

**Ploszajski Lynch  
Consulting Ltd.**



**London Borough of Newham**

***Playing Pitch Strategy***

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Introduction

Ploszajski Lynch Consulting Ltd. was commissioned by the London Borough of Newham (LBN) to produce a Playing Pitch Strategy, to help inform the current and future priorities for provision in the borough and to plan for future needs arising from an increasing population to 2032.

## 1.2 Strategic drivers

The strategy has been initiated by LBN in response to the following specific drivers:

- The value of outdoor sport and recreation to the delivery (with partners) of LBN's corporate priorities including economic regeneration, improving public health, educational attainment and community cohesion.
- The need for an evidence base of playing pitch community infrastructure priority needs to inform Newham's Local Plan.
- The benefit of demonstrating playing pitch needs, an evidence base and a strategy in order to identify priority projects for the enhancement of existing provision or new provision. This will inform LBN's own capital programme and approaches by LBN and its partner playing pitch providers (e.g. schools, sports clubs and associations) to seeking external funding through developer contributions and/or external grants.
- The ongoing development of the sporting legacy achieved in Newham as a host borough for the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, both for formal forms of play (through clubs and leagues) and less formal forms of pitch sports playing in parks, schools and other community spaces.

## 1.3 The aim and objective of the strategy

### 1.3.1 Aim

The aim of the Strategy is to help ensure that Newham is 'a place where healthy lifestyles are promoted, health inequalities are reduced, and healthier neighbourhoods are created via a suitable range of social infrastructure facilities that meet need across the borough'.

### 1.3.2 Objective

The key objective of the Strategy is to encourage more people in Newham to get more active more often, through engagement with the playing pitch sports within the scope of the strategy as part of the wider leisure 'offer' in the borough.

## 1.4 The scope of the strategy

### 1.4.1 The sports

The sports included in the Strategy are:

- Football.
- Cricket.
- Rugby Union.
- Rugby League.
- Hockey.

### 1.4.2 The types of activity

Within these sports, the strategy will seek as far as is practicable to include consideration of all forms of play whether:

- Club and league based (formal) play and training (including indoor and outdoor nets for cricket).
- Less formal programmed forms of the respective sports (e.g. turn up and play versions such as Last Man Stands, Cage Cricket and Tag Rugby).
- Unprogrammed play by groups of residents, workers and students,

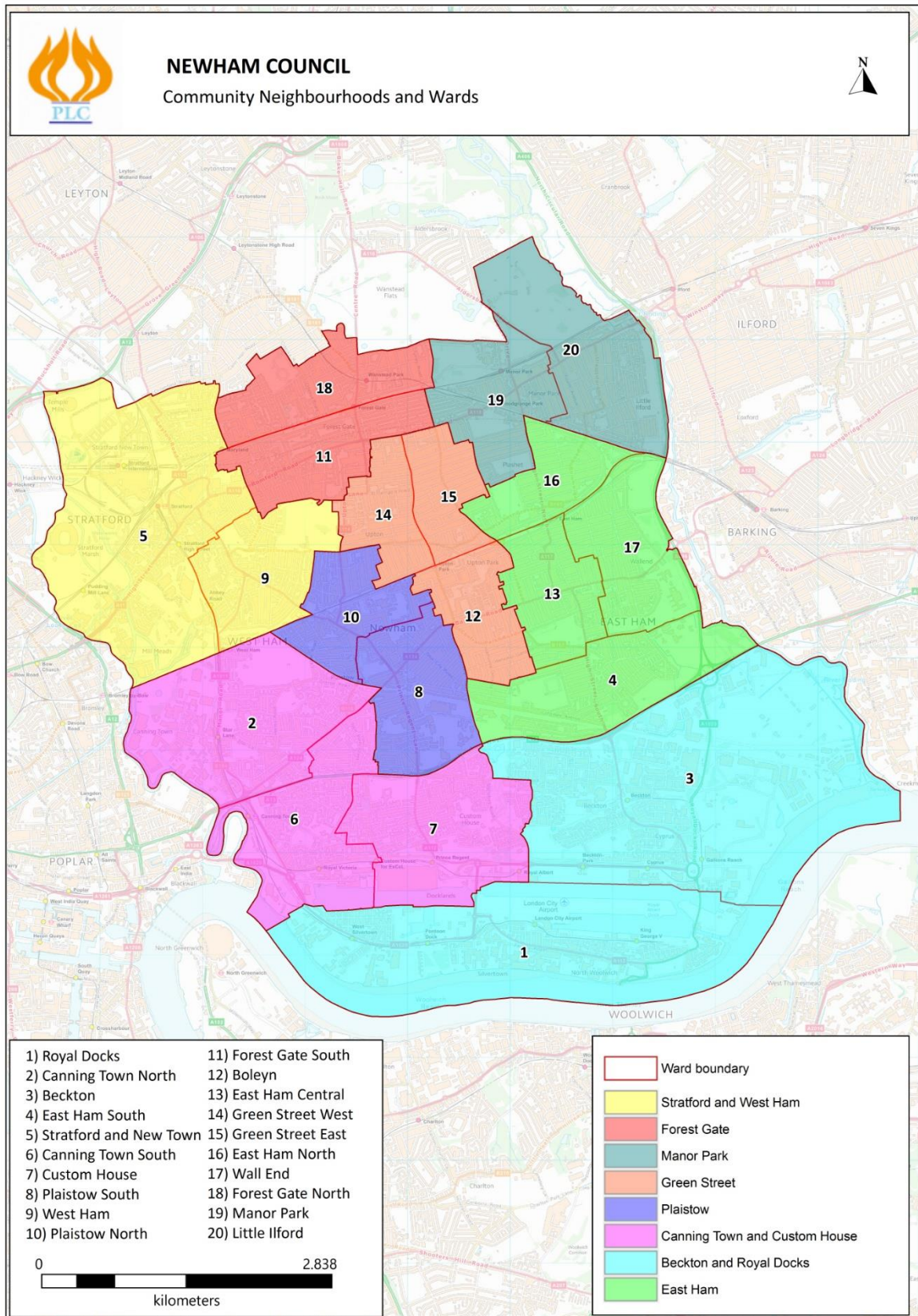
### 1.4.3 Sub-area analysis

To assess the geographical spread of pitches, provision will be mapped in the following Community Neighbourhoods in Newham, along with their constituent wards. These are as follows, with the population figures drawn from the 2011 Census:

<b><i>Community Neighbourhoods</i></b>	<b><i>Wards</i></b>	<b><i>Population</i></b>
Beckton and Royal Docks	Beckton Royal Docks	25,838
Canning Town and Custom House	Canning Town North Canning Town South Custom House	45,137
East Ham	East Ham Central East Ham North East Ham South Wall End	38,640
Forest Gate	Forest Gate North Forest Gate South	29,550
Green Street	Boleyn Green Street East Green Street West	39,022
Manor Park	Little Ilford Manor Park	37,959
Plaistow	Plaistow North Plaistow South	25,771
Stratford and West Ham	Stratford and New Town West Ham	37,883

A map of the sub-areas is below:

Figure 1: Map of Community Neighbourhoods and Wards in Newham



## **1.5 The study methodology**

The methodology for the study follows the *'Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance'* (2013) approach to playing pitch assessments, developed by Sport England. The process involves five stages and ten steps as follows:

- **Stage A** - Prepare and tailor the approach (Step 1).
- **Stage B** - Gather information on the supply of and demand for provision (Steps 2 and 3).
- **Stage C** - Assess the supply and demand information and views (Steps 4, 5 and 6).
- **Stage D** - Develop the strategy (Steps 7 and 8).
- **Stage E** - Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up-to-date (Steps 9 and 10).

## **1.6 Strategy format**

The structure of the Strategy document is as follows:

- The local context.
- Strategic influences.
- Assessing playing pitch needs in Newham.
- Football needs.
- Cricket needs.
- Rugby needs.
- Hockey needs.



## 2 THE LOCAL CONTEXT

### ***Key findings***

- More than 332,000 people were estimated to be living in Newham in 2016.
- The population is relatively young, ethnically diverse and transient - 19.5% of residents either enter or leave the borough in a typical year.
- The best estimate of population growth projects a population of more than 397,000 people in Newham by 2032 - a 19.5% increase.
- Only 13.1% of the borough is open space, compared with 39% for Greater London as a whole - space for pitches is therefore at a premium.
- Sports participation rates in Newham are low - only 27% of adults are physically active.
- Involvement with formal sports clubs is limited - most Newham residents who play sport want to do so more informally and on their own terms.

### **2.1 Introduction**

This section identifies the context within which playing pitch provision is made in Newham.

### **2.2 Background**

The London Borough of Newham is located in east London north of the River Thames, five miles east of the City of London. It was one of the six host boroughs for the London 2012 Olympic Games and most of the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park falls within the borough boundary.

### **2.3 Population**

The key population statistics are as follows:

#### **2.3.1 Current population**

The Greater London Authority (GLA) produces trend-based population projections for each ward and borough, using a long-term (10 year) migration scenario. Its '2015 Round Data Projections' (2015) estimate that the population of Newham was 332,321 in 2016.

#### **2.3.2 Age structure**

Newham has a relatively youthful age structure. The ONS 'Mid-year Population Estimates 2015' (2016) identify that the average age of borough residents is 30.8 years, compared with the London average of 34.0 years. 24.5% of the Newham population is aged 17 years or less, compared with the London figure of 22.1%.

#### **2.3.3 Gender**

The ONS 'Mid-year Population Estimates 2015' (2016) identify that 52.3% of the Newham population is male and 47.7% is female, compared with 50.5% and 49.5% respectively in London as a whole.

### 2.3.4 Population turnover

Newham has a very mobile population. The Council's '*Local Economic Assessment 2010 - 2027*' (2010) identified that according to the most recent data 19.5% of residents either entered or left the borough in a typical year.

### 2.3.5 Ethnicity

Newham's population is one of the most ethnically diverse in London. The GLA '*Mid-2016 Ethnic Data Projections*' (2016) indicate that 46.1% of the resident population is Asian/Asian British (compared with 18.5% in London as a whole), 26.8% is White (59.8% in London), 18.3% are Black/Black British (13.3% in London) and 4.8% are from mixed/multiple/other ethnic groups (8.4% in London).

### 2.3.6 Population density

The Borough is very densely populated, with 9,245 people per square kilometre, compared with 1,510 people per square kilometre in London as a whole. It ranks as the eleventh most densely populated local authority in England.

### 2.3.7 Population growth

The '*Newham Strategic Housing Market Assessment*' (2016) (SHMA), a key evidence base document of the Local Plan, identifies population and household projections as the basis for undertaking an Objective Assessment of Need to identify the quantity of housing needed (both market and affordable) in the Housing Market Area.

The GLA long-term trend migration scenario is used as the basis for the SHMA central estimates. Given this existing key evidence base document, the Playing Pitch Strategy follows this approach and adopts the same assumptions for population growth. Whilst the SHMA used 2014 data available at the time it was produced, the GLA has since published the updated 2015 figures used within this study. For completeness, both data sets have been modelled as part of the study, however the calculations relating to the 2014 figures are set out within Appendix A

Long-term 10-year migration scenarios are more likely to capture both highs and lows of population change and are not as dependent as 5-year scenarios on trends that may be unlikely to be repeated. Future playing pitch needs are modelled using both the 5-year and 10-year trend scenarios, although the 10-year trend is considered the most appropriate measure, to ensure a consistency of approach with the SHMA. The population projections generated by the 2014 and 2015 GLA projections for Newham in 2032 are as follows:

<b><i>Year of issue</i></b>	<b><i>Short-term projection</i></b>		<b><i>Long-term projection</i></b>	
	<b><i>Number</i></b>	<b><i>% Increase</i></b>	<b><i>Number</i></b>	<b><i>% Increase</i></b>
2015	405,379	22.0%	397,112	19.5%
2014	407,687	22.7%	403,244	21.3%



## 2.4 Deprivation

Although Newham is a deprived area, the Government's *English Indices of Deprivation 2015* (2015) show that the Borough improved from the second most deprived area in England in 2010 to the eight most deprived in 2015. Nevertheless, 83.3% of the resident population still lives in an area that is classified as being amongst the 20% most deprived in the country.

The *London Poverty Profile* (2013) identified that Newham has:

- The second highest child poverty rate across London (27.2%) and the highest proportion of children in working families receiving tax credits (44%).
- One of the highest unemployment rates in London (9.1%), whilst more than a third of residents in employment are low paid (35%), the highest rate in London.

## 2.5 Health

Local health indices are recorded in Public Health England's *Health Profile for Newham* (2015):

- Life expectancy at birth is lower than the national averages by 0.9 years for men and 0.6 years for women. However, there is a life expectancy gap of 6.9 years for men and 6.7 years for women between the most and least deprived parts of the Borough.
- 25.1% of year 6 children in Newham are obese, compared with a national average of 19.1%.
- 20% of adults in the Borough are obese, compared with a national average of 23%.
- As one measure of the impact of physical inactivity, there are 108 vascular mortalities per 100,000 people in Newham, compared with the London Average of 78.7 per 100,000.

## 2.6 Open space

In a densely-populated area, open space in Newham is at a premium. The *Newham Open Space Assessment* (2010) identified that there is 476ha of public open space in the Borough. This comprises only 13.1% of the overall area, compared with 39% in Greater London as a whole. Of this, 164ha of public open space in the borough is managed by LBN. There are large variations in open space availability (including pitches) between Community Neighbourhoods, with Green Street having only 0.006ha per 1,000 residents (60 square metres) compared with Beckton and Royal Docks which has 3.49ha per 1,000 residents (3,469 square metres).

## 2.7 Participation in sport and physical activity

Sport England's *Active People* survey has identified the following key measures of adult (16+) participation in sport and physical activity in Newham:

### 2.7.1 Overall participation

Overall rates of regular adult participation in sport and physical activity (at least one session of 30 minutes of moderate intensity exercise per week) show rates in Newham in 2015/16 were well below the London average at 27.0%, compared with 37.4% for the capital as a whole.

## 2.7.2 Volunteering

The percentage of the population volunteering to support sport for at least one hour a week in Newham was also below the London average. In 2012/14 it was 8.8% in 2012/14, compared with the Londonwide average of 9.4%.

## 2.7.3 Club membership

The percentage of the population belonging to a sports club in Newham was 11.6% in 2014/15, less than half of the Londonwide figure of 22.5%.

## 2.7.4 Coaching

The percentage of the Newham population receiving sports coaching in the last twelve months was 10.8% in 2014/15, well below the London average of 17.1%.

## 2.7.5 Organised competition

The percentage of the population taking part in an organised sports event in the last twelve months was 7% in 2012/13, significantly below the London figure of 9.8%.

## 2.7.6 Satisfaction

The percentage of adults who are very or fairly satisfied with sports provision in Newham in 2014/15 was 57.5%, just below the Londonwide figure of 59.5%.

## 2.7.7 Individual sports

The only individual pitch sport for which 'Active People' survey data is available for Newham is football. Despite the low overall rate of sports participation, the percentage of adults who played football in the past four weeks in Newham was 7.6% in Newham in 2014/15, above the Londonwide (7.2%) and national (6%) averages.



*'3G' pitch at Memorial Park*

## 2.8 The implications for pitch provision

The implications of the local context for pitch provision in Newham:

- **A young population:** A youthful age structure is typically associated with higher rates of participation in sport and physical activity, but high levels of child obesity in Newham suggest that activity levels in the 0-15 age groups not recorded by the 'Active People' survey are relatively low.
- **A culturally diverse, relatively deprived population:** Physical activity participation rates amongst minority ethnic groups and in deprived areas are typically lower than for the population as a whole and this is a likely causal factor in the relatively low rates in Newham.
- **Population growth:** The population is projected to increase by between 64,800 and 75,400 people by 2032. Whilst both sets of figures are used for modelling future pitch needs, the 10-year trend projections favoured in the Newham Strategic Housing Market Assessment are regarded as the best basis for forecasting.
- **Open space at a premium:** With a high density of population in Newham, there is significant pressure on green spaces in the Borough (including pitches) and this encourages the use of hard-surfaced areas (formal and informal) for pitch sport activity. The central parts of the Borough are particularly deficient in open space.
- **Overall sports participation rates:** General participation rates in sport and physical activity are low in Newham, being 72.2% of the London average.
- **Volunteering:** Volunteering rates are also below the London average, which reflects the relative lack of community capacity in a socio-economically-deprived borough.
- **Club membership, coaching and formal competitions:** Involvement with formal sports structures like club-based activity and coaching in Newham are very low, being respectively 51.1% and 63.2% of the London-wide figures. This suggests a preference for informal, loosely organised activity outside of formal club structures. This may be influenced by cost considerations, but also the high turnover of population in Newham (19.5% per annum) which mitigates against relatively long-term commitments like formal club memberships.
- **Football participation:** There is a relatively high level of demand for football. Despite other participation indices being below the London and national averages, the proportion of the population playing football in Newham is well above the wider figures.

## 3 STRATEGIC INFLUENCES

### *Key findings*

- Newham Council’s Sustainable Community Strategy has a priority to increase participation in sport and physical activity, to support improved health and well-being.
- Government planning policy requires local authorities to undertake detailed assessments of playing pitch needs and to develop planning policies that ensure their provision and retention.
- The London Plan supports pitch provision, including a focus on Hub Sites, more locally-based facilities and dual use.
- The Newham Local Plan supports the case for additional open space and community facilities that meet identified needs.

### 3.1 Introduction

This section examines the influence of relevant policies and priorities on playing pitch provision in Newham, including the impact of Londonwide and national strategies.

### 3.2 Newham’s Sustainable Community Strategy

Newham’s ‘*Sustainable Community Strategy 2010 - 2030*’ (2010) provides an overview of the priorities for the Borough until 2030. The action plan contains a number of initiatives to support the objectives of enhancing health and well-being, including:

- Increasing adult participation in sport and active recreation.
- Increasing regular volunteering.
- Increasing the number of children and young people participating in high quality PE and sport.
- Reducing obesity in primary school children.

### 3.3 Newham’s Health and Wellbeing Strategy

The Newham Partnership’s ‘*Health and Wellbeing Strategy*’ (2014) sets the direction for all services and activities which may have an impact on local residents’ health and wellbeing. The following objectives have particular relevance to sport and physical activity in the Borough:

- **Healthy lifestyles:** The ‘*Newham Community Prescriptions*’ approach will offer Newham residents alternatives to solely clinical models for improving their health and wellbeing, encouraging healthy lifestyles and social inclusion. The approach will include a wide range of physical activity options, developed through partnerships with local organisations and the London Borough of Newham.
- **Child health and wellbeing:** Embedding healthy behaviours in young people’s lifestyles at an early stage is key to preventing health problems developing later in life. Partnerships will therefore be developed to promote active and healthy lifestyles.

### 3.4 Development Plan

An area's Development Plan, comprises a number of documents containing policies against which planning decisions are made. In Newham, the Development Plan is made up of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012), the London Plan (2016) and a suite of documents that comprise Newham's Local Plan, which provide an overall framework for the area's sustainable development. The main material of relevance to the Playing Pitch Strategy is as follows:

#### 3.4.1 National Planning Policy Framework

In March 2012, the Government published the *National Planning Policy Framework*, setting out its economic, environmental and social planning policies for England. Taken together, these policies articulate the Government's vision of sustainable development, which should be interpreted and applied locally to meet local aspirations. The policies of greatest relevance to playing pitch provision and retention are as follows:

- **Health and well-being:** 'Local planning authorities should work with public health leads and health organisations to understand and take account of the health status and needs of the local population, including expected future changes, and any information about relevant barriers to improving health and well-being'.
- **Open space, sports and recreational facilities:** 'Access to good quality opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. The planning system has a role in helping to create an environment where activities are made easier and public health can be improved. Planning policies should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of sports and recreational facilities in the local area. The information gained from this assessment of needs and opportunities should be used to set locally derived standards for the provision of sports and recreational facilities'.
- 'Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land should not be built on unless:
  - An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or
  - The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
  - The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.

#### 3.4.2 National Planning Policy Guidance

In March 2014, the Government produced *National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG)* to provide additional detail to the NPPF and to guide local authorities in the plan making and decision-taking process. The guidance provides further advice on health and wellbeing matters and open space provision.

It notes that open space should be taken into account in planning for new development and considering proposals that may affect existing open space. It is for local planning authorities to assess the need for open space and opportunities for new provision, including playing pitches in their areas. In carrying out this work, they should have regard to the duty to cooperate where open space serves a wider area.

### 3.4.3 Greater London Authority - The London Plan

*The London Plan* (2016) provides a spatial development framework, adding a regional tier of planning policy in the London context. Policy 3.19 'Sports Facilities' states that:

- 'The Mayor's Sports Legacy Plan aims to increase participation in, and tackle inequality of access to, sport and physical activity in London particularly amongst groups/areas with low levels of participation'.
- 'Development proposals that increase or enhance the provision of sports and recreation facilities will be supported. Proposals that result in a net loss of sports and recreation facilities, including playing fields should be resisted. Temporary facilities may provide the means of mitigating any loss as part of proposals for permanent re-provision'.
- 'Wherever possible, multi-use public facilities for sport and recreational activity should be encouraged. The provision of sports lighting should be supported in areas where there is an identified need for sports facilities to increase sports participation opportunities, unless the sports lighting gives rise to demonstrable harm to local community or biodiversity'.
- 'Where sports facility developments are proposed on existing open space, they will need to be considered carefully in light of policies on Green Belt and protecting open space as well as the borough's own assessment of needs and opportunities for both sports facilities and for green multifunctional open space'.
- 'Within LDFs Boroughs should assess the need for sports and recreation facilities in line with the National Planning Policy Framework at the local and sub-regional levels regularly, and secure sites for a range of sports facilities'.
- 'The Mayor will work with local authorities, sports governing bodies, Sport England, sporting foundations and trusts, the private sector and others to provide investment to support the development of new facilities or the refurbishment of existing facilities. The focus will principally be small, community, park or estate-based projects. The Mayor will also support the establishment of multi-sport hub sites on playing fields in London'.
- 'Shared use of sports facilities in schools (state and independent), further and higher education institutions, commercial schemes, community centres and church halls will help reduce demand for new provision'.
- 'Up-to-date playing pitch strategies provide a robust evidence base to inform consideration of school expansion. Playing field related issues should be discussed with Sport England and playing pitch strategies should take account of Sport England's new methodology. Sport England can provide support and guidance to local authorities seeking to refresh or develop new playing pitch strategies'.



### 3.4.4 Newham's Local Plan - The Core Strategy

*Newham's Local Plan - The Core Strategy* (adopted 2012) is a key part of the Local Plan. It reflects the 'Healthy Newham' objective in the Sustainable Community Strategy, noting that 'land use policies will also seek to ensure an inspiring and accessible sporting legacy from the Olympic Games'. It also contains the following relevant planning policy:

- Policy S1 states that the council will work with delivery partners to provide 37,500 new homes in the borough between 2012 and 2032, accompanied by jobs growth and supporting infrastructure. Much of the development will take place on a number of identified strategic sites within the 'Arc of Opportunity' extending down the Lea Valley and eastwards into the former dockland areas.
- Policy SP2 on 'Healthy Neighbourhoods' recognises 'the need for new or improved inclusive open space and sports facilities to encourage greater participation in physical activity and provide relief from urban intensity'.
- Policy INF6 on 'Green Infrastructure' (which includes playing pitches) states that 'green infrastructure will be protected and strengthened over the plan period. Deficiencies in quantity, quality and access to open space in the borough will be addressed'.
- Policy INF8 on 'Community Facilities' (which include leisure provision) states that 'the Council will ensure that a suitable range of community facilities are provided to meet existing and forecast demand by:
  - Ensuring development is supported by appropriate facilities to meet local needs.
  - Ensuring all community facilities are located in places that are or will be accessible by a range of means of transport, including walking and cycling, and that development itself is accessible to all groups, prioritising town and local centre sites.
  - Retaining or re-providing community facilities where a local need exists, that can be clearly demonstrated.
  - Ensuring all new community facilities are inclusive and open and available to all members of the local community.
  - Co-locating facilities and services.
  - Entering into joint venture arrangements where co-funding is considered to be the best and most cost-effective means of delivering services.
  - Encouraging the provision of services by social enterprise and third sector organisations'.

### 3.4.5 Newham's Local Plan - Detailed Sites and Policies DPD

LBN has produced a Development Plan Document, which focuses on those parts of the Local Plan where it believes that existing planning policy should be strengthened.

- Policy INF6a - Protected Green Infrastructure identifies open space sites that should be protected from development. This includes all playing pitch sites in the borough.
- Policy INF10 - Locating Community Facilities seeks to balance the need for community infrastructure with a variety of other competing land uses and includes the following material of relevance to pitch provision in the borough:

- Policy INF10 states that ‘as a resource for community resilience, the Council will ensure that the delivery and retention of community facilities (including pitches) is carefully managed in order to ensure provision of facilities which meet the needs of the community’.
- Demonstrating the local need for new, intensified or replacement facilities must be made through evidence including:
  - That at least 67% of users will be ordinarily Newham residents.
  - That existing facilities cannot meet the identified need, taking into account the need to consider innovative approaches to provision, including alternative models in relation to scale and scope, in urban Newham.
  - Published sufficiency assessments.
  - Published strategic infrastructure plans/capital programmes.
- Where the release of a community facility to other uses is proposed, evidence must be provided that ‘the facility has been...assessed and identified as surplus as part of a broader strategic approach changing the model of provision that is considered to be of local benefit’.

### **3.5 The Government’s Sports Strategy**

The Government’s sports strategy ‘*Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation*’ (2015) sets the context for a national policy shift. It contains the following material of relevance to pitch provision in Newham:

- The Strategy seeks to ‘redefine what success looks like in sport’ by concentrating on five key outcomes: physical wellbeing, mental wellbeing, individual development, social and community development and economic development.
- The benefit of engaging those groups that typically do little or no activity is immense. Future funding will therefore focus on those people who tend not to take part in sport, including women and girls, disabled people, those in lower socio-economic groups and older people.

### **3.6 Sport England Strategy**

Sport England’s strategy ‘*Towards an Active Nation*’ (2016) contains a significant policy shift to encourage more currently inactive people to become active, with a relative move away from support for programmes aimed at existing participants. Elements of particular relevance to pitch provision in Newham are as follows:

- More money and resources will be focused on tackling inactivity because this is where the gains for the individual and for society are greatest.
- There will be greater investment in children and young people from the age of five to build positive attitudes to sport and activity as the foundations of an active life.
- Sport England will work with those parts of the sector that serve existing participants to help them identify ways in which they can become more sustainable and self-sufficient.

### 3.7 The implications for pitch provision

The implications of the key strategic influences on pitch provision in Newham are:

- ***Sustainable Communities and Health and Wellbeing Strategies:*** Enhancing the health and well-being of Newham residents is a key priority, with policy support to ensure that activities that contribute to this objective are supported. The key challenge for the pitch sports is to ensure that their ‘offer’ is sufficiently relevant and attractive to engage a wider participation base, including people who are currently inactive.
- ***National Planning policy:*** The National Planning Policy Framework sets out Government policy in relation to the statutory planning process, requires local authorities to undertake detailed assessments of playing pitch needs and to develop planning policies that ensure their provision and retention.
- ***London Planning policy:*** The London Plan contains detailed policy support for pitch provision, including a focus on Hub Sites, more locally-based facilities and dual use. There is also explicit support for producing playing pitch strategies using the methodology employed in the current Newham study.
- ***Newham Planning policy:*** The Local Plan supports the case for additional social infrastructure (that may include leisure facilities) to meet identified needs. Any planning applications for new community facilities are required to demonstrate how the new provision would be made accessible to the local community. Any applications for loss of provision are required to meet numerous policy tests.
- ***National sports policy shifts:*** The move in national sports policy towards prioritising new participants will create a challenge for the pitch sports to ensure that their ‘offer’ is sufficiently relevant and attractive to engage a wider participation base, including people who are currently inactive. Recent innovations such as walking and small-sided versions of the sports might prove more attractive than the more traditional models, but this will have implications for facilities needs in the future, because this type of activity does not need to be accommodated on formal grass pitches.



*Junior cricket in West Ham Park*

## 4 ASSESSING PLAYING PITCH NEEDS IN NEWHAM

### ***Key findings***

- The Newham Playing Pitch Strategy adopts the approach advocated in Sport England’s *Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance*.
- The methodology has been adapted, where appropriate, to reflect the high levels of informal and casual play in Newham, especially for football and cricket.
- Current demand was assessed by establishing the balance between supply and demand at each pitch site in the borough.
- Future demand was projected by taking account of population growth and participation trends, with extra needs set against any current spare capacity.
- Consultation with all local stakeholders ensured that there is local support for the findings.

### **4.1 Introduction**

This section explains the basis upon which the current playing pitch needs in Newham have been identified, along with the approach for identifying the additional provision that will be needed as a result of population growth.

### **4.2 The nature of pitch needs in Newham**

As an inner-London borough, a range of factors interact to influence both the nature of demand for pitches in Newham and the types of pitch provision that are needed to meet demand patterns. In particular:

- For football and cricket, the proportion of demand that relates to formal, organised play by clubs and teams that are affiliated to the governing body of their respective sports is relatively low compared with informal, non-affiliated casual play.
- The facilities used for casual play often differ from more formal sports use. Whilst marked-out grass pitches are sometimes used on an opportunistic, unpaid basis, informal grassed areas in parks, multi-use games areas (MUGAs) and other flat, hard-surfaced areas accommodate the majority of informal play. In many instances, the sites used are not formal sports facilities and therefore accommodate a range of other non-sports uses that restrict their carrying capacity for football and cricket.

### **4.3 Adaptations to the PPS guidance**

The methodology for calculating playing pitch needs in Sport England’s *Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance* (2013) is predicated primarily on assessing the balance between the supply of formal pitches and demand which is accurately quantifiable on the basis of recorded usage. To assess needs in Newham, therefore, the following approach has been adopted:

- For formal, organised play by clubs and teams that are affiliated to the governing body of their respective sports and where the volume and timing of their activity is recorded, the conventional supply-demand methodology has been applied in the normal way.

- For informal, non-affiliated and self-organised activity, where there is little quantifiable usage data and the location of activity is often peripatetic, as accurate as possible a picture of supply and demand has been compiled through community consultation and extrapolation of any known data. The resulting projections have then been processed using the PPS supply-demand methodology, to arrive at an assessment of the adequacy of provision.

#### **4.4 Assessing current needs**

The methodology applied to assess the supply-demand balance for pitches and related facilities therefore follows Sport England's recommended methodology, advocated in *'Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance'* (2013). To assess whether the current provision is adequate to meet existing demand an understanding of the situation at all sites available to the community needs to be developed. This is achieved by providing a brief overview for each site, which comprises:

- A comparison between the carrying capacity of a site and how much demand currently takes place there. The carrying capacity of a site is defined as the amount of play it can regularly accommodate over an appropriate period of time without adversely affecting its quality and use. Demand is defined in terms of the number of 'match equivalent' sessions at each site.
- An indication of the extent to which pitches and related facilities are being used during their respective peak periods.
- The key issues with and views on the provision at a site and its use.
- The site overviews identify the extent to which pitches are
  - Being overplayed - where use exceeds the carrying capacity.
  - Being played to the level the site can sustain - where use matches the carrying capacity.
  - Potentially able to accommodate some additional play - where use falls below the carrying capacity.

The situation at individual sites can then be aggregated to identify the position at a sub-area (Community Neighbourhood) level, to identify the potential for excess demand at some sites to be accommodated by excess supply at others in the locality. Other factors can also be assessed such as:

- Any demand being accommodated on sites with unsecured community access.
- The impact of latent or displaced demand.
- The situation at priority sites.

This analysis then enables an assessment to be made of the adequacy of existing pitch and related facility provision.

## 4.5 Assessing future needs

### 4.5.1 Assessment methodology

The methodology applied to assess the additional future needs for pitches and related facilities arising from population growth involves the approach advocated in Sport England's PPS guidance, namely:

- Establishing projected population change.
- Analysing sports development proposals and participation trends.
- Considering existing deficiencies or spare capacity.
- Taking account of any forthcoming changes to facility supply.

### 4.5.2 Assessed demand parameters

Analysis of the above factors influencing the future supply and demand for playing pitches in the borough has led to the following conclusions, which are reflected in the subsequent assessment of future needs:

- **Population change:** As outlined in section 2.3.7, the 2015 10-year trend projections favoured in the Newham Strategic Housing Market Assessment are regarded as the most accurate basis for forecasting population growth. These project a borough population of 397,112 by 2032.
- **Participation trends:** According to Sport England's 'Active People' survey, participation at a national level in all the pitch sports has remained static or fallen in the period since 2005, in some cases by quite significant margins. This means that future increases in participation in the pitch sports cannot be assumed based upon historic trends and have therefore not been factored in to projected needs.
- **Sports development initiatives:** An extensive range of sports development initiatives is delivered by a range of providers in Newham and involves all of the pitch sports. There are no firm proposals to expand or amend the current programmes and an increase in participation directly attributable to these activities has therefore not been factored in to projected future needs.
- **Changes in supply:** Any known proposed additional pitch or related facilities provision will help to accommodate some of the additional demand arising from the increased population and this has been included in the capacity assessments.

## 4.6 Delivering future needs

### 4.6.1 Process

To identify the most appropriate way to meet the additional pitch and related facilities needs arising from population growth, four sequential questions were addressed:



- **Existing deficiency or spare capacity:** To what extent do existing pitches and related facilities have any current shortfalls or any over-supply?
- **Additional needs:** What additional needs will arise from population growth?
- **Accommodating needs:** Which needs can be met in whole or part by spare capacity in existing pitches and related facilities and which will need to be met in whole or part by new provision?
- **Extra pitches:** What extra pitches and related facilities of each type are required to provide for the residual unmet demand?

#### 4.6.2 Methodology

The methodology provides quantified answers to the above questions as follows:

- **Current provision:** The adequacy of current provision and any existing spare capacity was assessed using Sport England's approved methodology, adapted where appropriate to assess informal demand and facilities.
- **Additional needs:** Additional needs were calculated by identifying the existing Team Generation Rates in the borough, to identify the number of people that are currently required to form a team of various types in each of the pitch sports. These figures have then been applied to the projected population increases of 366,791 by 2032, to calculate the gross additional team and related pitch needs arising from an extra 34,470 people.
- **Net requirements:** The net requirement for additional provision was calculated by comparing the extra required capacity to the current spare capacity where appropriate, to identify the difference.
- **Location of provision:** The location of additional pitch and related facilities needs was established by comparing the respective levels of projected population growth in each Community Neighbourhood, with the major focus of growth in Stratford and West Ham, Custom House and Canning Town and Beckton and Royal Docks.

### 4.7 Sources of information

#### 4.7.1 Consultation

Information was gathered from a wide range of consultees including:

- **Sport England:** Guidance on the assessment methodology.
- **London Borough of Newham:** Consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Leisure on policy considerations, and officers from Leisure and Sport, Planning and Grounds Maintenance on their respective areas of responsibility.
- **Governing bodies of sport:** Information on local and wider strategic priorities and local supply and demand information.

- **Individual pitch sports clubs:** Information on playing pitch usage patterns, current and future needs and opinions on quality.
- **Active Newham:** Information on sports development programmes and pitch bookings.
- **London Legacy Development Corporation:** Consultation on the Corporation's role as the local planning authority in and around the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.
- **Other local pitch and activities providers:** Information on pitch and related facilities provision from the City of London Corporation, East London Community Sports Association, West Ham United Foundation and Bonny Downs Community Association.
- **Community Neighbourhood Managers:** Information on pitch and related facilities provision in their respective areas and knowledge on informal usage.
- **Newham School Sports Association:** Information on the inter-schools competitive programmes organised by the Association.
- **School Sport Partnerships:** Information on the pitch sports programmes run by the two School Sport Partnerships in the borough.
- **Schools:** Information on playing pitch needs and aspirations and attitudes towards community use.

## 4.8 The criteria assessed

### 4.8.1 Quantity

The number of pitches and related facilities was established and cross checked against other sources provided by local stakeholders and consultees.

### 4.8.2 Quality

The quality of playing pitches was assessed by visiting every pitch in the borough during the respective playing seasons and assessing quality criteria using the recognised non-technical visual assessment criteria. The ratings for each aspect of each pitch were checked and challenged via the clubs' survey and stakeholder consultation and amended where necessary.

### 4.8.3 Accessibility

The accessibility of pitches, in particular the extent of secured community use and pricing was assessed, to identify any barriers to use that might impact on the capacity of local provision.

### 4.8.4 Access

The geographical spread of each type of pitch was mapped, the extent of catchment coverage was then determined and any gaps established.

#### 4.8.5 Strategic priority

The assessment of need and priorities for provision was identified by the governing bodies of the respective pitch sports.

#### 4.8.6 Used capacity

The used capacity of existing pitches at each site was assessed using a bespoke supply-demand spreadsheet.

### 4.9 Summary

The approach outlined above has been applied in the following sections to identify the playing pitch needs of football, cricket, rugby union, rugby league and hockey.



*Informal use of the pitches at Beckton Park South*

## 5 FOOTBALL NEEDS IN NEWHAM

### *Key findings*

- ***A preference for informal play:*** FA-affiliated clubs in Newham account for only 13% of football activity. The rest is casual, informal, schools and sports development activity.
- ***A flexible definition of pitches:*** Some football on the borough is played on formal grass pitches, but ‘3G’ football turf pitches, grassed areas in parks and multi-use games areas account for the majority of play.
- ***Formal grass pitches:***
  - There are enough pitches to meet current demand and sufficient spare capacity to cater for extra demand to 2032, with the addition of one 11v11 youth pitch.
  - Most grass pitch quality is at the lower end of ‘standard’ or ‘poor’. As a result, almost 30% of Newham teams play their ‘home’ games on pitches outside the borough.
  - Maintenance spend on Council-owned grass pitches in Newham is less than half Sport England’s recommended minimum.
- ***‘3G’ football turf pitches:***
  - Five of the seven full-sized ‘3G’ football turf pitches in the borough are on school sites with no secured community use. One pitch has no community use at all at present.
  - Hire costs are unregulated and un-coordinated, which prices out some local clubs.
  - Existing pitches meet current demand, but one extra pitch will be needed by 2032.
- ***Informal pitches and MUGAs:***
  - More than 30% of football activity in Newham is played informally on grassed areas, MUGAs and hard courts.
  - The existing levels of provision in Newham are currently meeting demand, but an extra 10.37ha of grassed areas for informal pitches and four MUGAs will be needed by 2032.
- ***Recommendations:***
  - ***Football Hubs:*** A strategic spread of Football Hubs (comprising ‘3G’ and formal grass pitches) should be considered, potentially at Beckton District Park, Memorial Playing Field, Newham Leisure Centre and Flanders Playing Field.
  - ***Grass for informal play:*** Additional informal grass pitches, with permanent goals where appropriate should be provided, close to routes used by young people.
  - ***MUGAs:*** One MUGA per Community Neighbourhood should be identified as a priority site for the Premier League’s ‘3G’ re-surfacing programme.
  - ***Safeguarding existing provision:*** Given the identified needs, planning policy should support the retention of all pitches and other facilities used for football.
  - ***Community access to education facilities:*** Formal community use agreements should be pursued to secure access to existing and any future school pitches.
  - ***‘3G’ pitch co-ordination:*** A centralised booking system and harmonised pricing structure should be developed.
  - ***FA ‘3G’ Pitch Register:*** All pitches should be tested for inclusion on the FA Register.
  - ***Football ‘Academies’ accreditation:*** The FA should establish a quality assurance system for ‘football academies’ and ‘soccer schools’.
  - ***Developer contributions:*** This strategy should provide the basis for seeking developer contributions under Section 106 or CIL arrangements, to meet additional football facility needs arising from housing growth.
  - ***Football Development Manager:*** A Football Development Manager should be jointly funded by local football stakeholders, lead in implementing the Strategy.

## 5.1 Key stakeholders

The key stakeholders delivering football in Newham are:

- **London FA:** Ten of the football clubs in the borough affiliate to the London FA.
- **Essex FA:** 34 of the football clubs in the borough affiliate to the Essex FA.
- **FA-affiliated clubs:** As indicated above, there are 44 FA-affiliated clubs in Newham, who collectively run 56 adult teams, 30 youth teams and 18 mini-soccer teams.
- **Non-affiliated teams:** Newham has a large number of non-FA-affiliated teams, who organise their own leagues and competitions, in some cases formally hiring pitches and in others using facilities on an opportunistic, unpaid basis. Based upon known levels of activity, there are 178 such teams in Newham.
- **Football development providers:** Football features strongly in sports development programmes in the borough, with the main providers comprising Active Newham and the West Ham United Foundation.
- **Football academies:** At least five commercially-run football academies operate in Newham.
- **Newham School Sports Association:** The Newham School Sports Association organises inter-school football competitions and borough representative teams.
- **School Sport Partnerships:** There are two School Sport Partnerships in Newham, co-ordinated respectively from Cumberland School and Langdon Academy. These provide a network of coaching opportunities in secondary and primary schools in the borough.
- **Further and higher education:** The University of East London, Newham Sixth Form College (NewVic) and Newham College of FE all have football teams.
- **Pitch providers:** A range of organisations provide football pitches in Newham, including the Council, schools, the City of London Corporation (West Ham Park), East London Community Sports Association (Memorial Park) and Bonny Downs Community Association (Flanders Playing Field).
- **Newham Football Development Group:** The Newham Football Development Group is a forum involving all the key local stakeholders, that provides a mechanism for co-ordinating the development of the game in the borough and is working towards the production of a Newham Football Development Plan. Its membership includes:
  - The London Borough of Newham.
  - Active Newham.
  - London FA.
  - Essex FA.
  - Local football clubs.
  - West Ham United Foundation.



- University of East London.
- East London Community Sports Association.
- Bonny Downs Community Association.
- City of London Corporation.

## 5.2 Strategic context

### 5.2.1 Football Association

The Football Association's *National Game Strategy 2015 - 2019* has a number of targets with important implications for football and its facilities needs at grassroots level (see box below).

- Boost female youth participation by 11% by 2019.
- Increase the number of over 16's playing every week by over 200,000, by offering a variety of formats by 2019.
- Create 100 new '3G' football turf pitches and improve 2,000 grass pitches by 2019.
- Develop Football Hubs in major centres of population.
- Ensure that 50% of youth football and mini-soccer matches are played on '3G' pitches by 2019.

### 5.2.2 Neighbouring local authorities

Playing pitch strategies in neighbouring boroughs identify cross-boundary issues:

#### ***Tower Hamlets***

- There are only 15 grass adult football pitches, five grass youth football pitches and one grass mini-soccer pitch in the district, supplemented by four '3G' football turf pitches.
- Pitches are used intensely throughout the year, with a summer league run by the Bangladesh Football Association.
- There is a large commercial small-sided football operation at the Powerleague Soccer Centre with 16 small-sided '3G' pitches that imports demand from Newham.
- There are high levels of informal football activity in the borough, on grass pitches, other grassed areas and hard-surfaced multi-games areas.

#### ***Hackney***

- Most football provision is based at Hackney Marshes/Mabley Green, which borders Newham and is used by many Newham teams.
- Adult football is declining and there is spare pitch capacity.
- Youth football is expanding and there is a significant amount of unauthorised use of parks and green spaces where teams turn up with their own goals and play.

#### ***Waltham Forest***

- There is little pitch provision in the sub-area bordering Newham with high levels of latent and expressed demand.
- Future demand will exacerbate the existing shortfalls.
- At present, demand is accommodated at sites like Hackney Marshes and Wanstead Flats, none of which are in Newham.



### ***Redbridge***

- Some football demand is imported from Newham, particularly at the key site of Wanstead Flats. A major football 'hub site' development is planned for Wanstead Flats, including four full-sized '3G' pitches.
- There is spare capacity equivalent to 21 adult pitches in areas bordering Newham.
- There is a significant deficit of youth and mini-soccer pitches of all sizes.

### ***Barking and Dagenham***

- There is no evidence of any imported demand from Newham.
- There is spare capacity equivalent to all types of pitches in the borough.
- An additional '3G' pitch will be needed to meet demand from the Barking Riverside development, which borders Newham.

## 5.2.3 Implications of the strategic context

The implications of the strategic context for football in Newham are as follows:

- ***Participation increases:*** The FA's target increases in participation amongst the over 16s need to be set in the context of falling demand locally for adult league football.
- ***'3G' pitches:*** The increased dependence on '3G' football turf pitches for youth football and mini-soccer matches by 2019 will fit well in an area where there are good levels of provision of such pitches, although overcoming barriers to access to facilities on school sites will be key.
- ***'Football Hubs':*** The FA is promoting the 'Football Hub' model very actively in London.
- ***Exported demand:*** Playing pitch assessments in neighbouring boroughs indicate that some demand is exported from Newham to pitches on Hackney Marshes and Wanstead Flats in particular. This has not caused capacity issues in neighbouring areas.

## 5.3 Football demand in Newham

### 5.3.1 FA-affiliated clubs and teams

The following football clubs and teams are affiliated either to the London FA or Essex FA and either draw their membership from Newham or play on pitches in the Borough. Pitch venues outside the borough are marked in italics:

<b>Club</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Match venue</b>	<b>Training venue</b>	<b>Adult teams</b>	<b>Youth (11v11) teams</b>	<b>Youth (9v9) teams</b>	<b>Mini (7v7) teams</b>	<b>Mini (5v5) teams</b>
AC Milano	Essex FA	West Ham Park	None	2	-	-	-	-
AFC Brasenose	London FA	<i>Hackney Marshes</i>	None	2	-	-	-	-
Canning Town FC	London FA	Newham Leisure Centre	Newham Leisure Centre	2	-	-	-	-
CLA Youth FC	London FA	<i>Low Hall Sports Ground</i>	None	-	1	1	-	-
Clapton FC	London FA	Old Spotted Dog Ground	Old Spotted Dog Ground	2	-	-	-	-
Clapton Rangers FC	London FA	<i>Daubeney Playing Fields</i>	<i>Daubeney Playing Fields</i>	1	-	-	-	-
Custom House FC	Essex FA	Lyle Park	Kingsford Community School	1	-	-	-	-
Custom House Community FC	Essex FA	Beckton District Park (South)	None	1	-	-	-	-
East Ham Rovers Youth FC	London FA	<i>Valentine's Park</i>	Langdon Academy	-	2	1	2	2
East Ham Working Men's Club FC	Essex FA	Brampton Manor Academy	None	1	-	-	-	-
East Londoners FC	Essex FA	Flanders Playing Field	Flanders Playing Field	1				
Essex Elite FC	Essex FA	Flanders Playing Field	None	1	-	-	-	-
FC BKT	Essex FA	<i>Hackney Marshes</i>	None	1	-	-	-	-
Flanders FC	Essex FA	Flanders Playing Field	Flanders Playing Field	1	1	2	2	1
Haringey and Waltham FC	Essex FA	Newham Leisure Centre	None	1	-	-	-	-
Hippos FC	Essex FA	Gooseley Playing Fields	None	1	-	-	-	-
Inter Plaistow FC	Essex FA	Memorial Park	Memorial Park '3G'	1	-	-	-	-
JK Silvertown FC	Essex FA	Lyle Park	None	1	-	-	-	-
Larron FC	Essex FA	West Ham Park	None	1	-	-	-	-
Liberty Stars FC	Essex FA	Beckton District Park South	None	1	-	-	-	-

<b>Club</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Match venue</b>	<b>Training venue</b>	<b>Adult teams</b>	<b>Youth (11v11) teams</b>	<b>Youth (9v9) teams</b>	<b>Mini (7v7) teams</b>	<b>Mini (5v5) teams</b>
London APSA FC	Essex FA	Flanders Playing Field <i>Wanstead Flats</i>	Flanders Playing Field	2	2	-	-	-
London Bari FC	Essex FA	Old Spotted Dog Ground	None	1	-	-	-	-
Manor Grove FC	London FA	West Ham Park	None	1	-	-	-	-
Napier FC	Essex FA	<i>Wanstead Flats</i>	None	1	-	-	-	-
Newham Borough Police FC	London FA	<i>Hylands Park, Romford</i>	<i>Hylands Park, Romford</i>	1	-	-	-	-
Newham College of FE	London FA	Flanders Playing Field West Ham Foundation '3G'	West Ham Foundation '3G'	3	-	-	-	-
Newham Royals FC	London FA	Beckton District Park South	None	1	-	-	-	-
Newham Sixth Form College FC	London FA	Flanders Playing Fields	Royal Docks Community School '3G'	4	-	-	-	-
Newham United FC	London FA	Lister Community School	Lister Community School '3G'	2	-	-	-	-
Newham Warriors Youth FC	London FA	<i>Wanstead Flats</i>	<i>Wanstead Flats</i>	-	-	1	-	-
Peacock FC	Essex FA	Memorial Park	None	1	-	-	-	-
Prostar Youth FC	London FA	Brampton Park	Memorial Park '3G'	-	2	2	-	-
Repton Park FC	Essex FA	West Ham Foundation '3G'	None	1	-	-	-	-
Rippleway Youth FC	Essex FA	<i>Wanstead Flats</i>	Memorial Park '3G'	-	2	1	-	1
Royal Docks FC	Essex FA	Beckton District Park South	None	1	-	-	-	-
Royal Falcons Youth FC	Essex FA	Beckton District Park South	Kingsford Community School '3G' Beckton District Park South New Beckton Park	-	3	2	4	3
Shpresa Youth FC	London FA	Memorial Park '3G'	Memorial Park '3G'	-	-	-	1	-
Stratford Athletic FC	London FA	<i>Hackney Marshes Mabley Green</i>	None	1	-	-	-	-
Stratford City FC	London FA	<i>Hackney Marshes Mabley Green</i>	None	1	-	-	-	-

<i>Club</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>	<i>Match venue</i>	<i>Training venue</i>	<i>Adult teams</i>	<i>Youth (11v11) teams</i>	<i>Youth (9v9) teams</i>	<i>Mini (7v7) teams</i>	<i>Mini (5v5) teams</i>
Stratford Juniors FC	London FA	<i>Hackney Marshes Mabley Green</i>	None	1	-	-	-	-
University of East London Men	London FA	<i>Hackney Marshes</i>	Memorial Park '3G'	4	-	-	-	-
University of East London Women	London FA	<i>Hackney Marshes</i>	Royal Docks Community School '3G'	1	-	-	-	-
Wanstead United FC	Essex FA	Lister Community School	None	1	-	-	-	-
West Ham United Foundation	Essex FA	West Ham Foundation '3G'	West Ham Foundation '3G'	2	-	-	-	-
West Ham United Ladies FC	Essex FA	Flanders Playing Field	West Ham Foundation '3G'	2	2	1	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	-	-	-	<b>56</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>

The key demand issues are as follows:

- **Team numbers:** There are 56 adult men's teams, no adult women's teams, 30 boy's youth teams of various ages, but no girl's youth teams and 18 mini-soccer teams that draw the majority of their membership from Newham.
- **Exported demand:** 31 of the 104 affiliated football teams in Newham (29.8%) play their home matches on pitches outside the borough. For youth teams the percentage playing in neighbouring areas is 36.7%.
- **Club to team ratios:** Newham has a disproportionately high number of smaller clubs, with a local club to team ratio of 1:2.2, compared with the London average of 1:2.9 and the national average of 1:3.3.
- **Charter Standard Clubs:** Only six (14%) clubs in Newham have achieved the FA's quality-assured Charter Standard status, which compares with the national average of 27%. In terms of teams, only 19.5% of youth and mini-soccer teams play within a Charter Standard club in Newham, compared with the national average of 81.1%. This means that the benefits of belonging to an accredited club with formalised safeguarding procedures and qualified coaches is enjoyed by only a minority of youth and mini-soccer players in Newham.
- **Demand trends:** Data from the FA's five most recent 'Football Participation Reports' (2010 to 2014) for Newham reveal that there has been a reduction in team numbers of almost 25% over five years.

### 5.3.2 Education demand

The key demand issues are as follows:

- **Schools:** There are 19 secondary schools and 67 primary schools in Newham, all of which provide some football activities on a curricular and/or extra-curricular basis.
- **Further and higher education:** The University of East London (UEL), Newham Sixth Form College (NewVic) and Newham College of FE all have football teams.
- **Impact on pitch supply:** Despite nine schools in the borough and UEL having their own '3G' pitches, most schools and all the FE/HE institutions in Newham are still dependent on off-site football pitches to deliver their curricular and extra-curricular programmes. In the case of grass pitches, this affects the carrying capacity for other football users.

### 5.3.3 Football development programmes

The key demand issues are as follows:

- **Demand levels:** Football development initiatives are run by a number of organisations in Newham, most notably Active Newham and the West Ham United Foundation. These collectively amount to an average of 39 sessions per week throughout the borough, involving around almost 1,000 attendances. These cater for all age groups and both genders.
- **Impact on pitch supply:** The majority of the sessions do not involve the use of grass pitches, with most based on '3G'/other synthetic turf pitches, multi-use games areas and indoor sports halls.

### 5.3.4 Regular non-affiliated football activity

The key demand issues are as follows:

- **Powerleague Newham:** Powerleague Newham is based at Norwegian Playing Field in Beckton and has two seven-a-side and six five-a-side '3G' pitches. The Centre runs five-a-side and seven-a-side leagues on most evenings of the week.
- **Dream Leagues:** Dream Leagues runs 7-a-side leagues at the Chobham Academy '3G' football turf pitch on Monday and Wednesday evenings, respectively involving 24 and 28 teams.
- **'LIDELAN' League:** The Liga Deportiva Latino Americana en Newham is a highly organised un-affiliated league, which runs on Saturday afternoons at the '3G' football turf pitch in Memorial Park. The league involves eight clubs and a total of 24 teams.
- **Angolan and African Leagues:** An Angolan League and an African League both hire the adult grass pitches at West Ham Park for their matches.

### 5.3.5 Football 'Academies'

A number of mostly commercially-run football academies operate in Newham, including:

- ***NLP Sports Academy (Stratford):*** The Academy is based at the ‘3G’ pitch at Chobham Academy and caters for 6-16 year olds.
- ***E20 Football Academy:*** The Academy is run by the E20 Football Foundation and is based at the ‘3G’ pitch at Chobham Academy and caters for 6-16 year olds.
- ***Pro Impact Football Academy:*** The Academy is run at the Langdon Academy ‘3G’ pitch and caters for 5-11 year olds.
- ***East London Football Academy:*** The Academy uses informal grass pitches at Little Ilford Park and caters for 5-16 year olds.
- ***Pro Elite Sport (Football):*** The Academy uses the grass pitches at Memorial Park and the ‘3G’ pitch at Royal Docks Community School and caters for 7-16 year olds.

### 5.3.6 Informal play

Informal matches and friendly play takes place throughout the borough, in some instances involving non-paid usage of formal marked out grass pitches, but more commonly utilising other grass or hard surfaces.

- ***Casual play:*** A group of players of African heritage play matches at Beckton Park South every Saturday morning, using one of the marked-out pitches, but playing across it and using small-sided goals which they supply themselves.
- ***‘Underground’ football leagues:*** Several 5-a-side and 7-a-side ‘underground’ leagues are organised using social media and generally involving the use of available multi-use games areas free of charge.

Royal Falcons FC commented that ‘due to the collapse of organised youth football in Newham over the past 15 years, it seems to have developed a unique underground football movement with high numbers of children, young adults and adults playing small sided games, tournaments and competitions in MUGA’s, cages and any other usable spaces which are usually organised through social media. As my two eldest sons take part and organise some of these events I have seen huge numbers turn out wanting to play’.

### 5.3.7 Assessment of expressed demand

Identifying the proportion of expressed demand that comes from the different types of football play in Newham is important both as a means of informing policy and to identify the optimum facilities mix to meet the respective needs. As identified above, not all types of football activity require access to formal grass pitches and it is therefore important to plan provision for other informal and non-specialist football spaces to accommodate this demand. Expressed demand has therefore been calculated as follows:

- ***Types of football activity:*** The categories of football activity considered are as follows:
  - Affiliated teams (matches and training).



- Education teams (matches and training).
  - Football development programmes.
  - Regular non-affiliated teams.
  - Infrequent informal/friendly play.
- **Unit of measurement:** To enable direct comparisons to be made between the different types of football activity, a single unit of measurement is required. The most appropriate measure is a ‘team equivalent’, which is defined as ‘the number of active players required to generate a team’. FA national data suggests that a pool of around 25 players is required to form a team (because not all players are available for every match).
  - **Calculated overall demand:** This has been assessed as follows. The numbered notes alongside each activity type set out the data underlying each calculation:

<i>Activity type</i>	<i>Note</i>	<i>Team equivalents</i>	<i>% of total local football activity</i>
Affiliated	1	104	13.0%
Education	2	205	25.6%
Football development	3	78	9.7%
Regular non-affiliated	4	216	27.0%
Irregular non-affiliated	5	198	24.7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>801</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

- **Note 1: Affiliated clubs’ demand:** There are 104 FA-affiliated teams in Newham, including teams from further and higher education institutions.
- **Note 2: Education demand:** There are five borough representative teams. There are 19 secondary schools in Newham, each with five year groups. Based on data supplied by the Newham School Sports Association, it has been established that there is the equivalent of one boys team for each year group in each school and the equivalent of two girls’ teams per school, making a total of 133 teams. There are 67 primary schools in Newham. It has been identified that there is an average of one team per school.
- **Note 3: Football development demand:** Overall demand was calculated as follows:
  - **Active Newham:** Active Newham runs an average of 15 football development sessions per week. The average attendance at each session equates to two team equivalents.
  - **West Ham Foundation:** The Foundation runs an average of 19 football development sessions per week. The average attendance at each session equates to two team equivalents.

- **Other providers:** Other providers run an average of five football development sessions per week. The average attendance at each session equates to two team equivalents.
- **Note 4: Regular non-affiliated demand:** Overall demand was calculated as follows:
- **Powerleague Newham:** The Powerleague Centre accommodates 60 team equivalents per week.
  - **Dream Leagues:** The Leagues accommodate 52 team equivalents per week.
  - **Lidelan League:** The League accommodates 24 team equivalents per week.
  - **Other leagues:** Other leagues collectively accommodate 20 team equivalents per week.
  - **Football Academies:** The academies collectively accommodate 60 team equivalents per week.
- **Note 5: Irregular non-affiliated demand:** Overall demand was calculated as follows:
- There are 13 grass areas informally used for football in Newham.
  - There are 20 publicly-accessible multi-use games areas in Newham.
  - Based upon observable levels of activity, it has been assumed that an average of three matches per week, each involving two teams, takes place at every grassed area and MUGA in the borough.
- **'Active People' data:** The above calculations can be triangulated with the 'Active People' survey data for 2015/16, which indicated that the percentage of people aged 14+ who played football in Newham in the four weeks prior to the survey was 7.6%. If this figure is applied to the 14+ population of the borough, this produces a figure of 19,068 footballers in Newham. Given that a pool of around 25 players is required to form a team, this suggests that there should be 763 team equivalents in Newham, which is relatively close to the figure of 801 derived from observed activity.
  - **FA calculation:** The calculations can be further triangulated with A calculation supplied by the FA, based upon team generation potential relating to national average football participation rates. This identifies that there should be 742 team equivalents in Newham, which again gives confidence that the 801 team equivalents estimated from observed activity is a relatively robust figure.

<i>Age group</i>	<i>Newham population</i>	<i>National average participation rate</i>	<i>Newham potential participants</i>	<i>Newham potential teams</i>
Adult (18-45)	158,748	4.7% male	3,731	287
		1.8% female	1,429	
Youth 11v11 (10-17)	31,561	18.7% male	2,951	230
		0.3% female	274	
Mini-soccer (6-9)	22,296	10.1%	2,252	225
<b>TOTAL (6-45)</b>	212,604	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>10,634</b>	<b>742</b>

### 5.3.8 Displaced demand

Displaced demand relates to play by teams or other users of playing pitches from within the study area which takes place outside of the area. Examination of the data on where Newham-based teams play their home games revealed the following:

- 30 football teams (29.8%) drawing their players from Newham play their home games on pitches outside the borough - principally at the key sites of Hackney Marshes and Wanstead Flats.
- In the case of many youth football and mini-soccer teams, central venue leagues are based either at Hackney Marshes or Wanstead Flats and therefore they have no choice over where they play.
- However, 14 adult teams (30.4%) choose to play on pitches outside the borough, in some instances citing issues of poor pitch quality as the reason.
- There is no evidence of imported demand from teams in neighbouring boroughs to use grass pitches in Newham, although 32.3% of use of '3G' football turf pitches in the borough is by clubs from neighbouring areas (see section 5.6.7 below for details).
- Far fewer teams train outside the borough, almost exclusively using '3G' pitches within Newham. This implies that there are fewer quality and supply issues with artificial turf than natural turf pitches, although the absence of any floodlit grass training areas is another factor.

### 5.3.9 Unmet demand

Unmet demand takes a number of forms:

- Teams may have access to a pitch for matches but nowhere to train or vice versa.
- Pitches of a particular size or type may be unavailable to the community.
- The poor quality and consequent limited capacity of pitches in the area and/or a lack of provision and ancillary facilities which meet a certain standard of play/league requirement.

Consultation with local clubs and pitch providers indicated that:

- There are some cost barriers to '3G' pitch hire that deter some training usage.

- There are some grass pitch quality issues which cause teams to play outside the borough, although there is no evidence that this has any inhibiting effect on participation rates.
- Pitch providers report falling demand for adult pitches and this is borne out by the 14 pitches decommissioned since 2000 at six different sites in the borough.

### 5.3.10 Latent demand

Whereas unmet demand is known to currently exist latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision.

- **Active People Survey:** Evidence from the 2015/16 ‘Active People’ survey shows that whilst general rates of adult participation in sport and physical activity in Newham are well below the London and national averages, rates of participation in football are well above the wider norms. This implies that the factors which inhibit levels of general sports participation locally, exert less of an influence on football than other activities in Newham and that as a result, latent demand for football is limited. The nature of the sport also lends itself more readily to small-sided variants and informal venues. The equipment requirement is also minimal increasing accessibility to deprived communities.
- **Demand trends:** Consultation with the London and Essex FA’s, local league secretaries, clubs and pitch providers identified that the number of FA-affiliated football teams in Newham fell by 24.6% in the period between 2010 and 2015. There is no evidence to suggest that a lack of pitch supply was a contributory factor, so there is reducing demand for this form of football. It is possible that the benefits of affiliation are perceived as insufficient in relation to the costs, or are poorly understood or communicated.
- **Non-affiliated and informal activity:** By its very nature, non-affiliated and informal football activity is difficult to quantify with any precision over time, but current activity levels (which account for almost two-thirds of football activity in the borough) appear to be very buoyant.

## 5.4 Football supply in Newham

### 5.4.1 ‘3G’ football turf pitches

All facilities other than Brampton Manor Academy have at least some community use and are used:

- Pitches with secured community access are shown in italics and bold.
- Only the Memorial Recreation Ground and West Ham United Foundation pitches are currently on the FA’s ‘3G’ pitch register, which means that none of the other pitches is sanctioned for use for matches by FA-affiliated teams, including schools. FA guidance states that ‘failure to regularly maintain and periodically test may invalidate a pitch operator’s public liability insurance, as they may not be able to demonstrate that the pitch is still fit for purpose’.

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Ward</i>	<i>Community Area</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Year built</i>
Brampton Manor Academy	Roman Road, London E6 3SQ	East Ham South	East Ham	100m x 60m	2015
Chobham Academy	40, Cheering Lane, London E20 1BD	Stratford and New Town	Stratford and West Ham	100m x 60m	2015
Forest Gate Community School	Forest Lane, London E7 9BB	Forest Gate South	Forest Gate	60m x 40m	2013
Kingsford Community School	Kingsford Way, London E6 5JG	Beckton	Beckton and Royal Docks	100m x 60m	2002
Langdon Academy	Sussex Road, London E6 2PS	Wall End	East Ham	100m x 60m	2010
<b><i>Lister Community School</i></b>	<b><i>Southern Road, London E13 9JD</i></b>	<b><i>Plaistow South</i></b>	<b><i>Plaistow</i></b>	<b><i>50m x 25m</i></b>	<b><i>2010</i></b>
<b><i>Memorial Recreation Ground</i></b>	<b><i>Grange Road, London E13 0EQ</i></b>	<b><i>Canning Town North</i></b>	<b><i>Custom House and Canning Town</i></b>	<b><i>100m x 64m</i></b>	<b><i>2009</i></b>
<b><i>Newham Leisure Centre</i></b>	<b><i>Prince Regent Lane, London E13 8SD</i></b>	<b><i>Plaistow South</i></b>	<b><i>Plaistow</i></b>	<b><i>60m x 40m</i></b>	<b><i>2008</i></b>
Powerleague Newham	Jenkins Lane, Beckton, London IG11 0AD	Beckton	Beckton and Royal Docks	2 x 42m x 31m 6 x 31m x 21m	2014
<b><i>Rokeby School</i></b>	<b><i>Barking Road, London E16 4DD</i></b>	<b><i>Canning Town North</i></b>	<b><i>Custom House and Canning Town</i></b>	<b><i>60m x 40m</i></b>	<b><i>2016</i></b>
Royal Docks Community School	Prince Regent Lane, London E16 3HS	Custom House	Custom House and Canning Town	100m x 50m	2016
St. Bonaventure's RC School	Boleyn Road, London E7 9QD	Green Street West	Green Street	50m x 25m	2010
University of East London	Sports Dock, University Way, London E16 2RD	Beckton	Beckton and Royal Docks	40m x 30m	2012
<b><i>West Ham United Foundation</i></b>	<b><i>Albatross Close, Beckton, London E6 5NX</i></b>	<b><i>Beckton</i></b>	<b><i>Beckton and Royal Docks</i></b>	<b><i>100m x 60m</i></b>	<b><i>2015</i></b>

#### 5.4.2 Other artificial turf pitches

The following pitches, whilst non-specialist surfaces, have some football usage. All facilities have at least some community use and are used. Pitches with secured community use are shown in italics and bold:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Ward</i>	<i>Community Area</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Year built</i>
<b><i>Flanders Playing Field</i></b>	<b><i>Melbourne Road, London E6 2RU</i></b>	<b><i>Wall End</i></b>	<b><i>East Ham</i></b>	<b><i>40m x 20m</i></b>	<b><i>2003</i></b>
Ravenscroft Primary School	Carson Road, London E16 4BD	Canning Town South	Custom House and Canning Town	25m x 15m	2011

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Ward</i>	<i>Community Area</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Year built</i>
Sandringham School	Sandringham Road, London E7 8ED	Manor Park	Manor Park	25m x 15m	2014
<b><i>Stratford Park</i></b>	<b><i>West Ham Lane, Stratford, London E15 4PT</i></b>	<b><i>Stratford and New Town</i></b>	<b><i>Stratford and West Ham</i></b>	<b><i>40m x 20m</i></b>	<b><i>2012</i></b>
Tunmarsh Pupil Referral Unit	Tunmarsh Lane, London E13 9NB	Plaistow South	Plaistow	40m x 20m	2010

### 5.4.3 Grass football pitches

Provision of grass pitches with regulation line markings and goalposts for organised football are as follows. Pitches shown in brackets are overmarked onto another pitch with resultant reductions in usage capacity. Pitches with secured community use are shown in italics and bold:

- ***Available for community use and used:***

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Ward</i>	<i>Community Area</i>	<i>Pitch type(s)</i>
<b><i>Beckton District Park South</i></b>	<b><i>Stansfield Road, London E6 5LT</i></b>	<b><i>Custom House</i></b>	<b><i>Custom House and Canning Town</i></b>	<b><i>5 adult football 1 youth 11v11 1 youth 9v9</i></b>
Brampton Manor Academy	Roman Road, London E6 3SQ	East Ham South	East Ham	2 adult football
<b><i>Brampton Park</i></b>	<b><i>Masterman Road, London E6 3LB</i></b>	<b><i>East Ham South</i></b>	<b><i>East Ham</i></b>	<b><i>1 mini 7v7 1 mini 5v5</i></b>
<b><i>Flanders Playing Field</i></b>	<b><i>Melbourne Road, London E6 2RU</i></b>	<b><i>Wall End</i></b>	<b><i>East Ham</i></b>	<b><i>2 adult football 1 youth 11v11 (1 youth 9v9) 2 mini-soccer</i></b>
<b><i>Gooseley Playing Fields</i></b>	<b><i>St. Alban's Avenue, London E6 6HU</i></b>	<b><i>East Ham South</i></b>	<b><i>East Ham</i></b>	<b><i>2 adult football</i></b>
Kingsford Community School	Kingsford Way, London E6 5JG	Beckton	Beckton and Royal Docks	1 youth 11v11
Langdon Academy	Sussex Road, London E6 2PS	Wall End	East Ham	1 adult football 1 youth 9v9 1 mini-soccer 5v5
<b><i>Lister Community School</i></b>	<b><i>Southern Road, London E13 9JD</i></b>	<b><i>Plaistow South</i></b>	<b><i>Plaistow</i></b>	<b><i>1 adult football 1 youth 9v9 1 mini-soccer 5v5</i></b>
<b><i>Lyle Park</i></b>	<b><i>Bradfield Road, London E16 2AX</i></b>	<b><i>Royal Docks</i></b>	<b><i>Beckton and Royal Docks</i></b>	<b><i>1 adult football</i></b>
<b><i>Memorial Recreation Ground</i></b>	<b><i>Grange Road, London E13 0EQ</i></b>	<b><i>Canning Town North</i></b>	<b><i>Custom House and Canning Town</i></b>	<b><i>2 adult football 1 youth 9v9</i></b>



<i>Facility</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Ward</i>	<i>Community Area</i>	<i>Pitch type(s)</i>
<i>New Beckton Park</i>	<i>Savage Gardens, East Ham, London E6 5NB</i>	<i>Beckton</i>	<i>Beckton and Royal Docks</i>	<i>1 youth 11v11 1 youth 9v9 2 mini 7v7 1 mini 5v5</i>
<i>Newham Leisure Centre</i>	<i>Prince Regent Lane, London E13 8SD</i>	<i>Plaistow South</i>	<i>Plaistow</i>	<i>1 adult football</i>
<i>Old Spotted Dog Ground</i>	<i>Upton Lane, London E7 9NP</i>	<i>Forest Gate South</i>	<i>Forest Gate</i>	<i>1 adult football</i>
<i>Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park</i>	<i>Stratford, London E20 2AD</i>	<i>Stratford and New Town</i>	<i>Stratford and West Ham</i>	<i>1 adult football</i>
<i>West Ham Park</i>	<i>Upton Lane, London E7 9PU</i>	<i>West Ham</i>	<i>Stratford and West Ham</i>	<i>2 adult football</i>
Winsor Primary School	East Ham Manor Way, London E6 5NA	Beckton	Beckton and Royal Docks	1 adult football

- *Available for community use and not used:*

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Ward</i>	<i>Community Area</i>	<i>Pitch type(s)</i>
Eastlea Community School	Pretoria Road, London E16 4NP	Canning Town North	Custom House and Canning Town	1 adult football 1 youth 9v9

- *Not available for community use:*

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Ward</i>	<i>Community Area</i>	<i>Pitch type(s)</i>
Cumberland School	Oban Close, London E13 8SJ	Plaistow South	Plaistow	2 adult football
Ellen Wilkinson School	Tollgate Road, Beckton, London E6 5UP	Beckton	Beckton and Royal Docks	1 mini-soccer 7v7
Hallsville Primary School	Radland Road, London E16 1EL	Canning Town North	Custom House and Canning Town	1 mini-soccer 7v7
Kaizen Primary School	Elkington Road, London E13 8LH	Plaistow South	Plaistow	1 mini-soccer 7v7
North Beckton Primary School	Harrier Way, London E6 5XG	Beckton	Beckton and Royal Docks	1 mini-soccer 7v7
Plashet Community School	Plashet Grove, London E6 1DG	East Ham North	Manor Park	2 youth football 9v9
Roman Road School	Roman Road, East Ham, London E6 3SQ	East Ham South	East Ham	1 mini-soccer 7v7
Royal Docks Community School	Prince Regent Lane, London E16 3HS	Custom House	Custom House and Canning Town	1 adult football
St. Angela's RC Ursuline School	St. George's Road, London E7 8HU	Green Street West	Green Street	1 youth football 9v9

- *Not available as disused:* Most of the pitches listed were decommissioned since 2000. In all cases the reason for discontinuation of use was falling demand.

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Community Area</b>	<b>Pitch type(s)</b>
Barking Road Recreation Ground	Burges Road, London E6 3BP	Wall End	East Ham	2 adult football
Barrington Playing Field	Barrington Road, London E12 6JS	Little Ilford	Manor Park	2 youth football 1 mini-soccer
Canning Town Recreation Ground	Prince Regent Lane, London E16 3JJ	Custom House	Custom House and Canning Town	2 adult football
Gasworks Sports Ground	Leigh Road, London E6 2AR	Wall End	East Ham	2 adult football
Keir Hardie Recreation Ground	Tarling Road, London E16 1LQ	Canning Town South	Custom House and Canning Town	2 adult football
Little Ilford Park	Church Road, London E12 6JS	Little Ilford	Manor Park	2 adult football

- **Informal grass football pitches:** Provision of grassed areas in public open spaces with one or more football goals and available for informal/casual use is as follows:

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Community Area</b>	<b>Provision</b>
Barking Road Recreation Ground	Burges Road, London E6 3BP	Wall End	East Ham	Single 5-a-side goal for casual use
Beckton District Park	Stansfield Road, London E6 5LT	Custom House	Custom House and Canning Town	Single 5-a-side goal for casual use
Canning Town Recreation Ground	Prince Regent Lane, London E16 3JJ	Custom House	Custom House and Canning Town	Single 5-a-side goal for casual use
Chandos Road Open Space	Chandos Road, London E15 1DZ	Forest Gate South	Forest Gate	Single 5-a-side goal for casual use
Cundy Road Open Space	Victoria Dock Road Canning Town E16 3DL	Custom House	Custom House and Canning Town	Single 5-a-side goal for casual use
Forest Lane Park	Magpie Close, Forest Lane Forest Gate E7 9DF	Forest Gate South	Forest Gate	Single 5-a-side goal for casual use
Hermit Road Recreation Ground	Hermit Road, Plaistow London E16 4JT	Plaistow North	Plaistow	Single 5-a-side goal for casual use
Keir Hardie Recreation Ground	Tarling Road, London E16 1LQ	Canning Town South	Custom House and Canning Town	Single 5-a-side goal for casual use
King George V Park	King George's Avenue, Custom House E16 3HR	Custom House	Custom House and Canning Town	Single 5-a-side goal for casual use
Little Ilford Park	Church Road, London E12 6JS	Little Ilford	Manor Park	Single 5-a-side goal for casual use
Plaistow Park	Greengate Street, Plaistow, London E13 0BD	Plaistow South	Plaistow	Single 5-a-side goal for casual use
Priory Park	Grangewood Street, East Ham, London E6 1QZ	East Ham North	Manor Park	Single 5-a-side goal for casual use
Star Park	Star Lane, West Ham, London E16 4NZ	Canning Town North	Custom House and Canning Town	Informal 11-a-side pitch (no changing)

#### 5.4.4 Multi-use games areas and hard courts

Provision of tarmac surfaced multi-use games areas (MUGAs) and hard courts marked for football is as follows:

- ***Facilities with community use and used:***

<b><i>Facility</i></b>	<b><i>Address</i></b>	<b><i>Ward</i></b>	<b><i>Community Area</i></b>	<b><i>Provision</i></b>
Barking Road Recreation Ground	Burges Road, London E6 2BP	Wall End	East Ham	Floodlit MUGA 40m x 20m
Brampton Park	Masterman Road, East Ham E6 3LB	East Ham South	East Ham	MUGA 40m x 20m
Canning Town Recreation Ground	Prince Regent Lane, London E16 3JJ	Custom House	Custom House and Canning Town	Floodlit MUGA 40m x 20m
Gooseley Playing Fields	St. Alban's Avenue, London E6 6HU	East Ham South	East Ham	Floodlit MUGA 40m x 20m
Keir Hardie Recreation Ground	Tarling Road, London E16 1LQ	Canning Town South	Custom House and Canning Town	Floodlit MUGA 40m x 20m
Lister Gardens	Upper Road, Plaistow, London E13 0DR	Plaistow North	Plaistow	Floodlit MUGA 40m x 20m
Little Ilford Park	Church Road, London E12 6JS	Little Ilford	Manor Park	Floodlit MUGA 40m x 20m
Memorial Recreation Ground	Grange Road, London E13 0EQ	Canning Town North	Custom House and Canning Town	Floodlit MUGA 40m x 20m
New Beckton Park	Savage Gardens, East Ham, London E6 5NB	Beckton	Beckton and Royal Docks	Floodlit MUGA 40m x 20m
Odessa Road Open Space	Odessa Road, London E7 9BL	Forest Gate North	Forest Gate	MUGA 40m x 20m
Plaistow Park	Greengate Street, Plaistow, London E13 0BD	Plaistow South	Plaistow	Floodlit MUGA 40m x 20m
Plashet Park	Plashet Grove, Forest Gate London E6 1BT	Green Street East	Green Street	Floodlit MUGA 40m x 20m
Priory Park	Grangewood Street, East Ham, London E6 1QZ	East Ham North	Manor Park	Floodlit MUGA 40m x 20m
Rathbone Street Open Space	Tant Avenue, London E16 1ET	Canning Town South	Custom House and Canning Town	Floodlit MUGA 40m x 20m
Royal Victoria Gardens	Pier Road, Off Albert Rd., Custom House E16 2NW	Royal Docks	Beckton and Royal Docks	Floodlit MUGA 40m x 20m
Sandal Street Play Area	Sandal Street, London E15 3NN	Stratford and New Town	Stratford and West Ham	Floodlit MUGA 40m x 20m
Saville Road Games Court	Saville Road, London E16 2DS	Royal Docks	Beckton and Royal Docks	Floodlit MUGA 40m x 20m
Star Park	Star Lane, West Ham, London E16 4NZ	Canning Town North	Custom House and Canning Town	Floodlit MUGA 40m x 20m
Stratford Park	West Ham Lane, Stratford E15 4PT	Stratford and New Town	Stratford and West Ham	Floodlit MUGA 40m x 20m
Valetta Grove Open Space	Valetta Grove, London E13 0JR	Plaistow North	Plaistow	MUGA 40m x 20m

- **Facilities not available for community use:**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Community Area</b>	<b>Provision</b>
Avenue Primary School	Meanley Road, London E12 6AR	Little Ilford	Manor Park	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m
Brampton Primary School	Brampton Road, London E6 3LB	East Ham South	East Ham	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m
Britannia Village Primary School	Westwood Road, London E16 2AW	Royal Docks	Beckton and Royal Docks	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m
Carpenters Primary School	Carpenter's Road, Stratford E15 2JQ	Stratford and New Town	Stratford and West Ham	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m
Central Park Primary School	Central Park Road, East Ham, London E6 3DW	East Ham South	East Ham	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m
Cleves Primary School	Arragon Road, London E6 1QP	East Ham North	East Ham	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m
Colegrave Primary School	Henniker Road, London E15 1JY	Stratford and New Town	Stratford and West Ham	3 tarmac 5-a-side pitches 60m x 40m
Curwen Primary School	Atlas Road, London E13 0AG	Plaistow North	Plaistow	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m
Drew Primary School	Wythes Road, London, E16 2DP	Royal Docks	Beckton and Royal Docks	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m
Earlham Primary School	Earlham Grove, London E7 9AW	Forest Gate South	Forest Gate	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m
Gainsborough Primary School	Gainsborough Road, London E15 3AF	Canning Town North	Custom House and Canning Town	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m
Gallions Primary School	Warwall, Beckton, London E6 6WG	Beckton	Beckton and Royal Docks	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m
Godwin Junior School	Cranmer Road, London E7 0JW	Forest Gate North	Forest Gate	2 tarmac 5-a-side pitches 40m x 40m
Maryland Primary School	Gurney Road, London E15 1SL	West Ham	Stratford and West Ham	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m
North Becton Primary School	Harrier Way, London E6 5XG	Beckton	Beckton and Royal Docks	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m
Ranelagh Primary School	Corporation Street, London E15 3DL	Plaistow North	Plaistow	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m
Sir John Heron Primary School	School Road, London E12 5PY	Little Ilford	Manor Park	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m
Southern Road Primary School	Star Lane, London E16 4NH	Canning Town North	Custom House and Canning Town	4 tarmac 5-a-side pitches 80m x 40m
St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School	Upton Ave, London E7 9PN	Green Street West	Green Street	2 tarmac 5-a-side pitches 40m x 40m
St. Helen's Catholic Primary School	Chargeable Lane, London E13 8DW	Plaistow North	Plaistow	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m
St. James's C of E Junior School	Tower Hamlets Rd, London E7 9DA	Forest Gate North	Forest Gate	2 tarmac 5-a-side pitches 40m x 40,
St. Joachim's Catholic Primary School	Shipman Rd, London E16 3DT	Custom House	Custom House and Canning Town	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m
St. Winifride's Catholic Primary School	Church Road, London E12 6HB	Manor Park	Manor Park	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Ward</i>	<i>Community Area</i>	<i>Provision</i>
Storey Primary School	Woodman Street, London E16 2LS	Royal Docks	Beckton and Royal Docks	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m
Tollgate Primary School	Barclay Road, London E13 8SA	Plaistow South	Plaistow	2 tarmac 5-a-side pitches 40m x 40m
Upton Cross Primary School	Churston Avenue, London E13 0RJ	Green Street West	Green Street	2 tarmac 5-a-side pitches 40m x 40m
Winsor Primary School	East Ham Manor Way, London E6 5NA	Beckton	Beckton and Royal Docks	Tarmac 5-a-side pitch 40m x 20m

#### 5.4.5 Artificial turf pitch quality

The quality of all '3G' football turf pitches in Newham was assessed from site visits by applying the Non-technical Visual Assessment criteria developed for use in conjunction with the *Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance*. The assessment generates an overall 'score' by evaluating the playing surface, fencing, floodlighting, disability access and changing provision. The scores equate to ratings of 'Good' for 80% or more 'Standard' for 79% - 51% and 'Poor' for 50% or below:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Rating</i>
Brampton Manor Academy	Good
Chobham Academy	Good
Forest Gate Community School	Good
Kingsford Community School	Standard
Langdon Academy	Good
Lister Community School	Standard
Memorial Recreation Ground	Good
Newham Leisure Centre	Standard
Powerleague Newham	Good
Rokeby School	Good
Royal Docks Community School	Good
St. Bonaventure's RC School	Standard
University of East London	Good
West Ham United Foundation	Good

#### 5.4.6 Grass pitch quality

The quality of all formal grass football pitches in Newham was assessed from site visits during the playing season by applying the Non-technical Visual Assessment criteria developed by the FA for use in conjunction with the *Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance*. The criteria assessed are as follows. A percentage score and associated ratings are generated as an overall measure of quality:

- **The playing surface** - This includes grass cover, pitch dimensions, gradient, evenness, length of grass, drainage and evidence of any unauthorised use.
- **The changing facilities** - This includes the availability of changing rooms, kitchen and/or bar, the interior and exterior appearance, showering and toilet provision, medical room, disability access and parking arrangements.

- **Grounds maintenance** - This includes the frequency of grass cutting, seeding, aeration, sand-dressing, fertilising, weed killing and chain harrowing.

The scores for each grass football pitch in Newham are as follows:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitch</i>	<i>Pitch quality</i>	<i>Changing quality</i>
Beckton District Park South	Adult pitch 1	Poor	Standard
	Adult pitch 2	Poor	
	Adult pitch 3	Poor	
	Adult pitch 4	Poor	
	Adult pitch 5	Poor	
	Youth (11v11) pitch	Standard	
	Youth (9v9) pitch	Standard	
Brampton Manor Academy	Adult pitch 1	Good	Good
	Adult pitch 2		
Brampton Park	Mini (7v7) pitch	Standard	-
	Mini (7v7) pitch		
Cumberland School	Adult pitch 1	Standard	Standard
	Adult pitch 2	Standard	
Eastlea Community School	Adult pitch	Standard	Standard
	Youth (9v9) pitch	Standard	
Ellen Wilkinson School	Mini (7v7) pitch	Standard	Standard
Flanders Playing Field	Adult pitch 1	Good	Good
	Adult pitch 2	Good	
	Youth (11v11) pitch	Good	
	Mini (7v7) pitch 1	Good	
	Mini (7v7) pitch 2	Good	
Gooseley Playing Fields	Adult pitch 1	Standard	Standard
	Adult pitch 2		
Hallsville Primary School	Mini (7v7) pitch	Standard	Standard
Kaizen Primary School	Mini (7v7) pitch	Good	Standard
Kingsford Community School	Youth (11v11) pitch	Standard	Standard
Langdon Academy	Adult pitch	Standard	Standard
	Youth (9v9) pitch		
	Mini (5v5) pitch		
Lister Community School	Adult pitch	Standard	Standard
	Youth (9v9) pitch		
	Mini (5v5)		
Lyle Park	Adult pitch	Standard	Standard
Memorial Recreation Ground	Adult pitch 1	Standard	Good
	Adult pitch 2	Standard	
	Youth (9v9) pitch	Standard	
New Beckton Park	Youth (11v11) pitch	Standard	Standard
	Youth (9v9) pitch	Standard	
	Mini (7v7) pitch 1	Standard	
	Mini (7v7) pitch 2	Standard	
	Mini (5v5) pitch	Standard	
Newham Leisure Centre	Adult pitch	Standard	Standard
North Beckton Primary School	Mini (7v7) pitch	Standard	Standard



<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitch</i>	<i>Pitch quality</i>	<i>Changing quality</i>
Old Spotted Dog Ground	Adult pitch	Good	Good
Plasht Community School	Youth (9v9) pitch 1 Youth (9v9) pitch 2	Standard Standard	Standard
Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park	Adult pitch	Good	Good
Roman Road School	Mini (7v7) pitch	Standard	Standard
Royal Docks Community School	Adult pitch	Standard	Standard
St. Angela's RC Ursuline School	Youth (9v9) pitch	Standard	Standard
West Ham Park	Adult pitch 1 Adult pitch 2	Standard Standard	Standard
Winsor Primary School	Adult pitch	Standard	Standard

#### 5.4.7 Consultees comments on pitch quality

The following comments on football pitch quality in Newham were made by club and school consultees:

- 'We have a great outdoor green space (Lyle Park) near the school that is underused due to the lack of time staff have to check the surface for dangerous materials' (Britannia Village Primary School).
- 'Unfortunately we had to cease all mini soccer matches at the Pyramids (Beckton Park South) due to dangerous pitch conditions' (Royal Falcons FC).
- 'Quality of local facilities is a major issue. In some cases, local facilities cause real welfare concerns for our young players' (Royal Falcons FC).
- 'Owners do not prepare pitches in summer for friendlies so we play these as far away as Redbridge' (Custom House Community FC).

#### 5.4.8 Pitch carrying capacity

The carrying capacity of pitches is related to their quality and is expressed as the number of 'match equivalents' that can be accommodated each week. The *'Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance'* indicates the following weekly carrying capacities for football pitches:

<i>Pitch Type</i>	<i>'Good' quality</i>	<i>'Standard' quality</i>	<i>'Poor' quality</i>
Adult football	3	2	1
Youth football	4	2	1
Mini-soccer	6	4	2

#### 5.4.9 Pitch maintenance

Grass football pitch maintenance in the borough is organised as follows:

- ***Council owned pitches:*** The following arrangements apply:

- The Council commissions grounds maintenance for playing fields from Serco, who also provide an attendant for changing facilities when booked. Pitches are provided to recreational standards and are in some cases are heavily over-used.
  - Active Newham is responsible for pitch bookings and keeps all hiring income. When a booking is made, Active Newham notifies Serco who prepare the pitch and the council's Grounds Maintenance Strategic Commissioning department who monitor Serco's contract obligations.
  - The annual maintenance costs for an adult football pitch are £2,353.98 and for a youth football pitch is £2,105.64. This compares with Sport England Guidance in *'Natural Turf for Sport'* (2011), which identified the need for a £5,000 to £10,500 per annum budget for undrained or pipe drained football pitches. This figure was increased in its *'Protecting Playing Fields'* (2015) guidance, to £11,700 for an adult football pitch and £9,600 for a youth football pitch.
  - There is a strategic objective to maximise use of the council's parks and open spaces but there is tension with maintaining standards in the face of falling budgets and increased use.
  - There is a great deal of informal use of parks and open spaces. This includes organised, but un-booked and un-paid, use of pitches which adversely affects pitch quality for formal bookings. Some damage is caused by unauthorised activities such as quad bikes and golf. The council's enforcement team has responsibility for policing unauthorised use but regards this as low priority.
- ***School-owned pitches:*** Schools with grass football pitches make individual arrangements for maintenance, in some cases (such as Eastlea School) relying on non-specialist site maintenance staff), in the PFI-funded schools (such as Lister Community School) relying on the maintenance contact provided under the PFI and in others depending on locally negotiated maintenance arrangements.
  - ***East London Community Sports Association:*** The Association manages the facilities at Memorial Park under contract to Newham Council and the pitch maintenance arrangements are organised by the Council through Serco, its appointed grounds maintenance contractor.
  - ***Bonny Downs Community Association:*** The Association manages the facilities at Flanders Playing Field under contract to Newham Council and organises its own pitch maintenance arrangements.
  - ***The City of London Corporation:*** The Corporation runs the facilities at West Ham Park and undertakes pitch maintenance arrangements through its own contractor.

#### 5.4.10 Pitch hire charges

The cost of hiring pitches in Newham and comparisons with other areas are as follows:

- **Grass pitches:** Grass pitch hire charges for football pitches managed by Active Newham, the Flanders Field pitches managed by the Bonny Downs Community Association and those in the three neighbouring boroughs for which details were available are tabulated below. The figures show that:

- Hire charges for Newham Council pitches for Newham clubs are cheaper than any of the neighbouring areas, which should mitigate exported demand on cost grounds.
- Hire charges levied by East London Community Sports Association at Memorial Park are set at 5% below the rates charged by Newham Council, so this should again mitigate against exported demand on cost grounds.
- Hire charges for Newham Council pitches for external clubs are at least comparable with those charged in neighbouring boroughs, which should mitigate against importing demand.
- The pitch hire costs at Flanders Field are generally higher than the charges in neighbouring boroughs, but still attract use from at least three Newham-based clubs.

<i>Pitch</i>	<i>LB Newham</i>	<i>Bonny Downs CA</i>	<i>ELCSA</i>	<i>LB Redbridge</i>	<i>LB Barking &amp; Dagenham</i>	<i>LB Waltham Forest</i>
Adult football 10 games (Newham)	£561	£790	£533	£617*	£725	£749**
Adult football 10 games (External)	£670					
Adult football single hire (Newham)	£78.50	£90	£75	£88*	£87	£112**
Youth football 10 games (Newham)	£278	£375	-	£304*	£317	£749**
Youth football 10 games (External)	£340					
Youth football single hire (Newham)	£36	£60	-	£44*	£38	£112**
Mini-soccer 10 games	-	-	-	-	£133	£215
Mini-soccer single hire	-	-	-	-	£16	£22

\* Excludes pavilion hire which is £37 per game extra.

\*\* Prices for 'Grade A' (higher quality) pitches.

- **'3G' football turf pitches:** Hire charges for selected '3G' football turf pitches in Newham and neighbouring areas (shown in italics) are as follows:

<i>Pitch</i>	<i>Hourly hire charge</i>
Royal Docks Community School (11v11)	£75
Royal Docks Community School (5v5)	£25
Memorial Park (11v11)	£66
Memorial Park (5v5)	£22
Flanders Field (6v6) adult	£40
Flanders Field (6v6) youth	£32
Forest Gate Community School (7v7)	£40
University of East London (7v7)	£40
<i>Mabley Green, Hackney (11v11)</i>	<i>£133</i>
<i>Mabley Green, Hackney (7v7)</i>	<i>£67.45</i>
<i>Seven Kings School, Ilford (7v7)</i>	<i>£45</i>

- **Consultees' comments on pitch hire charges:**

- 'Cost of local facilities is a major issue' (Royal Falcons FC).
- 'We have been long priced out of training. We don't need handouts we just need morality; some places charge up to £50 an hour for half the pitch on a week night' (Custom House Community FC).
- 'Not enough pitches and they all cost too much' (Rippleway Youth FC).

#### 5.4.11 Ownership, management and security of access

The ownership, management and security of access of all formal football pitch sites in Newham is detailed below:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Ownership</i>	<i>Management</i>	<i>Security of access</i>
Beckton District Park South	LB of Newham	Active Newham	Secured
Brampton Manor Academy	Brampton Manor Trust	Brampton Manor Academy	Unsecured
Brampton Park	LB of Newham	Active Newham	Secured
Chobham Academy	Harris Federation	Schools Plus	Unsecured
Cumberland School	LB Newham	Cumberland School	Unsecured
Eastlea Community School	LB Newham	Eastlea Community School	Unsecured
Ellen Wilkinson School	LB Newham	Ellen Wilkinson School	Unsecured
Flanders Playing Field	LB Newham	Bonny Downs Community Assoc.	Secured
Forest Gate Community School	LB Newham	Forest Fitness	Unsecured
Gooseley Playing Fields	LB of Newham	Active Newham	Secured
Hallsville Primary School	LB Newham	Hallsville Primary School	Unsecured
Kaizen Primary School	LB Newham	Kaizen Primary School	Unsecured
Kingsford Community School	LB Newham	Kingsford Community School	Unsecured
Langdon Academy	Langdon Academy	Langdon Academy	Unsecured
Lister Community School	LB Newham	Lister Community School	Secured
Lyle Park	LB of Newham	Active Newham	Secured
Memorial Recreation Ground	LB Newham	East London Community Assoc.	Secured
Newham Leisure Centre	LB Newham	Active Newham	Secured
North Beckton Primary School	LB Newham	North Beckton Primary School	Unsecured
Old Spotted Dog Ground	Clapton FC	Clapton FC	Secured
Plashet School	LB Newham	Plashet School	Unsecured
Powerleague Newham	Powerleague	Powerleague	Unsecured

<i>Site</i>	<i>Ownership</i>	<i>Management</i>	<i>Security of access</i>
Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park	London Legacy Development Corporation	London Legacy Development Corporation	Secured
Ravenscroft Primary School	LB of Newham	Ravenscroft Primary School	Unsecured
Rokeby School	LB of Newham	Rokeby School	Secured
Roman Road School	LB Newham	Roman Road School	Unsecured
Royal Docks Community School	LB Newham	Royal Docks Community School	Unsecured
St. Angela's RC Ursuline School	LB Newham	St. Angela's RC Ursuline School	Unsecured
St. Bonaventure's RC School	LB Newham	St. Bonaventure's RC School	Unsecured
Sandringham School	LB of Newham	Sandringham School	Unsecured
Tunmarsh Pupil Referral Unit	LB of Newham	LB of Newham	Unsecured
University of East London	University of East London	University of East London	Unsecured
West Ham Park	Corporation of London	Corporation of London	Secured
West Ham United Foundation	West Ham United Foundation	West Ham United Foundation	Secured

Only five out of 14 '3G' football turf pitches in Newham have secured community access, which means that in theory access could be withdrawn at any time. Of the formal grass football pitches, 33 out of 53 pitches in the borough have secured community use, which again leaves a significant proportion of pitches on education sites either with no access currently or vulnerable to loss of access.

## **5.5 Geographical distribution**

The geographical distribution of football pitches and other facilities used for football in Newham is set out in the maps below, including cross border pitches that are used by Newham teams. The key findings are as follows:

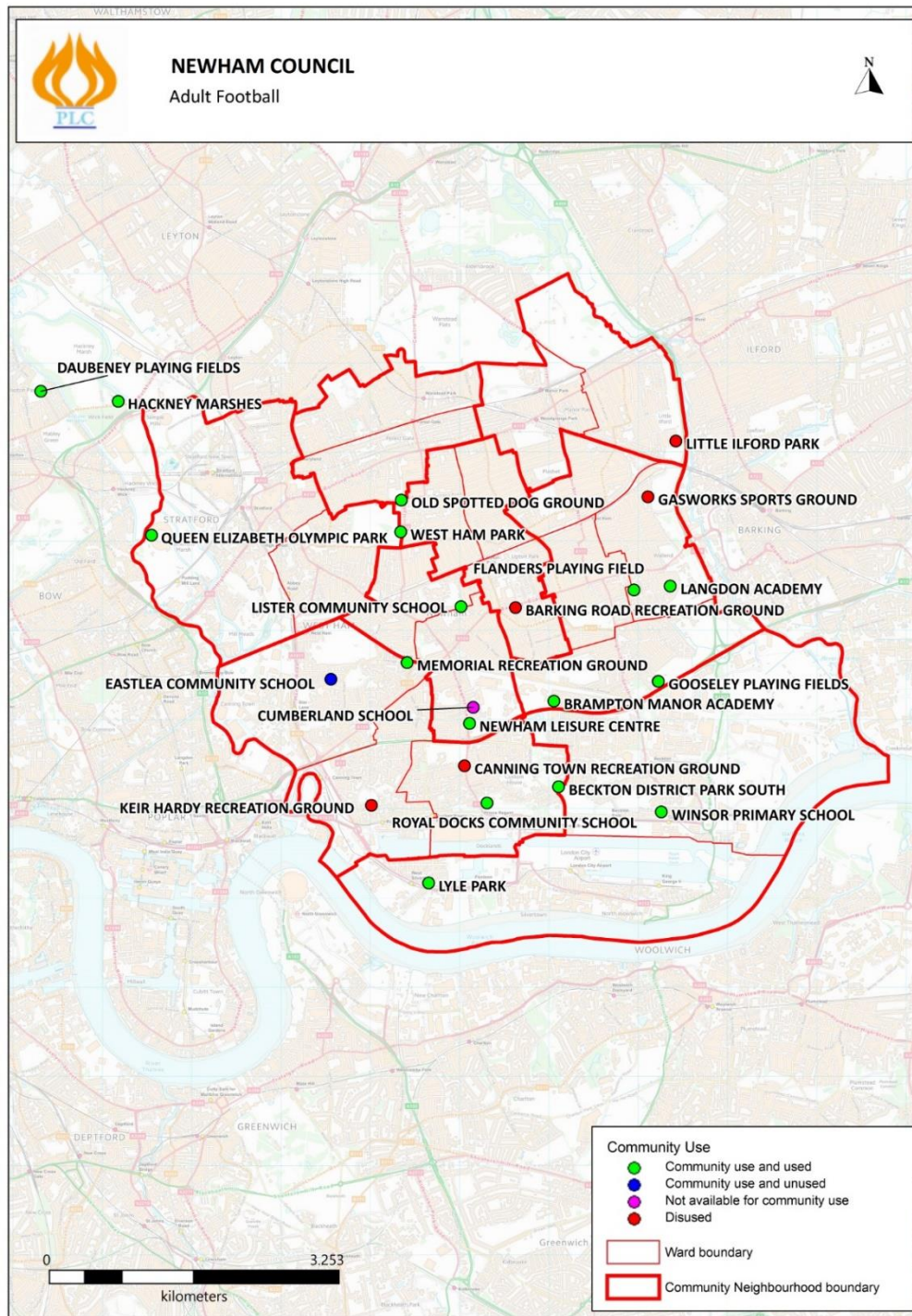
- **Adult grass pitches:** There are relatively few pitches in the north and west of the borough, but these areas are adjacent to the major pitch sites at Hackney Marshes and Daubeney Playing Fields, so there is are no significant gaps in provision.
- **Youth 11v11 grass pitches:** Provision is concentrated in the south of the borough, although pitches at Valentine's Park and Wanstead Flat cater for demand in the north.
- **Youth 9v9 grass pitches:** Pitches are all in the centre and south of the borough, but Valentine's Park and Wanstead Flats cater for demand in the north and west.
- **Mini-soccer 7v7 grass pitches:** Pitch distribution again follows the central and southern pattern, mitigated by cross-border provision at Valentine's Park and Wanstead Flats.
- **Mini-soccer 5v5 grass pitches:** There is a similar pattern to other youth and mini pitches.



- **Artificial turf pitches:** There is a good spread of provision, with six additional pitches just across the borough boundaries.
- **Informal grass pitches:** There is good geographical coverage of informal pitch sites.
- **MUGAs and hard courts used for football:** There is again widespread provision.

### 5.5.1 Adult grass pitches

Figure 2: Map of adult grass football pitches in Newham

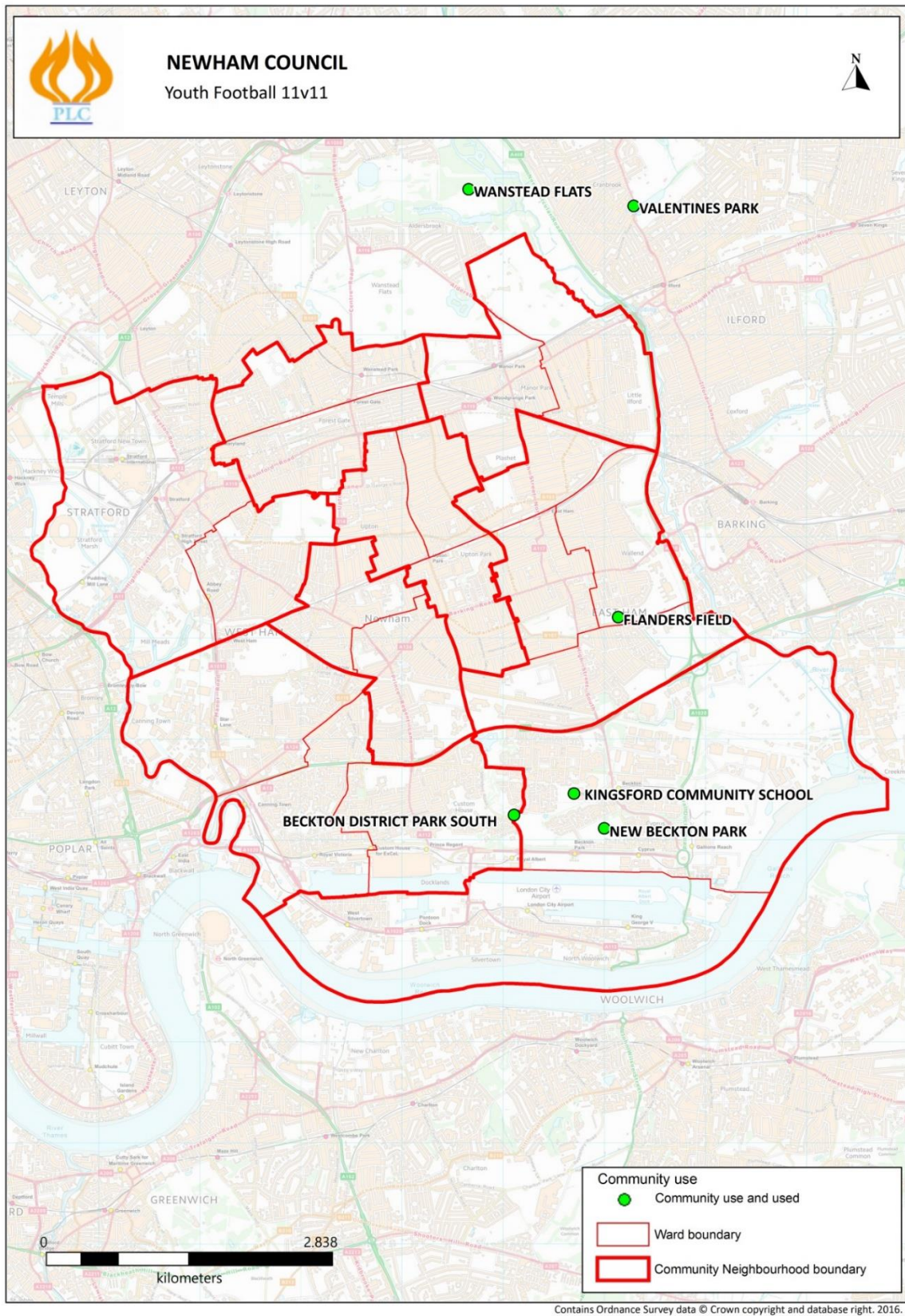


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## 5.5.2 Youth 11v11 grass pitches

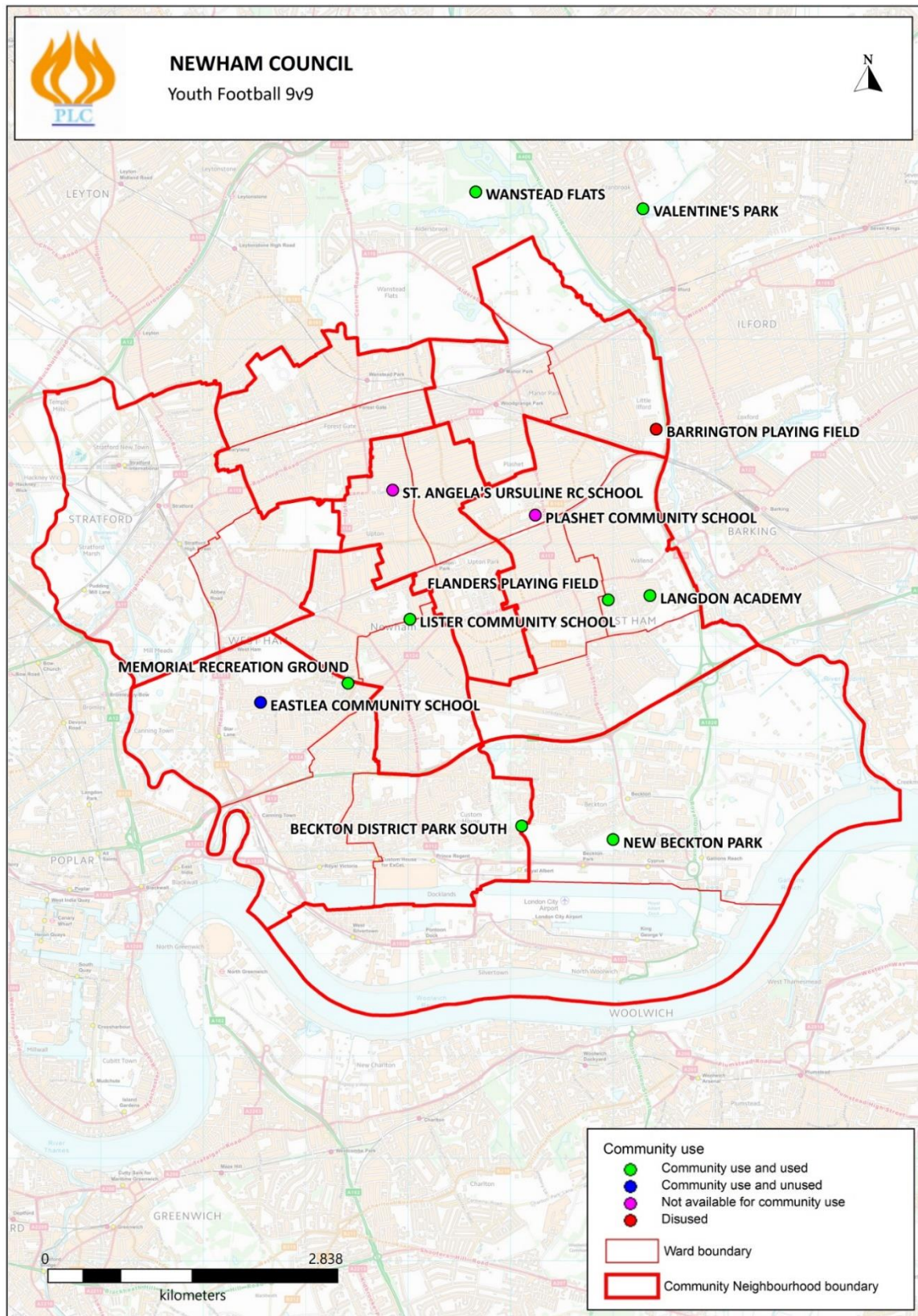
Figure 3: Map of Youth 11v11 grass football pitches in Newham





### 5.5.3 Youth 9v9 grass pitches

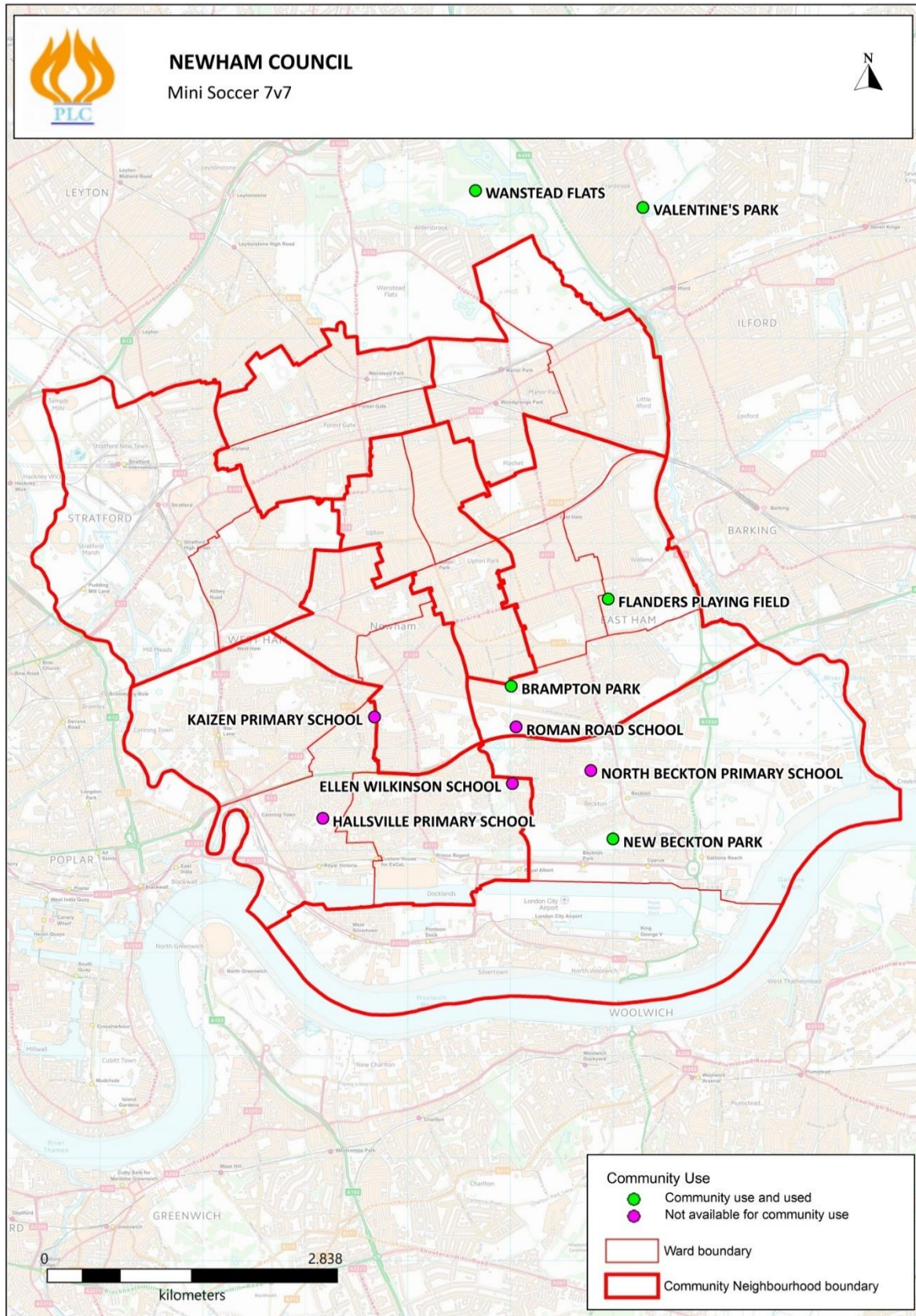
Figure 4: Map of Youth 9v9 grass football pitches in Newham





## 5.5.4 Mini-soccer 7v7 grass pitches

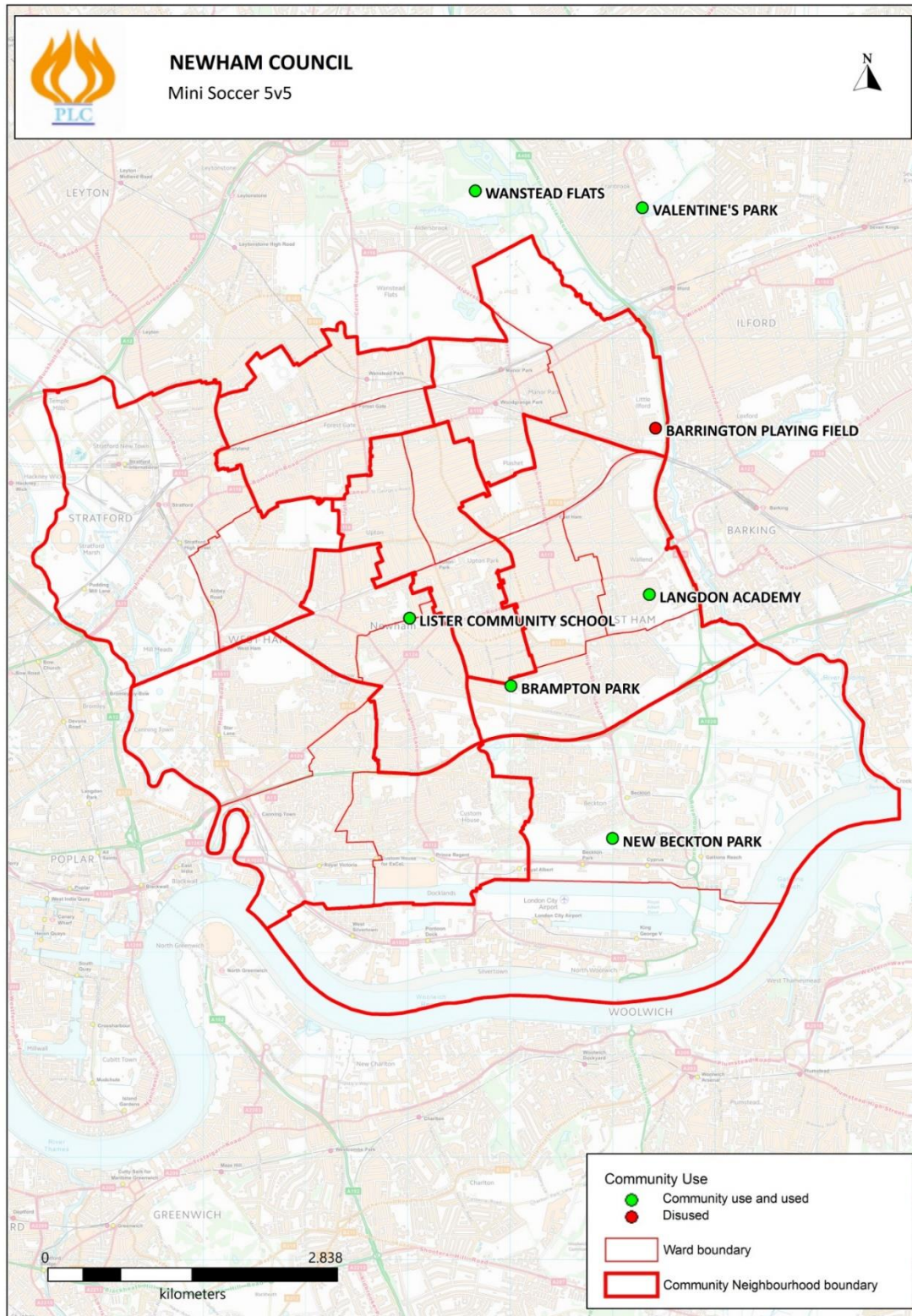
Figure 5: Map of Mini-soccer 7v7 grass football pitches in Newham





## 5.5.5 Mini-soccer 5v5 grass pitches

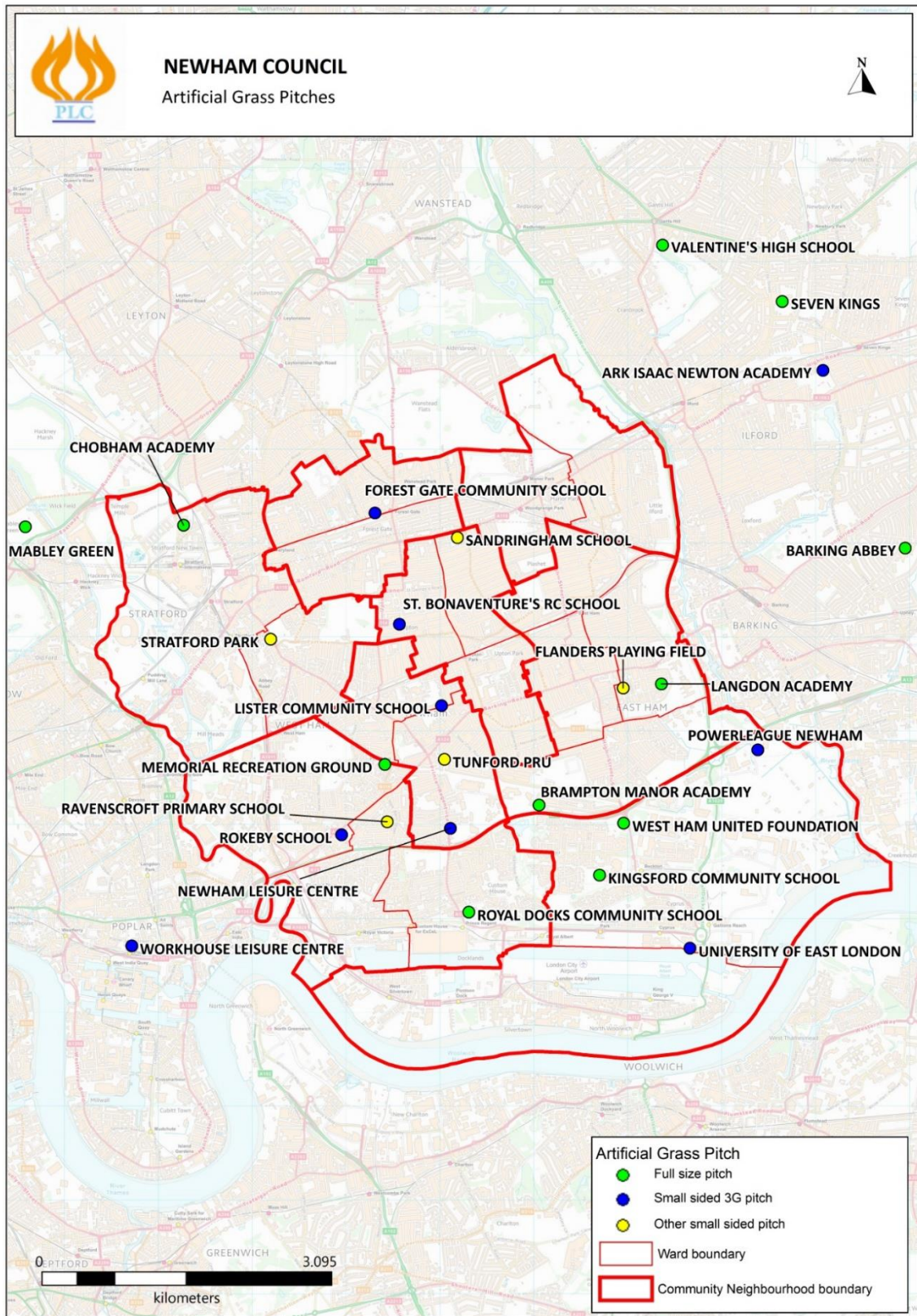
Figure 6: Map of Mini-soccer 5v5 grass football pitches in Newham





## 5.5.6 '3G' football turf pitches and other artificial pitches used for football

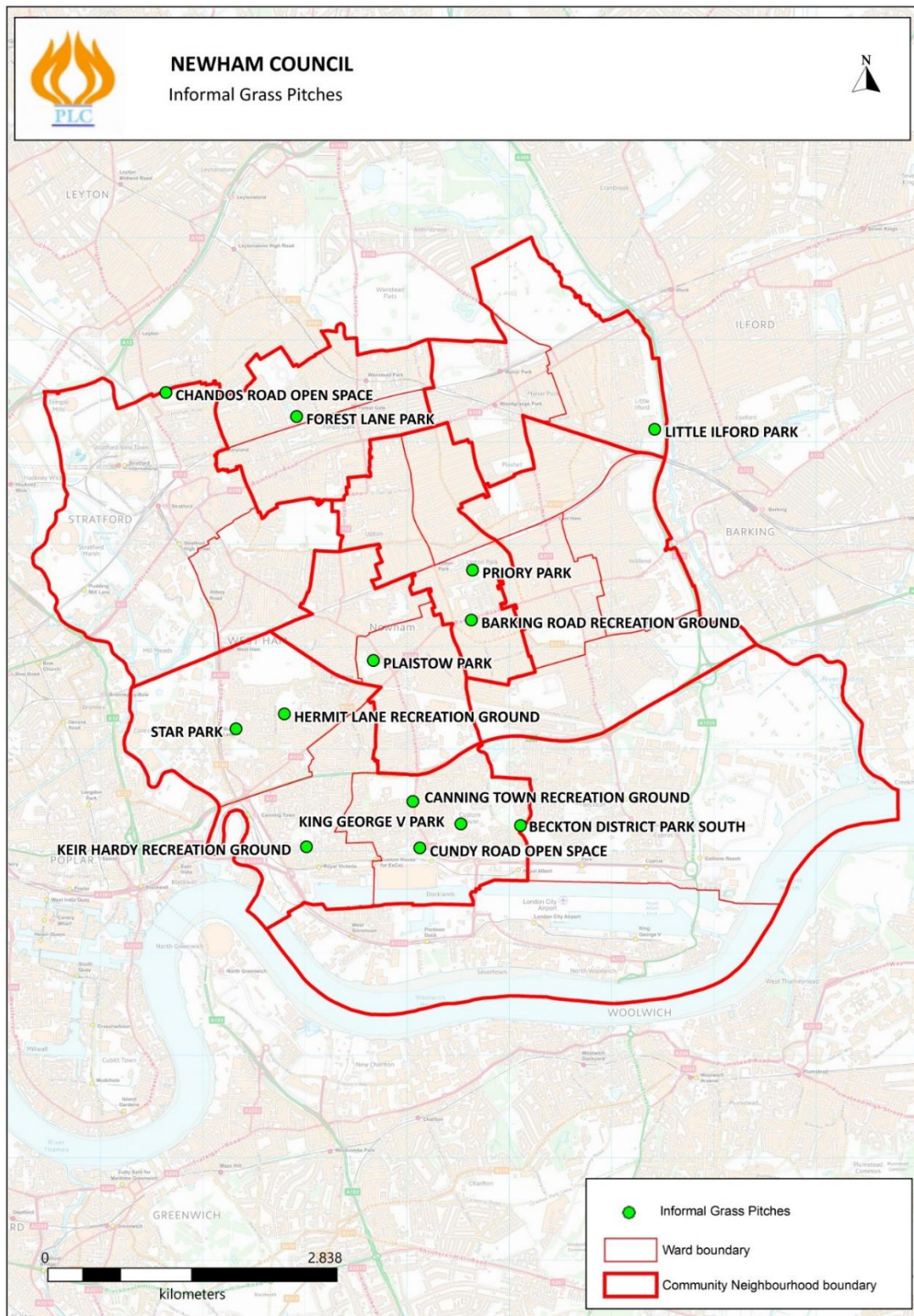
Figure 7: Map of '3G' football turf pitches and other artificial pitches used for football in Newham





## 5.5.7 Informal grass pitches

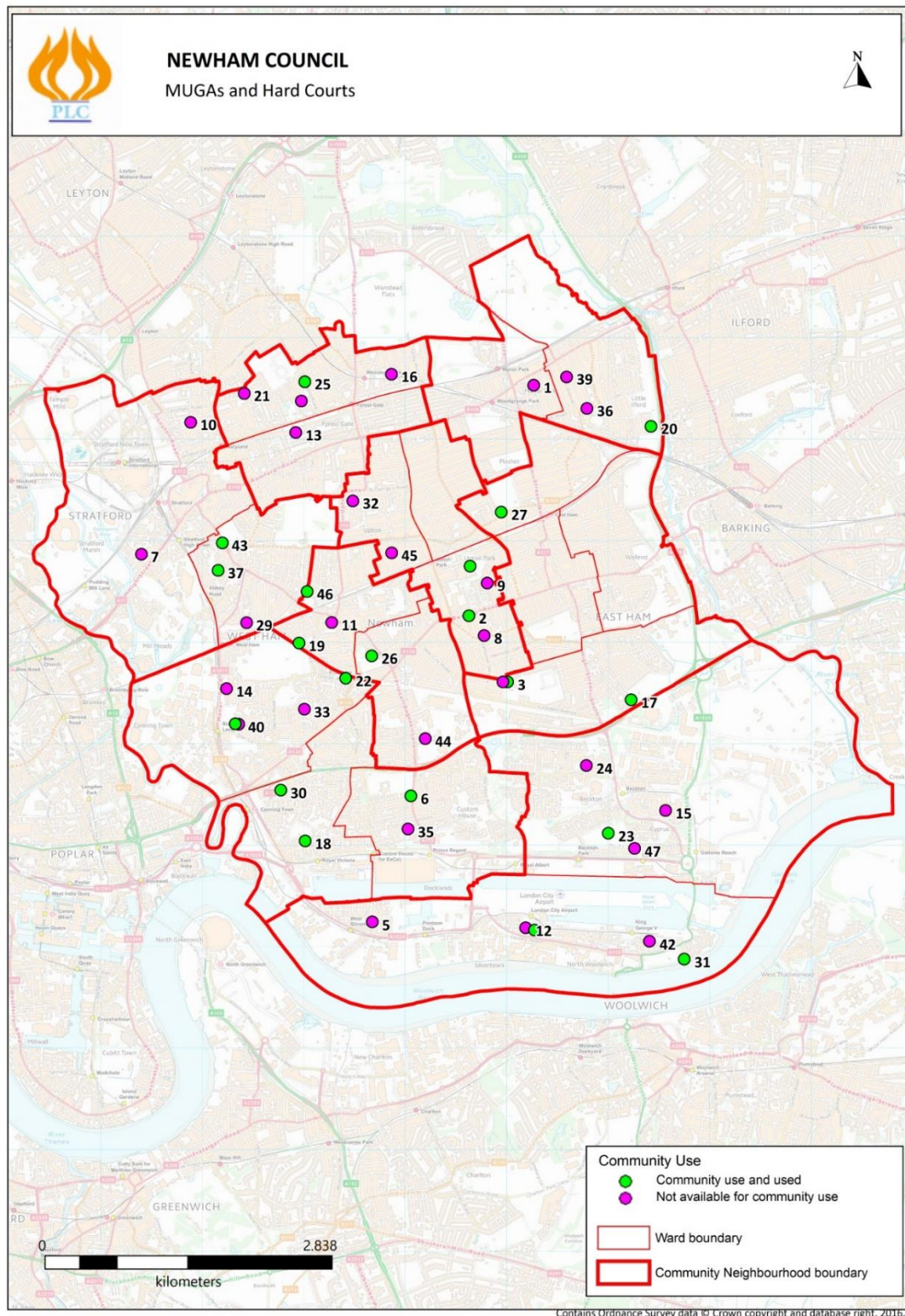
Figure 8: Map of informal grass football pitches in Newham





## 5.5.8 MUGAs and hard courts used for football

Figure 9: Map of MUGAs and hard courts used for football in Newham



## 5.6 Assessment of current needs

### 5.6.1 Introduction

To assess whether the current supply of pitches is adequate to meet existing demand an understanding of the situation at all sites available to the community needs to be developed. This is achieved by providing a brief overview for each site, which comprises:

- A comparison between the carrying capacity of a site with how much demand currently takes place there. The carrying capacity of a site is defined as the amount of play it can regularly accommodate without adversely affecting its quality and use. Demand is defined in terms of the number of ‘match equivalent’ sessions at each site.
- An indication of the extent to which pitches are being used during their peak periods.

The site overviews identify the extent to which pitches are

- **Being overplayed:** Where use exceeds the carrying capacity (highlighted in red in the tables below).
- **Being played to the level the site can sustain:** Where use matches the carrying capacity (highlighted in yellow in the tables below).
- **Potentially able to accommodate some additional play:** Where use falls below the carrying capacity (highlighted in green in the tables below).

In line with FA guidance, the following assumptions have been made in relation to the number of weekly match equivalents that can be accommodated by different quality pitches:

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>Good quality</i>	<i>Standard quality</i>	<i>Poor quality</i>
Adult	3	2	1
Youth 11v11	4	2	1
Youth 9v9	4	2	1
Mini-soccer 7v7	6	4	2
Mini-soccer 5v5	6	4	2

## 5.6.2 Adult grass pitches

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Weekly capacity</i>	<i>Weekly demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>	<i>Peak capacity</i>	<i>Peak demand</i>	<i>Peak balance</i>
Beckton District Park South	5	Custom House Community FC Liberty Stars FC Newham Royals FC Royal Docks FC Informal matches	5.0	4.0	+1.0	5.0	2.0	+3.0
Brampton Manor Academy	2	East Ham WMC FC Brampton Manor Academy	4.0	2.5	+1.5	2.0	0.5	+1.5
Flanders Playing Field	2	East Londoners FC Essex Elite FC Flanders FC London APSA FC Newham College FC NewVic FC West Ham United Ladies	6.0	7.0	-1.0	2.0	2.0	Balanced
Gooseley Playing Fields	2	Hippos FC Informal matches	4.0	2.5	+1.5	2.0	0.5	+1.5
Lister Community School	1	Newham United FC Wanstead United FC Lister Community School	2.0	2.5	-0.5	1.0	1.0	Balanced
Lyle Park	1	Custom House FC JK Silvertown FC	2.0	1.0	+1.0	1.0	1.0	+1.0
Memorial Recreation Ground	2	Inter Plaistow FC Peacock FC Pro-Elite Sport Prostar Youth FC Informal matches	4.0	3.0	+1.0	2.0	1.5	+0.5
Newham Leisure Centre	1	Canning Town FC Haringey & Waltham FC	2.0	2.0	Balanced	1.0	1.0	Balanced
Old Spotted Dog Ground	1	Clapton FC London Bari FC	3.0	3.0	Balanced	1.0	1.0	Balanced
Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park	1	West Ham United FC	3.0	3.0	Balanced	1.0	0.5	+0.5
West Ham Park	2	AC Milano Larron FC Manor Grove FC St Angela's Ursuline School St. Bonaventure's School Angolan League African League	4.0	3.5	+0.5	2.0	1.5	+0.5

The key findings are:

- Peak time utilisation is balanced at four sites, although weekly usage at the key strategic site of Flanders Playing Field shows an overall deficit.
- There is spare capacity at seven sites, which collectively amounts to 8.5 match equivalents.

- The spare capacity calculation is the same at sites with secured community access, because supply and demand are balanced at the two school sites.

### 5.6.3 Youth 11v11 grass pitches

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Weekly capacity</i>	<i>Weekly demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>	<i>Peak capacity</i>	<i>Peak demand</i>	<i>Peak balance</i>
Beckton District Park South	1	Royal Falcons Youth FC	2.0	1.0	+1.0	1.0	1.0	Balanced
Flanders Playing Field	1	Flanders FC London APSA FC West Ham United Ladies	4.0	2.5	+1.5	1.0	1.0	Balanced
New Beckton Park	1	Royal Falcons Youth FC	2.0	1.0	+1.0	1.0	1.0	Balanced

The key findings are:

- Peak time utilisation is balanced at all three sites. All sites have secured community access.
- There is no spare capacity to expand youth 11v11 football on grass pitches.

### 5.6.4 Youth 9v9 grass pitches

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Weekly capacity</i>	<i>Weekly demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>	<i>Peak capacity</i>	<i>Peak demand</i>	<i>Peak balance</i>
Beckton District Park South	1	Royal Falcons Youth FC	2.0	1.0	+1.0	1.0	1.0	Balanced
Flanders Playing Field	1*	Flanders FC * Overmarked pitch	2.0*	1.0	+1.0	1.0	1.0	Balanced
Langdon Academy	1	East Ham Rovers YFC Langdon Academy	2.0	2.0	Balanced	1.0	1.0	Balanced
Memorial Recreation Ground	1	Prostar Youth FC	2.0	0.5	+1.5	1.0	0.5	+0.5
New Beckton Park	1	No recorded use	2.0	0	+1.0	1.0	0	+1.0

The key findings are:

- Peak time utilisation is balanced at three sites, with spare capacity at two sites.
- There is collective spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalents.
- The spare capacity calculation is the same at sites with secured community access, because supply and demand is balanced at the Langdon Academy site.

### 5.6.5 Mini-soccer 7v7 grass pitches

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Weekly capacity</i>	<i>Weekly demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>	<i>Peak capacity</i>	<i>Peak demand</i>	<i>Peak balance</i>
Brampton Park	2	No recorded use	8.0	0	+8.0	2.0	0	+2.0
Flanders Playing Field	2	Flanders FC	12.0	2.0	+10.0	2.0	2.0	Balanced
New Beckton Park	1	Royal Falcons Youth FC	4.0	2.0	+2.0	1.0	2.0	-1.0

The key findings are:

- There is a peak time deficit at New Beckton Park that is managed by scheduling two games consecutively in the peak period.
- Peak demand is balanced at Flanders Playing Field, although there is substantial off-peak capacity at that site.
- All sites have secured community access.

### 5.6.6 Mini-soccer 5v5 grass pitches

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Weekly capacity</i>	<i>Weekly demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>	<i>Peak capacity</i>	<i>Peak demand</i>	<i>Peak balance</i>
Langdon Academy	1	East Ham Rovers YFC	4.0	1.0	+3.0	1.0	0.5	+0.5
New Beckton Park	1	Royal Falcons Youth FC	4.0	1.5	+2.5	1.0	1.5	-0.5

The key findings are:

- There is a peak time deficit at New Beckton Park that is managed by scheduling two games consecutively in the peak period.
- There is limited spare capacity at Langdon Academy.
- There is a deficit in provision if only the site with secured community access is included.

### 5.6.7 '3G' football turf pitches

The methodology for assessing the used capacity of full-sized artificial turf pitches is based upon their used capacity in the peak period (the specific peak periods for each pitch are listed in brackets in the table below). This has been further refined by compiling information on:

- The proportion of users that are based in Newham and those from neighbouring areas.
- The percentage of use by FA-affiliated clubs, compared with other users.
- The proportion of use by football and the proportion by other sports.



<i>Facility</i>	<i>Peak utilisation rate</i>	<i>Retained/imported demand</i>	<i>Affiliated/non-affiliated users</i>	<i>Football usage</i>
Brampton Manor Academy	No community use	No community use	No community use	No community use
Chobham Academy	72.5% (Mon - Fri 17.00 - 22.00)	24.0% Newham users	16% FA-affiliated users	80% football 20% tag rugby
East London Community Sports Association	84% (Mon - Fri 17.00 - 22.00)	52.0% Newham users	36% FA-affiliated users	50% football 46% rugby 4% Frisbee
Kingsford Community School	75% (Mon - Fri 17.00 - 21.00)	100% Newham users	57.5% FA-affiliated users	100% football
Langdon Academy	29% (Mon - Fri 18.30 - 22.00)	100% Newham users	30% FA-affiliated users	100% football
West Ham United Foundation	64% (Mon - Fri 17.00 - 21.00)	62.5% Newham users	47.5% FA-affiliated users	100% football
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>65.7% used</b>	<b>67.7% Newham</b>	<b>27.4% affiliated</b>	<b>86.0% football</b>

The key findings are as follows:

- Peak time utilisation rates average 65.7% across the five full-sized pitches with community use, which suggests that there is significant spare capacity at some sites.
- Usage by Newham residents averages 67.7% across the five full-sized pitches, so imported demand accounts for around one-third of all usage. This may relate to pricing, because Newham ‘3G’ pitches are cheaper than those in surrounding boroughs (see section 5.4.10).
- The proportion of use by clubs affiliated to the FA averages 27.4%, with the balance of usage is comprised of non-affiliated clubs (38.2%), commercial-type leagues (10.3%), soccer schools (10.1%) and non-football users (14.0%). These additional components of use should be considered when planning ‘3G’ football turf pitch capacity.
- At sites with secured community access, there is 45 hours of peak time use (37 hours of which is already used). Total current demand is for 75 hours of peak use per week, so if access to the pitches on education sites was to be withdrawn, there would be a shortfall of 30 hours of peak time usage per week.

### 5.6.8 Informal grass pitches

The key findings are as:

- There are 13 informal grass pitches in the borough, which collectively total 54.44ha.
- Based upon observable levels of activity, it has been assumed that an average of three matches per week, each involving two teams, takes place at every grassed area in the borough.
- Whilst there is evidence of some goal mouth wear at sites where a goal or goals are provided, current levels of activity appear to be sustainable in terms of grass maintenance and consistent with other usage of these open space sites.



## 5.6.9 Multi-use games areas and hard courts

The key findings are:

- There are 20 Multi-use Games Areas and hard courts with community use in the borough, plus a further 27 on school sites with no community access.
- Based upon observable levels of activity, it has been assumed that an average of three matches per week, each involving two teams, takes place at every MUGA with community use in the borough.
- Current levels of activity appear to be sustainable in terms of wear on the court surface and consistent with other recreational sports usage of these facilities.

## 5.7 Assessment of future needs

### 5.7.1 Population growth

As outlined in section 2.3.7, the 2015 10-year trend projections favoured in the Newham Strategic Housing Market Assessment are regarded as the most accurate basis for forecasting population growth. These project a borough population of 397,112 by 2032 and this figure has been used as the basis for assessing future pitch needs, although the implications of the other population projection scenarios are also modelled in Appendix A.

### 5.7.2 Potential changes in demand

Changes in demand for football in the in future can also be modelled on a trend-based projection. Three sets of data can help to inform this:

- **‘Active People’ survey:** The national rates of football participation between 2005 and the present, as measured by the ‘Active People’ survey, are as follows:

2005/6	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/1	2011/2	2012/3	2013/4	2014/5	2015/6	% Change
4.97%	5.18%	5.08%	4.96%	4.98%	4.94%	4.25%	4.39%	4.34%	4.28%	-0.69%

- **Affiliated teams data:** The number of FA-affiliated teams in each age group in Newham since 2009/10 are as follows:

Team category	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	% Change
Adult men	53	48	54	41	43	-18.9%
Adult women	2	3	2	4	2	No change
Youth male	39	24	40	34	28	-28.2%
Youth female	6	3	4	4	0	-600%
Mini-soccer	14	11	16	11	13	-9.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>-24.6%</b>

- **FA strategic targets:** The FA’s ‘National Game Strategy 2016 - 2019’ sets the following participation targets:

- Maintain the existing numbers of adult male, female and disability teams.
- Increase female youth participation by 11%.

Balancing past trends that identify falling demand against the target increases in participation suggests that projecting future need based in current demand patterns is a reasonable basis for forecasting, with the exception of youth girls where an 11% increase in the plan period will be applied.

### 5.7.3 Site-specific pressures

Two key sites are under particular usage pressures that will prevent them from accommodating additional future demand without increases in Capacity:

- ***Flanders Field:*** Existing grass pitch provision of all types at the site is at full capacity and there are additional pressures for expanding cricket pitch usage. Bonny Downs Community Association would like to convert its small-sided sand-filled artificial turf pitch to a larger '3G' surface comprising three 25m x 20m pitches to expand capacity.
- ***Memorial Recreation Ground:*** There is limited spare capacity of grass pitches, but considerable pressure on the full-sized '3G' pitch, where usage is shared with Rugby. East London Community Sports Association would like to provide a second full-sized '3G' pitch at the site to meet additional football, East London RFC and rugby league needs.
- ***Old Spotted Dog Ground:*** Although usage is currently balanced, Clapton FC is unable to accommodate a youth section at its ground and would like to install a '3G' pitch to increase capacity.

### 5.7.4 Potential changes in supply

There are no known development threats to any existing pitch sites, including those that are currently disused and no known plans for additional provision. However, there is no secured community use of most of the pitches on school sites and so access could, in theory, be withdrawn at any time. For most types of grass pitch, there is currently sufficient capacity at secured sites to cover this eventuality, apart from:

- ***Mini-soccer 5v5 pitches:*** There would be a small deficit of 0.5 match equivalents per week if access to the pitch on a school site was lost.
- ***'3G' pitches:*** If access to the pitches on education sites was to be withdrawn, there would be a shortfall of 30 hours of peak time usage per week.
- ***MUGAs:*** The Premier League is due to launch a MUGAs initiative in 2018, involving the fully funded provision of '3G' surfaces to existing MUGAs in deprived areas, to enhance their football usage. It is likely that one existing floodlit MUGA per Neighbourhood Community will benefit from the programme.

To secure existing pitches to meet both current and future needs, a priority should be to:

- Negotiate secured community use agreements with as many schools as possible.

- Investigate the potential for a centralised booking system for ‘3G’ pitches, to assist schools with lettings and facilitate better community access. This should include an assessment of the levels of subsidy that will be required to compensate schools for reduced charges for community clubs.

Six sites in the borough that formerly accommodated football pitches no longer do so and in most cases have been disused for football for several years. The application of a sequential test to the sites concerned, helps to establish if they could:

- Meet any existing football needs, and if not whether;
- They could meet any future football needs, and if not whether;
- They could meet any existing or future pitch needs of other sports, and if not whether;
- They could meet any wider open space needs, and if not whether;
- The sites could be re-developed for other purposes.

The results are as follows and demonstrate that all sites should be retained:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Existing football needs</i>	<i>Future football needs</i>	<i>Other pitch sport needs</i>	<i>Other open space needs</i>	<i>Redevelop</i>
Barking Road Recreation Ground	No current deficiency	Yes - central location to meet informal grass pitch needs.	No	Yes	No
Barrington Playing Field	No current deficiency	No	No	Yes - extension to Little Ilford Park	No
Canning Town Recreation Ground	No current deficiency	Yes - central location to meet informal grass pitch needs.	No	Yes	No
Gasworks Sports Ground	No current deficiency	No	Identified ‘Opportunity Site’ for cricket	Yes	No
Keir Hardie Recreation Ground	No current deficiency	Yes - in the ‘Arc of Opportunity’ - could meet youth 11v11 deficit	No	Yes	No
Little Ilford Park	No current deficiency	No	Identified ‘Satellite Site’ for cricket	Yes	No

### 5.7.5 Existing spare capacity

Existing spare football pitch capacity has been calculated in section 5.6 above and is summarised below:

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>Match equivalents</i>	<i>Pitch equivalents</i>
Adult	8.5	5
Youth 11v11	Balanced	0
Youth 9v9	1.5	1
Mini-soccer 7v7	1.0	1
Mini-soccer 5v5	Balanced	0
'3G' football turf pitches	8 hours	0.32
Informal grass pitches	Balanced	0
MUGAs and hard courts	Balanced	0

### 5.7.6 Future formal grass pitch needs

Future formal grass pitch needs to 2032 are modelled below using 'Team Generation Rates' (TGRs), which identify how many people in a specified age group in the borough are required to generate one team. These are then applied to projected changes in population to identify the likely number of teams in the future.

- Existing team numbers using grass pitches have been derived from the number of regular affiliated and unaffiliated teams known to be using formal grass pitches (as opposed to known activity on '3G' pitches) in the borough. The Girls youth projections are based upon sports development potential.
- The 2015 long-term projections are the figures regarded as most likely to be most accurate in the Newham SHMA and the pitch needs for this scenario have therefore been used as the basis for future planning future needs as follows:

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult male football	17-45	93,966	65	1: 1,446	104,982	73	+8	+4
Adult female football	17-45	78,038	3	1: 26,013	90,721	3	-	0
Boys youth football	10-16	14,096	30	1: 470	15,633	33	+3	+2
Girls youth football	10-16	13,884	0	-	15,904	2*	+2	+1
Mini-soccer (mixed)	6-9	18,401	18	1: 1,000	19,995	20	+2	+1

### 5.7.7 Future '3G' pitch needs

Future '3G' pitch needs to 2032 are modelled below based upon the following:

- The existing number of affiliated and non-affiliated team equivalents seeking access to '3G' pitches in Newham at present is 320. On the basis of the FA calculation of 42 teams equating to demand for one '3G' pitch, this creates current demand for 7.62 pitches.
- This figure is then applied to projected changes in population to identify the likely volume of additional demand in the future. The 2015 long-term projections have been used as the basis for future planning future needs and this indicates a requirement for an additional 1.48 '3G' pitches.

As above, the 2015 long-term trend projections are considered to be the most accurate. Additional provision would best be located in the vicinity of the planned new housing growth in the east and south of the borough.

### 5.7.8 Future informal grass pitch needs

The 13 existing informal grass pitches in the borough are based in green spaces that collectively cover 54.44ha (or 0.16ha per 1,000 residents) and meet existing needs with no obvious spare capacity. Based on a population increases in the four population scenarios, the pro rata requirement for an additional publicly-accessible green space capable of accommodating informal grass pitches by 2032 is as follows. The 2015 long-term trend projections are considered to be the most accurate and identify the requirement for a further 10.37ha of green space.

### 5.7.9 Future MUGA and hard-court needs

The 20 existing MUGAs with community access in the borough meet existing needs with no obvious spare capacity. The 2015 long-term trend projections are considered to be the most accurate and identify the requirement for a further 3.9 MUGAs.

## 5.8 Key findings and issues

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

- **Demography:** The demographics of Newham are not conducive for a settled formally-affiliated club-based football environment:
  - A significant proportion of the population is transient - 20% of borough residents either arrive or leave in any given year.
  - The borough is the eighth most deprived in the country - it has the second highest child poverty rate across London (27.2%) and the highest proportion of children in working families receiving tax credits (44%).
  - Community capacity is limited, so it is more difficult to identify individuals with the skill set to run formal sports club structures, although ingenuity and self-organization is a feature of the informal non-affiliated leagues and competitions that run in Newham.
- **An emphasis on informal play:** As a result, the volume of football generated by FA-affiliated clubs in Newham is 13% of all football activity. Irregular, non-affiliated play accounts for 24.7%, regular non-affiliated teams make up 27.0%, schools' play is 25.6% and football development programmes comprise 9.7%.
- **Women and Girls:** Women and girl's football is significantly under-developed in Newham, with only three adult women's teams and no girl's teams. This may in part reflect the cultural expectations of an ethnically diverse local population. Both Active Newham and the West Ham United Foundation run girl's football sessions and there are also opportunities to participate at school, but there are currently no development pathways into local clubs.

- ***A proliferation of providers:*** The rich variety of different forms of football delivery in Newham makes co-ordination of needs and opportunities a complex challenge. Providers from the public, commercial, voluntary and charitable sectors are all involved with individual objectives and motivations, which can lead to duplication of effort and unregulated activity. The Newham Football Development Group will provide some local ‘direction of travel’, but without dedicated staff resources it is difficult to create the momentum necessary to provide more purposeful strategic progress.
  
- ***Formal grass pitches:*** Given the football activity profile in Newham, formal grass pitches are a relatively insignificant component in overall football facilities use, with ‘3G’ football turf pitches, informal grass areas and Multi-Use Games Areas collectively accommodating more than 70% of football matches and training. Other issues relating to grass pitch provision are:
  - There are enough pitches to meet current demand and a stock of sites where pitches have been taken out of use since 2000 because of falling demand.
  - Grass pitch quality generally rates towards the lower end of ‘standard’ or ‘poor’. One effect of this is that 29.7% of Newham-based FA-affiliated teams use pitches outside the borough for their ‘home’ games. Spare capacity in neighbouring areas enables this to be accommodated.
  - Grounds maintenance expenditure on Council-owned grass pitches in Newham is between £2,000 and £2,500 per annum, which compares with Sport England’s recommended minimum of £5,000 per annum. This contributes to poorer quality pitches and whilst there is no evidence that this is suppressing local demand, it is a factor in prompting teams to play elsewhere.
  
- ***‘3G’ football turf pitches:*** Nine of the 14 ‘3G’ football turf pitches in the borough are on sites with no secured community use. One pitch has no community use at all at present. The key issues relating to provision are:
  - At the five full-sized pitches with secured community access, there is 45 hours of peak time use (37 hours of which is already used). Total current demand is for 75 hours of peak use per week, so if access to the pitches on education sites was to be withdrawn, there would be a shortfall of 30 hours of peak time usage per week.
  - Pitch hire costs were cited as prohibitive by a number of local clubs. However, prices are cheaper than in neighbouring boroughs and this has an influence on imported demand, which accounts for around one-third of peak-time used capacity at Newham pitches. Given the varied nature of the pitch providers, at present there is no co-ordination of pricing levels or bookings.
  - None of the ‘3G’ pitches on school sites in Newham are on the FA Register and therefore should not be hosting FA-affiliated club/schools play.



- **Informal pitches and MUGAs:** More than 30% of football activity in Newham is played informally on grassed areas, MUGAs and hard courts. Usage is free of charge and often spontaneous, although some ‘underground’ leagues are organised via social media. The precise levels of activity are impossible to measure accurately, but existing levels of provision in Newham are currently meeting demand.

### 5.8.2 Is there enough accessible, secured community use to meet current demand?

- **Adult grass pitches:** There is collective spare capacity of 8.5 weekly match equivalents at accessible, community-secured sites, which equates to around 5 ‘standard’ quality pitches. The seven sites with spare capacity are spread throughout the borough, offering local potential to accommodate additional use.
- **Youth 11v11 pitches:** Collective supply and demand are balanced at accessible, community-secured sites.
- **Youth 9v9 pitches:** There is collective spare capacity of 1.5 weekly match equivalents at accessible, community-secured sites, which equates to around one ‘standard’ quality pitch.
- **Mini-soccer 7v7 pitches:** There is collective spare capacity of 1.0 weekly match equivalent at accessible, community-secured sites, which equates to less than one ‘standard’ quality pitch.
- **Mini-soccer 5v5 pitches:** There is a deficit of 0.5 weekly match equivalents at the community-secured site, although this is balanced by a surplus at the non-secured site.
- **‘3G’ football turf pitches:** At sites with secured community access, there is 45 hours of peak time use (37 hours of which is already used). Total current demand is for 75 hours of peak use per week, so if access to the pitches on education sites was to be withdrawn, there would be a shortfall of 30 hours of peak time usage per week.
- **Informal grass pitches:** Current provision is adequate to meet existing needs.
- **MUGAs and hard courts:** Current provision is adequate to meet existing needs.

### 5.8.3 Is the accessible provision of suitable quality and appropriately maintained?

- **Quality:** Adult grass pitch quality at Beckton District Park South was the only community-accessible pitch provision that was rated as ‘poor’ following site audits. However, several pitches rated at the lower end of the ‘standard’ category, in particular the adult pitch at Lyle Park.
- **Maintenance:** Grounds maintenance expenditure on Council-owned grass pitches in Newham is less than half of Sport England’s recommended minimum figure. This does not cause any immediate problem because:
  - Demand levels are relatively low, so the reduced carrying capacity of ‘standard’ or ‘poor’ quality pitches is still great enough to accommodate all needs.

- Those clubs seeking higher quality pitches can hire them at sites in neighbouring boroughs.
- **Fewer but better:** Notwithstanding the above, a case can be made for concentrating grounds maintenance resources on fewer, but better quality pitches, to provide a similar or better carrying capacity. The advantages of this approach would be:
  - Football hub sites could be developed, ideally based on the FA's 'Parklife' model of focusing '3G' and good quality grass pitches at a limited number of sites to deliver a more sustainable operation.
  - The formal grass pitches at remaining sites could be left for informal football use, which comprises the majority of demand in Newham anyway.

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

- **Population growth:** As outlined in section 2.3.7, the 2015 10-year trend projections favoured in the Newham Strategic Housing Market Assessment are regarded as the most accurate basis for forecasting population growth. These project a borough population of 397,112 by 2032 and this figure has been used as the basis for assessing future pitch needs.
- **Changes in demand:** Balancing past trends that identify falling demand against the target increases in participation suggests that projecting future need based in current demand patterns is a reasonable basis for forecasting, with the exception of youth girls where an 11% increase in the plan period will be applied.
- **Changes in supply:** There are no known development threats to any existing pitch sites, including those that are currently disused. However, there is no secured community use of any of the pitches on school sites and so access could, in theory, be withdrawn at any time.
- **Existing spare capacity:** There is current spare capacity of 5 adult grass pitches, 1 grass youth 9v9 pitch, one mini-soccer 7v7 pitch and 0.32 '3G' football turf pitches. However:
  - If community-secured sites only are included, there is no '3G' spare capacity.
  - There is no spare capacity at any other type of pitch.
- **Future needs:** Based upon the 2015 long-term trend projection, these have been assessed as follows:
  - Adult grass pitches: 4 additional pitches.
  - Youth grass pitches: 3 additional pitches.
  - Mini-soccer pitches: 1 additional pitch.
  - '3G' football turf pitches: 1.48 additional pitches.

- Informal football pitches: 10.37ha of green space capable of accommodating pitches.
- MUGAs and hard courts: 3.9 additional facilities.

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

The situation at community accessible pitches in the borough is summarised below:

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>Current secured pitches</i>	<i>Current secured peak spare capacity</i>	<i>Current peak needs</i>	<i>Extra peak needs by 2032</i>	<i>Total peak needs by 2032</i>	<i>Additional secured pitch needs</i>
Adult football	17	4.5	12.5	4	16.5	0
Youth 11v11	3	0	3	1	4	1
Youth 9v9	4	1.5	2.5	1	3.5	0
Mini 7v7	5	1	4	1	5	0
Mini 5v5	2	0	2	0	2	0
'3G'	2	0.32	1.68	1.48	3.16	1.16
MUGA	20	0	20	2	23.9	3.9

## 5.9 Scenario Testing

### 5.9.1 Introduction

Based upon the key findings and issues identified above, a number of scenarios have been examined, to identify the optimum approach to addressing needs.

### 5.9.2 Scenario 1: De-commission all council-operated formal grass football pitches

- **Rationale:** Newham Council operates 21 formal grass football pitches in the borough, which are either poor quality, or towards the lower end of 'standard' quality. Given the football activity profile in Newham, formal grass pitches are a relatively insignificant component in overall football facilities use, with '3G' football turf pitches, informal grass areas and MUGAs collectively accommodating more than 70% of football matches and training. Additionally:
  - There is sufficient spare capacity to accommodate some of the demand currently serviced by council pitches at pitches managed by other providers in Newham, pitches in neighbouring areas and '3G' football turf pitches.
  - Almost 30% of Newham-based FA-affiliated teams already use pitches outside the borough for their 'home' games. Spare capacity in neighbouring areas enables this to be accommodated.
  - There is some spare capacity at '3G' pitches in the borough to accommodate more matches.

- Grounds maintenance expenditure on Council-owned pitches in Newham is well below Sport England's recommended minimum, so even the current quality is not sustainable in the long term.
- **Advantages:** The advantages of this scenario are as follows:
  - Spare capacity at a combination of non-Council run grass pitches in Newham, at grass pitches in neighbouring areas and at '3G' pitches in Newham is sufficient to accommodate the displaced demand from Council grass pitches, which amount to 9.5 match equivalents at adult pitches, 2.0 at youth 11v11 pitches, 1.0 at youth 9v9 pitches, 2.0 at mini 7v7 pitches and 1.5 at mini 5v5 pitches.
  - Once de-commissioned, the pitches would continue to be used for informal sport and physical activity, which have greater relative demand locally than formal football.
  - There would be significant pitch maintenance cost savings.
- **Disadvantages:** The disadvantages of this scenario are as follows:
  - There is strong political support and community expectations for continued council provision - 'Newham is a football borough'.
  - Pitch hire charges are higher in neighbouring areas and at many schools pitches (grass and '3G') in Newham and in a deprived area, cost sensitivity might deter continued participation by Newham-based teams if they have to migrate.
  - Future peak-time demand increases cannot all be accommodated using a combination of non-Council run grass pitches in Newham, grass pitches in neighbouring areas and '3G' pitches in Newham, so a deficit would emerge by 2032.
- **Conclusions:** Newham Council should continue to provide formal grass football pitches, but there is scope for rationalisation (see below).

### 5.9.3 Scenario 2: Provide fewer but better formal pitches at 'Hub Sites'

- **Rationale:** Focusing facilities and resources at fewer sites, where the quality of provision is higher than at present, would comply with the FA's priority in its *National Game Strategy 2015 - 2019* to develop football 'Hub Sites' in urban areas. These aim to 'create a new sustainable model for football facilities based around artificial grass pitches on Hub Sites'.
- **Advantages:** The advantages of this scenario are as follows:
  - A wide range of formal and informal football activity could be accommodated at a small number of key sites in the borough.
  - Better quality pitches for training and matches would help to sustain the retention and recruitment of local players.

- There would be opportunities to rationalise and co-ordinate the delivery of football development programmes and in particular to address the current low levels of involvement by women and girls.
- There would be opportunities to address the needs of other sports for artificial grass surfaces, in particular rugby union and rugby league.
- **Disadvantages:** The only disadvantage of this scenario is that there is a strong tradition of informal, casual football participation in Newham and the formality of a Hub Site arrangement might deter those players who want to participate for free and on their own terms, although there would still be opportunities for them to pursue play on this basis at other sites in the borough.
- **Conclusions:** Further feasibility work should be considered to establish the case for developing a strategic spread of Hub Sites potentially at Beckton District Park, Memorial Playing Field, Newham Leisure Centre and Flanders Playing Field, taking account of current out-of-borough proposals at Wanstead Flats that will also serve some Newham needs.

## 5.10 Policy recommendations

### 5.10.1 Introduction

The recommendations in relation to football are made in the context of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 74, which stipulates that existing open space including playing pitches, should not be built upon unless:

- An assessment has taken place which has clearly shown the open space to be surplus to requirements, or;
- The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality, in a suitable location, or;
- The development is for alternative sport and recreation provision, the needs for which clearly outweighs the loss.

The following recommendations are arranged under the three main headings of ‘protect’, ‘enhance’ and ‘provide’.

### 5.10.2 Protect

**Recommendation 1 - Safeguarding existing provision:** The Newham Playing Pitch Strategy comprises a robust and evidence-based assessment of current and future needs for football in the borough. The Strategy has identified a need for all current and disused football pitch sites to be retained, on the basis of the specific identified roles that each can play in delivering the needs of the sport in Newham both now and in the future. It is therefore recommended that existing planning policies continue to support the retention of all sites, based upon the evidence in the Playing Pitch Strategy. In the event that any formal or informal pitch sites do become the subject of development proposals, this will only be permissible if they are replaced and meet policy exception E4 of Sport England's Playing Fields Policy. This states that 'the playing field or playing fields which would be lost as a result of the proposed development must be replaced by a playing field or playing fields of an equivalent or better quality and of equivalent or greater quantity, in a suitable location and subject to equivalent or better management arrangements, prior to the commencement of development'.

**Recommendation 2 - Community access to education facilities:** Only two out of the seven full-sized '3G' football turf pitches in Newham have secured community access and one has no access at all. Of the formal grass football pitches, 33 out of 53 pitches in the borough have secured community use, which again leaves a significant proportion of pitches on education sites either with no access currently or vulnerable to loss of access. It is therefore recommended that:

- Efforts are made to secure community use agreements at existing education pitches.
- Community use agreements become a standard condition of planning consent at all new education pitches, along with a design and specification that is consistent with maximising school and community use.

### 5.10.3 Enhance

**Recommendation 3 - '3G' pitch co-ordination:** At present, the management and operation of '3G' pitches in Newham is fragmented and un-coordinated. As a result, access arrangements, usage policies and pricing vary which means that despite nominal spare capacity in the peak period, many Newham-based football teams have problems accessing '3G' pitches for their matches and training needs. It is therefore recommended that a system for more formal coordination be investigated by the London Borough of Newham, including:

- A centralised booking system, which would identify vacant time slots across all pitches in the borough.
- A harmonised pricing system, with standardised charges at all facilities and discounts reflecting development objectives such as FA affiliation and Charter Standard status, women and girls' teams, youth and mini teams, Newham residency and sports development programmes.
- Incentives to pitch owners such as income level guarantees.



**Recommendation 4 - FA '3G' Pitch Register:** At present, only the pitches at Memorial Park and the West Ham United Foundation are on the FA's '3G' pitch register so in theory none of the other pitches can guarantee that their facilities are safe for users and meet all insurance liabilities. As a result, they should not be hosting play by FA-affiliated clubs or schools. It is recommended that all pitch owners in Newham be encouraged to have their facilities tested for the FA Register.

**Recommendation 5 - Grass pitch maintenance:** At present, many of the grass pitches in the borough are poorly maintained, with consequent impact on their carrying capacity and an adverse effect on the quality of play. Focusing resources on fewer but better pitches at Hub Sites (see recommendation 8 below) will address the quality and capacity issues, but there will still be demand for a strategic spread of more locally-based pitches away from the hub sites. It is therefore recommended that a review of the existing pitch maintenance arrangements be initiated with the Grounds and Natural Turf Improvement Programme (GaNTIP), provided by the Institute of Groundsmanship and part-funded by the FA. This should identify the scope for improving maintenance to ensure that usage capacity is optimised.

**Recommendation 6 - Football Academies and coaching programmes accreditation:** Several 'Football Academies' (or soccer schools) currently operate in Newham, in many cases usurping the junior coaching role more traditionally played by FA-affiliated clubs. There is no formal accreditation or licensing system for Academies at present, to specify operating standards and in particular to ensure good practice in safeguarding arrangements. It is recommended that the FA investigates the feasibility of establishing a quality assurance system for football academies, based upon its Charter Standard system for clubs and administered in the same way.

**Recommendation 7 - Developer contributions (enhancements):** Some of the additional demand for football arising from the proposed housing development in Newham to 2032, can be accommodated through enhancements to existing pitches and facilities. It is recommended that the site-specific action plan in the Newham Playing Pitch Strategy be used as the basis for determining facility enhancements that demonstrably relate to the scale and location of specific developments and that an appropriate level of financial contributions be sought under Section 106 or CIL arrangements, to cover the capital and revenue implications of the enhancements. To facilitate this, playing pitches should be listed as 'relevant infrastructure', under CIL Regulation 123.

#### 5.10.4 Provide

**Recommendation 8 - Football Hubs:** Subject to the outcome of Recommendation 3 in increasing access to additional existing '3G' pitch capacity, it is recommended that detailed feasibility work should be undertaken to establish the case for developing a strategic spread of Hub Sites in Newham, potentially at Beckton District Park, Memorial Playing Field, Newham Leisure Centre and Flanders Playing Field. The Hub Site model offers many advantages to develop both football and the needs of other sports in the borough and would ensure that a wide range of formal and informal football activity could be accommodated at a small number of key sites in the borough.

**Recommendation 9 - Grass for informal play:** The Playing Pitch Strategy identifies the need for an additional 10.37ha of grass areas for informal play to accommodate the needs arising from population growth by 2032. Some of this can be provided on existing formal grass pitches, whose role will be superseded by provision at the proposed Football Hubs and some on other existing public open spaces. However, extra provision on new green spaces provided as part of additional housing development in Newham will also be an important component. It is therefore recommended that:

- Opportunities for providing additional informal grass football pitches, with permanent goals where appropriate, are investigated, with particular attention paid to siting them in proximity to thoroughfares used by young people, to maximise visibility and accessibility.
- The provision of appropriately located informal football pitches is included within the open space obligations of developers, either through off-site financial contributions or direct on-site provision.

**Recommendation 10 - MUGAs:** The Playing Pitch Strategy identifies the need for an additional four MUGAs (40m x 20m) by 2032 to support football needs. Their all-weather playing surfaces and floodlights mean that they can accommodate more intensive use than grass pitches and are the favoured facility type for many of the informal leagues in Newham. It is therefore recommended that:

- Opportunities for providing additional MUGAs are investigated, with particular attention paid to siting them in proximity to thoroughfares used by young people, to maximise visibility and accessibility.
- One existing MUGA per Community Neighbourhood be identified as a priority site for the Premier League's '3G' re-surfacing programme, based upon current patterns of football use and achieving a geographical spread of provision.
- The provision of MUGAs is included within the planning obligations of developers, either through off-site financial contributions or direct on-site provision.

**Recommendation 11 - Developer contributions (new provision):** Some of the extra demand for football arising from the proposed housing development in Newham to 2032, will need to be accommodated through the provision of new pitches and facilities. It is recommended that the site-specific action plan in the Newham Playing Pitch Strategy be used as the basis for determining which proposed new facilities demonstrably relate to the scale and location of specific developments and that an appropriate level of financial contributions be sought under Section 106 or CIL arrangements, to cover their capital and revenue cost implications. To facilitate this, playing pitches should be listed as 'relevant infrastructure' under CIL Regulation 123.

**Recommendation 12 - Football Development Manager:** The complexity of football delivery in Newham makes co-ordination of needs and opportunities a complex challenge. Providers from the public, commercial, voluntary and charitable sectors are all involved with individual objectives and motivations, which can lead to things either being duplicated or not provided at all. Without a dedicated staff resource, it is difficult to create the momentum necessary to provide more purposeful strategic progress. It is therefore recommended that a Football Development Manager be jointly funded by local football stakeholders, to play a lead role in the implementation of the football elements of the Newham Playing Pitch Strategy.

## 5.11 Action Plan

### 5.11.1 Introduction

In the context of the high-level recommendations above, the tables below set out the football site-specific action plan to guide the implementation of the strategy. The abbreviations stand for LBN - London Borough of Newham, IOG - Institute of Groundsmanship and FA - Football Association. The capital cost estimates are based upon Sport England's 'Facility Costs - Second Quarter of 2016' (2016).

### 5.11.2 Key strategic actions

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Priority</i>
Community access to education pitches	Pursue formal Community Use agreements at all existing and any future proposed pitches on education sites.	LBN	Academies and schools	Possible funding for improvements to physical accessibility.	High
'3G' pitch co-ordination	Investigate the potential for a centralised booking system and price co-ordination at all '3G' pitches in the borough.	LBN	Academies and schools	Possible subsidy to harmonise hire costs/provide discounts for priority users.	High
Football academies and coaching programme accreditation	Introduce an accreditation programme for football academies	FA	LBN	Some administration and auditing costs.	High
Football Development Manager	Appoint a Football Development Manager to assist with PPS implementation.	LBN	FA	£25,000 annual salary, plus 'on-costs'	High

### 5.11.3 Formal grass pitches

- **High priority actions:**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Issues</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Priority</i>
Beckton District Park South	Poor quality adult pitches and existing spare capacity.	Feasibility study to establish the case for a 'Hub Site' with New Beckton Park. Review grounds maintenance regime with GaNTIP.	LBN	FA	£20,000	High
Brampton Manor Academy	Good quality pitches and changing. No secured community access.	Negotiate a formal Community Use Agreement.	LBN	Brampton Manor Trust	-	High

<b>Site</b>	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Resources</b>	<b>Priority</b>
Flanders Playing Field	Key local facility with good quality pitches and changing.	Feasibility study to establish the case for a 'Hub Site'	LBN	Bonny Downs Community Association FA	£20,000	High
Langdon Academy	Standard quality pitches and changing. No secured community access.	Negotiate a formal Community Use Agreement	LBN	Langdon Academy	-	High
Memorial Recreation Ground	Key local facility with standard quality pitches and good changing. Key site for rugby.	Feasibility study to establish the case for a 'Hub Site'	LBN	East London Community Association	£20,000	High
New Beckton Park	Key local facility for youth and mini football. Currently overused.	Feasibility study to establish the case for a 'Hub Site' with Beckton Park South.	LBN	FA	Covered by Beckton Park South costs	High
Old Spotted Dog Ground	Good quality pitches and changing with balanced usage. Aspirations to provide '3G'.	Review grounds maintenance regime with GaNTIP. Feasibility study for '3G'	Clapton FC	IOG	£5,000	High

• **Medium priority actions:**

<b>Site</b>	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Resources</b>	<b>Priority</b>
Canning Town Recreation Ground	No current use, but central location to meet informal grass pitch needs.	Install permanent goals for extra informal pitches.	LBN	-	£1,500	Medium
Gooseley Playing Fields	Standard quality pitches and changing with spare capacity.	Review grounds maintenance regime with GaNTIP.	LBN	-	-	Medium
Lister Community School	Standard quality pitches and changing.	Review grounds maintenance regime with GaNTIP.	Lister Community School	IOG	-	Medium
Lyle Park	Standard quality pitches and changing with spare capacity.	Review grounds maintenance regime with GaNTIP.	LBN	IOG	-	Medium
Newham Leisure Centre	Standard quality pitches and changing with balanced usage.	Feasibility study to establish the case for a 'Hub Site' Review grounds maintenance regime with GaNTIP.	LBN	IOG	-	Medium
West Ham Park	Standard quality pitches and changing with limited spare capacity.	Review grounds maintenance regime with GaNTIP.	Corporation of London	IOG	-	Medium

- **Low priority actions:**

<b>Site</b>	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Resources</b>	<b>Priority</b>
Barking Road Recreation Ground	No current use, but central location to meet informal grass pitch needs.	Install permanent goals for extra informal pitches.	LBN	-	£1,500	Low
Barrington Playing Field	No current use, but serves general open space needs.	Retain for open space needs	LBN	-	-	Low
Gasworks Sports Ground	No current use, but an identified 'Opportunity Site' for cricket.	Once site is reinstated for cricket, install permanent goals for informal football pitches, consistent with cricket usage.	LBN	-	£1,500	Low
Keir Hardie Recreation Ground	No current use, but well located to meet future youth 11v11 pitch deficit.	Install a youth 11v11 pitch as projected future demand emerges	LBN	-	£5,000	Low
Little Ilford Park	No current use, but identified 'Satellite Site' for cricket	Install permanent goals for extra informal pitches, consistent with cricket usage.	LBN	-	£1,500	Low

#### 5.11.4 '3G' football turf pitches

- **High priority actions:**

<b>Site</b>	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Resources</b>	<b>Priority</b>
Brampton Manor Academy	Full-sided pitch with no community access. Not on the FA '3G' pitch register.	Negotiate a formal Community Use Agreement. Include in the Centralised Booking System. Apply for inclusion on the FA '3G' pitch register.	Brampton Manor Academy	LBN	£1,300 for FA testing	High
Chobham Academy	No secured community use but 72.5% peak-time community use including commercial leagues. Not on the FA '3G' pitch register.	Negotiate a formal Community Use Agreement. Include in the Centralised Booking System. Apply for inclusion on the FA '3G' pitch register.	Chobham Academy	LBN	£1,300 for FA testing	High



<i>Site</i>	<i>Issues</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Priority</i>
Kingsford Community School	No secured community use but 75% peak-time community use. Surface needs replacing. Not on the FA '3G' pitch register.	Negotiate a formal Community Use Agreement. Include in the Centralised Booking System. Apply for inclusion on the FA '3G' pitch register.	Kingsford Community School	LBN	£1,300 for FA testing	High
Langdon Academy	No secured community use and low peak-time community use (29%). Not on the FA '3G' pitch register.	Negotiate a formal Community Use Agreement. Include in the Centralised Booking System. Apply for inclusion on the FA '3G' pitch register.	Langdon Academy	LBN	£1,300 for FA testing	High
Memorial Recreation Ground	On the FA '3G' pitch register. Significant rugby use of the pitch. 84% peak-time utilisation.	Include in the Centralised Booking System.	East London Community Sports Association	LBN	-	High
Newham Leisure Centre	Small-sided pitch. Surface needs replacing.	Feasibility study to establish the case for a 'Hub Site'	Active Newham	LBN	-	High
Royal Docks Community School	No secured community use but good levels of peak-time use. Not on the FA '3G' pitch register.	Negotiate a formal Community Use Agreement. Include in the Centralised Booking System. Apply for inclusion on the FA '3G' pitch register.	Royal Docks Community School	LBN	£1,300 for FA testing	High
West Ham United Foundation	64% peak-time utilisation.	Include in the Centralised Booking System.	WHU Foundation	LBN	-	High

- **Medium priority actions:**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Issues</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Priority</i>
Forest Gate Community School	Small-sided pitch with no secured community use and low uptake rates.	Negotiate a formal Community Use Agreement.	Forest Gate Community School	LBN	-	Medium
Lister Community School	Small-sided pitch with secured community use but low uptake rates.	Encourage the school/Active Newham to promote community use.	Lister Community School	Active Newham	-	Medium

<i>Site</i>	<i>Issues</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Priority</i>
Rokeby School	Small-sided pitch with limited community use.	Encourage the school/Active Newham to promote community use.	Rokeby School	Active Newham	-	Medium
St. Bonaventure's RC School	No secured community use. Small-sided pitch. Limited use by community hirers.	Negotiate a formal Community Use Agreement.	St. Bonaventure's RC School	LBN	-	Medium
University of East London	Small-sided pitch. Limited use by community hirers.	Encourage UEL to promote community use.	UEL	Active Newham	-	Medium

- Low priority actions:**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Issues</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Priority</i>
Powerleague Newham	Commercial site with small-sided pitches	No action	-	-	-	Powerleague Newham

### 5.11.5 Grass for Informal Football

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Priority</i>
Sustain existing levels of informal grass pitch provision	Maintain and enhance current pitches	LBN	-	Current maintenance budgets. £15,000 for new goalposts	Medium
Provide the equivalent of 10.37ha of additional pitches by 2032.	Convert any surplus formal pitches. Identify opportunities at other open spaces. Secure capital and revenue developer contributions.	LBN	Developers	£1,500 capital per pitch. £2,000 annual running costs per pitch.	Medium

### 5.11.6 Multi-use Games Areas

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Priority</i>
'3G' surfaces for selected MUGAs	Identify one MUGA per Community Neighbourhood, to benefit from the Premier League '3G' resurfacing programme.	LBN	Premier League	£20,000 per pitch, fully funded by the Premier League.	High
Sustain existing levels of MUGAs	Maintain and enhance current MUGAs	LBN	-	Current maintenance budgets. £5,000 to resurface a court. £12,000 for lights.	Medium
Provide 4 additional MUGAs by 2032.	Identify suitable locations in relation to the location of new housing. Secure capital and revenue developer contributions.	LBN	Developers	£145,000 per MUGA £2,000 annual running costs per MUGA.	Medium



*A match from the LIDELAN unaffiliated league at Memorial Park*

## 6 CRICKET NEEDS IN NEWHAM

### *Key findings*

- ***A preference for informal play:*** Demand for informal versions of cricket significantly exceeds the number of formal affiliated and ‘Last Man Stands’ teams in Newham.
- ***Pitch quality:*** Although the two grass pitches in Newham are rated as ‘good’ quality, clubs from outer London and Essex are reluctant to play competitive fixtures there, which limits the opportunity for Newham clubs to join higher standard leagues.
- ***Pitch needs:*** Existing pitches can meet current demand, but seven additional wickets will be needed to meet extra demand 2032.
- ***Recommendations:***
  - ***Primary Cricket Hubs:*** To support the development of club cricket, Primary Cricket Hubs, comprising two grass pitches and two non-turf wickets, be designated at the existing sites of West Ham Park and Flanders Playing Field.
  - ***Satellite Cricket Sites:*** To support the development of informal cricket, Satellite Cricket Sites, comprising an artificial turf wicket, be maintained at Memorial Park, Beckton District Park and Gooseley Playing Field and a new pitch provided in Little Ilford Park.
  - ***Practice Nets:*** To support the development of all forms of cricket in Newham, it is recommended that the practice nets at the existing sites of West Ham Park, Flanders Playing Field and Plashet Park continue to be maintained.
  - ***Cricket Opportunity Sites:*** To accommodate additional cricket demand, developments should be investigated at the Gasworks Sports Ground, Three Mills Green, Beckton District Park and Langdon Academy.
  - ***Safeguarding existing provision:*** Given the identified needs, planning policy should support the retention of all pitches and other facilities used for cricket.
  - ***Community access to education facilities:*** Formal community use agreements should be pursued to secure access to existing and any future school pitches.
  - ***Developer contributions:*** This strategy should provide the basis for seeking developer contributions under Section 106 or CIL arrangements, to meet additional cricket facility needs arising from housing growth.

### 6.1 Organisational context

Newham has been identified as a priority area for cricket development. The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) is already working extensively with LBN, the Essex County Cricket Board and a range of sports development partners to promote and develop the game in the borough. This is part of the ECB's national initiative to work with the communities of South Asian origin to build on their traditional high levels of interest and participation in cricket.

To this end the Council has been instrumental in setting up the Newham Cricket Development Group. The aim of the group is to support and promote the development of cricket in the borough including investment in facilities, promotion of the game to young people, support for clubs, encouragement of coaching and player development.

The stakeholders in the Newham Cricket Development Group and their role in delivering the game in the borough are as follows:

- **England and Wales Cricket Board:** The ECB is the national governing body of cricket and its regional staff are involved in supporting cricket development initiatives in Newham.
- **Essex County Cricket Board:** Eight of the cricket clubs in the borough affiliate to the Essex County Board.
- **Active Newham:** Active Newham organises a range of cricket development programmes.
- **Newham School Sports Association:** The Newham School Sports Association organises inter-school cricket competitions and borough representative teams.
- **School Sport Partnerships:** There are two School Sport Partnerships in Newham, co-ordinated respectively from Cumberland School and Langdon Academy. These provide a network of coaching opportunities in secondary and primary schools in the borough.
- **Further and higher education:** The University of East London and Newham Sixth Form College (NewVic) both have cricket teams.
- **Pitch providers:** A range of organisations provide cricket pitches and facilities in Newham, including the Council, schools, the City of London Corporation (West Ham Park), East London Community Sports Association (Memorial Park) and Bonny Downs Community Association (Flanders Playing Field).

## 6.2 Strategic context

### 6.2.1 National cricket strategy

The England and Wales Cricket Board's strategy for 2016 -2020 '*Cricket Unleashed*' (2016) contains the following priorities of relevance to Newham:

#### **Clubs and leagues:**

- Promoting player driven formats of the game in leagues.
- Providing more opportunities to play across the whole league structure.
- Delivering a new club affiliation core offer.
- Delivering new training opportunities for coaches, officials and groundstaff.
- Delivering a volunteer offer to drive recruitment, retention and recognition.

#### **Kids:**

- Developing an ability-based pathway for children aged 5-12 for adoption in clubs, schools and youth organisations.
- In partnership with Chance to Shine, expanding the reach of the game into all schools across the country through a combination of bat and ball opportunities, a national teacher ambassador program and curriculum-aligned classroom resources.
- Creating a seamless transition across the age groups and different formats to reduce the current drop out at key ages.
- Promoting shorter pitch lengths for younger age groups.



### ***Communities:***

- Implementing inclusion and engagement strategies to deliver welcoming environments and opportunities for players of diverse backgrounds.
- Prioritising additional investment in coaches for women's, girl's, multicultural groups and disability cricket.
- Increasing the opportunities for people with a disability to take part and play cricket at all levels.
- Maximising the impact of hosting ICC global events to inspire a more diverse participation base to play cricket.
- Delivering and investing in cricket programmes that are specifically designed to bring communities together and improve physical and mental wellbeing.

### ***Casual:***

- Delivering simple and enjoyable casual cricket offers.
- Developing a 5 or 6-a-side version of cricket, played on artificial wickets to engage players at all ages and levels.
- Supporting innovation such as Last Man Stands, Indoor, Tape-ball and Beach Cricket.
- Creating a year-round participation programme using artificial wickets, indoor centres and other indoor spaces to allow all-year round play.
- Driving availability of bats and balls for unstructured play.

## 6.2.2 County cricket strategy

Responsibility for delivering the national strategy in Newham lies with the Essex County Cricket Board. The Board's guiding strategy is *'Inspiring Essex to Choose Cricket - Community Strategy 2013 - 2017'* (2013) and this is supported by a Facilities Strategy for 2013-2017. Its priorities are:

- ***Indoor Practice Facilities:*** To ensure that every affiliated club has access to well-maintained indoor facilities.
- ***Club Cricket:*** To encourage every affiliated club to obtain access to well-prepared outdoor match and practice facilities pitches and indoor facilities and to have appropriate machinery and expertise available. To assist with the development of changing rooms and general club facilities.
- ***Development of Facilities for Teams:*** To encourage and establish a clear and transparent understanding of the impact of developing 'team' formats.
- ***Issues in Newham:*** The Facilities Strategy highlights a number of issues in Newham:
  - A long-term aspiration to provide a ground capable of hosting First Class Cricket in east London.
  - There are relatively few club grounds in the borough.
  - There is limited access to practice facilities.
  - There are good indoor facilities at Newham Leisure Centre but difficulties of access through their booking system.
  - Generally lighting and surfaces in the borough's sports halls are inadequate for cricket.

### 6.2.3 Cricket facilities strategy for Newham

The 'Cricket Facilities Strategy for Newham' (2014) was produced jointly by the London Borough of Newham, Essex Cricket Board and England and Wales Cricket Board, to identify local facilities needs. It subsequently helped to inform the Newham Cricket Development Plan, the details of which are summarised in section 6.2.4 below. The key findings were as follows:

- **Artificial cricket wickets:** As an immediate priority, at least one artificial cricket wicket should be provided in each of Newham's eight Neighbourhood Areas, subject to the availability of suitable sites. These facilities will primarily be used by informal and non-traditional forms of cricket. They will also provide some opportunities for mainstream cricket particularly at school and junior level.
- **Grass wickets:** Additional grass wickets should be provided at Memorial Playing Fields, Newham Leisure Centre and Flanders Fields.
- **Practice nets:** Practice nets should be improved or provided at Plashet Park and Flanders Playing Field.
- **Indoor facilities:** A specialist indoor cricket venue should be developed at a sports hall in the borough.

### 6.2.4 Newham Cricket Development Plan

The 'Newham Cricket Development Plan 2017 - 2020: Exciting, Engaging and Enhancing Our Communities Through Cricket' (2016) was produced by the Newham Cricket Development Group. The key elements are as follows:

- Vision:** 'By 2020 Cricket is the number one bat and ball sport in Newham, with more people playing the game in more places and more often across all levels and formats'.
- Aims:** The aims are to create an environment in which cricket can thrive, to:
- Ensure the opportunity to play Cricket every day of the week in Newham.
  - Provide pathways and support for all involved in Cricket in Newham.
  - Develop the number one game for cross community, faith and partnership working.
  - Create the acceptance that it is OK and good to play cricket in Newham.
- Objectives:** The objectives are for local cricket to develop:
- A high-quality facility offer to support playing aspirations, including a cricket facility within 10-minutes of every residence.
  - A clear game offer to stimulate engagement and sustain participation.
  - A strong visible game promotion linked to a clear pathway.
  - A strong learning and development programme, involving every child in every school year group picking up a bat and 200 trained volunteers per year from Newham.
- Facilities actions:** These include the following:
- Ensure a coordinated facilities offer (indoor and outdoor) to support the ongoing development of Newham cricket.
  - Support the development of a Newham Centre of Excellence to identify and nurture talent.
  - Establish an Inspiration Hub at Langdon School.
  - Development of key Hub sites 2 x Club, 6 x Casual and 3 x Nets, Indoor centre.
  - Access to indoor and school facilities.

The following priority sites have been identified:

<i>Facility type</i>	<i>Sites</i>
Primary Cricket Hubs	West Ham Park (2 Grass/2 NTP) Flanders Playing Field (2 Grass/2 NTP)
Satellites	Memorial Park (NTP) Beckton District Park South (NTP) Gooseley Playing Field (NTP) Little Ilford Park (NTP)
Practice Facilities (Nets)	West Ham Park Flanders Playing Field Plasht Park
Indoor*	Newham Multi Sports Centre
Opportunities	The Gasworks Sports Ground (NTP/Turf) Newham Leisure Centre/Terence MacMillan (Practice) Memorial Park (Practice) Three Mills Green (NTP) Olympic Stadium (Exhibition) Langdon Academy (Turf/NTP) Beckton District Park (Turf)

\*Skills development, winter practice, indoor leagues

### 6.2.5 Neighbouring local authorities

Playing pitch strategies in neighbouring boroughs identify cross-boundary issues:

<p><b><i>Tower Hamlets</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a large South Asian community with a keen interest in cricket.</li> <li>• There is very limited formal cricket facilities provision in the borough, comprising only artificial wickets at Victoria Park (three) and Millwall Park (one), but no evidence of exported demand for Newham.</li> <li>• Much cricket activity is played on an informal basis at non-specialist facilities and involving adapted forms of the game like Tape-ball cricket.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Hackney</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The borough has cricket pitches at Hackney Marshes (3 natural turf and 5 artificial turf), Hackney Downs (artificial turf) London Fields (natural turf), Millfields (natural turf) and Springfield Park (natural turf).</li> <li>• The current facilities meet existing demand for artificial wickets, but natural turf wickets are coming under increasing pressure due to the demand generated by their quality and the reducing quality of wickets in surrounding boroughs, including Newham.</li> <li>• ‘Last Man Stands’ is played on Hackney Marshes and a league has been running for the last 3 years. This uses two synthetic wickets 2 - 3 times a week.</li> <li>• Informal cricket such as tape ball is normally played on MUGAs and caged areas.</li> <li>• There are no practice nets currently in the borough. However, planning permission has been secured or the development of a new £4.2m scheme on Hackney Marshes that will include a new pavilion (with four ECB-compliant changing rooms) and new cricket practice nets.</li> </ul>
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### ***Waltham Forest***

- There is a current surplus of 0.8 pitches in the sub-area adjacent to Newham.
- Poor quality pitches are an issue, with some council pitches being deemed by clubs as being too dangerous to accommodate junior matches.
- The only pitch in the south of the borough is at Leyton County CC, which cannot accommodate all existing demand.

### ***Redbridge***

- Whilst there is current spare capacity collectively equivalent to 89 matches per season in the sub-areas adjacent to Newham, the major cricket facilities at Oakwood Parkonians are under threat from development and other sites are deteriorating because of severely reduced maintenance budgets.
- There is projected future spare capacity collectively equivalent to 56 matches per season in the sub-areas.

### ***Barking and Dagenham***

- At present, there is spare capacity in the borough for 261 matches per season - equivalent to 42 grass wickets.
- However, the ECB and local authority have identified a significant amount of 'informal' play taking place across the area. This relates to organised games that are taking place at non-pitch sites (e.g. car parks, paths and streets), often including groups from priority areas and ethnic minority groups.
- There is projected future spare capacity collectively equivalent to 241 matches per season.

## 6.2.6 Implications of the strategic context

The implications of the strategic context for cricket in Newham are as follows:

- ***Communities:*** The ECB's focus on communities and attracting more play from minority ethnic participants makes Newham a high priority for cricket development initiatives and investment.
- ***Wider agendas:*** Given the increasing limitations on public finances, demonstrating the role that cricket can play in delivering wider agendas such as health and wellbeing is a key requirement for attracting investment.
- ***Policy shifts:*** The move in national sports policy towards prioritising new participants will create a challenge for cricket to demonstrate that it can attract new and lapsed participants. Recent innovations such as Last Man Stands and Tape-ball might prove more attractive than the more traditional model.
- ***Facilities developments:*** Some of the recommendations in the Cricket Facilities Strategy for Newham have already been implemented, in particular a new artificial wicket at Gooseley Playing Field and Memorial Park and refurbished nets at Plashet Park.
- ***Cricket developments:*** The Cricket Development Plan for the borough provides a strong framework within which to develop and confirm facilities priorities.

## 6.3 Cricket demand in Newham

### 6.3.1 ECB-affiliated clubs and teams

The following clubs affiliate to the Essex Cricket Board:

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home Ground</i>	<i>Indoor nets</i>	<i>Adult Teams</i>	<i>Junior Teams</i>
Amez CC	West Ham Park	-	1	0
Bow Green CC	West Ham Park	-	2	0
Newham CC	Flanders Field	Newham Leisure Centre	5	4
NewVic College	Flanders Field	Newham 6 <sup>th</sup> Form College	1	0
Star CC	West Ham Park	-	1	0
Stratford Cricket Club	Flanders Field	-	1	0
University of East London	Flanders Field	Sports Dock	2	0
West Ham Cricket Club	West Ham Park	Lister Community School	0	4
<b>TOTALS</b>	-	-	<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>

### 6.3.2 Education demand

The key demand features are:

- **Secondary schools:** 10 secondary schools play in the Newham Schools League, at under 12, under 13, under 14 and under 15 age groups:
- **Primary schools:** Primary school cricket is mostly played with a soft ball on school playgrounds or Multi-use Games Areas, but there is also some use of the artificial wickets at Flanders Field.
- **Further and higher education:** The University of East London (UEL) and Newham Sixth Form College (NewVic) both have cricket teams.
- **Impact on pitch supply:** Five secondary schools play on artificial wickets on their own sites, but the others play at West Ham Park.

### 6.3.3 Cricket development programmes

The key demand features are as follows:

- **Demand levels:** Cricket development initiatives are run by a number of organisations in Newham, most notably Active Newham, Chance to Shine and Capital Kids Cricket. These collectively amount to an average of 12 sessions per week throughout the borough, involving around almost 350 attendances. These cater for all age groups and both genders.
- **Impact on pitch supply:** The majority of the sessions involve the use of artificial turf wickets and non-specialist cricket facilities, so the impact on grass pitches is minimal.



### 6.3.4 Last Man Stands

'Last Man Stands' was founded in London in 2005 and provides opportunities to play flexible 20-over eight-a-side cricket games within a maximum two-hour time window. Matches can be played on grass or artificial wickets with flexibility over boundary sizes. Two midweek 'Last Man Stands' leagues operate in Newham, based on the artificial turf wickets at Memorial Park and West Ham Park, each involving 12 teams.

### 6.3.5 Informal cricket activity

The following types of informal, non-affiliated cricket activity have been identified in Newham:

- Regular play from non-sports club sources.
- Infrequent informal/friendly matches.
- Informal training sessions.
- More casual forms of a cricket.

The '*Cricket Facilities Strategy for Newham*' (2014) identified that the volume of demand generated by informal versions of the game is equivalent to 83 teams.

### 6.3.6 Demand trends

The ECB's most recent '*National Cricket Playing Survey*' (2015) identified a 7% decrease in player numbers between 2013 and 2014. Of the 850,000 players nationally, 250,000 are 'core' players (playing at least 12 times per season), 400,000 are 'occasional' players (playing between three and 11 times per season) and 200,000 are 'cameo' players (playing once or twice per season). 5% of all organised fixtures were cancelled in 2014 because at least one of the teams was unable to field eleven players. The survey also revealed that 30 per cent of grassroots cricketers are drawn from ethnic minorities.

### 6.3.7 Displaced demand

Displaced demand relates to play by teams or other users of playing pitches from within the study area which takes place outside of the area:

- Newham-based clubs responding to the club's survey collectively draw more than 90% of their membership from the borough.
- Consultation with cricket league organisers indicated that a total of at least 400 players from Newham are currently playing for clubs outside the borough. This gives an estimate for displaced demand of 16 teams, compared with the 21 teams based in the borough.
- There is no evidence of imported demand to Newham from neighbouring boroughs.

### 6.3.8 Unmet demand

Unmet demand takes a number of forms:

- Teams may have access to a pitch for matches but nowhere to train or vice versa.
- Some pitches may be unavailable to the community.
- The poor quality and consequent limited capacity of pitches in the area and/or a lack of provision and ancillary facilities which meet a certain standard of play/league requirement.

Consultation with local clubs and cricket leagues indicated that:

- All leagues have a requirement to play on grass wickets, especially in the higher divisions. Whilst the leagues expressed a willingness to discuss playing on artificial wickets as an aid to development in Newham, there are only 20 grass wickets available for hire at two venues in the borough, which limits opportunities to play formal competitive cricket locally.
- Indoor net provision in Newham is reasonably good, although lighting levels are inadequate at some sites.

### 6.3.9 Latent demand

Whereas unmet demand is known to currently exist latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision. The *'Cricket Facilities Strategy for Newham'* (2014) estimated latent demand for cricket in the borough as follows:

- The 'Active People' survey showed that in 2015/16 the national participation rate for cricket was 0.37% of the adult population.
- Newham's adult (16+) population is 238,500. Applying the national participation rate to this population means that there would be 882 active cricketers in the borough.
- However, 43.5% of Newham residents are from the Asian communities. The ECB and Sporting Equals estimate that participation amongst South Asian communities is six times greater than the national average. Taking this into account, the potential number of regular adult cricketers in the borough increases to 2,736.
- Assuming that a pool of 25 players is required for a team, this creates total demand equivalent of 109 adult teams. If the 13 ECB-affiliated teams and the estimated 83 informal teams are deducted from this figure, it leaves latent demand equivalent to a further 13 teams. Whilst not all of these potential players are likely to wish to play a formal version of cricket on grass wickets, the sheer numbers of regular cricketers is indicative of the pressure on provision in the borough.

## 6.4 Cricket supply in Newham

### 6.4.1 Outdoor cricket facilities

Provision of outdoor cricket facilities in Newham is set out below:

- **Available for community use and used:**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Community Area</b>	<b>Wickets</b>
Beckton District Park South	Stansfield Road, London E6 5LT	Custom House	Custom House and Canning Town	1 artificial wicket
Flanders Playing Field	Melbourne Road, London E6 2RU	Wall End	East Ham	14 grass wickets 2 artificial wickets 3 bay practice nets
Gooseley Playing Fields	St. Alban's Avenue, London E6 6HU	East Ham South	East Ham	1 artificial wicket
Memorial Recreation Ground	Grange Road, London E13 0EQ	Canning Town North	Custom House and Canning Town	1 artificial wicket
NewVic College	Prince Regent Lane, London E13 8SG	Plaistow South	Plaistow	2 bay practice nets
Plashet Park	Plashet Grove, Forest Gate, London E6 1BT	Green Street East	Green Street	3 bay practice nets
West Ham Park	Upton Lane, London E7 9PU	West Ham	Stratford and West Ham	6 grass wickets 4 artificial wickets

- **Available for community use and not used:**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Community Area</b>	<b>Pitch type(s)</b>
Eastlea Community School	Pretoria Road, London E16 4NP	Canning Town North	Custom House and Canning Town	1 artificial wicket
Langdon Academy	Sussex Road, London E6 2PS	Wall End	East Ham	2 artificial wickets
Lister Community School	Southern Road, London E13 9JD	Plaistow South	Plaistow	1 artificial wicket

- **Not available for community use:**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Community Area</b>	<b>Pitch type(s)</b>
Brampton Manor Academy	Roman Road, London E6 3SQ	East Ham South	East Ham	1 artificial wicket
Cumberland School	Oban Close, London E13 8SJ	Plaistow South	Plaistow	1 artificial wicket

- **Not available as disused:**

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Ward</i>	<i>Community Area</i>	<i>Pitch type(s)</i>
Beckton District Park South	Stansfield Road, London E6 5LT	Custom House	Custom House and Canning Town	Grass wickets
Gasworks Sports Ground	Leigh Road, London E6 2AR	Wall End	East Ham	Grass wickets
Gooseley Playing Fields	St. Alban's Avenue, London E6 6HU	East Ham South	East Ham	Grass wickets
New Beckton Park	Savage Gardens, East Ham, London E6 5NB	Beckton	Beckton and Royal Docks	Artificial wicket

- **Indoor cricket facilities:** Indoor facilities with nets for cricket training in Newham are as follows:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Ward</i>	<i>Community Area</i>
Chobham Academy	40, Cheering Lane, London E20 1BD	Stratford and New Town	Stratford and West Ham
East Ham Leisure Centre	324, Barking Road, London E6 7RT	East Ham Central	East Ham
Forest Gate Community School	Forest Lane, London E7 9BB	Forest Gate South	Forest Gate
Langdon Academy	Sussex Road, London E6 2PS	Wall End	East Ham
Lister Community School	Southern Road, London E13 9JD	Plaistow South	Plaistow
Newham Leisure Centre	Prince Regent Lane, London E13 8SD	Plaistow South	Plaistow
NewVic College	Prince Regent Lane, London E13 8SG	Plaistow South	Plaistow
University of East London	Sports Dock, University Way, London E16 2RD	Beckton	Beckton and Royal Docks

## 6.4.2 Cricket facilities quality

The qualitative analysis of pitches in Newham involved visits to all cricket pitches, to undertake the sport-specific non-technical visual inspections produced by the ECB for Sport England's *Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance* (2013). The assessment generated 'scores' for each site by evaluating the condition of:

- **Grass wickets:** This includes presence of line markings, evidence of rolling, grass cut and height, repaired wickets, grass coverage and ball bounce.
- **Outfield:** This includes grass coverage, length of grass, evenness and evidence of unofficial use or damage to the surface.
- **Non-turf wickets:** This includes integration with the surrounding grass, evenness, stump holes any evidence of moss, tears or surface lifting and ball bounce.
- **Changing facilities:** This includes the presence or absence of umpires' provision, toilets, hot/cold water, heating and an assessment of the condition of the building.

- **Non-turf practice nets:** This includes integration with the surrounding grass, surface quality, ball bounce, safety and integrity of the steel frame and nets and safety signage.

The assessment generates a ‘score’ for each site by evaluating the condition of the wickets, outfield, ancillary facilities and practice nets. Blank cells in the table mean that the feature concerned is absent from the site in question. The scores for each cricket pitch site in Newham are as follows:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Wicket</i>		<i>Non-turf</i>		<i>Outfield</i>		<i>Changing</i>		<i>Practice nets</i>	
	<i>Score</i>	<i>Rating</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>Rating</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>Rating</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>Rating</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>Rating</i>
Beckton District Park South	-	-	100%	Good	67%	Standard	80%	Standard	-	-
Eastlea Community School	-	-	25%	Poor	67%	Standard	-	-	-	-
Flanders Playing Field	100%	Good	86%	Good	87%	Good	100%	Good	83%	Good
Gooseley Playing Fields	-	-	86%	Good	67%	Standard	92%	Good	-	-
Langdon Academy	-	-	67%	Standard	67%	Standard	-	-	-	-
Memorial Recreation Ground	-	-	100%	Good	67%	Standard	92%	Good	-	-
NewVic College	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100%	Good
Plashet Park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100%	Good
West Ham Park	100%	Good	100%	Good	87%	Good	92%	Good	75%	Standard

#### 6.4.3 Pitch carrying capacity

The carrying capacity of pitches is related to their quality and is expressed as the number of ‘match equivalents’ that can be accommodated each season. The *Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance* indicates the following seasonal carrying capacities for cricket pitches:

- A ‘good’ quality wicket will accommodate five, a ‘standard’ quality wicket will accommodate four and a ‘poor’ quality wicket will accommodate three matches per season.
- ‘Good’ and ‘Standard’ quality artificial turf wickets accommodate 35 matches per season.
- The seasonal pitch carrying capacity of each outdoor cricket site in Newham is as follows:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Grass wickets</i>	<i>Artificial wickets</i>	<i>Total capacity</i>
Beckton District Park South	-	35	35
Eastlea Community School	-	0	35
Flanders Playing Field	70	70	140
Gooseley Playing Fields	-	35	35
Langdon Academy	-	70	70
Memorial Recreation Ground	-	0	35
West Ham Park	30	140	170
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>450</b>



#### 6.4.4 Pitch maintenance

Grass cricket pitch maintenance in the borough is organised by the managers of the facilities as follows:

- **Council owned pitches:** The Council does not currently provide any grass cricket pitches, but maintains the artificial wickets at Gooseley Playing Fields and Beckton District Park South via a contract with Serco. Active Newham is responsible for pitch bookings and keeps all hiring income. When a booking is made, Active Newham notifies Serco who prepare the pitch and the Council's Grounds Maintenance Strategic Commissioning department who monitor Serco's contract obligations.
- **School-owned pitches:** Schools with cricket pitches make individual arrangements for maintenance, in some cases (such as Eastlea School) relying on non-specialist site maintenance staff), in the PFI-funded schools (such as Lister Community School) relying on the maintenance contact provided under the PFI and in others depending on locally negotiated maintenance arrangements.
- **East London Community Sports Association:** The Association manages the facilities at Memorial Park, but the cricket pitch maintenance arrangements are organised by Newham Council through Serco, its appointed grounds maintenance contractor.
- **Bonny Downs Community Association:** The Association manages the facilities at Flanders Playing Field and organises its own pitch maintenance arrangements.
- **The City of London Corporation:** The Corporation runs the facilities at West Ham Park and undertakes pitch maintenance arrangements through its own contractor

#### 6.4.5 Pitch hire charges

The cost of hiring cricket pitches in Newham compared with other areas show that charges for the Flanders Playing Field pitches are for the most part higher than in neighbouring areas (although this is the only site where a discount for junior teams is offered), whereas those at West Ham Park are lower. Despite this, the pitches at Flanders Playing Field are still used to beyond their carrying capacity (see below).

<i>Pitch</i>	<i>Flanders Pl. Field</i>	<i>West Ham Park</i>	<i>LB Redbridge</i>	<i>LB Barking &amp; Dagenham</i>	<i>LB Waltham Forest</i>
Adult cricket grass wicket (half day)	£100	£53	-	-	-
Adult cricket grass wicket (full day)	£150	£80	£100	£91.44	£152**
Adult cricket artificial wicket (half day)	£75	-	-	-	-
Adult cricket artificial wicket (full day)	£110	-	£55	-	£65
Youth cricket grass wicket (half day)	£65	£35	-	-	-
Youth cricket grass wicket (full day)	£90	£52	-	£45.76	-
Youth cricket artificial wicket (half day)	£50	-	-	-	-
Youth cricket artificial wicket (full day)	£70	-	-	-	-
7 games	-	£525*	£810	£533	£524**
7 games	-	£354*	-	£267	-

## 6.4.6 Ownership, management and security of access

The key issues relating to the ownership, management and security of access of all formal cricket pitch sites in Newham are as follows:

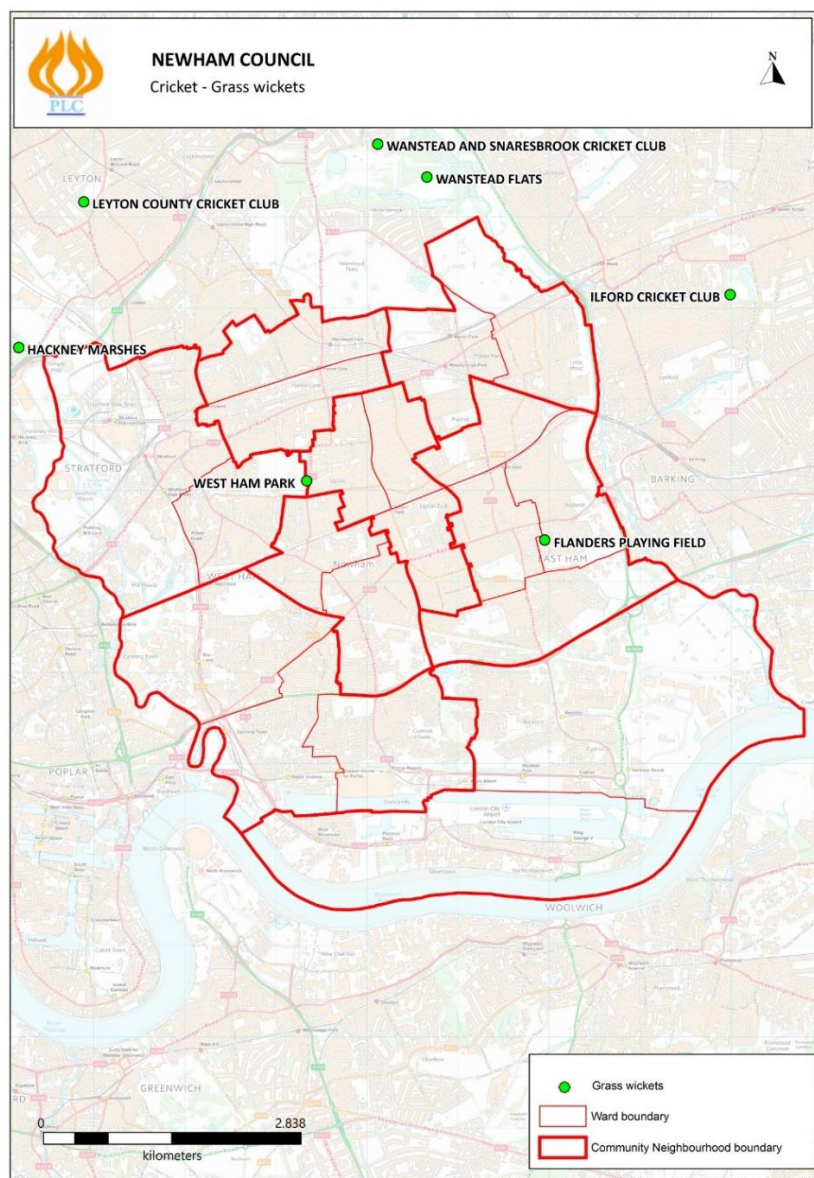
- All the grass wickets in the borough are on sites with secured community access.
- Eight of the ten artificial grass wickets are on sites with secured community access.

## 6.5 Geographical distribution

The geographical distribution of cricket facilities in Newham is set out in the maps below.

- **Grass wickets:** Both sites are central to the borough, which should maximise accessibility, but there is no provision in the ‘Arc of Opportunity’ in the west and south, where most of the new housing growth is planned. Five sites are located just to the north of the borough.

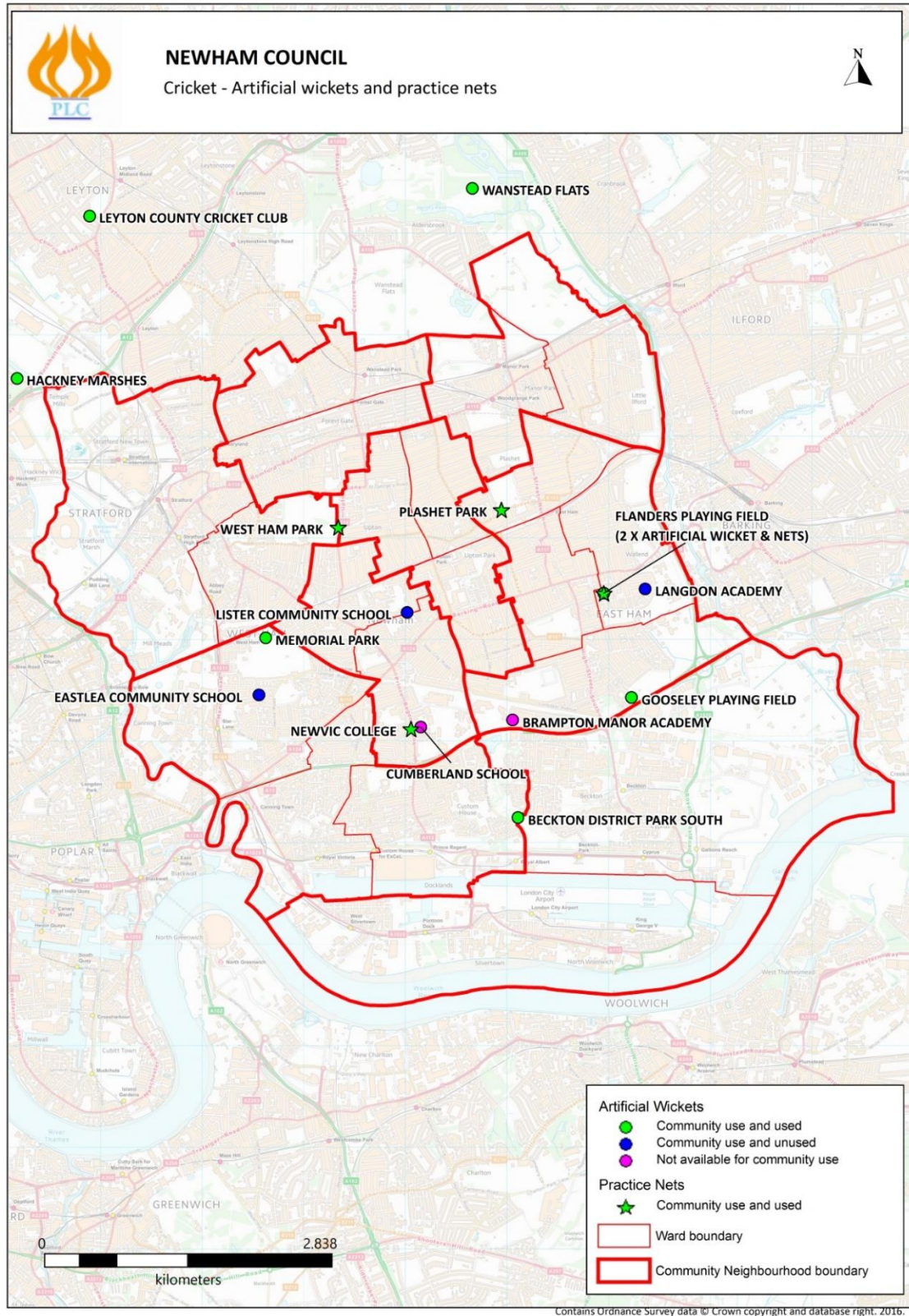
Figure 10: Map of Grass Cricket Wickets in Newham





- **Artificial turf wickets and practice nets:** The distribution of provision is again largely central to the borough, although given the larger number of facilities, geographical coverage is generally wider than for grass wickets.

Figure 11: Map of Artificial Turf Wickets and Practice Nets in Newham



## 6.6 Assessment of current needs

To assess whether the current supply of pitches is adequate to meet existing demand an understanding of the situation at all sites available to the community needs to be developed. This is achieved by providing a brief overview for each site, which comprises:

- A comparison between the carrying capacity of a site with how much demand currently takes place there. The carrying capacity of a site is defined as the amount of play it can regularly accommodate without adversely affecting its quality and use. Demand is defined in terms of the number of ‘match equivalent’ sessions at each site.
- An indication of the extent to which pitches are being used during their peak periods.

The site overviews identify the extent to which pitches are

- **Being overplayed:** Where use exceeds the carrying capacity (highlighted in red in the tables below).
- **Being played to the level the site can sustain:** Where use matches the carrying capacity (highlighted in yellow in the tables below).
- **Potentially able to accommodate some additional play:** Where use falls below the carrying capacity (highlighted in green in the tables below).

In line with ECB guidance, the following assumptions have been made in relation to the number of weekly match equivalents that can be accommodated by different quality pitches:

- Overall capacity is expressed as match equivalents per **season**, as opposed to per **week** for all other pitch types.
- The number of wickets at each site is shown below. Artificial turf wickets are listed in brackets.
- In line with the guidance it has been assumed that a ‘good’ quality wicket will accommodate five matches per season, a ‘standard’ quality wicket will accommodate four and a ‘poor’ quality wicket will accommodate three matches per season.
- Adult teams account for an average of 0.5 ‘home’ games per week and junior teams for 0.35 ‘home’ games per week.
- Artificial turf wickets will accommodate 35 matches per season.
- Aspects of each site shaded in red indicate a deficiency, those shaded in yellow indicate that supply and demand are balanced and those shaded in green have some spare capacity.
- Estimates of the volume of informal matches are based upon three matches per artificial wicket per week for 12 weeks in the summer.

- At all cricket pitch sites in Newham, the outfield double as winter games pitches which has some impact on quality and can limit play during the periods of seasonal overlap. This has been factored in to the calculations below.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Wickets</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Seasonal capacity</i>	<i>Seasonal demand</i>	<i>Seasonal balance</i>	<i>Peak capacity</i>	<i>Peak demand</i>	<i>Peak balance</i>
Beckton District Park South	(1)	Informal matches	35	35	Balanced	3	3	Balanced
Flanders Playing Field	14(2)	Newham Cricket Club NewVic College Stratford Cricket Club UEL Cricket Club 'Cricket for All' Over 40's cricket	140	150	-10	2	2	Balanced
Gooseley Playing Fields	(1)	Informal matches	35	35	Balanced	3	3	Balanced
Memorial Recreation Ground	(1)	Doorstep Sports Club Last Man Stands league	35	30	+5	3	3	Balanced
West Ham Park	6(4)	Amez Cricket Club Bow Green Cricket Club Star Cricket Club West Ham Cricket Club Forest Gate School Little Ilford School St. Bonaventure's School Stratford Academy Holiday courses Last Man Stands league	240	200	+40	4	4	Balanced

The key findings are as follows:

- Peak time utilisation is balanced at all sites, although seasonal usage at the key strategic site of Flanders Playing Field shows an overall deficit.
- There is collective seasonal spare capacity of 35 match equivalents.
- The spare capacity calculation is the same at secured community access sites.

## **6.7 Assessment of future needs**

### **6.7.1 Population growth**

As outlined in section 2.3.7, the 2015 10-year trend projections favoured in the Newham Strategic Housing Market Assessment are regarded as the most accurate basis for forecasting population growth. These project a borough population of 397,112 by 2032 and this figure has been used as the basis for assessing future pitch needs, although the implications of the other population projection scenarios are also modelled in Appendix A.



## 6.7.2 Potential changes in demand

Changes in demand for cricket in the future can also be modelled on a trend-based projection. Two sets of data can help to inform this:

- **'Active People' survey:** The national rates of cricket participation between 2005 and the present, as measured by the 'Active People' survey, are as follows:

2005/06	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	% Change
0.48%	0.49%	0.49%	0.41%	0.51%	0.43%	0.34%	0.37%	0.32%	0.42%	-0.06%

- **National cricket playing survey:** The ECB's most recent 'National Cricket Playing Survey' (2015) identified a 7% decrease in player numbers between 2013 and 2014. The survey also revealed that 30 per cent of grassroots cricketers are drawn from ethnic minorities.

Balancing past trends that identify falling demand against target increases in participation suggests that projecting future need based on current demand patterns is a reasonable basis for forecasting.

## 6.7.3 Site-specific pressures

Flanders Playing Field is under particular usage pressures that will prevent it from accommodating additional future demand without increases in capacity:

- **Cricket use:** Cricket pitch provision at the site is overused by the equivalent of two good quality grass wickets.
- **Football use:** Existing football pitch provision at the site is at full capacity and Bonny Downs Community Association would like to convert its small-sided sand-filled artificial turf pitch to a larger '3G' surface comprising three 25m x 20m pitches to expand capacity.

## 6.7.4 Potential changes in supply

There are no known development threats to any existing pitch sites, including those that are currently disused. However, the following facility development opportunities cited in the 'Newham Cricket Development Plan 2017 - 2020: Exciting, Engaging and Enhancing Our Communities Through Cricket' (2016) would add to future supply as follows:

- Gasworks Sports Ground (turf and artificial turf wickets).
- Three Mills Green (artificial turf wicket).
- Langdon School (turf and artificial turf wickets).
- Beckton District Park South (turf wickets).

### 6.7.5 Existing spare capacity

Existing spare cricket pitch capacity has been calculated in section 6.6 above and indicates seasonal spare capacity of 35 match equivalents. This equates to seven good quality grass wickets or one artificial turf wicket.

### 6.7.6 Future cricket pitch needs

Future cricket pitch needs are modelled below using ‘Team Generation Rates’ (TGRs), which identify how many people in a specified age group in the borough are required to generate one team. These are then applied to projected changes in population to identify the likely number of teams in the future.

- Existing team numbers have been derived from the number of regular affiliated and unaffiliated teams (including Last Man Stands) known to be using formal cricket pitches in the borough.
- The 2015 long-term projections are the figures regarded as most likely to be most accurate in the Newham SHMA and the pitch needs for this scenario have therefore been used as the basis for future planning future needs as follows:
- The extra wickets calculation is based upon the five-game seasonal capacity of a ‘good’ quality grass wicket and an assumption of ten home games per team per season.

The projected extra needs are as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra wickets</i>
Adult males	16-55	114,445	31	1: 3,692	131,228	36	5	10
Adult females	16-55	97,878	0	-	114,845	0	0	0
Junior males	10-15	12,011	14	1: 858	13,483	16	2	4
Junior females	10-15	11,875	0	-	13,674	0	0	0

## 6.8 Key findings and issues

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

- **Demography:** The demographics of Newham are not conducive for a settled formally-affiliated club-based cricket environment:
  - A significant proportion of the population is transient - 20% of borough residents either arrive or leave in any given year.
  - The borough is the eighth most deprived in the country - it has the second highest child poverty rate across London (27.2%) and the highest proportion of children in working families receiving tax credits (44%).
  - Community capacity is limited, so it is more difficult to identify individuals with the skill set to run formal sports club structures, although ingenuity and self-organization is a feature of the informal non-affiliated cricket activity in Newham.

- **An emphasis on informal play:** The ‘Cricket Facilities Strategy for Newham’ (2014) estimated that the volume of demand generated by informal versions of the game is equivalent to 83 teams. This significantly exceeds the number of affiliated (21) and ‘Last Man Stands’ (24) teams in Newham
- **Women and Girls:** Women and girl’s cricket is significantly under-developed in Newham, with no formal teams. This may in part reflect the cultural expectations of an ethnically diverse local population. Whilst there are some limited opportunities to participate at school, there are no female-only cricket development sessions and no pathways into local clubs.
- **Co-ordination:** The Newham Cricket Development Group has been instrumental in bringing together local cricket interest groups and producing a strategic plan for the development of the game in the borough.
- **Grass pitches:** Although the two grass pitches in Newham are rated as ‘good’ quality, clubs elsewhere in outer London and Essex are reluctant to play competitive fixtures there, which limits the opportunity for Newham clubs to join higher standard leagues.
- **Indoor facilities:** Indoor training facilities for cricket in Newham are available at several sports hall sites, but generally lighting and floor surfaces in the borough's sports halls are inadequate for cricket.

### 6.8.2 Is there enough accessible and secured community use to meet current demand?

All the existing cricket facilities in Newham with community use and used are on secured sites. In addition, there are four pitches on three school sites which are available for community use but unused. This suggests that there is sufficient capacity at other sites and perhaps also reflects the informal nature of some play, which does not lend itself to making formal bookings of school facilities. Four further sites, all of which have secured community access, are currently disused but have been for several years so their current unavailability reflects less on current demand levels and more on fact that the pitches are not currently maintained.

### 6.8.3 Is the accessible provision of suitable quality and appropriately maintained?

- **Quality:** All cricket pitches on secured sites with community use and used are ‘good’ or ‘standard’ quality.
- **Maintenance:** All cricket pitches in the borough are appropriately maintained.

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

- **Population growth:** As outlined in section 2.3.7, the 2015 10-year trend projections favoured in the Newham Strategic Housing Market Assessment are regarded as the most accurate basis for forecasting population growth. These project a borough population of 397,112 by 2032 and this figure has been used as the basis for assessing future pitch needs.

- **Changes in demand:** Balancing past trends that identify falling demand against the target increases in participation suggests that projecting future need based in current demand patterns is a reasonable basis for forecasting.
- **Changes in supply:** There are no known development threats to any existing pitch sites, including those that are currently disused. Langdon Academy is currently investigating the feasibility of establishing grass wickets and practice nets at its site, with a view to establishing an 'Inspiration Hub'.
- **Existing spare capacity:** There is currently collective seasonal spare capacity of 35 match equivalents in Newham. This is equivalent to seven 'good' quality grass wickets of one artificial turf wicket.
- **Future needs:** Projected future needs based upon the GLA round 2015 long-term trend projections has identified additional demand equivalent to 14 grass wickets. Since current collective spare capacity equates to seven grass wickets, additional provision equivalent to 7 grass wickets will be required.

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

There is insufficient accessible and secured provision to meet future demand at present, but additional capacity could be created in four ways:

- Utilising provision at one of the three sites with community access that are currently unused (although all are on school sites and usage would therefore not be secured).
- Reinstating facilities at one of the four sites that are currently disused (one of which features in the Newham Cricket Development Plan).
- Supporting the Langdon Academy cricket facilities development proposals, subject to securing community access.
- Enhancing capacity at existing secured sites with community use and used.

## 6.9 Policy recommendations

### 6.9.1 Introduction

The recommendations in relation to cricket are made in the context of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 74, which stipulates that existing open space including playing pitches, should not be built upon unless:

- An assessment has taken place which has clearly shown the open space to be surplus to requirements, or;
- The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality, in a suitable location, or;

- The development is for alternative sport and recreation provision, the needs for which clearly outweighs the loss.

The following recommendations are arranged under the three main headings of ‘protect’, ‘enhance’ and ‘provide’ and reflect:

- The findings of the site-specific supply and demand assessments carried out as part of the current strategy.
- The development objectives and facilities priorities identified by the Newham Cricket Development Group in the *Newham Cricket Development Plan 2017 - 2020: Exciting, Engaging and Enhancing Our Communities Through Cricket* (2016).

### 6.9.2 Protect

**Recommendation 1 - Safeguarding existing provision:** The Newham Playing Pitch Strategy comprises a robust and evidence-based assessment of current and future needs for cricket in the borough. The Strategy has identified a need for all current and disused cricket pitch sites to be retained, on the basis of the specific identified roles that each can play in delivering the needs of the sport in Newham both now and in the future. It is therefore recommended that existing planning policies continue to support the retention of all sites, based upon the evidence in the Playing Pitch Strategy. In the event that any formal or informal pitch sites do become the subject of development proposals, this will only be permissible they are replaced and meet policy exception E4 of Sport England’s Playing Fields Policy. This states that ‘the playing field or playing fields which would be lost as a result of the proposed development must be replaced by a playing field or playing fields of an equivalent or better quality and of equivalent or greater quantity, in a suitable location and subject to equivalent or better management arrangements, prior to the commencement of development’.

**Recommendation 2 - Community access to education facilities:** Only one out of the five cricket pitches on education sites in Newham have secured community access, which leaves a significant proportion of pitches on education sites either with no access currently or vulnerable to loss of access. It is therefore recommended that:

- Efforts are made to secure community use agreements at existing education pitches.
- Community use agreements become a standard condition of planning consent at all new education pitches, along with a design and specification that is consistent with maximising school and community

### 6.9.3 Enhance

**Recommendation 3 - Primary Cricket Hubs:** To support the development of club cricket in Newham, it is recommended that Primary Cricket Hubs, comprising two grass pitches and two non-turf wickets, be designated at the existing sites of West Ham Park and Flanders Playing Field.



**Recommendation 4 - Satellite Cricket Sites:** To support the development of informal and casual cricket in Newham, it is recommended that Satellite Cricket Sites, comprising an artificial turf wicket, be maintained at the existing sites of Memorial Park, Beckton District Park South and Gooseley Playing Field and a new pitch be provided in Little Ilford Park.

**Recommendation 5 - Practice Nets:** To support the development of all forms of cricket in Newham, it is recommended that the practice nets at the existing sites of West Ham Park, Flanders Playing Field and Plashet Park continue to be maintained.

**Recommendation 6 - Developer contributions (enhancements):** Some of the additional demand for cricket arising from the proposed housing development in Newham to 2032, can be accommodated through enhancements to existing pitches and facilities. It is recommended that the site-specific action plan in the Newham Playing Pitch Strategy be used as the basis for determining facility enhancements that demonstrably relate to the scale and location of specific developments and that an appropriate level of financial contributions be sought under Section 106 or CIL arrangements, to cover the capital and revenue implications of the enhancements. To facilitate this, playing pitches should be listed as ‘relevant infrastructure’, under CIL Regulation 123.

#### 6.9.4 Provide

**Recommendation 7 - Cricket Opportunity Sites:** To accommodate additional cricket demand, the following developments should be investigated:

- Re-establishing a grass pitch and non-turf wicket at the Gasworks Sports Ground, Leigh Road.
- Providing a new non-turf pitch at Three Mills Green.
- Developing a grass pitch to supplement the non-turf pitch at Beckton District Park South.
- Providing a grass pitch and non-turf wicket at Langdon Academy for community and education use.
- Developing practice facilities at Newham Leisure Centre and Memorial Park.

**Recommendation 8 - Developer contributions (new provision):** Some of the additional demand for cricket arising from the proposed housing development in Newham to 2032, will need to be accommodated through the provision of new pitches and facilities. It is recommended that the site-specific action plan in the Newham Playing Pitch Strategy be used as the basis for determining which proposed new facilities demonstrably relate to the scale and location of specific developments and that an appropriate level of financial contributions be sought under Section 106 or CIL arrangements, to cover their capital and revenue cost implications. To facilitate this, playing pitches should be listed as ‘relevant infrastructure’, under CIL Regulation 123.

## 6.10 Action Plan

In the context of the high-level recommendations above, the tables below set out the cricket site-specific action plan to guide the implementation of the strategy.

- The abbreviations stand for NCDG - Newham Cricket Development Group and LBN - London Borough of Newham.
- The capital cost estimates are based upon Sport England's 'Facility Costs - Second Quarter of 2016' (2016).
- **High priority actions:**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Issues</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Priority</i>
Flanders Playing Field	Designated as a Primary Cricket Hub. Currently used to over-capacity.	Establish how best to develop extra pitch capacity. Link with the proposals for a Football Hub Site.	NCDG	Bonny Downs Community Association LBN	-	High
West Ham Park	Designated as a Primary Cricket Hub. Currently some spare capacity.	Establish the case for a new grass pitch.	NCDG	City of London Corporation LBN	£75,000 for new grass pitch.	High

- **Medium priority actions:**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Issues</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Priority</i>
Beckton District Park South	Designated as a Satellite Cricket Site and Cricket Opportunity Site. Has an existing non-turf pitch.	Establish the case for a new grass pitch. Link with the proposals for a Football Hub Site.	NCDG	LBN	£50,000 to reinstate grass pitch	Medium
Langdon Academy	Designated as a Cricket Opportunity Site.	Feasibility study to establish the case for new grass and non-turf pitches.	Langdon Academy	NCDG	£5,000 for feasibility study. £95,000 for new grass and non-turf pitches.	Medium
Little Ilford Park	Designated as a Satellite Cricket Site. No existing cricket use.	Establish the case for a new non-turf pitch.	NCDG	LBN	£20,000 for new non-turf pitch.	Medium
Memorial Recreation Ground	Designated as a Satellite Cricket Site. Has an existing non-turf pitch.	Establish the case for new practice nets.	NCDG	LBN	£30,000 for practice nets.	Medium

- *Low priority actions:*

<i>Site</i>	<i>Issues</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Priority</i>
Gasworks Sports Ground	Designated as a Cricket Opportunity Site. Currently disused, but could meet additional future demand.	Establish the case for new grass and non-turf pitches.	LBN	NCDG	£50,000 to reinstate grass pitch. £20,000 for new non-turf pitch.	Low
Gooseley Playing Fields	Designated as a Satellite Cricket Site. Has an existing non-turf pitch.	Establish the case for a new grass pitch.	NCDG	LBN	£50,000 to reinstate grass pitch.	Low
Plasht Park	Designated for practice nets. No existing cricket use.	Establish the case for new practice nets.	NCDG	LBN	£30,000 for practice nets.	Low
Three Mills Green	Designated as a Cricket Opportunity Site. No existing cricket use.	Establish the case for a new non-turf pitch.	NCDG	LBN	£20,000 for new non-turf pitch.	Low



*A Tape Ball cricket game in Plasht Park*

## 7 RUGBY UNION NEEDS IN NEWHAM

### *Key findings*

- **Junior and mini-rugby:** There are no club-based junior or mini-rugby teams in Newham, in part due to the lack of available pitch capacity.
- **Pitch capacity:** The pitches in Memorial Park are currently used to beyond their sustainable capacity.
- **Artificial Grass Pitch:** The AGP at Memorial is already heavily used, is subject to strong football demand and does not comply with the World Rugby Regulation 22 performance specification.
- **Recommendations:**
  - **Existing artificial grass pitch:** The AGP at Memorial Park should be tested for its capacity to comply with the Regulation 22 specification. If it is not possible, it should be re-assigned for football use, subject to the provision of an additional artificial grass pitch at the site which does meet the Regulation 22 specification. The original pitch will need to be resurfaced by 2019 to ensure its continued use.
  - **New artificial grass pitch:** Subject to the outcome of the technical assessment of the existing AGP, it is recommended that a new Regulation 22 specification artificial grass pitch should be provided at Memorial Park, primarily to serve the current and future needs of rugby union and rugby league in Newham, but also to provide for some football needs at the site.
  - **Safeguarding existing provision:** Given the identified needs, planning policy should support the retention of all pitches and other facilities used for rugby.
  - **Community access to education facilities:** Formal community use agreements should be pursued to secure access to existing and any future school pitches.
  - **Developer contributions:** This strategy should provide the basis for seeking developer contributions under Section 106 or CIL arrangements, to meet additional rugby facility needs arising from housing growth.

### 7.1 Organisational context

- **Rugby Football Union:** The RFU is the governing body of the sport and supports the development of the game in Newham.
- **RFU-affiliated clubs:** There are three clubs based in the borough, who collectively field nine adult teams, but none has any junior or mini-rugby teams.
- **Active Newham:** Active Newham organises a range of rugby development programmes.
- **Further and higher education:** The University of East London has two rugby union teams.
- **East London Community Sports Association:** The Association manages the rugby facilities at Memorial Park under contract from the Council, which are the only community-accessible rugby pitches in the borough.

## 7.2 Strategic context

### 7.2.1 National rugby facilities strategy

The RFU's *National Facilities Strategy for Rugby Union in England 2013 - 2017* (2013) provides a framework for facility provision.

- 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.
- Increase the number of Artificial Turf Pitches.
- Improve social, community and catering facilities, which can support diversification and the generation of additional revenues.
- Invest in facility upgrades to increase energy-efficiency, to reduce the running costs of clubs.

### 7.2.2 Neighbouring local authorities

Playing pitch strategies in neighbouring boroughs identify cross-boundary issues:

#### ***Tower Hamlets***

- Millwall Rugby Club is based in Millwall Park and has men's, women's and junior teams. The club also uses pitches at Hackney Marshes, so there is some exported demand although this causes capacity issues at Hackney Marshes.
- Tag Rugby has been extensively promoted in schools in the borough.

#### ***Hackney***

- The borough has rugby pitches at Hackney Marshes (3) and Springfield Park (2).
- The pitches at Hackney Marshes are occasionally used by UEL, so there is some imported demand from Newham. When combined with other users, this creates some capacity issues.

#### ***Waltham Forest***

- There is a current boroughwide shortfall of 0.5 rugby pitches. The lack of accessible, high quality pitches is suppressing demand.
- 2 - 4 additional rugby pitches are needed to meet future needs, close to the current clubs in Woodford and Chingford.

#### ***Redbridge***

- There is current deficit of rugby pitch provision collectively equivalent to 2.25 pitches.
- There is a projected future deficit collectively equivalent to a further 4 pitches.
- The RFU is actively pursuing the provision of a rugby-compliant AGP at Eton Manor RFC, that will offer some additional capacity for demand from Newham if required.

#### ***Barking and Dagenham***

- There is an undersupply of rugby pitches in the borough that equates to a deficit of 2.4 pitches for adults and 16.5 pitches for juniors.
- It is therefore a priority of the RFU that all existing pitches need to be protected, that carrying capacity improved where possible at existing pitches and that opportunities are provided for training on '3G' pitches to relieve pressure.
- There is projected future deficiency of 2.7 pitches for adults and 16.8 pitches for juniors.



### 7.2.3 Implications of the strategic context

The implications of the strategic context for rugby union in Newham are:

- **Existing deficits:** Most neighbouring boroughs have a shortfall in rugby union pitch provision, which limits the potential for exporting demand from Newham.
- **Future deficits:** In all cases where a detailed assessment has been undertaken, rugby pitch shortfalls are projected to increase in the future. Artificial Grass Pitches may offer some additional capacity, but these need to comply with a specification based on World Rugby's Regulation 22 to accommodate competitive play and contact training.

## 7.3 Rugby Union demand

### 7.3.1 RFU-affiliated clubs and teams

The following clubs affiliate to the RFU. There is no known casual rugby in the borough outside of the club structure:

<i>Club</i>	<i>Match venue</i>	<i>Training venue</i>	<i>Adult teams</i>	<i>Junior teams</i>	<i>Mini teams</i>
East London Rugby Club	Memorial Park	Memorial Park	4	0	0
Kings Cross Steelers RFC	Memorial Park	Memorial Park	3	0	0
Univ. East London RFC	Hackney Marshes	Memorial Park	2	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	-	-	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### 7.3.2 Education demand

The key demand features are as follows:

- **Secondary schools:** No competitive rugby union is played in secondary schools in the borough.
- **Primary schools:** The following primary schools play in Tag Rugby tournaments at Newham Leisure Centre, Langdon Academy and Chobham Academy:
  - Britannia Village Primary School.
  - Curwen Primary School.
  - Grange Primary School.
  - Hartley Primary School.
  - Kaizen Primary School.
  - Keir Hardie Primary School.
  - Ravenscroft Primary School.
  - Rosetta Primary School.
  - Sandringham Primary School.
  - Scott Wilkie Primary School.
  - Tollgate Primary School.

- **Further education:** NewVic College has a seven-a-side rugby teams that trains and plays at Memorial Park.

### 7.3.3 Rugby development programmes

The key demand features are:

- **Tag Rugby:** Active Newham runs free mixed taster sessions for Tag Rugby at Memorial Park throughout the year, with evening leagues operating at Memorial Park, Chobham Academy and the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.
- **Doorstep Sports Clubs:** Doorstep Sports Clubs are run by Street Games and provide fun, informal and exciting multi-sport sessions at a low cost and on the doorsteps of young people aged 14 to 25. Rugby has been included in the new club launched at Memorial Park.
- **Every Child a Sports Person:** The programme for secondary schools is delivered by Active Newham and provides introductory sports sessions to year seven students in all of Newham's secondary schools, so that young people have the opportunity to try out a range of sports including rugby that are not usually delivered as part of the curriculum.
- **East London Community Sports Association:** The Association has been commissioned by the Council to deliver rugby outreach as part of a schools' programme, with the aim of develop the youth offer at the Rugby Club.

### 7.3.4 Demand trends

Sport England's 'Active People' survey national data for rugby union indicates that the percentage of adults who played rugby the four weeks prior to each survey has remained static in the period since 2005.

### 7.3.5 Displaced demand

The University of East London Rugby Club plays its matches at Hackney Marshes, but all other demand for rugby union from Newham is contained within the borough.

### 7.3.6 Unmet demand

Unmet demand takes a number of forms:

- Teams may have access to a pitch for matches but nowhere to train or vice versa.
- Some pitches may be unavailable to the community.
- The poor quality and consequent limited capacity of pitches in the area and/or a lack of provision and ancillary facilities which meet a certain standard of play/league requirement.

Consultation with local clubs indicated that the existing rugby facilities at Memorial Park are currently used to capacity, which inhibits further team growth at present.

### 7.3.7 Latent demand

Whereas unmet demand is known to currently exist latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision. Latent demand for rugby union in the borough has been estimated as follows:

- The ‘Active People’ survey showed that in 2015/16 the participation rate for rugby union was 0.46% of the adult population.
- Newham's adult (16+) population is 238,500. Applying the national participation rate to this population means suggests that there should be 1,097 active rugby union players in the borough.
- With nine teams in Newham at present, there are currently 225 active rugby players (assuming a pool of 25 players per team), which suggests that there is latent demand for a further 872 players, based upon the national participation profile.
- Given that Newham’s overall club-based sports participation rates are only 51.1% the Londonwide average, a more accurate indication of latent demand taking account of local circumstances would be to factor in local team participation rates to the national rugby union figure, which produces an estimate of overall demand of 560 players. Deducting the 225 existing players from this figure produces a revised adult (16+) latent demand figure of 335 players (equivalent to around 13 teams).

## 7.4 Rugby supply in Newham

### 7.4.1 Quantity

Provision of rugby pitches in Newham is set out below:

- **Available for community use:** Usage of the ‘3G’ pitch, which was installed in 2009, is shared with football, with rugby union training use comprising 46% of the total peak time use. All the pitches are floodlit:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Ward</i>	<i>Community Area</i>	<i>Pitches</i>
Memorial Recreation Ground	Grange Road, London E13 0EQ	Canning Town North	Custom House and Canning Town	3 adult rugby 1 AGP

- **Available for community use and not used:** There are no rugby pitches that are available for community use and not used.
- **Not available for community use:**

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Ward</i>	<i>Community Area</i>	<i>Pitch type(s)</i>
Chobham Academy	40, Cheering Lane, London E20 1BD	Stratford and New Town	Stratford and West Ham	1 junior rugby
Langdon Academy	Sussex Road, London E6 2PS	Wall End	East Ham	1 junior rugby

- **Not available as disused:** There are no rugby pitches that are available for community use that are disused.

#### 7.4.2 Grass pitch quality

The qualitative analysis involved visits to the Memorial Park pitches during the playing season, to undertake the sport-specific non-technical visual inspections produced by the RFU for Sport England’s *Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance*’ (2013). The assessment generated ‘scores’ for each site by evaluating the condition of:

- **Pitch drainage:** Inadequately naturally drained (scores D0), adequately naturally drained (scores D1) pipe drained (scores (D2) and pipe and slit drained pitches (scores D3).
- **Grounds maintenance:** Frequency of aeration, sand-dressing, fertilising, weed killing and chain harrowing. This generates scores of ‘Poor’ (M0), ‘Adequate’ (M1) and ‘Good’ (M2).

The scores for each community-accessible grass rugby pitch in Newham are as follows:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Drainage</i>	<i>Maintenance</i>
Memorial Park Pitch One	D2	M2
Memorial Park Pitch Two	D1	M1
Memorial Park Pitch Three	D1	M1

The quality of changing facilities at Memorial Park is rated as ‘good’

The presence and quality of floodlights affects midweek training capacity. All of the grass pitches at Memorial Park are floodlit and the lighting arrangements are rated as ‘good’ quality.

#### 7.4.3 Grass pitch carrying capacity

The carrying capacity of grass pitches is related to their quality and is expressed as the number of ‘match equivalents’ that can be accommodated each week. The *Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance*’ indicates the following weekly carrying capacities for rugby pitches:

<i>Drainage</i>	<i>Maintenance</i>		
	<i>Poor</i>	<i>Standard</i>	<i>Good</i>
Natural inadequate	0.5	1.0	2.0
Natural adequate	1.5	2.0	3.0
Pipe drained	1.75	2.5	3.25
Pipe and slit drained	2.0	3.0	3.5

The weekly carrying capacity of the three grass rugby pitches in Newham is as follows:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Memorial Park Pitch One	3.25
Memorial Park Pitch Two	2.0
Memorial Park Pitch Three	2.0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>7.25</b>

#### 7.4.4 Artificial Grass Pitch quality

The quality of the Artificial Grass Pitch at Memorial Park was assessed from a site visit, to apply the Non-technical Visual Assessment criteria developed for use in conjunction with the *Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance*. The assessment generates an overall ‘score’ by evaluating the playing surface, fencing, floodlighting, disability access and changing provision.

The pitch assessment generated a rating of ‘standard’ in terms of its rugby use, mainly because the pitch is not compliant with the Regulation 22 specification for competitive matches and contact training.

#### 7.4.5 Artificial Grass Pitch carrying capacity

The carrying capacity of Artificial Grass Pitches is defined in terms of peak-time availability. This is typically midweek evenings amounting to a total of 25 hours per week. At Memorial Park, pitch usage is shared with football, to the extent that rugby use is 46% of the total, equating to 12 hours per week of available peak-time capacity.

#### 7.4.6 Pitch maintenance

Whilst East London Community Sports Association manages the facilities at Memorial Park, the pitch maintenance arrangements are organised by Newham Council through Serco, its appointed grounds maintenance contractor. This arrangement has caused problems on some occasions, with a complicated structure for ensuring that pitch bookings details are correlated with maintenance schedules. It is currently being reviewed.

#### 7.4.7 Pitch hire charges

Charges for the Memorial Park pitches are marginally higher than in Barking and Dagenham and significantly lower than in Waltham Forest, so this is unlikely to cause any demand migration.

<i>Area</i>	<i>Cost (£)</i>
Memorial Park	£79
Barking and Dagenham	£70.50
Waltham Forest	£105

#### 7.4.8 Ownership, management and security of access

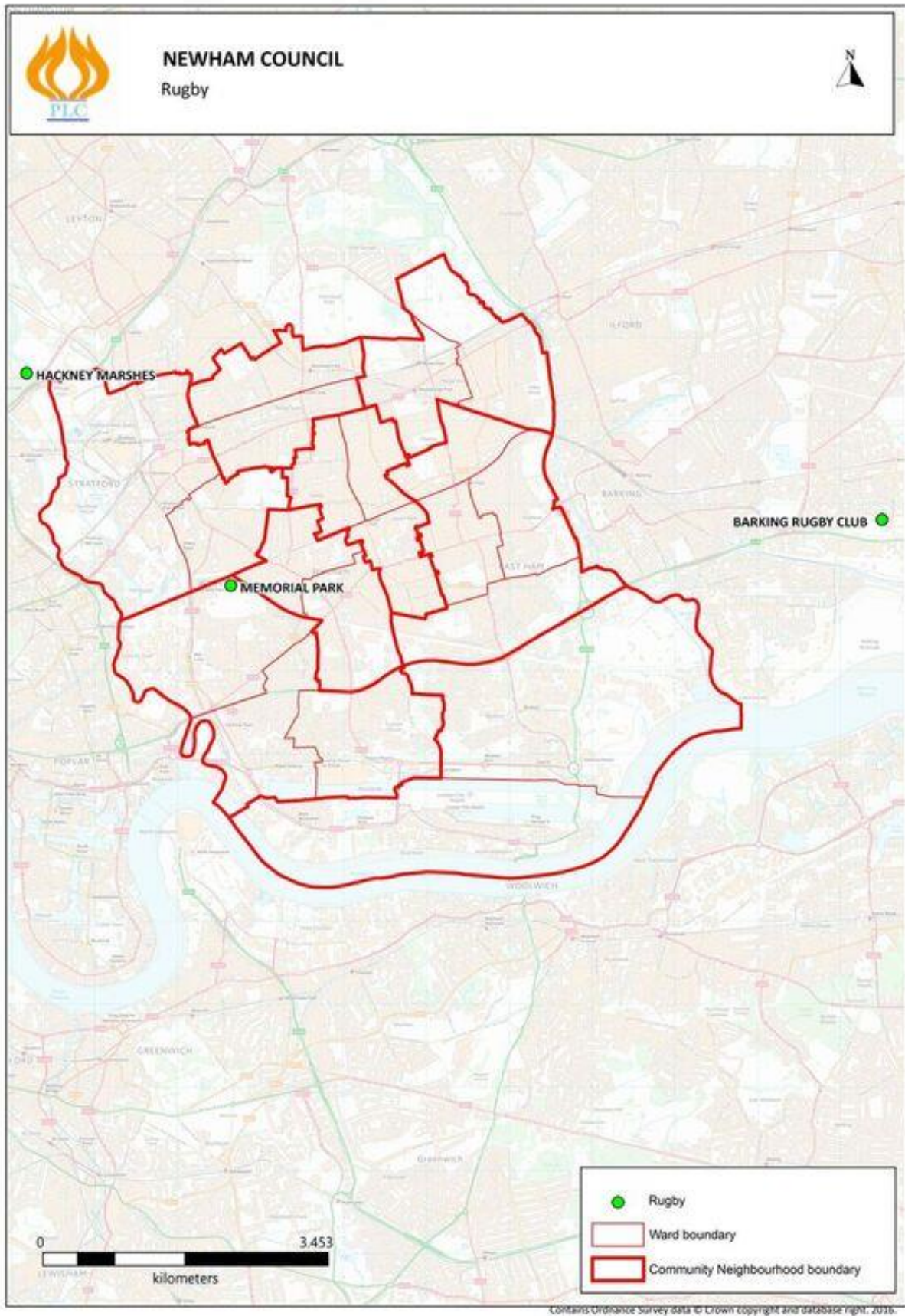
All the adult rugby pitches in the borough are on a site with secured community access.

### 7.5 Geographical distribution

The geographical distribution of rugby facilities in Newham is set out in the map below. The single site is located relatively centrally within the borough. It is well connected to the public transport network and has on-site car parking. There are two further sites just outside Newham.



Figure 12: Map of grass rugby union pitches in Newham



## 7.6 Assessment of current needs

To assess whether the current supply of pitches is adequate to meet existing demand an understanding of the situation at all sites available to the community needs to be developed. This is achieved by providing a brief overview for each site, which comprises:

- A comparison between the carrying capacity of a site and how much demand currently takes place there. The carrying capacity of a site is defined as the amount of play it can regularly accommodate without adversely affecting its quality and use. Demand is defined in terms of the number of ‘match equivalent’ sessions at each site.
- An indication of the extent to which pitches are being used during their peak periods.

The site overviews identify the extent to which pitches are

- **Being overplayed:** Where use exceeds the carrying capacity (highlighted in red in the table below).
- **Being played to the level the site can sustain:** Where use matches the carrying capacity.
- **Potentially able to accommodate some additional play:** Where use falls below the carrying capacity.

As per RFU guidance, rugby pitch capacity, demand and the resultant balance are expressed as ‘match equivalent’ sessions, both weekly and at peak times.

Site	Pitches	Users	Weekly capacity	Weekly demand	Weekly balance	Peak capacity	Peak demand	Peak balance
Memorial Recreation Ground	3	East London Rugby Club	7.25	4.0	-1.75	3.0	2.0	-0.5
		Kings Cross Steelers RFC		3.0			1.5	
		UEL Rugby Club		2.0			0	

The key findings are:

- The weekly and peak time supply and demand figures both identify a deficit.
- All rugby training takes place on the Artificial Grass Pitch at Memorial and on a floodlit grass training area, which relieves some pressure on the grass pitches. However, the Artificial Grass Pitch is not compliant with the Regulation 22 specification so cannot accommodate competitive matches or be used for contact training.
- The Artificial Grass Pitch is the most heavily utilised in Newham, being used to 84% capacity at the peak period. Rugby use currently accounts for just under half (46%) of the overall use and there is limited capacity to expand this further.
- The site has secured community access.

## 7.7 Assessment of future needs

### 7.7.1 Population growth

As outlined in section 2.3.7, the 2015 10-year trend projections favoured in the Newham Strategic Housing Market Assessment are regarded as the most accurate basis for forecasting population growth. These project a borough population of 397,112 by 2032 and this figure has been used as the basis for assessing future pitch needs, although the implications of the other population projection scenarios are also modelled in Appendix A.

### 7.7.2 Potential changes in demand

Changes in demand for rugby union in the in future can also be modelled on a trend-based projection. Sport England's 'Active People' survey national data for rugby union indicates that the percentage of adults who played rugby the four weeks prior to each survey has remained static in the period since 2005.

2005/06	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	% Change
0.46%	0.56%	0.50%	0.46%	0.42%	0.42%	0.37%	0.43%	0.40%	0.46%	0.00%

Current and planned rugby union development initiatives in Newham are as follows:

- **Tag Rugby:** Active Newham runs free mixed taster sessions for Tag Rugby at Memorial Park throughout the year, with evening leagues operating at Memorial Park and the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.
- **Doorstep Sports Clubs:** Doorstep Sports Clubs are run by Street Games and provide fun, informal and exciting multi-sport sessions at a low cost and on the doorsteps of young people aged 14 to 25. Rugby has been included in the new club launched at Memorial Park.
- **Every Child a Sports Person:** The programme for secondary schools is delivered by Active Newham and provides introductory sports sessions for year seven students in all of Newham's secondary schools, so that young people have the opportunity to try out 20 sports including rugby that are not usually delivered as part of the curriculum.
- **East London Community Sports Association:** The Association has been commissioned by the Council to deliver rugby outreach as part of a schools' programme, with the aim of develop the youth offer at the Rugby Club.

Balancing past trends that identify static demand against proposed rugby development activity suggests that projecting future adult need based on current demand patterns is a reasonable basis for forecasting, but that an increase in junior and mini activity is likely.

### 7.7.3 Site-specific pressures

The overuse of the grass pitches at Memorial Recreation Ground will prevent them from accommodating extra future demand without increases in capacity. This could be achieved by:

- Reinstating the Artificial Grass Pitch to full compliance with the World Rugby Regulation 22 specification (and hence suitability to cater for competitive matches or contact training) and transferring some or all current football usage to other existing or new ‘3G’ pitches.
- Providing a second Artificial Grass Pitch at the site.
- Improved grass pitch quality (and hence carrying capacity).

#### 7.7.4 Potential changes in supply

There are no known potential changes to rugby pitch supply.

#### 7.7.5 Existing spare capacity

There is a weekly shortfall of 1.75 match equivalents at the grass pitches at present, with limited peak time spare capacity (four hours) at the Artificial Grass Pitch.

#### 7.7.6 Future rugby pitch needs

Future rugby pitch needs are modelled below using ‘Team Generation Rates’ (TGRs), which identify how many people in a specified age group in the borough are required to generate one team. These are then applied to projected changes in population to identify the likely number of teams in the future.

- Existing adult team numbers are based on the participation data supplied by the RFU.
- Junior and mini team ‘current’ numbers are based upon an estimate of the outcome of current rugby development initiatives with those age groups.
- The 2015 long-term projections are the figures regarded as most likely to be most accurate in the Newham SHMA and the pitch needs for this scenario have therefore been used as the basis for future planning future needs as follows:
- The extra pitches calculation is based upon the weekly capacity of a pipe-drained grass pitch with standard maintenance.
- The additional projected usage levels correspond with 15 hours of peak time usage of an Artificial Grass Pitch, which on the basis of a 25 hour per week peak period, equates to 0.6 of an Artificial Grass Pitch.

The projected future needs are as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult males	19-45	89,797	8	1: 11,225	100,571	9	1	0.5
Adult females	19-45	74,018	1	1: 74,018	86,071	1	0	0
Junior males	13-18	12,309	0	-	13,093	2*	2	1.0
Junior females	13-18	11,984	0	-	13,558	0	0	0
Mini-rugby (mixed)	7-12	30,276	0	-	28,817	2*	2	0.5

\* Based upon participation targets



## 7.8 Key findings and issues

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

- **Junior and mini-rugby:** Despite a number of past initiatives to develop junior and mini-rugby in the borough, none has resulted in sustainable teams within the club environment. In part this reflects the lack of pitch capacity at Memorial, but developing better pathways from the current and planned initiatives in Newham and a more organised 'offer' within the club set-up would help to make junior rugby more sustainable.
- **Grass pitches:** The existing grass pitches are currently used to beyond their sustainable capacity. All three are already floodlit, so additional lighting is not an option to expand use. Pitch drainage and maintenance could be improved to enhance overall weekly capacity, but this would not solve the issue of the deficit in the peak demand period.
- **Artificial Grass Pitch:** The Artificial Grass Pitch at Memorial is already heavily used and is also subject to strong football demand. One option would be to provide a second Artificial Grass Pitch at the site, to expand capacity and create a football 'Hub Site' shared with rugby. An alternative might involve developing additional football pitch capacity elsewhere, to free-up more capacity at Memorial, subject to reinstating the current pitch to full compliance with the World Rugby Regulation 22 specification.

### 7.8.2 Is there enough accessible and secured community use to meet current demand?

- **Grass pitches:** There is insufficient grass pitch capacity to meet current needs.
- **Artificial Grass Pitch:** There is four hours per week of peak usage capacity available at the Memorial Artificial Grass Pitch.

### 7.8.3 Is the accessible provision of suitable quality and appropriately maintained?

The current maintenance arrangements have caused problems on some occasions, particularly in relation to rugby league use of the site during the summer, with a complicated structure for ensuring that pitch bookings details are correlated with maintenance schedules. It is currently being reviewed.

- **Grass pitches:** The drainage and maintenance of the grass pitches at Memorial is rated as at least 'adequate' for all three pitches.
- **Artificial Grass Pitch:** The non-compliance of the Memorial Artificial Grass Pitch with the Regulation 22 specification relates in part to an inadequate maintenance regime.



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

- **Population growth:** As outlined in section 2.3.7, the 2015 10-year trend projections favoured in the Newham Strategic Housing Market Assessment are regarded as the most accurate basis for forecasting population growth. These project a borough population of 397,112 by 2032 and this figure has been used as the basis for assessing future pitch needs.
- **Changes in demand:** Junior and mini-rugby development initiatives are projected to lead to the formation of four additional teams by 2032. Population growth in the same period will lead to demand equivalent to an additional adult male team.
- **Changes in supply:** The proposed rugby-compliant Artificial Grass Pitch at Eton Manor Rugby Club might offer some additional capacity for rugby demand from Newham.
- **Existing grass pitch spare capacity:** There is no current spare capacity, with a weekly deficit equivalent to 1.75 match equivalents.
- **Existing artificial grass pitch spare capacity:** There is four hours per week of peak time spare capacity at present.
- **Future needs:** Additional future needs equate to demand for two grass pitches or 0.6 of an Artificial Grass Pitch.

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

There is insufficient accessible and secured provision to meet future demand at present, but additional capacity could be created in two ways:

- Enhancing the carrying capacity of the existing grass rugby pitches, with drainage and maintenance improvements.
- Providing a second Artificial Grass Pitch at Memorial, as part of a 'Hub Site' shared with football and rugby league.

### 7.9 Scenario Testing

#### 7.9.1 Introduction

Based upon the key findings and issues identified above, a number of scenarios have been examined, to identify the optimum approach to addressing needs.

#### 7.9.2 Scenario 1: Enhancing grass rugby pitch carrying capacity at Memorial

- **Rationale:** The three existing grass rugby pitches at Memorial Park have a collective weekly carrying capacity of 7.25 match equivalents per week, based upon the current pitch construction and grounds maintenance regimes. However, if the pitches were upgraded to a pipe and slit drained construction and the maintenance improved to good, the collective weekly carrying capacity would increase to 10.5 match equivalents, creating a weekly surplus of 3.25 match equivalents.

- **Advantages:** The advantages of this scenario are as follows:
  - The additional weekly pitch carrying capacity created would be sufficient to meet all current rugby union needs.
  - The extra capacity should also enable the needs of rugby league to be met at Memorial, subject to the summer maintenance schedule.
  - The capital costs of grass pitch improvements are less than the costs of an extra artificial grass pitch.
- **Disadvantages:** The disadvantages of this scenario are as follows:
  - The peak time carrying capacity would be unaffected, which means that the current peak-time deficit would remain at 0.5 matches per week for current demand.
  - The revenue costs of an enhanced grounds maintenance regime for grass pitches would be substantially higher than the maintenance costs of an artificial turf pitch, although the latter would also require financial provision for a 'sinking fund' for carpet replacement every ten years or so.
  - Future peak-time demand increases of two pitch equivalents cannot all be accommodated by improving the grass pitches at Memorial, so a deficit would emerge by 2032.
- **Conclusions:** Grass pitch improvements would not provide for all current and future rugby union needs in Newham.

### 7.9.3 Scenario 2: Expand artificial turf pitch capacity at Memorial

- **Rationale:** Whilst the existing artificial grass pitch at Memorial does not currently comply with the World Rugby Regulation 22 specification, it is on the FA's '3G' Pitch Register so there are no restrictions on its use for football. Providing a new rugby-compliant artificial grass pitch on the grass rugby pitch immediately to the south of the existing pavilion would enable all rugby use of the existing artificial grass pitch to transfer to the new facility, freeing up the 46% of peak-time use by rugby for football.
- **Advantages:** The advantages of this scenario are as follows:
  - The provision of a new rugby-compliant artificial grass pitch would expand the overall carrying capacity of the site by 20 peak-time match equivalents, to allow most of the competitive matches and full-contact training to be transferred from the currently over-used grass rugby pitches.
  - Subject to the outcome of a feasibility study, a football Hub Site may be established at Memorial Park, so there is potential synergy with rugby and any spare capacity on the new artificial grass pitch is likely to be taken up by extra football demand.
  - There would be capacity to accommodate the current and future needs of rugby league at the site.

- There would be capacity to accommodate all additional future rugby union needs at the site to at least 2032.
- **Disadvantages:** There are no obvious disadvantages to this scenario.
- **Conclusions:** Further feasibility work should be considered to establish the case for providing a second artificial grass pitch at Memorial Park. If the need is confirmed, it could be partially funded through the Rugby Share programme.

## 7.10 Policy recommendations

### 7.10.1 Introduction

The recommendations in relation to rugby union are made in the context of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 74, which stipulates that existing open space including playing pitches, should not be built upon unless:

- An assessment has taken place which has clearly shown the open space to be surplus to requirements, or;
- The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality, in a suitable location, or;
- The development is for alternative sport and recreation provision, the needs for which clearly outweighs the loss.

The following recommendations are arranged under the three main headings of ‘protect’, ‘enhance’ and ‘provide’ and reflect the findings of the site-specific supply and demand assessments carried out as part of the current strategy.

### 7.10.2 Protect

**Recommendation 1 - Safeguarding existing provision:** The Newham Playing Pitch Strategy comprises a robust and evidence-based assessment of current and future needs for rugby union in the borough. Memorial Park is the key rugby site in the borough and the Strategy has identified the need for enhanced capacity at the site, to meet the needs of the sport in Newham both now and in the future. It is therefore recommended that existing planning policies continue to support the retention of the site, based upon the evidence in the Playing Pitch Strategy. In the event that any pitch sites do become the subject of development proposals, this will only be permissible they are replaced and meet policy exception E4 of Sport England’s Playing Fields Policy. This states that ‘the playing field or playing fields which would be lost as a result of the proposed development must be replaced by a playing field or playing fields of an equivalent or better quality and of equivalent or greater quantity, in a suitable location and subject to equivalent or better management arrangements, prior to the commencement of development’.

**Recommendation 2 - Community access to education facilities:** Only two junior rugby pitches are provided on school sites in Newham and neither has community access. Whilst this does not cause a problem at present, future rugby development programmes involving schools may find it advantageous to be able to access the additional pitches. It is therefore recommended that:

- Efforts are made to secure community use agreements at existing schools pitches.
- Community use agreements become a standard condition of planning consent at any new school rugby pitches, along with a design and specification that is consistent with maximising school and community

### 7.10.3 Enhance

**Recommendation 3 - Existing artificial grass pitch:** It is recommended that the existing artificial grass pitch at Memorial Park be tested for its capacity to comply with the World Rugby Regulation 22 specification. If it is not possible, an additional study should be undertaken to establish the feasibility of providing an additional artificial grass pitch at the site which does meet the World Rugby Regulation 22 specification. The original pitch was laid in 2009, so will need to be resurfaced in the next two years to ensure its continued use.

**Recommendation 4 - Developer contributions (enhancements):** Some of the additional demand for rugby union arising from the proposed housing development in Newham to 2032, can be accommodated through enhancements to the existing pitches and facilities at Memorial Park. It is recommended that the action plan in the Newham Playing Pitch Strategy be used as the basis for determining facility enhancements that demonstrably relate to the scale and location of specific developments and that an appropriate level of financial contributions be sought under Section 106 or CIL arrangements, to cover the capital and revenue implications of the enhancements. To facilitate this, playing pitches should be listed as ‘relevant infrastructure’, under CIL Regulation 123.

### 7.10.4 Provide

**Recommendation 5 - New artificial grass pitch:** Subject to the outcome of the technical assessment of the existing artificial grass pitch, it is recommended that a new World Rugby Regulation 22 specification artificial grass pitch should be provided at Memorial Park, primarily to serve the current and future needs of rugby union and rugby league in Newham, but also to provide for some football needs at the site.

**Recommendation 6 - Developer contributions (new provision):** All the additional demand for rugby union arising from the proposed housing development in Newham to 2032, will need to be accommodated through the provision of a new artificial grass pitch at Memorial Park. It is recommended that the action plan in the Newham Playing Pitch Strategy be used as the basis for determining that the new pitch at Memorial Park demonstrably relates to the scale and location of specific developments and that an appropriate level of financial contributions be sought under Section 106 or CIL arrangements, to cover the capital and revenue cost implications. To facilitate this, playing pitches should be listed as ‘relevant infrastructure’, under CIL Regulation 123.

## 7.11 Action Plan

In the context of the high-level recommendations above, the tables below set out the rugby union action plan to guide the implementation of the strategy.

- The abbreviations stand for ELCSA - East London Community Sports Association, RFU - Rugby Football Union and LBN - London Borough of Newham.

- The capital cost estimates are based upon Sport England’s *Facility Costs - Second Quarter of 2016*’ (2016).

<i>Site</i>	<i>Issues</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Priority</i>
Memorial Park	Artificial grass pitch is not World Rugby Reg 22 compliant. Grass pitches currently used to over-capacity.	Establish the case for a new artificial grass pitch. Resurface existing artificial grass pitch with football ‘3G’.	LBN	East London Community Sports Association RFU	£1,220,000 for new artificial grass pitch. £100,000 to resurface.	High



*East London Rugby Club playing at Memorial Park*



## 8 RUGBY LEAGUE NEEDS IN NEWHAM

### *Key findings*

- ***Newham Dockers RLC:*** The only Newham-based club currently plays its home games outside the borough, because of difficulties in meeting its pitch needs at Memorial Park.
- ***Recommendations:***
  - ***Existing artificial grass pitch:*** The AGP at Memorial Park should be tested for its capacity to comply with the Rugby Football League AGP specification. If it is not possible, it should be re-assigned for football use, subject to the provision of an additional artificial grass pitch at the site which does meet the RFL AGP specification. The original pitch will need to be resurfaced by 2019 to ensure its continued use.
  - ***New artificial grass pitch:*** Subject to the outcome of the technical assessment of the existing AGP, it is recommended that a new RFL specification artificial grass pitch should be provided at Memorial Park, primarily to serve the current and future needs of rugby union and rugby league in Newham, but also to provide for some football needs at the site.
  - ***Grass pitch quality:*** Summer use of the grass pitches for rugby league is problematic because of the seasonal maintenance schedule, which should be reviewed.
  - ***Safeguarding existing provision:*** Given the identified needs, planning policy should support the retention of all pitches and other facilities used for rugby league.
  - ***Community access to education facilities:*** Formal community use agreements should be pursued to secure access to existing and any future school pitches.
  - ***Developer contributions:*** This strategy should provide the basis for seeking developer contributions under Section 106 or CIL arrangements, to meet additional rugby league facility needs arising from housing growth.

### 8.1 Organisational context

- ***Rugby Football League:*** The RFL is the governing body of the sport and supports the development of the game in Newham.
- ***London Rugby League Foundation:*** The Foundation is a charitable trust established to increase participation and engagement in rugby league in London and the surrounding counties. Prior to 2010, there was no rugby league in Newham, but between 2011 and 2013, two full-time coaches were engaged to develop the game in Newham and surrounding boroughs, with activity focused at the rugby pitches in Memorial Park. Since funding for the project ceased, junior rugby league activity in Newham has been confined to rugby league festivals for five secondary school year groups at Memorial Park, organised by the LRLF and work with 10-12 primary schools, with the aim of creating a primary rugby league section at Newham Dockers, for 7-11 year olds.
- ***Newham Dockers RLC:*** Newham Dockers is the only rugby league club in the borough. It currently fields one adult team in the London and South-East League and recently started a primary section for 6-11 year olds. The Club was previously based at Memorial Park, but currently plays its matches at Hackney Marshes and trains at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, due to pitch quality and cost issues at Memorial Park. The primary section is still based at Memorial Park, however.

- **East London Community Sports Association:** The Association runs the sports facilities at Memorial Park under contract from the Council, which are the only community-accessible rugby pitches in the borough.

## 8.2 Strategic context

### 8.2.1 National rugby league facilities strategy

The RFL's *'Community Rugby League Facilities Strategy - England'* (2011) sets out the priorities and targets for developing facilities provision.

- The need for clubs to acquire security of tenure to secure grant funding.
- The need to improve club management.
- The need to improve pitch and clubhouse quality.
- The need to access economically priced '3G' pitches.
- The need to develop the appropriate facilities to develop the game in primary and secondary schools.

### 8.2.2 Neighbouring local authorities

Playing pitch strategies in neighbouring boroughs identify cross-boundary issues:

#### ***Tower Hamlets***

The Tower Hamlets Youth Sport Foundation runs rugby league taster sessions in Millwall Park, but there are no established clubs in the borough.

#### ***Hackney***

- There are no permanent rugby league pitches in the borough. Rugby League was formerly played on Shoreditch Park where a pitch was present for a number of years and is marked out from time to time.
- There are no formal clubs based in the borough, but city-based teams use the pitch at Shoreditch Park. London Broncos have used Hackney Marshes for occasional junior training days and camps and Newham Dockers RLC regularly uses pitches on Hackney Marshes due to the poor quality of their own pitch provision.

#### ***Waltham Forest***

There is no rugby league activity in the borough.

#### ***Redbridge***

There is no rugby league activity in the borough.

#### ***Barking and Dagenham***

There is no rugby league activity in the borough.

### 8.2.3 Implications of the strategic context

The implications of the strategic context for rugby league in Newham are as follows:

- **Existing deficits:** Most neighbouring boroughs have a shortfall in rugby pitch provision, which limits the potential for exporting rugby league demand from Newham.
- **Future deficits:** In all cases where a detailed assessment has been undertaken, rugby pitch shortfalls are projected to increase in the future. Artificial Grass Pitches may offer some additional capacity.

### 8.3 Rugby League demand

#### 8.3.1 RFL-affiliated clubs and teams

Newham Dockers RLC affiliates to the RFL. There is no known casual rugby league in the borough outside of the club structure:

<i>Club</i>	<i>Match venue</i>	<i>Training venue</i>	<i>Adult teams</i>	<i>Junior teams</i>	<i>Mini teams</i>
Newham Dockers RLC	Hackney Marshes	Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park	1	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	-	-	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

#### 8.3.2 Education demand

There are two main programmes involving schools in Newham:

- The five annual secondary school year group festivals organised by the LRLF.
- The Tag Rugby League festivals organised by the Cumberland and Langdon School Sport Partnerships.

#### 8.3.3 Rugby League development programmes

The London Rugby League Foundation is currently supporting the primary rugby league section at Newham Dockers, for 6-11 year olds.

#### 8.3.4 Demand trends

Sport England's 'Active People' survey national data for rugby league indicates that the percentage of adults who played rugby league the four weeks prior to each survey has fallen in the period since 2005.

#### 8.3.5 Displaced demand

Newham Dockers RLC currently plays its 'home' matches outside the borough, but this is due less to pitch capacity issues than quality and cost concerns.

#### 8.3.6 Unmet demand

Unmet demand takes a number of forms:

- Teams may have access to a pitch for matches but nowhere to train or vice versa.
- Some pitches may be unavailable to the community.
- The poor quality and consequent limited capacity of pitches in the area and/or a lack of provision and ancillary facilities which meet a certain standard of play/league requirement.

Newham Dockers use of pitches on Hackney Marshes is an example of unmet demand based on cost and quality, although the Club has not approached the Council to establish whether alternative pitches might be developed elsewhere in the borough.

### 8.3.7 Latent demand

Whereas unmet demand is known to currently exist latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision. Latent demand for rugby league in the borough has been calculated as follows:

- The ‘Active People’ survey showed that in 2015/16 the participation rate for rugby league was 0.12% of the adult population.
- Newham's adult (16+) population is 238,500. Applying the national participation rate to this population means suggests that there should be 286 active rugby league players in the borough.
- The membership of Newham Dockers RLC at present amounts to 50 active rugby players, which suggests that there is latent demand for a further 236 players, based upon the national participation profile.
- Given that Newham’s overall club-based sports participation rates are only 51.1% the Londonwide average, a more accurate indication of latent demand taking account of local circumstances would be to factor in local team participation rates to the national rugby league figure, which produces an estimate of overall demand of 120 players. Deducting the 50 existing players from this figure produces a revised adult (16+) latent demand figure of 70 players (equivalent to around one additional team).

## 8.4 Rugby pitch supply in Newham

### 8.4.1 Quantity

Provision of rugby pitches in Newham is set out below:

- **Available for community use:** Usage of the ‘3G’ pitch, which was installed in 2009, is shared with football, with rugby union training use comprising 40% of the total peak time use. All the pitches are floodlit:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Ward</i>	<i>Community Area</i>	<i>Pitches</i>
Memorial Recreation Ground	Grange Road, London E13 0EQ	Canning Town North	Custom House and Canning Town	3 adult rugby 1 artificial grass pitch

- **Available for community use and not used:** There are no rugby pitches that are available for community use and not used.
- **Not available for community use:**

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Ward</i>	<i>Community Area</i>	<i>Pitch type(s)</i>
Chobham Academy	40, Cheering Lane, London E20 1BD	Stratford and New Town	Stratford and West Ham	1 junior rugby
Langdon Academy	Sussex Road, London E6 2PS	Wall End	East Ham	1 junior rugby

- **Not available as disused:** There are no rugby pitches that are disused.

#### 8.4.2 Grass pitch quality

The qualitative analysis involved visits to the Memorial Park pitches during the rugby union winter playing season, to undertake the sport-specific non-technical visual inspections specified in Sport England's *Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance* (2013). The assessment concluded that the quality and maintenance of the pitches is adequate for rugby union purposes, however rugby league has a summer playing season, which coincides with the period when the Memorial Park pitches are undergoing major maintenance works after the completion of the rugby union season. This means that only one pitch is available where maintenance has not yet commenced and as a result, the quality for rugby league play is poor.

One further quality/safety issue is that the rugby league pitch markings at Memorial are very close to the floodlighting pylons, with obvious safety implications.

#### 8.4.3 Grass pitch carrying capacity

The carrying capacity of grass pitches is related to their quality and is expressed as the number of 'match equivalents' that can be accommodated each week. Based on the seasonal timing of rugby league play, there is only a single pitch available for use and the carrying capacity equates to 0.5 match equivalents per week, based upon the criteria above.

#### 8.4.4 Artificial Grass Pitch quality

The quality of the Artificial Grass Pitch at Memorial Park was assessed from a site visit, to apply the Non-technical Visual Assessment criteria developed for use in conjunction with the *Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance*. The assessment generates an overall 'score' by evaluating the playing surface, fencing, floodlighting, disability access and changing provision.

The pitch assessment generated a rating of 'standard' in terms of its rugby use, mainly because the pitch has not been certified by the RFL as complying with its 'Community' category field tests.



#### 8.4.5 Artificial Grass Pitch carrying capacity

The carrying capacity of Artificial Grass Pitches is defined in terms of peak-time availability. This is typically midweek evenings amounting to a total of 25 hours per week. At Memorial Park, pitch usage is shared with football, to the extent that rugby use is only 48% of the total (all by rugby union), equating to 12 hours per week of available peak-time capacity.

#### 8.4.6 Pitch maintenance

Whilst East London Community Sports Association runs the facilities at Memorial Park, the pitch maintenance arrangements are organised by Newham Council through Serco, its appointed grounds maintenance contractor. This arrangement has caused problems on some occasions, with a complicated structure for ensuring that pitch bookings details are correlated with maintenance schedules. It is currently being reviewed.

#### 8.4.7 Pitch hire charges

Charges for the Memorial Park rugby pitches are comparable to those in Hackney, so prices are not the principal factor behind the Newham Dockers current use of a pitch at Hackney Marshes.

<i>Area</i>	<i>Cost (£)</i>
Memorial Park	£79
Hackney Marshes	£86.50

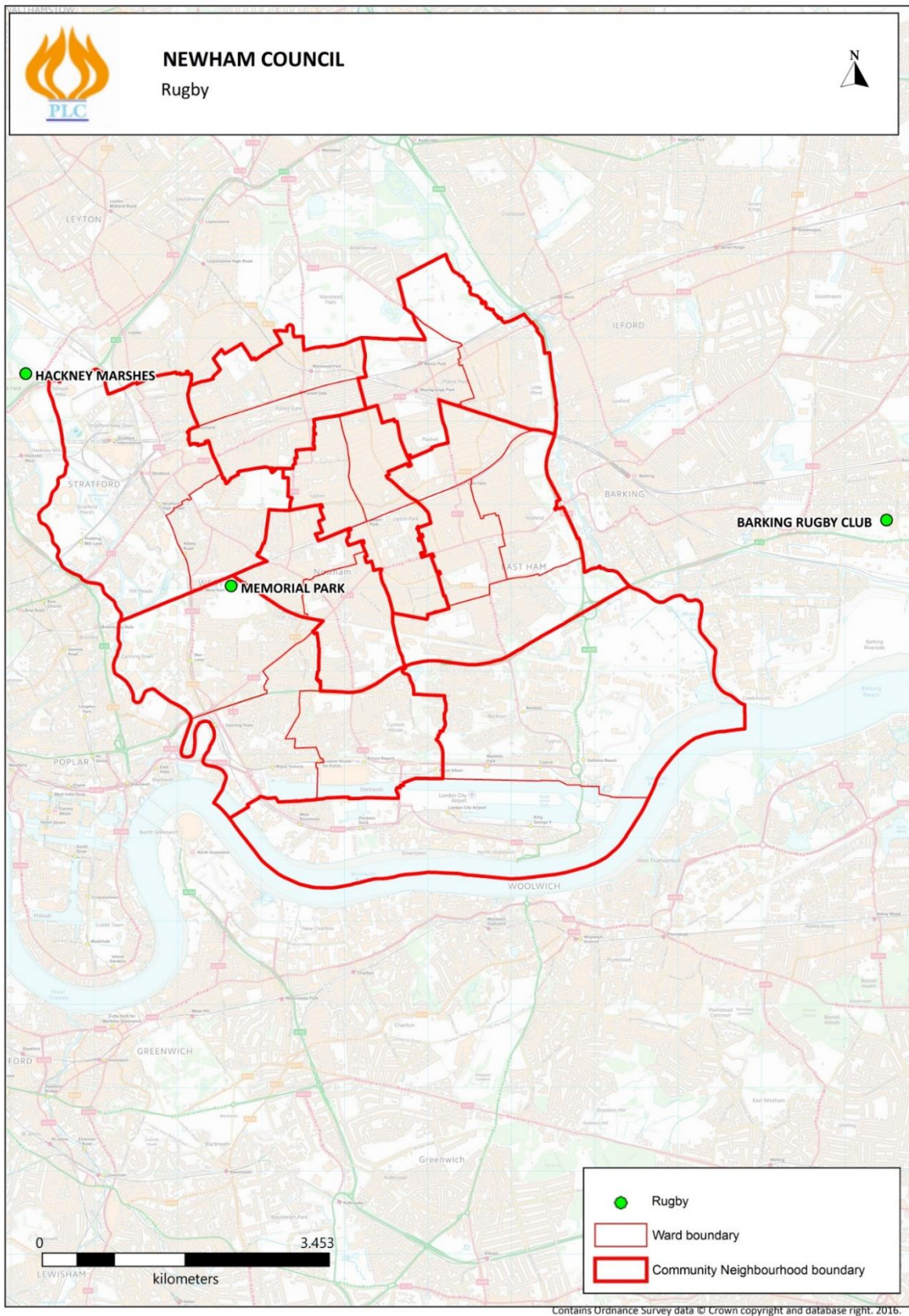
#### 8.4.8 Ownership, management and security of access

All the adult rugby pitches in the borough are on a site with secured community access.

### 8.5 Geographical distribution

The geographical spread of rugby facilities in Newham is set out in the map below. The single site is located relatively centrally within the borough, supplemented by pitches at Hackney Marshes.

Figure 13: Map of Grass Rugby Pitches in Newham



## 8.6 Assessment of current needs

To assess whether the current supply of pitches is adequate to meet existing demand an understanding of the situation at all sites available to the community needs to be developed. This is achieved by providing a brief overview for each site, which comprises:

- A comparison between the carrying capacity of a site with how much demand currently takes place there. The carrying capacity of a site is defined as the amount of play it can regularly accommodate without adversely affecting its quality and use. Demand is defined in terms of the number of ‘match equivalent’ sessions at each site.
- An indication of the extent to which pitches are being used during their peak periods.

The site overviews identify the extent to which pitches are

- **Being overplayed:** Where use exceeds the carrying capacity (highlighted in red in the table below).
- **Being played to the level the site can sustain:** Where use matches the carrying capacity (highlighted in yellow in the table below).
- **Potentially able to accommodate some additional play:** Where use falls below the carrying capacity.

As per RFL guidance, rugby pitch capacity, demand and the resultant balance are expressed as ‘match equivalent’ sessions, both weekly and at peak times.

Although Newham Dockers are not currently playing at Memorial, the supply-demand assessment assumes that they are to demonstrate the impact on capacity.

The rugby union usage at Memorial Recreation Ground also impacts upon capacity for rugby league play, because even though the playing seasons are different, the pitch maintenance arrangements overlap. For this reason, usage by both codes of the game is shown below:

- **Rugby League**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Weekly capacity</i>	<i>Weekly demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>	<i>Peak capacity</i>	<i>Peak demand</i>	<i>Peak balance</i>
Memorial Recreation Ground	1	Newham Dockers RLFC	0.5	1.0	-0.5	0.5	0.5	Balanced

- **Rugby Union**

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Users</i>	<i>Weekly capacity</i>	<i>Weekly demand</i>	<i>Weekly balance</i>	<i>Peak capacity</i>	<i>Peak demand</i>	<i>Peak balance</i>
Memorial Recreation Ground	3	East London Rugby Club	7.25	4.0	-1.75	3.0	2.0	-0.5
		Kings Cross Steelers RFC		3.0			1.5	
		UEL Rugby Club		2.0			0	

Because of the overuse of the pitches for rugby union during the winter season, the intensive maintenance regime during the summer period when rugby league is played limits the pitch capacity for rugby league.

**8.7 Assessment of future needs**

**8.7.1 Population growth**

As outlined in section 2.3.7, the 2015 10-year trend projections favoured in the Newham Strategic Housing Market Assessment are regarded as the most accurate basis for forecasting population growth. These project a borough population of 397,112 by 2032 and this figure has been used as the basis for assessing future pitch needs, although the implications of the other population projection scenarios are also modelled in Appendix A.

**8.7.2 Potential changes in demand**

Changes in demand for rugby league in the in future can also be modelled on a trend-based projection. Sport England’s ‘Active People’ survey national data for rugby union indicates that the percentage of adults who played rugby league in the four weeks prior to each survey has fallen in the period since 2005.

<b>2005/06</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>% Change</b>
0.18%	0.09%	0.09%	0.12%	-0.06%

Following the demise of the schools’ rugby league coaching programmes in Newham, schools’ year group festivals organised by the LRLF are the only current development activity available in the borough.

Balancing past trends that identify falling demand against development activity suggests that projecting future static demand patterns is a reasonable basis for forecasting.

**8.7.3 Site-specific pressures**

The overuse of the grass pitches at Memorial Recreation Ground will prevent it from accommodating additional future demand without increases in capacity. This could be achieved either through improved grass pitch quality (and hence carrying capacity) or by providing a second ‘3G’ pitch at the site.

**8.7.4 Potential changes in supply**

There are no known potential changes to rugby pitch supply.

**8.7.5 Existing spare capacity**

There is no spare capacity at present.



## 8.7.6 Future rugby pitch needs

Future rugby league pitch needs are modelled below using ‘Team Generation Rates’ (TGRs), which identify how many people in a specified age group in the borough are required to generate one team. These are then applied to projected changes in population to identify the likely number of teams in the future.

- Existing adult team numbers are based on the participation data supplied by the RFL.
- The 2015 long-term projections are the figures regarded as most likely to be most accurate in the Newham SHMA and the pitch needs for this scenario have therefore been used as the basis for future planning future needs as follows:

The projections for rugby league are as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult males	19-45	89,797	1	1: 11,225	100,571	1	0	0
Adult females	19-45	74,018	0	-	86,071	0	0	0
Junior males	13-18	12,309	0	-	13,093	0	0	0
Junior females	13-18	11,984	0	-	13,558	0	0	0
Mini-rugby (mixed)	7-12	30,276	0	-	28,817	0	0	0

## 8.8 Key findings and issues

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

- ***Newham Dockers RLC:*** The inability of the club to play its home games at Memorial Recreation Ground is clearly a major issue that needs to be resolved. Without a club based in the borough the opportunities for developing the game locally are greatly compromised. There may be scope to accommodate rugby league at other pitch sites in the borough with spare capacity, subject to the ancillary facilities being adequate, although the preferred outcome would be to create additional capacity at the existing site, assuming the management issues were resolved.
- ***Junior and mini-rugby:*** The recently established primary section at Newham Dockers RLC means that there is an initial pathway to progress from schools and tag rugby activity into a formal club structure.
- ***Grass pitches:*** The problems with accessing the grass pitches at Memorial during the summer months need to be examined to determine if there is any realistic prospect of accommodating play by Newham Dockers. In the event that there is not, there is spare capacity in adult football pitches at six other sites in the borough, so it would be possible to re-designate at least one pitch for rugby league use.

### 8.8.2 Is there enough accessible and secured community use to meet current demand?

There is insufficient grass pitch capacity to meet current needs.



### 8.8.3 Is the accessible provision of suitable quality and appropriately maintained?

The grounds maintenance schedule at Memorial is not currently conducive to accommodating summer rugby league usage.

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

- **Population growth:** As outlined in section 2.3.7, the 2015 10-year trend projections favoured in the Newham Strategic Housing Market Assessment are regarded as the most accurate basis for forecasting population growth. These project a borough population of 397,112 by 2032 and this figure has been used as the basis for assessing future pitch needs.
- **Changes in demand:** There are no anticipated changes in demand.
- **Changes in supply:** Capacity improvements at Memorial Recreation Ground would create the potential to accommodate the match and training needs of Newham Dockers.
- **Existing spare capacity:** There is no current spare capacity, with a peak time deficit equivalent to 0.5 weekly match equivalents.
- **Future needs:** Projected future needs have not identified any additional pitch requirements, although if Newham Dockers re-established a home base in the borough, there would be greater potential to develop junior teams as a development pathway from current LRLF initiatives.

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

There is insufficient accessible and secured provision to meet future demand at present, but additional capacity could be created in two ways:

- Enhancing the carrying capacity of the existing grass rugby pitches at Memorial Park.
- Converting one or two adult football pitches with spare capacity at a site elsewhere in the borough to rugby league pitches. Given the differences in playing season, this might even be achieved with the football pitches retained for winter usage, subject to grounds maintenance considerations.
- Expanding artificial grass pitch provision at Memorial Park, to meet the needs of rugby league, rugby union and football.

## 8.9 Scenario Testing

### 8.9.1 Introduction

Based upon the key findings and issues identified above, a number of scenarios have been examined, to identify the optimum approach to addressing needs.

### 8.9.2 Scenario 1: Enhancing grass rugby pitch carrying capacity at Memorial

- **Rationale:** During the summer rugby league season, one poor quality grass pitch is available to Newham Dockers which leaves a deficit in weekly capacity and a peak time balance, based upon the current pitch construction and grounds maintenance regimes. However, if the pitches were upgraded to a pipe and slit drained construction and the maintenance improved to good, the carrying capacity would increase to a level that could accommodate rugby league needs.
- **Advantages:** The advantages of this scenario are as follows:
  - This is the preferred solution for the LRLF and the Newham Dockers.
  - The additional weekly pitch carrying capacity created would be sufficient to meet all current and future rugby league needs, subject to the summer maintenance schedule.
  - The capital costs of grass pitch improvements are less than the costs of an extra artificial grass pitch.
- **Disadvantages:** The disadvantages of this scenario are as follows:
  - The enhanced maintenance regime is likely to require a summer rest period for the pitches, thus perpetuating the current difficulties with accommodating rugby league.
  - The revenue costs of an enhanced grounds maintenance regime for grass pitches would be substantially higher than the maintenance costs of an artificial turf pitch, although the latter would also require financial provision for a 'sinking fund' for carpet replacement every ten years or so.
- **Conclusions:** Grass pitch improvements at Memorial Park would not provide for rugby league needs in Newham.

### 8.9.3 Scenario 2: Provide rugby league pitches elsewhere in Newham

- **Rationale:** Converting one or two adult football pitches at a site elsewhere in the borough to rugby league pitches would be feasible, given the current spare capacity at several sites in Newham. Given the differences in playing season, this might even be achieved with the football pitches retained for winter usage, subject to grounds maintenance considerations.
- **Advantages:** The advantages of this scenario are as follows:
  - Newham Dockers would not be inconvenienced by the summer grounds maintenance schedule at Memorial Park as at present and would have better control over the use of the pitches.
  - Five sites in the borough with adult football pitches currently have spare capacity, so supplementing their use with rugby league would improve their viability.

- **Disadvantages:** The disadvantages of this scenario are as follows:
  - All existing football pitch sites in the borough will be needed to accommodate additional football demand by 2032, so it might not be possible to cater for rugby league in the future.
  - Although there are changing facilities at all potential sites, the absence of a clubhouse would detract from the overall playing experience if Newham Dockers were to move from Memorial Park.
- **Conclusions:** Whilst relocating to converted grass football pitches elsewhere in the borough would provide a short-term solution to Newham Dockers' immediate needs, it would not be sustainable in the longer term because of projected demand increases for football.

#### 8.9.4 Scenario 3: Expand artificial turf pitch capacity at Memorial

- **Rationale:** Whilst the existing artificial grass pitch at Memorial does not currently comply fully with the Rugby Football League's Performance Specification for competition and training, it is on the FA's '3G' Pitch Register so there are no restrictions on its use for football. Providing a new rugby-compliant artificial grass pitch on the grass rugby pitch immediately to the south of the existing pavilion would create capacity to spare for rugby union and rugby league use (whilst also providing football with a 'Hub Site').
- **Advantages:** The advantages of this scenario are as follows:
  - The provision of a new rugby-compliant artificial grass pitch would expand the overall carrying capacity of the site by 20 peak-time match equivalents, to allow most of the competitive matches and full-contact training to be transferred from the currently over-used grass rugby pitches.
  - Subject to the outcome of a feasibility study, a football Hub Site may be established at Memorial Park, so there is potential synergy with rugby and any spare capacity on the new artificial grass pitch is likely to be taken up by extra football demand.
- **Disadvantages:** The only obvious disadvantage of this scenario is that if the 'Parklife' football Hub Site model is followed, it is predicated on secure site perimeters, which might be problematic at a public open space site like Memorial Park.
- **Conclusions:** Further feasibility work should be considered to establish the case for providing a second artificial grass pitch at Memorial Park, but it has the potential to meet all current and future rugby league needs at the site.

### 8.10 Policy recommendations

#### 8.10.1 Introduction

The recommendations in relation to rugby league are made in the context of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 74, which stipulates that existing open space including playing pitches, should not be built upon unless:

- An assessment has taken place which has clearly shown the open space to be surplus to requirements, or;
- The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality, in a suitable location, or;
- The development is for alternative sport and recreation provision, the needs for which clearly outweighs the loss.

The following recommendations are arranged under the three main headings of ‘protect’, ‘enhance’ and ‘provide’ and reflect the findings of the site-specific supply and demand assessments carried out as part of the current strategy.

### 8.10.2 Protect

**Recommendation 1 - Safeguarding existing provision:** The Newham Playing Pitch Strategy comprises a robust and evidence-based assessment of current and future needs for rugby league in the borough. Memorial Park is the key site for rugby league in the borough and the Strategy has identified the need for enhanced capacity at the site, to meet the needs of the sport in Newham both now and in the future. It is therefore recommended that existing planning policies continue to support the retention of the site, based upon the evidence in the Playing Pitch Strategy. In the event that any pitch sites do become the subject of development proposals, this will only be permissible they are replaced and meet policy exception E4 of Sport England’s Playing Fields Policy. This states that ‘the playing field or playing fields which would be lost as a result of the proposed development must be replaced by a playing field or playing fields of an equivalent or better quality and of equivalent or greater quantity, in a suitable location and subject to equivalent or better management arrangements, prior to the commencement of development’.

### 8.10.3 Enhance

**Recommendation 2 - Existing artificial grass pitch:** It is recommended that the existing artificial grass pitch at Memorial Park be re-assigned for football use, subject to the provision of an additional artificial grass pitch at the site to meet primarily rugby needs. The original pitch was laid in 2009, so will need to be resurfaced in the next two years to ensure its continued use.

**Recommendation 3 - Existing grass pitches:** Because the grass pitch maintenance programme is geared towards the rugby union winter season, summer usage of the pitches for rugby league is often problematic. Whilst the proposed additional artificial grass pitch will add year-round capacity, there should be greater flexibility to maintain the grass pitches in such a way as to ensure that at least one is in a good quality condition to accommodate summer rugby league play.

**Recommendation 4 - Developer contributions (enhancements):** All additional demand for rugby league arising from the proposed housing development in Newham to 2032, can be accommodated through enhancements to the existing pitches and facilities at Memorial Park. It is recommended that the action plan in the Newham Playing Pitch Strategy be used as the basis for determining facility enhancements that demonstrably relate to the scale and location of specific developments and that an appropriate level of financial contributions be sought under Section 106 or CIL arrangements, to cover the capital and revenue implications of the enhancements. To facilitate this, playing pitches should be listed as ‘relevant infrastructure’, under CIL Regulation 123.

## 8.10.4 Provide

**Recommendation 5 - New artificial grass pitch:** It is recommended that a new artificial grass pitch compliant with the Rugby Football League’s Performance Specification for competition and training should be provided at Memorial Park, primarily to serve the current and future needs of rugby union and rugby league in Newham, but also to provide for football needs at the site.

**Recommendation 6 - Developer contributions (new provision):** All of the additional demand for rugby league arising from the proposed housing development in Newham to 2032, will need to be accommodated through the provision of a new artificial grass pitch at Memorial Park. It is recommended that the action plan in the Newham Playing Pitch Strategy be used as the basis for determining that the new pitch at Memorial Park demonstrably relates to the scale and location of specific developments and that an appropriate level of financial contributions be sought under Section 106 or CIL arrangements, to cover the capital and revenue cost implications. To facilitate this, playing pitches should be listed as ‘relevant infrastructure’, under CIL Regulation 123.

## 8.11 Action Plan

In the context of the high-level recommendations above, the tables below set out the rugby league action plan to guide the implementation of the strategy.

- The abbreviations stand for ELCSA - East London Community Sports Association, RFL - Rugby Football League, LRLF - London Rugby League Foundation and LBN - London Borough of Newham.
- The capital cost estimates are based upon Sport England’s ‘Facility Costs - Second Quarter of 2016’ (2016).

<i>Site</i>	<i>Issues</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Priority</i>
Memorial Park	Artificial grass pitch is not RFL Performance Standard-compliant. Grass pitches currently used to over-capacity.	Establish the case for a new artificial grass pitch. Resurface existing artificial grass pitch with football ‘3G’. Review grass pitch maintenance schedules to ensure at least one pitch is available for summer play.	LBN	East London Community Sports Association RFL LRLF	£1,220,000 for new artificial grass pitch. £100,000 to resurface.	High



## 9 HOCKEY NEEDS IN NEWHAM

### *Key findings*

- ***No full-sized hockey pitches in Newham:*** There are no full-sized pitches suitable for hockey in Newham. This significantly limits the potential for developing the game in the borough.
- ***Local demand equivalent to 9.5 teams:*** The percentage of Newham-based players in teams in neighbouring areas is equivalent to 9.5 teams. This equates to sufficient demand for almost exactly one synthetic hockey pitch.
- ***Junior hockey:*** At present, only one of the clubs drawing their membership from Newham has junior teams, which means that there are limited pathways to progress from schools' hockey activity into a formal club structure at present.
- ***Recommendations:***
  - ***New artificial grass pitch:*** It is recommended that a new full-sized artificial grass pitch for hockey be provided in Newham. If it is located on an education site, it should be subject to a formal community use agreement.
  - ***Protection of existing sand-filled/dressed pitches:*** There are five small-sided pitches in Newham that have suitable surfaces for hockey. These pitches should be protected from conversion or redevelopment, unless England Hockey has confirmed that they are surplus to hockey needs.
  - ***Existing small-sided pitches:*** All the small-sided pitches suitable for Hockey will need to be resurfaced in the next few years to ensure their continued use, so providers should be encouraged to ensure that there is financial provision to cover the costs of resurfacing.
  - ***Community access to education facilities:*** Formal community use agreements should be pursued to secure access to existing and any future school pitches.
  - ***Developer contributions:*** This strategy should provide the basis for seeking developer contributions under Section 106 or CIL arrangements, to meet additional hockey facility needs arising from housing growth.

### 9.1 Organisational context

- ***England Hockey:*** England Hockey is the governing body of the sport and supports the development of the game in Newham. It regards the growth of the game and community engagement in Newham and the east London boroughs as a priority.
- ***FRE Flyers Hockey Club:*** The only hockey club that draws the majority of its membership from Newham is the FRE Flyers Hockey Club, which is based at the Lee Valley facility and is engaged in outreach work in Newham Schools. A satellite club has been established based at Cumberland School.
- ***Lee Valley Hockey and Tennis Centre:*** The key facility is at the Lee Valley Hockey and Tennis Centre, which lies just outside the borough boundary. EH would like to explore the need for a full-sized sand-filled synthetic turf pitch in Newham, but demonstrating demand at this stage may be problematic.

## 9.2 Strategic context

### 9.2.1 National hockey strategy

England Hockey's strategic plan 2013 - 2017 '*A Nation Where Hockey Matters*' (2013) contains the following priorities of relevance to Newham:

**Adults:** The number playing regularly in the club network will be increased by:

- Working with universities, schools and colleges to deliver quality playing experiences and clear pathways to club hockey.
- Working with regional and local leagues and affiliated clubs, to deliver the highest quality playing experience and appropriate competition frameworks.
- Developing more opportunities for over 40s to play hockey.
- Delivering a quality programme of competitions that meet the needs of players and clubs.

**Young people:** The number playing hockey in schools and clubs will be increased by:

- Developing more relationships between clubs and primary and secondary schools.
- Working with clubs to increase the number of junior hockey sessions being provided.
- Delivering a quality programme of competitions that meet the needs of players, schools and clubs.
- Developing an ability-based pathway for children aged 5-12 for adoption in clubs, schools and youth organisations.

**Informal hockey:** The numbers of people playing informal hockey will be increased by:

- Setting up opportunities to play Quicksticks in community sites.
- Increasing the opportunities to play Rush Hockey at schools, colleges, universities, clubs and community sites.
- Increasing the opportunity for women to take part in Back to Hockey sessions at clubs and community sites.

### 9.2.2 Hockey facilities strategy

England Hockey's '*Facilities Strategy*' (2016) contains the following key elements:

- **Protect - To conserve the existing hockey provision:** There are currently over 800 pitches that are used by hockey clubs (club, school, universities.) The current provision must be retained 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 and education around owning an asset.
- **Develop - To strategically build new hockey facilities where there is an identified need and ability to deliver and maintain:** 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.

### 9.2.3 Neighbouring local authorities

Playing pitch strategies in neighbouring boroughs identify cross-boundary issues:

#### ***Tower Hamlets***

There is some evidence of imported demand from Newham with players joining the East London HC that uses Mile End Stadium and Wapping Hockey Club that uses John Orwell Sports Centre.

#### ***Hackney***

All hockey demand in the borough is met by clubs operating at the Lee Valley Hockey and Tennis Centre. No hockey demand is exported from Hackney to Newham, but there is some evidence of imported demand from Newham with players joining the four clubs that use the Lee Valley Hockey and Tennis Centre.

#### ***Waltham Forest***

The council is providing a new hockey pitch at Ive Farm, because current and future hockey needs in the borough cannot be wholly met by the Lee Valley Hockey and Tennis Centre.

#### ***Redbridge***

There is current spare capacity at pitches in the borough which will also accommodate all future demand.

#### ***Barking and Dagenham***

At present, there is collective spare capacity in the borough equivalent to 154 hours of hockey pitch time per week.

### 9.2.4 Implications of the strategic context

The implications of the strategic context for hockey in Newham are as follows:

- ***Lack of provision within Newham:*** The lack of suitable artificial turf pitches for hockey in Newham makes it more difficult to develop pathways into a locally-based club.
- ***Spare capacity in neighbouring areas:*** There are four artificial turf pitches for hockey in neighbouring areas, all of which have some spare capacity and could accommodate additional users from Newham.

## 9.3 Hockey demand

### 9.3.1 England Hockey-affiliated clubs and teams

The following clubs affiliate to England Hockey in Neighbouring boroughs, but draw at least some of their membership from Newham:

<i>Club</i>	<i>Match Pitch</i>	<i>Training pitch</i>	<i>% Newham members</i>	<i>Men's teams</i>	<i>Ladies' teams</i>	<i>Mixed teams</i>	<i>Junior teams</i>
Crostyx HC	Lee Valley HTC Ashton Playing Fields	Lee Valley HTC Ashton Playing Fields	2%	4	3	-	8
East London HC	Lee Valley HTC Mile End Stadium Redbridge SC	Lee Valley HTC Mile End Stadium	20%	10	9	2	-
FRE Flyers	Lee Valley HTC	Lee Valley HTC	93%	-	-	2	-
Wapping HC	John Orwell SC Lee Valley HTC	Lee Valley HTC	15%	11	9	2	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>

### 9.3.2 Education demand

The FRE Flyers Hockey Club is engaged in outreach work in Newham Schools. A satellite club has been established based at Cumberland School.

### 9.3.3 Hockey development programmes

Newham is involved in the multi-borough East London Hockey Project which involves some schools' engagement. The West Ham United Foundation is currently considering adding hockey to its sports development programmes.

### 9.3.4 Demand trends

Membership data from the local hockey clubs shows participation increases of 59% over the past four seasons as follows.

<i>Club</i>	<i>2013/14</i>	<i>2014/15</i>	<i>2015/16</i>	<i>2016/17</i>
Crostyx HC	104	199	189	250
East London HC	415	375	439	511
FRE Flyers	0	40	43	43
Wapping HC	270	328	324	452
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>789</b>	<b>942</b>	<b>994</b>	<b>1,256</b>

### 9.3.5 Displaced demand

- In the absence of any full-sized hockey pitches in Newham, all demand from the borough is currently displaced to adjoining areas.
- Consultation with the closest hockey clubs to the borough identified that a total of at least 190 players from Newham are currently travelling outside the borough to play. This gives an estimate for displaced demand of 9.5 teams.

### 9.3.6 Unmet demand

Unmet demand takes a number of forms:

- Teams may have access to a pitch for matches but nowhere to train or vice versa.

- Some pitches may be unavailable to the community.
- The poor quality and consequent limited capacity of pitches in the area and/or a lack of provision and ancillary facilities which meet a certain standard of play/league requirement.

Consultation with local clubs indicated that there is insufficient available capacity at their main respective pitch sites to meet all match and training needs, so supplementary facilities have to be used. The conversion of the sand-based pitch at Stepney Green to a '3G' football turf pitch means that East London Hockey Club has to travel further afield to access a supplementary match pitch.

Cost and travel time act as a brake on participation locally, which emphasises the need for affordable local provision, particularly since charges at the Lea Valley Hockey and Tennis Centre are relatively high.

### 9.3.7 Latent demand

Whereas unmet demand is known to currently exist latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision. Latent demand for hockey in the borough has been calculated as follows:

- The 'Active People' survey showed that in 2015/16 the participation rate for hockey was 0.20% of the adult population.
- Newham's adult (16+) population is 238,500. Applying the national participation rate to this population means suggests that there should be 477 active hockey players in the borough.
- There are currently 190 active hockey players in Newham, which suggests that there is latent demand for a further 287 players, based upon the national participation profile.
- Given that Newham's overall club-based sports participation rates are only 51.1% the Londonwide average, a more accurate indication of latent demand taking account of local circumstances would be to factor in local team participation rates to the national hockey figure, which produces an estimate of overall demand of 348 players. Deducting the 190 existing players from this figure produces a revised adult (16+) latent demand figure of 158 players (equivalent to around seven teams).



## 9.4 Hockey pitch supply in Newham

### 9.4.1 Quantity

Provision of artificial turf pitches for Hockey (water-based, sand-filled and sand-based surfaces) in Newham and adjacent areas is below:

- **Hockey pitches in Newham:** There are no full-sized pitches for hockey use in Newham, but a list of small-sided pitches with surfaces suitable for hockey is below:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Ward</i>	<i>Community Area</i>	<i>Surface</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Year built</i>
Flanders Playing Field	Melbourne Road, London E6 2RU	Wall End	East Ham	Sand-filled	40m x 20m	2003
Ravenscroft Primary School	Carson Road, London E16 4BD	Canning Town South	Custom House and Canning Town	Sand-dressed	25m x 15m	2011
Sandringham School	Sandringham Road, London E7 8ED	Manor Park	Manor Park	Sand-filled	25m x 15m	2014
Stratford Park	West Ham Lane, Stratford, London E15 4PT	Stratford and New Town	Stratford and West Ham	Sand-filled	40m x 20m	2016
Tunmarsh Pupil Referral Unit	Tunmarsh Lane, London E13 9NB	Plaistow South	Plaistow	Sand-filled	40m x 20m	2010

- **Hockey pitches in adjacent areas:** Provision of pitches suitable for hockey use in Newham is below:

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Borough</i>	<i>Surface</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Year built</i>
Ashton Playing Fields	Chigwell Road, Woodford Green IG8 8AA	Redbridge	Sand-dressed	100m x 60m	2015
John Orwell Sports Centre	Tench St., Wapping, London E1W 2QD	Tower Hamlets	Sand-dressed	100m x 60m	2016
Lee Valley Hockey and Tennis Centre	Leadmill Lane, London E20 3AD	Hackney	Water-based	100m x 60m	2014
Lee Valley Hockey and Tennis Centre	Leadmill Lane, London E20 3AD	Hackney	Water-based	100m x 60m	2014
Mile End Stadium	Rhodeswell Road, London E14 7TW	Tower Hamlets	Sand-filled	91m x 54m	1990
Redbridge Sports Centre	Forest Road Ilford IG6 3HD	Redbridge	Sand-filled	100m x 60m	2014
Redbridge Sports Centre	Forest Road Ilford IG6 3HD	Redbridge	Sand-filled	100m x 60m	2014

## 9.4.2 Hockey pitch quality

The qualitative analysis of pitches in Newham involved visits to all hockey pitches, to undertake the sport-specific non-technical visual inspections produced by England Hockey for Sport England's *Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance* (2013).

The assessment generates an overall 'score' for each pitch by evaluating the condition of the playing surface, fencing, floodlighting, disability access and changing provision. The percentage scores generated equate to ratings of 'Good' for scores of 80% or more 'Standard' for scores of 79% - 51% and 'Poor' for scores of 50% or below. The overall scores for each pitch suitable for hockey use in Newham are as follows:

<i>Site</i>	<i>Rating</i>
Flanders Playing Field	Standard
Ravenscroft Primary School	Standard
Sandringham School	Standard
Stratford Park	Good
Tunmarsh Pupil Referral Unit	Standard

## 9.4.3 Pitch maintenance

The maintenance of pitches suitable for hockey use in the borough is organised by the managers of the facilities as follows:

- **Council owned pitches:** The Council runs and maintains the small-sided pitch in Stratford Park, although there is no current hockey usage.
- **School-owned pitches:** Schools with small-sided pitches suitable for hockey use make individual arrangements for maintenance.
- **Bonny Downs Community Association:** The Association manages the small-sided pitch at Flanders Playing Field and maintains the pitch and other facilities under contract to the Council although there is no current hockey usage.

## 9.4.4 Pitch hire charges

Charges for the Lee Valley Hockey and Tennis Centre pitches are the highest of any in adjacent areas at £125 for the full pitch, but a schools/junior rate of £47.50 is also available.

<i>Pitch</i>	<i>Lee Valley H &amp; TC</i>	<i>LB Barking &amp; Dagenham</i>	<i>LB Redbridge</i>
Full pitch	£125/£105	£72	£84
Half pitch	-	£47	£58
Training rate for schools/junior teams	£47.50	£58	-

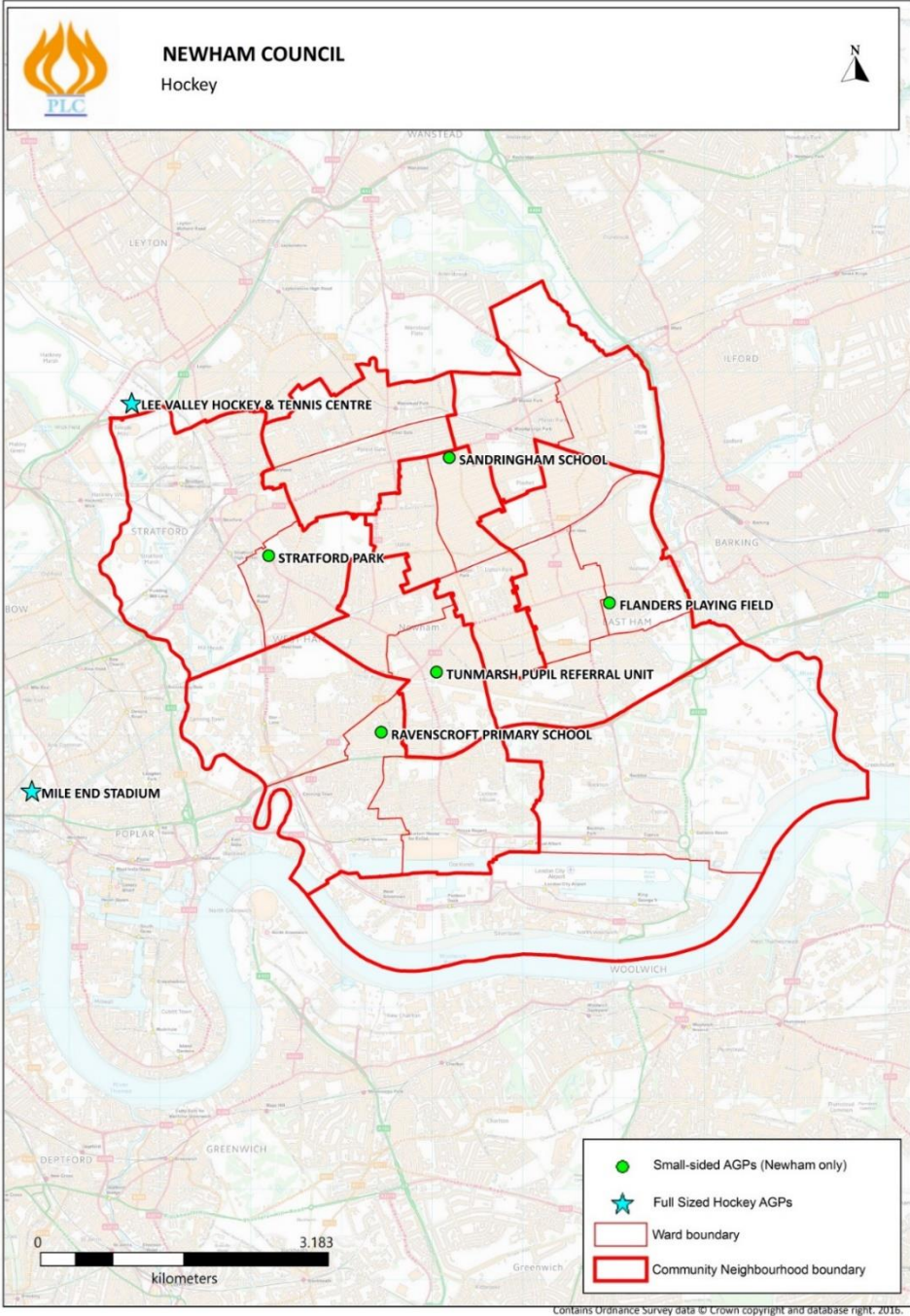
### 9.4.5 Ownership, management and security of access

Of the small-sided pitches in the borough, two of the five have secured community access. All the pitches in neighbouring areas that are accessible to Newham residents have secured community access.

### 9.5 Geographical distribution

The geographical spread of small sided artificial turf pitches with surfaces suitable for hockey in Newham, plus full-sized pitches in the areas adjacent to the borough is set out in the map below.

Figure 14: Map of Small-sided Artificial Grass Pitches in Newham



## 9.6 Assessment of current needs

To assess whether the current supply of pitches is adequate to meet existing demand an understanding of the situation at all sites available to the community needs to be developed. This is achieved by providing a brief overview for each site, which comprises:

- A comparison between the carrying capacity of a site and how much demand currently takes place there. The carrying capacity of a site is defined as the amount of play it can regularly accommodate without adversely affecting its quality and use. Demand is defined in terms of the number of ‘match equivalent’ sessions at each site.
- An indication of the extent to which pitches are being used during their peak periods.

The site overviews identify the extent to which pitches are

- **Being overplayed:** Where use exceeds the carrying capacity (highlighted in red in the table below).
- **Being played to the level the site can sustain:** Where use matches the carrying capacity (highlighted in yellow in the table below).
- **Potentially able to accommodate some additional play:** Where use falls below the carrying capacity (highlighted in green in the table below).

As per England Hockey guidance, pitch capacity is expressed as weekly peak time hours of availability, demand as ‘match equivalents; and the resultant balance are expressed as ‘match equivalent’ sessions at peak times.

Given the absence of any full-sized hockey facilities in Newham and the consequent lack of any Newham-based teams, the following approach has been taken to comparing supply and demand:

- **Demand:** The number of team equivalents from Newham has been calculated by dividing the number of teams at clubs in neighbouring areas by the percentage of members from Newham. This produces a total of 9.5 team equivalents drawn from Newham residents. Assuming one match and one training session per team per week, this creates demand for 28.5 hours of peak time use per week.
- **Supply:** Pitch supply has been calculated by quantifying all hours of use in the peak period of the pitches in neighbouring areas, to highlight the extent of any unused capacity available to be accessed by Newham teams.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Pitches</i>	<i>Peak capacity</i>	<i>Peak demand</i>	<i>Peak balance</i>
Lee Valley Hockey and Tennis Centre	2	60	60	Balanced
Mile End Stadium	1	30	30	Balanced

There is no spare capacity at either site.

## 9.7 Assessment of future needs

### 9.7.1 Population growth

As outlined in section 2.3.7, the 2015 10-year trend projections favoured in the Newham Strategic Housing Market Assessment are regarded as the most accurate basis for forecasting population growth. These project a borough population of 397,112 by 2032 and this figure has been used as the basis for assessing future pitch needs, although the implications of the other population projection scenarios are also modelled in Appendix A.

### 9.7.2 Potential changes in demand

Changes in demand for hockey in the in future can also be modelled on a trend-based projection. Sport England's 'Active People' survey national data indicates that the percentage of adults who played hockey in the four weeks prior to each survey has fallen in the period since 2005.

2005/6	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/1	2011/2	2012/3	2013/4	2014/5	2015/6	% Change
0.23%	0.23%	0.24%	0.23%	0.21%	0.19%	0.25%	0.20%	0.20%	0.20%	-0.03%

National affiliation data for hockey club members provided by England Hockey reveals a different picture compared with the 'Active People' survey, recording successive increases in the period since 2010 as follows:

Year	No. players	Annual % increase
2010/11	102,313	-
2011/12	106,665	4.3%
2012/13	114,642	7.5%
2013/14	113,575	-0.9%
2014/15	120,404	6.0%
2015/16	129,857	7.9%

Newham is involved in the multi-borough East London Hockey Project which involves some schools' engagement. The FRE Flyers Hockey Club is engaged in outreach work in Newham Schools. A satellite club has been established based at Cumberland School. The West Ham United Foundation is currently considering adding hockey to its sports development programmes. Both initiatives may increase junior participation.

Notwithstanding the data from the 'Active People' survey, national hockey team membership shows an increase of 13% in the past four years and local club membership has increased by 59% in the same period. Trends that identify increasing demand plus proposed development activity suggests that projecting future participation increases, particularly at junior level, is a reasonable basis for forecasting.

### 9.7.3 Site-specific pressures

The Lee Valley facility is a national and regional training centre and hosts major tournaments. Its availability as a resource for local clubs is therefore limited.



#### 9.7.4 Potential changes in supply

There are no known potential changes to hockey pitch supply.

#### 9.7.5 Existing spare capacity

There is no current spare capacity in the peak period.

#### 9.7.6 Future hockey pitch needs

Future hockey pitch needs are modelled below using ‘Team Generation Rates’ (TGRs), which identify how many people in a specified age group in the borough are required to generate one team. These are then applied to projected changes in population to identify the likely number of teams in the future.

- Team numbers are based on the proportion of Newham members of clubs in neighbouring areas, the details of which were supplied via the clubs’ survey.
- For the junior age groups, future team generation has been based upon an assessment of current participation increases and hockey development proposals.
- The 2015 long-term projections are the figures regarded as most likely to be most accurate in the Newham SHMA and the pitch needs for this scenario have therefore been used as the basis for future planning future needs as follows:

Future hockey needs are projected as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult male hockey	18-45	91,884	5	1: 18,376	102,851	6	1	0.1
Adult female hockey	18-45	76,028	4	1: 19,007	88,469	5	1	0.1
Boys junior hockey	8-17	12,309	0	-	22,651	2	2	0.2
Girls’ junior hockey	8-17	11,984	0	-	23,087	2	2	0.2

### 9.8 Key findings and issues

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

- ***No full-sized hockey pitches in Newham:*** There are no full-sized pitches suitable for hockey in Newham. This significantly limits the potential for developing the game in the borough, although development activity could take place on the six small-sided pitches with surfaces suitable for hockey, subject to availability.
- ***Local demand equivalent to 9.5 teams:*** The percentage of Newham-based players in teams in neighbouring areas is equivalent to 9.5 teams. If each team accessed a pitch for three hours each week for training and matches, this would create peak demand of 28.5 hours. Based on a typical weekly peak of 30 hours, this equates to sufficient demand for almost exactly one synthetic hockey pitch.

- **Junior hockey:** At present, only one of the clubs drawing their membership from Newham has junior teams, which means that there are limited pathways to progress from schools' hockey activity into a formal club structure at present.

### 9.8.2 Is there enough accessible and secured community use to meet current demand?

There is sufficient accessible and secured community use at pitches in adjacent areas that are accessible to Newham residents, although supply and demand are currently balanced.

### 9.8.3 Is the accessible provision of suitable quality and appropriately maintained?

All the pitches are high quality and well-maintained.

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

- **Population growth:** As outlined in section 2.3.7, the 2015 10-year trend projections favoured in the Newham Strategic Housing Market Assessment are regarded as the most accurate basis for forecasting population growth. These project a borough population of 397,112 by 2032 and this figure has been used as the basis for assessing future pitch needs.
- **Changes in demand:** Based upon recent local and national trends, participation rates are projected to increase by 5% per annum, subject to pitch availability.
- **Changes in supply:** There are no known threats to existing pitches, nor active proposals for new provision.
- **Existing spare capacity:** There is no collective current spare capacity in the peak period at pitches in adjacent areas.
- **Future needs:** Projected future needs have identified additional demand equivalent to 0.6 pitches.

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

There is insufficient accessible and secured provision in neighbouring areas to meet future demand at present:

- There is already sufficient collective demand from Newham-based hockey players equivalent to the weekly peak time supply of a hockey pitch.
- Future demand from Newham will be equivalent to another 0.6 hockey pitches by 2032.
- If a pitch was provided within the borough, it would make it easier to develop junior play.

## 9.9 Scenario Testing

### 9.9.1 Introduction

Based upon the key findings and issues identified above, a number of scenarios have been examined, to identify the optimum approach to addressing needs.

### 9.9.2 Scenario 1: Meeting Newham's hockey needs outside the borough

- **Rationale:** With no artificial grass hockey pitches in Newham at present, all current needs are met by clubs and facilities in adjacent areas.
- **Advantages:** The advantages of this scenario are as follows:
  - The Lea Valley Hockey and Tennis Centre is located very close to the Newham boundary, so is close to comprising an in-borough facility.
  - Almost 200 Newham-based hockey players are members of clubs in neighbouring boroughs, so a substantial amount of need is already being met.
  - The capital and revenue costs of providing and managing artificial grass pitches for hockey do not have to be met by Newham Council or other local providers.
- **Disadvantages:** The disadvantages of this scenario are as follows:
  - The lack of a full-sized artificial grass pitch for hockey in Newham significantly limits the potential for developing the game in the borough, due to a lack of local visibility.
  - Given the demography of Newham, travel time and costs are likely to be a significant barrier to participation, so a lack of local provision will inevitably have a big impact on the take-up of the game.
  - There is no spare capacity at the pitches closest to Newham, so no opportunity to accommodate projected additional demand to 2032.
- **Conclusions:** Artificial grass pitch provision in neighbouring areas is not the optimum way to address current and future hockey needs in Newham.

### 9.9.3 Scenario 2: Meeting Newham's hockey needs within the borough

- **Rationale:** Meeting hockey needs by providing a full-sized artificial grass pitch within Newham would greatly assist with the development of the game locally, by providing a focal point for training and competition at the apex of a facility hierarchy involving the existing small-sided sand-filled/dressed pitches.
- **Advantages:** The advantages of this scenario are as follows:
  - There is already sufficient collective demand from Newham-based hockey players equivalent to the weekly peak-time supply of a hockey pitch.

- Future demand from Newham will be equivalent to another 0.6 hockey pitches by 2032.
- If a pitch was provided within the borough, it would make it easier to develop junior play.
- **Disadvantages:** The only obvious disadvantages are the capital and revenue implications of providing a new artificial turf pitch for hockey in the borough.
- **Conclusions:** Provision of a pitch within Newham is the best option for meeting current and future hockey needs. Further feasibility work should be considered to establish the case for providing such a facility.

## 9.10 Policy recommendations

### 9.10.1 Introduction

The recommendations in relation to hockey are made in the context of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 74, which stipulates that existing open space including playing pitches, should not be built upon unless:

- An assessment has taken place which has clearly shown the open space to be surplus to requirements, or;
- The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality, in a suitable location, or;
- The development is for alternative sport and recreation provision, the needs for which clearly outweighs the loss.

The following recommendations are arranged under the three main headings of ‘protect’, ‘enhance’ and ‘provide’ and reflect the findings of the site-specific supply and demand assessments carried out as part of the current strategy.

### 9.10.2 Protect

**Recommendation 1 - Protection of existing sand-filled/dressed pitches:** There are five small-sided sand-filled/dressed pitches in Newham that have suitable surfaces for hockey play. It is possible that the pitch at Flanders Field may be expanded and converted to a ‘3G’ surface as part of Football ‘Hub Site’ proposals. However, the remaining pitches should be protected from conversion or redevelopment, unless England Hockey has confirmed that they are surplus to hockey needs.

**Recommendation 2 - Community access to education facilities:** Three of the five small-sided sand-filled/dressed pitches are provided on education sites in Newham and none has community access. Whilst this does not cause a problem at present, future hockey development programmes involving schools may find it advantageous to be able to access the pitches. It is therefore recommended that:

- Efforts are made to secure community use agreements at existing schools pitches.

- Community use agreements become a standard condition of planning consent at any new school rugby pitches, along with a design and specification that is consistent with maximising school and community

### 9.10.3 Enhance

**Recommendation 3 - Existing small-sided pitches:** All of the small-sided pitches will need to be resurfaced in the next few years to ensure their continued use, so providers should be encouraged to ensure that there is financial provision to cover the costs or resurfacing.

### 9.10.4 Provide

**Recommendation 4 - New artificial grass pitch:** It is recommended that a new full-sized artificial grass pitch for hockey be provided in Newham. If it is located on an education site, it should be subject to a formal community use agreement.

**Recommendation 4 - Developer contributions:** All of the additional demand for hockey arising from the proposed housing development in Newham to 2032, will need to be accommodated through the provision of a new artificial grass pitch. It is recommended that the action plan in the Newham Playing Pitch Strategy be used as the basis for determining that the new pitch demonstrably relates to the scale and location of specific developments and that an appropriate level of financial contributions be sought under Section 106 or CIL arrangements, to cover the capital and revenue cost implications. To facilitate this, artificial grass pitches should be listed as ‘relevant infrastructure’, under CIL Regulation 123.

## 9.11 Action Plan

In the context of the high-level recommendations above, the tables below set out the hockey action plan to guide the implementation of the strategy.

- The abbreviations stand for EH - England Hockey and LBN - London Borough of Newham.
- The capital cost estimates are based upon Sport England’s *Facility Costs - Second Quarter of 2016* (2016).

<i>Site</i>	<i>Issues</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>	<i>Resources</i>	<i>Priority</i>
New Pitch (location to be confirmed)	There is a need for a full-sized artificial grass pitch for Hockey in Newham	Identify a site for an artificial turf pitch for hockey in Newham	LBN	EH RFU	£760,000 for new artificial grass pitch.	Medium



## APPENDIX A

### FUTURE PITCH NEEDS BASED ON POPULATION GROWTH SCENARIOS

#### Introduction

- 1) The 'Newham Strategic Housing Market Assessment' (2016) (SHMA), a key evidence base document of the Local Plan, identifies population and household projections as the basis for undertaking an Objective Assessment of Need to identify the quantity of housing needed (both market and affordable) in the Housing Market Area.
- 2) The GLA long-term trend migration scenario is used as the basis for the SHMA central estimates. Long-term 10-year migration scenarios are more likely to capture both highs and lows of population change and are not as dependent as 5-year scenarios on trends that may be unlikely to be repeated. Future playing pitch needs are modelled using both the 5-year and 10-year trend scenarios, although the 10-year trend is considered the most appropriate measure, to ensure a consistency of approach with the SHMA. The population projections generated by the 2014 and 2015 GLA projections for Newham in 2032 are as follows:

<i>Year of issue</i>	<i>Short-term projection</i>		<i>Long-term projection</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>% Increase</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>% Increase</i>
2015	405,379	22.0%	397,112	19.5%
2014	407,687	22.7%	403,244	21.3%

- 3) The following sections demonstrate the effect of modelling future needs for each of the pitch sports in Newham, based on the four different population scenarios.

#### Football needs

- 4) **Introduction:** The future football needs assessment includes:
  - a) Formal grass pitches.
  - b) '3G' football turf pitches.
  - c) Informal grass pitches.
  - d) MUGAs and hard courts.
- 5) **Formal grass pitches:** Future formal grass football pitch needs to 2032 are modelled below using 'Team Generation Rates' (TGRs), which identify how many people in a specified age group in the borough are required to generate one team. These are then applied to projected changes in population to identify the likely number of teams in the future.
- 6) Existing team numbers using grass pitches have been derived from the number of regular affiliated and unaffiliated teams known to be using formal grass pitches (as opposed to known activity on '3G' pitches) in the borough. The Girls youth projections are based upon sports development potential.

a) **2014 short-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult male football	17-45	93,966	65	1: 1,446	107,783	75	+10	+5
Adult female football	17-45	78,038	3	1: 26,013	93,141	4	+1	+1
Boys youth football	10-16	14,096	30	1: 470	16,323	35	+5	+3
Girls youth football	10-16	13,884	0	-	16,813	2*	+2	+1
Mini-soccer (mixed)	6-9	18,401	18	1: 1,000	20,870	21	+3	+2

b) **2014 long-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult male football	17-45	93,966	65	1: 1,446	109,252	76	+11	+6
Adult female football	17-45	78,038	3	1: 26,013	93,035	4	+1	+1
Boys youth football	10-16	14,096	30	1: 470	15,570	33	+3	+2
Girls youth football	10-16	13,884	0	-	16,058	2*	+2	+1
Mini-soccer (mixed)	6-9	18,401	18	1: 1,000	20,397	20	+2	+1

c) **2015 short-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult male football	17-45	93,966	65	1: 1,446	107,537	74	+9	+5
Adult female football	17-45	78,038	3	1: 26,013	92,725	4	+1	+1
Boys youth football	10-16	14,096	30	1: 470	15,970	34	+4	+2
Girls youth football	10-16	13,884	0	-	16,294	2*	+2	+1
Mini-soccer (mixed)	6-9	18,401	18	1: 1,000	20,487	20	+2	+1

d) **2015 long-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult male football	17-45	93,966	65	1: 1,446	104,982	73	+8	+4
Adult female football	17-45	78,038	3	1: 26,013	90,721	3	-	0
Boys youth football	10-16	14,096	30	1: 470	15,633	33	+3	+2
Girls youth football	10-16	13,884	0	-	15,904	2*	+2	+1
Mini-soccer (mixed)	6-9	18,401	18	1: 1,000	19,995	20	+2	+1

7) **'3G' football turf pitch needs:** Future '3G' pitch needs to 2032 are modelled below based upon the following:

- a) The existing number of affiliated and non-affiliated team equivalents seeking access to '3G' pitches in Newham at present is 320. On the basis of the FA calculation of 42 teams equating to demand for one '3G' pitch, this creates current demand for 7.62 pitches.
- b) This figure is then applied to projected changes in population to identify the likely volume of additional demand in the future.

<i>Scenario</i>	<i>% population increase</i>	<i>Additional demand</i>	<i>Additional '3G' pitches</i>
2014 short-term	22.7%	73 teams	1.71
2014 long-term	21.3%	68 teams	1.62
2015 short-term	22.0%	79 teams	1.67
2015 long-term	19.5%	62 teams	1.48

- 8) **Informal grass football pitches:** The 13 existing informal grass pitches in the borough are based in green spaces that collectively cover 54.44ha (or 0.16ha per 1,000 residents) and meet existing needs with no obvious spare capacity. Based on a population increases in the four population scenarios, the pro rata requirement for an additional publicly-accessible green space capable of accommodating informal grass pitches by 2032 is as follows:

<i>Scenario</i>	<i>Extra population</i>	<i>Extra green space (ha)</i>
2014 short-term	75,357	12.06ha
2014 long-term	70,923	11.35ha
2015 short-term	73,058	11.69ha
2015 long-term	64,791	10.37ha

- 9) **MUGAs and hard courts used for football:** The 20 existing MUGAs with community access in the borough meet existing needs with no obvious spare capacity. Based on the four population increase scenarios by 2032 and static participation rates apart from youth girls, the additional requirements will be as follows:

<i>Scenario</i>	<i>% population increase</i>	<i>Additional MUGAs</i>
2014 short-term	22.7%	4.5
2014 long-term	21.3%	4.3
2015 short-term	22.0%	4.4
2015 long-term	19.5%	3.9

### **Cricket needs**

- 10) Future cricket pitch needs are modelled below using 'Team Generation Rates' (TGRs), which identify how many people in a specified age group in the borough are required to generate one team. These are then applied to projected changes in population to identify the likely number of teams in the future.
- Existing team numbers have been derived from the number of regular affiliated and unaffiliated teams (including Last Man Stands) known to be using formal cricket pitches in the borough.
  - The extra wickets calculation is based upon the five-game seasonal capacity of a 'good' quality grass wicket and an assumption of ten home games per team per season.

11) **2014 short-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra wickets</i>
Adult males	16-55	114,445	31	1: 3,692	134,783	37	6	12
Adult females	16-55	97,878	0	-	117,805	0	0	0
Junior males	10-15	12,011	14	1: 858	14,066	16	2	4
Junior females	10-15	11,875	0	-	14,450	0	0	0

12) **2014 long-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra wickets</i>
Adult males	16-55	114,445	31	1: 3,692	135,817	37	6	12
Adult females	16-55	97,878	0	-	116,978	0	0	0
Junior males	10-15	12,011	14	1: 858	13,432	16	2	4
Junior females	10-15	11,875	0	-	13,821	0	0	0

13) **2015 short-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra wickets</i>
Adult males	16-55	114,445	31	1: 3,692	134,307	36	5	10
Adult females	16-55	97,878	0	-	117,211	0	0	0
Junior males	10-15	12,011	14	1: 858	13,783	16	2	4
Junior females	10-15	11,875	0	-	13,942	0	0	0

14) **2015 long-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra wickets</i>
Adult males	16-55	114,445	31	1: 3,692	131,228	36	5	10
Adult females	16-55	97,878	0	-	114,845	0	0	0
Junior males	10-15	12,011	14	1: 858	13,483	16	2	4
Junior females	10-15	11,875	0	-	13,674	0	0	0

### **Rugby union needs**

15) Future rugby pitch needs are modelled below using ‘Team Generation Rates’ (TGRs), which identify how many people in a specified age group in the borough are required to generate one team. These are then applied to projected changes in population to identify the likely number of teams in the future.

- a) Existing adult team numbers are based on the participation data supplied by the RFU.
- b) Junior and mini team ‘current’ numbers are based upon an estimate of the outcome of current rugby development initiatives with those age groups.

- c) The extra pitches calculation is based upon the weekly capacity of a pipe-drained grass pitch with standard maintenance.
- d) The additional projected usage levels correspond with 15 hours of peak time usage of an Artificial Grass Pitch, which on the basis of a 25 hour per week peak period, equates to 0.6 of an Artificial Grass Pitch.

16) **2014 short-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult males	19-45	89,797	8	1: 11,225	103,255	9	1	0.5
Adult females	19-45	74,018	1	1: 74,018	99,905	1	0	0
Junior males	13-18	12,309	0	-	13,625	2	2	1.0
Junior females	13-18	11,984	0	-	12,229	0	0	0
Mini-rugby (mixed)	7-12	30,276	0	-	30,122	2	2	0.5

17) **2014 long-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult males	19-45	89,797	8	1: 11,225	104,954	9	1	0.5
Adult females	19-45	74,018	1	1: 74,018	88,442	1	0	0
Junior males	13-18	12,309	0	-	12,972	2	2	1.0
Junior females	13-18	11,984	0	-	13,550	0	0	0
Mini-rugby (mixed)	7-12	30,276	0	-	29,169	2	2	0.5

18) **2015 short-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult males	19-45	89,797	8	1: 11,225	103,057	9	1	0.5
Adult females	19-45	74,018	1	1: 74,018	88,013	1	0	0
Junior males	13-18	12,309	0	-	13,334	2	2	1.0
Junior females	13-18	11,984	0	-	13,770	0	0	0
Mini-rugby (mixed)	7-12	30,276	0	-	29,495	2	2	0.5

19) **2015 long-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult males	19-45	89,797	8	1: 11,225	100,571	9	1	0.5
Adult females	19-45	74,018	1	1: 74,018	86,071	1	0	0
Junior males	13-18	12,309	0	-	13,093	2	2	1.0
Junior females	13-18	11,984	0	-	13,558	0	0	0
Mini-rugby (mixed)	7-12	30,276	0	-	28,817	2	2	0.5



## Rugby league needs

20) Future rugby league pitch needs are modelled below using ‘Team Generation Rates’ (TGRs), which identify how many people in a specified age group in the borough are required to generate one team. These are then applied to projected changes in population to identify the likely number of teams in the future. Existing adult team numbers are based on the participation data supplied by the RFL.

21) **2014 short-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult males	19-45	89,797	1	1: 11,225	103,255	1	0	0
Adult females	19-45	74,018	0	-	99,905	0	0	0
Junior males	13-18	12,309	0	-	13,625	0	0	0
Junior females	13-18	11,984	0	-	12,229	0	0	0
Mini-rugby (mixed)	7-12	30,276	0	-	30,122	0	0	0

22) **2014 long-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult males	19-45	89,797	1	1: 11,225	104,954	1	0	0
Adult females	19-45	74,018	0	-	88,442	0	0	0
Junior males	13-18	12,309	0	-	12,972	0	0	0
Junior females	13-18	11,984	0	-	13,550	0	0	0
Mini-rugby (mixed)	7-12	30,276	0	-	29,169	0	0	0

23) **2015 short-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult males	19-45	89,797	1	1: 11,225	103,057	1	0	0
Adult females	19-45	74,018	0	-	88,013	0	0	0
Junior males	13-18	12,309	0	-	13,334	0	0	0
Junior females	13-18	11,984	0	-	13,770	0	0	0
Mini-rugby (mixed)	7-12	30,276	0	-	29,495	0	0	0

24) **2015 long-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult males	19-45	89,797	1	1: 11,225	100,571	1	0	0
Adult females	19-45	74,018	0	-	86,071	0	0	0
Junior males	13-18	12,309	0	-	13,093	0	0	0
Junior females	13-18	11,984	0	-	13,558	0	0	0
Mini-rugby (mixed)	7-12	30,276	0	-	28,817	0	0	0

## Hockey needs

25) Future hockey pitch needs are modelled below using ‘Team Generation Rates’ (TGRs), which identify how many people in a specified age group in the borough are required to generate one team. These are then applied to projected changes in population to identify the likely number of teams in the future.

- a) Team numbers are based on the proportion of Newham members of clubs in neighbouring areas, the details of which were supplied via the clubs’ survey.
- b) For the junior age groups, future team generation has been based upon an assessment of current participation increases and hockey development proposals.

26) **2014 short-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult male hockey	18-45	91,884	5	1: 18,376	105,545	6	1	0.1
Adult female hockey	18-45	76,028	4	1: 19,007	90,756	5	1	0.1
Boys junior hockey	8-17	12,309	0	-	23,618	2	2	0.2
Girls’ junior hockey	8-17	11,984	0	-	24,387	2	2	0.2

27) **2014 long-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult male hockey	18-45	91,884	5	1: 18,376	107,137	6	1	0.1
Adult female hockey	18-45	76,028	4	1: 19,007	90,781	5	1	0.1
Boys junior hockey	8-17	12,309	0	-	22,604	2	2	0.2
Girls’ junior hockey	8-17	11,984	0	-	23,359	2	2	0.2

28) **2015 short-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult male hockey	18-45	91,884	5	1: 18,376	105,374	6	1	0.1
Adult female hockey	18-45	76,028	4	1: 19,007	90,445	5	1	0.1
Boys junior hockey	8-17	12,309	0	-	23,146	2	2	0.2
Girls’ junior hockey	8-17	11,984	0	-	23,530	2	2	0.2

29) **2015 long-term projections:** The assessment is as follows:

<i>Team type</i>	<i>Age range</i>	<i>Current population</i>	<i>Current teams</i>	<i>TGR</i>	<i>Population 2032</i>	<i>Teams 2032</i>	<i>Extra teams</i>	<i>Extra pitches</i>
Adult male hockey	18-45	91,884	5	1: 18,376	102,851	6	1	0.1
Adult female hockey	18-45	76,028	4	1: 19,007	88,469	5	1	0.1
Boys junior hockey	8-17	12,309	0	-	22,651	2	2	0.2
Girls’ junior hockey	8-17	11,984	0	-	23,087	2	2	0.2