

# **South Oxfordshire District Council**

## **EXTRACTS FROM THE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY 2023 – 2041 FOR DIDCOT GARDEN TOWN & AREA OF INFLUENCE**

Based on the LFAS document prepared by:



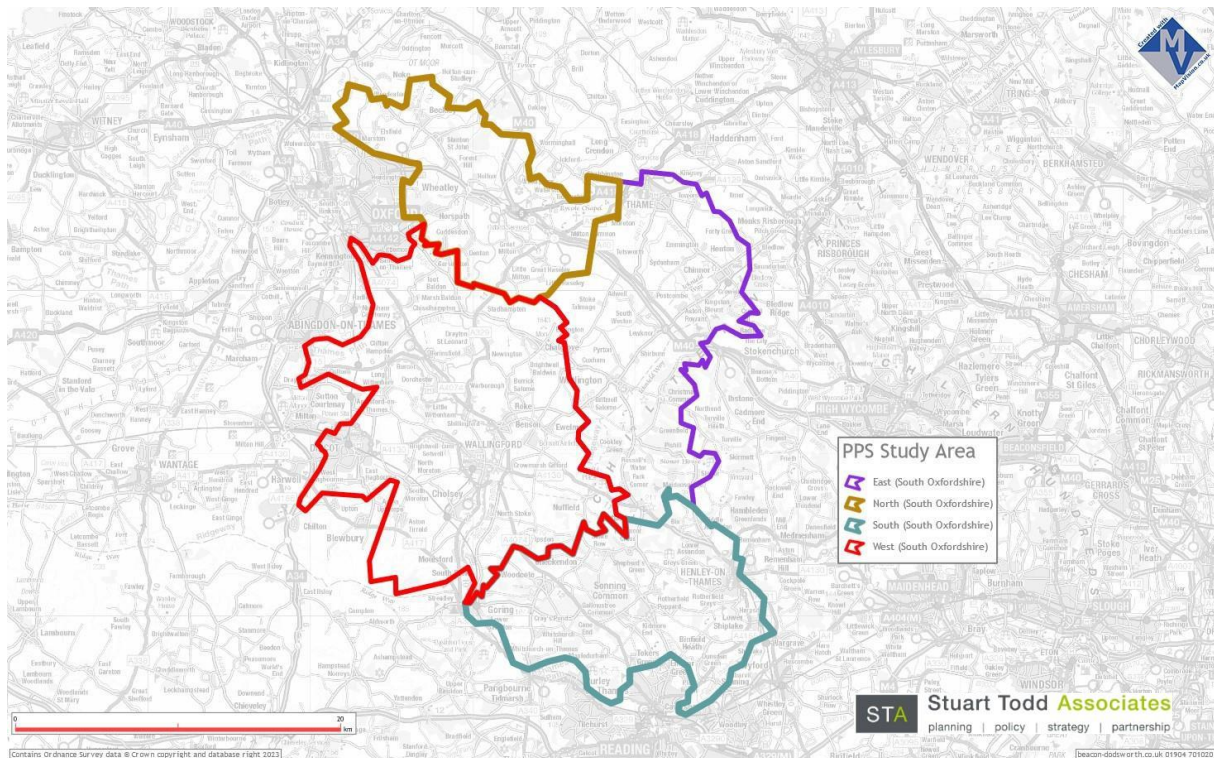
Produced for:



## Introduction to Didcot extracts

- 1 The data included below is extracted from the Cabinet approved version of the district-wide Leisure Facilities Strategy and should be read in conjunction with that document, and the Leisure Facilities Assessment for an understanding about context and methodology. All introductory text has been removed from this extract.

Figure EX1: The Study Area and Sub-Areas



## Main Recommendations by District and Sub-area

- 2 The main recommendations which apply across the District, are set out below. These set out only “headlines” and full detailed recommendations are presented in the main body of the Strategy. Sub-area recommendations are limited, in this Executive Summary, to presenting headlines for future provision.

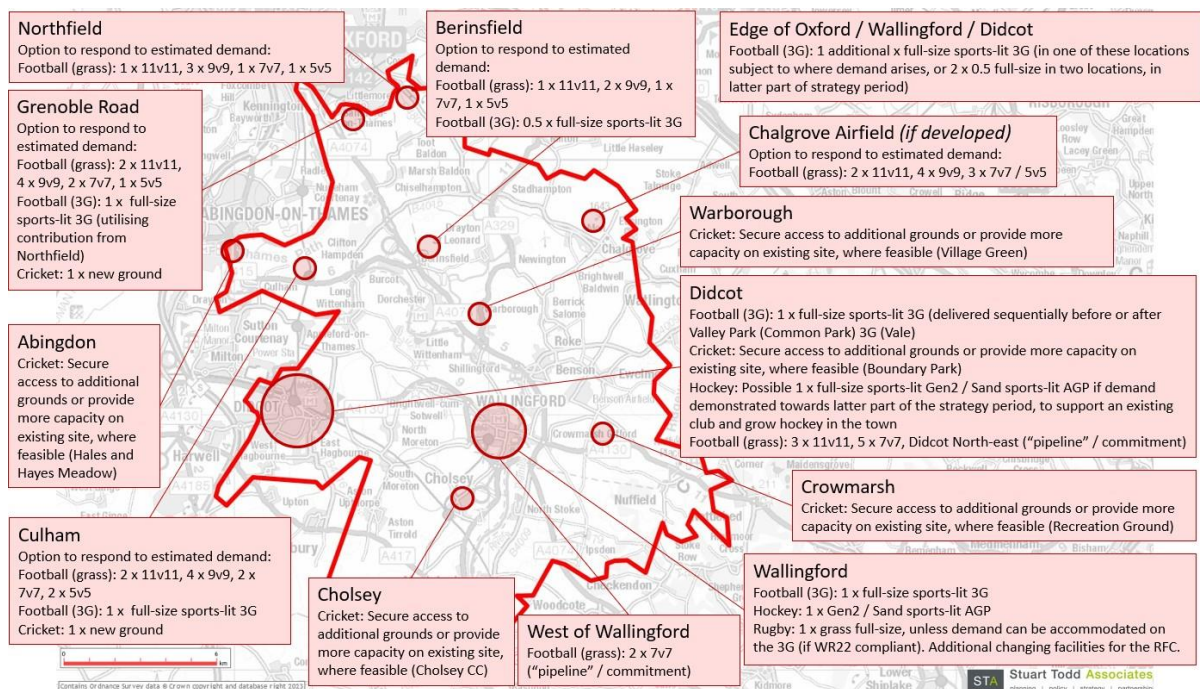
### DISTRICT

- Protect the existing supply of grass pitches and AGPs and their capacity (for existing known, projected and potential additional currently unidentified future demand) unless the strategy proposes their replacement or alternative re-use for sport, leisure and recreation or unless replacement equivalent capacity can be provided elsewhere to an equal or better standard (i.e. “net improvements”) reflecting the demand and type of use required “on the ground” by clubs.
- Any proposals which suggest potential loss of a playing pitch or wider playing field to supply should respond appropriately to Sport England’s Playing Fields Policy. It must not be assumed that the intensification of provision on an existing playing pitch or playing field site equates to

satisfactory mitigation for loss of a grass pitch.

- Any identified notional spare grass pitch capacity at pitches already used for matches should be retained during the strategy period to allow for “capacity headroom” and flexibility of provision to help accommodate growth.
- Maintain and improve the quality of all grass pitches and AGPs.
- Seek security of community use where not already in place.
- Improve the quality and accessibility of changing and other ancillary facilities to help ensure the quality of the experience for the sport is enhanced. Particular focus should be on supporting the growth of disability, girls’ and women’s football through improvements which enhance the quality, safety and accessibility of facilities.
- Support proposals for improved energy efficiency and localised renewable and low carbon energy generation at facilities and grounds through measures such as LED directional lighting, solar pv, heat pumps and building insulation.
- Work with partners and key stakeholders to improve sustainable travel options to grounds, pitches and facilities.
- Strategic housing development allocations provide a good opportunity to deliver additional pitches (and off-site contributions to aid improvements of existing pitches and facilities) for pitch sports.

## WEST SUB-AREA



## Typology

1 The typology for the playing pitch assessment is as follows:

- Outdoor grass pitches used for football, rugby union and cricket

- Outdoor full-size artificial grass pitches (AGPs) used predominantly for hockey and / or football (which can be partitioned to make a number of smaller pitches for smaller sided games or training); and,
  - Outdoor smaller, dedicated or “formal” AGPs (where booking is required, i.e. not open multi-use games areas) used predominantly for small sided football (games e.g. 5, 6 or 7-a-side).
- 3 In addition to the “main” pitch sports played in the District, we have also considered the demand for “lesser played” sports such as Lacrosse, American Football, Baseball, Rounders, Softball, Gaelic Football and Rugby League.
  - 4 The PPS does not consider use of indoor sports halls, “kick-about” areas or, as indicated above multi-use games areas (MUGAs), although it is recognised that these play important roles in the provision of space for informal / casual play and many different sports and recommendations can include provision for MUGAs where, for example, they can play a key role in supporting clubs through informal play or training for younger age groups.
  - 5 While all pitches meeting the above criteria are identified for the purposes of establishing the quantity of pitches available, only those pitches with some “community use” during the “peak period” are taken forward in the assessment of provision. This is because the PPS is concerned with understanding and planning for public or wider use (for example by one or more clubs or teams) and accessibility, than that provided for a single user. Pitches without community use will tend to be used only by one group of users and will typically include mainly school sites. These are important to school pupils and students and will often not be available for wider community use to protect the quality of provision, for reasons of security and child safeguarding, or for logistical reasons such as not being able to open a school site up at a weekend or evening. However, an understanding of pitches not currently available for community use or access are noted to be able to understand the role they could potentially play in supporting provision in the future.
  - 6 “Community use” does extend to those sites which are provided on a commercial basis and those which require a membership fee for use (where those fees are not exorbitant and where membership is not unduly restrictive).
  - 7 Analysis of the supply of and demand for community use pitches is also split into developing an understanding of those pitches which have some security of community use (for example a long-term lease, covenant and / or community use agreement) and those which have unsecure community use (for example, where such agreements are absent and reliance is on a verbal or other form of informal arrangement). This distinction is important, as those pitches which are used by the community or clubs on unsecure sites are at risk of being taken away from supply (for example if the provided decides that they no longer wish to host clubs or other community use), sometimes at short notice, placing additional pressure on those sites with secure community use. During the assessment, consideration has been given to the degree of risk that reliance on use of unsecure sites is placing on supply overall.

## **The Vision for Playing Pitches in South Oxfordshire**

- 8 “South Oxfordshire should provide a good supply of well managed and maintained playing pitches and ancillary facilities, which are fit for purpose, meet identified needs and encourage all residents to take part in sport and physical activity.
- 9 There will be a positive reaction to the impacts of climate change through sports

provision, seeking to contribute to opportunities for the community to access playing pitches and ancillary facilities without the need to use unsustainable forms of transport and support access to the facilities through active travel means. The strategy will support the Councils' vision to become carbon neutral by 2045 and to reduce emissions across the district."

## The Aims of the Playing Pitch Strategy

10 Accompanying the strategy's Vision, a set of aims has also been developed which set out what the strategy is seeking to achieve. They reflect the role of the strategy in contributing towards sport, activity, health and wellbeing; and, providing up-to-date evidence and strategy framework to help protect, enhance and provide pitches and demonstrate the demand and need for pitches, with the aim of provision in the right places and at the right time.

- To protect, enhance and provide playing pitches and ancillary facilities and address any shortfalls in quantity and quality.
- To help direct investment to where improvements can have the greatest impact.
- To encourage community access to the site by active travel means or more sustainable methods of transport.
- To include recommendations that take account of the need to achieve carbon neutral districts and have measures in place to help ensure that facilities can be managed sustainably
- In the approach and preparation of the needs assessment and strategy, to consider and incorporate the councils' duties under Equality Act 2010 in its recommendations.
- The assessment will help to ensure that the planning policies in the Joint Local Plan are based on a robust and up-to-date assessment of the needs for sports facilities.

## Main Pitch Sports Key Issues

### Football baseline position in terms of supply and demand

Teams and Pitches									
Sub-area	Number of Teams	Number of Grass Pitches							
		Pitch size					Community use		Not available
		5v5	7v7	9v9	11v11 (youth)	11v11 (adult)	Secure	Unsecure	
West	160	17	37	17	22	35	69	21	45

## Hockey baseline position in terms of supply and demand

Sub- area	Clubs	Teams	Club Home AGPs (and community use)	
			Secure	Unsecure
West	1	29	1	0
District	3	54	3	0

## Cricket baseline position in terms of supply and demand

Sub-area	Clubs	Teams	Club Grounds (and community use)		Artificial pitches (and community use)		In situ Nets (and community use)	
			Secure	Unsecure	Secure	Unsecure	Secure	Unsecure
West	12	43	7	8	3	1	5	6
District	34	173	23	21	4	1	12	13

## Rugby Union baseline position in terms of supply and demand

Sub-area	Clubs	Teams	Club Home Pitches with posts (and community use)	
			Secure	Unsecure
West	1	17	4	0
District	7	111	21	1

## Other Pitch Sports

- 11 In addition to undertaking a fully compliant PPS guidance assessment for the main pitch sports, we were asked by the District Council to undertake an assessment of some other pitch sports that we were advised by the steering group to consider lacrosse, gaelic football, rounders, softball / baseball, rugby league and American Football. Any detailed recommendations for lesser played pitch sports are set out in Appendices 3 and 4.
- 12 Rounders - in most cases rounders can usually be accommodated as a social game during summer months on school or local authority owned sites.

## District and Sub-area Strategy (Summaries)

- 13 This section summarises the above recommendations on a sub-area basis, for all sports, moving forward. A detailed split of the above recommendations on a sub-area basis is set out in Appendix 3.
- 14 The sub-area summaries which follow should be read within the context of the detailed recommendations above and should not be assumed that the summaries which follow capture all of the above recommendations.

## **West Sub-area**

### **PROTECT**

#### **Cricket**

- 15 Protection of pitch supply is particularly important for all club pitches. Although there is some spare capacity at a couple of sites, all sites are in use by local clubs who provide cricket opportunities to their local communities.
- 16 Protect the currently “mothballed” pitch sites (at Acklings Sports Field (Long Wittenham) and St Birinus School, from development, holding in reserve to ensure that headroom capacity could be available to respond to potential demand if no other suitable site with existing use and headroom capacity is available.

### **ENHANCE**

#### **Football**

- 17 Gain the secure use of the following unsecure community use pitch sites:
  - Europa School
  - Paddocks Playing Fields
  - Willowcroft Community School
  - The Triangle (St Birinus School).
- 18 Enhance capacity on the following pitches by improving quality and improve maintenance:
  - The Triangle 1 (St Birinus School) (1 x 11v11 pitch)
  - The Triangle 2 (St Birinus School) (1 x 11v11 pitch)
  - The Triangle 4 (St Birinus School) (1 x 9v9 pitch)
  - Boundary Park 4 (1 x 11v11 youth pitch) (to “good”, if possible)
  - Edmonds Park 1 (Didcot) (1 x 11v11 pitch)
  - Edmonds Park 2 (Didcot) (1 x 11v11 pitch)
  - Npower Loop Meadow Stadium 2 (training pitch) (1 x 11v11 pitch)
  - Loyd Recreation Park
  - Europa School UK 3 (1 x 11v11 pitch)
  - Europa School UK 4 (1 x 9v9 pitch)
  - Europa School UK 5 (1 x 7v7 pitch)
- 19 Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities at:
  - Loyd Recreation Park.

#### **Hockey**

- 20 Support the club to gain a more secure agreement with one or more of the local school sites they have previously used (e.g. Wallingford School) to accommodate overspill in demand for matches. These could play an important role moving forward, and until a 3G is delivered in Wallingford for football use to migrate to,

capacity will continue to be an issue on the Sports Park site. However, this does not help with evening training due to sports-lighting restrictions at the school.

## **Cricket**

- 21 Gain the secure use of pitches which currently have unsecure community use at Dorchester-on-Thames Recreation Ground, and the Recreation Ground Clifton Hampden.
- 22 Consider increasing the current use of existing pitches where spare capacity notionally exists, where physically, practically and logistically possible at the Recreation Ground Clifton Hampden.
- 23 Seek to address overplay at Boundary Park if overplay is causing reduction in pitch quality, through improved maintenance, replacement of surfaces (at artificial pitches), provision of in situ practice nets for training and / or provision of additional grass or artificial pitches.

## **PROVIDE**

### **Football**

- 24 Deliver pitches to respond to additional demand arising from growth in population from the strategic housing allocations. Options to respond to estimated demand include:
  - From demand arising from Culham Science Centre, deliver 2 x 11v11, 4 x 9v9, 2 x 7v7 and 2 x 5v5 pitches and associated necessary ancillary facilities.
  - Option to respond to 3G demand from development, use contribution from development of 0.49 x 3G pitch and top-up to deliver 1 x sports-lit 3G pitch at Culham.
- 25 To ensure new pitches' use, identify either an existing club or clubs which can relocate to the pitches as a new home ground, an existing club which will use the pitches at a home ground in addition to its existing home ground, or that capacity and support exists to create a new club.
- 26 Deliver proposed pitches "in the pipeline" to meet demand arising in those locations. This means that pitches at:
  - Land at Didcot North-east, to deliver 3 x 11v11 pitches and 5 x Youth 7v7 pitches and associated necessary ancillary facilities.
  - Consideration should also be given strategically, across Didcot as a whole and in both South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse, whether future provision for sport in the town should be consolidated on one or other of the Boundary Park and Valley Park sites for any of the sports.
- 27 Provide an additional 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G in Didcot, as part of a strategic consolidation plan for provision for sport in the town and within the context of timing of when the 3G at Valley Park (Common Park site) will be delivered. Should enough demand arise in the middle to late part of the period for an additional 3G, a 3G could be considered to serve a wider catchment at, for example, The Heights, Milton United (in Vale of White Horse).
- 28 Provide an additional 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G in the sub-area, subject to where demand arises, in the middle to latter part of the strategy period, perhaps in response to demand arising on the edge of Oxford, Wallingford or Didcot, or

through provision of 2 x 0.5 size pitches in two locations.

### **Hockey**

- 29 Consider provision of an additional new full-size sports-lit sand based or Gen2 surface towards the latter part of the strategy period to accommodate growth by that point, if appropriate, feasible and viable. Provision must only be made subject to demand being demonstrated “on the ground” in Didcot and the logistics being in place for an existing club (for example, Abingdon or Wallingford) to run a satellite site in the town (if there is appetite and volunteer capacity), for example, for juniors residing in Didcot.

### **Cricket**

- 30 Culham Science Centre Housing allocation will generate demand for around 8 grass cricket pitches. Demand arising from this site will probably be best dealt with a new ground to be constructed as part of the development. However, this should be in consultation with a local club so that an anchor tenant can be found from the outset and ensure the site is fully utilised as intended
- 31 Didcot Northeast development will provide new on-site cricket ground to accommodate additional demand for cricket from the development. The final number of cricket pitches on the ground to be agreed. Consideration should also be given strategically, across Didcot as a whole and in both South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse, whether future provision for some sports in the town could be consolidated on one or other of the Boundary Park and Valley Park sites.
- 32 If additional pitches are required, capacity increases should be concentrated at the following sites as these clubs are continuing to grow and require additional facilities to service this growth. It should be noted these sites are already at or close to capacity so securing access to existing grounds with spare capacity or providing new grounds should be considered as a priority. Each site needs to undertake an assessment to identify exactly how much and where additional capacity can be provided:
- Boundary Park

### **Rugby**

- 33 Within this sub-area, the following measures should be taken to address the current and projected demand. Consider how best to respond to the demand generated by the strategic allocation development at Culham, in relation to anticipated growth in demand at Abingdon RFC.
- 34 Consideration should be given strategically, across Didcot as a whole and in both South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse, whether future provision for some sports in the town could be consolidated on one or other of the Boundary Park and Valley Park sites.

### **Strategic Site On-site Provision**

- 51 As already noted above, strategic housing allocation sites present a significant opportunity to host pitches required as a result of demand which arises from their population, and also as locations for new pitches to help address wider demand across the sub-area or reasonable functional or spatial catchment where land is available either on-site or close to it.
- 52 The table below summarises the contribution that the strategic housing sites in

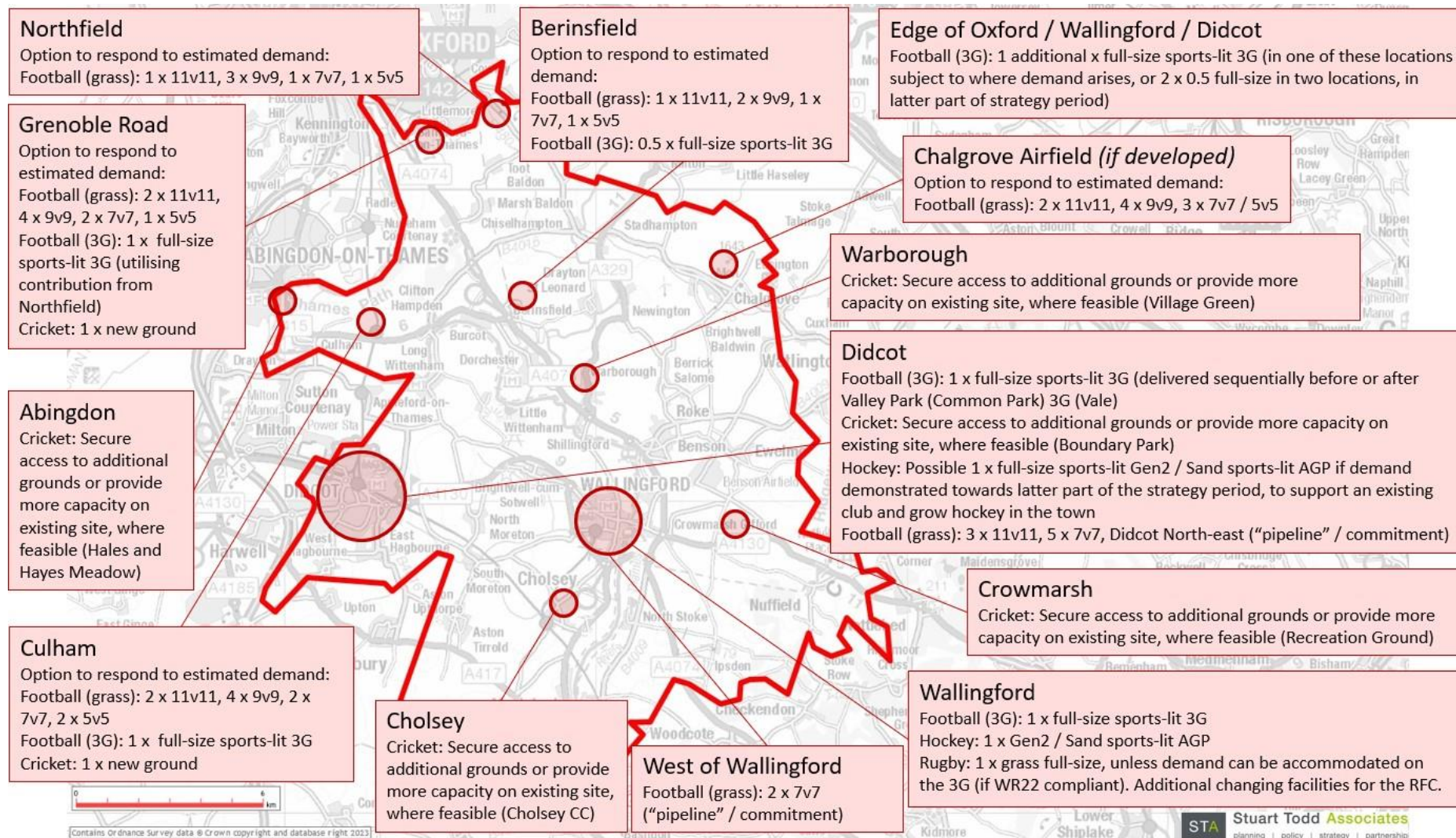
this sub-area could make to provision of pitches, based on the sites that we have been advised can still be influenced / informed by the outcomes of the PPS. Off-site contributions for some sports are not summarised here but are set out in detail in the assessment reports.

- 53 Recommendations for non-pipeline sites are flexible, however, as opportunities presented are a starting point which should continue to be informed by detailed discussions during the delivery phase of the strategy (Stage E).

Summary of Estimated On-site Playing Pitch Provision at Strategic Housing Sites

Strategic Site	No of dwellings modelled	Population modelled	On-site requirements
Culham	3,500	8,400	Option to respond to estimated demand: Football (grass): 2 x 11v11, 4 x 9v9, 2 x 7v7, 2 x 5v5 Football (3G): 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G Cricket: 1 x Adult Cricket Ground
Didcot North-east	-	-	Football (grass): 3 x 11v11, 5 x 7v7, Didcot North-east ("pipeline" / commitment)

- 35 Note: Numbers of dwelling and the population modelled has been done only for those sites over which the PPS can influence provision (i.e. where they are not already commitments through the planning process).



## **Didcot**

- 36 Given that Didcot lies on the boundary between South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse, the following section reproduces the summary recommendations for the town from both District PPSs. As with the sections above, full detailed recommendations are set out in Appendices 3 and 4.

## **PROTECT**

### **Football**

- 37 Protect the AGP facility at UTC Oxfordshire from loss, on the basis that it currently plays an important role in supporting demand from clubs for training and additional demand from informal, casual and small-sided league play. The site may continue to play an important role moving forward, subject to the ability to deliver additional and pipeline 3G pitches.

### **Rugby**

- 38 Protect from loss all club pitches (and the entirety of the club home ground and facilities) used by Didcot RFC (Boundary Park).

## **ENHANCE**

### **Football**

- 39 Gain the secure use of the following unsecure community use pitch sites:
- Willowcroft Community School; and,
  - The Triangle (St Birinus School).
- 40 Enhance capacity on the following pitches by improving quality and improve maintenance:
- The Triangle 1 (St Birinus School) (1 x 11v11 pitch)
  - The Triangle 2 (St Birinus School) (1 x 11v11 pitch)
  - The Triangle 4 (St Birinus School) (1 x 9v9 pitch)
  - Boundary Park 4 (1 x 11v11 youth pitch) (to “good”, if possible)
  - Edmonds Park 1 (Didcot) (1 x 11v11 pitch)
  - Edmonds Park 2 (Didcot) (1 x 11v11 pitch)
  - Npower Loop Meadow Stadium 2 (training pitch) (1 x 11v11 pitch);
  - Loyd Recreation Park.
- 41 Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities at:
- Loyd Recreation Park.

## **Cricket**

- 42 Seek to address overplay at Boundary Park if overplay is causing reduction in pitch quality, through improved maintenance, replacement of surfaces (at artificial pitches), provision of in situ practice nets for training and / or provision of additional grass or artificial pitches.

## **Rugby**

- 43 Enhance capacity on pitches at Didcot RFC (Boundary Park) if possible by improving quality through improved drainage (where viable / subject to funding and a business plan being in place to ensure maintenance costs are catered for in the long-term), by introducing sports-lights where necessary and feasible and by improving surface maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. Pitch improvements should be made to enhance capacity to at least 3.25 match equivalents (D2/M2 rating<sup>23</sup>) and improvements should follow the recommendations made in the most up-to-date GMA pitch assessment report.

## **PROVIDE**

### **Football**

- 44 Within the South sub-area in Vale of White Horse, the following measures should be taken to address the current and projected demand.
- 45 Should quality improvements be achievable to improve the quality and capacity of existing pitches on club grounds to “standard” quality from “poor” and to improve “standard” quality pitches to “good” where indicated in “ENHANCE”, deliver 4 x 11v11 good quality pitches in one or more of the following locations, to respond to demand:
- on the edge of Didcot (in alignment with recommendations in the South Oxfordshire PPS)
  - responding to demand at Blewbury Amazons Girls FC.
- 46 Deliver proposed pitches “in the pipeline” to meet demand arising in those locations. This means that pitches at:
- Land at Didcot North-east, to deliver 3 x 11v11 pitches and 5 x Youth 7v7 pitches and associated necessary ancillary facilities. Consideration should also be given strategically, across Didcot as a whole and in both South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse, whether future provision for sport in the town should be consolidated on one or other of the Boundary Park and Valley Park sites for any of the sports;
  - Valley Park, Didcot to deliver 2 x grass youth (Alma Park), 2 x grass youth (Common Park) and 2 x grass 11v11 adult pitches (Common Park), 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G (Common Park) and associated necessary ancillary facilities. Consideration should also be given strategically, across Didcot as a whole and in both South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse, whether future provision for some sports in the town could be consolidated on one or other of the Boundary Park and Valley Park sites.
- 47 Provide an additional 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G in Didcot, as part of a strategic consolidation plan for provision for sport in the town and within the context of timing of when the 3G at Valley Park (Common Park site) will be delivered. Should enough demand arise in the middle to late part of the period for an additional 3G, a

3G could be considered to serve a wider catchment at, for example, The Heights, Milton United (in Vale of White Horse).

- 48 Provide an additional 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G in the West sub-area in South Oxfordshire, subject to where demand arises, in the middle to latter part of the strategy period, perhaps in response to demand arising on the edge of Oxford, Wallingford or Didcot, or through provision of 2 x 0.5 size pitches in two locations.
- 49 Provide 0.5 x additional full-size sports-lit 3G pitch to serve demand, in a location to be determined, in the South sub-area in Vale of White Horse, in the middle to latter part of the strategy period, to serve areas where demand appears on the ground, either in the Wantage / Grove or edge of Didcot area. This could be increased to a full-size 3G should demand be demonstrated that this will be viable at the time of proposal.

### **Hockey**

- 50 Consider provision of an additional new full-size sports-lit sand based or Gen2 surface towards the latter part of the strategy period to accommodate growth by that point, if appropriate, feasible and viable. Provision must only be made subject to demand being demonstrated “on the ground” in Didcot and the logistics being in place for an existing club (for example, Abingdon or Wallingford) to run a satellite site in the town (if there is appetite and volunteer capacity), for example, for juniors residing in Didcot.

### **Cricket**

- 51 Didcot Northeast development will provide new on-site cricket ground to accommodate additional demand for cricket from the development. The final number of cricket pitches on the ground to be agreed. Consideration should also be given strategically, across Didcot as a whole and in both South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse, whether future provision for some sports in the town could be consolidated on one or other of the Boundary Park and Valley Park sites.
- 52 If additional pitches are required, capacity increases should be concentrated at the following sites as these clubs are continuing to grow and require additional facilities to service this growth. It should be noted these sites are already at or close to capacity so securing access to existing grounds with spare capacity or providing new grounds should be considered as a priority. Each site needs to undertake an assessment to identify exactly how much and where additional capacity can be provided.
- 53 Valley Park development near Didcot will provide additional playing field land but no agreement has been yet as to the exact make up of this provision and if it will include a new cricket ground. Consideration should also be given strategically, across Didcot as a whole and in both South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse, whether future provision for some sports in the town could be consolidated on one or other of the Boundary Park and Valley Park sites.
- 54 If additional pitches are required, capacity increases should be concentrated at the following sites as these clubs are continuing to grow and require additional facilities to service this growth. It should be noted these sites are already at or close to capacity so securing access to existing grounds with spare capacity or providing new grounds should be considered as a priority. Each site needs to undertake an assessment to identify exactly how much and where additional capacity can be provided, including Boundary Park.

## Rugby

55 The following measures should be taken to address the current and projected demand:

- Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand to a total equivalent capacity of 36.25 match equivalents across this sub-area with most demand likely to arise at Didcot RFC (and Grove RFC).
- Providing for additional supply should come, broadly sequentially, following the process set out in the district-wide recommendation above in PROVIDE.
- Should quality improvements be achievable to improve the quality and capacity of existing pitches on club grounds to accommodate 3.25 match equivalents per pitch, additional capacity should be provided to the following scale at the following clubs:
- Didcot RFC – provision to support a net additional demand of around 6-7 grass pitches with sports lighting, unless capacity can be provided through a new WR22 compliant sports-lit 3G pitch. This response to demand includes an element of demand generated in South Oxfordshire's West sub-area within which part of Didcot sits.

56 Consideration should be given strategically, across Didcot as a whole and in both South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse, whether future provision for some sports in the town could be consolidated on one or other of the Boundary Park and Valley Park sites.

## Strategic Site On-site Provision

- 54 As already noted above, strategic housing allocation sites present a significant opportunity to host pitches required as a result of demand which arises from their population, and also as locations for new pitches to help address wider demand across the sub-area or reasonable functional or spatial catchment where land is available either on-site or close to it.
- 55 The table below summarises the contribution that the strategic housing sites in this sub-area could make to provision of pitches, based on the sites that we have been advised can still be influenced / informed by the outcomes of the PPS. Off-site contributions for some sports are not summarised here but are set out in detail in the assessment reports.
- 56 Recommendations for non-pipeline sites are flexible, however, as opportunities presented are a starting point which should continue to be informed by detailed discussions during the delivery phase of the strategy (Stage E).

### Summary of Estimated On-site Playing Pitch Provision at Strategic Housing Sites

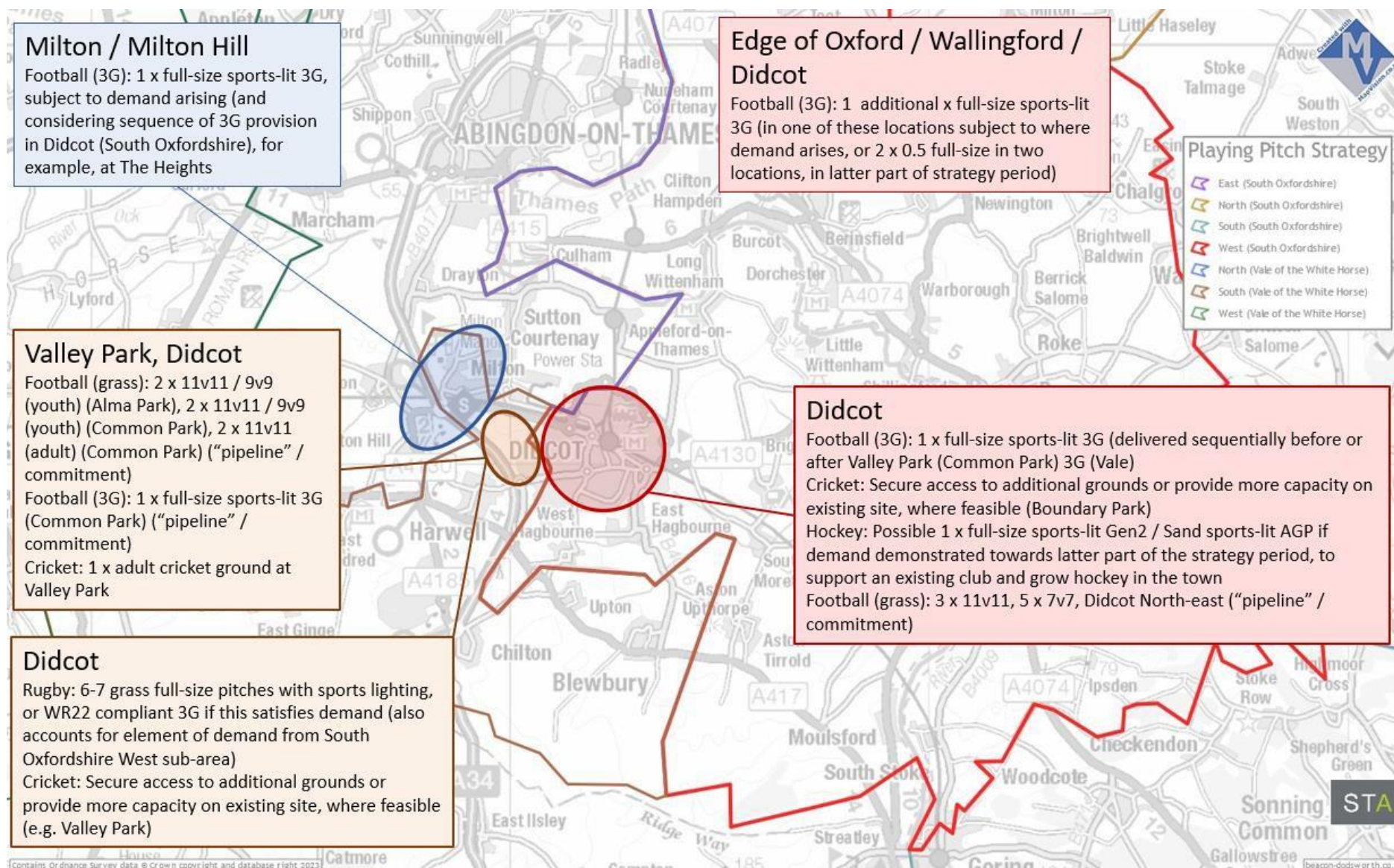
Strategic Site	No. of dwellings modelled	Population modelled	On-site requirements (captured in "provide" recommendations)
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Valley Park, Didcot (South sub-area, Vale of White Horse)	-	-	Football (grass): 2 x 11v11 / 9v9 (youth) (Alma Park), 2 x 11v11 / 9v9 (youth) (Common Park), 2 x 11v11 (adult) (Common Park) ("pipeline" / commitment)  Football (3G): 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G (Common Park) ("pipeline" / commitment)  Cricket: 1 x Adult Cricket Ground
Didcot North-east	-	-	Football (grass): 3 x 11v11, 5 x 7v7, Didcot North-east ("pipeline" / commitment)

57 Notes: Numbers of dwelling and the population modelled has been done only for those sites over which the PPS can influence provision (i.e. where they are not already commitments through the planning process.

## Spatial Summary

58 The spatial summary of the main PROVIDE recommendations in this sub-area is as follows. These must be read alongside the more details recommendations in the PROVIDE section to contextualise and ground headline provision shown on the map and ensure that off-site contributions from other development sites are not missed.



## **Loss of Education Sites from Supply**

60 Football: Removing education sites currently used by clubs results in the following headlines. In each case, both available supply and the demand they cater for would need to be replaced within reasonably close proximity to the site. The large number of AGPs in the district which are on education or education controlled sites suggest a priority to gain secure community use agreements for sports use on the sites.

- Europa School UK (West sub-area) hosts a significant amount of demand on four of its pitches amounting to 3.5 match equivalents on the youth 11v11, 4 on the 9v9, 4.5 on the 7v7 and 3.5 on its 5v5, although some of this is the school's demand. Teams would be displaced if use was lost.
- The Triangle, Didcot (St Birinus School pitches) in the West sub-area sees a significant level of demand from teams in Didcot amounting to 8.25 match equivalents across the two 11v11 pitches (currently overplayed) and 6.25 on the 9v9 pitch (although some of this demand will be from the school). There is already significant pressure on pitches in the town and loss of these important pitches would see teams displaced and possibly having to find other pitches well outside of the town.

## **Planning Officer Guidance on Using this Strategy**

61 To aid use of the strategy by local authority planning officers, the diagram below aims to guide local authority officers on the key factors to think about when considering development proposals / planning applications.

## **Glossary (see District wide strategy)**