

## MEMORANDUM

To : Internal Consultee

From : Ms Heather Carlisle, Planning Services, Plough Lane Offices – H26

Tel : 01432 260453 My Ref : 242558

Date : 25/11/2024

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**SITE:** Land to the south of Lower Bullingham, west of the Rotherwas Industrial Estate, north of the Rotherwas, Hereford, HR2 6JW

**APPLICATION TYPE:** Outline

**DESCRIPTION:** The first phase of an urban extension (known as the Southern Urban Expansion in the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy) comprising up to 540 homes (Use Class C3); employment land (Use Class B and E), local centre and a country park together with supporting public open space, and all other associated works (e.g. demolition of existing industrial buildings, drainage, landscaping and ground modelling). All matters are reserved for future consideration save for 'access'. Only the means of access into the site is sought as part of this outline application, not the internal site access arrangements.

**APPLICATION NO:** 242558

**GRID REFERENCE:** OS 352026, 237392

**PARISH:** Lower Bullingham

The application form, plans and supporting documents are available in Wisdom.

Please let me have your comments by **27/12/2024**. If I have received no response by this date I shall assume that you have no objections. Should you require further information please contact the Case Officer.

Any comments should be added below and actioned in Civica to, **Ms Heather Carlisle**.

Comments: (Continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

Object

Support

No Objection

Approve with Conditions  (Please list below any conditions you wish to impose on this permission.)

Further information required

Consultation response from: Ruth Jackson Open Space Planning Officer

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**Open Space Requirements:** Relevant Policies and Evidence bases:

**National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF):**

- Paragraph 102: Open Space and Recreation: provision of what open space, sports and recreational opportunities required in a local area should be based on robust assessments of need
- Paragraph 102 states that access to a network of high-quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and well-being of communities

**Core Strategy(CS)**

- OS1: Requirements for Open Space, Sports and Recreation Facilities
- OS2: Meeting Open Space and Recreation Needs

**Open Space Evidence Bases:** As part of the Core Strategy Review the following evidence bases have been updated and reviewed.

- Herefordshire Open Space Assessment, Strategy and Action Plan 2023
- Herefordshire Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports(PPOS) Assessment September 2022
- Herefordshire Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports(PPOS) Strategy and Action Plan Feb 2023
- Herefordshire Indoor and Built Sports Facilities Assessment September 2022
- Herefordshire Indoor and Built Sports Facilities Strategy and Action Plan Feb 2023
- Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy 2023

**Open Space Policy Requirements:** In accordance with CS policies **OS1 and OS2** requirements for open space, sport and recreation facilities will be sought from all new residential development on a site by site basis in accordance with all applicable set standards and evidence bases. Where on-site provision is not appropriate off-site contributions may be sought on an equally beneficial basis for the local community. In this instance a combination of on and off-contributions will be requested

The latest evidence base Herefordshire Open Space Assessment, Strategy and Action Plan 2023 recommends the following quantum for:

- Accessible Greenspace @ 3ha per 1000 population, to include amenity greenspace and semi natural/natural green space in accordance with Natural England Standards
- Provision for children and teenagers @0.25ha per 1000 population in accordance with Fields in Trust

The outline application relates to a first phase of the Southern Urban Expansion (Lower Bullingham) and CS Policy HD6. In accordance with these standards, for a development of 540 houses and an occupancy rate of 2.3 (population 1,242) the developer would be required to provide as a minimum on-site green infrastructure comprising:

- **3.7ha (37,260sq m)** of Accessible Green Space @ 3ha per 1000 population
- **0.31ha (310sq m)** of Provision for Children and Teenagers @ 0 @ 0.25ha per 1000 population

**On-site Green Infrastructure and Accessible Green Space:** Although an outline application, provision of open space is shown indicatively on submitted plans:

- Concept Masterplan: drawing no. BL-M-11
- Green Infrastructure Parameter Plan drawing no. BL-M-18
- Green Infrastructure Plan drawing no. 07930-FPCR-XX-ZZ-DR-L-0001\_D

As detailed in the submitted planning statement, proposed open space is more than the minimum requirement as set out above. A total of 14.28ha is proposed to include accessible green space, informal and formal play opportunities and attenuation ponds. An addition of 6.28ha is proposed for a country park.

The submitted Green Infrastructure Strategy responds positively to the Core Strategy Evidence Base for Green Infrastructure and in particular strategic aspirations that meet the wider benefits, for people, place and nature including the delivery of multi-functional open space. Indicative Green Infrastructure Plan (dwg.07930-FPCR-XX-ZZ-DR-L-0001 D provides a concept plan for taking forward this approach. In principal it proposes, GI corridors, strategic greenways along Red Brook and Norton Brook and links with Withy Brook; a series of linked multi-functional spaces that will deliver landscape,

amenity and biodiversity benefits as well as performing a SuDS function; retention of existing rights of way and new networks of foot/cycle routes and connections through green spaces; and delivery of a country park providing a variety of planting and informal opportunities for recreation.

The principle of this approach is supported but more detail will be required at detailed reserved matters stage and consideration of the recommendations included in the Herefordshire Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy and the Open Space Strategy for the delivery of quality on-site accessible green space, children's play areas and green infrastructure. The proposal should demonstrate that its green spaces

- *Are multi-functional - open spaces provide a broad range of features and facilities to support the health and well-being of the residents.*
- *Reflect a multi-functional network and offer differing functions appropriate to the environmental context.*
- *extend the tree canopy*
- *Incorporate SuDS*
- *Increase connectivity to the local nature recovery network including the creation of wildflower grasslands, hedges and woodlands*
- *Reflect local distinctiveness, including landscape character, conservation and heritage of the location.*
- *Provide equality of access to enable people to use an open space without anxiety and excessive effort.*
- *are designed to locate play spaces, access points and seating with regard for the needs of all residents and users.*
- *Ensure entrances are wide and step free.*
- *Incorporate social seating and relaxation areas and sensory planting*
- *Incorporate natural and semi-natural habitats.*
- *Promote movement between different open spaces by use of signage and active travel networks*
- *Where ecologically appropriate ensure all-weather, good quality footpaths promote access through open spaces*
- *Have well located entrances with clear sight lines in and out*
- *have signage to indicate what to expect to find within the site*
- *Provide routes within and through the site suitable for a variety of users*
- *Provide well located spaces for gathering and seating to reduce the likelihood of antisocial behaviour*
- *Provide easy access where necessary through the provision of road crossings.*
- *Provide planting and landscape features for interest and to providing a welcoming environment*

**Children's Play Areas:** The exact housing mix is to be determined at detailed reserved matters stage to include 35% affordable housing in accordance with local planning policy. As more detail is provided at the reserved matters stage, in accordance with the SPD on planning obligations for children's play an indicative cost for the value of play equipment will be calculated to ensure equity of play across the county arising from new development.

**Maintenance:** Suitable management and maintenance arrangements will be required to support any provision of open space and associated infrastructure within the open space in line with the Council's policies. This could be a management company which is demonstrably adequately self-funded or will be funded through an acceptable on-going arrangement; or through local arrangements such as a Trust set up for the new community for example. There is a need to ensure good quality maintenance programmes are agreed and implemented and that the areas remain available for public use.

**SuDS:** The SuDS attenuation basins if designed accordingly to take account of health and safety and standing water issues can provide good opportunities for informal recreation and natural play along

with being areas suitable for biodiversity and wildlife. The landscape aspects of SUDs including demonstrating appropriate gradients can be achieved will need to be submitted as part of the landscape scheme.

**Off-site Outdoor Sports Contribution:** The applicant has acknowledged pre-application comments regarding sports provision and the current preference for an off-site contribution through S106 obligations.

The following evidence bases in support of CS Policies OS1 and OS2 set out the sports requirements for Hereford. In this instance the strategy recommends a programme of protection, provision and enhancement to existing facilities to meet both existing and future demands arising from increased populations arising from growth and residential development.

- Herefordshire Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports(PPOS) Assessment September 2022
- Herefordshire Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports(PPOS) Strategy and Action Plan Feb 2023
- Herefordshire Indoor and Built Sports Facilities Assessment September 2022
- Herefordshire Indoor and Built Sports Facilities Strategy and Action Plan Feb 2023

The current tariff of **£1,297** per market house for Hereford Area, is subject to changes as the Investment Plan is updated to reflect the new Assessments to support the Core Strategy Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

The contribution will be used towards the following Hereford Area sports facilities (as set out in the evidence bases set out above) and on priorities at the time of receiving the money

#### Herefordshire Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports (PPOS) Strategy and Action Plan Feb 2023

Site	Sport	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Aim
Allpay Park - Moorhouse	Football	One adult, one mini 5v5, one mini 7v7 and one youth 11v11 (overmarked with youth 9v9) all of good quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Site is located on a flood zone. The adult pitch is currently played to capacity, whilst all other pitches have potential spare capacity. All spare capacity onsite is discounted due to be located on a flood zone. Westfields FC (Step 5/Tier 6) suggests there is a need to extend/develop a larger car park onsite. At present there is not enough parking space available, with significant congestion around the ground on training and match days.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to extend/develop a larger car park onsite. Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step/Tier football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can allow for the promotion of clubs.	Sports club HFA FF	Local	Protect Provide
Belmont Abbey	Football	One adult, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches of standard quality. Ancillary provision of good quality. Available for community use. Adult pitch has actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week. Youth 9v9 pitch has actual spare capacity one MES per week. Mini 7v7 pitch is played to capacity at peak time, whilst the mini 5v5 pitches have actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Explore the feasibility to increase number of changing rooms onsite to cater for current demand, through temporary or permanent facilities.	Sports club HFA FF	Local	Protect Enhance Provide

Site	Sport	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Aim
		Toros FC reports that although the ancillary facilities are of good quality, there are currently not enough changing rooms to cater for its recent growth in teams.				
Broomy Hill	Football	<p>One adult pitch of standard quality. Available for community use. Ancillary provision of poor quality.</p> <p>Adult pitch is currently played to capacity at peak time.</p> <p>Hinton FC (Regional Feeder League) reports that it has planning permission granted for the build of a new clubhouse at Broomy Hill. At present the Club has a tender out for prices on the build and is awaiting responses on this to progress the development. The Club plan to apply for Football Foundation Funding to support the development whilst the Club plan to raise funds through local business support, Section 106 monies, and fundraising for the remaining amount.</p>	<p>Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.</p> <p>Look to support the Club with required funding actions to ensure the clubhouse development is completed.</p> <p>Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can allow for the promotion of clubs.</p>	Sports club HFA FF	Local	Protect Enhance Provide
Burghill Tillington & Weobley Cricket Club	Cricket	<p>One standard quality grass square which consists of six senior wickets and one NTP. Ancillary provision of poor quality. The senior wickets are overplayed by 12 MES per season.</p> <p>The site has recently had a new two-lane fixed net facility built.</p>	<p>Look to improve square quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.</p>	Sports club HCB ECB	Local	Protect Enhance
Gorsty Lane	Football	<p>One mini 5v5, one mini 7v7 (overmarked with mini 5v5) and two youth 9v9 (overmarked with mini 7v7) pitches all of poor quality. Pitches are affected by poor drainage with standing water often present after rain. Ancillary provision of poor quality.</p> <p>Mini 5v5 overplayed to capacity at peak time. Mini 7v7 pitch is overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. Youth 9v9 pitches are overplayed by 1.5 MES per week.</p> <p>Tupsley Girls FC suggests that to accommodate the growth of the Club, a new changing facility is required onsite. It reports it may have to look for an alternative site to help its growth if this is not feasible.</p>	<p>Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to develop current ancillary facilities or develop new changing provision onsite, to accommodate the growth of Tupsley Girls FC.</p> <p>Explore the feasibility of adding the site to the LFFP priority site list within the Herefordshire LFFP update.</p>	Trust HFA FF	Local	Protect Enhance Provide
		One poor quality MUGA with no	Look to improve court quality with	Trust		Protect

Site	Sport	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Aim
		sports lighting.	enhanced levels of maintenance.			Enhance
Grandstand Road Park	Football	One adult and one mini 5v5 pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Both pitches have potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to poor pitch quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.	Council HFA FF	Local	Protect Enhance
		One poor quality MUGA, with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council		Protect Enhance
				Protect		
				Protect		
Hereford City Sports Club	Football	One adult, one youth 9v9 and one mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site is located on within a flood zone and floods often. The pitches offer spare capacity, however due to being in a flood zone and also offering unsecure tenure the spare capacity is discounted.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.	Council HFA FF	Local	Protect Enhance
	Cricket (Disused)	Site is now solely used for rugby union activity by Greyhound RFC. Previously the site accommodated a 14 wicket cricket square, with satellite imagery suggesting it has not been maintained since circa 2013.	Retain as strategic reserve and look to reinstate if levels of future/recreational demand warrant more supply.	Council ,HCB ECB		Protect
	Rugby union	Two senior rugby union pitches of M0/D1 (poor) quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site is located within a flood zone and floods often. The pitches onsite are currently played to capacity. The ancillary facilities are aging and in need of modernisation. The current short term lease (2026) will create issues for the Club in accessing relevant S106/grant funding. Sports lighting on training area requires updating. Greyhound RFC reports it is looking to extend its current lease. It wants to extend its lease to a more substantial length of time to meet criteria for relevant grant funding, which generally requires secure tenure for a minimum of 25 years, for future ancillary and pitch enhancements.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance and potential drainage improvements. Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite. Explore the opportunity to upgrade sports lighting on grass training area. Support Greyhound RFC in securing an extension to the lease to secure tenure of the site on a long-term basis.	Council/ Sports club RFU		Protect Enhance
Hereford Lads Club	Football	One mini 7v7 of standard quality. Pitch is played to capacity at peak time. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Hereford Lads Club FC (Step 6) suggest that work is required to improve the quality of the clubhouse on its site, Hereford Lads Club. At present, work is being done to the community	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to continue improvement to the ancillary provision onsite. Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can allow for the promotion of clubs.	Sports club HFA FF	Local	Protect Enhance

Site	Sport	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Aim
		room to improve its quality. The changing block is a recent development built in the last five years and is of good quality.				
Hereford Leisure Centre	Football / 3G	<p>One adult, two youth 11v11 and two youth 9v9 pitches of standard quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site is located within a flood zone and floods often.</p> <p>The pitches offer spare capacity, however due to being in a flood zone and also offering unsecure tenure the spare capacity is discounted.</p> <p>Site previously accommodated a further one adult pitch, this is no longer being marked out. The pitch is currently subject to an ongoing planning application (220369) for a proposed installation of a new 1.03km closed circuit cycle track with associated external works including perimeter fencing, learn to ride areas, skill based off road areas and perimeter lighting. If approved, the development of the unused adult pitch will need to meet Sport England and NPPF guidelines.</p>	<p>Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.</p> <p>Ensure that any development/approved planning application of the circuit cycling track which would see the permanent loss of the unmarked adult pitch meets Sport England and NPPF guidelines.</p> <p>In line with LFFP and PPOSS findings explore the feasibility of creating a full size 3G pitch on the site. This should be located in a suitable location to limit the potential effects of flooding and is its own independent facility and not a conversion of the hockey AGP on the site.</p> <p>Ensure 3G pitch is installed to RFU specification Law 1 dimensions with shockpad and gains WR compliance for rugby union match play and training use.</p>	Halo Leisure HFA FF RFU	Hub site	Protect Enhance Provide
	Hockey AGP	<p>One poor quality full size (98x68) sand based hockey AGP with sports lighting, available for community use. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site is located within a flood zone and floods often.</p> <p>Pitch currently has 43% spare capacity on a weekly basis, the majority of which is on Sundays. Hereford HC suggest maintenance on the pitch and surrounding facilities are a big factor in the poor quality pitch.</p>	<p>As a priority look to fully refurbish the pitch with an appropriate surface for hockey. The preferred surface should be discussed with appropriate stakeholders (Council/Halo Leisure/EH/ Hereford HC).</p> <p>Look to secure community access for community (Hereford HC), educational (curricular/extracurricular demand).</p> <p>Explore the feasibility of creating a portfolio of pitches which can be refurbished at the similar times in order to reduce overall costs. In particular Hereford Leisure Centre and Whitecross High School.</p>	Halo Leisure EH		Protect Enhance
	Athletics	<p>One poor quality synthetic eight-lane 400m athletic track, with sports lighting. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site is located within a flood zone and floods often.</p> <p>The track is Hereford Leisure Centre is currently working towards TrackMark status, although the cage on site is considered non-compliant.</p> <p>Halo Leisure is currently working towards a track</p>	<p>Look to carry out an in depth track inspection to determine the most suitable actions to improve its quality. This should include the potential of a full refurbishment/deep clean.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.</p> <p>Ensure work towards gaining TrackMark status is continued.</p>	Halo Leisure EA		Protect Enhance

Site	Sport	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Aim
		replacement in the coming months. Halo Leisure is looking for local clubs to support the funding of the track as it states it currently does not have the resources to fund the entire project. Hereford AC as began a project to raise funds in order to support Halo Leisure with the development and resurfacing of the track.				
	Cricket	One standalone poor quality NTP. Site is located within a flood zone and floods often.	Look to improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Halo Leisure HCB ECB		Protect Enhance
	Cycling / BMX	Planning permission (220369) at Hereford Leisure Centre was approved, subject to conditions, to create a new 1.03km closed circuit cycle track with associated external works including perimeter fencing, learn to ride areas, skill based off road areas and perimeter lighting. The approval also includes the installation of a social hub comprising of three individual reused shipping containers with associated outdoor seating area.  The development has the backing of British Cycling, Sport England as well as the Council and Hereford City Council. The facility aims to provide people within the locality with a safe place to learn to ride/exercise in addition to contributing to several health and wellbeing benefits.	Work with the relevant stakeholders to develop the planned circuit cycle track subject to relevant planning conditions.  Ensure that any development/approved planning application of the circuit cycling track which would see the permanent loss of the unmarked adult pitch meets Sport England and NPPF guidelines.	Halo Leisure BC		Provide
Hereford Leisure Pool (King George V Playing Fields)	Football	Two adult pitches of poor quality. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Site is located within a flood zone and floods often.  The pitches are currently unused. However, due to being located on a flood zone the pitches spare capacity has been discounted.  Site previously accommodated a further two youth pitches. Goalposts for these pitches were removed <i>circa</i> 2018.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.  Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.  Explore the opportunity/need to bring back into use the unused youth pitches previously marked onsite	Trust HFA FF	Key centre	Protect Enhance
	Tennis	Six standard quality grass courts, with no sports lighting, available for community use. Site is located within a flood zone and floods often.  Also there is a macadam area which can accommodate up to four courts, however, no provision was marked out upon non-technical assessments.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.  Explore the opportunity to develop macadam area for formal tennis courts including quality and accessibility improvements.	Trust LTA		Protect Enhance Provide
	Cricket (Disused)	Previously used for cricket. The site accommodated a five	Retain as strategic reserve and look to reinstate if levels of future/recreational	Trust HCB		Protect

Site	Sport	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Aim
	)	wicket grass square, however, ceased maintenance for cricket use circa 2009. The site remains active for other sporting use.	demand warrant more supply.	ECB		
	MUGA	Site is identified in the LFFP as a site for MUGA development.	Explore the feasibility to undertake LFFP priority projects onsite.	Trust HFA, FF		Provide
	Rounders	One standard quality rounders pitch.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Trust RE		Protect Enhance
	Tennis	One good quality and one standard quality macadam courts with no sports lighting, both available for community use.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School LTA		Protect Enhance
Newton Farm	Football/ 3G	<p>Two adult, two youth 9v9, two mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches of standard quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality.</p> <p>Adult pitches have actual spare capacity of two MES per week. Youth 9v9 pitches are played to capacity at peak time. Mini 7v7 pitches have spare capacity but are played to capacity at peak time. Mini 5v5 pitches have actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week.</p> <p>Belmont Wanderers FC is currently working towards the development of the site. The Club is working with the Football Foundation and HFA to navigate through a Stronger Towns bid with the exact scope of the works required to be determined. This being said there are aspirations from the Club for the development to include the creation of a full size 3G pitch, in replacement of one of the onsite grass pitches. Very little ancillary provision, onsite, with portacabins servicing the pitches. As part of the proposed plan for the site, a brand new clubhouse and changing block is to be developed. The Club plans to apply for Football Foundation funding to support the development with Belmont Wanderers FC accessing other funds to support the remaining costs.</p>	<p>Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to improve the ancillary provision onsite.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to develop the site, including developments for full size 3G pitch, dedicated ancillary provision and grass pitch improvement.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to install shock pad and gain WR compliance for rugby union training use.</p>	Sports club Council HFA FF RFU	Local	Protect Enhance Provide
Old School Lane (Pegasus Juniors)	Football	<p>One youth 11v11 and one mini 7v7 pitch of standard quality. Ancillary provision of good quality.</p> <p>Youth 11v11 pitch is overplayed by two MES per week. Mini 7v7</p>	<p>Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step/Teir football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can</p>	Sports club HFA FF	Key centre	Protect

Site	Sport	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Aim
		pitch has spare capacity, however, is played to capacity at peak time.	allow for the promotion of clubs.			
	3G	<p>One good quality full size (106x70) 3G pitch, with sports lighting and available for community use. Pitch is FIFA compliant. Ancillary provision of good quality.</p> <p>Pitch has minimal spare capacity with only two hours of spare capacity throughout the week (one on the weekend, one midweek).</p> <p>Hereford Pegasus FC (Step/Tier) aspires to develop a second full size 3G pitch onsite.</p>	<p>Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Explore the feasibility to develop a second 3G onsite.</p> <p>Ensure pitch is on the 3G Register and are retested for compliance so that they can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required.</p> <p>Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms &amp; Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary.</p> <p>Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step/Tier football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can allow for the promotion of clubs.</p>	Sports club HFA FF		Protect Provide
The Copse (Burghill Community Playing Fields)	Football	<p>One adult pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality.</p> <p>Adult pitch is played to capacity, however, could accommodate further teams at peak time if quality was improved.</p>	<p>Look to improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to develop onsite ancillary provision</p>	Trust HFA FF	Local	Protect Enhance
The County Ground (Herefordshire FA)	3G	<p>One good quality full size (106x70) 3G pitch, with sports lighting and available for community use. Pitch is FIFA compliant. Ancillary provision of good quality.</p> <p>Pitch has minimal midweek spare capacity with only two hours of spare capacity. At the weekend the pitch has six hours of spare capacity.</p> <p>Used to accommodate Step 5 Football.</p>	<p>Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Ensure pitch is on the 3G Register and are retested for compliance so that they can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required.</p> <p>Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms &amp; Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary.</p> <p>Ensure pitch and ancillary provision meet the recommended requirements for the Step football being played at the site. Also ensure the site can allow for the promotion of clubs.</p>	HFA FF	Local	Protect
	3G	<p>One good quality full size (102x64) 3G pitch with sports lighting and available for community use. Pitch is FIFA compliant. Ancillary provision of standard quality.</p> <p>Pitch is currently available for 14 of the 18 FPM during the midweek and all 16 hours of the FPM on the weekend. Current usage of the site is currently unknown.</p>	<p>Sustain pitch quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Ensure pitch is on the 3G Register and are retested for compliance so that they can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required.</p> <p>Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time (as per Football Foundation Terms &amp; Conditions), for repair and resurfacing when necessary.</p>	School HFA FF		Protect
Victoria Park (Hereford)	Football	<p>One adult pitch of poor quality. Ancillary provision of good quality.</p>	<p>Look to improve quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.</p>	Sports club HFA FF	Local	Protect Enhance

Site	Sport	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Aim
		Adult pitch is overplayed by one MES per week. Pitch has potential spare capacity at peak time. Tupsley Girls FC reports that maintenance of the pitch is limited.				
	Cricket (Disused)	Previously, accommodated an NTP onsite. The NTP has since been removed and is no longer onsite, satellite imagery suggests the NTP was removed circa 2009.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitch.	Sports club HCB ECB		Protect
Westfaling Street Park	Cycling / BMX	One good quality macadam BMX pump track.	Sustain track quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Council BC	Local	Protect
	MUGA	One poor quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to improve court quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council		Protect Enhance
Widemarsh Common (Hereford)	Football	One adult, one youth 9v9 one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 of poor quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Site located on a flood zone. Adult pitch is overplayed by two MES per week. Youth 9v9 pitch is played to capacity. Mini 7v7 has potential spare capacity which is discounted due to site being located on a flood zone. Mini 5v5 pitch is played to capacity at peak time. Hereford Lads Club FC has an agreement with the Council onsite through a license. The Club maintains the site, however, due to it being open access and common land, the Council has ownership of the site.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to develop onsite ancillary provision.	Council HFA FF	Local	Protect Enhance
	Cricket (Disused)	The site previously had an eight grass wicket square onsite, with an NTP attached. The cricket provision onsite has not maintained or accessed since circa 2009.	Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the pitch.	Council HCB ECB		
Hereford Rugby Club	Rugby union	Two senior and one mini rugby union pitch of M2/D0 (standard) quality. One senior pitch has sports lighting. Site is located on the riverbank, within a flood zone and flood often. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Unlit senior pitch is played to capacity. Floodlit senior pitch is overplayed by six MES per week. Mini pitch is overplayed by one MES per week. Hereford RFC reports that its poor quality ancillary provision is limiting potential demand on	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance/drainage improvement. Explore the opportunity to develop onsite ancillary provision. Explore the opportunity to upgrade sports lighting onsite.	Sports club RFU	Local	Protect Enhance

Site	Sport	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Aim
		the site, particularly for women and girls. Its strategic ambition is to either replace or upgrade its clubhouse to better cater for all types of demand in addition to establishing more facilities in order for the Club to grow. The Club also reports that the sports lights onsite require updating.				
Hereford Squash Tennis and Racquet ball Centre	Tennis	<p>Three good quality macadam courts with sports lighting and three poor quality macadam courts with sports lighting. Hereford Tennis Centre aspires to refurbish the poor quality as dedicated padel tennis courts to widen the sports it offers to the community.</p> <p>Hereford Tennis Centre has plans to make improvements to its clubhouse. The improvements will look to offer added community functions to the clubhouse allowing it to be used for a range of activities support groups from across the area.</p> <p>The courts onsite are currently considered to be overplayed marginally due to the number of members at Hereford Tennis Centre.</p>	<p>Sustain court quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to develop poor quality courts into dedicated padel tennis courts.</p> <p>Explore the feasibility to develop ancillary provision onsite.</p>	Sports club LTA	Local	Protect Enhance Provide
St. Martins Bowls Club	Bowls	One good quality flat green with no sports lighting. Site located within a flood zone.	Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Sports club BE	Local	Protect
Herefordshire Cricket Ground (Pentland Gardens)	Cricket	<p>One good quality grass square which consists of six junior wickets and one NTP. Ancillary provision of standard quality. Square is played to capacity. Herefordshire CCC aspires to open the site up to cater for senior cricket demand, are currently exploring conditions of use on the site.</p> <p>Herefordshire CCC plans to utilise the site as a hub for the growing women's and girls' game. The site does not currently have ancillary provision to support this.</p>	<p>Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to develop hybrid wickets onsite to increase capacity.</p> <p>Look to have ball strike assessment completed to understand risks and proximity of houses surrounding the ground.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. This would include the provision being developed to support women's and girls' cricket onsite.</p>	Sports club HCB ECB	Key centre	Protect Enhance Provide
	Bowls	<p>One good quality flat green with no sports lighting.</p> <p>Bulmers BC is operating below the recommended sustainability membership.</p>	<p>Sustain green quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Support the club in increasing membership to ensure green remain sustainable.</p>	Sports club BE		Protect
Hereford Bowls Club	Bowls	<p>One standard quality flat green with no sports lighting.</p> <p>Hereford BC has two main projects planned for its ancillary provision onsite which include carrying out maintenance/repairs to its roof and to replace/repair the windows of the building.</p> <p>Hereford BC is currently</p>	<p>Look to improve green quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to support and complete ancillary provision projects set out by Hereford BC.</p> <p>Monitor Hereford BC membership to ensure that the clubs demand can be met.</p>	Sports club BE	Local	Protect Enhance

Site	Sport	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Aim
		operating recommended capacity.				
Castle Green	Bowls	One poor quality flat green with no sports lighting. Castle Green BC has had issues with lack of maintenance and vandalism which is impacted both green and ancillary provision quality. Castle Green BC is operating close to the recommended sustainability membership.	Look to improve green quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to improve ancillary provision onsite. Support the club in increasing membership to ensure green remain sustainable.	Sports club BE	Local	Protect Enhance
Newton Farm Skate Park	Skate Park	One standard quality skate park.	Look to improve skate park quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Trust SBGB	Local	Protect Enhance
Hereford Skate Park	Skate Park	One good quality skate park. Site is located on a flood zone.	Sustain skate park quality with appropriate levels of maintenance.	Trust SBGB	Local	Protect

- Herefordshire Indoor and Built Sports Facilities Strategy and Action Plan Feb 2023

Facility	Overview	Action	Lead agency	Timescale (S/M/L)	Priority (H/M/L)
Hereford Leisure Pool	<p>Opened in 1976 and refurbished (reception, changing facilities, and gym area) in 2016, it houses facilities including; a 6-lane 25m pool (below average), 27m leisure pool (below average), two training pools (below average), 85 station fitness suite (above average), and two studios (above average). Pool tanks have not received any significant refurbishment since opening although the pumps have been upgraded in recent years.</p> <p>It has 45% of the total accessible water space in the County.</p> <p>FPM modelling suggests very strong demand for the pools, with an assumed 99% used capacity figure despite its age/ condition. In addition, the FPM indicates scope to increase accessible hours for the pools.</p> <p>City of Hereford SC is the primary swimming club pool user. It hires it for 17 hours per week. Hereford Triathlon Club also uses the pool for 1.5 hours per week. Public swimming lessons are operating at 86.6% capacity (1,820 attendees).</p>	Maintain and where possible improve the quality of the facility.	Halo/Council	Long	Medium
		A long-term plan is required to replace/refurbish the sites pools.	Halo/Council	Long	High
		Investigate further to ensure pools are available for the full allocation of community hours	Halo/Council	Short	High
		Ongoing review of programming for the pool, to ensure maximum participation from all age and health groups.	Halo/Council	Short	Medium
Hereford Rowing Club	Club based on the River Wye, with clubhouse and other ancillary facilities.	Support club to grow/diversify membership and assist with volunteer/coach development	Hereford Rowing Club/British Rowing	Medium	Low

Hereford Leisure Centre	<p>Opened in 1985 and modernised in 2015 the site features an 8-court good quality sports hall, a good quality 83 station health &amp; fitness and toning suite, good quality studio, two above average squash courts, and a dedicated gymnastics area.</p> <p>The sports hall is effectively operating as a 4-court hall, as two courts are permanently allocated to the resident trampolining club, and another two courts are utilised as a flexible exercise class space. Use of the remaining sports hall includes kick boxing, netball, badminton and taekwondo. Off the 44 community peak time hours available the hall is operating at 70% used capacity.</p> <p>The onsite gymnastics offer is significant with 592 regular attendees at sessions.</p> <p>The toning suite was added in 2016 and benefits for those with mobility/health issues.</p> <p>Halo indicates that the squash courts receive moderate use, mainly in the form of pay and play bookings.</p>	Maintain the quality of the facility.	Halo/Council	Long	Medium
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