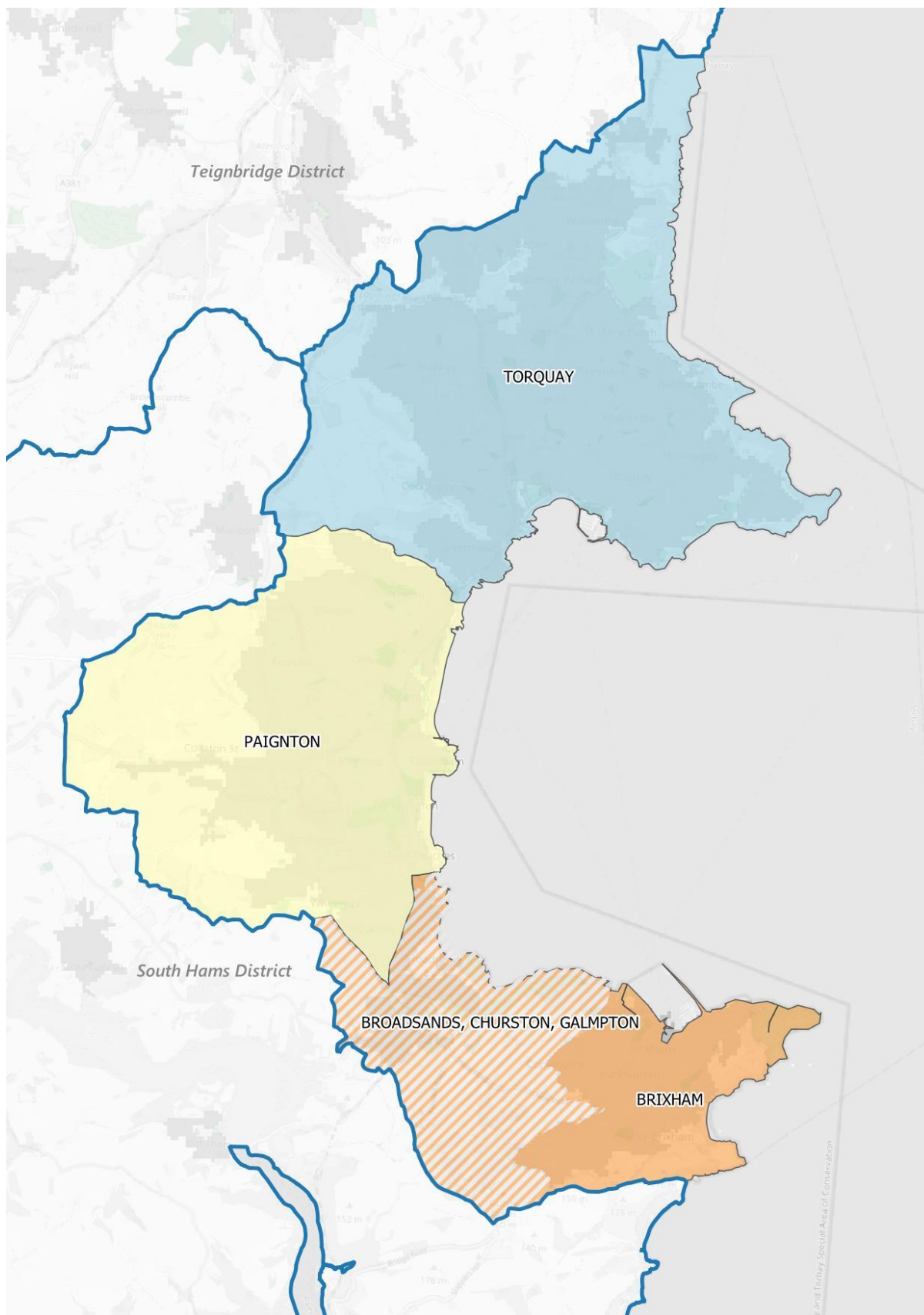
1.8 This Playing Pitch Strategy focuses on the "main" playing pitch sports of football, cricket, rugby union and hockey, and also demand for outdoor tennis, bowls and netball. Within this

context, grass and artificial pitch surfaces have been considered¹. The assessment has also explored options for athletics and archery alongside these other sports given the potential relationship between facilities used by these sports and sites used by the main pitch sports.

1.9 The PPS has been developed for Torbay, following the Torbay Council boundary. Action Plans are presented according to Neighbourhood Plan areas as follows: Torquay, Paignton, Brixham and Broadsands, Churston and Galmpton (as shown in Map 1 below).

¹ where football uses grass and artificial (3G) surfaces for matches and training and sand-based artificial pitches for informal / casual play and training, where rugby uses grass but can use 3G surfaces for non-contact training through to full contact training and matches on WR22 compliant 3G surfaces (where they have a shock pad and senior rugby pitch dimensions), where hockey uses sand-based artificial surfaces, and cricket predominantly use grass for matches and grass and artificial pitches (wickets / strips) for training and sometimes youth matches, supplemented by fixed nets (depends very much on the club and quality of facilities).

Map 1: NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREAS AND TORBAY BOROUGH BOUNDARY



Delivering Change

1.10 This strategy provides a “direction of travel” for the necessary improvements to better cater for the needs of pitch sports in Torbay in the period to 2040. In doing so, it proposes various actions and interventions to enable change to take place for the benefit of Torbay’s residents and sport as a whole. However, the strategy cannot provide all of the answers and it will take continuing work by Torbay Council and the wider Steering Group which has overseen this Strategy’s development - as a ‘Delivery Group’ - working with other key partners to develop, finalise and deliver proposed projects and options after this Strategy is adopted. Section 4 provides further detail on the focus for this Group moving forward.

2 STRATEGY VISION AND THEMES

2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (revised July 2021) requires that planning policy making and decision taking should consider the role of health and wellbeing in planning and has stringent policies around the protection of playing fields², the disposal of which can only be considered if robust evidence can be provided to support alternative, equal and replacement provision. Para 99 of the NPPF states that:

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

- a) an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly*
- b) 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*
- c) the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.*

2.2 Section 8 as a whole of the NPPF focuses on promoting healthy and safe communities and particularly since local authorities took on new public health responsibilities in 2013, an increasing

² A playing field is defined (in planning terms) as “the whole of a site which encompasses at least one playing pitch”. A playing pitch may have either a natural or artificial grass surface and is defined as “a delineated area which, together with any run-off area, is of 0.2 hectares or more, and which is used for association football, American football, rugby, cricket, hockey, lacrosse, rounders, baseball, softball, Australian football, Gaelic football, shinty, hurling, polo or cycle polo.”

range of statutory, corporate and planning documents, including Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), Sport England and National Governing Body (NGB) strategies, reiterate the importance of creating healthy environments which can support and benefit people's wellbeing – both physical and mental.

2.3 A variety of national policy documents set the scene for the Strategy in this report. These include: 'Sport England's Playing Fields Policy and Guidance (2018; updated December 2021); and Sport England's 'Planning for Sport Guidance' (2019) which sets out 12 guiding principles under the three objectives of 'Protect, Enhance and Provide'. Its new 10 Year Strategy: 'Uniting the Movement' has five key themes including 'Positive experiences for children and young people'; 'Connecting with health and wellbeing' and 'Active Environments'. The various National Governing Body Strategies have many common themes around the sustainability of pitch sport provision and focusing on participation by women and girls and young people.

2.4 This Strategy comes at a challenging time for those responsible for protecting, delivering, managing and maintaining sports facilities. With an obesity crisis well documented and costs of living rising, there is an opportunity to put accessible physical activity at the heart of local communities in Torbay. Other initiatives are already tackling these issues, and the PPS is not separate from them – a playing field is a healthy site and the PPS should be closely linked, through delivery, with the 'Torbay On the Move' and the health and wellbeing agendas.

2.5 At the start of the strategy development process there were already some obvious and notable challenges and opportunities at some sites. These include:

- sites which serve the whole Bay, such as Clennon Valley, which require significant investment to make them the strategic high quality hub sites and facilities that they should be for people in Torbay;
- other key sites, such as Torre Valley North, Torre Valley South and Torquay Recreation Ground (forming the "Valley of Sport"), which present challenges relating to their long-term and fit-for-purpose continued use for sport; and,
- several other sites where access to, the addition of, or improvement of changing facilities and/or adjacent multi-use games areas (MUGAs) (which can be used for informal sport and for training) could transform the activity package on offer and secure them as quality sites for sport and the local community (for example, Armada Park or Barton Downs).

2.6 These are just a few examples of challenges and opportunities which readily presented themselves and which have informed the Vision Statement below, outcomes and priorities presented in this Strategy.

2.7 Torbay wishes to protect and provide sustainable high quality outdoor sports facilities with health and well-being central to the 'Torbay on the Move' initiative. In line with the Council's recent 'Vision' document and the focus on the development of Place Stories and Sport England's new

Strategy 'Uniting the Movement' (2021), the following Vision Statement for the Torbay PPS has been agreed:

In Torbay, playing fields and related outdoor sports facilities will:

- *provide high-quality, accessible and welcoming facilities and opportunities to enable those who live, study, work and enjoy visiting and staying in Torbay become more active and take part in sport, to whatever level they aspire, for the benefit of their physical and mental health;*
- *be protected for physical activity and be planned for, provided and managed in partnership in a co-ordinated way with a wide range of stakeholders; and,*
- *be placed at the heart of a network of active environments and designed and delivered in ways that respond positively to and help address climate and environmental challenges, help address the issues for deprived communities, engender a sense of personal and community pride and contribute to the Bay's social and economic well-being.*

2.8 Within the context set by the Vision, the assessment process and development of this strategy have been steered objectively by an overarching principle and several guiding principles, helping to set a “direction of travel” for outcomes and recommendations. The “overarching principle” responds to the strategic drivers highlighted by Sport England's in its Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance (2013) (i.e. Protect, Provide, Enhance)³. Other guiding principles also respond to these drivers but are split-out to provide focused structure to approach and recommendations in this Strategy. In turn, these principles form the basis of a set of recommendations for monitoring and delivery in Section 4 of this Strategy.

3 Protect, enhance and provide mean the following. **Protect** existing facilities: Sport England seeks to help protect sports and recreational buildings and land, and expects these to be retained or enhanced as part of redevelopment unless an assessment has demonstrated that there is an excess of provision and they are surplus to requirements or clear evidence supports their relocation. **Enhance** the quality, accessibility and management of existing facilities: to make the best use of existing sports facilities through improving their quality, access and management. Using the supporting advice of Sport England and NGBs, ensure efficient facility management for community access to school sites. **Provide** new facilities to meet demand: Sport England seeks to ensure that communities have access to sufficient, high quality sports facilities that are fit for purpose. Guiding investment into new facilities and the expansion of existing ones to meet new demands that cannot be met by existing provision.

2.9 The Guiding Principles are:

Overarching Principle: Protect, Enhance, Provide

To protect existing provision and proactively plan for and provide sufficient and appropriate high-quality pitches, facilities and opportunities (enhanced and new) to meet demand to 2040, wherever possible making the best use of facilities already available.

Guiding Principle 1: A Framework for Management and Delivery

To create an ongoing management and delivery framework for people and organisations to work together to share skills, expertise, resources and facilities in implementing the Strategy.

Guiding Principle 2: Health and Well-being

To recognise and emphasise the value of the pitch sports in contributing to enhanced mental and physical health and well-being, particularly for those still underrepresented in the pitch sports, and in helping to address socio-economic deprivation.

Guiding Principle 3: The Environment, Decarbonisation and Climate Change

To provide, manage and maintain facilities in such a way as to address issues of environmental sustainability and climate benefit.

Guiding Principle 4: Education at the Heart of the Community

To encourage and support FE establishments and secondary and primary schools in Torbay to embrace and develop community use of their pitch sport facilities by engaging directly with them and creating a forum for discussion around access, desired improvements, management and maintenance.

3 STRATEGY FOCUS AND PRIORITIES

31. The Assessment Report and Key Findings Report which accompany and have informed this draft Strategy (both of which were subject to “check and challenge” by and agreement of the Steering Group) provide an extensive amount of detail about the data gathered, and specific issues relating to and options for each sport and site moving forward. That detail is not repeated here, but Appendix 3 summarises the key findings for each main pitch sport (football, cricket, rugby union and hockey), from these reports, in relation to supply and demand. This informs the

main issues, Strategy focus and priorities for action identified in this section. Each of the individual pitch sport sections that follow set out:

For Pitch Sports:

- The main issues currently facing each sport
- Issues influencing future provision
- Strategy focus
- Priority sites and actions (in tables)

For Non Pitch Sports:

- Key findings and main issues
- Priority sites and actions (in tables)

PITCH SPORTS

A FOOTBALL

3.1 The main issues can be summarized as follows:

MAIN ISSUES CURRENTLY FACING FOOTBALL

Grass pitches (See Appendix 2 for Map of Football Pitch Sites)

- The majority of pitches are rated as 'standard' quality and there are problems with drainage and sloping pitches at some sites.
- There are poor quality and inappropriate changing facilities at a number of sites. Clubs' aspirations are changing and higher quality changing and ground facilities are required, together with the means to raise income to support their club activities.
- There are issues with access to changing facilities at Barton Downs which need to be resolved if clubs are to return to the site.
- A number of clubs have stated that pitch characteristics or issues with their home venue made it difficult for them to accommodate all their home matches, expand their activities and/or progress to a higher league.
- Clubs have difficulties in finding suitable facilities at convenient times for training
- Torquay Utd FC has been looking for a site for a new stadium within Torbay for many years.
- Based on existing patterns of play, it would seem that some youth teams prefer to play on artificial grass pitches, although this may be because grass pitches have traditionally been of unacceptable quality. Nevertheless, this pattern of play on 3G FTPs does seem to be consolidating.

Artificial Grass Pitches

- An analysis of overall usage versus capacity of all AGPs in Torbay shows just over 75% (77%) of overall peak time capacity is used. The usage of the three 3G FTP pitches is significantly higher than that for the two sand-based pitches (88% compared to less than 50% overall). When a comfort factor of 10% is applied, spare capacity is further reduced.
- For football, the strategy focus necessitates further elaboration of the strategy for 3G FTPs and the relationship of provision with sand-based AGPs (which provide the only surface that can be used for hockey). Hence:

Mid week evening availability on artificial grass pitches

- 3G FTPs: There are only 3 hours of time spare on midweek evenings at the three existing 3G FTPs and none of these hours are full pitch space and all at unsocial hours. So, there is minimal availability for more football training, small sided leagues, Trust activity and rugby training during the week.
- Sand based AGPs: There is currently a little spare capacity for additional training for hockey and football during the week at the Torbay Leisure Centre sand based AGPs, albeit at unsocial hours.
- The pitch at Torquay Girls Grammar School has been available for hockey training on Wednesday evenings; however, the School has recently announced that it will be ceasing community use of this facility in the near future (when the current 21 year community use agreement ends).

Weekend availability

- 3G FTPs: South Devon College and Paignton Academy are effectively full at weekends. Torquay Academy's pitch has c 5 hours of spare slots on weekend afternoons but only caters for youth football.
- Sand based AGPs (not a surface sanctioned for matchplay by the FA/FF): Torbay Leisure Centre has availability on both Saturday and Sundays between 2pm and 5pm for hockey matchplay. TGGs will no longer be accommodating 6.5 hours of hockey matchplay on Saturdays and Sundays.

Most secondary schools and colleges in Torbay do not have full-size AGPs on site: Torquay Boys Grammar School (has a small AGP), Brixham College, The Spires School, Churston Ferrers Grammar School and St Cuthbert Mayne in Torquay. The first two are currently discussing proposals to develop these facilities.

ISSUES INFLUENCING FUTURE PROVISION

- Population growth to 2040 plus latent and displaced demand plus aspirations/trends could result in up to another 50 or so teams playing in the Bay (this includes 22 teams from

Watcombe Wanderers which are currently playing outside the Bay). This is made up of 9 adult, 36 youth and 7 mini (numbers do not correspond exactly due to rounding). These would require access to the equivalent of 5 adult pitches, 18 youth pitches and 5 mini pitches (depending on time of play).

- Up to 19 adult teams could be accommodated at peak times on grass pitches: 13 on pitches which are already marked out and up to 6 on pitches which could be marked out on existing playing field sites (subject to appropriate changing facilities, drainage etc – at Barton Downs and Steps Cross in Torquay and St Mary's Park in Brixham). (This does not include marking out pitches for adults at Clennon Valley or at King George V Playing Fields in Torquay - the latter site has been discounted from the analysis as the cost of levelling pitches there is regarded as prohibitive; however, one adult pitch could be marked out on the less severe slope area and there is changing to serve this (if made secure and vandal proof). There does not thus appear to be an issue in accommodating any predicted growth in adult teams.
- Provision for youth teams is more constrained. Up to an additional 12 youth teams could be accommodated: 5 on pitches that are already marked out and up to 7 teams on sites where additional pitches could be marked out (2 at Barton Downs, 1 at Windmill Hill and 4 at St Mary's Park Brixham (if youth pitches are marked out there instead of adult pitches)). Whilst this would not accommodate the predicted increase in youth teams, as it leaves c.17 teams nominally without a grass pitch it does not include the opportunities which could arise from reinstating the former adult pitches as youth pitches at Clennon Valley, for example. Up to 8 youth pitches would be required to accommodate these teams; sizes will depend on the age group and provision made elsewhere. Up to 5 mini pitches may be required across the Bay as a whole at sites already identified.
- It is concluded that there are potentially enough grass pitches – or land that could be marked out as pitches - within Torbay to accommodate the expected increase in the number of youth and adult football teams for matchplay. However, pitches need to be in the right places, of appropriate quality with appropriate ancillary facilities.
- Other considerations include:
 1. The extent to which football will be played on grass or artificial grass pitches in the future is critical – whether this is mini, youth, adult 11v11 football or small sided soccer or community trust led development initiatives etc.
 2. One large club – Watcombe Wanderers (22 teams) playing outside the Bay desires to return to a site within the Bay, ideally in the Watcombe, Torquay area
 3. The Pioneer Youth League have expressed a desire to base the league for mini soccer at a central hub site

4. The predicted increase in teams to 2040 (which includes the return of Watcombe Wanderers to the Bay) could justify one additional full-size floodlit 3G FTP pitch (at least) to satisfy additional demand for training. Additional provision should also be cognisant of existing use of 3G pitches for matches, particularly for junior and youth play. Should this type of use migrate to improved quality grass pitches, weekend demand and its potential impact on viability should be monitored.
5. In provision, there may be scope for both full-size and smaller (9v9) provision and co-operating with the rugby sector to introduce some additional capacity for football use alongside catering for rugby's needs (see below).
6. Demand for training for football could also potentially be met by:
 - Installation of (portable) floodlights on grass areas adjacent to grass pitches, and/or on grass pitches if this does not result in overplay
 - Upgrading/provision of small MUGAs at existing grounds

STRATEGY FOCUS

3.2 The Strategy for football is based around:

- improvements in the quality of grass pitches. At some sites this could enable more youth matches to be played on adult pitches (if deemed appropriate - see Action Plans). However, this will not enable more teams to be played at peak times (Saturday afternoons for adult matches and Sunday mornings for youth matches).
- improvements to ancillary facilities (changing facilities for adults, toilets, car parking, shelters) to create more welcoming and age and gender appropriate provision at selected sites.
- the provision of additional grass pitches for youth football particularly in settings which can provide a central venue particularly for mini and younger age group youth soccer (U7-U12) incorporating 5x5, 7x7 & 9x9 pitches
- development of hub site for youth football at Clennon Valley
- the provision of suitable sites and facilities to allow the development of teams and progression through the leagues
- the provision of access to the equivalent of one floodlit full size 3G FTP during the strategy period to meet the demand for football training, the growth in small-sided soccer and other informal offers such as walking football and to accommodate matchplay. Location and size will be dependent upon demand demonstrated "on the ground" for 3G capacity and based

on an understanding of the degree of transition of mini and youth football from the existing supply of 3G pitches to sites with improved grass pitch provision.

KEY SITES AND ACTIONS

3.3 The following tables set out the key sites for football, based on the above analysis. They do not present the full list of sites, or the full list of actions (or constraints) and are not prioritised in any specific order here. For further detail of actions for all sites please see the Action Plans. Any reference to artificial pitches being provided is done so on the basis that floodlighting will be a standard requirement to ensure evening use and help ensure long-term viability. Early community engagement is key for any project seeking Football Foundation funding and to maximise the use and local community benefit.

TABLE 1 KEY PROJECTS FOR FOOTBALL – SITE SPECIFIC

LOCATION	PROJECT	OPTIONS (additional or if no clear project/action identified)
Torquay		
Armada Park	Enhancement of changing facilities – either refurbishment or upgrade	
Barton Downs	Pitch improvements. Access to Acorn Centre for changing facilities or new portacabins.	Additional upgrade of poor quality MUGA. Potential site for Football Foundation 'PlayZone'.
Cricketfield Road	Changing facilities/pavilion upgrade as community sport, health and wellbeing hub Pitch improvements.	
Windmill Hill	Changing facilities upgrade	
Paignton		
Clennon Valley and Torbay	Drainage improvements Reinstatement of youth football pitches and appropriate ancillary	Additional 9v9 3G FTP subject to a first phase bringing youth football back to the site to grass pitches

LOCATION	PROJECT	OPTIONS (additional or if no clear project/action identified)
Leisure Centre	<p>facilities (number and size of pitches to reflect further understanding of which teams and age groups would move, to be developed through the Delivery Group and fit alongside rugby pitch(es) and allowing for new cricket square)</p> <p>Resolve parking issues</p> <p>Improved access to toilets and a catering offer</p> <p>Enhanced pitch maintenance programme now being adopted by Torbay Council at Clennon Valley. Masterplanning and feasibility work required to establish possible pitch layouts, ground conditions, timetable and costs for drainage and other works etc</p>	<p>(which unlocks additional demand on the site overall), timing of other 3G provision coming forward in the Bay and demand being demonstrated and subject to floodlighting and other planning considerations. Protect full size existing sand based AGP to accommodate hockey activity displaced from TGGs sand based pitch (if and when Torquay Girls Grammar School ends community access in April 2023). This may also result in football training being displaced from Torbay Leisure Centre.</p> <p>Keep this under review through Stage E Delivery Group, pending developments at the Grammar School and within the context of an overall masterplan for the site.</p> <p>Resolve parking issues on the site.</p> <p>Key partners and stakeholders (including Torbay Council, Parkwood Leisure, Torbay Hockey Club, England Hockey and</p>

LOCATION	PROJECT	OPTIONS (additional or if no clear project/action identified)
		other NGBs as appropriate) to work closely together to secure use of the AGP to establish usage agreements and help ensure long term viability.
White Rock	Changing facilities upgrade and enlargement to support further development of club on site	
Brixham		
Furzeham Recreation Ground		Potential to enhance changing facilities.
John Charles Park	Provision of access to changing facilities	Explore further possibilities of access to adjacent cricket pavilion (Brixham CC)
St Mary's Park	Reinstatement of youth pitches	



TABLE 2 KEY ACTIONS FOR FOOTBALL

Developing multi pitch sport sites	<p>In new sites, development of flexible multi pitch layouts with opportunities for joint provision and shared use of ancillary facilities. The preference is for large areas of land allocated rather than specific pitch sizes as such areas are better suited to future proofing and can also allow space for other sports (multi-sport, multi-pitch sites). There should be the option to have movable goals that can be chained together or stored away to allow areas to be flexible year on year and which will help to retain the goalmouth areas. This will pertain to Clennon Valley.</p>
Pitch quality improvements	<p>Support clubs with management responsibilities especially on multi pitch sites to improve the pitches under their control by, for example, engaging with the Grounds Maintenance Association (GMA). The Pitch Power App/website should be used. This records the quality of pitches and is the gateway to funding improvements related to grass pitches (6 year tapered grants available).</p>
Improving changing facilities	<p>Support clubs with funding applications to improve changing and ancillary provision to meet current aspirations and requirements around multi gender, multi age and multi-purpose facilities. Multi use and early community engagement to consider other uses for pavilions such as keep fit activities, table tennis, playgroups etc is key.</p>
3G FTPs	<p>Educate and request to pitch providers and managers that 3G FTPs should meet the Performance Test and are listed on the FA Register of approved sites for matchplay. Sinking funds to be accrued and ringfenced for future replacement in-line with funding and manufacturer guidelines.</p>
	<p>The equivalent of one full-size floodlit 3G FTP pitch will be required in Torbay during the life of this Strategy, to meet training and potentially matchplay demand from football.</p> <p>There are several options which could be considered:</p> <p>A full-size 3G FTP Register compliant facility predominantly for football</p> <p>A 9v9 x 3G FTP with shock pad predominantly for football</p> <p>A World Rugby 22 compliant full-size 3G FTP for rugby and football</p>

	<p>There are several potential sites to emerge so far for such a facility, including:</p> <p>Torquay Boys Grammar School</p> <p>Clennon Valley (possibly 9v9)</p> <p>Brixham College (proposed as World Rugby 22 compliant).</p> <p>All artificial grass pitches should be protected with appropriate secure community use agreements negotiated wherever possible, which should be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis.</p>
<p>Maintaining high quality artificial grass pitch provision</p>	<p>All artificial grass pitches (both sand-based and 3G FTPs) should have the following in place:</p> <p>Sufficient funding for ongoing maintenance and upgrades e.g. to maintain appropriate levels of floodlighting.</p> <p>Adequate sinking funds for replacement and upgrade of facilities when required, whatever the ownership and management arrangements.</p>
<p>Continue to explore options for new sites for Torquay Utd FC</p>	<p>Torquay Utd FC, based at Plainmoor, is a professional football club, currently competing in the National League. Its training ground is outside the Bay, at Seale Hayne, Newton Abbot. Although an elite club, it has a role in the community through the Torquay Utd Community Sports Trust which has various youth teams and initiatives and projects running in the Bay. A long-standing issue for the club is to find a replacement ground for Plainmoor and/or provide additional training facilities within the Bay. No obvious or available site/s for these have come forward during development of the Strategy but options should continue to be explored, perhaps in conjunction with a Local Plan review, to find a suitable site within the Bay (or consider alternatives just outside the boundary in neighbouring Local Authority areas).</p>

B CRICKET

3.4 The main issues can be summarized as follows:

MAIN ISSUES CURRENTLY FACING CRICKET (See Appendix 2 for Map of Cricket Pitch Sites)

- The majority of cricket pitches are rated 'good'. However, the poor quality pitch at Torre Valley North cannot meet the need to accommodate 3rd XIs within the Bay or casual, informal formats of the game
- Improving the two standard rated pitches at Cockington Court and Wall's Hill will have only limited effect on their capacity (off peak) due to the condition of their outfield and restricted sites. The cricket ground at Cricketfield Road (Barton CC) has been recorded as standard overall, due to the poorly drained outfield, but the wicket itself was rated as good.
- Torquay CC's ground at Torquay Recreation Ground and Paignton CC's ground at Queen's Park, Paignton have very little spare capacity and are full at peak time.
- There is spare capacity across the Bay to accommodate play outside of peak time (i.e. on Sundays and for midweek youth and adult), but over half of this capacity is at Brixham CC's ground at North Boundary Road.
- Non turf wickets (NTWs) at Barton CC at Cricketfield Road, Torquay and Paignton CC have considerable theoretical spare capacity.
- There are no longer any playable NTWs at schools in the Bay.
- There are concerns for the future viability of Torquay Recreation Ground due to rising sea levels.
- There are overlapping outfield at Torquay CC's and Paignton CC's grounds (with rugby pitches) which restrict play on the shoulders of the season for both sports and raise issues over end of season renovations.
- Changing facilities/pavilions at Torquay Recreation Ground, Queen's Park in Paignton and Barton Cricket Club (Cricketfield Road) urgently require upgrading.

ISSUES INFLUENCING FUTURE PROVISION

- Future growth in teams suggests that up to 10 new cricket teams will form by 2040. This will require access of up to an additional 16 cricket wickets (8 wickets/pitches per cricket square/ground, according to Sport England's calculator). Whilst up to half of this demand could be met from existing provision, there will be a need for an additional cricket ground to meet demand to 2040.
- Realistically, the only way to increase capacity unless Torre Valley North can be substantially improved is to provide a new replacement ground. If cricket is lost at or moved from Torre Valley North (the surface at which is currently unsuitable for play), then both a replacement location for 3rd XI teams is required and an additional new pitch will be needed to cater for growth and demand. Further consideration would be necessary to

determine how such a new site can be managed and tended from a grounds maintenance and management perspective.



STRATEGY FOCUS

3.5 The Strategy for cricket is based around:

- improvements in the quality of grass cricket pitches if possible at Wall's Hill and Cockington Court and major renovations to Torre Valley North (if cricket remains on the site for the long-term).
- improvements to ancillary facilities (changing facilities and clubhouses) at Torquay Recreation Ground, Queen's Park Paignton and Cricketfield Road, Torquay to create more welcoming and age and gender appropriate provision.
- reinstating NTWs or grass squares on education sites and securing community use. If a ground is only required for junior play, then a smaller site could be sufficient.
- easing pressure on shared sites (cricket and rugby) by reducing rugby use through provision of additional capacity on alternative sites (for example, providing rugby pitches at Clennon Valley to accommodate some demand from Queen's Park in Paignton and/or Torquay Recreation Ground/Torre Valley North in Torquay.
- providing another cricket ground in the Bay for future demand later in the Strategy period. The location of a new ground will be challenging with few flat or level pitch locations. Bearing this in mind, an existing strategic site may provide the opportunity to act as a reserve site for cricket to be considered if demand emerges towards the later part of the strategy period. If this is not feasible then a new cricket site should be allocated within the next iteration of the Local Plan, subject to demand. This will be in addition to improving or replacing the pitch at Torre Valley North or providing a good quality non turf wicket elsewhere, possibly on a school site.

KEY SITES AND ACTIONS

3.6 The following tables set out the key sites for cricket, based on the above analysis. They do not present the full list of sites, or the full list of actions (or constraints) and are not prioritised in any specific order here. For further detail of actions for all sites please see the Action Plans.

Table 3 KEY PROJECTS FOR CRICKET – SITE SPECIFIC

LOCATION	PROJECT	OPTIONS (additional or if no clear project/action identified)
Torquay		
Cricketfield Road	Changing facilities/pavilion upgrade as community sport, health and wellbeing hub Pitch improvements – drainage to football pitch which will help improve cricket outfield.	
Torquay Recreation Ground	Investigate and clarify situation re: potential flooding of this site due to rising sea levels and impact on cricket season (for example from flooding at the start of the season and need for additional maintenance if flooding continues during rugby season). Major upgrade of pavilion, ideally provision of clubhouse/changing facilities jointly with rugby club.	
Torre Valley North	Rebuilding of changing rooms/clubhouse Major renovation of square	Explore option and feasibility of removing cricket from the site to an alternative

LOCATION	PROJECT	OPTIONS (additional or if no clear project/action identified)
		location (new ground or additional capacity at a new square/pitch at Clennon Valley (see below)).
Paignton		
Clennon Valley	<p>Consideration to be given to the provision of a cricket ground to provide additional capacity for Paignton 3rd XIs and/or and to meet demand for new provision to 2040.</p> <p>Enhanced pitch maintenance programme now being adopted by Torbay Council at Clennon Valley.</p> <p>Masterplanning and feasibility work is required to establish possible pitch layouts, ground conditions (including work to establish suitability for a new cricket square), timetable and costs for drainage and other works etc</p>	
Queen's Park	<p>Increase capacity of ground for cricket by provision of pitch space elsewhere.</p> <p>Upgrade to changing rooms/pavilion (shared with rugby).</p>	
Broadsands, Galmpton & Churston		

LOCATION	PROJECT	OPTIONS (additional or if no clear project/action identified)
Churston Ferrers Grammar School	Provision of cricket facilities proposed on field with two football pitches. However, currently no square laid and further dialogue and feasibility work is required by all parties to determine if cricket could be a viable option on the playing field. Any future changes including cricket must not affect the football outcomes for the site in line with the terms and conditions of the FF grant.	

TABLE 4 KEY ACTIONS FOR CRICKET

To improve and upgrade changing/pavilion facilities	To support club development and help to attract youth and women players in line with the ECB's Creating 'welcoming environments' resource (self help guide for cricket clubs to broaden appeal within the community).
Provision of non turf wickets	Consideration to be given to the provision of a non turf wicket as well as fine turf wickets at all new sites to increase capacity of the site and improve opportunities for recreational and youth play. To consider provision/replacement of (poor quality) non turf wickets on school sites, including those mentioned above, to support development of youth cricket.
Training facilities	To support the development of good quality training nets at grounds to enhance sustainability & improve overall performance. Promote provision of indoor training for cricket at sports halls.

C RUGBY

3.7 The main issues can be summarised as:

MAIN ISSUES CURRENTLY FACING RUGBY (See Appendix 2 for Map of Rugby Pitch Sites)

- All rugby pitches in the Bay used by Torquay RUFC, Paignton RUFC and Brixham RUFC are overplayed, primarily because of poor quality through low levels of maintenance and lack of drainage.
- The analysis has estimated that in order to accommodate all the matchplay and training demand (expressed as MES or 'match equivalent sessions') the following is required:
 - For Torquay RUFC: 12.75 MES: 6.25 for matchplay and 6.5 for training 2.5 MES currently available)
 - For Paignton RUFC: 8.0 MES: 4 for matchplay and 4 for training 1.0 MES currently available)
 - For Brixham RUFC: 9.75 MES: 5.75 for matchplay and 4 for training (2.0 MES currently available).
- The main rugby pitch on Torquay Recreation Ground has serious drainage issues and over the next decade or so may become increasingly unable to accommodate play; a replacement ground may be required. The main concerns relate to increasing periods of intense rainfall and rising sea levels / flood risk. Even improved drainage may not sufficiently mitigate this impact. If the club moved it would probably want to also move play from Torre Valley North and South.
- Changing/pavilion facilities at Queen's Park Paignton (Paignton RUFC) and Torquay Recreation Ground (Torquay RUFC) are in urgent need of upgrading. Torquay RUFC's 2nd stand has been condemned.
- None of the 3G FTPs in Torbay are World Rugby compliant and rugby usage is currently low at c.1.5 hours per week on weekday evenings.

ISSUES INFLUENCING FUTURE PROVISION

- Growth in demand is estimated to be c.13 teams (4 adult and 9 junior) in total, which may require access to the equivalent of three to four pitches.
- Analysis for rugby has shown how overplay of pitches and shortfalls in MES cannot be solved through improvements to quality (and capacity) alone. Access to additional pitch space for training and matchplay is required – either through additional rugby pitches or 3G pitches which are rugby compliant.

STRATEGY FOCUS

3.8 The strategy for rugby is based around:

- The need to address inadequate quality (drainage and maintenance) which is resulting in the overplay of pitches on club sites. With good maintenance and pipe/slit drainage, one pitch could accommodate 3.5 MES per week.
- The requirement for additional pitches to meet training and matchplay needs.
- Addressing issues with grounds shared with cricket whereby enhancements to quality and use of other pitch sites can create greater capacity for both sports.
- Enhancing or replacing outdated, old changing rooms and clubhouses which are inappropriate for modern requirements.
- Overcoming the lack of available floodlit training pitches (either grass or artificial).
- Upgrading of floodlights, many of which are old and in need of complete replacement. There are good sources of advice in various Sport England and RFU facility guidance notes.
- The provision of at least one rugby pitch at Clennon Valley is a good option to help meet the identified need from Paignton RUFC and resolve the outstanding required mitigation of loss of a former rugby pitch when the velo park was built, subject to confirmation that the club would utilise the site.
- Support, in principle, for a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch, if a proposal comes forward from a potential provider/host, should improvements to existing club pitches and any additional grass pitches not be sufficient to accommodate training needs or should such a 3G provide a solution to existing overplay at club sites.



KEY SITES AND ACTIONS

3.9 The following tables set out the key sites for rugby, based on the above analysis. They do not present the full list of sites, or the full list of actions (or constraints) and are not prioritised in any specific order here. For further detail of actions for all sites please see the Action Plans. Any

reference to artificial pitches being provided is done so on the basis that floodlighting will be a standard requirement to ensure evening use and help ensure long-term viability.

TABLE 5 KEY PROJECTS FOR RUGBY - SITE SPECIFIC

LOCATION	PROJECT	OPTIONS (additional or if no clear project/action identified)
Torquay Recreation Ground	Investigate and clarify situation re: potential flooding of this site due to rising sea levels and increasing surface water flooding from high rainfall events in winter. Long-term future for rugby on this site (and therefore associated sites of use at Torre Valley North and South) should be given certainty either on this or an alternative new club site. Address issue of stands no longer fit for purpose: ideally provision of clubhouse/changing facilities jointly with cricket club. Improved maintenance and provision of pipe and slit drainage Addition of improved sports lighting on pitches used by Torquay RUFC	
Torre Valley North (TVN)	Rebuilding of changing rooms/clubhouse Improved maintenance and provision of pipe and slit drainage	Explore option and feasibility of moving rugby activity from TVS to improved TVN and/or Torquay

LOCATION	PROJECT	OPTIONS (additional or if no clear project/action identified)
	Addition of improved sports lighting on pitches used by Torquay RUFC	Recreation Ground (if cricket is removed from TVN and more space/capacity becomes available for rugby); with a new compact athletics facility developed on Torre Valley South (see athletics section).
Torre Valley South (TVS)	Improved maintenance and provision of pipe and slit drainage Addition of improved sports lighting on pitches used by Torquay RUFC	
Queen's Park, Paignton	Improved maintenance and provision of pipe and slit drainage Upgrade to changing rooms/pavilion Upgrading of floodlight facilities	
Clennon Valley	Provision of at least one rugby pitch to help meet the identified need from Paignton RUFC, and resolve the outstanding required mitigation of loss of a former rugby pitch when the velo park was built, subject to confirmation that the club would utilise the site. Enhanced pitch maintenance programme now being adopted by Torbay Council at Clennon Valley. Masterplanning and feasibility	

LOCATION	PROJECT	OPTIONS (additional or if no clear project/action identified)
	work required to establish possible pitch layouts, ground conditions (including work to establish suitability for a new cricket square), timetable and costs for drainage and other works etc	

TABLE 6 KEY ACTIONS FOR RUGBY

Protecting provision at secondary schools	Work to secure community use agreements for rugby pitches at secondary schools in the Bay – particularly Paignton Academy, TBGS and Brixham College - to support schools' rugby and provide important overflow facilities for local clubs (school: club links).
Portable floodlights	Support for the provision of portable floodlights where this can support additional floodlit training for rugby clubs/teams. This must be carefully considered as a solution on existing natural turf pitches which are already close to capacity.
To consider the provision of artificial grass pitches for training.	There is also a wider need for access to suitable floodlit training provision for many sports, particularly for rugby union and football. Given the competing demands from many sports for access to floodlit provision, there is a need for 3G pitches to also be multi-sport facilities where possible and to be maximised to meet the challenges of broad and significant sporting demand and limitations on available space across the study area. However, where there is a high demand for both sports, programming becomes a challenge as both sports may like the same peak times for weekday training and matchplay and funding of ancillary facilities such as shock pads may affect the business planning model.

World Rugby 22 Compliant 3G	<p>Brixham College has plans for a rugby compliant full-size rugby 3G pitch. This could accommodate additional training needs for Brixham RUFC and possibly the other clubs in the Bay if they are willing to travel. Depending on the College's financial plans/business case for the pitch, it seems likely that long-term viability would also depend on the pitch accommodating some football training from most Brixham clubs and casual/informal football use. Further work on a usage plan would need to be undertaken by the Delivery Group to help understand long-term viability and certainty of use in this location.</p> <p>If it comes forward, the Brixham College pitch should be protected with an appropriate secure community use agreement which should be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis.</p> <p>The pitch should have the following in place:</p> <p>Sufficient funding for ongoing maintenance and upgrades e.g. to maintain appropriate levels of floodlighting.</p> <p>Adequate sinking funds for replacement and upgrade of facilities when required, whatever the ownership and management arrangements.</p>
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D HOCKEY

3.10 The main issues can be summarised as:

MAIN ISSUES CURRENTLY FACING HOCKEY (See Appendix 2 for Map of Artificial Grass Pitch Sites)

- The analysis for the Strategy considered the sand-based pitches at Torbay Leisure Centre and Torquay Girls Grammar School. This concluded that there is, in theory, sufficient capacity for any predicted growth in hockey to 2040 in Torbay; however, both pitches require protection as good quality sand-based surfaces (Any upgrades should consider replacement surfaces potentially being Gen2 suitable for netball and tennis to help make more viable).
- It has recently been announced that the Torquay Girls Grammar School (TGGS) pitch is due to be closed to community use in the near future. If this happens, it will have major ramifications for hockey and the provision of all types of artificial grass pitches in Torbay.

The Bay will then have one sand-based pitch only to accommodate hockey activity – at Torbay Leisure Centre.

- The Torbay Leisure Centre pitch is already almost at capacity during weekday evenings accommodating training for football and for Newton Abbot Hockey Club. It cannot accommodate the four hours of training required by Torbay Hockey Club without displacing football activity, but there is no spare capacity on any other artificial grass pitches in the Bay to which this football activity could be transferred.
- In addition, Torbay Hockey club requires 4.5 hours of matchplay on a Saturday and 2 hours on a Sunday. At present, there is only one hour spare on Saturday mornings and 2 hours on Sunday mornings before 11am at the Torbay Leisure Centre pitch)or after 2pm at weekends or on Friday evenings). Thus times of hockey matchplay may have to be amended to fit in with this. Otherwise access to additional suitable pitches will be required.
- Moreover, this does not allow any room for growth by either hockey club, both of which would like to increase activity for juniors and develop informal formats of the game.
- The sand-based AGP at Torbay Leisure Centre does have considerable spare capacity in the day which could potentially meet demand from education for hockey – from South Devon College for example.

STRATEGY FOCUS

3.11 The Strategy for hockey is based around:

- Protection of the two existing good quality sand based artificial grass pitches at Torbay Leisure Centre and Torquay Girls Grammar School for community access for hockey.
- Any upgrades of hockey appropriate AGPs should consider replacement surfaces potentially being Gen2 suitable for netball and tennis to help make more viable.
- Improved/greater access to training slots on weekday evenings for hockey training at Torbay Leisure Centre.
- The provision of additional 3G FTP space to help ensure the security of use of sand-based pitches for hockey by moving increasing demand for football training from sand based AGPs to 3G FTPs.

KEY SITES AND ACTIONS

3.12 The following tables set out the key actions for hockey, based on the above analysis. They do not present the full list of sites, or the full list of actions (or constraints) and are not prioritised in any specific order here. For further detail of actions for all sites please see the Action Plans. Any reference to artificial pitches being provided is done so on the basis that floodlighting will be a standard requirement to ensure evening use and help ensure long-term viability.

TABLE 7 KEY PROJECTS FOR HOCKEY – SITE SPECIFIC

LOCATION	PROJECT
Torquay Girls Grammar School	Urgent engagement with TGGs about the pending closure to community use of their sand-based pitch. Elected members/senior officers and the Education Team at the Torbay Development Agency to engage with TGGs regarding community access in the future. Original community use agreement to be checked.
Torbay Leisure Centre	<p>Protect full size existing sand based AGP to accommodate hockey activity displaced from TGGs sand based pitch (if and when Torquay Girls Grammar School ends community access in April 2023). This may also result in football training being displaced from Torbay Leisure Centre.</p> <p>Keep this under review through Stage E Delivery Group, pending developments at the Grammar School and within the context of an overall masterplan for the site.</p> <p>Resolve parking issues on the site.</p> <p>Key partners and stakeholders (including Torbay Council, Parkwood Leisure, Torbay Hockey Club, England Hockey and other NGBs as appropriate) to work closely together to secure use of the AGP to establish usage agreements and help ensure long term viability.</p> <p>Promotion of greater usage during the day.</p>

TABLE 8 KEY ACTIONS FOR HOCKEY

To protect the stock of and viability of sand-based AGPs capable of accommodating hockey.	<p>All artificial grass pitches should be protected with appropriate secure community use agreements negotiated wherever possible, which should be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis.</p> <p>If any existing sand-based AGPs are being considered for possible future 'conversion', (including non-sand-based resurfacing), no decision should be taken in isolation without consulting the relevant NGBs and other key stakeholders,</p>
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	particularly if/where planning permission is required for such works.
Maintaining high quality artificial grass pitch provision	All artificial grass pitches should have the following in place: Sufficient funding for ongoing maintenance and upgrades e.g. to maintain appropriate levels of floodlighting. Adequate sinking funds for replacement and upgrade of facilities when required, whatever the ownership and management arrangements.



NON PITCH SPORTS

E ATHLETICS

KEY FINDINGS AND MAIN ISSUES

- The grass athletics tracks in Torbay used by the two main clubs are satisfactory, within the constraints of this facility type. There are no synthetic 400m 'track and field' athletics facilities that are suitable for competitions and high-level training in Torbay. Field events facilities are not of a high quality and the lack of bespoke facilities militates against skill development as training on grass tracks limits improvement in skill and technical expertise. Tracks can also become waterlogged and run-ups become slippery in wet weather.
- The availability of the facilities in Torbay is reasonable. Torquay Athletics Club has use of the athletics track at Torre Valley North (usage of the site is shared with cricket and Torquay Athletic RUFC), whilst South Devon Athletics Club use the velopark and grass facilities at Clennon Valley and the summer track and field facilities at Churston Ferrers Grammar school for junior athletics.

- The nearest synthetic 400m 'track and field' athletics facilities are located at Exeter Arena and service the needs of traditional 'track and field' athletics within Torbay. The Arena is a 45-minute drive-time from Torquay, which is outside the recommended 20-minute drive-time (for urban areas) and 40-minute drive-time (for rural areas) by England Athletics.
- Thus the journey time to the nearest full-size outdoor track from Torbay is longer than ideal, and the Bay is a good example of where good coaching has created significant demand despite the lack of a local athletics facility.
- However, England Athletics has adopted the strategic position that it should concentrate on preserving and improving the existing stock of 400m tracks rather than seeking to build additional ones. If a full size synthetic 400m track was to be provided in Torbay, England Athletics would still recommend that Exeter Arena is used for competitions and training for school and club teams from Torbay.
- However, there are options and opportunities through the development of compact athletics facilities which are intended to fill these gaps and can be designed to provide training facilities in places where there is insufficient demand, funding or land to accommodate a full-size track.
- A 'compact athletics' facility can take a number of forms, but essentially provides a strip of synthetic track plus some capacity for jumps and throws, enabling core athletic skills to be taught, enjoyed and developed. There are alternative innovative solutions that are also designed so that other sports (as well as athletics) can be accommodated. For example, a 'mini track' (larger-scale compact facilities) could be designed specifically to meet local needs in Torbay.

Example of a Compact Athletics Mini Track



KEY SITES AND ACTIONS

TABLE 9 KEY PROJECTS FOR ATHLETICS – SITE SPECIFIC

LOCATION/PROJECT	ACTION
Existing athletics facilities	PROTECT: To protect access to the existing range and variety of athletics facilities within the Bay that are currently at Torre Valley North, Clennon Valley and Churston Ferrers Grammar School.
Torre Valley North	PROVIDE: To encourage innovative approaches to the location and design of facilities for individual components of the sport in order to facilitate increased entry level participation in the sport and to provide training opportunities at one or more of: Torre Valley North Torre Valley South Clennon Valley
Clennon Valley	
Torre Valley South	
Torre Valley North	ENHANCE: The quality of clubhouse facilities at Torre Valley North playing fields should be considered for re-development and it is recommended that further feasibility work be completed to ensure the needs of the multi-sports users are met.

TABLE 10 KEY ACTIONS FOR ATHLETICS

To maximise the use of existing assets	Actively encourage athletics and running facilities to be used to their fullest possible extent by the sport and by all sections of the community in order to maximise viability. To fully utilise existing assets by improving the access to and quality of facilities to ensure demand is met. For example, it is recommended that floodlighting of the circuit at Clennon Valley be investigated to increase all-year-round usage of the facility.
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F TENNIS

KEY FINDINGS AND MAIN ISSUES

- Torquay LTC has a total of nine outdoor tennis courts, five of which are artificial clay, four artificial grass, three indoor acrylic courts, two mini tennis courts and a hitting wall. The club also benefits from a clubhouse/bar and small fitness studio. The Club have been working on improving the quality of the 4 artificial grass courts. Two have now been resurfaced (May 2022) and the remaining two will be addressed at a later date. The club is not at capacity and has significant opportunity for growth, creating a cushion for current and future demand. Courts are open to the public on a pay & play basis at off peak times.
- Cary Park LTC has six outdoor tennis courts and is operating at 161 club members with opportunity for growth. Courts are open to non-members on a pay & play basis. Given the venue type Cary Park would benefit from SmartAccess gate technology to improve accessibility and customer journey.
- Churston Tennis Club is based in Brixham with two floodlit courts. This club is a members' only club and courts are not available to the public on a pay & play basis. This venue is not an LTA registered venue and membership data is unavailable.
- The majority of people with access to a car can reach an affiliated indoor or outdoor tennis court site within about 20 minutes' drive. There is also available provision for tennis 7 days a week. The LTA Geographical Report for Torbay highlights the need for a good quality accessible and affordable park tennis offer across the area to accommodate families and young people looking for additional sports/activities that are sociable but do not require the commitment that comes with traditional club memberships.
- A priority for the LTA in Torbay is to work with Torbay Council on the DCMS parks investment programme to retain and enhance courts in parks and public green spaces. Park venues highlighted for investment include Abbey Park, Oldway, St Mary's and Victoria Park. Improving community courts and implementing an online booking and payment system will facilitate a future growth in casual play and create financially sustainable tennis facilities, avoiding previous repeats of historical losses.
- The redevelopment of park tennis will form two phases. Phase one includes five courts at Abbey Park, six courts at Oldway and four courts at St Mary's and are currently being looked at as part of DCMS funding. Victoria Park and any subsequent investment into additional courts at Abbey Park will be considered separately as a second phase. It is important that current tennis provision at Victoria Park is retained until the second phase is complete.
- Future demand projections and LTA data analysis suggests there is sufficient demand to reinstate all the park courts mentioned above. Ensuring good quality facilities with an operational model that will improve the customer journey to court will make tennis more accessible across Torbay.
- The Local Plan stipulates increase in housing across Torbay in the future thus creating extra demand for sport and tennis. The LTA wishes to be consulted on any new

housing/population increases to ensure that tennis is provided for across the local population.

- Padel is a fast growing sport that is also under the governance of the LTA. Torbay does not current have any padel courts therefore in this strategic cycle it would be recommended to make provision for padel. Present data suggests that padel works best at an existin g tennis club e.g. Torquay TC or attached to a broader sporting facility.



KEY SITES AND ACTIONS

Table 11: KEY PROJECTS FOR TENNIS – SITE SPECIFIC

LOCATION/PROJECT	ACTION
Abbey Park, Torquay	The 5 tennis courts currently in use should be improved with an operational model that enables growth in casual tennis play. This will include the integration of SmartAccess gate technology to facilitate online court bookings and payments. These 5 courts at Abbey Park will form phase 1 of LTA & Council investment.
Oldway, Paignton	The quality of the 6 tennis courts in use should be improved with an operational model that enables growth in casual tennis play. This will include the integration of SmartAccess gate technology to facilitate online court bookings and payments. Oldway will form part of phase 1 of LTA & Council investment.
Victoria Park, Paignton	The quality of the 2 tennis courts in use should be improved with an operational model that enables growth in casual tennis play. This will include the integration of SmartAccess gate technology to facilitate online court bookings and payments. St Mary's will form part of phase 1 of LTA & Council investment.
St Mary's Park, Brixham	The quality of the 4 tennis courts should be improved and the courts should be reconfigured to maximise the original court footprint. The LTA highlights this site as part of phase 2 of investment and will include the integration of SmartAccess Gate Technology to facilitate online court bookings and payments to create continuity for the player in line with phase 1 sites.

TABLE 12: KEY ACTIONS FOR TENNIS

To protect and retain all existing courts.	All courts should be retained or enhanced as part of any redevelopment unless an assessment demonstrates that there is an excess of provision and is surplus to requirements or clear evidence supports relocation. The LTA must be consulted on any discussions relating to the above.
To develop the community use of school tennis courts	The study has identified that there are a significant number of facilities located at education sites across the borough and improvements in accessibility to encourage greater participation by all sectors of the community is recommended.
Support clubs	<p>Ensure clubs are LTA Registered and meet minimum safeguarding standards. Continue to support clubs to work towards the LTA's strategy of Tennis Opened Up. Ensure clubs are supported more broadly and can access resources in relation to governance, facility management, programming & court utilisation, club & coach relationships and inclusion.</p> <p>Ensure membership growth and retention meets financial sustainability.</p> <p>Support the implementation of LTA products and programmes to enable that growth and retention, taking into consideration the demographic needs of the local area.</p> <p>Work with Torquay TC to increase membership and financial sustainability.</p> <p>Support Cary Park to improve customer journey and accessibility of courts.</p>
Improve access to and quality of community courts.	The largest priority for tennis in Torbay is to improve the quality of park courts and their accessibility to the local community and visitors through an affordable offer and effective online journey to court.

	<p>Improve access to community courts as part of the councils work with the LTA on DCMS investment, these include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abbey Park (Torquay) • Oldway Mansion (Paignton) • St Marys's (Brixham) • Victoria Park (Paignton) <p>All sites will have SmartAccess gate technology installed to facilitate an effective customer journey through enabling people to search, book and pay for a court online.</p> <p>Continue to assess future need based on housing development and population growth, taking into consideration Torbay's Local Plan.</p> <p>Once investment has been made and an online booking journey is established across all park sites consider court availability, usage and income to undertake an informed assessment as to whether there is demand to add floodlights to one of the four park sites.</p>
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G NETBALL

KEY FINDINGS AND MAIN ISSUES

- There are eight outdoor netball courts and seven indoor netball courts in total, located at education sites (South Devon College, Torquay Academy and Paignton Academy Hub). The majority of courts in Torbay are considered satisfactory by the netball clubs and teams that use them.
- The main factor limiting accessibility for netball clubs and teams in Torbay is the preference of players to play indoors, as courts are not always available at peak times. Expensive hire costs and lack of car parking are also highlighted as issues (particularly at Paignton Academy Hub).
- Junior netball is played at South Devon College, Paignton Academy Hub and Torbay Leisure Centre. The number of both adult and junior netball club members has stayed relatively constant in recent years. Newton Ninjas netball team playing in Abbotskerswell (just outside Torbay) would like to use new courts in Torbay.

- Paignton Academy's Hub is the main netball league venue in Torbay. It hosts county and regional events and England Netball festivals and courses. The Devon School Games and junior netball clubs use the venue for training and local and regional level matches.
- Dart Netball Club use Torbay Leisure Centre as their training venue for both junior and adult netball.
- England Netball Local Area Profile data shows there has been a decrease in membership since 2019/20 membership year, which reflects the membership feedback provided by clubs. However, the Profile data also shows high latent demand potential in Torbay – coupled with a home Commonwealth Games in 2022 – England Netball expects membership numbers to increase past pre-pandemic levels for the coming 2022/23 membership year. It is important that the strategy reflects this potential to grow participation which could be hampered due to a lack of netball facilities.
- England Netball's priorities are to increase participation and to provide opportunity for those living in low socio-economic areas. However, the majority of the sports halls in Torbay do not have the required run off space around the perimeter of the court and therefore matches cannot always be played in those halls.

KEY SITES AND ACTIONS

TABLE 13: KEY PROJECTS FOR NETBALL – SITE SPECIFIC

LOCATION/PROJECT	ACTION
Paignton Academy hub	Protect Paignton Academy Hub for netball use and continue to promote as Torbay's main netball league venue that hosts county events, regional events, festivals and courses.

TABLE 14: KEY ACTIONS FOR NETBALL

To protect existing facilities and secure long term community access to school netball courts.	To protect and continue to develop the community use of netball facilities on education sites. All sports halls with indoor netball courts have unsecured access for community use and restricted opening hours for community use. The outdoor netball courts are also restricted at the education-owned sites in Torbay. It is recommended that further work be completed to ensure longer-term community access at these sites.
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H BOWLS

KEY FINDINGS AND MAIN ISSUES

- All existing greens are well used and there are several strong leagues in the area. Bowls facilities are available up to 7 days a week for club use but most clubs have capacity for additional members and there is scope to accommodate additional teams on most greens. Upton Park Bowls Club has closed (March 2022) but there is sufficient capacity at other sites to accommodate bowlers from this former club.
- The bowls facilities in Torbay are generally of acceptable quality, well-used and adequately maintained to meet club demands. Brixham, Brixham St Marys and Paignton bowls clubs all plan to refurbish the car parking facilities at their sites but funding has not been secured for these plans. Babbacombe Bowling Club clubhouse roof requires repair. There is a lack of security for club access to outdoor bowling greens at Babbacombe and Torbay Country bowling clubs.
- Torbay has a sufficient number of bowls facilities, which are reasonably well located to meet the needs of the sport. The key challenges for the sport are the recent reductions in numbers of players and the inability to attract sufficient new members to the sport. The problems facing bowls in the Torbay area appears to mirror the experiences of other counties, although the decline in membership (failure to attract new members) is of particular concern.
- English Indoor Bowling Association say with the existing number of bowling clubs located within Torbay, and the number of indoor bowling centres, the Association consider it essential that the clubs continue to operate to meet the demand of Torbay's population.
- The PPS, through its assessment of supply and demand for bowls and consultation with Bowls England, supports the assessment that the capacity for pay and play of the second bowling green at Abbey Park should be protected in principle, to meet casual demand for bowls (Bowls England has various initiatives to support this). However, given the current condition of the green and the cost of rehabilitating it, its viability as a pay & play facility may be compromised and therefore there may be other options to explore in the short – medium term to utilise the site for other sports uses.



KEY SITES AND ACTIONS

TABLE 15: KEY PROJECTS FOR BOWLS– SITE SPECIFIC

LOCATION / PROJECT	ACTION
Abbey Park	<p>Protect the capacity provided by the pay and play green, in principle. However, given the current condition of the green and the cost of rehabilitating it, its viability as a pay & play facility may be compromised. Therefore, there may be other options to explore in the short – medium term in order to maximise the usage of the well located site:</p> <p>Whether the expected pay & play element of demand could be accommodated at one of the other bowling greens nearby (e.g. Abbey Park Bowls Club)</p> <p>Uses to which this space could be put on a temporary basis, with the possibility of it being reinstated as a bowling green should future demand arise (i.e. not tarmacing the surface). For example, a bowling green is normally square and that at Abbey Park is probably in the region of 31m square. A volleyball court (grass or sand) is 15.2m (50') by 24.4m (80') so would fit comfortably within this space.</p>

TABLE 16: KEY ACTIONS FOR BOWLS

To protect current provision and ensure facilities are fit for purpose	<p>To protect and maintain all three indoor bowls centres and 11 outdoor bowling greens in Torbay. Continue to support clubs to ensure demand for bowls is met and facilities are fit-for-purpose. This includes supporting refurbishment plans of bowls clubs and appropriate replacement facilities if any existing bowling facilities are redeveloped (e.g. at Torquay Utd FC's ground at Plainmoor) .</p> <p>There is a lack of security for club access to outdoor bowling greens at two bowls clubs and it is recommended</p>
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	that further work be completed to ensure longer-term community access at these sites.
To safeguard disused bowls site for sport	To investigate the opportunity to repurpose disused bowls sites for another sport, based on local demand.

I ARCHERY

KEY FINDINGS AND MAIN ISSUES

- There are three archery clubs based in Torbay; Torquay Company of Archers, Brixham Archery Club and Paignton Archery Club.
- Torquay Company of Archers has a waiting list for beginner courses (50 people) across the age ranges. The club would like to move to a dedicated indoor shooting range in addition to a field facility as this would enable them to host competitions for visiting archers and clubs. It would continue to use Torquay Academy sports hall for indoor shooting.
- Brixham Archery Club uses six sites in Torbay for archery (including three field archery sites). Due to the likelihood of its existing facilities at Upton Manor Campsite being lost to redevelopment, the Club is actively seeking new sites for indoor and outdoor facilities and it is aware that there could be land near to its existing facilities which may offer space to relocate the facilities.
- As a relatively small NGB, Archery GB cannot offer information on participation rates. However, it is able to provide membership numbers and financial data, and it is aware of the plans for archery clubs in Torbay. Generally, the biggest hindrance for archery clubs is security of access at sites that favour football and cricket club usage.

KEY SITES AND ACTIONS

TABLE 17: PRIORITY PROJECTS FOR ARCHERY– SITE SPECIFIC

LOCATION/PROJECT	ACTION
Site for Brixham Archery Club	Replacement facilities for Upton Manor Campsite and outdoor range used by club
Site for Torquay Company of Archers	Permanent site with secure access for Torquay Company of Archers

TABLE 18: KEY ACTIONS FOR ARCHERY

To protect current provision	To protect and maintain current archery facilities and access to them by the community. Facilities used by the two archery clubs in Torbay are to be retained or enhanced as part of redevelopment unless an assessment has demonstrated that there is an excess of provision and is surplus to requirements or clear evidence supports relocation.
To find new and replacement sites for archery	Continue to support clubs to ensure demand for archery is met and facilities are fit-for-purpose. Archery clubs in Torbay should be supported in their searches for new facilities. Playing pitch sites that have been identified as surplus to requirements, or have spare capacity to accommodate archery, should be considered (such as Easterfield Lane in Torquay and Clennon Valley and Oldway in Paignton). It is recommended that further feasibility work be completed to ensure the needs of the users are met by new archery facilities.

J OTHER SPORTS

- This Strategy is primarily focused on playing pitches and the main sports which are played on them – football, cricket, rugby and hockey – and other facilities such as bowling greens and tennis courts which often lie adjacent. But there are other aspects to playing pitches and the land on which they lie. Many playing fields are valuable in their own right as public open space sites for informal recreation and a wealth of informal activities – kite flying, picnics, play, environmental studies, dog walking and so on – which all contribute towards people’s good health and well being and need to be managed proactively to ensure harmony between users.
- The strategy has also considered athletics and archery which make use of playing fields. Moreover, there are other pitch sports which play on grass, including baseball, lacrosse, softball, American football and rounders. There are clubs and teams for the latter two in Torbay – American Football is played at Foxhole Field in Paignton by American Trojans and Clennon Valley is used by a local rounders league. There may be other examples which are not recorded here. This diversity and activity should be supported; it helps to maintain the viability and sustainability of the sites and ensures that they are used all year round.

Additional ancillary facilities such as toilets, shelters and cafes should be provided to similarly encourage participation in outdoor activities.

4 DELIVERY OF STRATEGIC SITES - OPTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

4.1 The strategy identifies three key strategic priority sites in the Bay: Clennon Valley, Torquay Valley of Sport (Torre Valley North, Torre Valley South and Torquay Recreation Ground) and Barton Downs. While there are numerous other important sites where action is required (for example, to improve pitch quality or changing facilities – **please see Action Plans which refer to all sites**), these strategic sites present opportunities for projects which can significantly improve access to good quality sports pitches and facilities. Improving these sites will have a major impact on sport because they fulfil one or more of the following:

- Are large and/or multi-pitch sites;
- Are not being used or not utilised to their full extent, often due to constraints and/or poor quality facilities and pitches;
- Are large enough to be able to become “hub” sites for single or multiple sports;
- Provide an opportunity to reduce the number of shared use sites;
- Provide an opportunity to accommodate sport in a wider than local context; and,
- Provide pitches and facilities to help fill gaps in demand and address deprivation.

4.2 As large multi-sport sites, the proposals for which also inter-relate, proposals for both Clennon Valley and Torquay Valley for Sport will need site detailed feasibility, phasing and masterplanning work to be done as a priority first stage to understand the exact size, specification and layout of pitches.

4.3 The existing and proposed facilities which could be considered at these sites can be summarised as follows:

Clennon Valley

- Improve drainage, reinstate the rugby pitch, provide youth football pitches as a hub site with appropriate ancillary facilities, consider the provision of a new cricket ground and retain the sand-based artificial grass pitch.
- An enhanced pitch maintenance programme has now being adopted by Torbay Council at Clennon Valley. Masterplanning and feasibility work is now required to establish possible pitch layouts, ground conditions (including work to establish suitability for a new cricket square), timetable and costs for drainage and other works etc.

- Other additional options/pitch uses to be considered subject to feasibility and masterplanning including a compact athletics facility (if not feasible at Torquay Valley of Sport), sports lighting for velo track, a 9v9 3G FTP and expansion of other sports such as rounders.

Torquay Valley of Sport:

- Address flood risk (and potential long-term loss of playable area at Torquay Recreation Ground) and the condition of stands; enhance/provide new (joint) clubhouse facility for rugby and cricket at the Recreation Ground; move cricket from Torre Valley North to Clennon Valley (subject to feasibility).
- Various other options subject to further feasibility and masterplanning include: introducing a compact athletics facility on either Torre Valley North or Torre valley South and transferring rugby use from Torre Valley South to Torre Valley North.



Barton Downs:

- Bring grass pitches back into use; provide access to existing changing facilities; secure good maintenance and management of facilities and site and improve the surface of the Multi Use Games Area

ASSESSING PRIORITIES

4.4 The identified strategic sites should be the main priorities behind which all partners can get behind to help deliver. Across the numerous other site-specific actions identified in the Action Plan which accompanies this Strategy, priorities for these will have to be established by the Delivery Group, which will also have to monitor priorities and progress being made. Partnership working should be undertaken throughout and discussion and delivery of priorities cannot be left to Delivery Group meetings to execute. There are a number of factors which will need to be considered in determining the priority of the actions for sites identified which can be used as a checklist:

Supply / demand considerations

- Certainty that demand will continue/return to a site.
- Risk to the sport remaining in the Bay.
- The ability for improvements/provision to address pockets of high deprivation.
- Spatial gaps and proximity to existing similar pitch provision.

Funding and viability considerations

- TBC investment priorities.

- NGB investment priorities.
- Funding available and dependency on more than one source of funding.
- Long-term viability and availability of ongoing revenue funding for e.g. maintenance

Site considerations

- Understanding the precise scope of works required (e.g. through any investigation works, understanding of NGB standards, masterplanning for larger/more complex sites)
- Security of tenure
- Suitability for intensification of use (e.g. ability to upgrade).

Decision considerations

- 'Easy'/quick win improvements to existing facilities and pitches (e.g. refurbishment, access to existing changing, minor drainage works).
- Political/corporate priorities.
- Planning and other on-site and setting constraints.
- Need (or not) for planning permission and timescales needed for pre-application and full application approval.

If facilities have little or no prospect of being delivered or community access cannot be secured, then new or alternative sites will need to be identified.

5 DELIVERY OF THE STRATEGY

ACTION PLAN

5.1 This Strategy is accompanied by an Action Plan, setting out the site-specific actions for each sport and strategic and priority projects. Following consultation on the draft Strategy and Action Plan, and any changes made as a result, this Strategy's Action Plan should be monitored periodically, making the Action Plan a "live" document. Members of the PPS Steering Group (which will become a "Delivery Group") will have a responsibility to update the Action Plan and work collaboratively (with others including clubs, teams, providers and owners of facilities and pitches) to implement projects. The delivery stage will also confirm options for change presented in this strategy as further work during implementation is done on feasibility, viability and implications of other actions. Further recommendations for the Delivery Group to follow are presented under Guiding Principle 4 later in this section.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MONITORING AND DELIVERY

5.2 Alongside the priority and strategic actions for sports and their sites, pitches and facilities identified above, the principles set out in Section 2 provide a structure for further, additional

recommendations and actions, which will help enable appropriate delivery of the PPS, and which apply across Torbay (rather than being for individual specific sites).

Overarching Principle: Protect, Enhance, Provide

To protect existing provision and proactively plan for and provide sufficient and appropriate high-quality pitches, facilities and opportunities (enhanced and new) to meet demand to 2040, wherever possible making the best use of facilities already available.

Recommendations - Protect, Enhance, Provide	
OP1	Follow statutory planning policy and guidance. Proposals to be considered in accordance with national policy, the development plan (Torbay Adopted Local Plan and made Neighbourhood Plans), Sport England policy (Playing Fields Policy and Guidance), this PPS and other material considerations.
OP2	Protect existing playing fields from change of use or loss where there is demand now or likely to be demand for their use in the future.
OP3	Make best use of existing supply. Improve the quality of existing sites before new sites are provided.
OP4	Support proposals for sport in line with this PPS in principle.
OP5	Sports site development or enhancement. When undertaking sports-related site development or enhancement, the following issues will continue to be considered: alignment with Torbay Council's Strategy 'Torbay on the Move'; financial viability including delivery and ongoing maintenance costs; security of tenure; planning constraints and material considerations; adequacy of existing finances to maintain existing sites; site Masterplan; analysis of the possibility of shared site management opportunities; availability of opportunities to lease sites to external organisations; options to assist community groups to gain funding to enhance existing provision; negotiation with landowners to increase access to private strategic sites; and, impact on all sports that use a site regardless of the sport that is the subject of enhancements.
OP6	New developments to have adequate and appropriate provision for the pitch sports, complementary to existing provision and making the optimum

Recommendations - Protect, Enhance, Provide	
	use of existing resources and facilities available. Demand arising from developments to be accommodated via investment wherever possible at existing club sites or strategic multi-pitch facilities unless development is of such a scale that it is commensurate with on-site facilities.
OP7	<p>Proposals to develop and use facilities contrary to the recommendations of this assessment and any subsequent strategy and action plan, should only be approved where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the facilities to be surplus to requirements; or ▪ the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or ▪ the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.
OP8	<p>Appropriate and high-quality facilities, as well as helping to attract and retain players in informal and formal sport, will enable clubs to move up through the leagues and may require ancillary provision such as changing facilities, perimeter fencing and floodlighting. Existing and new pitches and facilities must be protected from damage, vandalism, and misuse (for example, from littering and dog fouling⁴). This may require the sensitive introduction of measures at shared use open spaces and facilities. Pitches on public open space sites require good, careful and timely management to ensure quality is maintained. Appropriate sites are identified in the Actions Plans.</p>

4 Fouling of pitches by dogs is a major problem on sites owned by Torbay Councils and reduces the likelihood of teams, particularly junior and youth age groups, from using them at all. Measures to control can be challenging but working closely in partnership with local communities to install appropriate measures and infrastructure, as well as education, is a key to addressing this problem.

Recommendations - Protect, Enhance, Provide

OP9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ While the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) is not a statutory planning document, it should, nonetheless, be taken fully into account as and when the statutory development plan (comprised of the adopted Local Plan and made Neighbourhood Plans) within Torbay is produced / reviewed. This extends to considering the up-to-date position in the Action Plan and subsequent updating of that Plan by the Stage E delivery / steering group as delivery of priorities takes place. It is necessary for development plans not only to be cognisant of the short, medium and long-term strategy for protection, provision and enhancement of pitches and ancillary facilities in the PPS, but also of the opportunities that their review can present in providing solutions to constraints and growing demand in the Bay. ▪ Other than the recommendations in the Action Plans, it will be very important for Torbay Council to provide complementary guidance through their planning policies, and these should cover the following: ▪ Include policies and proposals in its Development Plan documents which are consistent with National Planning Policy Framework guidance and, in particular, include reference to the recommendations contained in this Section. Strategic policies should set out expected requirements and formulae for the provision of facilities and open space and specify that sums for offsite delivery may be required. ▪ Where strategic development sites or new communities are being considered there should be early identification of suitably sized level areas which can be safeguarded for provision of playing pitches ▪ Include proposals that cover the relevant recommendations contained in the Action Plans where the location and/or site of new or improved provision is determined. ▪ In assessing all options, the potential for developing/improving bone fide community facilities on existing and new school sites should be considered.
OP10	<p>New sites allocated for the pitch sports should have sufficient area and flexibility to be future proofed for a range of pitch sizes and different sports.</p>

Recommendations - Protect, Enhance, Provide

	<p>New, isolated, single pitch and single sport sites / provision are unlikely to be fit for purpose for the modern game, will not be likely to maximise their use and may not see value for money or a good return from the investment made.</p>
OP11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Funding of sport and recreation facilities is often difficult and the many demands on development obligations result in complex viability negotiations with the needs of e.g. affordable housing, balanced against the needs of social and community infrastructure. A key factor is the deliverability of the scheme – whether funding has been allocated and whether the structure is already in place to deliver it. Schemes need to be fluid and flexible and able to adapt quickly to change. There will be some elements of schemes that have quick, easy ‘wins’ – enhancements for example. ▪ Any Football Foundation investment will be targeted towards projects identified in the Local Football Facilities Plan and will concentrate on 3+ adult pitch or equivalent sites. (LFFP identified projects are identified in the Action Plan). ▪ Section 106 planning obligations should continue to be used for collecting and allocating contributions to sport and recreation projects and will play a role alongside the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Government’s proposed changes (in the Regeneration and Levelling-up Bill 2022) to the CIL regime in funding or part-funding improvements to pitches and facilities. ▪ Maintenance payments through developer contributions are unlikely to cover full costs for maintenance and operational funds have to come from other budgets. Projects involving education sites might also be funded through separate national capital funds. Other potential funding sources may include those listed below. ▪ Considerable investment is now being made into health which may be a way forward in securing funding for pitch improvements, particularly through community sport and wellbeing hubs which have an active sports component and link to nearby sports facilities.

Recommendations - Protect, Enhance, Provide

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital funds from Sport England and National Governing Bodies (NGBs) can make a major contribution to key local capital projects. NGBs will work together to increase opportunities for joint funding, management and use of facilities and to avoid duplication and make the best use of what we already have. Innovative ways to link existing community assets/groups into the development of new identified projects will need to be developed to ensure they are sustainable and embedded within their local communities. There are other ways, not just financial, in which people can work together to improve the viability of pitch sport sites, for example, reviewing and rescheduling football kick-off times. Support for the voluntary sector in relation to the management and maintenance of facilities and membership activity (through, for example, subsidised training sessions and benefits if Clubmark is achieved) would help to ensure a thriving club sector and good quality facilities.
OP12	<p>Improvements to existing pitches and facilities and development of new pitches and facilities should demonstrate that they return good value for money, are efficient use of investment and provide long-term viability. Wherever possible, sites and ancillary facilities should be multi-use and be capable of hosting a range of activities – throughout the year - on site (both formal sport and other activities) to enable all year-round use. Business cases and management plans (justifying capital and management / maintenance / revenue needs) should be put in place and acted upon through delivery to ensure this takes place.</p>

Guiding Principle 1: A Framework for Management and Delivery

To create an ongoing management and delivery framework for people and organisations to work together to share skills, expertise, resources and facilities in implementing the Strategy.

Recommendations - A Framework for Management and Delivery

- GP1.1 Torbay PPS Delivery Group.** Once the Strategy has been agreed by the Steering Group it will be adopted by Torbay Council and will form part of its evidence base for future development plan documents.
- The Steering Group will continue to provide the basis for membership of a “Torbay PPS Delivery Group”. This is a critical part of the PPS process, known as “Stage E”. Other organisations and individuals can be invited on to the Delivery Group as needed to oversee certain projects.
 - The evolving context of participation in sport and active recreation means that monitoring and review of the strategy is as important as the initial preparation of the document to ensure it remains sufficiently robust. The Council will also continue to maintain the PPS database underpinning the Strategy (Stage B database) and ensure data is kept up to date and communicated through the steering group to relevant bodies.
 - The Delivery Group will thus continue to be committed to advancing the strategy and keeping it up to date through:
 1. Development of detailed understanding of priority projects' configuration and costs through feasibility, masterplanning and business planning.
 2. Monitoring the delivery of the recommendations and actions and identifying any changes that are required to the priority afforded to each action.
 3. Recording changes to the pitch stock in the Borough and evaluating the impact of this on the supply and demand information.
 4. Assessing the impact of changes to participation, including changing trends and the development of new formats of the game as well as affiliation data for each of the National Governing Bodies of Sport.
 5. Assessing the impact of demographic changes and new population estimates/ projected planned housing numbers.
 6. Analysis of funding sources and new funding opportunities for the provision/improvement of sports facilities.

Recommendations - A Framework for Management and Delivery

	<p>7. Reviewing growth of emerging sports, their participation rates, facilities available for them and likely facilities necessary for their support and development.</p> <p>8. Taking both proactive and reactive actions to implement and follow the recommendations of this Strategy.</p>
GP1.2	<p>Continue to develop partnership working between Council departments, health agencies, facility operators, the education sector, NGBs, local sports clubs and the third / voluntary /community sector to expand the range of affordable and accessible opportunities for both residents and visitors to Torbay.</p> <p>Explore opportunities for collaborative working between neighbouring authorities to maximise cross-boundary usage. Maintain and develop relationship with South Hams and Teignbridge District Councils.</p>
GP1.3	<p>Opportunities for the co-location of facilities and types of pitch between different sport, surface types and other, more informal or commercial, leisure activities should be considered to help ensure long-term viability of sites and their use throughout the year.</p>
GP1.4	<p>Extending the use of pitch assets out of season: Torbay has traditionally hosted summer sporting festivals – run by either the local authority or commercial operators. The Easter Hockey Festival is taking place this year at Torbay Leisure Centre. ‘Torbay’ football festivals in the recent past have used playing facilities in Newton Abbot whilst staying in Torbay. This year, the SCI Torquay Football Tournament is taking place in May at Stoke Gabriel (just outside the Bay). Such events can clearly have an economic value to the Bay, particularly out of season and during mid-season breaks, where visiting teams and their families may make use of Torbay’s visitor offer. Sports festivals should be promoted and encouraged to be hosted in Torbay to help contribute to year-round viability of pitches and facilities and the wider economy.</p>
GP1.5	<p>Understanding costs of improvements and maintenance: Within the Delivery phase, develop a funding strategy to maintain/enhance facilities and pitches. Identify lead personnel to drive this forward. This may</p>

Recommendations - A Framework for Management and Delivery

	necessitate further feasibility work to fully understand costs associated with improvements and maintenance.
GP1.6	Understanding acceptable costs to access pitches and facilities: Seek to ensure that sports facility charges are reasonable in terms of affordability to residents, and are comparable with similar facilities elsewhere. Keep community accessible sports facility charges under review and benchmark against neighbouring authorities.

Guiding Principle 2: Health and Well-being

To recognise and emphasise the value of the pitch sports in contributing to enhanced mental and physical health and well-being, particularly for those still underrepresented in the pitch sports, and in helping to address socio-economic deprivation.

Recommendations - Health and Well-being

GP2.1	Role of pitch sports in physical and mental health and well-being There is now widespread appreciation of the problems of obesity and poor physical and mental health and well-being through a lack of exercise, and how the provision and use of sports pitches and associated facilities may link into wider health and community development agendas. Provision of pitches and facilities should reflect opportunities to improve the physical and mental health and well-being in local communities through both formal and informal sport.
GP2.2	Multi-use of playing fields and their environs: Playing fields are undoubtedly 'healthy places', serving multiple roles such as open recreational / leisure space, habitat and biodiversity at their edge, being part of a wider green infrastructure network, sustainable drainage, pollution control, carbon sequestration and, of course, for sport. Their importance has been highlighted through the Covid-19 pandemic when so many regular sporting activities have been severely curtailed and on return to a more 'normal' situation, it will be important to ensure that they provide facilities and opportunities for as many people within the community as possible and serve a wider than sport role.

Recommendations - Health and Well-being

GP2.3	Playing pitch facilities should be an equitable resource – available and accessible to all, whatever their age, gender, level of ability or disability, level of inactivity or activity, or income. Football, cricket and rugby are still predominantly male sports; hockey is more gender equitable with generally equal numbers of participants and teams. Other under-represented groups include people from lower income households and socio-economic groups (particularly in areas with high levels of deprivation), people with disabilities, people from particular ethnic groups and those with long-term health conditions. There is evidence that costs and programming can disproportionately hinder use by under-represented groups. Investment should be targeted at providing pitch and facility types and improvements which are suitable to help deliver change but which also enable value for money and security of investment made in the long-term within the context of limited funding being available for sport.
GP2.4	Opportunities to use both formal and informal sport to help reduce inequalities and improve health and well being in disadvantaged areas should be a factors in determining localized priority sites for enhancement, subject to satisfactory protection of investment being secured . Better quality, dedicated changing, shower and pavilion facilities, toilets for youth participants and measures to enhance the safety, security and attractiveness of playing field sites – such as improving accessible paths, good quality grass, kick-about areas / MUGAs, adequate lighting, windbreaks, shelters and seats, “visibility” and multi-use of facilities through daytime and evening use, CCTV, vandalism proofing facilities without compromising accessibility and quality, and secure storage – are all measures that can enhance inclusivity and help ensure that investment made demonstrates value for money, helps to build community cohesiveness and ownership and helps to address the quality and offer available in areas of high deprivation for the benefit of local communities.

Guiding Principle 3: The Environment, Decarbonisation and Climate Change

To provide, manage and maintain facilities in such a way as to address issues of environmental sustainability and climate benefit.

Recommendations - The Environment, Decarbonisation and Climate Change

GP3.1	<p>Sustainable locations: The strategy should be delivered to ensure that pitch improvements and their use are planned, managed and promoted to ensure that they lie at the heart of their local communities and are easily accessible to all, thus reducing the need to travel, and / or work is progressed to help ensure that transport connectivity (while prioritizing low carbon and active modes of travel first) are delivered in Torbay to ensure good and safe access to strategic and multi-pitch, multi-sport sites from across the Bay. When planning for major new developments and links to sports pitches and facilities, planning officers should be considering the principles established by Sport England / Public Health England's Active Design Guidance.</p>
GP3.2	<p>Good design incorporating low carbon and carbon-reducing measures and innovations such as sustainable drainage systems, rainwater recycling, electric car and bike charging points, biomass boilers, the greater use of natural light / passivhaus design and underfloor heating in sports pavilions, solar power for electricity generation should be considered wherever feasible.</p> <p>Design must also reflect opportunities for multi-use of facilities by different sports, despite sometimes different standards being required. Compromise and adaptable buildings must be considered to help keep costs down and future proof use, particularly on multi-sport sites. Multi-use must extend to opportunities for wider community uses where feasible, needed and appropriate. Community Consultation should be at the heart of the project and direct the design.</p>
GP3.3	<p>Innovations: Alternatives to grass and other technical developments could be considered in the future: hybrid pitches (a combination of grass and artificial grass) are being trialed in a few locations in the UK and may come forward as a sustainable alternative to full artificial grass provision, which face major challenges now in terms of manufacture, disposal of carpets, reduction of loss of rubber crumb to watercourses (from 3G pitches) and their lifetime cost. Other innovations, such as the use of a different ball for hockey to use on non-sand-based surfaces are also being trialed. The new Gen2 surface offers opportunities for hockey pitches to be</p>

Recommendations - The Environment, Decarbonisation and Climate Change	
	viable in the long-term without relying on football demand to supplement income, by enabling netball and tennis to be played on the surface too. Other artificial surfaces and fills could become available during the lifetime of this Strategy and should be considered as options in the future where viable.
GP3.4	Role of strategic sites in supporting the environment: Opportunities can be taken on multi-pitch / multi-use strategic sites, in particular, to invest in whole life and whole site plans which benefit on-site and adjacent ecology and habitats (for example, testing whether net gains in biodiversity can be achieved).
GP3.5	Pursue whole life plans for artificial pitches, in particular, to demonstrate how loss of rubber crumb into off-site environments can be minimised (e.g. removable filter in ducting on a dedicated fenced hardstanding path from 3G to changing and / or parking area to prevent loss of crumb to grassed areas), how surface can be sourced to minimise carbon footprint, how investment in a good maintenance and management programme can extend the surface life and how surface will be dealt with at end of its life.
GP3.6	The role of modular/portacabin prefabricated/container facilities: Modular, portacabin, prefabricated and shipping container adaptations as buildings can work well in some locations. Subject to them being able to meet standards set by sports governing bodies and Sport England, and also demonstrate that they can be a low-carbon option, they could be much more widely used as a cost-effective and viable solution on some sites.

Guiding Principle 4: Education at the Heart of the Community

To encourage and support FE establishments and secondary and primary schools in Torbay to embrace and develop community use of their pitch sport facilities by engaging directly with them and creating a forum for discussion around access, desired improvements, management and maintenance.

Recommendations - Education at the Heart of the Community

GP4.1 **Securing schools' role for community sport:**

South Devon College, the Secondary schools and some primary schools in Torbay make an important contribution to the playing pitch sports, particularly with regard to artificial grass pitch provision, but there is scope for greater community use at some, where long-term security of use for the community outside of the school day can be secured.

In each of the main towns, the proximity/relationship of school sites to local authority provision can potentially lead to a more integrated approach between indoor and outdoor facilities and schools, sports clubs and the Council, if planned and progressed in partnership (for example, the cricket academy being developed by Torquay Academy and Barton Cricket Club in Cricketfield Road, Torquay). However, there are also examples of facilities being provided in schools without secure community use agreements, and a lack of ancillary provision, such as appropriately managed access, floodlighting and access to changing facilities and toilets, the latter being especially important for youth football sites.

Links to the education sector should continue to be established in Torbay, by Active Devon, the NGBs, the Council itself and the TDA and the Delivery Group should include a representative from Education in Torbay who can influence community use in schools. This will require a proactive approach and intervention at the earliest stage of proposed projects, to ensure that the necessary community use agreements and appropriate design of facilities for community use are enacted.

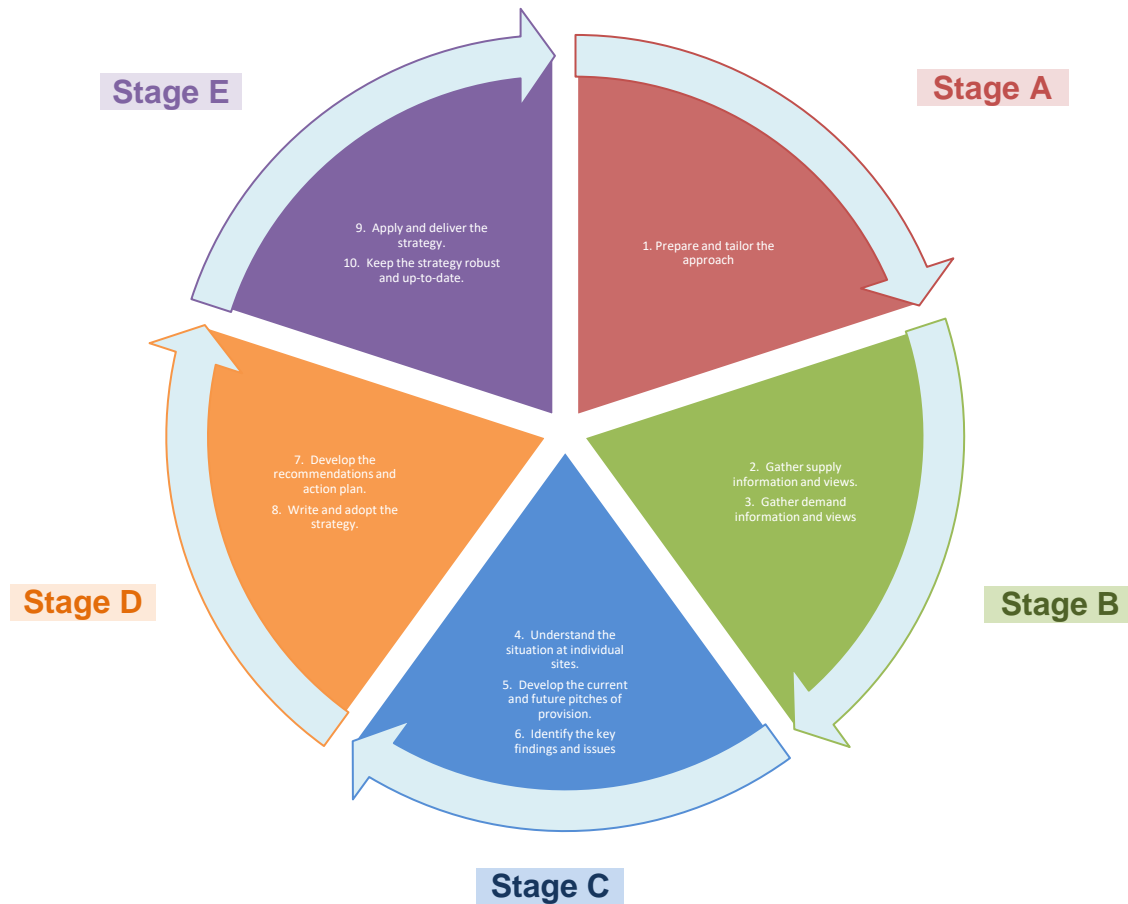
It is acknowledged that there are often issues around the security of and access to educational sites and a lack of funding to pay for appropriate upkeep and maintenance of facilities to maintain sufficient capacity for both school and community use. Sport England can provide advice on this (see www.sportengland.org/campaigns-and-our-work/use-our-school).

GP4.2 Ensure, as far as possible, that **any new sports facilities**, provided as part of future educational provision in Torbay, are designed for curricular, extra-curricular, community and sports development use and made available for community use out of school hours. Any proposed school

Recommendations - Education at the Heart of the Community

	sports facilities in Torbay should have appropriate external lighting, car and bicycle parking and changing facilities to enable community use.
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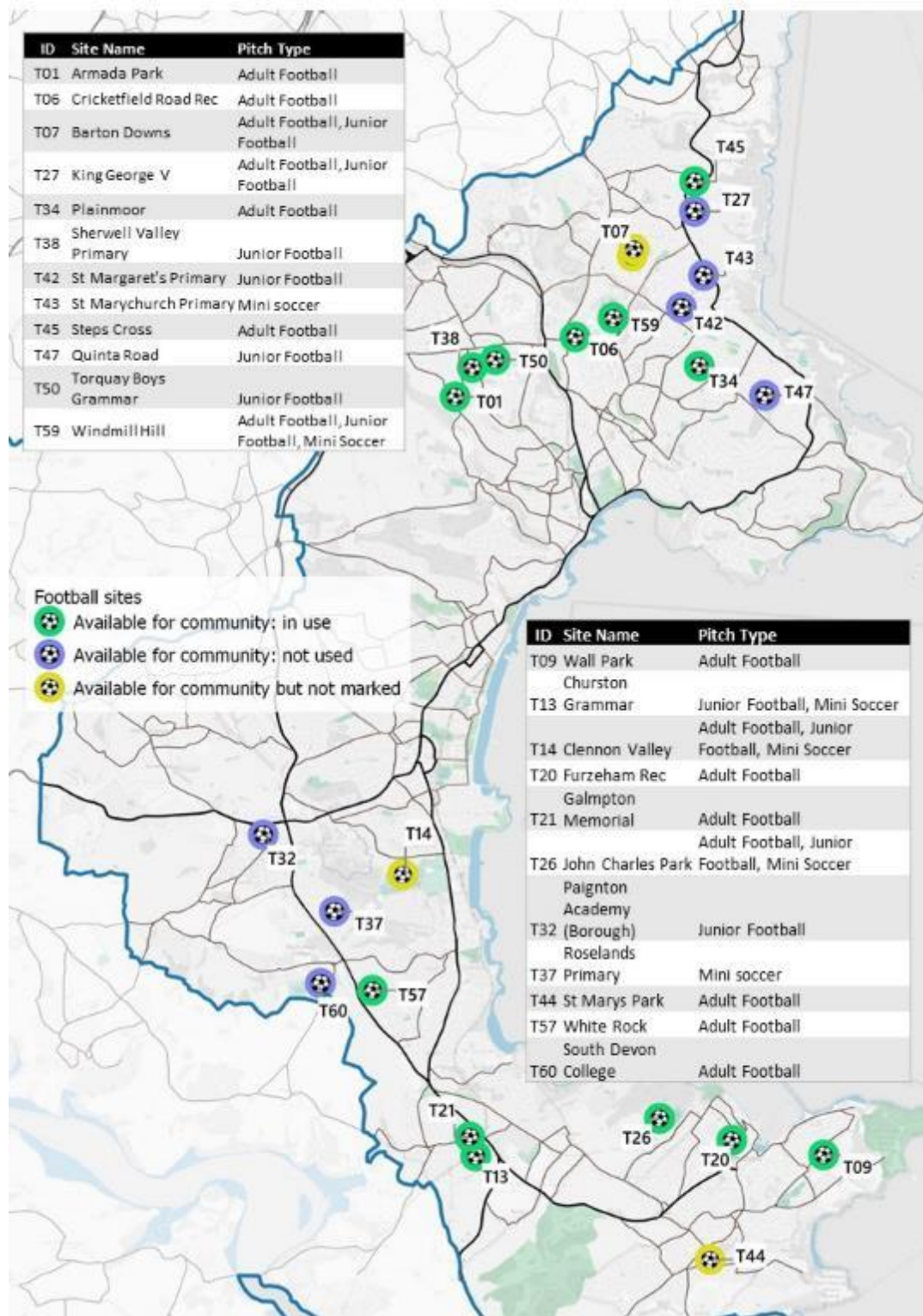
APPENDIX 1: THE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY “TEN STEP APPROACH” TO DEVELOPING A PPS



APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY OF PITCH SPORT DATA

FOOTBALL

Map 2: FOOTBALL PITCH SITES IN TORBAY (see also Map 5)



Grass Football Pitches

- 63 grass football pitches are recorded – 28 adult pitches; 23 youth and 12 mini. 16 are available for and in use by the community at 11 separate sites.
- 23 are available for use but not currently used – these include c16 pitches which could be marked out at short notice or have been in the past (at Clennon Valley, King George V (since discounted, Barton Downs, Windmill Hill and St Mary's Park Brixham).
- 19 pitches, mostly at schools, are not available for community use.
- 4 pitches are at sites which have been disused for some time and have reverted to open space (Ilsham Valley, Stoodley Knowle and Easterfield Lane).

Artificial Grass Pitches

- There are 5 full-size artificial grass pitches in Torbay – three x 3G FTP, all on the FA 3G Register and accredited for matchplay and all on education sites (Paignton Academy; South Devon College and Torquay Academy). The latter two 3Gs FTPs are rated as good quality; and the Torquay Academy surface is due to be upgraded in summer 2022. The pitch at Paignton Academy is rated as standard and requires resurfacing in order to meet re-accreditation in September 2024.
- As referred to under hockey, there are two x sand-based AGPs - Torbay Leisure Centre and TGGs both of which have been upgraded within the last 5 years. No particular issues with regard to quality have been identified.
- A drivetime catchment of 20 minutes shows a good geographical spread of facilities in terms of the three 3G FTPs, although parts of Brixham are not easily accessible.
- 97 teams are recorded as originating in Torbay – this includes 25 teams which play their matches outside it. The breakdown of these 97 teams is 29 adult, 1 ladies, 40 junior boys, 5 junior girls and 22 minis. Since 2013, there has been a movement of teams to play outside the Bay (due to lack of appropriate facilities within), a decline in the number of Saturday adult teams and a movement from grass to artificial grass pitches especially for matchplay.
- Additional demand to 2040 is predicted to be c.50 teams. This includes 22 teams currently playing outside the Bay and comprises c9 adult, 36 youth and 7 mini teams, viz:

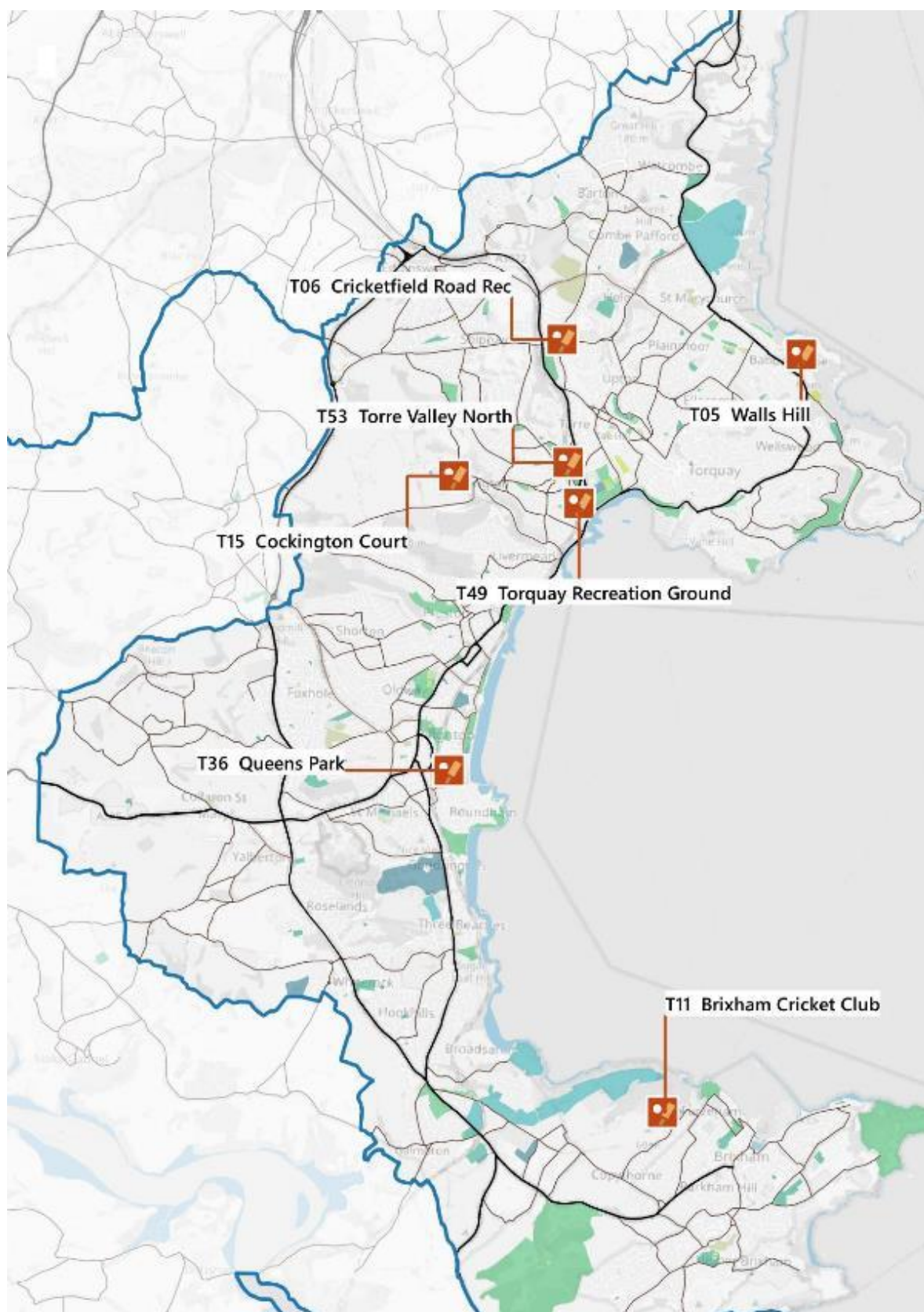
TABLE 19: PROJECTED GROWTH IN FOOTBALL TEAMS IN TORBAY

Line	Reason for more teams	Men's	Ladies	Boys 11v11	Girls 11v11	Boys 9v9	Girls 9v9	Mixed 7v7	Mixed 5v5	3G
1	Population growth to 2040	4.5	0.2	3.8	0.5	2.3	0.3	2.3	1.0	

2	Pitch space based on above	2.3		2.1		1.3		1.2	0.5	0.4
3	+Latent/displaced demand	2		11		7	3			
4	+Aspirations/ trends	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	
5	TOTAL TEAMS to 2040	7.5	1.2	16.8	2.5	11.3	5.3	4.3	3.0	
6	Est. Requirement for GRASS pitches	5		10		8		3	2	

CRICKET

Map 3: CRICKET PITCH SITES IN TORBAY



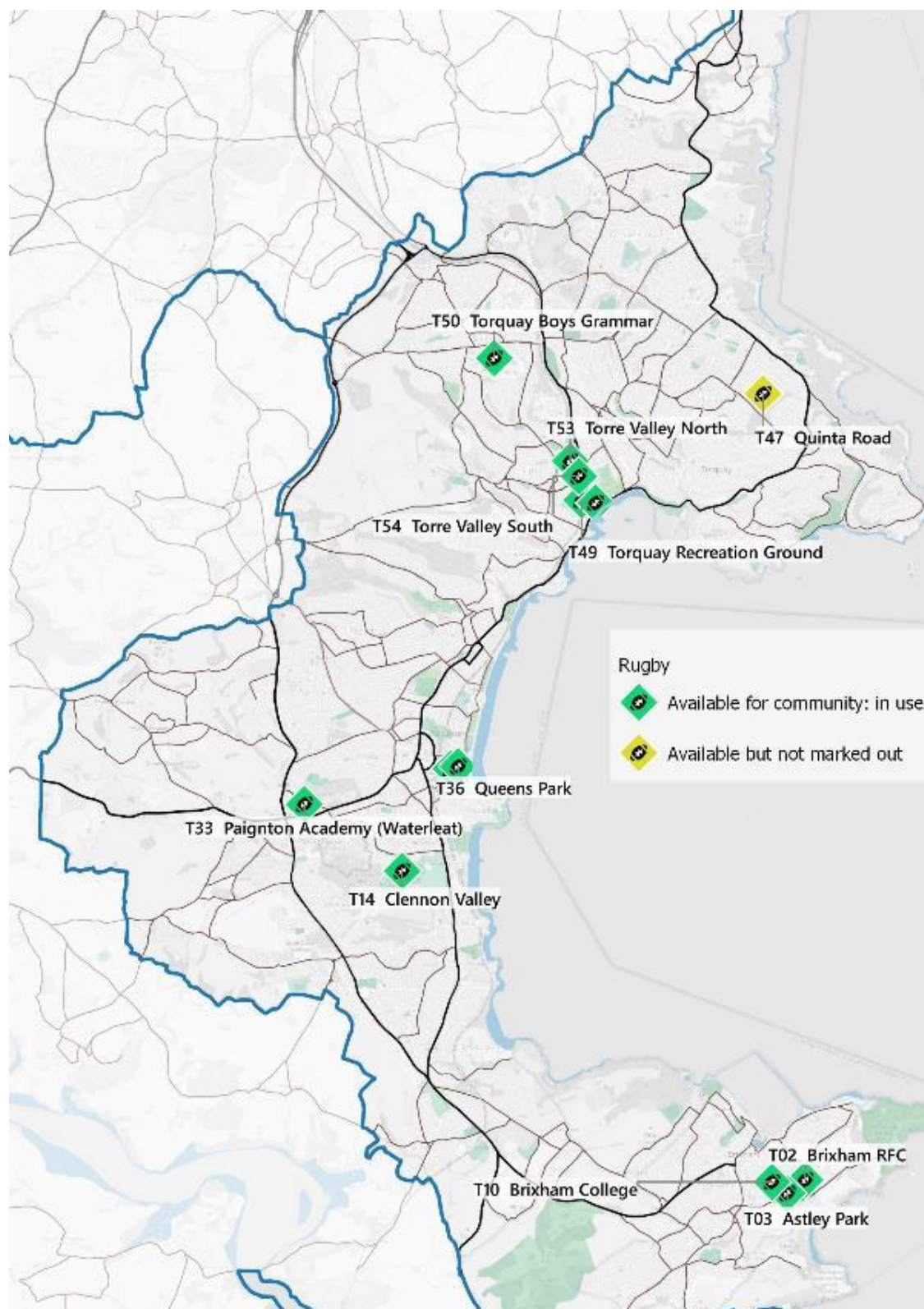
- 7 cricket grounds in Torbay, comprising 7 grass squares and 3 non turf wickets. One site – Brixham Cricket Club – is owned by the club; the other 6 sites are owned by Torbay Council, of which 4 are leased to clubs.
- There are no longer any playable non turf wickets (or grass squares) at schools.
- There are 7 cricket clubs: Torquay CC, Barton CC, Babbacombe CC and Paignton CC run both adult and youth teams; St Marychurch Old Boys, Cockington Corinthians and Brixham CC run adult teams only (the latter has a junior section.)
- In total across the Bay there are 19 adult teams, 3 Colts, 10 junior boys, 1 Ladies and 3 girls' teams, making 36 teams in total (no Vets were recorded). There has been a decline in the number of teams playing in the Bay since 2013, noticeably in Brixham.
- Additional demand to 2040 could be in the order of 12 teams (5 men, 2 ladies and 5 juniors), as follows:

Table 20 : PROJECTED GROWTH IN CRICKET TEAMS IN TORBAY

Line	Reason for more teams	Men's	Ladies'	Boys	Girls
1	Population growth to 2040	3.2	0.5	1.7	0.2
2	Pitches based on above 2040	1.2 (8 wickets per pitch)			
3	+ Latent/displaced demand				
4	+Aspirations/participation trends	1	1	1	1
5	TOTAL TEAMS to 2040	4.2	1.5	2.7	1.2
6	Requirement for pitch space 2040	9.6 teams in all – requiring access to up to 2 pitches (16 wickets)			

RUGBY

Map 4: RUGBY PITCH SITES IN TORBAY



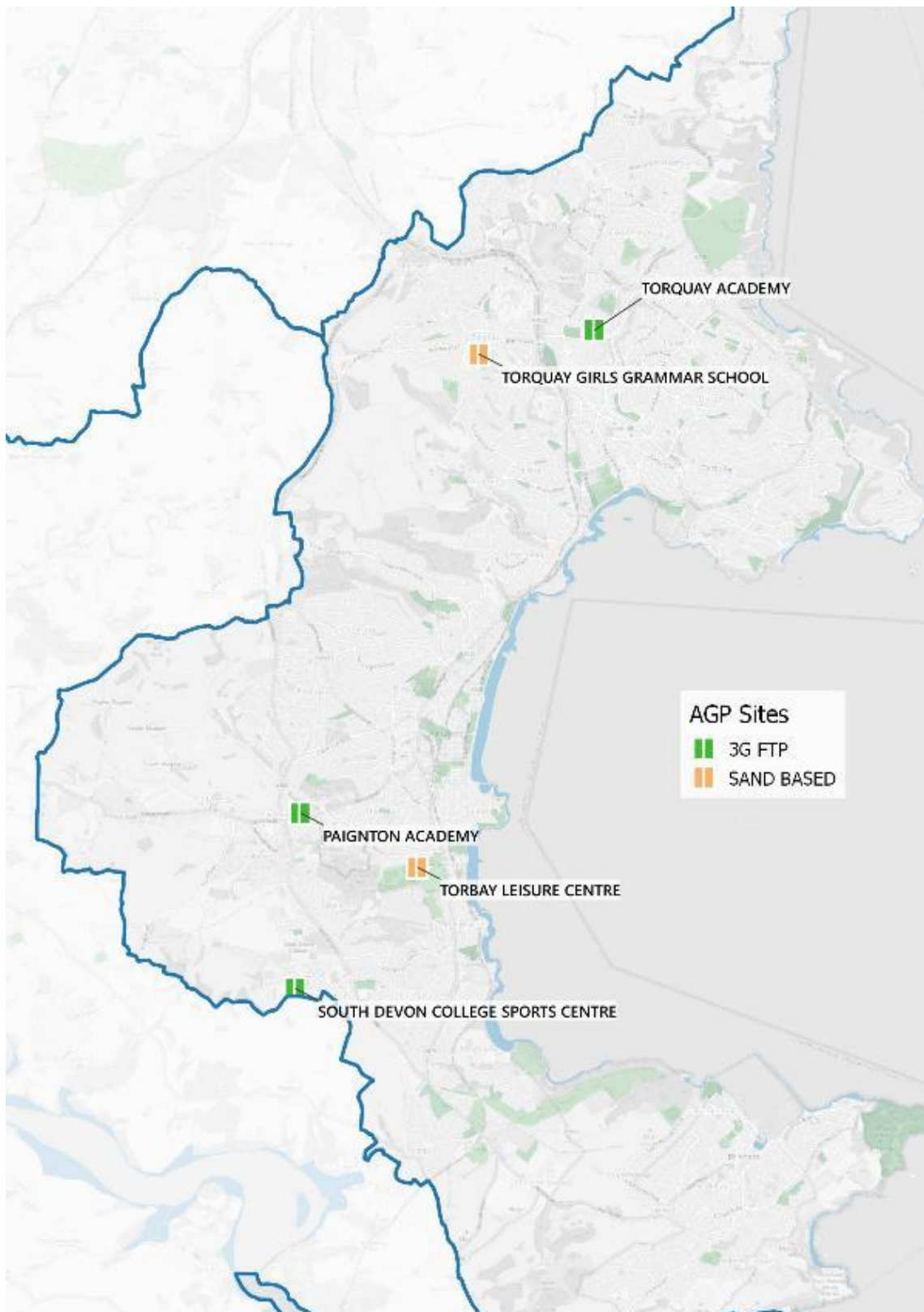
- Excluding educational and commercial sites, the number of marked rugby pitches with posts at either end are as follows: 2 adult and 1 midi pitches in Torquay (Torquay Recreation Ground, Torre Valley North and Torre Valley South); 1 adult and 1 midi pitches in Paignton (at Queen's Park) and 2 adult pitches in Brixham at Astley Park. There are a further 5 rugby pitches at school sites (those at Brixham College, Torquay Boys Grammar School and Paignton Academy having some degree of community use) and 2 pitches which have been marked in the past (at Clennon Valley in Paignton and Centry Road in Brixham). Mini pitches are marked out on several sites as and when required.
- All three rugby clubs' main pitches are leased from Torbay Council: Astley Park (Brixham RUFC); Torquay Recreation Ground (Torquay RUFC) and Queen's Park, Paignton (Paignton RUFC). Torquay RUFC also has use of pitches at Torre Valley North and Torre Valley South. Brixham RUFC has use of other pitches adjoining its main pitch at Astley Park.
- Each club runs the full complement of minis and juniors up to U16s. There are 8 adult teams; 2 Colts, 2 Ladies, 1 vets, 18 junior boys, 4 junior boys and at least 13 minis.
- There has been a slight increase in the number of teams since 2013 (from 45 to 48); other changes are: more boys' youth teams (up from 12 to 18 teams); 4 new girls' teams and less minis (decreased from 18 to 13 teams).
- Additional demand to 2040 could be in the order of 13 teams (4 adult and 9 youth), as follows:

Table 21: PROJECTED GROWTH IN RUGBY TEAMS IN TORBAY

Line	Reason for more teams	Men's	Women's	Boys	Girls	Mixed
1	Population growth to 2040	1.2	0.3	1.5	0.5	3.5
2	Pitches for 2040	2.2				
3	Latent demand	May result in larger squad sizes or existing players playing more often.				
4	Aspirations/Unmet demand		2	2	2	
5	TOTAL TEAMS to 2040	1.2	2.3	3.5	2.5	3.5
6	Requirement for pitch space	Up to 4 additional pitches				

HOCKEY

Map 5: ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCH SITES IN TORBAY



- There are two full-sized pitches sand based pitches with approved surfaces for hockey in Torbay – Torbay Leisure Centre (TLC) at Clennon Valley (sand filled – resurfaced in 2018) and Torquay Girls Grammar School (TGGS) (sand dressed – upgraded in 2018).
- Paignton and Torquay are well covered by the two sand-based AGPs although the catchment of the better surface (sand dressed at TGGS) does not extend to Brixham
- When a 20-minute walk-time catchment is assumed, ease of travel to facilities is greatly restricted.
- Cost of pitches varies significantly from £32 to £82 for half a pitch (mean £57) and from £54 to £105 for a full pitch (mean £70).
- Currently community use of the TGGS pitch is restricted by the school to matches and training by Torbay Hockey Club as their link club. Newton Abbot Hockey Club no longer play there but train and play at Torbay Leisure Centre, which also hosts training by local football clubs and other activities.
- Torbay Hockey Club has 180 members: 98 adults and 82 youth. It runs 6 league teams: 3 Men's teams, 3 Ladies teams and a junior U12 and a junior U10 sides playing in friendlies and tournaments.
- Newton Abbot Ladies run one Ladies team in Petroc 1. They have around 22 members in 2021/22, with 2 members aged 17-18 years.
- Additional demand to 2040 in terms of teams would be small, but social and less formal formats of the game are expected to increase as are the number of club members.

APPENDIX 3: PROPOSALS FOR PITCH PROVISION AT TORBAY SCHOOLS

Through the process of this Strategy's preparation, consultation was undertaken directly with all secondary schools and Colleges in the Bay. This Appendix summarises the issues raised of relevance to the PPS.

Name of school	Community use facilities existing and planned
South Devon College	No community use of grass pitch. No changing nearby. 3G FTP has very few spare slots; used by wide range of football activity and demand growing. College would like to extend its range of sports, notably hockey and athletics.
Brixham College	Brixham RUFC mark out two rugby pitches on Sunday mornings for their midi/mini teams. (Area could be used for football on Saturday mornings if club could mark.) No cricket NTW. College set up a Working Group late last year to progress plans for a 3G FTP on site, in partnership with clubs in the town (rugby and potentially football)
Churston Ferrers Grammar School	Paignton Villa youth and mini teams use the youth & mini pitch. Adult pitches (and associated changing) not available for use due to building works nearby although there is a CUA in existence. Devon Cricket reports School has approached them with regard to providing a cricket wicket at the school.
Paignton Academy	3G FTP is effectively full. Accommodates wide range of football related activity and demand is growing. Very likely that 3G FTP will need resurfacing in time for assessment for FA Register approval in September 2023; limited sinking funds available. Football pitch (Borough Road site) not used (slightly small); rugby pitch at Waterleat Road used as occasional overflow by Paignton RUFC.

Name of school	Community use facilities existing and planned
Torquay Boys Grammar School	<p>Football pitch has some community use through Saints South West. Small AGP which needs upgrading; little community use as not suitable</p> <p>Reciprocal arrangement with Torquay RUFC (as overflow and school matches sometimes played at Recreation Ground).</p> <p>Major plans to develop school as community sports and wellbeing hub. May involve restructuring of artificial surfaces near to school to provide larger area and provision of a full-size, World Rugby 3G FTP on lower school playing fields, plus improvements to fitness suite and other indoor provision.</p> <p>– School would like to jointly manage sand-based pitch on adjacent TGGS site</p> <p>Cricket NTW no longer usable.</p>
Torquay Girls Grammar School	<p>AGP is home to Torbay Hockey Club for matches and training ('link club'). Currently not available for any other use.</p> <p>Prior to Covid, AGP was also home pitch of Newton Abbot Ladies Hockey Club and accommodated several football clubs and sessions.</p> <p>Announcement in June 2022 by the School that they will no longer be providing community use of their AGP, with the 21 year community use agreement due to end soon in October 2022.</p>
The Spires	<p>Quinta Road Playing Fields (off site) have football and rugby provision – apparently available for community use but not used for some time (managed by Semperion).</p> <p>No developments possible until PFI contract finishes 2027.</p> <p>Small MUGA on main school site; was hired out pre-Covid.</p>
St Cuthbert Mayne	Adult football and small rugby in front of school – no community use

Name of school	Community use facilities existing and planned
Sherwell Valley Primary	The only primary school recorded as having regular community use – Upton Athletic minis use its mini pitch and the pitch is widely used after school and during the holidays.
Other Primaries	See Strategy Action Plan. Several schools record they would be happy to host some community use; however, problems of pitch quality and access to the sites are issues which require resolving.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND PITCH SIZES

Glossary Table 1 LIST OF ACRONYMS USED IN THE REPORT

3G FTP	3G Football Turf Pitch	FA	Football Association/Devon FA
AD	Active Devon	FF	Football Foundation
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch	LFFP	Local Football Facility Plan
AGB	Archery GB	TC	Torbay Council
Comm. Org.	Community Organisation	LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
CUA	Community Use Agreement	MUGA	Multi Use Games Area
DC	Devon Cricket	NGBs	National Governing Bodies
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board	NTW	Non-Turf Wicket (Cricket)
EA	England Athletics	RFU	Rugby Football Union
BE	Bowls England	SE	Sport England

EH	England Hockey	VQA	Visual Quality Assessment
EN	England Netball	SLA	Service Level Agreement
EIBA	English Indoor Bowling Assn		

For reference, playing pitch areas (including run offs, excluding ancillary facilities) are:

Glossary Table 2 AREA AND DIMENSIONS OF PLAYING PITCHES BY SPORT

	Type	Age Range	Overall Space	Hectares
Football	5v5	U7, U8	43m x 33m	0.14
	7v7	U9, U10	61m x 43m	0.26
	9v9	U11, U12	79m x 52m	0.41
	Youth 11v11	U13, U14	88m x 56m	0.49
	Youth 11v11	U15, U16	97m x 61m	0.59
	Adult	U17 upwards	106m x 70m	0.74
Cricket	Full pitch	All	111.56m x 115.84m	1.29
Rugby Union	Youth	U12 and below	80m x 53m	0.42

*Source: Comparative Sizes of Sports Pitches & Courts (OUTDOOR) September 2015 Update – Sport England

