

**EXETER CITY COUNCIL**

**Playing Pitch Strategy 2017 to 2026**

**Final Draft**

**February 2018**



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## Executive Summary

Exeter City Council is committed to ensuring that there are accessible, high quality and well-used playing pitches in the City in accordance with its objective for a healthy population and the wider Exeter vision to become the most active City in the South West. This strategy provides the blueprint for this work by the City Council with partner organisations up to 2026.

The addendum to this document provides the evidence base of playing pitch facility needs based on site assessments and consultation with sports bodies, education providers and community sports clubs based in the City. The headline finding is that there is a need to continue to **PROTECT** the City's overall supply of playing fields suitable for playing pitch-based outdoor sports. There is also a need to **ENHANCE** the quality at several playing field sites as resources allow. In order to achieve the City's wider vision for physical activity and meet future demand as a result of planned housing growth it will also be necessary to **PROVIDE** some additional playing pitches. The playing pitch needs to 2026 based on the assessments are:

| Pitch Sport*      | No.of Secured Pitches | No. Required by 2026   | Difference |
|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Cricket           | 11                    | 13                     | +2         |
| Adult Football    | 24                    | 27                     | +3         |
| Youth Football    | 6                     | 13 (mix of 9v9, 11v11) | +7         |
| Mini Soccer       | 12                    | 14 (mix of 5v5, 7v7)   | +2         |
| Adult/Youth Rugby | 6                     | 7/8                    | +1/2       |
| Midi/Mini Rugby   | 3                     | 6                      | +3         |

\*Hockey is not shown in the table as all hockey play takes place on artificial grass pitches (AGPs). There is sufficient supply of hockey AGPs in the City (8 full size pitches) to meet forecast needs to 2026.

The strategy sets out detailed recommendations (Section 4) and an action plan for annual review and update (Section 5) which aim to address the needs set out in the table above through a combination of enhancing pitch quality (to increase the amount of play that sites can accommodate), securing more access to grass pitches on education sites, and providing new pitches in areas of growth where opportunities are identified, including artificial grass pitches (AGPs) which provide much more playing capacity than natural turf pitches. The sites and projects recommended for capital enhancement works and/or new provision to meet identified needs to 2026 are:

| Sport    | Site   | Project  | Lead Organisation                     |
|----------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| Cricket  | Exwick Sports Hub: Exwick Playing Field            | Complete reinstatement of Exwick CC pitch for 2019 season  | Exeter College                        |
| Cricket  | Cowick Barton, Bettysmead, KGV, & Bromhams Farm    | Commission a study to assess which is suitable/the optimum for development as a Community Cricket Hub (football share)   | ECB/Devon Cricket Board               |
| Football |  | Enhance pitches and pavilions at these four key football sites as resources allow (to include reinstatement by EA of Bromhams Farm Playing Field as good youth pitches) and informed by the findings of the Community Cricket Hub options study (above) ECC to explore potential s106 funding support    | Exeter City Council                   |
| Football | Exwick Sports Hub: former Civil Service Club       | Complete provision of new 3G AGP to FA Register standard with secured community use from 2018<br>Reinstate youth pitch with secured community use (EA works)   | Exeter College<br>Exeter City Council |
|          | New school - SW Exeter (in Teigbridge Borough)     | Ensure provision of new 3G AGP is to FA Register standard with secured community use for Exeter-based football clubs   | Devon County Council                  |
|          | Wonford*   | Reconfigure and enhance pitches as part of wider development plans for this area, including the leisure centre/sports village. Develop a master plan for the site which harmonises pitch provision with the preferred development option for Wonford Sports Centre within the Sports Facilities Strategy | Exeter City Council                   |
|          | Station Road, Pinhoe                               | Reconfigure and enhance pitches and replace pavilion as part of wider development plans for this area  | Exeter City Council                   |
|          | Coronation Field, Topsham<br>Alphington Chronicles | Provide floodlights to stadium pitch (FA Step 6 standard)<br>Upgrade pavilion changing and toilet facilities   | Topsham FC<br>Sports & Social Club    |
| Hockey   | St Peter's; St Luke's; St James's; ISCA schools    | Resurface the sand based AGP playing surfaces and replace goals as necessary   | Devon County Council                  |
| Rugby    | Bonfire Field Topsham                              | Provide additional training lights   | Topsham RFC                           |
|          | Exhibition Field**                                 | Review asset transfer options, provide additional training lights  | ECC/ Saracens RFC                     |
|          | Topsham Sports Ground                              | Install floodlighting and provide new changing facilities. Subject to feasibility assessment, provide a 3G AGP to WR Register standard with community use (potentially secured through RFU 'rugby share' investment)   | Exeter University/<br>RFU             |

|                    |   |  |                     |
|--------------------|---|--|---------------------|
| Other Pitch Sports | Grace Road                                  | Reinstate playing field to good standard for community use for informal/unlicensed outdoor sport and recreation (EA works)   | Exeter City Council |
|                    | Exwick Sports Hub: Flower Pot Playing Field | Assess feasibility of options to enhance pavilion and pitch quality for community rugby (including growth of Wessex RFC, TAG, Exeter Touch Rugby) and other sports (e.g. Ultimate) | Exeter College/ECC  |

\* The pitches at Wonford may be impacted by options within the Sports Facilities Strategy for this site  
 \*\*The Exhibition Field site may be impacted by the Sport Facilities Strategy, pitches could be displaced. Asset transfer could limit the ability of ECC to take up certain development options regarding a sports village

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## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Why has the strategy been developed?

The strategy was initiated by Exeter City Council in response to the following specific drivers:

- Public health need to sustain access to and grow the use of facilities for outdoor sport and active recreation. In October 2015, the City Council's Health & Wellbeing Board launched a three year city vision - led by a partnership of public and private sector organisations including local media and large employers - to make *'Exeter the most active in the South West by 2018'*
- The need to inform the development and implementation of planning policy and to inform the assessment of planning applications
- Potential changes to playing pitch supply and demand as a consequence of planned housing growth. The Exeter Core Strategy (adopted in 2012) proposed development of at least 12,000 dwellings within the City boundary to 2026
- Prioritisation of any funding for sport and recreation from external agencies and local authority budgets, including from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Section 106 Agreements
- The need to have a playing pitch strategy in place to 2026 to inform relevant policies in the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan (GESP) to 2040 in joint preparation by the local authorities for East Devon, Exeter, Mid Devon and Teignbridge and Devon County
- Several current large scale projects and proposals for new and enhanced playing pitches and ancillary facilities
- The changing needs of football - by far the most popular playing pitch sport in terms of participant numbers, particularly on Saturdays - due to the increase in junior play and the FA's Youth Review pitch guidelines.
- Changes in demand for cricket pitches - particularly for junior teams and for shorter non-traditional forms of the adult game
- Growing pressure on existing hockey (AGP) and rugby pitch supply, particularly for evening team training
- Growing participation in the City in minor sports requiring playing pitches - e.g. ultimate frisbee, lacrosse, American Football, adult tag and touch rugby, outdoor volleyball, rounders and softball - as well as new forms of outdoor sports - e.g. frisbee/disc golf and quidditch. Some of this growth encouraged by *Get Exeter Active*, a three year Sport England funded campaign of community engagement and events including family fun days, 'have-a-go' sessions, 'active mum's' running groups and sessions of workplace focused activity in public park and recreation ground settings

### 1.2 What is the extent of the study area?

The extent of the study area is within the City's administrative boundary (to correspond with all local planning documents), whilst taking into account the impact of the supply of playing pitches in neighbouring local authorities - most particularly in East Devon but also in Teignbridge, Mid Devon and South Hams.

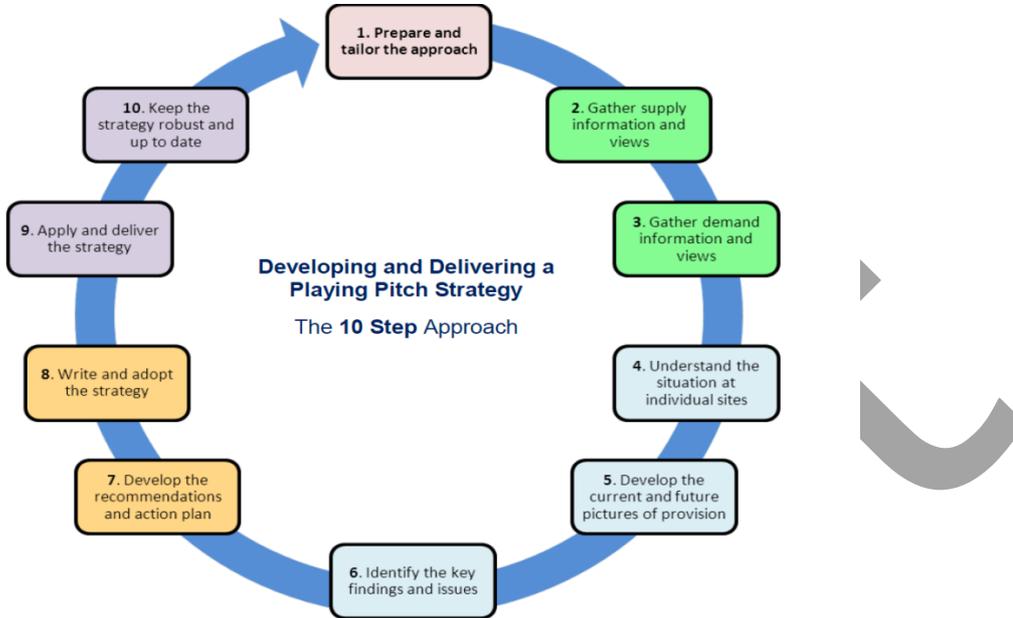
### 1.3 Which sports are included?

At a meeting of the Exeter City Playing Pitch Strategy Steering Group in October 2015 it was agreed to include within the scope of this strategy:

- Those sports named in the definition of a playing field within Sport England's Planning Policy Statement *A Sporting Future for the Playing Fields of England* where a demand within the City is identified i.e. *'Playing pitch – a delineated area which, together with any run off area, is of 0.2 hectares or more, and which is used for association football, American Football, rugby, hockey, cricket, lacrosse, rounders, baseball, softball, Australian football, Gaelic football, shinty, hurling, polo or cycle polo'*
- Any other sports identified as taking place on playing fields in the City

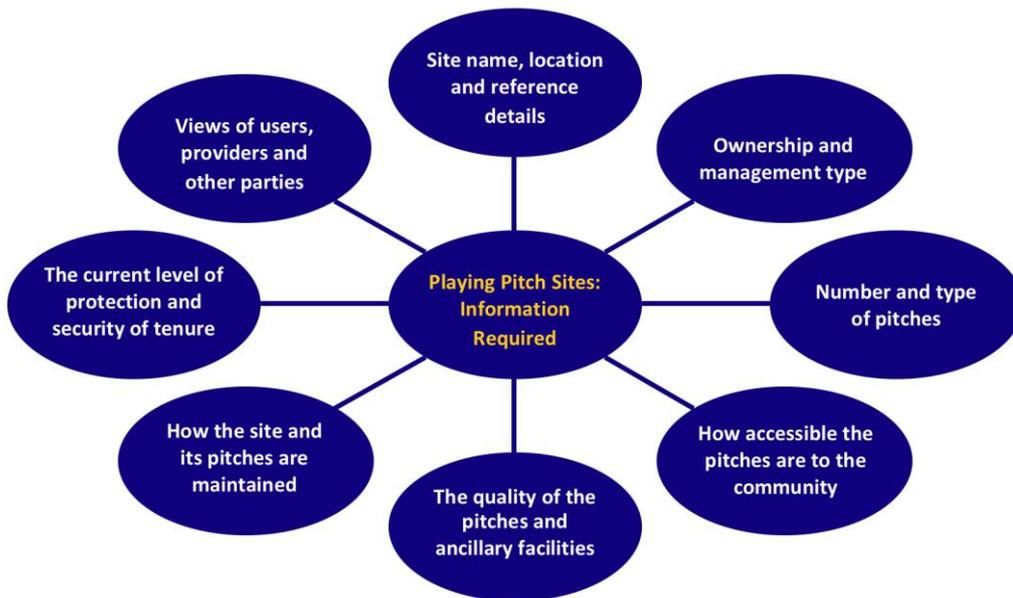
**1.4 How has the strategy been developed?**

The strategy aims to be robust, based on local needs (currently and to 2026), and deliverable. This objective is achieved by adhering to the following ten steps as advocated in the current Sport England Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance (October 2013):



Source: Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance (October 2013)

For the major playing pitch sports included in the scope - i.e. football, cricket, hockey, rugby - the following **facility supply information** has been gathered and collated in accordance with Sport England's published guidance:



Similarly, for these sports, the following **demand information** has been gathered and collated:



Source: Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance (October 2013)

Further details of the methodology used including details of the site audits and consultations undertaken since the start of the process to develop this strategy are set out in the Addendum (Chapter 2).

### 1.5 What is the vision for the strategy and its objectives?

The vision of Exeter City Council and the external organisations represented on the Exeter PPS Steering Group for the Exeter Playing Pitch Strategy is to ensure that sufficient good quality pitches and ancillary facilities are available in the City or in accessible locations in the neighbouring districts to meet the needs of people living, working or studying in the City currently and to 2026, whether for informal or for organised use through sports clubs, teams, tournaments and events.

The playing pitch strategy needs to align with the Exeter City vision for improving health and wellbeing through increasing participation in regular physical activity, in particular, the City Council's vision - led by a partnership of public and private sector organisations including local media and large employers - to make 'Exeter the most active in the South West by 2018'.

Further details on the strategic vision for the PPS and its objectives are provided in Chapter 2 of the Addendum. In summary, the objectives for the PPS are:

1. To provide the City Council and its partners with a robust document with an evidence base that can be reliably used to support spatial planning decisions and inform capital investment plans and external funding bids for new and/or enhanced playing pitch sports facilities.
2. To improve public health by encouraging more people in Exeter to be more active by ensuring facilities for playing pitch sports are of the appropriate quality are both available and accessible.

### 1.6 How has the strategy process been managed and delivered?

The development of the strategy, has been managed by the Exeter Playing Pitch Strategy Steering Group comprising representatives from The England & Wales Cricket Board, Devon Cricket Board, The Football Association, Devon County Football Association, England Hockey, The Rugby Football Union, Sport England, Exeter City Council's Parks and Planning service teams and Active Devon. Other key stakeholders in the City with relevant knowledge and expertise have also made valuable contributions at meetings of the Steering Group.

The contributing stakeholders have included representatives of the Exeter University Sports Department, Exeter College, the 5 PFI Secondary Schools, the Exeter City Football in the Community charity and the professional Exeter City Rugby Football Club (The Chiefs). Full details of the process are set out in the Addendum (Chapter 1).

The PPS documentation is structured as follows:

1. The *Playing Pitch Strategy* (this document) setting out the main findings and issues for playing pitch provision in Exeter (currently and to 2026), testing out a range of potential scenarios for change, and including the recommendations, strategic policies and action plans
2. *Assessment of Need Reports for the major playing pitch sports* (Football, Cricket, Rugby and Hockey) providing detailed facility supply and demand information and key findings for these sports in accordance with stages B/C of the Sport England guidance (*Addendum Chapters 3-6*)
3. *Assessment of Need Reports for other playing pitch sports* (Chapter 7). This follows the same principles in assessing supply and demand as applied for the major playing pitch sports but is less detailed reflecting a greater reliance on secondary source data as opposed to site visit assessments and consultation surveys of clubs and stakeholders
4. *Assessment of Need Report for Artificial Grass Pitches* (Chapter 8). This report details the supply and demand of AGPs of different sizes and playing surfaces for the main playing pitch sports of football, rugby and hockey. The sections on hockey repeat those in the hockey specific report (Chapter 6) while also covering the AGP provision picture for rugby union and for football (in the context of the FA's national plan for greater use of AGPs for local team training and match play).

### 1.7 Tailoring the Approach - what makes Exeter different?

Key features of the study area that have been identified in the course of this process and taken into account in developing the strategy include:

- Housing led population growth - The 2011 Census estimated Exeter's population to be 117,800. By 2016, Devon County Council's (DCC) housing led estimates show the total population at 127,410 - i.e. an increase of nearly 10,000 in five years. Over the next nine years to 2026, the end of the current Exeter Core Strategy period, DCC forecast population growth of 9,630 - i.e. a further substantial increase but at a slower rate than has taken place over the last five years.
- The age groups within the 'active participation' group that are projected to see an increase in numbers in the period to 2026 are the 5-9 years (minis); the 10-19 years (youth/juniors), the 35-44 years (older adult players) and the 55-69 group (with minimal active participation in pitch sports).
- The age groups predicted to see a decline in numbers in the period to 2026 are the 20-34 years prime young adult participant age group for playing pitch sports and the 45-54 years middle aged group (i.e. pitch sport veterans). Further details can be found in section 2.25 of the Addendum.
- A high student population at both Exeter University (over 22,000 undergraduate and post graduate students in 2016/17 an increase of 24% over five years) and Exeter College (providing tertiary education for between 10,000 and 12,000 students aged 16-18 years)
- Demand for a wide range of pitch sports, particularly in term time. This is due in part to the large student population but also to Exeter Active initiatives by a wide range of partner agencies to improve public and workplace health. Rugby league, lacrosse, softball, ultimate frisbee, adult tag and touch rugby, volleyball, disc golf and even quidditch take place on playing fields within the city.
- The City's championship winning professional rugby union club. The high profile success of the Exeter RFC 'Chiefs' feeds through to generating interest among children and young people in playing rugby union, as well as helping to drive adult interest locally in playing vets rugby and informal forms of the game (e.g. Adult Tag, Adult Touch).
- Similarly, the presence of a football league status professional club in the city - Exeter City FC - inspires demand for football among the younger age groups in particular. Through its nationally recognised charitable arm, Exeter City Football in the Community, the professional club stimulates a good deal of demand across all ages and abilities and both genders for a range of sports, not just football, by delivering a comprehensive programme of targeted community sports programmes,

events and a range of sports related education programmes including apprenticeships for young people.

- The City has a relatively active population. The Active Lives Survey results for the year to November 2016 show that the adult population of Exeter scores highly relative to three of its four CIPFA nearest neighbour local authorities and against the regional and national averages with regard to the 'Active' measure (i.e. those doing moderate intensity exercise for more than 150 minutes a week on average) and the Government Key Performance Indicator (KPI1) of moderate intensity exercise at least twice in the last 28 days.
- The dominant Sports Market Segmentation 'Groups' in the adult population in Exeter are, for the most part, the more active groups. By order of size, the top five Sports Market Groups in the City are:

**Jamie:** *Mainly aged 18-25, single, vocational student, very active* - 10.1% of adults in Exeter City compared to just 4.5% across the SW region

**Philip:** *Mid-life professional, sporty males with older children* - 8.1% of adults in Exeter

**Leanne:** *Mainly aged 18-25, likely to have children, student/part time vocational, active with a focus on keep fit/gym and swimming* - 8% of adults in Exeter compared to 3.7% across the South West

**Elsie & Arnold:** *Retired singles or widowers, predominantly female, much less active than the average adult* - 7.9% of adults in Exeter

**Tim:** *Sporty male professionals, settling down with partner* - 7.5% of adults in Exeter.

- Exeter has substantial adult latent demand for playing pitch sports. Across all playing pitch sports, the Sports Market data for Exeter indicates that approximately 2,600 residents aged 16+ self-report as wanting to start to play pitch sports (or to play more). Whilst latent demand can never be fully realised, conversion of a proportion of this demand through continued development work in the playing pitch sports through the Active Exeter partnership and other similar initiatives is likely to increase demand on the capacity of the existing playing pitch stock in the City over the strategy period. Latent demand is based upon the Sport England Market Segmentation tool which uses data from the Active People Survey, conversion to expressed demand will depend on a wide range of factors including facility quantity, quality, accessibility and availability.
- As a legacy of a large schools PFI building programme in 2005/06, the City currently has a relatively high number of sand based artificial grass pitches (seven) compared to its CIPFA 'nearest neighbour' towns and cities. In contrast, the City has relatively low provision of rubber crumb (3G) artificial grass pitches, currently just one full size 3G at the University Sports Park.
- The City draws demand for its playing pitch facilities and clubs from residents of the neighbouring local authorities that make up Greater Exeter, particularly teams and clubs for the minority interest playing pitch sports where local populations are too small to sustain teams.
- At the same time, for youth football in particular, the pressure of demand on pitches within the City leads to displaced demand to facilities in neighbouring local authorities (for example teams from the Exeter Panthers, Pinhoe Spartans and West Exe).
- Exeter University is the main provider of high quality playing pitch facilities in Exeter. Whilst this provision serves some community (non-student) demand - most notably for club hockey and cricket, for commercial 5/6 a side football leagues and Exeter FITC summer participation events - access to these facilities for the non-student community is largely unsecured and most unused capacity falls in the University holidays which do not match up with pitch sport league playing seasons.

## 1.8 Glossary of Playing Pitch Abbreviations / Acronyms

Throughout this document the following abbreviations are used to describe specific types of playing pitch facility that have a manufactured playing surface (i.e. a surface other than natural turf):

- **NTP** - The abbreviation NTP stands for **non-turf pitch** and refers to an artificial turf sports surface designed specifically for cricket. NTP's are most commonly located at the end of a row of grass (fine turf) pitches on a maintained square. Many schools have stand-alone NTPs (i.e. without a fine turf cricket square).
- **FTP or '3G'** - This abbreviation stands for **football turf pitch** and is commonly referred to as a **3G (third generation)** pitch. This pitch type comprises blades of polypropylene of 40mm to 65mm in length (i.e. short pile or long pile) supported by a thin base layer of sand and by an infill of rubber crumb. The 3G playing surface is laid on various types of stone base with or without a porous macadam layer and shock pad. FTPs are suitable for football to a high level of competition. Since adopting a new Artificial Grass Playing Surface Policy in June 2016 in response to player feedback, on all long pile (3G) surfaces, England Hockey accepts only lower level hockey (introductory level) when no sand based/dressed or water playing surface is available. Long pile FTPs with an engineered sub base system (of stone base, porous tarmac layer and shock pad) are accepted by the World Rugby governing body.
- **AGP** - This abbreviation stands for **artificial grass pitch** and is a generic term for any type of artificial turf sports surface for football, hockey and/or rugby - whether sand filled, sand dressed, water based, or 3G (FTP above). Sometimes also referred to as a synthetic turf pitch (STP), the nature of the pitch sports and the level of competition that can be accommodated on an AGP depends on the detailed specification of the playing surface, the size of the playing area, run offs and any floodlighting that is provided.
- **MUGA** - The abbreviation MUGA stands for **multi use games area** and is a generic term for a fenced area of tennis court size or larger with a manufactured playing surface and marked and equipped for two or more sports - typically tennis, basketball, netball and/or small sided games of football (variously referred to as 5v5, 6v6, 7v7 or 9v9). For the purposes of this playing pitch strategy, only those MUGAs with an artificial grass playing surface (i.e. sand based or 3G) are included.

The document also uses the abbreviations 5v5, 7v7, 9v9, Youth 11v11 and Adult 11v11 in relation to the number of players per football team. In each case, the FA has recommended pitch dimensions to support player development and welfare.

Similarly, with regard to rugby union, the document uses the RFU's distinctions between Senior pitches (for adults and colts age groups) and Midi or Mini rugby pitches which are smaller and relate to age group rules regarding numbers of players per team.

## 2. Summary of Key Findings and Issues

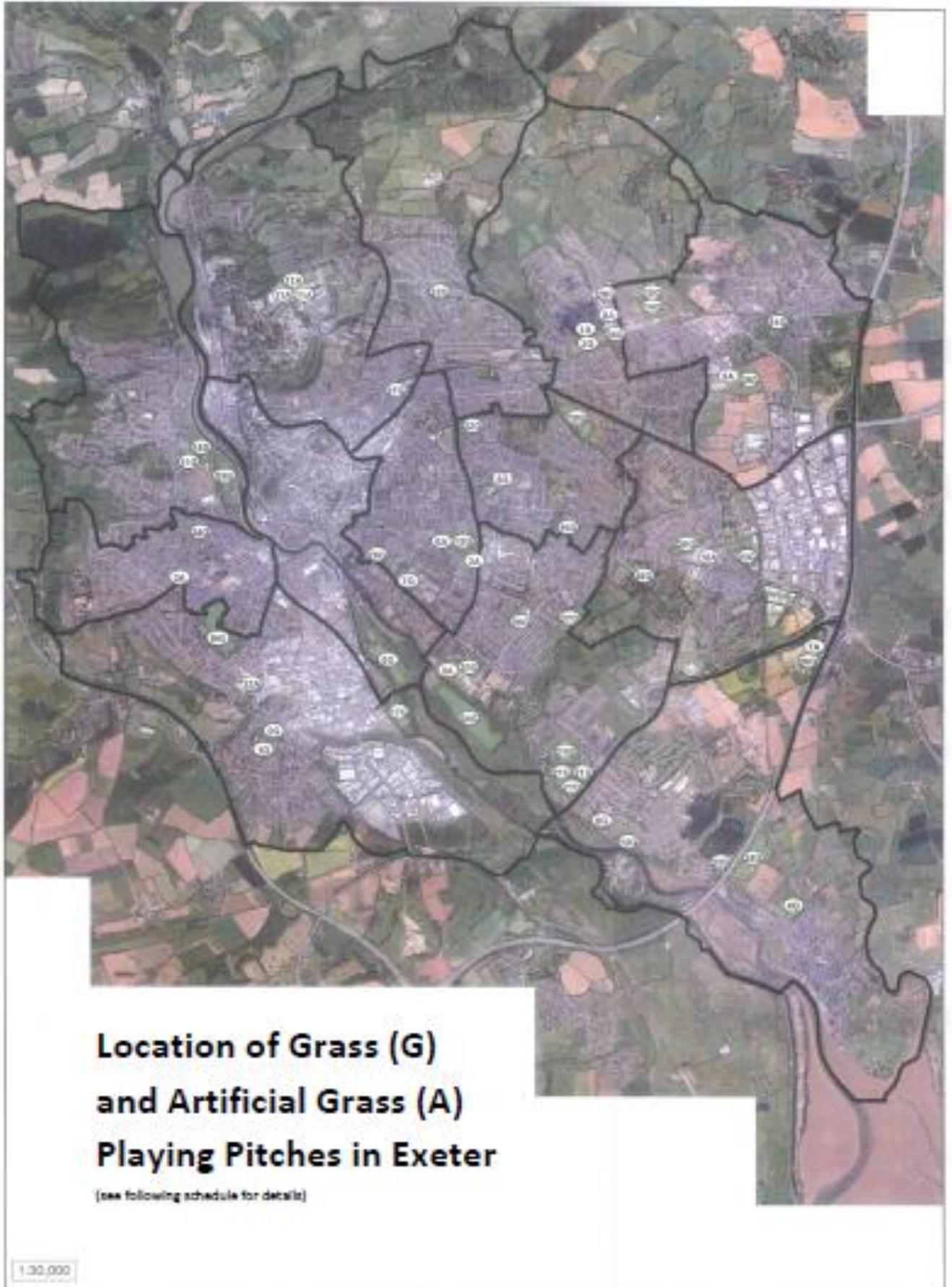
### 2.1 Introduction

This section provides an overall summary of playing pitch supply, planned and proposed changes to supply, current and latent demand covering the key questions in the Sport England Playing Pitch Strategy guidance methodology.

- What are the main characteristics of the current supply of and demand for provision?
- Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?
- Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?
- What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?
- Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?

### 2.2 Map and Schedule of Playing Field Sites

| Ref. | GRASS PITCHES (G) - Site Name            | Address  |
|------|--|--|
| 1G   | ALPHINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL                | Wheatsheaf Way, EX2 8RQ                        |
| 2G   | ALPHINGTON SPORTS CLUB                   | Church Road, Alphington, EX2 8SW               |
| 3G   | BETTYSMEAD PLAYING FIELDS                | Bettysmead, EX4 8LN                            |
| 4G   | BONFIRE FIELD                            | Exeter Road, Topsham, EX3 0LY                  |
| 5G   | BRAMDEAN SCHOOL                          | Homefield Road, Heavitree, EX1 2QR             |
| 6G   | BROMHAMS FARM PLAYING FIELDS             | Clapperbrook Lane East, EX2 8RG                |
| 7G   | COAVER CLUB                              | Matford Lane, EX2 4PS                          |
| 8G   | COUNTESS WEAR COMMUNITY SCHOOL           | Glasshouse Lane, EX2 7BS                       |
| 9G   | COWICK BARTON PLAYING FIELDS             | Off Wellington Road, St. Thomas, EX2 9AX       |
| 10G  | EXETER ARENA                             | Summer Lane, EX4 8NT                           |
| 11G  | EXETER COLLEGE (EXWICK SPORTS HUB)       | Exwick Road, EX4 2BQ                           |
| 12G  | EXETER COLLEGE (GLASSHOUSE LANE)         | Wear Barton Road, EX2 7EH                      |
| 13G  | EXETER SCHOOL                            | Victoria Park Road, EX2 4NS                    |
| 14G  | EXHIBITION FIELDS                        | Summer Lane, Pinhoe, EX4 8LY                   |
| 15G  | EXWICK PLAYING FIELDS                    | Western Road, EX4 1EG                          |
| 16G  | FLOWER POT PLAYING FIELDS                | Western Road, EX4 1EG                          |
| 17G  | GRACE ROAD PLAYING FIELDS                | Alphin Brook Road, Marsh Barton, EX2 8RG       |
| 18G  | HAMLIN LANE PLAYING FIELDS               | Hamlin Lane, EX1 2SA                           |
| 19G  | HEAVITREE SOCIAL CLUB                    | 2, East Wonford Hill, EX1 3BS                  |
| 20G  | ISCA ACADEMY                             | Earl Richards Road South, EX2 6AP              |
| 21G  | KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELDS             | Topsham Road, EX2 6HE                          |
| 22G  | LADYSMITH JUNIOR SCHOOL                  | Pretoria Road, EX1 2PT                         |
| 23G  | MIDDLEMOOR POLICE HEADQUARTERS           | Middlemoor, EX2 7HQ                            |
| 24G  | MONTGOMERY PRIMARY SCHOOL                | Redvers Road, EX4 1BS                          |
| 25G  | ROYAL ACADEMY FOR DEAF EDUCATION         | 50, Topsham Road, EX2 4NF                      |
| 26G  | SANDY PARK STADIUM                       | Sandy Park Way, EX2 7NN                        |
| 27G  | ST JAMES PARK (EXETER CITY FC)           | St. James Park, EX4 6PX                        |
| 28G  | ST JAMES SPORTS CENTRE                   | Summer Lane, EX4 8NN                           |
| 29G  | ST LUKES SCIENCE AND SPORTS COLLEGE      | Harts Lane, EX1 3RD                            |
| 30G  | ST PETERS CHURCH OF ENGLAND AIDED SCHOOL | Quarry Lane, EX2 5AP                           |
| 31G  | STATION ROAD PLAYING FIELDS              | Station Road, Pinhoe, EX1 3SA                  |
| 32G  | STOKE HILL JUNIOR SCHOOL                 | Stoke Hill, EX4 7DP                            |
| 33G  | TOPSHAM TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB               | Coronation Field Exeter Road, Topsham, EX3 0LZ |
| 34G  | UNIVERSITY OF EXETER (DUCKES MEADOW)     | Salmon Pool Lane, EX2 4SN                      |
| 35G  | UNIVERSITY OF EXETER (TOPSHAM)           | Exeter Road, Topsham, EX3 0LY                  |
| 36G  | WILLOWBROOK SCHOOL                       | Summer Lane, Beacon Heath, EX4 8NN             |
| 37G  | WONFORD PLAYING FIELDS                   | Ludwell Lane, EX2 5AQ                          |
| 38G  | WOODWATER ACADEMY                        | Woodwater Lane, EX2 5AW                        |
| 39G  | WYNSTREAM SCHOOL                         | Burnthouse Lane, EX2 6AY                       |



| Map Ref. | ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCHES - Site Name                                     | Address                             |
|----------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1A       | ATKINSON SECURE CHILDREN'S HOME  | Atkinson Close, Beacon Lane EX4 8NA |
| 2A       | BOWHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL   | Buddle Lane, EX4 1JT                |
| 3A       | EXETER SCHOOL  | Victoria Park Road, EX2 4NS         |
| 4A       | HEAVITREE SOCIAL CLUB  | 2 , East Wonford Hill, EX1 3BS      |
| 5A       | ISCA ACADEMY   | Earl Richards Road South, EX2 6AP   |
| 6A       | MAGDALEN COURT SCHOOL  | Victoria Park Road, EX2 4NU         |
| 7A       | SANDY PARK STADIUM (CLOSED IN 2015)                                      | Sandy Park Way, EX2 7NN             |
| 8A       | ST JAMES SPORTS CENTRE   | Summer Lane, EX4 8NN                |
| 9A       | ST LUKES SCIENCE AND SPORTS COLLEGE<br>ST PETERS CHURCH OF ENGLAND AIDED | Harts Lane, EX1 3RD                 |
| 10A      | SCHOOL   | Quarry Lane, EX2 5AP                |
| 11A      | UNIVERSITY OF EXETER SPORTS PARK   | Stocker Road, EX4 4QN               |
| 12A      | WEST EXE COMMUNITY SPORTS CENTRE   | Hatherleigh Road, EX2 9JU           |
| 13A      | WONFORD SPORTS CENTRE  | Rifford Road, EX2 6NF               |

### 2.3 The Main Playing Pitch Sports

The detailed assessments of facility supply and demand, current and future needs for the four main playing pitch sports played in the City - Football, Cricket, Rugby Union and Hockey - are set out in the Addendum (Chapters 3 to 6). The facility supply, demand and needs for other, minor interest sports played on playing pitches in the City (e.g. lacrosse, rugby league, ultimate frisbee, touch/tag rugby) are summarised in Chapter 7. In view of the different methodology for assessing need for artificial grass pitches (AGPs) and the growing role of this facility type in meeting the needs in an area for playing pitches, Chapter 8 details the supply and demand findings and issues specifically for AGPs.

| Cricket  |
|--|
| What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?  |
| <p><b>Supply</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There are ten sites in Exeter with marked and maintained cricket pitches. Across the ten sites there are 11 pitches in total. Seven of the ten cricket sites have fine turf wickets (four of which also have non-turf wickets), and three sites (Coaver Club and two PFI schools, St Peter's and St Luke's) have pitches with non-turf wickets only. These school non-turf pitches plus two fine turf pitches at independent schools (Bramdean and Exeter) are not available for community use.</li> <li>○ In comparison with Exeter District's four CIPFA nearest neighbour local authorities<sup>1</sup>, only Lincoln District has fewer pitches (5) while Cheltenham District has 15, Worcester District 16, Warwick 24.</li> <li>○ Two cricket pitches in the City have recently been lost to community use - Middlemoor (Devon &amp; Cornwall Police HQ Playing Field), and Exeter College's Countess Wear site.</li> <li>○ Access to club home grounds is secured through leases for Exeter CC, Alphington CC and Topsham CC.</li> <li>○ Exwick CC do not currently have security of access to a home pitch. The club awaits completion of a replacement pitch being provided by Exeter College at the former Civil Service Sports Ground (now called Exwick Sports Hub) under terms of a lease from the City Council. The College is building a 3G AGP on the club's former pitch. Exwick CC are named members of a site Management Board within a Strategic Management Agreement between the City Council and Exeter College to provide for sporting needs within the Exwick neighbourhood. While the cricket club currently chairs this Board, security of access to the replacement pitch when it is ready for play (scheduled by Exeter College for the end of the 2018 season) should be formally secured.</li> <li>○ Exeter University's Topsham Sports Ground is the optimum outdoor cricket site in the City with two fine turf pitches and practice nets. Community use is available of these facilities - currently by Exeter CC 3rds, Exwick CC (as temporary arrangement pending completion of the replacement pitch at Exwick Sport Hub above) and some junior County fixtures. However this use is not secured.</li> </ul> |

<sup>1</sup> CIPFA Nearest Neighbour Local Authorities - Sport England Active Places Database (April 2017)

**Cricket**

- Substantial investment has been made in enhancing the cricket facility supply in recent years including a state of the art indoor school at the University provided in 2009, and in 2015 a new pavilion, bar, cafe and outdoor practice net system at Exeter Cricket Ground, a new net system at Alphington Cricket Club and a new pavilion at Exwick.
- In contrast to many urban centres, although the City has an excellent indoor cricket centre and two high quality grounds (Topsham Sportsground, Exeter Cricket Ground), the City has no secured multi-pitch hub site with both fine turf and artificial non-turf wickets to use as a centre for cricket development for juniors and as a central venue for new, shorter and less formal forms of the adult game (e.g. Last Man Standing).

**Demand**

- Based on Sports Market Segmentation data, 985 adults (aged 16+) in the City self-report as playing cricket. The majority of play takes place outside the ECB league structures - i.e. occasional games with work colleagues or friends and family either on maintained pitches or informally in parks and open spaces, in the street or on the beach.
- In 2016 there were 35 community cricket teams playing regular competitive matches in Exeter (18 Men's, 1 Ladies, 14 Boys, 2 Girls). In addition there were 8 teams from the University and College playing competitive BUCS and AoC league matches respectively.
- Over recent seasons, the trend in the City is broadly in line with the national picture with stable demand for Saturday league cricket, a fall in the number of adult teams playing Sunday cricket and modest growth in the number of junior teams. A feature identified by the ECB is a decline in cricket being played in Exeter's schools compared to in other parts of the county.
- Demand for the winter indoor league - established for more than 15 seasons - continues to be stable supported by the excellent facilities available.
- The County Associations for the development of women's cricket and disability cricket respectively, work with a wide range of partners in the City District including the main clubs, University, College and schools to provide more opportunities for girls and disabled people of all ages and both genders to play cricket.

**Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?**

**NO.**

- Although the detailed analysis of pitch capacity and patterns of demand (in Chapter 4 of the Addendum) shows a modest amount of spare capacity, this is limited to the two unsecured pitches at the University's Topsham Sports Ground. When a 'strategic reserve' is factored in (to allow existing stock time to rest and for in-season maintenance) the secured pitch stock is being used close to its current playing capacity.
- In addition, the analysis shows a modest amount of displaced demand with one nomadic club - The Exeter Erratics CC - expressing interest in securing a home ground in the City District.
- A further relevant factor is that Countess Wear Cricket Club, originally based in Exeter and still drawing the majority of players from the city, have for many years played their cricket at Winslade Park in East Devon District. The club's use of this site is unsecured and there are ongoing challenges that could potentially make the club's use of this ground untenable in future. If this were to happen, the club would be keen to relocate back to the city. Should this transpire, there may be an opportunity at the University's Topsham Sports Ground once Exwick Cricket Club return to Exwick (although unsecured).

**Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?**

**YES.**

- The maintenance and quality of cricket pitches and ancillary facilities in Exeter is good in comparison to most local authority areas although there are issues relating to sharing of grounds with winter sports which can constrain play and reduce the quality of the outfield.
- In Exeter, this is an issue at Topsham CC (sharing with rugby) and at Alphington (sharing with football). Shared sites require careful management to maintain outfield quality while also providing for winter pitch repairs and recovery. However, it needs to be recognised in planning for cricket pitches that site sharing is often critical to the financial sustainability of sports grounds and pavilions.

## Cricket

- As identified in the supply summary above, there has been substantial investment in upgrading pavilions and non-turf net systems in the last 2-3 years as well as major investment by the University and partners in a high quality indoor practice centre.

### What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?

#### Future Demand

- Forecast housing led population change in the City to 2026 will be the main driver of additional demand for cricket pitch capacity. Based on current patterns of demand, there is potential for population growth alone to lead to a need to secure additional pitch capacity for between two and three junior teams.
- The other main driver of future demand will be the main community cricket clubs in the City - particularly those with existing youth sections - as they seek to deliver their aspirations to grow the number of age group teams (including girls age group teams where there is unmet demand and interest is being generated through a range of ECB, County Association and club initiatives).
- Finally, the Sports Market Segmentation data evidences a modest amount of latent demand to play cricket among adults (aged 16+).
- If all the above demand factors are realised, by 2026 there will be a need for the available supply to accommodate up to two additional adult teams and between four and five more junior teams (boys and girls).

#### Future Supply

In the short term (next 2-3 years), the main changes in cricket pitch supply based on projects already in development or with a planning consent are likely to be:

- Exwick Playing Field - replacement for pitch on the former Civil Service Sports Ground (now 'Exwick Sports Hub') for community use by Exwick CC as home ground from 2019

In the longer term, subject to detailed site suitability assessment for cricket and feasibility, there may be opportunities detailed below for additional cricket supply at one or more of the following playing field sites in the City with secured community use. However, it needs to be recognised that adequately protecting the quality of fine turf cricket wickets on open sites used for public recreation is particularly challenging (especially in areas of high social deprivation such as Wonford):

- Bettysmead Playing Field - Reinstatement of a cricket pitch (site share with football)
- KGV Playing Field - Reinstatement of a cricket pitch (site share with football)
- Cowick Barton Playing Field - Provision of a cricket pitch (site share with football)
- Bromhams Farm Playing Field - Reinstatement of pavilion. Installation of a cricket pitch (site share with youth football)
- Wonford Playing Field - £280k S106 monies secured for enhancement of pitches, ancillary facilities etc. linking to future plans for proposed new and enhanced indoor provision at Wonford Leisure Centre

### Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?

**NO.** The analysis provides a best estimate of a potential requirement for additional capacity to 2026 equivalent to two fine turf pitches on suitable sites to allow for a strategic reserve. Opportunities will need to be explored through a combination of one or more of the following:

- Protecting existing pitches (and indoor training facilities) from loss (in the context of loss of pitches in recent years at Middlemoor and Countess Wear)
- Using spare capacity at the best quality sites (e.g. at the Topsham Sports Ground when Exwick CC return to the replacement pitch being provided by Exeter College in Exwick)
- Improving security of access to existing and replacement pitches for community clubs/teams (e.g. Exeter CC 3rds at Topsham Sports Ground, Exwick CC at Exwick Sports Hub, Countess Wear CC at Winslade Park in East Devon). In the event that Countess Wear CC are unable to resolve current access and security issues at Winslade Park, consideration should be given to this club using the spare capacity at Topsham Sports Ground when Exwick CC vacate this site and/or negotiating access to the pitches at one of the independent schools in the City.

### Cricket

- Establishing the suitability and potential for securing future community use of the two fine turf pitches on independent school sites and the pitches with artificial wickets at St Peter's and St Luke's PFI schools
- Maintaining good standards of facility management and maintenance and investing in future enhancement works as these become necessary at sites used for community cricket
- Establishing the suitability of existing secured playing fields (e.g. Bettysmead, KGV, Bromhams Farm) for re-establishing cricket, ideally a multi-pitch hub with both fine turf and non turf wickets. Issues will include access, soil type/condition, ground levels and the availability of suitable ancillary facilities (e.g. changing, refreshments, parking). Liaison with the ECB to assess the suitability of these sites and select the optimum site for development as a city hub for community cricket will be necessary to progress establishing the suitability of these sites.

### Football

#### What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?

#### Supply

- Exeter has a total supply of 82 marked out natural turf football pitches of which approximately half (42) are available for use by community teams. 37 of these pitches are fully secured for community use for the long term.
- The City Council leases three key football sites in the City to large community clubs - King George V Playing Field (Central FC), Hamlin Road Playing Field (Stoke Hill FC), The Chronicles (Alphington FC).
- In addition, the City Council has recently agreed a 40 year lease and management agreement with community use for a large linear area of playing field land in Exwick comprising Exwick Playing Fields, the former Civil Service Sports Ground (home of Exwick Villa FC) and Flower Pot Playing Field (used primarily for club rugby and ultimate frisbee).
- The Devon & Cornwall Police Headquarters playing field at Middlemoor has one marked adult size football pitch with an adjacent non turf cricket wicket (disused) and outfield. Community access to this playing field is unsecured but takes place regularly on Saturday mornings for mini soccer and youth football (by community club teams playing across the whole of the grassed area) and by an adult league team (using the marked pitch only) on Sunday mornings. The site was granted planning consent in 2014 for a mixed use development. Should this development proceed, the consent provides for the one permanently marked adult size football pitch to be relocated within the site. However, the development would mean permanent loss of the cricket pitch and outfield which, although no longer maintained or used for cricket, accommodates mini soccer regularly on Saturday mornings.
- A school playing field on the Topsham Road serving the Exeter Royal Academy for Deaf Education (ERADE) is closed pending the planned relocation of this school to a large site in Exmouth with space for playing fields.
- Most of the remaining football pitches in the City that are not available to the community are located on education sites. There is currently no weekend community access made available to the grass pitches at the five PFI secondary schools in the City, although arrangements are in place for community access to AGPs on each of these sites on Saturdays and in the evenings for football and hockey matches and training.
- Several youth football clubs in the City negotiate access to small-sided pitches on primary school sites (e.g. at Clyst Heath PS, Countess Wear PS, Whipton Barton PS). This supply is unsecured and cannot be relied upon as evidenced by recent cessation of community access for Heavitree Youth FC teams at Ladysmith PS and at Willowbrook PS for Whipton Youth FC.
- Exeter University owns two sites in the City with good quality grass football pitches. These pitches are not made available for community team hire at weekends as, on Saturdays during the autumn and spring terms, they are used close to their playing capacity by student teams playing in BUCS leagues, intermural competitions and in local leagues.
- The City's professional football club, Exeter City FC, has exclusive use of the pitch at St James's Stadium under a lease from the City Council and reached the League 2 play off final in 2016/17. Exeter City also owns a Training Ground, Cliff Hill, just outside the City boundary in East Devon. Cliff Hill has good quality grass pitches and a FA registered floodlit 3G AGP opened in January

## Football

2017. These pitches have limited relevance to the needs assessment for community football as they are located outside the City and their use is largely restricted to the club's development Academy. However, the new AGP is the home base of Exeter City Ladies and provides capacity just outside the city boundary for further development of the game for women and girls supported by Exeter City FITC, Devon FA, Active Devon, Exeter College and Exeter University.

- A number (precisely how many?) of former football pitches on playing field land in the City have been unavailable for several seasons due to Environment Agency (EA) flood defence works along the river Exe (i.e. Bromhams Farm, Grace Road and a pitch at Exwick). Reinstatement of the Exwick pitch and the former pitches and drainage on the Bromhams Farm Playing Field site on completion of the works (when?) is a requirement in the EA's specification.
- However, at Grace Road reinstatement of formal pitches is not a requirement due to the poor quality of the land and the lack of ancillary facilities on the site. In the seasons immediately prior to the commencement of the flood defence works, there was no expressed demand for use of these pitches. This site is best suited as open playing field land for use for informal games of football and other minor pitch sports.
- Of the 42 grass pitches available for community team use, 24 are adult size, 6 are sized for youth football (9v9 or 11v11) and 12 for minisoccer.
- While the City Council has successfully worked with the Devon FA, local leagues and clubs in recent years to mark out more small sided pitches on its playing field sites to provide for changes in the ways the game is played following the FA Youth Football Review, there remains a particular supply issue with regard to youth 11v11 size pitches. Most youth teams are either playing on adult pitches in the City, or are being displaced to youth 11v11 pitches outside the City.
- In contrast to many urban centres, Exeter has no central league venue or multi-pitch hub site for age group teams to play their matches each Saturday in season. The larger clubs such as Heavitree Youth FC have to use two or more playing field sites within the city and some in adjoining districts.
- With few large multi-pitch sites in the City, opportunities to provide the larger clubs with a home hub to accommodate all their teams (and/or a central league venue) will centre on those sites in the City or on the City fringe with potential to accommodate a 3G AGP to FA registration specifications.
- Currently, there is only one full size floodlit 3G FTP located within the City boundary, at the University's Sports Park. Although there is occasional community use of this pitch and there is spare capacity outside of the University terms, community access is unsecured and the pitch is not on the FA register as suitable for affiliated league match play. There are also just two 3G 5v5 MUGAs currently in the City, one at Heavitree Sports & Social Club and the other at the University's Sports Park (the latter is registered with the FA as suitable for 5v5 matchplay although as with the FTP, the community use that takes place is unsecured).
- All other AGPs in the City (eight in total plus two sand filled AGP MUGAs) are sand/water based. Whilst these pitches currently accommodate a significant proportion of the overall demand for football team midweek training, as well as commercial football leagues and informal small sided games, sand based artificial turf is not the preferred playing surface for football.

## Demand

- Based on Sports Market Segmentation data around 7,500 adults (aged 16+) in the City self-report as playing football. The majority of play takes place outside the FA league structures either occasional informal games with work colleagues or friends or more regular play in five/six a side leagues.
- From the FA's records and local research, there are currently 175 affiliated teams based in the City across all age groups (excluding school and college/university teams) of which nearly three quarters are youth or minisoccer teams requiring small-sided pitches.
- Over recent seasons, the trend in the City is broadly in line with the national picture with a fall in the number of adult teams (particularly Sunday morning league football) and an increase in the number of youth sides.
- Despite the decline in Sunday league football, demand for Saturday afternoon adult league football is holding up - the Devon & Exeter league is the largest in the county.
- Exeter Parks Service consider that the supply and capacity of adult football is under threat due to the constancy of demand for Saturday afternoon against the decline of Sunday morning adult

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football. Retaining an adult pitch for one game per week is unsustainable in terms of space use and income.

- A growing number of youth football clubs in the City have multiple teams in each age group (e.g. Central FC, Heavitree Youth FC, Exeter Panthers AFC Youth, West Exe Youth FC, Stoke Hill FC, Whipton Youth FC) and several clubs have development aspirations to make provision for a fuller range of age groups including more age group girls teams which are currently restricted to the West Exe club.
- With funding support from Sport England for the 'Exeter Active' initiative, the City is in the vanguard in the county in terms of provision of inclusive football with Exeter City FITC, Active Devon, the Devon FA and other partners working with the City Council, Street Games and other groups to expand football opportunities to women and girls, people with disabilities, the inactive and young people in areas with high levels of social deprivation neighbourhoods within the city (e.g. Wonford and Exwick). Opportunities for people with disabilities include Devon Ability Counts League tournaments and festivals at St James's School AGP, Pinhoe Spartans FC running a dedicated club for children with special needs on the AGP at St Luke's School and Exeter City FITC sessions for children with Downs Syndrome at the Riverside Leisure Centre.

**Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?**

**NO.**

- Although the detailed analysis of pitch capacity and patterns of demand shows spare capacity on some of the secured pitch stock on Sundays, when a 'strategic reserve' is factored in (to allow existing stock time to rest and for in-season maintenance) the secured pitch stock is being used close to its current playing capacity.
- In addition, the analysis shows that displaced demand is substantial with as many as 17 teams playing on pitches outside the City boundary. This is not a particular problem for adult sides as the travel distances are short. However, for the displaced youth teams (e.g. teams from the Exeter Panthers, Pinhoe Spartans and West Exe) there is a need to secure additional pitch capacity of the appropriate size and quality together with changing facilities, within the City.
- Training for football teams in the peak midweek hours on the available AGPs in the City is constrained by the competing demands of hockey (and of student teams to the University pitches in term time) as well as by a level of imported demand from teams based in the neighbouring districts. With only one full size 3G FTP pitch in the City and a lack of secured community access to this supply, it is clear that there is insufficient provision to meet current football demand particularly when the growth in demand from hockey and other sports to access the sand based AGPs in the peak hours is factored in.

**Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?**

**NO.**

- The maintenance and quality of the grass pitches available to community teams in Exeter is generally fair to good in comparison to many local authority areas. However the picture is mixed. Overall, most pitches achieved a 'standard' rating based on visual assessments in 2013/14, consultations and club survey returns with one (Pinhoe Station Road) rated 'poor' (due to drainage issues). However, all of the larger secured sites with pitches used for match play (e.g. KGV, Hamlin Lane, Cowick Barton, Wonford, Exwick) are open sites and the pitches suffer from unauthorised use and issues of dog mess, littering and low level vandalism as well as incurring wear from general recreational use.
- Generally, the higher quality pitches are those on fenced sites protected from informal use and vandalism - e.g. the University playing field sites and some of those leased by clubs (e.g. Topsham Coronation Field).
- However, the cost to hire a pitch (i.e. a ECC pitch licence) is substantially less than the cost of maintaining the pitch. The licence charge covers less than a quarter of the cost of maintaining an adult pitch and, over time, will make the upkeep of some sites unsustainable for the City Council. As a consequence, three ECC playing field sites are now leased to clubs (Stoke Hill FC at Hamlin Lane, Central FC at KGV and Alphington FC at The Chronicles) along with a phased transfer of pitch maintenance responsibilities. This change will place growing demands on clubs with respect to access to equipment and appropriately trained volunteers. Clubs will increasingly require support from the FA in order to maintain pitch quality standards and playing capacity.
- The quality of the three University AGPs is good as is the sand based AGP at the West Exe College, all of which have relatively new playing surfaces. The situation at the other four PFI

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school based sand based AGPs is more mixed with instances of worn surfaces and line markings and goals in a poor state of repair.

- Although there has been investment in improving the quality of changing pavilions and to facilitate mixed gender use - notably at the Exwick Sports Hub (former Civil Service Sports Ground) where Exeter College have provided a new 6 changing room building with treatment room and training rooms - the pavilions at Alphington Chronicles, Cowick Barton, Wonford and at Pinhoe Station Road playing fields are rated 'poor' and in need of enhancement.
- In each case there is a need to assess the priority enhancements required to address the primary use. Whilst adult teams require changing for players and officials, youth and minisoccer teams for example generally do not make use of changing facilities although they do need access to toilets, secure storage (for personal effects, samba goals etc) and, ideally, for the younger age groups, a clubroom or other form of shelter in bad weather.
- Upgraded ancillary facilities (along with the reinstatement of the former pitches by the Environment Agency) will also be required at Bronhams Playing Field if this site is to be brought back into full community use.

**What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?****Future Demand**

- If current participation trends continue, then the pressure of demand for appropriately sized youth football pitches on Saturdays (and for programming more back to back games on the same pitches) is likely to grow faster than the decline in demand for adult pitches which is only really evident on Sunday mornings. Over time, it is likely that more of the secured supply of adult pitches will need to be redesignated as youth 11v11 or 9v9 pitches to accommodate future needs. In parallel, the licence scheme for ECC pitches needs to be updated to reflect the changing pattern of demand (e.g. at present, youth teams tend to share one adult pitch licence and start play up to an hour early to meet demand by programming games back to back).
- Housing led population change in the City to 2026 will be the main driver of additional demand for football pitch capacity. Based on current patterns of demand, there is potential for population growth alone to lead to a need for additional capacity for circa 13 youth/minisoccer teams.
- The other main driver of future demand will be the existing community football clubs based in the City - particularly those with large youth sections - who currently have to find pitches outside the city for some of their age group sides to play home their fixtures (currently assessed as 17 teams). These clubs will continue to seek suitable pitches with capacity at affordable rates within the City.
- Several of the better resourced junior football clubs with a strong volunteer base are also likely to deliver their aspirations to grow the number of age group teams (including girls age group teams where there is substantial interest and unmet demand).
- If the above demand factors are realised, by 2026, it is estimated there will be a need for the available supply of pitches (either grass or artificial) to accommodate up to 8 additional adult teams (including women's teams), 27 youth teams (including girls teams) and 12 minisoccer teams (mixed). This equates to an increase of 3 pitches for Adults, seven pitches for youth teams and 2 pitches for minisoccer.

**Future Supply**

In the short term (next 2-3 years), the main changes in football pitch supply based on projects already in development or with a planning consent are likely to be:

- **Exwick Playing Fields** - reinstatement of a former youth 9v9 pitch by the Environment Agency on completion of flood defence works and reorientation of this pitch and a second pitch to accommodate a cricket pitch for Exwick CC as replacement for the club's former pitch on the adjacent Civil Service Sports Ground site (now called Exeter Sports Hub)
- **Exeter College Countess Wear/Wear Barton** - A planning consent granted on appeal in 2016 provides for housing on part of the playing field with retention of one adult football pitch, a 5 a side pitch and a rebuilt pavilion. Countess Wear Dynamos FC (with one adult and three youth teams) have been based at this site since 2004. The development site is currently on the market with potential for completion in 2020. On completion, this community club will have secure access to the College's re-provided pitch on Saturdays and Sundays.
- Middlemoor - if a secured consent for development on this Government-owned (police service) playing field is enacted, this would cause permanent loss of an area of playing field land (a former

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cricket outfield) that is used regularly for community club youth/mini soccer on Saturday mornings by teams mainly from the Heavitree United club by local arrangement. The scheme with current consent would also cause a temporary loss of availability of one adult pitch while development takes place and this pitch is re-provided in new position in the site.

- **Exeter College Exwick Sports Hub (former Civil Service Sports Ground)** - relocation of cricket pitch to Exwick Playing Fields and replacement of single adult pitch with a floodlit 3G pitch (FA register compliant). Home pitch for Exwick Villa FC (club to play home games at University Sports Ground during the works phase).
- **Bromhams Farm Playing Field** - reinstatement of pitches and pavilion. Pitches to be size to address priority supply shortfall - youth 11v11/9v9
- **Wonford Playing Field** - £280k S106 monies is secured for enhancement of pitches and ancillary changing facilities etc. linking to proposals, yet to be fully developed for new or enhanced indoor provision at Wonford Leisure Centre

In the medium term (4-6 years), new football playing pitch supply will be provided at:

- **Newcourt** - On the east side of the city 'The Dart Development' (adjoining the M5 close to Topsham FC ground) will provide a new adult pitch and junior pitch and changing rooms (or a financial contribution to off-site changing). The planning consent requires the developer to provide these facilities before occupation of 450 planned new homes. There is an opportunity to maximise the value of this development for community football by ensuring Sport England and Devon County FA input to the final specification and proposals for the management and maintenance of these facilities post-build. Management options may include Topsham FC who are based nearby at Coronation Field or Exeter FITC.
- **South West Exeter/Teignbridge** - Further strategic housing development is planned ('The Alphington Growth Spur') which will provide a new AGP with community use in association with a new all through school. The final specification of this new AGP has still to be determined although the Teignbridge Playing Pitch Strategy Steering Group has determined it should be a full size floodlit pitch that is both football and rugby compliant. The needs assessment in Exeter for this Playing Pitch Strategy found the priority community need in this area will be for football as the additional housing in this area will place increased demand for match play on the pitches at Alphington Sports Ground and Cowick Barton Playing Fields.
- **Pinhoe** - The City Council is currently at the early stages of an exercise to identify priority needs and options to improve the community facilities at the Station Road Playing Field site in Pinhoe. A number of S106 contributions have been received or are due to be received from developments in this area. This may present an opportunity to enhance the existing pitch and changing facilities at this site and, possibly, provide an additional pitch. If so, this would increase the playing capacity of this site and better address demand from the Pinhoe Spartans club for formal play and from the local community for informal games.

There are also current proposals for new playing pitch facilities linked to existing planning commitments in East Devon for new housing developments on the north and east side of Exeter. In East Devon there are proposals for sites in Cranbrook and Mosshayne (land north of Tithebarn Lane), Clyst St Mary. This provision has been secured to meet demands arising from new housing developments in these areas (up to 900 new homes in the case of Mosshayne) and, as concluded in the recently adopted East Devon Playing Pitch Strategy, the playing pitches to be provided will not have capacity to meet additional demand from Exeter.

**Is there enough accessible and secured provision to meet future demand?**

**NO.** Additional capacity to 2026 will need to be secured through a combination of:

- Enhancements to the quality of existing natural turf pitches where it is appropriate and cost effective to do so, including bringing back into use **Bromhams Farm Playing Field** and configuring more of the pitch supply as youth and minisoccer pitches.
- Securing / re-securing access to existing pitches and ancillary facilities on **school sites** for community teams.
- Delivery of the two committed projects in the pipeline for full size and FA registered 3G AGP pitches (FTPs) in the City or on the City fringe - i.e. one currently on site at **Exwick Playing Field** (Exeter College) and a second on a new school site to be provided just outside the City

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boundary in Teignbridge and serving the **SW Exeter/Alphington** area - and securing use for Exeter-based community football club teams in the peak hours (midweek evenings and Saturdays).

- Once these two new 3G AGPs are completed, a needs case can be made for the provision of between one and two further full size AGPs in the City to 2026 to meet the FA's target scenario of providing access to all community teams to midweek evening training on 3G as opposed to the sand based school AGPs many teams currently use. Three sites are currently identified as presenting opportunities to meet this target for further 3G AGP provision:
  - i) **Topsham Sports Ground** (a rugby/football share AGP subject to feasibility assessment by the University)
  - ii) **Coronation Field, Topsham** (floodlighting the stadium pitch is the priority with potential for upgrading to a football 3G in future), and
  - iii) **Flower Pot Playing Field** (conversion on one of two grass rugby pitches to a rugby 3G also suitable for football and other pitch sports popular in the City such as Ultimate, Tag and Touch rugby, subject to feasibility assessment by the College).

Of these three opportunity sites for further 3G provision to 2026, the current priority location to address community club facility needs is Topsham.

**Hockey**

**What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?**

**Supply**

- Exeter has a large supply of full size floodlit hockey AGPs (8 pitches) relative to its CIPFA nearest neighbours (Warwick 5; Lincoln 3, Cheltenham 5, Worcester 4). This is due in part to the PFI Schools programme which provided 5 floodlit sand based pitches with secured community use in 2006.
- The University Sports Park is the main hockey hub in the City with a double hockey pitch (one sand dressed, one water based). This supply plays a key role in serving community hockey club demand (Isca Hockey Club) and England Hockey/Devon Hockey Association player pathway activities. The University has no current spare capacity in term time for growth in community hockey club use of these two pitches.

**Demand**

- There are currently four well-established community hockey clubs based in the city (East Devon, Exe Ladies, Isca, University of Exeter) with 29 men's and women's teams plus 500+ juniors (excluding the many University and College BUCS/AoC/Inter-mural sides). Playing membership is growing stimulated in part by international success and recruitment initiatives such as Back to Hockey. All play takes place on sand or water AGPs within the city. Unlike in many local authority areas, there is no requirement in Exeter to find more capacity on sand/water AGPs to allow transfer hockey play off existing 3G pitches to comply with the new England Hockey policy to cease use of 3G for hockey competition and training.
- Currently, with circa 175 affiliated community teams (excluding professional club and academy teams, and Uni/College teams as above), football use places considerable demand on the eight AGPs used for hockey in the peak mid week evening hours for training. With no accessible full size 3G pitches in the city, most of the training demand from football teams is met on sand based pitches on the PFI school sites competing with hockey teams for the peak slots. Saracen's RFC also use St James's School AGP in winter for non-contact rugby training drills in the peak period.

**Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?**

**YES.**

- While current demand for hockey match play and team training is accommodated, there are some pinch points on midweek evenings, particularly since the St Luke's School pitch has been dedicated almost exclusively for football use and the Dart Hockey Club has been displaced to the West Exe School AGP due to the unplayable condition of their home pitch at KEVICC in South Hams. This displaced demand will return to South Hams from next season on completion of the resurfacing of the KEVICC pitch. This should allow all current hockey demand in the City to be

**Hockey**

accommodated, although it is noted that this relies on a large amount of unsecured access to the best quality AGPs at the University (2) and Exeter School (1).

**Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?**

**NO.**

- There are long standing issues concerning the adequacy of planned maintenance to the 5 sand based AGPs on the PFI school sites although this situation has improved under a recent change of contractor. West Exe School AGP has been fully resurfaced. However, the other four are now over 10 years old and, despite recent refresh of the sand and line markings, these pitches are due for full surface replacement. The pitch at St Peter's School is the priority. It will be important to ensure the contractor fulfills the PFI contract obligations regarding renewal of these pitches before expiry of the contract in 2026 when the facilities will be handed back to Devon County Council.

**What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?****Future Demand**

- Based on the research findings, it is estimated that growth in demand for hockey will equate to an additional 2 adult teams and 5 junior teams by 2026 driven by population growth, trends in participation and the development plans of the four community clubs. Despite this projected growth in demand, there are sufficient AGP's to meet forecast needs through to 2026.
- In addition to team growth, England Hockey's aspires to double club based participation by 2028 through providing more opportunities for pay & play sessions etc. These participation initiatives are also likely to grow demand. The assessment of the PPS Steering Group, based upon a review of all supply and demand factors, concluded that there is sufficient supply, albeit if growth aspirations are achieved then more time access to the school AGPs is likely to be needed.

**Future Supply**

- No new sand or water based hockey AGPs are currently planned in the City. However, there is secured investment to resurface the existing pitches at KEVICC, **Totnes** in South Hams and at **Ottery St Mary** in East Devon and some potential over the strategy period for further enhancements to hockey supply in East Devon (**Sidmouth** - floodlights; new pitch at **Honiton**) subject to funding. It is therefore likely that the pressure of demand on the hockey AGPs in Exeter as a result of displaced demand will reduce over the strategy period by circa 5 teams. (This has been assumed in the net team growth totals above).
- In addition, two new 3G AGP projects have planning consents, one in the city at Exeter College's **Exwick Sports Hub** (on site); the other as part of a new all through (ages 4 to 18) school planned for a site on the southwest city fringe in Teignbridge District as part of a strategic housing development for **SW Exeter/Teignbridge**. As well as hockey, these new 3G AGPs will also accommodate some of the existing football training demand for city-based football clubs on the school PFI sand AGPs thereby releasing additional capacity in the peak community hours for hockey growth.
- In addition to these projects with planning, there are also three pre-planning proposals at feasibility stage for new 3G pitches in the City, which could have an impact in terms of increasing the supply of hockey pitches. Two in Topsham - one at the University Sports Ground (a World Rugby specification pitch with dual pitch markings), the other at Topsham FC (a stadium Football 3G) - and one at Flower Pot Playing Field leased by the City Council to Exeter College (a World Rugby pitch which is also suitable for football training). To achieve the FA's target for all community football teams to have access to a midweek training slot on 3G, a needs case can be made for up to a maximum of two additional 3G pitches to be provided to 2026 in the light of the lack of community club availability in the peak hours to the existing full size 3G AGP and small sided 3G MUGA at the University Sports Park. Should one or more of these proposals for additional 3G pitches proceed, then further midweek evening capacity is likely to be released for hockey on the PFI school sand based pitches, as football moves across to the 3G(s).

**Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?**

**YES.**

Provided that:

- The existing supply is protected and none of the sand AGPs are converted to 3G.

### Hockey

- There is no loss of hockey club and England Hockey access to the existing high quality pitches at Exeter School (1) and the University (2).
- Greater peak time access to the PFI school pitches for hockey is secured. Opportunities should be fully explored with operators to: i) prioritise midweek evening hockey bookings on the sand based pitches as more 3G FTP supply becomes available to football, and ii) to secure greater access on Sundays for hockey matches and junior training. At present, usually only one of the five school AGPs is open on Sundays.

### Rugby

#### What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?

#### Supply

- Exeter has a strong rugby union tradition at both community and elite performance levels. The City is home to Exeter Rugby Club (the Exeter Chiefs, 2016/17 Rugby Premiership Champions) at its Sandy Park Stadium (used as a host venue for the 2015 Rugby World Cup). The professional club is also the home of the south-west region young player development academy. Sandy Park has high quality reinforced grass stadium pitch and training pitch used by the professional squad and academy players and for occasional large scale community sports events.
- In addition, the Exeter University Rugby Club has two high quality sports grounds with rugby union pitches - Duckes Meadow and Topsham Sports Ground - as well as a World Rugby 3G AGP at its main Sports Park on the Streatham Campus. The University competes in rugby at the highest level in the British Universities & Colleges Sports (BUCS) competitions, co-hosts with Exeter RFC a European 7s Rugby Tour event and, in 2015, provided training facilities for the Tonga Rugby Union during the RWC. The University also enters a team in the Devon Rugby Union league on Saturdays.
- Since September 2016, Exeter College has become one of four rugby play pathway academy sites in the county linked to the regional rugby Academy at Sandy Park. The College has taken a 40 year lease on the City Council playing fields at Exwick and Flower Pot, together with a strategic management agreement protecting continued community club and public access. The College has initiated a programme of enhancements to these sites to create a Sports Hub. A new changing pavilion with training rooms is complete, fencing is installed to protect some pitches from unauthorised use and dog fouling, and works are being carried out on site for a floodlit full size football 3G AGP with a rugby training compliant shockpad (opening December 2017).
- Rugby union is also played in the city at several secondary schools - primarily at Exeter School (an independent school). This school has good quality pitches and ancillary facilities.
- Several of the PFI secondary schools play rugby in the autumn term and mark midi/youth pitches on their playing fields as required for PE use.
- Currently, there is no regular community access to any of the education sites for rugby union other than to the two Flower Pot Playing Field pitches (now leased to Exeter College).
- In addition to the Flower Pot Playing Field facilities which are used by two community rugby clubs (Wessex RFC and Engineers RFC - a social team with links to the University), there are two main sites in the city with secured access for community rugby clubs - Bonfire Field in Topsham, owned freehold by Topsham RFC and Exhibition Fields, a City Council playing field with a pavilion and car park leased to Exeter Saracens RFC for 21 years from 2005. The rugby pitches at this site are hired exclusively to this club by the City Council season-by-season.
- Exeter RFC formerly hosted a youth section at Sandy Park using a second pitch which has since been lost to accommodate expansion of the stadium facilities.
- Exeter Youth Rugby is now a separately constituted club, affiliated to the Devon RFU. The club was supported by Exeter RFC to secure a site for new pitches and ancillary facilities on the City fringe at Clyst St Mary in East Devon. The club has planning consent at this site to provide a permanent pavilion replacing temporary changing facilities it currently occupies and is currently fund-raising. Having secured its future and a suitable site for its future development, the club has no aspirations to return within the administrative boundary of the City.

**Rugby**

- Currently, there is one full size floodlit World Rugby compliant 3G FTP located within the City boundary, at the University's Sports Park. Although there is spare capacity on this pitch outside of the University terms, there is no current regular availability for community rugby clubs to access this pitch in the peak hours and any access that could be arranged would be unsecured.

**Demand**

- Based on Sports Market Segmentation data 1,627 adults (aged 16+) in the City self-report as playing rugby union. A substantial proportion of adult play in the City takes place outside the county league structures for the traditional contact game.
- There is a well-established Adult Touch Rugby Club (playing on the pitches at Exwick Sports Hub) and a large Adult Tag Rugby group playing on the infield at the Exeter Athletics Arena. The detailed demand and facility issues for these formats of the game (along with rugby league) are considered in chapter 7 of the Addendum.
- In terms of current adult community club teams, each of the four clubs - Topsham, Saracens, Wessex, Exeter Engineers - field two men's teams on a Saturday afternoon playing at home on alternate weeks. The University also runs a local team on a Saturday.
- The Topsham and Saracens clubs also run colts teams as well as age group teams from u7 to u16 with most of this play taking place on Sundays. The Wessex club has recently started a mini rugby section playing at Flower Pot Playing Field on Sunday morning and has aspirations to develop youth teams.
- Exeter Youth Rugby Club fields eleven teams currently across the age groups. However, it is noted that with no senior/U21 fixtures played, the Club is not currently eligible for full membership of the RFU (as required to apply for RFU grants or loan finance for facility enhancements).
- Over recent seasons, there has been modest growth in the number of community teams at these clubs, mainly in the youth age groups. Efforts to further develop girls and women's rugby from quite a small base of female players across the Saracens (girls) and Topsham (women 18+) clubs continue and have been given further impetus by the setting up of a women's rugby academy at Exeter College (using the facilities at Flower Pot Playing Field).

**Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?**

**NO.**

- Although the detailed analysis of pitch capacity and patterns of demand shows a modest amount of spare capacity, this is limited to the unsecured pitch at the University's Topsham Sports Ground and at secondary school sites where there is no community access. When a 'strategic reserve' is factored in (to allow existing stock time to rest and for in-season maintenance) the secured pitch stock is being used beyond its current playing capacity.
- Training for community rugby club squads in the peak midweek hours on the one suitable AGP in the City is constrained by the student teams to the University's World Rugby 3G pitch in term time). With only one full size World Rugby 3G AGP in the City and a lack of community access to this pitch, it is clear that there is insufficient secured access to rugby AGPs to meet current demand for winter training and player development.

**Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?**

**YES.**

- The maintenance and quality of rugby pitches and ancillary facilities in Exeter is generally good in comparison to most local authority areas. The City has a number of high quality pitches and ancillary facilities at Sandy Park and the University sports grounds. However, these sites are used almost exclusively by the professional club and University teams respectively.
- On the three community club sites there are issues relating to maintenance and drainage of the pitches and training areas although, at Exhibition Fields this has been alleviated through installation of a drainage scheme to the second pitch and inter-pitch training area in spring 2016.
- The Topsham Bonfire Field pitches, although well-maintained by the club (with regular aeration and top dressing), suffer from over-play.

|  |
|--|
| <p><b>Rugby</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Flower Pot Playing Field pitches accommodate unofficial and informal use (e.g. Touch Rugby) in addition to match play by the College (midweek) and the two community clubs based at this site and therefore are played close to capacity for their quality. The College's enhancements to these pitches and fencing to protect from unauthorised use, should help to alleviate this issue over time.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?</b></p> <p><b>Future Demand</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Housing led population change in the City to 2026 will be the main driver of additional demand for rugby pitch capacity.</li> <li>○ The other main driver of future demand will be the community clubs as they seek to grow the youth sections and occasional thirds or vets sides to accommodate demand driven by the growth in social rugby participation in the City stimulated by the Adult Touch and Tag groups.</li> <li>○ Finally, the Sports Market Segmentation data evidences a modest amount of latent demand to play rugby among adults (aged 16+).</li> <li>○ If all the above demand factors are all realised, by 2026 there will be a need for the available supply to accommodate up to 3 additional adult teams (including women's teams), 7 youth teams (boys and girls teams) and 3 midi/mini teams (7-12yrs).</li> </ul> <p><b>Future Supply</b></p> <p>In the short term (next 2-3 years), the main changes in rugby pitch supply based on projects already in development or with a planning consent at sites with secured community use are likely to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Oil Mill Lane Playing Field</b> (in East Devon) – replacement of temporary changing 'barn' with new changing pavilion for use by Exeter Youth Rugby Club.</li> <li>○ <b>Exwick Sports Hub</b> - replacement of Exwick College/Exwick Villa football pitch with a football 3G for FA registered for match play with a rugby compliant shockpad for training and coaching use. This pitch is under construction and will be available from December 2017.</li> </ul> <p>In the longer term, subject to detailed suitability assessment and feasibility, there may be opportunities for additional rugby capacity at the following playing field sites with secured community use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Topsham RFC, Bonfire Field</b> - training lights to second pitch</li> <li>○ <b>Saracens RFC, Exhibition Fields</b> - permanent training lights to inter-pitch training area (drainage scheme installed spring 2016). It is important to note that this facility could be impacted by the emerging proposals for a community pool/sports village at this site. Subject of the approval of the proposals in the Sports Facilities Strategy a master plan for the site will need to be created. This would seek to retain the existing provision (which may require relocation on site), but this cannot be guaranteed until an approved master plan for the site is in place.</li> <li>○ <b>Topsham Sports Ground</b> - the University may provide a second World Rugby compliant floodlit 3G pitch located at its Topsham Sports Ground replacing one natural turf pitch. This is currently subject to feasibility assessment. The RFU has confirmed interest in principle in investing up to £250,000 in a World Rugby AGP in this location in partnership with the University to secure a minimum of 9 peak hours a week for community club use. The location is attractive to the RFU due to its proximity to Topsham RFC's over-played pitches and the good road access for community clubs in East Devon and Teignbridge.</li> <li>○ <b>Wessex RFC, Flower Pot Playing Field</b> - Whilst the RFU favours Topsham as the most accessible location to community clubs across Greater Exeter, Exeter College has a vision to develop a fully match compliant World Rugby 3G pitch during the time-frame of this strategy at Flower Pot Field through conversion of one of the two grass rugby pitches used by Wessex RFC and Exeter Engineers.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?</b></p> <p><b>NO.</b></p> <p>The analysis provides a best estimate of a potential requirement for additional capacity to 2026 equivalent to at least one and possibly two fine turf pitches on suitable sites to allow for a strategic reserve and a minimum of 9 peak hours a week of community access to a World Rugby compliant 3G AGP in the City. Opportunities will need to be explored through a combination of the following:</p>  |

**Rugby**

- Protecting existing rugby pitches and training facilities from loss (in the context of loss of pitches in recent years at Grace Road and Countess Wear). In this context, Grace Road is not considered suitable for re-establishing as a site for formal rugby use.
- Review option to improve security of access to existing playing facilities at Exhibition Fields for Saracens RFC (currently lease pavilion and parking for 21yrs from 2005 and hire pitches season by season). The Sports Facilities Strategy could impact upon existing pitch provision and some additional masterplanning in relation to this site will be required.
- Using spare capacity at the best quality education sites with ancillary facilities (e.g. exploring options for community clubs to access school and/or University pitches for mini rugby and or youth teams on Sundays).
- Assessing the planning feasibility of floodlighting the second pitch at Bonfire Field to improve site capacity for training and reduce wear on existing floodlit area, and to providing permanent floodlights to the training pitch at Exhibition Fields. The Sports Facilities Strategy could impact upon existing pitch provision and some additional masterplanning in relation to this site will be required.
- Securing some club training slots on the rugby-compliant floodlit 3G AGP under construction by Exeter College at Exwick Sports Hub. Although World Rugby compliant, during community hours this AGP will primarily accommodate football demand from the clubs based at this site which will restrict available slots for community rugby. However, in addition to the College's rugby Player Pathway programming, there may be opportunities for this pitch to accommodate a midweek training slot for Wessex RFC and/or mini/midi rugby on Sunday mornings (when there is much less community football demand) to support Wessex RFC's growth aspirations. In the summer, when football demand is lower, the pitch may also support evening Touch and Tag sessions in partnership with the College.
- Securing some community club training slots in the peak hours to the World Rugby compliant 3G pitch with planning consent at the proposed new secondary school as part of 'The Alphington Growth Spur' development in Teignbridge/SW Exeter. However, the proposed site for this facility is not well-located in relation to the City based community rugby clubs.
- Securing training slots in the peak hours for Topsham RFC (and potentially mini/midi rugby on Sunday mornings) on a World Rugby 3G at the adjacent Topsham Sports Ground should the University decide to proceed with this project on finalising its feasibility assessment. As noted above, the RFU has confirmed in principle interest in a 'rugby share' investment in a WR pitch in Topsham in view of the accessibility of this site to the Topsham RFC and clubs in East Devon and Teignbridge.

**2.3 Other Playing Pitch Sports**

Assessments of facility needs for the following minority interest playing pitch sports governed by organisations formally recognised by Sport England have been carried out and are detailed in Chapter 7 of the Addendum:

- Ultimate Frisbee
- Lacrosse
- American Football
- Baseball & Softball
- Rugby League
- Adult Tag Rugby
- Touch Rugby
- Rugby 7s
- Volleyball
- Rounders
- Archery

The key playing pitch facility issues for other playing pitch sports played in Exeter are summarised in the table below.

| Key Issues   | Summary of Findings - Other Playing Pitch Sports |
|--|--|
| <b>What are the main characteristics of the current supply of and demand for provision?</b>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Due in large part to the influences of the <i>Active Exeter</i> public health campaign providing informal sports participation opportunities and the large University and College student population, the City is a focus for a wide range of playing pitch sports other than the four major sports.</li> <li>○ The University has active clubs in lacrosse, American Football, touch rugby, rugby league, archery and rounders all of which make extensive use of the University playing pitches at the Sports Park, Duckes Meadow and Topsham, predominantly in the summer term to mid June.</li> <li>○ The University even has a team playing the Harry Potter inspired sport of Quidditch. Although not a formally recognised sport, unlike the other minor pitch sports which are played on the University's stock of playing pitches, the Patronus Quidditch team plays on a pitch (either at Flower Pot or Cowick Barton playing fields depending on availability) which causes additional wear on the winter sports pitches at these sites.</li> <li>○ The archery clubs in Exeter are based on education sites at Exeter School and the University's Streatham Campus respectively and therefore do not impact on the availability of pitches for community cricket and football clubs.</li> <li>○ The city also regularly hosts high level tournaments and sports events in minor sports that require playing pitches e.g. a European Rugby 7s event hosted at the University's Topsham Sports Ground in partnership with Exeter Chiefs.</li> <li>○ The Exeter clubs that use playing fields other than the University sports grounds for other sports are: Ultimate Frisbee (two clubs based at Flower Pot Playing Fields), Baseball &amp; Softball (Spitfires Club based at the Exeter Youth Rugby site in Oil Mill Lane In East Devon), Lacrosse (some unofficial training at Wonford Playing Field), Touch Rugby (adult touch club at Flower Pot), Rounders (summer social league at Cowick Barton), Volleyball (summer social league at DCC's Coaver Club), Frisbee Golf (Heavitreee Pleasure Grounds) and Adult TAG Rugby (weekly sessions on the Exeter Arena infield). The Exeter Arena infield is also used on occasions to host community sports festivals and events such as The Exeter Business Games.</li> </ul> |  |
| <b>Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?</b>  |  |
| <p><b>YES.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Although demand from other pitch sports impacts to a small degree on the quality and capacity of the winter pitches on the playing field sites at Flower Pot, Exwick, Cowick Barton, Wonford and the Exeter Arena infield, at present the additional use is managed effectively and demand for these other pitch sports can be accommodated by this existing secured and available supply (i.e. without the Bromhams and Grace Road playing fields currently unavailable).</li> <li>○ However, this conclusion is subject to satisfactory clarification/resolution of the security of access to the pitch at Flower Pot Playing Field for Exeter Touch Rugby Club under the lease and management board arrangements recently agreed between the City Council and Exeter College.</li> </ul>  |  |
| <b>Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?</b>   |  |
| <p><b>YES.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The University sports grounds accommodate much of the demand for other pitch sports. Good quality provision is available at both the Duckes Meadow and Topsham university sports grounds as well as at the University Sports Park where some of this demand is accommodated.</li> <li>○ The other playing fields used were visually assessed in 2014 as being of adequate/standard quality - i.e. Flower Pot (for Ultimate Frisbee, Adult Touch Rugby and occasional games of Rugby League and Quidditch), Cowick Barton (Rounders and Quidditch) and the Arena Infield (TAG). The main quality issue is the need for enhancement to the changing provision at Cowick Barton Playing Field.</li> <li>○ Some unofficial use of the Wonford Playing Field for summer lacrosse training has been identified. These pitches require upgrading and S106 funding is allocated. Should the pitches be enhanced as planned, then this unofficial use should cease and be accommodated elsewhere in order to maintain these pitches to a good quality for licenced hire by football teams.</li> </ul>   |  |
| <b>What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?</b>  |  |

- This demand for use of the community pitches (largely in the summer months) is growing steadily as the sports development work, both in workplaces and in the wider community, of organisations including Exeter City Football in the Community, Active Devon and voluntary community associations such as Park Life Heavitree take root. Clubs and groups like Second Wind and Devon Ultimate Frisbee, Exeter Touch and Exeter Community TAG attract a diverse range of people many of whom would otherwise be inactive.
- Growing demand for use in summer of the winter pitches at sites such as Flower Pot and Cowick Barton will impact at some point on traditional winter sports provision, mainly in relation to proximity and accessibility of the various playing fields, and especially in spring/ autumn when there is an overlap of demand.

**Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?**

**NO.**

- Over the period of the strategy to 2026 it is considered likely that demand for non-traditional sports - particularly those that are easy to play, accessible and inclusive such as ultimate frisbee, rounders and the adult touch and TAG forms of rugby is likely to continue to grow.
- The main drivers for this growth in demand will be a combination of population growth in the City and changing trends in sports participation supported by the new policy direction of Government, Sport England and the national governing bodies of sport to widen the base of participation particularly among those who are insufficiently active for their long term health and wellbeing. Locally, this translates into the *Active Exeter* campaign and other related public health and wellbeing initiatives supported by Active Devon, Exeter City Football in the Community Trust and voluntary community associations.
- As established in the assessment of need for community football (Addendum Chapter 3) and rugby union (Addendum Chapter 5), the current stock of accessible and secured pitches for youth football and for rugby union is not enough to meet demand. Over time, the additional demands placed by other sports playing on the secured supply of winter sports pitches in the summer months (currently primarily at Flower Pot and Cowick Barton Playing Fields) will impact on the quality of the pitches and overall playing capacity at these sites.
- In this context, consideration should be given in the strategy to options to provide capacity for further development of social and informal pitch sports, for example by reinstating free to access playing space at Grace Road on completion of the works by the Environment Agency.
- Another option would be to designate programme time on a new floodlit 3G AGP as a hub for those other pitch sports that would most benefit from playing on 3G - e.g. Ultimate Frisbee, Adult Touch and TAG rugby, volleyball, rounders.
- The Exeter College floodlit 3G Pitch under construction at Exwick would appear to offer this opportunity provided that access for these sports and clubs can be secured in the peak period at affordable charges. Discussions with the College indicate potential unallocated community slots to the Sports Hub AGP on Sundays. As much of the demand for minor sports falls in the summer months, this approach could support the College's business model for the artificial pitch by contributing hire revenue to a sinking fund for periodic replacement of the playing surface and floodlight lamps.

**2.4 Overall summary of grass pitch needs to 2026**

The following table summarises the above assessment findings into the number of additional natural turf pitches likely to be required for each of the main playing pitch sports by 2026. Hockey is not shown in this analysis as all hockey play takes place on AGPs and there is sufficient existing supply to meet forecast needs to 2026 subject to programming and re-surfacing of the PFI schools' supply.

The additional pitches required assume that none of the alternative scenarios for increasing the playing capacity of the existing stock of pitches in the City (see Section 3 below) are implemented - e.g. grass pitch quality enhancements, securing more access to grass pitches on education sites, changing the sport or age group played on certain pitches.

The numbers also take no account of the FA's preferred scenarios to transfer match play from public park pitches to 3G FTPs or to provide the opportunity for all affiliated teams to train midweek on 3G.

To deliver against future facility needs, a combination of these alternative scenarios will need to be adopted in the sport specific and site specific action plans in combination with provision of new pitch supply secured through the planning process. The playing pitch supply/demand balance should be reviewed regularly and the action plan updated to respond to changing circumstances.

| Pitch Sport       | No.of Secured Pitches | No. Required by 2026* | Difference |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Cricket           | 11                    | 13                    | +2         |
| Adult Football    | 24                    | 27                    | +3         |
| Youth Football    | 6                     | 13 (mix of 9v9,11v11) | +7         |
| Mini Soccer       | 12                    | 14 (mix of 5v5,7v7)   | +2         |
| Adult/Youth Rugby | 6                     | 7/8                   | +1/2       |
| Midi/Mini Rugby   | 3                     | 6                     | +3         |

\* In terms of playing capacity (Match Equivalent Sessions) by age group, for cricket & football assumes any additional pitches are provided to 'good' standard; For rugby - assumes any additional pitches are provided with 'good' standard of maintenance and adequate natural drainage

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### 3. Scenario Testing

'What If' scenarios to address the estimated playing pitch facility needs to 2026, and the potential impact of each on the overall picture of supply and demand, are identified in the following table. The scenarios have been identified in the course of researching the assessments of need for the individual playing pitch sports and through consultation with the Steering Group.

#### What if the quality of sites rated as poor are improved?

The priority pitch quality issues in the City relate to playing field sites for community football and for hockey.

For football, the adult pitch and pavilion at the Station Road site in Pinhoe rated as poor. Although currently a single pitch site, this is a key provision for community football in the Pinhoe/Monkerton area of the City. The City Council is currently at the early stages of an exercise to identify priority needs and options to improve the community facilities at this site. A number of S106 contributions have been received or are due to be received from developments in this area. This may present an opportunity to enhance the existing pitch and changing facilities and possibly provide an additional pitch. If so, this would increase the playing capacity of this site and better address demand from the Pinhoe Spartans club for formal play and from the local community for informal games.

The quality rating scores are at the lower end of the standard band at most of the key community football playing field sites across the City - e.g. King George V Playing Fields, Hamlin Lane, Cowick Barton, Wonford, The Chronicles, Exwick. Enhanced pitch maintenance at these sites to a good rating would impact significantly on the playing capacity, the quality of player experience and reduce the number of cancellations. It could also help to reduce the number of displaced youth football teams to sites outside the City. To ensure the most effective use of available budgets for pitch maintenance and to bring more community football pitches across the City up to good quality standard, the Parks Service and those playing pitch site leaseholders with pitch maintenance responsibilities will require support from the FA with technical pitch assessments, pitch maintenance training for club volunteers and, in some cases, access to specialist equipment.

Upgrades (or replacements as necessary) to ancillary pavilions at the playing fields at Wonford, The Chronicles, Pinhoe Station Road and Cowick Barton - will improve player experience at these sites and help sustain participation. In each case, detailed assessment of the priority need and ongoing maintenance will be required recognising that youth football teams do not make use of changing facilities but generally require access to toilets, secure storage for personal belongings and equipment and shelter.

For hockey, there are long standing issues concerning the adequacy of planned maintenance to the 5 sand-based AGPs on the PFI school sites although this situation has improved under a recent change of contractor. West Exe School AGP has been fully resurfaced. However, the other four are now over 10 years old and, despite recent refresh of the sand and line markings, these pitches are due for full surface replacement. The pitch at St Peter's School is the priority. It will be important to ensure the contractor fulfills the PFI contract obligations regarding renewal of these pitches before expiry of the contract in 2026 when the facilities will be handed back to Devon County Council. Provided these pitches are fully re-surfaced, the priority needs of the community hockey clubs in the City to 2026 will be met.

For community rugby, the installation by the City Council in spring 2016 of a new drainage scheme to the second pitch and inter-pitch area used for evening training at Exhibition Fields has improved the quality and reduced cancellations in the 2016/17 season for the Saracens Club. Continued monitoring of the performance of the scheme and adoption of a robust maintenance programme for the pitches at this site (with guidance and support from the RFU pitch advisor) will be needed to ensure sufficient playing capacity for the club at this site to 2026.

Exeter College has started a programme of pitch quality improvements on the Exwick and Flower Pot playing fields it leases from the City Council under terms of a management agreement securing community access. Initially focused on re-provision of a cricket pitch from the former Civil Service Sports Ground part of the leased site to the Exwick playing field to make space for development of a 3G AGP, the College is also exploring options for quality improvements on the Flower Pot part of the leased site. When completed, these investments will provide a multi pitch sport hub with at least one AGP (the College also has a vision to provide a second AGP), good quality changing pavilions plus grass pitches for cricket, rugby and youth football (following reinstatement of 9v9 pitch on completion of flood defence works). All these enhanced playing pitch facilities will continue to be

accessible to partner community cricket, football and rugby clubs, and to ultimate frisbee clubs in the evenings and at weekends. Potentially, these enhancements will also address facility demands of other minor pitch sport clubs in the City - e.g. Adult Touch, Tag, lacrosse.

**What if community use can be secured at certain sites?**

Whilst community use is secured at the College playing pitch sites for community pitch sport clubs (e.g. Exwick Villa FC, Exwick CC, Wessex RFC, Ultimate Frisbee, Countess Wear Dynamos), many other community clubs in the City rely on unsecured access either to the University pitches (e.g. Exwick CC, Exeter CC 3rd XI, Isca Hockey Club), school pitches (e.g. several youth football clubs) or the Middlemoor Police playing field (e.g. Pinhoe Spartans and Heavitree Youth football clubs).

This is an issue for the strategy as any loss of existing community access either leads to overplay of the stock of secured pitches in the City, displaces teams to pitches outside the City or leads to loss of teams and clubs. During the period the strategy has been in development, community use has ceased at Ladysmith Primary (formerly Heavitree YFC) and at Willowbrook Primary (Whipton Youth FC).

However, the strategy needs to recognise that while there is a substantial stock of pitches on education sites, bringing more of these into community use (or re-establishing community access where this has ceased) will remain a challenge as the primary objective of the site owner is to meet the needs of its students. A further barrier is that the design and layout of some education sites makes regular access to pitches and toilet facilities for the community at weekends either impractical or unaffordable.

The main opportunities to secure more access (by means of a Community Use Agreement) are most likely to arise where education site owners have development plans which require grant funding or a planning consent.

Education sites identified in the course of the strategy consultations where securing more community use would be particularly beneficial in addressing community access needs to 2026 include:

- **The University sports grounds** - rugby and football club access to the Sports Park AGPs for midweek squad training, to grass pitches at Duckes Meadows for youth football on Saturdays and at Topsham Sports Ground for overspill mini/midi rugby from Topsham RFC's Bonfire Field ground on Sunday mornings in winter and, potentially in summer for Countess Wear Cricket teams if displaced from Winslade Park.
- **Secondary school playing fields** - hockey club access to the four PFI school AGPs that are closed on Sundays (Sunday access is currently hampered by staffing and cost issues), and youth football club access to the grass youth football pitches at St Luke's and St Peter's on Saturdays.
- **Primary school playing fields** - youth football club access for mini-soccer is established access at some primary schools (e.g. Countess Wear, Clyst Heath, Whipton Barton, Stoke Hill). There may be potential to re-secure lost access at others (e.g. Ladysmith, Willowbrook), or to secure access at several with no history of community use (e.g. Southbrook) and independent schools (e.g. Bramdean).

**What if some pitches are re-designated from one sport or pitch type to another?**

Over recent years, several adult football pitches on secured sites have been re-designated to accommodate the FA's requirements for smaller pitches for youth football and mini-soccer. With the trends in demand to 2026 likely to continue to favour youth football and mini-soccer over 11 a side adult football, further flexibility will be needed in the planning of football pitch sizes/layouts through the greater use of moveable goals. Currently, several youth teams play on adult pitches on City Council sites that are sized close to the minimum FA's recommended dimensions for adult play so as to serve the needs of both adult and youth 11 a side games.

The main opportunity is at Bromhams Farm Playing Field when this site is reinstated with pitches and drainage by The Environment Agency on completion of flood defence works, scheduled for 2018. Reinstatement of this former pitch site so a range of football pitches of different sizes can be marked (equipped with moveable goals) and, a non turf cricket pitch if the site is assessed as suitable for cricket, could address identified needs for both these sports.

On completion of the flood defence works, The Environment Agency will also be required to reinstate the Grace Road Playing Field for recreational use. Reinstatement of this playing field as an open access site for informal games and recreation is likely to be a better option than reinstatement of the original football pitches. This land drains poorly, has no ancillary facilities on site and was not in demand for licenced hire by clubs for match play prior to the works. Located on the riverside, the site is well located to address demand for informal recreation.

Other key pitch re-designation, including both committed projects and current proposals identified in the consultation which, if implemented, will impact on playing pitch facility needs to 2026 are:

#### Committed Projects

- **Exeter College (former Civil Service Sports Ground)** - project to convert an adult grass football pitch and cricket outfield to a 3G FTP (with a rugby shockpad for training). This project is on site and from 2017/18 season will provide secure community use on Saturdays and one evening a week for Exwick Villa FC teams (1st XI, Reserves, U16, Women), for Alphington Youth FC (u8-u16) on one evening a week, for Exeter City FITC programmes (e.g. Disability Counts, Walking Football, Kicks) on Friday evenings. Rugby Player Pathway activities are also proposed for this pitch on Monday and Tuesday evenings.
- **Devon County Council new secondary school** - when built, this new school will serve large scale new housing development bridging the Teignbridge Borough boundary and the south west of Exeter City. A planning application including provision of an AGP for dual (school and community) use is approved, subject to a S106 Agreement and Reserved Matters. The Teignbridge Playing Pitch Strategy is currently being updated. The Teignbridge PPS Steering Group has recommended that in determining a future Reserved Matters application, the LPA require the developer to provide a full size 3G AGP that is both Football compliant (FA Register) and Rugby compliant (World Rugby 22).

#### Current Proposals

- **Topsham Sports Ground** - Exeter University is assessing the feasibility of conversion of one grass pitch at its sports ground in Topsham to a World Rugby compliant floodlit 3G AGP. This to address the needs for student teams primarily - e.g. for rugby union, rugby league, lacrosse - but with some potential for letting to community club teams. Should this proposal be implemented, the close proximity of the site to Topsham RFC at Bonfire Field would make this provision the ideal location for midweek training (and potentially mini/midi rugby on Sunday mornings) to reduce overplay on the Bonfire Field pitches.
- **Coronation Field** - Topsham Football Club has approached Devon County FA concerning aspirations to increase playing capacity and pitch quality at its Coronation Field stadium site initially through the addition of floodlights and, potentially, through converting the stadium pitch to 3G. The club is in the process of establishing the feasibility of obtaining necessary planning consent for floodlights.
- **Exeter College (Flower Pot Playing Field)** - Exeter College initiated discussions with the City Council in June 2017 concerning the College's vision for a second new AGP for student and community use at Exwick as part of the phased development of the Exwick and Flower Pot playing fields (together with the former Civil Service Sports Ground) as a major Sports Hub for the city. The College's proposal is to convert one of two grass rugby pitches on the Flower Pot Field to a World Rugby compliant floodlit 3G (with fixed rugby posts and rugby pitch markings) as a base for the Devon Player Pathway squads, for Wessex RFC (the home club) for evening training and mini-rugby development on Sunday mornings and, potentially, for use by Saracens RFC and/or Exeter Youth Rugby (currently displaced to Cranbrook) for midweek training. However, the site is not well-located for these clubs to access during the peak evening rush hour period. Should this new full rugby specified 3G be delivered, then transfer of the rugby Player Pathway squads to this second Exwick 3G will free up additional football capacity on the first 3G that is planned to open in autumn 2017.

#### **What if a site outside the City that caters for significant demand is no longer available?**

At present a number of playing pitch sites outside the City boundary are used by Exeter based clubs for youth football. Those identified in the consultations are: Broadclyst Recreation Ground (Exeter Panthers); Newton St Cyres Playing Field (Newtown FC, Pinhoe Gladiators); Rockbeare Playing Field (Exeter Panthers, Pinhoe Spartans); Tedburn St Marys Recreation Ground (West Exe Exiles). There is a risk that some of this availability will be lost as a result of housing growth and increased demand

local to these sites. For this reason, the number of additional youth football pitches estimated as required by 2026 within the City allows for this displaced use.

Exeter Youth Rugby has secured a lease on the Oil Lane site in East Devon so there is no risk of loss of availability of this out-of-City site. Loss of access to the Cranbrook 3G (also in East Devon) would have minimal impact on the club as this pitch is not World Rugby compliant (use by the club is limited to non-contact drills).

Since January 2017, Exeter City Ladies Football Club have played home fixtures and train on the newly developed 3G pitch in Clyst St Mary at Exeter City FC's Cliff Hill Training Ground. In consultation with Exeter City FITC, the Ladies Club will continue to be accommodated either on this pitch or at the Warren Hill Sports Ground in Exmouth where Exeter City have been selected by East Devon District Council as preferred bidder for a 125yr lease on this 4 hectare playing field site.

Topsham Rugby Club uses an AGP on the Naval Base at Lymptone Marine on occasions for training. As detailed above, while access to this out-of-City pitch helps to minimise overplay on the club's Bonfire Field, there are likely to be alternative and rugby compliant pitches that the club will be able to access in future within the City, ideally at the Topsham Sports Ground should the University proceed with its proposals for a 3G on this site or, alternatively at Exwick Sports Hub.

**What if new pitches are provided on a specific site or sites?**

On completion of the Environment Agency's flood defence works, reinstatement of the Bromham Farm site with pitches for youth football and possibly community cricket, plus reinstatement of a u9 football pitch at Exwick will help to address the estimated demand for additional pitches for these sports to 2026.

Subject to appropriate design and management, with input to the specification and management proposals from Sport England and Devon County FA, new pitch provision planned in the Newcourt area to the north of Topsham will also make some contribution to meeting the identified need for football. Prior to occupation of 450 new homes being developed on this site, the developers are required to provide one adult football pitch, one youth football pitch and changing (or a contribution to accessible off-site changing).

However, it is the committed provision of the new 3G AGP at Exwick (re-designating grass pitch space) and the new 3G AGP in SW Exeter (new provision on a new community school site) that will have the most significant impact on meeting the identified needs for more secured supply for football (particularly for club team training midweek on 3G).

Two further other new football pitch projects have been identified at sites outside the City boundary in East Devon - at Tithebarn Green/Mosshayne and Old Park Farm (East Devon). However, the East Devon Playing Pitch Strategy has established that these pitches are required to meet locally generated demand and therefore this new supply will not contribute to meeting the playing pitch needs of the City.

Lastly, it is unusual for a City the size of Exeter not to have a commercial 5/6 a side soccer centre such as Goals or Powerleague. No current proposals have been submitted for specific sites. However, should a centre be developed in the City in the strategy period, this may impact in a modest way on the need for further full size football 3G AGPs by the end of the strategy period (i.e. in addition to the two committed 3G AGP projects at Exwick Sports Hub and the new secondary school within the Alphington Spur development). However, cost of hire in the peak evening period could prohibit use for training by community clubs, particularly for youth football.

**What if there is a reduction in the maintenance budget for some sites?**

In Exeter City in common with all local authority areas, over the period of the strategy, there will be increased pressure on discretionary service budgets including parks maintenance.

The high water table presents drainage challenges at a number of playing field sites close to the river Exe. Informal and unauthorised formal use causes overplay of formal pitches at some open access sites resulting in worn goalmouths and poor grass cover. Vandalism, littering and dog mess are also issues that require active management at most of the City's open access playing pitch sites.

In this context, any reduction in maintenance budgets for either in-house or contractor maintenance of sports pitches and pavilions on Council owned sites will require more maintenance tasks to be

undertaken by trained club volunteers simply to uphold a standard rating of pitch maintenance and playing capacity. To work effectively, any further transfer of maintenance responsibilities will necessitate additional resource from the sports bodies for training more volunteers in grounds maintenance skills and, in the case of football, a bank of specialist equipment and vehicles that clubs can utilize on loan from the FA.

A strategy that focuses formal playing pitch activity on sustainable hub playing field sites with 3G pitches in accessible locations across the City will, over time, facilitate re-designation of single pitches in parks, playing fields and open spaces to informal sport/recreation use. This approach should also help to sustain standards of parks maintenance with the available budget.

**What if further sports development initiatives or new / new forms of playing pitch sports are introduced?**

Over the period of the strategy national policy is likely to continue to focus on providing appropriate low cost opportunities for the inactive to get active under the 'Active Nation' agenda. This physical activity policy focus will be reflected in the investment programmes of Sport England such as the current *Get Active* programme in Exeter City.

For the main playing pitch sports, initiatives over the strategy period will continue to target inactive people by focusing on opportunities for informal, less physically demanding versions of these sports (e.g. walking football, adult touch/tag rugby, tapeball/street cricket).

Smaller playing pitch sports already played in parks and playing fields in Exeter are also likely to continue to grow in popularity - e.g. softball, ultimate frisbee, rounders, volleyball - with the large student population in the City the main driver of demand, along with workplace activity initiatives and promotions of Active Devon and partners.

To accommodate this growth without increasing overplay of licenced grass pitches on community sites will require a combination of free-to-access maintained grass areas in public parks and open spaces, and 3G pitches offering affordable access for minor sports and informal versions the main pitch sports.

The main site opportunity identified in consultation to create an open public hub site for informal sports is at Grace Road when this playing field is reinstated by The Environment Agency on completion of flood defence works.

Exeter College's provision of a 3G pitch from autumn 2017 at Exwick - and potentially a second 3G and upgraded pavilion on the adjacent Flower Pot Field in partnership with the City Council - presents an opportunity to further develop the Exwick Sports Hub as a centre for informal sport (where the focus of demand is greatest in the summer months) complementing the programme of formal pitch sport (rugby and football) played mainly in the winter months.

**What if there is a significant increase in demand in a specific part of the study area?**

There are three main areas of the City where there this is expected to be a significant increase in demand to 2026 as a result of planned new housing.

- **South West Exeter/Teignbridge** - In this growth area it will be important to ensure through the strategy that the planned new school AGP in this location is built to FA registration standard as a full size floodlit 3G FTP and has a management agreement in place to secure affordable access to Exeter based community football clubs in peak hours.
- **Newcourt** - Future provision of two new grass football pitches (one adult and one youth) plus a contribution to off-site changing has been secured through the planning process to address additional demand resulting from housing growth in this area in the south east of the City. A detailed pitch layout design and management plan will be required with input from the Devon County Football Association and Sport England to ensure this new provision is effective in meeting community demand for football. Management and programming of these pitches in partnership with Topsham FC located at Coronation Field close by is likely to offer the best opportunity to maximise the community use of these pitches.

- **North east Exeter / Pinhoe** - There is an undersupply of public greenspace including playing pitch provision in this part of the City. As such, Pinhoe Station Road Playing Field is an extremely valuable greenspace and should be a priority for enhancement over the strategy period.

#### **What if one of the FA's 3G Pitch ('FTP') Model Scenarios is adopted in Exeter City?**

During the last decade 3G FTPs have played an increasing role within the national game. They are regarded by the Football Association (FA) as the optimum facility for training by clubs. In recent seasons they have also become more popular for competitive matches. With this in mind, before developing the recommendations and action plan, two model scenarios have been looked at to help with understanding what demand there may be for full size<sup>2</sup> floodlit 3G FTPs in Exeter if increased amounts of play were to take place on them.

In order to do so, information from the Football Assessment of Need (Addendum Chapter 3), alongside details from the FA, have been used to help answer the following questions:

*How many full size floodlit 3G FTPs may be required to meet demand within Exeter **if**:*

- i. *All teams playing competitive football had access to a full size floodlit 3G FTP to train on once a week?*
- ii. *All matches for teams currently playing competitive football on Exeter City Council managed natural grass pitches were played on full size floodlit 3G FTPs?*

The answers to these questions are set out below and are based on full sized floodlit 3G FTPs which have full community use during peak periods<sup>3</sup>. However, the results should be viewed as providing no more than an indication of the 'full size pitch equivalents' that may be demanded should this model approach be followed in Exeter. In practice, Exeter is unique with a relatively small urban centre surrounded by semi-rural areas and a much greater provision of sand-based AGPs than is typical. Also, as in all areas, actual demand by clubs and teams is influenced mainly by cost factors and many teams will continue to train for free in parks when evening light allows and on sand based pitches if these charge lower hire fees than a 3G equivalent.

#### Scenario Results

- i. *If all teams playing competitive football had access to a full size floodlit 3G FTP to train on once a week.*
  - As a guide the FA suggest that 1 full size floodlit 3G FTP could potentially accommodate this training demand from 42 teams (Ratio of 1:42<sup>4</sup>).
  - The information from the Assessment stage indicates that there are 175 teams playing competitive football in Exeter.
  - **Using the FA's 1:42 ratio suggests that 4.2 full size floodlit 3G FTPs would be required to meet 100% of team football training on 3G within Exeter.**
- ii. *If all matches for teams playing competitive football on ECC managed natural grass pitches were played on full size floodlit 3G FTPs.*
  - The FA is keen to work with Local Authorities to understand the potential demand for full size floodlit 3G FTPs should all competitive matches, currently played on Local Authority managed natural grass pitches, be transferred to one.

<sup>2</sup> A full size 3G FTP measuring 106m x 70m including run off/safety margins.

<sup>3</sup> Weekdays 17:00 - 21:00 (or 19:00 on Fridays) and 09:00 - 17:00 on weekends.

<sup>4</sup> The FA developed the training ratio following their facilities strategy vision to provide all affiliated clubs with access to a 3G FTP for training. An original ratio of 1:56 was based on a full size pitch providing 56 slots per week (Mon-Thurs 6-9pm, Fri 6-8pm). The ratio was subsequently revised to 1:42. This was due to evidence of a number of local authority areas reaching the perceived required number of 3G FTP facilities based on the 1:56 ratio yet still evidencing latent demand. Further FA analysis of 3G FTP facility usage also showed that many affiliated teams seek more than one slot for training and that significant amounts of non FA affiliated and recreational demand also use 3G FTPs during the peak time, creating a need for further 3G FTP provision.

- **Transferring all matches for teams currently playing competitive football on ECC managed natural grass pitches may equate to a demand for 11 full size floodlit 3G FTPs with Saturday the peak time.**

Given the limited regular availability of the University 3G pitches (a full size 3G and a 5v5 3G MUGA) to community club teams in the peak hours, the small number of small-sided 3G pitches with regular community use (i.e. just one 3G MUGA at Heavitree Sports & Social Club) and the lack of capacity and/or access for Exeter-based clubs to 3G supply just outside the City (i.e. at Exeter City's Cliff Hill Training Ground and the 3G at Cranbrook Community Campus managed by Exeter City FITC), **a minimum of 3 additional full size 3G pitches (or their equivalent in small-sided 3G pitches) would be required in Exeter or close to the City boundary in order to satisfy the training demands of all 175 teams on 3G (i.e. the FA's first model scenario).**

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## 4. Recommendations

### 4.1 Introduction

The recommendations of this Playing Pitch Strategy for Exeter are made in the context of the City Council's Core Strategy to 2026 (adopted in 2012) the Exeter Infrastructure Delivery Plan to 2026 (Dec 2011) and the City Council's Corporate Plan 2015/16. In particular, the recommendations are made towards achievement of the Exeter City vision - led by a partnership of public and private sector organisations including local media and large employers - to make 'Exeter the most active City in the South West by 2018'.

The recommendations are also informed by The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Paragraph 74. The NPPF stipulates that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

National policy is amplified by both regional and local policy which recognises that sports and recreation facilities are important parts of social infrastructure, providing a range of social and health benefits for communities and neighbourhoods.

Local planning policies are contained in the Council's Core Strategy (adopted in 2012). Chapter 9 contains the policies with regard to meeting community needs including the provision of leisure and community facilities. Core Strategy Objectives 4, 6 and 7 are of particular relevance to playing pitches:

**Objective 4: Provide and enhance retail, cultural and tourist facilities**

**Objective 6: Meet community needs**

**Objective 7: Promote development that contributes to a healthy population**

The overarching policy for community provision is CP10:

**CP10: Facilities that meet Exeter's community, social, health, welfare, education, spiritual, cultural, leisure and recreation needs will be protected. New and improved community facilities and utilities infrastructure must be provided in a timely manner to meet the needs of new development, make a positive contribution towards safeguarding and creating sustainable communities, promote social inclusion and reduce deprivation.**

**Facilities which serve the city as a whole should be located in the City Centre or, if this is not feasible, at sustainable locations which are readily accessible by all modes of travel, particularly public transport.**

**Facilities which serve neighbourhood needs should, wherever possible, be located within or close to district or local centres or at locations easily accessible to the local community, particularly by foot or bicycle.**

**Partnership working, direct implementation and contributions secured through Policy CP18 (Developer Contributions) will help to meet community needs including: raising skills, tackling inequalities in health, social care, housing and education, and providing and improving social, cultural, sporting, leisure and recreational facilities.**

### 4.2 Protect, Enhance and Provide

In this existing policy context for provision of playing pitch facilities in Exeter, this Playing Pitch Strategy makes the following recommendations for provision of playing pitches to 2026. The recommendations are set out below under three headings - *Protect*, *Enhance* and *Provide* - in no priority order.

## Protect

- Exeter City Council has assessed existing and future needs for playing pitch provision across the City as part of the process of producing the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS)(see Addendum). The firm conclusion is that there is an identified need to retain all existing playing pitches - whether currently in use or not - to meet either current or future needs for these sports to 2026. Therefore in the case of all playing field sites in the City, it is recommended that NPPF Policy Paragraph 74 and policy CP10 of the Exeter Core Strategy 2012 continue to be applied. In this context the ERADE (Exeter Royal Academy for Deaf Education) School's playing field has been identified in consultation as at risk because it is no longer in use and the school is in the process of relocating outside the City. Should a playing field/pitch exist in Exeter City that is not mentioned in this Playing Pitch Strategy, its omission is not an endorsement by Sport England or the relevant national governing body of that sport, of its disposal.
- Playing pitches on three further sites close to the River Exe - Exwick Playing Field, Bromhams Farm Playing Field and Grace Road Playing Field - are temporarily closed pending completion of flood defence works and reinstatement by The Environment Agency (EA). On completion of these works, it is recommended that:
  - At Exwick Playing Field, the youth football pitch be reinstated to a 'good' standard (with FA input to the specification) and that community use of this pitch is reinstated under the management of the Exeter Sports Hub Management Board.
  - At Bromhams Farm, a specification, costings and funding strategy be agreed between the City Council and the EA (with inputs from Sport England and the Devon County Football Association) for reinstatement of the former adult football pitches as youth football pitches to 'good' standard and upgrading the existing pavilion building as required to meet the needs of youth football (i.e. WCs, storage). Options for community club management of the site (e.g. through lease to a suitable charter standard youth football club) should also be explored as part of the feasibility assessment.
  - At Grace Road Playing Field, it is recommended that the EA reinstate for community use as open, playing fields to a 'good' standard and the City Council promote this site as a hub for free to access informal sports/recreation use (as opposed to formal sports pitches under the Council's licensing scheme).
- It is recommended that the City Council and the pitch sport NGBs actively support local community sports clubs across the education sector - university, college and schools to secure/re-secure access to sports facilities in the peak weekend period (particularly youth football and mini-soccer pitches and ancillary facilities on Saturdays) - for example through negotiated community use/management agreements, grant terms and conditions and the development planning process. Access has been lost to several school sites in recent seasons (e.g Willowbrook, Ladysmith). With regard to the PFI secondary schools, options should be explored to address the staffing and cost barriers to extending access to the AGPs on Sundays for junior hockey club development activities and to grass youth football pitches on Saturdays for match play.
- At those Council owned playing field sites with formal licensed pitches and pavilions, it is recommended that opportunities for asset transfer to community clubs/sports associations or education providers (similar to those arrangement in place at Exwick/Flower Pot, Hamlin Lane, Cowick Barton, Exhibition Fields and The Chronicles sites) should continue to be considered provided that:
  - i) The facilities are assessed as of good quality by the relevant governing bodies of sport prior to transfer;
  - ii) The organisation is able to demonstrate it has the capacity and resources to maintain the facilities to a good standard, meeting NGB league requirements and to deliver sports development outcomes (and this forms part of any service level agreement) and
  - iii) Opportunities for informal play (either on the subject site or on another site in the same catchment area) are fully safeguarded.
- As there is no surplus of playing pitches in the City, it is recommended that no reduction in the number of grass pitches maintained, marked and equipped for hire to community football teams on park and recreation ground sites take place unless teams hiring the pitches in question are first successfully migrated to another playing pitch site of at least equivalent quality in the same

catchment area (i.e. new provision of either grass or FA Register 3G pitches) at a cost of hire equivalent to similar facilities in the local area. Where such a relocation of match play takes place, it is recommended the grass continue to be maintained to a level that encourages continued informal play for football and other playing pitch sports.

- At those AGPs in the City with a playing surface endorsed by England Hockey as suitable for competition and training, it is recommended the City Council use its influence with providers, including Devon County Council and the schools PFI provider to protect this existing hockey compliant AGP stock from change in surface to 3G.
- It is recommended the City Council continues to make sufficient budgetary provision to allow for effective playing pitch maintenance in recognition of the contribution of playing pitches to its strategic objective for a healthy population and towards achievement of the Exeter City vision to make Exeter the most active city in the South West.
- It is recommended that every three years, the City Council carry out a review of its policies and procedures for the issue of licences for hire and use of public pitches to ensure that these align with community demand in relation to age groups, pitch sizes, times of matches etc. and encourage use to their playing capacity.
- A review of the lease arrangements for the Saracens RFC clubhouse at Exhibition Fields and the options for asset transfer of rugby pitches is recommended to support the club's long term opportunities and provide the club with sufficient length of security of tenure to be eligible to apply for grants to upgrade the facilities when required. This measure would only be possible once a master plan for the sports village proposal within the Sports Facilities Strategy is established, as there is scope for this proposal to impact upon the current rugby pitch provision at Exhibition Fields.

### Enhance

- It is recommended the Council in partnership with Devon County Council and England Hockey ensure that resurfacing of the sand based AGPs on the four PFI school sites takes place where these works remain to be done under the PFI contract specification. The contractor should be encouraged to carry out the required resurfacing works during the summer months and incrementally (i.e. worst condition first - St Peter's, in consultation with England Hockey, the FA and key clubs) so as to minimise disruption to the community programmes.
- It is recommended the Council works in partnership with Exeter College, Sport England, NGBs and local clubs and sports groups to ensure that the quality of the playing field sites and facilities at Exwick it leases to the College continue to be enhanced and access to community clubs and sports groups in the evenings and at weekends is fully secured. This security of access should extend to new/replacement playing pitch facilities including the new AGP and replacement cricket pitch currently in development and to any future enhancement projects.
- It is recommended that the City Council develop proposals to reconfigure and enhance the playing pitches and changing facilities at Pinhoe Station Road Playing Field as part of wider development plans for community facilities in this part of the City.
- It is recommended that the City Council reconfigure and enhance the playing pitches and changing facilities at Wonford Playing Field as part of delivering a wider development plan for Wonford (including the leisure centre) - £280k approx. S106 contributions secured towards this aim. *It should be noted however, that this recommendation would be supplanted by the more ambitious proposals for Wonford SC in the Sports Facilities Strategy, if they are adopted.*
- The strategic support of the City Council and key partners is recommended to Alphington Sports and Social Club (ASSC) in this organisation's aspirations to enhance the sports pavilion on the Alphington Chronicles Playing Field held by the club on a long lease.
- It is recommended that the feasibility should be assessed of either upgrading or replacing the pavilion at the Cowick Barton Playing Fields to provide for adult team/official changing and secure equipment storage for youth football in recognition of the value of this site as a hub for playing pitch sports and outdoor active recreation in the City.
- Strategic support of the City Council and key partners is recommended to Topsham RFC and Saracens RFC in these clubs' aspirations to secure additional training lights at Topsham Bonfire Field and the Council's Exhibition Fields respectively.

- It is recommended the Council Parks Service review its pitch maintenance regime at least once every three years with the Devon County FA, ECB and their respective pitch advisers to secure maximum value and ensure the budget is employed as effectively as possible to meet the specific requirements of these sports towards achievement of the pitch quality standards set out at 4.3 below. In addition, it is recommended that the Council seek the advice of these bodies whenever new grass pitch maintenance contracts are let or new S106 Agreements for playing pitches are prepared to ensure that they meet the relevant Performance Quality Standard (PQS) and that an appropriate performance quality assurance and monitoring regime is in place.
- It is recommended that pitch maintenance by community club volunteers should be supported through the provision and promotion of low cost training courses in partnership with the sports governing bodies and by investigating the feasibility and potential sources of funding for establishing a grounds maintenance equipment loan bank at a suitable, accessible site in the City.
- Where feasible it is recommended the City Council Parks Service and community clubs consider more use of moveable football goal post systems in public parks to take pressure off goalmouths, and periodic realignment of pitch layouts on multi pitch sites to reduce wear.
- In accordance with Policy CP18 of the Core Strategy (2012), it is recommended contributions towards the delivery of priority playing pitch facility projects in an up-to-date Infrastructure Delivery Plan continue to be sought under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 from all qualifying developments. Through this mechanism, appropriate contributions should also continue to be sought for ongoing maintenance. The priority playing pitch projects are those set out in the Action Plan of the Council's adopted Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) current at the time the planning application is submitted. The site to receive the contribution will be located within the walk to catchment area of the development site (i.e. one mile approx.) or, if no such site exists, to the next closest priority site in the PPS Action Plan.

#### **Provide**

- It is recommended the City Council and its sports agency partners continue to influence the design and specification of new or replacement playing fields and pitch facilities on new development sites and education sites in the City or on the City fringe (for example through the planning process) to ensure their suitability and sustainability for community use, securing formal Community Use/Management Agreements at each site to meet current and future demand. Specifically, it is recommended that the planned new AGP for school and community use in the SW Exeter/Teignbridge housing growth area should be a full size floodlit FA registered 3G FTP. It is also recommended that a detailed design layout, specification and management plan is developed for the new football pitches to be provided in the Newcourt housing growth area in close liaison with Sport England and Devon County FA.
- As a condition of future planning consents for new or replacement artificial grass pitches to be used predominantly for football, it is recommended the City Council ensure that these facilities are FA tested to the British Standard for Synthetic Turf Sports Surfaces (BS EN 15330-1) and are registered and maintained to the necessary standard for inclusion on the FA 3G Football Turf Pitch Register. Similarly, through use of the planning development control system, the City Council will ensure any artificial grass pitch development in the City for contact rugby is registered and maintained to the necessary standard for inclusion on the RFU register of IRB / World Rugby compliant 3G pitches.
- It is recommended that Exeter University's proposals (at feasibility stage) to convert one grass pitch at its Topsham Sports Ground to an FA/World Rugby compliant floodlit 3G AGP should be supported provided that regular access for community rugby and football teams is secured (including Topsham RFC in particular in view of the over-play of its pitches at Bonfire Field located adjacent to the Sports Ground). The potential to secure this access through a strategic investment partnership between the University and the RFU should continue to be explored.
- It is recommended that the feasibility of current proposals by Topsham FC to increase playing capacity at Coronation Field for community football initially through the additional of floodlights (subject to planning) is established. In the medium term the strategic need and business case for conversion of this pitch to 3G should be established taking into account the impact on demand from community football clubs for training slots of the new 3G pitch under construction at Exwick, the new school 3G to be provided in the next 2-3 years at SW Exeter/Teignbridge and any other new

3G pitches delivered in this period (e.g. either of the current outline 3G project proposals by the University at Topsham Sports Ground and by the College at Flower Pot Playing Field).

- It is recommended that the Council work with the ECB and the County Cricket Board to establish the optimum site in the City to establish a community cricket hub site with a minimum of two NTPs and shared pavilion facilities. In consultation, the following sites Bromhams Farm, King George V Playing Field, Bettysmead and Cowick Barton have been identified as potential options for feasibility assessment.

### 4.3 Pitch Quality Standards

Pitch carrying capacity has a direct relationship with pitch quality scores. Improved quality directly affects pitch carrying capacity. Investment in quality enhancements to pitches at existing playing pitch sites with secure community access is, usually, more cost effective than investment in new provision. For example, raising the quality of a football pitch from 'Standard' to 'Good' would enable an additional game per week to be accommodated.

Sites are identified in the Action Plan below where raising the pitch standard to the 'good' standard described below would have a significant impact on overall capacity. Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy contributions in combination with contributions towards new provision and external grants are the means of funding the necessary improvement works to ensure there is sufficient capacity in future to meet demand generated by new homes and population growth in the City.

#### Quality Standards for Playing Pitches

Cricket: Future standard – Good (i.e. an aggregate rating of 80% or more against ECB Non-Technical Visual Quality Assessment proforma criteria and scoring mechanism for the outfield, grass wickets, changing pavilion, artificial wickets and non-turf cricket practice nets as applicable to the site)

Football: Future Standard – Good (i.e. an aggregate rating of 80% or more against FA Non-Technical Visual Quality Assessment proforma criteria and scoring mechanism for the assessment criteria and aggregate rating scores for the playing surface and maintenance programme)

Rugby Union: Future Standard – Good (M2) rating (i.e. no action needed on maintenance) and D3 rating (i.e. no action needed on pitch drainage).

AGPs: Future Standard - Good (80% or more against Sport England Non-Technical Visual Quality Assessment proforma criteria and scoring mechanism for the playing surface age, condition, markings, fencing, security, goals and posts and ancillary facilities).

## 5. Action Plan and Summary Site Profiles

### 5.1 Introduction

Aligning with the strategic policies and recommendation in Section 4, this final section of the Playing Pitch Strategy sets out an action plan for delivering the new provision and facility enhancement needs identified in the sport-specific assessments of need reports in the Addendum - i.e. for cricket, football, hockey, rugby union, and for other minor playing pitch sports.

The recommended sites and projects for action in the short term (1-2 years) are identified at 5.2. The sites and projects are not listed in any priority order but are all identified as meeting the following criteria for prioritisation, or having strong potential to do so with appropriate investment in enhancements:

- Strategic location (accessibility)
- Capacity (e.g. multi-pitch, existing or potential good quality rating)
- Security of access (e.g. long lease, grant conditions, community use/management agreement)
- On-site ancillary facilities with management / supervision
- Potential for delivering sports development outcomes that align with City Council, Sport England, Active Devon and NGB strategic aims.

The NGB priority projects for facility enhancements or new provision for their respective sports are identified in the Action column.

Site profiles of all playing pitch sites in the City are at 5.3. These site profiles include recommendations for action in the longer term (3+ years) in addition to the short term priorities to enhance pitch sites identified in the table at 5.2.

### 5.2 Priority Projects & Review Process

In accordance with the published guidance for the preparation of playing pitch strategies, it is recommended the City Council convene and chair an annual meeting of the Playing Pitch Strategy Steering Group to review progress against this Action Plan and update the prioritisation of projects to reflect material changes in the picture of supply and demand and changing scenarios for playing pitches during the preceding 12 months.

Annual updates to the priorities in the Action Plan should inform periodic updates of the City Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan and Sport England/NGB priorities for investment through capital grant and loan programmes.

Where capital budget sums are shown, these are indicative estimates derived from Sport England Facility Cost Guidance Sheet (Second Quarter 2017).

Where sites are not in City Council ownership or leased to third parties, implementation of the recommended actions will be subject to the cooperation of the owner/leaseholder. In addition, the actions will be subject to the necessary planning processes and to securing of the required funding, both for the initial capital development and ongoing cost of maintenance.

| Site   | Sport(s)  | Project / Action  | Lead           | Partners   | Resource needs   | Timescale  |
|--|---|---|----------------|--|--|------------|
| <b>Exwick Sports Hub</b><br><br>(Exwick Playing Field & former Civil Service Sports Ground combined) | Cricket<br>Football<br>Rugby Union<br>Ultimate<br>Tag Rugby<br>Touch<br>Rugby | Complete re-provision of cricket pitch to 'good' quality for use by Exwick CC from 2019<br><b>An ECB Priority (key club)</b>  | Exeter College | ECB<br>Exwick CC - partner club  | Capital secured (College)  | Short Term |
|  |   | Complete FA registered 3G FTP for use by Exwick Villa FC, Alphington Youth FC, Exeter City FITC (with World Rugby compliant rugby training shockpad for use for Devon Player Pathway squads) and other sports on Sundays<br><b>An FA Priority (IMD area, 3G training model)</b> | Exeter College | FA<br>Exeter City FITC<br>Partner clubs (Exwick Villa FC & Alphington YFC)<br>UK Ultimate - partner clubs<br>Exeter Tag<br>Exeter Touch<br>RFU | Capital secured (College)  |            |
|  |   | Liaise with EA on specification for reinstatement of youth football pitch<br><b>An FA Priority (shortage of youth pitches)</b>  | Exeter College | ECC<br>Sport England<br>FA   | Capital secured (EA contracted to reinstate)                             |            |
| <b>St Peter's School</b>   | Hockey  | Ensure contractor commitment to full resurfacing of sand based playing surface and upgraded equipment in accordance with PFI contract. (NB. West Exe actioned in 2016)<br><b>The EH Priority</b>  | Devon CC       | Exeter CC<br>EH<br>User hockey clubs   | £200k approx.  | Short Term |
| <b>New Secondary School</b> (SW Exeter / Teignbridge housing site)                                   | Football  | Secure specification as FA registered 3G FTP as a minimum and a Community Use Agreement<br><b>An FA Priority (3G training model)</b>  | Devon CC       | Exeter CC<br>Teignbridge BC<br>FA<br>Exeter City FITC<br>Clubs in Alphington area  | Capital secured (Developer) - possible contribution for upgrade to spec. | Short Term |
| <b>Wonford Playing Fields</b>  | Football  | Reconfigure and enhance pitches and pavilion facilities as part of delivering a wider development plan for Wonford area including the leisure centre<br><b>An FA Priority (IMD area)</b>  | ECC            | FA<br>Exeter City FITC   | £280k approx. capital secured (S106 funds)                               | Short Term |
| <b>The Chronicles at Alphington</b>  | Cricket<br>Football   | Upgrade pavilion - showers and WCs<br><b>An FA Priority (key club)</b>  | Club (ASSC)    | ECC<br>FA  | To be established  | Short Term |
| <b>Bromhams Farm Playing Field</b>   | Cricket<br>Football   | Assess the suitability of this site (with others identified) and select optimum site for development as City hub for community cricket<br><b>An ECB Priority (growth)</b>   | ECB            | ECC<br>Environment Agency  | £25k approx. for feasibility (four site options)                         | Short Term |
|  |   | Assess the suitability of site for youth football, potentially with management by a youth football club<br><b>An FA Priority (shortage of youth pitches)</b>  | FA             |  | £2k approx. study with IoG Pitch Adviser<br>Officer time                 | Short Term |
|  |   | Liaise with EA on specification in contract for reinstatement of pitches and pavilion facilities  | ECC            |  | £5k approx pitch/pavilion surveys  | Short Term |
| <b>Grace Road Playing Field</b>  | Informal recreation   | Liaise with EA on specification in contract for reinstatement   | ECC            | Environment Agency   | Officer time   | Short Term |

|                                    |                                    |  |      |                         |   |            |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|------|-------------------------|---|------------|
|                                    |                                    | and establish and promote site for informal/ unlicensed sport/ recreation  |      |                         |   |            |
| <b>Cowick Barton Playing Field</b> | Cricket<br>Football                | Assess the suitability of this site (with others identified) and select optimum site for development as City hub for community cricket<br><b>ECB (as above)</b>  | ECB  | ECC                     | Feasibility costs (as above)                      | Short Term |
|                                    |                                    | Commission feasibility study to consider options to either upgrade or replace the pavilion to provide for adult team/ official changing and secure equipment storage for youth football  | ECC  | FA<br>ECB               | £5k approx. study costs                           | Short Term |
| <b>King George V Playing Field</b> | Cricket<br>Football                | Assess the suitability of this site (with others identified) and select optimum site for development as City hub for community cricket and any associated pavilion enhancement needs for shared use with football<br><b>ECB (as above)</b> | ECB  | ECC<br>FA<br>Central FC | Feasibility costs (as above)                      | Short Term |
| <b>Bettysmead Playing Field</b>    | Cricket<br>Football                | Assess the suitability of this site (with others identified) and select optimum site for development as City hub for community cricket<br><b>ECB (as above)</b>  | ECB  | ECC                     | Feasibility costs (as above)                      | Short Term |
| <b>Exhibition Fields</b>           | Rugby Union                        | Explore option of asset transfer of rugby pitches and longer lease on clubhouse to Exeter Saracens RFC to support the club's long term opportunities.  | ECC  | Saracens RFC<br>RFU     | Officer time                                      | Short Term |
|                                    |                                    | Assess planning and provide additional training lights<br><b>An RFU priority (key club)</b>  |      |                         | £20k approx                                       | Short Term |
| <b>Bonfire Field</b>               | Rugby Union                        | Assess planning and provide additional training lights<br><b>An RFU priority (key club)</b>  | Club | RFU<br>ECC - planning   | £20k approx                                       | Short Term |
| <b>Coronation Field</b>            | Football                           | Seek planning consent for floodlights to stadium pitch<br><b>An FA Priority (key club)</b>   | Club | FA                      | £75k approx                                       | Short Term |
| <b>Newcourt - new site</b>         | Football                           | Secure optimum design specification and management plan from developers for new pitches and pavilion contribution secured through planning consent   | ECC  | FA<br>Sport England     | Officer time                                      | Short Term |
| <b>Topsham Sports Ground</b>       | Cricket<br>Football<br>Rugby Union | Complete feasibility assessment of conversion of one grass pitch to World Rugby specified 3G AGP for University and community club use<br><b>An RFU Priority (strategic - Topsham RFC and other key clubs in neighbour LAs)</b>            | Uni  | RFU<br>Topsham RFC      | Feasibility costs secured (University)<br>£1.245m | Short Term |
|                                    |                                    | Secure access to University Cricket Pitch at weekends for Exeter CC (and potentially   |      | ECB<br>Exeter CC        | Officer time                                      | Short Term |

|                               |                                   |   |     |  |              |            |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|-----|--|--------------|------------|
|                               |                                   | Countess Wear CC if displaced from Winslade Park ground)  |     |  |              |            |
| <b>University Sports Park</b> | Hockey<br>Football<br>Rugby Union | Seek to secure security of access to hockey AGPs for Isca HC  | EH  | Exeter University<br>Isca HC                   | Officer time | Short Term |
|                               |                                   | Seek to secure additional community hours of access to 3G AGP and MUGA for youth football training, and holiday activities including minor sports | ECC | FA<br>Exeter City FITC<br>Youth Football Clubs | Officer time | Short Term |

### 5.3 Summary Site Profiles with Recommended Actions - All Sites

This final section of the Exeter Playing Pitch Strategy comprises summary profiles of each site (cross referenced to the Map of Playing Pitch Sites at section 2.2).

The summary profiles for the sites with grass playing pitches are presented first, followed by the AGP sites.

Summary data on the facilities provided, their quality and use is taken from the Assessment of Need reports for each playing pitch sport which form appendices to this strategy and are based on site visits and survey research carried out on behalf of the City Council in 2014 and updated in 2016.

**GRASS PLAYING PITCH SITES**

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Site Name: | <b>Alphington Primary School</b> (referenced 1G) |
|------------|--|



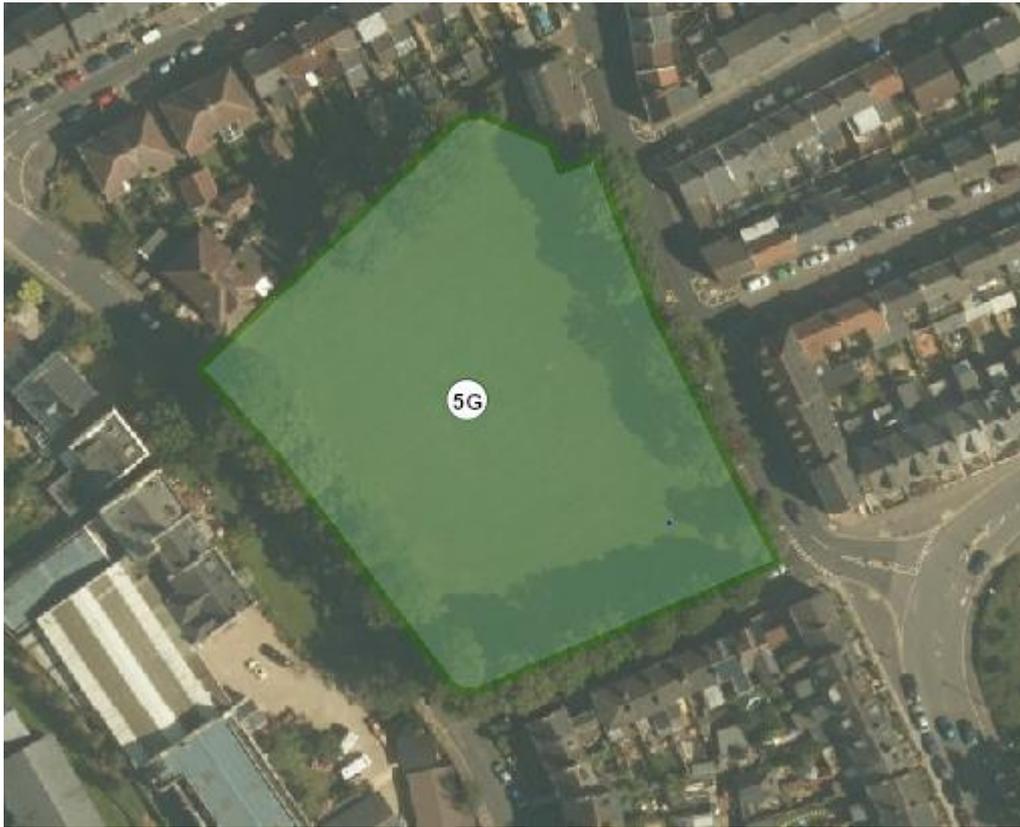
| Pitch sports played on this site:  |          | Football  |   |                         |
|--|----------|---|---|-------------------------|
| Pitches on this site – quality ( <i>Primary School's not assessed</i> ): |          | ○ 1 x 7v7 Football Pitch (also used by school as 5v5) |   |                         |
| Clubs on this site:  |          | None  |   |                         |
| Major / strategic issues:  |          | Available for community use but not used              |   |                         |
| Minor / Club specific issues:  |          | Cost of hire, pitch quality, access to WCs/water      |   |                         |
| Action Plan  | Sport(s) | Lead  | PROTECT & ENHANCE   | Timescale               |
|  | Football | ECC<br>Alphington FC                                  | Protect for football<br>Assess potential capacity, suitability and any enhancement needs for use as overspill site on Saturdays for local youth teams | Short term<br>Long term |
|  |          |   |   |                         |
|  |          |   |   |                         |

| Site Name:  |                  | <b>Alphington Sports Club, The Chronicles</b> (referenced 2G)  |   |            |
|---|------------------|--|---|------------|
|  |                  |  |   |            |
| Pitch sports played on this site:   |                  | Football, Cricket, plus informal use   |   |            |
| Pitches on this site - quality:   |                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o 1 x Adult Football Pitch - Standard 64%</li> <li>o 1 x 9v9 Football Pitch - Standard 64%</li> <li>o Grass Cricket Pitch and artificial wickets - Good (97%)</li> <li>Pavilion - poor showers and toilets</li> </ul>   |   |            |
| Clubs on this site:   |                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The Chronicles 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 2<sup>nd</sup> XI - Saturday afternoons</li> <li>o The Chronicles Ladies XI, Vets, Youth U18 - Sunday pm</li> <li>The Chronicles U7, U8, U9, U10 - Saturday mornings</li> </ul>   |   |            |
| Major / strategic issues:   |                  | Secured community use - Council own site freehold and lease to Alphington FC. Alphington FC sub let to the cricket club.   |   |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:   |                  | <p>No spare capacity.</p> <p>Alphington FC - 2 pitches are insufficient to host all youth team home matches without the pitch being played at over capacity. Club's junior teams also play at Cowick Barton Playing Fields. Club is looking to expand - seeks access to second full sized pitch to use - no space on site.</p> <p>Alphington CC - the club are growing their youth session, so demands on the ground are likely to increase for 2017 onwards. Cricket cannot expand due to football use.</p> <p>Improved shower and toilet facilities are needed for club.</p> |   |            |
| Action Plan   | Sport(s)         | Lead   | PROTECT & ENHANCE   | Timescale  |
|   | Football/Cricket | ECC  | Protect for football and cricket                          | Short term |
|   |                  | ECC  | Upgrade showers and WCs (support club grant applications) | Short term |
|   |                  |  |   |            |
|   |                  |  |   |            |

| Site Name:  |          | <b>Bettysmead Playing Fields</b> (referenced 3G)  |  |            |
|---|----------|---|--|------------|
|  |          |   |  |            |
| Pitch sports played on this site:   |          | Football, plus informal use   |  |            |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o 1 x adult grass football pitch - Standard 60%</li> <li>o 1 x junior (less than adult size) - Standard 60%</li> <li>o 1 x 9v9 - Standard 60%</li> </ul> Changing facilities - Standard 53%  |  |            |
| Clubs on this site:   |          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Beacon Knights (2 x U14, 1 x U15) – Saturday mornings</li> <li>o Exeter Panthers (1 x U7, 1 x U9, 1 x U10, 2 x U11, 2 x U12) – Saturday mornings</li> </ul>  |  |            |
| Major / strategic issues:   |          | Community use is secured as the site is owned freehold by the City Council and licensed to local clubs to use, currently two youth football clubs. There have been issues in the past regarding pitch quality and drainage – scored 60% in 2014. The quality of the built facilities scored 53% in 2014 – the lowest end of 'standard' quality. |  |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:   |          | Saturday mornings are at or near capacity. This impacts on the development of the Exeter Panthers AFC who disbanded a team after losing the use of a full sized pitch at Broadclyst Pavilions (in East Devon District). There is no room for additional pitches on this site.   |  |            |
| Action Plan   | Sport(s) | Lead  | PROTECT, ENHANCE & PROVIDE   | Timescales |
|   | Football | ECC   | Protect for football   | Short term |
|   | Football | FA  | Review options for pitch sizing / layouts and for priority pavilion upgrade needs with Devon FA and pitch advisors.                        | Short term |
|   | Cricket  | ECB   | Assess the suitability of this site (with others identified) and select optimum site for development as the City hub for community cricket | Short term |
|   |          |   |  |            |
|   |          |   |  |            |

| Site Name:  |                 | Bonfire Field (referenced 4G)   |   |            |
|---|-----------------|---|---|------------|
|  |                 |   |   |            |
| Pitch sports played on this site:   |                 | Cricket, Rugby  |   |            |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1 x grass cricket pitch and artificial wickets – good (84%)</li> <li>○ 2 x senior rugby pitches - standard (M1/D1)</li> <li>○ 1 x mini rugby area</li> <li>○ 4 x en-suite changing rooms</li> <li>○ Clubhouse - good</li> </ul>  |   |            |
| Clubs on this site:   |                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Topsham St James Cricket Club                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Large increase in junior members and children, mainly girls.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Topsham Rugby Football Club                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Adult through to mini teams, 25 children per group</li> <li>Women’s social rugby – 40+ registered in 2016</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |   |            |
| Major / strategic issues:   |                 | Secured for community use as rugby club own freehold and sublet to cricket club.  |   |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:   |                 | Rugby – Very busy on Sunday mornings and pitches played to capacity for matches and training throughout the week in winter. Hire sand AGP off-site (Lypstone in East Devon) in poor weather for non-contact drills training. Need additional training lights to expand training area and allow some rotation of use to relieve wear to pitch.<br>Cricket - No specific issues identified.   |   |            |
| Action Plan   | Sport(s)        | Lead  | PROTECT & PROVIDE                       | Timescales |
|   | Rugby & Cricket | ECC   | Protect for cricket and rugby           | Short term |
|   | Rugby           | Topsham RFC   | Provide training lights to second pitch | Short term |
|   |                 |   |   |            |
|   |                 |   |   |            |

Site Name: **Bramdean School** (referenced 5G)



| Pitch sports played on this site:  |          | Various - by independent school  |                      |            |
|--|----------|--|----------------------|------------|
| Pitches on this site - quality ( <i>Independent School's not assessed</i> ): |          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Junior football (size unknown)</li> </ul> |                      |            |
| Clubs on this site:  |          | None   |                      |            |
| Major / strategic issues:  |          | Not available for community use  |                      |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:  |          | n/a  |                      |            |
| Action Plan  | Sport(s) | Lead   | PROTECT              | Timescales |
|  | Football | ECC  | Protect for football | Short term |
|  |          |  |                      |            |
|  |          |  |                      |            |

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Site Name: | <b>Bromhams Farm Playing Fields</b> (referenced 6G) |
|------------|---|



|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Pitch sports played on this site: | Temporarily closed for flood defence works by The Environment Agency. Football prior to closure.   |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Previously 1 x Youth Pitch; 2 x Adult Pitch (standard), plus informal use</li> <li>Changing rooms (Investment required to bring back into use)</li> </ul>   |
| Clubs on this site:               | None - currently as site closed  |
| Major / strategic issues:         | Site is owned freehold by the City Council. Environment Agency works specification includes for reinstatement of pitches and drainage. Scheduled for completion in 2018. Marked out in the past as 2 adult football pitches and a youth football pitch, the site has capacity for up to 4 football pitches. Last used in 2010/11 season. Pitches experienced drainage problems to be improved as a result of flood relief works. |

Minor / Club specific issues: n/a

| Action Plan | Sport(s)             | Lead | PROTECT & ENHANCE OR PROVIDE   | Timescale  |
|-------------|----------------------|------|--|------------|
|             | Football/ Cricket    | ECC  | Protect for football and cricket   | Short term |
|             | Cricket              | ECB  | Assess the suitability of this site (with others identified) and select optimum site for development as the City hub for community cricket | Short term |
|             | Football             | FA   | Assess the suitability of site for youth football, potentially with management by a youth football club                                    | Short term |
|             | Football             | ECC  | Liaise with EA on specification in contract for reinstatement  | Short term |
|             | Football and Cricket | ECC  | Assess needs for pavilion facilities and provisions made for reinstatement in the EA contract - upgrade existing or replace                | Short term |
|             |                      |      |  |            |

|            |                                    |
|------------|------------------------------------|
| Site Name: | <b>Coaver Club</b> (referenced 7G) |
|------------|------------------------------------|



|                                   |                      |   |                                    |                  |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|---|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Pitch sports played on this site: |                      | Cricket, Volleyball   |                                    |                  |
| Pitches on this site - quality:   |                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Artificial wicket - Good (87%)</li> </ul>  |                                    |                  |
| Clubs on this site:               |                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The Sunset CC</li> <li>o The Geriatrics CC</li> <li>o Devon Outdoor Volleyball League - central venue (May to September)</li> <li>o Other clubs/organisations book the venue on an ad hoc basis for cricket</li> </ul> |                                    |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:         |                      | Secured community use - Devon County Council own freehold of site.  |                                    |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     |                      | None identified   |                                    |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>                | <b>Sport(s)</b>      | <b>Lead</b>   | <b>PROTECT</b>                     | <b>Timescale</b> |
|                                   | Cricket / Volleyball | ECC   | Protect for cricket and volleyball | Short Term       |
|                                   |                      |   |                                    |                  |
|                                   |                      |   |                                    |                  |

Site Name: **Countess Wear Community School** (referenced 8G)



|                                   |   |             |                      |                  |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Pitch sports played on this site: | Various - by school and football with community use |             |                      |                  |
| Pitches on this site - quality:   | o None - school playing field                       |             |                      |                  |
| Clubs on this site:               | o Spitfires FC U11 (Saturday mornings)              |             |                      |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:         | Available for community use and used                |             |                      |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     | None identified                                     |             |                      |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>                | <b>Sport(s)</b>                                     | <b>Lead</b> | <b>PROTECT</b>       | <b>Timescale</b> |
|                                   | Football  | ECC         | Protect for football | Short Term       |
|                                   |   |             |                      |                  |

| Site Name:  |                      | <b>Cowick Barton Playing Fields</b> (referenced 9G)  |  |            |
|---|----------------------|--|--|------------|
|  |                      |  |  |            |
| Pitch sports played on this site:   |                      | Football, Rounders, plus informal use  |  |            |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |                      | 4 adult football pitches - standard (64%)<br>2 youth football pitches (9v9) - standard (64%)<br>Some seasons different configurations to meet needs of clubs<br>Pavilion - poor (46%)  |  |            |
| Clubs on this site:   |                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ West Exe &amp; Alphington Youth teams (Sat am)</li> <li>○ Winchester (Sat pm), Wey Girls teams (Sun pm)</li> <li>○ Exeter Patronum (Quidditch - occasional Sun am)</li> <li>○ Green Gables, Royal Oak, Snooker Club teams (Sun am)</li> <li>○ Devon Rounders (Exeter FITC/ActiveDevon-June to Aug)</li> </ul> |  |            |
| Major / strategic issues:   |                      | Key Council-owned football site with pitches for hire under licence. Site accommodates youth teams displaced from Bromhams Farm by temporary closure for flood defence works.  |  |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:   |                      | Saturday mornings over capacity. Some teams displaced to East Devon since Bromhams closure.  |  |            |
| Action Plan   | Sport(s)             | Lead   | PROTECT & ENHANCE/PROVIDE  | Timescale  |
|   | Football             | ECC  | Protect for football   | Short Term |
|   | Cricket              | ECB  | Assess the suitability of this site (with others identified) and select optimum site for development as the City hub for community cricket   | Short Term |
|   | Football and Cricket | ECC  | Commission feasibility study to consider options to either upgrade or replace the pavilion to provide for adult team/official changing and secure equipment storage for youth football | Short Term |

Site Name: **Exeter Arena Infield** (referenced 10G) Label 10G should be over track infield



|  |                 |             |  |                  |
|--|-----------------|-------------|--|------------------|
| Pitch sports played on this site:  |                 |             | Track infield used for field athletics, adult tag rugby, a summer football school  |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality ( <i>no marked pitch, not assessed</i> ): |                 |             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No marked pitch, space for one adult football (minimum dimensions)</li> </ul>   |                  |
| Clubs on this site:  |                 |             | Athletics, Exeter Community Tag Rugby  |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:  |                 |             | Principal use of track infield for athletics (floodlit). Specification for site management limits football use to one match equivalent session a week so not available as home base for a football club to play and train. Also athletics season overlaps with football which limits availability for league football. |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:  |                 |             | Size of pitch (close to minimum for adult play with run offs)  |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>   | <b>Sport(s)</b> | <b>Lead</b> | <b>PROTECT</b>   | <b>Timescale</b> |
|  | Multi sport     | ECC         | Protect infield for community sports events and festivals and informal pitch sports (e.g. adult tag rugby) when not in use for athletics   | Short Term       |
|  |                 |             |  |                  |

| Site Name:  |  | <b>Exeter College (Exeter Sports Hub)</b> (referenced 11G)  |  |            |
|---|--|---|--|------------|
|  |  |   |  |            |
| Pitch sports played on this site:   |  | Cricket, Football (and Rugby on completion of AGP)  |  |            |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ None currently - new FA Register full size floodlit 3G AGP (with rugby training shockpad) under construction. Previously cricket pitch and adult football pitch both good quality (81%).</li> <li>○ Good quality pavilion (built 2014)</li> </ul>  |  |            |
| Clubs on this site:   |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Exwick Villa FC - secured access to new AGP for home matches and midweek training through Partnership Agreement between ECC and the College.</li> <li>○ Exwick CC - secured access from 2019 to replacement pitch on adjacent Exwick Playing Field (Ref. 15G)</li> <li>○ Exeter College teams</li> <li>○ 2 Ultimate Frisbee clubs</li> </ul> |  |            |
| Major / strategic issues:   |  | With Exwick Playing Field site and Flower Pot Field, this site forms part of a key hub site in City for playing pitch sports in area of relatively high deprivation. Community access secured via 40 year lease from ECC and Partnership Agreement with Exeter College.   |  |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:   |  | Ensuring both facilities are provided to the required specification for the clubs' level of play and securing sufficient programme time at affordable charges.  |  |            |
| Action Plan   | Sport(s)   | Lead  | PROTECT & PROVIDE  | Timescale  |
|   | All  | ECC   | Protect for pitch sports   | Short Term |
|   | Cricket  | Exeter College  | Complete re-provision of cricket pitch to 'good' quality on Exwick Playing Field adjacent for use by Exwick CC from 2019 (see Exwick Playing Field site profile below)   | Short Term |
|   | Football, Rugby training, Minor pitch sports (Ultimate, Touch/TAG Rugby) | Exeter College  | Complete FA registered 3G FTP for use by Exwick Villa FC, Alphington Youth FC, Exeter City FITC (with World Rugby compliant rugby training shockpad for use for Devon Player Pathway squads) and other sports on Sundays | Short Term |

|            |  |   |  |  |
|------------|--|---|--|--|
| Site Name: |  | <b>Exeter College (Glasshouse Lane, Countess Wear)</b> (referenced 12G) |  |  |
|------------|--|---|--|--|



| Pitch sports played on this site: |          |      | No current community use pending sale of part of site - football in recent season. Some years previously, rugby (Saracens RFC prior to move to Exhibition Field) and cricket (100 Club/Countess Wear CC) were played here.  |                                |
|-----------------------------------|----------|------|---|--------------------------------|
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |          |      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Space for 4 adult football pitches (prior to closure, 2 adult pitches were marked on site of standard quality (73% and 63% respectively), supported by a standard quality pavilion (51%) and used by the College and Countess Wear Dynamos FC</li> </ul> |                                |
| Clubs on this site:               |          |      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Countess Wear Dynamos FC</li> </ul>  |                                |
| Major / strategic issues:         |          |      | Planning consent awarded on appeal for housing on part of this site which, if taken up, will reduce provision to 1 adult pitch and a pavilion for community club use in a new location on the site, and a 5 a side mini pitch for informal use. Housing site offered for sale in autumn 2017.   |                                |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     |          |      | Require good quality replacement pitch with capacity for 2-3 games a weekend to accommodate all home matches (four teams - 1st, U16, u13, u11)  |                                |
| Action Plan                       | Sport(s) | Lead | PROTECT & ENHANCE   | Timescale                      |
|                                   | Football | ECC  | Protect for football  | Short Term                     |
|                                   | Football | ECC  | In context of the loss of playing pitch space at this site, ensure that the remaining facilities are provided to a good standard and that access for the Countess Wear Dynamos on Saturdays and Sundays is secured at affordable charges.   | Subject to timing of land sale |
|                                   |          |      |   |                                |

|  |   |  |   |                  |
|--|---|--|---|------------------|
| Site Name:   |   | Exeter School (referenced 13G)   |   |                  |
|  |   |  |   |                  |
| Pitch sports played on this site:  |   | Football, Cricket, Rugby, Hockey, Archery  |   |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:  |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o One youth football pitch (7v7) - <i>not assessed</i></li> <li>o Cricket Pitch (8 wickets) plus a non turf wicket - <i>not assessed</i></li> <li>o Three senior rugby pitches - M1/D0 - <i>not assessed</i></li> <li>o One full size floodlit sand dressed hockey AGP - good 80% (see 3A)</li> <li>o Pavilion -good</li> </ul>   |   |                  |
| Clubs on this site:  |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o ISCA Hockey Club - AGP (see 3A)</li> <li>o Exeter Company of Archers</li> </ul>   |   |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:  |   | Grass pitches and cricket NTP not available for community use except by Exeter Company of Archers. In the outdoor season (April to September), shooting takes place on the school playing field on Tuesday and Friday evenings from 6pm until dusk and on Sunday afternoons from 2-7pm. The club uses the school's cricket pavilion. In the winter the club sessions move indoors to the school's sports hall. |   |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:  |   | Car parking issues in peak hours on occasions  |   |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>   | <b>Sport(s)</b>                           | <b>Lead</b>  | <b>PROTECT</b>  | <b>Timescale</b> |
|  | Hockey, Football, Cricket, Rugby, Archery | ECC  | Protect for pitch sports  | Short Term       |
|  | Cricket                                   | ECB  | Establishing the suitability and potential availability for future community use of the cricket pitch particularly if availability of replacement Exwick Pitch is delayed and/or Countess Wear CC need to find pitch space in the City in future. | Long Term        |
|  |   |  |   |                  |

| Site Name:  |          | <b>Exhibition Fields</b> (referenced 14G) <b>Label 10G should be on track infield</b>   |   |            |
|---|----------|---|---|------------|
|  |          |   |   |            |
| Pitch sports played on this site:   |          | Rugby, plus informal use  |   |            |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2 senior rugby pitches - M0/D1</li> <li>○ 2 mini rugby pitches</li> <li>○ Inter-pitch training area with portable training lights</li> <li>○ Clubhouse</li> <li>○ Saracens RFC</li> </ul>    |   |            |
| Clubs on this site:   |          | Saracens RFC  |   |            |
| Major / strategic issues:   |          | A key site for community rugby in the City. Club lacks sufficient security of tenure on pavilion and car park to be eligible for grant support (leased for 21 years in 2005). Pitches hired under seasonal licence.                   |   |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:   |          | Over play of pitches on site. Pitch drainage issues partially resolved to one pitch and training area only. Club seeks access to a rugby compliant AGP for training (club preference for conversion of disused bowling green on site) |   |            |
| Action Plan   | Sport(s) | Lead  | PROTECT, ENHANCE & PROVIDE  | Timescale  |
|   | Rugby    | ECC   | Protect for rugby   |            |
|   |          | ECC   | Explore option of asset transfer of rugby pitches and longer lease on clubhouse to Exeter Saracens RFC to support the club's long term opportunities.   | Short Term |
|   |          | Saracens RFC  | Assess planning and provide additional training lights  | Short Term |
|   |          | RFU   | Pitch Adviser to continue to work with club and Parks Service to determine further drainage and or maintenance options to further improve pitch quality and playing capacity, particularly if training lights provided. | Short Term |

| Site Name:  |                   | <b>Exwick Playing Fields</b> (referenced 15G)  |  |            |
|---|-------------------|--|--|------------|
|  |                   |  |  |            |
| Pitch sports played on this site:   |                   | Football, Cricket (once replacement pitch for Exwick Sport Hub is completed), plus informal use  |  |            |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o 2 Adult Football Pitches - Standard (52%)</li> <li>o 1 Youth 9v9 (temporarily out of use to accommodate river flood defence works by EA)</li> </ul>   |  |            |
| Clubs on this site:   |                   | Adult pitches principally used by Exeter College teams. Community hires to Exwick Village FC, St Martins Youth FC  |  |            |
| Major / strategic issues:   |                   | With Exwick Sports Hub site and Flower Pot Field, this site forms part of a key hub site in City for playing pitch sports in area of relatively high deprivation. Community access secured via 40 year lease from ECC and Partnership Agreement with Exeter College. |  |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:   |                   | Reorientation of pitches to accommodate the re-provided cricket pitch from Exwick Sports Hub site adjacent (11G)   |  |            |
| Action Plan   | Sport(s)          | Lead   | PROTECT & PROVIDE  | Timescale  |
|   | Cricket, Football | ECC  | Protect for cricket and football   | Short Term |
|   | Cricket           | Exeter College   | Complete re-provision of cricket pitch to 'good' quality on Exwick Playing Field adjacent for use by Exwick CC from 2019 | Short Term |
|   | Football          | ECC  | Liaise with EA on specification for reinstatement of youth football pitch  | Short Term |
|   |                   |  |  |            |

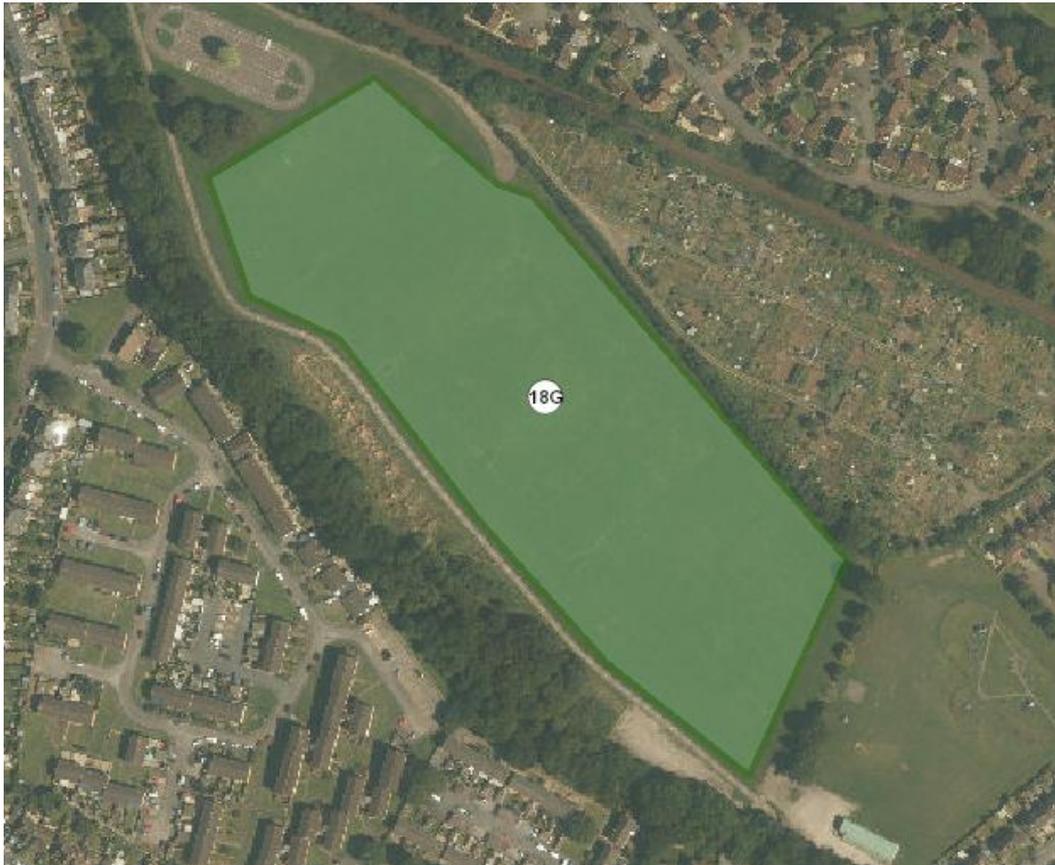
| Site Name:  |                                     | <b>Flower Pot Playing Fields</b> (referenced 16G)   |  |            |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|--|------------|
|  |                                     |   |  |            |
| Pitch sports played on this site:   |                                     | Rugby, Ultimate Frisbee, summer Adult Touch Rugby, plus informal use  |  |            |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o 2 senior rugby pitches - Standard (M1/D1)</li> <li>o Pavilion - Poor</li> </ul>  |  |            |
| Clubs on this site:   |                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Wessex RFC</li> <li>o Exeter Engineers</li> <li>o Exeter Touch Rugby</li> <li>o Second Wind (Ultimate), Devon Ultimate Frisbee</li> <li>o Exeter Patronum (Quidditch - occasional Sun am)</li> </ul>   |  |            |
| Major / strategic issues:   |                                     | <p>With Exwick Sports Hub site and Exwick Playing Field, this site forms part of a key hub site in City for playing pitch sports in area of relatively high deprivation. Community access secured via 40 year lease from ECC and Partnership Agreement with Exeter College.</p> <p>Exeter College's longer term vision, once the 3G AGP on the Sports Hub site is delivered, is to upgrade one of the rugby pitches to floodlit World Rugby compliant 3G AGP subject to funding and planning.</p> |  |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:   |                                     | Wessex RFC has aspirations to expand minis and youth section. Additional rugby compliant 3G capacity on this site, although not a strategic priority, would facilitate this growth and provide additional capacity for other pitch sports - e.g. Ultimate, Adult Touch and TAG Rugby  |  |            |
| Action Plan   | Sport(s)                            | Lead  | PROTECT & ENHANCE  | Timescale  |
|   | Rugby (all forms), Ultimate Frisbee | ECC   | Protect for rugby and informal game formats (Adult Touch & TAG rugby) and Ultimate Frisbee                                   | Short Term |
|   | Ditto                               | Exeter College  | Assess feasibility of options for enhanced pavilion and pitches for rugby and other pitch sports (e.g. TAG, Touch, Ultimate) | Long Term  |

|            |  |   |  |  |
|------------|--|---|--|--|
| Site Name: |  | <b>Grace Road Playing Fields</b> (referenced 17G) |  |  |
|------------|--|---|--|--|



|                                   |   |  |  |                  |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|------------------|
| Pitch sports played on this site: |   | Football, plus informal use (temporarily closed)   |  |                  |
| Pitches on this site - quality:   |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o 4/5 adult football pitches - Poor quality (susceptible to flooding from river)</li> </ul>   |  |                  |
| Clubs on this site:               |   | None - site closed in 2011 for river flood defence works by EA   |  |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:         |   | In seasons leading up to closure, football teams did not take up licences to play matches at this site due to the poor pitch quality and lack of pavilion facilities and parking. The site has little value as formal pitches and is better suited for designation for use for informal playing pitch sports and outdoor recreation. |  |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     |   | n/a  |  |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>                | <b>Sport(s)</b>                             | <b>Lead</b>  | <b>PROTECT &amp; ENHANCE</b>   | <b>Timescale</b> |
|                                   | Informal pitch sport and outdoor recreation | ECC  | Liaise with EA on specification for reinstatement of playing field for informal pitch sport and outdoor recreation use | Short Term       |
|                                   |   |  |  |                  |

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Site Name: | <b>Hamlin Lane Playing Fields</b> (referenced 18G) |
|------------|--|



|                                   |   |             |                          |                  |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Pitch sports played on this site: | Football, plus informal use   |             |                          |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 4 adult football pitches - Good/Standard (61%)</li> <li>○ 2 mini football pitches 7v7 - Good/Standard</li> <li>○ Pavilion - Standard (56%)</li> </ul>                              |             |                          |                  |
| Clubs on this site:               | Stoke Hill FC (main user with adult, youth and mini teams), plus hires to other clubs including Exe Utd, Priory FC, Whipton & Pinhoe FC, Half Moon FC, Heavitree Youth U11&U12, Whipton Youth (U15), Wonford Galaxy (U13).  |             |                          |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:         | A key community football site in the City - pavilion leased by ECC to Stoke Hill FC. Pitches licensed to Stoke Hill FC and are played to capacity on Saturdays in season (mornings and afternoons).                         |             |                          |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     | Can only accommodate Saturday demand for youth football with staggered kick off times.<br>There has been a decline in Sunday adult football hires in recent impacting on Park Service revenues for ongoing maintenance etc. |             |                          |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>                | <b>Sport(s)</b>   | <b>Lead</b> | <b>PROTECT</b>           | <b>Timescale</b> |
|                                   | Football  | ECC         | Protect use for football | Short Term       |

Site Name: **Heavitree Social Club / Wingfield Park** (referenced 19G)



|                                   |  |             |                      |                  |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Pitch sports played on this site: | Football   |             |                      |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o 1 adult football pitch - sloping pitch but overall assessed as standard quality (71%)</li> <li>o 5v5 3G pitch (floodlit) - see 4A</li> <li>o Social club / pavilion - good (86%)</li> </ul> |             |                      |                  |
| Clubs on this site:               | Heavitree United with adult and youth teams, Pinhoe Spartans girls   |             |                      |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:         | Pitch owned by Heavitree Sports & Social Club and let to Heavitree United FC. Area of relative deprivation.  |             |                      |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     | Site played to capacity on Saturdays (mornings and afternoons) in season.  |             |                      |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>                | <b>Sport(s)</b>  | <b>Lead</b> | <b>PROTECT</b>       | <b>Timescale</b> |
|                                   | Football   | ECC         | Protect for football | Short Term       |

|   |                                      |  |   |                  |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|------------------|
| Site Name:  |                                      | ISCA Academy (referenced 20G)  |   |                  |
|  |                                      |  |   |                  |
| Pitch sports played on this site:   |                                      | Football, Athletics, Rounders etc all by school pupils (no community use currently)  |   |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o 1 adult football/rugby pitch (1 term each). Space for additional youth/mini pitch on playing field - Standard (63%)</li> <li>o Sand filled AGP (floodlit) - see 5A</li> <li>o School changing rooms - Standard (69%)</li> </ul> |   |                  |
| Clubs on this site:   |                                      | n/a for grass pitches (Ashmoor Hockey Club play matches on Saturdays on AGP - see 5A)  |   |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:   |                                      | Not available for community use (Kajima - community bookings management for Exeter Schools PFI provider, Sodexo)   |   |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:   |                                      | n/a  |   |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>  | <b>Sport(s)</b>                      | <b>Lead</b>  | <b>PROTECT</b>  | <b>Timescale</b> |
|   | Football, other playing pitch sports | ECC  | Protect playing field for school use  | Short Term       |
|   | Football                             | DCC  | Consider opportunity to secure access to playing field and WCs for community youth football teams on Saturday mornings either by negotiation with PFI provider or, if not feasible, on expiry of existing PFI agreement | Long Term        |
|   |                                      |  |   |                  |

Site Name: **King George V Playing Fields** (referenced 21G)



| Pitch sports played on this site: |          | Football, plus informal use   |  |            |
|-----------------------------------|----------|---|--|------------|
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o 6 adult football pitches - Standard (60%)</li> <li>o 3 x youth football pitches 9v9 - Standard (60%)</li> <li>o 2x mini pitches 7v7 - Standard (60%)</li> <li>o Pavilion - Standard (63%)</li> </ul>   |  |            |
| Clubs on this site:               |          | Central FC main user and hire to other clubs including Cronies FC, Centre Spot FC, Winchester FC  |  |            |
| Major / strategic issues:         |          | A key community football site in the City - pavilion leased by ECC to Central FC. Pitches licensed to Central and are played close to capacity on Saturdays in season (mornings and afternoons) with staggered kick off times, and used extensively for training in evenings when daylight allows. Spare capacity on Sundays. |  |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     |          |   |  |            |
| Action Plan                       | Sport(s) | Lead  | PROTECT & PROVIDE  | Timescale  |
|                                   | Football | ECC   | Protect for formal and informal use  | Short Term |
|                                   | Cricket  | ECB   | Assess the suitability of this site (with others identified) and select optimum site for development as the City hub for community cricket | Short Term |
|                                   |          |   |  |            |



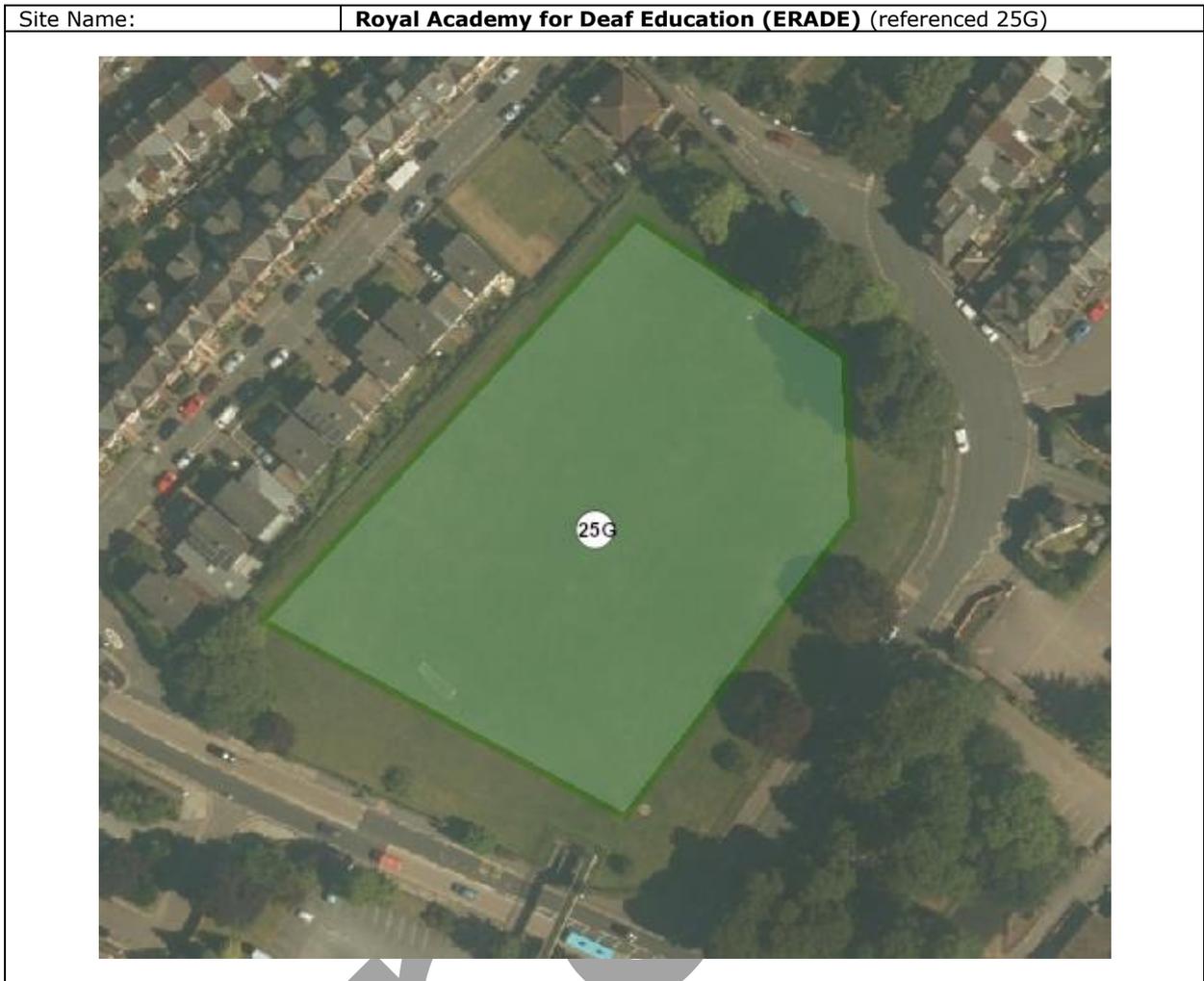
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|-----------------------------------|--|--------------|--|------------------|
| Pitch sports played on this site: | Football and other playing pitch sports by school, formerly football by community teams  |              |  |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Youth football pitch (9v9) - Standard (53%)</li> <li>○ 2 mini football pitches (7v7) - Standard (53%)</li> <li>○ Mini football pitch (5v5) - Standard (53%)</li> <li>○ School changing</li> </ul>                   |              |  |                  |
| Clubs on this site:               | Heavitree Youth to 2014 (school now closed to community use on Saturdays)  |              |  |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:         | Large playing field no longer available for community use located in an area of relative deprivation which has a large youth football club. The club is not able to accommodate all teams at its Wingfield Park, Heavitree pitch (19G) on Saturday mornings. |              |  |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     | n/a  |              |  |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>                | <b>Sport(s)</b>  | <b>Lead</b>  | <b>PROTECT</b>   | <b>Timescale</b> |
|                                   | Football and other playing pitch sports  | ECC          | Protect playing field for school use   | Short Term       |
|                                   | Football   | Heavitree FC | Consider opportunity to re-secure access to playing field and WCs for Heavitree Youth teams on Saturday mornings | Long Term        |
|                                   |  |              |  |                  |

|  |                 |  |  |
|--|-----------------|--|--|
| Site Name:   |                 | <b>Middlemoor Police Headquarters</b> (referenced 23G)   |  |
|  |                 |  |  |
| Pitch sports played on this site:  |                 | Football, (formerly Cricket - disused)   |  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:  |                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1 x adult grass football pitch - Good (76%)</li> <li>○ Cricket pitch - Very Poor (no longer maintained for cricket) and outfield (Good)</li> <li>○ Pavilion - Standard (63%)</li> </ul>   |  |
| Clubs on this site:  |                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Several Pinhoe Spartans &amp; Heavitree FC teams - Saturday mornings and afternoons</li> <li>○ Deeside FC - Sunday mornings</li> <li>○ Occasional use by football coaching organisations</li> </ul>   |  |
| Major / strategic issues:  |                 | <p>Devon Police (Government) ownership and unsecured for community use. Access to community clubs and teams is by local arrangement, often through police staff with voluntary involvement with community football teams. The site is allocated as Open Space in the adopted City of Exeter Local Plan First Review. The pitch is on land that has a full planning permission (granted in 2014) for a Criminal Justice Centre, Police Hub and a Class A1 supermarket. Should the development proceed, the consent provides for the one permanently marked adult size football pitch to be relocated within the site. However, the development would mean permanent loss of the cricket pitch and outfield which, although no longer maintained or used for cricket, accommodates mini soccer regularly on Saturday mornings.</p> |  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:  |                 | Lack of appropriate sized pitches for U11 & U16 youth play   |  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>   | <b>Sport(s)</b> | <b>Lead</b>  | <b>PROTECT</b>   |
|  | Football        | ECC  | Protect for football   |
|  |                 | ECC  | Protect and secure weekend access for club team youth football, minisoccer and adult football to the existing usable area of the playing field as pitch space. Should the proposed development with a current planning consent be implemented, ensure that the optimum design specification and management plan for the replacement adult football pitch is secured. |
|  |                 |  | Short Term   |
|  |                 |  | Long Term  |

Site Name: **Montgomery Primary School** (referenced 24G)



| Pitch sports played on this site:  |   | Football and other playing pitch sports by school                               |  |            |
|--|---|---|--|------------|
| Pitches on this site – quality ( <i>Primary School's not assessed</i> ): |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2 mini soccer pitches (5v5)</li> </ul> |  |            |
| Clubs on this site:  |   | None  |  |            |
| Major / strategic issues:  |   | Not available for community use   |  |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:  |   | Access to WCs and water required - not changing                                 |  |            |
| Action Plan  | Sport(s)                                | Lead  | PROTECT  | Timescale  |
|  | Football and other playing pitch sports | ECC   | Protect playing field for school use   | Short Term |
|  |   | Alphington Youth  | Consider opportunities to secure community access to pitches and WCs for use by minisoccer teams on a Saturday morning to support club's aims to develop girls' football | Long Term  |
|  |   |   |  |            |



| Pitch sports played on this site: |          |      | Closed playing field - former use by the Academy and by Maynard School for PE and sport  |            |
|-----------------------------------|----------|------|--|------------|
| Pitches on this site - quality:   |          |      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ None marked - space for adult football pitch, cricket pitch or youth football pitches</li> </ul>                        |            |
| Clubs on this site:               |          |      | None   |            |
| Major / strategic issues:         |          |      | Overall shortfall in playing pitches to meet identified needs to 2028  |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     |          |      | Access to WCs and water if community use established   |            |
| Action Plan                       | Sport(s) | Lead | PROTECT  | Timescale  |
|                                   | Football | ECC  | Protect as playing field with potential for re-instatement for community use   | Short Term |
|                                   |          | ECC  | Seek community club access to this playing field linked to planning application for development on main ERADE site in event of school relocation out of the City | Long Term  |
|                                   |          |      |  |            |

Site Name: **Sandy Park Stadium** (referenced 26G)



|                                   |                 |   |                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---|-------------------|
| Pitch sports played on this site: |                 | Rugby   |                   |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Stadium pitch with floodlights - Excellent ('Desso' reinforced grass)</li> <li>○ Training pitch (mid size) with floodlights - Excellent ('Desso' reinforced grass) - See 7A (formerly a 3G AGP surface)</li> </ul> |                   |
| Clubs on this site:               |                 | Exeter RFC ('Chiefs') - professional club   |                   |
| Major / strategic issues:         |                 | n/a - no regular community access of use of pitches. Occasional charity matches, tournaments and events by arrangement  |                   |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     |                 | n/a   |                   |
| <b>Action Plan</b>                | <b>Sport(s)</b> | <b>Lead</b>   | <b>PROTECT</b>    |
|                                   | Rugby           | ECC   | Protect for rugby |
|                                   |                 |   | <b>Timescale</b>  |
|                                   |                 |   | Short Term        |

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Site Name: | <b>St. James Park (ECFC)</b> (referenced 27G) |
|------------|---|



|                                   |                 |  |                      |                  |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--|----------------------|------------------|
| Pitch sports played on this site: |                 | Football   |                      |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adult Football Pitch with Floodlights - club has proposals to enhance the playing surface</li> </ul>            |                      |                  |
| Clubs on this site:               |                 | Exeter City FC (professional club)   |                      |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:         |                 | n/a - no regular community access of use of pitches. Occasional charity matches, tournaments, inter school tournament finals and events by arrangement |                      |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     |                 | n/a  |                      |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>                | <b>Sport(s)</b> | <b>Lead</b>  | <b>PROTECT</b>       | <b>Timescale</b> |
|                                   | Football        | ECC  | Protect for football | Short Term       |
|                                   |                 |  |                      |                  |

| Site Name:  |                                      | St. James Sports Centre (referenced 28G)  |   |            |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|------------|
|  |                                      |   |   |            |
| Pitch sports played on this site:   |                                      | Football, Athletics, Rounders etc all by school pupils (no community use currently)   |   |            |
| Pitches on this site – quality ( <i>not assessed</i> ):                             |                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No marked pitches (space for adult football pitch or youth pitches, cricket pitch on playing field)</li> <li>○ Sand filled AGP (floodlit) - see 8A</li> <li>○ School changing rooms</li> </ul> |   |            |
| Clubs on this site:   |                                      | n/a for grass pitches (Exeter & Culm Valley Hornets Hockey Club men's teams play matches on Saturdays and train midweek on AGP - see 8A)  |   |            |
| Major / strategic issues:   |                                      | Playing field not available for community use (Kajima - community bookings management for Exeter Schools PFI provider, Sodexo)  |   |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:   |                                      | n/a   |   |            |
| Action Plan   | Sport(s)                             | Lead  | PROTECT   | Timescale  |
|   | Football, other playing pitch sports | ECC   | Protect playing field for school use  | Short Term |
|   | Football                             | DCC   | Consider opportunity to secure access to playing field and WCs for community youth football teams on Saturday mornings either by negotiation with PFI provider or, if not feasible, on expiry of existing PFI agreement | Long Term  |
|   |                                      |   |   |            |

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Site Name: | <b>St. Lukes Science and Sports College</b> (referenced 29G) |
|------------|--|



|                                   |  |             |   |                  |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------|---|------------------|
| Pitch sports played on this site: | Football, Rugby, Athletics, Rounders etc all by school pupils (no community use currently)   |             |   |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o 2 adult football / rugby pitches (1 term each) - one Good (76%), one Standard (73%)</li> <li>o Sand filled AGP with floodlits - see 9A</li> <li>o School changing rooms - Standard (57%)</li> </ul> |             |   |                  |
| Clubs on this site:               | None (former use of playing field by youth football teams on Saturday mornings)  |             |   |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:         | n/a for grass pitches (Exeter City Football Club Youth Academy train midweek on AGP - see 9A)  |             |   |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     | Playing field not available for community use (Kajima - community bookings management for Exeter Schools PFI provider, Sodexo)   |             |   |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>                | <b>Sport(s)</b>  | <b>Lead</b> | <b>PROTECT</b>  | <b>Timescale</b> |
|                                   | Football, other playing pitch sports   | ECC         | Protect playing field for school use  | Short Term       |
|                                   | Football   | DCC         | Consider opportunity to secure access to playing field and WCs for community youth football teams on Saturday mornings either by negotiation with PFI provider or, if not feasible, on expiry of existing PFI agreement | Long Term        |
|                                   |  |             |   |                  |

Site Name: **St. Peter's Church of England Aided School** (referenced 30G)



|                                   |   |  |   |                  |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|------------------|
| Pitch sports played on this site: |   | Football, Rugby, Athletics, Rounders etc all by school pupils (no community use currently)   |   |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o 2 Adult Football (one of which marked for Rugby for one term) - both Standard (73% &amp; 71% respectively)</li> <li>o Sand filled AGP with floodlits - see 10A</li> <li>o School changing rooms - Good (79%)</li> </ul> |   |                  |
| Clubs on this site:               |   | n/a for grass pitches - AGP only   |   |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:         |   | No community use of playing field pitches due to intensity of use by school on weekdays in term time   |   |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     |   | n/a  |   |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>                | <b>Sport(s)</b>                             | <b>Lead</b>  | <b>PROTECT</b>  | <b>Timescale</b> |
|                                   | Football, Rugby, other playing pitch sports | ECC  | Protect playing field for school use  | Short Term       |
|                                   | Football                                    | DCC  | Consider opportunity to secure access to playing field and WCs for community youth football teams on Saturday mornings either by negotiation with PFI provider or, if not feasible, on expiry of existing PFI agreement | Long Term        |
|                                   |   |  |   |                  |

|  |                        |   |   |                  |
|--|------------------------|---|---|------------------|
| Site Name:   |                        | <b>Station Road Playing Fields</b> (referenced 31G)   |   |                  |
|  |                        |   |   |                  |
| Pitch sports played on this site:  |                        | Football, informal use  |   |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:  |                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1 adult football pitch marked - Poor (drainage issues)</li> <li>○ Pavilion - Poor (46%) with no first aid room or spectator WCs</li> </ul>   |   |                  |
| Clubs on this site:  |                        | Pinhoe Spartans licenced user   |   |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:  |                        | Key site as the only publicly accessible playing field with a marked football pitch in the Pinhoe area in the north east area of the City. Located adjacent to a large public open space, the Council have initiated preliminary consultations regarding community infrastructure needs and priorities in the area. |   |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:  |                        | Poor pitch drainage and quality of pavilion limits availability   |   |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>   | <b>Sport(s)</b>        | <b>Lead</b>   | <b>PROTECT</b>  | <b>Timescale</b> |
|  | Football, informal use | ECC   | Protect for football and informal recreation  | Short Term       |
|  |                        | ECC   | Reconfigure and enhance pitches and replace pavilion as part of wider development plans for this area | Long Term        |

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Site Name: | <b>Stoke Hill Junior School</b> (referenced 32G) |
|------------|--|



| Pitch sports played on this site: |   | Football, Athletics, Rounders etc by school pupils primarily  |  |            |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|------------|
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100mx100m approx playing field, one junior football pitch marked (7v7).</li> </ul> |  |            |
| Clubs on this site:               |   | Exeter Panthers Youth - one evening a week in early and late season   |  |            |
| Major / strategic issues:         |   | Some community use of playing field pitches   |  |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     |   | Access to WCs and water required, not changing  |  |            |
| Action Plan                       | Sport(s)                                | Lead  | PROTECT  | Timescale  |
|                                   | Football and other playing pitch sports | ECC   | Protect playing field for school and community use   | Short Term |
|                                   |   | Exeter Panthers   | Consider opportunities to secure community access to pitch and WCs for use by minisoccer teams on a Saturday morning | Long Term  |
|                                   |   |   |  |            |

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Site Name: | <b>Topsham Town Football Club / Coronation Field</b> (referenced 33G) |
|------------|---|



| Pitch sports played on this site: |          | Football   |                               |            |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--|-------------------------------|------------|
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Stadium football pitch - Standard (73%)</li> <li>○ Clubhouse facilities - Standard (73%)</li> </ul>   |                               |            |
| Clubs on this site:               |          | Topsham Town AFC with 1st and Reserve teams. Also used also by Cronies FC in 2016/17. This club was promoted to D&E Prem division and likely to relocate in 2017/18 to meet league regulations. Occasional midweek hires to University football team |                               |            |
| Major / strategic issues:         |          | Key site for adult D&E League football   |                               |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     |          | The Topsham club has expressed an interest to Devon FA for a stadia 3G subject to planning for floodlights and funding. Club current trains on a sand filled pitch at one of the PFI schools.  |                               |            |
| Action Plan                       | Sport(s) | Lead   | PROTECT & PROVIDE             | Timescale  |
|                                   | Football | ECC  | Protect for football          | Short Term |
|                                   |          | Topsham Town   | Floodlights - assess planning | Short Term |
|                                   |          | FA   | Stadium 3G feasibility        | Long Term  |

|   |  |   |   |                  |
|---|--|---|---|------------------|
| Site Name:  |  | <b>University of Exeter Duckes Meadow</b> (referenced 34G)  |   |                  |
|  |  |   |   |                  |
| Pitch sports played on this site:   |  | Rugby Union (incl Rugby 7s), Rugby League, Lacrosse, Football, American Football  |   |                  |
| Pitches on this site - quality:   |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 7 adult football pitches, 4 youth football pitches 9v9 - Standard (65%)</li> <li>○ 4 senior rugby pitches - Standard (M1/D1)</li> <li>○ Pavilion - Standard (59%)</li> </ul>   |   |                  |
| Clubs on this site:   |  | University teams in: football (5 mens Saturday BUCS teams, 2 mens Sunday teams, womens team); rugby union (7 mens BUCS teams, 2 Freshers, 1 Social, 2 ladies BUCS teams); rugby league (2 BUCS teams); Rugby 7s (2 BUCS teams), American football (Demons); Lacrosse (2 men's and 3 women's BUCS teams, 3 other teams). |   |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:   |  | Intensive use, particularly on Wednesdays and Saturdays by University sides. Playing field lies in river flood plain and can flood.   |   |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:   |  | Risk of flood and damage from over play plus limitations on the times these pitches are available for hire (i.e outside of University terms) makes them unsuitable for regular use by community clubs   |   |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>  | <b>Sport(s)</b>  | <b>Lead</b>   | <b>PROTECT</b>                                    | <b>Timescale</b> |
|   | Rugby Union (incl Rugby 7s), Rugby League, Lacrosse, Football, American Football | ECC   | Protect as key site for a variety of pitch sports | Short Term       |
|   |  |   |   |                  |

|   |                 |   |  |                  |
|---|-----------------|---|--|------------------|
| Site Name:  |                 | <b>University of Exeter (Topsham Sports Ground)</b> (referenced 35G)  |  |                  |
|  |                 |   |  |                  |
| Pitch sports played on this site:   |                 | Cricket, Football, Rugby, Lacrosse  |  |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2 x Adult Grass Football Pitches- 73% on 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> 76%</li> <li>○ 2 x Cricket Pitches- 1<sup>st</sup> pitch 10 wickets - Very Good (100%), 2<sup>nd</sup> pitch 6 wickets - Good (96%)</li> <li>○ 5 bay natural turf practice net facility</li> <li>○ 2 x Rugby pitch (overlaps 2<sup>nd</sup> Football pitch)</li> <li>○ Lacrosse Pitch</li> <li>○ Pavilion</li> </ul> |  |                  |
| Clubs on this site:   |                 | University 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI football (other teams at Duckes)<br>University Cricket teams (5 mens/1 womens)<br>University Lacrosse team<br>University 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> XV rugby union teams (other at Duckes)<br>University 2 rugby league teams<br>Devon Youth Cricket (occasional)<br>Exeter Cricket Club / Exwick Cricket Club (temporary)   |  |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:   |                 | RFU preferred site for a World Rugby 3G AGP provided minimum of 9 peak hours a week can be secured for community club use. Ideally located adjacent to Topsham Rugby Club's Bonfire Field (over played) and easy road access for other community rugby clubs in East Devon and Teignbridge.   |  |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:   |                 | n/a   |  |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>  | <b>Sport(s)</b> | <b>Lead</b>   | <b>PROTECT &amp; PROVIDE</b>   | <b>Timescale</b> |
|   | Various         | ECC   | Protect for playing pitch sports   | Short Term       |
|   | Rugby/Football  | Exeter University   | Complete feasibility of conversion of one grass pitch to World Rugby specified 3G AGP for University and community club use for rugby and football |                  |
|   |                 |   | Seek secure access to Cricket Pitch at weekends for Exeter CC (and potentially Countess Wear CC if displaced from Winslade Park ground)            |                  |

**Whipton Barton School** missing from map and profile sheets - Exeter Planning Dept to add.

Pitch: 1x7v7 youth pitch  
 Club: Used on Sat am by Whipton Youth u8-u10s  
 Action: Protect.

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Site Name: | <b>Willowbrook School</b> (referenced 36G) |
|------------|--|



| Pitch sports played on this site: |   | Football, Athletics, Rounders etc by school pupils primarily  |  |            |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|------------|
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ School playing field with youth football pitch 9v9 marked in season</li> </ul> |  |            |
| Clubs on this site:               |   | None (Formerly Whipton Youth FC)  |  |            |
| Major / strategic issues:         |   | Community club access on Saturday mornings ended by school in 2014.   |  |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     |   | No ancillary facilities available on site - WCs, water  |  |            |
| Action Plan                       | Sport(s)                                | Lead  | PROTECT  | Timescale  |
|                                   | Football and other playing pitch sports | ECC   | Protect playing field for school and community use   | Short Term |
|                                   |   | Whipton Youth FC  | Consider opportunities to re-secure community access to pitch and potential for access to school WCs (or provision of portaloos) for use by minisoccer teams on a Saturday morning | Long Term  |
|                                   |   |   |  |            |

|   |                        |  |  |                  |
|---|------------------------|--|--|------------------|
| Site Name:  |                        | <b>Wonford Playing Fields</b> (referenced 37G)   |  |                  |
|  |                        |  |  |                  |
| Pitch sports played on this site:   |                        | Football, informal use   |  |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1 x Adult Pitch - Standard (57%)</li> <li>○ 1 x 9v9 Pitch - as above</li> <li>○ 2 x 7v7 Pitches - as above</li> <li>○ Sand filled MUGA floodlit (see 13A)</li> <li>○ Pavilion (part of sports centre) - Poor (49%)</li> </ul> |  |                  |
| Clubs on this site:   |                        | City Raiders youth teams (Saturday mornings)<br>Phoenix Club (girls football on Sundays)   |  |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:   |                        | Part of the field is protected in perpetuity by a Fields in Trust Deed of Dedication. Located in area of relative deprivation. £280k approximately of S106 funding is allocated to enhancing this site   |  |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:   |                        | Spare capacity due to unpopularity of this site among teams due to perceptions of the area, risks of theft, vandalism etc.   |  |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>  | <b>Sport(s)</b>        | <b>Lead</b>  | <b>PROTECT &amp; ENHANCE</b>   | <b>Timescale</b> |
|   | Football, informal use | ECC  | Protect that part of the site not covered by the FIT Deed of Dedication  | Short Term       |
|   | Football, informal use | ECC  | Reconfigure and enhance pitches and pavilion facilities as part of delivering a wider development plan for Wonford area including the leisure centre | Short Term       |
|   |                        |  |  |                  |

Site Name: **Woodwater Primary Academy** (referenced 38G)



| Pitch sports played on this site: |   | Football, Rounders, Athletics etc. by school pupils |   |            |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|------------|
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |   | ○ one mini soccer 7v7 marked                        |   |            |
| Clubs on this site:               |   | None  |   |            |
| Major / strategic issues:         |   | Not available for community use                     |   |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     |   | Access to WCs and water required - not changing     |   |            |
| Action Plan                       | Sport(s)                                | Lead  | PROTECT   | Timescale  |
|                                   | Football and other playing pitch sports | ECC   | Protect playing field for school use  | Short Term |
|                                   |   | AN Other youth football club                        | Consider opportunities to secure community access to pitches and WCs for use by minisoccer teams on Saturday mornings | Long Term  |
|                                   |   |   |   |            |

Site Name: **Wynstream School** (referenced 39G)



| Pitch sports played on this site: |   | Football, Rounders, Athletics etc. by school pupils |   |            |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|------------|
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |   | o 9v9 youth football pitch marked in season         |   |            |
| Clubs on this site:               |   | None  |   |            |
| Major / strategic issues:         |   | Not available for community use                     |   |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     |   | Access to WCs and water required - not changing     |   |            |
| Action Plan                       | Sport(s)                                | Lead  | PROTECT   | Timescale  |
|                                   | Football and other playing pitch sports | ECC   | Protect playing field for school use  | Short Term |
|                                   |   | AN Other youth football club                        | Consider opportunities to secure community access to pitches and WCs for use by youth football teams on Saturday mornings | Long Term  |
|                                   |   |   |   |            |

**ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCH SITES**

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Site Name: | <b>Atkinson Secure Children's Home</b> (referenced 1A) |
|------------|--|



|                                   |  |             |                      |                  |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Pitch sports played on this site: | Football - informal by resident children         |             |                      |                  |
| Pitches on this site - quality:   | o 3G MUGA (40m x 21m) floodlit - good            |             |                      |                  |
| Clubs on this site:               | None - access to children and staff only         |             |                      |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:         | No potential for community use - security issues |             |                      |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     | n/a  |             |                      |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>                | <b>Sport(s)</b>                                  | <b>Lead</b> | <b>PROTECT</b>       | <b>Timescale</b> |
|                                   | Football   | ECC         | Protect for football | Short Term       |
|                                   |  |             |                      |                  |

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Site Name: | <b>Bowhill Primary School</b> (referenced 2A) |
|------------|---|



|                                   |   |                              |  |                  |
|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------------|--|------------------|
| Pitch sports played on this site: | Various by school pupils - football, rugby, cricket, athletics  |                              |  |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o 3G MUGA (36m x 18m) - no lights - Standard (built 2005)</li> </ul> |                              |  |                  |
| Clubs on this site:               | None. School / club links with Countess Wear and Alphington Cricket Clubs                                   |                              |  |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:         | Limited potential for community use - no lights. Width limits to 5v5 only                                   |                              |  |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     | Access to WCs and water required - not changing   |                              |  |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>                | <b>Sport(s)</b>   | <b>Lead</b>                  | <b>PROTECT</b>   | <b>Timescale</b> |
|                                   | Various   | ECC                          | Protect for outdoor sports use   | Short Term       |
|                                   |   | AN Other youth football club | Consider opportunities to secure community access to pitch and WCs for use for a minis soccer school/5v5 football teams on Saturday mornings | Long Term        |
|                                   |   |                              |  |                  |

|            |                                      |
|------------|--------------------------------------|
| Site Name: | <b>Exeter School</b> (referenced 3A) |
|------------|--------------------------------------|



|                                   |  |             |                    |                  |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Pitch sports played on this site: | Hockey AGP - range of pitch sports including community archery on playing field (see 13G)  |             |                    |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o One full size floodlit sand dressed hockey AGP - good 80% (see 3A)</li> <li>o Pavilion -good</li> </ul>   |             |                    |                  |
| Clubs on this site:               | <p>ISCA Hockey Club (overspill demand from home site at University Sports Park)</p> <p>Honiton Hockey Club - midweek training (displaced demand from East Devon)</p>   |             |                    |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:         | Important good quality (sand dressed) provision for community hockey in peak hours (overspill use by ISCA from University pitches for juniors and training) plus imported use for midweek training by Honiton Ladies HC and use for EH Player Pathway coaching activities. |             |                    |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     | n/a  |             |                    |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>                | <b>Sport(s)</b>  | <b>Lead</b> | <b>PROTECT</b>     | <b>Timescale</b> |
|                                   | Hockey   | ECC         | Protect for hockey | Short Term       |

Site Name: **Heavitree Social Club** (referenced 4A)



|                                   |   |             |                      |                  |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Pitch sports played on this site: | Football  |             |                      |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 3G MUGA (36m x18m) floodlit - Good (built 2011/12)</li> <li>○ Pavilion/Social club - Good</li> </ul>   |             |                      |                  |
| Clubs on this site:               | Heavitree United (adults and youth)<br>Leisureleagues (commercial 5/6 a side) - Sunday evenings<br>5.30pm to 8pm (10 teams)   |             |                      |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:         | Key provision for local football club teams training, minisoccer school on Saturday mornings and for hire for unaffiliated friendly games of 5/6 a side football and a commercial league on Sunday evenings |             |                      |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     | n/a   |             |                      |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>                | <b>Sport(s)</b>   | <b>Lead</b> | <b>PROTECT</b>       | <b>Timescale</b> |
|                                   | Football  | ECC         | Protect for football | Short term       |
|                                   |   |             |                      |                  |



| Pitch sports played on this site: |                 | Hockey, Football (and other sports by school pupils)   |  |            |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|------------|
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sand filled AGP (100mx60m) floodlit - Standard (69%) built in 2006 and rejuvenated in 2016 (sand, markings)</li> <li>○ School changing</li> </ul>   |  |            |
| Clubs on this site:               |                 | Ashmoor Hockey Club (imported demand on Saturdays - 4 mens teams, one womens team). Occasional Sunday use. Exwick Villa FC, Exeter Panthers FC, Topsham FC training midweek  |  |            |
| Major / strategic issues:         |                 | To maintain a good balance between pitch supply and future demand for hockey match play, this sand filled AGP will require a full resurfacing by the PFI Contractor by 2026. For football, this pitch will need to continue to provide capacity in the evenings for football club team training and for 5/6 a side football at least until the new 3G AGPs at Exwick and SW Teignbridge are fully available. |  |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     |                 | It will be important to carry out the required resurfacing works during the summer months in consultation with England Hockey, FA and key clubs so as to minimise disruption.  |  |            |
| Action Plan                       | Sport(s)        | Lead   | PROTECT & ENHANCE  | Timescale  |
|                                   | Hockey/Football | ECC  | Protect for sports use   | Short Term |
|                                   | Hockey          | DCC  | Ensure full resurfacing of sand based playing surface and upgraded equipment in accordance with PFI contract.  | Long Term  |
|                                   | Hockey          | DCC  | Consider opportunity to secure access for community hockey on Sunday mornings either by negotiation with PFI provider or, if not feasible, on expiry of existing PFI agreement | Long Term  |
|                                   |                 |  |  |            |

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Site Name: | <b>Magdalen Court School</b> (referenced 6A) |
|------------|--|



|                                   |  |             |                   |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------|-------------------|
| Pitch sports played on this site: | Various - school pupils and staff only (independent school)  |             |                   |
| Pitches on this site - quality:   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o None - football practice area (100m x 30m) with 30mm 3G surface</li> <li>o No fencing, floodlights, or changing</li> </ul>                  |             |                   |
| Clubs on this site:               | None - school pupils only  |             |                   |
| Major / strategic issues:         | Nature of the area means that this provision has limited potential or value for community use, in contrast to the school sports hall which is available to groups and teams to hire. |             |                   |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     | n/a  |             |                   |
| <b>Action Plan</b>                | <b>Sport(s)</b>  | <b>Lead</b> | <b>PROTECT</b>    |
|                                   | Various  | ECC         | Protect for sport |
|                                   |  |             | <b>Timescale</b>  |
|                                   |  |             | Short Term        |

|   |                 |  |                   |                  |
|---|-----------------|--|-------------------|------------------|
| Site Name:  |                 | <b>Sandy Park Stadium - PITCH RESURFACED AS DESSO REINFORCED GRASS IN 2015/16</b> (referenced 7A)  |                   |                  |
|  |                 |  |                   |                  |
| Pitch sports played on this site:   |                 | Rugby  |                   |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Floodlit training pitch (not full size, formerly 3G with some community access. Since 2015/16 a Desso reinforced grass training pitch for exclusive use by Exeter RFC ('Chiefs') professional club and its academy players and coaches. Occasional use to support charity matches, tournaments and events by arrangement</li> </ul> |                   |                  |
| Clubs on this site:   |                 | Exeter RFC ('Chiefs') professional club  |                   |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:   |                 | n/a - no regular community access of use of pitches.   |                   |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:   |                 | n/a  |                   |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>  | <b>Sport(s)</b> | <b>Lead</b>  | <b>PROTECT</b>    | <b>Timescale</b> |
|   | Rugby           | ECC  | Protect for rugby | Short Term       |

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Site Name: | <b>St. James Sports Centre</b> (referenced 8A) |
|------------|--|



| Pitch sports played on this site: |                 | Hockey, Football (and other sports by school pupils)   |  |            |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|------------|
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Sand filled AGP (100mx60m) floodlit - Standard (67%) built in 2006 and rejuvenated in 2016 (sand, markings)</li> <li>o School changing</li> </ul>   |  |            |
| Clubs on this site:               |                 | <p>Various football clubs - midweek team training<br/>                     5/6 a side football friendly games<br/>                     Exeter Touch Rugby - Monday evenings in summer<br/>                     Saracens RFC - non contact training in winter when floodlit training area at Exhibition Fields too wet or frozen<br/>                     Exeter &amp; Culm Valley Hockey Club (4 mens teams) - Saturday</p>                  |  |            |
| Major / strategic issues:         |                 | <p>To maintain a good balance between pitch supply and future demand for hockey match play, this sand filled AGP will require a full resurfacing by the PFI Contractor by 2026.<br/>                     For football, this pitch will need to continue to provide capacity in the evenings for football club team training and for 5/6 a side football at least until the new 3G AGPs at Exwick and SW Teignbridge are fully available.</p> |  |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     |                 | <p>It will be important to carry out the required resurfacing works during the summer months in consultation with England Hockey, FA and key clubs so as to minimise disruption.</p>   |  |            |
| Action Plan                       | Sport(s)        | Lead   | PROTECT & ENHANCE  | Timescale  |
|                                   | Hockey/Football | ECC  | Protect for sports use   | Short Term |
|                                   | Hockey          | DCC  | Ensure full resurfacing of sand based playing surface and upgraded equipment in accordance with PFI contract.  | Long Term  |
|                                   | Hockey          | DCC  | Consider opportunity to secure access for community hockey on Sunday mornings either by negotiation with PFI provider or, if not feasible, on expiry of existing PFI agreement | Long Term  |
|                                   |                 |  |  |            |

| Site Name:  |                 | <b>St. Lukes Science and Sports College</b> (referenced 9A)  |  |            |
|---|-----------------|--|--|------------|
|  |                 |  |  |            |
| Pitch sports played on this site:   |                 | Football, hockey (and other sports use by school pupils)   |  |            |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Sand filled AGP (100mx60m) floodlit - Standard (69%) built in 2006 and rejuvenated in 2016 (sand, markings)</li> <li>o School changing (not usually available)</li> </ul>   |  |            |
| Clubs on this site:   |                 | High level of football training use of this site through college link with Exeter City FC Academy (base for education element complementing the new 3G AGP on the City fringe in East Devon at Cliff Hill). No regular evening hockey club use of this pitch since 2014. Occasional use by Exe Ladies HC occasional Sunday matches, East Devon HC on Saturdays for matches to 2016 (now St Peters).          |  |            |
| Major / strategic issues:   |                 | To maintain a good balance between pitch supply and future demand for hockey match play, this sand filled AGP will require a full resurfacing by the PFI Contractor by 2026. For football, this pitch will need to continue to provide capacity in the evenings for football club team training and for 5/6 a side football at least until the new 3G AGPs at Exwick and SW Teignbridge are fully available. |  |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:   |                 | It will be important to carry out the required resurfacing works during the summer months in consultation with England Hockey, FA and key clubs so as to minimise disruption.  |  |            |
| Action Plan   | Sport(s)        | Lead   | PROTECT & ENHANCE  | Timescale  |
|   | Hockey/Football | ECC  | Protect for sports use   | Short Term |
|   | Hockey          | DCC  | Ensure full resurfacing of sand based playing surface and upgraded equipment in accordance with PFI contract.  | Long Term  |
|   | Hockey          | DCC  | Consider opportunity to secure access for community hockey on Sunday mornings either by negotiation with PFI provider or, if not feasible, on expiry of existing PFI agreement | Long Term  |

Site Name: **St. Peters Church of England Aided School** (referenced 10A)



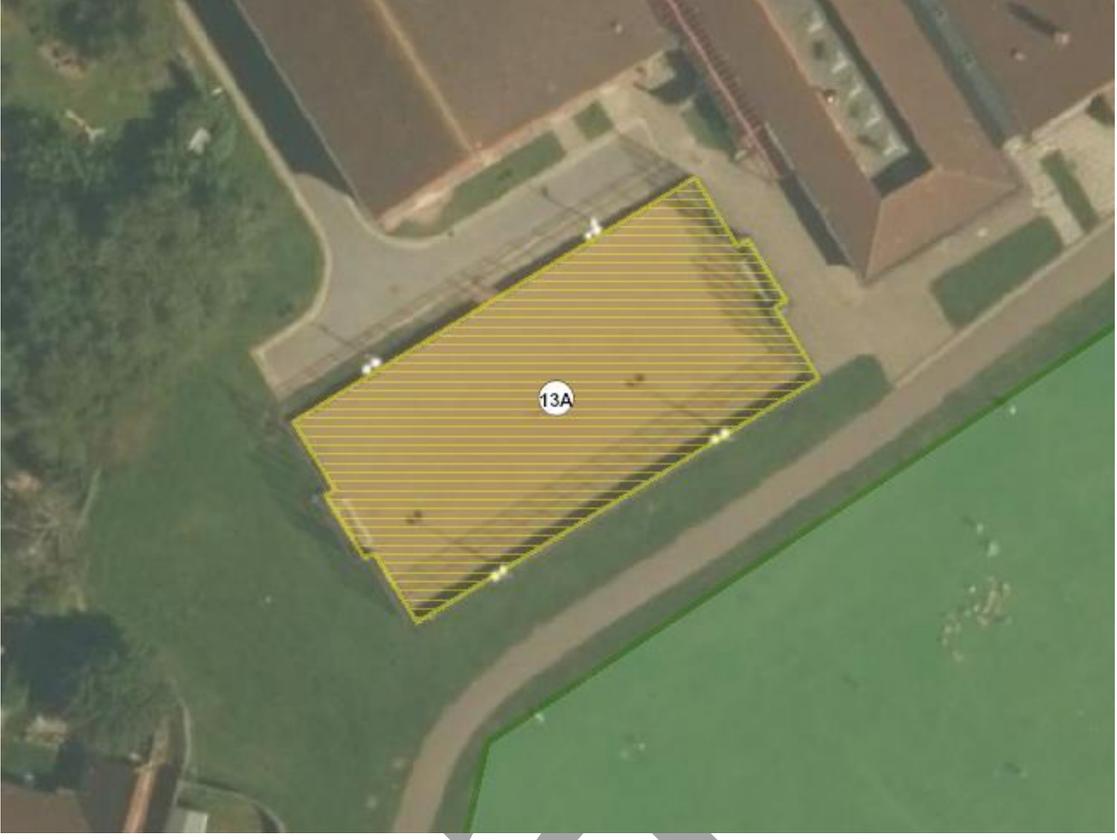
| Pitch sports played on this site: |                 | Hockey, Football (and other sports by school pupils)   |  |            |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|------------|
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Sand filled AGP (100mx60m) floodlit - Standard (65%) built in 2005 and rejuvenated in 2016 (sand, markings)</li> <li>o School changing</li> </ul>   |  |            |
| Clubs on this site:               |                 | Topsham FC - midweek training<br>East Devon Hockey Club (5 mens teams) - matches & training; Exe Ladies Hockey Club (5 womens teams) - ditto<br>Back to Hockey sessions; Exeter Junior Hockey Leagues  |  |            |
| Major / strategic issues:         |                 | To maintain a good balance between pitch supply and future demand for hockey match play, this sand filled AGP will require a full resurfacing by the PFI Contractor as soon as possible. For football, this pitch will need to continue to provide capacity in the evenings for football club team training and for 5/6 a side football at least until the new 3G AGPs at Exwick and SW Teignbridge are fully available. |  |            |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     |                 | It will be important to carry out the required resurfacing works during the summer months in consultation with England Hockey, FA and key clubs so as to minimise disruption.  |  |            |
| Action Plan                       | Sport(s)        | Lead   | PROTECT & ENHANCE  | Timescale  |
|                                   | Hockey/Football | ECC  | Protect for sports use   | Short Term |
|                                   | Hockey          | DCC  | Ensure full resurfacing of sand based playing surface and upgraded equipment in accordance with PFI contract. This pitch is priority for EH and clubs.                         | Short Term |
|                                   | Hockey          | DCC  | Consider opportunity to secure access for community hockey on Sunday mornings either by negotiation with PFI provider or, if not feasible, on expiry of existing PFI agreement | Long Term  |
|                                   |                 |  |  |            |

|   |                              |  |   |                  |
|---|------------------------------|--|---|------------------|
| Site Name:  |                              | University of Exeter Sports Park (referenced 11A)  |   |                  |
|  |                              |  |   |                  |
| Pitch sports played on this site:   |                              | Football, Rugby, Hockey  |   |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Water based AGP (90mx55m) floodlit - Good (80%) built 2001 last upgraded 2013</li> <li>o Sand dressed AGP (90mx55m) floodlit - Good (80%) built 2000 last upgraded 2010</li> <li>o 3G AGP (109mx67m) floodlit - Standard (75%). Built 2004 last upgraded 2014. On World Rugby register, not on FA Register for league play.</li> <li>o 3G MUGA (35m x19m) - Built 2000 on FA Register for 5v5</li> </ul>                                      |   |                  |
| Clubs on this site:   |                              | <p>ISCA Hockey Club (6 mens teams, 5 womens teams)<br/>                 University BUCS teams (1 womens team, 7 mens teams)<br/>                 University intra-mural league<br/>                 EH Development Centre -coaching courses, fixtures etc.<br/>                 Devon Schools Hockey Competitions, Rush Hockey sessions<br/>                 Snooker Club of Exeter FC - regular midweek training<br/>                 5 a side football league and friendly games</p> |   |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:   |                              | Key provision in the City for community hockey in particular (established home of ISCA HC who hire slots seasonally in advance) and some community football programming (including team training) although mainly ad hoc (e.g. community tournaments and events with Exeter FITC and other community partners). No capacity in peak hours for community rugby.   |   |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:   |                              | n/a  |   |                  |
| <b>Action</b>   | <b>Sport(s)</b>              | <b>Lead</b>  | <b>PROTECT</b>  | <b>Timescale</b> |
|   | Hockey, Football, Rugby      | ECC  | Protect for sport   | Short Term       |
|   | Hockey                       | ISCA HC  | Seek to secure security of access to hockey AGPs  | Short Term       |
|   | Football, other pitch sports | Clubs  | Seek additional community hours of access to 3G AGP and MUGA for youth football training, and holiday activities including minor sports | Long Term        |

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Site Name: | <b>West Exe Community Sports Centre</b> (referenced 12A) |
|------------|--|



|                                   |  |             |                   |                  |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Pitch sports played on this site: | Hockey, Football (and other sports by school pupils)   |             |                   |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Sand filled AGP (100mx60m) floodlit - Good (80%) built 1999 last resurfaced in 2016</li> <li>o School changing</li> </ul>   |             |                   |                  |
| Clubs on this site:               | <p>Dart Hockey Club (2 mens teams, 3 womens teams) - this displaced demand returned to Totnes at start of 2017/18 season as their home pitch at King Edward VI Community College (KEVICC) has been resurfaced.</p> <p>West Exe Youth FC - midweek training</p> <p>Alphington FC - midweek training</p> |             |                   |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:         | Return of Dart Hockey Club to KEVICC releases peak time capacity in the peak hours to accommodate growth in demand for community hockey currently being experienced by several clubs based in the City   |             |                   |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:     | n/a  |             |                   |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>                | <b>Sport(s)</b>  | <b>Lead</b> | <b>PROTECT</b>    | <b>Timescale</b> |
|                                   | Hockey, Football   | ECC         | Protect for sport | Short Term       |
|                                   |  |             |                   |                  |

|   |                          |  |  |                  |
|---|--------------------------|--|--|------------------|
| Site Name:  |                          | <b>Wonford Sports Centre</b> (referenced 13A)  |  |                  |
|  |                          |  |  |                  |
| Pitch sports played on this site:   |                          | Football, informal use   |  |                  |
| Pitches on this site – quality:   |                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sand filled MUGA (35mx17m) floodlit - Poor, built 1995</li> <li>○ Pavilion (part of sports centre) - Poor (49%)</li> <li>○ Playing Field (see 37G)</li> </ul>   |  |                  |
| Clubs on this site:   |                          | <p>Managed by Legacy Leisure (ECC leisure management contractor) as part of community leisure centre - 5/6 a side games by informal teams</p> <p>Regular programming of low cost and free football sessions for young people by Exeter FITC team</p> |  |                  |
| Major / strategic issues:   |                          | Located in area of relative deprivation. £280k approximately of S106 funding is allocated to enhancing this site   |  |                  |
| Minor / Club specific issues:   |                          | n/a  |  |                  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>  | <b>Sport(s)</b>          | <b>Lead</b>  | <b>PROTECT &amp; ENHANCE</b>   | <b>Timescale</b> |
|   | Football, informal sport | ECC  | Protect for football and informal sport  | Short Term       |
|   | Football                 | ECC  | Reconfigure and enhance pitches and pavilion facilities as part of delivering a wider development plan for Wonford area including the leisure centre | Short Term       |
|   |                          |  |  |                  |

## 6. Conclusion

Exeter City Council is committed to ensuring that there are accessible, high quality and well-used playing pitches in the City in accordance with its objective for a healthy population and the wider Exeter vision to become the most active City in the South West. This strategy provides the blueprint for this work with partner organisations up to 2026. This Playing Pitch Strategy and its addendum assessment of need studies provide the evidence base of playing pitch community infrastructure priorities in Exeter City to 2026, to inform the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and guide investment decisions relating to playing pitches in the City during this period. It will also inform the preparation of the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan (GESP) to 2040. A Steering Group of key partner agencies and stakeholders has governed the PPS development process. These agencies, along with local sports clubs and community sport partners, will work together to implement the Strategy.

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## 7. Contact us

For further information about Exeter City Council's Playing Pitch Strategy please contact:

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