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SECTION 1

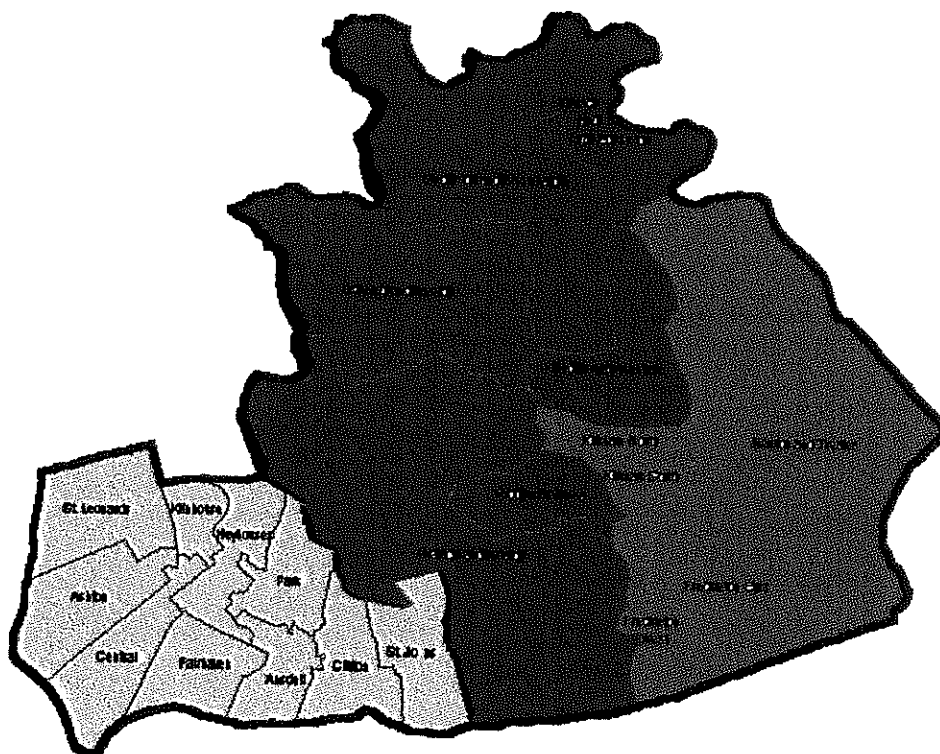
INTRODUCTION

Introduction

- 1.1 In September 2003, A Special meeting of the Leisure & Recreation Policy Committee resolved that the Sports Development Officer was to produce a borough-wide playing pitch assessment.
- 1.2 The key objectives of the study were to:
- analyse the current level of pitch provision within the borough
 - review the quantity and quality of sports pitches across the borough
 - identify the geographical spread of pitches
 - identify how facilities for pitch sports can be improved
 - identify the demand for pitches in the borough
 - assist the Council in meeting the requirements for playing pitches in accordance with the methodology developed by Sport England in conjunction with the National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) and the Central Council for Physical Recreation (CCPR)
 - provide information to inform decisions and determine future development proposals within Fylde.
- 1.3 This assessment is primarily concerned with voluntary participation in competitive association football (referred to in this document as 'football'), cricket, rugby union and hockey, by adults and young people and presents the key findings arising from extensive survey work and consultation, highlighting areas of both concern and opportunity. It is important to note that this document is primarily concerned with the provision of playing pitches (ie the playing surface, safety margins and the wider area for repositioning the pitch within the playing field) and not playing fields nor open spaces (which include grass or other areas which are not used for sport). This is an important distinction as some of the areas surrounding pitches are not used for sport but are important in terms of open space.
- 1.4 The following key areas are covered within this document:
- **the current picture** – a review of current participation trends and playing pitch provision in England, at national and local levels
 - **methodology** – a summary of the research process
 - **supply and demand** – an overview of the playing pitch resource and pitch sport activity in the Fylde Borough
 - an application of Sport England's **Playing Pitch Methodology** (PPM)
 - an application of the NPFA's **Six Acre Standard** (in Appendix B)
 - **key actions, recommendations and priorities for the future** based on development of the main issues arising from the supply and demand and PPM analysis.

- 1.5 Provision is analysed on a borough wide basis and is also considered at ward level where applicable. Fylde is made up of the three urban areas of St Annes, Lytham and Kirkham along with a number of rural parishes. For the purpose of this document the Borough will be split into the three County Division Boundaries- Lytham St Annes, Fylde East and Fylde West

BOROUGH MAP



SECTION 2

THE CURRENT PICTURE

The current picture

Introduction

2.1 This section outlines the current situation both nationally and locally with regards to playing pitch provision. The following aspects are discussed:

- wider national policy developments
- national trends in playing pitch provision
- current trends in pitch sport participation
- the local context.

Wider National Policy

Game Plan (Dec 2002)

2.2 Published jointly by the Prime Minister's Strategy Unit and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport it sets out to combat the couch potato culture and improve our international sporting performance. It urges a shake-up of England's sporting structures to:

- increase the levels of mass participation in sport and fitness activities
- improve the development of young sporting talent and provide better support for our world-class athletes
- cut red tape
- improve our handling of 'mega' and major events.

2.3 The report also:

- highlights health benefits as the clearest advantage of encouraging greater involvement in sport and other physical activities
- says that introducing people to a wide range of sports and activities early on encourages them to stay 'sports literate' for life
- calls for better evaluation of pilot schemes to identify best ways of encouraging people to take more exercise
- states that local councils should set targets to achieve health benefits through sport and other activities
- says resources need to be targeted on children and young people, women, and older people, in particular those who live in economically-disadvantaged areas, to encourage participation
- calls for a new central database of sports facilities to help plan where new investment may be needed, and to monitor use and participation levels.

- 2.4 One of the report's key recommendations is for tighter funding agreements between Government and the Sports Councils. It says that decisions on handing over taxpayer's money should be based on results achieved in raising participation and elite level success, rather than on the programmes they are planning to run.

Playing pitch provision in England

A lack of reliable data

- 2.5 There are no reliable national estimates of the total recreational land resource, nor the playing pitch component within it, although various local studies show a wide variation in levels of provision. Through merging the data extracted from the Register of Recreational Land (Sports Council), the *Playing Pitch Strategy* (1991)¹ suggests that:
- there are approximately 70,000 pitches in England
 - 50,000 of the pitches are adult / secondary school size
 - 20,000 are primary school size
 - they occupy about 90,000 hectares (220,000 acres) of land, or 28% of total open space provision.
- 2.6 There is, however, wide variation by locality, sport and ownership. Through collating previous local pitch strategies, the average population per pitch was 989, although this varied from 2,900 in the London Borough of Southwark to 700 in the London Borough of Bromley.
- 2.7 The *Playing Pitch Strategy* states that football accounts for about half of all adult size provision and cricket a quarter, with rugby and hockey sharing the balance. This reflects the relative popularity of these four sports.
- 2.8 With regards to ownership of pitches, around 40% of adult size pitches are in local authority control (leisure services and town/parish council), 30% in education authority control and 30% in private / voluntary sport clubs control. The Register of Recreational Land was undertaken in the early 1990s, however, the data collected has not been updated, and therefore it is an increasingly unreliable source. Despite this, the statistics tend to reflect the most recent pitch audit – the Register of English Football Facilities (REFF) which was commissioned by the Football Foundation and the Football Association in 2001 and completed in February 2002. The information collected went 'live' on the REFF website (www.reff.org.uk) in November 2002. Research for REFF revealed that there are 35,044 grass football pitches in England (21,640 adult, 8,418 junior, 4,986 mini).

A lack of monitoring

- 2.9 With the exception of REFF, there are at present no reliable data sources concerning the numbers of pitches in England. Coupled with this is the fact that there is no national system for monitoring change.
- 2.10 The exact number of pitches being lost to development or neglect is unknown and remains a contentious issue. The DCMS has established a Playing Fields Monitoring Group, tasked with publishing some definitive data.

¹ Published by the Sports Council, the NPFA and the CCPR.

- 2.11 By virtue of statutory instrument made in 1996, Sport England is a statutory consultee on proposals for development which affect playing fields, land used as playing fields at any time in the last five years which remains undeveloped, or land which is identified for use as a playing field in a development plan. All applications that local planning authorities are minded to approve, but have attracted an objection from Sport England, will be referred to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) for consideration.
- 2.12 As such, Sport England must be notified by the local planning authority when a relevant planning application is received. Data stored by Sport England on statutory consultations since 1999 reveals the increasing pressure that is being placed upon pitches throughout the country (Table 2.1 below).

Table 2.1 Statutory consultations with Sport England

Region	Number of consultations received		% difference +/-
	1999-2000	2000-2001	
South East	144	198	38%
West Midlands	107	174	63%
North West	95	132	39%
Yorkshire	102	99	-3%
East	38	93	145%
East Midlands	32	75	134%
South West	56	43	-23%
London	32	37	16%
North	40	36	-10%
England	646	887	37%

- 2.13 As shown in Table 2.1, Sport England were consulted on 37% more planning applications in 2001 than the previous year. The loss of playing pitches remains a real political issue for the government. Sport England, the NPFA and the CCPR have demonstrated their commitment to enhancing playing pitch provision by commissioning a review and updating of the 1991 Playing Pitch Strategy. The new document '*Towards a level playing field: A manual for the production of a playing pitch strategy*' has been produced by PMP and is now available to download from the Sport England Website. The methodologies discussed in this document have formed the basis of this report.

Participation trends in key sports

- 2.14 Key national statistics, trends, issues and implications for future demand for playing pitches are outlined in Table 2.2.

Table 2.2 National trends in pitch sports

	Key facts	Key trends	Implication for pitches
Football	Out of school, football has experienced the largest growth in 'frequent' participation from 37% in 1994 to 43% in 1999	More children are playing due to popularity of mini soccer	More mini soccer sized pitches needed nationally
	Female soccer is now starting to grow nationally at a rapid pace	More women are playing the game	Improved quality of ancillary facilities and in particular dedicated changing facilities
	A 300-400% growth in informal five-a-side football	More mid-week fixtures, more non-grass pitches	Players defecting to five-a-side, therefore additional synthetic turf and indoor space may be required
	The FA forecast the number of youth players to increase by 10% over next 5 years	More pitches will be needed	The vast number of children playing mini-soccer will result in the need for more junior pitches in five years time
Cricket	Kwik cricket – a game devised for children is played by 1.1 million pupils in 90% of the country's primary schools – 434,000 of these are girls	Increased participation by young people	More pitches used for Kwik cricket and new mobile pitches introduced in schools
	The number of women's clubs increased from 4,200 in 1997 to 7,611 in 2001	Increased participation by women	Improved access needed to quality training pitches and improved ancillary facilities in smaller clubs is required
Rugby Union	The number of adult males playing rugby has decreased by 12% over last five years	Decline in the men's game is recognised but many initiatives are in place to increase opportunities and promote the sport	May require better quality pitches with ancillary facilities
	Women's participation has increased significantly in recent years - from approximately 2,000 players in 1988, to 8,000 by 1998	Increase in participation by women	Improved clubhouse facilities and increased access to pitches
Hockey	Hockey is one of top five most popular games in school, although adult participation declined from 20% in 1994, to 17% in 1999 and the number of children citing it as enjoyable dropped from 13% to 10% over the same period	Slight decline in youth participation. Emphasis therefore is placed on promoting hockey towards young people to secure the future of the game. However, many clubs still do not have access to STPs	Continuing requirement for STPs and improved clubhouse facilities to meet league requirements and to encourage club/team formation.
	Participation figures for young people grew by 8,500 from 1996-2000	General growth although young people are targeted to secure the future of the sport	Localised demand for pitches.

- 2.15 Whilst the above provides a useful indication as to the changing nature of pitch sports, it must be acknowledged that trends vary across the country. Therefore the local context is discussed below.

Local context

- 2.16 Whilst consideration of the national context is important, the local context is what will determine the detail of the playing pitch strategy. Relevant strategic documents are discussed below.

Parks & Open Spaces strategy - Fylde Borough Council, 2003 - 2007

- 2.17 This strategy makes a clear statement on how FBC should reverse the decline in standards in the provision of parks. It also provides policy direction to the future management and maintenance of the Borough's parks.
- 2.18 This document provides a framework for the provision of Parks & Open Spaces within the Borough throughout the next five years.

The strategy highlights:

- The need to need to produce a Playing Pitch Strategy to confirm or otherwise the identified deficit of 43.69 hectares for outdoor space for sport

The Local Plan 1996 - 2006

- 2.19 The Local Plan is a land use planning document which the Council is required by law to prepare, adopt and keep under review. Its main role is to guide the future use and development of land and buildings.
- 2.20 With regards to leisure and tourism, the Local Plan aims to:
- maintain and extend the range of sport, leisure & recreational facilities in the borough for both residents and visitors.
 - Identify and safeguard sites for formal recreation an sports facilities .

Up and Running - Fylde's Sports & Recreation Strategy - 1999 - 2004

- 2.21 The strategy seeks to improve the facility provision to meet consumer expectations and widen community access, particularly during daytime.
- 2.22 Strategic aims include:
- To take account of Sport England's Facilities Planning Model
 - To work closely with partners to provide new sporting facilities
 - To include a requirement within TREC 19 for developers to make a contribution towards playing pitch provision.

Community Plan 2003 – 2008

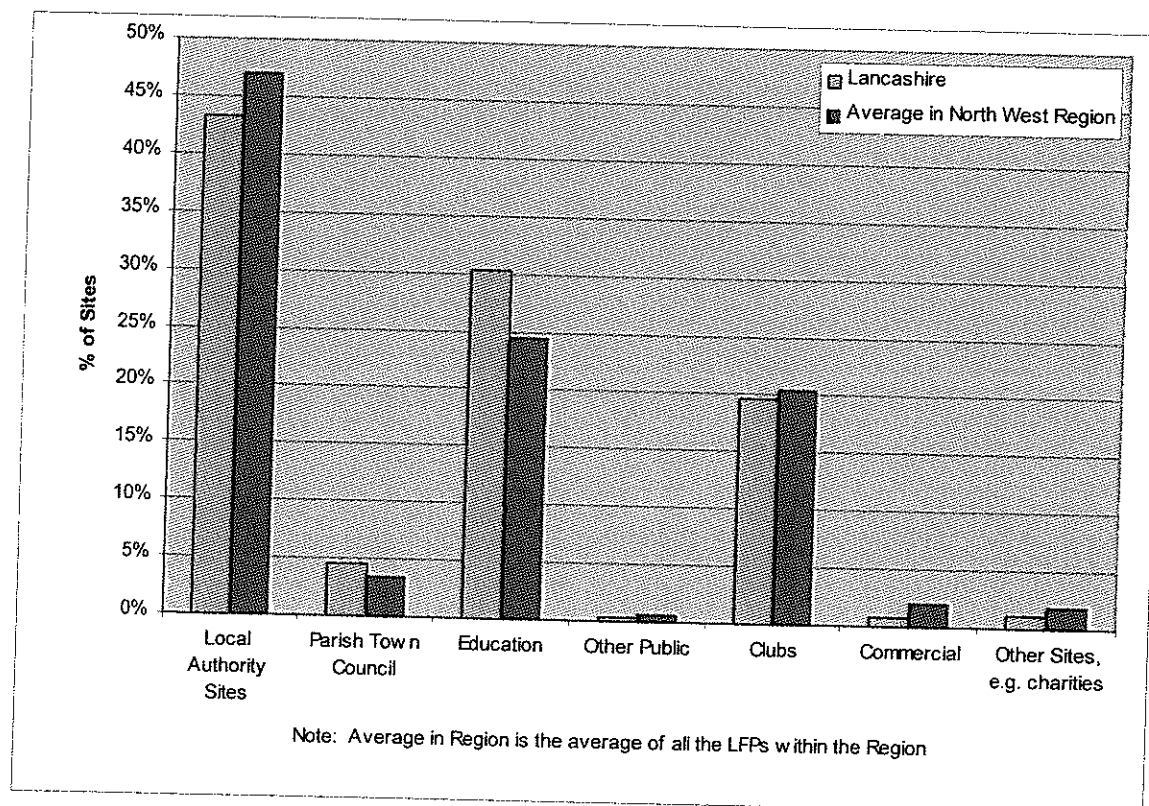
- 2.23 The Community Plan outlines a vision for the Fylde of where it would like to be in 2013
- 2.24 In a broad sense the strategy highlights the benefits that cultural activities can have including healthier lifestyles, social inclusion and cohesion, urban and rural regeneration and lifelong learning. It also acknowledges the importance of cross cutting issues such as young people, people with disabilities, ethnic minorities and economic disadvantage.

Fylde Borough Council - Corporate Plan 2003 - 2007

- 2.25 The Corporate Plan outlines the Council's contribution to improve social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the community and make everyone's life better.
- 2.26 The Plan highlights the Corporate Objectives as being:
- Quality of Life
 - Environment
 - Economy
 - Quality Services
 - A Safe Community

An Evolving Strategy for Football Facilities: Lancashire Local Football Partnership, 2001

- 2.27 Lancashire has significantly more grass pitch and artificial sites than the regional average, and a greater number of indoor sites.
- 2.28 In comparison to the regional average, the Lancashire LFP area has a lower proportion of sites operated by Local Authorities, and slightly fewer sites operated by clubs. The education sector operates a higher proportion of sites than the regional average. The number of sites operated by parish councils is also slightly higher than the regional average.
- 2.29 The operation of all sites in Lancashire is illustrated in Figure 2.3 below

Figure 2.3 - Operation of all sites in Lancashire

2.30 The main comments regarding provision in Lancashire LFP were:

- there is a lack of junior and mini pitches to meet the requirements of the expanded programme in schools, local authority courses and the FA's mini soccer scheme
- there is a poor overall standard and quality of public grass pitches, associated changing facilities and car parking
- the proportion of sites with urgent needs for drainage improvements is thought to be particularly high in Rochdale and Ribble Valley (70% or over)
- provision of changing facilities where none currently exist, or improvements to poor quality changing is also considered to be a priority. Few sites in Fylde are thought to have segregated female changing provision
- there is a need for more floodlit grass and artificial pitches (outdoor and indoor) to meet the demand for training and play during the week
- there is a need for local neighbourhood access to MUGAs and kickabout areas particularly for young people.

Demographic analysis

2.31 In analysing the need and demand for any new playing pitches it is important to assess the size and composition of the local leisure markets and the impact they will have upon facility usage.

2.32 Full population details from the 2001 census have not yet been released and data is not yet available below local authority level. Analysis of initial 2001 census data however reveals the following:

Population The total population of Fylde Borough Council at the time of the 2001 census was 73,217, of which 48% were male and 52% female

Age structure Compared to the rest of the country, the borough has an ageing population. The proportion of people over the age of 60 is 29% compared to the national average of 20%

Ethnic background Fylde Borough Council has a lower proportion of ethnic minority groups than average. 98.6% described their ethnic origin as white.

Economic Activity The proportion of residents in employment is below the national average, at 59.9% compared to 60.6% nationally. 2% of the population are unemployed compared to the England and Wales average of 3.4%. The proportion of retired people is 6.3% higher than the national average, reflecting the ageing population of the borough.

Mobility 21.3% of the population currently have a limiting long term illness compared to 18.2% nationally. 10.5% of the population of Fylde Borough Council are in "not good" health compared to 9.2% across England and Wales. 4.1% of people in Rochdale are inactive compared to 3.1% nationally.

Deprivation Deprivation Indices have been produced by the Government and were made public in August 2000. As with all districts, the level of deprivation varies considerably. Fylde is considered to be an affluent and safe Borough that doesn't have any concentration of deprivation compared to neighbouring authorities like Blackpool and Preston. Fylde has no wards in the top 10 % of deprived wards nationally.

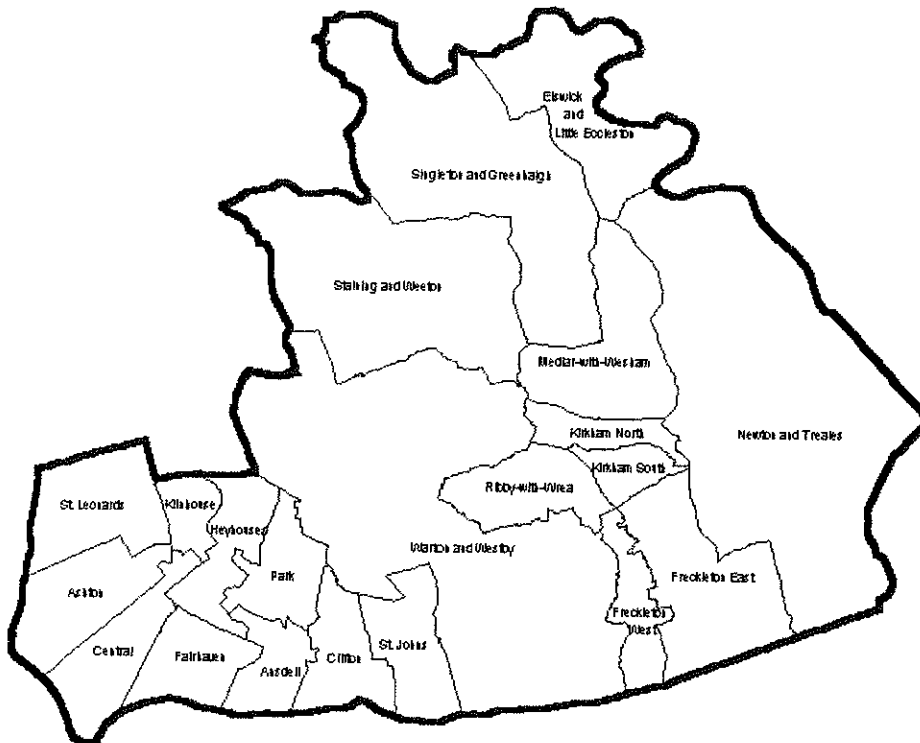
Table 2.4 – National Rankings of the 10 most deprived wards in Fylde (8414 wards nationally)

No.	Ward Name	National Rank of Deprivation
1	Central	2106
2	Ashton	3125
3	Freckleton East	3525
4	Warton & Westby	3829
5	Kilnhouse	4009
6	Heyhouses	4245
7	Medlar with Wesham	4251
8	Staining with Weeton	4552
9	St Leonards	4954
10	Kirkham South	5168

Table 2.5 - Population Growth – Assumed Populations by Ward by 2011

Ward	TOTAL 2003	TOTAL 2011 (0.5% projection)
Ashton	4415	4437
Ansdell	4036	4056
Central	4227	4248
Clifton	3886	3905
Elswick and Little		
Eccleston	1432	1439
Fairhaven	4047	4067
Freckleton East	3199	3215
Freckleton West	2846	2860
Heyhouses	4401	4423
Kilnhouse	4083	4103
Kirkham North	4042	4062
Kirkham South	3085	3100
Medlar with Wesham	3245	3261
Newton and Treales	3127	3143
Park	3950	3970
Ribby with Wrea	1489	1496
Staining and Weeton	3408	3425
Singleton and		
Greenhalgh	1339	1346
St John's	4056	4076
St Leonards	4225	4246
Warton and Westby	4679	4702
TOTAL	73217	73580

Fylde Ward Map



SECTION 3

THE METHODOLOGY

Methodology for assessing supply and demand

Previous approaches to identifying need

- 3.1 The first attempt to establish a standard of provision for public open space and playing fields was made by the NPFA in 1925 and has been subsequently refined on a number of occasions. It is known as the '**Six Acre Standard**'.
- 3.2 The Six Acre Standard states that there should be a minimum of 2.4 hectares (or six acres) of 'outdoor playing space' (defined as playing pitches, greens, courts, parks, playgrounds, informal play space) per 1000 population. In the light of available evidence, within the broader standard of youth and adult use, the minimum standard for playing pitch provision (public, private and school facilities with community use) is recommended to be **1.2 hectares per 1000 population**. The disaggregation of the Six Acre Standard was reaffirmed in 1991 and republished in 2001.
- 3.3 As with other national 'standards', it has limitations that have been widely acknowledged. Most importantly, the simplicity of its approach means that local considerations are often overlooked (eg local league rules, the presence of synthetic turf pitches, pitch quality, pitch capacity, standard of changing provision etc). In addition, it is not related to the demographic profile of the area; it is not an estimate of likely demand, nor of the number of pitches required to serve an area. It is a broad statement of what the NPFA regards as the desirable area of land required for playing space. As stated in 'Planning Policy Guidance (PPG)17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation':

"The Government believes that open space standards are best set locally. National standards cannot cater for local circumstances, such as differing demographic profiles and the extent of existing built development in an area."

The Playing Pitch Methodology (PPM)

- 3.4 The 1991 playing pitch strategy moved away from a standards approach, instead examining the number and characteristics of teams demanding facilities and pitches available to meet that demand. Since the original methodology was produced, there have been changes and developments, particularly relating to trends in participation within the pitch sports, sports development initiatives and the general understanding, appreciation and perception of land in playing field use and its relation to other land uses.
- 3.5 Therefore, our process follows the methodology outlined in '*Towards a level playing field: A manual for the production of a playing pitch strategy*' document launched in Spring 2003. This revised methodology was produced by PMP following widespread consultation on the 1991 methodology, in conjunction with a steering group comprising representatives from the Central Council of Physical Recreation, Local Government Association, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, Loughborough University and Sport England. The National Playing Fields Association withdrew support for the document on 6 December 2002.
- 3.6 The aim of the PPM is to determine the number of pitches required for each activity based on demand in an actual or predicted set of circumstances. The essential difference between the methodology and previous approaches based on standards is that, instead of using land area per head of population as the basic unit, it measures demand (at peak times) in terms of teams requiring pitches and then compares this with the pitches available, thus enabling a tangible measure of the adequacy of existing supply.

- 3.7 The particular advantage of this methodology is that it is related precisely to the local situation and the very task of collating and analysing the information highlights problems and issues from which policy options and solutions can be explored.
- 3.8 The revised methodology incorporates:
- a more holistic view of pitch provision as one element of open space
 - the concept of 'team equivalents' and 'match equivalents' to reflect the requirements of the small-sided games
 - the refinement of team generation rates
 - the revised definition of a pitch
 - the refined quantitative audits of pitches by the use of multiplication factors for:
 - availability / accessibility
 - quality (to include the importance of ancillary provision at pitch sites as well as pitches themselves)
 - carrying capacity.
- 3.9 In line with this revised methodology, this playing pitch strategy focuses exclusively on pitch provision for football, rugby union, rugby league, hockey, and cricket. It also considers the role that synthetic turf pitches (STPs) can play in meeting the needs of residents of the area.

Our approach

- 3.10 The success of the methodologies outlined above depends largely on obtaining as accurate a tally as possible of the number of teams and pitches within Fylde. To achieve this, a full audit of pitches, users and providers within the borough's boundary was conducted. Questionnaires were sent to:
- all known football, cricket, rugby union and hockey clubs based within the borough boundaries (identified in governing body and county association handbooks, league handbooks, pitch booking records, websites, local press, telephone directories, or local knowledge)
 - all known schools and colleges within the borough.
 - Parish Councils
 - Facility Providers
- 3.11 Table 3.1 overleaf summarises the response rates. It was of paramount importance that a high response rate was received from providers of playing pitches. For this reason, all non-responding schools and colleges were contacted by telephone or site visits were undertaken. However, **a 100% response rate was not needed from clubs. This is because club information was sourced from league handbooks, local knowledge and interviews with league secretaries.** The purpose of the club surveys was to crosscheck information and gather qualitative information (ie comments) from clubs. To increase response rates, a reminder phone calls and letters were sent. Telephone interviews were then conducted with all contactable non-responding clubs in order to

gather the outstanding quantitative information. Some clubs were reluctant to be involved with this process. Some teams without a "home pitch" felt the survey was not important.

Table 3.1 Consultation audit response rates

	Questionnaires sent	Questionnaires returned	Successful Telephone interviews	% data received
Sport Clubs				
Association Football	28	14	6	71%
Cricket	6	4	2	100%
Rugby	1	1	N/a	100%
Hockey	2	1	1	100%
<i>Sports Club Total</i>	37	20	9	78%
Schools/ Colleges				
Primary	24	21	3	100%
Secondary / Colleges	5	5	N/a	100%
Special Schools	1	1	N/a	100%
<i>Schools Total</i>	30	27	3	100%
Parish Councils	14	9	2	79%
Facility providers	2	1	1	100%
TOTAL	83	57	15	87%

* Data regarding clubs, which did not respond, was obtained through Council Officers, SDOs, Governing Bodies and league secretaries

- 3.12 At 87%, the overall response rate was much higher than average (25% is considered a 'good' response). This was achieved by carrying out additional telephone interviews and site visits.
- 3.13 The response rate from schools was very good with 100% of questionnaires returned/telephone interviews completed, however responses from clubs were poorer. Only 78% of questionnaires and telephone interviews were completed. This still is a high percentage of returns
- 3.14 An assessment of the data obtained from the above research and consultation is detailed in Section 4.

Supply and demand

Introduction

- 4.1 These sections outlines the current situation in Fylde Borough Council in terms of pitch provision for, and demand from, football, cricket, rugby and hockey clubs.

Supply: playing pitch provision in FBC

Pitch stock

- 4.2 Overall, the research methods outlined in Section 3 identified **99 playing pitches in FBC**. This figure includes all known public, private, school and other pitches whether or not they are in secured public use. The full audit of pitches can be seen in Appendix D. They comprise:
- 28 adult football pitches
 - 35 junior football pitches
 - 5 mini soccer pitches
 - 14 cricket pitches
 - 9 adult rugby union pitches
 - 2 junior rugby union pitches
 - 2 full sized STPs.
 - 4 grass hockey pitches
- 4.3 Of these pitches, 57 (58%) are full-size adult football, cricket, rugby and hockey pitches. This equates to circa one pitch for every 1031 adults in the district. This ratio is very similar to the national average in 1991 (Source: The 1991 Playing Pitch Strategy) but does not compare favourably to the majority of other authorities for which informal data is currently available as shown in Table 4.1 overleaf.

Table 4.1 Ratio of adult pitches per 1000 adults

Local Authority	Ratio (Pitches: adults)
Kennett	1: 365
South Somerset	1: 608
Colchester	1: 655
North Wilts	1: 804
Derwentside	1: 815
Swindon	1: 926
England	1: 989
Fylde Borough Council	1:1,031
St Helens	1:1,050
Portsmouth	1:1,100
Blackpool	1:1,479

- 4.4 The local ratio for specific sports in comparison within the estimated national averages is shown in Table 4.2 below.

Table 4.2 Ratio of adult pitches to adults, by sport

Sport	FBC (pitches : adults)	England ¹ (pitches : adults)
Football	1: 2,099	1: 1,840
Cricket	1: 4,198	1: 4,243
Rugby	1: 6,531	1: 8,968

¹ = data extracted from The Playing Pitch Strategy (1991)

Community pitches

- 4.5 In line with *'Towards a level playing field: A manual for the production of a playing pitch strategy'* (Sport England, CCPR and the NPFA 2003), our definition of 'community pitches' is those pitches with 'secured community use', recognising that this has a considerable bearing upon the value of facilities both individually and collectively to the community at large.
- 4.6 In practice this definition embraces:
- pitches which are in local authority management or other public ownership or management
 - any facilities owned, used or maintained by clubs/private individuals which as a matter of policy or practice are available for use by large sections of the public through membership of a club or admission fee. In either case the 'cost of use' must be reasonable and affordable for the majority of the community
 - pitches at education sites which are available for use by the public through formal community use arrangements
 - any other institutional facilities which are available to the public as a result of formal dual/community agreements.
- 4.7 In line with 'Towards A Level Playing Field' pitches at educational establishments are only considered to be secure if one or more of the following is applicable:
- there is a formal community use agreement in place

- there is a leasing management arrangement between the Council and the school requiring the pitch to be available to community teams
- a policy of community use minuted by the school, including the provision of a tariff of charges
- minutes of the board of school governors allowing use of pitches by community teams
- written commitment from the school

and

- where it is the proved intention of the school to maintain access for community teams to its pitch(es) at peak times for the next two or more years.

- 4.8 There are a large number of educational establishments in Fylde which currently allow community teams to use their pitches. When considered under the above criteria, almost all of these pitches are considered to be unsecured pitches at the present time.
- 4.9 Of the 99 pitches identified, **47 (47%) are secured for the local community**. As demonstrated in Table 4.3, 47% is considered low.

Table 4.3 Percentage of secured community pitches in other Local Authorities

Local Authority	% of pitches secured for community use
Derwentside District Council	47%
Fylde Borough Council	47%
Swindon Borough Council	55%
Mid Devon District Council	57%
Maidstone Borough Council	61%
Worcestershire County	66%
Blackpool	58%
South Somerset District Council	69%

4.10 The **47 secured community pitches** comprise:

- 22 adult football pitches
- 13 junior football pitches
- 1 mini-soccer pitches
- 5 cricket pitches
- 4 adult rugby union pitches
- 1 Grass Hockey pitch
- 1 synthetic turf pitches.

4.11 The full breakdown of the ownership of these pitches can be seen in Appendix D. An additional 4 school sites are currently used by community teams on an ad hoc or informal basis and are therefore 'unsecured' – this issue shall be returned to in Section 6.

4.12 Many schools within the borough stated that their pitches could be used for community use, irrespective of whether community teams currently use them or not. In total, there are 2 pitches available within FBC at 1 school site, where the school has confirmed there is potential of opening pitches to the public.

Area of pitches

4.13 Although the surveyed sports club secretaries were asked to state the exact size of the playing fields, the majority did not respond, guessed or simply did not know. Therefore standard sizes and areas for playing pitches published in *The Six Acre Standard* (NPFA, 2001) have been applied. It has been assumed that pitches throughout FBC are consistent with these standard measurements.

4.14 These sizes include the pitch itself, safety margins and side movement allowance. **They do not include areas of open space used for other sports and recreational purposes** (ie courts, greens, golf courses, picnic areas, heathland, woodland etc) or ancillary facilities (eg changing accommodation, car-parks etc). Total estimated area of pitches by sport in FBC are shown in Table 4.4 overleaf.

Table 4.4 Total area of pitches by sport in FBC in 2003

	NPFA pitch areas (hectares)	Areas assumed for this report (hectares)	Number of pitches in FBC	Area of pitches (hectares)
Adult football	0.82-0.9	0.86	28	24.08
Junior football ¹	0.4-0.6	0.5	35	17.5
Mini football	0.22	0.22	5	1.1
Cricket	1.4-1.6	1.5	14	21.0
Adult Rugby Union	1.26	1.26	9	11.34
Junior rugby union	0.8	0.8	2	1.6
Hockey	0.6	0.6	4	2.4
STP	N/a	N/a	2	N/a
Total			99	79.02

- 4.15 Table 4.5 below shows the total area of the borough with playing pitches secured for community use. As can be seen, by comparing Tables 4.4 and 4.5, 18.4% of playing pitch area in FBC is secured for community use.

Table 4.5 Total area of secured community pitches by sport in FBC in 2003

	NPFA pitch areas (hectares)	Areas assumed for this report (hectares)	Number of pitches in FBC	Area of pitches (hectares)
Senior football	0.82-0.9	0.86	22	18.92
Junior football ¹	0.4-0.6	0.5	13	6.5
Mini football	0.22	0.22	1	0.22
Cricket	1.4-1.6	1.5	5	7.5
Adult rugby	1.26	1.26	4	5.04
Junior rugby	0.8	0.8	0	0
Hockey	0.6	0.6	1	0.6
STP	N/a	N/a	1	N/a
Total			47	38.78

Location of pitches

- 4.16 The location of the existing pitches in the district has been examined by ward. Table 4.6 illustrates the total area of playing pitches and those available for community use by catchment areas of Lytham St Annes (LSA), Fylde East (FE) and Fylde West (FW)

Table 4.6 Total area of pitches by catchment area in 2003

Ward (Catchment Area)	Total playing pitches (ha.)	Total playing pitches with community use (ha.)	% of pitches with community use
Ansdell (LSA)	12 (8.18ha)	4 (2.98ha)	33%
Ashton (LSA)	0	0	N/a
Central (LSA)	2 (1ha)	0	0%
Clifton (LSA)	10 (9.18ha)	10 (9.18ha)	100%
Elswick & Little Ecc (FW)	1 (0.86ha)	1 (0.86ha)	100%

¹ The dimensions for junior football pitches follow guidance from the NPFA and the English Schools Football Association. The Football Association only provides guidance for adult football.

Fairhaven	(LSA)	4 (3.86ha)	0	0%
Freckleton East	(FE)	0	0	N/a
Freckleton West	(FE)	4 (3.36ha)	2 (2.36ha)	50%
Heyhouses	(LSA)	7(5.62ha)	0	0%
Kilnhouse	(LSA)	5 (3.94ha)	5 (3.94ha)	100%
Kirkham North	(FE)	4 (2.36ha)	3 (1.86ha)	75%
Kirkham South	(FE)	11 (9.64ha)	0	0%
Medlar with wesham	(FW)	3 (1.58ha)	1 (0.86ha)	33%
Newton & Treales	(FE)	6 (5.72ha)	3 (2.22ha)	50%
Park	(LSA)	0	0	N/A
Ribby with Wrea	(FW)	2 (2.36ha)	2 (2.36ha)	100%
Singleton & Greenhalgh	(FW)	1 (0.5ha)	0	0%
Staining & Weeton	(FW)	3 (1.5ha)	3 (1.5ha)	100%
Warton & Westby	(FW)	7 (6.98ha)	2 (2.36ha)	28%
St Johns	(LSA)	15 (10.02ha)	9 (5.94ha)	60%
St Leonards	(LSA)	2 (2.36ha)	2 (2.36ha)	100%
Total		97 (79.02ha)	47 (38.78ha)	48%

- 4.17 As can be seen in Table 4.6 above, the proportion of playing fields available to the community is sporadic across the borough. The highest proportion of community use pitches are found in the Lytham St Annes and Fylde West, where 53% of pitches are secured, compared to just 32% in Fylde East .
- 4.18 13 wards within FBC contain at least one playing pitch, but out of the 22 wards, there are 9 without any playing pitch facilities available for community use:
- Ashton
 - Central
 - Fairhaven
 - Freckleton East
 - Heyhouses (primary school is willing to look at providing community use)
 - Park
 - Kirkham South
 - Singleton (plans for a MUGA via NOF funding progressing at the primary school)
 - Weeton with Westby

Ownership

4.19 Tables 4.7 and 4.8 on the next page summarise the ownership of playing pitches in FBC.

Table 4.7 Ownership of all playing pitches in FBC

Ownership	Adult football	Junior football	Mini soccer	Cricket	Adult Rugby Union	Junior Rugby Union	Grass Hockey	STP	TOTAL
Public provision (LA)	15	8	0	3	0	0	0	0	26
LEA provision	7	20	4	6	3	1	1	1	43
Other educational provision	0	1	0	2	2	1	2	1	9
Other public sector provision	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Voluntary sector provision	5	5	1	2	3	0	1	0	17
Private/ corporate provision	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	3
TOTAL	28	35	5	14	9	2	4	2	99

Table 4.8 Ownership of playing pitches with community use in FBC

Ownership	Adult football	Junior football	Mini soccer	Cricket	Adult Rugby Union	Grass Hockey	Junior Rugby Union	STP	TOTAL
Public provision (LA)	15	8	0	3	0	0	0	0	26
LEA provision	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	4
Other educational provision	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other public sector provision	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Voluntary sector provision	5	5	1	2	3	1	0	0	17
Private/ corporate provision	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	22	13	1	5	4	1	0	1	47

4.20 The key points arising from Tables 4.7 and 4.8 above regarding the ownership of pitches are:

- the largest provider of playing pitches is the LEA, who own 43 playing pitches on school sites across the borough
- only 4 LEA pitches are formally secured for public use – just 9% of the total number of LEA owned pitches. No pitches in independent schools are considered to be formally secured for use by the community
- the next largest provider of pitches is the Parish Council/Local Authority who provide 26 pitches, all of which are secured for use by the community. Some of these pitches are leased to clubs
- the voluntary sector play an important role in pitch provision in Fylde, with all clubs providing pitches. The voluntary sector plays a particularly significant role in the provision of football pitches.

Quality of pitch and ancillary facilities

User feedback

- 4.21 As stated in the *Playing Pitch Strategy* pitch quality is a key issue. Perceived quality of pitches (and ancillary facilities) is almost as important as actual quality as it can heavily influence the pattern of play.
- 4.22 All sports clubs playing on pitches in the district were asked about their perceptions of pitch quality by postal questionnaire. The number of clubs who rated a certain pitch characteristic as 'poor' is indicated below in Table 4.9. No hockey clubs responded to this element of the postal questionnaire as they play on STP's. Whilst there was a low response rate, the figures do provide an indication of clubs responses.

Table 4.9 Percentage of clubs dissatisfied with current facilities

	Football	Cricket	Rugby
Firmness of Surface	0	0	0
Grip Underfoot	0	0	0
Bounce of Ball on Pitch	6%	0	0
Evenness of Pitch	11%	0	0
Length of Grass	11%	0	0
Grass Cover	0	0	0
Posts and Sockets	11%	0	0
Line Markings	0	0	0
Free from Litter	22%	0	0
Changing Facilities	38%	25%	0
Showers	22%	25%	0
Overall Quality of Pitch	6%	0	0

NB. The response rate to Question 20 on the sports club survey for cricket and rugby was low. Therefore this above data should not be taken in isolation but in conjunction with the findings of the site visits (see below).

- 4.23 Key points arising from Table 4.9 are:
- the most common problem identified by clubs the poor quality of changing facilities, especially FBC owned
 - Pitch quality was generally rated as good and very good on privately maintained facilities such as cricket clubs, YMCA and BAE Warton
 - The only rugby club, Fylde, states that its playing pitches are in excellent condition
- 4.24 Table 4.10 illustrates the percentage of clubs rating current facilities as good.

Table 4.10 Percentage of clubs satisfied (rating good) with current facilities

	Football	Cricket	Rugby
Firmness of Surface	78%	100%	100%
Grip Underfoot	67%	100%	100%
Bounce of Ball on Pitch	67%	100%	100%
Evenness of Pitch	67%	100%	100%
Length of Grass	72%	100%	100%
Grass Cover	83%	100%	100%
Posts and Sockets	55%	N/a	100%
Line Markings	78%	75%	100%
Free from Litter	72%	75%	100%
Changing Facilities	61%	50%	100%
Showers	55%	50%	100%
Overall Quality of Pitch	78%	100%	100%

NB. The response rate to Question 17 on the sports club survey for cricket and rugby was low. Therefore this above data should not be taken in isolation but in conjunction with the findings of the site visits (see below).

4.25 The key issues arising from the above table are:

- Line Markings, with 78% of clubs rating this as good
- maintenance issues such as length of grass, grass cover and line markings are relatively good overall
- 78% clubs rated the overall quality of the pitch as 'good'.

4.26 Clubs were asked to comment on the best and worst pitches they had experienced over the course of the season. Pitches within FBC which were criticised in questionnaire responses included:

- Lytham Academy
- Coronation Rd Kirkham

4.27 Of these pitches one is privately owned and one FBC. The Lytham Academy site is adjacent to one of FBC's former sites and suffers from poor drainage problems

4.28 Blackpool Rd, FBC maintained, and Seafield Rd, YMCA maintained were considered the best pitches in the borough.

4.29 Rural pitches in Staining, Warton and Wrea Green were also considered good

4.30 The worst pitches from the survey were those located in neighbouring Blackpool

Site Visits

4.31 In addition to the above, the quality of pitches in FBC was ascertained through site visits which were undertaken between in January 2004. An assessment matrix was used to assess the overall site, the quality of each pitch and the ancillary facilities on site. This assessment matrix used can be found in Appendix E.

4.32 A sample of sites throughout the borough was undertaken. This sample included all Council owned facilities, and a selection of schools and voluntary club provision. Pitches in each of the three areas were included within the site visit sample.

4.33 The key issues emerging from site visits are highlighted below:

- local authority pitches appear to be well maintained and grass was cut, markings were clear and equipment was in fair condition
- many private pitches are excellent including St Annes Cricket Club, Lytham Sports Club (hockey, cricket & football), Freckleton Cricket Club and the YMCA. Ancillary facilities in private clubs are generally considered to be good
- some sites appeared under utilised, particularly school sites
- Lytham St Annes Technology High school offered a range of good facilities, although major improvements are needed to fulfil community use potential
- changing facilities at some sites, in particular local authority sites, were in poor condition
- drainage of pitches appears to be the main quality issue especially at Lytham Academy and Bridges Road in Warton
- grass cover was good on the majority of pitches
- litter is a problem at a Council owned sites
- most sites showed evidence of unofficial use, such as golf, cycling and a few sites had evidence of motor vehicles riding across them.

4.34 Lytham Academy suffered the most from waterlogged pitches, accounting for 50% of their matches

4.35 Table 4.11 illustrates the proportion of games cancelled on listed pitches, based on the information received via club responses.

Table 4.11 – Pitch Cancellations (football only)

Pitch Name	Games Played	Games Postponed	% of games postponed
BLACKPOOL ROAD	72	5	7%
SEAFIELD ROAD	30	0	0%
CORONATION ROAD	15	3	20%
CHURCH ROAD	30	0	0%
BANK LANE	32	0	0%
BRIDGES ROAD	15	6	40%
STAINING	30	8	27%
ROSACRE LANE	No info	No info	0%
THE GREEN	30	2	7%
ANSDELL ARENA	30	2	7%

<i>WESHAM</i>	NO INFO	NO INFO	No info
<i>LYTHAM ACADEMY</i>	40	20	50%
<i>FRECKLETON</i>	NO INFO	NO INFO	No info
TOTAL	324	46	14%

- 4.36 This data confirms that overall, 14% of matches were postponed during season 2002 - 2003 (the majority during the winter season). Quality of pitches at this time therefore appears to be relatively poor. All cancellations were caused by drainage problems.
- 4.37 Fylde Rugby Club had no cancellation during season 2002 - 2003 and completed 40 fixtures.
- 4.38 Cricket Clubs in general had few cancellations due to inclement weather as opposed to pitch problems, with the exception of Warton that had two cancellations due to outfield flooding.

Demand: pitch sport clubs in FBC

- 4.39 Table 4.12 illustrates the number of football, cricket, hockey and rugby union teams playing on pitches in FBC. These include adult, junior and mini teams. Key facts and figures for each sport are summarised after the table. The full list can be found in Appendix F.

Table 4.12 Sports clubs using playing pitches in FBC

	Football	Cricket	Rugby Union	Hockey	TOTAL
Total number of clubs	21	6	1	1	29
Total number of teams	96	38	15	10	159
Number of adult teams	21	17	4	8	50
Number of junior teams	46	17	11	2	76
Number of mini-teams	29	4	N/A	N/A	33

The playing pitch methodology, Towards A Level Playing Field, assumes that clubs are based in the ward where they play their home matches and does not take into consideration where players live. A summary of the spread of teams in FBC can be found in Table 4.13 below.

Table 4.13 – The Spread of Teams across FBC

Teams By AREA	Adult Football	Junior Football	Mini Football	Adult Cricket	Junior Cricket	Mini Cricket	Adult Rugby Union	Junior Rugby Union	Adult Hockey	Junior Hockey	Total
Lytham St Annes	11	29	15	10	12	4	4	11	8	2	106
Fylde East	2	9	6	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	27
Fylde West	8	8	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	29
TOTAL	21	46	29	17	17	4	4	11	8	2	159

- 4.40 As Table 4.13 illustrates, 67% of the teams in the district are based within the Lytham St Annes Area. 17 % of teams play their home matches within Fylde East and 16% within Fylde West.
- 4.41 At present, there are no rugby union or hockey clubs based in Fylde East or Fylde West. Springfields Hockey Club in Newton play all their home matches at Preston based facilities.

Football Clubs in FBC – an overview

- 4.42 Of the 28 surveys sent out to football clubs, 14 were returned with six telephone interviews conducted. This represents a response rate of 71%. The following is a summary of key findings gathered from questionnaires, conversations with league secretaries, club secretaries and sports development officers. All the figures below are

based on the clubs for which we received a full reply, unfortunately the smaller Sunday League teams were unwilling to take part.

Membership

There are currently 21 clubs in Fylde catering for 96 teams. Of the 96 teams, 11% are senior male Sunday league teams. 48% are junior teams, 30% are mini teams and the remaining 10% are senior men's Saturday teams .

It has been highlighted that although the popularity of mini soccer is increasing rapidly, this demand is met by only a few clubs who run mini and junior football sections. Many junior clubs felt the capacity would be able to increase if more pitches were made available. The transition from junior to senior football has therefore not been easy. Transition from junior to senior level remains a problem with currently only one outlet at U17/18 level via the YMCA. It has been proposed that a forum should be arranged with the aim of retaining players through the transition between junior and senior football.

42% of football clubs responding to the questionnaire have experienced growth in their membership over recent years, with the other respondents staying constant.

Standard of play

The standard of play varies throughout the Borough. The senior men's Sunday teams play in the Blackpool & Fylde Sunday League.

The highest standards locally are the teams that play in the West Lancashire League. Kirkham and Wesham F.C in particular are looking to progress into the North-West Counties structure providing facilities can match they standard of play

The majority of junior teams play in the Poulton Primary League or the Blackpool Youth League

Facilities used

Almost all the junior and Saturday teams play on privately owned and maintained facilities, hence the perception of a high standard of facility across the Borough The Sunday teams predominately play on council owned pitches.

Constraints

The major constraints facing the football clubs that responded in the borough were identified as:

- Lack of appropriate facilities (67%)
- Lack of external funding (33%)
- Lack of internal funding (33%)
- Lack of voluntary assistance (42%)
- Lack of information about local facilities (17%)
- Poor relationships with fellow clubs (17%)
- Access difficulties for members (17%).

Future plans

FBC would like to see all junior clubs obtaining the F.A's Charter standard. Lytham St Annes F.C are relocating to the new YMCA

facility in Lytham. Lytham Juniors to work toward Community Club status.

Cricket Clubs in FBC – an overview

4.43 Of the 6 surveys sent out to cricket clubs, only four were returned; a response rate of 66% on pitch quality although team details were confirmed during telephone interviews.

Membership There are five cricket clubs in the borough (for which we have obtained information) which run 38 teams. Lytham C.C and St Annes C.C are the largest in the borough with large junior set-ups. Of the responding clubs 75% had seen an increase in membership and only Warton had seen a decline.

Standard of play The standard of play across the Borough varies, with the highest standard being played by Lytham C.C who play in the Liverpool Competition. St Annes play in the Northern League whilst the village teams play in the Palace Shield

Facilities used All the clubs play on privately owned facilities which are in general in very good condition with the exception of Warton whose clubhouse is in a poor state. Wrea Green, who chose not to participate, play on parish council owned grounds.

Constraints The major constraints facing responding cricket clubs were identified (in order of importance) as:

- lack of external funding (67%)
- lack of internal funding (33%)
- lack of voluntary assistance (33%)
- membership recruitment and retention (33%)
- lack of appropriate local facilities (33%)

Clubs experience difficulties accessing indoor training facilities.

Future plans St Annes and Lytham C.C's are currently at stage two of the Community Club Development Fund which will improve their playing and practice facilities. Wrea Green are looking to develop their junior section with the help of the Fylde Cricket Development Group. District squads are to be developed in U11's, U13's & U15's

Rugby Clubs in FBC – an overview

4.44 There is currently only one club within the borough - Fylde Rugby Union Football Club.

Membership The club runs 4 senior male teams, and 11 junior teams and has a current membership of 820, which has remained constant in recent years

Standard of play Fylde Rugby Club currently plays in National League Division Two

Facilities used Fylde Rugby Club currently owns their own ground at the Woodlands. This consists of three senior pitches one of which is floodlit. Junior teams belonging to Fylde Rugby Club rely on the local high school pitches if club facilities are unavailable, and vice versa

Constraints The major constraints facing rugby in the District was identified as:

- lack of external funding
- lack of internal funding
- lack of voluntary assistance
- membership recruitment/ retention

Future plans Fylde Rugby Club have recently sold off a part of land for development, for which the proceeds will be used to develop facilities at the club. Community outreach work is due to start across the borough in 2004

Hockey Clubs in FBC – an overview

4.45 There is only one hockey club playing in FBC at present.

Membership Lytham Hockey Club is a mixed hockey club that currently runs three female senior teams, five male senior teams and two junior teams , one male one female

Facilities used The club currently uses Lytham St Annes Technology High school STP for the majority of it's games. Arnold school (Blackpool) is also used.

Future Plans The club recently received grant funding of £250,000 to go towards a new water based facility and clubhouse at the Lytham Sports Club site

Summary Lytham Hockey Club plays at a high level of national competition and provides a lot of free coaching for the young people of the Borough

4.46 The key issues emerging from supply and demand data are:

- there is a relatively high ratio of adults to pitches with a low percentage of secured community pitches. This results in:
 - increased usage of community pitches
 - more teams per pitch – increasing wear and tear of facilities
 - no spare capacity to allow for cancellations, training and recovery time
- The LEA is a significant provider of pitches but none of the sites are secured for community use, although the public with informal permission uses some. Some schools have stated that they would be willing to allow their pitches to be used for community use.

- There is increasing demand for junior and mini football teams, this has led to an identified need for more mini and particularly junior pitches.
 - There is a general increase in club memberships, with a few remaining constant and one claiming a reduction in numbers
 - there is an identified need for training and casual football facilities
 - Pitch quality investigation highlights drainage as the main concern – the club with 50% of games postponed has a major drainage problem. This pitch is next to a FBC site, which is no longer used due to drainage problems.
 - Rugby and cricket pitches were all given an overall good quality rating
 - 78% of football clubs were satisfied with the quality of the pitches, however the standard of changing facilities and showers do not seem to be as high with only 55% rating them as good.
- 4.47 The supply and demand data contained in this section will be set in context by applying the *Playing Pitch Methodology* in Section 5.

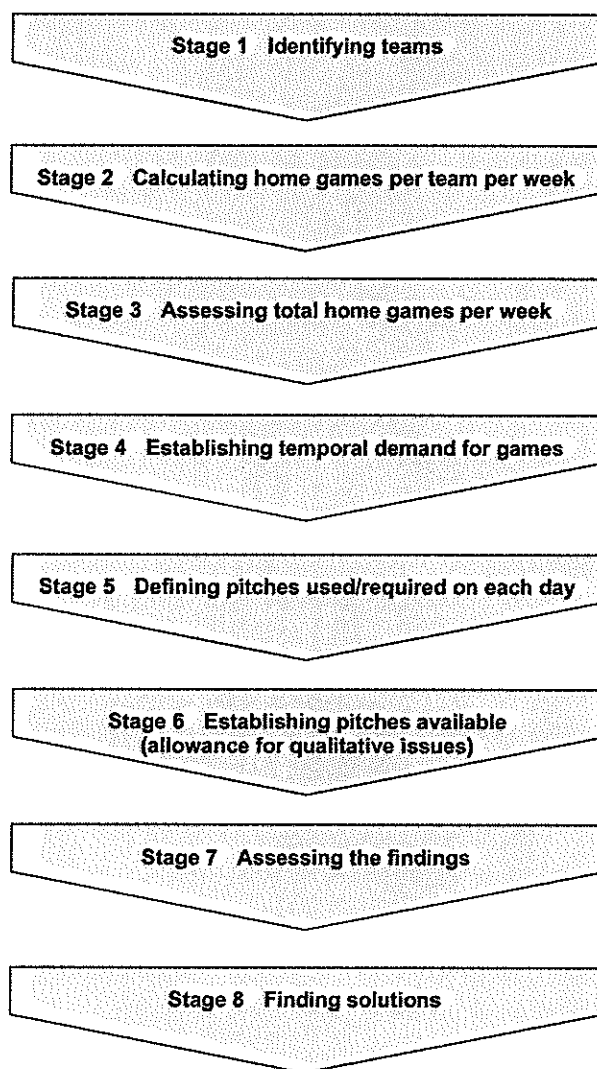
SECTION 4

SUPPLY AND DEMAND

The Playing Pitch Methodology

- 5.1 The Playing Pitch Methodology (PPM) comprises eight stages. Stages 1 to 6 involve numerical calculations, whilst Stages 7 and 8 develop issues and solutions. The methodology is employed to analyse the adequacy of current provision and to assess possible future situations, in order that latent and future demand (identified through Team Generation Rates), and the problems with quality, use and capacity of existing pitches can be taken into account.

Flow-chart to illustrate the key stages:



- 5.2 It is implicit to the method that each sport is dealt with individually with a specific set of calculations for each because, despite some superficial similarities, they exhibit very different patterns of play.
- 5.3 We have further subdivided the analysis of some sports to deal with specific sub-sectors of activity within them, e.g. junior play or adult play, in order that important aspects are not submerged in aggregated data. Football and rugby have been subdivided in this manner, whereas no differentiation has been made between junior and senior cricket and junior and senior hockey teams as they play on pitches of similar dimensions.
- 5.4 The summary of the findings for the Borough (Table 5.1) as a whole gives an indication of the shortfall/ surplus of pitches for each sport.

- 5.5 Within FBC, our research has shown that many matches are cancelled due to bad weather and/or poor drainage. It should be acknowledged however, that match cancellations are a fact of life, even for the best quality pitches.
- 5.6 The new Playing Pitch Methodology (Towards A Level Playing Field) allows authorities to take into account the carrying capacity (i.e. The number of games that pitches are adequately able to sustain per week) when calculating the playing pitch methodology.
- 5.7 The calculations undertaken below assume that **all pitches are able to undertake standard two games per week** (for the full season). The calculations will then be rerun later in this section taking into account the perceived quality of each of the community pitches within Fylde Borough Council.
- 5.8 Playing Pitch Methodology calculations take into account only those pitches, which are secured, for community use.
- 5.9 Table 5.1 demonstrates the calculations undertaken to determine the surplus/deficit of pitches in the borough.

Table 5.1 PPM calculations for the Borough (2003)

		Football	Cricket	Rugby Union	Hockey	
STAGE ONE						
Identifying teams ¹	Adult teams	21	34	4	8	
	Junior teams	46		11	2	
STAGE TWO						
Calculate home games per week ²	Adult games	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.5	
	Junior teams	0.5		0.5	0.5	
STAGE THREE (S1x S2)						
Assessing total home games per week	Adult games	10.5	23.8	2.0	4	
	Junior teams	23		5.5	1	
STAGE FOUR						
Establish temporal demand for pitches ³	Saturday	Adult games	60%	40%	100%	80%
		Junior teams	0%			
	Sunday	Adult games	40%	40%	0%	20%
		Junior teams	100%		100%	100%
	Midweek	Adult games				
		Junior teams		20%		
STAGE FIVE (S3 x S4)						
Defining pitches used each day	Saturday	Adult games	6.3	9.52	2	3.2
		Junior teams	0			
	Sunday	Adult games	4.2	9.52		0.8
		Junior teams	23		5.5	1
	Midweek	Adult games				
		Junior teams		4.76		
STAGE SIX						
Establishing pitches currently available	Adult pitches	22	5	4	4	
	Junior pitches	13		0		
STAGE SEVEN (S6-S5)						
Identifying shortfall (-) and oversupply (+) ⁵	Saturday	Adult pitches	15.7	-4.52	2	0.8
		Junior pitches	13			
	Sunday	Adult pitches	17.8	-4.52		4.2
		Junior pitches	-10		-1.5	3.2
	Midweek	Adult pitches				
		Junior pitches		0.24		

Notes:

1. Excludes mini-soccer (as per PPM guidance). Discussed later in this section.
2. As per PPM guidance, it is assumed that all football, cricket and rugby teams play a home match every fortnight. However, for cricket teams it is assumed that many teams play home matches more than every fortnight (ie mid-week matches), hence the figure of 0.7.
3. Determined by a combination of questionnaire responses, telephone interviews and discussions with league secretaries.
4. As per PPM guidance, it is assumed that one STP is the equivalent of four grass hockey pitches. Therefore 2 STPs are calculated as 8 pitches. Grass pitches have been excluded from the analysis, as league hockey should be played on STPs. Surplus or shortfall figures should therefore be divided by 4 to obtain shortfall / surplus in real terms.
5. The figure is **bold** represent the peak-day demand.

5.10 Key issues arising from Table 5.1 are:

- **The over-supply of full-size adult football pitches (15.7)** on peak days (Saturdays) indicates that, in general senior football is currently well provided for in the borough.
- **the under-supply of junior football pitches (-10)** on peak days (Sunday) indicates that currently pitches may be overused and/ or junior games are being played on adult pitches. In addition, the fact that there is no spare capacity on existing junior pitches may prevent junior clubs from expanding, or new clubs being formed in the borough.
- There is an **under-supply of cricket pitches (-4.52)** on peak days (weekend) indicating that cricket pitches in the borough may currently be overused.
- There is a small oversupply of **adult rugby union pitches (2)**, however with the under supply of junior pitches, the over supply is probably a false result as the pitches are needed by juniors.
- There is an **under-supply of junior rugby union pitches (-1.5)**, although this is under the assumption that the junior teams are playing on adult pitches. If the teams were relying on specific pitches, then there is no provision for community use junior rugby union meaning that the shortfall would be -5.5. This indicates that shortfalls of pitches may inhibit future development and growth of rugby.
- There is a slight **over-supply of synthetic hockey pitches (0.8)** on peak days (overall total divided by four to give the shortfall or surplus in real terms) – this does not account for the potential for an STP to be used for training and casual opportunities.

Areas

- 5.11 For pitch sports there is an accepted need for players to travel to games. Therefore, the ward analysis, although useful in terms for highlighting areas of shortfall/ surplus, tends to exaggerate the situation by not taking into account cross-boundary issues.
- 5.12 Therefore, Table 5.2 below reveals the shortfall/surplus by *area*. The wards that make up each area are detailed below.

Table 5.2 Area Definitions

Lytham St Annes	Fylde East	Fylde West
Ansdell	Freckleton East	Medlar with Wesham
Ashton	Freckleton West	Ribby with Wrea
Clifton	Kirkham North	Singleton & Greenhalgh
Central	Kirkham South	Staining and Weeton
Heyhouses	Newton with Treales	Elswick & little Eccleston
Fairhaven		Warton and Westby
Kilnhouse		
Park		
St Johns		
St Leonards		

5.13 The above areas were illustrated in Section One.

5.14 When the PPM is applied at area and ward, further detail is revealed.

Table 5.3 Summary of PPM results by area and ward in 2004

PPM Summary 2004	Adult Football	Junior Football	Cricket	Adult Rugby Union	Junior Rugby Union	Hockey	Total pitches
Lytham St Annes	10.7	-7.5	-4.16	+2	-1.5	0.8	0.34
Ansdell	2	-3	0	0	0	0.8	-0.2
Ashton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clifton	1.8	1	-2.64	2	-1.5	0	0.66
Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fairhaven	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heyhouses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kilnhouse	2.2	-7	0	0	0	0	-4.8
Park	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
St Johns	4	1.5	0	0	0	0	5.5
St Leonards	0.7	0	-1.52	0	0	0	-0.82
Fylde East	3.4	-1.5	-1.8	0	0	0	0.94
Freckleton East	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Freckleton west	0.4	0	-0.96	0	0	0	-0.56
Kirkham North	1	-2.5	-0.84	0	0	0	-1.5
Kirkham South	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Newton with Treales	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Fylde West	1.6	-1.0	1.44	0	0	0	2.04
Medlar with Wesham	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0.1
Elswick & little Singleton	0.7	0	0	0	0	0	0.7
Ribby with Wrea	0.1	0	1	0	0	0	1.1
Singleton & Greenhagh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Staining & Weeton	0	1.0	0	0	0	0	1.0
Warton and Westby	0.7	-2	0.44	0	0	0	-0.86
Total	18.7	-13	-4.52	2	-1.5	0.8	3.32

- numbers = shortfall

5.15 Of the 21 wards within FBC, 15 (71%) have no overall shortfall. It has to be taken into account that 8 wards (38%) have no pitches at all.

5.16 The key issues arising from the above analysis are:

Lytham St Annes

- There is a small oversupply of pitches in Lytham St Annes of 0.34
- The main surplus of pitches are adult football (10.70, along with adult rugby union (2) and hockey (0.8)
- The largest oversupply of adult football is found in St Johns (4) due to there being no teams within this ward. None of the wards have a shortfall.
- Junior football is the largest undersupply (-7.5) the majority of these in Kilnhouse (-7). Clifton has a small surplus (1) as do St Johns (1.5).
- There is also an undersupply of cricket equivalent to 4.16 pitches. This is found in Clifton (-2.64) and St Leonards (-1.52)

Fylde East

- Fylde East has again a small over supply of pitches (0.94).
- There is no rugby or hockey provision within Fylde East.
- Fylde East has a small oversupply of adult football pitches (3.4). Newton and Kirkham North have the largest supply (2 and 1 respectively).
- There is a small under supply of junior football pitches (-1.5). Kirkham north is the cause of this with an under supply of -2.5. The only other ward with a pitch is Newton (1).
- Cricket is slightly under supplied by 1.8 pitches. Only two wards have any cricket provision and both of these are under supplied. Freckleton West (-0.96) and Kirkham North (-0.84)

Fylde West

- This area has the largest over supply of pitches within Fylde (2.04)
- Warton and Westby is the only ward to have an under supply equivalent to 0.86 pitches
- The largest surplus is again adult football (1.6) with cricket having a slightly smaller surplus of 1.44.
- As with all of the other areas there is a shortfall in junior football (-1.0). This is due to the shortfall in Warton and Westby (-2).
- Only one other ward has junior pitches, Staining and Weeton, with a surplus of 1.0.
- There are no rugby, cricket or hockey pitches or clubs within these wards.

Predicting the Future

Team Generation Rates

- 5.17 Team Generation Rates (TGRs) indicate how many people in a specified age group are required to generate one team. TGRs are derived by dividing the appropriate population age band in the area by the number of teams playing within that area in that age band. Calculating TGRs enables fair comparison to be made between different areas where similar studies have been undertaken. The 10-44 age group yields the vast majority of pitch sport players.
- 5.18 In line with the 1991 Playing Pitch Strategy, dividing the estimated number of male teams playing each sport (excluding mini-soccer – as played by under 10s) within FBC (165 teams (9 are female) by the estimated total number of males aged between 10-44 years (approximately 19.6% - 14,368) gives an overall borough TGR of 87. This means that there is one pitch sport team for every 87 male resident's aged 10-44.
- 5.19 Tables 5.4 to 5.7 on the next page compare TGRs in each sport with those of other studies.

Table 5.4 Football Team Generation Rates

Local Authority/ Area	TGR (football)
Mid Devon	1:118
Bromsgrove	1:127
South Somerset	1:131
East Devon	1:169
Worcester City	1:170
Wychavon	1:180
Redditch	1:182
Kennet District	1:183
Crawley, Horsham, Hastings, Bexhill and Maidstone	1:183
Colchester Borough	1:200
Derwentside	1:230
Portsmouth	1:236
Malvern Hills	1:241
West Devon	1:244
Wyre Forest	1:252
Tyne and Wear	1:290
North Wiltshire	1:314
FBC	1:425
Average	1:215

Table 5.5 Cricket Team Generation Rates

Local Authority/ Area	TGR (cricket)
Bromsgrove	1:231
West Devon	1:233
Wychavon	1:239
Mid Devon	1:271
North Devon	1:298
South Somerset	1:298
Derwentside	1:328
Kennet District	1:407
Torbay	1:463
Malvern Hills	1:499
North Wiltshire	1:501
Colchester Borough	1:568
Worcester City	1:664
Redditch	1:703
East Devon	1:737
Wyre Forest	1:831
FBC	1:1,317
Portsmouth	1:2,808
Average	1:593

Table 5.6 Rugby Team Generation Rates

Local Authority/ Area	TGR (rugby)
Bromsgrove	1:306
Mid Devon	1:495
Wychavon	1:498
West Devon	1:501
South Somerset	1: 608
East Devon	1:716
Worcester City	1:875
Wyre Forest	1:1,062
Malvern Hills	1:1,068
North Wiltshire	1:1,185
Colchester Borough	1:1,206
Kennet District	1:1,337
Redditch	1:1,407
Derwentside	1:1,431
FBC	1:1812
Average	1:921

Table 5.7 Hockey Team Generation Rates

Local Authority/ Area	TGR (hockey)
East Devon	1:437
Wychavon	1:450
Worcester City	1:875
Mid Devon	1:1025
Wyre Forest	1:1,062
South Somerset	1:1,081
Bromsgrove	1:1,296
West Devon	1:1668
FBC	1:2848
Kennet District	1:2,977
Redditch	1:3,095
Colchester Borough	1:3,217
North Wiltshire	1:4,400
Malvern Hills	1:4,986
Average	1:2,848

What do these numbers mean?

5.20 The following examples help clarify what TGRs mean:

1:100 → high TGR → relatively low latent (unmet) demand

1: 1000 → low TGR → relatively high latent (unmet) demand

5.21 For FBC, this means:

Overall
1: 87 → medium TGR → some latent (unmet) demand

Football
1:425 → medium TGR → some latent (unmet) demand

Cricket
1:1,317 → low TGR → relatively high latent (unmet) demand

Rugby
1: 1,812 → low TGR → relatively high latent (unmet) demand

Hockey
1: 2,848 → low TGR → high latent (unmet) demand.

5.22 It is important to note that latent demand indicated by TGRs is relative to other studies. At present, no national TGR figures are available. Overall, then FBC has a **medium TGR (although individual sport TGRs in rugby and hockey are low), indicating a low latent (unmet) demand.**

5.23 The new playing pitch methodology, 'Towards A Level Playing Field' requires TGRs to be calculated for different age groups and different sub divisions. Calculations (based on initial 2001 census figures which do not break the age groups down into exact figures) for FBC are shown in Table 5.8 below. For the purposes of TGR calculations, where age groups splits do not exactly match those required, the distribution of people throughout the age groups has been assumed to be even.

Table 5.8 – TGR Calculations by Sport Sub-Groups

Sport Sub Group	Age Group (and Population)	FBC TGR (no of teams)
<i>Football</i>		
Mini Soccer - Boys	6-9 (6047)	N/a
Junior Football – Boys	10-15 (2545)	1:59(43 teams)
Junior Football – Girls	10-15 (2758)	1:920 (3 teams)
Men's Football	16-45 (11822)	1:563 (21 teams)
Women's Football	16-45 (12808)	N/a (0 teams)
<i>Cricket</i>		
Junior Cricket - Boys	11-17 (3321)	1:221 (15 teams)
Junior Cricket - Girls	11-17 (3598)	1:1799 (2 teams)
Men's Cricket	18-55 (18176)	1:1069 (17 teams)
Women's Cricket	18-55 (19690)	N/a (0 teams)
<i>Hockey</i>		
Junior Hockey – Boys	11-15 (2545)	1:2545 (1 team)
Junior Hockey – Girls	11-15 (2758)	1:2758 (1 team)
Men's Hockey	16-45 (11822)	1:2956 (4 teams)
Women's Hockey	16-45 (12808)	1:3202 (4 teams)
<i>Rugby Union</i>		
Junior Rugby –Boys	13-17 (7333)	1:302 (11 teams)
Junior Rugby – Girls	16-17 (4071)	N/A (no teams)
Senior Rugby – Men	18-45 (43694)	1:2762 (4 teams)
Senior Rugby - Women	18-45 (45393)	N/A (no teams)

Projections for 2013

- 5.24 Projections have therefore been calculated for the purpose of this study using all available knowledge. Full details of the methods used to calculate projections and the figures themselves are available in Appendix A.
- 5.25 By applying TGRs to the population projections for 2013, we can project the theoretical number of teams that would be generated over the next decade. This can then be applied to the PPM model to forecast the future shortfall of pitches; assuming that no new pitches are built in the interim and that 'district average' TGRs are applied to those wards with current low TGRs (to simulate a possible increase in participation rates).
- 5.26 TGRs were generated for each sport by township and were then applied to wards in that township to predict participation in 2013. In townships where the TGR in 2003 for a sport was '0', the borough average for that sport was assigned. Calculations for 2013 therefore assume uniform participation across the wards in each township and do not take into consideration where pitches are, or where teams are currently based. Women's teams have been included in the calculations to determine future pitch demand, as they use the same pitches as male teams.
- 5.27 In addition, in line with the revised playing pitch methodology, 'Towards A Level Playing Field', the potential impact of sports development programmes has been considered. Following consultation and research into the local situation, it has been assumed that sports development programmes over the next ten years will result in a 10% increase in the number of teams in the borough. This potential increase has therefore been taken into account in playing pitch methodology calculations for 2013.
- 5.28 The results from this analysis are shown in Table 5.9 below

Table 5.9 Summary of PPM results by ward and area for 2013

PPM Summary 2013	Adult Football	Junior Football	Cricket	Adult Rugby Union	Junior Rugby Union	Shortfall of hockey	Total pitches
Lytham St Annes	10.37	-8.95	-4.77	1.8	-2.05	0.48	-3.12
Ansdell	2	-3.3	0	0	0	0.48	-0.82
Ashton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clifton	1.68	1	-3	1.8	-2.05	0	-0.57
Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fairhaven	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heyhouses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kilnhouse	2.02	-7.8	0	0	0	0	-5.78
Park	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
St Johns	4	1.15	0	0	0	0	5.15
St Leonards	0.67	0	-1.77	0	0	0	-1.1
Fylde East	3.34	-1.95	0.22	0	0	0	1.61
Freckleton East	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Freckleton west	0.34	0	-1.16	0	0	0	-0.82
Kirkham North	1	-2.95	1.38	0	0	0	-0.57
Kirkham South	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Newton with Treales	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Fylde West	1.36	-1.4	1.38	0	0	0	1.34
Medlar with Wesham	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0.01
Elswick & little Eccleston	0.67	0	0	0	0	0	0.67
Ribby with Wrea	0.01	0	1	0	0	0	1.01
Singleton & Greenhlagh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Staining and Weeton	0	0.8	0	0	0	0	0.8
Warton and Westby	0.67	-2.2	0.38	0	0	0	0
Total	18.07	-15.3	-3.17	1.8	-2.05	0.48	-0.17

5.29 As shown in Table 5.9, as a result of the projected increase in population and the impact of sports development initiatives and overall demand will increase. The key issues in 2013 will be:

- there will be a total undersupply of 0.17 pitches

- The reality is an increase in under supply of junior football, cricket and junior rugby which are all planned sports for local development initiatives
- Predicted under supply in Kirkham, Ansdell, Warton and Kilnhouse all of which currently suffer from juvenile nuisance. Sport can play a role in reducing this

The local situation

- 5.1 Playing pitch methodology calculations detailed on previous pages indicate that there is a surplus of pitches across the borough. There is however a relatively large oversupply of adult football pitches. This contrasts with the undersupply of junior football and junior rugby.
- 5.2 The 1991 playing pitch methodology assumed that all pitches are of sufficient standard to sustain two games per week. It is however acknowledged that this may not always be the case. The new playing pitch methodology, Towards A Level Playing Field, suggests that the quality of a pitch is taken into account.
- 5.3 The number of community matches a grass pitch can absorb is a function of the needs of users and quality of pitch. For example a school pitch may be able to accommodate one game each weekend, while a comparable Council pitch is able to allow two. It is therefore important to take into consideration the quality of the pitches.
- 5.4 In calculating the carrying capacity of a pitch, the following should be considered:
 - what proportion of games are cancelled on the pitch due to poor pitch condition?
 - is the condition of the pitch declining over the season?
 - what is the maintenance regime for the pitch at present?
 - could the capacity of the pitch be improved by enhanced maintenance?
 - the extent to which pitches are required to accommodate training activity?
- 5.5 Officers are confident that with the existing maintenance programme, the majority of pitches in Blackpool are able to sustain the expected level of use – two games per week.
- 5.6 Although the carrying capacity of pitches is good overall, there are occasions where there are cancellations or pitches are unsuitable for use. It is therefore important to schedule opportunity for rest and recovery for pitches within the season.
- 5.7 Synthetic hockey pitches are not affected by the conditions discussed above and have therefore been excluded. The two pitches at Lytham High and Kirkham Grammar are considered to be of good quality..

Summary

- 5.8 Within Fylde at present, assuming that all pitches are able to sustain the required two games per week, there is an overall oversupply of pitches. .
- 5.9 Although there is an oversupply of both adult football pitches, there is an undersupply of both junior rugby and football in all three areas. Demand is likely to increase by 2013, hence shortfalls will increase and surpluses will reduce.

SECTION 6

PRIORITIES FOR ACTION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Priorities for action and key recommendations

6.1 The research findings lead to the following components as a basis for maintaining and enhancing playing pitch provision in Fylde.

- protection of existing provision
- enhancement of existing provision
- overcoming identified deficiencies and planning for new provision
- dealing with identified surpluses
- future pitch management and key issues
- developing a local standard.

(a) Protection of existing provision

6.2 The current and projected (by 2013) future deficiencies identified emphasise the necessity of protecting all existing areas of playing pitch land in public, private and educational ownership located in each area with a current or projected future shortfall in particular sports. The necessity to protect pitches is highlighted when considering the carrying capacity, as when taking into account the quality of current pitches, existing surpluses are reduced, and current shortfalls increase. Existing shortfalls and surpluses are detailed below.

Lytham St Annes: current shortfall of junior football and cricket pitches. Surplus of adult football and rugby. Slight surplus of hockey(0.8)
a projected shortfall of junior football, cricket and rugby union by 2013. Surplus of adult football and rugby still anticipated

Fylde East: current shortfall of junior football and cricket pitches. Surplus of adult football evident
projected shortfall of junior football pitches by 2013
still a slight surplus of adult football

Fylde West: current shortfall of junior football pitches. Small surplus of adult football and cricket
projected shortfall of junior football. Surplus of adult football and cricket decreasing

Table 6.3 Playing pitch issues and solutions: Borough Picture

Issue	Solution
<p>Adult football</p> <p>Current oversupply of 10.7, predicted to decrease to 10.37 by 2013.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pitch enhancements should be carried out to improve the existing stock of pitches to ensure the carrying capacity is maximised and to reduce the risk of cancellation 2. Pitches should be re-designated as mini-soccer sites where appropriate 3. The Council should take the opportunity to rest and improve pitches while there is a small oversupply within the area
<p>Junior football</p> <p>Current undersupply of 7.5 junior football pitches, predicted to increase to 8.95 by 2013</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Improve quality of existing pitches. There is a former site at Park View which is currently unusable. This site can hold 4 pitches and should be improved as a priority. 5. Develop community-use agreements with schools (with suitable pitches and ancillary facilities). Attention should be focused on obtaining additional secured community pitches in the area 6. seek any possible developer contributions via Section 106 agreements 7. apply for grant aid to the Football Foundation in partnership with local clubs and the FA for the development of club facilities
<p>Cricket</p> <p>Current shortfall of 4.16 cricket pitches. Predicted to increase to 4.77 pitches by 2013.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Develop community-use agreements with schools (with suitable pitches and ancillary facilities) Consider developing FBC maintained pitches as cricket facilities 9. seek developer contributions to create new pitches 10. explore grant funding opportunities with clubs and the Lancashire Cricket Board 11. Increase the number and improve the standard of artificial wickets across the borough
<p>Adult Rugby Union</p> <p>There is currently one club in the borough situated in this area. There is a current over supply of senior pitches and an under supply of junior rugby</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Assist the club to develop it's site into a multi-sport facility 13. Develop a community use policy with the club
<p>Hockey</p> <p>Oversupply of 0.8 pitches (0.2 STPs) predicted to decrease to 0.48 by 2013</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. Ensure the Lytham High School has a management plan in place for the replacement of the surface when needed

Protection of Unsecured sites

- 6.3 All the primary schools across the borough are currently without community-use agreements but some are currently used on an ad hoc basis by community teams. These sites can play a vital role in the facilitation of pitch sports in the area and consideration must therefore be given to securing their future use. It should be noted that it might not be appropriate to develop secured community use agreements with all schools, but this is an area that must be explored by Fylde Borough Council Officers
- 6.4 The continuing development of the community-use of school playing fields and the joint development of community pitch facilities on education sites holds considerable potential, particularly for meeting any growth in demand from junior/ mini teams and for providing artificial surfaces. This often needs financial commitment from local authorities to improve playing surfaces and capacity, providing or improving changing accommodation and possibly providing revenue subsidies to users.

Pitches on School Sites – The Current Situation

- 6.5 At present, teams wishing to use school facilities within FBC must approach the school directly and arrange lettings themselves with the exceptions of Carr Hill and Lytham High, where community use policies exist. There is no consistent letting system in place. Schools are responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of their pitches, and for opening and closing changing facilities as required.
- 6.6 The main barriers at present to greater secured community access to school sports pitches are as follows:
- poor drainage and maintenance of some pitches
 - lack of policy regarding community use of school pitches
 - location of pitches away from the school building
 - access required to changing facilities within school buildings
 - desire for schools to ensure that pitches are playable for curricular use.
- 6.7 A formal community use agreement system may facilitate the hiring process of school facilities and ensure that they are more accessible to the community. It is suggested that large schools are secured first, as they are more likely to already have suitable ancillary facilities.
- 6.8 It is likely that many primary school sites will offer small-sided pitches. This is a potential source of local provision for the community. It is important that clubs have a local base (this is particularly important for younger players) and opening up such facilities will also be instrumental in developing school – club links. Small sided play for children of primary school age has many benefits in terms of sports development.
- 6.9 Clearly there are management issues inherent in formulating and managing community-use agreements. Further advice and guidance can be obtained from **Educational facilities - management of community use** (Sport England, 1995), which advises on the opportunities to develop community use of school sports facilities, looks at the different management options and offers a practical checklist for managers. This can be obtained at <http://www.sportenglandpublications.org.uk>.

- 6.10 It is not only at educational sites that access to pitches should be secured. Uncertainty about future land tenure and access restrictions also impedes the development and improvement of facilities, especially on non-public sites such as farmland, MoD and NHS land. Wherever possible, the leasing of land or other mechanisms by which security of tenure can be achieved should be given careful consideration.

(b) Enhancement of existing provision

- 6.11 Improvement of existing provision and sites will contribute significantly towards improving overall pitch provision in FBC. Both the supply and demand analysis and consultation identifies the need to improve the quality of a number of existing facilities as opposed to providing land for new ones. Improving the quality of sites will increase the carrying capacity of pitches.
- 6.12 Overall, priorities for enhancing provision should include:
- improve pitches and playing surfaces (including drainage, gradient and grass cover) that are often unplayable to increase their carrying capacity and reliability
 - demolish / upgrade / refurbish changing facilities to ensure that standards are acceptable. Where possible, all sites should be equipped with changing facilities
 - where possible, ensure that sufficient facilities are available to allow multi sex and multi age group use of sites simultaneously
 - promote the use of portable goals in order to reduce casual usage of public pitches.
- 6.13 All pitches which host league matches should meet the minimum quality standards for facilities set out by the governing body, the NPFA and Sport England. In addition, all provision should comply with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995. The Code of Practice is downloadable from <http://www.disability.gov.uk>.
- 6.14 A site specific list of pitches/facilities requiring further investigation for upgrading/improvements (identified through site visits, consultation and user surveys) is presented in Table 6.2. The list should form a starting point, however, the quality of pitch provision throughout FBC requires further detailed investigation.

Table 6.2 Pitches/ facilities requiring investigation

Site Name	Area in need of improvement	Ward
Lytham St Annes		
Blackpool Rd	Changing provision is insufficient and need modernising	Kilnhouse
Lytham High School	Drainage improvements to reduce cancellations. Cricket provision needed	Ansdell
Fylde Rugby Club	Work with the club to improve their facilities and help them develop a community use policy	Ansdell
Park View	Reinstatement of 4 pitches required to meet demand for junior football. New changing block required to cater for min-soccer and the development of girls football. Drainage needs improving at Lytham Juniors and the primary school if links between the school, club and Park View are to be realised	St Johns
Fylde East		
Coronation Rd	Drainage improvements to reduce cancellations, surface improvements needed, changing pavilion needs refurbishment.	Kirkham North
Treales	Changing facilities with services needed	Treales
Fylde West		
Staining	Improved community use of indoor changing facilities. Management of the field needs tightening up	staining
BAE Warton	Help the Sports and Social Association develop a community use policy for their facilities	Warton
Bridges Rd	Pavillion/changing facilities needs major investment	Warton

(c) Overcoming identified deficiencies

6.15 Deficiencies in pitches arise when there is an absolute shortage and/or when existing pitch(es) cannot accommodate existing demand, particularly at peak periods. Some degree of spare capacity is an integral part of playing pitch provision for the following reasons:

- to accommodate latent and future demand for existing pitch sport teams
- for the development/expansion of new pitch sports (such as mini-soccer / 'tag' rugby)

- to accommodate backlogs (created as a result of poor weather/ drainage) and for rest and recovery periods
 - to enable training and casual activities.
 - To promotes the development of girls and womens football
- 6.16 A large number of pitches in Fylde are unsecured for community use and are therefore excluded from playing pitch methodology calculations. This is particularly true of junior football pitches. The main vehicle for reducing shortfalls of pitches should therefore be the securing of community use agreements, as discussed earlier in this section.

Section 106 Agreements

- 6.17 It is a long-standing and well-accepted principle that new residential developments should include the provision of appropriate areas of public open space. It is now formally accepted that all such development should actually contribute to the provision of open space, including playing pitches, which are required to meet the needs generated by the development and prevent deficiencies and shortfalls being increased.
- 6.18 Developer contributions should be related to the suggested local standard.

It is recommended that contributions from developers should be sought under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 from all housing developments. Provision should also be made for subsequent maintenance costs.

- 6.19 It is important that as well as firm pitch protection policies in local plans, there are clear, unambiguous agreements under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act (1990) between planning authorities and house builders to ensure that playing pitches are provided by the developer as a basic element of community provision for new residential areas and that appropriate provision is made for future maintenance. Most playing pitch provision would be off-site (ideally provision should be forthcoming from the developers of every new house) and should be vested in an appropriate authority (Borough or town) **to secure it as public open space and prevent loss of facilities.**
- 6.20 All local authorities that are involved in the housing development process are advised to refer to the 'Good Practice Guide: Providing for sport and recreation through new housing development' (Sport England 2001, <http://www.sportengland.org/whatwedo/places/sport-develop.htm>). This guide for planners, sports development and leisure officers, developers and others involved in the housing development process gives advice on how sport and recreation provision can successfully be achieved in conjunction with new housing. Emphasis is given to:
- pursuing a strategic approach at local authority level
 - the need to link the corporate strategy and Best Value work of authorities with the process of negotiating new and refurbished sports facilities

- joint working between sport and leisure professionals and land use planners within authorities
- the provision of sound justification for what is sought from developers and other applicants for planning permission.

NB. Further guidance on the use of planning agreements to secure sport and recreation provision in new developments can be found in the Sport England publication 'Planning obligations for sport and recreation: a guide for negotiation and action'.

(d) Dealing with identified 'surpluses'

- 6.21 The supply and demand analysis has identified a small surplus of pitches within Fylde, the majority of this surplus is in the form of adult football pitches. Total surplus is currently only equivalent to 3.32 pitches, the redesignation of these pitches from adult to junior would help to meet the undersupply of junior football.
- 6.22 Playing pitches are often under threat from other development, therefore, discussions should take place with Sport England (as a statutory consultee) to agree the most appropriate cause of action for areas of over-supply. As stated in PPG 17 Sport, Open Space and Recreation, "for open space, 'surplus to requirements' should include consideration of all the functions that open space can perform", therefore the policy options include:
1. Further promotion and marketing of the relevant sports in order to ensure that latent demand in the area has been genuinely accommodated
 2. A long-term view of likely trends on demography and sports over the next 20 years and of the long-term open space needs of the population
 3. Reduce the number of pitches on a site to improve those remaining, for example by increasing their size, realigning them to improve drainage or landscaping. This will require a high degree of maintenance on those remaining pitches
 4. Change of use, such as from football to cricket pitches
 5. Changing to other recreational uses: jogging, cycling, walking, golf etc
 6. Designation of pitches as approved training areas. This would solve the problem which clubs face of a lack of training facilities
 7. If no other sporting demand is expressed, the land could revert to informal recreational uses: urban park, nature reserve etc.
- 6.23 Protection of playing fields should also be linked to the local standard, discussed later in this section.

If after working through all options for playing pitch development in the borough a surplus remains, it is recommended that careful considerations should be given to the disposal of pitches in appropriate locations, giving thought to both the borough as a whole and the locality. The playing pitch methodology calculations by ward will help to inform this judgement. Strong evidence is required to justify the sale of any sports pitch.

(e) Sources of capital funding

6.24 There are several sources of financial aid and funding agencies to fund the long list of projects which have been identified throughout the strategy:

- i. **Football Foundation:** The Foundation is dedicated to revitalising the grass roots of the game, constructing modern football infrastructure creating facilities that are fit for the game in the 21st century. The maximum grant for a capital project is £1m. Ceiling grants will only be awarded in exceptional circumstances. The percentage level of support is variable, but in exceptional circumstances could reach 90%.
(See www.footballfoundation.org.uk for more information)
- ii. **Rugby Football Foundation:** The RFU has recently announced (January 2003) the commencement of this fund, through which community rugby clubs may apply for grants and/or interest free loans to fund capital facilities projects. This is available for clubs participating at Level 5 or below. At this stage, clubs can apply for £1,500-5,000 which must be matched (50:50) by clubs. Interest Free Loan Schemes are available of up to £100,000. The fund commenced on 16 January 2003.
(information packs are available from grahamhancock@rfu.com)
- iii. **Sport England Lottery Fund:** SELF provides grants to all sports with the exception of football (see above). The maximum grant for a capital project varies considerably. The percentage level of support is typically no more than 65%.
(See www.sportengland.org for more information)
- iii. **New Opportunities Fund:** Through the Playing Fields strand of the New Opportunities Fund, funding is available for the purchase or improvement of playing pitches (not clubhouses). There is no limit to the maximum grant that can be applied for, but the percentage level of support is typically no more than 65% (although it can be up to 95% in the most deprived wards).
(See www.nof.org.uk for more information)
- iv. **Developers:** Through Section 106 agreements where appropriate
- v. **Sponsorship:** it may be possible to attract sponsorship from local companies – all money generated from this approach should be re-invested into that particular site. Whilst this should be investigated, it must be noted that it is very difficult to gain and secure sponsorship money
- vi. **Public Private Partnership (PPP):** The Council enters into some form of contract for the private sector to operate and possibly build facilities
- vii. **Private Finance Initiative (PFI):** This Council should also explore this type of scheme which is a long term contract under which a contractor designs, builds/ refurbishes, finances and maintains (operates) facilities in return for payments linked to levels of usage/ performance.
- viii. **The Lord's Taverners:** It may be possible for cricket clubs to obtain funding from this organisation. The Lord's Taverners is accredited by the England & Wales Cricket Board as the official national charity for recreational cricket. Grants are distributed on the recommendation of the ECB.

- 6.25 The mission of the Lord's Taverners is to give young people, particularly those with special needs, a sporting chance. They achieve this by providing opportunities for young people, able bodied or with disabilities, under the age of 25 to participate in sport & recreation. Over the last 50 years they have given £30m away to schools, sports clubs & special needs organisations.
- 6.26 The annual disbursement of grant aid is broken down in the following way:
- 50% Youth Cricket
 - 35% Specially Adapted Minibuses
 - 15% Sport & Recreation for young people with Special Needs.
- 6.27 Of particular note is the potential to gaining grants for the provision of non-turf pitches. (See <http://www.lordstaverners.org/> for more information).
- 6.28 In addition to the above, it has recently been announced that **£60 million (over three years) is to made available from Government for local sports clubs**, described by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport as the first step in an a range of programmes to enhance community clubs.
- 6.29 The £60 million has come from two sources: £20m in the Chancellor's April 2002 budget statement for the modernisation of community sports facilities; and a further £40m through the Government's comprehensive spending review.
- 6.30 Specific investment for grassroots facilities has been already identified across four sports (football, **cricket**, tennis and **rugby union**). Each of these will receive individual payments of £9.4 million. Other sports will be entitled to bid for specific projects from the remaining pot, which will be administered by Sport England. These include rowing, **hockey**, canoeing, netball, table tennis, judo, basketball, cycling, gymnastics, badminton and **rugby league**. The RFL have recently written to all rugby league clubs inviting them to submit applications to Wharton Consulting (Consultants working on the project) and clubs in Rochdale are considering bids.
- 6.31 The funding, which will run from April 2003 until March 2006, will be distributed to the sports' national governing bodies (NGBs). The NGBs will then identify projects for investment, which will go before a project board for consideration.
- 6.32 At this early stage, the mechanisms for applying for this money have not been developed. It is recommended that each relevant NGB is contacted by FBC officers during 2004
- 6.33 However, it is recognised that sufficient financial resources will not be available immediately to meet all the identified needs. To ensure strategic development of all the potential projects in FBC, it is necessary to:
- give all partners, providers and users the opportunity to add to this long list of projects and ensure that it evolves as necessary following this assessment
 - develop a set of criteria against which projects can be judged, in order to assess which of the potential projects should be developed first
 - make priorities against this criteria.

(f) Improvements to Pitch Management***Pitch Letting System***

- 6.34 This function for FBC sites has recently been transferred to the Central Administration Team to oversee pitch bookings.
- 6.35 Clubs are able to make telephone bookings and are then invoiced for the costs. Local league secretaries block book council pitches and allocate pitches to teams. It appears that overall, users are less than satisfied with the performance of this system.
- 6.36 There is no overall lettings policy for sports pitches on school sites with the exception of Carr Hill and Lytham High. At present, individual schools have the option of whether to accept a community booking or not, and the school also has control over both the terms of the agreement and the hire charges. Clubs must approach schools directly. This may particularly inhibit the development of junior football, much of which relies on the use of school facilities, and hinders the progression from junior to senior level. As previously mentioned, this is an area that needs to developed.
- 6.37 Parish Councils have the responsibility to let and maintain their pitches and open spaces. A standard level of maintenance needs to be established as part of their open spaces grant.

In order to improve the pitch booking opportunities within FBC it is recommended that:

1. A central booking system for Council facilities is established and communicated across departments by the Council.
2. The pricing system is reviewed (and detailed research undertaken into the possibility of a pricing hierarchy).
3. Prices for the hiring of existing and potential school pitches are standardised, possibly as part of a pricing hierarchy system.

(g) Developing a level of provision

- 6.38 An important outcome from a playing pitch study is the development of local standards of provision, in accordance with national planning policy. Such standards will:
- underpin negotiations with developers over their contributions for new pitch provision to meet the needs of new residential developments
 - provide an additional overview of the general supply of pitches/level of provision
 - assist in protecting land in playing field use
 - assist in benchmarking with other areas/authorities.
- 6.39 The NPFA's Six Acre Standard states that for every 1000 people, 1.2 hectares of playing pitches should be provided. This is a useful national benchmark and is often adopted as a local standard in the absence of a detailed local assessment.
- 6.40 The current total population of the borough is 73,217. The playing pitch methodology carried out for this study identifies that there is a total of 79.02 hectares of playing pitches in the Borough. This equates to a standard of 1.08 hectares per 1000. However, of this total there are only 38.78 hectares (secured community use) available to meet the demand from local teams and clubs. This is equivalent to 0.53 hectares per 1000.
- 6.41 The NPFA standard is 1.2ha per 1000 population, based on this we require a further 49.08ha of secured pitches to meet the standard. This equates to 0.67ha per 1000 population.
- 6.42 In determining this standard it is assumed that all pitches with secured community access are in good condition and capable of hosting two games per week. It does not consider:
- limited access to training areas
- 6.43 The level of new provision required to meet the shortfall indicated above depends on the amount of existing pitches which can be secured for community use. If the school facilities can be secured for community use then this will reduce the need for new pitches. Conversely, if the number of secured pitches decreases then the shortfall will increase and lead to a greater need for new provision.
- 6.44 This level of provision does not allow any spare capacity to allow rest and recovery of the pitch provision. A 10% allowance should therefore be made in addition to the accommodation of latent and future demand, increasing the required area of playing fields with secured community use to 0.74 hectares per 1000 population.

Summary

The role of all Partners

- 6.45 All organisations responsible for providing/developing pitch sports in the study area should consider the following actions:
- all providers in the public, voluntary, commercial and education sectors should strive to protect all existing areas of playing pitch land and open space
 - providers should seek to retain a degree of spare capacity of pitches. This is an integral part of playing pitch provision and sports development, to accommodate latent and future demand and allow for rest and recovery of pitches
 - the major deficiency throughout the study area is for junior football pitches. All local authorities should seek to address this shortfall through:
 - Re-designation of adult pitches to junior/mini pitches
 - Negotiation with schools to secure facilities for junior community use
 - Development of changing and ancillary accommodation in line with FA and FF datasheets and guidance
 - Conversion of pitches currently out of use to junior football facilities
 - shortfalls should be met firstly through the upgrading of existing facilities and pitches rather than the acquisition of new land. Provision can be increased through schemes which:
 - Improve drainage of sites
 - Improve changing facilities, including dedicated provision for women and children
 - Improve access, spectator facilities and car parking
 - following quality improvement schemes, the second priority to meet shortfalls is to acquire by agreement or negotiating community access to private sports pitches and school sites, or securing leasing agreements with existing landowners
 - Partners should seek to secure funds from their own resources through re-designation of surplus adult pitches to open space, thus saving pitch maintenance costs
- 6.46 As a planning authority, the Council should seek to:
- support the principal that the new pitch facilities should be developed, wherever possible, in locations where ancillary facilities are acceptable (in planning and licensing terms) in order that the fullest use can be made of the investment required and clubs can maximise revenue and become self-sufficient
 - when determining planning applications, adopt the minimum standard of playing pitches as set out in this report
 - consult with Sport England on any planning application relating to the potential loss of playing fields

- give favourable consideration to voluntary sports clubs wishing to relocate their pitches to a new site providing that all proceeds are reinvested in the club and that there is no assessed deficiency of overall open space in the area being vacated
- seek to enter Section 106 agreements under the Town and Country Planning Act for the provision of the pitches and ancillary facilities, and for subsequent maintenance, in new developments and, if appropriate, to provide compensatory facilities where existing provision is under threat.

6.47 The Council has a central role in planning, providing and co-ordinating provision of playing pitches in the borough. The Council should also play a major part in assisting other providers (such as schools) to allow community access and maintain and enhance the quality of their provision. Our recommendations, outlined above are directed at the Council as the lead organisation in ensuring future provision of pitches is balanced, meets the needs of the community and is protected for future generations.

APPENDIX A
NPFA Six Acre Standard

NPFA Six Acre Standard Calculations by ward for 2003

Ward	2001 Population	Total Playing Fields (ha.)	Playing Fields per 1000 population	NPFA standard met?	Shorfall -or surplus + (ha.) per 1000 population
Ansdell	4036	8.18	2.03	yes	0.83
Ashton	4415	0.00	0.00	no	-1.20
Central	4227	1.00	0.24	no	-0.96
Clifton	3887	9.18	2.36	yes	1.16
Eiswick & Little Eccleston	1431	0.86	0.60	no	-0.60
Fairhaven	4047	3.86	0.95	no	-0.25
Freckleton East	3199	0.00	0.00	no	-1.20
Freckleton West	2846	3.36	1.18	no	-0.02
Heyhouses	4401	5.62	1.28	yes	0.08
Kilnhouse	4083	3.94	0.96	no	-0.24
Kirkham North	4042	2.36	0.58	no	-0.62
Kirkham South	3085	9.64	3.12	yes	1.92
Medlar with Wesham	3245	1.58	0.49	no	-0.71
Newton & Treales	3127	5.72	1.83	yes	0.63
Park	3950	0.00	0.00	no	-1.20
Ribby with Wrea	1489	2.36	1.58	yes	0.38
Singleton and Greenhalgh	1339	0.50	0.37	no	-0.83
St Johns	4056	10.02	2.47	yes	1.27
St Leonards	4225	2.36	0.56	no	-0.64
Staining & Weeton	3408	1.50	0.44	no	-0.76
Warton & Westby	4679	6.98	1.49	yes	0.29

Fylde Borough Council's targets are to meet the NPFA standard of 1.2 ha per 1000 population.

APPENDIX B

Example Questionnaires



FYLDE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Questionnaire on Sports Facilities Within Parish and Town Councils

Q1 Name of Parish / town Council?

Q2 What sport facilities does your organisation have?

	Pitches		Facilities
Football	<input type="checkbox"/>	Changing Rooms	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cricket	<input type="checkbox"/>	Showers	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rugby	<input type="checkbox"/>	Multi – use games area	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hockey	<input type="checkbox"/>	Synthetic Pitch	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Floodlights	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q3 Please rate the following aspects of the pitches and facilities available.
(use additional sheets where necessary)

	v.good	good	aver	poor	v. poor
Firmness of surface	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grip underfoot	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bounce of ball on pitch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Evenness of pitch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Length of grass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grass cover	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Posts and sockets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Line markings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Free from litter, dog fouling etc	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changing facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Showers – clean, hot, plenty of water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overall quality of pitch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q4 What are the hire charges per session on each pitch?

Facility	Length of session	Hire Charge

Q5. What teams use your facilities?

Team Name	Sport	Contact Details

Q6. Do you provide enough facilities to meet local demand?

Please comment:

Q7. Does your organisation have a Facilities Development Plan?

Yes

No

Q8. If no would you like support in producing one?

Yes

No

Please give any additional information in the space provided below

Many thanks for taking the time to complete this form.



FYLDE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Q1 Please state the full name of your school:

Q2 How many pupils does your school have?

Q3 What is the age range of pupils at your school

Q4 Which of the following pitches does your school own? Please state number
(if none please go to question 9)

- | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mini soccer | <input type="checkbox"/> | Cricket (grass wicket) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Junior football | <input type="checkbox"/> | Cricket (artificial wicket) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Adult football | <input type="checkbox"/> | Grass hockey | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Junior Rugby | <input type="checkbox"/> | Artificial turf | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Adult rugby | <input type="checkbox"/> | Generic grass | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Q5. Are any of your pitches/facilities available for public use?
Yes No

Q6 Which (if any) of the above pitches are used regularly by community sports teams?

Q7 If applicable, at what times and on what days are the above facilities used by sports teams?

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday

Q8. If applicable, please list the teams that use your pitches:

1
2
3
4

Q9 If your school does not currently own any playing pitches, please state the name and location of the pitches your school uses, the landowner, the sports played and the frequency of use:

Name of Pitch	Location	Sports Played	Frequency of Use

Q10 Please rate the following aspects of the pitches that your school uses
(Use additional sheets where necessary)

	v.good	good	aver	poor	v. poor
Firmness of surface	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grip underfoot	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bounce of ball on pitch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Evenness of pitch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Length of grass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grass cover	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Posts and sockets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Line markings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Free from litter, dog fouling etc	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changing facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Showers – clean, hot, plenty of water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overall quality of pitch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

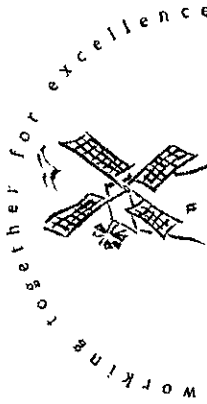
Q11 Does your school have any plans to develop or expand its sports facilities?

Yes

No

Q12 If Yes, please give details:

Q13 If you have any further comments or views concerning playing pitch provision in Fylde BC, please use the space provided below.



FYLDE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Q1 Please state the full name of your sports club:

Q2 Which sport(s) does your club participate in?

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Football | <input type="checkbox"/> Rugby League | <input type="checkbox"/> Hockey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket | <input type="checkbox"/> Rugby Union | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please State) |

Q3 How many members does your club have?

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> Adult | <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Male | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Female | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Q4 Over the last 5 years has membership...

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Increased | <input type="checkbox"/> Decreased | <input type="checkbox"/> Remained static |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|

Q5 How many teams does your club have?

	Mini	junior	adult	veteran(over 45)
Male	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Female	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mixed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q6 Which leagues/competitions do your teams participate in? (if possible, please attach a fixture list)

Q7 Please give a contact name and telephone for the above league/ competition organisers:

Q8 Does your club currently have a written development plan?

Yes No

Yes No

Q10 Which of the following issues are currently problematic for your club? (please tick all that apply)

- Lack of external funding (parish council, governing bodies etc)
- Lack of internal funding (subs/ fund-raising)
- Lack of appropriate local facilities
- Access difficulties for members (cost, lack of public transport etc)
- Poor / no relationship with local clubs (facility usage/exit routes etc)
- Lack of information about local facilities/services

Lack of voluntary assistance (committee members/ coaches etc)

Membership recruitment/retention

Other Please specify

Q11 Please complete the following table below, listing the venue(s) that your club use for the home matches and training: example responses are shown in *italics*

Matchday Venues

Name and address	Postcode	Facility Details (size/surface/ancillary)	Hired/Leased/Owned	If hired/leased, from who?	Days/times when used
<i>Blackpool Road</i>		<i>4 senior pitches with changing facilities</i>	<i>Hired</i>	<i>Fylde Borough Council</i>	<i>Sat 2 - 4pm</i>

Outdoor Training Venues

Name and address	Postcode	Facility Details (size/surface/ancillary)	Hired/Leased/Owned	If hired/leased, from who?	Days/times when used
<i>Ansdell Arena</i>		<i>Astro- turf and changing facilities</i>	<i>Hired</i>	<i>Lytham St Annes High School</i>	<i>Monday 7 - 9pm</i>

Indoor Training Venues

Name and address	Postcode	Facility Details (size/surface/ancillary)	Hired/Leased/Owned	If hired/leased, from who?	Days/times when used
Ansdell Arena		4 court sports hall with changing facilities	Hired	Ansdell Arena	Wednesday 7 - 9pm

Q11 Are the matchday pitches listed in Q10 your preferred location to play home matches?

- Yes
 No

If NO, please state your preferred location (site name and address)

Q12 How many matches do you play on your main pitch each season?

Q13 How many games were cancelled due to pitch condition last season (excluding frozen pitches)

Q14 How many matches per week do you feel that your main pitch can adequately sustain?

Q15 Does your club train on your main pitch?

- Yes
 No

if YES, how many hours per week

If NO, do you train on another grass pitch, if so where?

Q16 What are the best pitches you have played on this season (home or away)? Please state the site name and address

2. _____
3. _____

Q17 What are the three worst pitches you have played on this season (home or away)? Please state site name and address:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Q18 What is the current maintenance programme for your pitches?

Q19 Could the capacity of the pitch(s) be increased with additional maintenance?

Yes

No

Q20 Please rate the following aspects of your main pitch:
(use additional sheets where necessary)

	v.good	good	aver	poor	v.poor
Firmness of surface	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grip underfoot	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bounce of ball on pitch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Evenness of pitch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Length of grass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grass cover	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Posts and sockets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Line markings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Free from litter, dog fouling etc	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changing facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Showers – clean, hot, plenty of water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overall quality of pitch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q21 What future plans does your club have?

- Increase the number of members
- Relocation to different premises
- Refurbish the existing facilities
- Expand the range of facilities available
- None
- Other – please state

Q22 In which town/village do the majority of your players reside?

Q23 In your opinion is pitch provision (quality and quantity) in the Fylde area sufficient to meet your clubs needs?



FYLDE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Questionnaire for the Providers of Sports Facilities

Q1. Name of provider and contact details

Q2. What sport facilities does your organisation have?

	Pitches		Facilities
Football	<input type="checkbox"/>	Changing Rooms	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cricket	<input type="checkbox"/>	Showers	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rugby	<input type="checkbox"/>	Multi – use games area	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hockey	<input type="checkbox"/>	Synthetic Pitch	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Floodlights	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q3. What is the hire charge per session per facility?

Facility	Length of session	Hire Charge

Q4. Which teams use your facilities?

Team Name	Sport	Contact Details

Q5. If applicable, at what times and on what days do sports teams use the above facilities?

Times	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Am							
Pm							

Q6. Please rate the following aspects of the pitches that are available.(additional sheets provided).

	v.good	good	aver	poor	v. poor
Firmness of surface	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grip underfoot	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bounce of ball on pitch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Evenness of pitch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Length of grass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grass cover	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Posts and sockets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Line markings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Free from litter, dog-fouling etc	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changing facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Showers – clean, hot, plenty of water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overall quality of pitch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q7. How many games were cancelled due to pitch condition in the last year (excluding frozen pitches)?

APPENDIX C

The Carrying Capacity Audit

APPENDIX D
Details of Sports Teams within
Fylde Borough

Details of Cricket Teams Playing in Fylde Borough Council

Sports Club	Ground	Male Senior Teams	Female Senior Teams	Male Junior Teams	Female Junior Teams	Mini Teams
Kirkham and Wesham Cricket Club		2		1		
St Annes Cricket Club	Vernon Road			4		4
Warton Cricket Club	Bridges Playing Fields	5				
Freckleton Cricket Club	Bush Lane	2				
Wrea Green Cricket Club	The Green	3		4		
Lytham Cricket Club	Church Road, Lytham	4	1	4	4	
	TOTALS	16	1	13	4	4

Details of Rugby Teams Playing in Fylde Borough Council

Sports Club	Ground	Male Senior Teams	Female Senior Teams	Male Junior Teams	Female Junior Teams	Mini Teams
Fylde RUFC	Woodlands Ground	4		10	1	
		4	0	10	1	0

Details of Hockey Teams Playing in Fylde Borough Council

Sports Club	Ground	Male Senior Teams	Female Senior Teams	Male Junior Teams	Female Junior Teams	Mini Teams
Lytham Womens Hockey Team	Lytham St Annes High School		3		1	
Lytham St Annes (Mens and Juniors)	Lytham St Annes High School	5		1		
	TOTALS	5	3	1	1	0

APPENDIX E
Demographic Details of Fylde
Borough

Current Data Available

Ward	1991 Census	2001 Census
Ansdell	3812	4036
Ashton	4148	4415
Central	4188	4227
Clifton	3569	3887
Elswick & Little Eccleston	1443	1431
Fairhaven	4030	4047
Freckleton East	2858	3199
Freckleton West	3064	2846
Heyhouses	4431	4401
Kilnhouse	4562	4083
Kirkham North	3271	4042
Kirkham South	3040	3085
Medlar with Wesham	2727	3245
Newton & Treales	3148	3127
Park	3672	3950
Ribby with Wrea	1442	1489
Singleton and Greenhalgh	1362	1339
St Johns	4052	4056
St Leonards	4911	4225
Staining & Weeton	1950 (Staining)	3408
Warton & Westby	2006 (Weeton and Westby)	4679
Bryning with Warton	3309	