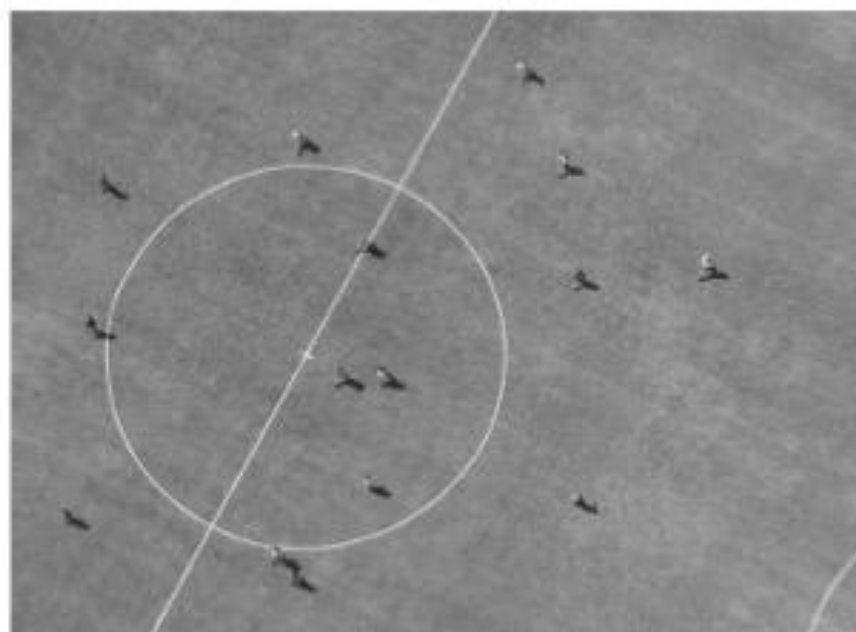
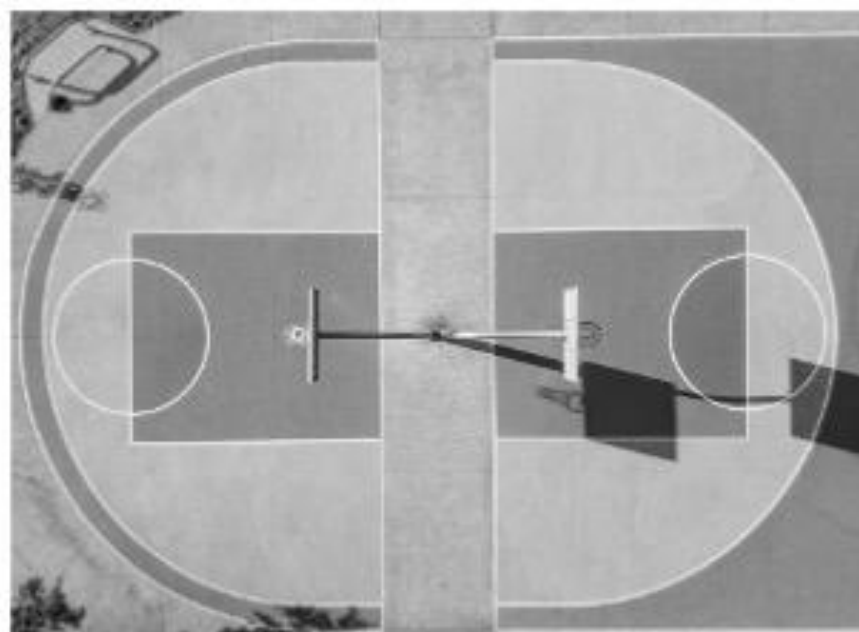




Greater Cambridge

Outdoor Courts & Rinks Strategy and Action Plan (Interim)

A report by Strategic Leisure Limited

June 2026



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1 Introduction and Context

Study Area

- 1.1. The study area is Greater Cambridgeshire which comprises the City of Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire District.
- 1.2. The sub areas used for each of the local authority areas are described in their individual sections for ease of reference.

Project Scope and Objectives

- 1.3. Greater Cambridge Planning Authority commissioned Strategic Leisure Limited (SLL) to develop an Outdoor Courts and Rinks (OCR) as part of the wider suite of strategic planning documents to inform the development and implementation of planning policy, assessment of planning applications and the need to provide evidence to help secure internal and external funding. The OCR will inform the standards for court provision required through planning policy.
- 1.4. This strategic assessment provides an up-to-date analysis of supply and demand for OCR and its current and future demand in the local authority. The strategy and the evidence base upon which it is based is delivered using national guidance and facility insight from specific Governing Bodies of Sport based on a collaborative approach.
- 1.5. The assessment will focus on facilities used by the following sports:

- Tennis / Padel
- Netball
- Bowls
- Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)

Map 1: Greater Cambridge Study Area



Greater Cambridge Outdoor Courts and Rinks Strategy

- 1.6. The strategy will seek as far as is practicable to include consideration of all forms of play for these sports, whether
- Club and league based (formal) competitions and training.
 - Less formal programmed forms of the respective sports
 - Informal and un-programmed play by groups of residents, workers, students, school friends (out of school).
- 1.7. The OCR will provide a holistic analysis of sports facilities across the Study Area of Greater Cambridge. This will lead to a comprehensive set of recommendations for the future development of leisure/health and wellbeing provisions, in line with the needs of local residents.
- 1.8. The consultant team has worked with the Council to provide a strategy that is fit-for-purpose and addresses the specific issues and risks for the area. It is key that this OCR strategy reflects the local context and enables the Council to maximise the amount of high-quality sporting provision for its residents, while understanding the need to meet planning and housing requirements.
- 1.9. The OCR strategy will sit alongside a wider suite of planning documents that cover Physical Activity, Leisure and Culture in its widest sense and will focus on furthering the Council's ambitions to improve health and wellbeing and increasing participation in sport and creative behaviours and connection to open space for all its residents in the hope of decreasing the level of physical inactivity and life expectancy divide in our communities.
- 1.10. The work includes the audit of existing leisure provision (sports, physical activity, open space and parks), current and predicted future demand for this provision, and the identification of key issues and challenges that create barriers to increasing participation in leisure and culture. The various strands of this strategy will be clearly interconnected. This will include, where it is reasonably practicable, running in parallel with the development of the Local Plan. This way any proposed strategy will identify suitable outdoor provision according to the current and future needs of residents for all standards of play.
- 1.11. The strategy will therefore aim to deliver against the following drivers:
- Contribute to and inform the evidence base for Greater Cambridge's new local plan through the provision of a clear action plan with owners and defined timescales for completion.
 - The need to inform the development and implementation of planning policy taking into account of national legislation and policy changes and wider economic changes.

- The need to inform the assessment of planning applications and the need to provide evidence to help secure internal and external funding. Provide support in directing developer contribution funding under a supplementary planning document on developer contributions to facilities which need it to increase or improve provision.
- Recognition of the importance of outdoor physical activity and sport within any development or regeneration project, and clear demonstration of how these should be prioritised.
- Provision of an evidenced based approach and the management of a clear sign-off and governance structure for key stakeholders and the quantity and quality of our current stock of playing pitches to ensure that we can protect and enhance an accessible, high quality and sustainable network of playing pitches.

Methodology

- 1.12. The assessment methodology adopted for the OCR strategy has been developed using the Sport England Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guidance, published in 2014. This recommends an approach to undertaking a robust assessment of need for facilities to meet the requirements of the NPPF (2021). The Sport England ANOG guidance is currently under review; the updated guidance is likely to be published in later in 2026.
- 1.13. Stage B of the methodology involves the gathering of supply and demand information from a range of sources. An initial audit of outdoor sports facilities is gathered using Sport England's Active Places Power (APP) online tool. This audit will then form the basis of the supply information, before being informed through other sources. Non-technical site assessments, club surveys, and Council officer and NGB consultation will also influence this information before it is presented at Stage B.
- 1.14. The supply information at Stage B includes the following:
 - Site name and location
 - Ownership and management type
 - Number and type of pitches
 - Accessibility
 - Pitch and ancillary facility quality
 - Maintenance information

Greater Cambridge Outdoor Courts and Rinks Strategy

- Security of tenure or community use agreements
- The views of users, providers and other relevant groups.

1.15. In addition to supply data, it is important to gather information regarding the demand for outdoor sports facilities. Using information provided by NGBs at Stage A, club affiliation data, league secretaries, education information and club surveys etc, it is possible to build an accurate picture of the demand for that each specific site caters for. The demand information required to inform the PPS is as follows:

- Sport clubs matches and training
- Casual and other demand
- Educational demand
- Displaced demand
- Unmet and latent demand
- Trends and changes
- Future demand

Greater Cambridge Outdoor Courts and Rinks Strategy

- 1.16. The findings in this Stage C report are based on data collected from several credible sources, including but not limited to:
- Local authority and public policy strategic documentation
 - Sport England tools, including the Facility Planning Model (FPM), Active Places Power, the Active People Survey, and the Sports Facility Calculator
 - Stakeholder consultation, including the City of Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire District Council Officers and Members, Sport England, relevant National Governing Bodies of Sport, education providers, key user clubs; and
 - Site visits, undertaken for all sites across the Study Area.
- 1.17. A project steering group comprising representation from the Council, Sport England and National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs) has guided the study from its commencement. At critical milestones, the Steering Group members have reviewed and verified the data and information collected to allow the work to proceed efficiently through each stage.

Report Structure

- 1.18. The structure of the OCR report for each of the City of Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire District is as follows:
- Section 1 – Introduction and Methodology
 - Section 2 – Strategic Context
 - Section 3 – Tennis
 - Section 4 - Netball
 - Section 5 – Outdoor Bowls
 - Section 6 – MUGA
- 1.19. Supporting information is included in the appendices and referenced throughout.

Overarching framework

Greater Cambridge Outdoor Courts and Rinks Strategy

- 1.20. The Greater Cambridge OCR Strategy will contain an overarching framework for the hierarchy of playing pitch provision across the single local authority area.
- 1.21. The overarching framework will identify the strategic added value of the proposals by:
- addressing the cross-boundary issues across Greater Cambridge
 - addressing the sub regional issues
 - identifying a consistent approach to undertaking pitch assessment, to ensure that the baseline information available on the current supply and demand for different sports is comparable across the authority
 - providing generic and site-specific recommendations on opportunities for cross-boundary provision within and beyond the boundaries of the neighbouring counties
 - making recommendations for addressing the needs of potential/future major growth areas in the local authorities

Planning Policy

- 1.22. The formulation of this strategy is influenced by a number of key national and local strategies. These policies inform the approach to the current and future provision of sports facilities. The policies provide links to health improvement, increased participation, and the appropriate levels of provision of facilities to meet local needs.
- 1.23. From a planning perspective, the national context connects planning policy, a Local Plan and population growth at a local level, and the need to plan for increased demands for infrastructure and provision, is linked to key elements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF): Protect, Enhance, and Provide.

Strategic Policy and Context

- 1.24. There are a number of key national and local strategies and policies which inform and influence the development of these strategies. These national policies inform the approach to current and future provision of sports facilities, linked to health improvement, increased participation, and the appropriate levels of provision of facilities to meet local needs. From a planning perspective, the national agenda makes the link between national planning policy, a Local Plan and population growth at local level, and the need to plan for increased demands for infrastructure and provision, linked to Protect, Enhance and Provide.

Greater Cambridge Outdoor Courts and Rinks Strategy

- 1.25. A number of current strategic policies, strategies and factors influence current and future supply and demand for sport and recreation facilities in Greater Cambridge. The Council believes that all residents should have access to opportunities for physical activity; playing pitches should be used for informal physical activity alongside all of the sports clubs using these facilities.
- 1.26. The location of playing pitches is an essential consideration. These should be in areas that enable active travel, to avoid people having to take private transport to exercise and therefore located on or near public transport routes. This could include locations around town centres to support increased footfall and serve near residential developments. Similarly, these should be near to areas of deprivation, and areas with a high proportion of underrepresented groups to ensure barriers for physical activity are removed. It is also the role of dedicated Social Prescribers to promote the use of outdoor spaces to improve health.
- 1.27. As well as providing the context for future facility provision, e.g. health improvement, improving accessibility, increasing participation, these strategies provide opportunities to link priority areas and needs, and ensure that outcomes are aligned with identified local objectives. The relevant local strategies and policies are included at Appendices B and C

National Policy

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (updated 19 December 2024)

- 1.28. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the government's planning policies for England. A revised version was published on 19 December 2024. The NPPF sets out government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It sets out the government's vision for achieving healthy, inclusive and safe places.
- 1.29. Paragraph 23 of the NPPF states that strategic policies should provide a clear strategy for bringing sufficient land forward, at a sufficient rate, to address objectively assessed needs over the plan period. This should include planning for and allocating sufficient sites to deliver strategic priorities of the area.
- 1.30. The NPPF requires that Local Planning Authorities (LPA) ensure that their Local Plans are based on up-to-date and relevant evidence. This should be adequate and proportionate, focused tightly on supporting and justifying the policies concerned, and consider relevant market signals (NPPF, Para. 31).

1.31. Paragraph 92 seeks policies which:

‘...promote social interaction, including providing opportunities for meeting between people who might not otherwise come into contact with each other...’.

1.32. The NPPF puts importance of planning policies and decisions aiming to achieve healthy, inclusive, and safe places (para. 96a-c). These provide guidance on planning positively for provision and use of community facilities (including sports facilities and venues) and the development of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all sections of the community.

1.33. Paragraph 98, of the NPPF, emphasises the need for Local Plans to deliver the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services a community needs. In doing so, policies should:

- a.** Plan positively for the provision and use of shared spaces, community facilities (such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship) and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments;
- b.** Take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community;
- c.** Guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services, particularly where this would reduce the community’s ability to meet its day-to-day needs;
- d.** Ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernise, and are retained for the benefit of the community; and
- e.** Ensure an integrated approach to considering the location of housing, economic uses and community facilities and services.

1.34. Paragraphs 103 and 104 outline the planning policies for the provision and protection of sport and recreation facilities:

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

1.35. Paragraph 104 of the NPPF specifies that:

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

- a) an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or
- b) the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
- c) the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.

1.36. This aligns well with Sport England’s Playing Field Policy to ensure that recognised playing field sites are provided, protected and enhanced.

**Get Active: A strategy for the future of sport and physical activity. Department for Culture Media and Sport
August 2023**

Our vision is to make sport and physical activity accessible, resilient, fun, and fair, for now and the years to come – for the benefit of individuals and the country.

- 1.37. The government wants to help build a healthier nation by tackling high levels of inactivity, and by making sure that the sport and physical activity sector thrives for future generations.
- 1.38. The 3 core priorities of this strategy, and what it means for the country, are:
1. **Being unapologetically ambitious in making the nation more active, whether in government or in the sport sector:**
 - Ensuring everyone is focused on increasing physical activity, meaning fewer inactive children, and narrowing the gap on inactivity where groups are not being reached, with visible progress across the country by 2030.
 - Focusing on evidence, data, and metrics
 - Setting the future direction for facilities and spaces where people can be active.
 2. **Making sport and physical activity more inclusive and welcoming for all so that everyone can have confidence that there is a place for them in sport.**
 - Helping the sector to be welcoming to all.
 - Improving how issues and concerns are dealt with in the sector.
 3. **Moving towards a more sustainable sector that is more financially resilient and robust.**
 - Supporting the sector to access additional, alternative forms of investment.
 - Working towards a more environmentally sustainable sector.

Sport England – ‘Uniting the Movement’ (UtM) 2021

- 1.39. Sport England’s vision is that everyone in England feels able to take part in sport or physical activity, regardless of age, background, or ability. Sport England has three key objectives in their existing 10-year strategy:
- 1. Advocating for Movement, Sport and Physical Activity.**
 - 2. Joining Forces on Five Big Issues.**
 - 3. Creating the Catalysts for Change**
- 1.40. The ‘**Five Big Issues**’ are defined as:
- 1. Recover and Reinvent**
 - Recovering from the biggest crisis in a generation and reinventing as a vibrant, relevant and sustainable network of organisations providing sport and physical activity opportunities that meet the needs of different people.
 - 2. Connecting Communities**
 - Focusing on sport and physical activity’s ability to make better places to live and bring people together.
 - 3. Positive Experiences for Children and Young People**
 - An unrelenting focus on positive experiences for all children and young people as the foundations for a long and healthy life.
 - 4. Connecting with Health and Wellbeing**
 - Strengthening the connections between sport, physical activity, health and wellbeing, so more people can feel the benefits of, and advocate for, an active life.
 - 5. Active Environments**
 - Creating and protecting the places and spaces that make it easier for people to be active.
- 1.41. It is important to highlight that Sport England is currently reviewing UtM with a view to updating it following the initial 5 years of its lifespan. It is understood that the existing priorities are unlikely to change, and that a focus on place-based working will continue.

- 1.42. National Governing Bodies (NGBs) also have their own strategy documents that set out their sport's national strategic priorities. An overview of these is provided in each sport specific section of this report.

Everybody Active, Every Day Public Health England (PHE) ¹

- 1.43. This framework sets out a national, evidence-based approach to support all sectors to embed physical activity into the fabric of daily life and make it an easy, cost-effective and 'normal' choice in every community in England.
- 1.44. Public Health England wants to drive a step change in the public's health. Tackling physical inactivity is a key part of making this step change to reduce the burden of preventable death, disease and disability, and support people and their communities to achieve their potential.
- 1.45. To deliver this vision requires action across four areas at national and local level:
- Active society: creating a social movement
 - Moving professionals: activating networks of expertise
 - Active lives: creating the right environments
 - Moving at scale: scaling up interventions that make us active
- 1.46. The 2018 and 2021 reviews of Everybody Active, Every Day (2014) recognised these specific challenges:
1. Tackling inequalities; this is important in Sheffield where those living in more deprived areas are more likely to experience a range of inequalities, including health.
 2. Creating an active society; it is a priority to create the conditions and opportunities where people can be more active as part of everyday life.
 3. Creating an active environment. The growth areas of Sheffield provide an opportunity to create active environments facilitating everyday physical activity and linking existing and new communities.

4.1. ¹ (An evidence-based approach to physical activity (2014), reviewed 2020 (Due to be updated again in 2023))

Chief Medical Officer (CMO) UK Physical Activity Guidelines (2011; updated 2016, and again in 2019)

Department for Health and Social Care

- 1.47. Physical activity includes all forms of activity, such as everyday walking or cycling to get from A to B, active play, work-related activity, active recreation (such as working out in a gym), dancing, gardening or playing active games, as well as organised and competitive sport. The Chief Medical Officer (CMO) provides physical activity guidance for five different age groups within the population.
- **Moderate activity**
 - Causes participant to get warmer and breathe harder and their hearts to beat faster, but they should still be able to carry on a conversation.
 - **Vigorous activity**
 - Causes participant to get warmer and breathe much harder and their hearts to beat rapidly, making it more difficult to carry on a conversation
 - **Strengthening activity**
 - Physical activities that strengthen muscle and bone involve using body weight or working against a resistance
 - **Shorter sessions of activity**
 - The evidence shows that the benefits of physical activity can be achieved through sessions of 10 minutes or more of moderate to vigorous intensity activity. This duration is sufficient to improve cardiovascular fitness and lessen some risk factors for heart disease and type 2 diabetes. Although more research is required, there is also some evidence that sessions of vigorous intensity activity less than 10 minutes may be beneficial to health.
 - Shorter sessions of physical activity offer an easier starting point for people who have been in active for some time, and for those who have busy lives and find it hard to prioritise activity.

Demographics

Population Profiles and Projections

1.48. The key demographic factors impacting future provision of sport and physical activity facilities across Greater Cambridge include very significant population growth, as summarised in Table 1.

Table 1: Population Growth to 2045 (including post 2045 build out)

	2021 (Census 2021)	2031	2045 (including post 2045 build out)
The City of Cambridge	145,700	150,000	176,734
South Cambridge District	162,000	204,483	289,210
Greater Cambridge	307,700	354, 483	465,944
			Post-2045 build out
Population growth resulting from full-build out of residential developments post-2045	227,033		534,733

- Specific housing developments planned for the north-east and east of the city
- Key pockets of deprivation particularly towards the north of the city
- Issues of rural deprivation and isolation outside the city
- Growing levels of adult and child obesity
- 16.2% of the population in the City of Cambridge and 19.2% of the population in South Cambridgeshire district are active for less than 30 minutes per week; without the appropriate levels of accessible community provision inactivity levels will worsen further given the increase in population to 2045

Greater Cambridge - The Growth Context

Greater Cambridge - Planned Growth to 2045 (and full buildout post 2045 for large developments/new settlements)

- 1.49. In terms of major planned growth in the City of Cambridge there is a long-term proposal for a high-density urban extension at North-East Cambridge (NEC) for approximately 7,925 dwellings. There is also another urban extension of 10,591 dwellings at Cambridge East where the Cambridge East airport is currently located.
- 1.50. In South Cambridgeshire three new settlements are planned at [Northstowe \(Phase 1 already built and Phase 2 under construction\)](#), [Waterbeach²](#) and [Bourn Airfield](#) each comprising of approximately 10,000, 11,000 and 3,500 dwellings, respectively. There is also an urban extension of up to 2,606 dwellings at [Cambourne](#) West). Cambourne is located a short distance west of Bourn Airfield. There is already a significant under-supply in swimming provision for Camborne that has been built out.
- 1.51. A summary of the Strategic Growth Areas is set out in Table 2.

Table 2: Summary of Planned Growth Areas

Site	Number of Dwellings	Population 2024-Full Build Out
Cambridge urban area - allocations	-	3,247
North West Cambridge (Eddington)	3,872	4,709
Darwin Green	2,573	6,053
Cambridge East	2,591	5,856
North of Worts Causeway	200	540
South of Worts Causeway	230	621
Bell School	42	113

² Source: <http://turnstoneestates.com/project/cambridge-waterbeach-new-settlement/>

Greater Cambridge Outdoor Courts and Rinks Strategy

Site	Number of Dwellings	Population 2024-Full Build Out
Northstowe	10,186	24,812
Waterbeach New Town	11,000	31,279
Bourn Airfield New Village	3,500	9,975
Cambourne West	2,606	5,843
Rural area - allocations	-	1,430
Cambridge urban area - windfalls	-	9,055
Rural area - windfalls (excluding Wellcome Genome Campus)	-	14,729
Wellcome Genome Campus	1,500	4,275
North East Cambridge	7,925	16,246
North West Cambridge (Eddington densification) (2,000 student rooms included)	2,500	4,500
Cambridge East (airport)	8,000	21,600
Cambourne (expansion)	15,000	42,750
Garages between 20 St. Matthews Street and Blue Moon Public House, Cambridge	12	29
Land between Hinton Way and Mingle Lane, Great Shelford	125	325
Land at Maarnford Farm, Hunts Road, Duxford	60	156
The Moor, Moor Lane, Melbourn	20	52
Land at Highfields (phase 2) , Caldecote	64	166
Land to the west of Cambridge Road, Melbourn	120	312
Grange Farm New Settlement	6,000	17,100
Cambridge Biomedical Campus	700	1,260

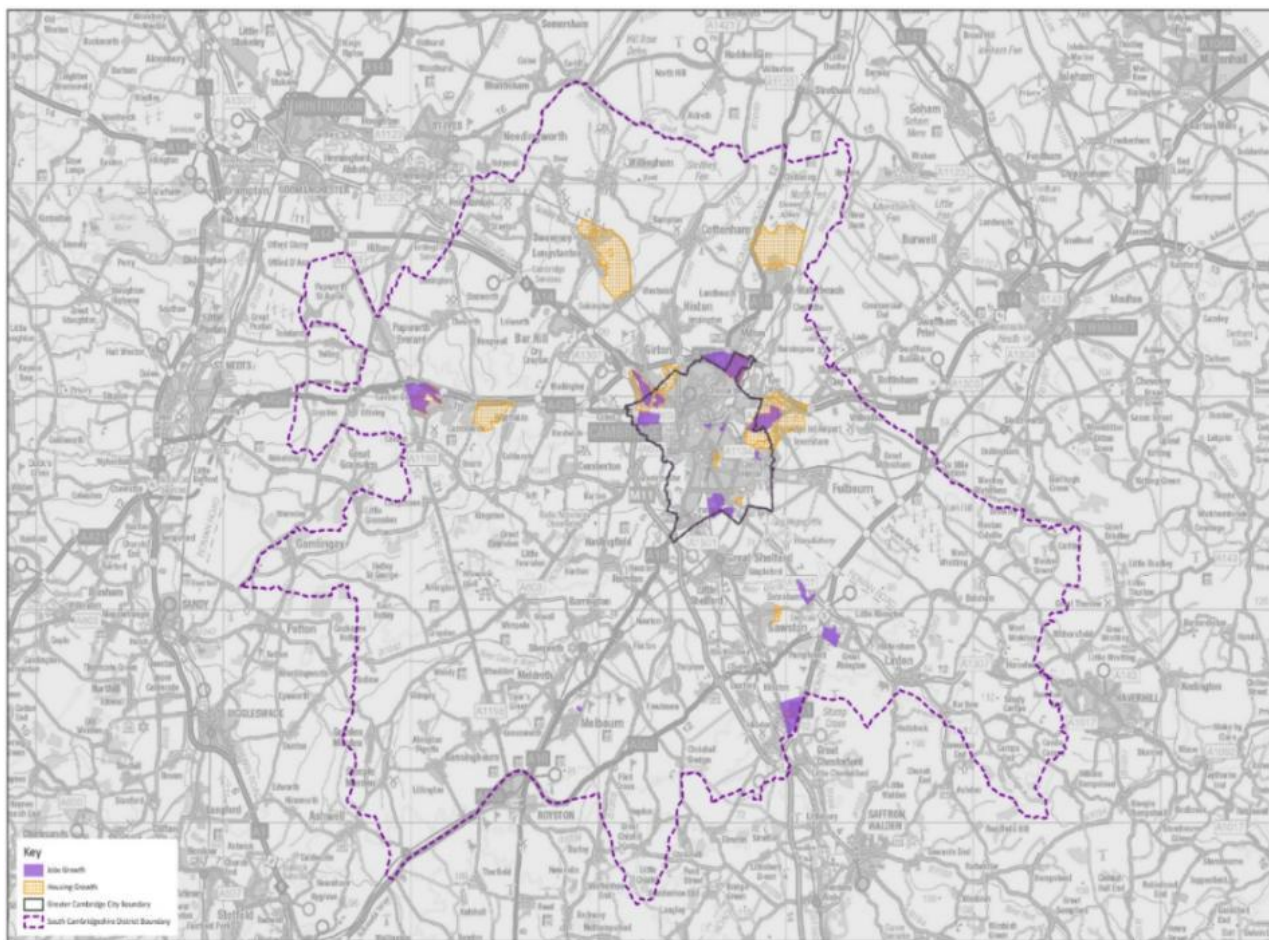
Greater Cambridge
Outdoor Courts and Rinks Strategy

Site	Number of Dwellings	Population 2024-Full Build Out
		227,033

1.52. Map 2 illustrates the areas of housing growth in Greater Cambridge to 2045.

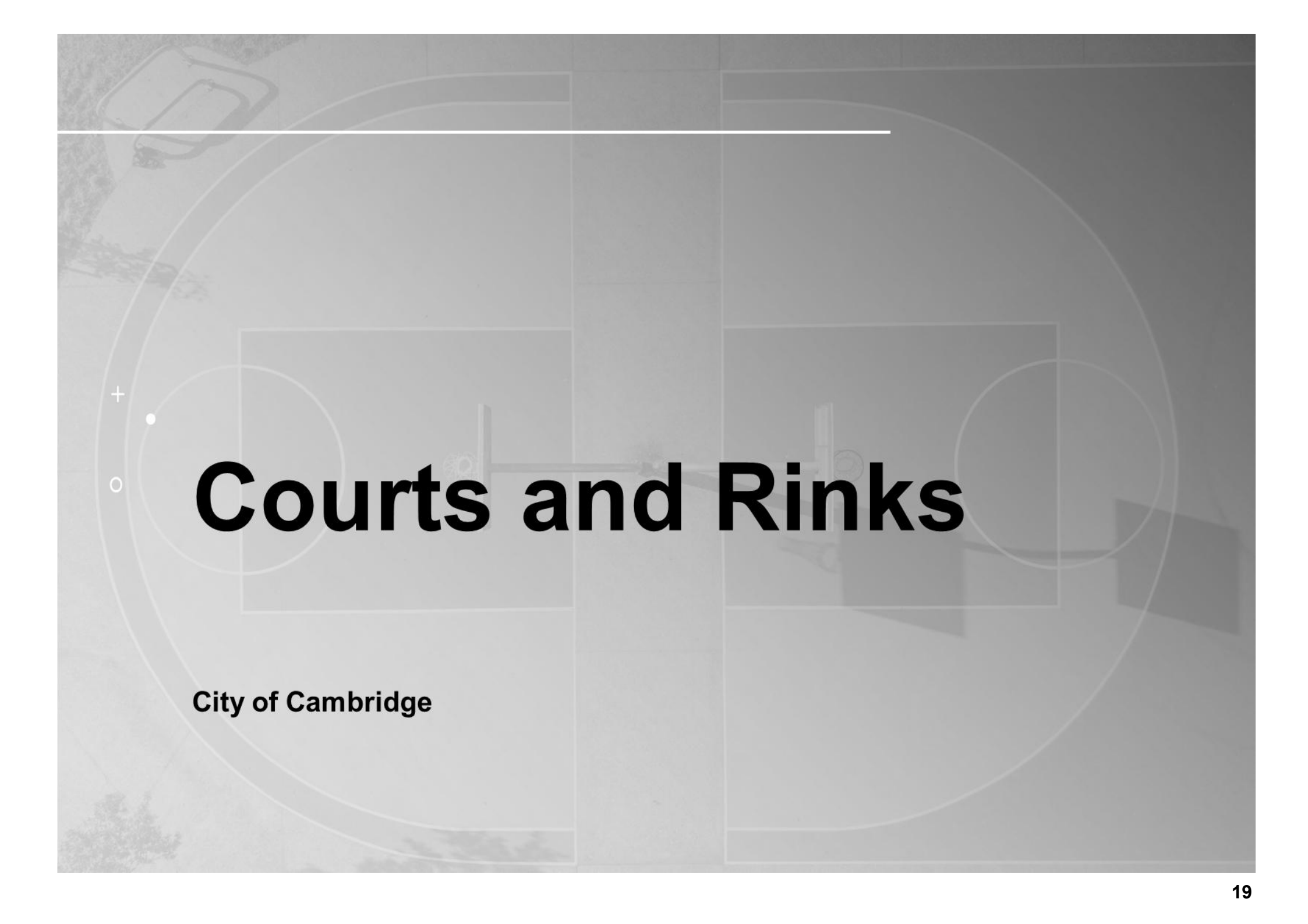
Greater Cambridge Outdoor Courts and Rinks Strategy

Map 2: Indicative Planned and Proposed Growth in Greater Cambridgeshire to 2045 ³



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N.B. Sites and allocations supplied by Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire District councils.

³ Source: The City of Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire District



Courts and Rinks

City of Cambridge

2 City of Cambridge Courts and Rinks

Tennis Analysis

Introduction and Strategic Context

- 2.1. The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) is the organisation responsible for the governance of tennis. Cambridgeshire Tennis is responsible locally for the sport in terms of county teams and county-based initiatives in The City of Cambridge. The following section provides greater detail of the existing strategies and national facility plans that are currently being delivered by the LTA.
- 2.2. Following this, the supply and demand section of this report evaluates the adequacy of facilities for tennis and considers:
- The supply of courts and demand for these;
 - The quality of courts in the city; and
 - Recommendations moving forward.

Sub Areas

- 2.3. As part of the courts and rinks process, the City of Cambridge has been broken down into four sub-areas. The area covered by each sub area are outlined in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Description of Sub Areas in the City of Cambridge

Sub Area	Areas
North	King's Hedges, Arbury, West Chesterton, East Chesterton
East	Abbey, Coleridge, Petersfield, Romsey
West & Central	Castle, Market, Newham
South	Cherry Hinton, Queen Edith's, Trumpington

Supply

2.4. The following tables provides a breakdown of tennis courts in the area (please note that this table refers to courts and not sites). The quality rating of a site is calculated using the following LTA criteria:

Poor (red): Playing surface poor, slippery playing surface, poor drainage, cracks on the playing surface and surrounding area, court markings hardly visible, no nets or nets damaged, surrounding fencing poor/dangerous.	Standard (yellow): Court colour is fading or showing signs of wear. The surface remains largely intact. The court life, prior to needing resurfacing, would be extended for up to 5 years by cleaning and repainting of the existing surface.	Good (green): Good playing surface, courts recently been upgraded, resurfaced, nets and fencing in working order
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2.5. Table 4 provides an overview of LTA registered sites in the study area.

Table 4: LTA Registered Outdoor Tennis Provision by Site

Site Name	Sub Area	Venue Type	Community Use	Security of Community Use	Ownership	Management	Number of Courts	Surface	Floodlit	Site Quality
Coleridge Rec Ground	East	Park	Available	Secure	Local Authority	Local Authority	2	Macadam	0	Standard (yellow)
David Lloyd	East	Commercial	Available	Secure	Commercial	Commercial	3	Macadam	3	Good (green)
Cambridge Lawn Tennis Club	West & Central	Club	Available	Secure	Sports Club	Sports Club	15	2x Grass / 7x AGP / 3x Clay / 4x Macadam	8	Good (green)
Christ Pieces	West & Central	Park	Available	Secure	Local Authority	Local Authority	4	Macadam	0	Good (green)
Jesus Green	West & Central	Park	Available	Secure	Local Authority	Local Authority	6	2x Grass / 4x Macadam	0	Good (green)
Lammas Land	West & Central	Park	Available	Secure	Local Authority	Local Authority	1	Macadam	0	Poor (red)
Cherry Hinton Hall Park	South	Park	Available	Secure	Local Authority	Local Authority	1	Macadam	0	Standard (yellow)
Nightingale Avenue	South	Park	Available	Secure	Local Authority	Local Authority	2	Macadam	0	Good (green)
Trumpington Rec Ground	South	Park	Available	Secure	Local Authority	Local Authority	1	Macadam	0	Good (green)
Darwin Green	North	Park	Available	Secure	Local Authority	Local Authority	3	Macadam	0	Good (green)

Table 5: Unregistered Outdoor Tennis Provision by Site

Site Name	Sub Area	Community Use	Security of Community Use	Ownership	Management	Number of Courts	Surface	Floodlit	Site Quality
Chesterton Community College	North	Available	Secure	Education	Education	4	Macadam	4	Good (green)
North Cambridge Academy	North	Available	Secure	Education	Education	4	Macadam	4	Good (green)
Churchill College	West & Central	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	6	3x Grass / 3x Macadam	0	Good (green)
Corpus Christi	West & Central	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	6	4x grass / 2x Macadam	0	Good (green)
Downing College	West & Central	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	2	Macadam	0	Good (green)
Emmanuel College	West & Central	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	9	6x Grass /	0	Good (green)
Fitzwilliam College	West & Central	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	4	3x Grass / 1x Macadam	0	Good (green)
Gonville and Caius College	West & Central	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	5	3x Grass / 2x Macadam	0	Good (green)

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Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment – City of Cambridge

Site Name	Sub Area	Community Use	Security of Community Use	Ownership	Management	Number of Courts	Surface	Floodlit	Site Quality
Gonville and Caius College Fellows Garden	West & Central	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	1	Macadam	0	Poor (red)
Jesus College	West & Central	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	5	2x Grass / 3x Macadam	0	Standard (yellow)
Kings College	West & Central	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	1	Macadam	0	Good (green)
Murray Edwards College	West & Central	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	2	Macadam	0	Good (green)
Newham College	West & Central	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	5	Macadam	0	Standard (yellow)
Pembroke College Sports Ground	West & Central	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	6	Grass	0	Good (green)
Peterhouse, Downing, St Catherine's & Christ's College	West & Central	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	8	5x Grass / 3x Macadam	0	Good (green)
St John's College	West & Central	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	18	4x Grass, 8x AGP, 6x Macadam	0	Good (green)
Trinity College	West & Central	Available	Unsecure	Education	Education	6	3x AGP / 3x Macadam	0	Good (green)
Trinity Hall Ground – Tennis Courts	West & Central	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	2	3x Macadam	0	Standard (yellow)
Wolfson College	West & Central	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	1	Macadam	0	Good (green)
Cambridge University Lawn Tennis Club (Fenners)	South	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	12	9x Grass / 3x Macadam	0	Good (green)
Cambridge University Press	South	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	3	AGP	3	Good (green)
Clare College	South	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	9	7x Grass / 2x Macadam	0	Good (green)
Hills Road Sports Centre	South	Available	Secure	Education	Education	6	2x Clay (poor) / 2x Macadam (standard) / 2x Acrylic (good)	2	Mixed
Homerton College	South	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	2	Grass	0	Good (green)
Kestrel Rise	South	Available	Secure	Local Authority	Local Authority	1	Macadam	0	Good (green)
Leys School Tennis Courts	South	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	6	3x Macadam / 3x Grass	0	Good (green)
Leys & St Faith 's School Tennis Courts	South	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	16	AGP	0	Good (green)

City of Cambridge
Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment – City of Cambridge

Site Name	Sub Area	Community Use	Security of Community Use	Ownership	Management	Number of Courts	Surface	Floodlit	Site Quality
Long Road 6 th Form College	South	Available	Unsecure	Education	Education	4	Macadam	0	Standard (yellow)
Netherall School	South	Available	Unsecure	Education	Education	6	Macadam	6	Good (green)
St Mary’s School	South	Unavailable	Unsecure	Education	Education	3	Macadam	3	Good (green)
Trumpington Community College	South	Available	Unsecure	Education	Education	2	Macadam	2	Good (green)

City of Cambridge

Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment – City of Cambridge

Table 6: Outdoor Tennis Ancillary Provision by Site – Available Sites

Site Name	Sub Area	Ancillary Facilities
Chesterton Community College	North	Good (green) – high quality sports centre with multiple changing rooms, good parking and access, café, gym etc.
North Cambridge Academy	North	Standard (yellow) – school changing facilities
Barnwell Road	East	Standard (yellow) – very basic ancillary provision, provided by the bowls club. Basic toilet and social area facility.
Coleridge Rec Ground	East	No ancillary provision
Cambridge Lawn Tennis Club	West & Central	Good (green) – good quality ancillary facilities. Limited access and parking availability
Christ Pieces	West & Central	No ancillary provision
Jesus Green	West & Central	No ancillary provision
Lammas Land	West & Central	No ancillary provision
Trinity College	West & Central	Good (green) – large ancillary facility with good facilities catering for tennis and grass pitches. Good access and parking
Hills Road Sports Centre	South	Good (green) – excellent ancillary provision, with good access and parking. Very well used public facility.
Kestrel Rise	South	No ancillary provision

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Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment – City of Cambridge

Site Name	Sub Area	Ancillary Facilities
Long Road 6 th Form College	South	Good (green) – large sports site, with good quality ancillary provision.
Nightingale Avenue	South	No ancillary provision
Trumpington Community College	South	Good (green) – school changing facilities
Trumpington Rec Ground	South	Good (green) - recently developed changing provision, with small communal space, good access and parking.

2.6. Provisional findings from the supply-side analysis indicate:

- There are 203 courts, across 41 sites in the study area.
- 71 out of 203 courts are available to public, with 53 of these providing secure community use
- 14 out of 41 sites are rated as good quality, totalling 63 courts. There is only 2 poor quality sites in Cambridge City, at Lammas Land (1 court) and Gonville and Caius Fellows Garden (1 court). However, 2 courts at Hills Road Sports Centre are also rated as poor
- There are 35 floodlit courts in the City of Cambridge, accounting for 17% of the total supply. All floodlit courts are located on privately owned sites.

2.7. Tables 4 and 5 show that there is a total of 10 LTA registered venues in Cambridge City, with 38 courts. This suggests that 81% of all courts in the study area are unregistered.

2.8. Non-LTA registered courts are missing an opportunity to open tennis up in their respective locations. Without registration those responsible for the courts are unable to access LTA support and resources. This support aims to help improve the management and operation of courts to ensure they are accessible and meet demand for tennis in Cambridge City. Facilities that are not registered to the LTA are likely not managed or utilised effectively. Opportunities are lost to maximise tennis participation as well as wider sport and physical activity benefits to local communities across the area. In some cases, these courts are available to the community but are underutilised because of poor customer journey and lack of financial sustainability plan.

City of Cambridge

Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment – City of Cambridge

2.9. Table 7 summarises the community available tennis sites in Cambridge.

Table 7: Site Summaries – Available sites

Site Name		Summary
Chesterton Community College		Excellent facility, easy access and parking. 4x high quality asphalt courts. Good netting and fencing. Floodlit. Also, markings for 4 netball courts. Very busy at time of visit with children's coaching.
North Cambridge Academy		Excellent facility, easy access, good parking. Floodlit. Good drainage - according to coach present at time of visit. Excellent surface and fencing. Some nets need minor repairs.
Barnwell Road		1x tarmac tennis court. Standard quality surface, fencing and netting. No floodlights. Adjacent to bowls club. Poor parking
Coleridge Ground	Rec	Multi-sport site with tennis and MUGA with basketball hoops and bowls. Free, public use available. Located within a park setting with GLL swimming pool on site - small lido. Tennis courts have good fencing, but surface is only satisfactory
Cambridge Tennis Club	Lawn	Excellent facility, easy access, but lack of parking. 2x AGP non floodlit. 5x AGP floodlit. 4x asphalt non floodlit. 2x Grass - non floodlit. 3x clay – floodlit. All surfaces excellent quality. All netting and fencing excellent. Good clubhouse facilities.
Christ Pieces		4 x tarmac courts in good condition, with good line markings. Although no use at time of visit, there is evidence of LTA activity. No floodlights. Lack of parking. City centre park location. No signs of improper use. Good facility
Jesus Green		2x Grass courts, with grass that is too long, clear line markings, good fencing and netting. 4x tarmac courts - average surface, good fencing, average netting. Line markings need re-painting. No floodlights. No parking. No ancillary facilities. Busy city centre park location
Lammas Land		Single free to play tennis court in nice park area. Average/OK surface. No floodlights. No changing. No signs of improper use

City of Cambridge

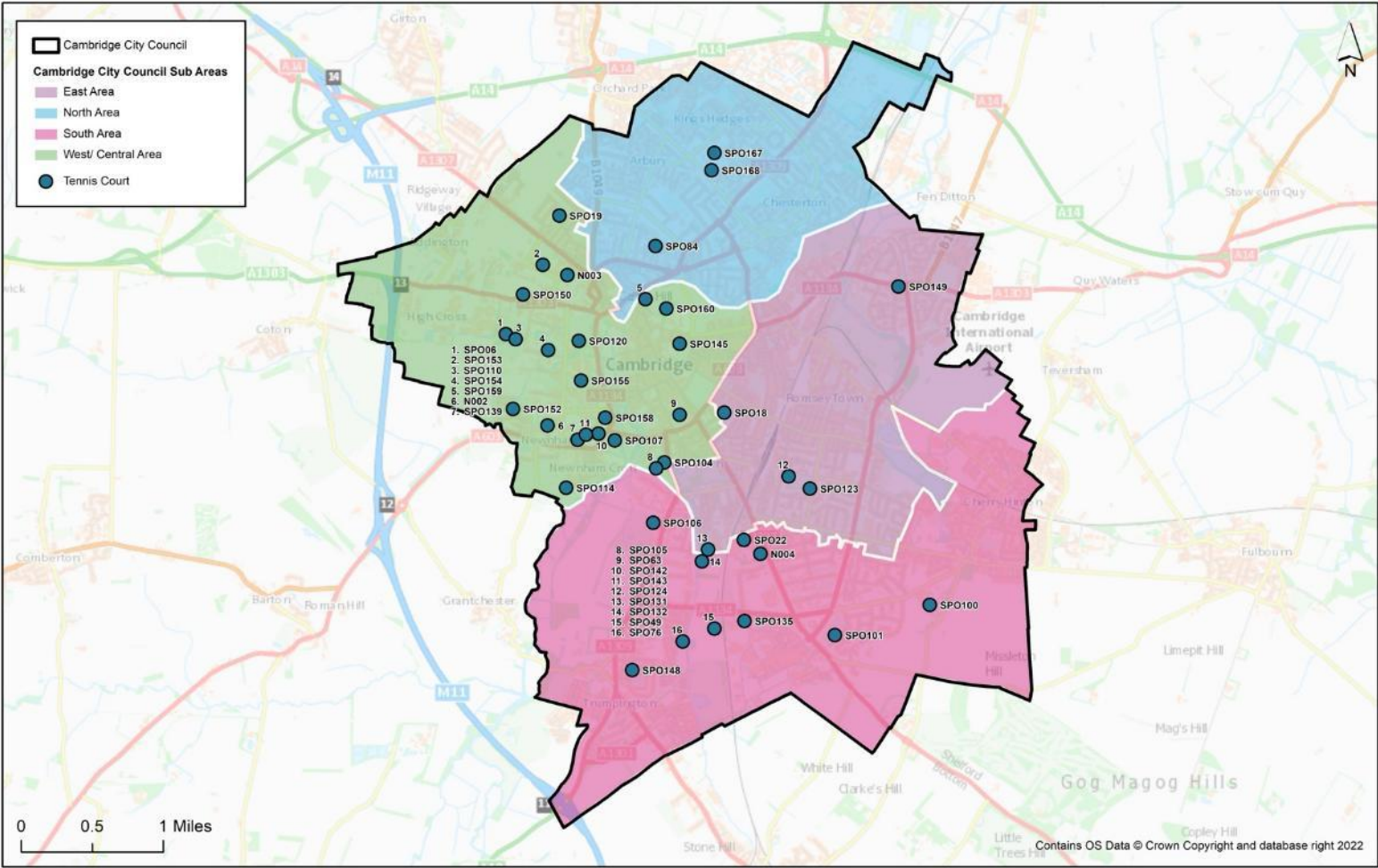
Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment – City of Cambridge

Site Name	Summary
Trinity College	Excellent facility with 3x asphalt and 3x Astroturf good quality surfaces, all of which are non-floodlit. Very busy facility, with good access and adjacent to cricket pitch and pavilion with good ancillary facilities. Good fencing and netting. Parking on road only.
Hills Road Sports Centre	Multi-sport site with tennis and sports hall, available for community use available. Very well used facility. 2 macadam courts have floodlights. 4 courts with no floodlights. Excellent facility.
Kestrel Rise	Multi-sport site with tennis and MUGA with basketball, adjacent to a primary school. Located within a new housing development, the site provides a very good community facility. Free to use for local community.
Long Road 6 th Form College	Extensive school sports site with 4 standard quality courts, serviced by good quality ancillary provision. There is also netball, 3G and hockey provision, grass pitches on site, with public sports hall and gym.
Nightingale Avenue	Multi-sport site with tennis and MUGA, free to use for the community. Pickleball also on site. Located within a park setting.
Trumpington Community College	Multi-sport, college site with sports hall, grass and artificial surfaces. Very good facility.
Trumpington Rec Ground	Multi-sport site with basketball MUGA, bowling green, one tennis court, football pitch (grass), pump track, green gym and pavilion with low impact sports. Good quality, free access tennis court, good tarmac. Full size tennis court with floor markings. Changing facilities within pavilion.

- 2.10. Map 3 shows the geographic location of outdoor tennis courts across the Study Area and presents the dispersion courts across the City of Cambridge.

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Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment – City of Cambridge

Map 3: Outdoor Tennis Court Audit in City of Cambridge



Tennis courts in Cambridge

2.11. This section of the analysis examines the demand for tennis in Cambridge.

Active Lives Survey

- 2.12. As per the LTA's insight as captured at the start of this chapter, demand for tennis is generated by a wide range of participants, from members to more 'casual' or 'recreational' players, to those trying tennis for the first time. Although many club sites in South Cambridgeshire are accessible on a pay and play basis, many of the more recreational players are usually defined by a lack of membership to a tennis club and typically access facilities.
- 2.13. Sport England's Active Lives Survey represents the most robust dataset regarding participation in sport in England amongst those aged 16 or older. The latest iteration of this data is taken from surveys carried out in November 2023/24. However, the latest data available regarding regular tennis activity for Cambridge City is from November 2017/18. Analysis of tennis activity in the Cambridgeshire County Council area, shows that tennis participation rates have remained consistent since this time. Therefore, we can presume that participation in Cambridge City will also be similar to 2017/18 levels. The data shows the following:
- 4.4% of residents aged 16+ in the City of Cambridge area reported playing tennis twice within the last 28 days.
 - This 'twice-monthly' participation rate is significantly higher than the national equivalent participation rate of 1.9% (Nov 23/24).
 - 13.8% of residents aged 16+ in the City of Cambridge area reported playing tennis at least once in year 23/24, which can be compared to a national average of 6.2%.
- 2.14. According to the population figures used throughout this report, there are 124,767 residents in City of Cambridge aged 16 or over. This means that when translated into demand, the Active Lives Figures show that 5,490 people play tennis at least twice every 28 days and 19,339 play at least once per year. These figures can be taken forward to analyse the utilisation the court capacity in the study area.

Membership Data

- 2.15. Consultations undertaken with community clubs in the City of Cambridge and data provided by the LTA have been used to capture membership figures. The membership figures for Cambridge City are displayed in Table 8.

Table 8: Tennis Club Membership in the City of Cambridge

Club Name	Site	Current Membership
Cambridge Lawn Tennis Club	Cambridge Lawn Tennis Club	900
Cambridge Tennis Academy	Chesterton Sports Centre	350
Cambridge Tennis Academy	Netherall School	108
Total		1,358

- 2.16. Table 8 shows that the only publicly available club site in the City of Cambridge is Cambridge Lawn Tennis Club, which has a membership of 900 people. However, Cambridge Tennis Academy operates across two sites in the City, Chesterton Sports Centre and Netherall School with 350 members and 108 members respectively. As a percentage of residents in the City of Cambridge aged 16+, 1.1% are member of a tennis club.
- 2.17. Through consultation with Cambridge Lawn Tennis Club, it is apparent that there are serious concerns regarding the continued accessibility of the site for both the club and the wider community. Currently, the club operate the site on a long-term (30 year) lease from Gonville and Caius College, however this will expire in March 2033. Although the club have attempted to begin discussions regarding the renewal of the lease, the college have not engaged and there are concerns that the site will be used for housing development. The site, as well as vacant land adjacent to it and the neighbouring Emmanuel College Sports Ground were submitted for housing development as part of the 2018 local plan but subsequently rejected by the national housing inspector.
- 2.18. Regardless of whether development of the site is permitted, the club highlight the importance of long-term security of tenure. There are approximately 900 members, of which 580 are adults and 320 are juniors, with a further 100 on a waiting list. As well as a successful competitive aspect and public pay and play usage, the club also offer a significant amount of community engagement and outreach, with a wide range of charity, disability, school and junior sessions focussed on providing opportunities for all.
- 2.19. The club are operating at capacity and have had applications for expansion previously rejected. The loss of the site would have negative implications for tennis in the City of Cambridge, and it should be a priority to secure a long-term lease agreement on the site for the club.

Future Demand

- 2.20. Future population figures based on housing projections will be used to model future demand for tennis. There will be a predicted 21.3% increase in the population across the City of Cambridge by 2045. Table 9 highlights the impact this will have on the number of over 16s in Cambridge City.

Table 9: Future Population Projections

Current 16+ Population	Future 16+ Population 2045
124,767	151,342

- 2.21. This means that, should participation and club memberships grow in-line with the population increase there will be around 21.3% more players in the future. This is broken down in further detail in Table 10.

Table 10: Future Demand Estimates

Participant Category	Current	Future Projection - Population	Future Projection – LTA Predictions
Club Members	1,358	1,648	1,833
Non-club players (at least once annually)	19,339	23,458	26,108
Total Participants	20,697	25,106	27,941

- 2.22. Table 10 shows the population driven growth in demand for tennis in the City of Cambridge. However, based on International Tennis Federation (ITF) figures, Great Britain is the world leader in percentage of the population playing tennis, with a 44% growth of the adult game between 2019 and 2023 and 3.6 million children participating at least once per year.
- 2.23. Insight provided by the LTA, suggests that across Cambridgeshire, participation of adults playing at least once annually grew by 35% between 2022 and 2025, indicating a potentially much higher rate of growth than based on just population growth alone.

Supply and Demand Balance

- 2.24. This section of the report will draw together the supply and demand data presented above to show the current and projected capacity balances for tennis in the City of Cambridge.

Club Balance

- 2.25. Table 11 summarises the current utilisation of each community club in the study area. If a court is floodlit it has a membership capacity of 60, compared with a membership capacity of 40 if non-floodlit. Although these are the figures that will be used to conduct the supply and demand analysis, clubs may be able to operate at a higher capacity. Therefore, they should not be considered as the absolute threshold.

Table 11: Current and Projected Utilisation of Tennis Club Courts in the City of Cambridge

Club	Capacity (membership)	Members	% Utilisation	Projected Members (2045)	Projected % Utilisation
Cambridge Lawn Tennis Club	800	900	113%	1,092	137%
Cambridge Tennis Academy (Chesterton Sports Centre)	240	350	145%	425	176%
Cambridge Tennis Academy (Netherall)	360	108	30%	131	36.39%

- 2.26. Table 11 shows that Cambridge Lawn Tennis Club and Cambridge Tennis Academy Chesterton are currently operating at 13% and 45% respectively, over their maximum capacity.
- 2.27. However, if growth in membership were to grow in line with population, then Cambridge Lawn Tennis Club is projected to be operating at 37% over their maximum capacity by 2045, whilst Cambridge Tennis Academy Chesterton will be 76% above maximum capacity.

Public Courts

City of Cambridge

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- 2.28. This section summarises the current supply and demand balance of public (non-club) courts in the City of Cambridge. Only courts accessible on a free-to-access or pay-and-play basis can be considered as ‘public courts’.
- 2.29. The LTA advises that the capacity of public courts to be 7 hours per day for non-floodlit courts and 12 hours per day for floodlit courts. This equates to 2,555 hours per year on non-floodlit courts and 4,380 hours per year on floodlit courts.
- 2.30. There are 68 courts in the City of Cambridge that are available for community use. 29 of these courts are floodlit.
- 2.31. It is estimated that these sites contribute 3,780 hours per week of playing capacity to meet demand for informal tennis in the City of Cambridge. This equates to 16,200 hours per month (30-day average) or 197,100 hours per year.
- 2.32. As highlighted earlier, 5,490 people participate in tennis activity at least twice every 28 days.
- 2.33. Assuming an average of 3 people per court per ‘booking / use’ (to account for an even split between singles, doubles and some sessions where 3 people share a court) this equates to 3,660 sessions per month played on public courts. If each match lasts for 1 hour on average this means that public courts are operating at 22.6% of their total operational capacity.
- 2.34. According to data provided by the LTA’s online booking system (Clubspark) with court access technology, the average level of utilisation in venues (UK wide) is 53%. By this barometer the City of Cambridge is operating at a significantly lower than average level in terms of its utilisation of public courts.
- 2.35. If demand for courts increases in line with population (increase of 21.3%), there will be an estimated 4,439 sessions per month on public courts by 2045. This would equate to 27% of existing public court capacity. This means that public tennis courts in the City of Cambridge would be operating around 26% lower than the current average utilisation according to the LTA’s 2019 benchmarking.
- 2.36. However, if only LTA registered sites are considered, there is a court capacity of 9,000 hours per month, meaning a current court utilisation of 40%. When future growth of demand is considered LTA registered sites will be operating at a minimum of 49% of capacity.
- 2.37. If participation was to grow by 35% as LTA Cambridgeshire figures suggest, then there would be demand for 4,941 sessions per month, resulting an operational capacity of 55%.

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Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment – City of Cambridge

- 2.38. LTA statistics also suggest that the vast majority of bookings are happening on good quality courts, especially those that have undergone recent renovations. This indicates that if poor or standard quality courts received investment and sports lighting installed, the demand for them would increase and therefore overall participation in tennis would rise.

Future Demand – Housing Development

- 2.39. There is predicted to be significant housing development across Cambridge City, leading to an increase in approximately 74,892 people. This additional population will have a significant impact on demand and therefore ensuring there are sufficient good quality floodlit tennis courts should be the priority.
- 2.40. Using Sport England's Sport Facilities Calculator, it is possible to establish the additional demand that will be generated by population growth at strategic growth sites in the City of Cambridge. This demand and the associated capital costs are highlighted by site in Table 12.

Table 12: Developer Contributions required for new Tennis Courts at housing sites – City of Cambridge

City of Cambridge					
Housing Sites	Indicative Population Growth	SFC – identified need for outdoor tennis courts	SFC – identified cost-contribution	On Site Contribution	Off Site Contribution
Cambridge Biomedical Campus	1,800	0.24	£28,769	£0	£28,769 (court improvement)
Cambridge East (Marleigh and Springfield Village)	5856	0.79	£87,332	£0	£87,332 (court improvement)
Cambridge East (airport)	21,600	2.92	£322,125	£220,633 (2 courts)	£101,492 (court improvement)
Cambridge Urban Area – Allocations	4,594	0.62	£73,425	£0	£73,425 (court improvement)

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City of Cambridge					
Housing Sites	Indicative Population Growth	SFC – identified need for outdoor tennis courts	SFC – identified cost-contribution	On Site Contribution	Off Site Contribution
Cambridge urban area – windfalls	7,498	1.01	£119,839	£119,839	£0
Darwin Green	6,053	0.82	£90,269	£0	£90,269 (court improvement)
North & South of Worts Causeway	1,161	0.15	£17,314	£0	£17,314 (court improvement)
North East Cambridge (Brookgate)	871	0.12	£13,921	£0	£13,921 (court improvement)
North East Cambridge	16,246	2.2	£242,280	£220,254 (2 courts)	£22,026 (court improvement)
North West Cambridge (Eddington)	4,709	0.64	£70,226	£0	£70,226 (court improvement)
North West Cambridge (Eddington densification)	4,500	0.61	£67,109	£0	£67,109 (court improvement)
TOTALS	74,888	10	£1,132,609	£560,726	£571,883

- 2.41. Table 12 identifies that there will be a requirement for an additional 10 courts across the City of Cambridge by 2045 due to housing growth. However, it is recommended that 5 new courts are developed across the larger sites of Cambridge Urban Area (windfalls), North East Cambridge, Cambridge East (Airport), and where housing development will only generate a small level of additional demand, that the priority should be to invest in court improvement.

City of Cambridge

Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment – City of Cambridge

- 2.42. Improving the quality of existing courts and providing additional floodlighting can add capacity to the current supply of outdoor courts and provide a better playing experience for many. However, although additional floodlighting is required, this cannot be delivered on all sites due to planning constraints linked to residential properties and conservation concerns. Where possible collaboration and partnerships with current tennis clubs to support their growth should be considered.
- 2.43. Priority courts to improve and sites to provide floodlighting are identified below:
- Coleridge Recreation Ground
 - Cambridge Lawn Tennis Club
 - Christ Pieces
 - Jesus Green
 - Lammas Land
 - Trinity College
 - Hills Road Sports Centre
 - Kestrel Rise
 - Long Road 6th Form College
 - Trumpington Recreation Ground
- 2.44. The delivery of a court at Abbey Leisure Complex as mitigation for the loss of provision at Barnwell Road should be prioritised.
- 2.45. As highlighted in paragraph 1.23, as well as the installation of floodlighting on site, it should also be a priority to secure a renewal of a long-term lease agreement at Cambridge Lawn Tennis Club.
- 2.46. The City of Cambridge is also identified by the LTA as being a strategic location for the development of an Indoor Community Tennis centre and multi-sport hub. These hubs would feature covered tennis and padel courts, as well as a multi-sport court suitable for basketball, netball, and other court-based sports, and would secure access to year-round tennis for a wide section of the community.

Padel

- 2.47. Padel is rapidly growing in GB with almost 900 courts, the majority of which have been constructed in the last 2 years. Courts are located within existing tennis clubs (member and community offer), local authority venues (parks and leisure centres), standalone padel venues and other sports clubs.

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Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment – City of Cambridge

- 2.48. Interest in the sport is growing with many sectors expressing an interest in developing courts, including continued growth within the club sector (tennis, rugby, cricket, football, squash); parks and leisure centres, education (secondary and HE) and continued growth delivered by the private sector.
- 2.49. There are currently 5 Padel courts within the City of Cambridge and there is an appetite for further investment in the development of courts in the area. There are proposals for development of courts at:
- West Cambridge – 3 courts
 - Cambridge Rugby Club – 5 courts
 - Chesterton Indoor Bowls Club – 2 courts
 - Jesus Green – 2-3 courts
 - Abbey Leisure Complex – 1 court
- 2.50. The LTA calculate the number of padel courts a local authority area can sustain using the following formula:
- Total population
 - Padel demand = 20% of the total population
 - Padel penetration = 8% of the estimated demand could convert to actual participants
 - 200 players can be accommodated per court
- 2.51. Using this formula and the population figures provided in Table 12, it is estimated that the City of Cambridge could currently sustain 12 courts, with potential demand increasing to 14 by 2045. This suggests that there is a current deficit of 7 courts, rising to 9 by 2045.
- 2.52. Although these figures can be used to help support the local authority and other local partners in any decision making and investment priorities, the LTA are clear that padel courts should never replace tennis courts, regardless of their condition or current usage. Any development of padel facilities should be covered doubles courts wherever possible, to ensure maximum utilisation and financial sustainability.

Tennis Summary

- 2.53. This section summarises the findings from the tennis analysis, which will form basis of the recommendation and action plan section for the City of Cambridge.

City of Cambridge

Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment – City of Cambridge

- 2.54. Table 13 includes the response to key questions, which are asked for all PPOSS studies across the UK, in order to provide a standardised illustration of supply and demand for sports provision.

Table 13: Key PPOSS Findings for Tennis in the City of Cambridge

Key Question	Analysis
What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?	There are 203 courts across 41 sites in the study area. 71 are available for community use, with 53 of these having some security of tenure. 17% of the total courts are floodlit. There is a total of 1,358 members of clubs in the City of Cambridge, whilst 5,443 people play tennis at least twice every 28 days and 19,174 play at least once per year.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?	Cambridge Lawn Tennis Club and Cambridge Tennis Academy Chesterton are operating over their maximum capacity, whilst publicly available courts are only operating at around 22.6% of their capacity. This is a below average utilisation level according to LTA data.
Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?	14 out of 41 sites are rated as good quality, totalling 63 courts. There is only 2 poor quality sites in Cambridge City, at Lammads Land (1 court) and Gonville and Caius Fellows Garden (1 court), however 2 of the courts at Hills Road Sports Centre are also rated as poor.
What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?	If participation continues to grow in line with population the playing population will increase by 21.3%. This means that club sites are estimated to be operating at 37% over their maximum capacity. Demand for public courts will also increase, bringing the utilisation of public courts to 27% by 2045. However, future housing development to 2045 will increase demand significantly with an additional 10 courts required to meet growth. 5 of these courts should be newly developed at larger housing sites, with the further investment focussed on court improvement.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?	When considering club sites, there is expected to be a 37% undersupply of courts by 2045. However, there is predicted to be a large amount of spare capacity on public courts even when future population growth is considered.

Key Question	Analysis
	Cambridge Lawn Tennis Club's lease will expire in March 2033, with the current owners (Gonville and Caius College) currently unwilling to discuss renewal. It should be a priority to secure long-term security of tenure on site for the club.

Recommendations for Tennis

1. Protect the existing quantity of tennis courts. This includes gaining security of tenure on sites without long-term agreements in place. Responsibility of the local authority, sports clubs, facility owners. The priority site for securing long-term lease agreements is Cambridge Lawn Tennis Club.
2. Work with education providers to ensure courts are available to the public, particularly those within close proximity of new housing developments.
3. Improve the existing courts particularly those managed by the local authority within close proximity of new housing developments. This should include resurfacing, new fencing, sports light installation and access control to monitor usage.
4. Support grounds staff to review quality issues on courts to ensure appropriate quality is achieved at sites assessed as standard and sustained at sites assessed as good. Responsibility of, LTA, the local authority and Sports Clubs where appropriate.
5. Ensure future demand can be accommodated on existing supply of courts. Where overplay becomes present, consider development of additional courts on club sites first as having several courts on one site is beneficial from an operating and user perspective. Monitoring usage is critical to determining if supply meets demand. Responsibility of LTA, local authority and sports clubs where appropriate.
6. Development of additional courts at large housing development sites, with the priority being Cambridge Urban Area (windfalls), North East Cambridge, Cambridge East (Airport).
7. Where developments would benefit from sports lighting on site to provide additional evening capacity, work with facility owners to determine the viability of these investments.

8. Inline with LTA priorities, consider the development of an Indoor Community Tennis Centre and multi-sport hub. The LTA identify west Cambridge as a strategic location for indoor development.
9. Work with all partners to determine trends in the market e.g. Padel Tennis. Consider redeveloping current courts owned by the local authority to additional courts such as Padel if demand is low for traditional tennis and high for new formats of the sport.

Netball Analysis

Introduction

- 2.55. This section provides greater detail of the existing strategies that are currently being delivered by Netball England. Following this, the supply and demand section of this report evaluates the adequacy of facilities for netball and considers:
- The supply of courts and demand for these;
 - The quality of courts in the City of Cambridge;
 - Recommendations moving forward.
- 2.56. Netball in England is administered by Netball England, the national governing body for the sport. The current strategy forms the fundamental principles for its strategic planning for the future of sport and business.

Supply

- 2.57. The following section will detail the supply of outdoor netball facilities in the City of Cambridge.
- 2.58. Table 14 shows the outdoor provision of netball courts in the City of Cambridge. There are 25 sites with a total of 54 courts. 23 courts in the City of Cambridge are available for community use.

Table 14: Outdoor Netball Facilities in the City of Cambridge

Site ID	Site	Sub Area	Available to community	Ownership	Management Type	Courts	Floodlit	Overall Rating
SPO84	Chesterton Community College	North	Available	Education	Education	2	2	Good (green)
SP145	Christ Pieces	West & Central	Available	Local Authority	Local Authority	1	0	Standard (yellow)

City of Cambridge

Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment – City of Cambridge

Site ID	Site	Sub Area	Available to community	Ownership	Management Type	Courts	Floodlit	Overall Rating
SPO150	Churchill College	West & Central	Unavailable	Education	Education	1	0	Good (green)
SPO152	Corpus Christi Tennis Courts	West & Central	Unavailable	Education	Education	1	0	Good (green)
SPO63	Downing College, Recent Street	West & Central	Unavailable	Education	Education	2	0	Good (green)
SPO110	Emmanuel College	West & Central	Unavailable	Education	Education	2	0	Good (green)
SPO19	Fitzwilliam College	West & Central	Unavailable	Education	Education	1	0	Good (green)
SPO160	Jesus College	West & Central	Unavailable	Education	Education	1	0	Good (green)
SPO117	Pembroke College Sports Ground	West & Central	Unavailable	Education	Education	1	0	Good (green)
SPO114	Peterhouse, Downing, St Catherine's & Christ's College	West & Central	Unavailable	Education	Education	1	0	Good (green)
SPO120	St John's College	West & Central	Unavailable	Education	Education	5	0	Good (green)

City of Cambridge

Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment – City of Cambridge

Site ID	Site	Sub Area	Available to community	Ownership	Management Type	Courts	Floodlit	Overall Rating
SPO156	The King's College School	West & Central	Unavailable	Education	Education	5	3	Good (green)
SPO154	Trinity College	West & Central	Available	Education	Education	2	0	Good (green)
SPO153	Trinity Hall Ground – Tennis Courts	West & Central	Unavailable	Education	Education	1	0	Standard (yellow)
SPO132	Clare College	South	Unavailable	Education	Education	1	0	Good (green)
SPO105	Leys School	South	Unavailable	Education	Education	3	0	Good (green)
SP0136	Long Road 6 th Form College	South	Available	Education	Education	3	0	Good (green)
SPO100	Netherall School Sports Centre	South	Available	Education	Education	5	5	Good (green)
SPO38	Perse School for Girls	South	Unavailable	Education	Education	2	0	Good (green)
SPO40	Queen Edith's Primary School	South	Unavailable	Education	Education	2	0	Standard (yellow)

City of Cambridge

Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment – City of Cambridge

Site ID	Site	Sub Area	Available to community	Ownership	Management Type	Courts	Floodlit	Overall Rating
SPO45	St Faith's School	South	Available	Education	Education	2	0	Good (green)
SPO49	St Mary's School – Sports Pitches	South	Unavailable	Education	Education	3	3	Good (green)
SPO138	The Perse Upper School	South	Available	Education	Education	5	0	Good (green)
SPO76	Trumpington Community College	South	Available	Education	Education	2	0	Good (green)

- 2.59. Table 14 shows that there are 53 outdoor netball courts across 24 sites in the Study Area. 13 of these courts are floodlit. 96.3% of the sites are education-owned.
- 2.60. Of the 53 outdoor courts, 4 are of standard quality (9.3%). The remaining 90.7% are in good condition, with no poor courts present in the City of Cambridge.
- 2.61. 23 courts or 42.4% of the existing supply are available for community use.
- 2.62. Detailed summaries from the site assessments can be found in Table 15.

Table 15: Outdoor Netball Facilities in the City of Cambridge – Available for Community Use

Site	Summary
Chesterton Community College	2x high quality, floodlit macadam courts overlapping with tennis courts. Excellent facility, easy access and parking. Well used community facility.

City of Cambridge

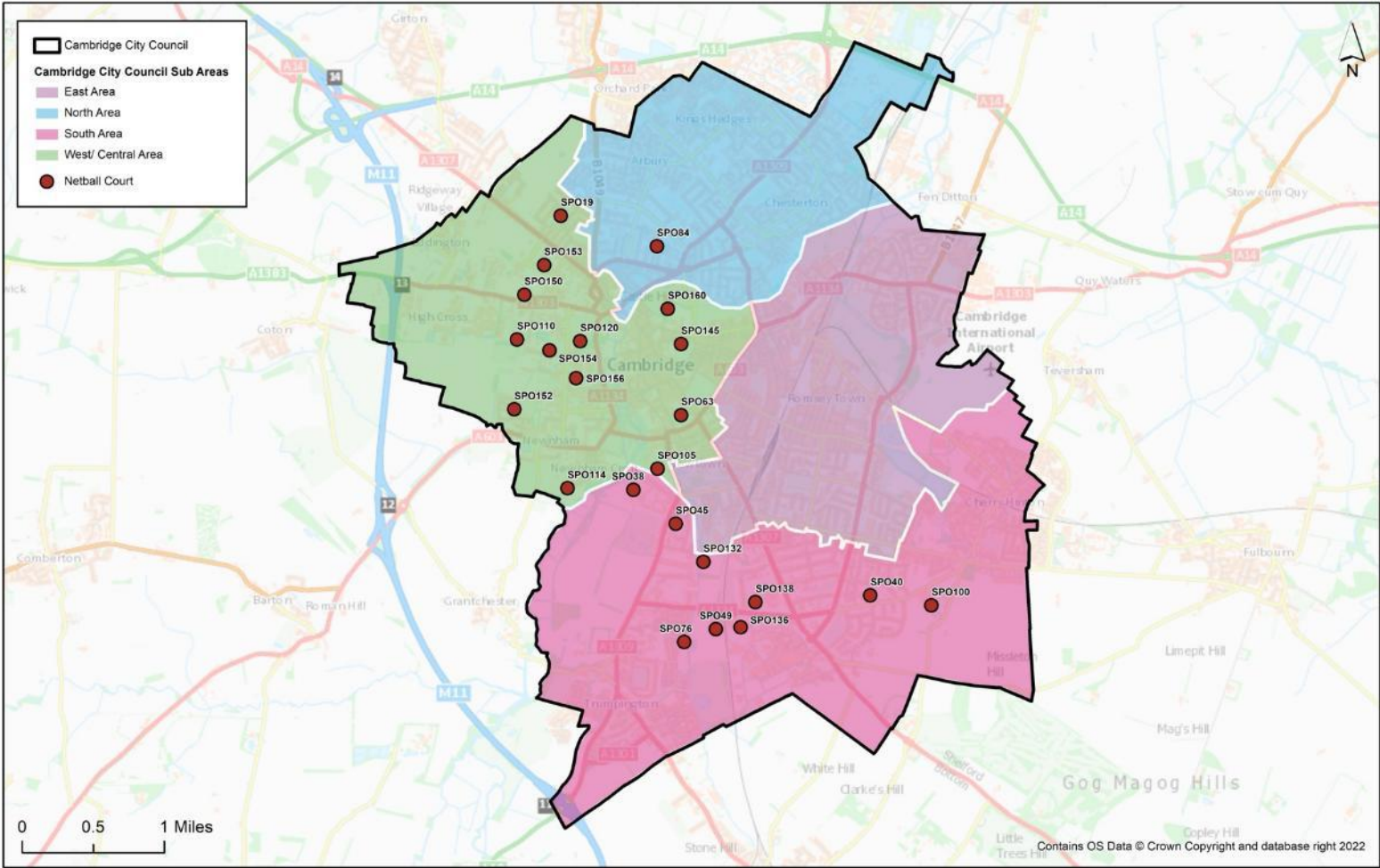
Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment – City of Cambridge

Site	Summary
Orchard Park	1x floodlit tarmac netball court, overmarked with tennis courts. Standard quality facility, adjacent to AGP and MUGA.
Christ Pieces	1x tarmac court, with no floodlights or ancillary provision. Good quality courts, overmarked with tennis in a city centre park location. Good access but lack of parking. No signs of improper use. Good facility
Trinity College	Excellent facility with 2x macadam good quality surfaces, all of which are non-floodlit. It is a very busy facility, with good access and adjacent to cricket pitch and pavilion with good ancillary facilities. Good fencing and netting. Parking on road only.
Long Road 6 th Form College	Extensive school sports site with 1 good quality court, serviced by good quality ancillary provision. There is also tennis, 3G and hockey provision, grass pitches on site, with public sports hall and gym.
Netherall School Sports Centre	5 floodlit tarmac courts, overmarked with tennis on a large school site. A key site for netball in Cambridge, with large amounts of Play Netball demand.
St Faith's School	Private school site with 2x good quality netball courts. Not floodlit.
The Perse Upper School	5x excellent netball courts. Asphalt surface. Not floodlit. Education sports centre site
Trumpington Community College	Multi-sport site with sports hall, grass and artificial surfaces. Accessed through college. Very good facility.

- 2.63. Map 4 shows the geographic location of outdoor netball courts across the Study Area and presents the dispersion courts across the City of Cambridge.

City of Cambridge
Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment – City of Cambridge

Map 4: Outdoor Netball Court Audit in the City of Cambridge



Demand

- 2.64. Although current netball demand is met by both outdoor and indoor facilities in the Study Area, the vast majority takes place indoors. Research on indoor netball is being undertaken as part of the Indoor Sports Facility Strategy and further detail is available within that document.
- 2.65. Table 16 details the facilities that are used for community outdoor netball in the City of Cambridge. The vast majority of netball provision in the City of Cambridge is indoors.

Table 16: Demand for Netball in the City of Cambridge

Site Name	Capacity for Netball Courts	Purpose	Weekly Demand
Netherall School	5 Courts (Floodlit)	Competitive League and training provision	Play Netball League Cambridge and District Netball League Cambridge and County Premier League

- 2.66. The only outdoor, community available, netball demand in the City of Cambridge is met by the Play Netball, Cambridge and District and Cambridge and County leagues at the Netherall School in the south sub area.
- 2.67. Due to the lack of appropriate floodlit provision South Cambridgeshire, a large amount of demand is imported into Cambridge City from the surrounding areas.
- 2.68. Of the 23 courts available for community use, only 7 are floodlit, with 5 being located at Netherall School. Chesterton Community College is not suitable to host netball leagues. Although most netball demand is met by indoor provision, if the current outdoor leagues were to grow, further floodlit provision would need to be secured for community use.

Future Demand

- 2.69. Future demand for outdoor netball is difficult to calculate, as it is generated by the growth of indoor netball, which is not included as part of this strategy. Indoor sports hall or activity hall provision is the preferred method of netball delivery as identified through consultation with Sport England and England Netball. However, indoor facilities are often costly and in high demand meaning that recreational netball demand is often catered for on outdoor courts.
- 2.70. Significant housing development in the study area is predicted to increase the population by approximately 73,829 people. Although there is currently no standard calculation for the number of outdoor netball courts required per population, we must assume, as the most popular team sport for women and girls in the UK, that the increased demand for outdoor courts will at least match the increased demand for outdoor tennis courts. This suggests there would be demand for an additional 10 outdoor courts in the City of Cambridge.
- 2.71. Demand for netball as a whole in the City of Cambridge is likely to increase and there may be opportunities for interest in the support to further increase, raising participation. Netball experienced significant growth after the 'Roses' gold medal at the 2018 Commonwealth Games, and after achieving bronze at the 2019 Netball World Cup in Liverpool, there was an increase of over 160,000 people participating in netball. The upcoming local 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow and the 2027 netball world cup in Australia, provide good opportunities for success for the national team following their professionalisation in 2025, which is hoped to generate further interest in the sport.
- 2.72. England Netball programmes and initiatives such as Walking Netball, NetballHer, Bee Netball, Back to Netball and Netball Now are already in high demand and are expected to further increase participation in Netball.
- 2.73. Although the development of new courts may be necessary due to the scale of new housing development, securing community use agreements on currently unavailable education sites, improving court quality and the installation of floodlighting will all add capacity to the existing supply of netball provision and will enable additional sites to host community netball activity.

Netball Summary

- 2.74. This section summarises the findings from the netball analysis, which will form basis of the recommendation and action plan section for the City of Cambridge.

City of Cambridge

Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment – City of Cambridge

- 2.75. Table 17 includes the response to key questions, which are asked for all Playing Pitch Strategy studies across the UK, in order to provide a standardised illustration of supply and demand for sports provision.

Table 17: Key PPOSS Findings for Netball in the City of Cambridge

Key Question	Analysis
What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?	Education owned sites provide 96.3% all of provision of outdoor courts in the Study Area. 90.7% of outdoor courts in the city are of good quality, and there are no poor-quality courts. Of the 53 courts, 13 are floodlit. Although nearly all netball provision in the area takes place indoors, there is some outdoor netball activity at Netherall School, in the form of a Play Netball, evening league, Cambridge and District weekend league and Cambridge and County Premier League.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?	Although theoretically there is spare capacity on outdoor courts in the study area, of the 23 courts available for community use, only 7 are floodlit, with 5 being located at the currently used Netherall School. Chesterton Community College, although floodlit is not suitable to host large scale netball leagues.
Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?	90.7% of courts in the study area are rated as good. The remaining courts are all rated as standard quality. There are no courts rated as poor in the City of Cambridge.
What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?	As most demand is met by indoor courts, there is currently no likely increase in future demand for outdoor netball courts in the City of Cambridge. However, large scale housing development, alongside a range of netball initiatives will drive demand for an estimated 10 additional courts.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?	There is a lack of available, floodlit sites in the City of Cambridge. The development of additional court provision, quality improvements, securing community use agreements and the installation of floodlighting will all ensure the long-term viability of netball in the City of Cambridge.

Recommendations for Netball

1. Protect existing quality of netball courts. Responsibility of the local authority, sports clubs and facility owners.
2. Support grounds staff to review quality issues on courts to ensure appropriate quality is achieved at sites assessed as standard and sustained at sites assessed as good. Responsibility of, England Netball, local authority, education, and Sports Clubs where appropriate.
3. Ensure future club demand can be accommodated on existing supply of courts, working with facility owners/managers to provide both long-term community use agreements for both indoor and outdoor netball. Responsibility of England Netball, local authority and Sports Clubs where appropriate.
4. Work with sports clubs, education sites and England Netball to refurbish courts when required, ensuring there are sufficient courts for each area within the City of Cambridge.
5. Where developments would benefit from floodlights on site to provide additional evening capacity, work with facility owners to determine the viability of these investments.
6. Consider the development of additional court facilities, located on or adjacent to, new housing development sites.

Bowls Analysis

Introduction and Strategic Context

- 2.76. Bowls England is responsible for the governance, administration and promotion of Flat Green Lawn Bowls in England. It was formed in 2008 following the unification of the English Bowling Association and the English Women's Bowling Association. The following section provides greater detail of the existing strategies that are currently being delivered by Bowls England.
- 2.77. Following this, the supply and demand section of this report evaluates the adequacy of facilities for bowls and considers:
- The supply of facilities and demand for these;
 - The adequacy of facilities in Cambridge; and
 - Recommendations moving forwards.

All Bowls - Supply

- 2.78. The local authority owns five bowls sites and manages three across the City of Cambridge. Of the remaining bowls provision (three sites), all are owned and managed by bowling clubs. A breakdown of ownership and management can be found in Table 18.

Table 18: Ownership and Management of Bowls Sites in Cambridge

Type	Ownership	Management
Local Authority	5	0
Sports Club	2	7
Total	5	7

- 2.79. Table 18 shows that there are currently 8 bowling greens in Cambridge spread across 8 sites, all sites have one green except for Cambridge and County Bowling Club, with two. Of the total number of greens, seven are good quality and the remaining are standard quality by the non-technical assessment criteria. It should be noted that for higher level competitive bowls, only good quality greens are considered appropriate under this assessment criteria. Full details of the sites can be found in Table 19.

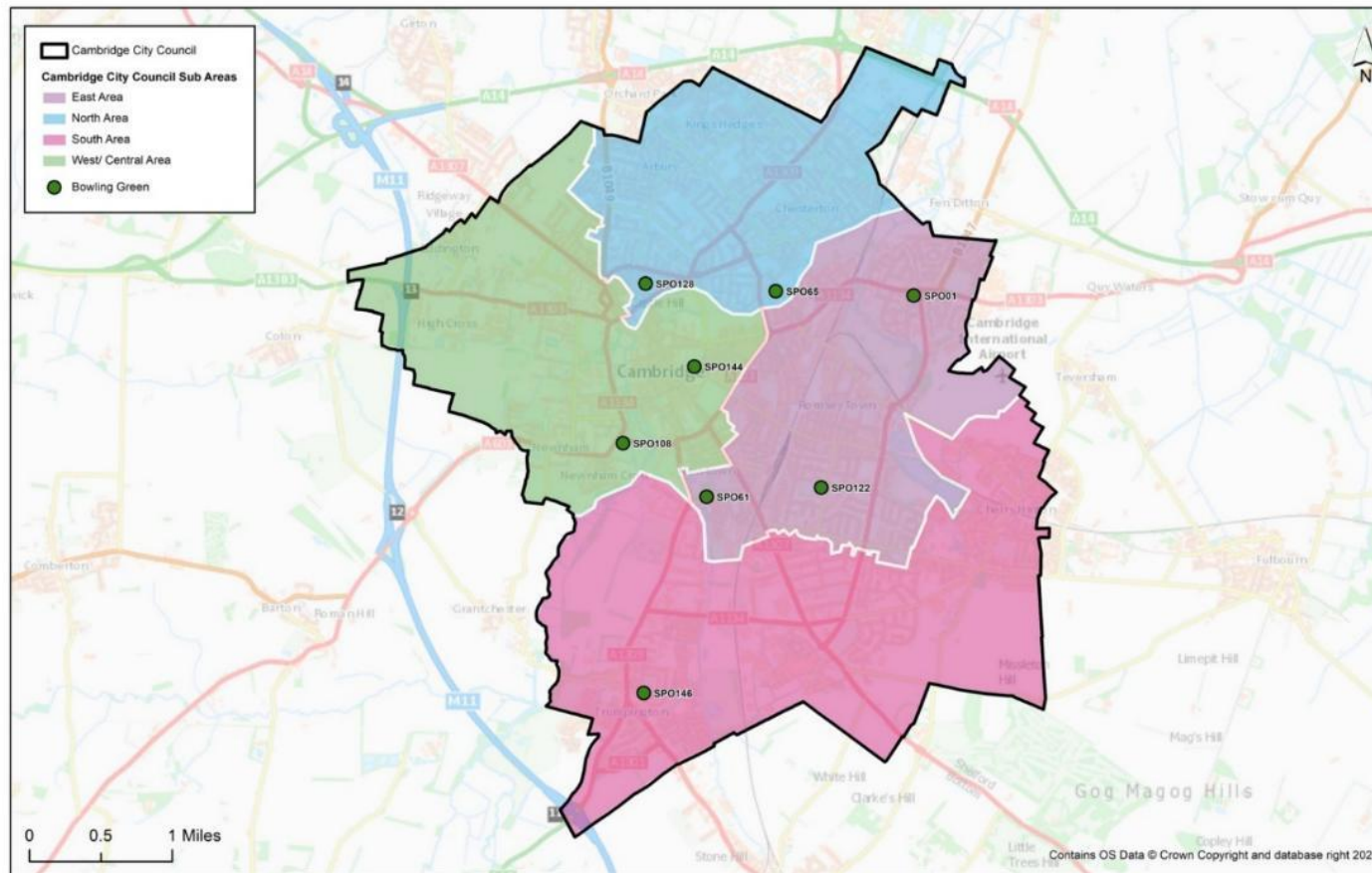
Table 19: Bowls Sites in Cambridge (clubs marked with a * are not affiliated clubs)

Site ID	Site	Club Using Site	Ownership	Management	Security of Availability to Community	Greens	Rinks	Green Condition	Clubhouse Condition	Additional Comments
SPO61	Cambridge and County Bowling Club	Cambridge and County Bowling Club	Sports Club	Sports Club	Yes	2	12	Standard (yellow)	Standard (yellow)	6 rink, private bowling club, Grass - satisfactory - would be good but lots of marks and divots, likely caused by insects, aging building. Assumed changing provision in pavilion but locked when visiting
SPO65	Chesterton Bowls Club	Chesterton Bowls Club	Sports Club	Sports Club	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Good (green)	1x outdoor grass green, linked to indoor bowls club.
SPO108	Lammas Land Bowls	N/A	Local Authority	Sports Club	Yes	1	5	Standard (yellow)	No provision	1x 5 court rink. Even but patchy surface. Not floodlit. No changing. Small hut for storage and possibly scoring
SPO122	Coleridge Rec Ground	Romsey Bowls Club	Local Authority	Sports Club	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Standard (yellow)	Multi-sport site with tennis and MUGA with basketball hoops and bowls. Public use available - free access. Located within a park setting. GLL swimming pool on site - small lido. Bowling Green - aging clubhouse, locked up when visiting - looks in need of refurbishment
SPO128	Alexandra Gardens - Bowling Green	Alexander and Beehive	Local Authority	Sports Club	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Good (green)	1 x 6 rink facility. Good condition facility and clubhouse, next to destination park with multiple facilities.
SPO144	Christ Pieces Bowling Green	City of Cambridge Bowls Club	Local Authority	Sports Club	Yes	1	5	Good (green)	Standard (yellow)	1x 5 rink. Good, well-maintained surface. Busy city centre park location. No parking. Good, but slightly dated pavilion adjacent with standard facilities.
SPO146	Trumpington Rec Ground	Trumpington Bowls Club	Local Authority	Sports Club	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Good (green)	Multi-sport site with basketball MUGA, one tennis court, football pitch (grass), pump track, green gym and pavilion with low impact sports e.g. Yoga

City of Cambridge Outdoor Courts and Rinks Strategy

- 2.80. Map 5 shows the geographic location of outdoor bowling greens across the Study Area and presents the dispersion courts across Cambridge.

Map 5: Outdoor Bowling Greens Audit in Cambridge City



Bowling Greens in Cambridge

Lapsed/Disused Provision

- 2.81. Outdoor facilities which have previously accommodated formal pitch provision are categorised as either disused or lapsed. A disused site is a playing field 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.
- 2.82. As mentioned, a lapsed site was as a playing field more than five years ago. These fall outside of Sport England’s statutory remit but still must be assessed using the criteria in paragraph 99 of the National Planning Policy Framework and Sport England may challenge a proposed loss of playing pitches/playing field which fails to meet such criteria.

Table 20: Disused Pitches Cambridge City

Pitch Name	Sub-Area	Ownership	Reason for no use
Cambridge University Press	City South	Private	Site not present, picnic tables on previous green location

Club and Site Consultation

- 2.83. Clubs were contacted by Strategic Leisure with the aim of informing the demand section of the study. Summaries of the information gathered during the Stage B process is provided in Table 21.

Table 21: Selected Site and Club Consultation Summaries

Site Name	Club	Consultation
Cambridge and County Bowling Club	Cambridge and County Bowling Club	Membership numbers: 61-70 The club has decreased the number of players since Covid-19 with a decrease of over 20 members. There are 4 teams playing external competitions and four internal teams.

Demand for Outdoor Bowls Facilities

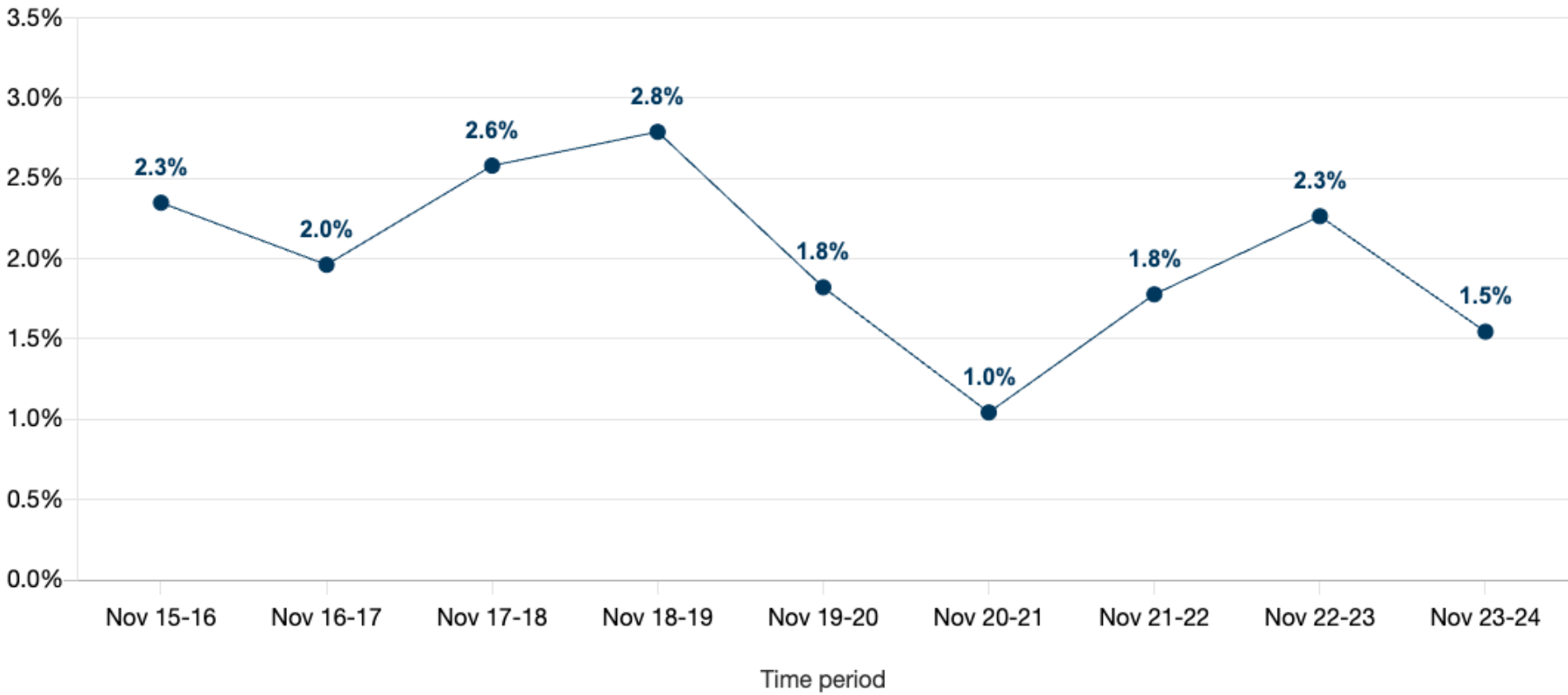
- 2.84. This section summarises the level of demand for bowls in Cambridge. Table 22 shows the demand for bowls in terms of the number of clubs assigned to each site.

Table 22: Club Demand on Each Site

Club Name	Affiliated to Bowls England / British Crown Green Bowling Association	Home Site	Members
Abbey Bowls Club	Yes	Abbey Leisure Complex (Future)	21-30
Cambridge and County Bowling Club	Yes	Cambridge and County Bowling Club	61-70
Chesterton Bowls Club	Yes	Chesterton Bowls Club	31-40
Alexander and Beehive	Yes	Alexandra Gardens - Bowling Green	21-30
City of Cambridge Bowls Club	Yes	Christ Pieces Bowling Green	21-30
Trumpington Bowls Club	Yes	King George Vth Playing Field	21-30
Total			230

- 2.85. Table 22 shows that there are approximately 230 members of bowling clubs in the study area with the most used site being Cambridge and County Bowling Club. It must be noted that based on City of Cambridge data, 40% of bowling club members are imported from outside of the city, suggesting that only 138 members actually reside within the City.
- 2.86. The Sport England Active Lives Survey results from November 23/24 show that 1.5% of the population aged 16 or over in Cambridgeshire play bowls at least once per year.

Figure 1: Sport England Active Lives Survey results from November 23/24



City of Cambridge

Outdoor Courts and Rinks Strategy

- 2.87. The following figures have been determined using the latest ONS data for Cambridge City (Census 2021). The future population figure has been agreed with Greater Cambridge Planning based on future population growth, and anticipated housing developments up to and including 2045.
- 2.88. ONS data indicates that 85.6% of residents within the City of Cambridge are aged 16 and over. This figure has been carried forward to the future population in order to determine the need for Bowls facilities between now and 2045.
- 2.89. ONS' subnational population projections estimate the population of residents in Cambridge aged 16 and over to be 124,767. If the participation figures for the Cambridgeshire (1.5%) are applied to this population figure, then it can be said that a total of 1,872 people the game at least once per year.
- 2.90. If there are 230 current members, this demonstrates that 12.3% of annual participants are members of bowls clubs.

Future Demand

- 2.91. Using 1,872 as the number of people playing bowls at least once per year in Cambridge and future projections of the Study Area's population (151,342 over 16's by 2045), we can calculate potential future demand for the sport. The future population is due to grow by 21.3% which, assuming current levels of participation remain constant, equates to an additional demand of 399 people (total bowlers participating once per year, 2,271. However, based on the current ratio of participants to members, only 49 of these will be members of clubs.
- 2.92. Due to the fact that during consultation, clubs highlighted that there was capacity for, and they would welcome new members, we can assume that the demand for an additional 399 annual participants can be met by existing bowls provision.
- 2.93. According to Bowls England 2023 affiliation figures, there are approximately 92,804 members of 1,898 clubs across England. This provides an average of 50 members per club. Although some clubs utilise multiple greens, the vast majority of clubs have access to one green, meaning that we can assume that the average number of members per green, across England is 50.
- 2.94. There are 8 greens in the City of Cambridge, suggesting that 400 members could be supported comfortably. This shows that greens in the City can accommodate any future membership and participation growth and that there is a current and future over provision of bowling greens in the City of Cambridge.

Bowls Summary

- 2.95. This section summarises the findings from the bowls analysis, which will form basis of the recommendation and action plan section for Cambridge.
- 2.96. Table 23 includes the response to key questions, which are asked for all PPOS studies across the UK, to provide a standardised illustration of supply and demand for sports provision.

Table 23: Key PPS Findings for Bowls in Cambridge

Key Question	Analysis
What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?	There are currently 7 sites across Cambridge with 8 greens. There are 6 clubs in the Study Area with a total estimated membership of 230 players.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?	All sites in the study are secured for community use, and clubs operating at the greens, highlight through consultation and online presence that new members/participants would be welcome. This suggests that all greens have spare capacity.
Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?	Of the 7 available sites, 5 are rated as good quality and the other two sites are rated as standard quality. Maintenance of the greens owned by sports clubs is good. The green at maintained by the local authority sites is generally also good but the locations can be prone to vandalism due to the accessible nature of the rinks by the public.
What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?	Future population projections indicate a potential of 399 additional annual participants by 2045, of which based on current ratios, 49 will be members of clubs. All future growth in demand can be satisfied with the current green stock.

Key Question	Analysis
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?	It is suggested that there is no need to develop additional bowls facilities within the City of Cambridge area. Any loss of sites is likely to have a negative impact on the users/members of these sites. The closure of bowls facility typically leads to 62% of users/members ceasing participation within three years of a club closure.

Recommendations for Bowls

1. Seek to consolidate usage and memberships across the city sites and improve the quality of grounds for the remaining retained facilities.
2. Support grounds staff to review quality issues on greens to ensure appropriate quality is achieved at sites assessed as standard and sustained at sites assessed as good. Responsibility of Bowls bodies, local authority, sports clubs, facility owners.
3. Ensure club future demand can be accommodated on existing supply of greens. Responsibility of Bowls bodies, local authority, sports clubs, facility owners.
4. Work with clubs to support development and growth of the sport.

Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) Analysis

Supply

- 2.97. There are 16 MUGAs in the City of Cambridge, of which only 2 are floodlit. Almost all MUGAs are macadam surfaces, other than Chesterton Primary School, CRC Sports Pitch and North Cambridge Academy which are artificial grass surfaces.

Table 24: Ownership and Management of MUGA Sites in Cambridge

Site	Sub Area	Ownership	Surface	Floodlit	Community Accessible	Quality
Chesterton Primary School	North	Education	AGP	No	No	Standard (yellow)
CRC Sports Pitch	North	Education	AGP	Yes	No	Good (green)
North Cambridge Academy	North	Education	AGP	Yes	Yes	Good (green)
Orchard Park	North	Local Authority	Macadam	No	Yes	Standard (yellow)
St Albans Road Recreation Ground	North	Local Authority	Macadam	No	Yes	Standard (yellow)
Coleridge Rec Ground	East	Local Authority	Macadam	No	Yes	Standard (yellow)
Ditton Fields	East	Local Authority	Macadam	No	Yes	Poor (red)
Thorpe Way	East	Local Authority	Macadam	No	Yes	Good (green)
Peveral Road	East	Local Authority	Macadam	No	Yes	Poor (red)

City of Cambridge Outdoor Courts and Rinks Strategy

Site	Sub Area	Ownership	Surface	Floodlit	Community Accessible	Quality
Coleridge Community College	East	Education	Macadam	No	No	Standard (yellow)
Newcroft Primary School	West & Central	Education	Macadam	No	No	Standard (yellow)
Churchill College	West & Central	Education	Macadam	No	No	Good (green)
Kestrel Rise	South	Local Authority	Macadam	No	Yes	Good (green)
Nightingale Avenue	South	Local Authority	Macadam	No	Yes	Poor (red)
St Mary's School	South	Education	Macadam	No	No	Standard (yellow)
Trumpington Rec Ground	South	Local Authority	Macadam	No	Yes	Good (green)

- 2.98. 56% (9) of all MUGAs are owned by the local authority, with the remaining 44% (7) located on education owned sites.
- 2.99. CRC Sports Pitch, North Cambridge Academy, Thorpe Way, Churchill College, Kestrel Rise and Trumpington Recreational Ground are all of good quality. There are 3 poor quality sites at Ditton Fields, Peveral Road and Nightingale Avenue and the remaining sites are identified as standard quality.
- 2.100. 63% of the supply of MUGAs in the City of Cambridge are available to the community. MUGAs on education sites, other than North Cambridge Academy, are not available to the community.

Current and Future Demand

- 2.101. MUGAs are used specifically for recreational and casual physical activity and sports participation on an informal basis; and although they cater for a large amount of informal basketball and football, it is challenging to identify specific demand for them.

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- 2.102. There is also no standard calculation for the supply and demand for MUGAs, however figures in the Cambridge City Leisure Needs Analysis are based on a demand for 1 MUGA per 4,232 people. Based on population figures used in this report, this suggests demand for 34 MUGAs across the City.
- 2.103. Housing growth in the City is expected to create a growth in population of 73,829 people by 2045, suggesting demand for a further 17 MUGAs.
- 2.104. The priority for the City of Cambridge is the protection of existing MUGAs, as well their refurbishment and improvement wherever necessary. This should be prioritised at those sites which are close to new housing developments and strategic growth sites. However, due to population growth, there is an identified need for 17 new MUGAs, meaning the development of new provision will be required, again ideally located on new housing development and strategic growth sites.
- 2.105. To maximise the usage capacity of MUGAs it is recommended that all are sports lit.

MUGA Summary

- 2.106. This section summarises the findings from the bowls analysis, which will form basis of the recommendation and action plan section for Cambridge.
- 2.107. Table 25 includes the response to key questions, which are asked for all PPOS studies across the UK, to provide a standardised illustration of supply and demand for sports provision.

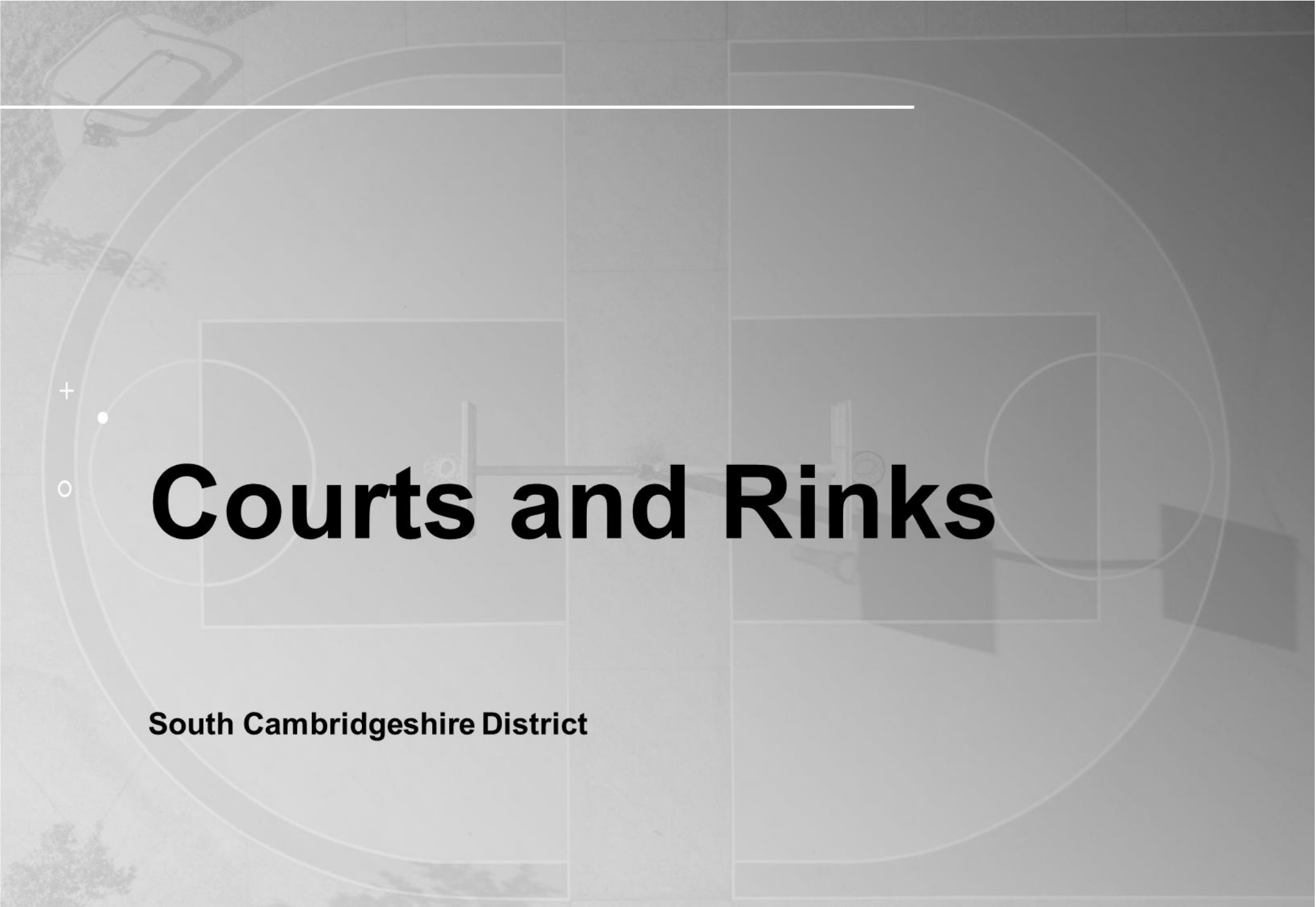
Table 25: Key PPS Findings for MUGAs in Cambridge

Key Question	Analysis
What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?	There are currently 16 sites across Cambridge, of which only 2 are floodlit. Although MUGAs are used for informal sport and physical activity, mainly basketball and rugby, there is no method of identifying specific demand for them.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?	56% of all MUGAs are owned by the local authority, with the remaining supply located on education sites. 63% of MUGAs are accessible by the community, with the only available education site being North Cambridge Academy.

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Key Question	Analysis
Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?	Of the 16 sites, 9 are rated as good quality, 7 as standard and 3 as poor. All MUGAs are macadam surfaces, other than Chesterton Primary School. CRC Sports Pitch and North Cambridge Academy that are artificial grass surfaces.
What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?	Future population projections indicate a potential of population growth of 73829 people by 2045, suggesting the need for an additional 17 MUGAs.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?	Although the main priority is the protection and improvement of existing MUGAs, there is a requirement for further development to satisfy demand due to significant growth in the future population of the City. Any future development should be located on or adjacent to strategic growth sites.



Courts and Rinks

South Cambridgeshire District

3 South Cambridgeshire District Courts and Rinks

Tennis Analysis

Introduction and Strategic Context

- 5.1 The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) is the organisation responsible for the governance of tennis. Cambridgeshire Tennis is responsible locally for the sport in terms of county teams and county-based initiatives in the South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) area. The following section provides greater detail of the existing strategies and national facility plans that are currently being delivered by the LTA.
- 5.2 Following this, the supply and demand section of this report evaluates the adequacy of facilities for tennis and considers:
- The supply of courts and demand for these;
 - The quality of courts in the District; and
 - Recommendations moving forward.

Sub Areas

- 5.3 As part of the courts and rinks process, SCDC has been broken down into three sub-areas. The area covered by each sub area are outlined in Table 26 below.

Table 26: Description of Sub Areas in SCDC

Sub Area	Wards
North	Milton, Waterbeach, Orchard Park, Girton, Impington, Landbeach, Histon, Cottenham, Oakington and Westwick, Dry Drayton, Bar Hill, Longstanton, Rampton, Willingham, Over, Swavesey, Lolworth, Childersley, Knapwell, Boxworth, Fen Drayton, Connington, Elsworth, Papworth Everard, Papworth St Agnes and Graveley
South East	Horningsea, Fen Ditton, Teversham, Stow Cum Quy, Little Wilbraham, Great Wilbraham, Fulbourn, Carlton, Weston Coleville, West Wrating, Balsham, West Wickham, Great Shelford, Little Shelford, Stapleford, Babraham, Little

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Sub Area	Wards
	Abington, Great Abington, Hildersham, Linton, Horseheath, Bartlow, Shudy Camps, Castle Camps, Newton, Sawston, Pampisford, Hinxton, Ickleton, Duxford, Thriplow and Whittlesford
South West	Madingley, Coton, Grantchester, Haslingfield, Hauxton, Harston, Foxton, Fowlmere, Heydon, Great and Little Chishill, Melbourn, Shepreth, Barrington, Harlton, Little Eversden, Comberton, Hardwick, Toft, Great Eversden, Orwell, Meldreth, Bassingbourn Cum Kneesworth, Whaddon, Wimpole, Kingston, Caldecote, Cambourne, Caxton, Eltisley, Croxton, Bourn, Longstowe, Great Gransden, Gamlingay, Hatley, Arrington, Croydon, Tadlow, Shingay Cum Wendy, Abington Pigotts, Litlington, Steeple Morden and Guilden Morden.

Supply

- 5.4 The following table 122 provides a breakdown of tennis courts in the area (please note that this table refers to courts and not sites). The quality rating of a site is calculated using the following LTA criteria:

Poor (red): Playing surface poor, slippery playing surface, poor drainage, cracks on the playing surface and surrounding area, court markings hardly visible, no nets or nets damaged, surrounding fencing poor/dangerous.	Standard (yellow): Court colour is fading or showing signs of wear. The surface remains largely intact. The court life, prior to needing resurfacing, would be extended for up to 5 years by cleaning and repainting of the existing surface.	Good (green): Good playing surface, courts recently been upgraded, resurfaced, nets and fencing in working order
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- 5.5 Table 27 provides an overview of LTA registered venues in South Cambridgeshire. Tables The following tables 28 – 30 then provide a breakdown of all other tennis courts sites by sub area.

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Table 27: LTA Registered Outdoor Tennis Provision by Site

Site Name	Sub Area	Venue Type	Community Use	Security of Community Use	Ownership	Management	Number of Courts	Surface	Floodlit	Site Quality
Steeple Morden Recreation Ground	SCDC South West	Club	Available	Secure	Sports Club	Sports Club	3	Macadam	3	Good (green)
Fulbourn Recreation Ground Tennis Club	SCDC South East	Club	Available	Secure	Parish Council	Sports Club	4	1x Macadam / 3x Grass	3	Good (green)
Girton Recreation Ground	SCDC North	Club	Available	Secure	Other	Other	2	Macadam	2	Good (green)
Haslingfield Recreation Ground	SCDC South West	Club	Available	Secure	Other	Other	3	Macadam	3	Good (green)
Histon Tennis Club	SCDC North	Club	Available	Secure	Other	Other	5	4x Grass / 1x Macadam	1	Good (green)
Longstanton Recreation Ground	SCDC North	Club	Available	Secure	Sports Club	Sports Club	2	Macadam	2	Good (green)
Stapleford Recreation Ground	SCDC South East	Club	Available	Secure	Other	Other	2	AGP	0	Standard (yellow)
West Hill Park Tennis Club	SCDC South West	Club	Available	Secure	Other	Other	1	Macadam	0	Good (green)
West Wrattling Tennis Court/D' Abo Tennis Club	SCDC South East	Club	Available	Secure	Parish Council	Sports Club	1	Macadam	0	Good (green)
Foxton Recreation Ground/Tennis Club	SCDC South West	Club	Available	Secure	Other	Other	1	Macadam	0	Good (green)
Fen Drayton Tennis Club	SCDC North	Club	Available	Secure	Sports Club	Sports Club	2	Macadam	0	Good (green)
Cottenham Rec Ground/King George V Field	SCDC North	Club	Available	Secure	Sports Club	Sports Club	2	Grass	0	Good (green)
Papworth Everard Tennis Club	SCDC North	Club	Available	Secure	Parish Council	Sports Club	4	Macadam	4	Good (green)
Bourn Rec Ground	SCDC South West	Club	Available	Secure	Sports Club	Sports Club	2	Macadam	0	Good (green)
Oakington Recreation Ground/ Oakington and Westwick Tennis Club	SCDC North	Club	Available	Secure	Sports Club	Sports Club	2	Macadam	0	Good (green)
Barton Rec Ground	SCDC South West	Club	Available	Secure	Parish Council	Parish Council	2	Macadam	2	Good (green)
Cambourne Lawn Tennis Club/Back Lane Tennis	SCDC South West	Club	Available	Secure	Parish Council	Parish Council	5	Macadam	0	Good (green)
Orwell Recreation Ground	SCDC South West	Club	Available	Secure	Parish Council	Parish Council	2	Macadam	0	Good (green)
Swavesey Village College	SCDC North	Club	Available	Secure	Education	Education	4	2x Macadam / 2x AGP	4	Standard (yellow)
Milton Recreation Ground	SCDC North	Club	Available	Secure	Other	Other	3	Macadam	3	Good (green)

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Site Name	Sub Area	Venue Type	Community Use	Security of Community Use	Ownership	Management	Number of Courts	Surface	Floodlit	Site Quality
Meldreth Recreation Ground	SCDC South West	Club	Available	Secure	Sports Club	Sports Club	2	Macadam	0	Good (green)
Duxford Recreation Ground/ Duxford Lawn Tennis Club	SCDC South East	Club	Available	Secure	Parish Council	Sports Club	2	Macadam	2	Good (green)
Hauxton Tennis	SCDC South West	Club	Available	Secure	Parish Council	Sports Club	2	Macadam	2	Good (green)
Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club – (Cocks and Hens)	SCDC South West	Club	Available	Secure	Education	Education	10	2x Grass / 4 x AGP / 4x Macadam	10	Good (green)

Table 28: Unregistered Outdoor Tennis Provision by Site – North

Site Name	Sub Area	Ownership	Management	Availability	No. Courts	Surface	Floodlit	Quality
Bar Hill Rec Ground	SCDC North	Parish Council	Parish Council	Available	2	Macadam	2	Standard (yellow)
Cottenham Village College, High Street	SCDC North	Education	Education	Available	4	Macadam	4	Poor (red)
Girton College	SCDC North	Education	Education	Unavailable	7	5x grass / 2x Macadam	0	Good (green)
Histon & Impington Junior School	SCDC North	Education	Education	Unavailable	6	Macadam	0	Standard (yellow)
Impington Village College	SCDC North	Education	Education	Available	5	Macadam	0	Good (green)
Landbeach Recreation Ground	SCDC North	Other	Other	Available	1	Macadam	0	Standard (yellow)
Northstowe Phase 1 (Western Park Pavilion)	SCDC North	SCDC	Elite Sport	Available	2	Macadam	0	Standard (yellow)
Northstowe Phase 2	SCDC North	SCDC	Education	Available	4	Macadam	4	Standard (yellow)
Rampton Recreation Ground	SCDC North	Other	Other	Available	1	Macadam	0	Standard (yellow)
Waterbeach Recreation Ground	SCDC North	Other	Other	Available	3	Macadam	0	Standard (yellow)

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Table 29: Unregistered Outdoor Tennis Provision by Site – South East

Site Name	Sub Area	Ownership	Management	Availability	No. Courts	Surface	Floodlit	Quality
Castle Camps Recreation Ground	SCDC South East	Parish Council	Parish Council	Available	1	Macadam	1	Good (green)
Fulbourn Recreation Ground - Public Tennis	SCDC South East	Parish Council	Parish Council	Available	2	Macadam	2	Good (green)
Granta School, Cambridge Road	SCDC South East	Education	Education	Unavailable	4	Macadam	4	Standard (yellow)
Sawston Village College	SCDC South East	Education	Education	Available	2	Macadam	2	Poor (red)
The Lawn, Duxford Road	SCDC South East	Parish Council	Parish Council	Available	2	Macadam	0	Standard (yellow)
West Wickham Recreation Ground	SCDC South East	Other	Other	Available	1	Macadam	0	Standard (yellow)
Woollards Lane/Great Shelford Tennis Club	SCDC South East	Other	Other	Available	4	Macadam	4	Good (green)

Table 30: Unregistered Outdoor Tennis Provision by Site – South West

Site Name	Sub Area	Ownership	Management	Availability	No. Courts	Surface	Floodlit	Quality
Bassingbourn Village College	SCDC South West	Education	Education	Available	3	Macadam	0	Poor (red)
Comberton Rec Ground	SCDC South West	Parish Council	Parish Council	Available	2	Macadam	2	Poor (red)
Comberton Village College	SCDC South West	Education	Education	Available	4	Macadam	0	Poor (red)
Comberton Village College	SCDC South West	Education	Education	Available	4	Macadam	4	Standard (yellow)
Fowlmere Rec Ground	SCDC South West	Sports Club	Sports Club	Available	2	Macadam	2	Good (green)
Gamlingay Leisure Centre	SCDC South West	Education	Community Trust	Available	1	Macadam	0	Standard (yellow)
Gamlingay Recreation Ground	SCDC South West	Sports Club	Sports Club	Available	2	Macadam	0	Poor (red)

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Site Name	Sub Area	Ownership	Management	Availability	No. Courts	Surface	Floodlit	Quality
Hardwick Recreation Ground	SCDC South West	Sports Club	Sports Club	Available	2	Macadam	2	Standard (yellow)
Highfields Caldecote Rec Ground	SCDC South West	Parish Council	Parish Council	Available	2	Macadam	0	Standard (yellow)
Melbourn Village College	SCDC South West	Education	Education	Available	3	3x Macadam	3	Standard (yellow)
Monkfield Lane	SCDC South West	Parish Council	Parish Council	Available	1	Macadam	0	Standard (yellow)
Queen's College and Robinson College	SCDC South West	Education	Education	Unavailable	6	Macadam	0	Good (green)

South Cambridge District Outdoor Courts and Rinks Strategy

Table 31: Outdoor Tennis Ancillary Provision by Site – Available Sites

Site Name	Sub Area	Ancillary Facilities Quality
Bar Hill Rec Ground	North	Good (green)
Cottenham Rec Ground/King George V Field	North	Good (green)
Cottenham Village College, High Street	North	Standard (yellow)
Fen Drayton Recreation Ground/Fen Drayton Tennis Club	North	Standard (yellow)
Girton Recreation Ground	North	Good (green)
Histon Tennis Club	North	Good (green)
Impington Village College	North	Good (green)
Landbeach Recreation Ground	North	Standard (yellow)
Longstanton Recreation Ground	North	Good (green)
Milton Recreation Ground	North	Good (green)
Oakington Recreation Ground/Oakington and Westwick Tennis Club	North	Good (green)
Papworth Everard Tennis Club	North	Good (green)
Rampton Recreation Ground	North	No ancillary provision
Swavesey Village College	North	Good (green)
Waterbeach Recreation Ground	North	No ancillary provision
Castle Camps Recreation Ground	South East	Standard (yellow)
Duxford Recreation Ground/Duxford Lawn Tennis Club	South East	Good (green)
Fulbourn Recreation Ground -Public Tennis	South East	Good (green)
Fulbourn Recreation Ground Tennis Club	South East	Good (green)
Sawston Village College	South East	Poor (red)

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Site Name	Sub Area	Ancillary Facilities Quality
Stapleford Recreation Ground	South East	Standard (yellow)
The Lawn, Duxford Road	South East	No ancillary provision
West Wickham Recreation Ground	South East	Standard (yellow)
West Wratting Tennis Court/D' Abo Tennis Club	South East	Good (green)
Woollards Lane/Great Shelford Tennis Club	South East	Good (green)
Barton Rec Ground	South West	Good (green)
Bassingbourn Village College	South West	Standard (yellow)
Bourn Rec Ground	South West	Good (green)
Cambourne Lawn Tennis Club/Back Lane Tennis	South West	Good (green)
Comberton Rec Ground	South West	Standard (yellow)
Comberton Village College	South West	Standard (yellow)
Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club – (Cocks and Hens)	South West	Good (green)
Fowlmere Rec Ground	South West	Standard (yellow)
Foxton – West Hill Road/West Hill Park Tennis Club	South West	No ancillary provision
Foxton Recreation Ground/Tennis Club	South West	Good (green)
Gamlingay Leisure Centre	South West	Standard (yellow)
Gamlingay Recreation Ground	South West	Poor (red)
Hardwick Recreation Ground	South West	Good (green)
Haslingfield Recreation Ground	South West	Good (green)
Hauxton Tennis	South West	Standard (yellow)
Highfields Caldecote Rec Ground	South West	Standard (yellow)

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Site Name	Sub Area	Ancillary Facilities Quality
Melbourn Village College	South West	Standard (yellow)
Meldreth Recreation Ground	South West	Good (green)
Monkfield Lane	South West	Good (green)
Orwell Recreation Ground	South West	Good (green)
Steeple Morden Recreation Ground	South West	Standard (yellow)

5.6 Provisional findings from the supply-side analysis indicate:

- There are 151 courts, across 53 sites in the study area.
- 135 out of 151 courts are available to public.
- 29 out of 53 sites are rated as good quality, making up 54.7% of the supply of courts. There are poor quality courts at Cottenham Village College, Sawston Village College, Bassingbourne Village College, Comberton Rec Ground, Comberton Village College and Gamlingay Recreation Ground.
- There are 77 floodlit courts in SCDC, accounting for 51% of the total supply.

5.7 Table 32 summarises the community available tennis sites in Cambridge.

South Cambridge District Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment

Table 32: Site Summaries – Available sites

Site name	Sub area	Summary
Bar Hill Rec Ground	North	2x asphalt courts with average quality surface, netting and fencing. Partly floodlit
Cottenham Rec Ground/King George V Field	North	2 x grass courts in average condition. Surface long and patchy in places. Good fencing and netting. Good access and parking. Adjacent to excellent ancillary facilities.
Cottenham Village College, High Street	North	Education site, with small sports centre, AGP and grass pitches. 4x poor quality tarmac courts, which are all floodlit, however both the courts and sports lighting are both in urgent need of improvement.
Fen Drayton Recreation Ground/Fen Drayton Tennis Club	North	2x excellent asphalt courts. Good netting and fencing. Not floodlit. Adjacent to village hall where the ancillary facilities are located.
Girton Recreation Ground	North	Multisport site with bowls, MUGA and football on site. Well used facility with good clubhouse on site.
Histon Tennis Club	North	Parish council managed tennis courts. Multisport site with football, cricket, and bowls on site. Well used facility with very good clubhouse., however fencing could do with improvement.
Impington Village College	North	Education site linked with large sports centre. Good quality facilities, including tennis and netball courts and grass pitches.
Landbeach Recreation Ground	North	One standard quality tennis court, which is used for other physical activity.
Longstanton Recreation Ground	North	2x excellent asphalt courts. Good netting and fencing. Floodlit. Good ancillary facilities.
Milton Recreation Ground	North	Multisport site with bowls, MUGA and football on site. Well used facility. Clubhouse on site. Good facility - look recently refurbished or well kept.
Northstowe Phase 1 (Western Park Pavilion)	North	2x macadam courts, overmarked with netball courts. No sports lighting. Owned by SCDC and operated by Elite Sport.
Northstowe Phase 2	North	4x macadmam courts, of standard quality. All are overmarked with netball lines and have sports lighting. Owned by SCDC but operated by the education trust.
Oakington Recreation Ground/Oakington and Westwick Tennis Club	North	Club managed tennis courts. Multisport site with football on site and small AGP. Well used facility
Papworth Everard Tennis Club	North	Multi-sport site with cricket and bowls. Well used facility with good clubhouse and pavilion. Club on site, excellent courts, and ancillary facilities
Rampton Recreation Ground	North	One tennis court / MUGA facility.
Swavesey Village College	North	2x AGP courts. 2x tarmac courts. No photos or access due to education site. No nets present at time of visit. AGP court surfaces in good condition and good line markings. Unable to see tarmac courts from external position but look like they need improvement. All courts are floodlit.
Waterbeach Recreation Ground	North	Multisport site. Public facility. No clubhouse on site. Satisfactory facility - could do with improved fencing and some areas of the surface.
Castle Camps Recreation Ground	South East	Generally good/average quality. Castle camps village hall - assumed changing provision inside - no access. Table tennis table next to the tennis court. Good facility, suitable for a number of sports. 2 basketball hoops but not opposite each other

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Site name	Sub area	Summary
Duxford Recreation Ground/Duxford Lawn Tennis Club	South East	Multisport site with bowls and football also on site. Excellent facility with good ancillary facilities, access, and parking. 2x high quality asphalt courts. Floodlit
Fulbourn Recreation Ground - Public Tennis	South East	Very good quality, well-kept tennis facility. Clubhouse on site. 2 macadam non-floodlit court. Only fenced on three sides. Club facility. Busy club -LTA registered. Open public facility
Fulbourn Recreation Ground Tennis Club	South East	Very good quality tennis facility with good clubhouse and ancillary facilities on site. 2 AstroTurf floodlit courts and 1 AGP floodlit court. 1 macadam non-floodlit court. Busy club facility with LTA usage
Sawston Village College	South East	Poor AstroTurf facility, used generally for curricular pe. 2x poor quality macadam courts, with sports lighting.
Stapleford Recreation Ground	South East	2x AGP, non-floodlit surfaces that have recently been refurbished. Parish council run facility. Standard ancillary facilities and clubhouse on site. Online and in-app booking capability. Cricket, football, and clubhouse also on site
The Lawn, Duxford Road	South East	2x asphalt courts. Good netting, average fencing. Good access and location.
West Wickham Recreation Ground	South East	Public facility. Toilets and changing in building but no access. Satisfactory - could do with improved fencing and some areas of the surface.
West Wratting Tennis Court/D' Abo Tennis Club	South East	Good quality site, with one tennis court, adjacent to good ancillary facilities.
Woollards Lane/Great Shelford Tennis Club	South East	Multisport site with cricket and bowls. Well used facility. Excellent facility and new clubhouse/pavilion
Barton Rec Ground	South West	2x asphalt courts. Excellent surface, netting. Good fencing. Not floodlit. Adjacent to bowls club and good pavilion. Good parking and easy access.
Bassingbourn Village College	South West	Education site, with small sports centre, small sided AGP and grass pitches. The AGP is in poor condition due to flooding, and the grass pitches suffer from animal damage. The 3x tarmac courts, although floodlit, are currently not in a useable condition. 1x floodlit MUGA also on site.
Bourn Rec Ground	South West	2x good quality macadam courts with good access and parking.
Cambourne Lawn Tennis Club/Back Lane Tennis	South West	Tennis courts split into two areas - 3 are multipurpose and have netball markings, three are excellent quality and for tennis only. All courts have recently been resurfaced.
Comberton Rec Ground	South West	2x tarmac courts. Poor surface, nets, and fencing. Large tree overhanging in corner, littering court with sticks and leaves. Line markings are faded. Good parking and easy access
Comberton Village College	South West	4x tarmac courts (closest to the AGP) are of poor quality. Faded markings. Floodlit. Small unused hut adjacent to the courts. Currently used as car park by the school.
Comberton Village College	South West	4x standard quality asphalt courts. Good fencing. Only 1 net up at the time of visit - good quality. Netball posts and markings also present. However, 1 of the courts has over hanging branches, making it challenging to play tennis on currently.
Croquet And Lawn Tennis Club – (Cocks and Hens)	South West	Excellent facility, easy access. 2x excellent grass courts with no floodlights. 4x asphalt courts - floodlit. 4x AGP courts - floodlit. All surfaces, netting and fencing excellent. New, well-equipped clubhouse. Busy at time of visit - no photos due to children
Fowlmere Rec Ground	South West	Good quality courts, with ancillary provision in the adjacent Fowlmere village hall

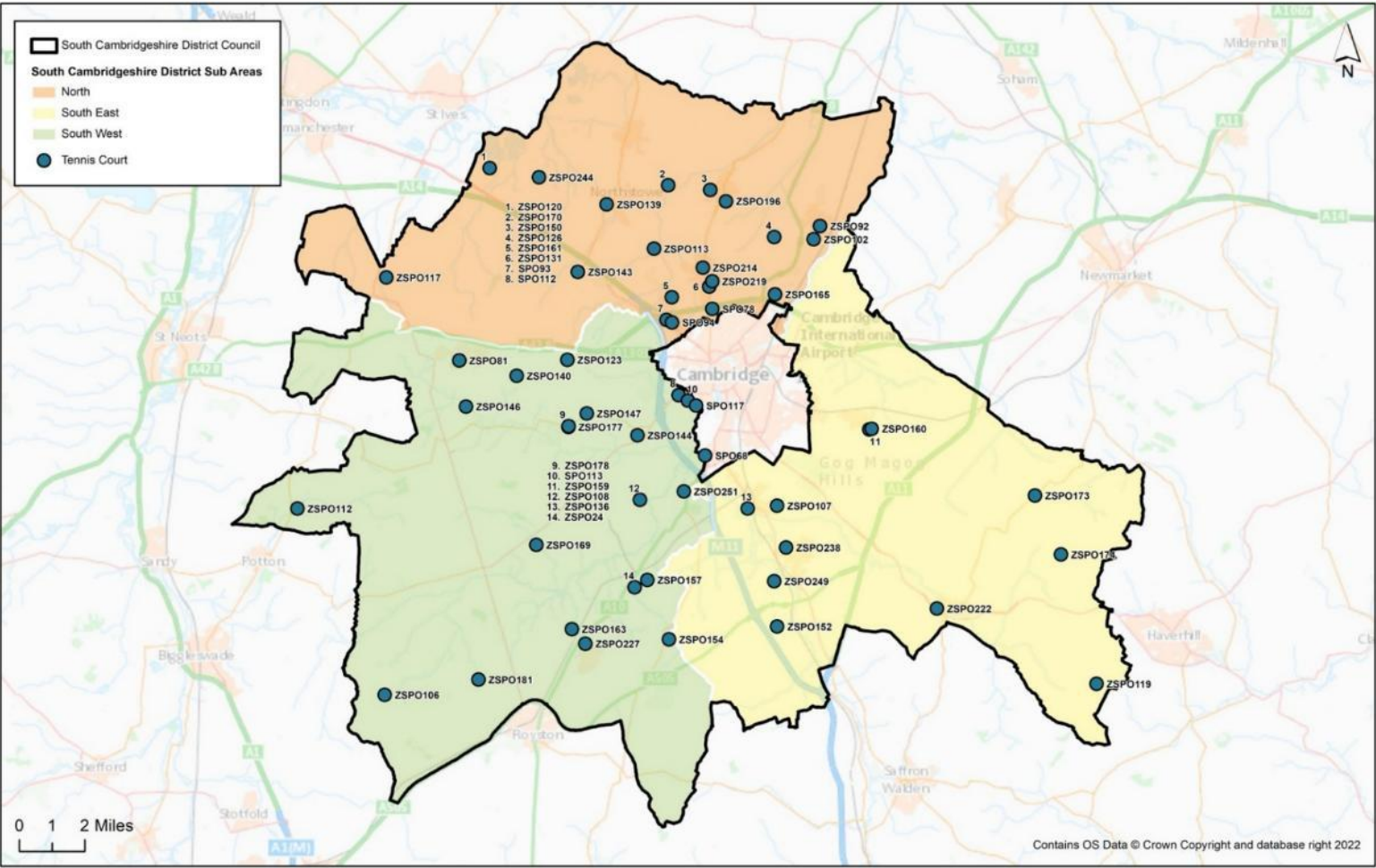
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Site name	Sub area	Summary
Foxton – West Hill Road/West Hill Park Tennis Club	South West	1x good quality tennis court, with poor access and parking. No ancillary provision.
Foxton Recreation Ground/Tennis Club	South West	High quality tennis facility. Multisport site with cricket and bowls. Good quality tarmacadam surface with no floodlights. Home of Foxton tennis club. Online and app booking available.
Gamlingay Leisure Centre	South West	1x standard quality, macadam tennis court, which is not floodlit, on the site of a community sports centre.
Gamlingay Recreation Ground	South West	2x poor tarmac courts. Poor facility. Overhanging trees. Good parking but poor access.
Hardwick Recreation Ground	South West	2x tarmac courts. Netball markings on site also. Average quality. Floodlit. No nets at time of visit
Haslingfield Recreation Ground	South West	Haslington lawn tennis club. Excellent facility. Outstanding surfaces. Floodlit. Good fencing and netting. Adjacent to pavilion, clubhouse, community centre. No photos taken due to usage.
Hauxton Tennis	South West	Excellent tennis courts not floodlit. Good surface, netting, and fencing. On same site as cricket and football. Some ancillary facilities but no access.
Highfields Caldecote Rec Ground	South West	Tennis court is run by Cambourne town council and is adjacent to new housing development. Good quality courts.
Melbourn Village College	South West	Education site, with small sports centre, small sided AGP and grass pitches. 3, standard quality tarmac courts, which are floodlit.
Meldreth Recreation Ground	South West	2x excellent asphalt courts. Good netting and fencing. Not floodlit. Good ancillary facilities at village hall. Good parking and access. Great facility
Monkfield Lane	South West	Tennis court is run by Cambourne town council. Tennis courts are standard quality but have poor fencing. In need of refurbishment
Orwell Recreation Ground	South West	AGP MUGA with 2x tennis courts, 1x netball, 1x 5-a-side football. Not floodlit. Excellent facility, used by Orwell tennis club
Steeple Morden Recreation Ground	South West	3x excellent asphalt courts. Good netting and fencing. Floodlit. Adjacent to village hall - ancillary facilities within. Small refreshments and scoring hut

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5.8 Map 6 shows the geographic location of outdoor tennis courts across the Study Area and presents the dispersion courts across SCDC.

Map 6: Outdoor Tennis Court Audit in SCDC



Tennis courts in South Cambridgeshire

South Cambridge District Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment

5.9 This section of the analysis examines the demand for tennis in Cambridge.

Active Lives Survey

- 5.10 As per the LTA's insight as captured at the start of this chapter, demand for tennis is generated by a wide range of participants, from members to more 'casual' or 'recreational' players, to those trying tennis for the first time. Although many club sites in South Cambridgeshire are accessible on a pay and play basis, many of the more recreational players are usually defined by a lack of membership to a tennis club and typically access facilities through public park courts and other publicly available facilities, which is reflected in the LTA's work around participation and transformation.
- 5.11 Sport England's Active Lives Survey represents the most robust dataset regarding participation in sport in England amongst those aged 16 or older. The latest iteration of this data is taken from surveys carried out in November 2023/24. However, there is no available data regarding monthly tennis activity for SCDC. Therefore, data from the Cambridgeshire County Council area will be used. When considering yearly participation, there is up to date data from November 23/4, meaning that SCDC area will be used. The data shows the following:
- 2.2% of residents aged 16+ in SCDC area reported playing tennis twice within the last 28 days.
 - This 'twice-monthly' participation rate is marginally higher than the national equivalent participation rate of 1.9% (Nov 23/24).
 - 9.3% of residents aged 16+ in SCDC area reported playing tennis at least once in year 23/24, which can be compared to a national average of 6.2%.
- 5.12 According to the population figures used throughout this report, there are 130,560 residents in SCDC aged 16 or over. This means that when translated into demand, the Active Lives Figures show that 2,872 people play tennis at least twice every 28 days and 12,142 play at least once per year. These figures can be taken forward to analyse the utilisation the court capacity in the study area.

Membership Data

- 5.13 Consultations undertaken with community clubs in SCDC and data provided by the LTA have been used to capture membership figures. The membership figures for each club are displayed in Table 33.

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Table 33: Tennis Club Membership in South Cambridgeshire

Club Name	Current Membership
Great Shelford Tennis club	516
Longstanton Tennis Club	69
Foxton Village Tennis Club	79
Fen Drayton Tennis Club	131
Papworth Tennis Club	258
Bourn Sports Club	158
Cambourne Tennis Club	289
Meldreth Tennis Club	182
Duxford Lawn Tennis Club	162
Hauxton Tennis	76
Swavesey and Over Tennis Club	21
Steeple Morden Tennis Club	136
Fulbourn Tennis club	181
Girton Tennis Club	192
Haslingfield Lawn Tennis Club	301
Histon Tennis Club	372
Stapleford Tennis Club	158
West Hill Park Tennis Club	44
D'Abo Tennis Club	120
Cottenham Tennis Club	111

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Club Name	Current Membership
Barton Tennis Club	96
Orwell Tennis Club	55
Milton Tennis Club	114
Cocks and Hens Cambridge Tennis	645
Total	4,466

5.14 Table 33 shows the publicly available club sites in South Cambridgeshire have a membership of 4,466 people according to LTA data.

Future Demand

5.15 Future population figures based on housing projections will be used to model future demand for tennis. There will be a predicted 80.6% increase in the population across SCDC by 2045.

Table 34: Future Population Projections

Current 16+ Population	Future 16+ Population 2045
130,560	233,103

5.16 This means that, should participation and club memberships grow in-line with the population increase there will be around 80.6% more players in the future. This is broken down in further detail in Table 35.

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Table 35: Future Demand Estimates

Participant Category	Current	Future Projection
Club Members	4,466	8,066
Non-club players (at least once annually)	12,142	21,928
Total Participants	16,608	29,994

- 5.17 Table 35 shows the population driven growth in demand for tennis in SCDC. However, this demand should be factored into the overall growth trends driven by the LTA's activity and participation programmes.

Supply and Demand Balance

- 5.18 This section of the report will draw together the supply and demand data presented above to show the current and projected capacity balances for tennis in SCDC.

Club Balance

- 5.19 Table 36 summarises the current utilisation of community club sites in the study area. If a court is floodlit it has a membership capacity of 60, compared with a membership capacity of 40 if non-floodlit. Although these are the figures that will be used to conduct the supply and demand analysis, clubs may be able to operate at a higher capacity. Therefore, they should not be considered to be the absolute threshold.

Table 36: Current and Projected Utilisation of Tennis Club Courts in South Cambridgeshire

Area	Capacity (membership)	Members	% Utilisation	Projected Members (2040)	Projected % Utilisation
South Cambridgeshire District Council	3,700	4,466	120%	8,066	218%

- 5.20 Table 36 shows that, when considered together, tennis club sites in South Cambridgeshire are currently operating at 20% over their maximum capacity.

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- 5.21 However, if growth in membership were to grow in line with population, then this shortfall of club sites would significantly worsen, with courts being over utilised by 118% by 2045.

Public Courts

- 5.22 This section summarises the current supply and demand balance of public (non-club) courts in South Cambridgeshire. Only courts accessible on a free-to-access or pay-and-play basis can be considered as 'public courts'.
- 5.23 The LTA advises that the capacity of public courts to be 7 hours per day for non-floodlit courts and 12 hours per day for floodlit courts. This equates to 2,555 hours per year on non-floodlit courts and 4,380 hours per year on floodlit courts.
- 5.24 There are 135 courts in South Cambridgeshire that are available for community use. 73 of these courts are floodlit.
- 5.25 It is estimated that these sites contribute 9,170 hours per week of playing capacity to meet demand for informal tennis in SCDC. This equates to 39,300 hours per month (30-day average) or 471,600 hours per year.
- 5.26 2,872 people participate in tennis activity at least twice every 28 days.
- 5.27 Assuming an average of 3 people per court per 'booking / use' (to account for an even split between singles, doubles and some sessions where 3 people share a court) this equates to 1,915 sessions per month played on public courts. If each match lasts for 1 hour on average this means that public courts are operating at 5% of their total operational capacity.
- 5.28 According to data provided by the LTA's online booking system (Clubspark) with court access technology, the average level of utilisation in venues (UK wide) is 53%. By this barometer South Cambridgeshire is operating at a significantly lower than average level in terms of its utilisation of public courts.
- 5.29 If demand for courts increases in line with population (increase of 80.6%), there will be an estimated 3,458 sessions per month on public courts by 2045. This would equate to 9% of existing public court capacity. This means that public tennis courts in South Cambridgeshire would be operating around 44% lower than the current average utilisation according to the LTA's 2019 benchmarking.

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- 5.30 This spare capacity is the result of large court numbers of floodlit courts. However, through consultation it is apparent that tennis club use of publicly available courts utilises much of the available capacity, restricting the non-members access to outdoor tennis provision. Many individuals are forced to book courts at dual use community sports centres, many of which are of poor quality and not accessible during the school day.
- 5.31 LTA statistics also suggest that the vast majority of bookings are happening on good quality courts, especially those that have undergone recent renovations. This indicates that if poor or standard quality courts received investment and sports lighting installed, the demand for them would increase and therefore overall participation in tennis would rise
- 5.32 Implementation of online booking software and installation of gate access systems on these dual use sites and other school sites, could help to remove some of the barriers around accessibility and ensure that public usage can be maximised in an efficient manner.

Future Demand – Housing Development

- 5.33 There is predicted to be significant housing development across South Cambridgeshire, leading to an increase in approximately 145,762 people. This additional population will have a significant impact on demand and therefore ensuring there are sufficient good quality floodlit tennis courts should be the priority.
- 5.34 Using Sport England's Sport Facilities Calculator, it is possible to establish the additional demand that will be generated by population growth at strategic growth sites in SCDC. This demand and the associated capital costs are highlighted by site in Table 37.

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Table 37: Developer Contributions required for new Tennis Courts at housing sites – South Cambridgeshire District

South Cambridgeshire District					
Housing Sites	Indicative Population Growth	SFC – identified need for outdoor tennis courts	SFC – identified cost-contribution	On Site Contribution	Off Site Contribution
Bourn Airfield New Village	9,975	1.31	£144,248	£110,113	£34,135 (court improvement)
Cambourne West	5,843	0.77	£84,496	£0	£84,496 (court improvement)
Cambourne North	37,050	4.85	£574,187	£473,556	£100,631 (court improvement)
Grange Farm New Settlement	17,100	2.25	£247,283	£219,807	£27,476 (court improvement)
Northstowe	24,812	3.26	£358,806	£330,190	£28,616 (court improvement)
Rural Area - Allocations	5,012	0.66	£77,674	£0	£77,674 (court improvement)
Rural Area - Windfalls	10,345	1.35	£160,323	£118,757	£41,566 (court improvement)
Waterbeach New Town	31,350	4.11	£452,325	£440,219	£12,106 (court improvement)
Welcome Genome Campus	4,275	0.56	£61,821	£0	£61,821 (court improvement)
TOTALS	145,762	19.12	£2,161,163	£1,692,642	£468,521

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- 5.35 Table 37 identifies that there will be a requirement for an additional 19 courts across South Cambridgeshire by 2045 due to housing growth. Although it is recommended that up to 16 new courts could be developed across the larger housing sites; where housing development will only generate a small level of additional demand, the priority should be to invest in court improvement.
- 5.36 Improving the quality of existing courts and providing additional floodlighting can add capacity to the current supply of outdoor courts and provide a better playing experience for many. Where possible collaboration and partnerships with current tennis clubs to support their growth should be considered.
- 5.37 Many of the smaller clubs in SCDC, operate on sites with a limited number of courts and a lack of sports lighting, limiting opportunities for growth and forcing many more competitive players to larger clubs or outside of the district. Providing multi-court (4+) tennis sites, with sports lighting at new housing growth sites, could provide an opportunity for new clubs to grow or for the relocation of existing clubs.

Padel

- 5.38 Padel is rapidly growing in GB with almost 900 courts, the majority of which have been constructed in the last 2 years. Courts are located within existing tennis clubs (member and community offer), local authority venues (parks and leisure centres), standalone padel venues and other sports clubs.
- 5.39 Interest in the sport is growing with many sectors expressing an interest in developing courts, including continued growth within the club sector (tennis, rugby, cricket, football, squash); parks and leisure centres, education (secondary and HE) and continued growth delivered by the private sector.
- 5.40 Although there are currently no Padel courts within South Cambridgeshire, there is an appetite for investment in the development of courts in the area.
- 5.41 The LTA calculate the number of padel courts a local authority area can sustain using the following formula:
- Total population
 - Padel demand = 20% of the total population
 - Padel penetration = 8% of the estimated demand could convert to actual participants
 - 200 players can be accommodated per court

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- 5.42 Using this formula and the population figures provided, it is estimated that South Cambridgeshire could currently sustain 13 courts, with potential demand increasing to 16.4 by 2045.
- 5.43 Although these figures can be used to help support SCDC and other local partners in any decision making and investment priorities, the LTA are clear that padel courts should never replace tennis courts, regardless of their condition or current usage. Any development of padel facilities should always be covered doubles courts, to ensure maximum utilisation and financial sustainability.

Tennis Summary

- 5.44 This section summarises the findings from the tennis analysis, which will form basis of the recommendation and action plan section for SCDC.
- 5.45 Table 38 includes the response to key questions, which are asked for all PPOSS studies across the UK, in order to provide a standardised illustration of supply and demand for sports provision.

Table 38: Key PPOSS Findings for Tennis in SCDC

Key Question	Analysis
What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?	There are 151 courts across 53 sites in the study area. 135 are available for community use. 51% of the total courts available to the community are floodlit. There is a total of 4,466 members of clubs in SCDC, whilst 2,872 people play tennis at least twice every 28 days and 10,575 play at least once per year.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?	Club sites in South Cambridgeshire are operating at 20% over their maximum capacity, whilst publicly available courts are operating at around 4% of their capacity. This is significantly below average utilisation level according to LTA data. This can be attributed to the high-quality nature and level of floodlit provision in South Cambridgeshire.

South Cambridge District Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment

Key Question	Analysis
	Although there is theoretical spare capacity on publicly available courts, consultation suggests that many capacity on many 'public' sites is utilised by tennis club members, reducing the actual opportunity that many non-members or recreational players have to take part in tennis activity. It is estimated that South Cambridgeshire could sustain 13 padel courts.
Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?	60.9% of the current available supply of courts are rated as good quality, 26.3% are rated as standard and 12.7 are assessed as poor quality. Although the quality and maintenance of club and park sites is largely good, many courts on education sites are not appropriately maintained and, in some cases, used for other purposes, such as additional car parking.
What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?	If participation continues to grow in line with population the playing population will increase by 80.6%. This means that club sites are estimated to be operating at 118% over their maximum capacity. Demand for public courts will also increase, bringing the utilisation of public courts to 8% by 2045. However, future housing development will generate requirement for an additional 19 courts by 2045. This should be met through new court development, court improvement and the installation of sports lighting. It is estimated that South Cambridgeshire could sustain 16.4 Padel courts by 2045.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?	When considering club sites, there is expected to be a 118% undersupply of courts by 2045. Many club sites in South Cambridgeshire have limited access to courts and have challenges in growing membership and participation. Therefore, providing multi-court, floodlit courts on new housing developments could provide the opportunity for new clubs to develop, or existing clubs to relocate and further enhance their offer. Although there is predicted to be a large amount of spare capacity on public courts even when future population growth is taken into account, providing capacity for casual, non-member players to take part on good quality accessible courts remains a priority.

Recommendations for Tennis

1. Protect the existing quantity of tennis courts. This includes gaining security of tenure on sites without long-term agreements in place. Responsibility of the parish councils, sports clubs, facility owners.
2. Work with academy trusts to ensure courts are available to the public, particularly those within close proximity of new housing developments.
3. Improve the existing courts particularly those managed by parish councils, within close proximity of new housing developments. This should include resurfacing, new fencing, sports light installation and access control to monitor usage.
4. Support grounds staff to review quality issues on courts to ensure appropriate quality is achieved at sites assessed as standard and sustained at sites assessed as good. Responsibility of, LTA, Parish Councils and Sports Clubs where appropriate.
5. Ensure future demand can be accommodated on existing supply of courts. Where overplay becomes present, consider development of additional courts on club sites first as having several courts on one site is beneficial from an operating and user perspective. Monitoring usage is critical to determining if supply meets demand. Responsibility of LTA, Parish Councils and sports clubs where appropriate.
6. Development of additional courts at large housing development sites, with the priority being Northstowe, Waterbeach New Town, Bourne Airfield, Cambourne and Grange New Farm.
7. Where developments would benefit from sports lighting on site to provide additional evening capacity, work with facility owners to determine the viability of these investments.
8. Work with all partners to determine priority sites for the development of Padel. Focus on existing sports club sites and new large scale housing development sites.

Netball Analysis

Introduction and Strategic Context

- 5.46 This section provides greater detail of the existing strategies that are currently being delivered by Netball England. Following this, the supply and demand section of this report evaluates the adequacy of facilities for netball and considers:
- The supply of courts and demand for these;
 - The quality of courts in SCDC;
 - Recommendations moving forward.
- 5.47 Netball in England is administered by Netball England, the national governing body for the sport. The current strategy forms the fundamental principles for its strategic planning for the future of sport and business.

Supply

- 5.48 The following section will detail the supply of outdoor netball facilities in SCDC.
- 5.49 Table 39 shows the outdoor provision of netball courts in SCDC. There are 15 sites with a total of 43 courts. 38 courts in SCDC are available for community use. Although courts on a number of primary schools are included in this audit, they are often not available for community use due to the inability to facilitate it and lack sports lighting meaning they are not appropriate to support netball activity.

Table 39: Outdoor Netball Facilities in SCDC

Site	Sub Area	Available to community	Ownership	Management Type	Courts	Floodlit	Overall Rating
Cottenham Village College	SCDC North	Available	Education	Education	3	Yes	Poor (red)

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Site	Sub Area	Available to community	Ownership	Management Type	Courts	Floodlit	Overall Rating
Girton Recreation Ground	SCDC North	Available	Other	Other	1	Yes	Good (green)
Hatton Park Primary School	SCDC North	Unavailable	Education	Education	2	No	Satisfactory (orange)
Histon and Impington Junior School	SCDC North	Unavailable	Education	Education	3	No	Satisfactory (orange)
Histon Recreation Ground	SCDC North	Available	Parish Council	Parish Council	1	Yes	Standard (yellow)
Impington Village College Sports Centre	SCDC North	Available	Education	Education	4	No	Good (green)
Milton Community Centre	SCDC North	Available	Parish Council	Parish Council	4	Yes	Excellent
Northstowe Secondary School	SCDC North	Available	Education	Education	4	Yes	Standard (yellow)
Northstowe Western Park	SCDC North	Available	SCDC	Elite Sport	2	Yes	Good (green)
Orchard Park	SCDC North	Available	Parish Council	Parish Council	1	Yes	Standard (yellow)
Papworth Everard Recreation Ground	SCDC North	Available	Parish Council	Parish Council	1	No	Good (green)

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Site	Sub Area	Available to community	Ownership	Management Type	Courts	Floodlit	Overall Rating
Swavesey Primary School	SCDC North	Available	Education	Education	2	No	Satisfactory (orange)
Swavesey Village College	SCDC North	Available	Education	Education	2	Yes	Satisfactory (orange)
Linton Village College	SCDC South East	Available	Education	Education	4	Yes	Satisfactory (orange)
Sawston Village College	SCDC South East	Available	Education	Education	2	Yes	Poor (red)
Cambourne Recreation Ground	SCDC South East	Available	Parish Council	Parish Council	2	Yes	Good (green)
Cambourne Village College	SCDC South West	Available	Education	Education	4	No	Poor (red)
Comberton Sixth Form	SCDC South West	Available	Education	Education	4	Yes	Excellent (purple)
Gamlingay Recreation Ground	SCDC South West	Available	Parish Council	Parish Council	1	Yes	Standard (yellow)
Hardwick Recreation Ground	SCDC South West	Available	Parish Council	Parish Council	2	Yes	Satisfactory (orange)
Melbourn Village College	SCDC South West	Available	Education	Education	2	Yes	Satisfactory (orange)

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Site	Sub Area	Available to community	Ownership	Management Type	Courts	Floodlit	Overall Rating
Queen's College and Robinson College	SCDC South West	Unavailable	Education	Education	2	No	Excellent (purple)

- 5.50 Table 39 shows that there are 53 outdoor netball courts across 22 sites in the Study Area, however only 46 of these courts are available for community use. Of the available courts, 35 have sports lighting. 59% of available courts are located on education-owned sites, with the remaining courts largely owned by Parish Councils. Only the courts at Northstowe Western Park are owned by South Cambridgeshire District Council.
- 5.51 Of the 46 available outdoor courts, 18 are rated as good quality (39%), 19 are standard quality (41%) and 9 are poor quality (20%). However, consultation suggests that many sites currently used for community netball, in particular Northstowe Secondary School, experience significant usage and will require resurfacing works in the near future, if not already.
- 5.52 38 courts or 85.2% of the existing supply are available for community use. However, those courts located on dual use sites are not available during the school day. For those courts on dual use sites that do not have sports lighting, this means that the courts are not accessible throughout the winter months due to lack of available daylight.
- 5.53 Detailed summaries from the site assessments can be found in Table 40.

Table 40: Outdoor Netball Facilities in SCDC – Available for Community Use

Site	Summary
Cottenham Village College	Education site, with small sports centre, AGP and grass pitches. 3, poor quality tarmac courts, which are all floodlit. The courts are not suitable for competitive netball and the sports lighting requires replacement.
Girton Recreation Ground	Multisport site with bowls, MUGA and football on site. Good quality clubhouse on site, which has recently been refurbished. Courts are well marked out and obviously well maintained.

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Site	Summary
Histon Recreation Ground	1x floodlit netball court, which also includes tennis markings. The facility is of standard quality.
Impington Village College Sports Centre - Netball	4x tarmac courts shared with tennis that have recently been resurfaced. Easy access and parking. Located at sports centre with good facilities. Although the courts are not currently floodlit, planning permission has been granted for their installation. However, the college are yet to source funding for them.
Milton Community Centre	3x excellent quality asphalt courts. 1x AGP court. Easy access, good parking and good ancillary facilities. Floodlit
Northstowe Secondary College	4x standard quality tarmac courts overmarked with tennis. All courts have sports lighting, but significant use of the site has resulted in the surface and line markings becoming worn and faded.
Orchard Park	1x standard quality netball court, overmarked with 2 netball courts. On a well-used site, including AGP, basketball court and skatepark.
Papworth Everard Recreation Ground	1x standard quality netball court, on a MUGA facility. Although the court has recently been resurfaced and included netball markings, there are no posts or holes on the court. Adjacent to a basketball court.
Northstowe Western Park	2x good quality tarmac courts, with sports lighting. Owned and operated by SCDC.
Swavesey Village College	2x standard quality tarmac, floodlit courts with poor line markings.
Linton Village College	4x floodlit tarmac courts. Good location and easy access. Good central venue location. Shared with tennis courts.
Sawston Village College	2x floodlit netball courts, overmarked with tennis, in poor condition.
Cambourne Recreation Ground	2x good quality netball courts, overmarked with tennis. Both courts are floodlit and were resurfaced in August 2025.

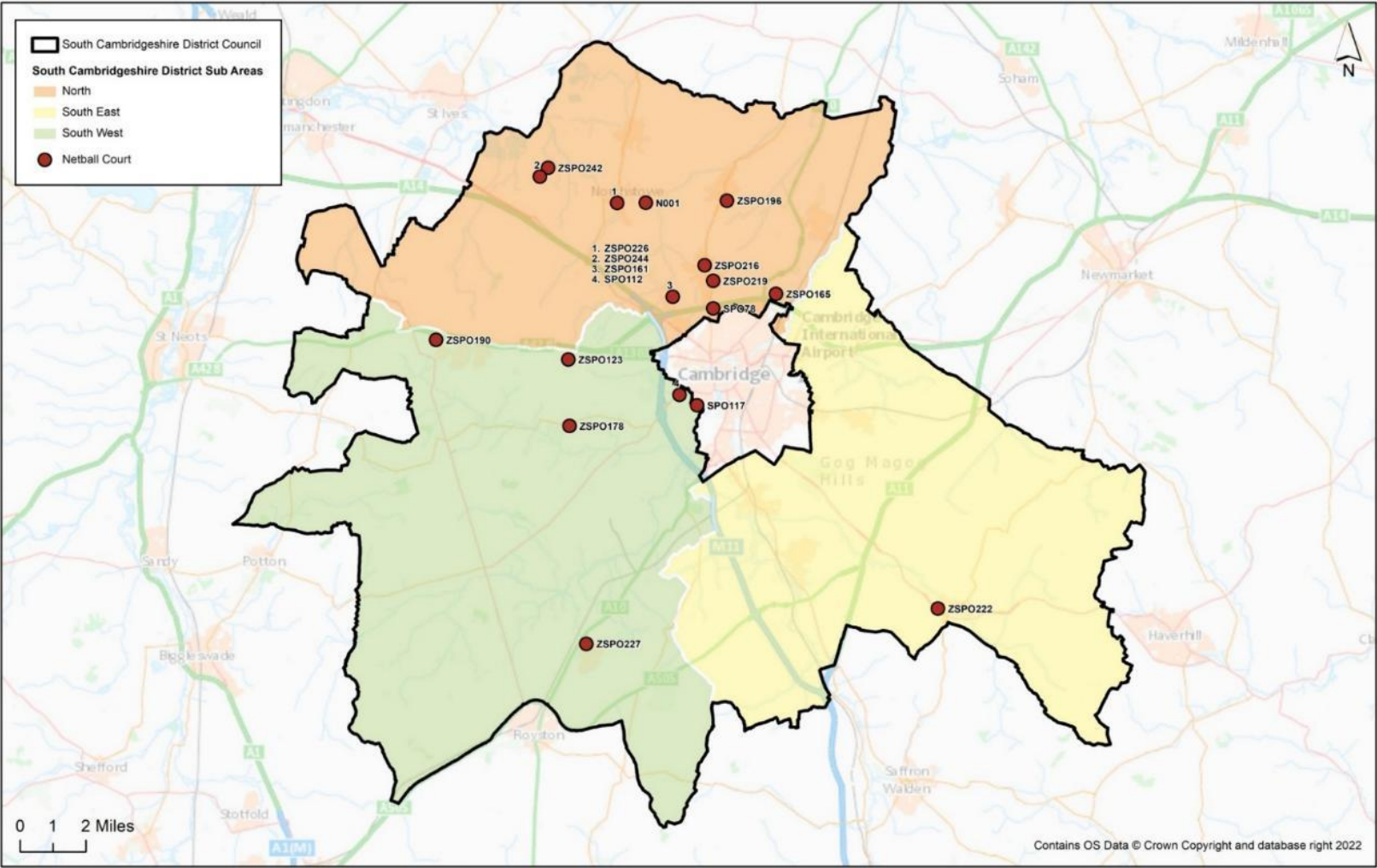
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Site	Summary
Cambourne Village College	4x poor quality tarmac courts that are unsafe for use outside of curriculum time.
Comberton Village College	Excellent facility. 4x high quality asphalt courts, with sports lighting. Good fencing. Netball posts and markings over tennis courts.
Gamlingay Recreation Ground	1x floodlit tarmac court which is of standard quality. However, line markings require re-painting.
Hardwick Recreation Ground	2x tarmac courts, average condition – not floodlit
Melbourn Village College	2x tarmac courts in standard condition, with sports lighting. Good parking and access.

5.54 Map 7 shows the geographic location of outdoor netball courts across the Study Area and presents the dispersion courts across SCDC.

South Cambridgeshire District Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment

Map 7: Outdoor Netball Court Audit in SCDC



Netball courts in South Cambridgeshire

South Cambridge District Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment

Demand

- 5.55 Clubs that compete at a regional level are required to host home fixtures on indoor courts, however almost all other community netball and local leagues in South Cambridgeshire take place on outdoor courts. Other than regional competition, only the Cambridgeshire Development programme utilises indoor court provision and uses courts at Comberton Village College and Northstowe Secondary School.
- 5.56 Although indoor netball provision is the preferred method of netball for many individuals and clubs, it is important to note that the cost of this is often unaffordable for many causing accessibility issues for both new and existing players. Finding appropriate indoor venues that are appropriately cleaned and meeting England Netball requirements for the run off at the edge of the court, is also a major challenge within South Cambridgeshire.
- 5.57 Until 2018, all local leagues utilised a central venue at Impington Village College. Although the courts have now been resurfaced, England Netball previously condemned them for competitive use due to safety concerns over the court quality. All summer demand was then relocated to Northstowe Secondary School, and winter demand was moved to Netherhall School in the City of Cambridge.
- 5.58 Table 41 details the facilities that are used for community outdoor netball in SCDC.

Table 41: Demand for Netball in SCDC

Site Name	Capacity for Netball Courts	Club	Purpose
Cambourne Recreation Ground	2	Cambourne Netball Club	Training Walking Netball
Comberton Village College	4	Swifts Netball Club Cambs Netball Academy (indoors) Comberton Netball Club	Training
Girton Recreation Ground	1	Girton Netball Club GK Juniors	Training
Histon Recreation Ground	1	Histon Netball Club Histon Howlers Juniors	Training Walking Netball

South Cambridge District Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment

Site Name	Capacity for Netball Courts	Club	Purpose
Linton Village College	4	Linton Linton Lions	Training Walking Netball
Melbourn Village College	2	Melbourn Social Netball Group	Training Walking Netball
Northstowe Secondary School	4	Cottenham Jaguars Fireflies	Training Local Leagues
Swavesey Village College	2	Fenstanton Social Netball William Diamonds	Training

- 5.59 Of the 46 courts available for community use, 35 are floodlit, meaning that 76% would be available for winter usage. However, this figure does not take into account the poor-quality nature of many courts, which is heightened in winter and that a number of sites have a limited court supply, meaning they are not suitable to host larger scale competitive netball leagues.
- 5.60 As a result of this, based on England Netball data, all winter league and match play activity takes place in the City of Cambridge at Netherhall School, meaning all clubs travel outside of SCDC to play formal competition. However, as courts at the previous central venue, Impington Village College, have now been resurfaced, there is an opportunity for winter netball activity to return to South Cambridgeshire, or for the further growth of recreational or competitive netball.
- 5.61 Local summer leagues are held at Northstowe Secondary School.

Future Demand

- 5.62 Significant housing development in the study area is predicted to increase the population by approximately 73,829 people. Although there is currently no standard calculation for the number of outdoor netball courts required per population, we must assume, as the most popular team sport for women and girls in the UK, that the increased demand for outdoor courts will at least match the increased demand for outdoor tennis courts. This suggests there would be demand for an additional 20 outdoor courts in SCDC.

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- 5.63 Demand for netball as a whole in SCDC is likely to increase and there may be opportunities for interest in the support to further increase, raising participation. Netball experienced significant growth after the ‘Roses’ gold medal at the 2018 Commonwealth Games, and after achieving bronze at the 2019 Netball World Cup in Liverpool, there was an increase of over 160,000 people participating in netball.
- 5.64 The upcoming local 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow and the 2027 netball world cup in Australia, provide good opportunities for success for the national team following their professionalisation in 2025, which is hoped to generate further interest in the sport.
- 5.65 England Netball programmes and initiatives such as Walking Netball, NetballHer, Bee Netball, Back to Netball and Netball Now are already in high demand and are expected to further increase participation in Netball.
- 5.66 Although the development of new courts may be necessary due to the scale of new housing development, securing community use agreements on currently unavailable education sites, improving court quality and the installation of floodlighting will all add capacity to the existing supply of netball provision and will enable additional sites to host community netball activity.

Netball Summary

- 5.67 This section summarises the findings from the netball analysis, which will form basis of the recommendation and action plan section for SCDC.
- 5.68 Table 42 includes the response to key questions, which are asked for all PPOSS studies across the UK, in order to provide a standardised illustration of supply and demand for sports provision.

Table 42: Key PPOSS Findings for Netball in SCDC

Key Question	Analysis
What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?	There are 53 outdoor netball courts in South Cambridgeshire, across 22 sites. 46 of these are available to the community, spread over 19 sites. 35 of these courts have sports lighting. Education owned sites provide 59% of all available outdoor courts in the Study Area, with all other sites being owned by Parish Councils, other than Northstowe Western Park which is owned and operated by SCDC.

South Cambridge District Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment

Key Question	Analysis
	Other than regional competition, all netball activity in South Cambridgeshire takes place on outdoor courts, due to the lack of suitable indoor provision.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?	Courts on dual use sites are not available during school hours, and those on these sites that are not floodlit are effectively unavailable throughout the winter. A number of sites with outdoor, floodlit courts are deemed inappropriate for competitive use due to their poor quality, and other sites do not have the court capacity to host local competitive leagues. Although courts at Impington Village College have now been resurfaced, due to these capacity, floodlighting and quality issues, all winter competition takes place outside of the study area at Netherhall School in the City of Cambridge. Summer netball leagues are hosted by Northstowe Secondary School. A large amount of the demand is met by education sites, highlighting the importance of maintaining secure community use agreements where necessary.
Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?	39% of courts in the study area are rated as good, 19 are standard quality (41%) and 9 are poor quality (20%). However, consultation suggests that many sites currently used for community netball, in particular Northstowe Secondary School, experience significant usage and will require resurfacing works in the near future.
What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?	Large scale housing development, netball initiatives and international success at the professional level is predicted to will drive the future demand for netball in South Cambridgeshire. It is estimated that housing growth sites will create demand for approximately 20 additional courts.

South Cambridge District Courts and Rinks Needs Assessment

Key Question	Analysis
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?	Theoretically, the supply of outdoor netball courts in SCDC can meet the current and future demand for training from clubs. However, due to significant housing development and the deteriorating quality of courts in South Cambridgeshire; additional court provision, quality improvements, securing of community use agreements and the installation of floodlighting are all be required to ensure the long-term viability of netball in the study area.

Recommendations for Netball

1. Protect existing quality of netball courts. Responsibility of Parish Councils, SCDC, education institutes, sports clubs and Cambridge Netball Association.
2. Support grounds staff to review quality issues on courts to ensure appropriate quality is achieved at sites assessed as standard and sustained at sites assessed as good. Responsibility of Parish Councils, local authority, education, and sports clubs where appropriate.
3. Ensure future club demand can be accommodated on existing supply of courts, working with facility owners/managers to provide both long-term community use agreements for both indoor and outdoor netball. Responsibility of Cambridge Netball Association, Parish Councils, SCDC and sports clubs where appropriate.
4. Work with sports clubs, education sites, Cambridge Netball Association, local leagues and England Netball to refurbish courts when required, ensuring there are sufficient courts for each area within SCDC.
5. Where developments would benefit from floodlights on site to provide additional evening capacity, work with facility owners to determine the viability of these investments.
6. Consider the development of additional court facilities, located on or adjacent to, new housing development sites. Ensure that there is an appropriate netball offer in the larger villages with an existing recreational offer, to provide opportunities for residents to engage in netball participation programmes such as Walking Netball, NetballHer, Bee Netball, Back to Netball and Netball Now.

Bowls Analysis

Introduction and Strategic Context

- 5.69 Bowls England is responsible for the governance, administration and promotion of Flat Green Lawn Bowls in England. It was formed in 2008 following the unification of the English Bowling Association and the English Women’s Bowling Association.
- 5.70 The following section provides greater detail of the existing strategies that are currently being delivered by Bowls England.
- 5.71 Following this, the supply and demand section of this report evaluates the adequacy of facilities for bowls and considers:
- The supply of facilities and demand for these;
 - The adequacy of facilities in South Cambridge District; and
 - Recommendations moving forwards.

All Bowls - Supply

- 5.72 The local authority owns 10 bowls sites and manages three across South Cambridgeshire District. Of the remaining bowls sites, 11 are owned by sports clubs, and four by community organisations. A breakdown of ownership and management can be found in Table 43.

Table 43: Ownership and Management of Bowls Sites in South Cambridge District

Type	Ownership	Management
Local Authority	11	4
Sports Club	11	15
Other	4	7
Total	26	26

- 5.73 Table 43 shows that there are currently 26 bowling greens in South Cambridge District spread across 26 sites, all sites have one green.

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- 5.74 Of the total number of greens, 23 are good quality and the remaining are rated as standard quality by the non-technical assessment criteria. It should be noted that for higher level competitive bowls, only good quality greens are considered appropriate under this assessment criteria.
- 5.75 Full details of the sites can be found in Table 44.

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Table 44: Bowls Sites in South Cambridge District (clubs marked with a * are not affiliated clubs)

Site ID	Site	Sub Area	Club Using Site	Ownership	Management	Security of Tenure	Greens	Rinks	Green Condition	Clubhouse Condition	Additional Comments
SPO96	Wellbrook Way Bowling Green	SCDC North	Girton Bowls Club	Sports Club	Sports Club	Yes	1	7	Good (green)	Good (green)	1x 7 rink court. Excellent facility. Excellent pavilion. Turf very good
ZSPO05	Barrington Bowls Club	SCDC North	Barrington Bowls Club	Parish Council	Sports Club/Parish Council	Yes	1	4	Good (green)	Standard (yellow)	1x 5 rink green. Good surface, obviously well maintained. Average ancillary facilities. Photos taken
ZSPO13	Castle Camps Bowling Green	SCDC North	Castle Camps Bowls Club	Parish Council	Community Organisation	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Good (green)	Very good quality, well-kept bowling facility. Clubhouse on site
ZSPO46	Land East of Church Lane – Little Abington	SCDC North	Histon Bowling Club	Parish Council	Sports Club	Yes	1	7	Good (green)	Good (green)	Great multisport facility with tennis and cricket and football. Shared ancillary facilities, easy access and parking.
ZSPO53	Land South of Brewery Lane, Meldreth	SCDC North	Meldreth Bowls Club	Sports Club	Sports Club	Yes	1	4	Good (green)	Good (green)	1x 5 rink green. Good surface, obviously well maintained. Good ancillary facilities. Photos taken
	Northstowe Phase 1 – Western Park	SCDC North	Longstanton Bowls Club	SCDC	Sports Club	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Standard (yellow)	1x good quality green, adjacent to new housing development. Other sporting facilities on site include MUGA, 3G AGP and grass pitches.
SPO96	Wellbrook Way Bowling Green	SCDC North	Cottenham Bowls	Sports Club	Sports Club	Yes	1	7	Good (green)	Good (green)	1x 7 rink court. Good access and parking. Excellent turf. Adjacent to excellent ancillary facilities, but has own private pavilion
ZSPO80	Willingham Recreation Ground	SCDC North	NA	Other	Other	N/A	1	6	Standard (yellow)	Good (green)	Multisport site with football, MUGA and tennis on site. Well, used facility. Clubhouse on site. Average facility - worn grass in places
ZSPO103	Waterbeach Recreation Ground	SCDC North	Waterbeach Bowls Club	Sports Club	Sports Club	Yes	1	4	Standard (yellow)	Standard (yellow)	1x 4 rink green. Surface is too long at time of visit, but watering taking place (maintenance). Not floodlit. Adjacent to village hall where ancillary facilities are
ZSPO130	Impington and Histon Recreation Ground	SCDC South East	Histon Bowls Club	Community Org	Community Org	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Standard (yellow)	Very good quality. Castle Camps Bowling. Clubhouse on site - no access.

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Site ID	Site	Sub Area	Club Using Site	Ownership	Management	Security of Tenure	Greens	Rinks	Green Condition	Clubhouse Condition	Additional Comments
ZSPO138	Longstanton Recreation Ground	SCDC South East		Other	Other	Yes	1	5	Poor (red)	Poor (red)	Recently disused site. Bowls club have relocated to Northstowe Western Park.
ZSPO151	Cottenham Rec Ground	SCDC South East	Cottenham Bowls Club	Parish Council	Sports Club	Yes	1	5	Standard (yellow)	Poor (red)	Average quality green. Small scoring hut, in need of refurbishment. Poor access. Adjacent to cricket pitch
ZSPO166	Coles Road Recreation Ground	SCDC South East	Milton Outdoor Bowls Club	Other	Other	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Good (green)	Multisport site with cricket and tennis. Well used facility. Excellent facility and new clubhouse/pavilion
ZSPO121	Fen Drayton Recreation Ground	SCDC South East	Balsham Bowls Club	Parish Council	Community Org	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Good (green)	Very good quality, well-kept bowling facility. Clubhouse on site.
ZSPO	Bottisham Bowls Club	SCDC South East	Bottisham Bowls Club	Community Org	Community Org	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Good (green)	Very good quality, well-kept bowling facility. Clubhouse on site. Next to retirement home and park
ZSPO13	Castle Camps Bowling Green	SCDC South East	Castle Camps Bowls Club	Parish Council	Sports Club	Yes	1	5	Good (green)	Good (green)	1x large bowling green. Good ancillary facilities, access and parking. Adjacent to Duxford community centre with tennis and football
ZSPO46	Land East of Church Lane – Little Abington	SCDC South East	Abington Bowls Club	Parish Council	Community Org	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Good (green)	Very good quality, well-kept bowling facility. Clubhouse on site.
ZSPO127	Wale Recreation Ground	SCDC South West	NA	Sports Club	Sports Club	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Good (green)	Good quality, bowling facility. Good pavilion, easy access, little parking. Not floodlit. 6x rink court
ZSPO137	Woollards Lane Recreation Ground	SCDC South West	Great Shelford Bowls Club	Sports Club	Sports Club	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Good (green)	1x 6 court rink. Good surface. Good ancillary facilities. Good access
ZSPO141	Balsham Recreation Ground	SCDC South West	Cambourne Bowls Club	Parish Council	Parish Council	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Good (green)	Everyone Active sports facility on site. Generally excellent quality. Small clubhouse for bowls use. Home of Cambourne Bowls
ZSPO153	Duxford Recreation Ground	SCDC South West	Steeple Morden Bowls Club	Parish Council	Parish Council	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Good (green)	1x 6 rink green. Unable to access but looks high quality with excellent facilities

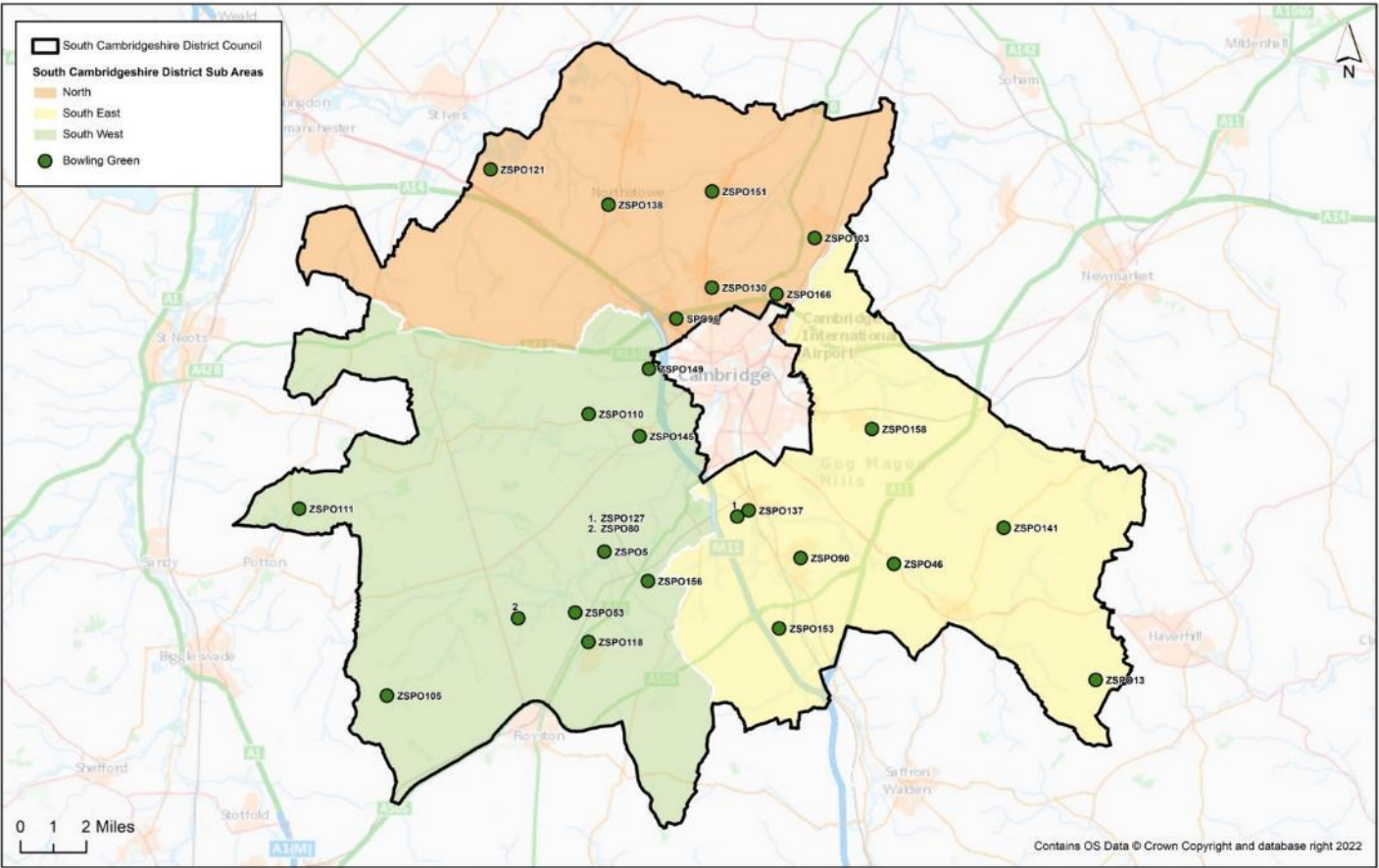
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Site ID	Site	Sub Area	Club Using Site	Ownership	Management	Security of Tenure	Greens	Rinks	Green Condition	Clubhouse Condition	Additional Comments
ZSPO158	Fulbourn Recreation Ground	SCDC South West	Fulbourn Bowls Club	Parish Council	Parish Council	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Good (green)	1x 6 rink court. Well maintained, good grass surface. Good but basic ancillary facilities. Easy access and parking
ZSPO05	Barrington Bowls Club	SCDC South West	Gamlingay Bowls Club	Sports Club	Sports Club	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Good (green)	1x 6 rink green. Unable to access but appears to be good quality. Ancillary facilities but unable to access
ZSPO53	Land South of Brewery Lane, Meldreth	SCDC South West	Meddreth Bowls Club	Sports Club	Sports Club	Yes	1	5	Good (green)	Standard (yellow)	1x 5 rink green. Good surface. Small, aging basic ancillary facilities. Good access. Adjacent to children's park and playing field
ZSPO90	Back Lane, Cambourne	SCDC South West	Cambourne Bowls Club	Sports Club	Sports Club	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Good (green)	2 greens - 6 rinks in one direction, 5 in the other. Good grass coverage well maintained. Not floodlit. Busy at time of visit. Adjacent to excellent ancillary facility
ZSPO105	Steeple Morden Recreation Ground	SCDC South West	Coton Bowls Club	Sports Club	Sports Club	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Good (green)	6 rink court. No floodlit. No parking or easy access. Good clubhouse facilities. Excellent turf condition
ZSPO110	Comberton Rec Ground – Bowling Green	SCDC South West	Comberton Bowls Club	Parish Council	Sports Club	Yes	1	6	Good (green)	Good (green)	Well managed bowling facility. Multisport site with cricket and tennis on site. Well used facility. Good clubhouse

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5.76 Map 8 shows the geographic location of outdoor bowling greens across the Study Area and presents the dispersion courts across South Cambridgeshire District.

Map 8: Outdoor Bowling Greens Audit in South Cambridge District



Bowling greens in South Cambridgeshire

Lapsed/Disused Provision

- 5.77 Outdoor facilities which have previously accommodated formal pitch provision are categorised as either disused or lapsed. A disused site is a playing field 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.
- 5.78 As mentioned, a lapsed site was as a playing field more than five years ago. These fall outside of Sport England's statutory remit but still must be assessed using the criteria in paragraph 99 of the National Planning Policy Framework and Sport England may challenge a proposed loss of playing pitches/playing field which fails to meet such criteria.

Table 45: Disused Pitches SCDC

Site ID	Pitch Name	Sub-Area	Ownership	Reason for no use
ZSPO162	Linton Recreation Ground	SCDC Southeast	Local Authority	Site no longer present
ZSPO138	Longstanton Recreation Ground	SCDC Southeast	Other	Relocation of bowls club

Club and Site Consultation

- 5.79 Clubs were contacted by Strategic Leisure with the aim of informing the demand section of the study. Summaries of the information gathered during the consultation process is provided in Table 46.

Table 46: Selected Site and Club Consultation Summaries

Site Name	Sub Area	Club	Consultation
Steeple Morden Recreation Ground	SCDC South East	Steeple Morden Bowls Club	Membership numbers: 41-50 Over the last 5 years: Reduction in members by 6-10 Surface has deteriorated and team numbers reduced due to Covid 19 The club has 5 teams, 2 of which are internal There is a lack of DDA access to the club

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Site Name		Sub Area	Club	Consultation
				The club has capacity for new members
Bottisham Club	Bowling	SCDC South East	Bottisham Bowling Club	Membership numbers: 51-60 Over the last 5 years: membership has increased significantly Business support grant throughout the pandemic was invaluable to the club The club has 3 teams The club has capacity for new members
Coton Rec Ground		SCDC South West	Coton Bowling Club	Membership numbers: 31-40 Over the last 5 years: membership has decreased by 5 members The pandemic has led to a reduction in income, fewer teams, fewer members, less volunteers, high contractor costs The club has 4 teams There is a lack of DDA access to the club The club has capacity for new members For a village club, self-funding, our facilities are good. However, raising sufficient funds to keep it that way is always challenging. There is a limit to the amount members can be expected to pay, particularly as most are retired. We do not have the luxury of grants from the District council to fund green maintenance, we have to pay rent to the parish council.
Gamlingay Recreation Ground		SCDC South West	Gamlingay Bowls Club	Membership numbers: 21-30 Reduction of numbers since the pandemic There is capacity for new members

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Site Name	Sub Area	Club	Consultation
Balsham Recreation Ground	SCDC South East	Balsham Bowls Club	Membership numbers: 21-30 There is capacity for new members Local Authority site with public access on the green
Cottenham Bowls Club	SCDC North	Cottenham Bowls Club	Membership numbers: 31-40 Excellent facilities and bowling scene at the sports club with excellent ancillary facilities and a thriving team section
Impington and Histon Recreation Ground	SCDC North	Histon Bowls Club	Membership numbers: 51-60 Sports club with shared ancillary facilities and a thriving club section, excellent parking and access
Welbrook Way	SCDC North	Girton Bowls Club	Membership numbers: 41-50 Successful participation and competitive club Using multisport site, good ancillary facilities and green

Demand for Outdoor Bowls Facilities

- 5.80 This section summarises the level of demand for bowls in South Cambridge District. Table 47 shows the demand for bowls in terms of the number of clubs assigned to each site.

Table 47: Club Demand on Each Site

Club Name	Affiliated to Bowls England / British Crown Green Bowling Association	Home Site	Members
Steeple Morden Recreation Ground	Yes	Barnwell Road	21-30
Coton Rec Ground	Yes	Chesterton Bowls Club	31-40

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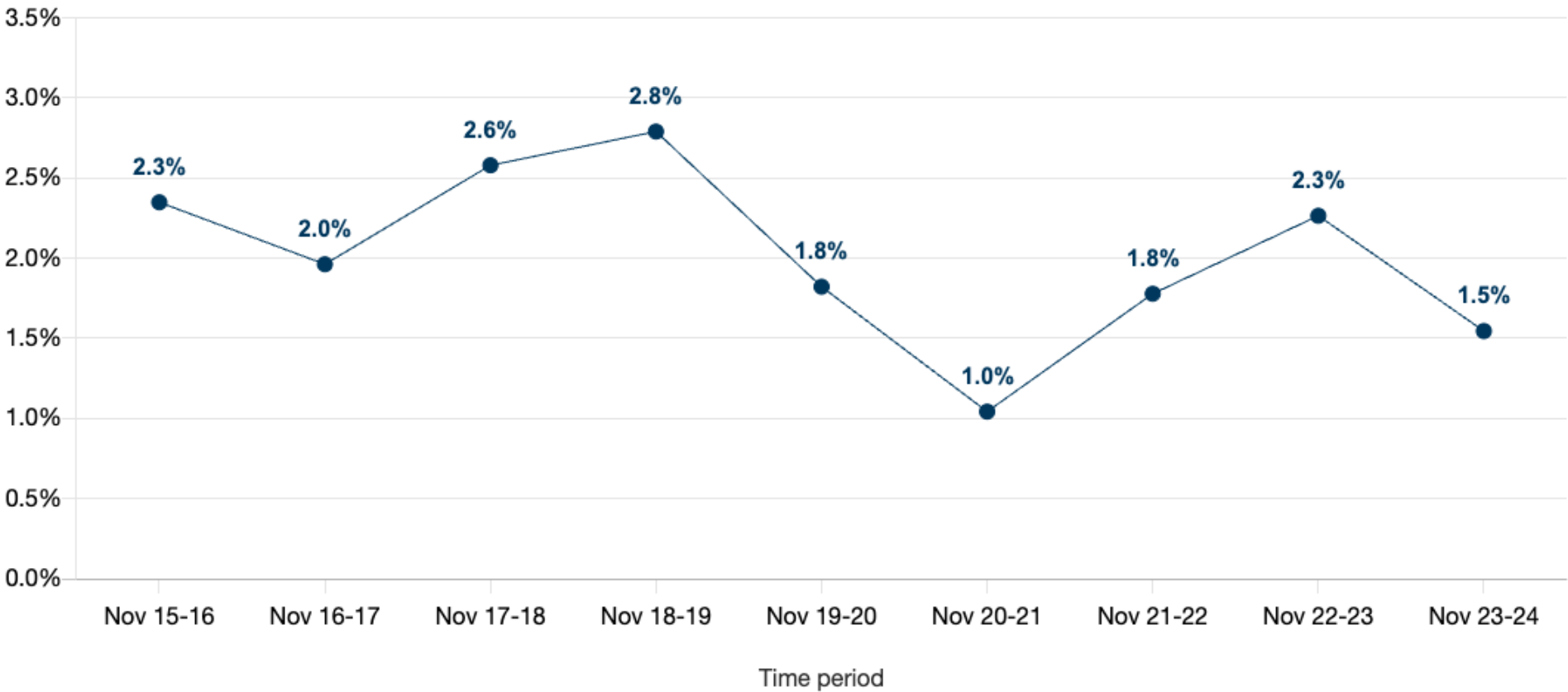
Club Name	Affiliated to Bowls England / British Crown Green Bowling Association	Home Site	Members
Gamlingay Recreation Ground	Yes	Romsley and Hunnington Sports Club	21-30
Balsham Recreation Ground	Yes	Coleridge Rec Ground	21-30
Cottenham Bowls Club	Yes	Alexandra Gardens - Bowling Green	61-70
Impington and Histon Recreation Ground	Yes	Christ Pieces Bowling Green	21-30
Girton Bowls Club	Yes	Welbrook Way	41-50
Barrington Bowls Club	Yes	Barrington Bowls Club	21-30
Abington Bowls Club	Yes	Land East of Church Lane – Little Abington	21-30
Cambourne Bowls Club	Yes	Back Lane Cambourne	41-50
Meldreth Bowls Club	Yes	Meldreth Bowls Club	41-50
Fulbourne Bowls club	Yes	Fulbourn Recreation Ground	21-30
Great Shelford Bowls Club	Yes	Woollards Lane Recreation Ground	21-30
Castle Camps Bowls Club	Yes	Castle Camps Bowls Club	21-30
Milton Outdoor Bowls Club	Yes	Coles Road Recreation Ground	51-60

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Club Name	Affiliated to Bowls England / British Crown Green Bowling Association	Home Site	Members
Longstanton Bowls Club	Yes	Longstanton Recreation Ground	31-40
Histon Bowls Club	Yes	Impington and Histon Bowls Club	41-50
Waterbeach Bowls Club	Yes	Waterbeach Recreation Ground	21-30
Barrington Bowls Club	Yes	Barrington Bowls Club	21-30
Total			645

- 5.81 Table 47 shows that there are 645 members of bowling clubs in the study area with the most used site being Cottenham Bowling Club with 65 members, followed Milton Outdoor Bowls Club with 55.
- 5.82 The Sport England Active Lives Survey results from November 23/24 show that 1.5% of the population aged 16 or over in Cambridgeshire play bowls at least once per year.

Figure 2: Sport England Active Lives Survey results from November 23/24



- 5.83 The following figures have been determined using the latest ONS data for SCDC (Census 2021). The future population figure has been agreed with Greater Cambridge Planning based on future population growth, and anticipated housing developments up to and including 2045.
- 5.84 ONS data indicates that 80.6% of residents within the South Cambridgeshire are aged 16 and over. This figure has been carried forward to the future population in order to determine the need for Bowls facilities between now and 2045.

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- 5.85 ONS' subnational population projections estimate the population of residents in South Cambridge District aged 16 and over to be 130,560. If the participation figures for Cambridgeshire (1.5%) are applied to this population figure, then it can be said that a total of 1,958 people play the game at least once per year.

Future Demand

- 5.86 Using 1,958 as the number of people playing bowls at least once per year in South Cambridgeshire District and future projections of the Study Area's population (233,103 over 16's by 2045), we can calculate potential future demand for the sport. The future population is due to grow by 78.5% which, assuming current levels of participation remain constant, equates to an additional demand of 1,558 people and a total player base of 3,516 by 2045.
- 5.87 During consultation, most clubs highlighted that there was capacity for, and they would welcome new members, we can assume that the demand for an additional 1,558 participants per year can be met by existing bowls provision.
- 5.88 This latter point needs to be caveated as the population calculation used data from those who played bowls at least once per year, so they are not necessarily members of affiliated bowls clubs.

Bowls Summary

- 5.89 This section summarises the findings from the bowls analysis, which will form basis of the recommendation and action plan section for South Cambridge District.
- 5.90 Table 48 includes the response to key questions, which are asked for all PPOS studies across the UK, in order to provide a standardised illustration of supply and demand for sports provision.

Table 48: Key PPS Findings for Bowls in South Cambridge District

Key Question	Analysis
What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?	There are currently 26 sites across South Cambridge District with 9 greens. There are 24 clubs in the Study Area with a total estimated membership of 645 players.

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Key Question	Analysis
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?	All sites in the study are secured for community use, and clubs operating at the greens, highlight through consultation and online presence that new members/participants would be welcome. This suggests that all greens have spare capacity and there is enough supply to provide for all demand.
Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?	Of the 26 available sites, 23 are rated as good quality and the other three sites are rated as standard quality. Maintenance of the greens owned by sports clubs is good. The green at maintained by the local authority sites is generally also good however, some clubs are spending fees on contractors due to a lack of volunteers/external support
What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?	Future population projections indicate a potential of 1,558 additional annual players by 2045. All future growth in demand can be satisfied with the current green stock due to the good quality of facilities.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?	It is suggested that there is no need to develop additional bowls facilities within the South Cambridgeshire District area. Any loss of sites is likely to have a negative impact on the users/members of these sites. The closure of bowls facility typically leads to 62% of users/members ceasing participation within three years of a club closure.

Recommendations for Bowls

1. Protect existing quantity of all facilities. Responsibility of local authority, sports clubs, facility owners.
2. Support grounds staff to review quality issues on greens to ensure appropriate quality is achieved at sites assessed as standard and sustained at sites assessed as good. Responsibility of Bowls bodies, local authority, sports clubs, facility owners.
3. Ensure club future demand can be accommodated on existing supply of greens. Responsibility of Bowls bodies, local authority, sports clubs, facility owners.
4. Work with clubs to support development and growth of the sport.