



# **CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY ASSESSMENT REPORT**

**AUGUST 2018**

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

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# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### GLOSSARY

3G	Third Generation (artificial turf)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
ASC	All Stars Cricket
BARLA	British Amateur Rugby League Association
BC	Bowls Club
CC	Cricket Club
CSP	County Sports Partnership
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
ECCB	Essex County Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
FIT	Fields in Trust
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
HC	Hockey Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LDF	Local Development Framework
LMS	Last Man Stands
NGB	National Governing Body
NHS	National Health Service
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
OAN	Objectively Assessed Need
PGA	Professional Golfers Association
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
S106	Section 106
SHMA	Strategic Housing Market Assessment
TGR	Team Generation Rate
TC	Tennis Club
U	Under

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## PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

### 1.1: Introduction

Knight, Kavanagh & Page Ltd (KKP) has been commissioned by the South Essex authorities of Basildon, Castle Point, Rochford and Southend-on-Sea, together with Essex County Council and Sport England, to assess outdoor sport facility needs across the individual local authority areas. The output is provision of four separate playing pitch needs assessments and strategies, four built and indoor facilities needs assessments and strategies, and four action plans across the aforementioned authorities as well as one additional overarching strategy for South Essex, which will also encompass Thurrock.

This is the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) assessment report. It presents a supply and demand assessment of playing pitch and other outdoor sports facilities in Castle Point in accordance with Sport England's PPS Guidance: An approach to developing and delivering a PPS. The guidance details a stepped approach that is separated into five distinct stages:

- ◀ Stage A: Preparation
  - ◀ Step 1: Clarify why the PPS is being developed
  - ◀ Step 2: Set up the management arrangements
  - ◀ Step 3: Tailor the approach
- ◀ Stage B: Information Gathering
  - ◀ Step 4: Develop an audit of playing pitches
  - ◀ Step 5: Develop a picture of demand
- ◀ Stage C: Assessment
  - ◀ Step 6: Understand how each site is being used
  - ◀ Step 7: Develop the current picture of provision
  - ◀ Step 8: Carry out scenario testing
- ◀ Stage D: Key Findings & Issues
  - ◀ Step 9: Identify key findings & issues
  - ◀ Step 10: Check and challenge key findings & issues
- ◀ Stage E: Strategy Development & Implementation
  - ◀ Step 11: Develop conclusions & recommendations
  - ◀ Step 12: Develop an action & implementation plan
  - ◀ Step 13: Adopt, monitor and review the PPS

Stages A to C are covered in this report, with Stage D and Stage E covered in the subsequent strategy document. This Assessment and subsequent Strategy will replace the existing PPS for Castle Point (completed in 2012) and will run from 2018-2037, in line with the South Essex Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA).

Although each local authority is receiving its own Assessment and Strategy, cross border issues will be explored in each to determine the level of imported and exported demand. This applies to demand that migrates between the local authorities included and also to demand that migrates to and from other nearby local authorities such as Thurrock, Brentwood and Chelmsford.

The report is one document in a wider inter-related strategy for sport and recreation which also includes an Indoor Sports and Leisure Strategy. The inter-relationship between the strategies must be noted as some sports covered by the PPS also use indoor facilities for matches or training.

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## 1.2: Local context

### ***The Association of South Essex Authorities***

The Association of South Essex Authorities (ASELA) consists of Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point, Essex County, Rochford, Southend-on-Sea, and Thurrock councils. All seven councils have recognised the need to work across borders on strategic issues such as infrastructure, planning and growth, skills, housing and transport connectivity.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018. This recognises that through a collaborative approach, the councils will be best placed to deliver a vision for South Essex up to 2050, promoting healthy growth for our communities. There is also an intention to assist the delivery of this vision through the preparation of a Joint Strategic Plan.

### ***Castle Point's Local Plan***

Castle Point prepared a new Local Plan to cover the period up to 2031. The Plan was submitted for examination in August 2016 but was withdrawn in March 2017 following receipt of the Inspectors Formal Report.

The existing Local Plan (completed in 1998) has the following aims:

- ✦ To seek to include all open land which contributes to the Green Belt function within the Green Belt, whilst making provision for long term needs by the designation of areas of restraint beyond the urban edge, the use of which will be reassessed beyond 2001.
- ✦ To conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the Borough and protect its flora and fauna and their habitats.
- ✦ To conserve and enhance the architectural and historic heritage of the Borough.
- ✦ To only meet the level of housing provision contained in the Structural Plan up to 2001 on land already allocated for residential purposes or on land which would clearly benefit from historical commitments.
- ✦ To allocate for residential purposes those sites within established residential areas which have been identified as having a significant adverse impact on local amenities, and to encourage the relocation of such non-conforming uses to more appropriate locations where possible.
- ✦ To provide sufficient employment land to meet the Structure Plan requirement and replace land lost to other uses within the Structure Plan period.
- ✦ To encourage the provision of an appropriate range of shopping facilities to meet the needs of the local population.
- ✦ To seek to improve the distribution and flow of traffic through and within the Borough by all modes of transport, paying special attention to improving access to and from Canvey Island.
- ✦ To satisfy identified deficiencies through public and private sector co-operation, in a manner which is compatible with other planning and environmental policies.
- ✦ To work with providers and enables to secure the provision of essential community facilities in the interests of the well-being of all groups within the population.
- ✦ To restrain the establishment and expansion of hazardous installations in the Borough.

### ***Castle Point Council Corporate Plan: Turning Opportunities in Reality (2016)***

Castle Point's Corporate Strategy is committed to reducing social inequality, improving the health of its communities and developing the economy through partnership working with other agencies to enable greater participation in decision making.

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To improve the health of its communities, a key strategy objective aims to facilitate the further development of social, recreational and sporting opportunities for local residents. To achieve this, the Local Authority is dedicated to providing good quality health and fitness facilities.

## **Active Essex: Changing One Million Lives to get Essex Active 2017-2021**

The Active Essex (CSP) target is to get one million people active by the year 2021 by driving up and sustaining sports participation and physical activity. In partnership with a number of key partners and organisations, the CSP is committed to creating opportunities and resources to achieve this target which will reduce inactivity and develop positive attitudes to health and wellbeing across communities in the County.

The stated intention is that the target will be met via the achievement of the four key priorities identified below:

*Table 1.1: Active Essex's strategic priorities*

Priority	Focus
Increase and sustain participation	More people in Essex being active, taking part and living healthy and active lifestyles.
Change behaviours to improve the health and wellbeing of residents	Change behaviours to reduce inactivity and make a real impact on physical and mental health and wellbeing.
Develop individuals and organisations	Enable people and organisations to develop skills, achieve goals, ambitions, and maximise their potential.
Strengthen local communities and networks	Lead, develop and drive communities across Essex, raising the profile and impact of physical activity and sport.

Although the Strategy takes a county approach, specific priority is given to the following groups, as those most likely to be underrepresented in both sport and physical activity:

- ◀ People aged 65+.
- ◀ Unemployed people.
- ◀ Females.
- ◀ People with a life-long limiting illness or disability.
- ◀ People from lower socio-economic groups (NS-SEC 5-8) <sup>1</sup>
- ◀ Black and ethnic minorities.

## **Essex Health and Wellbeing Board: Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2013-2018)**

This identifies three key priorities, all of which have specific development areas which need to be achieved through partnership work, as outlined below.

*Table 1.2: Essex Health and Wellbeing Board Key Priorities*

Priority	Development areas
Starting and developing well: ensuring every child in Essex has the best start in life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Increasing children's and young people level of physical activity.</li> <li>◀ Improving development/attainment levels of pre-school children.</li> <li>◀ Working with families with complex needs to ensure better outcomes for children.</li> </ul>
Living and working well: ensuring that residents make better lifestyle choices and have opportunities needed to enjoy a healthy life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◀ Improve diet and nutrition.</li> <li>◀ Increase physical activities levels.</li> <li>◀ Reducing smoking, drinking and alcohol use.</li> <li>◀ Supporting community provision and developing community assets.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> NS-SEC: National Statistics Socio-economic Classifications

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Priority	Development areas
Ageing well: ensuring that older people remain independent for as long as possible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◀ Preventing and maintaining independence in the home.</li><li>◀ Reducing dementia levels.</li><li>◀ Responding to long term conditions and chronic illness.</li><li>◀ Ensure high level of end of life care.</li></ul>

## 1.3: Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach

A project team from the Council has worked with KKP to ensure that all relevant information is readily available and to support the consultants as necessary to ensure that project stages and milestones are delivered on time, within the cost envelope and to the required quality standard to meet Sport England guidance.

Further to this, a Steering Group is and has been responsible for the direction of the PPS from a strategic perspective and for supporting, checking and challenging the work of the project team. The Steering Group is made up of representatives from Basildon, Castle Point, Rochford and Southend-on-Sea councils, Essex County Council, Active Essex, Sport England and National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs).

It will be important for the Steering Group to continue once the PPS has been finalised for several reasons, including a continuing responsibility to:

- ◀ Be a champion for playing pitch provision in the area and promote the value and importance of the PPS.
- ◀ Ensure implementation of the PPS's recommendations and action plan.
- ◀ Monitor and evaluate the outcomes of the PPS.
- ◀ Ensure that the PPS is kept up to date and refreshed.

### ***Why the PPS is being developed***

The rationale for undertaking this study is to identify current levels of provision within Castle Point across the public, private, education, voluntary and commercial sectors and to compare this with current and likely future levels of demand. The primary purpose of the PPS is therefore to provide a strategic framework that ensures the provision of outdoor sports facilities meets the local needs of existing and future residents.

The PPS is intended to be used as a supporting document for local planning work, informing planning policy and subsequent planning applications. The main objectives of the project are:

- ◀ To identify current supply and demand issues for sport and recreation facilities based on quality, quantity and accessibility.
- ◀ To enable the Council to plan appropriately for the protection and/or enhancement of existing facilities and identify sites best suited for development, new provision or refurbishment.
- ◀ To enable the Council to plan appropriately, in compliance with National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2018), for the creation of new and/or replacement facilities, including opportunities for relocation and to allocate sites for development within any Local Plan Framework.
- ◀ To identify the potential for a strategic approach to the role of schools/colleges in meeting community needs with a Borough-wide or sub-regional approach in addition to recommendations for individual sites.

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- ◀ To identify whether existing infrastructure is fit for purpose to deliver local priorities, corporate priorities and wider health and wellbeing outcomes in an efficient way, now and in the future.
- ◀ To review the appropriateness and effectiveness of existing local standards and provide policy recommendations and practical proposals for securing investment into sport and open space through planning obligations and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).
- ◀ To provide a robust, transparent and effective means of justifying requirements and standards proposed in any Local Plan Framework so that they can be successfully defended at examination.
- ◀ To identify how sport and recreation can contribute to the Council's corporate agendas, including the responsibility for public health, to deliver healthier lifestyles and achieve positive health outcomes.
- ◀ To identify opportunities for efficiency savings and Council owned facilities and options for asset transfer to charities, trusts and community run organisations.
- ◀ To provide strategic recommendations within strategic areas.

### ***National Planning Policy Framework (2018)***

This strategy provides an evidence base for planning decisions and funding bids and background evidence to support Local Plan policies in relation to formal recreation. It will ensure that this evidence is sound, robust and capable of being scrutinised through examination and meets the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2018).

One of the core planning principles of the NPPF is to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs.

Section 8 of the NPPF deals specifically with the topic of healthy communities; Paragraph 96 discusses the importance of access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation that can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.

Paragraphs 97 and 98 discuss assessments and the protection of "existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields". A PPS will provide the evidence required to help protect playing fields to ensure sufficient land is available to meet existing and projected future pitch requirements.

Paragraphs 99 and 100 promote the identification of important green spaces by local communities and the protection of these facilities. Such spaces may include playing fields.

### ***Agreed scope***

The following types of outdoor sports facilities were agreed by the steering group for inclusion in the PPS:

- ◀ Football pitches (including 3G AGPs)
- ◀ Cricket pitches
- ◀ Rugby union pitches (including World Rugby compliant 3G AGPs)
- ◀ Rugby league pitches
- ◀ Hockey pitches (sand/water based AGPs)
- ◀ Golf courses
- ◀ Outdoor tennis courts



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- ◀ Outdoor bowling greens
- ◀ Outdoor netball courts
- ◀ Outdoor athletics facilities
- ◀ Outdoor cycling facilities
- ◀ Parkour facilities
- ◀ Multi-Use Game Areas (MUGAs)

## **Study area**

Castle Point is situated on the coastline of South East Essex with an area of approximately 45 square kilometres (or 17.3 miles). It is comprised of the towns of Canvey Island (the largest town with a population of around 40,000 people) and, on the main land, South Benfleet, Hadleigh and Thundersley. The current population is circa 88,000 people.

The Borough is on the northern bank of the Thames Estuary between the larger settlements of Basildon and Southend-on-Sea. It is these larger settlements, together with London, on which Castle Point relies upon for a great deal of its employment, services and leisure opportunities.

The Thames Estuary is a significant feature in the landscape of Castle Point. It has and will continue to play an influential role in the natural environment and scope of development within the Borough. It also acts to separate the towns in South Essex with those in north Kent, with data indicating that there is a resultant low level of connectivity between these places despite being relatively close in proximity.

The Borough benefits from good links to London such as the Fenchurch Street railway line and the dual carriageways of the A13 and the A127, which link within half an hour to the M25 motorway. Castle Point as an area has a long history but is essentially modern in character, there are a few older buildings still remaining although major re-development took place mainly between the two world wars. Whilst there has been major residential re-development in the area there still remain large areas of public open space and woodland.

Facilities in the area include excellent schools, busy shopping centres and leisure facilities, such as Hadleigh Park which was used as a cycling venue in the London 2012 Summer Olympics.

The study area for the PPS will be the whole of the Castle Point Borough Council boundary area. Further to this, analysis areas have been created to allow for a more localised assessment of provision and examination of playing pitch supply and demand at a local level. These areas are based upon ward boundaries within Castle Point and have been agreed upon by the Steering Group to further reflect how people play sport.

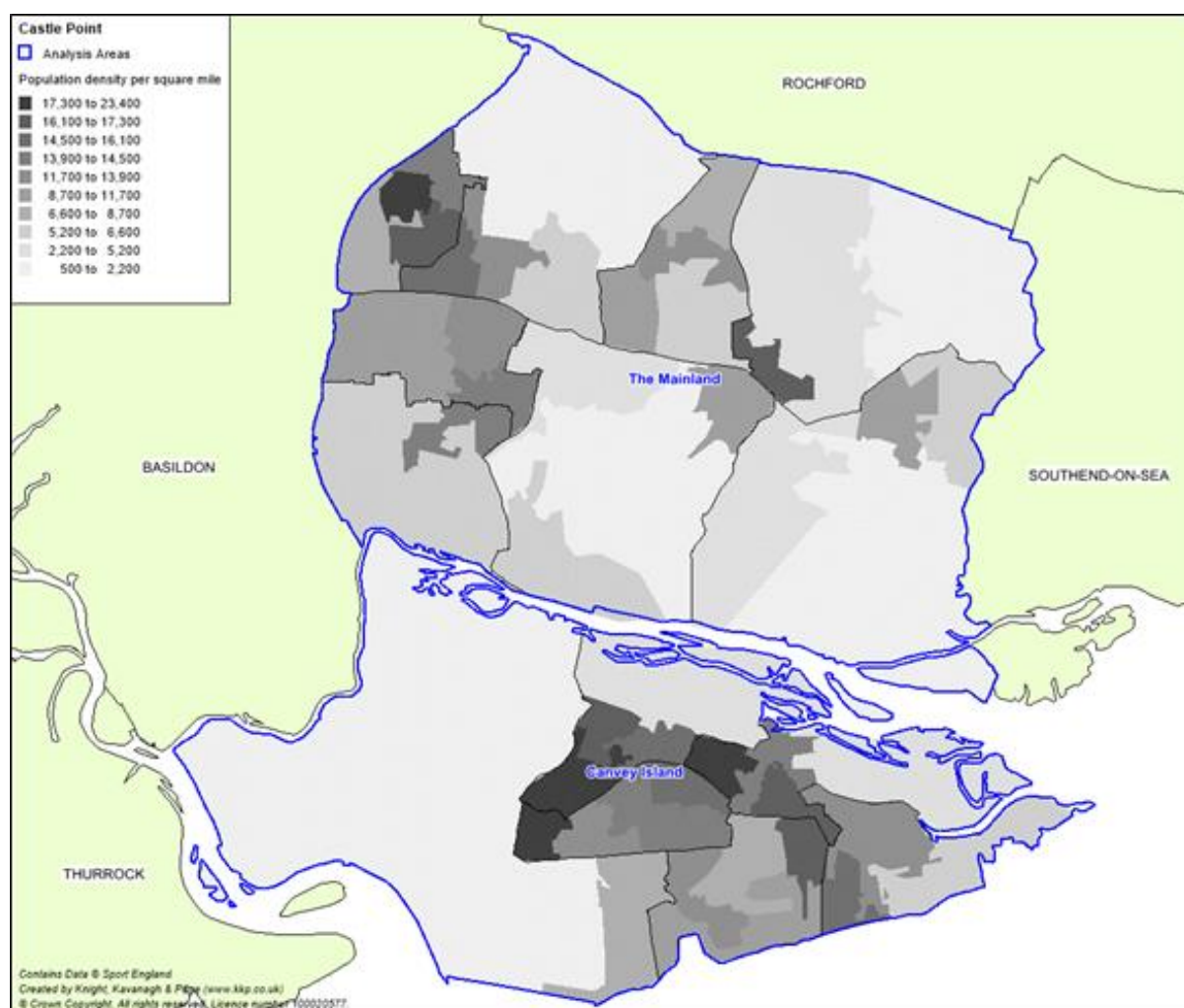
A map of the analysis areas can be seen overleaf in Figure 1.1.

*Table 1.3: Agreed analysis areas*

Analysis area	Wards included
Canvey Island	Canvey Island West, Canvey Island Winter Gardens, Canvey Island Central, Canvey Island North, Canvey Island South, Canvey Island East
The Mainland	St George's, St Peter's, Cedar Hall, Victoria, Appleton, St Mary's, Boyce, St James

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Figure 1.1: Analysis area map



## Stage B: Gather information and views on the supply of and demand for provision

A clear picture of supply and demand for outdoor sports facilities in Castle Point needs to be provided to include an accurate assessment of quantity and quality. This is achieved through consultation with key stakeholders to ensure that they inform the subsequent strategy. It informs current demand, adequacy, usage, future demand and strategies for maintenance and investment for outdoor sports facilities.

### ***Gather supply information and views – an audit of playing pitches***

PPS guidance uses the following definitions of a playing pitch and playing field. These definitions are set out by the Government in the 2015 'Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order'.<sup>2</sup>

- ◀ ***Playing pitch*** – a delineated area which is used for association football, rugby, cricket, hockey, lacrosse, rounders, baseball, softball, American football, Australian football, Gaelic football, shinty, hurling, polo or cycle polo.
- ◀ ***Playing field*** – the whole of a site of at least 0.2ha or more which encompasses at least one playing pitch.

<sup>2</sup> [www.sportengland.org](http://www.sportengland.org)>Facilities and Planning> Planning Applications

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Although the statutory definition of a playing field which meets a minimum size, this PPS takes into account smaller sized sites that contribute to the supply side, for example, a site containing a mini 5v5 football pitch. This PPS counts individual grass pitches (as a delineated area) as the basic unit of supply. The definition of a playing pitch also includes artificial grass pitches (AGPs).

As far as possible the assessment report aims to capture all of the outdoor sports facilities within Castle Point; however, there may be instances, for example on school sites, where access was not possible and has led to omissions within the report. Where pitches have not been recorded within the report they remain as pitches and for planning purposes continue to be so. Furthermore, exclusions of a pitch does not mean that it is not required from a supply and demand point of view.

### *Quantity*

Where known, all outdoor sports facilities are included irrespective of ownership, management and use. Sites were initially identified using Sport England's Active Places web-based database, with the Council and NGBs supporting the process by checking and updating this initial data. This was also verified against club information supplied by local leagues.

For each site, the following details were recorded in the project database (which will be supplied upon completion of the project as an electronic file):

- ◀ Site name, address (including postcode) and location
- ◀ Ownership and management type
- ◀ Security of tenure
- ◀ Total number, type and quality of outdoor sports facilities

### *Accessibility*

Not all outdoor sports facilities offer the same level of access to the community. The ownership and accessibility of provision also influences actual availability for community use. Each site is assigned a level of community use as follows:

- ◀ **Community use** - facilities in public, voluntary, private or commercial ownership or management (including education sites) recorded as being available for hire and currently in use by teams playing in community leagues.
- ◀ **Available but unused** - facilities that are available for hire but are not currently used by teams which play in community leagues; this most often applies to school sites but can also apply to sites which are expensive to hire.
- ◀ **No community use** - facilities which as a matter of policy or practice are not available for hire or used by teams playing in community leagues. This should include professional club pitches along with some semi-professional club pitches, where play is restricted to the first or second team.
- ◀ **Disused** – provision that is not being used at all by any users and is not available for community hire either. Once these sites are disused for five or more years they will then be categorised as 'lapsed sites'.
- ◀ **Lapsed** - last known use was more than five years ago (these fall outside of Sport England's statutory remit but still have to be assessed using the criteria in paragraph 74 of the National Planning Policy Framework).

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### *Quality*

The capacity of provision to regularly provide for competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by their quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of provision affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of a sport. In extreme circumstances it can result in a facility being unable to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off-peak times.

It is not just the quality itself which has an effect on its capacity but also the quality, standard and range of ancillary facilities. The quality of both the outdoor sports facility and ancillary facilities will determine whether provision is able to contribute to meeting demand from various groups and for different levels and types of play.

The quality of all outdoor sports facilities identified in the audit and the ancillary facilities supporting them are assessed regardless of ownership, management or availability. Along with capturing any details specific to the individual facilities and sites, a quality rating is also recorded within the audit for each. These ratings are used to help estimate the capacity to accommodate competitive and other play within the supply and demand assessment.

In addition to undertaking non-technical assessments (using the templates provided within the guidance and as determined by NGBs), users and providers were also consulted on the quality and in some instances the quality rating was adjusted to reflect this.

### ***Gather demand information and views***

Presenting an accurate picture of current demand for outdoor sports facilities (i.e. recording how and when provision is used) is important when undertaking a supply and demand assessment.

Demand for outdoor sports facilities in Castle Point tends to fall within the following categories:

- ◀ Organised competitive play
- ◀ Organised training
- ◀ Informal play

Current and future demand for outdoor sports facilities is presented on a sport by sport basis within the relevant sections of this report.

In addition, unmet, latent, imported and exported demand for provision is also identified within each section. Unmet and latent demand is defined as the number of additional teams that could be fielded if access to a sufficient number of outdoor sports facilities (and ancillary provision) was available, whereas exported and imported demand refers to those that are playing outside of their local authority of choice.

A variety of consultation methods were used to collate such demand information. Firstly, face to face consultation was carried out with key clubs from each sport, thus allowing for the collection of detailed demand information and an exploration of key issues to be interrogated and more accurately assessed. For all remaining clubs, an online survey (converted to postal if required) was utilised.

Local sports development officers, county associations and regional governing body officers advised which of the clubs to include in the face to face consultation and Sport England was also included within the consultation process prior to the project commencing. Issues identified by clubs returning questionnaires were followed up by telephone or face to face interviews.

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As key providers and users of outdoor sports facilities, educational establishments were also consulted. This involved face to face meetings with secondary schools and colleges and an online survey being sent to primary schools, special schools and independent schools.

### ***Future demand***

Alongside current demand, it is important for a PPS to assess whether the future demand for playing pitches can be met. Using ONS population projections and proposed housing growth identified in the SHMA, as well as likely participation growth informed through consultation, an estimate can be made of the likely future demand for playing pitches.

Team generation rates are used to provide an indication of how many people it may take to generate a team (by gender and age group) in order to help estimate the change in demand for pitch sports that may arise from any population change. Future demand for pitches is calculated by adding the percentage increases to the population increases in each analysis area. This figure is then applied to the team generation rates and is presented on a sport by sport basis.

Other information sources that were used to help identify future demand, especially for non-pitch sports (where team generation rates are not applicable) include:

- ◆ Recent trends in the participation.
- ◆ The nature of the current and likely future population and their propensity to participate.
- ◆ Feedback from clubs on their plans to develop additional teams / attract additional members.
- ◆ Any local and NGB specific sports development targets (e.g. increase in participation).

### **Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views**

Supply and demand information gathered is used to assess the adequacy of playing pitch provision in Castle Point. It focuses on how much use each site could potentially accommodate (on an area by area basis) compared to how much use is currently taking place.

#### ***Understand the situation at individual sites***

Qualitative pitch ratings are linked to a pitch capacity rating derived from NGB guidance and tailored to suit a local area. The quality and use of each pitch is assessed against the recommended pitch capacity to indicate how many match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket) a pitch could accommodate.

This is compared to the number of matches actually taking place and categorised as follows, to identify:

Potential spare capacity: Play is below the level the site could sustain.	
At capacity: Play is at a level the site can sustain.	
Overused: Play exceeds the level the site can sustain.	

As a guide, the FA, RFU and the ECB have set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without adversely affecting its quality.

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Table 1.4: Capacity of playing pitches

Sport	Pitch type	No. of match equivalent sessions		
		Good	Standard	Poor
Football	Adult pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Youth pitches	4 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Mini pitches	6 per week	4 per week	2 per week
Rugby union*	Natural Inadequate (D0)	2 per week	1.5 per week	0.5 per week
	Natural Adequate (D1)	3 per week	2 per week	1.5 per week
	Pipe Drained (D2)	3.25 per week	2.5 per week	1.75 per week
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	3.5 per week	3 per week	2 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	5 per season	5 per season
	One synthetic wicket	60 per season	60 per season	60 per season

The above does not apply to hockey as there is no limit to how often an AGP can be used, with capacity instead limited by availability and current usage levels. A pitch without floodlighting or capacity restrictions can generally be accessed for four matches during one day.

For tennis, the capacity of courts is determined by membership levels rather than through matches. The LTA suggests that a floodlit hard court can accommodate a membership of up to 60 members, whereas a non-floodlit hard court can accommodate a membership of up to 40 members. This varies for other court types (e.g. grass).

For athletics, there is no maximum capacity set out by UK Athletics. Instead a minimum membership of 200 is required to ensure that tracks remain sustainable.

For all remaining non-pitch sports (i.e. bowls, netball, cycling and golf) there are no nationally recognised capacity recommendations set out by NGBs. Instead, potential capacity is evaluated on a site by site basis following consultation and site assessments.

## ***Develop the current picture of provision***

Once capacity is determined on a site by site basis, actual spare capacity is calculated on an area by area basis via further interrogation of temporal demand. Although this may have been identified, it does not necessarily mean that there is surplus provision. For example, spare capacity may not be available when it is needed or the site may be retained in a 'strategic reserve' to enable pitch rotation to reduce wear and tear.

Capacity ratings assist in the identification of sites for improvement/development, rationalisation, decommissioning and disposal.

## ***Identify the key findings and issues***

By completing Steps 1-5 it is possible to identify several findings and issues relating to the supply, demand and adequacy of outdoor sports provision in Castle Point. This report seeks to identify and present the key findings and issues prior to development of the Strategy and Action Plan for Castle Point and the overarching Strategy for all the involved South Essex authorities.

## ***Develop the future picture of provision (scenario testing)***



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Modelling scenarios to assess whether existing provision can cater for unmet, latent, exported and future demand is made after the capacity analysis. This will also include, for example, removing sites with unsecured community use to demonstrate the impact this would have if these sites were to be decommissioned in the future.

The majority of the scenario testing generally occurs in the strategy reports that proceed this document and therefore does not form part of the Assessment Report.

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## PART 2: FOOTBALL

### 2.1: Introduction

Essex County FA is the strategic lead for football in Essex, delivering the Essex County FA Moving Forward Strategy (2018-2021) in line with the FA National Game Strategy. It sets the strategic direction for football and is the lead organisation responsible for the development and administration of football across Essex. This is divided into core areas of the game, with bespoke delivery strategies for:

- ✦ Football Development – Sustaining and Increasing Participation (across affiliated and recreational formats); Better Training and Playing Facilities, Coach Education and better Players; Volunteer and Football Workforce.
- ✦ Safeguarding and Welfare – Workforce and Education; Safeguarding Compliance; Investigations; Environment.
- ✦ Refereeing – Recruitment and Retention; Coverage; Development and Promotion; Referee Workforce.
- ✦ Governance – Onfield Discipline, Investigations; Regulations and Sanctions; Cups, Competitions and Representative Football.

This section of the report focuses on the supply and demand for grass football pitches only, with Part 3 capturing supply and demand for third generation (3G) artificial grass pitches (AGPs). It is anticipated that there will be a growing demand for the use of 3G pitches for competitive football fixtures, especially to accommodate mini and youth football.

### **Consultation**

In addition to face-to-face and telephone consultations with key football clubs, an electronic survey was sent to all clubs playing within Castle Point. Contact details were provided by Essex County FA and the invitation to complete the survey was distributed via email.

Of the 40 clubs in Castle Point, 27 responded to consultation requests. This equates to a 68% club response rate and a 92% team response rate. The majority of non-responsive clubs are made up of one team, with none containing more than three teams.

The following key clubs were met with for a face-to-face consultation:

- ✦ Canvey Island FC
- ✦ Canvey Island Youth FC
- ✦ Concord Rangers FC
- ✦ Island Boys FC
- ✦ Island Girls FC
- ✦ Supreme Youth FC
- ✦ Thundersley Rovers FC

In addition to clubs, the Local Leagues and Local Authorities Forum was also attended where a number of different leagues were consulted. For a full list of clubs/leagues that were consulted, see Appendix 3.

### 2.2: Supply

The audit identifies 93 grass football pitches within Castle Point across 32 sites. Of these pitches, 79 are available for community use across 21 sites. A breakdown of pitches is presented in the table below. All unavailable pitches are located on education sites.



## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 2.1: Summary of grass football pitches available to the community

Analysis area	Available for community use					Totals
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	
Canvey Island	20	2	7	7	8	44
The Mainland	10	9	8	5	3	35
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>79</b>

The Canvey Island Analysis Area contains more provision with 44 pitches, compared to the Mainland Analysis Area which contains 35 pitches. Subsequently, Canvey Island generally has more of each pitch type; however, there is a significant exception in regards to youth 11v11 pitches.

Across Castle Point there are a large number of adult pitches (30) identified when compared to other pitch sizes, which reflects that the majority of teams use adult pitches. This, however, includes 21 youth 11v11 teams at U13-U16 age groups playing on adult pitches, which is not ideal for such demand and is not in line with the recent FA Youth Review. There are just 11 available youth 11v11 pitches in Castle Point, representing 14% of the available supply, which is low in relation to the proportion of teams requiring such provision (26%).

In accordance with the FA Youth Review, U17s and U18s can play on adult pitches. The FA's recommended pitch size for each format of play can be seen in the table below.

Table 2.2: Recommended pitch sizes

Format	Age group	Recommended pitch size (metres)
Adult	U17s+	100 x 64
Youth 11v11	U15s-U16s	91 x 55
	U13s-U14s	82 x 50
Youth 9v9	U11s-U12s	73 x 46
Mini 7v7	U9s-U10s	55 x 37
Mini 5v5	U7s-U8s	37 x 27

The following sites contain adult pitches that are currently being used for youth 11v11 matches:

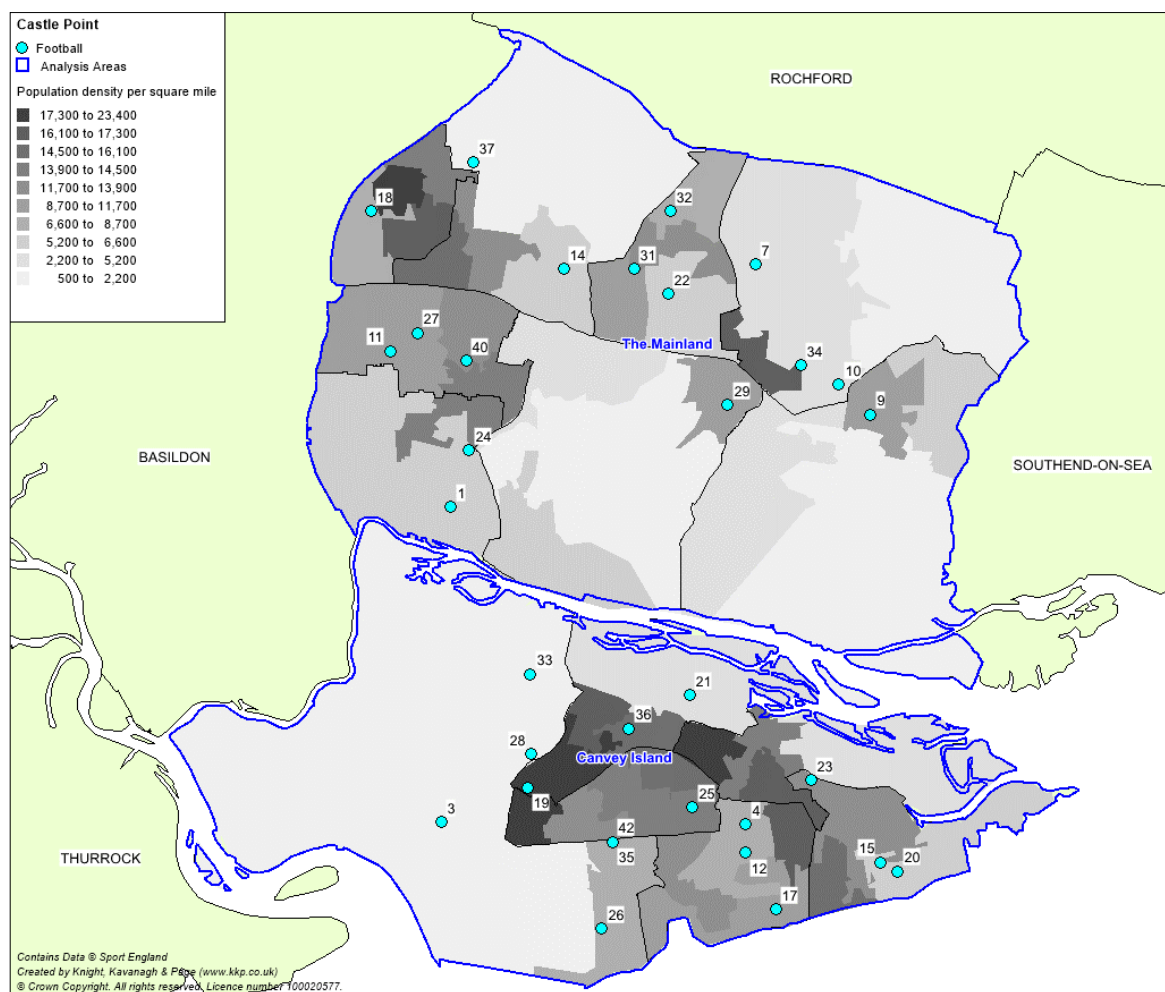
- ◀ Benfleet Playing Fields
- ◀ Park Lane (Canvey Island Football Club)
- ◀ Smallgains Recreation Ground
- ◀ The Cornelius Vermuyden School
- ◀ Deanes School Sports Centre
- ◀ Prospects of Advanced Technology
- ◀ Thames Road
- ◀ Waterside Farm Leisure Centre

Of the above, the adult pitch at Smallgains Recreation Ground is used solely by youth 11v11 teams, whilst only four adult teams are identified as using the eight adult pitches at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre. As such, these sites could provide a starting point to provide an increase in dedicated youth 11v11 pitches as no adult teams would be adversely affected by a pitch re-configuration, although there may be a need to retain adult provision if shortfalls are evident.

Figure 2.1 overleaf identifies all grass football pitches currently servicing Castle Point. For a key to the map, see Table 2.12.

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 2.1: Location of all football pitches in Castle Point



# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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## ***Management***

Castle Point Borough Council manages and operates five multi pitch football sites, as seen below:

- ◀ Benfleet Playing Fields
- ◀ John H Burrows Ground
- ◀ King George V Playing Fields
- ◀ Waterside Farm Leisure Centre
- ◀ Woodside Park

In total 33 community available pitches (42%) are located at Council managed sites. The remaining pitches available for community use within the Borough are managed by schools (51%) or sports clubs (8%).

Sites which are managed by sports clubs are Park Lane (Canvey Island Football Club), Thames Road and Canvey Island Youth Football Club, as well as one pitch known locally as 'The Coop' located at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre, which is managed by Canvey Island Youth FC.

## ***Future provision***

One youth 11v11 pitch was lost recently, along with a youth 9v9 pitch due to the development of the new Glenwood School. When the development is complete, plans are in place to provide a youth pitch with two over marked mini pitches as well as a separate mini pitch. These will be made available for community use. A youth 9v9 pitch and a mini 7v7 pitch remain in commission at Montgomerie Primary School, which shares the same site.

Canvey Island Youth FC has recently taken a one year lease on the area of grass inside of the running track at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre. There are currently no pitches marked out in this area but the Club plans to create provision in the near future, although the configuration has not yet been determined.

Due to Mornington Boys FC requiring more space to accommodate its teams, the Club is looking to convert some overgrown land at the Cornelius Vermuyden School into a mini 7v7 pitch. This would need to be a joint venture between the Club and the School, with the latter applying for any funding; however, Essex FA reports that the project is likely to be unviable meaning that other mini soccer provision should be explored.

Northwick Park Primary and Nursery Academy has received planning permission to build a smaller sized 3G AGP that will result in the loss of a youth 9v9 grass pitch if the development goes ahead. This will not be available for community use when initially opened and will be without floodlighting.

## ***Pitch quality***

The quality of football pitches in Castle Point has been assessed via a combination of site visits (using non-technical assessments as determined by the FA) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good
- ◀ Standard
- ◀ Poor

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Pitch quality primarily influences the carrying capacity of a site; often pitches lack the drainage and maintenance necessary to sustain levels of use. Pitches that receive little to no ongoing repair or post-season remedial work are likely to be assessed as poor, therefore limiting the number of games they are able to accommodate each week without it having a detrimental effect on quality. Conversely, well maintained pitches that are tended to regularly are likely to be of a higher standard and capable of taking a number of matches without a significant reduction in surface quality.

The percentage parameters used for the non-technical assessments were as follows: Good (>80%), Standard (50-80%), Poor (<50%). The final quality ratings assigned to the sites also take into account the user quality ratings gathered from consultation.

The table below summarises the quality of pitches that are available for community use in Castle Point. In total, one pitch is assessed as good quality, 61 as standard quality and 17 as poor quality.

*Table 2.3: Pitch quality assessments (community use pitches)*

Analysis area	Adult pitches			Youth pitches			Mini pitches		
	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor	Good	Standard	Poor
Canvey Island	1	13	6	-	6	3	-	15	-
The Mainland	-	8	2	-	11	6	-	8	-
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>0</b>

Poor quality pitches are located at the following sites:

- ◀ Castle View School
- ◀ King George V Playing Fields
- ◀ Montgomerie Primary School
- ◀ The Appleton School
- ◀ The Cornelius Vermuyden School
- ◀ The King John School
- ◀ Woodside Park

The majority of sites containing poor quality pitches are school sites, although there are also two council managed sites; Woodside Park and King George V Playing Fields.

Nationally, it is common for both school and council managed sites to undergo limited maintenance regimes due to restricted budgets. In Castle Point, the maintenance of council sites consists of weekly grass cutting and line marking as well as post-season remedial work that involves top dressing and seeding of high traffic areas (i.e. goalmouths).

For sites such as Woodside Park and King George V Playing Fields, pitch quality issues are often exacerbated by the open access nature of provision that results in high levels of use for other purposes, such as unofficial football activity, dog walking and fitness groups.

Consultation with Island Boys FC supports findings from non-technical assessment. The Club reports that pitch quality at King George V Playing Fields is poor and continuing to deteriorate due to poor maintenance regimes. Additionally, it states there are a number of divots appearing on the pitches, with the nets being lob sided.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Supreme Youth FC reports that the pitch at Montgomerie Primary School receives very low levels of maintenance. In addition, the pitch suffers from drainage issues.

Both Castle View School and the Cornelius Vermuyden School are owned and managed by Skanska, which employs a contractor to carry out its pitch maintenance. Consultation with the grounds maintenance company reports that the regime consists of grass cutting, line marking, slitting and top dressing at the start of the season. Sustaining pitch quality at school sites is often a challenge due to both curricular and extra-curricular activity, as well as impact from external lettings. This is why a number of schools chose not to take external bookings.

A point to note, not all pitches at Castle View School and the Cornelius Vermuyden School are scored as poor quality, with some instead assessed as standard. It is just that there are a number of pitches across these sites which have particular issues, such as two of the three adult pitches at the Cornelius Vermuyden School, which, despite recently being re-laid, are still prone to significant waterlogging in the winter months and cracking due to drying out in the summer months. This is despite a drainage system being installed.

The installed drainage system at Castle View School is also proving to be ineffective on certain pitches. Some of this is likely to come down to the characteristic of the Canvey Island area, with tide flow causing higher levels of surface water.

The main issue highlighted by users of Woodside Park; Elm United FC, is that there are a number of potholes which need addressing.

The only pitch available for community use in Castle Point to be rated as good quality is Park Lane (Canvey Island Football Club). This pitch hosts the games of Canvey Island FC, a Step 4 level club, as well as being home to the imported C & K Basildon Ladies FC, which plays in the FA Women's Premier (South). A full-time groundsman is employed at this site to ensure the pitch undergoes a regular, high level maintenance programme.

In addition to sites aforementioned, the table below highlights specific issues relating to standard quality sites as noted from consultation responses.

*Table 2.4: Site specific issues highlighted through club consultation*

Site ID	Site	Issue highlighted
1	Benfleet Playing Fields	CT66 FC reports that maintenance at this site is basic, which impacts on pitch quality. Additionally, pitch drainage can be an issue and the quality of pitches are deteriorating. This is not helped by unofficial use on the site, with teams using the pitches for training which are not paying for them.
		Foundry Athletic FC reports that sometimes matches are called off in regards to the pitches nearest the car park; however, pitches are often playable at the top of the hill and over the bridge.
3	Canvey Island Youth Football Club	Canvey Island Youth FC reports that there can be issues with fly tipping on this site.
40	Kent Hills Junior School	Supreme Youth FC reports that there are a number of divots on the pitch.

For a full breakdown of quality ratings at each site, please refer to Table 2.12.

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### ***FA Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP)***

With quality of grass pitches becoming one of the biggest influences on participation in football, the FA has made it a priority to work towards improving quality of grass pitches across the country. This has resulted in the creation of the FA Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP). As part of the PIP, grass pitches identified as having quality issues undergo a pitch inspection from a member of the Institute of Groundsmanship (IOG).

One site; the Cornelius Vermuyden School has received an assessment as part of the PIP process. This is, however, not in relation to the current pitches but the land on the site being considered for additional pitch provision. The assessment states that the scrub land may be suitable for additional pitch provision and highlights important processes that should be followed in constructing the pitches. That being said, before fixtures are allocated to the pitches, it is suggested that a season should be given for the provision to be fully established and sustainable. In addition to this, further pitch assessments should be carried out.

### ***Over marked pitches***

Over marking of pitches can cause notable damage to surface quality and lead to overuse beyond recommended capacity. In some cases, mini or youth pitches may be marked onto adult pitches or mini matches may be played widthways across adult or youth pitches. For example, at Castle View School, Concord Rangers Youth FC mark out mini pitches over youth and adult pitches for home fixtures. This can lead to targeted areas of surface damage due to a large amount of play focused on high traffic areas, particularly the middle third of the pitch.

Over marking of pitches not only influences available capacity, it may also cause logistical issues regarding kick off times; for example, when two teams of differing age formats are due to play at the same site at the same time.

In Castle Point, there are pitches at Woodside Park and John H Burrows Ground that are marked onto or overlapping cricket outfields. This can create availability issues at multi-sport sites as the cricket season begins in April when the football season is still ongoing and the football season begins in August as cricket fixtures are still being played.

### ***Ancillary facilities***

As mentioned previously, the Council manages five football sites, with Waterside Farm Leisure Centre and King George V Playing Fields serviced by Council managed changing provision.

The changing provision at King George V Playing Fields is of adequate quality with home and away changing rooms and toilet facilities. Island Boys FC, which accesses the sites, believes that the provision meets its needs in terms of quality; however, the Club states that it no longer accesses the facilities due to excessive costs.

The changing facilities at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre are rated as good quality; however, the portacabins that service demand from Canvey Island Youth FC in closer proximity to the pitches are considered to be basic and are without running water.

Away from council facilities, Canvey Island Youth Football Club is considered to have poor quality changing facilities. Again, portacabins are provided but do not include toilets, meaning there is no access to toilets at all on the site. The Club expresses that it has aspirations to develop better, more permanent ancillary facilities on this site.



## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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Similarly, Supreme Youth FC reports issues at Montgomerie Primary School as the main school building is not being open at weekends, meaning it does not always have access to toilet facilities. As a result, as the Club highlights a desire to have a space to call its own, even if this in the form of a portacabin.

Benfleet United FC has its own clubhouse at Woodside Park which it reports an aspiration to refurbish due to a dated interior. This is in conjunction with plans to improve car parking provision.

The clubhouse at Smallgains Recreation Ground is owned by Island Boys and Girls Ltd and is accessed by Island Boys and Island Girls football clubs, as well as a cricket club. Plans are being drawn up by the owners to develop and improve the provision.

Inter Island FC accesses John H Burrows Ground but reports that it does not have access to changing facilities, whilst CT66 FC, currently playing at Benfleet Playing Fields, states that it has a desire to progress to Step 7 of the football pyramid. If it was to realise these aspirations, it would not have appropriate facilities to meet ground grading requirements at its current site.

### *Car parking*

In addition to the aforementioned Benfleet United FC, several other clubs indicate that following sites do not have adequate car parking facilities for the number of teams accessing them:

- ✦ King George V Playing Fields
- ✦ Montgomerie Primary School
- ✦ Woodside Park

### **Security of tenure**

Across Castle Point, 42% of responsive clubs report that they have no security of tenure, predominately due to some or all of their teams playing at school sites without community use agreements in place. This relates to the following:

- ✦ Supreme Youth FC
- ✦ Concord Rangers Youth FC
- ✦ Canvey Island Youth FC
- ✦ Mornington Boys FC
- ✦ Porters Soccability FC
- ✦ Simco Asbestco FC
- ✦ C&K Basildon Ladies FC
- ✦ Junior Red Star FC
- ✦ Benfleet Villa Youth FC

Furthermore C & K Basildon Ladies FC also reports a lack of security of tenure as it rent its pitch from Canvey Island FC on a short-term basis. Whilst the site is secured for future football use, access by the female club is not.

The remaining 58% of clubs are considered to have security of tenure, i.e. through ownership, a long-term lease or a guarantee that pitches will continue to be provided over the next three years. The latter refers to pitches provided by the Council.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### ***Football pyramid demand***

The National League System is a series of interconnected leagues for adult men's football clubs in England. It begins below the football league (the National League) and comprises of seven steps, with various leagues at each level and more leagues lower down the pyramid than at the top. The system has a hierarchical format with promotion and relegation between the levels, allowing even the smallest club the theoretical possibility of rising to the top of the system.

Clubs within the step system must adhere to ground requirements set out by the FA. The higher the level of football being played the higher the requirements. Clubs cannot progress into the league above if the ground requirements do not meet the correct specifications. Ground grading assesses grounds from A to H, with 'A' being the requirements for Step 1 clubs.

In Castle Point, two teams play within the football pyramid, as seen in following table.

*Table 2.5: Summary of teams playing within the football pyramid structure*

Team	League	Level
Concord Rangers FC	National League South	Step 2
Canvey Island FC	Bostic North League	Step 4

A common issue for clubs entering the pyramid is changing facilities. For Step 7 football (ground grading H), changing rooms must be a minimum size of 18 square metres, exclusive of shower and toilet areas. The general principle for clubs in the football pyramid is that they have to achieve the appropriate grade by March 31<sup>st</sup> of their first season after promotion, which therefore allows a short grace period for facilities to be brought up to standard. This, however, does not apply to clubs being promoted to Step 7 (as they must meet requirements immediately).

Notwithstanding the above, neither Concord Rangers FC nor Canvey Island FC report an issue with ground grading, with both stating that they could be promoted without any issues.

### ***Women's National League System***

Correspondingly, there is a Women's National League System similar to the adult men's which provide structure to the women's game. As seen in the table below this ranges from Step 1 to Step 6 with each step requiring differing ground grading requirements.

*Table 2.6: Summary of ground grading for women's football*

Level	League	Grading category
Step 1 and 2	Women's Super League 1	Grade A
Step 3 and 4	Women's Super League 2	Grade B
Step 5	Northern and Southern Women's Premier League	Grade A
Step 6	Women's Combination Leagues	Grade B
Step 7	Women's Regional Leagues – Premier Divisions	Grade C

Although women's clubs still require to meet ground requirements set out by the FA these differ from the men's National League System. Ratings range from grade A to C each with differing minimum requirements.



## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Step 1 and 2 in the Women's National League System is akin to Step 3 and 4 of the men's National League System, however, not exactly the same. The system is also hierarchical format with promotion and relegation between the levels, allowing even the smallest club the theoretical possibility of rising to the top of the system.

In 2017, the FA announced plans to restructure the women's league for the highest performers in the football pyramid. The changes will be implemented from the start of the 2018-19 season and will see the top league, FA WSL 1, expand from ten clubs to 14 and the creation of a new national league established at tier two for a maximum of 12 teams.

There are currently two women's step clubs; Benfleet Villa Ladies FC and C & K Basildon Ladies FC. These clubs are playing at Step 5 and Step 1, respectively.

### 2.3: Demand

Through the audit and assessment, 155 teams from within 40 clubs are identified as playing within Castle Point. This consists of 38 adult men's, two adult women's, 65 youth boys', three youth girls' teams and 47 mini teams.

*Table 2.7: Summary of competitive teams currently playing in Castle Point*

Analysis area	No. of teams					
	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
Canvey Island	19	24	15	13	15	86
The Mainland	21	17	12	12	7	69
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>155</b>

The majority of demand exists in the Canvey Island Analysis Area (86 teams), although the Mainland Analysis Area is still well represented (69 teams).

### **Participation trends**

Essex FA reports a significant recent growth in girls' playing in mixed mini soccer teams. In fact, approximation suggests that it has doubled in recent years, with the likely outcome being an increase in youth girls' teams moving forward as players progress through the age groups.

A number of clubs report an increase in teams over the last three years. Mornington Boys, Porters Soccability, South Benfleet and Inter Island football clubs have seen an increase in adult teams, with Mornington Boys FC also stating an increase in youth and mini teams.

C & K Basildon Ladies also describes an increase in both youth and mini teams, with the increase in mini teams being the most significant (six additional teams). In contrast, CT66 FC has lost an adult team, whilst Benfleet and Concord Rangers Youth football clubs have seen a decrease in youth teams. Such a reduction is mainly attributed to a lack of volunteer coaches as well as issues around finance.

One club (Tarpot Rovers FC) folded this season.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### ***Exported demand***

Exported demand refers to teams that are currently accessing pitches for home fixtures outside of Castle Point, despite being registered to the Borough. This is normally because pitch requirements cannot be met.

There are currently four adult male teams from within two Castle Point based clubs accessing pitches outside of the study area, with both South Benfleet United and Estuary United football clubs exporting teams into Southend-on-Sea. The latter has one team playing at Chase High School, whilst the former has one adult and two veteran's teams accessing Len Forge Centre.

Estuary United FC reports that exported demand is not an issue. The Club states that the majority of its players come from the Southend-on-Sea area. As such, no desire to relocate is expressed.

South Benfleet United FC states that the reason it accesses provision outside of Castle Point is due to a lack of appropriate changing facilities. Should this be rectified, the Club would look to bring its exported teams back to into the Borough for home fixtures.

### ***Imported demand***

Based on data collated, there is one team from C & K Basildon Ladies FC based outside Castle Point that plays matches within the Borough (all remaining teams from the Club play in Basildon). The team currently plays at Park Lane (Canvey Island Football Club). Although not stated by the Club, this is likely due to ground grading requirements although it expresses no urgent desire to relocate.

### ***Latent demand***

Latent demand refers to potential demand; individuals who would like to participate within the sport but do not do so. This can be for a variety of reasons including a lack pitches or appropriate facilities. A number of clubs in Castle Point report latent demand. The reasons provided for this can be seen in the table below.

*Table 2.8: Clubs that report latent demand and the reasons provided*

Club	Need for more match pitches	Need for more/better training facilities	Need for better/more appropriate changing provision
Mornington Boys FC	Yes	Yes	Yes
Benfleet Football Club	Yes	-	Yes
Seevic College	Yes	Yes	Yes
Concord Rangers Youth FC	Yes	Yes	Yes
Junior red star FC	Yes	-	-
Porters Soccability FC	-	Yes	Yes
C & K Basildon Ladies FC	-	Yes	-
CT66 FC	-	Yes	Yes
Inter Island FC	-	-	Yes
Supreme Youth FC	Yes	-	Yes
Benfleet Villa Youth FC	Yes	-	-

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Of the seven clubs stating that they could field additional teams if they had access to more match pitches only three quantify a specific amount. Mornington Boys FC reports that it would be able to increase by one adult men's and one mini team, with the Club also open to encouraging women's and girls' engagement with the potential of developing a women's team. Benfleet FC reports that it could have more youth 11v11 teams and Seevic College FC states it could have two more adult teams.

Clubs which state they would be able to increase team numbers if better or more training facilities and changing provision were available do not all quantify a specific number of teams. Of the teams that do, Mornington Boys FC states it could grow by the same as above, whilst C & K Basildon Ladies FC reports that it could expand by two to four youth teams. Seevic College FC believes it could increase by four more teams and Concord Rangers Youth FC suggests it could grow by one team at each age group.

### **Future demand**

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and by using population forecasts

#### *Participation increases*

A number of clubs' report aspirations to increase the number of teams they provide. Of the five clubs that quantify their potential increase, there is a predicted growth of 19 teams, as seen in the table below.

*Table 2.9: Potential team increases identified by clubs*

Club	Analysis area	Future demand	Pitch size	Match equivalent sessions <sup>3</sup>
Mornington Boys FC	Canvey Island	1 x Adult	Adult	0.5
		2 x Youth	11v11	1
		2 x Youth	9v9	1
		2 x Mini	7v7	0.5
			5v5	0.5
C & K Basildon Ladies FC	Canvey Island	1 x Youth	11v11	0.5
		1 x Youth	9v9	0.5
Benfleet FC	The Mainland	1 x Adult	Adult	0.5
		2 x Youth	11v11	1
		2 x Youth	9v9	1
Seevic College	The Mainland	2 x Adult	Adult	1
CT66 FC	Canvey Island	3 x Adult	Adult	1.5
<b>Total</b>				<b>9.5</b>

The total future demand expressed amounts to 9.5 match equivalent sessions, the majority of which is identified in the Canvey Island Analysis Area and on adult pitches.

<sup>3</sup> Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, 0.5 pitches can therefore be seen in the table where there is latent demand for one team.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### Population increases

Team generation rates are used overleaf to calculate the number of teams likely to be generated in the future (2037) based on population growth. Using this, it is predicted that there will be a possible increase of five youth 11v11 boys', one youth 9v9 boys', three mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 teams in Castle Point.

Table 2.10: Team generation rates (2037)

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams <sup>4</sup>	Team Generation Rate	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams (2037)	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Mens (16-45)	14,276	43	332	14,267	43.0	0.0
Senior Women (16-45)	14,320	2	7160	14,360	2.0	0.0
Youth Boys (12-15)	1,926	44	44	2,146	49.0	5.0
Youth Girls (12-15)	1,887	3	629	2,118	3.4	0.4
Youth Boys (10-11)	938	16	59	1,052	17.9	1.9
Youth Girls (10-11)	884	0	0	1,024	0.0	0.0
Mini-Soccer Mixed (8-9)	1,765	24	74	2,039	27.7	3.7
Mini-Soccer Mixed (6-7)	1,854	23	81	1,983	24.6	1.6

*NB: Please note that team generation rates use ONS population projections as SHMA data does not provide the required age breakdowns. As such, the projections may provide an underestimate of future demand as housing growth is not taken into account. Housing growth scenarios will follow in the subsequent strategy document.*

When applied by analysis area, the majority of anticipated participation increase is in the Canvey Island Analysis Area, with a growth of three youth 11v11 boys', two mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 team predicted. The Mainland Analysis Area is predicted to see a growth of one youth 11v11 boys', one youth 9v9 boys' and one mini 7v7 team. The breakdown can be seen the table 2.10 below.

Table 2.11: Team generation rates by analysis area (2037)

Age group	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population (by analysis area)		
	Canvey Island	The Mainland	Total
Senior Men's (16-45)	-	-	-
Senior Women (16-45)	-	-	-
Youth Boys (12-15)	3	1	4
Youth Girls (12-15)	-	-	-
Youth Boys (10-11)	-	1	1
Youth Girls (10-11)	-	-	-
Mini-Soccer Mixed (8-9)	2	1	3
Mini-Soccer Mixed (6-7)	1	-	1

<sup>4</sup> Age group team numbers differ from Table 2.6 as forecasts are based on age rather than playing format. U17 and U18 teams affiliate to their respective County FA as juniors, however, are generally considered to play on and require adult pitches and are considered by age boundaries to be in the adult age group

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Both team generation rates and future club aspirational demand will be used in the supply and demand analysis later on within this section.

Notwithstanding the above, it must be noted that team generation rates are based exclusively on future population forecasts and do not account for societal factors or changes in the way people may wish to play sport. Similarly, they cannot account for specific targeted development work within certain areas or focused towards certain groups, such as NGB initiatives or coaching within schools. For example, there is a focus on developing female participation within Essex and nationally which is likely to lead to more women's and girls' teams in the future and therefore increase demand for pitches.

### *SSE Wildcats Centres*

SSE Wildcats Centres work with County FA qualified coaches to deliver local weekly sessions, which provide opportunities for girls aged five to 11 to develop fundamental skills and experience football in a safe and fun environment. There are already 200 established centres which delivered the SSE Wildcats pilot in 2017, with a further 800 centres to be in place for 2018. As part of the expansion process, organisations extending beyond affiliated clubs to include other providers or community groups were invited to apply in late 2017 to become one of the new centres. All organisations delivering Wildcats centres receive a £900 start-up grant and 30 branded footballs in their first year of running the programme to help develop and increase girl's participation.

In light of both FA aspirations to double female participation in football through its Game Changer strategy and the establishment and foreseen future effect of the SSE Wildcats programme, it is likely that the growth in affiliated women's and girl teams may exceed that shown through TGRs, however at present to what extent is not quantifiable.

## **2.4: Capacity analysis**

The capacity for pitches to regularly provide for competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of a pitch affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of playing football. In extreme circumstances, it can result in the inability of the pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off-peak times. Pitch quality is often influenced by weather conditions and drainage.

As a guide, the FA has set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without it adversely affecting its current quality. Taking into consideration the guidelines on capacity, the following ratings were used in Castle Point:

Adult pitches		Youth pitches		Mini pitches	
Pitch quality	Matches per week	Pitch quality	Matches per week	Pitch quality	Matches per week
Good	3	Good	4	Good	6
Standard	2	Standard	2	Standard	4
Poor	1	Poor	1	Poor	2

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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Table 2.12 applies the above pitch ratings against the actual level of weekly play recorded to determine a capacity rating as follows:

<b>Potential capacity</b>	Play is below the level the site could sustain
<b>At capacity</b>	Play matches the level the site can sustain
<b>Overused</b>	Play exceeds the level the site can sustain

### ***Education sites***

To account for curricular/extra-curricular use of education pitches it is likely that the carrying capacity at such sites will need to be adjusted. The only time this would not happen is when a school does not use its pitches at all and the sole use is community use. The adjustment is typically dependent on the amount of play carried out, the number of pitches on site and whether there is access to an on-site AGP.

In some cases, where there is no identified community use, there is little capacity to accommodate further play. Internal usage often exceeds recommended pitch capacity, which is further exacerbated by basic maintenance regimes that may not extend beyond grass cutting and line marking.

In Castle Point, site capacity at education sites has been reduced by one match equivalent session per pitch to account for curricular and extra-curricular use. This is based on consultation with the schools and the discovery that all pitches are in use, as well as from experience of how school sites use their pitches from other playing pitch strategies in the locality and nationally.

### ***Informal use***

A number of football pitches in the area are on open access sites. As such, these pitches are subject to informal use in the form of dog walkers, unorganised games of football and exercise groups. It must be noted, however, that informal use of these sites is not recorded and it is therefore difficult to quantify on a site-by-site basis. Instead, it is recommended that open access sites be protected through an improved maintenance regime to protect quality.

### ***Peak time***

Spare capacity can only be considered as actual spare capacity if pitches are available at peak time. In Castle Point, peak time is considered to be Sunday AM for all pitch types.

In the table overleaf, please note that, on occasion, spare capacity in the peak period is identified despite the pitch being played to capacity or overplayed or more spare capacity is identified in the peak period than what exists overall. This is because the majority of use occurs outside of the peak period; therefore, the identified spare capacity at peak time should not be utilised over and above overall capacity unless quality improvements are made that increase overall capacity.

# CASTLE POINT COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 2.12: Football pitch capacity analysis

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Management	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Available for community use?	Agreed quality rating	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity <sup>5</sup> (match sessions)	Overused, At Capacity or Potential to Accommodate additional play	Spare capacity available in peak period (match sessions)	Comments
1	Benfleet Playing Fields	The Mainland	Council	Adult		4	Yes	Standard	2	8	6	2	Spare capacity of two match equivalent sessions at peak period.
3	Canvey Island Youth Football Club	Canvey Island	Sports Club	Mini	(5v5)	2	Yes	Standard	5	8	3	0	No spare capacity at peak period.
				Mini	(7v7)	1	Yes	Standard	2	4	2	0	No spare capacity at peak period.
4	Castle View School	Canvey Island	School	Adult		1	Yes	Poor	1	1	0	0	Pitch at capacity.
				Mini	(5v5)	2	Yes	Standard	2.5	8	5.5	0.5	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to unsecure tenure.
				Mini	(7v7)	2	Yes	Standard	2	8	-6	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to unsecure tenure.
				Youth	(11v11)	1	Yes	Poor	3.5	1	2.5	0	Overplayed.
				Youth	(9v9)	1	Yes	Poor	2	1	1	0	No spare capacity at peak period.
7	Deanes School Sports Centre	The Mainland	School	Adult		2	Yes	Standard	4	4	0	0	Pitch at capacity.
				Mini	(5v5)	1	Yes	Standard	1.5	4	2.5	0.5	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to unsecure tenure.
				Mini	(7v7)	1	Yes	Standard	2	4	2	0	No spare capacity at peak period.
				Youth	(9v9)	1	Yes	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to unsecure tenure.
9	Hadleigh Junior School Playing Fields	The Mainland	School	Mini	(7v7)	1	Yes	Standard	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to unsecure tenure.
				Youth	(11v11)	1	Yes	Standard	2	2	0	0	Pitch at capacity.
10	John H Burrows Ground	The Mainland	Council	Youth	(11v11)	4	Yes	Standard	0.5	8	7.5	3.5	Spare capacity of 3.5 match equivalent sessions at peak period.
				Youth	(9v9)	1	Yes	Standard	1	2	1	0	No spare capacity at peak period.
11	Jotmans Hall Primary School	The Mainland	School	Mini	(7v7)	1	No	Standard	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to no community use.
12	King George V Playing Fields	Canvey Island	Council	Adult		3	Yes	Poor	3	3	0	0	No spare capacity at peak period.
				Youth	(11v11)	1	Yes	Poor	0	1	1	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to poor pitch quality and unsecure tenure.

<sup>5</sup> Based on pitch quality The FA recommends a maximum number of match equivalent sessions to be accommodate per pitch type. Please refer to Section 2.4 for the full breakdown.



**CASTLE POINT COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT**

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Management	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Available for community use?	Agreed quality rating	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity <sup>5</sup> (match sessions)	Overused, At Capacity or Potential to Accommodate additional play	Spare capacity available in peak period (match sessions)	Comments
14	Kingston Primary School	The Mainland	School	Mini	(7v7)	1	Yes	Standard	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to unsecure tenure.
15	Leigh Beck Junior School	Canvey Island	School	Mini	(7v7)	1	No	Standard	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to no community use.
17	Lubbins Park Primary Academy	Canvey Island	School	Mini	(7v7)	1	No	Standard	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to no community use.
18	Montgomerie Primary School	The Mainland	School	Mini	(7v7)	1	Yes	Standard	3	4	1	0	No spare capacity at peak period.
				Youth	(9v9)	1	Yes	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to unsecure tenure.
19	Northwick Park Primary and Nursery Academy	Canvey Island	School	Youth	(9v9)	1	No	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to no community use and threat of permanent loss.
20	Park Lane (Canvey Island Football Club)	Canvey Island	Sports Club	Adult		1	Yes	Good	2.5	3	0.5	0	No spare capacity at peak period.
21	Prospects College of Advanced Technology (Canvey Island)	Canvey Island	School	Adult		2	Yes	Standard	3.5	4	0.5	0	No spare capacity at peak period.
				Mini	(5v5)	1	Yes	Standard	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to unsecure tenure.
				Youth	(9v9)	1	Yes	Standard	5.5	2	3.5	0	Overplayed.
22	Seevic College Sports Ground	The Mainland	College	Adult		2	No	Good	3	6	3	2	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to no community use.
23	Smallgains Recreation Ground (Canvey Island Cricket Club)	Canvey Island	Council	Adult		1	Yes	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions at peak period.
				Mini	(7v7)	1	Yes	Standard	0.5	4	3.5	0.5	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions at peak period.
				Youth	(9v9)	1	Yes	Standard	0	2	2	1	Spare capacity of one match equivalent sessions at peak period.
24	South Benfleet Primary School	The Mainland	School	Mini	(7v7)	1	No	Standard	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to no community use.
25	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Canvey Island)	Canvey Island	School	Mini	(7v7)	1	No	Standard	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to no community use.
26	Thames Road	Canvey Island	Sports Club	Adult		1	Yes	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0	No spare capacity at peak period.
				Mini	(7v7)	1	Yes	Standard	0	4	4	1	Spare capacity of one match equivalent sessions at peak period.



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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Management	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Available for community use?	Agreed quality rating	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity <sup>5</sup> (match sessions)	Overused, At Capacity or Potential to Accommodate additional play	Spare capacity available in peak period (match sessions)	Comments
27	The Appleton School	The Mainland	School	Youth	(11v11)	2	Yes	Poor	2.5	2	0.5	0	Overplayed.
				Youth	(9v9)	2	Yes	Poor	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to unsecure tenure.
28	The Cornelius Vermuyden School	Canvey Island	School	Adult		2	Yes	Poor	4.5	2	2.5	0	Overplayed.
				Adult		1	Yes	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to pitch currently being mostly unused whilst quality issues are rectified.
				Mini	(7v7)	1	Yes	Standard	5	4	1	0	Overplayed.
				Youth	(9v9)	1	Yes	Standard	3	2	1	0	Overplayed.
29	The King John School	The Mainland	School	Adult		2	Yes	Poor	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to poor pitch quality and unsecure tenure.
31	Thundersley Primary School	The Mainland	School	Mini	(7v7)	2	No	Standard	1	8	7	2	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to no community use.
				Youth	(11v11)	1	No	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to no community use.
32	Thundersley Recreation Ground	The Mainland	Council	Mini	(5v5)	1	Yes	Standard	1.5	4	2.5	0	No spare capacity at peak period.
				Mini	(7v7)	1	Yes	Standard	2	4	2	0	No spare capacity at peak period.
				Youth	(9v9)	1	Yes	Standard	1	2	1	0	No spare capacity at peak period.
33	Waterside Farm Leisure Centre	Canvey Island	Council	Adult		8	Yes	Standard	5.5	16	10.5	0	No spare capacity at peak period.
				Mini	(5v5)	3	Yes	Standard	3	12	9	0	No spare capacity at peak period.
				Youth	(9v9)	3	Yes	Standard	3	6	3	0	No spare capacity at peak period.
34	Westwood Academy	The Mainland	School	Mini	(7v7)	1	No	Standard	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to no community use.
35	William Read Primary School	Canvey Island	School	Mini	(5v5)	1	No	Standard	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to no community use.
36	Winter Gardens Academy	Canvey Island	School	Youth	(9v9)	1	Yes	Poor	2	1	1	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to no community use.

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Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Management	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Available for community use?	Agreed quality rating	Current play (match sessions)	Site capacity <sup>6</sup> (match sessions)	Overused, At Capacity or Potential to Accommodate additional play	Spare capacity available in peak period (match sessions)	Comments
37	Woodside Park	The Mainland	Council	Adult		2	Yes	Poor	3	2	1	0	Overplayed.
				Mini	(5v5)	1	Yes	Standard	2	4	2	0	No spare capacity at peak period.
				Youth	(11v11)	2	Yes	Standard	4	4	0	0	Pitch at capacity.
				Youth	(9v9)	1	Yes	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0	No spare capacity at peak period.
40	Kents Hill Junior School	The Mainland	School	Youth	(9v9)	1	Yes	Standard	3	2	1	0	Overplayed.
42	Canvey Island Junior School	Canvey Island	School	Mini	(7v7)	1	Yes	Standard	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity at peak period discounted due to unsecure tenure.

<sup>6</sup> Based on pitch quality The FA recommends a maximum number of match equivalent sessions to be accommodate per pitch type. Please refer to Section 2.4 for the full breakdown.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### ***Spare capacity***

To determine 'actual spare capacity', each site with 'potential capacity' identified in the table above has been reviewed. A pitch is only said to have 'actual spare capacity' if it is available for community use and available at the peak time for that format of the game. Any pitch not meeting this criterion has consequently been discounted.

There may also be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of regular friendly matches and activities that take place but are difficult to quantify on a weekly basis.

Pitches that are of a poor quality are not deemed to have actual spare capacity due to the already low carrying capacity of the pitches. Any identified spare capacity should be retained in order to relieve the pitches of use, which in turn will aid the improvement of pitch quality. Furthermore, any pitches with unsecured tenure are not considered to have actual spare capacity as no further play should be encouraged on such sites given that future access cannot be guaranteed.

Given the above, 12 pitches across four sites are considered to contain some level of actual spare capacity equating to 8.5 match equivalent sessions.

*Table 2.13: Summary of actual spare capacity*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (match sessions)
1	Benfleet Playing Fields	The Mainland	Adult	4	2
10	John H Burrows Ground	The Mainland	Youth (11v11)	4	3.5
23	Smallgains Recreation Ground (Canvey Island Cricket Club)	Canvey Island	Adult	1	0.5
		Canvey Island	Mini (7v7)	1	0.5
		Canvey Island	Youth (9v9)	1	1
26	Thames Road	Canvey Island	Mini (7v7)	1	1
<b>Total</b>				<b>12</b>	<b>8.5</b>

The majority of actual spare capacity is identified in the Mainland Analysis Area on youth 11v11 pitches (3.5 match equivalent sessions), followed by adult pitches (two match equivalent sessions). There are three match equivalent sessions of spare capacity in the Canvey Island Analysis Area, 1.5 of which is on mini 7v7 pitches and one of which is on youth 9v9 pitches.

### ***Overplay***

Overplay occurs when there is more play accommodated on a site than it is able to sustain, which can often be due to the low carrying capacity of pitches.

In Castle Point, 13 pitches are overplayed by 15.5 match equivalent sessions. The majority of overplay is located in the Canvey Island Analysis Area (13 match equivalent sessions), with only 2.5 match equivalent sessions of overplay identified in the Mainland Analysis Area. Across both analysis areas, most overplay is taking place on youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 2.14: Overplay summary

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (match sessions)
4	Castle View School	Canvey Island	Youth (11v11)	1	2.5
			Youth (9v9)	1	1.5
21	Prospects College of Advanced Technology (Canvey Island)	Canvey Island	Youth (9v9)	1	3.5
27	The Appleton School	The Mainland	Youth (11v11)	2	0.5
28	The Cornelius Vermuyden School	Canvey Island	Adult	2	2.5
			Mini 7v7	1	1
			Mini 5v5	1	1
36	Winter Gardens Academy	Canvey Island	Youth (9v9)	1	1
37	Woodside Park	The Mainland	Adult	2	1
40	Kents Hill Junior School	The Mainland	Youth (9v9)	1	1
<b>Total</b>				<b>13</b>	<b>15.5</b>

### 2.5: Supply and demand analysis

Having considered supply and demand, the tables below identify the overall spare capacity in each of the analysis areas for the different pitch types, based on match equivalent sessions. Future demand is based on team generation rates and future team aspirational demand which are driven by population increases and club development plans.

#### Adult pitch analysis

Table 2.15: Supply and demand balance of adult pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity <sup>7</sup>	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Canvey Island	0.5	2.5	2	2	4
The Mainland	2	1	1	1.5	0.5
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>4.5</b>

Across the Borough, there are shortfalls both now and in the future on adult pitches. The current overall shortfall equates to one match equivalent session, although minimal spare capacity exists in the Mainland Analysis Area. When factoring in future demand, shortfalls exist in both analysis areas and the overall shortfall totals 4.5 match equivalent sessions.

Given that a total of 21 youth 11v11 (13-16 years) teams are currently playing on adult pitches, equalling 10.5 match equivalent sessions, looking to increase youth 11v11 pitch provision so that youth 11v11 teams can play on the correct size of pitch would alleviate shortfalls for adult pitches.

<sup>7</sup> In match equivalent sessions

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## Youth 11v11 pitch analysis

Table 2.16: Supply/demand balance of youth 11v11 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity <sup>8</sup>	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Canvey Island	-	2.5	2.5	3	5.5
The Mainland	3.5	0.5	3	3	
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5.5</b>

Overall youth 11v11 pitches in Castle Point can accommodate current demand; however, there is a shortfall of youth 11v11 pitches predicted based on future demand totalling 5.5 match equivalent sessions. When broken down by analysis area, the Mainland Analysis Area has capacity to accommodate both current and potential future demand, with all identified in the Canvey Island Analysis Area.

## Youth 9v9 pitch analysis

Table 2.17: Supply/demand balance of youth 9v9 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity <sup>9</sup>	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Canvey Island	1	6	5	1.5	6.5
The Mainland	-	1	1	1.5	2.5
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>

There are shortfalls identified in both analysis areas based on current and potential future demand. The current shortfall equates to six match equivalent sessions and the future shortfall equates to nine match equivalent sessions. The shortfall is greater in the Canvey Island Analysis Area.

## Mini 7v7 pitch analysis

Table 2.18: Supply/demand balance of mini 7v7 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity <sup>10</sup>	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Canvey Island	1.5	1	0.5	2	1.5
The Mainland	-	-		0.5	0.5
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2</b>

The supply of mini 7v7 pitches in Castle Point can currently accommodate demand; however, they cannot accommodate potential future demand with a predicted shortfall of two match equivalent sessions. Future shortfalls exist in both analysis areas.

<sup>8</sup> In match equivalent sessions

<sup>9</sup> In match equivalent sessions

<sup>10</sup> In match equivalent sessions

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## Mini 5v5 pitch analysis

Table 2.19: Supply/demand balance of mini 5v5 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity <sup>11</sup>	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Canvey Island	-	1	1	1	2
The Mainland	-	-		-	
<b>Castle Point</b>	-	1	1	1	2

Whilst mini 5v5 pitches in the Mainland Analysis Area are currently at capacity, the Canvey Island Analysis Area has a shortfall of one match equivalent session resulting in an overall shortfall for Castle Point as a whole. The picture stays the same in the Mainland Analysis Area in the future based on no predicted additional demand; however, the shortfall in the Canvey Island Analysis Area and overall increases to two match equivalent sessions.

## 2.6: Conclusions

The table below summarises the demand for all pitch types in Castle Point. Based on Current demand, youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 pitches have minimal spare capacity, whilst adult, youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 pitches have identified shortfalls. The largest current shortfall is noted for youth 9v9 pitches.

All pitch types have a predicted future shortfall based on future demand.

Table 2.20: Summary of supply and demand

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity <sup>12</sup>	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Adult	2.5	3.5	1	3.5	4.5
Youth 11v11	3.5	3	0.5	6	5.5
Youth 9v9	1	7	6	3	9
Mini 7v7	1.5	1	0.5	2.5	2
Mini 5v5	-	1	1	1	2

In addition, given the security of tenure issues expressed by numerous clubs at school sites, the table below focuses on such provision to show what the picture would be should the supply fall out of permanent use. This is particularly important in Castle Point due to the heavy reliance on school pitches by community clubs.

Table 2.21: Supply and demand without unsecured provision

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions)		
	Current total	Play at unsecured sites	Future total
Adult	1	7	8
Youth 11v11	0.5	5.5	5
Youth 9v9	6	8	14

<sup>11</sup> In match equivalent sessions

<sup>12</sup> In match equivalent sessions

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions)		
	Current total	Play at unsecured sites	Future total without Barleylands Farm
Mini 7v7	0.5	6	5.5
Mini 5v5	1	1.5	2.5

As can be seen, if demand currently attracted to unsecure sites had to use alternative provision, existing spare capacity would be eliminated and existing shortfalls would be significantly exacerbated.

### Football – grass pitch summary

- ◆ The audit identifies 93 grass football pitches within Castle Point across 32 sites. Of the pitches, 93 are available, at some level, for community use across 21 sites.
- ◆ There are just 11 available youth 11v11 pitches in Castle Point, which is low in relation to the proportion of teams requiring such provision.
- ◆ In total, one community available pitch is assessed as good quality, 61 as standard quality and 17 as poor quality.
- ◆ Changing provision is considered poor quality at Canvey Island Youth Football Club and John H Burrows Ground.
- ◆ Through the audit and assessment, 155 teams from within 40 clubs are identified as playing within Castle Point. This consists of 38 adult men's, two adult women's, 65 youth boys', three youth girls' teams and 47 mini teams.
- ◆ Across Castle Point, 42% of responsive clubs report that they have no security of tenure, predominately due to some or all of their teams playing at school sites without community use agreements in place.
- ◆ There is one team from C & K Basildon Ladies FC based outside Castle Point that plays matches within the borough.
- ◆ There are currently four adult male teams from within two Castel Point based clubs accessing pitches outside of the study area; South Benfleet United FC and Estuary United FC.
- ◆ Team generation rates predict a growth of five youth 11v11, one 9v9, three mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 team (2037).
- ◆ A number of clubs' report aspirations to increase the number of teams they provide, with five clubs predicting combined growth of 19 teams.
- ◆ A total of 12 pitches across four sites are considered to contain some level of actual spare capacity, equating to 8.5 match equivalent sessions.
- ◆ There are 13 pitches overplayed by 15.5 match equivalent sessions.
- ◆ Based on current demand, youth 11v11 and mini 7v7 pitches have minimal spare capacity, whilst adult, youth 9v9 and mini 5v5 pitches have identified shortfalls.
- ◆ All pitch types in Castle Point have a potential future shortfall based on predicted future demand.
- ◆ Should unsecure sites fall out of permanent use, existing spare capacity would be eliminated and existing shortfalls would be significantly exacerbated.



# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## PART 3: THIRD GENERATION TURF (3G) ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCHES (AGPS)

### 3.1: Introduction

Competitive football can take place on 3G surfaces that have been FIFA or International Matchball Standard (IMS) tested and approved by the FA for inclusion on the FA pitch register. As such, a growing number of 3G pitches are now used for competitive match play, providing that the performance standard meets FIFA quality (previously FIFA One Star), as well as for training purposes. Football training can take place on sand and water based surfaces but is not the preferred option.

World Rugby produced the 'Performance Specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. The artificial surface standards identified in Regulation 22 allows matches to be played on surfaces that meet the standard, meaning full contact activity, including tackling, rucking, mauling and lineouts, can take place.

England Hockey's (EH) Artificial Grass Playing Surface Policy (June 2016) advises that 3G pitches should not be used for hockey matches or training and that they can only be used for lower level hockey (introductory level) as a last resort when no sand-based or water-based AGPs are available.

*Table 3.1: 3G type and sport suitability*

Surface	Category	Comments
Rubber crumb	Long Pile 3G (60mm with shock pad)	Rugby surface – must comply with World Rugby regulation 22 and/or RFL Community Standard, requires a minimum of 60mm pile.
Rubber crumb	Medium Pile 3G (55-60mm)	Preferred football surface. Suitable for non-contact rugby union/league practice or play.
Rubber crumb	Short Pile 3G (40mm)	Acceptable surface for some competitive football, able to be used for low level curricular hockey.

It should be noted that the FA generally refers to 3G pitches as 3G football turf pitches, though this term is not adopted in this PPS as 3G pitches can be and are used for other sports including rugby union, rugby league, lacrosse and American football, amongst others.

### 3.2: Current provision

A full size 3G pitch is considered by the FA to measure at least 100 x 64 metres (106 x 64 metres including run offs); however, for the purposes of this report, all pitches measuring over 100 x 60 metres (inclusive of run offs) are considered to be full size due to the amount of demand they can accommodate. Nationally, many 3G pitches are slightly undersized due to being converted from sand-based provision (dimensions for hockey are smaller than for football).

There is one full size 3G pitch in Castle Point that fully complies with the above specification, located at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre in the Canvey Island Analysis Area. The pitch is both floodlit and available to the community.

No full size 3G pitches are provided in the Mainland Analysis Area.



## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

*Table 3.2: Full size 3G pitches in Castle Point*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Floodlit?	Size (metres)
33	Waterside Farm Leisure Centre	Canvey Island	Yes	Yes	100 x 64

In addition, there are also two smaller sized 3G pitches servicing Castle Point across three different sites. Such pitches are generally not suitable for adult match play but can be used to accommodate youth and mini matches provided they are FA approved, of an adequate size and with adequate run-off areas. More commonly, they are used to accommodate training demand, commercial football leagues and social play.

*Table 3.3: Additional supply of 3G pitches*

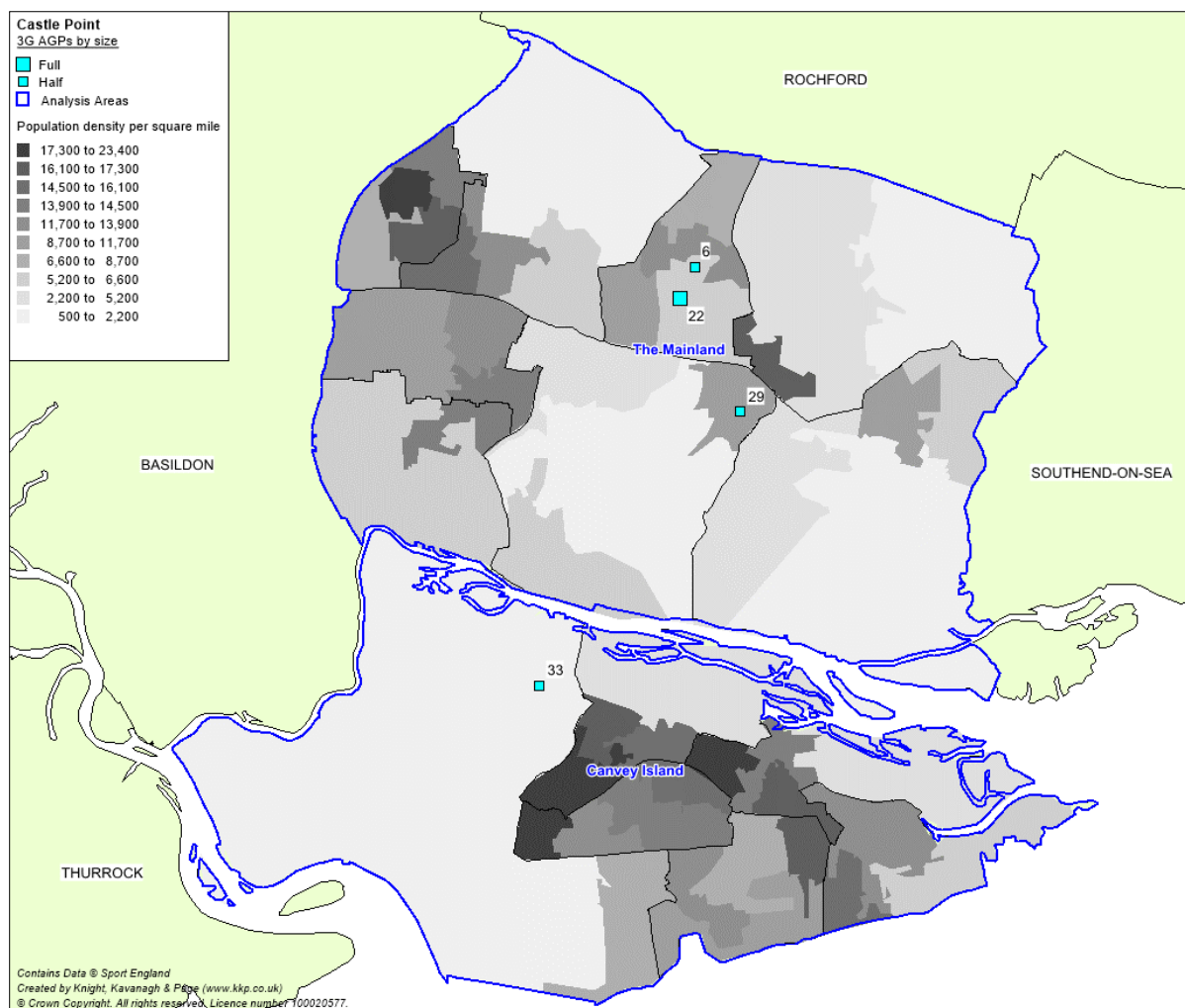
Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of pitches	Community use?	Floodlit?	Size (metres)
6	Cedar Hall School	The Mainland	1	Yes	Yes	54 x 37
22	Seevic College Sports Ground	The Mainland	1	No	No	36 x 34

Both smaller sized 3G pitches are located in the Mainland Analysis Area, although the pitch at Seevic College Sports Ground is neither floodlit nor available for the community.

Figure 3.1 overleaf shows the location of all 3G pitches within Castle Point, regardless of size.

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 3.1: Location of 3G AGPs in Castle Point



# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL

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### ***Future provision***

Canvey Island Youth FC has aspirations to develop an additional full size 3G pitch at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre, in addition to the one already established on site. The Club currently has a 15-year lease of one adult grass pitch and the grass area inside the disused athletics track.

Similarly, Island Boys FC and Island Girls FC have aspirations to develop a 3G pitch at Smallgains Recreation Ground. The clubs plan to speak to the Council about this in due course.

Concord Rangers FC also has aspirations to develop a small sized 3G pitch at Thames Road on the area they currently use for training.

Northwick Park Primary and Nursery Academy has received planning permission to build a smaller sized 3G AGP; however, this will not be available for community use when initially opened and will be without floodlighting. As detailed in Part 2, the development will result in the loss of a grass youth 9v9 pitch.

### ***FA pitch register***

In order for competitive matches to be played on 3G pitches, the pitch should be FIFA or IMS tested and approved and added to the FA pitch register, which can be found at: <http://3g.thefa.me.uk/>.

Pitches undergo testing to become a FIFA Quality pitch (previously FIFA One Star) or a FIFA Quality Pro pitch (previously FIFA Two Star), with pitches commonly constructed, installed and tested in situ to achieve either accreditation. This comes after FIFA announced changes to 3G performance in October 2015 following consultation with member associations and licenced laboratories. The changes are part of FIFA's continued ambition to drive up performance standard in the industry and the implications are that all 3G pitches built through the FA framework will be constructed to meet the new criteria.

The changes from FIFA One Star to FIFA Quality will have minimal impact on the current hours of use guidelines, which suggests that One Star pitches place more emphasis on the product's ability to sustain acceptable performance and can typically be used for 60-85 hours per week with a lifespan of 20,000 cycles. In contrast, pitches built to FIFA Quality Pro performance standards are unlikely to provide the hours of use that some FIFA Two Star products have guaranteed in the past (previously 30-40 hours per week with a lifespan of 5,000 cycles). Typically, a FIFA Quality Pro pitch will be able to accommodate only 20-30 hours per week with appropriate maintenance due to strict performance measurements.

In Castle Point, the 3G pitch at the Waterside Farm Leisure Centre is on the FA register and can therefore be used to host competitive matches. Re-testing is required every three years to ensure that this remains the case.

Additionally, the smaller sized pitch at Cedar Hall School is on the FA register. It is large enough to accommodate both mini 5v5 and mini 7v7 matches.

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### ***World Rugby compliant pitches***

To enable 3G pitches to host competitive rugby union matches, World Rugby has developed the Rugby Turf Performance Specification. This is to ensure that the surfaces replicate the playing qualities of good quality grass pitches, provide a playing environment that will not increase the risk of injury and are of an adequate durability.

The specification includes a rigorous test programme that assesses ball/surface interaction and player/surface interaction and has been modified to align the standard with that of FIFA. Any 3G pitch used for any form of competitive rugby must comply with this specification and must be tested every two years to retain compliance.

The RFU investment strategy into 3G pitches considers sites where grass rugby pitches are over capacity and where a pitch would support the growth of the game at the host site and for the local rugby partnership, including local clubs and education sites. That being said, there are currently no World Rugby compliant 3G pitches in Castle Point.

### ***Management***

The 3G pitch at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre is managed by the Council.

### ***Availability***

Waterside Farm Leisure Centre is widely accessible throughout the week, from 09:00 until 22:00 Monday-Friday, from 09:00 until 17:00 on Saturdays and from 08:00 until 20:00 on Sundays.

### ***Quality***

Depending on use, it is considered that the carpet of an AGP usually lasts for approximately ten years and it is the age of the surface, combined with maintenance levels, which most commonly affects quality. It is therefore recommended that sinking funds be put into place by providers to enable long-term sustainability, ongoing repairs and future refurbishment beyond this period.

The 3G pitch at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre is currently considered to be good quality, with no specific issues identified following site assessments and user consultation. It was resurfaced from a sand-based pitch in 2013 meaning it has approximately five years remaining until further refurbishment is required.

### ***Ancillary facilities***

The full size 3G pitch at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre is accompanied by ancillary facilities that are considered adequate, with no issues raised during consultation or via site assessments.

### **3.3: Demand**

The full size 3G pitch currently at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre is reported as operating at or close to capacity during midweek at desirable times, especially in the winter. Only minimal spare capacity remains during weekday evenings, with more existing at weekends albeit still limited.

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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In addition to football club training, the pitch is also widely used for small sided commercial leagues, with Champion Soccer operating on Monday, Tuesday and Sunday evenings, 6aside operating on Wednesday evenings and Leisure Leagues operating on Thursday evenings. Whilst this is good for income generation, it does limit availability to clubs and other social groups.

### ***Football***

The FA considers high quality 3G pitches as an essential tool in promoting coach and player development. The pitches can support intensive use and as such are great assets for football use. Primarily, such facilities have been installed for social use and training, however, they are increasingly used for competition, which The FA wholly supports.

### ***Training demand***

Getting access to good quality, affordable training facilities is a problem for many clubs throughout the country. In the winter months, midweek training is only possible at floodlit facilities.

Of clubs responding to consultation in Castle Point, 82% report that they require additional training facilities, with 78% of these specifically mentioning demand for 3G pitches. Some of these currently access indoor sports halls, whilst others do access Waterside Farm Leisure Centre but do so at undesirable times, or access 3G pitches outside of Castle Point. The clubs that express a need for more 3G pitches or for greater access to the existing stock are as follows:

- |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| ◆ Benfleet FC              | ◆ Benfleet Manor FC        |
| ◆ C & K Basildon Ladies FC | ◆ Canvey Island FC         |
| ◆ Canvey Island Youth FC   | ◆ Concord Rangers FC       |
| ◆ CT66 FC                  | ◆ Inter-Island FC          |
| ◆ Island Boys FC           | ◆ Island Girls FC          |
| ◆ Mornington Boys FC       | ◆ Porters Soccerability FC |
| ◆ Supreme Youth FC         | ◆ Thundersley Rovers FC    |

The FA's long-term ambition is to provide every affiliated team in England the opportunity to train once per week on a floodlit 3G surface, together with priority access for every Charter Standard Community Club through a partnership agreement.

In order to calculate the number of football teams a 3G pitch can service for training, peak time access is considered to be from 18:00 until 22:00 Tuesday-Thursday resulting in an overall peak period of 12 hours per week. Mondays and Fridays are not included within this calculation as it is considered that most teams do not want to train in such close proximity to a weekend match.

Full size 3G pitches are divided into thirds or quarters for training purposes meaning they can accommodate either three or four teams per hour and either 36 or 48 teams per week (during the peak training period). Based on an average of these numbers, it is estimated that 42 teams can be accommodated on one full size 3G pitch for training.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Given the above, with 155 teams currently affiliated to Castle Point, there is a need for four full size 3G pitches (rounded up from 3.6)<sup>13</sup>. As there is currently one 3G pitch provided, an additional three full size 3G pitches are required to meet current demand. When considering future demand for an additional 19 teams (based on club aspirations), there remains a need for four full size 3G pitches (rounded down from 4.1) and a shortfall of three.

In order to determine where the additional pitches are required, the table below explores the number of full size 3G pitches required if every team was to remain training within the analysis area in which they play.

*Table 3.4: Current demand for 3G pitches by analysis area (based on 42 teams per pitch)*

Analysis area	Current number of teams	3G requirement <sup>14</sup>	Current number of 3G pitches	Potential shortfall
Canvey Island	86	2	1	1
The Mainland	69	2	-	2
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>

This shows that there is a shortfall of two full size 3G pitches in the Mainland Analysis Area and a shortfall of one full size 3G pitch in the Canvey Island Analysis Area. When accounting for future demand, shortfalls remain the same.

*Table 3.5: Future demand for 3G pitches by analysis area (based on 42 teams per pitch)*

Analysis area	Future number of teams	3G requirement <sup>15</sup>	Current number of 3G pitches	Potential shortfall
Canvey Island	98	2	1	1
The Mainland	66	2	-	2
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>

### *Match play demand*

Improving grass pitch quality is one way to increase the capacity at sites but given the cost of doing such work and the continued maintenance required (and associated costs), alternatives need to be considered that can offer a more sustainable model for the future of football. The substitute to grass pitches is the use of 3G pitches for competitive matches, providing that the pitch is FA approved, floodlit and available for community use during the peak period.

In Castle Point, the only full size 3G pitch in the in the local authority, Waterside Farm Leisure Centre, has undergone testing and is therefore FA approved to host competitive matches. The caveat to this is that programming may need to be adjusted to allow more teams to utilise the facilities and pricing can often be a barrier as grass pitches remain generally cheaper to access.

Eight teams are currently identified as playing home matches on the 3G pitches in Castle Point, which is relatively good number considering the limited stock. The majority of games played on 3G pitches nationally are mini soccer matches.

<sup>13</sup> Smaller sized stock could cater for the excess demand; however, such provision is also limited.

<sup>14</sup> Rounded to the nearest whole number

<sup>15</sup> Rounded to the nearest whole number

## ***Rugby***

As mentioned previously, there are currently no World Rugby compliant 3G pitches within Castle Point meaning that no rugby activity takes place on the present stock. Given the limited rugby demand within the Borough it is also not considered to be a target area for future developments.

### **3.4: Supply and demand analysis**

In conclusion, there is an insufficient supply of full size 3G pitches to meet current and anticipated future football training demand based on the FA training model in Castle Point. As such, it is determined that an increase in provision is required.

To ensure that current supply and any future supply are of a good enough standard to accommodate demand, providers are encouraged to put sinking funds in place to ensure long-term sustainability. This will allow for re-surfacing to take place when required and will ensure that FA certification remains in place.

To maximise match play on 3G pitches, FA re-testing is required every three years at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre and in regards to any new pitches that are developed.

For rugby union, grass pitch solutions to current issues are required given that Castle Point is unlikely to be targeted for the investment of a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch. Alternatively, demand could be accommodated on such provision in neighbouring authorities that are better suited to such an investment, although travel may be problematic.

#### **3G summary**

- ◀ There is one full size 3G pitch in Castle Point (Waterside Farm Leisure Centre)
- ◀ The pitch is both available to the community and floodlit.
- ◀ In addition, there are three smaller sized 3G pitches, of which two are available for community use.
- ◀ Northwick Park Primary School has recently been granted planning permission to create a smaller sized 3G pitch; however, it indicates that this will not be available for community use and it will also be without floodlighting.
- ◀ The full size 3G pitch at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre is FA approved to host competitive matches, as is the smaller sized pitch at Cedar Hall School.
- ◀ None of the 3G pitches are World Rugby compliant.
- ◀ The 3G pitch at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre is considered good quality having been converted from a sand-based pitch in 2013.
- ◀ Of football clubs responding to consultation, 82% report that they require additional training facilities, and 78% of these specifically mention demand for 3G pitches.
- ◀ With 155 teams currently affiliated to Castle Point there is a need for four full size 3G pitches, meaning a current shortfall of three pitches
- ◀ Based on future demand there remains a shortfall of three full size 3G pitches.
- ◀ The shortfall equates to one pitch in the Canvey Island Analysis Area and to two pitches in the Mainland Analysis Area.
- ◀ A total of eight teams currently play matches on the existing 3G pitch stock.
- ◀ Given the limited rugby demand within the Borough, it is not considered to be a target area for future developments in relation to a World Rugby compliant pitch.



# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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## PART 4: CRICKET

### 4.1: Introduction

The Essex County Cricket Board (ECCB) is the main governing and representative body for Cricket within Castle Point. Working closely with the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), it is responsible for the management and development of every form of recreational cricket for men, women and children within the Borough.

The ECCB is currently working with the ECB on delivering its new five-year plan, Cricket Unleashed. Its success will be measured by the number of people who support, play and follow the whole game and is based upon five key areas (more play, great teams, inspired fans, good governance and social responsibility and strong finance and operations).

#### **Consultation**

There are three affiliated cricket clubs playing in Castle Point:

- ◆ Benfleet CC
- ◆ Canvey Island CC
- ◆ Hadleigh & Thundersley CC

Both Benfleet CC and Hadleigh & Thundersley CC attended a cricket forum that was dedicated to the PPS. Following the meeting, both clubs also completed a follow up online survey, as did Canvey Island CC. As such, a 100% response rate was achieved.

### 4.2: Supply

In total, there are five grass cricket squares in Castle Point located across three sites, with Woodside Park and Smallgains Recreation Ground (Canvey Island Cricket Club) each providing two squares. All of the squares are available for community use.

*Table 4.1: Summary of squares available for community use*

Analysis area	No. of squares
Canvey Island	1
The Mainland	4
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>5</b>

As seen in the table above, the majority of grass cricket squares are located in The Mainland Analysis Area, with just one square being situated in the Canvey Island Analysis Area.

In addition to the grass cricket squares, there are five non-turf pitches (NTPs) in Castle Point. Three of these are located in the Mainland Analysis Area and two are located in the Canvey Island Analysis Area. All five of the NTPs are standalone and are located at school sites, with only two available for community use. These are at Deanes School Sports Centre and the Appleton School.

The map below shows the location of all cricket squares (grass and non-turf) currently servicing Castle Point.

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 4.1: Location of cricket pitches in Castle Point

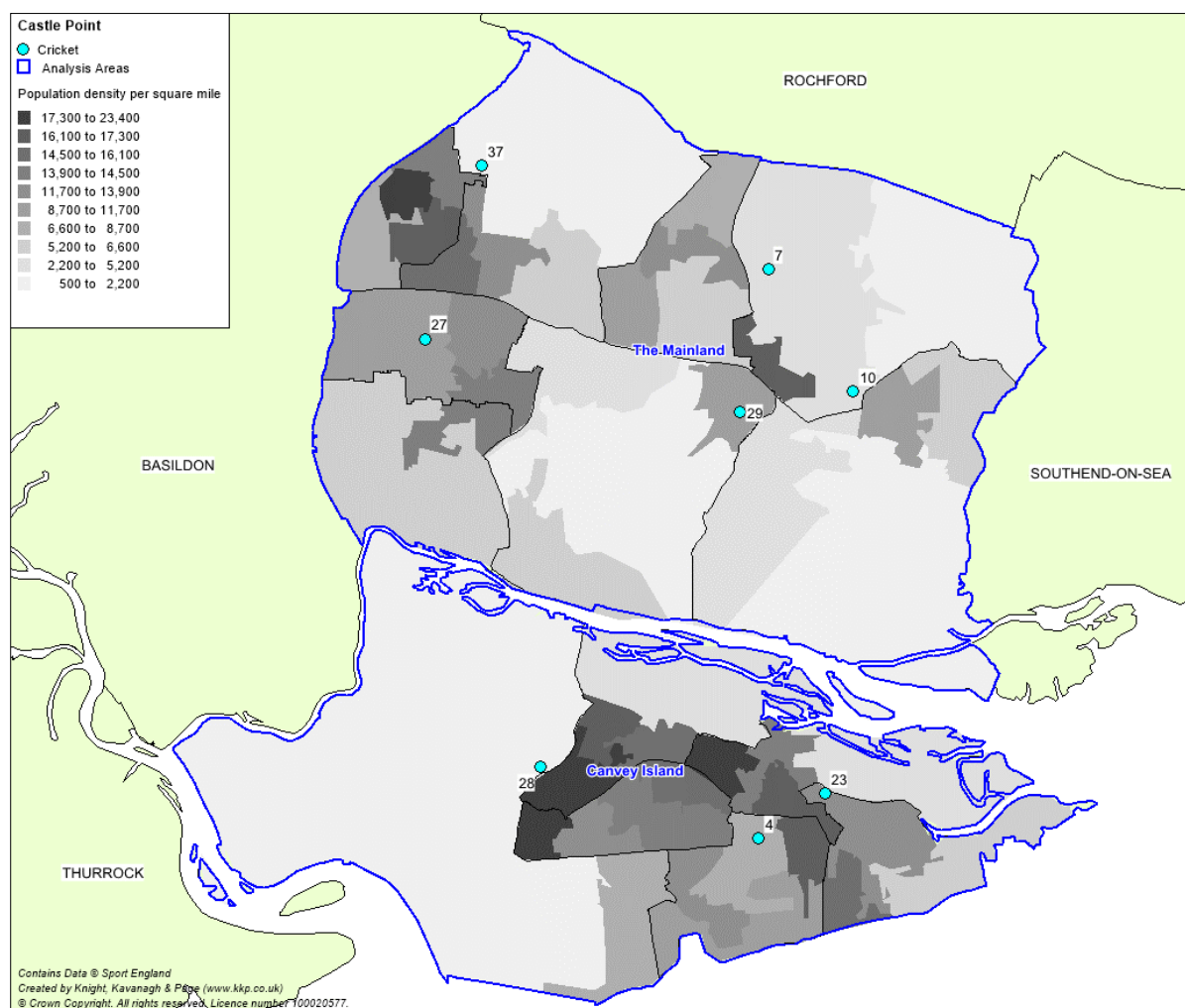


Table 4.2: Key to map of cricket pitches

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of squares	No. of wickets	
					grass	non-turf
4	Castle View School	Canvey Island	No	-	-	1
23	Smallgains Recreation Ground (Canvey Island Cricket Club)	Canvey Island	Yes	1	18	-
28	The Cornelius Vermuyden School	Canvey Island	No	-	-	1
7	Deanes School Sports Centre	The Mainland	Yes-unused	-	-	1
10	John H Burrows Ground	The Mainland	Yes	2	12	-
					14	-
27	The Appleton School	The Mainland	Yes-unused	-	-	1

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of squares	No. of wickets	
					grass	non-turf
29	The King John School	The Mainland	No	-	-	1
37	Woodside Park	The Mainland	Yes	2	16	-
					10	-

### ***Security of tenure and management***

Two clubs are considered to have security of tenure; Benfleet CC and Hadleigh & Thundersley CC. Benfleet CC leases Woodside Park on a 28-year lease and Hadleigh & Thundersley CC leases John H Burrows Ground on a 38-year lease. Both leases are acquired from the Council.

Canvey Island CC leases its pitch at Smallgains Recreation Ground (Canvey Island Cricket Club) from Island Boys and Girls Ltd; however, given that this is a rolling annual lease, the Club is not considered to have security of tenure as yearly renewal is not guaranteed.

As part of the lease agreements, all three clubs manage their respective sites.

### ***Pitch quality***

As part of the PPS guidance, there are three levels to assessing the quality of cricket pitches: good, standard and poor. Maintaining high pitch quality is the most important aspect of cricket; if the wicket is poor, it can affect the quality of the game and can, in some instances, become dangerous.

The non-technical assessment of grass wicket squares in Castle Point found all five squares to be of standard quality.

*Table 4.3: Summary of quality for grass wicket squares*

Good	Standard	Poor
-	5	-

Both of the squares at John H Burrows Ground are assessed as standard quality. The larger of the two squares is noted as having good grass coverage and length; however, as supported by comments through club consultation, the wickets lack sufficient bounce. The second square at the site also has issues with bounce, as well as the wickets having less grass coverage than the larger square. Further to this, the grass length in regards to the outfield is often slightly too long.

Due to both these squares being located within publicly accessible open space there is some evidence of dog fouling and people walking across the wickets; however, the Club does not report the latter as being an issue.

A further point to note at John H Burrows Ground from a safety perspective is that a tree sits inside the boundary lines.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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Consultation with Benfleet CC highlights that the issue around ball bounce is affecting the pitch quality assessment ratings carried out by the opposition following each match on the first and second team pitch. The Club also states that whilst the wickets on both pitches are even, parts of the outfield are slightly uneven. It works closely with the Council and the grounds maintenance contractor to keep maintenance regimes to a good level and is willing to pay for additional maintenance on top of that paid for by the Council. As a result of the three parties working together, it believes the quality of the squares are steadily improving.

Both squares at Woodside Park are rated as standard quality. Non-technical assessments identified that whilst the grass coverage on both squares is good and there is no unevenness in relation to the wickets, the length of the grass was slightly too long. Some areas of unevenness on the outfield are also noted.

Hadleigh & Thundersley CC reports through consultation that the pitch quality at Woodside Park has deteriorated since last season due to unofficial use pre-season, with a quadbike driving across the wickets. In addition, a new groundsman started at the site, who is still learning necessary maintenance regimes.

The square at Smallgains Recreation Ground (Canvey Island Cricket Club) is of standard quality. It is rated as having acceptable grass coverage and length, as well as all the wickets being even. The main issues relate to the outfield, which is highlighted as being uneven, with some evidence of poor drainage. Furthermore, following the pattern of other squares, due to the open nature of the site, dog fouling is common. This is a significant issue highlighted by the Club through consultation.

Canvey Island CC also reports through consultation that the wickets produce a low and uneven ball bounce, which impacts on the quality of the game. It also states that the pitch quality has deteriorated due to poor ground keeping and would like some advice and support on wicket preparation.

To obtain a full technical assessment of wicket and pitches, the ECB recommends a Performance Quality Standard (PQS) assessment. The PQS looks at a cricket square to ascertain whether the pitch meets the Performance Quality Standards, which are benchmarked by the Institute of Groundsman.

*Table 4.4: Performance Quality Standard Ratings*

Quality rating	Details
Premier (High)	Where the surface is intended for Premier League play, with those within the top quartile capable of holding minor county and 1st class one day matches. May include some of the better schools and university pitches
Club (Standard)	A Club pitch suitable for league, school and junior cricket
Basic	An acceptable level suitable for recreational cricket and where the surface is designed and maintained within tight financial limitations such as Local Authorities
Unsuitable	This is where the surface is deemed unfit or unsafe for play

Clubs can contact the ECB to arrange for a pitch advisor to complete three different reports (comprehensive/mini/verbal) that vary in cost. A fully comprehensive report includes soil testing and guidance on machinery and corrective procedures, a mini report includes guidance on machinery and corrective procedures and a verbal report is a spoken version of a mini report.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Both community available NTPs are rated as poor quality. This is mainly attributed to unevenness and patches of moss developing on the carpets. Both have been in place for numerous years and require resurfacing in order to be brought to a satisfactory level.

### **Ancillary facilities**

The audit of ancillary facilities determined that John H Burrows Ground is accompanied by good quality ancillary facilities, whilst both Smallgains Recreation Ground (Canvey Island Cricket Club) and Woodside Park are accompanied by standard quality ancillary facilities.

*Table 4.5: Changing room quality (site by site)*

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Changing room quality
10	John H Burrows Ground	The Mainland	Good
23	Smallgains Recreation Ground (Canvey Island Cricket Club)	Canvey Island	Standard
37	Woodside Park	The Mainland	Standard

Although the provision at Smallgains Recreation Ground (Canvey Island Cricket Club) and Woodside Park are functional, some improvement is required to bright the facilities up to modern standards.

Hadleigh & Thundersley CC reports that its ancillary facilities are good, with six changing rooms, a social area and toilets which all have disabled access. The clubhouse was improved through grant funding recently via South Essex Sports Trust and Essex Community Trust.

Benfleet CC highlights that the main issues around its ancillary facility provision is that the disabled toilet is located within the male changing rooms and that due to issues with the boiler, the showers are not always hot.

### **Training facilities**

Access to cricket nets is important, particularly for pre-season/winter training. In Castle Point, both Woodside Park and John H Burrows Ground are serviced by outdoor practice nets.

Woodside Park has two practice cages which are assessed as good quality due to an even surface with no rips, no moss growth or significant wear and having safe and secure cages and nets. Benfleet CC reports that they have recently been refurbished through a grant from Veolia.

The four practice cages at John H Burrows Ground are of standard quality. Whilst there are no major quality issues, the cages are demonstrating signs of wear and tear through use. Hadleigh & Thundersley CC report that there is a need for these facilities to be upgraded.

Smallgains Recreation Ground (Canvey Island Cricket Club) is not serviced by any outdoor practice facilities. This is raised through consultation with Canvey Island CC as an issue. The Club would like to at least have some mobile nets on site.

In addition to outdoor nets, all clubs in Castle Point report a demand for additional indoor training facilities during the off-season. Further information regarding indoor cricket is captured in the Indoor Leisure Facilities Strategy that is being completed in conjunction with the PPS.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### 4.3: Demand

There are three clubs competing in Castle Point generating 20 teams. As a breakdown, this equates to 11 senior men's and nine junior boys' teams.

Table 4.6: Summary of teams

Club name	Analysis area	No. of competitive teams			
		Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys'	Junior girls'
Benfleet CC	The Mainland	4	-	5	-
Canvey Island CC	Canvey Island	2	-	-	-
Hadleigh & Thundersley CC	The Mainland	5	-	4	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>11</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>-</b>

As seen in the table above, Benfleet CC and Hadleigh & Thundersley CC are the largest clubs with nine teams each, with both clubs having significant senior and junior sections.

Canvey Island CC is the smallest club with just two adult teams; none of the three clubs within Castle Point currently have any women's or girl's teams. This is highlighted as an issue by the ECB, which is working to increase female participation in cricket.

The table below highlights that due to both Benfleet CC and Hadleigh & Thundersley CC being located in the Mainland Analysis Area, this currently has the highest number of overall teams. Just two teams are playing in the Canvey Island Analysis Area.

Table 4.7: Summary of teams by analysis area

Analysis area	Number of teams				
	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys'	Junior girls'	Total
Canvey Island	9	-	9	-	18
The Mainland	2	-	-	-	2
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20</b>

No unmet or latent demand is reported by any of the clubs.

### **Last Man Stands**

Last Man Stands (LMS) was founded in 2005. The social outdoor eight-a-side T20 cricket game is played midweek, lasts approximately two hours and is generally played on non-turf wickets. All eight wickets are required to bowl a team out so when the seventh wicket falls, the 'Last Man Stands' on his own. This shorter format of the game has encouraged more people to participate in the sport and is increasing in popularity.

A franchise is currently in operation in neighbouring authority Basildon, with the NTPs at Basildon Sporting Village utilised for all fixtures. It began in 2014 with five teams taking part and has since expanded to seven teams taking part in the 2017 season. Attempts to consult with the organiser as part of the PPS failed as no responses were received, but it is felt following consultation with the ECB as though the franchise is sufficient to cater for Castle Point residents.



# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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## ***All Stars Cricket***

All Stars Cricket is a brand new initiative from the ECB aimed at providing children aged five to eight with a great first experience in cricket.

The programme seeks to achieve the following aims:

- ◀ Increase cricket activity for five to eight year olds in the school and club environment
- ◀ Develop consistency of message in both settings to aid transition
- ◀ Improve generic movement skills for children, using cricket as the vehicle
- ◀ Make it easier for new volunteers to support and deliver in the club environment
- ◀ Use fun small sided games to enthuse children and volunteers to follow and play the game

Both Benfleet CC and Hadleigh & Thundersley CC are registered All Star centres in Castle Point. The latter reports the initiative has been successful and requires an additional indoor facility to sustain the subsequent growth.

The success of this initiative may lead to increased interest and demand for junior cricket at clubs and in turn have an effect on the usage and availability of provision.

## ***Participation trends***

The National Player Survey conducted over the past three years by the ECB reveals that the nature of participation in traditional league cricket is currently suffering a decline, although this is being offset by a rapid increase in non-traditional formats (such as LMS and T20 competitions).

Following this national participation trend, all three clubs in Castle Point have seen a decrease in team numbers. Benfleet CC lost one men's senior team, whilst Hadleigh & Thundersley CC lost one u16s team.

Canvey Island CC lost all of its junior section. It states this is due to a lack of coaches at the Club.

## ***Future demand***

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and using population forecasts.

The ECB unveiled a new strategic five-year plan in 2016 (available at <http://www.cricketunleashed.com>). Its success will be measured by the number of people who play, follow or support the game and the plan sets out five important headline elements: More play; great teams; inspired fans; good governance and social responsibility; strong finance and operations.

Notwithstanding the above, the ECB has recently announced new five-year media rights deals totalling £1.1 billion for first-class county and international matches played at home, from 2020-2024. The new deals include a continuation of the ECB relationship with Sky Sports, now extending beyond broadcasting as a genuine partnership to secure significant investment and commitment to increase participation and drive engagement, shaped by the Sky Ride initiative model Sky Sports previously developed with British Cycling.



## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

The new deals also include a return to free to air television for live cricket, with the BBC to show coverage of international T20 matches, as well as domestic T20 competitions including the women's and new City-based franchise competition proposed for 2020. Together, significant investment in participation and increased free to air media coverage could see future demand increase to levels in excess of those anticipated through the PPS and the impact should therefore be reviewed over coming years.

### *Participation increases*

All three clubs in Castle Point express a desire to increase their team numbers; however, only Benfleet CC quantifies by how many. The Club aspires to increase by one senior men's and one senior women's team.

### *Population forecasts*

Team generation rates are used below as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future (2037) based on population growth.

*Table 4.8: Team generation rates based on population growth (2037)*

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate <sup>16</sup>	Future population within age group	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Men's (18-55)	19,561	11	1:1778	18,155	10.2	0
Senior Women's (18-55)	19,691	0	1:0	18,554	0.0	0
Junior Boys (7-18)	5,871	9	1:734	6,330	8.6	0
Junior Girls (7-18)	5,661	0	1:0	6,297	0.0	0

*NB: Please note that team generation rates use ONS population projections as SHMA data does not provide the required age breakdowns. As such, the projections may provide an underestimate of future demand as housing growth is not taken into account. Housing growth scenarios will follow in the subsequent strategy document.*

It can be seen in the table above that no additional teams at any age group are expected to be generated through population increases across Castle Point.

It must be noted that team generation rates are based exclusively on future population forecasts and do not account for societal factors or changes in the way people may wish to play sport. Similarly, they cannot account for specific targeted development work within certain areas or focused towards certain groups, such as NGB initiatives or coaching within schools. For example, there is a focus on developing female participation within Essex and nationally which is likely to lead to more women's and girls' teams in the future and therefore increase demand for squares.

### **Peak time demand**

An analysis of match play identifies peak time demand for senior cricket as Saturdays, with all but eight senior teams playing on this day (with the remainder playing on Sundays).

<sup>16</sup> Please note TGR figures are rounded to the nearest whole number.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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For junior cricket, peak time demand is midweek, with seven teams playing at this time. The remaining two teams play matches on a Sunday. Clubs generally arrange junior fixtures to best suit their needs. As a result, squares have greater capacity to carry such demand as play can be spread across numerous days (providing the squares are not overplayed).

### 4.4: Capacity analysis

Capacity analysis for cricket is measured on a seasonal rather than a weekly basis. This is due to playability (as only one match is generally played per pitch per day at weekends or weekday evening) and because wickets are rotated throughout the season to reduce wear and tear and to allow for repair.

To help calculate spare capacity, the ECB suggests that a grass wicket should be able to take five (senior) matches per season (e.g. a square with 12 grass wickets can accommodate 60 matches).

The above is used to allocate capacity ratings as follows:

<b>Potential capacity</b>	Play is below the level the site could sustain
<b>At capacity</b>	Play matches the level the site can sustain
<b>Overused</b>	Play exceeds the level the site can sustain

The ECB also suggests that an NTP can accommodate 60 matches per season. As neither of the two provided in Castle Point are currently used by the community, both are considered to have spare capacity. This translates to actual spare capacity as they are generally required midweek by junior teams and can be used on a variety of days. For this reason, NTP capacity has been discounted from the table overleaf so that it does not distort the picture of the grass wickets that are in use.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 4.9: Cricket pitch capacity

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of squares	Pitch quality	No. of grass wickets	Capacity (sessions per season)	Actual play (sessions per season)	Capacity rating (sessions per season)
10	John H Burrows Ground	The Mainland	Yes	2	Standard	12	60	92	38
					Standard	14	70		
23	Smallgains Recreation Ground (Canvey Island Cricket Club)	Canvey Island	Yes	1	Standard	12	60	24	36
37	Woodside Park	The Mainland	Yes	2	Standard	15	75	88	32
					Standard	9	45		

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### ***Spare capacity***

The table below ascertains whether any identified 'potential capacity' on grass wickets can be deemed 'actual spare capacity'. There may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of regular training sessions, or tenure may be considered unsecure.

All five squares show potential spare capacity on grass wickets in Castle Point totalling 106 match equivalent sessions per season; however, this may not represent actual spare capacity, i.e. whether the squares are available at the peak time.

For senior cricket, the following table explores where spare capacity is identified on a Saturday as this can be deemed actual spare capacity. It is considered that one square can accommodate two teams at peak time based on playing home and away fixtures (as one team only needs access every other week).

*Table 4.10: Summary of actual spare capacity*

Site ID	Site name	Amount of spare capacity (match equivalent sessions)	Pitches available in the peak period (Saturday)	Comments
10	John H Burrows Ground	38	-	Both squares are in use by two teams on a Saturday meaning no further capacity exists.
23	Smallgains Recreation Ground (Canvey Island Cricket Club)	36	-	Square in use by two teams on a Saturday meaning no further capacity exists.
37	Woodside Park	32	0.5	One square used by one team during peak period meaning actual spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions.

Only one of the squares showing spare capacity is available for further use on a Saturday, equating to 0.5 squares and 32 match equivalent sessions in total. This is Woodside Park, which could accommodate one additional senior team.

*Table 4.11: Actual spare capacity for senior cricket by analysis area*

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (sessions per season)
Canvey Island	32
The Mainland	-
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>32</b>

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

For junior cricket, all squares are considered to be able to accommodate an increase in junior demand given that spare capacity exists throughout. This is because junior matches can be spread across numerous days, with Sundays, Tuesdays and Wednesday currently the most common.

Notwithstanding the above, an increase in the stock of NTPs would further assist in accommodating junior demand as well as alleviating use of grass wickets and aiding quality improvements.

### Overplay

As guidance, all pitches receiving more than five match equivalent sessions per wicket per season are adjudged to be overplayed. As a result, no squares in Castle Point are considered to be overplayed

### 4.5: Supply and demand analysis

Consideration must be given to the extent to which current provision can accommodate current and future demand for both senior and junior cricket.

The tables below look at actual spare capacity on grass wicket squares considered against overplay and future demand highlighted during consultation. Match equivalent sessions for future demand are calculated using the average number of matches played per season (12 matches for senior teams and eight matches for junior teams).

*Table 4.12: Capacity of grass wicket squares for senior cricket*

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (sessions per season)	Demand (match sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand <sup>17</sup>	Total
Canvey Island	-	-		-	
The Mainland	32	-	32	24	8
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>32</b>	-	<b>32</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>8</b>

The Mainland Analysis Area currently has overall spare capacity of 32 match sessions, with future spare capacity amounting to 24 match equivalent sessions. That being said, an increase in provision may be required to accommodate any future senior demand derived from either Canvey Island CC and Hadleigh & Thundersley CC as neither have capacity for growth at sites currently used. It is considered unlikely that they could access Woodside Park due to the cost implications of hiring a secondary venue and also because Benfleet CC will require utilisation of the actual spare capacity for its own growth aspirations.

*Table 4.13: Capacity of grass wicket squares for junior cricket*

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (sessions per season)	Demand (match sessions)			
		Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Canvey Island	36	-	36	-	36
The Mainland	70	-	70	-	70
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>106</b>	-	<b>106</b>	-	<b>106</b>

<sup>17</sup> Future demand based on aspirational growth from clubs which quantified by number of teams

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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Both analysis areas and all clubs have capacity to accommodate both current and future demand for junior cricket.

### **Cricket summary**

- ✦ There are five grass cricket squares in Castle Point located across three sites, with Woodside Park and Smallgains Recreation Ground (Canvey Island Cricket Club) each providing two squares.
- ✦ In addition to the grass cricket squares, there are five NTPs in Castle Point, all located at school sites.
- ✦ Security of tenure is considered unsecure for Canvey Island CC, which annually leases its square at Smallgains Recreation Ground from Island Boys and Girls Ltd.
- ✦ All squares are assessed as standard quality.
- ✦ John H Burrows Ground is serviced by good quality changing facilities; Woodside Park and Smallgains Recreation Ground (Canvey Island Cricket Club) are serviced by poor quality changing facilities.
- ✦ Both Woodside Park and John H Burrows Ground are serviced by outdoor practice nets; Smallgains Recreation Ground is not.
- ✦ There are three clubs competing in Castle Point generating 20 teams, which as a breakdown, equates to 11 senior men's and nine junior boys' teams.
- ✦ None of the three clubs within Castle Point currently have any women's or girl's teams.
- ✦ All three clubs express a desire to increase their team numbers; however, only Benfleet CC quantifies by how many (one senior men's and one senior women's team).
- ✦ No additional teams at any age group are expected to be generated through population increases.
- ✦ All five squares show potential spare capacity on grass wickets in Castle Point totalling 106 match equivalent sessions per season.
- ✦ Only Woodside Park shows actual spare capacity for further use at peak time for senior cricket, equating to 0.5 squares and 32 match equivalent sessions.
- ✦ For junior cricket, all squares are also considered to be able to accommodate an increase in junior demand.
- ✦ No squares in Castle Point are considered to be overplayed.
- ✦ Current and future demand is able to be accommodated in Castle Point; however, an increase in provision may be required to accommodate any future senior demand derived from either Canvey Island CC and Hadleigh & Thundersley CC.
- ✦ Both analysis areas and all clubs have capacity to accommodate both current and future demand for junior cricket.

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## PART 5: RUGBY UNION

### 5.1: Introduction

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) is the NGB for rugby union. It is split into six areas across the Country with a workforce team that covers development, coaching, governance and competitions. A full-time development officer is responsible for Castle Point (as part of the wider region) and works closely with all clubs to maximise their potential. This work involves developing club structures, working towards RFU accreditation (Clubmark) and the development of school-club structures.

The rugby union playing season operates from September to May.

#### **Consultation**

There are two clubs currently playing within Castle Point; Canvey Island RFC and Benfleet Vikings RFC. Face to face consultations were conducted with both clubs resulting in a 100% response rate.

### 5.2: Supply

Within Castle Point, there are eight senior pitches provide across seven sites. Of these pitches, six are available for community use across five sites. Both pitches unavailable for community use are located on education sites Castle View School and Seevic College Sports Ground.

There is an equal spread of community available rugby pitches across both the Canvey Island and the Mainland analysis areas, with three situated in each.

*Table 5.1: Supply of rugby union pitches available for community use*

Analysis area	No. of senior pitches	No. of junior pitches.	No. of mini pitches
Canvey Island	3	-	-
The Mainland	3	-	-
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

Traditionally, mini and junior rugby takes place on over marked senior pitches. This is the case across Castle Point and for both Canvey Island and Benfleet Vikings rugby clubs.

The audit only identifies dedicated, line marked pitches. For rugby union pitch dimension sizes please see the table below.

*Table 5.2: Pitch dimensions*

Age	Pitch type	Maximum pitch dimensions (metres) <sup>18</sup>
U7	Mini	20 x 12
U8	Mini	45 x 22
U9	Mini	60 x 30
U10	Mini	60 x 35

<sup>18</sup> Recommended run off area for all pitch types requires five-metres each way and a minimum in-goal length of six metres.

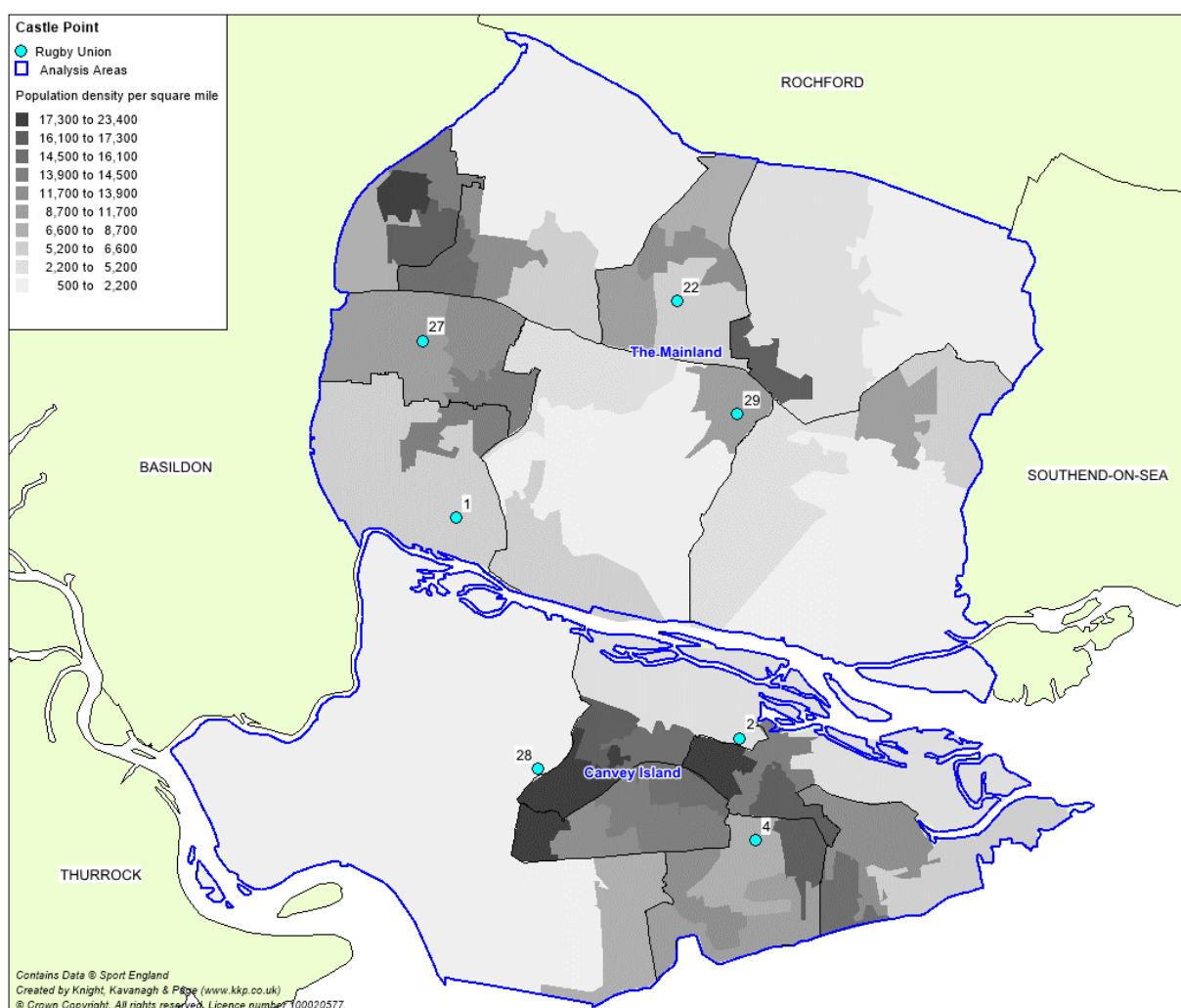


# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Age	Pitch type	Maximum pitch dimensions (metres) <sup>18</sup>
U11	Mini	60 x 43
U12	Mini	60 x 43
U13	Junior	90 x 60 (60 x 43 for girls)
U14 +	Senior	100 x 70 <sup>19</sup>

Figure 5.1 below shows the location of all rugby union pitches within Castle Point, regardless of community use. For a key to the map, see Table 5.6.

*Figure 5.1: Location of rugby union pitches in Castle Point*



<sup>19</sup> Minimum dimensions of 94 x 68 metres are accepted.

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## Security of tenure

Both clubs are considered to have security of tenure. Canvey Island RFC leases its ground from the Council on a 99-year lease with 52 years remaining, whilst Benfleet Vikings RFC rents Benfleet Playing Fields on an annual basis from the Council. As part of both the agreements, the clubs also get use of the changing facilities on site.

## Pitch quality

The methodology for assessing rugby pitch quality looks at two key elements; the maintenance programme and the level of drainage on each pitch. An overall quality based on both drainage and maintenance can then be generated.

The agreed rating for each pitch type also represents actions required to improve pitch quality. A breakdown of actions required based on the ratings can be seen below:

Table 5.3: Definition of maintenance categories

Category	Definition
M0	Action is significant improvements to maintenance programme
M1	Action is minor improvements to maintenance programme
M2	Action is no improvements to maintenance programme

Table 5.4: Definition of drainage categories

Category	Definition
D0	Action is pipe drainage system is needed on pitch
D1	Action is pipe drainage is needed on pitch
D2	Action is slit drainage is needed on pitch
D3	No action is needed on pitch drainage

Table 5.5: Quality ratings based on maintenance and drainage scores

		Maintenance		
		Poor (M0)	Adequate (M1)	Good (M2)
Drainage	Natural Inadequate (D0)	Poor	Poor	Standard
	Natural Adequate (D1)	Poor	Standard	Good
	Pipe Drained (D2)	Standard	Standard	Good
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	Standard	Good	Good

The figures are based upon a pipe drained system at 5m centres that has been installed in the last eight years and a slit drained system at 1m centres that has been installed in the last five years.

Of the community available pitches in Castle Point, one is assessed as good quality and five as poor quality. Generally, the poor quality pitches receive only basic maintenance consisting of grass cutting, line marking and reseeding.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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Canvey Island RFC highlights that one of the pitches at Canvey Island Rugby Football Club is of lower quality than the other. This is due to the majority of training taking place on this pitch as it is partially floodlit, resulting in the side nearest the road ending up with less grass coverage as well as divots. This is further exasperated by Island Boys FC training on the floodlit half of the pitch for one hour every Tuesday through the football season.

The pitch at Benfleet Playing Fields is rated as good quality. Whilst the maintenance regimes could be improved, the drainage is good due to pipe drainage being installed. This being said, Benfleet Vikings RFC does state that it has issues with unofficial training taking place on its pitch, mainly from football clubs.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 5.6: Site quality ratings

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Number of pitches	Pitch type	Non-technical assessment score	Quality rating	Floodlit?
1	Benfleet Playing Fields	The Mainland	Yes	1	Senior	M1 / D3	Good	No
2	Canvey Island Rugby Football Club	Canvey Island	Yes	2	Senior	M0 / D1	Poor	Partially
					Senior	M0 / D1	Poor	No
4	Castle View School	Canvey Island	No	1	Senior	M0 / D1	Poor	No
22	Seevic College Sports Ground	The Mainland	No	1	Senior	M0 / D2	Poor	No
27	The Appleton School	The Mainland	Yes-unused	1	Senior	M0 / D1	Poor	No
28	The Cornelius Vermuyden School	Canvey Island	Yes-unused	1	Senior	M0 / D0	Poor	No
29	The King John School	The Mainland	Yes-unused	1	Senior	M0 / D1	Poor	No

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## ***Ancillary facilities***

Both clubs have access to ancillary facilities at their home ground. Canvey Island RFC owns its clubhouse, which is assessed as standard quality. Whilst it is functional with a number of changing rooms including one dedicated referees room, male and female toilets, a disabled toilet and communal showers, it is in need of modernisation. One of the main issues reported by the Club is that half of the showers are often cold due to issues with the boiler. Additionally, the car park is not big enough to cope with mini and junior matches and training on Sunday morning. The high level of cars is also resulting in the quality of the car park deteriorating, with potholes appearing.

Benfleet Vikings RFC currently rents the changing facilities on an annual basis; however, it expresses aspirations to have a long-term lease in order to enable refurbishment and extension, which it reports is desperately required. It has been in contact with the Council about entering a 50-year lease agreement and states that it has some capital in place. Currently, the Club has to schedule all of its mini and junior fixtures to be played away due to the limited size of the changing rooms and also because of a lack of car parking.

## **5.3: Demand**

Demand for rugby pitches in Castle Point tends to fall within the categories of organised competitive play and organised training.

Canvey Island RFC reports significant growth in the last year, particularly in relation to training. The Club went from having no youth section in 2016 to now having 120 mini and junior players attending training on a Sunday morning. This is attributed to the Club running a pay and play initiative for players aged three to 12 years, with it now starting to offer the same for players at 13 to 14 years of age due to the success of the programme. On the back of this, it is also working towards obtaining accreditation from the RFU.

## ***Competitive play***

Canvey Island RFC and Benfleet Vikings RFC are of a similar size, with ten and nine teams respectively.

*Table 5.7: Summary of demand*

Club	Analysis area	No. of rugby union teams				
		Men's	Women's	Boys'	Girls'	Mini
Canvey Island RFC	Canvey Island	2	-	-	2	6
Benfleet Vikings RFC	The Mainland	1	-	2	-	6

## ***Training demand***

Throughout the Country, many rugby teams train at their home ground on match pitches. As a result, usage is concentrated which reduces the capacity for match play on these pitches and means they are more likely to be overplayed. A key factor in determining the extent of training on match pitches is the presence of floodlighting.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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Canvey Island RFC trains on its partially floodlit pitch on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings for two hours. This equates to three match equivalent sessions of play (based on training taking place every week). The majority of training is kept to one side of the pitch due to only one side being floodlit. Not only does this significantly impact on the quality of this pitch, which is mainly used for second team games, it also creates health and safety issues. It describes how there are concerns with players ending up on darker areas of the pitch.

Juniors at the Club train on a Sunday morning if no fixtures are scheduled. This also takes place on the second team pitch.

Benfleet Vikings RFC reports that it trains on its match pitch once a week using portable floodlights. This equates to 1.5 match equivalent sessions. All junior and mini training takes place on the grass training area next to the pitch.

An alternative to training on floodlit grass pitches is via a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch, with none currently provided within Castle Point. For an AGP to be suitable for contact rugby, it must have a 3G surface and must be approved by World Rugby. A World Rugby compliant pitch also enables the transfer of match demand from grass pitches onto 3G pitches, which alleviates overplay of grass pitches and as a result protects quality. The RFU investment strategy into AGPs considers sites where grass rugby pitches are over capacity and where an AGP would support the growth of the game at the host site and for the local rugby partnership, including local clubs and education sites.

### ***Exported and imported demand***

Exported demand refers to existing demand which is transferred outside of the study area; whilst imported demand refers to any demand from neighbouring local authorities that accesses facilities within the study area due to a lack of available facilities in other local authorities where such team or club is based. There is no such demand identified relating to Castle Point.

### ***Unmet and latent demand***

Unmet demand is existing demand at clubs which is not able to access sufficient supply of pitches for match play or training. It is usually expressed, for example, where a team is already training but is unable to access a match pitch or where a league or club operates a waiting list. Latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision.

Although neither club reports any current latent demand, Canvey Island RFC raises concerns around future latent demand, as it feels its home ground is nearing capacity.

### ***Future demand***

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and using population forecasts.

#### ***Participation increases***

Canvey Island RFC quantifies that it has aspirations to increase in size by one women's senior team, two junior teams and four mini teams.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Although Benfleet Vikings RFC does have aspirations to grow, until it can develop its clubhouse and bring junior and mini fixtures to the site it is not looking to expand significantly and cannot quantify such demand.

### *Population increases*

Team generation rates are used below as the basis for calculating the number of teams likely to be generated in the future based on population growth (2037).

*Table 5.8: Team generation rates (2037)*

Age group	Current population within age group	Current no. of teams	Team Generation Rate	Future population within age group (2037)	Predicted future number of teams	Additional teams that may be generated from the increased population
Senior Mens (19-45)	12,630	3	1:4210	12,650	3.0	0
Senior Womens (19-45)	12,767	0	1:0	12,727	0.0	0
Junior Boys (13-18)	3,091	2	1:1546	3,215	2.1	0
Junior Girls (13-18)	2,990	0	1:0	3,231	0.0	0
Mini rugby mixed (7-12)	5,451	12	1:454	6,181	13.6	1

*NB: Please note that team generation rates use ONS population projections as SHMA data does not provide the required age breakdowns. As such, the projections may provide an underestimate of future demand as housing growth is not taken into account. Housing growth scenarios will follow in the subsequent strategy document.*

As can be seen in the table above, there is expected population growth equating to the creation of one mini team (0.25 match equivalent sessions of additional play on a senior pitch).

It is important to note that TGRs are based exclusively on population figures and do not account for specific targeted development work within certain areas or focused towards certain groups. For example, the RFU is currently focused on developing junior participation, based on a model of coaching sessions delivered in schools and local communities. Intentions are to form junior teams from these training groups which are linked to local schools and will use pitches at school sites, in some cases also linking to existing clubs to provide a performance pathway.

This is not the sole focus of the RFU, which is also actively exploring opportunities to assist with the transition between late junior years and senior rugby. This area has a strategic focus and is being facilitated by encouraging casual play and midweek senior matches. The RFU recognises the traditional reduction in participation numbers at this time and it is hoped that by addressing the decrease and offering alternative match times then clubs may be able to retain a larger number of players.

### **Education**

Rugby union is traditionally a popular sport within independent schools; however, the RFU is also active in developing rugby union in local state schools through the All Schools programme launched in September 2012. This aims to increase the number of secondary state schools playing rugby union, with such schools linking to a local team of RFU rugby development officers (RDOs) which deliver coaching sessions and offer support to establish rugby union as part of the curricular and extracurricular programme.



# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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Canvey Island RFC are heavily involved with two local schools; the Cornelius Vermuyden School and Castle View School, which has led to an increased number of junior players attending training sessions at the Club.

In addition, Canvey Island RFC ran a school tournament last year for year seven students from four schools across the Borough. The Club reports this generated a lot of interest and plans to make this an annual event. It has already had enquiries for the 2018 tournament from schools as far as Tilbury in the neighbouring local authority of Thurrock.

### ***The peak period***

In order to fully establish actual spare capacity, the peak period needs to be established for all types of rugby. For senior teams, it is considered to be Saturday PM as all senior men's teams play at this time. Peak time for mini and junior rugby is Sunday AM.

### **5.4: Capacity analysis**

The capacity for pitches to regularly accommodate competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of a pitch affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of playing rugby. In extreme circumstances, it can result in the inability of a pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off-peak times.

To enable an accurate supply and demand assessment of rugby pitches, the following assumptions are applied to site by site analysis:

- ◀ All sites that are used for competitive rugby matches (regardless of whether this is secured community use) are included on the supply side.
- ◀ Use of school pitches by schools reduces potential capacity by one match equivalent session.
- ◀ All competitive play is on senior sized pitches (except for where mini pitches are provided).
- ◀ From U13 upwards, teams play 15 v15 and use a full pitch.
- ◀ Mini teams (U6-U12) play on half of a senior pitch i.e. two teams per senior pitch or a dedicated mini pitch.
- ◀ For senior and youth teams the current level of play per week is set at 0.5 for each match played based on all teams operating on a traditional home and away basis (assumes half of matches will be played away).
- ◀ For mini teams playing on a senior pitch, play per week is set at 0.25 for each match played based on all teams operating on a traditional home and away basis and playing across half of one senior pitch.
- ◀ Senior men's rugby generally takes place on Saturday afternoons.
- ◀ Senior women's rugby generally takes place on Sunday afternoons.
- ◀ Junior rugby generally takes place on Sunday mornings.
- ◀ Mini rugby generally takes place on Sunday mornings.
- ◀ Training that takes place on club pitches is reflected by the addition of match equivalent sessions to current usage levels.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

As a guide, the RFU has set a standard number of matches that each pitch should be able to accommodate:

*Table 5.9: Pitch capacity (matches per week) based on quality assessments*

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

Capacity is based upon a basic assessment of the drainage system and maintenance programme ascertained through a combination of the quality assessment and consultation. This guide, however, is only a very general measure of potential pitch capacity. It does not account for specific circumstances at time of use and it assumes average rainfall and an appropriate end of season rest and renovation programme.

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 5.10: Capacity table for rugby pitches in Castle Point

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	Number of pitches	Pitch type	Quality rating	Non-tech score	Floodlit?	Pitch Capacity (sessions per week)	Match equivalent sessions (per week) <sup>20</sup>	Capacity rating	Actual spare capacity	Comments
1	Benfleet Playing Fields	The Mainland	Yes	1	Senior	M1 / D3	Good	No	3	2	1	0.5	Used by Benfleet Vikings RFC for one match a week and one training session a week.
2	Canvey Island Rugby Football Club	Canvey Island	Yes	2	Senior	M0 / D1	Poor	No	1.5	0.5	1	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality of pitch.
					Senior	M0 / D1	Poor	No	1.5	5	3.5	-	Pitch overplayed by 3.5 match equivalent sessions. Used by second team at Canvey Island RFC and mini and junior fixtures. Also used for senior training midweek.
4	Castle View School	Canvey Island	No	1	Senior	M0 / D1	Poor	No	1.5	-	-	-	Not available for community use.
22	Seevic College Sports Ground	The Mainland	No	1	Senior	M0 / D2	Poor	No	1.75	-	-	-	Not available for community use.
27	The Appleton School	The Mainland	Yes-unused	1	Senior	M0 / D1	Poor	No	1.5	-	-	-	No current demand despite being available for community use; usage by the School is likely to limit available spare capacity.
28	The Cornelius Vermuyden School	Canvey Island	Yes-unused	1	Senior	M0 / D0	Poor	No	0.5	-	-	-	No current demand despite being available for community use; usage by the School is likely to limit available spare capacity.
29	The King John School	The Mainland	Yes - unused	1	Senior	M0 / D1	Poor	No	1.5	-	-	-	No current demand despite being available for community use; usage by the School is likely to limit available spare capacity.

<sup>20</sup> Including quantified training demand.

### ***Spare capacity***

Not all 'potential spare capacity' can be deemed 'actual capacity'. There may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to regularly operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of regular friendly matches and activities that take place but are difficult to quantify on a weekly basis.

As seen in the table above, only Benfleet Playing Fields currently has actual spare capacity. This spare capacity equates to 0.5 match equivalent sessions. With only one adult team currently using this site, there is capacity for one more senior team to use this pitch.

The first team pitch at Canvey Island Rugby Club does have potential spare capacity; however, this does not transfer into actual spare capacity due to poor pitch quality. The identified spare capacity should be retained in order to allow for improvements and sustainability.

Whilst currently unused but available pitches at school sites are likely to contain some spare capacity, this should not be considered as actual spare capacity due to security of tenure and quality issues. The pitches should, however, be retained to accommodate continued curricular and extra-curricular activity.

### ***Overplay***

One pitch in Castle Point is currently overplayed. This is at Canvey Island Rugby Club in the Canvey Island Analysis Area. The pitch is identified as being overplayed by 3.5 match equivalent sessions, which is predominately attributed to the pitch accommodating all of the clubs training demand as well as one senior and all mini and junior teams home fixtures. In addition, this pitch is also used by a football club for training for one hour a week.

## **5.5: Supply and demand analysis**

Having considered supply and demand, there is a current shortfall of 3.5 match equivalent session in the Canvey Island Analysis Area. Should Canvey Island RFC realise its aspiration of growth alongside predicted team increases through population growth, this shortfall will potentially increase to 6.25 match equivalent sessions.

There is currently spare capacity in the Mainland Analysis Area to accommodate one additional senior team; however, should all junior and mini play be brought onto Benfleet Playing Fields as is desired by Benfleet Vikings RFC, a shortfall of 1.25 match equivalent sessions will be created. Should the Club also look to grow, more significant shortfalls would be created.

Given the above, scenarios to alleviate current and future overplay will be explored in the subsequent strategy document.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### Rugby union summary

- ◀ Within Castle Point, there are eight senior pitches provided across seven sites, with six pitches are available for community use across five sites.
- ◀ Of the community available pitches in Castle Point, one is assessed as good quality and five as poor quality.
- ◀ Canvey Island RFC leases its ground from the Council on a 99-year lease with 52 years remaining, whilst Benfleet Vikings RFC rents Benfleet Playing Fields on an annual basis from the Council.
- ◀ Benfleet Vikings RFC currently rents the changing facilities on an annual basis from the Council; however, it expresses aspirations to have a long-term lease on the changing facilities.
- ◀ The Club currently fields all of its mini and junior home fixtures away due to changing facilities and car parking not being able to accommodate demand.
- ◀ The ancillary facilities at Canvey Island Rugby Club are adequate and functional but in need of modernisation.
- ◀ Canvey Island RFC and Benfleet Vikings RFC are of a similar size with ten and nine teams respectively.
- ◀ Anticipated population growth equates to the creation of one mini team.
- ◀ Canvey Island RFC has aspirations to increase in size by one women's senior team, two junior teams and four mini teams.
- ◀ Only one pitch, located at Benfleet Playing Fields, currently has actual spare capacity equating to 0.5 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ One pitch at Canvey Island Rugby Club is overplayed by 3.5 match equivalent sessions.
- ◀ Having considered supply and demand, there is a current shortfall of 3.5 match equivalent session in the Canvey Island Analysis Area, which could increase to 6.25 match equivalent sessions if future growth aspirations are realised.
- ◀ Despite current spare capacity, a shortfall of 1.25 match equivalent sessions will be created in the Mainland Analysis Area if all junior and mini demand is transferred to Benfleet Playing Fields as is desired by Benfleet Vikings RFC.

## PART 6: RUGBY LEAGUE

The Rugby Football League (RFL) is the governing body for rugby league in Britain and Ireland. It administers the England national rugby league team, the Challenge Cup, Super League and the Championships which form the professional and semi-professional structure of the game structure in the UK.

The RFL also administers the amateur and junior game across the country in association with the British Amateur Rugby League Association (BARLA).

### **Consultation**

In the absence of rugby league demand in Castle Point, the RFL was consulted to inform this section of the report.

### **6.2: Supply**

There are currently no dedicated rugby league pitches within Castle Point.

### **6.3: Demand**

There are no rugby league teams in Castle Point and also no teams within the wider South Essex area. Previously, clubs existed in both Basildon and Southend-on-Sea, however, these recently folded.

Consultation with the RFL suggests that it would be keen to support the re-establishment of demand within South Essex, although it is considered likely that this would be in Basildon or Southend-on-Sea and therefore away from Castle Point.

### **6.4: Supply and demand analysis**

Given that no perceived rugby league demand exists currently or in the future, no action is required in relation to the sport.

#### **Rugby league summary**

- ◀ There are currently no dedicated rugby league pitches within Castle Point.
- ◀ There are no rugby league teams in Castle Point.
- ◀ Previously, clubs existed in both Basildon and Southend-on-Sea, however, these recently folded.
- ◀ The RFL suggests that it would be keen to support the re-establishment of demand within South Essex, although it is considered likely that this would be away from Castle Point.
- ◀ Given that no perceived rugby league demand exists currently or in the future, no action is required in relation to the sport.

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### PART 7: HOCKEY

#### 7.1: Introduction

Hockey in England is governed by England Hockey (EH) and is administered locally by the Essex Hockey Association.

Competitive league hockey matches and training can only be played on sand filled, sand dressed or water based artificial grass pitches (AGPs). Although competitive, adult and junior club training cannot take place on third generation turf pitches (3G), 40mm pitches may be suitable at introductory level, such as school curriculum low level hockey. EH's Artificial Grass Playing Surface Policy details suitability of surface type for varying levels of hockey, as shown below.

*Table 7.1: England Hockey guidelines on artificial surface types suitable for hockey*

Category	Surface	Playing Level	Playing Level
England Hockey Category 1	Water surface approved within the FIH Global/National Parameters	<b>Essential</b> International Hockey - Training and matches	<b>Desirable</b> Domestic National Premier competition Higher levels of EH Player Pathway Performance Centres and upwards England
England Hockey Category 2	Sand dressed surfaces within the FIH National Parameter	<b>Essential</b> Domestic National Premier competition Higher levels of player pathway: Academy Centres and Upwards	<b>Desirable</b> All adult and junior League Hockey Intermediate or advanced School Hockey
England Hockey Category 3	Sand based surfaces within the FIH National Parameter	<b>Essential</b> All adult and junior club training and league Hockey EH competitions for clubs and schools Intermediate or advanced schools hockey	EH competitions for clubs and schools (excluding domestic national league)
England Hockey Category 4	All 3G surfaces	<b>Essential</b> None	<b>Desirable</b> Lower level hockey (Introductory level) when no category 1-3 surface is available.

For senior teams, a full-size pitch for competitive matches must measure at least 91.4 x 55 metres excluding surrounding run off areas, which must be a minimum of two metres at the sides and three metres at the ends. EH's preference is for four-metre side and five-metre end run offs, with a preferred overall area of 101.4 x 63 metres, though a minimum overall area of 97.4 x 59 metres is accepted.



# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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It is considered that a hockey pitch can accommodate a maximum of four matches on one day (peak time) provided the pitch has floodlighting. Training is generally midweek and requires access to a pitch and floodlights.

### ***Consultation***

Consultation was carried out with England Hockey to inform this section of the report with there being no hockey clubs in Castle Point.

### **7.2: Supply**

There are no hockey suitable AGPs in Castle Point. However, the smaller sized 3G pitch at the King John School (measuring 83 x 48 metres) has a short pile carpet and contains hockey markings. Although not suitable for hockey match play or club training, it is considered suitable for lower level hockey in the absence of a more appropriate surface.

### **7.3: Demand**

Given that there are no hockey clubs or full size hockey suitable AGPs within Castle Point, it is likely that some demand exports to clubs in neighbouring local authorities. These include Basildon HC in Basildon, Rochford, Southend and Southend & Benfleet hockey clubs in Rochford and Old Southendians HC in Southend-on-Sea.

### ***Participation trends***

Nationally, since 2012, hockey has seen a 65% increase of juniors taking up hockey within the club environment. This increase is expected to continue across all age groups in the future, especially given the success of Great Britain's women's team in the 2016 Rio Olympics.

### ***Latent demand***

It is likely that there is some existing latent demand as a result of no hockey clubs being situated within Castle Point.

Sport England's Market Segmentation Tool<sup>21</sup> enables an analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in hockey within Castle Point but are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies latent demand of 139 people, the majority of which are within the segments 'Chloe - Female, fitness class friends'.

### ***Future demand***

Growing participation is a key aim within EH's strategic plan and key drivers include working with clubs, universities and schools, working with regional and local leagues, developing opportunities for over 40s and delivering a quality programme of competition. Overall, EH has an aim to double participation over the next ten years.

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<sup>21</sup> See Appendix 2

### **7.4: Supply and demand analysis**

Consultation with EH suggests that it is unlikely for a dedicated club to be created in Castle Point in the near future, meaning immediate priority should be given to clubs and facilities in neighbouring authorities. As mentioned previously, any club-based demand for hockey in Castle Point is expected to be exported and therefore such demand will be satisfied if there is a sufficient supply of provision provided in Basildon, Rochford and Southend-on-Sea.

Notwithstanding the above, the lack of provision is considered detrimental to school-based hockey given that schools either do not currently play hockey or play on unsuitable surfaces such as grass and/or indoors. This results in juniors being unable to get started in the sport away from a club environment.

#### ***Supply and demand in neighbouring authorities***

Given that no hockey currently takes place within Castle Point, this section summarises the facility issues for hockey clubs in neighbouring local authorities (Basildon, Rochford and Southend-on-Sea) so that the Council is aware of the issues that clubs catering for Castle Point residents have.

##### *Basildon*

As the AGP at Basildon Sporting Village is considered sufficient to meet both match play and training demand from Basildon HC, priority should be placed on protecting the pitch for continued hockey use. To that end, no 3G conversion should be allowed to take place, and consideration should be given to resurfacing the pitch in the near future given its age.

##### *Rochford*

A shortfall of hockey suitable AGPs for match play does not necessarily mean that an increase in provision is required within the District. Given that Southend HC is imported into Rochford and expresses a demand to return to Southend-on-Sea, finding a resolution for this would free up capacity for the remaining two clubs.

Similarly, a shortfall of AGPs for training needs can be alleviated through the creation of 3G pitches and the transfer of football demand to the new provision. Nevertheless, given the shortfalls identified, it is imperative that both the AGPs at King Edmund Business and Enterprise School and Sweyne Park School are protected for continued hockey use.

##### *Southend-on-Sea*

Given the shortfall to meet senior match play demand, an additional full size pitch is required, or the AGP at St Thomas More High School needs resurfacing. The latter is seen as the more financially viable option and would satisfy demand from Southend HC; however, the School has no plans for refurbishment to occur. If it is not possible, or if the pitch is permanently lost (or converted), EH reports that the creation of a second AGP at Warners Bridge Park is seen as ideal in order to create a hockey hub site.

Given the above, the existing AGP at Warners Bridge Park requires protection for continued hockey use.

### **Hockey summary**

- ◀ There are no hockey suitable AGPs in Castle Point.
- ◀ There are no hockey clubs based in Castle Point, with demand likely to be exported to neighbouring authorities.
- ◀ Consultation with EH suggests that it is unlikely for a dedicated club to be created in Castle Point in the near future, meaning immediate priority should be given to clubs and facilities in neighbouring authorities.
- ◀ Notwithstanding the above, the lack of provision is considered detrimental to school-based hockey.
- ◀ In neighbouring local authorities, there is a need for an additional sand-based AGP in Southend-on-Sea to satisfy club demand, whilst current provision is sufficient in Basildon and will be sufficient in Rochford if supply increases in Southend-on-Sea.

### **PART 8: GOLF**

#### **8.1: Introduction**

Golf is the fifth largest participation sport in England, with around 650,000 members belonging to one of 1900 affiliated clubs and a further two million people playing independently outside of club membership. Nationally, it is governed by England Golf. The role of the NGB includes providing competitions for all ages and abilities, identifying and developing the most talented golfers, maintaining a uniform system of handicapping, administering and applying the rules and introducing new golfers via its initiative 'get into golf'.

As of March 2017, England Golf solely oversees the Whole Sport Plan and receive golf's National Lottery grant under Sport England's strategy. England Golf's Whole Sport Plan, identifies how England will achieve its vision of becoming 'the leading golf nation in the world by 2020' from grass roots through to elite level.

Since 2004, participation in golf and club membership has been in decline, with only recent signs showing that the reduction may be levelling off.

#### ***Consultation***

No golf clubs in Castle Point responded to consultation requests. Instead, all information was gathered via England Golf and through site assessments as well as online research.

#### **8.2: Supply**

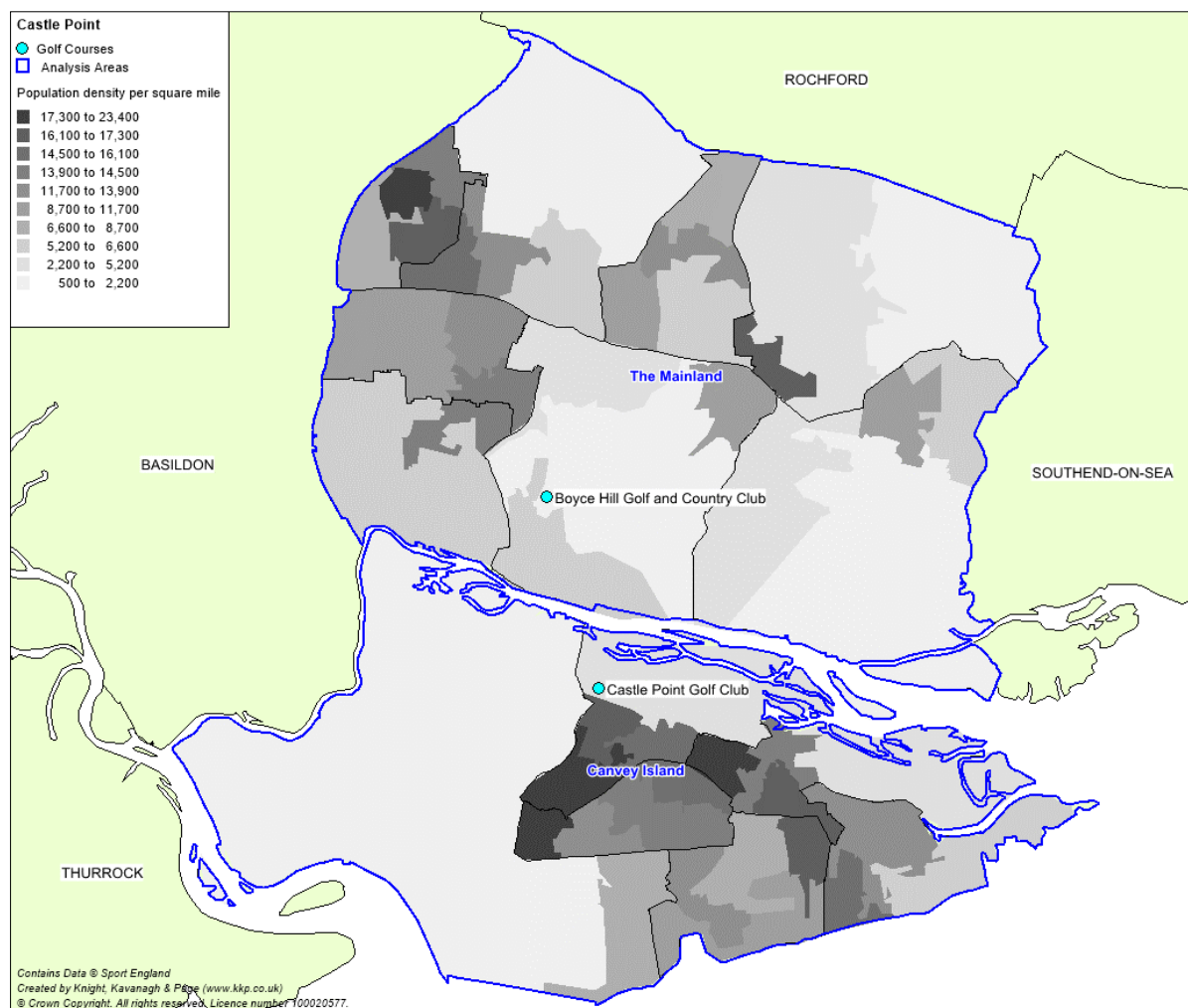
There are two golf courses situated within Castle Point, as follows:

- ◆ Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club
- ◆ Castle Point Golf Club

Both clubs are affiliated to England Golf.

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 8.1: Location of golf courses in Castle Point



# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## **Management**

Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club is a private members club whereas Castle Point Golf Club is managed by golf group Glendale.

## **Course facilities**

Both clubs in Castle Point provide a standard 18-hole course. For Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club, this is via a challenging, hilly course, whereas the course at Castle Point Golf Club is more straight forward and therefore more tailored towards beginners.

In addition to the course, both also provide practice facilities. There is a small practice area at Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club, whilst there is a 10-bay driving range at Castle Point Golf Club that is floodlit.

*Table 8.1: Summary of golf courses in Castle Point*

Course name	Holes	Par	Yardage <sup>22</sup>		
Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club	18	71	6003	5849	5409
Castle Point Golf Club	18	71	6096	5888	5671

## **Ancillary facilities**

Golf clubs need multiple revenue sources to operate effectively and the provision of a clubhouse can often be key for golf clubs as it can provide an income stream, not only from members but also through hiring the venue out for occasions (e.g. wedding receptions).

Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club offers a modernised clubhouse that features changing rooms, a bar, a kitchen, a restaurant and a function room that are available to visitors and external hirers.

Similarly, Castle Point Golf Club also provides a clubhouse with the above facilities, although the venue is more dated.

## **Membership and costs**

Nationally, many clubs have begun to alter their pricing structure to allow for discounted rates following a decline in golf participation, with England Golf determining that clubs are more likely to experience growth with flexible membership packages. For instance, some now offer a five day membership (whereby members can access the course on specific days but not during a weekend), whilst others provide discounts that are no longer limited to junior players (e.g. discounts for those aged 18-21). Previously, many clubs throughout the country had a waiting list for membership but that is rarely the case in the present day.

In Castle Point, both Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club and Castle Point Golf Club offer memberships and pay and play green fees, although the priority differs. Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club is geared more towards attracting new members, with pay and play a secondary offer, whereas Castle Point Golf Club is primarily a pay and play facility with only a small membership branch attached.

<sup>22</sup> White denotes Championship tees, yellow denotes men's tees and red denotes ladies' tees.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

The table below provides a summary of the associated costs for each club, where known.

*Table 8.2: Summary of costs in Castle Point*

Course name	Cost summary
Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club	A full seven day membership is £1,318 a year, although this is reduced year on year for those under 26, ranging from £1,177 (for 26 year olds) to £380 (for 18 year olds). A junior membership costs £250 for those between 12 and 18 and £137 for those younger than 12. A joining fee is also applicable, starting at £750 for those over 35 and lowering to £75 for those under 12. No five day memberships are available.  Pay and play is available for £45 during the summer and £40 during the winter, although this is limited at weekends when tournaments are being played.
Castle Point Golf Club	A seven day membership is £529 a year, whilst a five day membership is £462 a year, with both options also allowing access to all other Glendale facilities. A new monthly membership option is also available which can be cancelled at any time, costing £63 a month for seven days and £54 a month for five days.  Pay and play for adults is £17 Monday-Friday and £22 Saturday to Sunday. For juniors, it is £10 regardless of the day.

### 8.3: Demand

England Golf's Club Membership Questionnaire (2016) highlights that the average number of members per golf club nationally is 460. As a breakdown, this consists of 357 adult males, 70 adult females, 28 junior boys and five junior girls.

In Castle Point, membership across the clubs varies, with Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club having a substantial membership base when compared to the national average and Castle Point Golf Club having significantly less. In fact, Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club has the second highest membership out of all the clubs in the South Essex local authorities included within this study (behind Stock Brook Manor Golf Club in Basildon), whereas Castle Point Golf Club has the smallest.

Notwithstanding the above, it must be noted that Castle Point Golf Club is a facility managed by Glendale Golf. The membership figures in the table below and referenced in the text above therefore only relate to the affiliated members of the Club and not the total number of users playing at the course via its pay and play offerings.

*Table 8.3: Summary of demand*

Course name	Current membership <sup>23</sup>
Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club	650
Castle Point Golf Club	47

<sup>23</sup> Based on the most recent England Golf affiliation figures (2016).



## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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Despite the varying levels of membership, the clubs have a different financial model in terms of income generation from membership versus green fees, meaning further exploration is required before determining that clubs with a low membership base are unsustainable. Castle Point Golf Club provides a good example of this as it is focused towards pay and play access rather than building a membership base.

### ***Participation trends***

Nationally, the average number of members per golf club has remained relatively static at 460 in 2016 compared to 466 in 2014. A total of 30% of clubs saw an increase in membership over this time period, with these members generally playing more frequently. Not as many golfers are playing weekly, reflecting a combination of lifestyle pressures, but more golfers are playing at least once a month.

In Castle Point, both Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club and Castle Point Golf Club have seen a year on year reduction in membership since 2014 having previously catered for 693 and 147 members, respectively. This means Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club has seen a reduction of 43 members, compared to a reduction of 100 members in relation to Castle Point Golf Club.

### ***Future demand***

England Golf published the 'Raising Our Game' strategy in 2014, which defines its strategic direction up to 2017. The document highlights the need for a strategy to enhance market understanding of current golf facilities, which is identified as one of the key considerations to increasing participation. To enable this, market segmentation has been created that is specific to golf, identifying that 24% of adults in England are potential players. This is made up of 9% current players, 8% lapsed players and 7% latent players and amounts to around 9.6 million people in total.

The research also provides nine defined profiles and clearly identified behaviours, motivations and barriers within each one. The nine segments are:

- ◀ Relaxed members
- ◀ Older traditionalists
- ◀ Younger traditionalists
- ◀ Younger fanatics
- ◀ Late enthusiasts
- ◀ Occasionals/time-pressed
- ◀ Social couples
- ◀ Casual fun

To align with this, a facility mapping tool has been created to provide a statistical data engine that identifies golfing demand within a 20-minute drive time of each facility within England using the segments above. The tool highlights the dominant profiles within each catchment area and also within access to each course. This can then be used to predict likely demand for each type of facility and can support informed marketing, development and investment decisions whilst allowing providers to adapt their offer to cater for a range of different needs.

The demand for golf within Castle Point by segment type is seen in the table below. The figures represent the number of people within each profile that are within a 20-minute drive time of each course. It is then averaged across the courses to ensure no double counting.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 8.4: Summary of demand in Castle Point by segment

Segment no.	Segment name	Average number of people per affiliated facility (20-minute drive time)
1	Relaxed members	8,893
2	Older traditionalists	7,551
3	Younger Traditionalists	8,527
4	Younger fanatics	7,785
5	Younger actives	8,453
6	Late enthusiasts	7,863
7	Occasional time pressed	8,450
8	Social couples	8,296
9	Casual fun	7,737

In total, an average of 73,555 people are identified as current or potential users of golf facilities within Castle Point. This demand is relatively evenly spread across the profiles, with “relaxed members” generating the most demand and “older traditionalists” generating the least.

Each profile is applied on a course by course basis in the following table.

Table 8.5: Summary of demand per course by profile type

Course name	Segment no.								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club	8,046	6,850	7,686	7,067	7,632	7,113	7,634	7,522	7,048
Castle Point Golf Club	9,741	8,251	9,367	8,504	9,237	8,558	9,267	9,069	8,427

The table above summarises that demand is likely to be highest for Castle Point Golf Club, which has 62,146 potential users. Nevertheless, it must be said that the facilities offered by the Club may not appeal to certain independent segments (e.g. “younger traditionalists”) given that it is primarily a pay and play facility more geared towards beginners and independent-based segments.

Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club has 66,598 potential users, although the provision is not suited to certain segments (e.g. “casual fun”). In reality, it is likely that some segments in closer proximity to Castle Point Golf Club will travel further to access Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club, or an alternative membership course in a neighbouring local authority, and vice versa, some segments in closer proximity to Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club will travel further to access Castle Point Golf Club.

Given that it is difficult for one facility to cater for the needs of all potential members, there is clear scope for the two clubs to work more collaboratively in terms of creating pathways where appropriate. This way, all golfing profiles can be collectively catered for. In order to increase membership and to target the golfing profiles, England Golf sets out the following key themes:

- ✦ Creating a welcoming environment
- ✦ Catering for a range of different needs
- ✦ Communicating regularly with members and visitors
- ✦ Developing facilities to broaden income streams
- ✦ Becoming part of the local community

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### **Footgolf**

Footgolf is a relatively new activity that is played on a golf course using a football. The object of the game is to get the ball into the hole using only your feet in the fewest number of shots possible. It is governed by the UK Footgolf Association.

Nationally, there are currently 160 recognised golf courses that incorporate Footgolf, with many clubs recognising it as a chance to provide an income stream that can provide sustainability at a time when participation in the traditional game has decreased. The sport is generally played on a smaller than average courses, with Par 3 courses being ideal.

Footgolf is offered at Castle Point Golf Club.

### **8.4: Supply and demand analysis**

There is significant demand for golf within Castle Point and the demand cuts across all nine golfing profiles as set out by England Golf. This is met by the ideal range of facilities that consists of a difficult course geared towards membership and an easier course tailored for beginners, as well as a floodlit driving range for those who are time-pressed.

Given the above, it is considered that the current supply of facilities can meet current and future demand, although it is imperative that both courses are protected for long-term golfing activity. Facilities should therefore be supported to ensure that sites are able to retain current members and users as well as, whereas appropriate, assisting them in capitalising on any untapped demand plus future demand generated from housing growth and population increases.

Further analysis at club or facility level, along with some additional England Golf tools, can be used to better understand the existing members and visitors of each venue. This may help to establish a clearer picture of the overall facility landscape and how well it caters for the local demographic.

#### **Golf summary**

- ◀ There are two golf courses within Castle Point (Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club and Castle Point Golf Club).
- ◀ Both golf clubs provide a standard 18-hole course each.
- ◀ Both clubs provide clubhouses that feature changing rooms as well as bars, kitchens and function rooms that are available to external hirers.
- ◀ Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club is primarily a membership club; Castle Point Golf Club is primarily a pay and play facility.
- ◀ Boyce Hill Golf and Country Club has a substantial membership base when compared to the national average, whilst Castle Point Golf Club has significantly less.
- ◀ Both have seen a year on year reduction in membership since 2014.
- ◀ In total, an average of 73,555 people are identified as current or potential users of golf facilities within Castle Point.
- ◀ Given that it is difficult for one facility to cater for the needs of all potential members, there is clear scope for some clubs to work more collaboratively in terms of creating pathways.
- ◀ It is considered that the current supply of facilities in Castle Point can meet current and future demand, although it is imperative that both courses are protected for long-term golfing activity.
- ◀ Facilities should be supported to ensure that sites are able to retain current members and users as well as, whereas appropriate, assisting them in capitalising on any untapped demand plus future demand generated from housing growth and population increases.

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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## PART 9: BOWLS

### 9.1: Introduction

All bowling greens in Castle Point are flat green. Bowls England is the NGB for flat green bowls with overall responsibility for ensuring effective governance. Regionally, it is administered by the Essex County Bowling Association.

The flat green bowling season runs from May to September.

#### **Consultation**

There are three bowling clubs identified in Castle Point, all of which completed an online survey resulting in a 100% response rate.

### 9.2: Supply

There are three bowling greens in Castle Point located across the same number of sites, all of which are considered to be available for community use.

*Table 9.1: Summary of the number of greens by analysis area*

Analysis area	Number of greens
Canvey Island	-
The Mainland	3
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>3</b>

As seen in the table above, all three greens are located in the Mainland Analysis Area, with no greens located in the Canvey Island Analysis Area.

There are currently no indoor bowling venues in Castle Point, with the nearest located in Rochford at Rayleigh Leisure Centre. The Indoor and Built Needs Assessment that accompanies this report concludes that there is a requirement for such provision given the ageing population of the Borough.

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 9.1: Flat greens in Castle Point

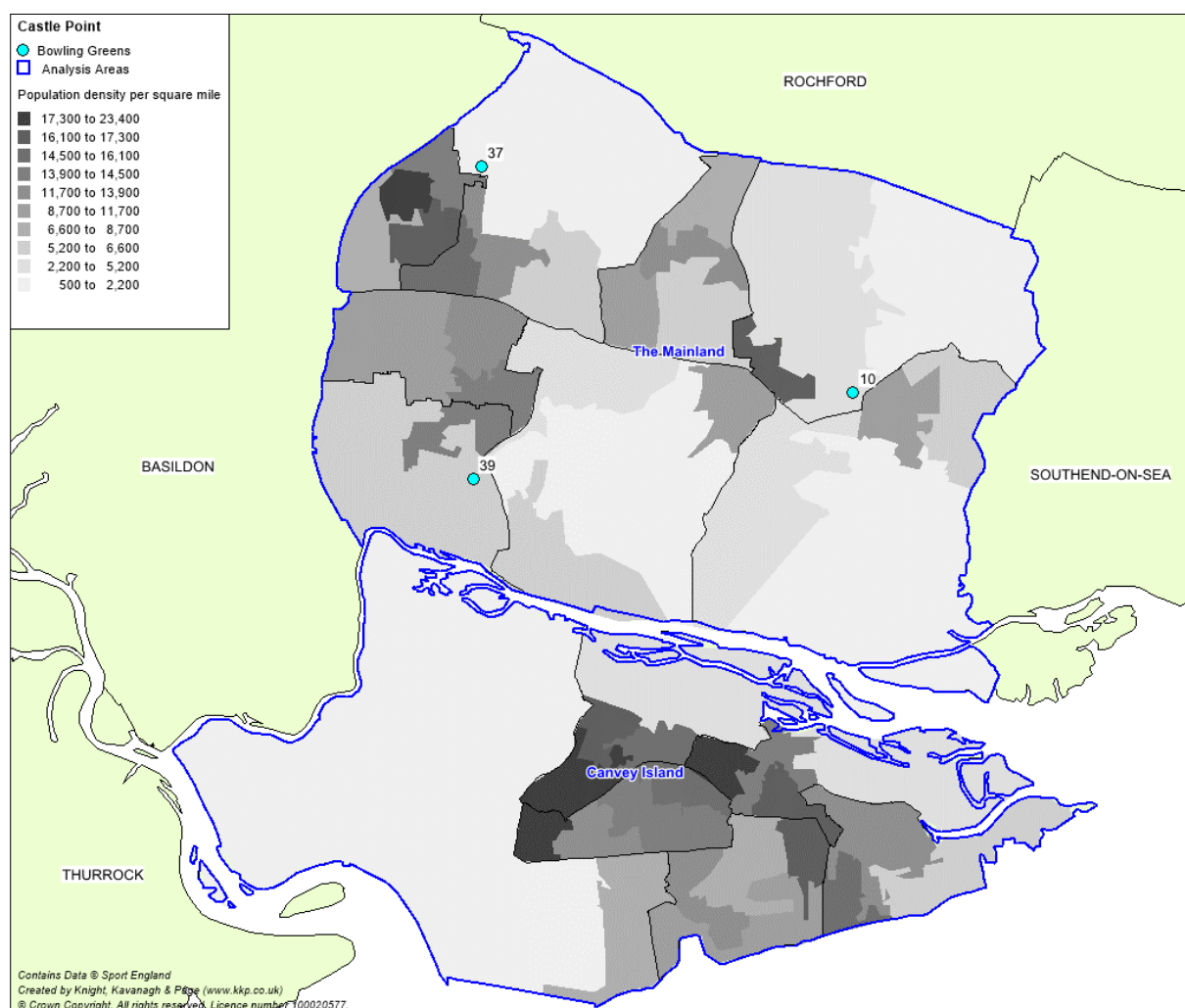


Table 9.2: Key to map

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Number of greens
10	John H Burrows Ground	The Mainland	1
37	Woodside Park	The Mainland	1
39	South Benfleet and Canvey Bowls Club	The Mainland	1

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## ***Ownership/management***

Both South Benfleet & Canvey and Hadleigh bowling clubs lease greens from the Council. South Benfleet & Canvey BC leases it green of the same name, with this due to expire in 2036, whereas Hadleigh BC leases the green at John H Burrows Ground, with the arrangement due to expire in 2034. The Council maintains the greens as part of these agreements, with the Club's looking after the clubhouses that they report ownership of.

Castle Point BC rents the green at Woodside Park from the Council but has a lease arrangement in place for accompanying ancillary facilities such as the pavilion. The Club maintains this provision, whilst the Council maintains the green. The Club reports that this agreement works very well.

## ***Quality***

Following a non-technical assessment of greens in Castle Point, two greens are assessed as good quality and one as standard quality; none are assessed as poor quality. The table below summarises the quality on a site-by-site basis.

*Table 9.3: Summary of bowling green quality*

Site ID	Site name	Number of greens	Quality of green
10	John H Burrows Ground	1	Good
37	Woodside Park	1	Good
39	South Benfleet and Canvey Bowls Club	1	Standard

The issues affecting the green at John H Burrows Ground include significant drainage problems and an uneven surface. This was correlated through club consultation, with Hadleigh BC stating the green is in fact poor quality and exacerbated by infrequent council maintenance. It reports that the run-off areas need attention and that the green needs levelling.

In contrast, the greens at Woodside Park and South Benfleet and Canvey Island Bowls Club have no evident issues, with users of the greens reporting that council maintenance is of a high level.

## ***Ancillary facilities***

All clubs responding to the survey have access to a clubhouse/pavilion on site and all three clubs report that these are good quality.

Notwithstanding the above, South Benfleet & Canvey Island BC reports that it has applied for and received a grant towards building additional changing facilities as the current provision is not considered large enough to accommodate current membership.

## ***Floodlighting***

No greens in Castle Point are serviced by floodlighting. This means that opportunities for access for training and matches during evenings outside of the summer months is limited. That being said, floodlit bowling greens are relatively rare across the country and this should therefore not be considered as a significant issue.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

### 9.4: Demand

#### ***Current demand***

There are three bowls clubs playing in Castle Point. Combined, the clubs cater for 419 members, which as a breakdown equates to 246 senior men, 172 senior women and one junior. All three clubs are large clubs, with Hadleigh BC servicing the most members and Castle Point BC servicing the fewest.

*Table 9.4: Current club membership for bowls clubs in Castle Point*

Club name	Current			
	Senior male	Senior female	Junior	Total
Castle Point BC	65	36	-	101
Hadleigh BC	82	91	-	173
South Benfleet & Canvey BC	99	45	1	145
<b>Total</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>419</b>

Despite there being a decline in senior membership for bowls nationally, all three clubs report that membership has increased over the previous three years. As a result, each club now fields at least one additional team in the Basildon & District League.

#### ***Future demand***

Using ONS projections (2016-2037)<sup>24</sup>, the number of persons aged 65 and over living in Castle Point is likely to significantly increase from 21,554 in 2014 to 31,718 in 2039, representing a growth of 44%. Due to this age band being the most likely to play bowls, demand for bowling greens is likely to increase in the future or at least remain static.

Please note that ONS population projections are used above as SHMA data does not provide the required age breakdowns. As such, the projections may provide an underestimate of future demand as housing growth is not taken into account. Housing growth scenarios will follow in the subsequent strategy document.

Hadleigh BC reports plans to increase its number of members by 25, suggesting that it plans to hold taster sessions in order to attract new people to the Club.

Neither South Benfleet BC nor Castle Point BC state plans to grow, with both instead focussing on retaining current membership following recent increases. That being said, neither would turn potential new members away.

#### ***Latent demand***

Sport England's Segmentation Tool enables analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in bowls but are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies latent demand of 195 people who would like to participate in the sport within Castle Point. The most dominant segment is 'Roger & Joy' – Early Retirement Couples (25.2%).

<sup>24</sup> ONS projections do not take into account housing growth and as a result, projections may result in an under-estimate of future demand.



## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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Hadleigh BC reports that it would be able to field additional teams if it had increased access to greens. The Club also states that it would look into beginning a junior section albeit demand may be low.

### ***Additional demand***

The greens at both Woodside Park and John H Burrows Ground are available for pay and play, with the former costing £7.20 per person per hour and the latter costing £6 per person per hour. Nevertheless, such demand is reported to be extremely sporadic.

The green at South Benfleet and Canvey Bowls Club is not available for pay and play, with the Club reporting that not enough capacity exists for such demand.

### **9.5: Supply and demand analysis**

Bowls England indicates that one green can accommodate approximately 60 members before capacity becomes an issue, whereas at least 20 members are reportedly required for a green to be sustainable.

In Castle Point, all three greens are operating substantially above the 60-member threshold, suggesting a need for an increase in green space to be provided. That being said, providing an additional outdoor green is considered unrealistic as all three clubs would want access, thus causing logistical issues, whilst providing three additional greens is not thought to be feasible.

Given the above, consideration should be given to the creation of an indoor bowls facility, as identified in the Indoor and Built Needs Assessment. It is considered that many members of outdoor clubs would use such provision, thus reducing the pressures on the outdoor greens.

#### **Bowls summary**

- ✦ There are three flat greens located across three sites in Castle Point.
- ✦ All three greens are situated in the Mainland Analysis Area.
- ✦ South Benfleet & Canvey BC leases its green of the same name from the Council, whereas Hadleigh BC leases the green at John H Burrows Ground, also from the Council.
- ✦ Castle Point BC rents the green at Woodside Park from the Council.
- ✦ Two greens are assessed as good quality (South Benfleet and Canvey Bowls Club and Woodside Park) and one as standard quality (John H Burrows Ground).
- ✦ All three greens are accompanied by good quality clubhouse facilities, although South Benfleet & Canvey Island BC has acquired funding to provide additional changing provision.
- ✦ There are three bowls clubs in Castle Point catering for a combined total of 419 members.
- ✦ In contrast to a national decline in membership, all three clubs report growth over the previous three years.
- ✦ Hadleigh BC reports plans to increase its number of members by 25.
- ✦ All three clubs are operating above recommended membership, suggesting a requirement for additional green space.
- ✦ As providing additional outdoor greens is considered unrealistic, consideration should be given to the creation of an indoor bowls facility as this would reduce the pressures on the outdoor greens.

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### PART 10: TENNIS

#### 10.1: Introduction

The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) is the organisation responsible for the governance of tennis and administers the sport locally across Castle Point. The LTA has recently restructured its strategic approach to targeting a number of national focus areas, with a priority on developing tennis at park sites.

#### **Consultation**

There are two tennis clubs identified in Castle Point. Hadleigh Park TC responded to consultation requests; Deanes TC did not.

#### 10.2: Supply

There are 18 tennis courts identified in Castle Point across four sites, with 13 available for community use across three sites.

*Table 10.1: Summary of the number of courts by analysis area*

Analysis area	Courts available for community use	Courts unavailable for community use
Canvey Island	-	5
The Mainland	13	-
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>

All community available courts are located in the Mainland Analysis Area, with the five unavailable for community use located in the Canvey Island Analysis Area. These are located at the Cornelius Vermuyden School.

For the purposes of this report, availability for community use refers to courts in public, voluntary, private or commercial ownership or management recorded as being available for hire by individuals, teams or clubs. This also includes availability for social use or pay and play.

Figure 10.1 overleaf identifies the location of current tennis courts in Castle Point.

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Figure 10.1: Location of tennis courts in Castle Point

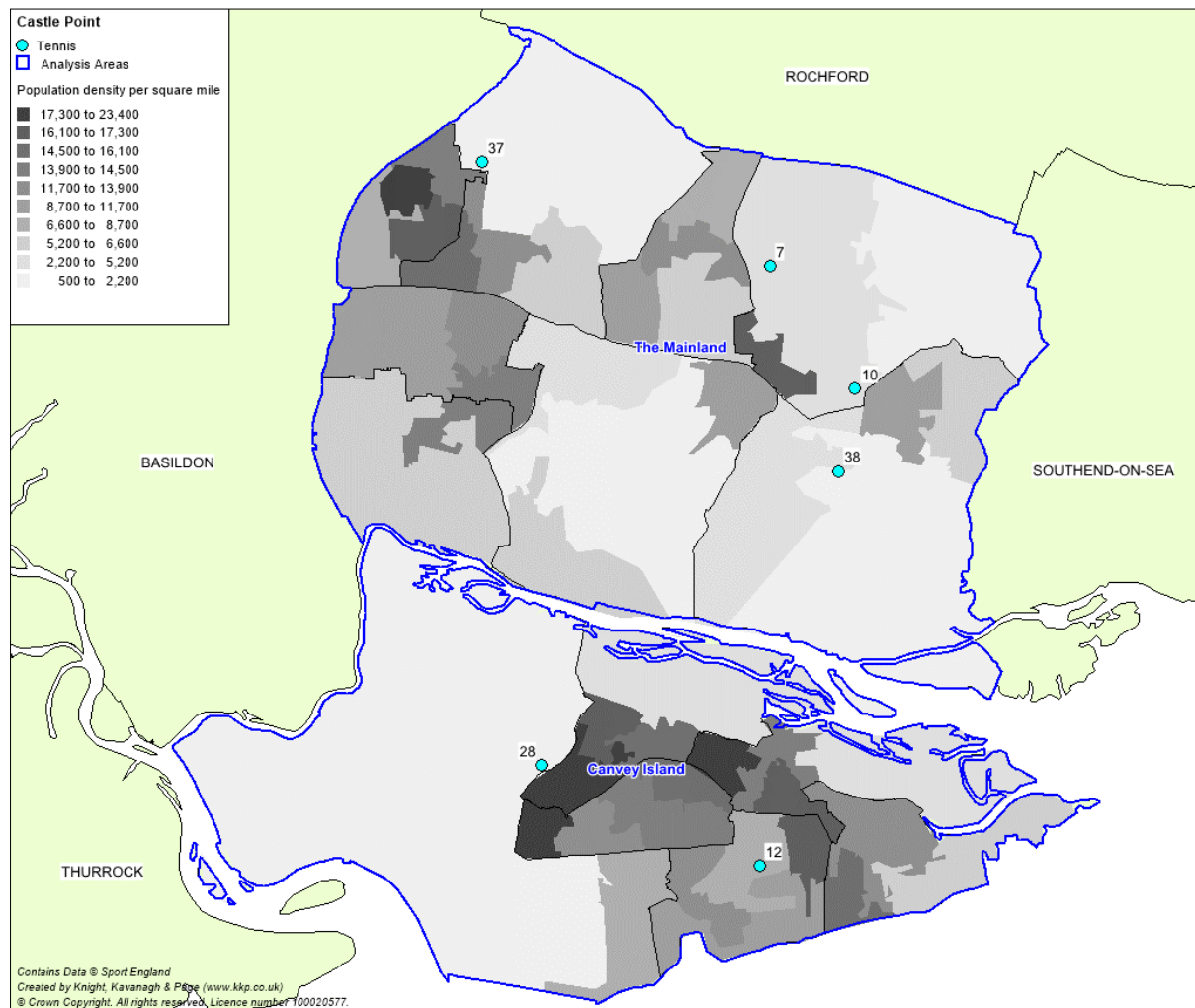


Table 10.2: Summary of provision site by site

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Management	Community use?	No. of courts	Floodlit?	Court type
7	Deanes School Sports Centre	The Mainland	School	Yes	6	Yes	Macadam
10	John H Burrows Ground	The Mainland	Council	Yes	4	Yes	Macadam
28	The Cornelius Vermuyden School	Canvey Island	School	No	5	Yes	Macadam
38	Hadleigh Park Tennis Club	The Mainland	Club	Yes	3	No	Macadam

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## ***Disused provision***

Three tennis courts at King George V Playing Fields and two tennis courts at Woodside Park are now considered to be disused. The macadam surface is still in place; however, no nets are provided and line markings have significantly faded.

## ***Additional supply***

There is one purpose built indoor tennis facility in Castle Point, located at Deanes School Sports Centre. The site has three permanent courts, with further information found in the Indoor and Built Facilities Needs Assessment. The report summarises:

- ✦ There is one indoor tennis facility, located at Deanes School Sports Centre.
- ✦ This is a three court hall which offers daytime and evening pay and play accessibility.
- ✦ The facility also hosts Deanes Tennis Club.
- ✦ All residents live within a 20-minute drive time of an indoor facility.

## ***Ownership and management***

Hadleigh Park TC reports that it has ownership of its courts at the site named after the Club, whereas Deanes TC rents usage of the courts at Deanes School Sports Centre as part of a community use agreement. As such, both clubs are considered to have security of tenure.

*Table 10.3: Courts available for community use by ownership*

Council	Club	Education	Private/other
4	3	6	-

## ***Floodlighting***

Floodlit courts enable use throughout the year and are identified by the LTA as being particularly crucial for club development. In Castle Point, there are ten community available courts serviced by floodlighting, with six provided at Deanes School Sports Centre and four provided at John H Burrows Ground. The courts at Cornelius Vermuyden School are also floodlit, albeit not available for community use.

Hadleigh Park TC is currently without access to floodlit courts. It reports that it urgently needs to apply for permission and funding assistance to get provision installed on its existing courts at its site in order to increase capacity. It states that it is short of court time for its matches and junior coaching programme.

## ***Court type***

All outdoor courts in Castle Point have a macadam surface. The estimated lifespan of a macadam court is ten years, depending on levels of use and maintenance levels. To ensure courts can continue to be used beyond this time frame, it is recommended that a sinking fund is put into place for eventual refurbishment. The LTA reports that this should cost £1,200 a year per macadam court (which includes on-going maintenance costs).

## ***Quality***

Following a non-technical assessment, nine community available courts are assessed as good quality, with the remaining four assessed as poor quality.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Table 10.4: Summary of community available court quality

Good	Standard	Poor
9	-	4

The poor quality courts are located at John H Burrows Ground. This is because the line markings have faded, with the courts being sloped and evidencing loose gravel.

In contrast, courts at Hadleigh Park Tennis Club and Deanes School Sports Centre are considered to be good quality. Both receive good levels of maintenance, with no issues identified.

The unavailable courts at the Cornelius Vermuyden School are assessed as standard quality, with signs of wear and tear evident and the line markings beginning to fade. The School reports no aspirations to improve quality in the immediate future, suggesting that curricular needs are currently being met.

The disused courts at King George V Playing Fields and at Woodside Park are poor quality, with significant investment required should they be brought back into use. Improving park courts is a national priority for the LTA; however, it reports that unless tennis courts are supported by changing facilities, a café and floodlighting, it becomes more difficult to operate a sustainable tennis programme, which therefore makes it more difficult to generate external investment. The LTA also advocates that sites with a minimum of four courts are likely to be more sustainable.

### Ancillary provision

The changing facilities servicing Hadleigh Park TC are good quality following a recent new build via funding from Veolia.

Similarly, provision for Deanes TC at Deanes School Sports Centre is good quality.

The ancillary provision servicing non-club courts is generally considered to be problematic. Some offer changing facilities but are of a poor quality, whilst other sites either do not provide changing facilities or provide them too far away from courts to be used. Often, the facilities predominately service football and cricket pitch users and therefore are not readily available or suited to tennis court users.

### 9.3: Demand

There are two clubs in Castle Point which have a combined membership of 310 members, which as a breakdown consists of 152 seniors and 158 juniors.

Table 10.5: Summary of club membership

Name of club	Number of members		
	Seniors	Juniors	Total
Deanes TC <sup>25</sup>	55	140	195
Hadleigh Park TC	87	18	115
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>310</b>

<sup>25</sup> Membership is based on LTA affiliation figures as the Club did not respond to consultation requests.

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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The largest club is Deanes TC, with 195 total members, although Hadleigh Park TC caters for more senior members.

### ***Participation trends***

Hadleigh Park TC reports that its membership has increased over the previous five years at junior level as it did not previously accommodate anyone under the age 18, other than for coaching sessions. At senior level, the Club states that participation has remained static.

Similar information in regards to Deanes TC is unknown.

### ***Latent demand***

Latent demand refers to potential demand; individuals who would like to participate within the sport but do not do so. This can be for a variety of reasons including a lack courts or appropriate facilities.

In Castle Point, Hadleigh Park TC reports no latent demand, whereas it is unknown in relation to Deanes TC.

Additionally, Sport England's Market Segmentation Tool<sup>26</sup> enables an analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in tennis within Castle Point but are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies latent demand of 1,660 people, 250 (15%) of which are within the segment 'Tim – settling down males'.

### ***Future demand***

Hadleigh Park TC reports future demand for an increase of ten senior and ten junior members. It states that this can be accommodated on its existing court provision, although further increases will exacerbate the need for floodlit provision.

Future demand for Deanes TC is unknown.

### ***Parks tennis***

Parks tennis leagues are less formal in comparison to established club play, offering greater flexibility and an opportunity for all abilities to engage in competition at local venues. The leagues are run by Local Tennis Leagues which affiliates to the LTA and are available to all aged 18 years and above, with administration and support based online. Players are organised into mixed sex leagues of eight based on similar ability levels, with matches arranged between the two players at whatever time and court is agreed. The flexibility of play is conducive to the use of park sites which are typically more easily accessible.

There is not a Parks Tennis League currently operating in Castle Point, with the closest located in neighbouring authority Southend-on-Sea.

### ***Tennis Tuesdays***

After being trialled in London in 2014, the LTA launched Tennis Tuesdays in partnership with sportswear brand Nike. The initiative focuses on increasing women's participation in tennis and skill development with a key fundamental social element, seeking to engage women in new and innovative ways to help break down barriers to female participation.

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<sup>26</sup> See Appendix 2

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Sessions are available to all abilities and are structured based on four ability levels ranging from beginner to advanced, each week based on one of six themes ranging from improving specific techniques to tactical awareness and match play. Sessions run from May to October, taking place every Tuesday evening for an hour.

As it stands there are no Tennis Tuesdays sessions running within Castle Point and there are also none running in neighbouring local authorities.

### **Informal tennis**

Hadleigh Park TC does not readily allow for casual use of its courts by the community as it does not have the spare capacity to do so.

Deanes School Sports Centre reports that its outdoor courts are accessed for pay and play purposes, especially during the summer following Wimbledon. Aside from this, most usage is attracted to the indoor courts and even at busier times of the year, capacity for an increase in demand exists.

Usage of John H Burrows Ground is difficult to quantify as use is not recorded due to the open access nature of the provision, although very minimal usage is presumed.

The LTA has recently set up an initiative to change the way in which people access council courts known as ClubSpark. Instead of providing free access, some local authorities are now securing their courts as per a membership scheme that allows members access through the use of a fob system following payment of a small yearly fee. Not only does this deter unofficial use of courts but it also allows official use to be tracked, thus providing data on how well and how often courts are being accessed. Nevertheless, some investment may be required to bring courts up to standard before the initiative can be rolled out.

### **9.4: Supply and demand analysis**

The LTA suggests that a non-floodlit hard court can accommodate a maximum of 40 members whereas a floodlit hard court can accommodate a maximum of 60 members. Using these figures, the table below analyses whether or not courts currently in use by clubs are sufficient to meet both current and future demand.

*Table 10.6: Summary of supply and demand*

Site ID	Site Name	Current Demand	Future Demand	Site Capacity	Current Capacity
7	Deanes School Sports Centre	195	40	240	55
38	Hadleigh Park Tennis Club	115	Unknown	120	5

As seen in the table above, there is a sufficient supply of courts to meet demand from Deanes TC at Deanes School Sports Centre, particularly considering the site also provides indoor courts that further increases capacity.

The supply of courts servicing Hadleigh Park TC is also considered to be sufficient; however, a shortfall will be evident if the Club realises its future demand aspirations. As a result, this provides evidence for the Club's ambition to install floodlighting as it will increase capacity to a satisfactory level.



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For non-club courts, the supply is considered to be insufficient as only four are provided, at John H Burrows Ground, which are poor quality. As a result, thought should be given to reinstating provision at King George V Playing Fields and Woodside Park to aid the informal tennis offer. This could be particularly key in relation to the former as no other community available courts are provided in the Canvey Island Analysis Area.

### **Tennis summary**

- ◀ There are 18 tennis court identified in Castle Point across four sites, with 13 of the courts being available for community use.
- ◀ All community available courts are located in the Mainland Analysis Area.
- ◀ Three tennis courts at King George V Playing Fields and two tennis courts at Woodside Park are now considered to be disused.
- ◀ No clubs' express concerns with regards to security of tenure.
- ◀ Hadleigh Park TC is currently without access to floodlit courts.
- ◀ All courts have a macadam surface.
- ◀ Following a non-technical assessment, nine community available courts are assessed as good quality (at Hadleigh Park Tennis Club and Deanes School Sports Centre), with the remaining four assessed as poor quality (John H Burrows Ground).
- ◀ Ancillary provision is adequate.
- ◀ There are two clubs in Castle Point which have a combined membership of 310 members, which as a breakdown consists of 152 seniors and 158 juniors.
- ◀ Hadleigh Park TC reports future demand for an increase of ten senior and ten junior members.
- ◀ Informal tennis is reported at Deanes School Sports Centre; however, plenty of spare capacity remains for an increase in demand.
- ◀ There is a sufficient supply of courts to meet demand from Deanes TC at Deanes School Sports Centre.
- ◀ The supply of courts servicing Hadleigh Park TC is also considered to be sufficient; however, a shortfall will be evident if the Club realises its future demand aspirations, suggesting that floodlight installation is required.
- ◀ For non-club courts, the supply is considered to be insufficient as only four are provided.

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## PART 11: NETBALL

### 11.1: Introduction

England Netball governs netball in England. Levels of participation are quickly increasing, with over 100,000 affiliated members and at least one million women and girls playing during a typical week. The NGBs aim is to provide its members and partners with the best possible service and experience in sport.

Nationally, netball activity takes place both indoors and outdoors. For information relating to indoor netball, please see the Indoor Sports and Leisure Strategy that is being produced in conjunction with this report.

#### **Consultation**

Consultation to inform this section of the report took place with England Netball and Active Essex. Attempts were also made to contact the Southend & District Netball League, however, these proved to be unsuccessful.

### 11.2: Supply

There are ten netball courts in Castle Point located across three sites. Of these courts, four are available for use at Deanes School Sports Centre. All four of these courts are floodlit.

*Table 11.1: Netball courts in Castle Point*

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Community use?	No. of courts	Floodlit?	Court quality
7	Deanes School Sports Centre	The Mainland	Yes	4	Yes	Good
4	Castle View School	Canvey Island	No	3	No	Poor
28	The Cornelius Vermuyden School	Canvey Island	Yes	3	No	Standard

For location of netball courts in Castle Point, please see figure 10.1 in the above tennis section.

#### **Future supply**

Planning permission has been granted for two floodlit, dedicated outdoor netball courts to be provided at King John School. These will be available for community use when provided.

#### **Court type**

All ten netball courts in Castle Point have a macadam surface. The estimated lifespan of a macadam court is ten years, depending on levels of use and maintenance levels. To ensure courts can continue to be used beyond this time frame, it is recommended that a sinking fund is put into place for eventual refurbishment.

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL

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### ***Floodlighting***

Floodlit outdoor netball courts enable all year round evening use, thus allowing winter netball activity to take place as well as the more common summer netball activity. Of the ten courts in Castle Point, seven have floodlighting. These courts are located at Deanes School Sports Centre and the Cornelius Vermuyden School.

### ***Quality***

All four courts at Deanes School Sports Centre are assessed as good quality. The courts were refurbished in 2017 as part of a joint project between England Netball and Deanes School.

The courts located at the Cornelius Vermuyden School are assessed as standard quality. Whilst the courts are floodlit with adequate fencing, good underfoot grip and an even surface, the line markings are slightly faded and there are some areas of moss growth; making certain sections of the court slippery.

### ***Over marking***

Whilst it does help with usage levels and sustainability, an issue for netball nationally is that the majority of its courts are dual use tennis courts. This limits accessibility (especially during the summer when tennis nets are often permanently in place) and also impacts on quality due to higher levels of wear and tear.

All ten netball courts within Castle Point are overmarked with tennis markings. In addition to the high netball demand, the courts at Deanes School Sports Centre have a high tennis demand, due to the Leigh and Westcliffe Tennis League being based at the site.

### **11.3: Demand**

The Southend & District Netball League generates the majority of netball demand from within Castle Point. It runs a winter league on a home and away basis, commencing in September and running through to the end of March, whilst a summer league also takes place but is considered to be more relaxed with players rotating positions. All teams and players must be affiliated through England Netball.

The League has three divisions each hosting eight teams which play on Saturdays from 10:00 until 13:00. This demand was previously located on the courts at Westcliff High School for Girls in the neighbouring authority of Southend-on-Sea; however, due to quality issues, the League decided to move all demand to Deanes School Sports Centre. This site is situated in the Mainland Analysis Area of Castle Point.

Through consultation, Westcliff High School for Girls reports that it has purposely resurfaced its courts to a netball suitable surface as it has aspirations for the League. This being said, it is unknown if the League has a desire to return any demand to the site.

### ***Play Netball***

Play Netball provides a pay and play netball league that is designed for more casual, social players and teams. It requires no affiliation to England Netball and enables participants to join as individuals, with Play Netball then assigning them to a team. All leagues are held on outdoor courts, with a new season beginning as soon as the previous season ends (meaning activity takes place all year round).

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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## ***Back to Netball***

Back to Netball sessions are running across England and provide women of all ages a gentle re-introduction to the sport. Sessions cover the basics of the game including passing, footwork and shooting and finish with a friendly game. Since its creation in 2010, over 60,000 women have taken part.

## ***Walking netball***

Walking netball has evolved from a growing demand for walking sports. It is a slower version of the game and has been designed so that anyone can play, regardless of age and fitness levels.

## ***High 5***

High 5 is a version of netball that has five players instead of the usual seven, eliminating the positions of wing attack and defence. It is designed specifically for children aged 9-11, using fun and variety to get them into the game, polish skills and aid fitness. A key part of High 5 is players rotating around positions as this allows all participants to experience every position.

## ***Future demand***

Sport England's Market Segmentation Tool<sup>27</sup> enables an analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in netball within Castle Point but are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies latent demand of 255 people, 72 (28%) of which are within the segment 'Chloe – fitness class friends'.

## **11.4: Supply and demand analysis**

There is currently community demand for outdoor netball provision in Castle Point generated from the Southend & District Netball League. This league accesses Deanes School Sports Centre. As such, priority should be placed on ensuring these courts remain of a good quality.

Further to this, consideration should also be given to improving court quality at school sites, where possible, in order to better accommodate curricular and extra-curricular activity as well as providing alternative venues for community demand should it exist in the future. The starting point for this is via developments at King John School and at Westcliff High School for Girls, whilst other potential improvements could be carried out in conjunction with improving tennis court quality at the same sites.

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<sup>27</sup> See Appendix 2

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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### **Netball summary**

- ◀ There are ten outdoor netball courts in Castle Point across three sites, all of which are located at school sites. Four of these, located at Deanes School Sports Centre are available for community use.
- ◀ Planning permission has been granted for two floodlit, dedicated outdoor netball courts to be provided at King John School. These will be available for community use when provided.
- ◀ All outdoor netball courts in Castle Point have a macadam surface.
- ◀ Seven courts, located across Deanes School Sports Centre and the Cornelius Vermuyden School are floodlit.
- ◀ Following site assessments, four netball courts are assessed as good quality, three as standard quality and three as poor quality.
- ◀ The four good quality courts are located at Deanes School Sports Centre and were refurbished in 2017 as part of a joint project between England Netball and the School.
- ◀ The Southend & District netball league generates the majority of netball demand for Castle Point; this league is situated at Deanes School Sports Centre.
- ◀ Priority should be placed on ensuring courts at Deanes School Sports Centre remain of a good standard.

## PART 12: ATHLETICS

### 12.1: Introduction

Athletics is administered across the United Kingdom by UK Athletics, including responsibility for developing and implementing the rules and regulations of the sport, anti-doping protocol, health and safety, facilities and welfare, training and coach education and permitting and licensing.

Locally, the sport is currently governed through England Athletics via a team consisting of an area manager and coach/club support officers. However, England Athletics is due to re-structure in the near future and will no longer have area managers or club coach co-ordinators. Instead, it will have one Club Support Manager for various areas, with 12 existing across the Country.

#### ***Consultation***

England Athletics has been consulted to inform this section of the report.

### 12.2: Supply

There is one athletics track in Castle Point at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre; however, it is no longer in use or maintained due to significant quality issues. The track has a synthetic surface and six lanes but is not floodlit. Areas are also present for jumping and throwing events.

England Athletics reports that numerous community groups and running groups as well as other sports clubs have expressed aspirations for the track to be reinstated in the near future so that it can be utilised for training needs and by casual runners. The facility was last used in 2013.

Canvey Island Youth FC has recently taken on a one year lease on the area of grass inside the running track. There are currently no pitches marked out in this area but the Club plans to create provision in the near future, although the configuration has not yet been determined. This will impact on the sites ability to cater for field events if athletics use was reinstated.

The nearest available tracks are located in the neighbouring authorities of Basildon (Basildon Sporting Village) and Southend-on-Sea (Southend Leisure and Tennis Centre and the Eastwood Academy).

### 12.3: Demand

There are no athletics clubs within Castle Point, with any demand exporting to neighbouring Basildon and Southend-on-Sea. There are, however, prominent running clubs, whilst Parkrun events take place every week, as summarised below.

#### ***Castle Point Joggers***

The Club was founded in 1975 and now boasts a membership of over 170 runners, with both males and females over the age of 17 welcome to join. The Club meets every Tuesday evening at Hadleigh and Thundersley Cricket Club, which it uses as a home base for pre and post running refreshments.

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In addition to its main session on a Tuesday, the Club also hosts sessions on Mondays for hill and sprint training, on Wednesdays for circuit training, on Thursdays for interval training and on Sundays for long runs. Venues used for such activity include King John School, Appleton School and John Burrows Park.

Previously, the Club ran summer sessions via the track at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre and it is considered likely that the provision would again be used if quality improved to a sufficient level.

### ***Benfleet Running Club***

Benfleet Running Club currently has over 200 senior members and 120 junior members, making it one of the largest running clubs nationwide. The aim of the Club is to get people running in a friendly atmosphere, whilst training for events such as the London Marathon and the Great North Run.

The Club meets every Tuesday and Thursday at Benfleet Playing Fields and also encourages its members to compete in many events, including Parkrun. As with Castle Point Joggers, the Club previously accessed Waterside Farm Leisure Centre for occasional sprint and interval training.

### ***Benfleet 15***

Benfleet Running Club hosts an annual 15-mile run over a multi-terrain course in Castle Point, utilising the Canvey Island sea wall and the undulating Hadleigh Downs. It has taken place for the last 28 years, with 658 participants competing last year.

### ***Parkrun***

Parkrun is a series of weekly five kilometre (k) runs held on Saturday mornings in areas of parks and open space across 850 locations in 12 countries including the UK. They are open to all, free, and are safe and easy to take part in. Parkrun events are all ability runs open to all aged 14 years and older, whilst there are shorter 2k Junior Parkrun events available on Sunday mornings for runners aged four to fourteen years old. In order to take part, runners must first register online in order to receive a printed barcode which gives them access to all Parkrun events.

Parkrun actively promotes local clubs as part of its weekly events in order to advertise them to runners who may potentially be interested in joining a club, whilst approximately 10% of current Parkrun participants are already associated to running clubs. It is common for local clubs to also support Parkrun events through volunteering.

In Castle Point, a Parkrun event is held every Saturday at Hadleigh Park. It began in 2016 and has since attracted 1,983 different runners, with an average of 104 participants taking part weekly. The biggest attendance is recorded as 228.

There are no junior Parkrun events hosted, with the nearest located at Clements Hall Recreation Ground, in Rochford.



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### ***Great Run Local***

Great Run Local is a network of running events which operate very much like Parkrun in that they too are free, weekly and volunteer driven. It differs, however, in that distances offered are flexible, but generally include two routes at 2k and 5k in order to encourage participation of all abilities.

There are no Great Run Local events currently hosted in Castle Point, with the nearest found in the London Borough of Newham.

### ***Couch to 5k***

Couch to 5k is a national health initiative promoted by the National Health Service (NHS) to encourage absolute beginners get into running as part of establishing and maintaining an active and healthy lifestyle including regular exercise. The plan consists of three runs per week and a day of rest in between, with a different schedule for each of the nine weeks to completion. It starts with a mix of running and walking, to gradually build up fitness and stamina, in order to create realistic expectations and a sense of achievability to encourage participants to stick with it. The end goal of the plan is for the participant to be able to run 5k.

Through the Couch to 5k plan the NHS particularly promotes the health benefits of running and regular exercise which underpin the initiative, such as improved heart and lung health, weight loss and possible increases in bone density which can help protect against bone diseases such as osteoporosis. This also includes mental benefits of running through goal setting and challenge setting, which can help boost confidence and self-belief. Furthermore, running regularly has been linked to combating depression.

It is believed that an increase in people running through the Couch to 5k plan may increase interest and possibly have a knock-on effect leading to increased demand at running groups and clubs as people may wish to continue develop their running further.

### ***Future demand***

England Athletics reports that there is generally a current growth being experienced in relation to athletics and running.

It is to be expected that the popularity of the Parkrun event, as well as demand for running groups, will increase in the future following recent national trends.

Sport England's Market Segmentation Tool<sup>28</sup> enables an analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in athletics within Castle Point but are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies demand of 1,884 people, 310 (16%) of which are within the segment 'Tim – settling down males'.

## **12.4: Supply and demand analysis**

Evidence suggests that sufficient demand exists for the track at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre to be re-instated to satisfy the needs of community groups, clubs and casual runners in Castle Point, as well as schools in the area that could occasionally utilise the facility. As such, substantial quality improvements are required, whilst floodlighting the provision should also be explored to enable more usage.

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<sup>28</sup> See Appendix 2

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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England Athletics suggests that for a track to be sustainable, membership of 200 or more people is required. Given the large number of members serviced by Castle Point Joggers and Benfleet Running Club it is considered that this threshold would be met, although the majority of activity would still take place away from the track. It is therefore worth exploring whether a dedicated athletics club could be created via help from England Athletics.

Priority should also be placed on sustaining and increasing the popularity of the running events currently taking place.

### **Athletics summary**

- ◀ There is one athletics track in Castle Point located at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre; however, this is currently disused due to substantial quality issues.
- ◀ England Athletics reports that numerous community groups and running groups as well as other sports clubs have expressed aspirations for the track to be reinstated in the near future.
- ◀ There are no athletics clubs within Castle Point, with any demand exporting to neighbouring Basildon and Southend-on-Sea.
- ◀ Two running clubs are in existence; Castle Point Joggers caters for 170 runners, whereas Benfleet Running Club caters for 320 runners.
- ◀ Benfleet Running Club hosts an annual 15-mile run over a multi-terrain course in Castle Point, utilising the Canvey Island sea wall and the undulating Hadleigh Downs.
- ◀ A Parkrun event is held every Saturday at Hadleigh Park.
- ◀ Evidence suggests that sufficient demand exists for the track at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre to be re-instated.
- ◀ It is worth exploring whether a dedicated athletics club could be created via help from England Athletics.
- ◀ Priority should also be placed on sustaining and increasing the popularity of the running events currently taking place.

### PART 13: CYCLING

#### 13.1: Introduction

British Cycling is the national governing body for all forms of cycling. It oversees six sporting disciplines, with each having a dedicated facility type:

- ◀ Track cycling – Velodrome
- ◀ Road cycling – Closed Road Circuits
- ◀ Mountain Bike – Trails
- ◀ BMX – Race/Pump tracks
- ◀ Cycle Speedway – Cycle speedway tracks
- ◀ Cyclocross – non-dedicated, non-permanent venues

British Cycling aids in the development of all six formats, helping to safeguard those that wish to participate in a competitive and compelling environment. The popularity of cycling has increased since elite sporting success in the Olympics, Paralympics and major championships.

#### **Consultation**

British Cycling were contacted numerous times to inform this section of the report; however, the NGB was unresponsive and therefore did not engage. Instead, Active Essex were the primary consultee.

#### 13.2: Supply

Hadleigh Park, located in Castle Point, has an Olympic mountain bike course consisting of 5km of sandstone track. The course is split into three separate trails ranging in difficulty. In addition to the track itself, there is a pump track and skills area.

#### 13.3: Demand

Sport England Market Segmentation<sup>29</sup> identifies that there are currently 6,947 people in Castle Point which are participating in regular cycling activity. The majority of this is likely to be for recreational, health and fitness purposes, although formal demand is accounted for by one club, which is summarised below:

#### **Hadleigh MTB Club**

Hadleigh Mountain Bike Club is based at Hadleigh Park. The Club currently has 298 members and accommodates people of all ages and abilities. Whilst some of these members participate at a recreational level, it also has a youth and adult race team.

#### **Latent demand**

Sport England's Segmentation Tool enables analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in cycling but are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies latent demand of 3,945 people who would like to participate in the sport within Castle Point. The most dominant segment is 'Tim' – Settling down males (21%).

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<sup>29</sup> See Appendix 2

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As seen in the table below, this is the second lowest amount of latent demand for the sport when compared to Castle Point's neighbouring local authorities. This is likely to be due to having Hadleigh Park within the Borough.

*Table 13.1: Comparison of neighbouring Local Authorities latent demand*

Neighboring local authorities	Latent demand of adults like to participate in cycling but are not currently doing so
Southend-on-Sea	6, 905
Rochford	3, 744
<b>Castle Point</b>	<b>3, 945</b>
Basildon	7, 260

Latent demand does not account for societal factors or changes in the way people may wish to participate in sport and cannot account for specific targeted development work within certain areas or focused towards certain groups, such as NGB initiatives or coaching within schools. For example, there is a focus by British Cycling to develop youth participation through the HSBC UK Go-Ride scheme.

### *HSBC UK Go-Ride*

HSBC UK Go-Ride is a British Cycling's development programme for young people. It offers a fun and safe way to introduce young people to the sport and provides a platform to improve cycling skills. People can get involved through holiday coaching programmes or through their local accredited club which allows them to sample the various disciplines of the sport.

Progression is obtainable with Go-Ride Racing, offering competition for riders to transition from school or club coaching to inter club and open regional competitions.

### **13.4: Supply and demand analysis**

It is considered that demand for cycling within Castle Point is accommodated for due to Hadleigh Park being situated in the Borough. The priority should be sustaining the quality of this site so that it continues to meet demand.

Notwithstanding the above, there is a need for the Council to continue to engage with key stakeholders and clubs to sustain/increase participation and to further develop cycling across the Borough.

#### **Cycling summary**

- ◀ Hadleigh Park, a purpose-built Mountain Bike facility, is located in Castle Point has an Olympic mountain bike course consisting of 5km of sandstone track.
- ◀ Sport England Market Segmentation identifies that there are currently 6,947 people in Castle Point which are participating in regular cycling activity. The majority of this is likely to be for recreational, health and fitness purposes, although formal demand is accounted for by one club; Hadleigh Mountain Bike Club.
- ◀ Sport England's Segmentation Tool identifies latent demand of 3,945 people who would like to participate in the sport within Castle Point that do not currently do so.
- ◀ It is considered that demand for cycling within Castle Point is accommodated for due to Hadleigh Park being situated in the Borough.
- ◀ The priority should be sustaining the quality of this site so that it continues to meet demand.

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## PART 14: MULTI USE GAMES AREAS

### 14.1: Introduction

Multi use games areas (MUGAs) are a reference to any sport or games areas which are often used for social and recreational sport in the community and are generally categorised into typologies, as seen in the table below. To qualify as a MUGA, a facility should be minimum of a five-a-side football pitch (two tennis courts) in size and be marked out for at least three sports.

*Table 14.1: Types of MUGAs*

Type	Surface	Characteristics	Preferred sports
Type One	Open textured porous macadam	Used for ball rebound sports. Suitable for wheelchair sports.	Tennis and netball.
Type Two			
Type Three			
Type Four	Polymeric surface over macadam base	Due to their greater shock absorbency and lower surface friction, these areas are not recommended for tennis or netball.	Football, basketball and recreational activity
Type Five	Sand based or third generation turf (3G)	Shockpad and either heavily doused with water before play or filled or dressed with sand or rubber crumb	Formalised sports including hockey, football, American football, lacrosse and rugby.

Please note that type five MUGA's are not included within this section of the report but are instead included within Part 3: Third Generation Turf (3G) Artificial Grass Pitches and Part 6: Hockey of this report.

Due to a lack of information provided in relation to MUGAs in Castle Point, only those identified whilst completing site assessments for other facilities have been identified and included within this section of the report. It is therefore considered likely that additional supply exists and this will be added at a later stage.

### 14.2: Supply

There are five sites identified as providing MUGAs in Castle Point, with Leigh Beck Recreation Ground providing two and the remaining sites providing one. Two MUGAs are located in the Mainland Analysis Area and four are located in the Canvey Island Analysis Area. All six MUGAs are identified as being type one/two.

#### ***Management***

The identified MUGAs in Castle Point are owned by the Council and available as open access, meaning they do not need to be booked. Anecdotal evidence suggests that they are well used in the summer months for activities such as informal football, however, can be prone to vandalism such as broken glass.

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### **Quality**

Following non-technical assessments, all six MUGA are assessed as poor quality. This can be seen in the table below.

*Table 14.2: Summary of MUGA quality in Castle Point*

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Type	Quality Rating
1	Benfleet Playing Fields	The Mainland	Type one/two	Poor
12	King George V Playing Field	Canvey Island	Type one/two	Poor
16	Leigh Beck Recreation Ground	Canvey Island	Type one/two	Poor
			Type one/two	Poor
33	Waterside Farm Leisure Centre	Canvey Island	Type one/two	Poor
37	Woodside Park	The Mainland	Type one/two	Poor

MUGAs are deemed to be poor quality due to inadequate grip underfoot and evidence of litter and glass. The best site identified was Benfleet Playing Fields, mostly due to clear, prominent line markings, although issues are still prevalent.

### **Floodlighting**

The presence of floodlighting is considered to encourage more demand as it enables evening use all year round. That being said, it is also acknowledged that it encourages higher levels unofficial use resulting in increased anti-social behaviour, vandalism and littering.

None of the MUGAs within Castle Point are serviced by floodlighting, although provision at Waterside Farm Leisure Centre was previously.

### **14.3: Demand**

Given the open access nature of the MUGAs provided within Castle Point, no usage is recorded; meaning demand for access is therefore unknown.

### **14.4: Supply and demand analysis**

Given that demand for MUGAs falls into informal use it is difficult to assess and quantify demand. However, it is considered that given the breakdown across the two analysis areas, Castle Point is relatively well provided for albeit quality needs to improve. Furthermore, usage of current provision is likely to be limited given that none are floodlit.

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### **MUGA Summary**

- ◀ There are five sites identified as providing six MUGAs in Castle Point.
- ◀ All MUGAs are identified as being type one/two.
- ◀ All identified MUGAs are owned by the Council, meaning all provision is open access.
- ◀ Following non-technical assessments, all six MUGAs are assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ None of the MUGAs are accompanied by floodlighting.
- ◀ Given the open access nature of the MUGAs, no usage is recorded.
- ◀ It is considered that given the breakdown across the two analysis areas, Castle Point is relatively well provided for albeit quality needs to improve.
- ◀ Furthermore, provision is likely to be limited given that none are floodlit.



### **PART 15: PARKOUR**

Parkour UK is the national governing body for Parkour across the UK. Its role is to provide governance and regulation, act as a custodian of the sport/art and protect the rights and freedoms, as well as promote the interests of Traceurs/Freerunners and their member organisations and the UK community.

Due to the inclusivity and accessibility of the sport, it has significantly grown in popularity and has seen a large increase in participants over recent years. Consultation with Parkour UK highlights that in February 2017, an Active Lives Survey identified that 96,000 people were participating in Parkour throughout the UK.

The Parkour facility in Castle Point at Hadleigh Park was funded through Active Essex and Parkour UK and has encouraged a wide range of people to take up the sport. Parkour UK highlights that there has been a broad spectrum in the demographic of individuals using the facility. This facility is one of few purpose-built Parkour facilities in England and with equipment that meets both British and European standards, it is a popular destination for Parkour groups across South Essex and beyond.

Although day to day the facility is used by general park users, it is also used by a Southend-on-Sea based club; Southend Parkour. The Club is managed by a level two coach, who with help from trained assistant coaches, delivers adult, family and children's classes.

As well as the main Parkour facility, there are smaller sections around the Hadleigh Park site used for such activity. Consultation with users; however, highlights that these sections are not as well used.

The main issues highlighted through consultation with Southend Parkour is that there is no lighting, which limits usage through certain months of the year. Additionally, the majority of the bars are built to a height appropriate for adults, which can create issues when coaching children and young people. In order to address this, the Club brings its own bars to the site.

The Club feels that there is potential to expand the facility at Hadleigh Park and make some of the equipment adaptable and changeable to keep the experience different for users each time. It states it would be willing to work with the Council and offer ideas in order to achieve this.

### APPENDIX 1: SPORTING CONTEXT

The following section outlines a series of national, regional and local policies pertaining to the study and which will have an important influence on the Strategy.

#### ***National context***

The provision of high quality and accessible community outdoor sports facilities at a local level is a key requirement for achieving the targets set out by the Government and Sport England. It is vital that this strategy is cognisant of and works towards these targets in addition to local priorities and plans.

#### ***Department of Media Culture and Sport Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation (2015)***

The Government published its strategy for sport in December 2015. This strategy confirms the recognition and understanding that sport makes a positive difference through broader means and that it will help the sector to deliver five simple but fundamental outcomes: physical health, mental health, individual development, social and community development and economic development. In order to measure its success in producing outputs which accord with these aims it has also adopted a series of 23 performance indicators under nine key headings, as follows:

- ◀ More people taking part in sport and physical activity.
- ◀ More people volunteering in sport.
- ◀ More people experiencing live sport.
- ◀ Maximising international sporting success.
- ◀ Maximising domestic sporting success.
- ◀ A more productive sport sector.
- ◀ A more financially and organisationally sustainable sport sector.
- ◀ A more responsible sport sector.

#### ***Sport England: Towards an Active Nation (2016-2021)***

Sport England has recently released its new five year strategy 'Towards an Active Nation'. The aim is to target the 28% of people who do less than 30 minutes of exercise each week and will focus on the least active groups; typically women, the disabled and people from lower socio-economic backgrounds.

Sport England will invest up to £30m on a plan to increase the number of volunteers in grassroots sport. Emphasis will be on working with a larger range of partners with less money being directed towards National Governing Bodies.

The Strategy will help deliver against the five health, social and economic outcomes set out in the Government's Sporting Future strategy.

- ◀ Physical Wellbeing
- ◀ Mental Wellbeing
- ◀ Individual Development
- ◀ Social & Community Development
- ◀ Economic Development

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### ***National Planning Policy Framework (2018)***

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out planning policies for England. It details how these changes are expected to be applied to the planning system. It also provides a framework for local people and their councils to produce distinct local and neighbourhood plans, reflecting the needs and priorities of local communities.

The NPPF states the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. It identifies that the planning system needs to focus on three themes of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. A presumption in favour of sustainable development is a key aspect for any plan-making and decision-taking processes. In relation to plan-making the NPPF sets out that Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs.

The 'promoting healthy communities' theme identifies that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficiencies or surpluses in local areas should also be identified. This information should be used to inform what provision is required in an area.

As a prerequisite, the NPPF states existing open space, sports and recreation buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- ◀ An assessment has been undertaken, which has clearly shown that the open space, buildings or land is surplus to requirements.
- ◀ The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location.
- ◀ The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.

In order for planning policies to be 'sound' local authorities are required to carry out a robust assessment of need for open space, sport and recreation facilities.

### ***The FA: National Game Strategy (2018-2021)***

The FA launched its new National Game Strategy in July 2018 which aims to inspire a life-long journey in football for all. To achieve this, the strategy will focus on five key aspects of the game:

- ◀ A high quality introduction to football
- ◀ Developing clubs and leagues
- ◀ Embrace all formats of football and engage all participants
- ◀ Recruit, develop and support the workforce
- ◀ Develop sustainable facilities

Through these five pillars, The FA's objectives are to:

- ◀ Increase the number of male affiliated and recreational players by 10%.
- ◀ Double the number of female affiliated and recreational players via a growth of 75%.
- ◀ Increase the number of disability affiliated and recreational players by 30%.
- ◀ Ensure affiliated Futsal is available across the country in order to increase the number of Futsal affiliated and recreational players.

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The sustainable football facilities should provide support to an agreed portfolio of priority projects that meet National Football Facility Strategy (NFFS) investment priorities.

### ***England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Cricket Unleashed 5 Year Plan***

The England and Wales Cricket Board unveiled a new strategic five-year plan in 2016 (available at <http://www.cricketunleashed.com>). Its success will be measured by the number of people who play, follow or support the whole game.

The plan sets out five important headline elements and each of their key focuses, these are:

- ◀ **More Play** – make the game more accessible and inspire the next generation of players, coaches, officials and volunteers. Focus on:
  - Clubs and leagues
  - Kids
  - Communities
  - Casual
- ◀ **Great Teams** – deliver winning teams who inspire and excite through on-field performance and off-field behaviour. Focus on:
  - Pathway
  - Support
  - Elite Teams
  - England Teams
- ◀ **Inspired Fans** – put the fan at the heart of our game to improve and personalise the cricket experience for all. Focus on:
  - Fan focus
  - New audiences
  - Global stage
  - Broadcast and digital
- ◀ **Good Governance and Social Responsibility** – make decisions in the best interests of the game and use the power of cricket to make a positive difference. Focus on:
  - Integrity
  - Community programmes
  - Our environments
  - One plan
- ◀ **Strong Finance and Operations** – increase the game's revenues, invest our resources wisely and administer responsibly to secure the growth of the game. Focus on:
  - People
  - Revenue and reach
  - Insight
  - Operations

### ***The Rugby Football Union National Facilities Strategy (2013-2017)***

The RFU National Facility Strategy 2013-2017 provides a framework for development of high-quality, well-managed facilities that will help to strengthen member clubs and grow the game in communities around them. In conjunction with partners, this strategy will assist and support clubs and other organisations, so that they can continue to provide quality opportunities for all sections of the community to enjoy the game. It sets out the broad facility needs of the sport and identifies investment priorities to the game and its key partners. It identifies that with 1.5 million players there is a continuing need to invest in community club facilities in order to:

- ◀ Create a platform for growth in club rugby participation and membership, especially with a view to exploiting the opportunities afforded by RWC 2015.

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- ◀ Ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of rugby clubs, through supporting not only their playing activity but also their capacity to generate revenue through a diverse range of activities and partnerships.

In summary, the priorities for investment which have met the needs of the game for the previous period remains valid:

- ◀ Increase the provision of changing rooms and clubhouses that can sustain concurrent adult and junior male and female activity at clubs
- ◀ Improve the quality and quantity of natural turf pitches and floodlighting
- ◀ Increase the provision of artificial grass pitches that deliver wider game development

It is also a high priority for the RFU to target investment in the following:

- ◀ Upgrade and transform social, community and catering facilities, which can support the generation of additional revenues
- ◀ Facility upgrades, which result in an increase in energy-efficiency, in order to reduce the running costs of clubs
- ◀ Pitch furniture, including rugby posts and pads, pitch side spectator rails and grounds maintenance equipment

### **England Hockey (EH) - A Nation Where Hockey Matters (2013-2017)**

EH have a clear vision, a powerful philosophy and five core objectives that all those who have a role in advancing Hockey can unite behind. With UK Sport and Sport England's investment, and growing commercial revenues, EH are ambitious about how they can take the sport forward in Olympic cycles and beyond.

*"The vision is for England to be a 'Nation Where Hockey Matters'. A nation where hockey is talked about at dinner tables, playgrounds and public houses, up and down the country. A nation where the sport is on the back pages of our newspapers, where children dream of scoring a goal for England's senior hockey team, and where the performance stirs up emotion amongst the many, not the few"*

England Hockey aspires to deepen the passion of those who play, deliver and follow sport by providing the best possible environments and the best possible experiences. Whilst reaching out to new audiences by making the sport more visible, available and relevant and through the many advocates of hockey.

Underpinning all this is the infrastructure which makes the sport function. EH understand the importance of volunteers, coaches, officials, clubs and facilities. The more inspirational people can be, the more progressive Hockey can be and the more befitting the facilities can be, the more EH will achieve. The core objectives are as follows:

- ◀ Grow our Participation
- ◀ Deliver International Success
- ◀ Increase our Visibility
- ◀ Enhance our Infrastructure
- ◀ Be a strong and respected Governing Body

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England Hockey has a Capital Investment Programme (CIP), that is planned to lever £5.6 million investment into hockey facilities over the next four years, underpinned by £2m million from the National Governing Body. With over 500 pitches due for refurbishment in the next 4-8 years, there will be a large focus placed on these projects through this funding stream. The current level of pitches available for hockey is believed to be sufficient for the medium-term needs, however in some areas, pitches may not be in the right places in order to maximize playing opportunities.

### ***‘The right pitches in the right places’<sup>30</sup>***

In 2012, EH released its facility guidance which is intended to assist organisations wishing to build or protect hockey pitches for hockey. It identifies that many existing hockey AGPs are nearing the end of their useful life as a result of the installation boom of the 90’s. Significant investment is needed to update the playing stock and protect the sport against inappropriate surfaces for hockey as a result of the rising popularity of AGPs for a number of sports. EH is seeking to invest in, and endorse clubs and hockey providers which have a sound understanding of the following:

- ✦ Single System – clubs and providers which have a good understanding of the Single System and its principles and are appropriately placed to support the delivery.
- ✦ ClubsFirst accreditation – clubs with the accreditation are recognised as producing a safe effective and child friendly hockey environment.
- ✦ Sustainability – hockey providers and clubs will have an approved development plan in place showing their commitment to developing hockey, retaining members and providing an insight into longer term goals. They will also need to have secured appropriate tenure.

### ***England Hockey Strategy***

EH’s new Club Strategy will assist hockey clubs to retain more players and recruit new members to ultimately grow their club membership. EH will be focusing on participation growth through this strategy for the next two years. The EH Strategy is based on seven core themes. These are:

- 1 Having great leadership
- 2 Having Appropriate and Sustainable Facilities
- 3 Inspired and Effective People
- 4 Different Ways to Play
- 5 Staying Friendly, Social and Welcoming
- 6 Being Local with Strong Community Connections
- 7 Stretching and developing those who want it

### ***British Tennis (LTA) - Place to Play Strategy***

The LTA aim to get more people to play tennis more frequently and the places to play strategy is a way of doing this. The strategy will aim to provide high quality facilities for everyone at a convenient location.

It’s one plan that aims to increase opportunities for people to play tennis on a regular basis at tennis clubs close to their home, which provides high quality opportunities on safe and well maintained tennis courts.

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<sup>30</sup>

<http://englandhockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=1143&sectionTitle=The+Right+Pitches+in+the+Right+Places>

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The strategy sets out:

- ◀ Overall vision for places to play
- ◀ How to grow regular participation by supporting places to play to develop and deliver the right programmes
- ◀ Capital investment decisions to ensure we invest in the right facilities to grow the sport
- ◀ Supporting performance programmes in the right locations

The LTA is committed to growing the sport to ensure that more people are playing tennis more often at first class tennis facilities, with high quality coaching programmes and well organised competition.

The overall aim for the next five years (2011-2016) is to ensure that, as far as practicably possible, the British population has access to and are aware of the places and high quality tennis opportunities in their local area. In brief

- ◀ Access for everyone to well-maintained high quality tennis facilities which are either free or pay as you play
- ◀ A Clubmark accredited place to play within a ten minute drive of their home
- ◀ Indoor tennis courts within a 20 minute drive time of their home
- ◀ A mini tennis (ten and under) performance programme within a 20 minute drive of their home (Performance Centres)
- ◀ A performance programme for 11 - 15 year olds within a 45 minute drive time of their home (High Performance Centre)
- ◀ A limited number of internationally orientated programmes strategically spread for players 16+ with an international programme (International High Performance Centres)

### ***Bowls England: Strategic Plan 2014-2017***

Bowls England will provide strong leadership and work with its stakeholders to support the development of the sport of bowls in England for this and future generations.

The overall vision of Bowls England is to:

- ◀ Promote the sport of outdoor flat green bowls.
- ◀ Recruit new participants to the sport of outdoor flat green bowls.
- ◀ Retain current and future participants within the sport of flat green bowls.

In order to ensure that this vision is achieved, ten key performance targets have been created, which will underpin the work of Bowls England up until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

- ◀ 115,000 individual affiliated members.
- ◀ 1,500 registered coaches.
- ◀ Increase total National Championship entries by 10%.
- ◀ Increase total national competition entries by 10%.
- ◀ Medal places achieved in 50% of events at the 2016 World Championships.
- ◀ County development officer appointed by each county association.
- ◀ National membership scheme implemented with 100% uptake by county associations.
- ◀ Secure administrative base for 1st April 2017.
- ◀ Commercial income to increase by 20%.



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Despite a recent fall in affiliated members, and a decline in entries into National Championships over the last five years, Bowls England believes that these aims will be attained by following core values. The intention is to:

- ◆ Be progressive.
- ◆ Offer opportunities to participate at national and international level.
- ◆ Work to raise the profile of the sport in support of recruitment and retention.
- ◆ Lead the sport.
- ◆ Support clubs and county associations.

### ***England Athletics: Strategic Plan for 2017 and beyond***

The England Athletics plan has a mission to grow opportunities for everyone to experience athletics and running, to enable them to reach their full potential.

The vision of the strategic plan is:

“Athletics and running will be the most inclusive and popular sport in England, led by a network of progressive clubs and organisations and supported by a sustainable, respected and trusted governing body”.

To enable this, the following strategic priorities are set out:

- ◆ To expand the capacity of the sport by supporting and developing its volunteers and other workforce
- ◆ To sustain and increase participation and performance levels in our sport.
- ◆ To influence participation in the wider athletics market.

### ***UK Athletics Facilities Strategy (2014-2019)***

Facilities are essential to attracting, retaining and developing athletes of the future. Having the right facilities in the right place will be crucial in meeting growing demand, increasing participation in physical activity and athletics, improving the health of the nation and supporting a new generation of athletes in clubs and schools through to national and world class level.

UKA and the Home Country Athletics Federations (HCAFs) recognise the challenges faced by facility owners and venue operators, and its 5-year Facility Strategy (2014-2019) uses a Track & Field facility model designed to support a sustainable UK network of development, training and competition venues that meet Home Country needs aligned to UKA's Athlete/Participant Development Model. In addition to Track and Field provision, UKA recognises the huge amount of club activity that takes place on roads, paths and trails and the strategy also maps out a plan for future “running” facilities.

The strategy does not seek to identify priority facilities, clubs or geographical areas. Instead, it provides the direction and guidance that will enable the four Home Country Athletics Federations (England Athletics, Athletics Northern Ireland, Scottish Athletics and Welsh Athletics) to establish their own priorities and deliver the principles of the UKA Facilities Strategy within their own national context.

### **UKA's 2014-19 Facilities Strategy key outcomes:**

- ◆ Increased participation across all athletics disciplines
- ◆ Increased club membership by providing facilities that support a participation pathway from novice through to club member

## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

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- ◆ Increased talent pool
- ◆ Long term improvement in the development of athletes of all ages and abilities
- ◆ Securing the long-term future of existing facilities
- ◆ More attractive and inspiring facilities for existing and potential athletes
- ◆ Improving the athletics experience for all participants
- ◆ Improved relationships and interactions between stakeholders, particularly clubs and facility operators

### ***England Netball - Your Game, Your Way 2013-17 Whole Sport Plan***

England Netball remains committed to its '10-1-1' mission, vision and values that form the fundamentals for its strategic planning for the future for the sport and business.

To facilitate the successful achievement of Netball 10:1:1 and Goal 4, England Netball will:

- ◆ Accelerate the participation growth by extending our market penetration and reach through the activation of a range of existing and new participant-focused products and programmes that access new and targeted markets.
- ◆ Increase the level of long-term participant retention through targeting programmes at known points of attrition and easy transition through the market segments, supported by an infrastructure that reflects the participant needs and improves their netball experience.
- ◆ Build a sustainable performance pathway and system built on the principles of purposeful practice and appropriate quality athlete coach contact time.
- ◆ Develop sustainable revenue streams through the commercialisation of a portfolio of products and programmes and increasing membership sales. This will also include the creation of cost efficiencies and improved value for money through innovative partnerships and collaborations in all aspects of the business.
- ◆ Establish high standards of leadership and governance that protect the game and its people and facilitates the on-going growth and transformation of the NGB and sport.

### ***Growing the Game of Golf in England (2017-2021)***

In 2014, England Golf developed its first national strategy to help golf in England rise to some serious challenges. Membership was declining, many clubs were facing financial and business problems and the perception of the game was proving damaging. As such, it decided to set out recommendations for actions that would help “raise the game”.

The 2014 strategy helped achieve the following:

- ◆ 427,111 people being introduced to golf for the first time.
- ◆ 31,913 new members for England’s golf clubs from national initiatives.
- ◆ Over £25 million generated for golf clubs through new members.
- ◆ Four counties to merge their men’s and women’s unions associations.
- ◆ Support for 15,200 national, regional and county squad players.
- ◆ Over 150 championships and events organised across the country.

Following the above strategy, England Golf is now setting out to “grow the game” of golf through seven strategic objectives. Developed in consultation with the golfing community, six of these are developed from the previous work in 2014, whilst one (being customer focussed) is brand new and intends on boosting the impact of them all.















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The objectives are:













- ◀ Being customer focussed
- ◀ Stronger counties and club
- ◀ Excellent governance
- ◀ Improve image
- ◀ More members and players
- ◀ Outstanding championships, competitions and events
- ◀ Winning golfers

**APPENDIX 2: SPORT ENGLAND MARKET SEGMENTATION**











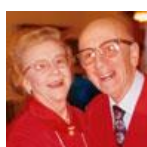

	Segment name and description	Segment characteristics	Main age band	Socio eco group	1x30	% Eng- popn	Media and Communications	Key brands	Top sports (played at least once a month) and sporting behaviour
					3x30				
	<b>Ben</b> Competitive Male Urbanites  Also known as Josh, Luke, Adam, Matesuz, Kamil	Male, recent graduates, with a 'work-hard, play-hard' attitude. <i>Graduate professional, single.</i>	18-25	ABC1	69%	4.9%	Ben is a heavy internet user, using it for sports news, personal emails, social networking and buying films, games and tickets. He is highly responsive to internet advertising.		Ben is a very active type and takes part in sport on a regular basis. He is the sportiest of the 19 segments. Ben's top sports are football (33%), keep fit/ gym (24%), cycling (18%), athletics including running (15%) and swimming (13%).
					39%				
	<b>Jamie</b> Sports Team Lads  Also known as Ryan, Nathan, Ashley, Adeel, Pawel	Young blokes enjoying football, pints and pool. <i>Vocational student, single.</i>	18-25	C2DE	59%	5.4%	Jamie is a prolific mobile phone user and as uses this as a primary source of information. He likes to text rather than talk, and uses 3G for sports results and SMS text information services.		Jamie is a very active type that takes part in sport on a regular basis. Jamie's top sports are football (28%), keep fit and gym (22%), athletics including running (12%), cycling (12%) and swimming (10%).
					31%				
	<b>Chloe</b> Fitness Class Friends  Also known as Nisha, Sophie, Lauren, Charlotte, Lucy	Young image-conscious females keeping fit and trim. <i>Graduate professional, single.</i>	18-25	ABC1	56%	4.7%	Chloe is a heavy internet and mobile phone user. She uses her mobile to keep in contact with friends and family, preferring this to her landline. Chloe has a new 3G phone which provides internet access but is still likely to use text as her first source of information.		Chloe is an active type that takes part in sport on a regular basis. Chloe's top sports are keep fit/ gym (28%), swimming (24%), athletics including running (14%), cycling (11%) and equestrian (5%).
					23%				
	<b>Leanne</b> Supportive Singles  Also known as Hayley, Kerry, Danielle, Nisha, Saima	Young busy mums and their supportive college mates. <i>Student or PT vocational, Likely to have children.</i>	18-25	C2DE	42%	4.3%	Leanne is a light internet user and a heavy mobile phone user, using this instead of a landline to contact friends. She uses SMS text services and also entertainment features on her mobile. Leanne's mobile is likely to be pay-as-you-go and she responds to text adverts.		Leanne is the least active segment of her age group. Leanne's top sports are keep fit/ gym (23%), swimming (18%), athletics including running (9%), cycling (6%) and football (4%).
					17%				
	<b>Helena</b> Career Focused Female  Also known as Claire, Tamsin, Fiona, Sara, Joanne	Single professional women, enjoying life in the fast lane. <i>Full time professional, single.</i>	26-45	ABC1	53%	4.6%	Helena always has her mobile and PDA on hand so that she is contactable for work and social calls. She is a heavy internet user, but mainly from home, and uses this as her primary source of information.		Helena is a fairly active type that takes part in sport on a regular basis. Helena's top sports are keep fit/ gym (26%), swimming (22%), cycling (11%), athletics including running (9%), and equestrian (3%).
					19%				
	<b>Tim</b> Settling Down Males  Also known as Simon, Jonathan, Jeremy, Adrian, Marcus	Sporty male professionals, buying a house and settling down with partner. <i>Professional, may have children, married or single.</i>	26-45	ABC1	62%	8.8%	Tim's main source of information is the internet - he uses this for information on property, sports and managing his finances. He is a heavy mobile phone user and likes to access information 24/7. Tim will often buy things online and is relatively likely to use SMS text alerts and 3G services.		Tim is an active type that takes part in sport on a regular basis. Tim's top sports are cycling (21%), keep fit/ gym (20%), swimming (15%), football (13%) and golf (7%).
					27%				
	<b>Alison</b> Stay at Home Mums  Also known as Justine, Karen, Suzanne, Tamsin, Siobhan	Mums with a comfortable, but busy, lifestyle. <i>Stay-at-home mum, children, married.</i>	36-45	ABC1	55%	4.4%	Alison is a medium TV viewer and may have a digital package, but is unlikely to respond to TV advertising. She is a medium internet user and is unlikely to respond to internet advertising, but will use it as a source of information to aid her decision-making. She has a pay-as-you-go mobile for emergencies, but prefers to use her landline.		Alison is a fairly active segment with above average levels of participation in sport. Alison's top sports are: keep fit/ gym (27%), swimming (25%), cycling (12%), athletics including running (11%), and equestrian (3%).
					20%				



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	Segment name and description	Segment characteristics	Main age band	Socio eco group	1x30	% Eng- popn	Media and Communications	Key brands	Top sports (played at least once a month) and sporting behaviour
					3x30				
	<b>Jackie</b> Middle England Mums  Also known as Andrea, Cheryl, Deborah, Jane, Louise	Mums juggling work, family and finance. <i>Vocational job, may have children, married or single.</i>	36-45	C1C2D	47%	4.9%	Jackie is a medium TV viewer, enjoying soaps, chat shows and dramas, and has Freeview digital channels. She is a light and cautious internet user, but has been encouraged by her children's prolific usage and is becoming more confident herself.		Jackie has above average participation levels in sport, but is less active than other segments in her age group.  Jackie's top sports are keep fit/ gym (22%), swimming (20%), cycling (9%), athletics including running (6%), and badminton (2%).
					16%				
	<b>Kev</b> Pub League Team Mates  Also known as Lee, Craig, Steven, Tariq, Dariusz.	Blokes who enjoy pub league games and watching live sport. <i>Vocational job, may have children, married or single.</i>	36-45	DE	43%	5.9%	Kev is a heavy TV viewer, likely to have a digital or cable package for extra sports coverage. He is a heavy radio listener and is likely to favour local commercial stations. Kev uses his mobile phone for social reasons but will not respond to text advert.		Kev has above average levels of participation in sport.  Kev's top sports are keep fit/ gym (14%), football (12%), cycling (11%), swimming (10%) and athletics including running (6%).
					17%				
	<b>Paula</b> Stretched Single Mums  Also known as Donna, Gemma, Shelley, Tina, Tammy	Single mums with financial pressures, childcare issues and little time for pleasure. <i>Job seeker or part time low skilled worker, children, single.</i>	26-45	DE	36%	3.7%	Paula is a heavy TV viewer, enjoying quiz and chat shows, reality TV and soaps. She is likely to have a digital or cable package. Paula does not have internet access at home, and is a heavy mobile phone user, although this is likely to be pay-as-you-go.		Paula is not a very active type and her participation is lower than that of the general adult population.  Paula's top sports are keep fit/ gym (18%), swimming (17%), cycling (5%), athletics including running (4%) and football (3%).
					13%				
	<b>Philip</b> Comfortable Mid Life Male  Also known as Graham, Colin, Keith, Stuart, Clive	Mid-life professional, sporty males with older children and more time for themselves. <i>Full time job and owner occupied, children, married.</i>	46-55	ABC1	51%	8.7%	Philip is a medium TV viewer, likely to have digital and use interactive services for sports and business news. He is a heavy radio listener. Philip is comfortable purchasing over the phone and internet, but is unlikely to respond to SMS text alerts.		Philip's sporting activity levels are above the national average.  Philip's top sports are cycling (16%), keep fit/ gym (15%), swimming (12%), football (9%), and golf (8%).
					20%				
	<b>Elaine</b> Empty Nest Career Ladies  Also known as Carole, Sandra, Penelope, Julie, Jacqueline	Mid-life professionals who have more time for themselves since their children left home. <i>Full time job and owner occupied, married.</i>	46-55	ABC1	43%	6.1%	Elaine is a light TV viewer, loyal to mainstream terrestrial channels. Elaine is a medium radio listener, likely to prefer BBC Radio 2 or 4 and Classic FM. A moderate internet user, she browses news and lifestyle sites. Elaine reads broadsheets, such as the Daily Telegraph, and women's lifestyle magazines. She would not respond to sms text alerts, nor to cold-calling.		Elaine's sporting activity levels are similar to the national average.  Elaine's top sports are keep fit/ gym (21%), swimming (18%), cycling (7%), athletics including running (3%) and tennis (2%).
					12%				
	<b>Roger &amp; Joy</b> Early Retirement Couples  Also known as Melvyn, Barry, Geoffrey, Linda, Susan, Patricia	Free-time couples nearing the end of their careers. <i>Full-time job or retired, married.</i>	56-65	ABC1	38%	6.8%	Roger and Joy are medium TV viewers and heavy radio listeners. They regularly read the Times of Daily Telegraph, and a local paper. They have increased their use of the internet and may now have access to it at home.		Roger and Joy are slightly less active than the general population.  Roger and Joy's top sports are keep fit/ gym (13%), swimming (13%), cycling (8%), golf (6%), and angling (2%).
					10%				

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

	Segment name and description	Segment characteristics	Main age band	Socio eco group	1x30	% Eng- popn	Media and Communications	Key brands	Top sports (played at least once a month) and sporting behaviour
					3x30				
	<b>Brenda</b> Older Working Women  Also known as Shirley, June, Maureen, Janet, Diane	Middle aged ladies, working to make ends meet. <i>Part-time job, married.</i>	46-65	C2DE	29%	4.9%	Brenda is a heavy TV viewer and is likely to respond to TV advertising. She is a medium radio listener, preferring local commercial stations. Brenda rarely has access to the internet, and is an infrequent mobile user. She enjoys reading the Mirror or the Sun.		Brenda is generally less active than the average adult. Brenda's top sports are keep fit/ gym (15%), swimming (13%), cycling (4%), athletics including running (2%) and badminton (1%).
					8%				
	<b>Terry</b> Local 'Old Boys'  Also known as Derek, Brian, Malcolm, Raymond, Michael	Generally inactive older men, low income, little provision for retirement. <i>Job Seeker, married or single.</i>	56-65	DE	26%	3.7%	Terry is a high TV viewer, both at home and in the pub, particularly enjoying live sports coverage. He reads the tabloids on a daily basis. Terry does not use the internet, and does not feel he is missing out. He is unlikely to have a mobile phone.		Terry is generally less active than the average adult. Terry's top sports are keep fit/ gym (8%), swimming (6%), cycling (6%), angling (4%), and golf (4%).
					9%				
	<b>Norma</b> Late Life Ladies  Also known as Pauline, Angela, Irene, Denise, Jean	Older ladies, recently retired with a basic income to enjoy their lifestyles. <i>Job seeker or retired, single.</i>	56-65	DE	23%	2.1%	Norma is a high TV viewer, enjoying quiz shows, chat shows, soaps and religious programmes. Most new technology has passed her by, having no internet access or mobile phone, but she uses her landline to call her family.		Norma is generally less active than the average adult. Norma's top sports are keep fit/ gym (12%), swimming (10%), cycling (2%), bowls (1%) and martial arts/ combat (1%).
					6%				
	<b>Ralph &amp; Phyllis</b> Comfortable Retired Couples  Also known as Lionel, Arthur, Reginald, Beryl, Peggy, Marjorie	Retired couples, enjoying active and comfortable lifestyles. <i>Retired, married or single.</i>	66+	ABC1	28%	4.2%	Ralph and Phyllis are medium to light TV viewers, preferring to be out and about instead. They are unlikely to have access to the internet, although it is something they are considering. They read the newspaper daily: either the Daily Telegraph or Times.		Ralph and Phyllis are less active than the average adult, but sportier than other segments of the same age group. Ralph and Phyllis' top sports are keep fit/ gym (10%), swimming (9%), golf (7%), bowls (4%), and cycling (4%).
					9%				
	<b>Frank</b> Twilight Years Gent  Also known as Roy, Harold, Stanley, Alfred, Percy	Retired men with some pension provision and limited exercise opportunities. <i>Retired, married or single</i>	66+	C1C2D	21%	4.0%	Frank is a heavy TV viewer and enjoys watching live sport and notices TV advertising, which he is influenced by. He does not use the internet and is nervous of computers. Frank reads a newspaper most days, either the Daily Mail or Express. He does not have a mobile phone.		Frank is generally much less active than the average adult. Frank's top sports are golf (7%), keep fit/ gym (6%), bowls (6%), swimming (6%) and cycling (4%).
					9%				
	<b>Elsie &amp; Arnold</b> Retirement Home Singles  Also known as Doris, Ethel, Gladys, Stanley, Walter, Harold	Retired singles or widowers, predominantly female, living in sheltered accommodation. <i>Retired, widowed.</i>	66+	DE	17%	8.0%	Elsie and Arnold are heavy TV viewers, enjoying quiz shows, religious programmes and old films. They generally do not have access to the internet or use a mobile phone, and only use their landline to call family		Elsie and Arnold are much less active than the average adult. Their top sports are keep fit/ gym (10%), swimming (7%), bowls (3%), golf (1%) and cycling (1%).

# CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

## APPENDIX 3: CONSULTEE LIST

Consultee	Designation	Organisation
Deryck Povey	Secretary	Benfleet CC
Ross Casson	Secretary	Canvey Island CC
Ron Curtis	Secretary	Hadleigh and Thundersley CC
Len Hymans	Secretary	Canvey Island RFC
Adrian Boyce	Secretary	Benfleet Vikings RFC
P. Humm	Secretary	Castle Point BC
Mrs M Easter	Secretary	Hadleigh BC
P. Hitchcock	Secretary	South Benfleet & Canvey BC
Sam Wood	Secretary	Hadleigh Park LTC
Elaine De Can	Secretary	Canvey Island Town Council
John Wellman	Secretary	Benfleet FC
Darren Booth	Secretary	Benfleet Manor FC
Paul Mckew	Secretary	Benfleet youth FC
Peter King	Secretary	C & K Basildon ladies FC
Gary Sutton	Secretary	Canvey Island FC
Daniel Graham	Secretary	Canvey Island Youth FC
Cliff Larkin	Secretary	Concord Rangers FC
Natalie Norris	Secretary	Concord Rangers Youth FC
Sam Sanders	Secretary	CT 66 FC
Drake	Secretary	Elm United FC
James Gregory	Secretary	Estuary United FC
Joe Buckingham	Secretary	Inter Island FC
Phillip Foot	Secretary	Island Boys FC
Paul Blackwell	Secretary	Island Girls FC
Unknown	Secretary	Junior Red Star FC
Lorna & Kevin Gray	Secretary	Mornington FC
Kevin Gray	Secretary	Mornington Boys FC
Tim Staines	Secretary	Porter's Soccability FC
Jill Hermitage	Secretary	Seevic FC
Kevin Moore	Secretary	Simco Asbestco FC
Unknown	Secretary	South Benfleet United FC
Jake Head	Secretary	Supreme Youth FC
Conner Hill	Secretary	Tarpot Rovers FC (folded)
Graham & Claire Howlett	Secretary	Thundersley Rovers FC
Karen Kerridge	Headteacher	The Appleton School
Mrs C P Skewes	Headteacher	The Cornelius Vermuyden School
Unknown	Sports Centre Manager	Deanes School Sports Centre
Dan Pearson	Sports Manager	Seevic College
Karen Tucker	Headteacher	Canvey Junior School
Mrs. A Matthews	Headteacher	Canvey island Infant School
Mrs. Gosnold	Headteacher	William Read Primary School
Anne-Marie Taylor	Headteacher	St Katherines Church of England Primary School



## CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH ASSESSMENT

Consultee	Designation	Organisation
Mr. S. Proctor	Headteacher	Hadleigh Infant and Nursery School
Mr. D Carver	Headteacher	South Benfleet Primary School
John Archer	Headteacher	Westwood Academy
Kirsteen Newell	Headteacher	Kingston School
Helen King	Headteacher	Kents Hill Infant School
Glenn Moore	Headteacher	Hadleigh Junior School
Hannah Alabaster	Headteacher	Kents Hill Junior School
Emma Lane	Headteacher	Northwick Park Primary and Nursery Academy
Emma Dawson	Headteacher	Thundersley Primary School
Mrs J Matthews	Deputy Headteacher	Leigh Beck Junior School
Nic Maxwell	Headteacher	Cedar Hall School