

OUTDOOR SPORTS AND PLAYING PITCH  
STRATEGY

SELBY DISTRICT COUNCIL

ASSESSMENT

FINAL REPORT APRIL 2016



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## Introduction and Scope

- 1.1 naa was commissioned by Selby Council in spring 2015 to produce an Outdoor Sports and Playing Pitch Assessment, Strategy and Action Plans for the district. The new strategy will update existing documents, and set out the strategic direction and site-specific priorities for the future delivery of facilities for football, cricket, rugby union, rugby league, hockey and tennis.
- 1.2 The prime aim of the study is to ensure that the evolving local plan (PLANSelby) and its policies for sport and recreation are produced in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework, and in particular that they are *“based on adequate, up to date and relevant evidence about the economic, social and environmental characteristics and prospects of the area. Local planning authorities should ensure that their assessments of and strategies for housing, employment and other uses are integrated, and that they take full account of relevant market and economic signals.”*
- 1.3 The aims of the Strategy and Action Plan, and the key drivers for the study, are to inform Selby Council on:
- A1 - outdoor sporting and recreational infrastructure that will be required to serve existing and new development, covering both the demand for and use of existing facilities and identifying priority locations for future provision;
  - A2 - the funding available from Sport England and other bodies to assist in the delivery of the strategy and action plan to ensure the area has good quality local and regional/national level sports facilities;
  - A3 - prioritisation of any funding for sport and recreation from local authority budgets, including from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL);
  - A4 - measures to promote greater physical activity locally;
  - A5 - the longer term sustainability of facilities and on-going funding and management; and
  - A6 - the potential for community use of private and educational establishment playing pitches.
- 1.4 This document sets out the key findings of and issues arising from the assessment and informs the preparation of the strategy document (under separate cover). It aims to;
- summarise the current supply of playing pitches in Selby;
  - outline current demand for facilities and evaluate projected demand up to 2027 (with a longer term projection to 2037);
  - evaluate the overall adequacy of provision to meet current and projected future demand; and
  - identify the key issues for the Selby Playing Pitch Strategy to address.
- 1.5 The strategy will build on the issues identified and set out strategic priorities and actions for delivery.

## 2: Methodology

- 2.1 This section describes the methodology that has been used. The methodology is based upon that set out in 'Playing Pitch Guidance, An approach to Developing and Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy (Sport England 2013).
- 2.2 Figure 2.1 summarises the stages of this methodology. This assessment report represents steps 1 – 6 while the strategy document will include recommendations and action plans for each local authority.

**Figure 2.1: Developing and Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy – The 10 Step Approach**



- 2.3 The remainder of this section briefly highlights the approach that has been undertaken in the preparation of this assessment and strategy.

## **Steps 2 and 3 – Gather Supply and Demand Information and Views**

### **Supply**

2.4 The data collection process included a full audit of pitches across the Selby area. For each site, the following information was collected:

- Site name, location, ownership and management type
- Number and type of pitches
- Accessibility of pitches to the community
- Overall quality of pitches and ancillary facilities
- Level of protection and security of tenure
- Views of users and providers.

The full data is contained in separate appendices.

### **Demand**

2.5 To evaluate the demand for playing pitches in the area, the following information was collated;

- Number of sports clubs and teams and their match and training requirements
- Casual and other demand
- Educational demand
- Displaced demand (i.e. teams wishing to play within the area but unable to)
- Latent demand (i.e. demand that might be generated if better facilities were available)
- Future demand (including population changes and the impact on team generation, club and team aspirations for development as well as National Governing Body priorities and targets)
- User views and experiences, including trends and changes in demand.

2.6 The following tasks were undertaken to compile the supply and demand information;

- Analysing the audit of playing fields and open space (existing strategies and other studies), Sport England's Active Places tool, and other sources of information
- Reviewing NGB data on pitches and local participation
- Full review of local league websites, fixture lists and pitch booking records (where available)
- Use of available technical quality assessment reports
- Undertaking non-technical site visits
- Undertaking a detailed survey to all high (and some other) schools and consultation with other playing pitch providers
- A full programme of consultation with sports clubs and league secretaries
- Engagement with providers of playing pitches
- Face to face and telephone discussions with NGBs to discuss key issues and priorities.

2.7 A high proportion of teams within Selby successfully engaged with the process (in part due to the efforts of local NGBs and other volunteers) as follows:

- Football – 72%
- Cricket – 89%
- Rugby Union – 76%
- Rugby League – 100%

- Hockey – 97%.
- Tennis – 88% of clubs

2.8 Given the large number of clubs and teams across all sports and three LA areas, this is considered an acceptable and significant response and allows a robust assessment to be undertaken. This and other data is set out in separate technical appendices.

#### **Steps 4, 5 and 6 – Assessing the Supply and Demand Information and Views**

2.9 The supply and demand information collated has been used to;

- understand the situation at individual sites;
- develop the current and projected future pictures of provision; and
- identify the key findings and issues that need to be addressed.

2.10 Figure 2.2 overleaf, extracted directly from the guidance (Sport England 2013), provides further detail of the issues explored during the analysis of the adequacy of provision.

#### **Steps 7 - 10 Develop the Strategy and Deliver the Strategy and Keep it Up to Date and Robust**

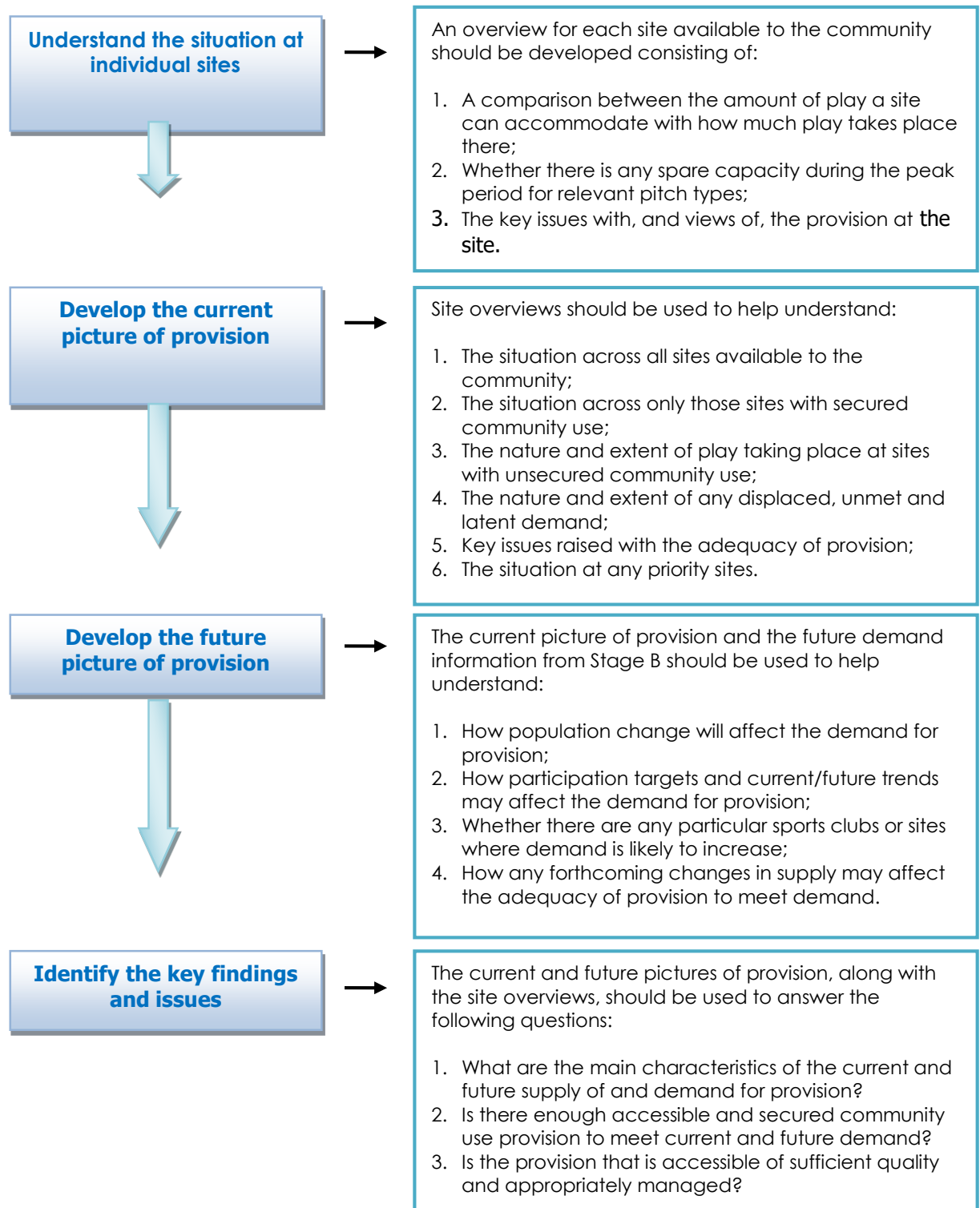
2.11 The strategy document for Selby will use the issues identified to set out a strategic framework for the provision of pitches across the area. This will include detailed action plans for the LA, which will be developed in collaboration with key providers and deliverers.

#### **This Assessment**

2.12 The remainder of this assessment therefore provides an overview of each sport in Selby, and summarises the issues identified.

2.13 Section 3 highlights the context for the study, demographic and participation profile in sport and physical activity of residents, as well as their propensity to participate in sport and physical activity. Key population trends that may influence demand for pitch provision in future years are also considered.

**Figure 2.2: Overview of the Assessment Process**



# 3: Context, Population and Sports Participation Profile

## Introduction

- 3.1 This section briefly summarises the key policies that impact upon the preparation of this assessment and strategy and provides an overview of the demographics of the Selby area and the impact of this on demand for pitch sports. It provides a broad synopsis only - sport specific issues and participation are discussed in Sections 4 – 9. This section draws on more detailed information set out in an accompanying report.

## Key documents review

- 3.2 The table below highlights the key findings from the review of key documents that provide a policy context for the Selby District outdoor sports and playing pitch strategy (and indoor sports facilities strategy in a separate study). The strategies have to take account of the national planning policy framework and Selby District's corporate and development planning documents. These documents define the framework for the development of Selby District's Local Plan and its requirements
- 3.3 The documents reviewed in the table are taken from appendix 5 of the project brief for the playing pitch and indoor facilities strategy. The 2006 Recreation Open Space Strategy is not included in the review because it is nine years old and the content is not specific to playing fields. Sport England requires a playing pitch strategy to be undertaken every three years to provide a robust and sound evidence base for planning purposes.
- 3.4 The Habitat Regulations Assessment and the Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal report are not included in the review because they do not contain content relevant to the playing pitches (or indoor sports facilities) studies.
- 3.5 The table below provides a short review of the key content of each document (first column) and then sets out how these key findings impact on the playing pitch and indoor facilities strategies (second column).

Key Content of each document	Relationship of the content to the outdoor sports and playing pitch strategy
<b>National Planning Guidance (NPPF)</b>	
<p>The NPPF (March 2012) sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied, It provides a framework within which local councils can produce their own local and neighbourhood plans, which reflect the needs and priorities of their communities.</p> <p>Paragraphs 73 and 74 of the NPPF are most relevant to the development of the assessment of need, evidence base for the Selby strategies.</p> <p>Paragraph 73</p> <p>Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well being of communities. Planning</p>	<p>The methodology for developing the assessment for indoor sports facilities and playing pitches which preceded the NPPF was Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 Open Space, Sport and Recreation. The companion guide to PPG 17 set out the methodology and recommended approach to local authorities to develop the assessment for indoor sports facilities.</p> <p>For playing pitches the methodology was contained in the Sport England document Towards a Level Playing Field.</p> <p>Once PPG 17 was withdrawn Sport England as the lead organisation for sport and recreation developed new guidance following the NPPF direction and content.</p> <p>For playing pitches Sport England produced a</p>



<p>policies should be based on robust and up to date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative and qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision is required.</p> <p>Paragraph 74</p> <p>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. 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</p>	<p>guidance document in 2013 with a recommended step-by-step approach to developing and delivering a playing pitch strategy (PPS).</p> <p>The scope includes both natural and artificial grass pitches. The document and approach has been developed by Sport England in partnership with: the Football Association; England and Wales Cricket Board; Rugby Football Union; Rugby Football League and England Hockey Board. This document replaces Sport England's previous 2003 guidance document 'Towards a level playing field: A guide to the production of playing pitch strategies'.</p> <p>Sport England believes that to ensure there is a good supply of high quality playing pitches and playing fields to meet the sporting needs of local communities, all local authorities should have an up to date PPS. Sport England applies the findings of a PPS in its assessment of local development plans and in its statutory role of a consultee for planning applications involving the development or loss of playing field land. It is essential therefore that a PPS complies with the SE/NGB guidance.</p>
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**National Planning Practice Guidance (Updated 6 March 2014 and March 2015)**

<p>The 2014 National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) has an update topic report on open space, sport and recreation facilities. It refers/signposts local authorities to the Sport England guidance (described above) as the source for who should undertake needs assessment, why and how these are applied.</p> <p>The 2015 National Planning Practice Guidance update does not contain any updates/topics which are about playing pitches or indoor sports and recreational facilities.</p>	<p>The NPPG is simply endorsing the Sport England guidance as the methodology for undertaking needs assessments. It does not set out any further or wider guidance on methodology or provided examples of actual planning practice. The Selby studies do need to adhere to the Sport England and NGB methodology.</p>
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**Selby District Council: Core Strategy Local Plan (October 2013)**

<p>The Council adopted the Selby District Core Strategy Local Plan on 22 October 2013. The core strategy covers the period 2011 – 2027.</p> <p>Site specific polices and allocations are to be developed through a separate/subsequent Site Allocations Local Plan.</p> <p>Core strategy vision – by 2027 Selby will have a distinctive and outstanding I environment, a diverse economy and attractive villages and towns. Residents will have a high quality of life and there will be a wide range of housing and</p>	<p>The PPS will have a shorter life span than the core strategy – 2015/6 – 2026. However, Sport England requires a PPS to be reviewed/updated every three years for it to remain robust and sound. It is five years for an indoor sports facilities strategy.</p> <p>Consequently, to meet Sport England's requirements there will be a need to undertake reviews and updates of both strategies at these intervals.</p> <p>No reference in the vision directly or indirectly to provision of indoor and outdoor facilities – as a way of improving the quality of life or the health of</p>
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<p>employment opportunities to help create socially balanced and sustainable communities which are less dependent on surrounding towns and cities.</p> <p>Seventeen objectives in the Core Strategy.</p> <p>Objective 13 is "improving the quality of cultural and leisure opportunities across the district and improving tourism facilities"</p> <p>Objective 14 is protecting enhancing and extending green infrastructure including natural habitats, urban greenspace, sports fields, and recreation areas.</p> <p>Policy SP 12 – Access to services, community facilities and infrastructure is the policy that covers indoor sports facilities and playing pitches.</p> <p>Sustainability Appraisal Scoping (SAS) report notes certain areas of the district have a deficiency in open space</p> <p>IDP lists recreation open space as an infrastructure topic</p>	<p>residents by activity.</p> <p>Objectives 13 and 14 do not refer to outdoor facility provision. Important to establish what the needs are and build findings into site allocation and local subject policies.</p> <p>Objective 14 follows protect, enhance and provide sequence. Strategies have to use needs assessment to set out requirements/recommendations/actions under these three headings.</p> <p>Majority of SP 12 and reasoned justification is content on green infrastructure.</p> <p>Site allocations plan is to establish need, scale of infrastructure related to new development and through obligations as well.</p> <p>SAS does not define if this is recreational open space and or actual pitch needs – best to assume it is not the latter and develop PPS, then relate back to these areas and see how it matches up.</p> <p>IDP does not list playing pitches or indoor sports facilities as IDP topics – are they an integral part of community infrastructure or not?</p> <p>Policy is thin on inclusion for pitches (and indoor facilities). If no evidence base or questionable if they are not part of IDP then challenging to see how policy SP 12 can be applied - e.g. how can it be shown there is a need to provide pitches on site or scale of new development is such that it should be off site provision of pitches or indoor facilities, if there is no evidence base to substantiate the policy?</p> <p>The evidence base and strategies have greater application to support the protection of facilities, enhancement of existing and new provision based on the sporting case of participation, rather than in support of the core strategy policies. No reference to creating a healthy and active lifestyle as a core overarching strategy aim (but this is in the SDC Corporate Plan 2011- 2015 and 2015 – 2020) and so it would appear there is not this dimension in the ore strategy in application of the evidence base and strategy.</p>
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### Planning Inspectorate Inspector's Report on the Selby District Core Strategy

The Planning Inspector's report on the Selby District Core strategy (June 2013 Inspector Martin Pyke) does not contain any comment on the Selby core strategy in relation to playing fields or indoor sports facilities.

### Selby District Council Local Plan Annual Monitoring Report 2013 (April 2012 – March 2013)

Page 29 (paras 4.22 – 4.27) of the monitoring report refers to the Core Strategy policy on Access to services, community facilities and infrastructure in relation to sums collected as contributions to provision of open space – no reference to playing fields or built facilities.

### Selby District Council Local Plan Annual Monitoring Reports 2014 (April 2013 – March 2014) and 2014 - 15

Page 30 of the 2013 - 14 monitoring report refers to the Core strategy policy on Access to services, community facilities and infrastructure but this is in relation to sums collected as contributions to provision of open space

Page 37 para 5.9 refers to the gain of four grass pitches at Queen Margaret School Escrick.

The 2014 – 15 annual monitoring report does not contain any content which relates to playing pitches or indoor sports and recreational facilities

Reviews the four new grass pitches at St Margaret's school and which are included in the PPS assessment based on the type of pitches they are and amount of access for community use

### PLAN Selby and Leeds City Region Duty to Cooperate Statements (2014)

The 2014 Selby District duty to co-operate (DTC) statement is prepared to accompany the Sites and Policies Local Plan. It sets out: an introduction; requirements; context; collaborative working; current approach; Selby context; cross boundary issues; and conclusions to DTC.

No specific mention of topics relating to playing pitches or indoor sports facilities under any of the headings in the DTC statement

### PLAN Selby Sites and Policies Local Plan

PLAN Selby" is the Sites and Policies Local Plan to deliver the strategic vision of the Core Strategy. When adopted, PLAN Selby will form part of the Local Plan for the District against which planning applications will be assessed.

The new Local Plan will consider the detailed options of delivering the Core Strategy

PLAN Selby will incorporate site allocations, site specific designations and proposals and policies, and the development management policies which are necessary to deliver the

Output of the PPS (and indoor sports facilities) strategy is to deliver the requirements for the Local Plan. Requirement to set out policy proposals based on evidence base and under the three headings of protect, enhance and provide.

Explained to SDC the timetable and process for the PPS has to follow process adopted by Sport England and NGBs for pitch sports. So timetable for PPS allows completion by February 2016.

Likely major issue for outdoor facilities is need for retention/protection of outdoor sports facilities -

<p>Core Strategy.</p> <p>Initial consultation on the LP held November 2014 – January 2015.</p> <p>This was followed by a focused engagement which took place between June and August 2015, allowing stakeholders to provide input to the on-going evidence base work and providing the opportunity for more detailed discussion of emerging issues and options to inform future decision making on the policies and proposals for inclusion in the plan.</p> <p>The consultation draft on the preferred options is scheduled for June 2016</p> <p>Six key issues identified. T6 includes green infrastructure and recreation open space. Core strategy policy ref is SP 18 a protective policy for land for these uses.</p> <p>Table 9 (p 66) includes reference to need to develop local plan policies for recreation open space and community/recreation facilities and invites comments.</p> <p>Table 11 evidence base timetable and content references PPG 17 study as Nov 14 – Sept 15</p> <p>SDC response to consultation scheduled for summer 2015. With final draft Local Plan to follow</p>	<p>any reduction in access/supply could lead to demand exceeding supply overall and in specific parts of the district. Sport England responded to the focused consultation (item 63 in the alphabetical list of consultees' responses). Its key comments concerned the need for the local plan to undertake needs assessments and develop a strategy for outdoor and indoor sports and recreational facilities. In effect quoting paragraphs 30,, 59, 73 and 74 of the NPPF</p> <p>Sport England is objecting to the Selby District Local Plan because (at the time of their comments July 2015) the District did not have an up to date evidence base and strategy for playing pitches or built sports facilities.</p> <p>The Selby District PPS and built sports facilities strategy is, in effect, providing the evidence base and strategy to mitigate and remove the Sport England objection.</p>
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**PLAN Selby Initial Consultations**

<p>A review of the consultations received on the PLAN Selby Initial Consultations identified the following</p> <p>Escrick Parish Council – keen to ensure there is protection of the existing open space and playing fields in the Parish council area. Do not consider there is any need for any new provision</p> <p>Riccall Parish Council, extensive 19-page response but no comments on playing fields or indoor built sports and recreation facilities.</p> <p>Tadcaster and Selby Town Councils – no comments on playing fields or indoor facilities.</p> <p>The focused engagement which took place between June and August 2015, allowing stakeholders to provide input to the on-going</p>	<p>Review the specific comments made as part of the development of the assessment of need.</p>
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<p>evidence base work and providing the opportunity for more detailed discussion of emerging issues and options did not identify further issues. to those referenced already above for local organisations and by Sport England</p>	
<b>SDC Draft Infrastructure Delivery Plan January 2014</b>	
<p>Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) sets out needs and costs, funding sources, responsibility for delivery and site specific needs for sites in the SAPP.</p> <p>Settlement summary of infrastructure (p 13 – 17) does not identify and playing field/indoor sports facility needs.</p> <p>Appendix 1 listing of infrastructure needs lists improvements to sports pavilions as part of the community facilities block.</p>	<p>Leisure and green infrastructure are identified topics in the IDP. Pages 12 – 13 but does not include references to playing fields in green infrastructure or indoor sports facilities in the community facilities/leisure topic.</p> <p>Need to consider Appendix 1 and infrastructure needs (identified under community facilities heading) for improvement to sports pavilions – provides a funding source for any evidence of need/type of improvement and locations etc.</p>
<b>CIL Charging Schedule 2016</b>	
<p>According to the SDC web site the revised Community Infrastructure Levy charging schedule will take effect in January 2016. This is following last consultations received and modifications made. Consultation on the updated CIL took place from 14 July -18 September 2014.</p>	<p>The charging schedule (part 3)) does include community facilities (no definition/scope) but at proposed zero charge to developers.</p> <p>Would appear that development contributions will not come from part of community infrastructure but as sec 106 Agreements either on site or from any pooling of agreements.</p>
<b>Developers Contribution Supplementary Planning Guidance March 2007</b>	
<p>Community facilities (p12) includes indoor sports and recreational facilities. Evidence of need by discussion with local groups and key stakeholders.</p> <p>Recreation open space (p 8) does not specify playing fields. Evidence base reference is PPG 17 (p55) and 2007 Recreation Open Space Strategy. This section on types of provision does not include playing fields as a category.</p> <p>Section on Education, primary health care and community facilities (p97) has content focused on education needs, methodology and processes. No inclusion of sports and recreational facilities within this section.</p>	<p>New evidence base and strategy for PPS will provide new guidance for SPG contributions for playing fields and outdoor sports. Presume this will be a category.</p>
<b>Countryside and Green Spaces Strategy 2013</b>	
<p>The Countryside and Green Space Strategy</p>	<p>The scope of the strategy whilst includes access</p>

<p>provides a strategic framework for the sustainable development and management of such assets in the District. It follows national guidance and learning, and complements the county-wide approach to countryside and green space management.</p> <p>Green space is defined as an area of undeveloped land separating or surrounding areas of intense residential or industrial use that is maintained for recreational enjoyment or ecological benefit.</p> <p>Strategy is for five years and will be reviewed annually. It has 5 themes (p9) one of which is access and recreation. The theme is about getting out and about and the activities described are about walking and developing and improving access e.g. creating footpaths.</p>	<p>and recreation does not promote playing of sports or use of playing pitches. Pitches are not listed for their open space/amenity value. The strategy scope does not cross refer to the PPS</p>
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**SDC Corporate Plan 2015 - 2020**

<p>Reference (up front) to 2011 – 2015 CP and delivery of the new Selby Leisure Centre and an increase in adult sports participation, this is under the Living Well theme.</p> <p>Vision for the new CP is to make Selby a great place to do business, enjoy life and make a difference. There are three themes to the CP and supported by a fourth theme of Selby District Council delivering great value.</p> <p>Under the enjoy life theme the focus is on creating more opportunities for residents to enjoy an active and healthy lifestyle and tackle obesity (pages 15 - 16).</p>	<p>Document sets out five themes for the CP and sport and physical activity are in the living well theme. PPS and Indoor facilities have to set out profile of participation and non-participation - so set out the extent of the challenge to contribute to this theme.</p> <p>It can highlight areas of participation and non-participation, spatially and by age and gender. Set out the barriers and motivations for participation across Selby.</p> <p>This sport and physical activity profile can then provide an evidence base to inform the review and progress of the Corporate Plan.</p>
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**Population and Sports Participation**

- 3.6 An understanding of population trends and overall participation in sport underpins the evaluation of the adequacy of facilities for football, cricket, rugby union and league, hockey and tennis in later sections. It provides an understanding of potential participation and latent demand as well as current levels of participation in sport and physical activity. As such, it provides an important context for playing pitch provision.
- 3.7 This summary of key issues and trends draws on the findings from the Sport England Active People surveys and Sport England's Market Segmentation. The theoretical information summarised in this section will then be used to inform the sport specific assessments set out in Sections 4 to 9. A fuller explanation of the data collected (including graphics and maps) is given in a Sports and Physical Activity Profile which accompanies the Indoor Facilities Strategy produced in conjunction with this Outdoor Sports and Playing Pitch study.

## Population Profile and Trends

3.8 The current population profile and projected changes over the 2015 – 2027/37 periods are extracted from ONS data and are based upon the most up to date population projections that are available. They are trend based projections based on recent changes in housing and population, and do not take into account any policy changes.

3.9 The key issues arising from analysis of the population profile are that;

- The current (2015) population of Selby is estimated at 86,300 people, of which 42,300 are male (49%) and 43,900 are female (51%). The overall population structure is as follows (data extrapolated from Sport England's Local Sport Profile and compared with the Yorkshire and Humber regional and national averages):
  - very slightly fewer proportion of females than regional and national average;
  - fewer people in the 16-19 age group than the regional or national average;
  - considerably fewer people in the 20-24 age group;
  - fewer people in the 25-34 age group;
  - considerably more people in the 35-49 age group;
  - more people in the 50-64 age group; and
  - on a par with regional and national average for people aged 65+.
- There is a projected increase overall of 9.7% to about 94,600 in 2027 and 15% to 99,200 in 2037,
- Despite the overall population increase, the change in the 'active population' (i.e. those between 5 and 54 which encompasses almost all outdoor sports players) is a 0.5% decline to 2027, and a 2.9% increase to 2037, as the population is estimated to age gradually;
- However, there are significant population increases in the age groups from 10-19 which has implications for junior development of each sport and the demand for playing pitches; and
- There are also population increases among residents aged 55 and above – these residents have a much lower propensity to participate in pitch sports, although they are still active in some sports (e.g. tennis) to an extent.

**Table 3.1: Population change by age bands for Selby District 2015 – 2027/37**

Age group	Change 2015-2027	Change 2015-2037
<b>Total population</b>	+9.7%	+15%
<b>Active population (5-54)</b>	- 0.5%	+2.9%
<b>Less active population (55 – 64)</b>	+21.6%	+1.7%
<b>Inactive population (0-4, 65+)</b>	+28.2%	+51.7%
<b>Junior sport (10-19)</b>	+ 13.9%	+ 15.7%
<b>Adult outdoor sports (20-44)</b>	+ 2.6%	+ 4.22%

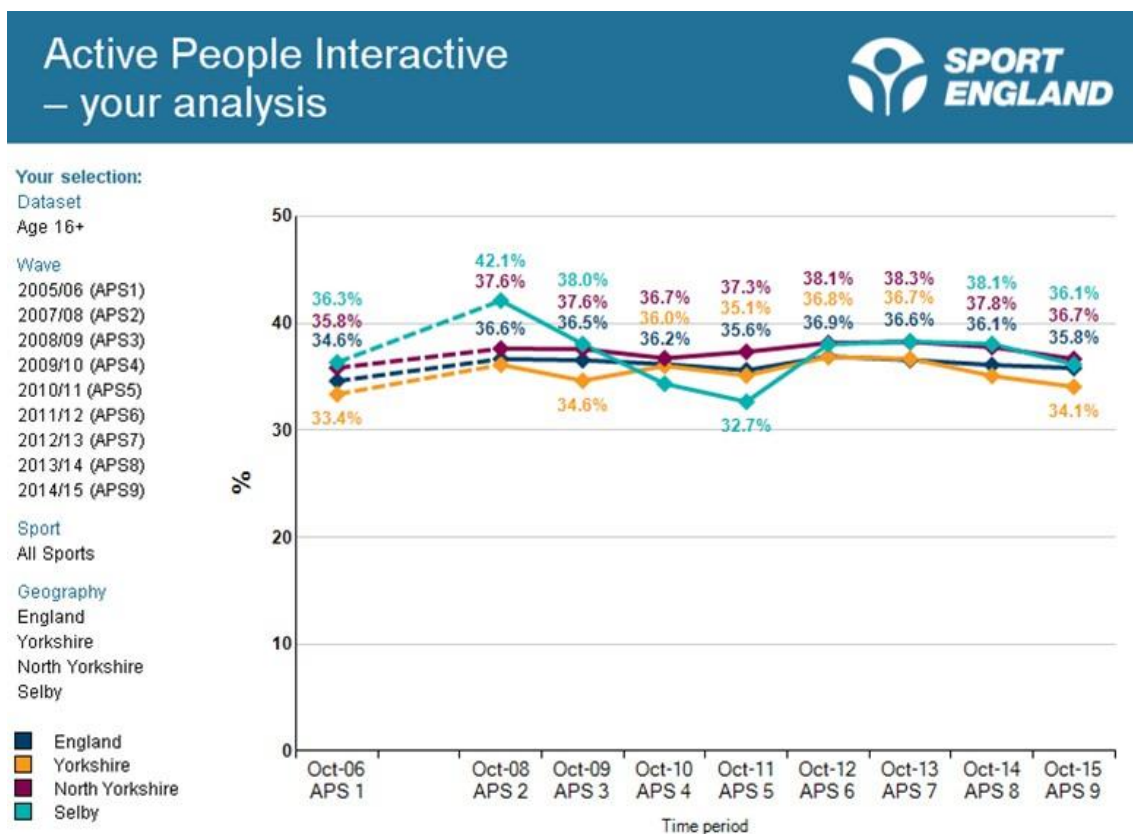


3.10 Other findings from Census and other data (ONS, DCLG, Department of Health) suggest that the population is primarily (99%) white, there is a slightly larger proportion of disabled people than average, possibly a reflection of a high elderly population, and Selby is in the lowest 30% of deprived LAs in the country. These and other factors have a significant impact on sports participation and future demand. This and other contextual data are dealt with more fully in the separate document.

### Adult Participation in Sport

3.11 The Active People Survey has been undertaken annually since 2006 by Sport England, to measure participation in sport and other associated factors. The figures reveal a fluctuating situation over the last 9 years:

- Selby's once per week participation rate overall at present is 36.1%, which is slightly above the national average;



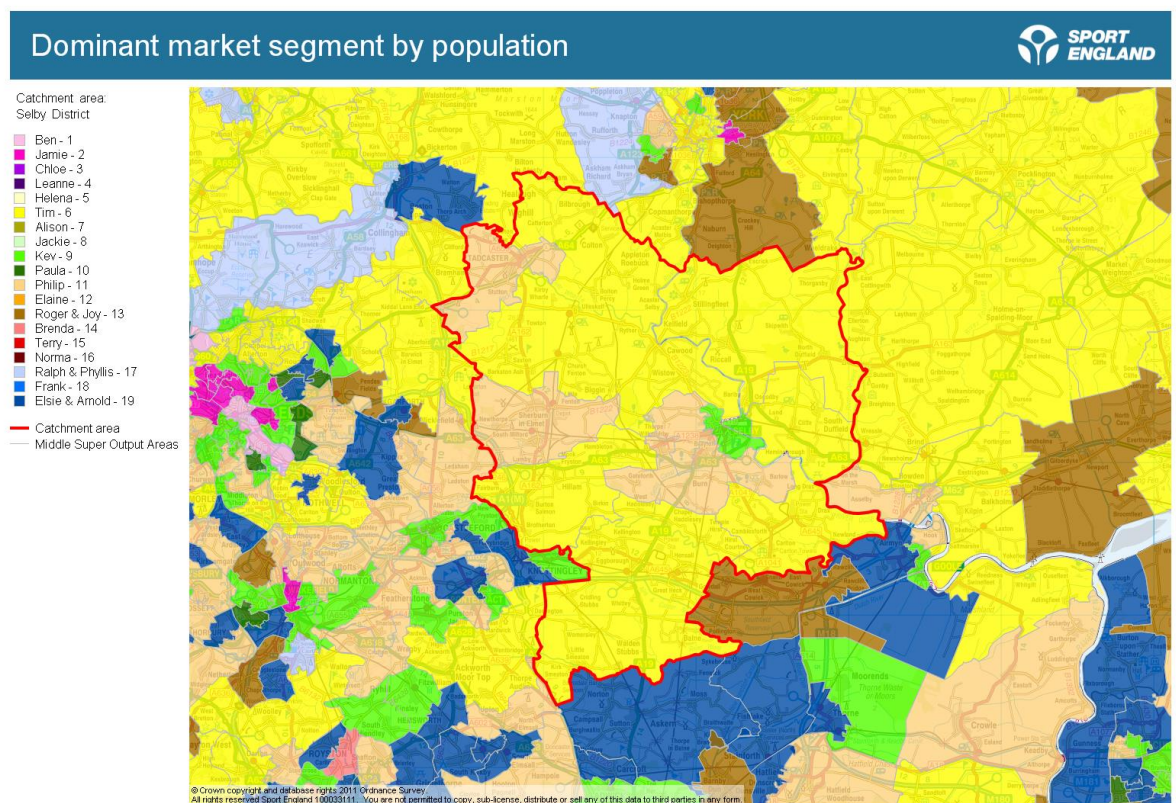
**Chart 3.1: Sports participation in Selby**

- the rate has varied considerably since 2006, but has remained fairly steady over the past three years, and arrested a decline from 2008-2011;
- the current situation suggests that there are still strong reasons for building participation in outdoor sport and active recreation in the area in the future. Participation rates in individual pitch and other outdoor sports (where information is available) are set out in the relevant sports sections below; and
- a more detailed description of recent overall trends in sports participation in Selby is set out in the indoor facilities study.



## Profile of Sports Participation in Selby

- 3.12 Building upon the Active People survey findings (which record participation of adults 16+, and linking with Mosaic Lifestyle data), Sport England has analysed data on the English population (18+) to produce 19 market segments considered to have distinct sporting behaviours and attitudes (further explanation of the Market Segments and their implications for sport are also set out in the indoor sports study. The following link is also useful <http://segments.sportengland.org/querySegments.aspx>).
- 3.13 Map 3.1 below summarise the market segmentation profile for Selby – this information is also available in bar chart form and this is included in Appendix MS1. It is followed by a description of each of the dominant market segments in the area and their sporting activity profile.



**Map 3.1: Dominant Market Segments by population and location**

- 3.14 There are five dominant market segments across the middle output areas of Selby. This is within the usual range of dominant segments for an authority. However, there is a very strong representation of Tim (shaded yellow) and which represents around 75% of the Selby total output areas. The other dominant segments in order of scale are: Philip (shaded beige); Roger and Joy (dark brown); Elsie and Arnold (shade dark blue); and Kev (shaded lime green).
- 3.15 The MS profiles for these segments are as follows;

- **Tim** ('Settling down male') is a very active type enjoying high intensity activities including team games as well as personal fitness activities. Tim is more likely than all adults to take part in football and also enjoys cycling, keep fit and swimming. (segment 6)
- **Philip** ('Comfortable Mid-Life Male') is another relatively active segment and is the most active segment within his age group, likely to enjoy team sports such as football and cricket as well as indoor activities including badminton and gym-based activities. Philip is likely to be a member of a club and to take part in competitive sport (segment 9)
- **Roger and Joy** ('Early retirement couple') are slightly less active than the average adult population. The top sports that Roger & Joy participate in are keep fit/gym and swimming cycling, golf and angling. They are unlikely to take part in pitch or similar outdoor sports (segment 13)
- **Elsie and Arnold** ('Retired') are much less active than the average adult population, but their activity levels are more consistent with other segments in this age range. They are likely to be doing less sport than 12 months ago, mainly due to health or injury. The top sports/activities that Elsie & Arnold participate in are walking, swimming, dancing, bowls and low impact exercise (segment 19)
- **Kev** ('Pub league playing with his mates') has average levels of sports participation. He is a social rather than competitive organised participant and takes part in keep fit and gym. Sports of interest are football (high participation compared to national levels), cycling, and swimming. Kev may also take part in athletics or running, golf, angling, badminton, archery or martial arts/combat sports (segment 9).

3.16 The segments with the highest participation rates and which are most likely to play pitch sports are aged from 16 – 34 (segments 1-7 in the scale). With the exception of Tim, these groups are not the most dominant segments within Selby. Nonetheless, about 40% of the adult population does fall within these 'pitch-playing' segments, suggesting that there is likely to be a demand for pitch sports from the Selby population.

3.17 Overall therefore, evidence suggests that pitch sports can and do play an important role in promoting participation in Selby. The dominance of those market segments that are not interested in pitch sports does however serve to highlight the importance of balancing the provision of playing pitches with the provision of other sporting opportunities, particularly for older people.

### Health indicators

3.18 The accompanying sports profile also addresses the issue of health levels, obesity and their impact on/relationship with participation. Detailed data is set out, and the main findings are that:

- obesity levels in Selby are higher than average among adults, but lower among children;
- life expectancy is about average;
- the levels of preventable deaths are low in the range of between 25% and 50% of the adult population being active and only become significant when participation rate is at the 75% - 100% of the adult population These findings, allied to the

evidence that 50% of the Selby adult population in October 2014 do no activity, does underline the scale of the challenge to create a healthier lifestyle amongst residents;

- the total cost of physical inactivity for a range of illnesses is lower in Selby than the average; and
- increased activity in playing pitch and other outdoor sports resulting from the Playing Pitch Strategy can contribute to an improvement in levels of health in the area, and a reduction in obesity, if used by health agencies as a driver.

#### Summary

- **The current population of Selby is about 86,300, and projected to increase overall by 9.7% to 2027 and 15% to 2037.**
- **However, the 'active population' is estimated to decline by 0.5% overall to 2027 and increase only slightly by 2.9% by 2037, as the population is projected to age gradually. Demand for sport will therefore decrease overall in the short term unless positive action is taken, and increase only slightly in the latter period.**
- **There are significant population increases in the age groups from 10-19 which has implications for junior development of each sport and the demand for playing pitches, and also increases among residents aged 55 and above – these residents have a much lower propensity to participate in pitch sports, although they are still active to an extent in some outdoor sports.**
- **Other findings suggest that the population is primarily white, and that Selby has no significant deprivation overall. These factors have implications for sports participation, in terms of physical and financial access to sport, motivation to take part and other factors,**
- **Average adult participation rates overall are about 36%, slightly above the national average, and have steadied since 2011 after a decline in previous years since 2008. There are still strong reasons for building participation in sport and active recreation in the area in the future.**
- **The market segments with the highest participation rates and which are most likely to play pitch sports in general are aged from 16 – 34 (segments 1-7 in the scale)). With one exception, these groups are not the most dominant segments within the area, but there is some representation in several of these groups, suggesting that a proportion of the population will be keen to play sports.**
- **Overall therefore, evidence suggests that pitch sports can and do play an important role in promoting participation in the Selby area. The dominance of some market segments that are not interested in pitch sports does however serve to highlight the importance of balancing the provision of playing pitches with the provision of other sporting opportunities, particularly for older people.**

3.19 The remainder of this report draws on the contextual information in this section, and provides an overview of issues for football, cricket, rugby union, rugby league, hockey and tennis in Selby.

## Introduction

4.1 This section assesses the adequacy of pitches for football in Selby. It includes;

- A brief overview of the supply and demand for football
- An understanding of activity at individual sites in the area
- A picture of the adequacy of current provision
- The future picture of provision for football.
- Consideration of the role of artificial grass pitches

## Football in Selby – An Overview

### Pitch Supply

4.2 There are 76 individual formal grass football pitches across the Selby area. Table 4.1 summarises the breakdown of pitch sizes. Site-specific detail is provided in a separate appendix (F1 football pitches), and the pitches are shown on Map F1.

**Table 4.1: Football pitches across the Selby area**

Adult	Junior	9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
30	5	12	17	12	76

4.3 The figures include all those pitches available for wider community use (i.e. for hire by, leased to or owned by community clubs/teams) and actually at the time of the study in use for such (the figures generally relate to the start of season 2015-16). The pitch categories are based on measurements taken on site and correspond with the recommended dimensions approved by the FA – in some cases, there may be some minor disparity with supplied data, but this approach is taken for the sake of consistency. In addition to these discrete pitches, there are a number of other smaller pitches (9v9, 7v7 and 5v5), which are overmarked on mainly 11v11 pitches, totalling 15 pitches.

4.4 The pitch totals above reveal that;

- almost 40% of pitches are adult sized – there are very few considered to be junior 11v11 pitches, an increasing number of 9v9, and a further 40% are for mini football, either 5v5 or 7v7 for individual age groups;
- there are numerous pitches on school sites throughout the area, mainly high schools and junior schools that are used solely by the school for its own purposes, and not at present available for wider community use. Schools that do not already open their facilities indicated little interest in doing so. The key barriers are the poor quality of existing facilities, potential over use and security issues. This suggests that there is limited scope to increase the pitch stock further through community use of school sites, unless these barriers can be addressed. Other school pitches identified are also set out in Appendix F1; and
- most school facilities that offer community use currently, but without long-term security that this arrangement will remain in place, are either junior or mini pitches, suggesting that it might be to the detriment of the development of junior football should access to these sites no longer be available. This could be a significant factor in the future.

### Closed / Potential Sites

- 4.5 There are several pitches and sites that have previously been playing fields but are not currently operating as such. These are also set out in Appendix F1, and include facilities at Barlow, Drax, Monk Fryston/Hillam and Wistow. Some of these sites may provide opportunities to increase the stock of facilities should a lack of capacity be identified in the current facility stock. There is no reason to suggest that future use for football might not be possible, except in the case of the former Monk Fryston Utd facility in Lowfield Lane, which is now overgrown and derelict, and remote from the nearest village.

### Ownership and Management

- 4.6 Table 4.2 illustrates that there is a wide range of ownerships of football pitches in Selby. About one third are owned by the local Parish Council or Playing Fields/Village Hall committee and rented to football clubs, while 22% are situated on school or college sites, and generally available to clubs and teams on a more short term basis. Clubs own about 20% of the pitches, usually the main senior clubs in the area, or through a parent organisation or employer, while a significant amount of pitches are rented from private landlords in the area. There are only three pitches in the ownership of the local authority, and these are managed by its leisure contractors, Wigan Leisure. Unusually there is less reliance by football clubs on 'public' pitches in LA or parish ownership, and the important role that local councils or village organisations have in enabling football participation in the area.
- 4.7 Because of the nature of ownership and management, it is difficult to establish the long term security of tenure of pitches – most 'public' sites within the area are under the control of a parish/town council or village playing field committee (see below), very few are run by the LA (just two sites) and few if any of the school pitches are understood to have a formal community use agreement.

**Table 4.2: Ownership and management of pitches**

PC/TC/VH/PF Cttee	LA	Education	Club	Private	Total
24 (32%)	3 (4%)	17 (22%)	15 (20%)	17 (22%)	76

### Distribution of Pitches

- 4.8 Despite the large and rural nature of much of the study area, most parts of the whole area are accessible to football pitches within a reasonable drive time (see Map F1).

### Quality

- 4.9 Pitch quality varies relatively little, although there may be differences in pitch quality within specific sites as well as across the area. Overall, 31% are considered good in accordance with the non-technical assessment undertaken by site visits, and 69% standard. No pitches are considered poor. This is a reflection of the relatively low rainfall and generally good ground conditions compared with other parts of the country (despite the flooding that occurred just after the site inspections were undertaken). Club perceptions about quality are dealt with in more detail below. There is no noticeable difference in the quality of pitches in general according to ownership and management.
- 4.10 The quality of changing accommodation varies more widely – 10% of facilities are scored good, 65% standard and 25% poor. There are a number of sites that do not have purpose built changing accommodation at all, including Hambleton PF, Monk Fryston FC, Riccall Jubilee PF and Tadcaster Ings.



### Other facilities providing for football

4.11 There are a number of non-turf facilities in the Selby area which complement the overall stock of grass football pitches which are as follows:

- Artificial grass pitches, of which there are 7 facilities. Full size pitches are sand based and floodlit, and used variously for informal football training and 5/7 a side leagues, as well as hockey. Some smaller 3G AGPs are used mainly for football training and casual participation. They are not generally big enough for competitive full sided play
- Multi Use Games Areas (usually floodlit) at a number of locations. While these are theoretically available for football, there is no striking evidence of their use for training or other formal football activity (these did not form part of the study, but were observed during site inspections)
- There are no purpose built commercially run 5/7 a side football centres in the area used for organised leagues on an intensive and regular basis, although there is some commercial usage of existing AGPs for this purpose.

4.12 These non-turf facilities are considered below.

### Clubs, teams and Leagues

4.13 Football is the most popular outdoor/pitch sport in the area with over 50% of the total number of clubs and teams in the five main pitch sports. It is estimated from extensive research of websites, FA data, previous studies and local authority booking records that there are 160 football teams in the area playing in competition, and these are set out in table 4.3 below. This audit of teams and clubs represents a snapshot in time and is designed to provide an accurate understanding of the level of current demand. A list of current teams and clubs is included in a separate Appendix F2).

**Table 4.3: Football teams in the Selby area**

Senior Men	Junior /Youth11V11	9V9	Mini	Women and girls	Total
43	35	25	49	8	160

4.14 Based on the FA data on numbers of players required to form teams, it is estimated that this number of teams and clubs yields about 2300 regular footballers across the Selby area. Adult men account for about a third of the total.

4.15 In addition, there may be teams playing at locations outside but on the edge of Selby district, which inevitably take in players from within the area, and vice versa (York, Goole, Snaith and other towns). It is not possible to estimate precisely the quantity of import and export of demand without undertaking a full study of all neighbouring districts, but the essentially rural nature of the edge of the district probably restricts this to a small number, and the effect is likely to be neutral.

4.16 Analysis of the number of teams demonstrates that most clubs focus entirely on either senior, youth/junior or mini football, and there are relatively few clubs who provide a pathway through the age groups.

4.17 Charter Standard is the FA kite mark symbolising quality, and identifies where best practice exists. Recent data from the County FA records suggest that 87.9% of youth and mini-soccer teams in Selby play within a club of Charter Standard status. This is considered a satisfactory level by West Riding CFA.

#### **Recent changes in activity levels**

4.18 The current study has used a number of sources from which to identify teams and clubs, and these may not entirely accord with FA data, being based on slightly different criteria and different timescales. However, the change in participation between 2012-13 and 2013-14 (latest data available from the FA) in the FA local participation data suggests that the number of teams increased by 10 teams overall comprising:

- an increase of 3 adult team(s);
- an increase of 3 youth team(s) (all formats); and
- an increase of 4 mini-soccer team(s).

4.19 According to the club consultation (see below), almost half of clubs responding are fielding more teams now (2015-16) than the previous year. It is generally concluded that where there are more teams than in the past, these are mainly youth and particularly mini – the demand for conventional 11 a side adult football on grass is on the decline.

4.20 The contrast between consecutive years' data from the FA and clubs suggests that there is a quick turnover of clubs and teams from one season to the next. The data collected in connection with the current study has been checked and is considered to represent a snapshot of the situation in the Selby area at the beginning of the 2015-16 season, which is robust enough for the conclusions that emanate from the study.

4.21 Other evidence from Sport England's APS survey and from club responses is set out below.

#### **Leagues and clubs**

4.22 From FA and other data, it appears that there are up to 30 local and more regional football leagues with clubs playing in the Selby area. Some of these only have 1 or 2 clubs playing in the area but the main leagues serving the area, with the most clubs and teams, are as follows:

**Selby and District Football League** currently has 10 adult teams in one division on Saturday, although in the recent past, the league has had up to 30 teams in three divisions. The league lost 4 teams last season, and there are administration problems hindering development. There has been a shift in football away from works teams to small-sided competition. Nonetheless the league hopes to increase the number of divisions next season.

**Selby and District Junior League** established in about 2000, currently incorporates 260 junior and youth teams from 55 clubs, from an area within 22 miles of Selby Abbey, usually playing on Saturday morning. Ages range from u7 to u16, with the possibility of forming an u17 league next season. The league has experienced year on year growth in teams since formation, and is only constrained by the availability of helpers and pitches

**YMSV York Minor League** comprises about 93 junior/youth teams in 12 divisions, from u13 – u19, playing on Sunday

**York and Ryedale Mitchell Sports League** is a youth and junior league with 31 clubs, about 220 teams and 28 divisions from u7 – u12. Teams play on Sunday

**York Minster Engineering League** currently fields 87 teams in 8 divisions, including reserves', playing on Saturday afternoon. In former years there were more clubs - in 2011/12 for example, there were 94 teams in 9 divisions (including 1 additional reserves')

**Ian's Cars of Barlby York Sunday Morning League** comprises 21 adult teams in 2 divisions, playing on Sunday morning. There has been a decline in the number of teams over the years.

**Garforth Junior League** is based mainly in the Leeds area, and comprises about 30 divisions with 250 clubs from u11-u18, and a further 19 friendly divisions with about 150 teams from u7 – u9.

### Club consultation

4.23 Clubs were consulted on their facilities, current team generation, likely future demand, facility quality and other issues affecting overall participation and the broad results from those responding are set out below. The club responses are set out more fully in Appendix F3:

- 48% of clubs responding are fielding more teams than the previous year, 15% the same and 37% fewer. The increase is mainly in youth and mini, the decrease in adult football
- Most clubs are operating for the benefit of local players – over  $\frac{3}{4}$  of players live within 5 miles of the club's venue. Most if not all clubs play within the reasonable catchment of their members. Junior clubs would be expected to have a more local catchment, but this is not marked and could be explained by the distribution of the larger more developmental junior clubs
- All clubs bar one responding have aspirations to run additional teams in the future, which total nearly 30 additional teams across the whole age and gender spectrum, but mainly at youth and mini level (some clubs would like to have age group teams through from mini to u16). This estimate is considered to be optimistic, given the numbers of teams and players already in the area, and will be addressed at a later stage when planning for future participation and demand. The main reasons for not running additional teams are not specified in most cases, but vary between lack of pitches and other facilities, paucity of good training venues and lack of coaches and helpers. Clubs tend to attract new players by a variety of means, including word of mouth, social media, advertising, promotion of responsible attitudes and joint working with others, including senior clubs, NGB and LA.
- Almost all clubs currently play their main fixtures at their preferred ground, though in one case, the club would like to develop its own ground and facilities
- All clubs consider that their teams play on pitches of the appropriate size for their teams (though in some cases the pitch sizes have been found on inspection not to meet FA requirements exactly)
- The vast majority of clubs rent or lease their facilities from the owner (usually the parish or town council, or private landowner) and pay an inclusive rent for a maintained pitch, and there are relatively few clubs with outright ownership of their



ground. Rents for pitches vary (from £1500 to £4500 per year, albeit from a limited response) mainly because there is no single/main owner and manager of pitches, but it is not possible to generalise about annual costs. In most cases, clubs maintain the pitches themselves as part of the rental/leasing agreement.

4.24 **Quality** emerged as a key issue during consultations with clubs. In addition to measuring the provision of pitches in quantitative terms, it is also essential to consider the quality of existing provision. Pitch quality influences the amount of matches that can be sustained and as a consequence has a significant impact on the overall adequacy of supply in the areas.

4.25 Furthermore, perceived quality of pitches (and ancillary facilities) is almost as important as actual quality and can change usage patterns. Players are more likely to travel to sites that they perceive to be higher quality or better value for money. Indeed, lower quality pitches may actually deter residents from participating. The perceived change in the quality of pitches overall is set out below.

### Pitch quality

4.26 In general, most clubs consider that the quality of pitches has broadly remained the same or slightly improved since the previous season – no pitches were considered to have become worse. The main reasons for the improvements included better weather conditions, improved drainage, better maintenance and management. Less than 10% of matches were called off because of flooded pitches or other factors, suggesting that quality and ground conditions are generally good. This is below average compared with other similar studies. The good quality can partly be explained by the lack of LA managed sites, which elsewhere tend to be over used and therefore subject to more wear and tear.

**Table 4.4: Quality changes**

Changes	
Much better	0
Slightly better	58%
No difference	42%
Slightly poorer	0
Much poorer	0

4.27 Clubs were also given the opportunity to comment on individual aspects of both pitch quality and the amount and quality of ancillary facilities such as changing rooms (the figures in the tables represent individual club responses in number).

**Table 4.5: Pitch quality**

	Drainage	Slope	Even-ness	Grass cover	Dog fouling	Litter	Equip-ment	Mainten-ance	Overall pitch quality	Totals %
Good	7	7	5	8	5	6	10	6	8	57%
Acceptable	4	5	7	4	5	6	2	5	4	39%
Poor	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	4%

- 4.28 Overall pitch quality across the board is considered good (over half of respondents), and this is reflected in the scores for the individual components. Most of the remaining comments score pitches and their components as acceptable, and there are only concerns in a few cases about drainage, maintenance levels and dog fouling. Unlike in many areas, pitch drainage is not perhaps the key concern, due in no small part to the prevailing rainfall and ground conditions (despite subsequent flooding problems in the wider area after the assessment was undertaken). The main issues can in many cases be improved by better maintenance and site supervision. These scores are slightly higher than the technical assessments undertaken during site visits.
- 4.29 Clubs were also asked to highlight the additional facilities that were present at their pitches and grounds. There is a wide range of these facilities and some variation in their provision. Most grounds are enclosed, which assists security, but other features were less available – training areas only at 50% of venues, relatively few examples of floodlights, pitch side rails and dugouts, and no stands. The lack of these facilities however is a reflection of the relatively junior status of most clubs in the area, and the league requirements at the level they play. It should be noted that the two main senior clubs in the area, which do have stadia, did not respond to the consultation.

**Table 4.6 Provision of ancillary pitch facilities**

	Training area	Floodlights	Dugouts	Stands	Fencing	Rail
Yes	50%	36%	30%	0	80%	40%
No	50%	64%	70%	100%	20%	60%

#### Clubhouse and other ancillary facilities

- 4.30 The range of ancillary facilities was also investigated and table 4.7 shows how these are provided throughout the district (results from clubs responding)

**Table 4.7 Provision of ancillary changing facilities**

	Clubhouse	Showers	Toilets	Kitchen	Medical room	Disabled access
Yes	60%	60%	93%	63%	0	45%
No	40%	40%	7%	37%	100%	55%

- 4.31 Again there is a variable range of clubhouse and other facilities. 60% of clubs responding have access to a clubhouse, the remainder having to use school, village hall and other facilities. For the most part, toilets, showers and kitchen are available, but probably because of the age of some clubhouses, disabled access is less prevalent. In no cases where clubs responded is there a specific medical room (though again it is expected that the senior clubs not responding do have such facilities).
- 4.32 Three quarters of clubs have access to changing facilities. Of those that do, 80% have no separate changing for male and females, and seniors/juniors, and only half have separate changing rooms for officials. It is somewhat surprising that changing facilities are not available in a quarter of clubs, but most junior players in particular come to matches ready changed and do not require such facilities as a priority.

4.33 90% of clubs have parking at their ground, but this is only adequate in 60% of cases.

4.34 In terms of the quality of changing facilities and clubhouses, the results are less favourable than with pitches themselves. Opinions were across the board, but in fact the 'poor' end of the range scored more highly than 'good'. There was a particular concern about showers, while the external and internal quality of facilities was also highlighted. The capacity of changing rooms to accommodate the number of teams using pitches at the site and in particular to meet the varied needs of the different age and gender teams playing at the time was also relatively poor. Overall, changing facilities were identified as being in need of improvement on some sites, and many users and providers felt this to be as important as the quality issues identified with pitches. Clubs' perceptions of the quality of ancillary facilities are broadly similar overall to the technical assessments undertaken during site visits, but with a bigger range across all three categories.

**Table 4.8: Ancillary facility quality**

	Capacity for no of teams	Capacity for balance of teams	Showers	External quality	Internal quality	Maintenance and cleaning	Totals %
Good	3	1	3	4	4	5	33%
Acceptable	5	5	1	2	1	4	30%
Poor	3	4	6	4	4	2	38%

4.35 Detailed comments about pitches and facilities were elicited from clubs and these are summarised below:

- **Barlby Raiders** – Grass cutting is paid for, but is often not undertaken, and is left to club helpers. There is a drainage issue with one pitch. More pitches required to allow more age groups to be accommodated. Need for floodlighting of pitches to allow training for all club members
- **Brayton Belles** - wear in one goalmouth of pitch
- **Hemingbrough** – pitch is slightly too narrow for league requirements, but hemmed in
- **North Duffield Dragons** – space overall is a problem on playing fields, and limited floodlighting restricts training area
- **Riccall Utd** – Riccall Mine pavilion needs considerable improvement
- **Sherburn White Rose** – pitches for juniors and mini are crammed on to a small site involving overmarking
- **South Milford** – need floodlighting to enable training. Changing facilities are shared with cricket club, which causes some problems
- **Tadcaster Albion Juniors** – lngs pitches located on floodplain, and frequent flooding. The LPA has imposed a limit of 8 hours' use of the ground per week
- **Ulleskelf** – drainage problems on pitch adjacent to FMUGA.

4.36 Clubs were given the opportunity to comment on whether they were broadly satisfied with provision for football in the Selby area – over half expressed some dissatisfaction, the main reasons being access to pitches, particularly of the right size, lack of 3G training facilities, pitch quality and quality of changing accommodation.

4.37 Desirable or actual planned improvements, enhancements, general aspirations and other comments were identified by clubs/venues as follows:

- **Barlby Raiders** – need two more pitches to accommodate current and future teams
- **North Duffield Dragons** - needs additional storage space, and better floodlit training area
- **Riccall Utd** – need to move up the leagues, require floodlighting for pitch, fully enclosed ground (with turnstiles) and perimeter fence Ideally 3G pitch for training. Pavilion upgrade at Riccall Mine facility
- **Selby Olympia** – plans for new facilities (5 pitches and clubhouse) as part of new Olympia Park development
- **Sherburn White Rose** – *‘Our Club is run by volunteers and sometimes it feels like everything is against us providing football for the local kids. It would be great to have more open access (at reasonable prices) in the nearby area of extra pitches. We try to work with local schools, but sometimes this is difficult. We are currently refurbishing an old pitch via help from a local builder, but this is costly and time consuming. We access any grants available as we are not a profit making organisation, more grants would always be welcome’*
- **South Milford** - main issue is the changing rooms, club have been attempting to secure funding for some football-only changing rooms for some time, and has never been forthcoming. Ideally also require floodlights to enable them to train at the pitch year-round, which would save them having to hire alternative facilities which are very expensive
- **Tadcaster Albion Juniors** – club is making concerted efforts to identify a new ground in the area, to develop a facility similar to Rothwell Juniors, which will allow all teams to play and train on one site. Currently promoting scheme to local landowners, and trying to identify funding
- **Thorpe Utd** – plans to refurbish existing changing rooms (current lack of toilets)
- **Ulleskelf** – New changing rooms and ancillary facilities are a priority.

#### **Other Issues relating to pitch supply and demand**

- 4.38 **Training** - all clubs responding train at least once per week, including the junior clubs with multiple teams. It is likely that some of the non-responding one-team Sunday clubs do not train at all. About half the clubs use existing astro surfaces of varying sizes for training in the district, newly Selby LC, but also Barlby HS and Tadcaster GS. The new small 3G pitch at Thorpe Willoughby is also now being used for training by Thorpe Utd and other clubs. A third use grass (usually floodlit and off the main pitch), a few train indoors (both within and outside the district) and there are a number of other venues (including the FMGA at Ulleskelf). Some teams train on grass during the summer months. Training is considered and observed to have limited impact on grass pitches.
- 4.39 Clubs were evenly split on the adequacy of facilities for training in the Selby area – the main problems were the lack of available time and the expense of hiring astro pitches, and limited or absent training floodlights on the home pitch/ground.
- 4.40 **Maintenance** – on the basis of hearsay evidence and limited questionnaire returns, the maintenance regimes afforded to playing pitches appear mainly to comprise basic programmes of cutting grass and line marking – there is little evidence of regular aeration,

sand dressing, fertilisation, weed killing and chain harrowing. There is no standard formula for pitch maintenance over the area, in part due to the variety of different types of ownership and the lack of LA pitches, which might be the normal situation elsewhere. Clubs were generally unaware of the cost of pitch maintenance per annum, but the figures that were supplied ranged from £1500-4000 pa. In many cases there was grace and favour or voluntary pitch maintenance by the club or other local people.

- 4.41 Most of the grounds/pitches were drained naturally, and in 85% of cases, this was considered adequate. Piped drainage was only highlighted at one venue.
- 4.42 In other areas and studies outside Selby, discussions suggest that both clubs and providers believe that overplay of some pitches intensifies the issues raised in relation to poor maintenance and can cause a deterioration in pitch quality over the season. Pitches are not maintained to a level where they can sustain the number of games that some sites are required to do. Providers identify concerns that if maintenance programmes are not improved, the benefits of any capital investment that is injected to address issues at pitch sites will not be maximised. In some cases, poor maintenance is the primary cause of the poor pitch conditions. This was not highlighted as an issue by any clubs in the Selby area.
- 4.43 **Educational Demand** - All high schools in the study area (and many junior schools) have their own playing fields. Not all schools mark out all of their playing field area as formal pitches, but most have the capacity to do. As a result, there is little (if any) need for the use of community pitches by schools.
- 4.44 Curricular use of school pitches inevitably reduces capacity to sustain community use, as it is the prime function of school pitches to meet school needs first. This issue is taken into account later when assessing the capacity of pitches (including those currently in use by the community) to accommodate more usage.
- 4.45 **Casual Demand** - some of the playing fields and pitches in the area also function as public recreational areas including many of the village playing fields. Most of these have unhindered public access for a variety of informal uses – children's play, dog walking, etc. This impacts upon the quality of some pitches, particularly with regards dog fouling and litter. During the football season, it is not considered that the wider use of these public areas is sufficiently extensive to reduce pitch capacity of pitches.
- 4.46 **Security of Tenure and Aspirations for Self-Management:** Reflecting the increasingly strong club structure across the area, particularly among junior and youth football clubs, Tadcaster Albion JFC have expressed an interest in securing new provision, managing their own sites and growing a club base. There are self-managing clubs and facilities at Thorpe Willoughby, Ulleskelf, Monk Fryston and Sherburn White Rose and these might be seen as an example of good practice to be followed elsewhere.
- 4.47 Very few clubs already lease pitches in the long term, but no issues have been identified with security of tenure.

### **Demand and Participation**

- 4.48 There are a number of ways of assessing current overall participation and the demand for football

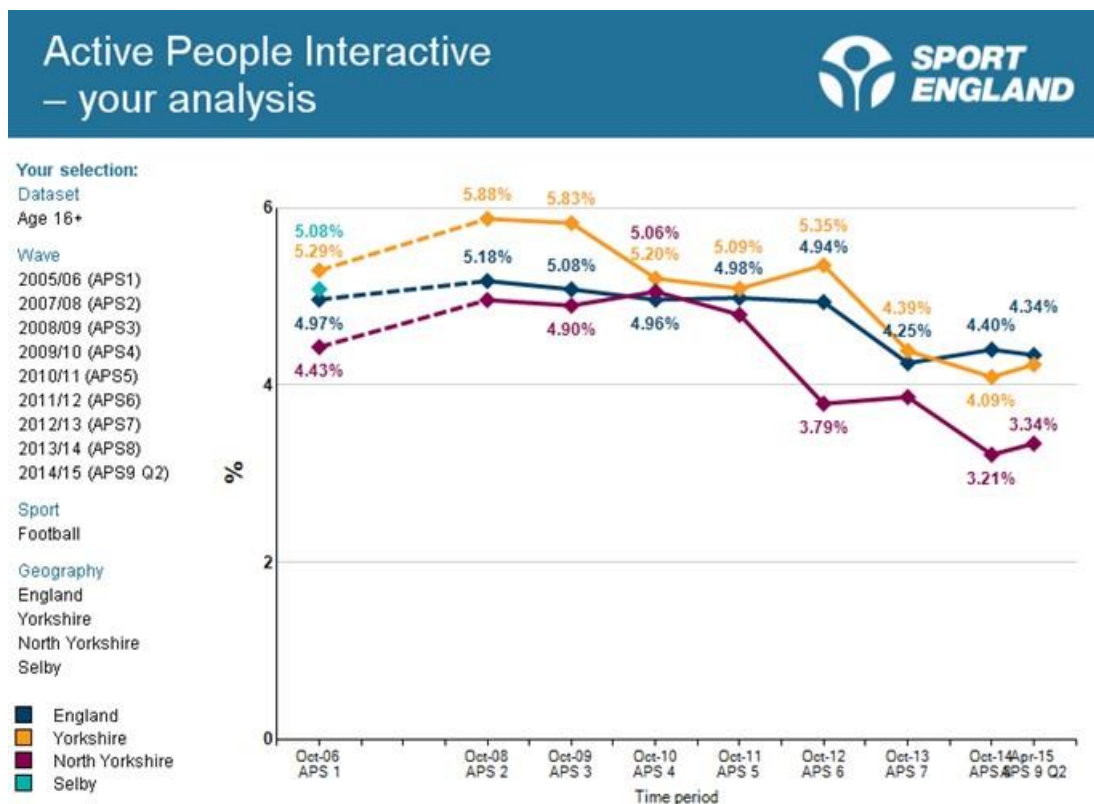
### **Active People**

- 4.49 The latest APS data for football participation demonstrates the following characteristics (figures relate to once per week participation by adults over 16). Because of sample sizes,

the data relates mainly only to the county, region and England – the only data for Selby is from the initial year of APS1.

- 4.50 Since APS data was first collected in 2006, participation in football in the region has broadly declined in line with the national average, and the county average has followed this trend, though participation levels are generally lower. The APS1 participation level for Selby was within the range of the three higher levels authorities, and can be assumed to have followed a similar trend. These figures include all those adults who have participated in football in the last week and include not just registered players but those who play casually, e.g. at small sided 5/7 a side facilities.
- 4.51 On this basis, it is estimated that adult participation in football in Selby stands at about 3.75% of the 16+ population, which represents about 2600 regular footballers. This is considerably more than the estimated number of adult footballers from club returns (about 800), although the APS data refers to all participants in all forms of the game including small-sided football indoors and outdoors, as well as organised outdoor football on grass. The discrepancy may also be due to some Selby residents playing outside the district.

**Chart 4.1: Participation in football**



**Market Segmentation**

- 4.52 Sport England's Market Segmentation data allows estimates to be derived of current and future likely participation in football according to the underlying characteristics of the population in any given area. Analysis of the outputs for the Selby suggests the following (see separate appendix MS1):



- Existing participation – MS estimates that the likely participation for football in the Selby area totals about 4300 players, and in the range between 5-10% of the adult population in each case. This is higher than the APS data, and considerably more than the estimated totals of registered adult players in the area. The key participants in football are those that also play other pitch sports, specifically Ben, Tim, Philip and Jamie. Female groups are not particularly apparent
- MS analysis suggests that local residents' participation is broadly consistent across the whole area. There is no particular link or otherwise with the location of pitches (which is widespread) and confirms that football is widely played
- There is a degree of latent demand identified, with about 15% of the total potential football playing population not currently participating, representing about a further 850 adult players. Latent demand is focused on mainly the same groups that currently play
- It must be stressed that the MS data represents a theoretical estimate of participation according to the socio economic structure of the local population, and in this case is suggested to overestimate greatly the actual numbers playing. The latent demand for football is relatively small (compared with other sports) and this could be explained by the overestimate of residents playing football – in reality, participation is lower than MS suggests, and much of the existing MS participation should be better categorised as latent or potential demand.

#### **FA conversion rates**

4.53 Using slightly different data (FA Football Participation Report for season 2013/14 – the latest available - and 2009 National Statistics classification of local authorities), conversion rates for football (i.e. the proportion of the respective age groups that take part in football) can be assessed. Comparing Selby with its cohort of nearest neighbour LAs, the conversion rates for all aspects of football are varied – Selby is 11th in its list of 37 cohorts. Compared with the average, Selby shows the following characteristics:

- Adult male – higher rates of participation than the average (national and regional)
- Adult female – similar to the average
- Youth male – higher than the average
- Youth female – slightly lower than the average
- Mini - higher than the average.

4.54 However, these figures are taken from the FA's own data from 2 seasons ago, and teams and club numbers do not correspond exactly with those contained in this report. Nonetheless it is apparent that regular participation in Selby is above average.

#### **General conclusions overall participation**

4.55 Club data suggests that there are about 2600 regular players in Selby (about 800 adults) in clubs affiliated to local leagues and competitions.

4.56 APS data suggest that adult activity rates in the whole area if extrapolated from county/regional data are higher than the recorded club data but these figures include all casual players (e.g. those playing 5/7 a side, etc.) and local residents who may play outside the district.

- 4.57 MS figures suggest total adult participation in the area based on market groups to be about 4300 but again these include casual participants, and are likely to be a gross over estimate based on theoretical data rather than actual.
- 4.58 FA conversion factors suggest Selby area participation is higher than the average – this is data for registered clubs and players.
- 4.59 Overall therefore it might be assumed that while overall regular football participation in organised football affiliated to the FA in the Selby area is above the average, this still represents a relatively small proportion of players if all casual activity is included. There appears to be some potential to increase participation based on the socio economic make up of the area.

**Adequacy of current pitch provision – assessing supply and demand information and views**

- 4.60 The adequacy of pitch provision to meet demand is measured both over the course of a week and at peak time using match equivalents.
- 4.61 **Weekly capacity** is based upon the quality of the pitch and the consequential number of matches that it can sustain per week (using FA guidelines). Table 4.9 summarises the guidelines used with regards pitch capacity.

**Table 4.9: Capacity based upon pitch quality**

Agreed pitch quality rating	Adult Football	Youth Football	Mini Soccer
	Number of match equivalent sessions a week		
Good	3	4	6
Standard	2	2	4
Poor	1	1	2

- 4.62 **Peak Time Demand:** The local leagues have specific kick off times and while these are flexible to a degree in some instances, it is important that there are enough pitches available when people wish to use them. Peak time in the Selby area for football is as follows;
- Senior Football (men) – Sat pm (57%)
  - Senior Football (women) - Sun pm (50%)/midweek pm (50%)
  - Junior Football (boys) – Sat am (53%)
  - 9v9 Football (boys) – Sat am (58%)/Sun am (42%)
  - Mini soccer (mixed)– Sat am (75%),
  - Girls - Sat am (100%)
- 4.63 Pitches can only be considered to have spare capacity at peak time when they are not already utilised to their full capacity over the course of a week. For example, an adult pitch that is not used on a Saturday afternoon (area-wide peak time), but is used three times per week at other times (Sunday morning, Sunday afternoon and midweek for example) would not be considered able to sustain additional play at peak time, even though no one would be using the facility then, as this would be detrimental to the quality of the pitch.



### Situation at Individual Sites

4.64 Table 4.10 provides a summary of the activity that takes place at each site that has community use in the Selby area. It sets out the current supply and demand and outlines whether the pitch is being overplayed, played to the appropriate level or is able to sustain additional fixtures. Any other issues arising with the site are also briefly summarised.

4.65 Issues will be explored by pitch type in later sections, but the key issues emerging from site overviews are as follows;

- There is significant spare capacity of pitches in the Selby area. This crude assessment suggests that there is carrying capacity (based on the quantity and quality of pitches) for 246 matches per week, while actual usage from the 160 or so teams playing on grass is about 80 matches (i.e. half assuming home fixtures on alternate weeks). This leaves a theoretical spare capacity of 166 matches per week. However, at the peak times, this reduces to about 15 matches

**Table 4.10: Summary of spare capacity**

Pitches	Carrying capacity per week	Current usage per week	Difference	Spare capacity in peak period
76	246	80	166	15.5

- There are relatively few sites with little or no spare capacity - the sites that do not have spare capacity are either school sites or those accommodating large junior clubs with multiple teams. Most of the overplay of pitches is associated with these latter clubs
- Most play takes place on pitches that are the right size for the age group of the team, although there are examples of where this does not apply
- There is no particular pattern of spare capacity linked to different types of pitch tenure
- The nature of the district, which is primarily rural in nature, with small facilities in most villages, means that there are a multitude of pitches with limited weekly use and therefore spare capacity
- The strong demand at peak time is responsible for much spare capacity over the course of the week, with heavy use of sites on one day and limited use outside the peak period
- Quality of sites impacts little on overall capacity, as there are no pitches considered as poor. Pitch improvements would therefore have a limited impact on capacity
- There is relatively little reliance upon school sites, and any spare capacity on these sites is unlikely in reality to be fully available, as the school will require this for curricular use.

Location	Pitch Type	No of Pitches	Overall quality assessment	Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Teams playing youth = u13-16, junior u11-12, mini u7-10	Total usage (matches per week)	Total Extent of any Spare Capacity for Community Use	Extent of any Spare Capacity for Community Use During the Peak Period	Key Issues and overview
Barlby High School	Adult	2	Good	6	3 youth (Sat am), 2 youth 9v9 (Sat am)	2.5	3.5	-0.5	High school site used primarily by Barlby Raiders JFC, with 9 youth and mini teams on Sat am. Two 9v9 pitches overmarked on adult pitch. Ample spare capacity overall (although school requirements will reduce this), but shortfall of pitches at peak time on Sat am, probably necessitating alternative kick off times or teams using inappropriate size pitches
Barlby High School	Mini 7v7	2	Good	12	1 mini 7v7(Sat am),	0.5	11.5	1.5	
Barlby High School	Mini 5v5	1	Good	6	3 mini 5v5 (Sat am)	1.5	4.5	-0.5	
BOCM Pauls Recreation Ground	Adult	2	Standard	4	2 adult (Sat pm), 1 adult (Sun am), 2 youth 11v11 (Sat am)	2.5	1.5	1	Former company sports ground solely used by Selby Olympia. Difficult access down potted lane. Site is run down although playing surfaces in reasonable condition. Poor changing. Spare capacity overall and at peak times on Sat pm
BOCM Pauls Recreation Ground	Mini 7v7	1	Standard	4		0	4	1	

Brayton High School	Adult	1	Standard	2		0	2	1	High School pitches used solely by Brayton FC Juniors. Overall spare capacity (although school requirements will reduce this), but overused at Sun am peak, probably requiring youth tams to play on adult pitch
Brayton High School	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	2	5 youth 11v11 (Sun am/pm)	2.5	-0.5	-1.5	
Brayton High School	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	2	2 youth 9v9 (Sat am)	1	1	0	
Brayton Recreation Ground	Mini 7v7	1	Standard	4	2 mini 7v7 (Sat am)	1	3	0	Parish Council pitches used solely by mini teams from Brayton FC Juniors. Three pitches in total for 4 teams so spare capacity overall and at peak on Sat am
Brayton Recreation Ground	Mini 5v5	2	Standard	8	2 mini 5v5 (Sat am)	1	7	1	
Cawood Playing Fields	Adult	1	Standard	2	1 adult (Sat pm)	0.5	1.5	0.5	Village pitch as part of multi use sports ground, with good changing. One team playing on Sat pm, so spare capacity overall and on Sat pm peak
Church Fenton Football Pitch	Adult	1	Standard	2	2 adult (Sat pm)	1	1	0	Village pitch with football and cricket separate. Two adult teams playing Sat pm, spare capacity overall, but used fully at peak time
Cliffe Playing Fields	Adult	1	Good	3	2 adult (Sat pm), 1 adult (sun am), 1 youth 11v11 (Sat am)	2	1	0	Good village pitch on multi use site, accommodating 4 teams. Spare capacity overall but used fully on Sat pm peak

Denison Road football pitches	Adult	2	Good/standard	5	3 adult (Sat pm), 1 adult (Sun am), 1 youth 11v11 (Sat am)	2.5	2.5	0.5	LA pitches of good/standard quality, accommodating 5 teams in all. Spare capacity overall and at peak time on Sat pm
Eggborough Power Station	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	2	1 youth 9v9 (Sat am)	0.5	1.5	0.5	Youth pitch on power station site, accommodating one youth team. Spare capacity overall and at peak
Fairburn Recreation Ground,	Adult	1	Standard	2	1 adult (Sun am)	0.5	1.5	0.5	Village pitch sharing recreation ground with cricket. Currently accommodates one team, so spare capacity overall and at peak
Freemantle Recreation Ground	Adult	1	Standard	2	1 adult (Sat pm), 1 youth 11v11 (Sat am)	1	1	0.5	Single LA pitch in centre of town, with one regular team. Spare capacity overall and at peak
Hambleton Recreation Ground	Adult	1	Good	3	1 adult (Sun am), 1 youth 11v11 (Sat am), 1 youth 9v9 (Sat am)	1.5	1.5	0	Village recreation ground with one main pitch and small youth/mini pitch overmarked. No changing. Spare capacity overall but fully used on Sat am peak
Hemingbrough Playing Fields	Adult	1	Good	3	2 adult (Sat pm), 1 adult (Sun pm), 1 mini (Sat am)	2	1	0	Village pitch on recreation ground shared with cricket. Minis play across main pitch. Good quality, spare capacity overall, but none at Sat pm

									peak.
Hemingbrough R/o Crown PH	Mini 7v7	1	Standard	4	1 mini 7v7 (Sat am)	0.5	3.5	0.5	Small mini pitch to rear of local pub, only accommodates one team so spare capacity overall and at peak
Hensall Playing Field	Adult	1	Good	3	1 adult (Sat pm), 1 youth 11v11 (Sat am), 1 youth 9v9 (Sat am)	1.5	1.5	0	Village recreation ground with cricket and one football pitch (with youth pitch overmarked), accommodating 3 teams. Spare capacity overall, but used fully on Sat am peak
Monk Fryston United, Stocking Lane	Adult	1	Good	3	1 adult (Sat pm), 1 youth 11v11 (Sat am),	1	2	0.5	Club facility on edge of village, secured by fencing. Variety of pitches accommodating 7 teams across age ranges, significant spare capacity overall, and at peak times
Monk Fryston United, Stocking Lane	Youth 9v9	2	Good	8	2 youth 9v9 (Sat am)	1	7	1	
Monk Fryston United, Stocking Lane	Youth 7v7	2	Good	12	1 mini (Sat am), 2 5v5 (Sat am)	1.5	10.5	0.5	
North Duffield Playing Fields	Adult	1	Standard	2	2 youth 11v11 (Sat am),	1	1	0	Village playing field, with 5 pitches accommodating 10 teams. Overall spare capacity but used fully at peak times.
North Duffield Playing Fields	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	2	2 youth 9v9 (Sat am),	1	1	0	

North Duffield Playing Fields	Mini 7v7	1	Standard	4	2 mini 7v7 (Sat am),	1	3	0	
North Duffield Playing Fields	Mini 5v5	2	Good	12	4 mini 5v5 (Sat am)	2	10	0	
Riccall Jubilee Sportsfield	Mini 7v7	2	Standard	8	2 youth 9v9 (Sat am), 3 mini 7v7 (Sat/Sun am)	2.5	5.5	0.5	New village playing field, no changing. 2 mini pitches, accommodating 5 teams, significant spare capacity and at peak times, but 9v9 teams may be playing on small pitches
Riccall Mine	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	2	1 youth 11v11 (Sat/Sun am),	0.5	1.5	0.5	Single pitch at former coalmine playing field. One team, so spare capacity overall and at Sat/Sun am peak
Riccall United FC	Adult	1	Standard	2	2 adult (Sat pm)	1	1	0	One senior pitch accommodating teams from relatively senior league with aspirations to move up. Spare capacity overall but not at peak time on Sat pm
Riverside School Tadcaster	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	2	2 youth 9v9 (Sun am)	1	1	0	Junior school pitches used by Tadcaster Albion Junior FC (7 teams) together with their main pitch at the lngs. Significant spare capacity in principle overall and at peak times, but in effect no
Riverside School Tadcaster	Mini 7v7	1	Standard	4	1 youth 7v7 (Sun am)	0.5	3.5	0.5	

Riverside School Tadcaster	Mini 5v5	2	Standard	8	2 mini 5v5 (Sat am), 2 mini 5v5 (Sun am)	2	6	1	additional use viable as primarily intended as school pitches
Selby College	Adult	2	Standard	4	2 adult (Wed pm), 1 women's (Sun pm), 1 women's (Wed pm), 1 youth 11v11 (Sat am)	2.5	1.5	0.5	5 pitches in total at college site, with additional 9v9 overmarked on adult pitch (and 1 9v9 on rugby pitch). Used by college teams midweek, plus some training and other activities, and at weekend by Brayton Belles female teams. Significant overall spare capacity (mitigated by college needs) but 9v9 over used on Sat am peak
Selby College	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	2	4 girls (Sat am)	2	0	-1	
Selby College	Mini 7v7	1	Standard	4	1 girls (Sat am),	0.5	3.5	0.5	
Selby College	Mini 5v5	1	Standard	4	1 girls (Sat am)	0.5	3.5	0.5	
Selby Town FC	Adult	1	Good	3	1 adult (Sat pm), 1 adult (Sun am), 1 youth 11v11 (Sun pm)	1.5	1.5	0.5	Main stadium pitch with stands etc, used by 3 adult teams, spare capacity overall and at peak times, but mitigated by possible training on pitch midweek
Sherburn White Rose Sports Club	Adult	1	Good	3	1 adult (Sat pm), 1 adult (Sun pm)	1	2	0.5	Main adult pitch used by 2 adult teams, spare capacity overall and at peak times
Sherburn White Rose Sports Club, Bottom Field	Youth 11v11	1	Standard	2	3 youth 11v11 (Sun), 2 mini 7v7 (Sun), 3 mini 5v5 (Sun)	4	-2	-3	2 main pitches, but overmarked by 4 mini. Used by Sherburn White

Sherburn White Rose Sports Club, Bottom Field	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	2	2 youth 9v9 (Sun)	1	1	0	Rose JFC, significant overuse overall and at peak times on Sunday, probably requiring staggered kick off times am and pm
South Milford Sports Club	Adult	1	Standard	2	1 adult (Sat pm), 1 youth 9v9 (Sun am)	1	1	0.5	One main adult pitch with 9v9 overmarked, used by South Milford FC and juniors. Overall and peak time spare capacity
Tadcaster Albion FC, i2i Sports Stadium	Adult	1	Good	3	1 adult (Sat pm), 1 adult (midweek even)	1	2	0.5	Stadium pitch used by Tadcaster Albion 1 <sup>st</sup> and u21 teams. Spare capacity overall and at peak times
Tadcaster Albion, The Ings	Youth 11v11	2	Standard	4	4 youth 11v11 (Sat am), 3 youth 11v11 (Sun pm), 1 youth 11v11 (Sun am), 2 youth 9v9 (Sun am)	5	-1	0	Large site next to river, which suffers from flooding on occasions. Accommodates three main pitches, and two 9v9 pitches overmarked on adult pitches. Over use of main adult pitches although can accommodate peak use. Mini pitches have spare capacity
Tadcaster Albion, The Ings	Mini 7v7	2	Standard	8	2 youth 7v7 (Sun am)	1	7	1	(Former) company sports ground, which includes cricket, football and other pitches, good condition. Accommodates 2 adult teams on Sat, spare capacity overall but fully used Sat pm.
Tadcaster Magnet Sport & Social Club	Adult	1	Good	3	2 adult (Sat pm)	1	2	0	



Tadcaster Magnet Station Road	Adult	1	Good	3	2 youth 11v11 (Sun am), 2 youth 11v11 (Sun pm)	2	1	0	Second facility for Tadcaster Magnets, 3 pitches used by Tadcaster Magnets JFC. Spare capacity overall, but adult pitch used fully on Sundays
Tadcaster Magnet Station Road	Youth 9v9	2	Good	8		0	8	2	
Thorpe Willoughby Sports Association adult 1	Adult	3	Good/standard	7	2 adult (Sat pm), 1 adult (Sun am), 2 adult (Sun pm), 2 youth 11v11 (Sun pm), 4 mini 7v7 (Sat am),	5.5	1.5	1	Multi use site with cricket, football and new AGP. 6 main pitches of various sizes, and 3 9v9/7v7 overmarked on main pitches. Accommodates all but 3 teams from Thorpe Utd FC, and spare capacity overall and for main adult pitch at peak time. Overuse of 9v9 and 5v5 pitches at peak times on Sat/Sun am, probably necessitating staggered kick off times, or use of wrong size pitches.
Thorpe Willoughby Sports Association	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	2	3 youth 9v9 9(Sun am),	1.5	0.5	-0.5	
Thorpe Willoughby Sports Association	Mini 5v5	2	Standard	8	6 mini 5v5 (Sat am)	3	5	-1	
Ulleskelf Sports Ground	Adult	1	Standard	2	1 youth 11v11 (Sat am),	0.5	1.5	0.5	Multi pitch site also containing training floodlit MUGA. 7 pitches accommodating 8 teams from Ulleskelf JFC, spare capacity overall, but 9v9 used fully at peak time
Ulleskelf Sports Ground	Youth 9v9	1	Standard	2	2 youth 9v9 (Sat am)	1	1	0	
Ulleskelf Sports Ground	Mini 7v7	3	Standard	12	2 mini 7v7 (Sat am)	1	11	2	

Ulleskelf Sports Ground	Mini 5v5	2	Standard	8	3 mini 5v5 (Sat am)	1.5	6.5	0.5	
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>76</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>15.5</b>	

**Table 4.11: Details of capacity – Selby football pitches**

### Summary of individual pitch provision

4.66 The site overviews set out in Table 4.11, together with data collated in Appendices F1 and F2, enable the development of an overall picture of provision across the area for each type of football pitch.

#### Adult football

4.67 Table 4.12 summarises the use and spare capacity at adult football pitches.

**Table 4.12: Use and spare capacity at Adult Football Pitches**

Pitch Type	No of pitches	Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Total usage (matches per week)	Total Extent of any Spare Capacity for Community Use	Extent of any Spare Capacity for Community Use During the Peak Period
Adult	30	74	36.5	37.5	8

4.68 Table 4.12 reveals that overall, across the Selby area, there is significant total spare capacity at adult football pitches of over 37 match slots, although this is reduced to 8 at peak times, when demand is greatest.

4.69 In more detail;

- no pitches are overplayed overall and most have significant spare capacity overall;
- only Barlby HS is over capacity at peak times, and this is because it is used also for 9v9. It is likely that kick off times are staggered to accommodate this usage;
- one site has spare capacity for more than 1 match at peak times, but 9 sites have no spare capacity at peak times; and
- for adult football therefore, provision is relatively unconstrained, but there are pockets of overplay and lack of spare capacity in certain locations.

#### Youth 11v11 Football

4.70 Table 4.13 summarises the use and spare capacity at junior football pitches.

**Table 4.13: Use and spare capacity at Youth 11v11 Football Pitches**

Pitch Type	No of pitches	Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Total usage (matches per week)	Total Extent of any Spare Capacity for Community Use	Extent of any Spare Capacity for Community Use During the Peak Period
Youth 11v11	5	10	12	-2	-4

4.71 Table 4.13 reveals that overall across the Selby area there is a shortfall of youth 11v11 pitches of 2 match slots overall, and this increases if peak time usage is considered. The supply of youth 11v11 pitches is constrained.

4.72 In more detail;

- there is spare capacity overall only at Riccall Mine – all other pitches are overplayed overall;
- two pitches are overplayed in the peak period – Tadcaster Ings has a shortfall of pitches overall, but is not overplayed during the peak on Sat am, as usage is spread over the weekend; and
- overall there is shortage of youth 11v11 pitches in the area. It is anticipated that youth teams therefore often play on full size adult 11v11 pitches.

### Youth 9 v 9 Pitches

4.73 Table 4.14 summarises the use and spare capacity at 9v9 football pitches.

**Table 4.14: Use and Spare Capacity at 9v9 Football Pitches**

Pitch Type	No of pitches	Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Total usage (matches per week)	Total Extent of any Spare Capacity for Community Use	Extent of any Spare Capacity for Community Use During the Peak Period
Youth 9v9	12	32	10	22	2

4.74 Table 4.14 reveals that overall, across the Selby area, there is significant total spare capacity at 9v9 football pitches of 22 match slots, although this is reduced to only 2 at peak times.

4.75 In more detail;

- there is spare capacity overall and pitches are generally not overplayed;
- however, there is no spare capacity at peak times on 5 sites, and Selby College and Thorpe Willoughby 9v9 pitches are overplayed at peak times;
- in reality there are a number of additional 9v9 pitches which are overmarked (generally on adult 11v11 pitches) and these are likely to balance the overplay identified here; and
- overall there is considered to be an adequate supply of 9v9 pitches in the area overall, but a smaller surplus at the peak time which is Sunday or Saturday am.

### Mini 7v7 pitches

4.76 Table 4.15 summarises the use and spare capacity at mini football pitches.

**Table 4.15 Use and Spare Capacity at mini football 7v7 pitches**

Pitch Type	No of pitches	Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Total usage (matches per week)	Total Extent of any Spare Capacity for Community Use	Extent of any Spare Capacity for Community Use During the Peak Period
Mini 7v7	17	76	10	66	8

4.77 Table 4.15 reveals that overall, across the Selby area, there is significant total spare capacity at mini 7v7 football pitches of 66 match slots, although this is reduced to 8 at peak times, when demand is greatest. This overall picture is brought about because the capacity of a mini pitch allows 6 match slots per week, as usage does not impose so much wear and tear on pitches.

4.78 In more detail;

- no existing pitches are overused overall or in the peak period, and there is significant spare capacity;
- two pitches (Brayton HS and North Duffield PF) are at capacity in the peak period; and
- for mini 7v7 football therefore, provision is very good, and there are no pockets of overplay and lack of spare capacity throughout the whole area.

#### **Mini 5v5 pitches**

4.79 Table 4.16 summarises the use and spare capacity at mini football pitches

**Table 4.16 Use and Spare Capacity at mini football 5v5 pitches**

Pitch Type	No of pitches	Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Total usage (matches per week)	Total Extent of any Spare Capacity for Community Use	Extent of any Spare Capacity for Community Use During the Peak Period
Mini 5v5	12	54	11.5	42.5	1.5

4.80 Table 4.16 reveals that overall, across the Selby area, there is significant total spare capacity at mini 5v5 football pitches of over 42 match slots, although this is reduced to less than 2 at peak times, when demand is greatest. This overall picture is brought about because the capacity of a mini pitch allows 6 match slots per week, as usage does not impose so much wear and tear on pitches.

4.81 In more detail;

- no sites are overplayed overall;
- Barlby HS and Thorpe Willoughby are overused at peak times;
- there is no spare capacity at peak times at North Duffield PF;

- all other pitches have spare capacity; and
- for mini 5v5 football therefore, provision is very good, and there are few pockets of overplay and lack of spare capacity throughout the whole area.

### Current picture of provision - summary

4.82 The site overviews set out in the tables above can be used to develop an overall picture of provision, by aggregating the figures for spare capacity or estimated overuse for each site at the present time. This is provided here to present an estimate of the total picture of current football provision in Selby – this should be treated with some caution when totalled, as assumptions have been made about precise usage. To a great extent, total figures are not relevant as spare capacity in one location is not able to meet demand in another location. In addition, the spare capacity may be at capacity at certain times of the weekend. However, as a broad overview it is estimated from the figures that there is significant spare capacity of grass football pitches in the Selby area. A simple assessment of all sites suggests that there is carrying capacity (based on the quantity and quality of pitches) for 246 matches per week, while actual usage from the 160 or so teams is about 80 (i.e. half assuming home fixtures on alternate weeks). This leaves a theoretical spare capacity of 166 matches per week. However, at the peak times, this reduces to about 15.

4.83 The overall conclusions are that:

- For **adult** football, supply is relatively unconstrained, but there are pockets of overplay and lack of spare capacity in certain locations
- For **youth 11v11** play, overall there is a shortfall of junior football pitches, particularly at peak times
- For **youth 9v9** play, there is spare capacity overall, pitches are generally not overplayed, and there is considered to be an adequate supply of pitches in the area overall. However, there is no spare capacity at peak times on some sites
- For **mini 7v7**, provision is very good, and there are no pockets of overplay and lack of spare capacity throughout the whole area
- For **mini 5v5**, there is significant total spare capacity overall, although this is reduced considerably at peak times, when demand is greatest. (The situation with mini pitches is different because the capacity of a mini pitch allows 6 match slots per week, as usage does not impose so much wear and tear on pitches)
- Generally, there is capacity to accommodate additional demand overall across most pitch sizes of the scale set out above and at the present time, but issues at certain grounds.

4.84 The following sites/pitches require particular consideration in the subsequent playing pitch strategy, as they are over capacity either overall or at peak times:

- Adult pitches – Barlby HS
- Youth 11v11 pitches – Brayton HS, Sherburn White Rose, Tadcaster Albion The Ings
- Youth 9 v 9 Pitches – Selby College, Thorpe Willoughby

- Mini 7v7 pitches - none
- Mini 5v5 pitches – Barlby HS, Thorpe Willoughby.

4.85 In addition, there is no existing spare capacity at the following sites, which also need to be considered, if additional demand is generated:

- Adult pitches – Church Fenton PF, Cliffe PF, Hambleton Rec, Hemingbrough PF, Hensall PF, North Duffield PF, Riccall Utd, Tadcaster Magnet, Tadcaster Magnet Station Road
- Youth 11v11 pitches - none
- Youth 9 v 9 Pitches – Brayton HS, North Duffield PF, Riverside School, Sherburn White Rose, Ulleskelf PF
- Mini 7v7 pitches – Brayton Recreation Ground, North Duffield PF
- Mini 5v5 pitches – North Duffield PF

4.86 In a number of cases, over usage has been caused by overmarking of small pitches on 11v11 pitches (Barlby HS, Hambleton Rec, Hensall, Selby College, Sherburn White Rose, Tadcaster Albion The Ings and Thorpe Willoughby). This has been taken into account in the calculations above, and particular attention may be required to seek additional capacity or new pitch provision in some cases. In addition, overmarking occurs at South Milford where there is currently no issue with capacity.

4.87 In addition, there is also a focus on quality of provision. Although there are no pitches that are considered poor overall, a large number are no better than standard/average. In some cases, it is clear that pitch and facility quality is impacting upon the capacity of the pitch stock. This is apparent in terms of the number of pitches that have limited capacity due to their quality. Pitch improvements and better maintenance are the overriding factors impacting upon the quality of the pitch.

### **Displaced demand**

4.88 While there are clearly some issues with the existing pitch stock, there is limited if any displaced demand, at least from and to the Selby area.

4.89 Almost all teams in the area that have expressed a view are currently accommodated at their preferred grounds, with one or two minor exceptions, and there is no evidence that team formation is currently affected by the lack of pitches or other factors.

4.90 Club returns and other data show that there are two teams that are part of local clubs, which currently play their home fixtures outside the district – Cliffe u21 who play at a central venue 3G pitch in Knottingley, and North Duffield u16 who play at Bubwith. Displaced demand for football in the area is therefore not considered to be a major factor in the study area.

### **Latent Demand**

4.91 MS data suggests that based on the demographic and socio economic profile of the whole area, there is potential to increase participation among adults by up to a further 15%, which if realised would have a significant implication for facility provision in the wider area. This is based on the residue of the population within the main market

segments who are not currently engaged in football. As suggested before, this data tends to over-represent participation, but an allowance should be made for demand currently not being met.

- 4.92 The FA has analysed its own participation data and produced the growth potential for new teams, which represents the number of teams for each football type that the local authority would need to develop to reach the conversion target value (the upper quartile of all the comparable LAs, although this is considered to be an onerous requirement). The results are set out in the table below and suggest that there may be some latent demand for junior girls' football, which is where the only growth potential exists (these figures relate to team formation in 2013/14, and should be treated with some caution as team numbers have changed since then according to the data in this report).

**Table 4.17: Growth potential based on FA data**

Football type	Growth potential (teams S N)
Adult male 11 a side	0
Adult female 11 a side	0
Youth male	0
Youth female	4
Mini mixed	0

#### Future Demand

- 4.93 The future requirement for playing pitches will be impacted by several factors, including;
- population growth or change to the demographic profile of the population;
  - changes in participation trends and in how pitch sports are played;
  - club specific development plans and aspirations; and
  - amendments to the current facility stock.
- 4.94 These issues are considered in turn in order to build an accurate picture of future demand for playing pitches.
- 4.95 **Population Change** - analysis in Section 3 indicated that while the population of Selby district is projected to increase by 9.7% from 2015 to 2027 (and 15% by 2037), changes to the population profile mean that the proportion of people within the age groups most likely to play pitch sports will actually decrease by 0.5% to 2027, and increase only by 2.9% by 2037. At the same time, some age groups are increasing at a higher rate than the average. It is not appropriate therefore merely to apply overall population increases to assess future demand.
- 4.96 Team Generation Rates (TGRs) indicate how many people in a specified age group are required to generate one team. By applying TGRs to population projections, we can project the theoretical number of teams that would be generated from population growth and gain an understanding of future demand.



**Table 4.18: Impact of Changes to the Population Profile**

Sport and Age Groups	Number of teams in age group within the area	Current Population in Age Group (2015)	Current TGR	Future population in age group within the area (2027/2037)	Future teams 2027/37	Potential Change in Team Numbers in Age Group (Number of Teams) Current – 2027/37
Football Adult Men (16-45yrs)	43	14824	1:345	15560/16110	45/47	2-4
Football Adult Women (16-45yrs)	2	15150	1:7575	15166/15304	2/2	0/0
Football Youth Boys (10-15yrs)	60	2835	1:47	3308/3324	70/71	10-11
Football Youth Girls (10-15yrs)	6	2756	1:459	3264/3270	7/7	1/1
Football Mini Soccer Mixed (6-9yrs)	49	4118	1:84	4321/4198	51/50	2/1

4.97 Table 4.18 summarises the implications of population growth to 2027/2037 and reveals that;

- there will be a 5-9% increase in demand for men's football in accordance with population increase, and a 0-1% increase in women's;
- youth participation could increase by 17% for boys and 18% for girls based on population; and
- mini participation could increase by 1-5%.

4.98 In terms of pitch requirements, this means that changes to the population up to 2027/37 could result in:

- a potential increase in men's teams of 2 - 4;
- no change in women's teams;
- an increase in boys' teams of 10-11;
- an increase in girls' teams of 1; and
- an increase in mini teams of 2/1

4.99 The total increase in the number of teams brought about by population change if participation rates stay similar could be 15/14. This would mean an increase in match equivalents of 7/8 matches per week pitch (or 4 pitches if in good condition). This is a manageable increase, and might well be achieved.

4.100 **Participation trends** - Although population growth will influence demand, changes in participation may perhaps have the most significant impact on demand for playing pitches. In the Selby area (and indeed much wider) there has been a significant decline in adult football, mitigated to some extent by extensive growth in junior and mini soccer. At the same time, it is acknowledged that adult participation in general

has changed significantly from the conventional 11 a side game on grass at weekend, to more flexible 5/7 a side football on artificial grass, usually on a midweek evening, and that this may well be the case in Selby also, in response to the advent of 3G and other astro pitches, and the development of small sided games.

### **NGB Strategic guidance**

4.101 **The FA National Game Strategy for Participation and Development 2015-2019** was adopted in 2015 and has the following key straplines.

- **Our priorities** - Over the next four years The FA will make a record £260 million of investment to boost participation and the development of grassroots football in England
- **Participation** - *“more players playing football more often”*. Key point - boost female youth participation by 11%
  - retain and support the existing 119,000 affiliated male, female and disability teams.
  - increase over 16s playing every week by over 200,000 by offering a variety of formats available.
  - innovative programmes and grants to provide a range of playing opportunities in education, clubs, leagues and other community setting
- **Player development** - *“better quality players being developed and entering the talent pathways”*. Key point - £16m investment into coach education, development, mentoring and bursary programmes
  - An extra 1,000 top level (FA Youth Award Module 3) grassroots coaches developed at FA Charter Standard clubs.
  - Create the best competition formats and environment for young players.
  - Ongoing investment in The FA Skills programme to provide high quality age appropriate coaching for 5-11 years olds.
- **Better training and playing facilities** – *“£48 of FA investment in new and improved facilities through the Football Foundation”*.
  - Create 100 new football turf pitches and improve 2,000 grass pitches.
  - Invest in and roll out a new sustainable model for grassroots facilities in 30 cities through football hubs owned and operated by local communities.
  - Ensure half of mini-soccer and youth matches are played on high quality artificial grass pitches.
- **Football workforce** - *“recruiting and developing volunteers and paid staff who service the game”*. Key point - improved technology to run the game more efficiently
  - Communicate directly with all participants.

- Each County FA to have Inclusion Advisory Board with targets to diversify coaching and refereeing.
- 90 per cent of youth and adult matches to be officiated by a qualified referee.

4.102 To underpin the national strategy, the FA launched in 2013 its first **FA Facility Strategy**. The document sets out the long-term vision of the FA for the development of facilities to support football. It has a strapline of “*Building, Protecting and Enhancing sustainable Football Facilities*”.

4.103 The strategy research identified several key issues relating to the provision of football facilities in England, specifically;

- Playing Pitch Surfaces – many grass pitches fall below acceptable standards. This contributes to poor play and impedes the development of a players technical ability;
- a lack of 3G pitches – these are essential for player and coaching development;
- lack of floodlighting – to ensure that facilities are used to their maximum potential; and
- basic facilities – such as toilets or changing facilities are either absent or fall below the minimum standards expected.

4.104 Based upon the research undertaken, the strategy indicates that facilities should satisfy the following criteria, and be;

- flexible – to support a variety of match and training formats;
- reflective of demand;
- well maintained;
- club centred;
- financially sustainable; and
- inspiring places to train and play.

4.105 Several challenges that football faces to provide facilities to meet these criteria are highlighted, including falling public investment, changes in society, new forms of football, increased club and league ownership and the need to maximise financial sustainability. In particular, the strategy seeks to promote increased club ownership and the acquisition of facilities for clubs through asset transfer, targeting leases of at least 20 years.

4.106 The FA strategy sets out its priorities under five key themes as follows:

- leading the development of technical standards – building upon existing guidance and leading the way in technical guidance, drawing upon user feedback;
- facility development and protection of playing fields – supporting local authorities to undertake playing pitch strategies, working with key authorities to ensure that provision meets demand, working to ensure that new developments take into account the needs of football and supporting Sport England with their statutory planning role;

- supporting club and league volunteers – create relevant supporting resources and monitor feedback from volunteers;
- targeted facility improvement schemes – national floodlighting scheme, pitch improvement scheme, self-help scheme for clubs, an equipment bank and advice and guidance services; and
- capital investment – promoting good standards and good practice and prioritising facilities impacting the activities of Charter Standard clubs.

4.107 The strategy targets the following key facility improvements nationally;

- natural grass pitches improved – target: 3000;
- a network of new Artificial Grass Pitches built – target: 100;
- a network of refurbished Artificial Grass Pitches – target: 150;
- on selected sites, new and improved changing facilities and toilets;
- continue a small grants programmes designed to address modest facility needs of clubs; and
- ongoing support with the purchase and replacement of goalposts.

4.108 Of greatest significance are the changes to youth football that have only been introduced in the last few years (including the creation of 5v5, 7v7 and 9v9) and as such, the impact is not yet fully apparent. The introductions of these new formats may see an increase in the number of teams playing and greater retention of players through the older age groups. If so there may be an increase in the overall number of teams (and participants) in future years as a result of the youth review and higher levels of demand will occur as a result.

#### **West Riding County FA list of facility requirements**

4.109 Information provided by the County FA highlights a list of projects that have been identified with clubs, or where clubs have previously expressed an interest in enhancements. This is in no way a priority list but an overview of recent potential schemes in the area, at various stages of development and thinking. Indeed some of these have already been achieved. The main potential schemes are set out in table 4.19 below.

**Table 4.19: West Riding County FA football facilities projects list**

Applicant Name	Organisation Type	Project Brief	Key Football Stakeholders Involved
Sherburn HS	School	Full Size 3G AGP, and community access to Grass Pitches	Sherburn WR FC Garforth Junior League West Riding CFA
Ulleskelf	Club	Grass Pitch Improvements, MUGA	Ulleskelf
South Milford	Club	New Clubhouse, 3G MUGA, Floodlights	South Milford FC

Applicant Name	Organisation Type	Project Brief	Key Football Stakeholders Involved
Tadcaster Albion JFC	Club	6 Grass Pitches, Full Size 3G AGP, Clubhouse & Car Park	Tadcaster Albion JFC Tadcaster Albion

- 4.110 **Club specific development plans** - All but one club responding have aspirations to run additional teams in the future, which total nearly 30 additional teams across the whole age and gender spectrum, but mainly at youth and mini level (some clubs would like to have age group teams through from mini to u16). This estimate is considered to be optimistic, given the numbers of teams and players already in the area, and will be addressed when planning for future participation and demand.
- 4.111 **Changes in supply** - Potential supply of football pitches may arise as the result of planning permissions and other proposals, together with developer agreements. These are set out in Appendix 1 of this assessment report. The data was provided by the LA as at autumn 2015. If aggregated, the total number of football pitches that could be provided as part of these agreements would be at least 5. There are also plans for the provision of 5 pitches and clubhouse as part of the Olympia Park development in Selby. If implemented, these need to be taken into account in any recommendations for additional football (and other sports) provision in the strategy and action plans.

#### Implications for current and future supply

- 4.112 **As a broad overview it is estimated from the data collected that there is significant spare capacity of grass football pitches in the Selby area. A simple assessment of all sites suggests that there is carrying capacity (based on the quantity and quality of pitches) for 246 matches per week, while actual usage from the 160 or so teams is about 80 (i.e. half assuming home fixtures on alternate weeks). This leaves a theoretical spare capacity of 166 matches per week. However, at the peak times, this reduces to about 15, still a significant number. The general conclusion is that at present there is no overall need for additional football pitches in Selby, although there are a number of clubs where existing facilities are at or over capacity and some where clubs have to play on multiple sites when they would ideally like to be located at one venue for easier club development. Where pitches have some spare capacity for additional use, this does not necessarily correspond with the areas of highest demand – it is not usually reasonable for a club's pitches to accommodate usage from other clubs and this 'spare' capacity can effectively be ruled out as a means of meeting demand elsewhere. Current shortfalls in some locations will be mitigated to some extent by new sites developed as the result of planning obligations and other commitments.**
- 4.113 **Existing levels of participation in/demand for football in Selby are considered higher than the average - overall regular football participation in organised football affiliated to the FA in the Selby area is above the average, although this represents a relatively small proportion of players if all casual activity is included.**
- 4.114 **Displaced demand for football in the area is not considered a factor in Selby.**
- 4.115 **MS data suggests that based on the demographic and socio economic profile of the whole area, there is potential to increase participation among adults by up to a further 15%, which if realised would have a significant implication for facility provision in the wider area. However, this is considered excessive.**

- 4.116 FA conversion data (albeit from the previous season) suggests that there may be some latent demand for girls' football in the area, in the order of about 4 teams. This is considered realistic.
- 4.117 Most clubs responding to the consultation have aspirations to run more teams in the future, which total about 30 additional teams across the whole age and gender spectrum (this estimate is considered to be optimistic, given the numbers of teams and players already in the area).
- 4.118 FA aspirations as set out in its latest strategy to encourage "more players playing football more often", would if successful boost female youth participation by 11%, retain and support the existing 119,000 affiliated male, female and disability teams and increase over 16s playing every week by over 200,000, with a likely increase in Selby of say 10 additional teams.
- 4.119 Population increase to 2027/2037 could, based on current participation rates, increase teams by 15/14 in total. For the purposes of this study, however, while population has been projected to 2037 to correspond with the local plan timescale, it is not realistic to project playing pitch need beyond 2027, because of the uncertainties involved. Instead any monitoring of the subsequent strategy should consider changes in demand and supply on a regular basis, and adjust the future need as appropriate. At this stage future need is only projected up to 2027.
- 4.120 Some of the targets/aspirations set out above are concurrent, and in total by 2027 it is reasonable to estimate in the first instance that an additional 25 teams from 2015 might be formed to take into account all these factors, an addition of about 15% over current team numbers. This must be monitored over the early years of the strategy to ensure that actual (rather than estimated) changes are taken into account. A high proportion of these are expected to be junior teams.
- 4.121 The implications for pitch demand in the future are that in view of the overall spare capacity in the area at present, there will be an additional demand for about 6 pitches (assuming that all are built to a good standard and depending on pitch size and therefore carrying capacity). In addition, there may be a need to accommodate those clubs identified in this study who are already at capacity, or have plans to develop significant numbers of additional teams. The strategy that follows this assessment will consider actual numbers in more detail, and an assessment of individual club needs will need to be addressed, and solutions for future pitch development produced which take into account future circumstances.
- 4.122 Access to (improved) school and other pitches, and the improvement of the quality (drainage, ancillary facilities) of existing venues would increase carrying capacity and support the lack of need for new pitches.
- 4.123 There are few areas of the Selby area where football provision is non-existent and potential players have to rely on clubs outside the area. There are therefore considered to be no significant geographical gaps in provision that need to be plugged.

## Artificial Grass Pitches for Football

### Overview

4.124 Artificial pitches are frequently used for football training and are becoming more commonplace for competitive play (and are now approved surfaces by FIFA), subject to the completion of performance tests. There are a variety of different surfaces of AGPs, and their suitability for football is as follows;

- Long pile 3G with shock pad – suitable (subject to testing)
- Long pile 3G – preferred surface for football (subject to testing)
- Short pile 3G – acceptable surface for some competitive football and football training (subject to testing)
- Sand filled – acceptable surface for football training, but not favoured by FA
- Sand dressed – acceptable surface for football training, but not favoured by FA
- Water based – acceptable surface for football training if irrigated, but not favoured by FA.

4.125 It must be emphasised that the only recognised surface for football competition is 3G, though it is accepted that some training in the area does take place on sand based surfaces.

4.126 In the Selby area, there is a small stock of AGPs, suitable for football as set out below – most of these are only available or suitable for training, and few matches are understood to currently take place on them. These area set out in Map AGP1.

**Table 4.20: AGPs in Selby**

Site Name	No. of AGPs on site	Access	Ownership /management	Pitch size	Type of pitch	Year Built/refurb
Barlby High School	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school/in house	Small 75 x 45m	3G Medium Pile	2011
Queen Margaret's School	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Other Independent School/in house	Full 100 x 60m	Sand filled	2000
Read School	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Other Independent School/in house	Small 42 x 30m	Sand dressed	2005
Selby High School	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community school/in house	Small 66 x 45m	Sand filled	2008
Selby Leisure Centre	1	Pay and Play	Local Authority/Trust	Full 100 x 60m	Sand dressed	2015
Tadcaster Grammar School	1	Pay and Play	Community school/in house	Full 100 x 60m	Sand filled	1997/2001
Thorpe Willoughby Sports Association	1	Sports Club / Community Association	Community Organisation/ Trust	Small 58 x 40m	3G Medium Pile	2015



4.127 In addition, there is another small pitch at Fairways, Sherburn in Elmet, which offers the opportunity for recreational play and training, and is currently used by Sherburn White Rose JFC, but is not considered of adequate quality (surface, lack of shockpad, fencing etc.) to qualify as an AGP in this context.

4.128 It is understood that at least some football takes place on all these pitches, with the exception of Queen Margaret's School.

4.129 In summary these comprise:

- seven pitches in all, including 3 full size pitches
- two 3G pitches – the preferred surface for football, although these are not full size (in the WRCFA's terms, these count as the equivalent of one full size pitch);
- three full size sand based/dressed pitches;
- two smaller sand based/dressed pitches;

4.130 Analysis of quality reveals some issues relating to the quality of facilities;

- four of the pitches have been provided in the last 8 years (since 2008), and can therefore be assumed to be in good condition with a carpet fit for purpose. 2 were built between 2000 and 2005 and probably require improvement and 1 before 2000, though this has been refurbished; and
- some of the pitches are acknowledged by owners and operators (and users) to require improvement, particularly Tadcaster GS (poor carpet).

4.131 The AGPs in the area are in the ownership and management of a variety of providers – schools, LA, and clubs / community organisation.

4.132 In addition, table 4.19 above suggests there are imminent plans to construct a full size 3G pitch at Sherburn High School (which as part of any agreement would also make available grass pitches for community use), and an expression of interest by Tadcaster Albion JFC for a new facility which would comprise a 3G pitch.

### Relative supply

4.133 Using Sport England's Active Places Power database, it is possible to compare provision of AGPs in Selby with a variety of other geographical areas, to ascertain the relative supply of such facilities. The data is set out in Table 4.21 below.

**Table 4.21 Relative provision of AGPs**

	Pitches	Population 2015	Pitches per 1000 population
<b>Selby</b>	7	86,300	0.08
<b>North Yorkshire</b>	47	608,111	0.08
<b>Yorks &amp; Humberside region</b>	492	5,407,883	0.04
<b>England</b>	5353	54,472,081	0.10

4.134 The data includes all AGPs of whatever size, and may in some cases include multiple pitch sites (e.g. those found at small sided football centres). However, for a broad comparison the data is consistent, and it can be seen that relative provision for AGPs in Selby is below the national average, similar to the county average and well above the



regional average. If only 3G pitches are considered, the one full size equivalent in Selby is considered to be well below the national average.

### **Demand**

4.135 The adequacy of AGPs to accommodate demand for football, taking into account both training and competitive fixtures, is an important issue. Demand for hockey is considered elsewhere, as there can often be competing demands from these two sports as both are reliant upon AGPs.

4.136 AGPs are generally considered the favourite venue for football training in the Selby area. About half the football clubs responding to the consultation use existing astro surfaces of varying sizes for training in the district, newly Selby LC, but also Barlby HS, Selby HS and Tadcaster GS. The new small 3G pitch at Thorpe Willoughby is also now being used for training by Thorpe Utd and other clubs. By implication and comment, a number of community teams wish to use AGPs to accommodate their training needs in the future.

4.137 The FA, and as a consequence, local leagues have now also approved the use of AGPs for competitive fixtures. There is limited use currently of these pitches outside the small-sided leagues for competition.

### **Adequacy of Provision**

4.138 Supply and demand is measured on a site specific basis considering;

- the amount of play that a site is able to sustain - based upon the number of hours that the pitch is accessible to the community during peak periods (normally up to a maximum of 34 hours per week). Normal peak periods have been deemed to be Monday to Thursday 17:00 to 21:00; Friday 17:00 to 19:00 and Saturday and Sunday 09:00 to 17:00, although individual sites differ according to their own policy, planning restrictions etc;
- the amount of play that takes place (measured in hours); and
- whether there is any spare capacity at the site based upon a comparison between the capacity of the site and the actual usage.

4.139 Table 4.22 summarises the capacity of the existing AGPs across the week, comparing the number of hours that a pitch is available at peak times with the demand for pitches.

4.140 It should be noted that pitch bookings as well as club consultation has been used to compile usage for AGPs. Whilst the analysis seeks to represent the regular weekly usage, it is clear that there is significant variation across the area from week to week. The peak time capacity for AGPs is midweek evenings.

Table 4.22: Site Specific Activity at AGPs

Pitch	Details	Quality/Age	Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of Spare Capacity	Spare Capacity for Community (peak)	Key Issues
Barlby High School	Small 75 x 45m, floodlit	2011	17	8	9	Some spare capacity currently on Wed/Thurs/Fri evening. No usage at weekends	9	Small 3G pitch mainly used by school during the day, and community use for football training on weekday evenings (including Barlby Raiders and Riccall Utd JFC). No weekend use, some commercial 6 a side competition <b>Some spare capacity in the evening peak</b>
Queen Margaret's School	Full 100 x 60m, floodlit	2000	0	0	0	Theoretical spare capacity	0	Full size sand filled AGP on private/independent school site, used by school mainly for hockey. Previously used by community clubs (for hockey), no current use, and school would consider some outside use, but in use by school on Sat afternoons. <b>Some theoretical spare capacity, but remote from potential clubs, on a private residential school and limited likelihood of additional use for football/training.</b>
Read School	Small 42 x 30m, floodlit	2005	18	6	12	Some spare capacity	12	Small sand dressed floodlit AGP (referred to by school as MUGA). Some limited use by local junior football clubs for training, but school is residential and some security problems. <b>Spare capacity but remote from clubs and on private school site so probably limited</b>

Pitch	Details	Quality/Age	Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of Spare Capacity	Spare Capacity for Community (peak)	Key Issues
Selby High School	Small 66 x 45m, floodlit	2008	21	11	10	Some spare capacity particularly on Thurs/Fri evening and Saturday	10	Small floodlit sand filled AGP, available for community use in evenings and Sats (though no current usage then), but not Suns. Usage mainly by junior football clubs for training (Brayton FC Juniors)), and also some senior clubs (Hemingbrough). <b>Some spare capacity, but pitch use constrained to 8.00 pm closure.</b>
Selby Leisure Centre	Full 100 x 60m, floodlit	2015	36	18	18	About 50% spare capacity in peak periods, particularly at weekend	18	Newly constructed sand based AGP on leisure centre site managed by Wigan Leisure. Available to the community for 71 hours per week in total, and used for a variety of sports mainly hockey matches and training and football training (Brayton Belles, Selby Olympia). 2 x 6 a side competitions organised by outside companies on Mon even, currently with 18 teams, and Wed even. Also some school use. <b>Significant spare capacity in peak periods – weekday evenings (about 25%) and weekend (about 60%)</b>
Tadcaster Grammar School	Full 100 x 60m, floodlit	1997/2001	36	8	28	Significant spare capacity	26	Well-established school sand filled pitch previously well used by community for football training and hockey. Now in poor condition, and usage restricted to football training. <b>Some significant spare capacity but likely to be restricted because of poor condition of surface, which prevents usage in some</b>

Pitch	Details	Quality/Age	Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use	Difference	Extent of Spare Capacity	Spare Capacity for Community (peak)	Key Issues
								<b>weather conditions</b>
Thorpe Willoughby Sports Association	Small 58 x 40m, floodlit	2015	43	25	18	Little spare capacity at peak times during week, though some at weekend	18	New small 3G pitch provided at established sports club site, funded through Football Foundation, club, lottery, Parish Council and others. Only opened 5 December 2015, already full range of activities midweek (only 2 hours still available) and some at weekends. Primary user is Thorpe Utd FC, but also let to other clubs (e.g. Hemingbrough FC) <b>Very little spare capacity in week, some at weekend</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>171</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>95</b>		<b>95</b>	

4.141 The key messages arising from Table 4.22 at a site specific level are as follows;

- most activity on AGPs at peak times is football (albeit mainly on sand surfaces not favoured by the FA). The only pitch with significant hockey usage is Selby LC;  
  
it is estimated that there is about 55% spare capacity at the various AGPs in the area at peak times, but the majority of this is at the weekend, when demand is lowest - this is when main fixtures on grass are held and demand is therefore restricted;
- some of this spare capacity is at pitches on private/independent/boarding school sites, where additional usage is likely to be limited due to the operation of the school. Queen Margaret's School has been excluded from the overall calculations because it is not currently let to the community, and in any case is somewhat remote from potential club users for football;
- there is also theoretical spare capacity at Tadcaster GS, but this is in poor condition and unsuitable for significant additional use;
- Selby and Barlby HSs are relatively well used, with only limited spare capacity;
- the new pitch at Selby LC is the only full size pitch capable of full use, and is let for hockey at weekends/one evening and for football in midweek. There is an opportunity to accommodate more football training use in midweek, and the pitch can be subdivided to allow more than one club to train, but much of the spare capacity is in late evening slots; and
- the newly opened small pitch at Thorpe Willoughby is almost full after only one month's use and has limited spare capacity.

4.142 Analysis of the current use of AGPs therefore concludes that;

- despite a theoretical spare capacity across all pitches of over half, in reality there is relatively little additional opportunity for football training on artificial pitches. Most of the spare capacity is at weekends when demand is low, or in late evening slots;
- in reality, the only spare capacity is at Barlby HS, Selby HS and Selby LC on various evenings, which amounts in total to about 26 hours, and some of these are at less sociable times;
- there is no scope to accommodate formal matches on AGPs, because of the lack of large enough (preferably full size) approved 3G pitches, with the exception that youth and mini matches might take place at Thorpe Willoughby;
- if a new full size 3G pitch is developed at Sherburn HS, this would accommodate training and potential competitive matches; and
- if participation in football increases in line with estimates above, spare capacity of existing AGPs would become still more limited if all clubs sought to train on full sized pitches. There may be a case for one additional full size 3G pitch elsewhere in the district - it is important to emphasise that while sand based surfaces are acceptable for football training, 3G surfaces are more desirable for football.

## Sport England Facility Planning Model

4.143 Activity on a site by site basis can be compared with theoretical modelling produced by Sport England through the Facility Planning Model (FPM) 2014. This assessment considers the adequacy of full sized AGPs for football based on nationally agreed parameters and for the individual LAs in the Selby area. As the assessment was undertaken in 2014, this does not consider the new full size AGP at Selby Leisure Centre (or its predecessor which by then was closed), and because of FPM parameters, the smaller pitches at Barlby HS, Read School, Selby HS and Thorpe Willoughby are also excluded. This assessment is provided for context only, because of the changing supply, and the conclusions below take these factors into account. The summary findings are as follows:

- two pitches are considered in the assessment – Tadcaster GS and Queen Margaret's School. Relative supply (compared with the national average) is low;
- on a crude comparison of demand and supply within Selby district, there is an apparent shortfall of about 1 pitch;
- satisfied demand (i.e. that demand for pitches that is met by existing pitches that are within the catchment of local residents) is below the national average, and this is almost all met by car users;
- unmet demand is also therefore also below average, but when aggregated over the whole district is only equivalent to less than half an additional pitch, and this is mainly caused both by lack of capacity at existing pitches and by residents living outside the catchment of these pitches;
- used capacity is 100% overall and at both pitches – i.e. they are all assumed to be fully used in the hours available;
- Selby is a significant exporter of demand – about 46% of demand from Selby residents is met locally, but 450 visits are imported from outside the district, and 650 exported, probably mainly to York;
- however, relative share (i.e. a measure of supply and capacity in the area) is slightly above the national average.

4.144 **On the basis of the two pitches considered in the FPM assessment, there is significant unmet demand, though this does not necessarily mean that additional pitches could be justified for this reason, as some demand is exported to and met at other pitches outside the district. The model also assumes that both pitches are well used. However, in reality, there is very little football use of the two pitches considered, because of school policies and the poor quality of the Tadcaster pitch, so a case could be made for additional pitches primarily for football in the district. However, the Selby LC pitch has been built since the assessment was undertaken, and its main use and availability for football can be assumed to meet much of the demand attributed to the two existing pitches considered in the assessment. In addition, there are smaller pitches at Thorpe Willoughby and Barlby HS, both with a 3G surface designed primarily for football, and there are also plans to develop a new full size pitch at Sherburn HS. On the basis of these additional facilities, it is likely that there is sufficient supply of pitches to meet the unmet demand identified at the present.**

4.145 **In the longer term, future need will depend on population change, trends in participation and patterns of play, and this could increase demand by a similar amount to that in grass**

**pitches (say 15%, to be monitored over the duration of the strategy). This might justify the need for one additional artificial football/3G pitch in the wider area.**

#### **Club Feedback**

- 4.146 The main problems with AGPs identified by clubs were the lack of available time at and the expense of hiring astro pitches.

#### **FA requirements**

- 4.147 West Riding County FA is currently working on developing a new AGP Investment Model that would see satellite FDC full size AGPs developed in the areas of strategic need, and this will inform/be informed by the outcomes of this current study. It is unlikely that any schemes in Selby will be accorded top priority, in view of other urgent needs elsewhere in the urban parts of the county, but reference should be made here to the possibilities of new or improved pitches at Sherburn, Tadcaster and Selby itself.

#### **Other similar facilities**

- 4.148 There are a number of smaller hard surfaced play areas/MUGAs around the Selby area, which could accommodate training and other activities as the AGPs considered above. Consideration of MUGAs was not part of the overall assessment, though some facilities were identified throughout the site inspections, including Hambleton Recreation Ground, Brayton Community Centre (floodlit) and Ulleskelf PF (floodlit). There is little evidence that clubs use these facilities for training, with the exception of Ulleskelf JFC, which has recently provided a new FMUGA as part of its on-site facilities. These and other similar facilities (e.g. village tennis courts) may have the potential to supplement the artificial grass surfaces highlighted above, particularly if they include floodlights.

#### **Implications for current and future supply**

- 4.149 **There is an average supply of artificial grass pitches already in the area, both full size and smaller, totalling 7 pitches. The actual provision of 'football' surfaces totals 2 small pitches (or 1 full size equivalent) – there is no full size 3G pitch in the district. There are no purpose built 5/7 a side facilities.**
- 4.150 **Demand at the present is mainly for training or small-sided competition, but the FA has approved artificial surfaces for competitive football, and the demand for this may well increase in the future.**
- 4.151 **At present there is some considerable theoretical spare capacity for additional use for football at existing pitches, although much of this is at weekends and later on weekday evenings. In reality there are about 26 additional hours available, and these are mainly concentrated in Selby itself. Spare capacity at two private/independent schools is unlikely to be available or suitable for community use for football to any degree, and the quality of the sand based pitch in Tadcaster precludes much additional use. Despite the lack of a full size 3G pitch in the district, there is no urgent case for additional AGPs at present.**
- 4.152 **The FPM assessment, based on previous data, identifies some unmet demand, but any unreliability of data is mitigated by the smaller 3G pitches at Barby and Thorpe Willoughby (which were not considered in the model), as well as the new sand based pitch at Selby. In addition, it is likely that a new 3G pitch will be built in Sherburn. There is no strategic case therefore for a new full size AGP to meet current future demand.**



- 4.153 There are quality issues at Tadcaster GS, and justification in improving this pitch for use including for football.
- 4.154 The immediate success of the Thorpe Willoughby pitch, and its use by a strong junior club, means that other similar clubs might well benefit from a similar small facility, but this must be based on locally identified demand.
- 4.155 In the longer term, future need will depend on population change, trends in participation and patterns of play, and this could increase demand by a similar amount to that in grass pitches (say 15%, to be monitored over the duration of the strategy). There may be a case up to 2027 for an additional full size 3G pitch.
- 4.156 Assuming the construction of the new pitch at Sherburn, there will still be only one full size 3G pitch in the district and a geographical imbalance in provision. Any additional full size 3G pitch in say Selby itself, would need to be justified on the basis of FA priorities and take into account any impact on the Selby LC pitch. Smaller 3G pitches, serving particular clubs, may be easier to justify.

#### Summary and conclusions for football

- There are 76 individual formal grass football pitches in community use across the Selby area on 31 sites.
- Pitch quality varies relatively little. Overall, from data collected from site inspections, 31% of pitches are considered good, and 69% standard/ average. There are no pitches classed as poor. Ancillary provision (e.g. changing rooms) is considered slightly poorer.
- There are numerous pitches on school sites throughout the area, both high schools and junior schools, which are not at present available for wider community use. Few schools that do not already open their facilities indicated interest in doing so. There is limited scope to increase the pitch stock further through community use of school sites, unless current barriers can be addressed, as school pitches are primarily required for school use.
- The study has identified 160 teams playing on grass, comprising 43 senior men's, 35 youth 11v11, 25 youth 9v9, 49 mini and 8 women and girls' teams. Based on the FA data on numbers of players required to form teams, it is estimated that this number of teams and clubs yields about 2300 regular footballers across the whole area. Senior men account for about one third of the total.
- Club responses suggest that there are a number of plans, aspirations and other comments regarding facility provision and other aspects of development that require consideration in any strategy.
- As a broad overview it is estimated that at present there is significant current spare capacity of grass football pitches in the Selby area. A simple assessment of all sites suggests that there is carrying capacity (based on the quantity and quality of pitches) for 246 matches per week, while actual usage from the 160 or so teams is about 80 (i.e. half assuming home fixtures on alternate weeks). This leaves a theoretical spare capacity of 166 matches per week. However, at the peak times, this reduces to about 15, still a significant number.
- In terms of different types of pitch;

- For adult football, supply is relatively unconstrained, but there are pockets of overplay and lack of spare capacity in certain locations.
- For youth 11v11 play, overall there is a shortfall of junior football pitches, particularly at peak times.
- For youth 9v9 play, there is spare capacity overall, pitches are generally not overplayed, and there is considered to be an adequate supply of pitches in the area overall. However, there is no spare capacity at peak times on some sites.
- For mini 7v7, provision is very good, and there are no pockets of overplay and lack of spare capacity throughout the whole area.
- For mini 5v5, there is significant total spare capacity overall, although this is reduced considerably at peak times, when demand is greatest.
- The general conclusion is that at present there is no overall need for additional football pitches in Selby, although there are a number of clubs where existing facilities are at or over capacity or where clubs have to play on multiple sites when they would ideally like to be located at one venue for easier club development. Current shortfalls in some locations will be mitigated to some extent by new sites developed as the result of planning obligations and other commitments.
- The implications for pitch demand in the future are that despite the overall spare capacity in the area at present, about 6 additional football pitches are likely to be required overall up to 2027, particularly at those clubs identified in this study who are already at capacity. The strategy that follows this assessment will consider actual numbers in more detail, and an assessment of individual club needs will need to be considered, and solutions for future pitch development produced which take into account future circumstances.
- For the reasons stated above, it is not realistic to project playing pitch need beyond 2027. Rather any monitoring of the subsequent strategy should consider changes in demand and supply on a regular basis, and adjust the future need as appropriate. At this stage future need is only projected up to 2027
- There are a number of non-turf facilities in the Selby area which complement the overall stock of grass football pitches and are mainly used for training, although they have limited potential for competitive play, due to size and surface
  - Artificial grass pitches, of which there are 7 facilities. Full size pitches are sand based and floodlit and used mainly for informal football training. 3G pitches are not full size, and are also used mainly for training, and casual use. They are not generally big enough for competitive full sided play, with the exception of the new pitch at Thorpe Willoughby
  - Multi Use Games Areas (usually floodlit) at a number of locations. While these are theoretically available for football, there is no striking evidence of their use for training or other formal football activity
  - There is no purpose built small sided soccer centres as found in many locations elsewhere, although it is understood that one commercial company does rent

### Selby LC for this purpose

- **At present there is some considerable theoretical spare capacity for additional use for football at existing pitches, although much of this is at weekends and later on weekday evenings. There is no strong strategic or local case for any additional AGP at present, particularly if the Sherburn pitch is built.**
- **In the longer term, future need will depend on population change, trends in participation and patterns of play, and this could increase demand by a similar amount to that in grass pitches (say 15%, to be monitored over the duration of the strategy). There may be a case in the future for an additional full size pitch. Any additional full size 3G pitch in say Selby itself, would need to be justified on the basis of FA priorities and take into account any impact on the Selby LC pitch. Smaller 3G pitches serving particular clubs may be easier to justify, though are not currently favoured by the FA.**

### Issues for strategy to address

4.157 The key issues for the strategy to address are therefore:

- Whether there is a need for additional pitches in certain locations now and in the future, in view of the ample spare capacity for all types of pitches even in the peak periods
- Quality issues at pitches influencing pitch capacity in some cases. Overuse (in relation to the quality and capacity of the pitch) may cause further deterioration of pitches
- Need for investment to bring the generally adequate quality of pitches up to a good standard across the board and consequent programme of maintenance at all pitches to cope with the levels of use.
- Participation, particularly for juniors is continuing to increase and there are significant aspirations for club development. Several clubs express concerns however about longer-term sustainability
- The need to consider hub sites where junior and senior clubs have the opportunity to develop teams more consistently
- The implications of changing demand in participation with the introduction of 9v9 pitches as well as the push for the use of 3G pitches for match play
- The specific needs of especially multi team clubs whose main aim is to develop on single sites with multiple pitches
- More sustained use, if necessary, of school pitches on a regular basis, and their particular value as hub sites
- Future pitch provision in conjunction with new housing development
- Aspirations of clubs to develop their own facilities. The lease of pitches could provide clear benefits to both the clubs and pitch providers

- Rationalisation of pitches to improve economic viability where appropriate
- There are several former playing fields sites that are not currently used but could be brought back into use to meet any existing deficiencies, although not necessarily in the right location
- The continued need for training facilities particularly hard surfaced and floodlit
- The relative lack of 3G pitches inhibits the quality of the training that takes place for football and means that there are limited opportunities to use AGPs for match play
- The need for a co-ordinated approach to the future of AGP surfaces, which does not prejudice hockey use, is an issue that requires consideration.

### Introduction

5.1 This section evaluates the adequacy of pitches for cricket and provides:

- An overview of the supply of cricket pitches across Selby
- An outline of demand for cricket pitches across in the area
- An understanding of activity at individual sites in the area
- A picture of the adequacy of current provision
- The future picture of provision for cricket.

### Cricket in Selby – an overview

#### Pitch Supply

5.2 There are 25 sites containing facilities for cricket in the Selby district, where clubs and teams are currently accommodated, with a total of 26 grass pitches with 252 grass wickets and 5 non turf wickets. Sites are mostly equally split in tenure between being owned, leased or rented, often from the Parish Council or Playing Fields Committee, or local landowners/farmers. Clubs themselves play a big part in managing and maintaining the pitches and wickets. There are no local authority-owned cricket pitches in Selby, and none in community use on school sites. The individual pitches and sites are set out in Table 5.1 below. Further detail is provided in Appendix C1 and on map C1.

5.3 No evidence has been found of sites that have fallen out of use in recent years

5.4 Many of the sites with cricket pitches are used exclusively for cricket, but 12 sites do share the ground/outfield with other sports – Cawood, Church Fenton, South Milford, Sherburn Eversley and Tadcaster Magnets share grounds mainly with football teams, while Fairburn, Hemingbrough, Hensall, North Duffield, Selby, Tadcaster Magnets Station Road and Thorpe Willoughby have shared outfield with other sports clubs at the beginning and end of the season and throughout the year. This can add to the wear and tear of pitches and impact upon the ability to undertake maintenance relating to both football and cricket pitches.

**Table 5.1: Cricket pitches across Selby district**

Site Name	No. pitches	No. grass wickets	No. artificial wickets
Bolton Percy Cricket Club, North Rd, Bolton Percy	1	12	
Burn Cricket Club	1	6	
Burton Salmon Cricket Club	1	7	
Carlton Towers Cricket Club	1	11	
Cawood Playing Fields, Maypole Gardens	1	8	1
Church Fenton Cricket Club	1	9	
Drax Cricket Club	1	13	1
Eggborough Cricket Club	1	10	1
Fairburn Recreation Ground,	1	8	
Hemingbrough Cricket Club	1	10	
Hensall Cricket Club	1	12	
Hillam and Monk Fryston Cricket Club, Hillam	1	10	1
Hirst Courtney Cricket Club	1	8	
Kelfield Cricket Club	1	7	
North Duffield Playing Fields	1	10	
Saxton Cricket Club	1	13	
Selby Cricket Club, Selby RUFC	2	26	
Sherburn Eversley Cricket Club, Eversley Park, Sherburn	1	11	
South Milford Cricket Club, Swancroft	1	10	
Stillingfleet Cricket Club	1	5	
Tadcaster Magnet Cricket Club (Station Road Pitch)	1	8	
Tadcaster Magnet Sports Club	1	12	
Thorpe Willoughby Sports Association	1	8	
Whitley Bridge Cricket Club	1	8	1
Yorkshire Gentlemen's CC, Escrick Park	1	10	
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>5</b>

### Quality

- 5.5 Pitch and facility quality is assessed from a number of sources – non-technical visual inspection using Sport England's guidelines, some league data from pitch marking returns and data from clubs gleaned from the questionnaire survey. The overall assessment in the last column is a subjective summary of the individual scores – good, fair and poor.

**Table 5.2: Quality of cricket pitches and facilities in Selby**

Site name	Visual inspection	League data*	Club data (pitch/facilities)	Overall assessment
Bolton Percy Cricket Club	Good	49 <sup>th</sup> down from 45 <sup>th</sup>	Standard	Good/standard
Burn Cricket Club	Good		Good	Good
Burton Salmon Cricket Club	Standard			Standard
Carlton Towers Cricket Club	Good	23 <sup>rd</sup> , up from 35 <sup>th</sup>		Good

Site name	Visual inspection	League data*	Club data (pitch/facilities)	Overall assessment
Cawood Playing Fields	Good	55 <sup>th</sup> down from 47 <sup>th</sup>	Good	Good
Church Fenton Cricket Club	Good		Good	Good
Drax Cricket Club	Good	50 <sup>th</sup> down from 39 <sup>th</sup>	Good	Good
Eggborough Cricket Club	Standard		Standard	Standard
Fairburn Recreation Ground,	Good			Good
Hemingbrough Cricket Club	Good	43 <sup>rd</sup> , no previous score	Good	Good
Hensall Cricket Club	Good		Good	Good
Hillam and Monk Fryston Cricket Club	Good		Good	Good
Hirst Courtney Cricket Club	Good		Good	Good
Kelfield Cricket Club	Good			Good
North Duffield Playing Fields	Good		Good	Good
Saxton Cricket Club	Good		Good	Good
Selby Cricket Club, Selby RUFC	Good	33 <sup>rd</sup> up from 32 <sup>nd</sup>	Good	Good
Sherburn Eversley Cricket Club	Standard		Good	Good/standard
South Milford Cricket Club	Good		Good	Good
Stillingfleet	Standard		Standard	Standard
Tadcaster Magnet Cricket Club (Station Road Pitch)	Good		Standard	Good/standard
Tadcaster Magnet Sports Club	Good	42 <sup>nd</sup> down from 21 <sup>st</sup>	Good	Good
Thorpe Willoughby Sports Association	Good		Good	Good
Whitley Bridge Cricket Club	Good			Good
Yorkshire Gentlemen's CC, Escrick Park	Good			Good

\*data from ground marking in York & D SL 2014 season, position out of 62 clubs, comparison with 2013

- 5.6 In general pitches and ancillary facilities are considered to be in good or standard condition taking into account all factors – of those for which information has been collected, 20 venues are considered good, the remainder good/standard or standard and none poor. The best facilities tend to be at the clubs playing in the most senior leagues, due to pitch quality standards required by these leagues.
- 5.7 More details of individual aspects of pitch (and ancillary facility) quality and site-specific issues are explained in the section below on club responses.



## Other pitches

- 5.8 The study has identified through consultation and observation a number of other pitches throughout the wider area where cricket can be played, and these are all on High School sites. This information is not comprehensive and it is likely that other smaller pitches are available on other school sites. These pitches primarily accommodate cricket at school, whether in the curriculum or after school, and are not (regularly) available for community use by clubs or used by teams, though this may well be because of the adequacy of pitches on club and other sites. They do remain a possible outlet for any demand that may be identified in the future, subject to availability from the school or institution in question.

**Table 5.3: Other cricket pitches in Selby**

Site name	No of cricket pitches	Notes
Read School Sports Field	1 cricket	Cricket square marked out between rugby pitches in summer, some irregular use by local club when own ground not fit
Selby HS	1 non turf cricket	No community use
Sherburn HS	1 non turf cricket	No community use
Tadcaster Grammar School	1 non turf cricket	No community use, artificial wicket in reasonable condition. No cut square nor net facilities. Sloping outfield used for rugby/football. School provision for changing

## Clubs, teams and leagues

- 5.9 There are estimated to be 26 clubs affiliated to the Yorkshire Cricket Board and playing cricket in Selby district. These currently comprise 61 adult men's teams (56% of the total), 42 boys' teams (39%) and 5 girls' teams (5%). There are no women's teams currently playing in Selby. Details of clubs and teams are set out further in Appendix C2.

**Table 5.4: Cricket clubs and teams in Selby**

Name of club	Adult men	Women	Junior male	Junior female	Total	Venue
Ben Johnson CC	1				1	Escrick Park
Bolton Percy Cricket Club	3		5	5	13	North Rd Bolton Percy
Burn Cricket Club	3				3	Burn CC
Burton Salmon CC	1				1	Burton Salmon
Carlton Towers Cricket Club	4		2		6	Carlton Towers CC
Cawood Cricket Club	3				3	Maypole Gdns Cawood
Church Fenton Cricket Club	3		4		7	Church Fenton CC
Drax Cricket Club	3		2		5	Drax CC
Eggborough Power Station CC	2				2	Eggborough Power Station
Fairburn CC	2		4		6	Fairburn Recreation Ground

Hemingbrough Cricket Club	3		3		6	Hemingbrough Playing Field
Hensall Cricket and Football Club	3		3		6	Hensall F&CC
Hillam and Monk Fryston Cricket Club	3		1		4	Hillam & Monk Fryston CC
Hirst Courtney CC	2				2	Hirst Courtney CC
Kelfield CC	1				1	Kelfield CC
North Duffield CC	2		3		5	North Duffield CC
Saxton Cricket Club	2		2		4	Saxton CC
Selby CC	4		2		6	Selby RFC
Sherburn Eversley Cricket Club	3				3	Eversley Park, Sherburn
South Milford CC	3		5		8	South Milford Sports Club
Stillingfleet CC	1				1	Stillingfleet CC
Tadcaster Magnet	3		3		6	Tadcaster Magnet Sports Club/Station Road
Thorpe Arch & Boston Spa CC	1				1	Tadcaster Magnet, Station road site
Thorpe Willoughby Sports Association	2				2	Thorpe Willoughby Sports Association
Whitley Bridge Cricket Club	3		3		6	Whitley Bridge CC
Yorkshire Gentlemen CC	1				1	Escrick Park
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>108</b>	

5.10 Thorpe Arch and Boston Spa CC plays its third team fixtures in Tadcaster, but its main ground is outside Selby (in Leeds).

5.11 The significant issues to arise from these are as follows:

- there is a wide distribution of cricket facilities throughout the district, and this encompasses both the main towns and many outlying villages. There is a long tradition of village cricket in Yorkshire, possibly more so than in many other areas;
- 14 clubs have both senior and junior sections, and a developmental structure that ensures that there is continuity at all levels. Conversely there are 8 clubs with either 1 or 2 adult teams, and who have to seek playing members from outside, because of the lack of a development section (Thorpe Arch is excluded from this comment, as is Yorkshire Gentlemen which is an occasional club playing friendlies); and
- there is currently very little female participation in organised cricket, with no clubs fielding women's teams, and only 5 girls' teams (all at one club), though there may be individual girls playing junior cricket at some clubs.

5.12 It is estimated from teams and club returns that (on the basis of clubs requiring 15-20 players to support each team) there are between about 900 and 1200 adults and 700-950 juniors currently playing cricket in Selby.

5.13 The affiliated clubs play mainly in the following leagues in the area:

- York and District Senior Cricket League

- HPH York Vale League 2015
- Pontefract and District Senior Cricket League
- Wetherby Cricket League
- Elmet Thursday Evening Cricket League
- Snaith and District Evening Cricket League
- Howdenshire Evening Cricket League
- Whixley Evening Cricket League

- 5.14 Junior teams play variously in the York and District Junior Cricket League, Pontefract and District Junior Cricket League, Wetherby Junior Cricket League and Osgoldcross Junior League, while girls play in the North Yorkshire Girls Friendly League, as well as the York Junior League.
- 5.15 There are a number of national, regional and local cup competitions that also include teams in the area.

### **Club consultation**

- 5.16 Clubs were consulted on their current team patterns, likely future demand, facility quality and other issues affecting overall participation and the broad results from those responding are set out below (the percentages refer for the most part to 20 of the 26 clubs that responded to consultation in detail). The club responses are set out more fully in Appendix C3;
- Most club sections (adult and junior) responding are fielding the same number of teams compared with three seasons ago (75%), although there has been a change of teams in 25% of age groups. Only three club sections have lost teams and players (2 junior, 1 senior), while there have been team increases in 8 sections, mostly juniors. The main reasons for abandoned teams are lack of players and loss of juniors moving to university, while the increase in teams has been due to club development particularly for girls (at one club). There is not, and has never in recent times been, any women's cricket. Participation is holding up well therefore in cricket
  - Most clubs are operating for the benefit of players from a wider than purely local catchment. 61% of players live within 2-5 miles of the club venue, and 21% over 5 miles. Only 18% of players live within 2 miles. This is not unusual, given the relative paucity of clubs (compared with say football) and the wide distribution of pitches, although juniors tend to live within 5 miles
  - 55% of clubs responding have no plans to increase their number of teams, with 45% suggesting they would. This might increase the number of teams by 14 overall, including 3 men's, 1 women's and 10 juniors if their plans are realised over the coming seasons
  - Only 2 clubs need to travel outside the district, for training or matches, and this is because they are located on the edge of Selby, and use winter training venues in Leeds and elsewhere. One club would prefer this training to be available in the district (Tadcaster)
  - Sites are mostly equally split in tenure between being owned, leased or rented, often from the Parish Council or Playing Fields Committee, or local landowners/farmers. There are no 'community use' pitches in the ownership of the local authority (Selby District Council) or schools

- In all clubs responding but one, maintenance of the ground is undertaken by the club itself, in two cases with the assistance of the Parish Council or owners (Power Station). One ground is maintained solely by the owners (Yorks Gentlemen)
- All clubs are playing in their preferred location, with the exception that Thorpe Arch 3<sup>rd</sup> team plays in Selby because of insufficient pitches at its home ground in Leeds. Only one club has access to an alternative pitch – Drax which uses Read School on a reciprocal basis as and when required (but infrequently)
- Pitch usage varies from 10 games a season at the smallest club to over 100 where there is significant junior participation. In addition, the main pitch is used throughout the week and by others for training, representative matches, casual games, schools and others at all but 6 clubs (detailed usage of pitches is dealt with below under individual pitch assessments)
- About 10% of all programmed matches in the last season across all fixtures were cancelled, the vast majority because of the weather on the day, or the days leading up to matches. Individual cancellations at clubs varied from 0-30%. Generally, pitches were able to accommodate poor weather conditions (rain).

5.17 Quality emerged as a key issue during consultations with clubs. In addition to measuring the provision of pitches and ancillary facilities in quantitative terms, it is also essential to consider the quality of existing provision. Furthermore, perceived quality of pitches (and ancillary facilities) is almost as important as actual quality and can change usage patterns. Players are more likely to travel to sites that they perceive to be higher quality or better value for money. Indeed, lower quality pitches may actually deter residents from participating. The perceived quality of pitches overall is set out in Table 5.8 overleaf.

5.18 **Pitch quality** - Clubs were given the opportunity to comment on individual aspects of pitch quality (the figures in the tables represent individual club responses in number). Overall pitch quality was assessed as good by 80% of clubs, standard by 20% and poor by none.

5.19 In terms of individual aspects of pitch quality, in general and across the board, 85% of aspects of pitch quality were rated good, 3% average and only 13% poor – most of the latter related to evidence of dog fouling and unofficial use (see club returns in table 5.5 below).

**Table 5.5: Club perceptions of pitch quality**

Aspect	Pitch scores		
Grass cover	Good 89%	Acceptable 11%	Not acceptable 0
Length of grass	Good 90%	Acceptable 10%	Not acceptable 0
Evidence of dog fouling, glass, etc.	None 80%		Some 20%
Evidence of unofficial use	None 80%		Some 20%
Damage to surface	None 94%		Some 6%
Evenness of outfield	Even 65%		Uneven 35%
Evenness of grass wickets	Even 95%		Uneven 5%
Evenness of non-turf wickets	Even 88%		Uneven 11%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>13%</b>

5.20 Specific problems identified included:

- Burn CC – rabbit intrusion and damage;

- Drax CC – infestation of Cray flies;
- Saxton CC – some issues with trespass;
- Eggborough PS CC – rabbit holes;
- Stillingfleet CC – rabbits, broadleaf incursion, no covers so badly affected during rain;
- Thorp Arch & Boston Spa CC – outfield poor because of football usage; and
- Thorpe Willoughby CC – TOO much football played on outfield, dried stud marks make bounce of cricket ball dangerous.

5.21 In terms of changes to pitch quality since the previous season, this was perceived to have generally improved – 72% of clubs considered their pitches were much or slightly better, while 28% considered there had been no change. No clubs said their pitches were worse. The main reasons for better pitches were improved maintenance, more investment of time and resources during the winter and improved weather during the season.

5.22 Improvements carried out to grounds over the past three years included:

- Bolton Percy CC – purchase of equipment, outfield levelling, new junior pitch on outfield for juniors;
- Hemingbrough CC – improved drainage;
- Hillam & Monk Fryston CC – improvements to land behind pavilion for spectators;
- North Duffield CC – general improvements to ground to meet needs of York Premier League;
- Saxton CC – improvements to square, considered best in the league, and to outfield drainage; and
- Whitley Bridge CC – better preparation of square for winter.

5.23 **Ancillary facilities quality** - Clubs were also asked to comment on the range of facilities included in clubhouses and changing rooms, and the overall quality of these facilities. The range of facilities present is as follows:

- changing facilities are available to all clubs at all venues, although some are not purpose built and double as other facilities;
- 60% of changing rooms and pavilions were considered good by the clubs, and the rest acceptable – none was considered poor;
- only 16% of pavilions have separate changing areas for juniors and seniors;
- only 26% have separate changing area for males and females;
- 79% of pavilions have officials' changing rooms; and
- 84% of clubhouses/pavilions are secured during matches.

5.24 In terms of individual clubhouse components, the following were available at their main venue

**Table 5.6: Clubhouse facility provision for cricket**

Facility	Yes	No
Umpires room	79%	21%
Access for disabled	61%	39%
Kitchen	100%	0
Toilet	100%	0
Showers	79%	21%
Hot/cold water	95%	5%
Heating	60%	40%

5.25 For the most part, clubhouses are well appointed with a full range of facilities. Services most lacking are umpires' rooms, disabled access, showers and heating. Most clubhouses are purpose built and in some cases new, but there are examples of temporary structures converted to pavilion use. Some facilities are accommodated in adjacent village halls that double as pavilions.

5.26 Specific problems identified included:

- Bolton Percy CC – need for heating (in remote rural location)
- Burn CC – need for showers and electric
- Drax CC – need for women's changing, and second floor for additional general training
- Eggborough Power Station CC – new ceiling required, kitchen improvements and furniture
- Hemingbrough CC – need for additional showers, enlarged officials' room and larger tea room
- Stillingfleet CC – no electric supply to clubhouse

5.27 With regard to other facilities at the ground, the following were again available at their main venue.

**Table 5.7: Ancillary facility provision for cricket**

Facility	Yes	No
Fencing	68%	32%
Adequate car parking	100%	0
Mower/rollers	100%	0
Sightscreens	95%	5%
Score box	63%	37%
Practice nets	79%	21%
Portable covers for square	63%	37%

5.28 For the most part, cricket grounds were well appointed, and the main deficiencies were for separate score box, portable square covers and practice nets. Car parking is rarely an issue in the area, as there is adequate space at most grounds. Sightscreens and mowers and rollers (with storage) are available at almost all grounds.

5.29 Improvements carried out to ancillary facilities over the past three years included:

- Bolton Percy CC – extended pavilion, purchase of equipment, outfield levelling, new training net, converted scoreboard;
- Burn CC – new mower;
- Cawood CC – showers, changing room improvements and hot water;
- Church Fenton – new pavilion;
- Drax CC – new machinery;
- Eggborough Power Station CC – new covers, refurbished/new mowers, scarifier, refurbished sight screens and practice nets, new kitchen in clubhouse;
- Hemingbrough CC – electronic score box, new kitchen, refurbished showers and toilets;
- Hensall CC – sight screens, covers, new mower;
- Hillam & Monk Fryston CC – new pavilion;
- North Duffield CC – general improvements to ground to meet needs of York Premier League;
- Saxton CC – new pavilion, scoreboard and storage;
- South Milford CC – batting nets, improved fencing and boundaries;
- Stillingfleet CC – equipment storage, new fencing to ground; and
- Thorpe Willoughby CC – new artificial grass nets, bowling machine, covers.

5.30 **Overall satisfaction with cricket facilities in the Selby area** – clubs were generally satisfied with the quality and quantity of cricket facilities in the Selby area – 78% were satisfied overall, only 17% were dissatisfied with some aspects of facility provision. The biggest issues and main reasons for their views were the lack of winter indoor training facilities for cricket, the lack of junior sides at some clubs inhibiting development, the falling numbers of players and the perception that funding from the governing body and others is directed only to the larger clubs, to the detriment of small village clubs.

#### **Club plans, aspirations, priorities and other comments**

5.31 Desirable or actual planned improvements and enhancements were identified and other comments made by clubs as follows:

- **Bolton Percy CC** – priority is training nets with improved caging. Club feels isolated and unsupported by LA;
- **Burn CC** – priorities are electric to the clubhouse and showers, and increase in size and evenness of outfield. Sees the cricket club as a priceless asset to a village with no other facilities, which could be developed as a multi use community facility;
- **Church Fenton CC** – need to increase the size of the outfield, reconfigure the entrance to the ground, improve the scoreboard and covers, and provide one additional sight screen to meet league requirements;

- **Drax CC** – suffers from a lack of contact with LA, and support from NGB;
- **Eggborough Power Station CC** – interior of pavilion needs upgrade, new or improved scoreboard and purchase of a heavy roller;
- **Hemingbrough CC** – extended pavilion to meet league standards, lack of affordable indoor training facilities in winter;
- **Hensall CC** – priority for fit for purpose nets to promote especially junior cricket, but lack of funding from NGB and others, despite being ECB Clubmark club;
- **Hillam & Monk Fryston CC** – improve interior of clubhouse, and get wicket tested to ensure quality. Need for disabled toilet to meet Clubmark. Mobile covers to meet league requirements;
- **Hirst Courtney CC** – need for portable covers, and non turf wicket, improved pavilion, score box and toilets, conversion of old scoreboard to female changing;
- **North Duffield CC** – need for scoreboard and storage, and permanent nets along edge of ground to improve coaching, and meet league requirements. Club very keen to develop its junior section;
- **Saxton CC** – second pitch for juniors and possible changing, flat sight screen covers;
- **Sherburn Eversley CC** – main problem in area is the relative lack of players, particularly from schools where cricket is not delivered;
- **South Milford CC** – new set of wicket covers, and extending boundaries. Main problems in area are not facilities, but the lack of players, including seniors;
- **Stillingfleet CC** – outfield levelling and new wicket covers. Main issue is the lack of a junior section feeding into the senior side, and the likely demise of the club in 5 years, and the inability to accommodate young players with existing facilities;
- **Thorpe Willoughby CC** – ideally a dedicated cricket pitch without having to share a potentially dangerous outfield with football. Main problem is attracting players, both junior and senior; and
- **Whitley Bridge CC** – need for grants to cover costs of running clubs, including maintenance.

### Training Needs

- 5.32 All clubs, except one, that responded train during the season, almost all at their home ground – 80% all clubs responding have practice nets at their main venue. Alternatively, there are five clubs with non-turf pitches where practice is possible. The use of alternative facilities for training means that little usage is made of the main wickets for training. During the winter clubs train at sports halls at Reed School, Barby HS, Manor School, Our Lady HS, Carlton, Tadcaster Indoor Cricket School and other schools outside the district.
- 5.33 In terms of the adequacy of training facilities, only about half of clubs who train were satisfied with their facilities, with over 40% expressing concern. The main need was for non-turf practice wickets (expressed by Bolton Percy CC, Burn CC, Church Fenton CC, Hemingbrough CC, North Duffield CC, South Milford CC and Stillingfleet CC). Practice



nets were also mentioned by two clubs, and one club suggested the need for better equipment to allow the outfield to be used for practice and training.

### **Educational Demand**

- 5.34 Demand for formal cricket pitches is much less evident from the education sector than other sports. While some primary schools play cricket and have cricket teams, this is primarily kwik cricket played indoors or on the playground. Chance To Shine is a nationwide programme run by the Cricket Foundation, which aims to regenerate competitive cricket in a third of all state schools, and seeks to create strong links between schools and clubs. This has had little impact in Selby so far, though the YCB has said that schools will be identified for 2016 as part of the programme.
- 5.35 Only a few high schools and academies have a cricket pitch, including a non-turf wicket available for cricket. It is understood that the YCB has had some involvement with participation in cricket at Barlby and Holy Family Catholic HSs. There is no demand by schools for the use of existing club pitches.

### **Casual Demand**

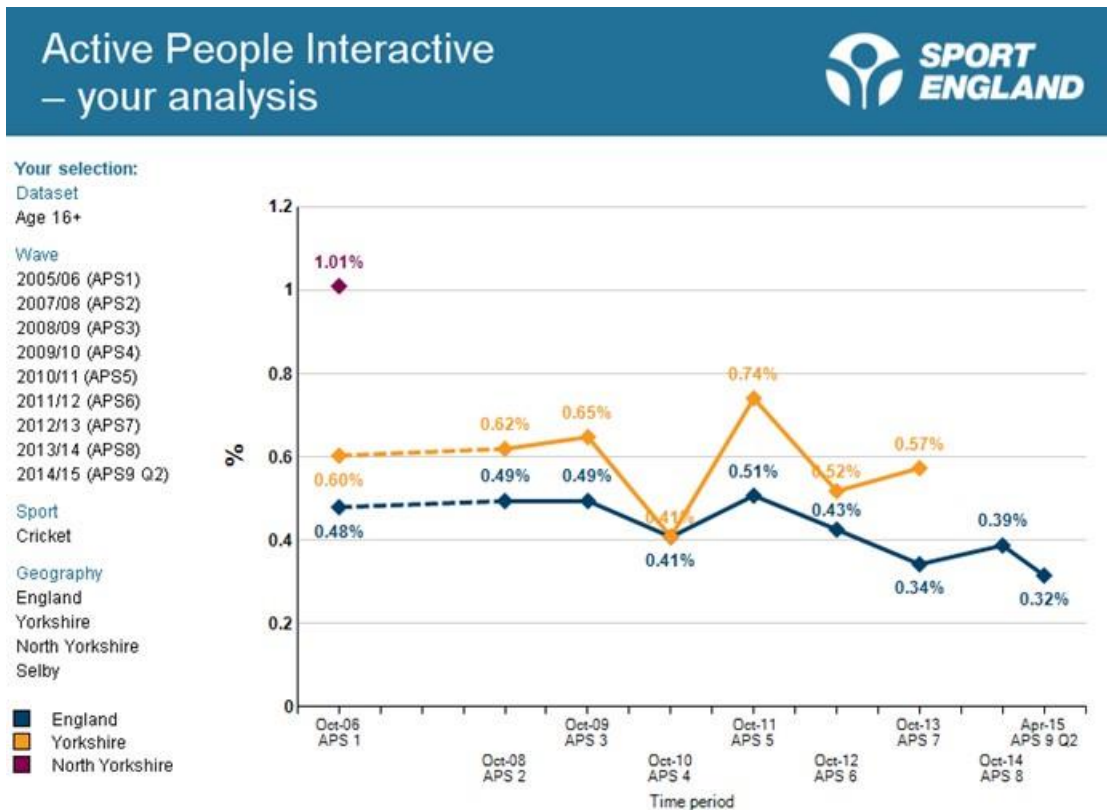
- 5.36 Apart from some occasional informal games (20/20 and friendlies addressed below), there is limited casual use of cricket pitches as many of the grounds are privately managed or under the strict control of clubs. Some sites on village recreation grounds do however receive other informal recreational use, which can impact upon the quality of the wicket and cause damage to the surface.
- 5.37 Yorkshire CB works with the Last Man Stands initiative to give players more opportunities to play casual cricket either during the week or on weekends. Part of the initiative is developing Non Turf pitches at various sites that will be used to service informal participation offers such as Last Man Stands, which will cater for non-club cricketers.

### **Demand**

#### **Active People**

- 5.38 The latest APS data for cricket participation demonstrates the following characteristics. (figures relate to once per week participation by adults over 16). Because of sample sizes, the data relates only to the region and England – there is little or no local data for North Yorkshire or Selby district itself.
- 5.39 Since APS data was first collected in 2006, participation in cricket in the region has been very close to the national average, but since 2010 slightly below the national average. There was a decline from 2010 but the most recent data suggests that regional participation is at 0.33%.

**Chart 5.1: Participation in cricket**



- 5.40 National participation in cricket among those 16 and over has generally declined since APS was first published in 2006, although the regional figure has (almost) consistently been above the national, and the trend is more level. North Yorkshire data is only available for the initial year of APS, because of sample sizes, and this was at twice the national level then. Selby data is similarly unavailable. In the absence of more local data for Selby and reflecting the available trends, it is reasonable to assume that the current rate of adult participation in the district is at about the county level, and about 0.75-1.0%
- 5.41 This would represent about 600-800 adult cricketers playing once a week. This is actually lower than the estimated number of adult cricketers from club returns (900-1200) and the APS data also includes recreational and more casual players (although in fact most regular players will play for a team – there is little scope for casual cricket). It is likely therefore that participation in cricket in the Selby area is in fact considerably higher than the regional and national averages, and extrapolated county average. Local cricket participation can therefore be said to be very buoyant.

**Market Segmentation**

- 5.42 Sport England's Market Segmentation data allows estimates to be derived of current and future likely participation in cricket according to the underlying characteristics of the population in any given area. Analysis of the outputs for Selby suggests the following (see Appendix MS1).
- Existing participation – MS estimates that the likely participation levels for cricket in Selby total about 630 players, mainly in the range between 0.1 and 1% of the adult population, although slightly higher in the northeast part of the district. This is

consistent with the APS data, but lower than the estimated participation levels from clubs. The key participants in cricket are those that also play other pitch sports, specifically Ben, Tim and Philip. Female groups are not particularly apparent

- There is a degree of latent demand identified, with about a third of the total potential cricket playing population not currently participating, representing about a further 335 players. Latent demand is focused on mainly the same groups that currently play
- It must be stressed that the MS data represents a theoretical estimate of participation according to the socio economic structure of the local population, and in this case is suggested to slightly underestimate the actual numbers playing. Perhaps more significant however is the latent demand for cricket, which in this case could be as much as 50%.

### **Assessing the Supply and Demand Information and Views**

- 5.43 The adequacy of facilities for cricket is measured by comparing the amount of wickets available against the level of use of these wickets. This is considered firstly at a site-specific level and then information and issues are compiled in order to present an area-wide picture.
- 5.44 For cricket, unlike other pitch sports, the capacity of a pitch is measured on a season rather than weekly basis and is primarily determined by the number and quality of wickets on a pitch. Play is rotated throughout the season across the number of wickets on a pitch to reduce wear and allow for repair and each wicket can accommodate a certain amount of play per season.
- 5.45 As a guide, the ECB suggests that a good quality wicket should be able to take:
- 5 matches per season per grass wicket (adults);
  - 7 matches per season per grass wicket (juniors);
  - 60 matches per season per non turf wicket (adults); and
  - 80 matches per season per non-turf wicket (juniors).
- 5.46 Demand is therefore measured in terms of the number of home games that each team will play per season.

### **Situation at Individual Sites**

- 5.47 Based upon the above parameters, Table 5.8 provides an overview of site-specific activity for each of the pitches that are offer community use in the Selby area. Full details of teams playing at each site can be found in Appendix C2.
- 5.48 Table 5.8 clearly indicates that most facilities offering community use are well used but that a considerable proportion of pitches are able to accommodate more play. Reflecting analysis relating to quality earlier in this section, site-specific analysis demonstrates that there are quality concerns at some sites that restrict optimum usage, which may in the future require improvement to achieve more usage.

Table 5.8: Site Specific Usage

Site	No of pitches	No of grass wickets	No non turf wickets	Overall Quality Assessment	Capacity per season if pitch classes as good	Estimated home games per season	Theoretical spare capacity if pitch classed as good	Overview	Key Issues and Views
<b>Bolton Percy Cricket Club, North Rd, Bolton Percy</b>	1	12		Good/standard	69-84	70 + occasional friendlies and 6 times by primary school (total 81)	-12 to +3	At capacity	3 senior and 10 junior teams, plus training once a week (train in nets). Additional usage by local primary schools, so no overall spare capacity. Require non-turf practice pitch particularly for juniors. Current pitch only standard/good.
<b>Burn Cricket Club</b>	1	6		Good	30	32	-2	Slightly over capacity	2 Saturday senior teams and 1 midweek, No juniors. Training 1 session per week in portable nets. Require non-turf pitch for training.
<b>Burton Salmon Cricket Club</b>	1	7		Standard	35	13	+22	Some spare capacity to accommodate additional play	Only 1 senior team on Saturday. Only standard pitch, but spare capacity. Training nets adequate.
<b>Carlton Towers Cricket Club</b>	1	11		Good	55-77	56	-1 to +21	Small spare capacity for additional junior use	2 senior Saturday teams, 1 Sunday and 1 midweek, plus 2 junior teams. Training in nets.
<b>Cawood Playing Fields, Maypole Gardens</b>	1	8	1	Good	100-136	28	+72 to +108	Significant spare capacity	2 senior teams Saturday, and 1 midweek, no juniors. Training once per week in nets. Spare capacity for additional use, partly as the result of an existing non-turf pitch.

Site	No of pitches	No of grass wickets	No non turf wickets	Overall Quality Assessment	Capacity per season if pitch classes as good	Estimated home games per season	Theoretical spare capacity if pitch classed as good	Overview	Key Issues and Views
<b>Church Fenton Cricket Club</b>	1	9		Good	45-63	70	-25 to -7	Over capacity	2 senior Saturday teams, 1 midweek senior, and 4 midweek juniors. Unspecified other use during week. Two evenings training in nets. Require non-turf practice pitch.
<b>Drax Cricket Club</b>	1	13	1	Good	125-171	50 + 5 school usage (total 55)	+70 to +106	Significant spare capacity	2 senior Saturday teams, 1 midweek senior and 2 juniors midweek. Training once per week in nets. No issues regarding pitch capacity
<b>Eggborough Cricket Club</b>	1	10	1	Standard	110	30 + 6 games by another team in 2015	+74	Significant spare capacity	1 senior Saturday team and 1 midweek, no juniors. Additional use in 2015 by Wakefield Thorns CC. Training in nets once per week, considered inadequate. Only standard quality pitch, but no overall capacity issues.
<b>Fairburn Recreation Ground,</b>	1	8		Good	40-56	52	-12 to +4	At capacity	2 senior Saturday team, 4 midweek juniors. Training in nets. Facilities at capacity
<b>Hemingbrough Cricket Club</b>	1	10		Good	50-70	40 +occasional friendly and junior practice (total 60)	-10 to +10	At capacity	2 senior Saturday teams, 1 midweek senior and 3 midweek juniors. No nets so practice on ground, so require non-turf practice nets. Ground and facilities at capacity.

Site	No of pitches	No of grass wickets	No non turf wickets	Overall Quality Assessment	Capacity per season if pitch classes as good	Estimated home games per season	Theoretical spare capacity if pitch classed as good	Overview	Key Issues and Views
<b>Hensall Cricket Club</b>	1	12		Good	60-84	100 including juniors	-40 to -16	Over capacity	2 senior Saturday teams, 1 senior midweek and 3 juniors midweek. No nets so practice on ground, fixed nets required. Ground at capacity.
<b>Hillam and Monk Fryston Cricket Club, Hillam</b>	1	10	1	Good	110-150	37	+73 to +113	Spare capacity	2 senior Saturday teams, 1 midweek senior and 1 junior midweek. Practise in portable nets on non-turf pitch. Spare capacity mainly due to non-turf pitch.
<b>Hirst Courtney Cricket Club</b>	1	8		Good	40	19 + occasional friendlies. (total 25)	+15	Spare capacity	1 senior Saturday and 1 senior midweek teams, no juniors at present. Practice in portable nets, no non turf strip
<b>Kelfield Cricket Club</b>	1	7		Good	35	13 + occasional matches by another team (total 20)	+15	Spare capacity	1 senior Saturday team, plus occasional use by Riccall Nomads. No practice nets
<b>North Duffield Playing Fields</b>	1	10		Good	50-70	34 + occasional casual use and junior school (total 44)	+6 to +26	Spare capacity	1 senior Saturday team, 1 senior midweek team, 3 midweek juniors. Training in portable net cage on pitch, require permanent nets.
<b>Saxton Cricket Club</b>	1	13		Good	65-91	100 including club matches, friendlies, juniors and representative matches, cup finals	-35 to -9	Over capacity	2 senior Saturday and 2 junior midweek teams. Good pitch and wide range of other matches accommodated on pitch. Practice 2x per week in nets. Require additional pitch for juniors.

Site	No of pitches	No of grass wickets	No non turf wickets	Overall Quality Assessment	Capacity per season if pitch classes as good	Estimated home games per season	Theoretical spare capacity if pitch classed as good	Overview	Key Issues and Views
Selby Cricket Club, Selby RUFC main pitch	1	12		Good	60	14	+46	Significant spare capacity over two pitches.	4 senior Saturday teams, 2 juniors midweek. Training in portable nets
Selby Cricket Club, Selby RUFC second pitch	1	14		Good	70-98	18 + 16 juniors (total 34)	+36 to +64	Significant spare capacity over two pitches.	4 senior Saturday teams, 2 juniors midweek. Training in portable nets
Sherburn Cricket Club, Eversley Park, Eversley Sherburn	1	11		Good/standard	55	34 + others (total 54)	+1	At capacity	2 senior Saturday and 1 senior midweek teams, no juniors. No nets, train in nets. However only good/standard pitch, so improvements required to enhance capacity
South Cricket Club, Milford Club, Swancroft	1	10		Good	50-70	60 + occasional others (total 62)	-12 to +8	At capacity	2 senior Saturday, 1 senior midweek and 5 junior teams. Training in nets, require non turf pitch to accommodate juniors with enhanced capacity
Stillingfleet Cricket Club	1	5		Standard	25	16	+9	Some spare capacity	1 senior Saturday team, no juniors, but some outside usage. No nets and train at ground. Require mobile or static nets to relieve wear on pitch. Only standard pitch with limited wickets.

Site	No of pitches	No of grass wickets	No non turf wickets	Overall Quality Assessment	Capacity per season if pitch classes as good	Estimated home games per season	Theoretical spare capacity if pitch classed as good	Overview	Key Issues and Views
Tadcaster Magnet Cricket Club (Station Road Pitch)	1	8		Good/standard	40	Thorp Arch 15 games + Tadcaster Magnet 3 <sup>rd</sup> team 15 (total 30)	+10	Spare capacity	2 senior teams play on Saturday, no juniors. No training on site.
Tadcaster Magnet Sports Club	1	12		Good	60-72	55	+5 to +17	Spare capacity	2 senior Saturday and 3 midweek junior teams, plus training
Thorpe Willoughby Sports Association	1	8		Good	40	30	+10	Spare capacity	2 senior Saturday teams, no juniors, training in non-turf nets.
Whitley Bridge Cricket Club	1	8	1	Good	100-136	54 + training (total 74)	+26 to +62	Spare capacity	2 senior Saturday, 1 senior midweek and 3 junior midweek teams. Junior matches on non-turf pitch. Training in nets
Yorkshire Gentlemen's CC, Escrick Park	1	10		Good	50	10 Ben Johnson + Yorks Gentlemen 10 (total 20)	+30	Significant spare capacity	1 senior Saturday team plus occasional friendlies and representative matches. No nets or training on site.
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>1569-1958</b>	<b>1195</b>	<b>+374 to +763</b>		



## Current Picture of Provision

- 5.49 The site overviews set out in Table 5.8 can be used to develop an overall picture of provision, by aggregating the figures for spare capacity or estimated overuse for each site at the present time. This is provided here to present an estimate of the total picture of current cricket provision in the Selby area – this should be treated with some caution when totalled, as assumptions have been made about precise usage, and the quality of each pitch needs to be taken into account when assessing capacity – the figures assume that all pitches are rated as good, and there is no guidance available to suggest any weighting that should be attached to standard or poor pitches. To a great extent, total figures are not relevant as spare capacity in one location is not able to meet demand in another location, particularly as cricket is club based and teams require facilities ideally at their own club. In addition, the spare capacity may be at times of the week when demand is not expressed – many pitches are at capacity at weekends.
- 5.50 However, as a broad overview it is estimated from the figures that the pitches available are capable of 1569 senior matches or 1958 junior matches per season, while the most recent season's figures suggest that 1195 matches are played. In total there is therefore spare capacity overall in the Selby area for about 374-763 additional matches per season, depending on whether they are senior or junior. In reality as suggested above the actual figure is less than that, as some pitches are rated less than good, **but as an overall indication there appear to be enough pitches in the area to meet current demand.** In addition, there do not appear to be any problems in accommodating matches in the peak periods (mainly Saturday for seniors). This assessment does take into account the availability of non-turf pitches, mainly for junior matches, and those affected by weather and other conditions at certain times, although these are not always used for this purpose. Training is also often undertaken on non-turf pitches where they exist.
- 5.51 However, some pitches are clearly currently played at or over capacity as set out in Table 5.8, and the following venues require particular consideration in any strategy:

### Played over capacity

- Burn
- Church Fenton
- Hensall
- Saxton

### Played at or near capacity

- Bolton Percy
- Fairburn
- Hemingbrough
- Sherburn Eversley
- South Milford
- Stillingfleet

## Displaced and latent demand

- 5.52 All teams in the area that have expressed a view are currently accommodated at their preferred grounds, and there is no evidence that team formation is currently affected by the lack of pitches or other factors. Conversely the Selby area accommodates one side that would prefer to be based nearer its home ground in Leeds. Displaced demand for cricket from the Selby area is therefore not considered a factor in the study area.
- 5.53 APS/MS data does suggest that based on the demographic and socio economic profile of the whole area, there is potential to increase participation among adults by up to a further 50%, which if realised would have a significant implication for facility provision in the wider area. However, this amount of latent demand is not considered viable.

## Future Demand

- 5.54 Population growth will impact upon demand for pitch provision, as well as changes in participation trends and amendments to the existing facility stock.
- 5.55 **Population Change** - analysis in Section 3 indicated that while the population of Selby district is projected to increase by 9.7/15% from 2015 to 2027/37, changes to the population profile mean that the proportion of people within the age groups most likely to play pitch sports (the 'active population' between 5 and 54) may actually decline or only increase slightly. It is not appropriate therefore merely to apply overall population increases to assess future demand.
- 5.56 Team Generation Rates (TGRs) indicate how many people in a specified age group are required to generate one team. By applying TGRs to population projections, we can project the theoretical number of teams that would be generated from population growth and gain an understanding of future demand.

**Table 5.9: Impact of Changes to the Population Profile**

Sport and Age Groups	Current population in age group within the area (2015)	Current teams	Current TGR	Future population in age group within the area (2027/37)	Future teams	Potential Change in Team Numbers in Age Group (Number of Teams) Current – 2027/37
Cricket Open Age Mens (18-55yrs)	20616	61	1:338	20202/21370	60/63	-1/+2
Cricket Open Age Women's (18-55yrs)	21176	0	0	19968/20543	0	0
Cricket Junior Boys (7-17yrs)	5458	42	1:130	6140/6158	47/47	+5/+5
Cricket Junior Girls (7-17yrs)	5282	5	1:1056	5942/5945	6/6	+1/+1

- 5.57 Table 5.9 summarises the implications of population growth to 2027/2037 and reveals that;

- there will be a 2% drop/3% increase in demand for men's cricket in accordance with population change, and a 3-5% decrease in women's; and
- youth participation could increase by 12% for boys and 12% for girls based on population.

5.58 In terms of pitch requirements, this means that changes to the population up to 2027/37 could result in:

- a potential decrease in men's teams of 1 (to 2027) or increase in 2 (2037);
- an increase in boys' teams of 5 and girls' of 1;
- no increase (without sports development initiatives) in women's teams.
- overall a potential increase of 5-8 teams

5.59 **Changes in Participation Trends** – there are no specific targets set by the NGB to meet future participation objectives, although possibly in view of reduced Sport England grant aid toward core activities, the ECB seeks to increase levels of cricket activity recorded by APS by 7-8% over the next three years (see below). This is the equivalent of 2.5% per year and if extended over the whole period of the Selby strategy would require an increase in participation of about 30% over 12 years. This is not considered realistic at this stage, and it is appropriate to incorporate a smaller target of say 1% increase per year at this stage and monitor participation as the strategy proceeds. To 2027 therefore this might involve a 12% increase in participation overall, irrespective of population growth or other initiatives.

5.60 **Club aspirations** – In the responses to consultation, 55% of clubs responding have no plans to increase their number of teams, with 45% suggesting they would. This might increase the number of teams by 14 overall, including 3 men's, 1 women's and 10 juniors if their plans are realised over the coming seasons.

#### **Forthcoming Changes to Supply**

5.61 No evidence has been identified of any new cricket pitches and grounds being planned or developed in the near future. A list of other potential developments arising from recent planning permissions and developer agreements is set out in Appendix 1 of this report.

#### **NGB Strategic Guidance**

##### **ECB strategy – Champion Counties Strategic Plan 2014-17**

5.62 In its strategic plan 2014 – 17, the ECB's main targets regarding grassroots participation include the following:

- increase the subset of participation measured by Sport England's Active People Survey from 183,400 to 197,500 (i.e. a 7% increase over 3 years or about 2.5% per year. (This is considered an ambitious target);
- expand the number of participants in women's and disabilities cricket by 10% by 2017. There is very little activity in these sectors at present and a realistic target for the Selby area would be a small increase in teams;
- expand the number of coaches who have received teacher level 1, 2 or 3 qualifications to 50,000; and

- introduce a youth T20 competition engaging 500 teams by 2017 – in the Selby area this is unlikely to have a significant impact.
- 5.63 These should be factored into any potential participation increases in the Selby area in cricket.
- 5.64 Although the Yorkshire Cricket Board does not have a facilities strategy in place it recognises the importance of good facilities in supporting the player pathway and more generally.

#### **Implications for current and future supply**

- 5.65 **Based on current activity, it is calculated that overall in the Selby area, there are sufficient cricket pitches and wickets to meet current demand if aggregated. Indeed, there is some spare capacity overall in the area for about an additional 375 (senior) or 750 (junior) matches. This is predicated on the basis that all pitches are of good condition, although in reality this is not the case and ground capacity in some cases is lower. This calculation takes into account the presence of non-turf pitches, although relatively few matches are played at present on these. However, the general conclusion is that at present there is no overriding need for additional cricket pitches and wickets overall in the Selby area. However, there are a number of clubs where existing facilities are at or over capacity, and capacity improvements may be required, and one club that has already stated that an additional pitch for junior play is required. Where pitches have some spare capacity for additional use, this does not correspond with the areas of highest club demand – it is not usually reasonable for club pitches to accommodate usage from other clubs and this ‘spare’ capacity can effectively be ruled out as a means of meeting demand elsewhere.**
- 5.66 **There is no identified displaced demand for pitches in the area. Latent demand as identified by the MS data suggests that participation in cricket could theoretically increase by 50% in accordance with the population profile, but this is considered excessive and not the basis for future provision.**
- 5.67 **Clubs themselves have suggested that they plan to provide a further 14 teams across all groups in the near future, and the ECB’s strategic objectives require a 2.5% increase in participation to meet Sport England targets, though 1% in the short term is considered more reasonable.**
- 5.68 **Population increase to 2027/2037 could, based on current participation rates, increase teams by 5-8 overall, mainly junior boys.**
- 5.69 **Some of these targets/aspirations are concurrent, and in total by 2027 it is reasonable to estimate in the first instance that an additional 10-15 teams from 2015 might be formed to take into account all these factors, an addition of about 10-15% over current team numbers. This is itself considered optimistic, given the high levels of participation already existing in the area. This can be monitored over the early years of the strategy to ensure that actual changes are taken into account. A high proportion of these are expected to be junior teams (for the reasons stated above in the football section, it is not considered reasonable to project demand to 2037, although in fact further population change is likely to have little impact on demand and this should be considered as the strategy is subsequently monitored)**
- 5.70 **The implications for pitch demand in the future are that because of the overall spare capacity in the area at present, additional cricket pitches are unlikely to be required**

overall up to 2027, with the exception of those clubs identified in this study who are already at capacity.

- 5.71 Rather than new pitch provision, it is additional capacity that is required at some sites. The improvement of the quality (drainage, ancillary facilities) of some existing venues would increase carrying capacity and eliminate the need for new pitches. Non-turf pitches in some locations are also desirable. Access to (improved) school and other pitches would increase capacity, though given the current provision of pitches on schools, this is not likely to be effective.
- 5.72 There are few areas within Selby where cricket provision is non-existent and potential players have to travel to clubs outside their immediate area, or indeed outside the district.

#### Summary and conclusions

- There are 25 sites containing facilities for cricket in Selby district where clubs and teams are currently accommodated, with a total of 26 grass, comprising 252 wickets, and 11 non-turf pitches/wickets.
- In general pitches and ancillary facilities are considered to be in good or standard condition taking into account all factors – of those for which information has been collected, 20 venues are considered good, the remainder good/standard or standard and none poor. The best facilities tend to be at the clubs playing in the most senior leagues, due to pitch quality standards required by these leagues.
- There are few other pitches throughout the wider area where cricket is played, and regularly available for community use by clubs or used by teams. There is therefore limited scope for these to meet future demand.
- There are estimated to be 26 clubs affiliated to the Yorkshire Cricket Board and playing cricket in Selby. These currently comprise 61 adult (18-55 years) men's teams (57% of the total), 47 boys' and 5 girls'. There is currently no women's cricket in Selby.
- It is estimated from teams and club returns that there are between about 900 and 1200 adults and 750 to 900 juniors, currently playing cricket in the Selby area. This is higher than APS and Market Segmentation data from Sport England, and it is likely therefore that participation in cricket in the area is considerably higher than the average.
- Club responses to a questionnaire suggest that there are many plans, aspirations and other comments regarding facility provision and other aspects of development that require consideration in any strategy.
- Based on current activity, it is calculated that overall in the Selby area, there are sufficient cricket pitches and wickets to meet current demand if aggregated. Indeed, there is some spare capacity overall in the area for about an additional 375 (senior) or 750 (junior) matches. This is predicated on the basis that all pitches are of good condition, although in reality this is not the case and ground capacity in some cases is lower. This calculation takes into account the presence of non-turf pitches, although relatively few matches are played at present on these.
- The general conclusion is that at present there is no overriding need for additional

cricket pitches and wickets overall in the Selby area. However, there are a number of clubs where existing facilities are at or over capacity, and capacity improvements may be required, and one club that has already stated that an additional pitch for junior play is required. Where pitches have some spare capacity for additional use, this does not correspond with the areas of highest club demand – it is not usually reasonable for club pitches to accommodate usage from other clubs and this 'spare' capacity can effectively be ruled out as a means of meeting demand elsewhere.

- in total by 2027 it is reasonable to estimate in the first instance that an additional 10-15 teams from 2015 might be formed to take into account all these factors, an addition of about 10-15% over current team numbers. This is itself considered optimistic, given the high levels of participation already existing in the area. This can be monitored over the early years of the strategy to ensure that actual changes are taken into account. A high proportion of these are expected to be junior teams. The implications for pitch demand in the future are that because of the overall spare capacity in the area at present, additional cricket pitches are unlikely to be required overall up to 2027, with the exception of those clubs identified in this study who are already at capacity (projections to 2037 are not considered relevant at this stage because of the uncertainty involved).
- Apart from the issue of pitch numbers, there is also a need to ensure that quality facilities are provided and retained. There is significant potential for investment in improved facilities other than pitches is vital to the continued health of the game.

### Issues for strategy to address

5.73 The key issues for the playing pitch strategy to address are therefore:

- the need to at least maintain the current level of pitch provision at existing grounds to meet current demand;
- the need for qualitative improvements at existing grounds, including upgrades to pitches to increase capacity, and ensure that the required amount of games and training can be sustained;
- the need to provide high quality pitches to meet with League requirements;
- qualitative improvements to ancillary facilities, such as pavilions, changing and nets;
- the possible need to accommodate pitches for increased casual and informal demand, and providing opportunities for training and junior competition, including the development of artificial wickets;
- new forms of the game increasing participation;
- accommodating new groups in Selby wishing to play various forms of cricket;
- more female involvement – there is relatively little women's participation at present;
- better links with schools leading to increased junior participation;

- the option of securing community use and management/maintenance of existing school pitches to meet any future need that arises;
- the need for new / improved training facilities at club bases at certain locations, including better indoor provision;
- the issue of some cricket pitches also functioning as football pitches and causing issues with the maintenance regime, with limited time for reinstatement, rest and recovery as well as out of season maintenance; and
- possible concerns over long-term sustainability of facilities and clubs.

### Introduction

6.1 This section evaluates the adequacy of pitches for rugby union and provides for Selby:

- An overview of the supply of rugby union pitches
- An outline of demand for rugby union pitches
- An understanding of activity at individual sites
- A picture of the adequacy of current provision
- The future picture of provision for rugby union

### Rugby Union in Selby – An Overview

#### Pitch Supply

6.2 There are 12 grass rugby union pitches at 1 site in Selby at Selby RUFC. The junior pitch is also used as a training pitch. One senior pitch has match standard floodlights, the junior/training pitch and half a further senior pitch have lights to training standard only. The ground is owned by the club. More details are set out in Appendix RU1 and on Map RU1.

**Table 6.1: Rugby Union pitches in Selby**

Site Name	Location	Adult	Junior	Mini	Total
Selby RUFC	Sandhill Lane, Selby	3	1	8	12

#### Quality

6.3 Pitch quality is assessed from a number of sources – non-technical visual inspection using Sport England’s guidelines, and data from the club gleaned from the questionnaire survey.

**Table 6.2: Pitch quality**

Pitch	Visual inspection	Club data	Overall assessment
Selby RUFC	Good	Good/standard	Good/standard

6.4 In general pitches are considered to be in good or standard condition taking into account all factors. More details of individual aspects of pitch (and ancillary facility) quality are explained in the section below on club responses.

#### Other pitches

6.5 There are a number of other pitches throughout the district where rugby union is played, and these are mostly on school sites. These primarily accommodate rugby within the curriculum, and are not (regularly) available for community use by clubs or used by teams, though this may well be because of the apparent lack of demand for pitches from existing clubs. Read School pitches are very occasionally used as overflows when club pitches at Goole are not available/in use. School pitches do remain potentially a more permanent outlet for any demand that may be identified in the future, subject to availability from the school or institution in question.



**Table 6.3: Other pitches**

Location	No of pitches	Usage
Read School, Drax	3 rugby union	Insignificant community use, but used on occasions by Goole RFC when own pitches not available
Selby College	1 rugby union	No community use
Selby High School	1 rugby union	No community use
Sherburn High School	1 rugby union	No community use
Tadcaster Grammar School	1 rugby union	No community use

**Clubs, teams and leagues**

- 6.6 Selby RUFC fields about 20 teams, ranging from 5 senior teams to colts, juniors and minis, including 2 girls' teams. Senior teams play in various divisions of the Yorkshire League part of the pyramid, and the older boys (academy teams) also play in the Yorkshire Premier division. Younger teams and minis take part in a variety of cups, tournaments and festivals (see Appendix RU2).

**Table 6.4: Rugby teams and clubs**

Club	Sen men	Sen women	Other	Colts	Youth	Girls	Mini/midi	Total	Venue
Selby RUFC	5			1	5	2	7*	20	Sandhills Lane

\* This represents the different age groups - in reality mini sessions take place on Sundays with large groups of young people in each group

- 6.7 It is estimated from the club return that there are 160 senior players, 150 junior, 25 girls and 200 minis, totalling 535 players at the club.
- 6.8 The table below outlines the teams run, as well as the number of match equivalents that teams generate per week. This is based upon the assumption that each team will play alternate home and away games, and also takes into account the shorter games and use of only part of the full size pitch by midi rugby teams (in line with guidance provided by the RFU).

**Table 6.5: Rugby Teams in Selby**

Sport and Age Groups	Number of teams in age group within the area	Match Equivalents Per Week
Rugby Union Senior Men (19-45yrs)	5	2.5
Rugby Union Senior Women (19-45yrs)	0	0
Rugby Union Youth Boys (13-18yrs)	6	3
Rugby Union Youth Girls (13-18yrs)	2	1
Rugby Union Mini/Midi Mixed (7-12yrs)	7	3.5

## Club consultation

6.9 The club was consulted on its current team patterns, likely future demand, facility quality and other issues affecting overall participation and the broad results are set out below (see also Appendix RU3):

- The club has increased the number of youth (u13-17) teams in the last three years, with the establishment of 2 girls' teams at u13 and u15 level. All other age groups including seniors have retained the same number of teams
- The club has plans to increase the number of teams in the next year or so with the establishment of potentially an u18 team
- The club attracts new members by continual liason and work with local primary and secondary schools, including RFU Megafest Days and Tag Tournaments. It has carried out some direct marketing to local residents to encourage them to use the club as a social venue. Continued fund raising to further improve facilities
- The club is the only one in the district, and is operating for the benefit of players from a wider than local catchment, although it is likely that most juniors live within 5 miles
- The club plays at its preferred location, and owns the ground and land. The ground also accommodates 2 cricket pitches for Selby CC and an archery range.

6.10 **Quality** emerged as the key issue during consultations with the club. In addition to measuring the provision of pitches in quantitative terms, it is also essential to consider the quality of existing provision. Furthermore, perceived quality of pitches (and ancillary facilities) is almost as important as actual quality and can change usage patterns. Players are more likely to travel to sites that they perceive to be higher quality or better value for money. Indeed, lower quality pitches may actually deter residents from participating. The perceived quality of pitches overall is set out below.

6.11 **Pitch quality** - In terms of individual aspects of pitch quality the following table shows the club's returns.

**Table 6.6: Aspects of rugby pitch quality**

Aspect	Pitch 1	Pitch 2	Pitch 3	Pitch 4
Grass cover	Good	Standard	Good	Standard
Size of pitch	Acceptable	Acceptable	Acceptable	Acceptable
Length of grass	Good	Good	Good	Good
Problem areas (e.g. glass, litter, tyre tracks)	None	None	Some	None
Evidence of rust on posts	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Overall quality of pitch	Good	Standard	Standard	Standard
Specific problems	None	Floodlit and overused in winter	Occasional straying by dogs	Previous wet area rectified by additional drainage

6.12 In terms of changes to pitch quality over time, the club suggested that the pitches were slightly better than the previous season, the reason being that significant financial and time investment had been made in end of season renovations and continuous work over several years. Very few matches or training sessions had been cancelled in previous

seasons (1-3 in total), as the site is rarely water logged, although there is a potential frost problem at one exposed end of pitch 3.

6.13 **Pitch maintenance** – the pitches have a piped drainage system throughout the whole site, and are well maintained. The club says that the pitches are aerated more than 3 times a year, sand dressed annually, fertilised three times weed killed twice and chain harrowed fortnightly. The club maintains the site itself, at a cost of £4000 per pitch a year

6.14 **Ancillary facilities** – the club was also given the opportunity to comment on the range of facilities included in clubhouses and changing rooms, and individual aspects of the quality of these facilities. The range of facilities present is as follows:

- changing facilities are available, on the same site as the pitches;
- there are 6 separate en-suite changing rooms;
- no changing rooms are served with a communal shower and toilets;
- there are 2 separate officials' changing rooms; and
- the club has showers, toilets, kitchen, clubroom, and disabled access to clubhouse.

6.15 Specific comments included that there is an occasional deficit of hot water when all 6 changing rooms are in use at the same time, which should be rectified by the addition of a biomass boiler shortly.

6.16 **Facility quality** - almost all aspects of changing room quality were rated good, as follows:

**Table 6.7: Rugby facilities quality**

	Good
Quality of exterior	Good
Quality of interior	Good
Quality of showers	Standard
Appropriate changing rooms for no of teams	Good
Overall quality of clubhouse	Good

**Club plans, aspirations and other comments**

6.17 If more pitches were available, the club would like to run more sides, including more girls' sides and additional mini and junior. This would also require two additional changing rooms. Having completed the refurbishment of the clubhouse this summer, the club also has aspirations within the next 3 years to develop land adjacent to its existing site for further pitch development, for which no funding has yet been identified.

**Training and other needs**

6.18 The club trains on a competitive pitch, training pitch and elsewhere on the site. Training takes place 4 evenings per week, and there is one other weekly session not accounted for above.

6.19 On about 20 occasions per year, other clubs use the Selby pitches, including Yorkshire county sides, Yorkshire Carnegie RC, and the England Developing Player Programme

**Educational Demand**

6.20 Reflecting the lack of rugby union pitches at school sites, there is limited participation in rugby within secondary schools currently and as a consequence, this may have an

impact on recruiting players. The club runs a number of recruitment programmes within the local area, these predominantly focus on primary schools but the club would like to do more with the secondary schools.

- 6.21 There is no evidence of individual schools requiring the use of the club's pitches. Educational demand does not therefore impinge on existing club pitch numbers and quality.

### Development interventions

- 6.22 The Yorkshire RFU runs a number of development initiatives, through the RFU rugby development team, with the club, local schools and colleges. The programmes are aimed at supporting the club's rugby development planning targets around the recruitment and retention of players. For the 2015/16 season this includes targeted work, with funding support, into Selby College and work with the local secondary schools with an aim to start delivery as part of the national RFU All School programme in 2016/17.

**Table 6.8: Development Initiatives**

Club	Club Accreditation	Workstrands	All Schools	Notes
Selby	Yes	Broadening Reach Colleges	Identified for 2016/17 and awaiting decision	O2 Touch Centre

### Casual Demand

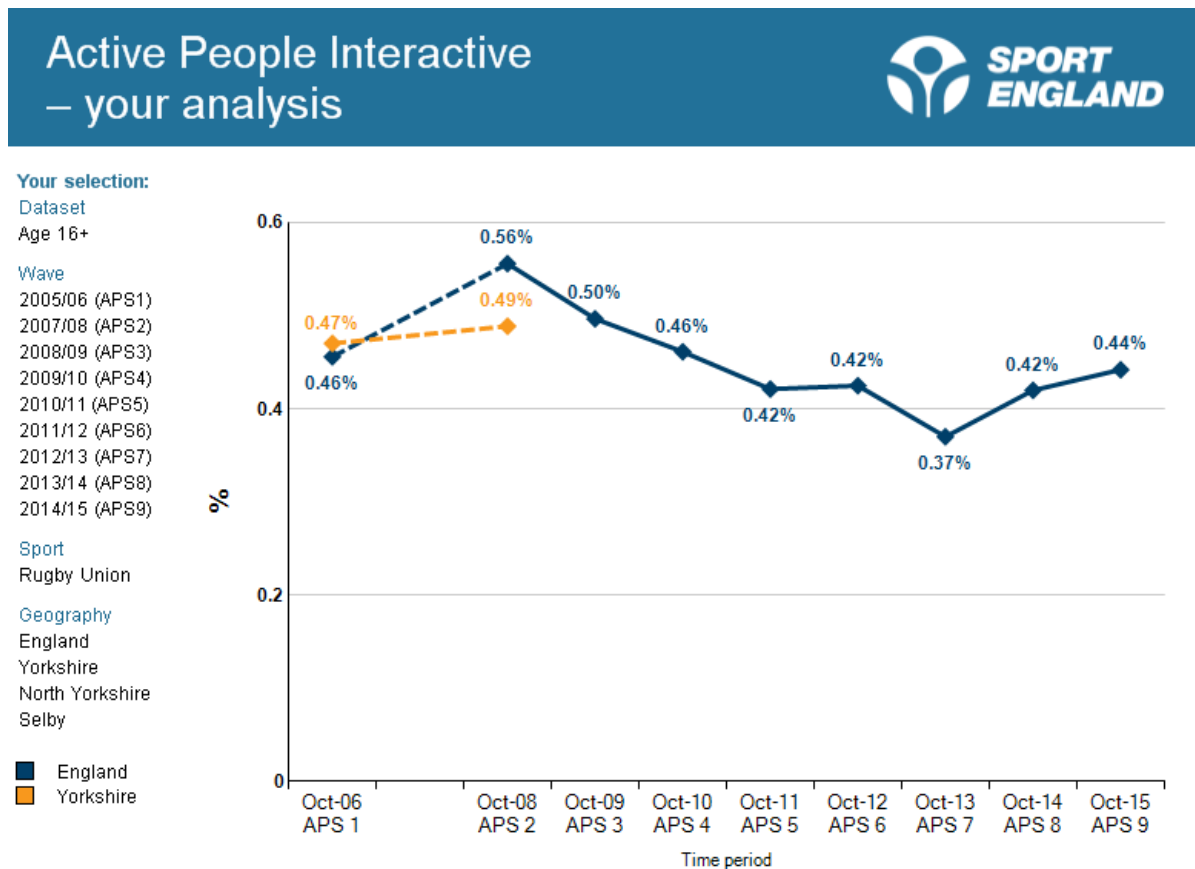
- 6.23 There is no casual demand for playing rugby, as it is a well-regulated team sport. None of the pitches accommodates other (casual) sports or recreational activities, with the exception of cricket on the outfield. This impact is not considered sufficient to reduce the capacity of the rugby pitches, and it does not affect pitch quality and the player experience in any way.
- 6.24 The club identified a demand for summer touch rugby and has established itself as an RFU O2 touch centre targeting existing players, returning players and new players who don't want to play contact rugby. They rotate where they play this on the site depending on their summer pitch maintenance programme

### Demand

#### Active People

- 6.25 The latest APS data for rugby participation demonstrates the following characteristics. (figures relate to once per week participation by adults over 16). Because of sample sizes, the data relates only to England, with some limited data for the region in the early days of APS.

**Chart 6.1: Participation in rugby**



6.26 Since APS data was first collected in 2006, national participation in rugby has generally declined, although there has been a slight rise since 2013. Current participation is at about 0.44% of the adult population. There is little data for the region or more locally, and the most recent information is from 2008 when regional participation was 12% below national. It is reasonable to assume that the regional participation rate is about 0.4% of all adults over 16.

6.27 If the current estimated regional figure of 0.4% participation is extrapolated for the Selby study area, this represents about 320 adult rugby players playing once a week. This is considerably higher than the player affiliations to club returns above, but the APS data includes recreational and more casual players (although in fact most regular players will play for a team). In addition, there may well also be residents of Selby who play club rugby outside the district

**Market Segmentation**

6.28 Sport England's Market Segmentation data allows estimates to be derived of current and future likely participation in rugby according to the underlying characteristics of the population in any given area. Analysis of the outputs for Selby suggests the following (see Appendix MS1):

- Existing participation – MS estimates that the likely participation levels for rugby in Selby total nearly 1000 players, way in excess of the figures suggested above, and in the range between 1 and 2% of the adult population in each case, much higher

than the APS and club data. The key participants in rugby are those that also play other pitch sports, specifically Ben and Tim. Female groups are not particularly apparent

- MS analysis suggests that local residents' participation is broadly consistent across most of the wider area. This distribution bears very little relationship to the location of pitches, and suggests that rugby players play where facilities exist irrespective of home address
- There is a degree of latent demand identified, with 20% of the total potential rugby playing population not currently participating, representing about a further 240 players. Latent demand is focused on mainly the same groups that currently play
- It must be stressed that the MS data represents a theoretical estimate of participation according to the socio economic structure of the local population, and in this case is suggested to overestimate the actual numbers playing. It also includes residents of the district who may play for clubs outside. Perhaps more important however is the latent demand for rugby, which in this case is about 20% of the total.

### Actual Participation

#### Assessing the Supply and Demand Information and Views

6.29 For rugby, the supply of pitches and the demand for pitches is measured through the use of match equivalents to ensure that a comparison is possible. To fully understand activity on a site, consideration is given to both;

- the adequacy of pitch provision over the course of a week; and
- capacity of a site to meet additional demand at peak time.

6.30 For rugby, this analysis is based upon the following principles;

*Capacity over the course of a week* - The RFU sets a standard number of match equivalent sessions that natural grass pitches should be able to sustain without adversely affecting their current quality (pitch carrying capacity). This is based upon the drainage system installed at the site and the maintenance programme used to prepare the pitches. The guideline theoretical capacity for rugby pitches is summarised in Table 6.9.

**Table 6.9: Theoretical Pitch Capacity Ratings (RFU)**

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

6.31 Based upon the installed drainage and the maintenance regime applied, pitches in the Selby area are mainly classified as M1/D2 with a capacity of 2.5 match equivalents per week.

6.32 *Peak Time Demand* - To identify spare capacity at peak time, the number of match equivalent sessions at peak time is measured against the number of match equivalent sessions available. In the Selby area, most activity except senior participation is focused on Sundays as follows:

- Senior men's rugby union - Saturday pm
- Youth rugby union - Sunday am/pm
- Mini/midi rugby union - Sunday am
- U17-U19 yrs 'Colts' rugby union –Sunday pm
- Girls – Sun pm

6.33 Table 6.10 therefore provides a summary of activity at the rugby site. At first glance, it indicates that

- there is insufficient capacity at existing pitches to meet senior and youth demand, particularly as there is extensive training throughout weekday evenings; and
- there is an apparent adequacy of mini pitches based on the identified teams, but in reality, the club has mini sessions for training and development where numbers considerably exceed those who would be playing in teams.

**Table 6.10: Details of capacity for rugby**

Club/Univ/College	Full size Pitch equivalents	Floodlit	Capacity score	Match equivalents per week	Adult teams	Youth Teams U13-18	Mini/midi teams	Match equivalents	Midweek Match Equivalents	Total match equivalents	Over/Under Capacity match equivalents	Pitches	Key issues and views
Selby RUFC – senior/youth	3.5	2.5	2.5	8.75	6	7		6.5	11	17.5	-9	-4.5	3 senior pitches plus one junior/training pitch. Peak time use split between Sat pm and Sun am/pm and no peak match day problems. However extensive training by all teams 1-2 times per week, and usage exceeds capacity by considerable amount. Need for additional pitches.
Mini	8	0	2.5	20.00			7		6	13	+7	+3.5	No apparent capacity issue, but likely that all pitches used on Sun am when mass participation activity occurs with minis, and on Tues and Thurs evening for training



## Displaced and Latent Demand

- 6.34 There is no evidence from collected data that any demand for rugby is displaced outside the district – that is, there are no teams playing outside Selby which require a location within the district, although there may well be individual residents of the district who play for teams outside (e.g. in York).
- 6.35 However Active People surveys suggest that there is potential to increase the rugby playing population by up to 20%, which would have significant impact upon demand for facilities if realised.

## Future Demand

- 6.36 The future requirement for rugby pitches will be affected by changes to the population profile, as well as club specific aspirations and changing participation trends. These issues are considered in turn in order to build an accurate picture of future demand.
- 6.37 **Population Change** - analysis in Section 3 indicated that while the population of Selby district is projected to increase by 9.7/15% from 2015 to 2027/37, changes to the population profile mean that the proportion of people within the age groups most likely to play pitch sports (the 'active population' between 5 and 54) may actually decline or only increase slightly. It is not appropriate therefore merely to apply overall population increases to assess future demand.

**Table 6.11: Impact of Changes to the Population Profile**

Sport and Age Groups	Current population in age group within the area (2015)	Current number of teams in age group within the area	Current TGR	Future population in age group within the area (2027/37)	Future number of teams in age group within the area (2027/37)	Potential Change in Team Numbers in Age Group (Number of Teams) Current – 2027/37
Rugby Union Senior Men (19-45yrs)	13321	5	1:2664	13925/14422	6/6	+1
Rugby Union Senior Women (19-45yrs)	13611	0	na	13550/13630	na	na
Rugby Union Youth Boys (13-18yrs)	2927	6	1:488	3316/3394	7/7	+1
Rugby Union Youth Girls (13-18yrs)	2913	2	1:1457	3272/3345	3/3	+1
Rugby Union Mini/midi mixed (7-12 yrs)	5865	7	1:838	6545/6438	8/8	+1
Total		20			24	+4

- 6.38 Team Generation Rates (TGRs) indicate how many people in a specified age group are required to generate one team. By applying TGRs to population projections, we can project the theoretical number of teams that would be generated from population growth and gain an understanding of future demand. Table 6.11 overleaf summarises the implications of population growth and reveals that;

- there will be a 5-8% increase in demand for men's rugby in accordance with population increase, and a 0.5% decrease in women's (albeit there is no women's rugby currently played);

- youth participation could increase by 12-16% for boys and girls; and
- similarly, high growth will occur in age groups playing mini/midi rugby where the population increase is anticipated to be 10-12%.

6.39 In terms of pitch requirements, this means that changes to the population alone could result in only marginal increases in team generation across the board (mainly caused by rounding team numbers up), as follows:

- a small increase in adult teams of 1 men's;
- no increase (without sports development initiatives) in women's;
- a small increase in youth teams of 1 boys' and 1 girls';
- a small increase in mini/midi teams of 1; and
- an overall increase in teams of 4.

6.40 **Changes in Participation Trends** - this is primarily affected by initiatives undertaken by the NGBs and LAs. There is no information on LA targets for increased activity, but in accordance with the latest RFU National Facilities Strategy (2013-17):

*Increasing participation in rugby by teenagers, with a particular focus on retaining players during the transition between junior and senior rugby is a key priority of the RFU and there is also work underway to increase the amount of female participants. In addition to continuing to build the existing club infrastructure, touch rugby, a newer form of the game is also being introduced in an attempt to attract new participants to the sport. It is hoped that growth across the club structure will amount to at least 2% of participants per annum.*

6.41 **Club aspirations** – as suggested above, there are limited plans for the club to increase the number of teams, with just an additional u18 team proposed in the coming seasons. Some women's rugby might also be introduced. However, the club agreed that if more pitches were available locally, this would result in more teams, and it is realistic therefore to build in a small allowance for increased participation in rugby due to club development plans and the like.

#### **Forthcoming Changes to Supply**

6.42 There are no commitments to additional rugby pitches identified during the consultation, but the club has aspirations to develop land adjacent to its ground for additional pitches.

#### **Governing Body Consultations**

##### **RFU National Facilities Strategy (2013 – 2017)**

6.43 It is important to set local issues and aspirations in the context of the national aims and objectives of the Governing Body.

6.44 Facilities are one of the most important components of a rugby club. They drive the club ethos and spirit and facilitate high quality participation and club development. Rugby is increasing in popularity as a sport, with 26,000 new players joining the game in the third quarter of 2012 and it is hoped that this growth will continue, particularly after the 2015 rugby world cup. Appropriate amounts of facilities are essential if clubs are to grow and

to develop and attract new members. Facilities are also central to the sustainability of rugby clubs.

The overall vision of the RFU National Facilities Strategy (2013 – 2017) is;  
*'Strengthening our Member Clubs and Growing the Game in Communities around them'*

6.45 Effective and efficient facilities are seen as a key component of achieving this goal. Rugby development opportunities (including both the retention of existing players, the recruitment of new players and the development of coaches and volunteers are seen as being essential to the success of the strategy delivery.

6.46 The strategy seeks to;

- recognise the role of facility development in the delivery of community rugby's core purpose and key drivers;
- provide evidence-based conclusions on the current key facility issues affecting the sustainability and growth of rugby union in England;
- set out priority areas for future investment;
- outline a facility planning model to enable the delivery of the strategy at a local level;
- highlight other key factors in the delivery of high quality facilities; and
- outline the need for and role of associated Investment Strategies.

6.47 The strategy indicates that the key priorities of the RFU in relation to rugby clubs are as follows:

- increase the provision of integrated changing facilities that are child- friendly and can sustain concurrent male and female activity at the club;
- improve the quality and quantity of natural turf pitches (including maintenance);
- improve the quality and quantity of floodlighting; and
- increase the provision of artificial grass pitches that deliver wider game development outcomes.

6.48 The document indicates that investment in the following will also be prioritised;

- social, community and catering facilities, that can support diversification and the generation of additional revenues;
- facility upgrades, which result in an increase in energy-efficiency, in order to reduce the running costs; and
- pitch equipment, including quality rugby posts and pads.

6.49 Increasing participation in rugby by teenagers, with a particular focus on retaining players during the transition between junior and senior rugby is a key priority of the RFU and there is also work underway to increase the amount of female participants. In addition to

continuing to build the existing club infrastructure, touch rugby, a newer form of the game is also being introduced in an attempt to attract new participants to the sport. It is hoped that growth across the club structure will amount to at least 2% of participants per annum.

- 6.50 The facilities strategy sets out three types of model venues, which seek to balance the level of activity that takes place at a club with the facilities that are provided (both on and off the field). The three tiers of provision are;
- Model Venue 1: This is usually a club, school, university or other provider playing lower level or recreational rugby
  - Model Venue 2: An established club venue with a wider programme of adult and junior rugby for both male and female
  - Model Venue 3: A venue with potentially higher-level competitive rugby that can provide for more sophisticated RFU development programmes.

6.51 The strategy indicates that the range of facilities required should be driven by the activity that takes place.

- 6.52 **RFU Area Facilities Manager/County Rugby Development Officer – an overview of club.**  
*'Selby is a well run and managed club with a strong volunteer base. They have traditionally retained players really well, which is evident by the number of senior teams they run and the large mini junior section. They introduced girls' rugby in 2014/15 and this has grown since to two teams with realistic targets for a 3rd team. The club work hard to ensure they are sustainable both financially and in terms of participation and as well as their annual recruitment programmes employ their own club development officer to support with this have completed a number of large capital project to ensure they continue to offer the highest quality facilities they can. They have RFU accreditation and work closely with the local RFU development team. The clubs site is well managed but with the increasingly poor weather conditions, growing numbers and the need to training on match pitches is has led to pitch capacity and training capacity problems'.*

#### **Implications for current and future supply**

- 6.53 **Based on current activity, it is calculated that there is a shortfall of pitches overall at Selby RC to meet demand, based on their physical capacity, which amounts to up to 5 pitches. In reality the club fulfils its fixtures, training, coaching and other obligations by adapting normal patterns of play to allow multiple use of pitches and spaces beyond their reasonable capacity. The main issue appears to be the use of the pitches for training, which occurs almost every night of the week, and increases wear and tear. This issue could be addressed in part by improving further the capacity of the existing pitches.**
- 6.54 **There is some latent demand for rugby as identified in the MS data and it is reasonable to assume that this might be realised in part over the term of the strategy. Selby RC itself has suggested that it plans to provide a further 1 colts' teams in the near future, and would form more teams if additional pitches were available.**
- 6.55 **In addition, RFU initiatives could raise demand for teams by 2% per annum (though this is considered optimistic), and population increase to 2027/37 could, based on current participation rates, increase teams by 4 in total across the whole age range.**
- 6.56 **Taking all these factors into account, and based on the existence of only one club in the area, and the infrastructure of the club, a reasonable target for future teams by 2027 would**

be a 25% increase overall, or about a further 5 teams. A high proportion of these are expected to be youth and mini teams.

- 6.57 The implications for pitch demand are that additional pitches (or at least pitch capacity) will be required up to 2027, up to a further 2 full size pitch equivalents if based on existing provision, in addition to existing shortfalls. Access to school and other pitches, and the improvement of the quality (drainage, ancillary facilities) of the current venue would increase carrying capacity and reduce the need for new pitches (as with other sports, it is not considered realistic to project need up to 2037, although in reality at this stage it is not likely to change the situation from 2027).
- 6.58 There are areas of Selby where rugby union provision is non-existent and potential players have to rely on existing clubs at Selby and outside the area. While it is not suggested that any new clubs necessarily be formed elsewhere to meet any gaps in provision, outreach by the Selby club and closer liaison with schools could help to provide more pitches on school sites, or make available any that are currently only used by the schools themselves.

#### Summary and conclusions

- There are 12 rugby pitches in Selby on one site. There are a small number of other pitches mainly on school sites, but not currently used by community clubs.
- There is one club playing rugby in the area, comprising 20 teams or age groups.
- Team numbers have remained fairly consistent over the recent past, with the exception of some girls' teams, and there are limited plans to increase them in the near future. Sport England participation data suggests that rugby participation may in fact have declined, but this is based on national rates.
- Quality of pitches is as important as quantity and is considered good, both in terms of pitches and to a lesser extent ancillary facilities like changing.
- The existing club is able to fulfil its playing obligations on available pitches, although there is very extensive training during the week, which puts pressure on pitches.
- Based on current levels of activity, it is calculated that there is a shortfall of up to 5 pitches, mainly to meet this training need. There is no issue at peak match times
- There is some latent demand at present, and with future population growth and club and NGB initiatives likely to increase demand, there is a potential need up to 2027 for a further 2 full size pitch equivalents.
- There are some geographical gaps in provision in the area that could be filled, either by new club formation or more likely outreach programmes by Selby and other existing clubs outside the district.

#### Issues for strategy to address

- 6.59 The key issues for the playing pitch strategy to address are therefore:
- the need to at least maintain the current level of pitch provision at the existing ground to meet current demand;

- the specific current requirements of the club for additional land adjacent to accommodate new pitches;
- the need to accommodate training at the existing club without detriment to pitch condition – including additional floodlit pitches;
- the need for capacity improvements at the existing ground, including upgrades to pitches to ensure that further games/training can be sustained;
- the option of securing community use of existing school pitches to meet any future demand;
- consideration of the possible role of 3G pitches in reducing demands on grass pitches and providing opportunities for training and mini/midi competition; and
- potential to increase participation in rugby over the wider area of the district, and the practicality of expanding rugby pitch provision into the areas of Selby where opportunities to play rugby are not currently available.

## Introduction

7.1 This section evaluates the adequacy of pitches for rugby league and provides for Selby:

- An overview of the supply of rugby league pitches
- An outline of demand for rugby league pitches
- An understanding of activity at individual sites
- A picture of the adequacy of current provision
- The future picture of provision for rugby league

## Rugby League in Selby – An Overview

### Pitch Supply

7.2 There are 3 rugby league pitches in Selby, on two sites as follows. One pitch at Selby is floodlit and there are training lights alongside the Sherburn pitch. Both venues are leased/rented (from the County and Parish Councils respectively) and are not in the ownership of the club. Further details are set out in Appendix RL1 and on Map RL1.

**Table 7.1: Rugby League Pitches in Selby**

Site Name	Location	No of pitches
Selby Warriors RLFC 1	Constant Power Solutions Sports Ground, Foxhills Lane, Selby	2
Sherburn in Elmet Playing Field	Eversley Park, Sherburn	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>3</b>

### Quality

7.3 Pitch quality is assessed from two sources – non-technical visual inspection using Sport England's guidelines, and data from clubs gleaned from the questionnaire survey.

**Table 7.2: Pitch quality**

Pitch	Visual inspection	Club data	Overall assessment
Selby Warriors	Poor*	Good	Standard
Sherburn Bears	Standard	Standard/poor	Standard

\*the Selby facility is considered poor because of the lack of changing, the pitch itself is adequate

7.4 In general pitches are considered to be in no better than standard condition taking into account all factors. More details of individual aspects of pitch (and ancillary facility) quality are explained in the section below on club responses.

### Other pitches

7.5 Site inspections suggest there is one other rugby league pitch in Selby district, at Brayton High School, but this is used primarily for school purposes and there is no community usage. This (and any other school pitches) does remain potentially a more permanent outlet for any demand that may be identified in the future, subject to availability from the school or institution in question.

### Clubs, teams and leagues

7.6 There are two rugby league clubs based in Selby district. There is a total of 8 teams currently playing at the two clubs, with Selby Warriors having a greater variety and range of teams. Teams play in various senior and junior leagues. Senior rugby league takes place on Saturday pm, and junior on Saturday am or Sunday. The youngest teams/groups do not play competitively. Further details are set out in Appendix RL2.

**Table 7.3: Rugby teams and clubs**

Clubs	Teams	Sen men	Sen women	Youth/juni or	Primary	Total	Venue	League	Day played
<b>Sherburn Bears</b>	Open Age	1					Eversley Park, Sherburn	RL Div 4 East	Sat pm
	u13			1		<b>2</b>	Eversley Park, Sherburn	Yorks Juniors L	Sat am
<b>Selby Warriors</b>	Mens 1st	1					Foxhill Lane, Brayton	RL Div 4 East	Sat pm
	Mens 2nd	1					Foxhill Lane, Brayton		Sat pm
	Ladies		1				Foxhill Lane, Brayton	Pennine Amateur L	Sun
	u16S			1			Foxhill Lane, Brayton	Pennine Amateur L	Sun
	u15S			1			Foxhill Lane, Brayton	Pennine Amateur L	Sun
	u7/8/9				1	<b>6</b>	Foxhill Lane, Brayton	Training	Sun
<b>TOTALS</b>		3	1	3	1	<b>8</b>			

7.7 It is estimated from the club returns and RFU affiliations that there are 224 regular rugby league players in Selby district, with 62 players at Sherburn and 162 at Selby. Primary age players are not recorded.

**Table 7.4: Age distribution of players**

Age group	2015-16
Primary (7-11 years)	0
Youth/junior (12-18 year)	94
Senior (19+)	130



<b>Total</b>	224
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### Club consultation

7.8 The clubs were consulted on their current team patterns, likely future demand, facility quality and other issues affecting overall participation and the broad results are set out below (see also Appendix RL3):

- Selby Warriors have increased the number of their senior and primary teams, and decreased their youth and junior, in the last 3 years, and Sherburn Bears have remained fairly static but lost primary teams. The net effect on team numbers has been broadly neutral.
- Both clubs have limited plans to increase the number of teams in the near future – Selby Warriors by 6 teams across all age groups, including women, and Sherburn Bears by one primary team. Selby Warriors are active in promoting the club in the local community. If facilities (including ancillary facilities, changing and clubhouse) were better in each case, more teams would be fielded – pitch numbers are only a factor at Selby Warriors.
- Both clubs revealed plans to develop their facilities, and already have planning permission – Selby Warriors for a clubhouse, and Sherburn Bears for an extension to the clubhouse.
- The clubs cater for different catchments - Selby Warriors take their players from a wider area than Sherburn Bears, which are more local
- Both clubs have expressed a need for better training facilities – Selby Warriors for inside training for younger players in the winter, and Sherburn Bears a better-lit pitch on which to train.

7.9 **Quality** emerged as the key issue during consultations with the club. In addition to measuring the provision of pitches in quantitative terms, it is also essential to consider the quality of existing provision. Furthermore, perceived quality of pitches (and ancillary facilities) is almost as important as actual quality and can change usage patterns. Players are more likely to travel to sites that they perceive to be higher quality or better value for money. Indeed, lower quality pitches may actually deter residents from participating. The perceived quality of pitches overall is set out below.

7.10 **Pitch quality** - In terms of individual aspects of pitch quality the following table shows the club's returns.

**Table 7.5: Aspects of rugby pitch quality**

Aspect	Selby Warriors	Sherburn Bears
Grass cover	Good	Standard
Size of pitch	na	Poor
Length of grass	na	Poor
Evenness of pitch	Flat	Moderate
Evidence of dog fouling	Some	Lots
Problem areas (e.g. glass, litter, tyre tracks)	na	Some
Safe goalposts	No	Yes
Pitch enclosed by fencing	Yes	No

Separate training area	Yes	Yes
Specific problems	No changing (see below)	None

- 7.11 Overall, only four individual aspects of pitch quality received the best rating, and six the worst, and the conclusion is that the clubs do not consider their pitches to be any better than adequate.
- 7.12 In terms of changes to pitch quality over time, Selby Warriors consider that their pitches are slightly better than before, because of drainage work undertaken, while Sherburn Bears' pitches are similar to before. Weather conditions in previous years have resulted in few matches being called off – Selby 4 and Sherburn 0 last season.
- 7.13 **Pitch maintenance** – pitches are maintained by Selby Warriors themselves and by Sherburn Parish Council. Selby has a maintenance programme, which includes seeding, feeding and weed killing on a regular basis, and annual aeration. The pitches at Selby are pipe drained. Sherburn Bears' pitch has natural drainage and the pitch is never aerated. There is no information on other aspects of pitch maintenance
- 7.14 **Ancillary facilities** – Selby Warriors have no permanent changing facilities/clubhouse and rely on a container on site – accommodation for teams is therefore poor. Sherburn Bears have changing facilities with 2 changing rooms, and officials' changing, but no segregation of male/female or senior/junior changing. The facility has showers and toilets, and the changing rooms are secure during matches. In neither case are the ancillary facilities considered adequate. Both clubs have said that they require better changing facilities and clubhouse (including kitchen at Sherburn), and that these would allow development of the club. Both clubs have car parking available, but this is inadequate at Sherburn.

### Training and other needs

- 7.15 The clubs train on site – Selby Warriors on the floodlit pitch (6 sessions per week), and Sherburn Bears on a separate training area with lights. Selby Warriors also use a school sports hall for indoor training.
- 7.16 Selby Warriors' pitches are used during the week by a number of other local sports clubs for training for football, and for running. Sherburn Bears' pitch is not used by other clubs

### Educational Demand

- 7.17 Reflecting the lack of rugby league pitches at school sites, there is limited participation in rugby league within secondary schools currently and as a consequence, this may have an impact on recruiting players. There is no evidence of school based development initiatives by the RFL or clubs.
- 7.18 There is no evidence of individual schools requiring the use of the club's pitches. Educational demand does not therefore impinge on existing club pitch numbers and quality.

### Casual Demand

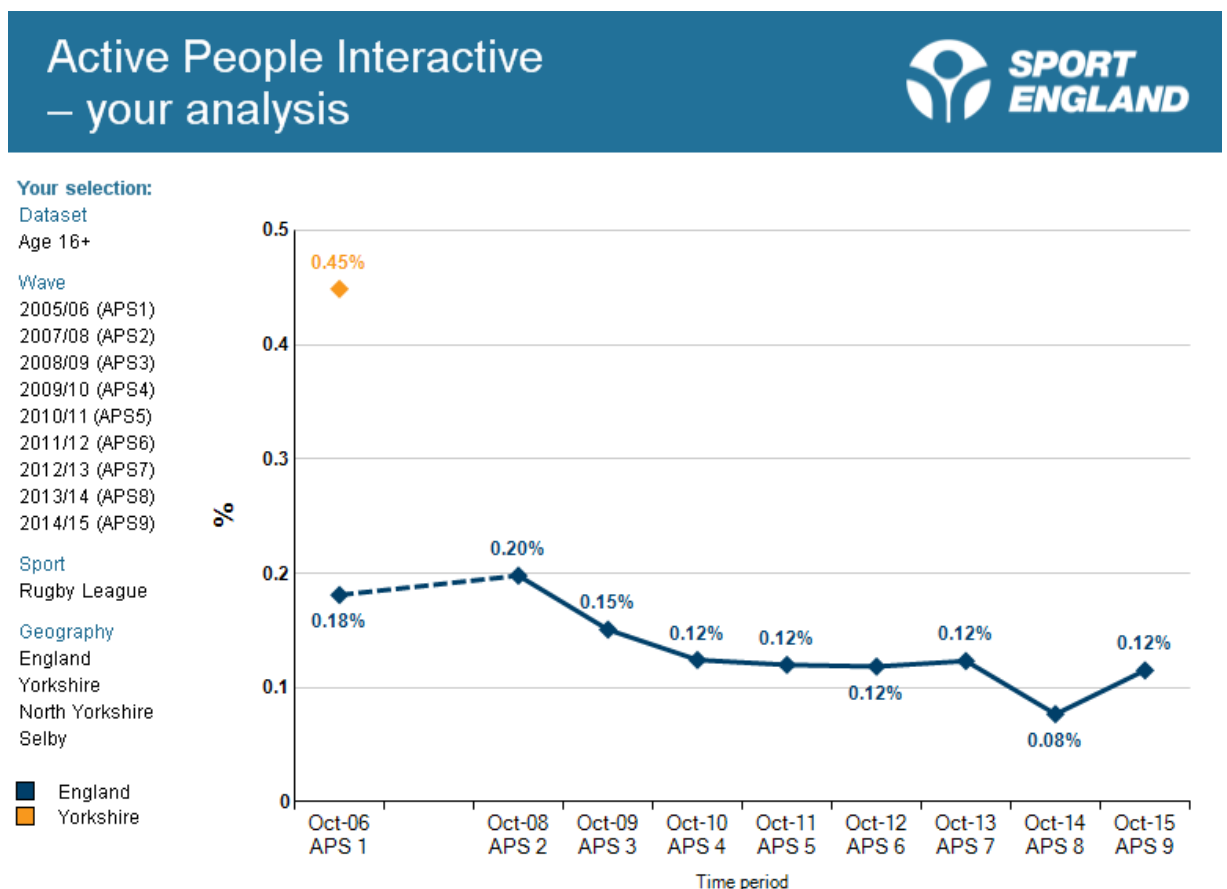
- 7.19 There is no casual demand for playing rugby league, as it is a well-regulated team sport. None of the pitches accommodates other (casual) sports or recreational activities, with the exception of football and other training at Selby. This impact is considered in the section on pitch capacity below.

## Demand

### Active People

- 7.20 The latest APS data for rugby league participation demonstrates the following characteristics (figures relate to once per week participation by adults over 16). Because of sample sizes, the data relates only to England, with some limited data for the region in the early days of APS. However, as a regional sport, national statistics are not meaningful, and some assumptions have to be made.
- 7.21 Since APS data was first collected in 2006, national participation in rugby league has declined significantly. Current participation nationally is at about 0.1% of the adult population. There is little data for the region (and none for Selby district), and the only information is from 2006 when regional participation was 2.5 times greater than the average. If regional participation has declined in the same proportion as national, it is likely that the current rate in Yorkshire and therefore Selby, is about 0.3% of adults over 16.
- 7.22 This represents about 225 adult rugby players playing once a week. This is considerably higher than the player affiliations to club returns and RFL data below, but the APS data includes recreational and more casual players (although in fact most regular players will play for a team – there is little scope for casual rugby). In addition, there may well also be residents of Selby who play club rugby league outside the district

**Chart 7.1: Participation in rugby league**



## Market Segmentation

7.23 Sport England's Market Segmentation data allows estimates to be derived of current and future likely participation in rugby league according to the underlying characteristics of the population in any given area. Analysis of the outputs for Selby suggests the following (see Appendix MS1):

- Existing participation – MS estimates that the likely participation levels for rugby in Selby total nearly 300 players, in excess of the figures suggested above, in the range between 0.1 and 1% of the adult population in each case, and also higher than the APS data. The key participants in rugby are those that also play other pitch sports, specifically Ben, Jamie and Tim. Female groups are not particularly apparent.
- MS analysis suggests that local residents' participation is broadly consistent across most of the wider area. This distribution bears very little relationship to the location of pitches, and suggests that rugby league players play where facilities exist irrespective of home address.
- There is a degree of latent demand identified, with 25% of the total potential rugby playing population not currently participating, representing about a further 100 players. Latent demand is focused on mainly the same groups that currently play.
- It must be stressed that the MS data represents a theoretical estimate of participation according to the socio economic structure of the local population, and in this case is suggested to overestimate the actual numbers playing. It also includes residents of the district who may play for clubs outside. Perhaps more important however is the latent demand for rugby league, which in this case is about 25% of the total.

## Actual Participation

### Assessing the Supply and Demand Information and Views

7.24 For rugby league, the supply of pitches and the demand for pitches is measured through the use of match equivalents to ensure that a comparison is possible. The analysis is based upon the pitch carrying capacity - as a guide, details are provided below on the number of match equivalent sessions a week that a natural grass pitch is likely to be able to sustain, based on an agreed quality rating, without adversely affecting its current quality. Pitches used for Tier 3 Conference League matches (which are of a higher quality standard due to specific league requirements) should have a different capacity rating.

**Table 7.6: Pitch carrying capacity**

Agreed pitch quality rating	Match equivalent sessions per week
Good	3
Standard	2
Poor	1

7.25 Based upon the quality assessment and comments of the clubs (and any RFL data), rugby league pitches in the Selby area are mainly classified standard with a capacity of 2 match equivalents per week.

7.26 *Peak Time Demand* - To identify spare capacity at peak time, the number of match equivalent sessions at peak time is measured against the number of match equivalent sessions available. In the Selby area, activity is focused as follows:

- Senior men's rugby league - Saturday pm
- Senior women's rugby league - Sunday
- Youth and junior rugby league - Sunday (Selby), Sat am (Sherburn)
- Primary rugby league - Sunday

7.27 Table 7.7 therefore provides a summary of activity for rugby league. At first glance, it indicates that

- There is insufficient capacity at Selby to accommodate the number of teams and training (6 hours per week) overall, but peak time use on Sat pm and Sun can be accommodated. Lack of capacity is caused by extensive training per week.
- There is adequate capacity at Sherburn overall and at peak times, particularly as training is undertaken adjacent to the main pitch

**Table 7.7: Details of capacity for rugby league**

Club/Univ/College	Full size Pitch equivalents	Floodlit	Capacity score	Match equivalents per week	Adult teams	Youth Teams U13-18	Primary	Match equivalents	Midweek Match Equivalents	Total match equivalents	Over/Under Capacity match equivalents	Pitches	Key issues and views
Selby Warriors	2	1	2	4	3	2	1	3	3	6	-2	-1	2 pitches of standard quality, with capacity of 4 match equivalents per week, accommodating 6 sessions, so overall shortfall, but no problems at peak time of Sat pm. There is some football training on the pitches in the evenings
Sherburn Bears	1	0	2	2	1	1		1	1	22	0	0	1 pitch of standard quality, with capacity for 2 match equivalents, accommodating 3 sessions overall per week. Area adjacent to pitch available for training with lights, so no problems with capacity overall or in peak period

### Displaced and Latent Demand

- 7.28 There is no evidence from collected data that any demand for rugby league is displaced outside the district – that is, there are no teams playing outside Selby which require a location within the district, although there may well be individual residents of the district who play for teams outside (e.g. in York).
- 7.29 However Active People surveys suggest that there is potential to increase the rugby playing population by up to 25%, which would have significant impact upon demand for facilities if realised.

### Future Demand

- 7.30 The future requirement for rugby league pitches will be affected by changes to the population profile, as well as club specific aspirations and changing participation trends. These issues are considered in turn in order to build an accurate picture of future demand.
- 7.31 **Population Change** - analysis in Section 3 indicated that while the population of Selby district is projected to increase by 9.7/15% from 2015 to 2027/37, changes to the population profile mean that the proportion of people within the age groups most likely to play pitch sports (the 'active population' between 5 and 54) may actually decline, or at best only increase slightly. It is not appropriate therefore merely to apply overall population increases to assess future demand.

**Table 7.8: Impact of Changes to the Population Profile**

Sport and Age Groups	Current population in age group within the area 2015	Current number of teams in age group within the area	Current TGR	Future population in age group within the area (2027/37)	Future number of teams in age group within the area (2027/37)	Potential Change in Team Numbers in Age Group (Number of Teams) Current – 2027/37
Rugby League Adult Men (19-45yrs)	13321	3	1:4440	13925/14422	3/4	0/1
Rugby League Adult Women (19-45yrs)	13611	1	1:13611	13550/13630	1/1	0
Rugby League Youth & junior Boys (12-18yrs)	3413	3	1:1138	3877/3957	4/4	1/1
Rugby League Youth & junior Girls (12-18yrs)	3376	0	0	3814/3888	0	0
Rugby Union Primary mixed (7-11 yrs)	4915	1	1:4915	5442/5332	1/1	0
Total		8			9/10	1/2

- 7.32 Team Generation Rates (TGRs) indicate how many people in a specified age group are required to generate one team. By applying TGRs to population projections, we can project the theoretical number of teams that would be generated from population growth and gain an understanding of future demand. Table 7.8 summarises the implications of population growth and reveals that;

- there will be a 4-8% increase in demand for men's rugby in accordance with population, compared with a 0.5% decrease for women;
- youth participation could increase by 13-16% for boys and girls (although there is currently no girls activity in Selby); and
- similarly, high growth may occur in age groups playing primary rugby league, where the population increase is anticipated to be 8-10%.

7.33 In terms of pitch requirements, this means that changes to the population growth could result in only marginal increases in team generation across the board (mainly caused by rounding team numbers up), as follows:

- a small increase in adult teams of 1 men's (by 2037);
- no increase in women's teams;
- a small increase in boys' teams of 1 team;
- no increase in girls' teams;
- no increase in primary rugby league teams; and
- an overall increase in teams of 1-2.

7.34 **Changes in Participation Trends** - this is primarily affected by initiatives undertaken by the NGBs and LAs. There is no information on LA/RFL targets for increased activity.

7.35 **Club development plans** - Both clubs have plans to increase the number of teams in the near future – Selby Warriors by 6 teams across all age groups, including women, and Sherburn Bears by one primary team. If facilities (including ancillary facilities, changing and clubhouse) were better in each case, more teams would be fielded – pitch numbers are only a factor at Selby Warriors. It is realistic therefore to build in a small allowance for increased participation in rugby due to club development plans and the like.

#### **Forthcoming Changes to Supply**

7.36 There is no evidence of any additional pitches for rugby league being provided in Selby, and no commitments to additional rugby pitches identified during the consultation.

#### **Governing Body Consultations**

##### **RFL Facilities Strategy 2011**

7.37 It is important to set local issues and aspirations in the context of the national aims and objectives of the Governing Body.

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

7.39 RFL also manages and develops Community Rugby League through the RFL Community Board. The RFL's Facilities Strategy was published in 2011. The following themes have been prioritised:



- Clean, Dry, Safe & Playable;
- Sustainable clubs;
- Environmental Sustainability;
- Geographical Spread; and
- Non-club Facilities.

7.40 Further to the 2011 the following specific programmes are of particular relevance to pitches and facility planning:

- The RFL Pitch Improvement Programme 2013 – 2017
- Clean, Dry and Safe programmes 2013 – 2017.

#### **Implications for current and future supply**

- 7.41 **Based on current activity, it is calculated that at present there is an overall shortfall of pitches in Selby to meet demand, based on their physical capacity and the current demands imposed on them, which amounts to 1 pitch. This is based at the Selby club – the Sherburn club currently has sufficient pitches to meet need. In reality the Selby club fulfils its fixtures, training, coaching and other obligations by adapting normal patterns of play to allow multiple use of the 2 pitches beyond their reasonable capacity. The main issue appears to be the use of the pitches for training, which occurs about 6 hours per week, and increases wear and tear. This issue could be addressed in part by improving further the capacity of the existing pitches, or by the availability of an additional pitch.**
- 7.42 **There is some latent demand for rugby as identified in the MS data and it is reasonable to assume that this might be realised in part over the term of the strategy. The clubs themselves have suggested that pitch and facility provision is inhibiting development, and that up to 7 new teams across the age ranges might be feasible if facilities are improved, and additional playing surfaces provided**
- 7.43 **In addition, population increase to 2027 could, based on current participation rates, increase teams by 1 in total across the whole age range (and by a further 1 by 2037, though projecting so far into the future is considered unsound for the reasons stated in previous sections)**
- 7.44 **Taking all these factors into account, and based on the current infrastructure of both clubs, a reasonable target for future teams by 2027 would be double the amount of teams, or about a further 8 teams. Most of these are likely to be associated with Selby Warriors, and a high proportion of these are expected to be youth and mini teams.**
- 7.45 **The implications for pitch demand are that additional pitches (or at least pitch capacity) will be required up to 2027, up to a further 1 full size pitch equivalent if based on existing provision, in addition to existing shortfalls. Access to school and other pitches, and the improvement of the quality (drainage, ancillary facilities) of the current venue would increase carrying capacity and reduce the need for new pitches.**
- 7.46 **The major need of rugby league in Selby is for improved or new ancillary facilities, particularly at Selby Warriors, where development is constrained by the lack of changing. Improved and extended changing at Sherburn Bears would also aid development.**

- 7.47 There are areas of Selby where rugby league provision is non-existent and potential players have to rely on existing clubs at Selby and Sherburn and outside the area. While it is not suggested that any new clubs necessarily be formed elsewhere to meet any gaps in provision, outreach by the existing clubs and closer liaison with schools could help to provide more pitches on school sites, or make available any that are currently only used by the schools themselves.

#### Summary and conclusions

- There are 3 rugby pitches in Selby on two sites, and one other identified on a school sites, but not currently used by community clubs.
- There are two clubs playing rugby league in the area, comprising 8 teams or age groups.
- Team numbers have remained fairly consistent over the recent past, but the existing clubs do have aspirations to increase their teams, subject to better facilities. Sport England participation data suggests that rugby league participation may in fact have declined, but this is based on national rates.
- Quality of pitches is as important as quantity and is considered no better than standard. Ancillary changing and other provision is poor or non-existent, and is curbing club development.
- The existing clubs is able to fulfil their playing obligations on available pitches, although there is extensive training during the week, which puts pressure on pitches at Selby.
- Based on current levels of activity, it is calculated that there is a shortfall of 1 pitch at present, mainly to meet this training need. There is no issue at peak match times. This could be achieved by a new pitch or negotiated access to the existing school pitch at Brayton HS.
- There is some latent demand at present, and with future population growth and club and NGB initiatives likely to increase demand, there is potential to double the number of teams, across all age groups and both genders. This would increase the need for one additional pitch above the current shortfall to 2027 (2037 is considered too far in the future to be realistic).
- There are some geographical gaps in provision in the area that could be filled, either by new club formation or more likely outreach programmes by existing clubs bothy within and outside the district.

#### Issues for strategy to address

- 7.48 The key issues for the playing pitch strategy to address are therefore:
- the need to at least maintain the current level of pitch provision at the existing grounds to meet current demand;
  - whether additional pitches are required to meet future demand, and if so where;

- the need for capacity improvements at the existing grounds, including upgrades to pitches to ensure that further games/training can be sustained;
- the need for improvements and additions to ancillary accommodation to ensure that clubs can develop;
- the option of securing community use of existing school pitches to meet any future demand;
- consideration of the possible role of 3G pitches in reducing demands on grass pitches and providing opportunities for training and junior/primary competition; and
- potential to increase participation in rugby over the wider area of the district, and the practicality of expanding rugby league pitch provision into the areas of Selby where opportunities to play rugby league are not currently available.

## Introduction

8.1 This section evaluates the adequacy of pitches for hockey and provides:

- An overview of the supply of AGPs that are suitable for hockey
- An outline of demand for hockey pitches across Selby
- An understanding of activity at individual sites in the area
- A picture of the adequacy of current provision across the area
- The future picture of provision for hockey in the area.

## Hockey in Selby – An Overview

### Pitch Supply

8.2 Hockey is almost exclusively played on AGPs. Guidance on AGPs (Sport England 2010) indicates the following surfaces to be suitable for hockey:

- Water Based (suitable for high level hockey)
- Sand Filled (preferred surface for hockey)
- Sand Dressed (acceptable surface for hockey)
- Short Pile 3G (acceptable surface for non-competitive hockey).

8.3 Based upon the above criteria, there are three full sized pitches with approved surfaces for hockey that are suitable for use by hockey clubs in Selby, although in fact only one is currently used as such. Further details are set out in Appendix AGP1 and on Map AGP1.

**Table 8.1: Hockey pitches in Selby**

Site Name	Address	Facility Type	Size	Floodlit	Access	Ownership/management	Year Built/refurb
Queen Margaret's School	Escrick Park, Escrick, York, YO19 6EU	Sand filled	Full 100 x 60m	Yes	Sports Club / Community Association	Independent school/in house	2000
Selby Leisure Centre	Scott Road, Selby, YO8 4BL	Sand dressed	Full 100 x 60m	Yes	Pay and Play	Local authority/Trust	2015
Tadcaster Grammar School	Toulston, Tadcaster, LS24 9NB	Sand filled	Full 100 x 60m	Yes	Pay and Play	Community school/in house	1997/2001

8.4 Of the three pitches suitable for hockey in Selby, the following characteristics apply:

- two are on school sites and primarily available for curriculum use, but available for outside clubs to hire. Queen Margaret's School is not currently in use by clubs, but was available formerly and the school would consider letting to clubs if demand arose, though Saturday use is prioritised for students. Tadcaster GS is in poor condition and not currently used by clubs;
- Selby Leisure Centre pitch is newly constructed, available for pay and play, and used for hockey as part of a wider and intensive programme of community activity and other sports; and
- there are no pitches dedicated entirely to hockey club use.

- 8.5 There are a small number of grass hockey pitches, mostly on school sites, but these are not considered in the current study because of the need to accommodate hockey now on artificial surfaces.

### Quality

- 8.6 Pitch quality is assessed from a number of sources – visual inspection using Sport England's guidelines, data from, APP on age and refurbishment, information supplied by England Hockey from its club/facilities database and data from clubs gleaned from the questionnaire survey.

**Table 8.2: Quality of hockey pitches in Selby**

Pitch	Age/refurb	Visual inspection	EH data	Club data	Overall assessment
Queen Margaret's School	2000	Good	Standard	na	Good/standard
Selby Leisure Centre	2015	Good	Good	Good	Good
Tadcaster Grammar School	1997/2001	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor

- 8.7 The main AGP pitch in Selby accommodating hockey at Selby Leisure Centre was built and opened in 2015 and is by definition in good condition. Queen Margaret School pitch is also in good condition, although considerably older, but Tadcaster GS pitch is no longer fit for purpose, and the local club that previously used this for training and matches no longer does so, and relies on a venue in York. More details of individual aspects of pitch (and ancillary facility) quality are explained in the section below on club responses.

### Clubs, teams and leagues

- 8.8 There are 2 hockey clubs based in Selby district, although as stated above Tadcaster HC is forced currently to play its fixtures in York. For the purposes of this study, the latter is regarded as displaced demand requiring a location in Selby, and the assessment considers both clubs as meeting local demand. More details area set out in Appendix H1.

**Table 8.3: Hockey clubs and teams in Selby**

Hockey Club Name	Senior men 16-55	Senior women 16-65	Mixed 16-55	Vets 16-55	Girls 11-15 incl devt	Boys 11-15 incl devt	Mixed 9-15	Total	Match equivalents per week (fixtures)	Venue
Selby HC		2			2		4	8	4	Selby LC
Tadcaster Magnets HC	2	2						4	2	Energise York
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>			<b>2</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	

8.9 Table 8.3 summarises the teams in each club and outlines the number of times that they use pitches for matches. The usage is based upon the assumption that each team plays alternate home and away games. In summary:

- neither of the clubs provides a full range of teams of both genders that might be found in other clubs. Selby HS is primarily a women's club, but with a range of junior teams, both boys and girls. Tadcaster HC has both men's and women's teams, but no junior development;
- Tadcaster HC does not play in the locality where it originates, and uses a pitch elsewhere that is available and suitable; and
- Selby HC junior teams play competitions on a round robin basis at neutral venues across the county, which currently does not include Selby.

8.10 It is estimated from club returns that there are currently about 100 senior (16 years+) players and about 100 juniors (9-15 years) currently playing organised hockey in the area, a total of about 200 regular participants.

8.11 This is compatible with England Hockey data from club affiliations, which suggests that Selby have 99 members this season and Tadcaster Magnets have 77.

**Table 8.4: Hockey players in the Selby area (from EH)**

Age group	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Junior (0-16)	62	73	79
Senior (17+)	84	80	97
Totals	146	153	176

8.12 The figures indicate that total and both age groups participation have increased/ since 2013 and England Hockey is anticipating steady growth over the next few years in the area.

8.13 **Leagues** - It is important to highlight the breadth of competitive opportunities for players locally. Both clubs have teams that play in the Yorkshire Leagues, ranging from Men's and Women's 1 to Men's and Women's 5 North. Selby juniors also play in the Yorkshire Youth Leagues. There are also cup competitions.

#### **Club consultation**

8.14 Clubs were consulted on their current team patterns, likely future demand, facility quality and other issues affecting overall participation and the broad results from those responding are set out below (also see Appendix H2):

- Selby HC has increased the number of teams that it runs over the past 3 years, including a women's second team accommodating juniors, and back to hockey sessions retaining women in hockey. Tadcaster HC has a similar number of teams. Overall there has therefore been an increase in team numbers in recent years

- Similarly, Selby HC hopes to increase the number of teams in the future, particularly by the addition of junior boys' and girls' teams. Tadcaster HC has no plans for expansion. The main factors preventing growth are the cost of hiring or using facilities and the shortage of coaches and volunteers, not the availability of pitches
- Selby HC tends to cater for players from a more local catchment than Tadcaster, due in no small part to Tadcaster playing its fixtures outside the district. However, Selby would like to play its junior fixtures at home, preferably at Selby LC. Tadcaster HC's preferred venue for matches and training is Tadcaster GS but this is not currently available because of its quality
- Both clubs rent their home venue from the local authority, at considerable cost (£3500-6000 pa). Both clubs use the pitch for 3 hours on Saturdays for matches, and between 1-3 hours midweek for training
- The amount of hours available on an AGP is satisfactory for Selby at present, although additional teams would require 1-2 more pitch hours. Tadcaster ideally require a further 1.5 hours for training midweek.

8.15 **Quality** is potentially a key issue for clubs. In addition to measuring the provision of pitches in quantitative terms, it is also essential to consider the quality of existing provision. Furthermore, perceived quality of pitches (and ancillary facilities) is almost as important as actual quality and can change usage patterns. Players are more likely to travel to sites that they perceive to be higher quality or better value for money. Indeed, lower quality pitches may actually deter residents from participating. The perceived quality of pitches overall is set out below. This primarily relates to the existing pitch at Selby LC, but for the record, the Energise and Tadcaster pitches are also considered.

8.16 **Pitch quality** - Clubs were given the opportunity to comment on individual aspects of pitch quality, on a range from good-adequate-poor. Both pitches currently used score highly in all aspects. Tadcaster GS was not scored individually, but the consensus is that the pitch is poor, not suitable even for training and not fit for purpose.

**Table 8.5: Pitch quality**

Club/venue	Grip underfoot	Line markings	Condition of posts/nets /goals	Surrounding fencing	Overall pitch quality	Ease of booking facilities	Car parking	Overall VFM	Adequate safety margins	Overall
Selby HC – Selby LC	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Tadcaster Magnets HC - Energise	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good

8.17 Clubs were also invited to comment on evidence of problems with the surface of the main pitch that they use, with a range of none-some-lots, as follows.

**Table 8.6: Quality of pitch surface**

None	Moss/ lichen	Loose gravel	Holes or rips in surface	Glass/ Stones /litter	Inappropriate use	Damage to surface	Overall
Selby HC – Selby LC	Some	None	None	None	None	None	Good
Tadcaster Magnets HC - Energise	None	None	None	None	None	None	Good

8.18 Overall, there were few issues or individual problems associated with the pitch surface.

8.19 **Ancillary facility quality** – Both clubs ranked their existing changing facilities as good.

8.20 Detailed comments were invited from clubs and where these are negative, they are summarised below:

- Selby HC - Some small issues initially about maintaining the pitch as there are a lot of trees/foliage that can impact on the condition of the pitch if not maintained properly. Main concern would be about a regular routine of cleanliness and upkeep going into the future. No dugouts or seating does make it difficult in terms of adverse weather but also we have disabled spectators with no seating.

8.21 **Overall** - Clubs were given the opportunity to comment on whether they were broadly satisfied with pitch provision for hockey in Selby and the wider area. Both clubs expressed dissatisfaction about overall facility provision for hockey in Selby – Selby in terms of the lack of a clubhouse, and Tadcaster for the number of available pitches.

8.22 Desirable or actual planned improvements and enhancements were invited and the only comment was as follows:

- Tadcaster Magnets HC – Tadcaster Magnets Social Club are trying to extend the lease on its sports ground and in the future build an AGP on site – this is considered no more than a tentative proposal.

#### **Other usage/demand issues**

8.23 **Training** - Both clubs schedule formal training sessions at their current home match pitch for training. Both clubs train once a week, at various times during the week depending on the age group and standard. Tadcaster HC has said that it requires an additional 1.5 hours a week to accommodate all its training needs.

8.24 **Educational use** – No school pitches are currently used by clubs, although as suggested above, Tadcaster HC would like to return to Tadcaster GS, and Queen Margaret's School could be made available subject to demand. Educational use of AGPs takes place outside of peak hours and there would therefore be no impact upon the availability of the facilities for community hockey (as the artificial surface means that AGPs are not impacted upon by levels of use in the same way that grass pitches are), although QMS has said that Saturday availability would prioritise Saturday afternoons for student use.

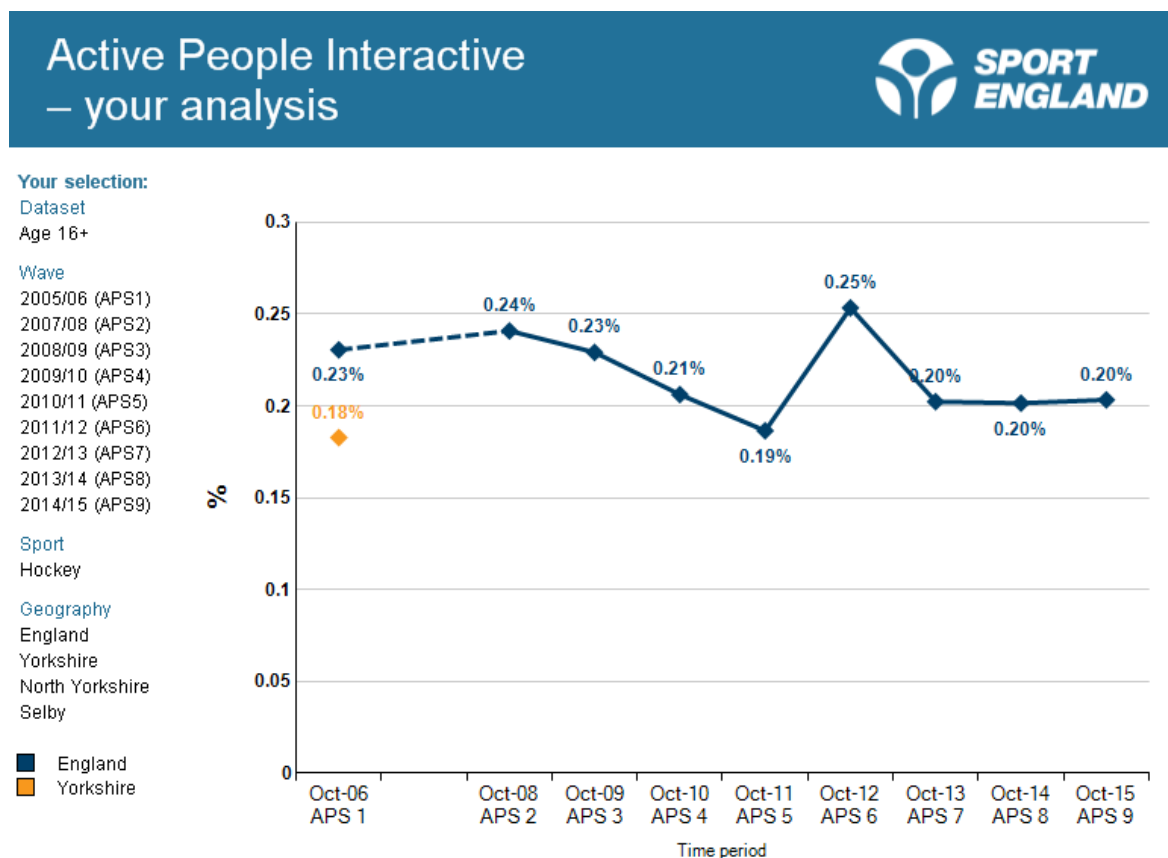


## Demand

### Active People (Sport England)

- 8.25 The latest APS data for hockey participation demonstrates the following characteristics (figures relate to once per week participation by adults over 16). Because of sample sizes, the data relates only to England, and the initial figures for the region in 2006 – there is no local data for North Yorkshire or Selby.
- 8.26 Participation in hockey in England has remained relatively steady since data was first collected, and stands at 0.2% of adults in the country at October 2015. This figure has remained relatively constant since 2009, with the exception of a slight rise in 2012. The only data for the region suggests that participation in 2006 was slightly below the national average at 0.18%. On the basis that the average participation level for Selby is around the regional and national average, there are an estimated 150 adult hockey players in the area.
- 8.27 This figure is higher than the estimated and actual number of players linked to clubs in the area from club consultation and EH data, although the APS data includes recreational and more casual players. However, most regular players will play for a team – there is little scope for casual hockey. It is likely that participation in hockey in Selby district is lower than the average, though it is probable that people who live on the edge of the district play for clubs in neighbouring LA areas, where there are more clubs than the two in Selby.

**Chart 8.1: Participation in hockey**



## Market Segmentation

8.28 Sport England's Market Segmentation data allows estimates to be derived of current and future likely participation in hockey according to the underlying characteristics of the population in any given area. Analysis of the outputs for Selby suggests the following (see Appendix MS1):

- Existing participation – MS estimates that the likely participation levels for hockey in Selby total about 240 players, in excess of the APS and actual figures suggested above, and between 0.1 and 1% of the adult population uniformly across the whole area. Demand is primarily focused across four segments, both male and female (Ben, Tim, Chloe, Philip). The profile of participants in hockey in Selby is more varied than other sports, with both female and male groups currently playing
- There are no significant variations within the district, although this may well be due to the scale of the map
- There is significant latent demand compared with the amount of people that currently play – only about 70% of those adults that expressed an interest in playing hockey are estimated to be currently playing. Those that would like to play but do not currently do so fall into the same segments as those that already play, in particular Chloe. Latent demand is for about an additional 140 adult participants.

8.29 It must be stressed that the MS data represents a theoretical estimate of participation according to the socio economic structure of the local population, although in this case it broadly reflects current participation. The latent demand for hockey is quite high, but the actual implications for future participation must be carefully considered, as this is no more than a model of future activity.

## Assessing the Supply and Demand Information and Views

8.30 The adequacy of AGPs to accommodate demand for hockey, taking into account both training and competitive fixtures, is discussed below. Demand for football is also a factor as while hockey teams cannot use facilities designed for football (3G pitches), sand based surfaces are acceptable for football training and hockey clubs can face extensive competition in accessing pitches.

## Situation at Individual Sites

8.31 Supply and demand of AGPs is measured by considering;

- the amount of play that a site is able to sustain (based upon the number of hours that the pitch is accessible to the community during peak periods up to a maximum of 34 hours per week). Peak periods have been deemed to be Monday to Thursday 17:00 to 21:00; Friday 17:00 to 19:00 and Saturday and Sunday 09:00 to 17:00;
- the amount of play that takes place (measured in hours);
- whether there is any spare capacity at the site based upon a comparison between the capacity of the site and the actual usage; and
- any other key issues relating to the site that have arisen through consultation.

8.32 To ensure that issues for hockey are fully taken into account however, as well as evaluating usage over the week, capacity at peak time should also be considered. England Hockey guidance suggests that no AGP should be considered able to sustain more than 4 games on any one day.

8.33 Table 8.7 therefore provides a summary of activity at the Selby LC site, the only site that is currently suitable for hockey at present and actually in use as such.

**Table 8.7: Site Specific Usage**

Site	Quality	Current Carrying Capacity for Community Use	Current Community Use overall	Current use for hockey	Difference between CC and usage overall	Comparison	Extent of Availability Midweek Evenings	Availability Saturday / Sunday	Key Issues and Views
Selby LC	Good	36	18	4	18	About 50% spare capacity in peak periods, particularly at weekends	25%	Spare capacity of 60% at weekends. Potentially available for additional matches on Sat and Sunday	<p>Newly constructed sand based AGP on leisure centre site managed by Wigan Leisure. Available to the community for 71 hours per week in total, and used for a variety of sports mainly hockey matches and training and football training</p> <p>No quality issues in general as new pitch, but some dissatisfaction in Selby HC about trees, foliage and need to ensure good maintenance.</p> <p>Some potential for additional hockey use at weekend and training in week,</p> <p><b>Significant spare capacity in peak periods – weekday evenings (about 25%) and weekend (about 60%)</b></p>

## FPM Modelling

- 8.34 Analysis of the actual usage of pitches against the hours that they are available can be compared with findings of the Sport England Facility Planning Model, a theoretical model based upon national parameters. This indicates the following for hockey use of AGPs within Selby (this assessment is based on an out of date database, and certain qualifications are set out at the end):
- There is very good supply of pitches suitable for hockey, comprising 3 pitches (0.7 pitches if actual community availability is taken into account). This is nearly twice the national average pro rata (though see the comments about actual pitches below).
  - Demand from residents for hockey, based on estimated participation rates, is for about half of one pitch, and a crude comparison of demand and supply from within Selby identifies an apparent surplus of a fraction of a pitch.
  - There is very low satisfied demand (about 69% of demand is met), which compares with 82/72% nationally or in the whole region (or 0.73% in neighbouring LAs).
  - There is therefore quite high unmet demand, but only the equivalent of less than a quarter of a new pitch. This is mostly due to capacity issues (i.e. pitches are well used) though there is some outside the catchment of pitches (i.e. pitches are not accessible within a reasonable travel time).
  - The used capacity of AGPs across Selby is high (100%), compared with the average. Effectively all pitches are assumed to be full.
  - The relative share of pitches is above average for the country – i.e. Selby is better off with regard to supply and capacity than most areas in England.
  - Selby is a small net importer of demand, from neighbouring LA areas, probably York
- 8.35 **Conclusion – although there is an apparent surplus of pitches compared with demand, this is a crude assessment over the whole district. There is a level of unmet demand, but not sufficient to warrant an additional new pitch. However, all pitches are assumed to be full, but this is based partly on the location of two pitches on the edge of the district in Tadcaster and Escrick, which will attract demand from outside the district. However, this assessment is based on the existence and use of three pitches for hockey - Selby LC old pitch, Tadcaster GS, no longer used for hockey because of quality, and QMS, which is not used by the community. A manual analysis is therefore required given the actual supply of pitches. It is likely that the new pitch at Selby LC would be more attractive to local residents, and would meet demand within the central part of the district. However, the unavailability of the two pitches at Tadcaster and Escrick would leave these parts of the district outside a pitch catchment, though this would result in less import of demand from outside the district. This interpretation of the assessment suggests that the retention/improvement of at least the pitch at Tadcaster should be supported, while the QMS pitch is less important to meeting demand in Selby district.**
- 8.36 **Modelling therefore reveals that in addition to the new Selby pitch, there is justification in improving the Tadcaster pitch for hockey use, and retaining the QMS pitch for possible community use in the future.**

### **Displaced Demand**

8.37 The FPM indicates that there is some import of demand from outside, and therefore little demand displaced from Selby. However, Tadcaster HC is currently forced to play its fixtures and train outside the district, and the demand from this club is therefore considered displaced, and should be accommodated in Selby, given the club's wishes.

### **Latent Demand**

8.38 The club consultation has highlighted a potential latent demand for 2 additional teams at present, though this could be said to represent future aspirations rather than current demand being suppressed. The amount of demand attributed to this above should be considered partly as future demand.

8.39 Market Segmentation however indicated that there is a relatively significant amount of latent demand in the area (only 70% of those wishing to play hockey can do so) Alongside club development aspirations, there may be opportunities to increase participation in the area through sports development initiatives targeting those in the market segments that have expressed an interest in participating but do not currently do so. However, it is considered unattainable to increase participation by these amounts, and a more reasonable latent demand increase of say 10% should be built in to the calculations of current need.

### **Future Demand**

8.40 The future requirement for AGPs for hockey will be affected by several things, including population growth, changes to the demographic profile, club development and evolving participation trends. These issues are considered in turn in order to build an accurate picture of future demand.

8.41 **Population Change** - analysis in Section 3 indicated that while the population of Selby district is projected to increase by 9.7/15% from 2015 to 2027/37, changes to the population profile mean that the proportion of people within the age groups most likely to play pitch sports (the 'active population' between 5 and 54) may actually decline or only increase slightly. It is not appropriate therefore merely to apply overall population increases to assess future demand.

8.42 Team Generation Rates (TGRs) indicate how many people in a specified age group are required to generate one team. By applying TGRs to population projections, we can project the theoretical number of teams that would be generated from population growth and gain an understanding of future demand. Table 8.8 summarises the implications of population growth and reveals that;

- there will be a 4% decrease in demand for men's hockey in accordance with population increase, and a 5% decrease in women's; and
- population changes and therefore demand from young people will be higher – 16% overall

**Table 8.8: Impact of Changes to the Population Profile**

Sport and Age Groups	Current population in age group within the area 2015	Current number of teams in age group within the area	Current TGR	Future population in age group within the area (2027/37)	Future number of teams in age group within the area (2027/37)	Potential Change in Team Numbers in Age Group (Number of Teams) Current – 2027/37
Hockey Senior Men (16-55yrs)	21632	2	1:10816	21300/22516	2/2	0
Hockey Senior Women (16-55yrs)	22238	4	1:5560	21070/21685	4/4	0
Hockey Junior Mixed (11-15yrs)	4656	4	1:1164	5536/5574	5/5	+1/1
Hockey Junior Girls (11-15yrs)	2291	2	1:1146	2733/2747	3/3	+1/1
Total		12			14/14	+2/2

8.43 This means that, according to TGRs, and based upon current participation rates, changes to the population growth could result in a demand for 2 additional teams by 2027/37, at junior level. The relatively small number of participants in hockey however means that TGRs do not necessarily provide the most appropriate means of forecasting growth and efforts to increase participation may have a much more significant impact.

8.44 England Hockey aspirations for the growth of 1-2 teams per club would mean further 2-4 teams over the period of the strategy, and this is slightly higher than the growth factor set out above.

#### **Forthcoming Changes to Supply**

8.45 There are no known plans for new sand based/dressed pitches suitable for hockey in Selby district, although the potential development of additional 3G pitches for football might well reduce demand and release some spare capacity at sand based AGPs.

#### **Governing Body Consultations**

##### **Hockey Facility Strategy – The Right Facilities in the Right Places (2012)**

8.46 England Hockey believes that facilities are arguably one of the most important assets that a club can have. The National Hockey Facility Strategy provides strategic direction and guidance for the provision of new and maintenance and improvement of existing facilities and highlights that with the increasing importance of AGPs for other sports, and the growing rivalry for use of these facilities, it is essential that sufficient appropriate facilities for hockey are secured and protected.

8.47 **The Vision** of the strategy is for every hockey club in England to have appropriate and sustainable facilities that provide excellent experiences for players. **The Mission** is: More, Better, Happier Players with access to appropriate and sustainable facilities. The club market is well structured and clubs are required to affiliate to England Hockey to play in community leagues. As a result, only relatively few occasional teams lie outside our affiliation structure. Schools and Universities are the other two areas where significant hockey is played.

8.48 The 3 main objectives of the facilities strategy are:

- **PROTECT:** To conserve the existing hockey provision - there are currently over 800 pitches that are used by hockey clubs (club, school, universities.) There is a need to retain the current provision where appropriate to ensure that hockey is maintained across the country.
- **IMPROVE:** To improve the existing facilities stock (physically and administratively) - the current facilities stock is ageing and there needs to be strategic investment into refurbishing the pitches and ancillary facilities. There needs to more support for clubs to obtain better agreements with facilities providers & education around owning an asset.
- **DEVELOP:** To strategically build new hockey facilities where there is an identified need and ability to deliver and maintain. This might include consolidating hockey provision in a local area where appropriate - the research has identified key areas across the country where there is a lack of suitable Hockey provision and there is a need for additional pitches. There is an identified demand for multi pitches in the right places to consolidate hockey and allow clubs to have all of their provision catered for at one site.

8.49 The strategy sets out the following methodology for evaluating the need for hockey pitches;

- supply and demand – what issues should be addressed, including the amount and quality of nearby facilities;
- strategic considerations – for example whether the facility will serve as a venue to accommodate play as part of the single system pathway;
- type and level of use – what will be the main use of the pitch and what standard of hockey will be played; and
- amount of use.

8.50 The strategy indicates that there are approximately 1000 sand based / dressed pitches and a further 50 water based pitches across England. Of these, 12% are over 15 years old and 32% are over 10 years old. It states that the key challenges for hockey clubs in relation to facilities are:

- Access
- Costs
- Quality
- Storage
- Poor / lack of programming.

8.51 In addition, England Hockey continues to seek to increase participation in both adult and junior hockey by at least one to two teams per club. It is anticipated that this will largely be met through the growth in existing hockey bases rather than the establishment of new clubs. It also highlights the importance of retaining existing participants and indicates that one of the key ways to do this by providing a quality playing experience.

8.52 As well as growing participation at club level, there are two other initiatives that might impact upon the future demand for hockey, specifically:



- Back to Hockey: A scheme providing informal sessions to encourage women to take up hockey. Following the informal sessions, participants are invited to join the club; and
  - Rush Hockey: This initiative is currently being piloted. It is a small sided form of hockey (4 or 5 players) that can take place on any surface. It is being tested with commercial partners and is likely to roll out following this. It is not anticipated that this new form of the game will immediately generate additional club based players, but will encourage people who are not currently playing hockey to play. It requires a different type of facility and there is potential for this type of hockey to be run from a club base as a commercial venture, or from leisure centres.
- 8.53 As part of England Hockey's development programme (England Hockey Single System Pathway), there is a network of Junior Development and Academy Centres run by the County Hockey Associations, which are local training centres for u11/12 to u17 year olds, for players nominated by schools, clubs and coaches.
- 8.54 ClubsFirst is England Hockey Board's accreditation scheme for clubs. It is a national recognition of clubs can demonstrate that they are working towards minimum operating standards and provide a safe, effective and club friendly hockey environment for participants. All clubs achieving ClubsFirst also achieve the Sport England Clubmark accreditation, a nationally recognised award for sports clubs.
- 8.55 **Regional England Hockey Development Manager** - England Hockey would strongly resist any change from sand filled/dressed to 3G surfaces of any of the existing hockey appropriate pitches. It is essential that at least the existing capacity of hockey pitches is protected, but also that the expected growth is factored in. Opportunities should be taken to consider new pitch provision wherever there is an identified need.
- 8.56 EH is anticipating steady growth in participation over the next few years in the area. Selby HC and Tadcaster Magnet HC have the potential to grow, and EH is expecting an 8% growth across the whole of Yorkshire. U16 hockey has increased by 40% since London 2012.

#### **Implications for current and future supply**

- 8.57 **Based on current activity and facility supply within the district, there are sufficient pitches in Selby to meet current demand from the one club that currently plays in the district. The club is currently able to fulfil its playing commitments and training requirements at Selby LC. However, Tadcaster Magnets HC currently plays outside the district, while its preferred venue is in Tadcaster, where it is based. There is some justification therefore in seeking the improvement of the existing substandard pitch at Tadcaster GS to accommodate the club's current requirements, which are met in York, although they need additional training time midweek. Modelling confirms that in addition to the new Selby pitch, there is justification in improving the Tadcaster pitch for hockey use, and retaining the QMS pitch for possible community use.**
- 8.58 **There is some latent demand for hockey as identified in the MS data and this may well generate some additional demand in the short term. In addition, EH initiatives, clubs' own aspirations as well as population increase could raise demand for teams by a further small amount. In total by 2027 it can be estimated that demand will increase from 12 teams at present to about 18, an increase in demand of 50% over the whole period (population estimates for 2037 suggest no additional growth, but this needs to be monitored as projecting so far into the future is unrealistic).**

8.59 **Given the current usage of Selby LC, and the potential improvement of Tadcaster GS, it is unlikely that any additional AGPs for hockey will be required by 2027, especially if community use can be negotiated at QMS at appropriate times if demand becomes apparent. Any proposals for 3G pitches primarily for football elsewhere in the district may also release capacity, which can be taken up by hockey. Although there are parts of the district that are not directly served by AGPs for hockey, there is no justification for new AGPs elsewhere in the district now or in the future.**

#### Summary and conclusions

- **There are 3 artificial grass pitches in Selby district suitable for hockey, but at present only one that fulfils a community need. Two other pitches are either unavailable for community use or physically unsuitable.**
- **There are 2 clubs meeting a demand for hockey in Selby, but only one that plays within the district.**
- **Team numbers have increased marginally in the past three seasons and one club has plans to increase numbers further in the near future. This is confirmed by England Hockey, which anticipates further growth in the coming years.**
- **Quality is as important as quantity and is considered good at the main hockey pitch, but poor at Tadcaster where the pitch is unsuitable for matches or training. Selby HC has no access to a clubhouse.**
- **Based on current demand, there is no need for additional AGPs for hockey, but the pitch at Tadcaster GS requires upgrading and refurbishment to make it suitable for community use, and to meet the demand displaced outside the district.**
- **There is some latent demand, and with future population growth and club and NGB initiatives, a potential increase in team formation of 50%. However, this increased demand can be met in the future from existing pitches at Selby and QMS if appropriate, and by the refurbishment of the Tadcaster GS pitch. There is no justification for additional AGPs for hockey now or in the future.**

#### Key Issues – AGPs for Hockey

8.60 The key issues for hockey to be addressed in the playing pitch strategy are as follows:

- no additional pitches are required for hockey at the present time to meet unmet demand, but quality improvements are required where necessary;
- competition with football highlights the importance of maintaining (and potentially increasing in light of participation increases) appropriate access to sand based multi-use AGPs for training and competitive activity for hockey clubs;
- there is an ongoing need to ensure that surfaces are managed and maintained to a high level to ensure that pitches remain fit for purpose and in particular a programme of surface replacements on pitches now nearing the end of their life;
- the potential for some of the existing sand based AGPs to be converted to 3G should be resisted. The need for a co-ordinated approach to the future of AGP

surfaces which does not prejudice hockey use is an issue that requires consideration in conjunction with football and rugby; and

- it is important that ancillary changing and clubhouse facilities are available to avoid the need for clubs to travel after matches. The difficulties of achieving this on existing school sites and Selby LC should be acknowledged.

### Introduction and background

9.1 This section considers the adequacy of facilities for outdoor tennis and includes:

- The supply of courts and other facilities
- The demand for and use of these courts by clubs and others
- The quality of courts and other issues raised by clubs
- Meeting the current and future demand for tennis in the area

9.2 The methodology for assessing tennis is not prescribed in current guidance and this assessment relies on a well-established method including direct contact with clubs, governing bodies and others.

### Courts and venues

9.3 There are estimated to be 24 full size tennis courts available for community use in the Selby area. These are all based on 9 sites run by tennis clubs. There are no 'public' courts on 'parks' sites and available for casual access and play. Further details area set out in Appendix T1 and on Map T1.

**Table 9.1: Location of tennis courts**

LOCATION	ADDRESS	COURTS	SURFACE
<b>Appleton Roebuck Tennis Club</b>	Emberfield, Main Street, Appleton Roebuck	3 outdoor tennis court, not floodlit	Synthetic grass
<b>Cawood Tennis Club</b>	Maypole Gardens, Cawood, Selby	3 floodlit outdoor courts	Tarmac
<b>Cliffe Tennis Club</b>	Oven Lane, Cliffe, Selby, North Yorkshire	2 outdoor courts non floodlit, 1 floodlit	2 tarmac, 1 carpet
<b>Escrick Tennis Club</b>	Escrick Village Hall	2 non floodlit courts	Tarmac
<b>Riccall Tennis Club</b>	Landing Lane, Riccall,	2 outdoor courts floodlit	Tarmac
<b>Selby Tennis Club</b>	Court Lane, Leeds Road, Selby	3 all weather courts, not floodlit	Tarmac
<b>Sherburn Tennis Club</b>	Finkle Hill Recreation Ground	2 floodlit courts	Tarmac
<b>Tadcaster Tennis Club</b>	Fairfield Road, Tadcaster	3 outdoor tennis courts, not floodlit	Tarmac
<b>Wistow Tennis Club/Jubilee Hall PF</b>	Lordship Lane, Wistow,	3 floodlit outdoor courts	Tarmac
<b>TOTAL COURTS</b>		<b>24</b>	

9.4 Overall provision of courts in community use throughout the Selby area is the equivalent of 0.28 courts per 1000 people. There is no comprehensive data about relative provision nationally or regionally, but this contrasts with 0.5 courts per 1000 in Broadland, and 0.35 in South Norfolk (available from previous studies by naa), areas similar in nature to Selby. Relative provision may therefore be low.

9.5 Of the courts primarily available for community use (on club sites), less than half are floodlit and therefore available throughout the year, including winter evenings. It is likely that planning restrictions prevent floodlighting on most of the other courts and sites. Most of the courts are surfaced with tarmac, although there are also synthetic grass and carpet surfaces, thereby catering for at least a small variety of different demands.

- 9.6 In addition, an analysis of courts at schools identifies a further 29 courts, mainly tarmac, on high school and academy sites, which are primarily available solely for school use, although in some cases courts may be available for hire or outside usage at certain times.

**Table 9.2: Location of school tennis courts**

LOCATION	ADDRESS	COURTS	SURFACE
<b>Brayton High School</b>	Doncaster Road	1 outdoor tennis court	Tarmac
<b>Holy Family Catholic High School</b>	Longhedge Lane, Carlton	4 outdoor courts, not floodlit	Tarmac
<b>Queen Margaret's School</b>	Escrick Park, Escrick, York	4 outdoor court, not floodlit + 2 additional non floodlit	Tarmac
<b>Selby High School</b>	Leeds Road	4 outdoor tennis courts (no nets)	Tarmac
<b>Sherburn High School</b>	Garden Lane, Sherburn	7 outdoor tennis courts	Tarmac
<b>Tadcaster Grammar School</b>		7 outdoor tennis courts, not floodlit	Tarmac
<b>TOTAL COURTS</b>		29	

- 9.7 In the course of the court audit, it has also become apparent that some courts identified on previous databases have been lost in recent times and these are set out in the table below – this is not intended to be a comprehensive list, but illustrates the transient nature of court provision in some areas.

**Table 9.3: Location of lost courts**

LOCATION	ADDRESS	COURTS
<b>Barlby High School</b>	York Road, Barlby	No courts remaining, now 3G
<b>Drax Golf Club</b>	A645, Drax, Selby	No courts still being used
<b>Selby College</b>	Abbots Road, Selby	No courts
<b>Tadcaster Magnet Sports Club</b>	Queens Gardens, Tadcaster, Yorkshire	2 outdoor courts, now disused

### Teams and clubs

- 9.8 Clubs affiliated to the YLTA/British Tennis (most recent records) are as follows (see also Appendix T1):

**Table 9.4: Affiliated tennis clubs and others in Selby**

Club	Membership Nos 2013	Current Membership Nos 2015	Membership Growth since 2013
<b>Appleton Roebuck Tennis Club</b>	135	125	-10
<b>Cawood Tennis Club</b>	58	46	-12
<b>Cliffe Tennis Club</b>		57	na
<b>Riccall Tennis Club</b>	62	76	14
<b>Sherburn Tennis Club</b>	23	23	0
<b>Tadcaster Tennis Club</b>		79	na
<b>Wistow Tennis Club</b>	55	55	0

9.9 The data above was supplied by the LTA North Region, and the membership figures may differ slightly from the information set out below for individual clubs. In addition, there are two unaffiliated tennis clubs at Escrick and Selby. Local clubs field teams in a variety of local leagues in the area, including the York and District Men's and Mixed Leagues and the Fulford Ladies Invitation League. Within most clubs there is also a comprehensive programme of competitions, coaching, social and casual play. The LTA estimates that there are about 460 regular and registered adult players in Selby, and that there has been a small decline in membership over the past two years..

### **Characteristics of clubs**

9.10 The nature and characteristics of local clubs were derived from questionnaire responses (all clubs bar one responded) and reference to local club websites where available (see Appendix T2).

- It is estimated from club returns and other sources that there are about 600 regular club tennis players in the Selby area. About 60% of these are adults, and membership is broadly equal between male and female
- While the strength of a club is not necessarily measured by the number of teams it has, the clubs responding fielded 26 teams last season. There is some evidence of a decrease in teams over the past three years – six of eight of the responding clubs indicated that there were fewer teams now
- Players tend to live quite local to the club they belong to, with half living within 1 mile and almost all within 5 miles, depending on the precise location of the club. Some clubs are only set up constitutionally to accommodate members from the particular village
- Clubs tend to cater for a wide range of activities apart from competition, including casual play, teaching and coaching, (some) cardio tennis, fun activities and social events
- There is limited if any involvement by players with disabilities, particularly physical, mainly due to inaccessibility to courts and clubhouses
- All clubs responding to the questionnaire had spare capacity to accommodate additional members, in some cases to double the current numbers (although in the case of Appleton Roebuck, numbers exceed current LTA guidelines). Six clubs are actively trying to attract new members, and active promotion is undertaken through websites, GB initiatives, advertising, publicity, school visits, membership offers and other incentives
- Shortage of current players/members and the difficulty of recruiting are seen as bigger constraints to club development than lack of, or inadequate facilities and other factors
- There is a variety of different forms of tenure, but most clubs lease or rent their facilities from the Parish Council, Playing Field Committee or local landowner, or own the facility outright. There is little perceived threat to clubs in terms of security of tenure
- All but two clubs have an open access policy allowing non-members to use courts, and for the most part visitors are allowed to use club courts on a pay and play basis, fees ranging from £1 per person to £5 per court.

## Quality

9.11 The quality of existing playing and ancillary facilities was evaluated with the use of club questionnaires and visual inspection. From the comprehensive club response received, the broad conclusions are:

- playing facilities including surface, line markings, equipment, maintenance and overall court quality were mainly considered good (81%) with most of the remainder (17%) acceptable
- conversely, ancillary facilities such as changing facilities, clubhouse and parking were generally considered less favourably, with only 45% good and 35% acceptable and 20% poor,
- specific improvements already made in recent years include resurfaced courts and fencing (Appleton Roebuck), resurfaced and painted courts (Cawood), new pavilion (Cliffe), improved courts (Escrick), improved floodlighting (Riccall), new court posts (Selby), as well as minor painting of courts and facilities overall.
- specific improvements planned or ideally required and mentioned by clubs include court resurfacing (Cliffe), new clubhouse/pavilion (Riccall) and new clubhouse (Sherburn).

## Capacity

9.12 The LTA has carried out an assessment of used capacity at each of its affiliated clubs, based on the number of courts and whether they are floodlit, and their ability to accommodate the number of existing members. The results suggest that only Appleton Roebuck is at capacity and cannot accommodate additional usage.

**Table 9.5: Capacity of courts**

Club	Out door courts	Floodlit courts	Capacity	Over/under	Capacity Full
Appleton Roebuck Tennis Club	3	0	120	-5	104%
Cawood Tennis Club	0	3	180	134	26%
Cliffe Tennis Club	2	1	140	83	41%
Riccall Tennis Club	2	2	120	44	63%
Sherburn Tennis Club	0	2	120	97	19%
Tadcaster Tennis Club	3	0	120	41	66%
Wistow Tennis Club	0	3	180	125	45%

## National Governing Body Perspective – Lawn Tennis Association

9.13 The Governing Body for tennis is the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA). It is responsible for the administration of tennis across the country, including clubs, community and education – including youth. The LTA aims to get more people to play tennis more frequently Part of the new Participation strategy 2016-2018 aims to help more venues provide better facilities and playing environments for everyone at a convenient location. The plan aims to increase opportunities for people to play tennis on a regular basis at tennis clubs or park and community venues close to their home, which provide quality opportunities on safe and well-maintained tennis courts.

9.14 The strategy sets out:

- The LTA's overall vision for places to play.
- How it will grow regular participation by supporting places to play to develop and deliver the right programmes.
- How it makes its capital investment decisions to ensure it invests in the right facilities to grow the sport.
- How it will support performance programmes in the right locations.

9.15 It indicates that the LTA is committed to growing the sport to ensure that more people are playing tennis more often in facilities within their communities, being able to access quality recreational activities and coaching programmes and well-organised recreational competition. The overall aim between 2011-2016 is to ensure that, as far as practicably possible, the British population has access to and are aware of the location of high quality tennis opportunities in their local area. The main objective is access for everyone to well-maintained high quality tennis facilities which are affordable and accessible such as having a pay as you play opportunities;

9.16 The facility element of the LTA 'Places to Play' strategy focuses on:

- improving facilities at Clubs including both courts and off court facilities;
- improving tennis in community settings including developing Focus park venues bring back into use existing community tennis facilities in particular parks and working with – Local Authorities to develop affordable quality tennis programmes led by a coach operator or equivalent operating model; and ensuring; and
- sustainability: Advising places to play to ring fence funding to ensure existing facilities can be upgraded or replaced when they get to the end of their life.

9.17 LTA research reveals that many successful places to play are unable to grow or maximise their potential and their tennis programme due to site restrictions e.g.

- courts are at capacity and there is no space to expand further; and
- planning restrictions preventing the installation of floodlights or indoor courts.

9.18 The LTA has revised its 'Places to Play' Strategy to meet its new participation strategy with aims to grow 14+ participation. To support this, a new facility strategy is being produced which will focus support on those projects which can significantly increase tennis participation, and increase participation, particularly among juniors and access to coaching. To achieve this funding is prioritised towards low cost quality indoor structures, floodlighting outdoor courts and renewing parks courts. New Facility Guidelines have been produced to help Local Authorities, Clubs and Operators apply for contributory funding support in the form of grants and loans through a structured process.

9.19 **A 2015 YLTA Action Plan for Tennis in Yorkshire** - The re-organisation by the LTA from managing the development of tennis through county associations to one based in regions supported by counties has given the YLTA an opportunity to re-examine its vision, objectives and priorities. The re-examination has to be driven by realism, by understanding where 'tennis is' and the fact that the YLTA is founded on the hard work and knowledge of its volunteers. It is hoped that this YLTA plan will provide a clear indication to the LTA, the North Region and its own Councillors and Clubs (registered



venues) of what we are seeking to achieve by our own work and in partnership with the North Region.

## 9.20 The Objectives of the YLTA by 2018 and in the longer term (2030)

- By 2018, Men's Women's and Junior (U18) teams all playing in the Division 1 of their respective County Cup competitions and in the longer term winning them consistently
- Participation in tennis on average at least 1 time a week to increase over the longer term, compared with the current Active People Survey outputs (which need to be developed to reflect the differing age groups and method of measuring)
- The number of registered venues will be increased from 156 to 190 (2018) and 225 in the longer term.

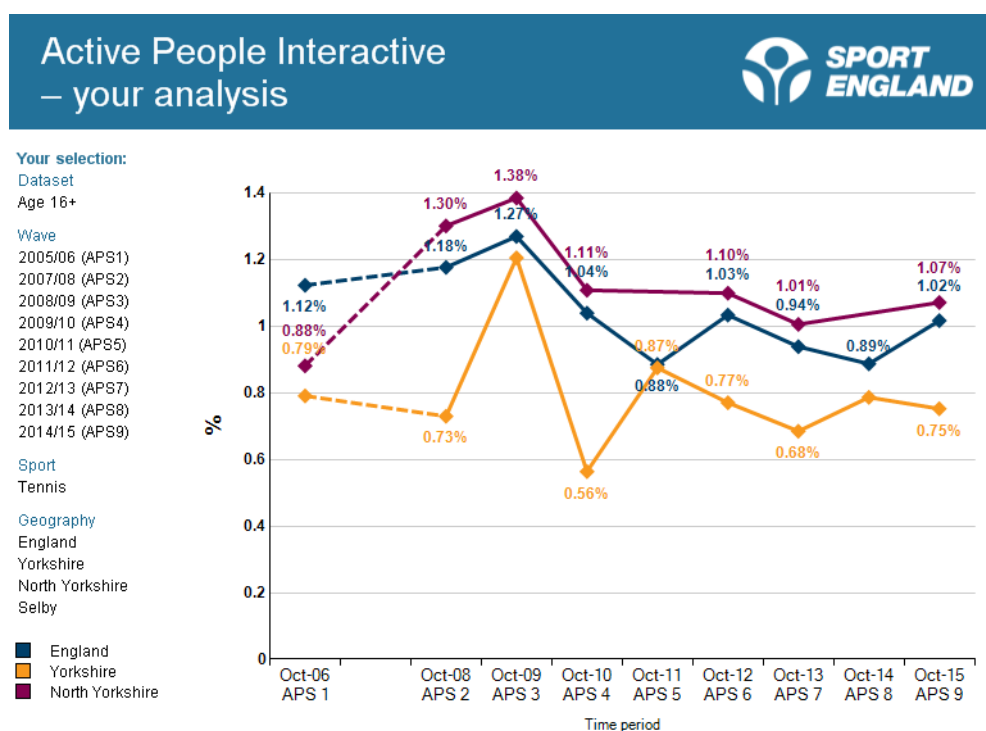
9.21 These objectives provide the focus of its efforts but to achieve them there are many supporting factors that include having the right competitions in the right venues, the best coaching (both at the development and performance levels), an amazing education programme with tennis being played by the majority of children/students with the club links and competitions in place supported by co-ordinators in the 4 sub-regions. The rollout of the Park Courts programme is another example of a supporting activity that will contribute to the objectives above (although this is not likely to have an impact in Selby).

## Demand

### Active People

9.22 The latest APS data for tennis participation demonstrates the following trends (figures relate to once per week participation by adults over 16).

**Chart 9.1: Participation in tennis**



- 9.23 Tennis participation has been in steady decline nationally since 2009 apart from a slight increase in 2012, and is now at a lower level than when APS data was first collected in 2006, with 1.02% of the adult (16+) population of England now playing once per week. The number of tennis players suffered a 9% drop in the 12 months up to 2013, with 406,000 participants nationally compared with 445,100 in 2012, resulting in Sport England considering cutting core funding. The regional levels of activity have followed the national trend, but been consistently lower. Participation in North Yorkshire has generally been higher than the national and regional levels, and currently stands at 1.07%
- 9.24 If this county figure is applied to Selby district, this corresponds to about 750 regular adult players in Selby. This is higher than the local information from clubs suggests, although it does include general participation not related to club membership (such as casual play, participation in neighbouring districts and unaffiliated play),

### Market Segmentation

- 9.25 Sport England's Market Segmentation data allows estimates to be derived of current and future likely participation in tennis according to the underlying demographic and socio economic characteristics of the population in any given area. Analysis of the outputs for Selby (see Appendix MS1):
- Existing participation – MS estimates that the likely participation levels for tennis in the wider area total about 1500, which is hugely at variance with APS and local data above. This reflects the main segments found in the area, which have a propensity to play tennis – Ben, Tim and Philip
  - There are small variations within the district, with lower participation in and around Selby town itself. (see in Map MS1)
  - According to MS, there is considerable latent demand in comparison to the amount of people that currently play – less than 50% of those adults that expressed an interest in playing tennis are currently playing. Those that would like to play but do not currently do so fall into similar groups as those that already play, with the addition of Chloe, a women's group. Latent demand is therefore for about an additional 1650 participants
  - Because of the significant difference between the empirical data from APS and local sources and the estimated data from MS, the latter should be treated with some caution. However, it appears that whatever the current levels of participation, there is some considerable latent demand for tennis, based on the market characteristics of the area.

### Comparing supply and demand

- 9.26 Unlike the main pitch sports, the assessment of tennis facilities does not lend itself to the estimation of demand used in other sports or the use of TGRs, and a more 'manual' methodology is therefore required.
- 9.27 **Current demand** - There are a number of well-established members' clubs in Selby, but no 'public' courts on traditional parks sites. Participation rates in tennis in Selby are slightly higher than the average according to APS data, though there are significantly fewer tennis players than the market profile might suggest. There appears to be ample spare capacity at existing clubs and very little evidence overall that the existing network of clubs is insufficient to meet current demand. It can be concluded that the existing supply of club courts is easily sufficient to meet current demand, and that the spare

capacity at clubs and the potential availability of other courts on school sites mean that no additional courts are required to meet current demand.

- 9.28 **Latent demand**– the Market Segmentation data identified a population profile in Selby that lends itself to potential additional demand, though this must be treated with some caution as it represents potential demand based on market characteristics, rather than actual empirical evidence.
- 9.29 **Future** participation in tennis is likely to grow as the result of population change and increased development initiatives. Tennis is a sport that appeals to a wide range of age groups, and increases in population in the Selby area to 2027/37 will affect participation totals. While the overall population is anticipated to increase by about 9.7/15%, the active population (i.e. those aged between 5 and 54 which covers most of the tennis playing age range) of the area is estimated to decline by a small amount overall to 2027, with a small increase to 2037. Population change alone is therefore unlikely to increase demand for tennis in the absence of other factors.
- 9.30 Future participation may also grow as the result of development initiatives from the LAs, LTA and other groups. Encouragement for juniors to take up the sport and the development of players up to performance levels is likely to find its way through to adult participation. Any loss of Sport England funding to the LTA would inevitably concentrate minds on reaching these future targets, and the success of those like Andy Murray, the GB Davis Cup team and others may well influence this.
- 9.31 If demand increases by say 20% overall, this would result in only another 120 players. It is very likely that this increased number of players could be accommodated in the area at existing clubs – it would mean each club/venue accommodating up to a further 15 players each which is entirely feasible for most clubs, and indeed would be welcome by them as they seek to sustain their operations.
- 9.32 Moreover, with the existence of school courts not currently used by clubs and the community, there is some scope for additional community access and this could go some way to meeting any higher levels of participation targeted by the County LTA.
- 9.33 **Meeting current and future demand - On the basis of the existing level of provision, which is considered adequate and with the potential realistic increases in demand arising from development initiatives and demographic changes, it is considered likely that the existing stock of facilities will remain broadly sufficient to meet demand now and up to 2027 (and 2037 although projecting so far into the future is unrealistic).\_ However, improvement to capacity by quality improvements (such as floodlighting), better access to school sites and improvements to their facilities (e.g. floodlighting, changing rooms) should be considered in any strategy for 2027.**

#### Summary and conclusions

- There are 24 tennis courts in community use in Selby district on club and public sites, together with at least 29 courts at secondary schools.
- There are 9 affiliated and non-affiliated clubs in the area, with current membership of about 600 players. These are considered to meet the current demand for tennis in the district, and in fact there is considerable spare capacity.
- Quality is generally good, although over half the courts are not floodlit, and therefore cannot offer tennis throughout the winter months except at weekend.

- **Improvements to courts and ancillary facilities are planned and needed in certain locations.**
- **There are no LA and other 'public' park courts available for casual tennis, although most clubs do allow open access to non members usually on a pay and play basis**
- **There are considered to be sufficient courts to meet demand now and in the future, with a potential reserve of school courts available to meet any unforeseen additional demand. However, some qualitative improvements may well be necessary in the short term and up to 2027 to ensure that tennis facilities remain fit for purpose throughout the duration of this strategy**

### **Issues for the strategy to address**

9.34 The playing pitch/outdoor sports strategy should ensure the following:

- the retention of all existing club courts to meet the needs of members' clubs;
- enhancements to some club sites by the provision of floodlights to allow year long use and development initiatives
- the potential use of existing courts on school sites and any qualitative improvements necessary to bring into wider use, including floodlighting and surface renovation;
- improvements to ancillary facilities (club house, parking, etc) and playing facilities where necessary;
- more intensive use of pay and play and free to use courts at public parks and village recreation grounds;
- areas outside the reasonable catchment of existing courts to be provided with facilities, subject to the identification of actual or potential demand; and
- the potential covering of an existing three court facility to permit more intensive use throughout the year, although the nature and type of club in Selby may preclude this, and it is not a current priority for the LTA.

## POTENTIAL DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPORTS PROVISION IN SELBY

### Existing/planned S106 developments

Application ref	Site	S106 details
2012/0400/EIA	Part of Phase 2 Residential Allocation site – SHB/1B Moor Lane/Low Street, Sherburn in Elmet	2x Junior Football pitches and surfaced and fenced ball games area equating to 465m <sup>2</sup> . S106 agreed – Layout plan included
2014/1129/OUT	Outline for residential at land west of Station Road, Carlton	Approved at Planning Committee subject to completion of S106 agreement. Indicative layout shows potential sports pitches and community allotments to be secured via S106.
(Outline) CO/2002/1185 8/19/1011C/PA	Staynor Hall development, Bawtry Road, Selby – Phase 1 Residential Allocation Site – SEL/2.	Master Plan illustrates how open space is to be accommodated on site – proposing total open space of 21 hectares. This includes both informal and formal open space together. Phase 1 and 2 provide three locally equipped areas of play and informal open space, Phase 3 provides central public open space, formal sport's pitches (2 football pitches with summer cricket pitch), local equipped areas of play and informal open space. Current Reserved Matters Scheme Phase 4 provides for a formal sports pitch (under 17 football pitch 90m x 45.5m) although there is currently another Reserved Matters scheme that seeks to relocate that particular sports pitch to the Selby College site funded by Persimmon – Master Plan included.

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

3G	Third generation artificial grass pitch
AGP	Artificial grass pitch
APP	Active Places Power. Sport England database containing information on sports facilities throughout England, also enabling analysis of data
APS	Active People Survey (Sport England participation data)
BC	Bowls club
CC	Community centre/cricket club/County Council
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy
CU	Community use – use of a sports facility by the wider community, either on a pay or play basis or available through block bookings by clubs.
ECB	England & Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football club
FDC	Football development centre
FL	Floodlit
FM	Facilities manager
FMGA	Floodlit multi use games area
FPM	Facilities Planning Model, Sport England facility modelling system, testing:
Satisfied demand	Demand for a specific type of sports facility which is met because local residents can access it within a reasonable travel time by car, public transport or on foot (20 minutes), and there is some spare capacity within the facility
Unmet demand	Demand for a facility that is not satisfied

Utilised capacity	The amount of a facility's capacity that the FPM estimates is used
Personal/relative share	The share of the opportunity which people have to use facilities, taking into account the number, size and availability of facilities, and the local population which has access to them
HC	Hockey club
HE	Higher education
HS	High School
IRB	International Rugby Board
JS	Junior school
LA	Local authority
LC	Leisure centre
LDF	Local Development Framework
LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
MS	Market Segmentation (Sport England participation data)
MUGA	Multi use games area
NC	Netball club
NFA	National Facilities Assessment (from SE's FPM)
NGB	National Governing Body (of sport)
NNDR	National non domestic rate
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework published by the Government on 27 March 2012, key part of Government reforms to make the planning system less complex and more accessible, to protect the environment and to promote sustainable growth
NTP	Non-turf (cricket) pitch
ONS	Office of National Statistics
PC/TC	Parish/Town Council
PF	Playing field(s)
PPG17	Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 published by the Government in 1991 (revised 2002) giving guidance on planning for sport, recreation and open space
PPS	Playing pitch study

RC	Rugby club
RFU	Rugby Football Union
SC	Sports club or centre or swimming club
SD(O)	Sports development (officer)
SE	Sport England
SFC	Sports Facilities Calculator. Sport England calculation system to assess demand for key community sports facilities
SG	Sports ground
S&SC	Sports and social club
TC	Tennis club
TGR	Team generation rate
VFM	Value for money
VH	Village hall