

# HARROW OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY



**JULY2012**

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### Introduction

The Harrow Outdoor Sports Strategy is based on an analysis of the supply of and demand for outdoor sports facilities in the Borough. This analysis indicates where shortfalls exist in both the quantity and quality of playing pitches and other outdoor sports facilities.

### Method

An independent audit was undertaken of all outdoor sports facilities in the Borough that are available for community use. The information from this audit provided data on the supply of facilities; these were also assessed for quality using bespoke visual quality assessment tools.

Information about demand was obtained by undertaking a questionnaire survey of all outdoor sports clubs in Harrow. Clubs were asked about membership and trends; patterns of play; views on the quality of facilities, club aspirations and any issues or problems.

For the pitch sports of Football, Cricket and Rugby the analysis of the supply of and demand for playing pitches was undertaken using Sport England's Playing Pitch Model which is provided in the guidance, 'Towards a Level Playing Field'.

### *Football*

The Playing Pitch Model indicates that there is a current and future shortfall in the provision of youth pitches whilst at the same time there are sufficient senior pitches to accommodate the demand for youth football. However, when both the 10% contingency allowance recommended by Sport England and an adjustment to reflect the carrying capacity of each pitch are taken into account, there will be an overall shortfall in both youth and senior pitches by 2017. There is a current shortfall in the provision for mini soccer when the 10% contingency and carrying capacity are taken into account. It will be necessary to reconfigure some senior pitches to address the shortfall in youth provision. However, this should not result in the displacement of adult teams.

The demand for football pitches in Harrow is distorted by the fact that 13 clubs with a total of 22 teams are playing their 'home' matches on pitches outside the Borough. In addition, 7 clubs with 9 teams based outside the Borough are playing on Harrow pitches.

The development of the new training ground at The Hive by Barnet Football Club has resulted in a significant increase in the supply of grass football pitches and the provision of two 3G Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs). Whilst a small number of Harrow clubs use the AGPs for training, only one Harrow based club uses the grass pitches. The majority of clubs using these facilities are based in North London.

The playing surface of a large number of football pitches in Harrow is of poor quality. Most of these low quality pitches are provided by Harrow Council. There is a discrepancy between the results for the quality of pitches assessed through the audit process and the views expressed by clubs. This is mainly due to the fact that some clubs are opting out of using Harrow Council pitches to play on better pitches in locations outside the Borough and are satisfied with the quality of these pitches. Other clubs, usually playing at a lower level, are not so critical and continue to play in Harrow. On the whole these clubs appear to be satisfied with the quality of their pitches.

There are goalposts on some Harrow Council pitches that fail to meet the standard for goalpost safety set by the Football Association (FA). In particular, there are goalposts which

have been altered from their original construction and should not be used. There is a need to carry out a full inspection of goalposts and replace those which are defective.

The quality of changing accommodation at Harrow Council owned and managed sites is poor and does not meet the expectations of at least eleven respondent football clubs. Some of this changing accommodation is no longer fit for purpose and is unusable. In a small number of cases there are health and safety and environmental health issues which cannot be overcome without a complete refurbishment or redevelopment of the building. Typical problems are poor showers and toilets, vandalism and poor condition of the building fabric. Most changing rooms do not have segregated changing facilities. The facilities on private grounds and at the Hive are good

There is a shortage of good training facilities. The only full size artificial grass pitches available to football clubs in Harrow are at The Hive. The high cost of hiring these two 3G pitches is prohibitive for most clubs. Belmont United Youth has access to the 3G training pitch at the Krishna-Avanti School but this pitch is not generally available to community football clubs. The five-a-side pitches at the Mumbai Gardens restaurant (previously Broadfields) are currently available and are used by a small number of clubs. However, sport is no longer the focus for this site.

The availability of finance and the cost of hiring football pitches and changing rooms are significant problems for many clubs.

There is evidence that the cost of hiring pitches and changing accommodation in Harrow is significantly higher than it is in neighbouring local authorities. There is a strong perception amongst football clubs that Harrow Council facilities do not provide good value for money.

There is only one adult female 11-a-side team and four youth girls teams. The majority of football facilities in the Borough, including all Harrow Council facilities, do not cater for girls and women's football. The sole women's team is Headstone Manor which currently does not have a home ground.

A significant change to the format of youth football will be introduced following the FA Youth Development Review. Harrow Council will need to embrace and promote the changes in pitch sizes and goals if participation in football is to be sustained.

The lack of suitable 5-a-side facilities is frustrating the development of disability football in the Borough.

The lack of finance, cost of hiring pitches, quality and quantity of pitches, poor condition of changing rooms, shortage of available pitches and declining membership are the problems most frequently mentioned by football clubs. Youth football clubs are principally concerned with the quality of the football pitches and changing facilities provided by Harrow Council.

Football clubs regard the need to increase their membership as a high priority and several clubs indicated a desire to start youth and mini soccer teams and one club aims to start a women's team.

About a quarter of the respondent football clubs would like to expand the range of facilities at their home ground. Eleven clubs indicated an intention to relocate to different premises with three of these clubs also seeking to expand the range of facilities.

### *Cricket*

The Playing Pitch Model indicates that there are sufficient pitches available to meet current and future demand. However, if the ECB guideline of 3-4 games per season per strip is

applied the number of strips available is only just sufficient. This finding is not supported by the Middlesex Cricket Board (MCB) which considers that there are many cricket squares in Harrow that exist in name only and do not present a realistic viable 'home' for cricket teams. The MCB's own research into future needs suggests that, to accommodate the growth in participation and to address the issue of teams playing outside the Borough, there is a need for three additional cricket squares with good quality changing facilities.

Of the 25 clubs that responded to the questionnaire survey, 20 indicated that they intend to increase their membership. The desire to increase membership may well be linked to the key issue of lack of finance. Increasing membership will enhance prospects for the long-term sustainability of cricket clubs. Clubs are also seeking to improve their facilities to attract more members in the future.

The cricket clubs that play on Harrow Council cricket pitches are concerned about the poor quality of the changing accommodation provided by the Council. Some clubs are seeking to relocate to grounds with better facilities.

Whilst the quality assessment of Harrow Council cricket pitches did not indicate that playing surfaces were of poor quality, the views expressed by cricket clubs about 'worst' pitches indicate concern about several pitches, in particular West Harrow Recreation Ground and Hatch End Playing Fields.

Cricket Leagues are setting more demanding quality standards for the pitches used by their clubs. There is an increasing need to provide high quality pitches to meet these League requirements. In the context of cutbacks in local government finance, Harrow Council will need to consider how the demand for improved quality can be met.

The cost of hiring a cricket pitch from Harrow Council is significantly higher than the cost of hiring pitches in adjoining Boroughs.

There is only one women's cricket club, which has one adult and three girls teams. The club has 60 members but numbers have declined in the past five years. This club is working in partnership with Harrow Town Cricket Club to secure funding for the refurbishment of the facilities at the club's ground in Rayners Lane. Failure to attract funding may well jeopardise the future of women's cricket in Harrow.

Finance is a key issue for many respondent clubs. The rising costs of utilities, hire of winter practice facilities and the maintenance of grounds are the main concerns. The problem of rising costs is leading to difficulties in the recruitment of new members. The charges levied by Harrow Council for the hire of facilities are a particular problem. Clubs consider that Harrow Council charges are significantly higher than those being charged by neighbouring Boroughs whilst Harrow Council facilities are of poorer quality.

The MCB is concerned that some existing council-maintained facilities could be taken out of use over the next 3-5 years, given the poor condition of the facilities. Failure to address these issues could lead to a reduction in the number of cricket squares in the Borough.

Cricket Clubs are increasingly reliant on volunteers who play an important role in club development. Some cricket clubs are finding it increasingly difficult to recruit volunteers.

All the respondent clubs stated that they were seeking to increase their membership particularly of Colts.

Most of the Cricket Clubs are seeking to improve and extend their existing facilities. Six clubs are seeking to relocate to better grounds in the future.

The MCB would like Harrow Council to take a far more pro-active and long-term view on the future of outdoor sports facilities in the Borough. This could be achieved by working in partnership with NGBs such as the MCB and their Clubmark-accredited clubs to achieve long term sustainability at a number of sites and by implementing a programme to improve the existing building stock.

The ECB would like to see greater emphasis on the maintenance of pitches, the training of ground staff and keeping up to date with changing approaches to ground maintenance practices to ensure that good quality pitches are maintained within a tight budget. The ECB working in partnership with the IOG<sup>1</sup> can support this process to ensure the improvement is sustainable.

### *Rugby*

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) and local Rugby Clubs are seeking to promote rugby in local schools. The intention is that the rugby pitches at Bannister Sports Centre would provide a focus for schools rugby and become a focus for the development of Rugby in the Borough

Key issues for rugby clubs are the declining numbers of players, lack of sponsorship and lack of finance.

### *Hockey*

There is one hockey club in Harrow which is the Harrow Hockey Club based at Kenton Sports Club. The club plays its matches at the Jewish Free School in Kingsbury and has experienced a decline in membership over the last five years.

The club has problems recruiting new players despite actively advertising the club. The fact that it does not play its hockey in Harrow is perceived to be a barrier to development. The club has attempted to relocate to Harrow but has been unable to find a suitable venue.

### *Tennis*

Although Harrow has a large number of tennis facilities, the majority are private clubs which charge a fee for membership and therefore are not accessible to large sections of the community. This predominance of private clubs does not complement the LTA's primary focus of increasing junior and adult participation. Of the 14 private members clubs there are no LTA Performance accredited clubs to cater for players who show particular tennis potential. Five clubs are Tennis Clubmark accredited.

Overall the quality of facilities at the private clubs is much better than that provided by public courts. The number of these courts has declined in recent years. Most of the Local Authority Courts are available free of charge for casual play and appear to be well used. However, there are no Beacon Status parks<sup>2</sup> despite the fact that most if not all venues are available free of charge. There are no parks sites registered with Middlesex Tennis.

There are a number of locations in Parks and Recreation Grounds where tennis courts have become derelict. These could offer the opportunity for additional provision if they were refurbished. Alternatively they could be converted for other uses such as Multi Use Games Areas.

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<sup>1</sup>Institute of Groundsmanship

<sup>2</sup>Beacon sites are park sites that provide an element of free and affordable tennis for the community use.

Middlesex Tennis has suggested that consideration could be given to a system which would allow the management of parks courts to be undertaken by coaching operators, or private coaches and that this could increase activities.

There is a strong involvement with schools tennis in the Borough, through the Harrow School Improvement Partnership, which has worked closely with Harrow Weald LTC to provide schools tennis delivery. In addition, the Elms tennis club works in several Harrow schools.

### *Bowls*

The main issue affecting bowls clubs is lack of finance which is linked to the high cost of leasing facilities from the Council and declining membership and the resulting decline in club's income. These factors are affecting the sustainability of clubs and there is evidence that the clubs at Kenton and Roxeth closed due to an inability to retain sufficient membership to cover the costs of running the club.

There is a perception among clubs that Harrow's charges are higher than those of neighbouring authorities and that there is a lack of support from Harrow Council. It is also felt that the Council could be more pro-active in promoting the sport and helping to attract new membership.

The clubs with the highest rated bowling greens are those which are either privately owned and managed or self managed by the club. There is criticism from some clubs about the Council's standards of greens maintenance.

### *Participation*

Sport England's market segmentation shows that the top five dominant market segments in Harrow as a whole are also the segments in which participation in outdoor sports is highest. These dominant segments are all in the top five participants for football, cricket, tennis and rugby, with one exception. There is therefore good potential for increasing participation in these sports, provided that good quality facilities are available at a reasonable cost.

## 1. Background

### The Brief

Ashley Godfrey Associates was commissioned by Harrow Council in September 2011 to support the council in undertaking an assessment of outdoor sports provision within Harrow

The brief for the project specifically required:

- an audit of all playing pitches including those set out for football, cricket, hockey, rugby and any other pitch sports played in Harrow;
- to follow the methodology recommended by Sport England in assessing the need for playing pitches as set out in the publication, "Towards Level Playing Field"<sup>3</sup>.
- an audit of all facilities for other outdoor sports including tennis, bowls, athletics, and any other sport played in Harrow;
- an audit of all changing and ancillary facilities including parking, public transport accessibility etc;
- an audit of all Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs) used for sport and training;
- information on the number, size of pitches/courts etc
- information on ownership (i.e. Local Authority, private, club, commercial, school, voluntary, etc) and availability for use (by the community, school only, private members' club, etc);
- an assessment of the quality of all pitches, artificial turf pitches, bowling greens, tennis courts and changing facilities.

This strategy covers the period 2012 -2026 and feeds into the Local Development Framework (LDF). The LDF sets out the spatial strategy, policies and proposals which will guide the future development and use of land in the London Borough of Harrow.

### The Benefits of Developing an Outdoor Sport Strategy.

An Outdoor Sport Strategy for Harrow will provide a number of benefits including:

1. Providing a strategic approach to outdoor sports provision with a clear direction and a set of priorities for outdoor sports facilities.
2. A sound assessment of local need based on considerable consultation with local sports clubs, governing bodies and stakeholders.
3. Helping to deliver national priorities for social inclusion, environmental protection, community involvement and healthy living.
4. Highlighting the value of leisure related services during times of increasing scrutiny for non-statutory services.
5. Providing robust evidence to support funding applications to agencies including the Football Foundation and the National Lottery.

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<sup>3</sup>Towards a level playing field: A guide to the production of playing pitch strategies, 2003. Sport England.



6. A robust evidence base that underpins Supplementary Planning Documents for Planning Obligations.
7. A justifiable standard of provision proving the need for developer contributions to support requirements for outdoor sport provision arising from new housing development
8. Protection of outdoor sports provision from future development or change of use from recreation provision.
9. Links directly with work being undertaken on open spaces (e.g. PPG17) to provide an holistic approach to open space improvement and protection.
10. Improving the local authority's asset management by providing detailed audit information and facility user views. This should result in more efficient use of resources and reduced overheads.
11. Providing a quality baseline to encourage improved maintenance of pitches, greens, courts and changing facilities in the future and identifies priorities for enhancement.

## **Scope of Outdoor Sports Provision**

It is important to have a clear understanding of what types of provision are included in this report on outdoor sports provision in Harrow.

### ***Playing Pitches***

Within planning legislation, Statutory Instrument 1817<sup>4</sup> defines a playing field as 'the whole of a site which encompasses at least one playing pitch'. It defines a pitch as 'a delineated area which, together with any run-off area, is of 0.4 hectares (1 acre) or more, and which is used for association football, American football, rugby, cricket, hockey, lacrosse, rounders, baseball, softball, Australian football, Gaelic football, shinty, hurling, polo or cycle polo (grass or artificial surface)'. Statutory Instrument No. 453<sup>5</sup> amends the definition of "playing-pitch" from 0.4 hectares to 0.2 hectares. The change has been made to protect smaller playing fields. This change brings down the size threshold upon which Sport England must be consulted when a planning application for development is submitted.

### ***Dual Use Facilities***

School playing fields are provided primarily for the physical education and enjoyment of children attending the school. Some schools make their pitches available for use by the community. For these pitches to be included within the overall supply of sports pitches they must be secured for use by the community. Where sports pitches are subject to formal community use agreements they can be counted within the standard. The agreement needs to ensure that the future availability of the land is not lost as a result of changes in the staff or governing body of the school.

However, pitches not currently available offer the potential to meet future growth in demand, especially from junior teams. In many cases this would necessitate improvements to playing surfaces and capacity, providing or improving changing accommodation and possibly providing revenue subsidies.

### **Private sports grounds**

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<sup>4</sup> The Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) (Amendment) Order 1996

<sup>5</sup> The Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) (Amendment) (England) Order 2009

Sports facilities within the voluntary, private, industrial and commercial sectors, which serve the outdoor recreational needs of their members or the public are included in the standard. This includes institutional facilities that are available to the public as a result of formal community use agreements. Also, any facilities that are owned, used or maintained by clubs/private individuals and which, as a matter of policy and practice, are available to large sections of the public through membership of a club or through an admission fee. The grounds used solely by professional or semi-professional clubs and workplace facilities solely for the benefit of employees are excluded.

### **Other Outdoor Sports**

In addition to provision for the four pitch sports of football, cricket, rugby and hockey, this strategy covers the need for bowling greens, tennis courts and petanque.

### **Methodology**

The report follows the methodology recommended by Sport England as set out in the publication, "Towards a Level Playing Field"<sup>6</sup>.

"Towards a Level Playing Field" indicates that for a successful and accurate playing pitch assessment it is necessary to obtain as accurate a tally as possible of the number of teams and other users of the pitches and the existing pattern of play.

In the first instance, a direct count of teams can be derived using a number of sources including:

- governing body, county association handbooks and league handbooks
- interviews with league secretaries
- booking records for local authority, educational and other pitches (where available – this will also supply information on patterns of play/temporal demand)
- sports club directories
- local knowledge.

In addition a questionnaire survey can provide information relating to demand.

The information gathered from these sources relating to demand includes:

- membership, membership trends and number of players/ teams per club
- where members live
- matches played per season (home and away)
- length of season
- number of postponements and cancellations last season
- level of activity at existing facilities
- unmet demand
- financial status (for predicting future numbers of clubs)

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<sup>6</sup>Towards a level playing field: A guide to the production of playing pitch strategies, 2003. Sport England.

- links with local schools and other users
- sports development plans.

### **Latent and future demand**

Latent demand is demand that cannot be expressed because of lack of access to pitches or other ancillary facilities. Factors to take into account when assessing latent demand include:

- Current frustrated demand – e.g. teams that are waiting for home pitches so that they can join a league or are not currently playing in their preferred location.
- Influence of sports development initiatives – targets may be set in local sports development initiatives. For example, if Harrow's aspiration to achieve an overall increase in the number of adults participating at least 30 minutes in moderate intensity sport and active recreation on three or more days a week is achieved, this will have an impact on future demand for sports pitches.
- Quality of pitches/ancillary facilities - poor-quality facilities may restrict the number of new players being attracted to sport or result in poor retention levels.
- Lack of facilities such as changing accommodation as is the case with some pitch sport venues in Harrow.
- National sporting success and its influence on increasing participation.
- Pricing policy - a high cost for hiring/leasing facilities may prevent teams from forming (or hinder the long-term sustainability of existing clubs).
- Sport in the school curriculum - increased profile of school sport may encourage more people playing team sports beyond school hours and school years.
- Impact of mini-sports in engendering long-term increases in adult play.
- Lifestyle changes and other activities competing for leisure time/spend - may lead to a reduction in overall demand for formal pitch sports. Small-sided soccer at commercial venues may lead to fewer teams playing on Sunday mornings.

Future demand refers to any foreseeable future demand for the use of playing fields. This can be established through the use of Team Generation Rates (TGR). Team Generation Rates (TGRs) indicate how many people in a specified age group are required to generate one team. They are derived by dividing the appropriate population age band in an area by the number of teams in that area in that age band. Once the number of teams has been established, the TGR for each sport and age group can be calculated. Existing TGRs can then be applied to estimated future changes in the population. By breaking down population estimates into age groups, future demand among the team-generating age groups can be identified.

### **Analysis of data**

The analysis of demand for and supply of football and cricket pitches requires the use of the Playing Pitch Model. However, in the case of the pitch sports of hockey and rugby, there are only a few clubs in Harrow and it is considered that a more qualitative analysis is appropriate. An assessment of the supply and demand for tennis, bowls, STPs multi use games areas and other outdoor facilities is also required.

It is a requirement that the quality and quantity of provision and its accessibility should be analysed. In addition, the report should identify opportunities for future development or enhancement of facilities.

### **Developing local standards of provision**

Local standards of provision need to be derived and these should include a quantitative component (i.e. ha. per 1000 people), a qualitative component and an accessibility component (including distance thresholds and the cost of using facilities). Recommendations are also sought in relation minimum acceptable sizes, site area multipliers, and commuted sums.

### **Application of local standards in Harrow**

Local standards of provision will be used to identify deficiencies in quantity, quality and accessibility in Harrow, and any surplus in terms of quantity.

### **Implementation and strategic recommendations**

The strategy will provide recommendations relating to existing provision, which should be protected, existing provision to be enhanced, opportunities for relocation, and proposals for new provision.

This assessment therefore provides an analysis of the current level of outdoor sports provision, the likely future demand for outdoor sports provision in the area and identifies any shortfalls in provision.

## 2. The Value of Outdoor Sports

Everyone's quality of life can be improved through participation in sport. It is an enjoyable leisure activity that brings fun, challenge and competition, as well as opportunities for social interaction as part of leisure time activities.<sup>7</sup>

In answer to the question, 'What do you think are the main benefits of children's participation in sport?'<sup>8</sup> parents regarded this as having a number of benefits, the primary benefit being keeping fit and healthy (67%). The enjoyment of participating (66%) and the social aspect of being involved (62%) were also regarded as major benefits. Around three in five also said that it is a good way of learning team skills (57%).

Sport England has identified six areas where sport and active recreation contribute to the delivery of wider objectives<sup>9</sup>. The 'six principles' are:

1. **Environmental Sustainability** – sport and recreation can demonstrate and contribute to the sustainable use of natural resources.
2. **Community Safety** – sport can help to directly reduce social exclusion and disaffection.
3. **Local Economic Viability** – sport directly and indirectly contributes to local and national economic vibrancy.
4. **Quality of Life and Well-Being** – physical activity contributes to peoples' perceptions and experience of well-being and sense of attachment to their surroundings.
5. **Health Improvement** – physical activity should be a natural part of everyday life.
6. **Raising Standards in Schools** – the foundations of life-long health and sporting excellence lie in early opportunities for taking part in sport and active recreation.

The benefits of outdoor sport are considered in the following sections

### 2.1 Enjoyment

Sport offers opportunities for friendship, rivalry, challenge and enjoyment. The enjoyment of sport is derived from a combination of physical and psychological benefits. Sport can be a source of personal satisfaction. It also provides opportunities to meet people and develop friendships.

The Government's strategy for sport and physical activity concluded that:

'Winning is neither the only nor the most common reason for participation. Having fun, learning new skills, doing something one is good at, making friends, and fitness are all factors alongside experiencing success.'<sup>10</sup>

A significant minority of young people stop participating in sport for negative reasons such as lack of fun.

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<sup>7</sup> "Sport Playing Its Part" Sport England, Department of Culture, Media and Sport's and the Local Government Association.2005.

<sup>8</sup> Nestlé Family Monitor study on 'Sport and the Family' was undertaken with the Youth Sport Trust. 543 adults were interviewed by MORI throughout Britain between 5 April and 23 April 2000.

<sup>9</sup> Spatial Planning for Sport and Active Recreation, Sport England (2005).

<sup>10</sup>Game plan: a strategy for delivering government's sport and physical activity objectives. Government's Strategy Unit and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. 2002.

## 2.2 Sport and health

Evidence from medical research shows that regular physical activity can yield a number of physiological benefits in adults. People with active lifestyles have a lower risk of contracting coronary, cardiovascular and respiratory diseases than those with sedentary lifestyles.

There is a strong relationship between physical activity and coronary heart disease. It has been shown that the higher the levels of physical activity or cardiorespiratory fitness, the lower the level of coronary heart disease. The 25% of the population with the lowest levels of cardiorespiratory fitness are at particularly high risk of coronary heart disease.<sup>11</sup>

Obesity levels for children aged 6 have doubled in the last 10 years, and have tripled in 15 year olds. 22% of adults are obese and about 40% are overweight. Being overweight or obese accounts for as much as 30% of heart disease and 80% of diabetes and costs the UK £2.5 billion a year.<sup>12</sup>

Obesity is a known risk factor and contributor to heart disease and the high mortality rate from circulatory disease. Almost 1 in 5 adults (19.2%) in Harrow were estimated to be obese in 2011<sup>13</sup> compared with 1 in 4 people (24.2%) nationally. Obesity in children (Year 6) is the same as the national average which is 18.7%.

Regular exercise can be important in helping to prevent obesity and its associated problems. This is particularly important for children and adolescents. Overweight children are at increased risk of many health problems including hypertension, respiratory and orthopaedic problems. Obesity in adolescence is independently associated with chronic diseases that develop in adulthood.

It is the view of the Chief Medical Officer that:

‘The low incidence of overweight and obesity in active individuals suggests that there is a clear benefit in regular physical activity. Achieving at least 30 minutes of at least moderate intensity physical activity on 5 or more days a week (150 minutes per week) will represent a significant increase in energy expenditure for most people, and will make a substantial contribution to their ongoing weight management’<sup>14</sup>

People with active lifestyles have higher bone density than those with sedentary lifestyles. Joints, muscles, ligaments and tendons benefit from physical activity. Physical activity also acts positively through improved glucose tolerance and insulin sensitivity to prevent late-onset diabetes.<sup>15</sup>

Some of the greatest gains from activity programmes relate to psychological health and increased feelings of well-being. Research has found a consistent link between exercise and anxiety reduction and protection against the development of depression.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> Studies cited in At least five a week: Evidence on the impact of physical activity and its relationship to health. A report from the Chief Medical Officer.2004.

<sup>12</sup>NATURAL FIT: Can Green Space and Biodiversity Increase Levels of Physical Activity? Dr William Bird. Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. 2004.

<sup>13</sup>Health Profile 2011, Dept of Health

<sup>14</sup> Ibid Page 48.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid Sections 5.1 to 5.4.

<sup>16</sup>Craft LL, Landers DM. The effect of exercise on clinical depression and depression resulting from mental illness: A meta-analysis. *Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology* 1998.

Participation in a one-off bout of physical activity can result in a reduction in anxiety levels and self-reported feelings of increased well-being. Such improvements have been reported to last for up to three hours after the activity session<sup>17</sup>.

### **2.3 Sport and crime:**

There is a widely-held view that sport can have value as part of a package of measures to tackle crime. Sport appears to be most effective when combined with programmes which seek to address wider personal and social development so that diversion needs to be complemented by development.

An evaluation of the West Yorkshire Sports Counselling project, established in 1991 with the aim of using sport to reduce rates of re-offending by Probation Service clients, found that those who completed eight weeks or more of their sports counselling programme were significantly less likely to be re-convicted than a control group. Improvements in self-esteem and perceptions of their own fitness resulted from a programme that included voluntary involvement and one-to-one counselling. Participants were also introduced to new social networks, role models and opportunities.<sup>18</sup>

The Harrow Community Safety Partnership Plan 2008-2011 reports that Harrow is a low crime borough and between 2005 and 2008 the Borough contributed less than 2% of London's overall total crime rate. Harrow has had either the lowest or second lowest crime rate in London during this time (based upon crimes per 1000 of the population) and is also below the national average.

Research, commissioned by the Football Foundation, has shown that the majority of people believe that having enough good quality local sports sites would help reduce antisocial activity. When asked about the effect of increasing and improving sports facilities in their region almost 60% of the 1,100 adults surveyed believe that improving sporting facilities for young people would reduce anti-social behavior; half say it would stop groups and gangs from hanging around street corners and 40% say it would increase their sense of pride in the community. A significant number of respondents believe more/better facilities could prevent children and young people joining gangs (40%), as well as reducing crime (37%).

### **2.4 Community development and volunteering in sport.**

Volunteering in sport offers possibilities for the development of a sense of self esteem and social purpose. Sport is also seen as an activity to promote qualities such as teamwork or leadership.

### **2.5 Environmental value of sport.**

Sports facilities can make an important contribution to the physical infrastructure of communities, providing a social focus for a community and affecting people's perception of their neighbourhood. Recreation related improvements have a significant role to play in the development of the quality of life in communities.

"Planning and Climate Change: Supplement to Planning Policy Statement" 1<sup>19</sup> sets out to take forward the recommendations in the Stern Review in relation to climate change.

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<sup>17</sup> Raglin, J S (1990) 'Exercise and Mental Health: Beneficial and Detrimental Effects', *Sports Medicine*, 9 (6), 323-329.

<sup>18</sup> Nichols, G. and Taylor, P. (1996) *West Yorkshire Sports Counselling: Final Evaluation*, West Yorkshire Sports Counselling Association, Halifax

<sup>19</sup> Planning and Climate Change: Supplement to Planning Policy Statement 1. DCLG 2007.

Climate change will exacerbate the temperature gradient that peaks in city centres creating an urban 'heat island effect' because warmer urban air lies in a 'sea' of cooler rural air. Green infrastructure such as outdoor sports facilities will have a tendency to lower surface temperatures. The contribution made by outdoor sports spaces as 'carbon sinks' and 'urban cooling' areas should help to protect them from inappropriate development, although it may limit opportunities to develop synthetic surfaces or other sports facilities which would have to be done via carbon offsetting.

Maintaining the environmental benefits of outdoor sports provision will necessitate the provision, collection, storage and distribution of freshwater to provide for the irrigation during periods of summer heat stress.



### **3. Strategic Context**

#### **3.1 National context**

##### **National Planning Policy Framework**

##### **Promoting healthy communities**

The new National Planning Policy Framework re-instates government policy that:

Para 73. “Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision is required.”

The Framework confirms that:

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

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

##### **A Sporting Future for the Playing Fields of England & Playing Fields for Sport Revisited, Sport England (2000)**

These documents provide Sport England’s planning policy statement on playing fields. It acknowledges that playing fields:

- are one of the most important resources for sport in England as they provide the space which is required for the playing of team sports on outdoor pitches
- as open space particularly in urban areas are becoming an increasingly scarce resource

It is Sport England’s policy to object to any planning application, which will result in the loss of a playing field, unless it meets one of five exceptions

E1 A carefully quantified and documented assessment of current and future needs has demonstrated to the satisfaction of Sport England that there is an excess of playing field provision in the catchment, and the site has no special significance to the interests of sport.

E2 The proposed development is ancillary to the principal use of the site as a playing field or playing fields, and does not affect the quantity or quality of pitches or adversely affect their use.

E3 The proposed development affects only land incapable of forming, or forming part of, a playing pitch and does not result in the loss of or inability to make use of any playing

pitch (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins), a reduction in the size of the playing area of any playing pitch or the loss of any other sporting/ancillary facilities on the site.

E4 The playing field or playing fields that would be lost as a result of the proposed development would 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.

E5 The proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor sports facility, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss of the playing field or playing fields.'

Since August 1996, local planning authorities have been required to consult Sport England on any planning application for development that is likely to lead to the loss of use of land being used as a playing field or is on land which has been either used as a playing field at any time in the five years before the application and which remains undeveloped or is allocated for use as a playing field in a development plan.

Sport England has also produced 'Fit for Purpose Guidelines' establishing the main criteria to be considered when producing a Playing Pitch Strategy.

### **The Football Association Youth Review**

The Football Association (FA) is proposing changes to formats and facilities within grassroots youth football. Central to the proposals are major changes to the way youth football is structured at grassroots level, including raising the minimum age for competitive leagues, extending the use of small-sided football and introducing 9-a-side football for the Under 11 age group. The FA considers that:

- The jump from 7v7 to 11v11 is too big for many children
- Full sized Pitches are not child friendly

The FA is proposing a range of different pitch sizes, which are considered to be better suited to the needs of children of different ages playing football. These are shown in **Table 3.1** below.

**Table 3.1: Proposed Pitch and Goal Sizes**

Age	Format (maximum)	Pitch Size (yards)	Goal Size (Feet)
7	5v5	30x20 to 40x30	12x6
8	5v5	30x20 to 40x30	12x6
9	7v7	50x30 to 60x40	12x6
10	7v7	50x30 to 60x40	12x6
11	9v9	70x40 to 80x50	16x7 to 21x7
12	9v9	70x40 to 80x50	16x7 to 21x7
13	9v9 or 11v11	90x50 to 100x60	21x7 to 24x8
14	9v9 or 11v11	90x50 to 100x60	21x7 to 24x8
15	9v9 or 11v11	90x50 to 110x70	24x8
16	9v9 or 11v11	90x50 to 110x70	24x8
17	11v11	100x50 to 110x70	24x8
18	11v11	100x50 to 110x70	24x8

It is considered that the proposed changes will potentially reduce the drop out of teams at the U10 to U11 age group and provide more involvement in the game for children. This will have the advantage of providing a more phased progression for learning and development, increase the number of in touches, shots, dribbles etc for each player and potentially keep more late developers in the system.

### 3.2 Regional Context

#### A Sporting Future for London, Greater London Authority (2009)

The aim of this plan is to deliver a grass-roots sporting legacy for Londoners from the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games by:

- securing a sustained increase in participation in sport and physical activity amongst Londoners;
- using sport to assist in tackling social problems including ill health, crime, academic underachievement and lack of community cohesion.

In January 2009, the Mayor directed the London Development Agency to ring-fence £15.5 million over three years for investment in programmes associated with this plan.

This intention is to deliver more than £30 million of investment into grass roots sport and physical activity in London.

The Mayor has four key goals which underpin his commitment to increasing participation in sport and physical activity; these are:-

- Get more people active
- Maximise the benefits of sport to our society
- Build capacity and skills

- Transform the sporting infrastructure

Of particular relevance to this study is the goal to 'Transform the sporting infrastructure'. In support of achieving this goal, the Mayor will:

- initiate a Londonwide facilities strategy;
- invest in community sports facilities;
- explore ways to ensure more effective usage of existing facilities;
- encourage use of London's parks as sporting facilities;
- play an active role in the protection of playing fields and other existing facilities.

The Mayor will encourage all authorities that have yet to undertake a needs and evidence based approach to planning for community sport to do so by the end of 2012.

An assessment of the gaps in provision will allow a co-ordinated approach to investment for the benefit of all Londoners – bearing in mind that most Londoners do not recognise borough boundaries in any meaningful way.

The Mayor will work with local authorities, national governing bodies, the Football Foundation, the London Marathon Trust, the private sector and others to provide new facilities or refurbish existing facilities. The focus will mainly be on small, community, park or estate-based projects.

The Mayor will also explore ways to maximise community usage of sports facilities in schools (state and independent) and in the further and higher education sectors.

The provision of accessible green space and infrastructure for Londoners has the potential to promote positive opportunities for health and physical activity.

### **3.3 Local context**

#### **Harrow PPG17 Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study 2011**

This study provides a detailed analysis of Harrow's open spaces and indoor sports facilities based on an audit of open space provision and a comprehensive appraisal of public expectation of different types of open space through consultation.

The study provides the Council with an understanding of the quantity, quality and accessibility of local open spaces available for public use, and recommends standards of provision. It applies these standards to indicate how well current provision meets current demand, and also compares results across different areas of the Borough and thus looks at how even the provision of each type of open space is.

The sites examined in this study include all sites that are generally accessible to the public, regardless of ownership.

It was found that in Harrow, people in the Borough, whether or not they are active or regular users of open space, believe strongly that it contributes to the quality of the local environment. They are less certain, though, that local open spaces offer something for everyone, and are clearly looking for improvements in some key areas of provision, in terms of quantity, quality and accessibility. The main problems local people encounter in using open spaces in Harrow focus on cleanliness (especially dog control), maintenance and behaviour; these are often problems that compound one another.

The Study found that a total of nearly 160 hectares of space in Harrow is given over to sports pitches, which are distributed across the Borough, but with a greater level of provision in the northwest sub-area. In addition there are 14 Multi-use Games Areas (MUGAs), five artificial grass pitches (AGPs), 11 bowling greens and 114 tennis courts on 24 sites. Residents are broadly happy with levels of provision, with a substantial minority wanting more, especially in the south of the Borough.

As with all other types of open space, quality assessments of all outdoor sports provision were undertaken. Only 15% of Harrow's football pitches were rated as good or excellent, but cricket pitches score were better, and rugby also has good quality pitches. Tennis and bowls were also generally found to have good quality facilities, and the MUGAs and STPs offer good quality as well. Changing accommodation scores vary widely, with local authority facilities scoring poorly; facilities for women are generally very poor, or limited, and would deter participation. Half of those using sports pitches travel by car; most of the rest walk.

The agreed quantity standard calls for a modest increase in provision of pitches. Applying this standard highlights deficiencies in the central and southwestern subareas. The quality standard highlights the need for a significant improvement in football pitch quality, and a slight improvement in rugby. The accessibility standard for outdoor sports is a 15 minute actual walking distance, and most of the area is adequately covered for pitches; there are deficiencies in the north for bowls and across the borough for MUGAs and STPs.

### **Harrow Open Space Strategy 2012**

The Harrow Open Space Strategy sets out Harrow Council's vision for the open spaces in the Borough. It establishes what the Council wants to achieve in the future and explains how this will be done, how long it will take and the resources that will be needed to achieve its goals. The strategy builds on the findings of the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study<sup>20</sup>, which provided the Council with an understanding of the quantity, quality and accessibility of local open spaces and recommended standards of provision in the future.

The Vision for Harrows open spaces is:

*Harrow aims to protect and manage its open spaces for the benefit of all sections of the local community, to increase opportunities for enjoyment whilst contributing to the improvement of health and the quality of people's lives.*

Five Themes underpin the strategy. These include *Quality Spaces (Maintaining and improving the condition of parks and Open Spaces)*. A quality green space should be 'fit for purpose', in the right place, readily accessible, safe, inclusive, welcoming, well maintained, well managed and performing an identified function. Another theme is, *Places For People* which is concerned with ensuring that open spaces are accessible and attractive to all sections of the community and play a part in bringing communities together. Harrow's population is diverse with over half its population being from minority ethnic communities. Open spaces can provide a real focus for community activity. Encouraging diversity and inclusion will require a better understanding of whether there are individuals and communities identified by race, gender, disability and age who have needs that are not being met.

*Promoting Increased Activity* is the final theme of the strategy, which reflects the important contribution that open spaces can make to increasing activity by offering opportunities for formal sports and informal recreation such as walking and cycling. However, the strategy

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<sup>20</sup>[http://www.harrow.gov.uk/downloads/download/2861/ppg17\\_study\\_2011](http://www.harrow.gov.uk/downloads/download/2861/ppg17_study_2011)

points out that the quality of outdoor sports provision in Harrow is highly variable with a significant number of facilities being of poor quality. There is a marked difference between the quality of public sector facilities and those owned and managed by private sports clubs. The quality of changing rooms is also variable with some facilities in public parks being not fit for purpose. Facilities for women are notably very poor and probably contribute to their low levels of participation in some outdoor sports. The strategy points to the need for an assessment of the levels and pattern of facility provision for outdoor sports together with an understanding of current and future demand to facilitate a strategic approach to planning for outdoor sport.

## 4. Population

Details of the current and future population of Harrow are provided by the GLA's 2011 Round (SHLAA variant), which provides yearly population projections up to 2031 for London Boroughs by single year of age and gender using the Strategic Housing and Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) housing data and 2008 CLG household projections.

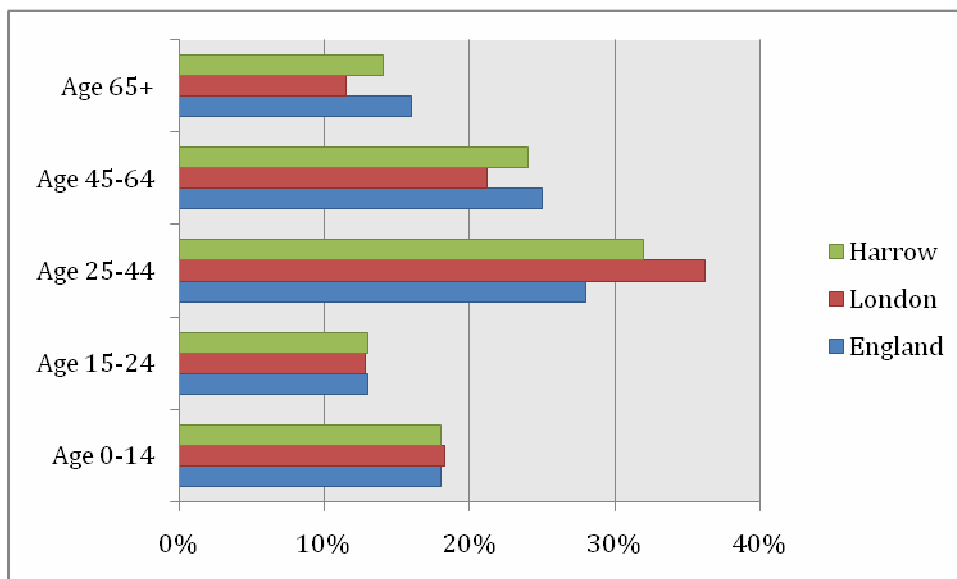
The GLA generates migration-led projections using a cohort component model that operates from a base of the 2001 ONS Mid Year Estimate (MYE) through to 2031. The model projects forward a year at a time from its base by a cycle of ageing on the population, and taking account of births, deaths and migration. A development-linked set of projections is then produced for each borough which ensures that populations are consistent with the number of available dwelling spaces.

Main Points:

- The 2012 GLA Round of Demographic Projections estimate for Harrow shows a total population of 231,600
- Since 2001 Harrow's population has grown by 9.9% (20,900).
- The population of Harrow is projected to continue to grow and will reach 247,000 in 2026. This represents an increase of 7% or 15,400 people over a 14 year period (2012 to 2026).
- Over the next 14 years Harrow will see a significant ageing of its population due to longer lives, falling birth rates and ageing of the baby boom generation. The number of people aged over 65 will increase by 4,000 (a 12.8% increase) and people aged over 85 will increase by 1,600 (a 32% increase).
- Growth among the younger population will continue. The number of young people aged 0-14 in the population is projected to increase by 19.7% between 2012 and 2026 and people aged 15-24 will increase by 2,100 people (a 7.3% increase) over the same period.
- The younger working age population (15-34) will see only a small increase of 800 people (a 1.3% increase) between 2012 and 2026.
- The older working age population (35-64) will see an increase of 1,900 people (a 2.2% increase) between 2012 and 2026.

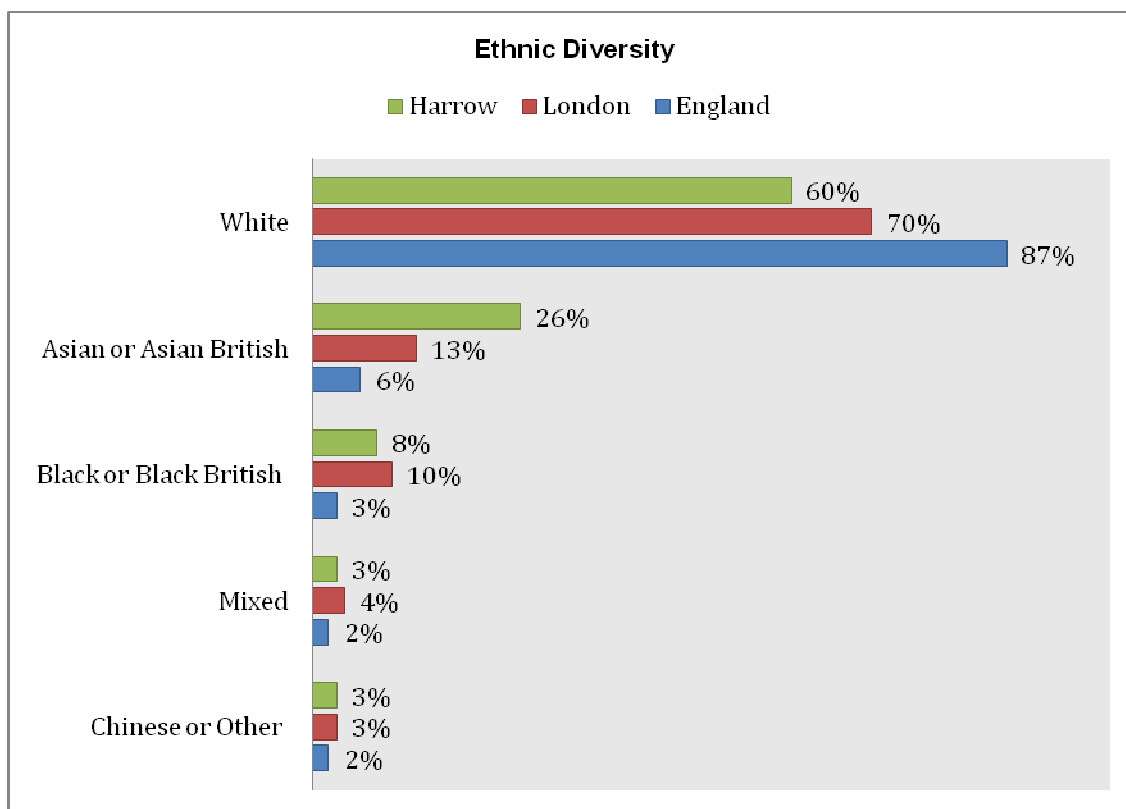
**Chart 4.1** shows that Harrow's age profile is broadly similar to that for England as a whole but has more people in the older age groups than London. The number of people aged 0-14 (18%) is broadly similar to that for London and England as a whole and the same applies for people aged 15 – 24 (13%). There are fewer people aged 25-44 (32%) compared to London (36%) but more than for England (28%). Harrow has a similar number of people aged 45 -64 (24%) to England (25%) and more than London (21%). Harrow also has less people in the 65+ age band (14%) than England (16%) but more than London (12%).

**Chart 4.1: Age profile of Harrow (Mid-2009 Population Estimates)**



Harrow has a considerably higher proportion of people from a black and minority ethnic (BME) background than the national average – 40% compared to 13% (2009 estimates).

**Chart 4.2: Ethnic Diversity**



**Source:** Estimated resident population by ethnic group and sex, mid-2009 (experimental statistics)

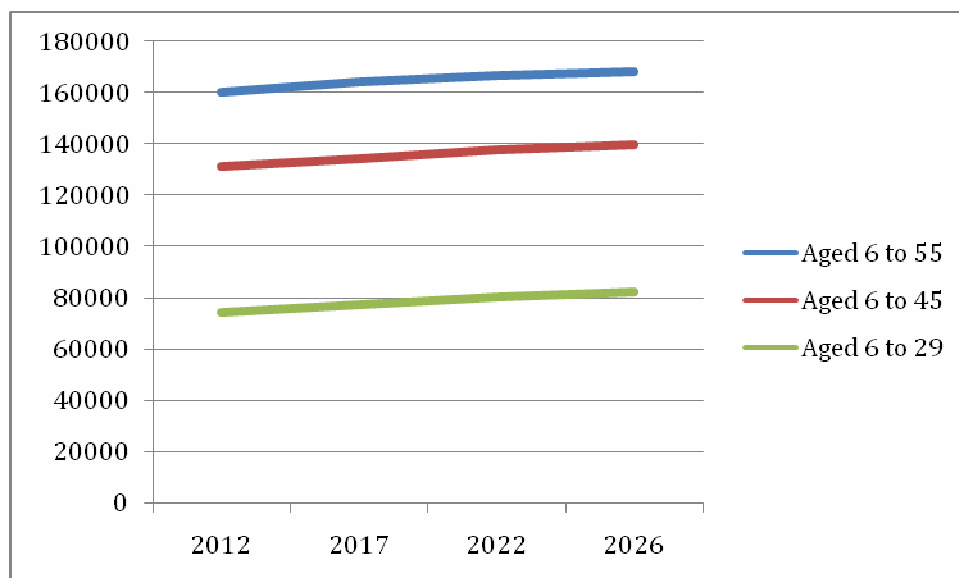


**Chart 4.2** shows that 60% of Harrow’s residents are White and 40% belong to other ethnic groups. This compares with 30% belonging to ethnic groups in London and 13% in England as a whole. The largest ethnic group in Harrow is the Asian and Asian British community who make up 26% of the total population. There are smaller numbers of Black or Black British (8%), Mixed (3%) and Chinese or Other (3%).

### Active Population

The Sport England Playing Pitch Model considers that the demand for playing pitches will come from the ‘Active Population’, which is considered to be between the ages of 6 and 55 years. However, for pitch sports such as football this is more likely to be between the ages of 6 and 45 years. It is therefore pertinent to consider what changes are projected for these age groups over the period to 2026. **Diagram 4.1** and **Table 4.1** shows that there is a steady increase in the number of people in these age groups .

**Diagram 4.1: Active Population Projections 2006 - 2026**



Source: 2011 Round of Demographic Projections - SHLAA.

There will be an overall increase of 5% in the 6 and 55 years age group and 6% in the 6 to 45 years age group. Looking at the narrower age group of 6 to 29 which will have a higher proportion of sports participants, growth over the period will be 10%.

**Table 4.1: Active Population**

Active Population	2012 (000's)	2016 (000's)	2021 (000's)	2026 (000's)
Aged 6 to 55	160,000	164,300	166,600	168,200
Aged 6 to 45	131,300	134,600	137,700	140,000
Aged 6 to 29	74,200	77,100	80,100	82,300

Source: 2011 Round of Demographic Projections - SHLAA.

Examining the change in the population of different age groups in greater detail reveals that the most significant increases between 2012 to 2026 within the Active Population takes

place within the 10 to 14 age group, which increases by 33%, the 5 to 9 age group which increases by 22.2% and the 15 to 19 age group which increases by 21.5% (see **Table 4.2**). A decline in two older age groups counterbalances the growth in the population in these three younger age groups. The 20 to 24 age group falls by 4.5% in the period 2012 to 2017 and by 7.2% in the period 2012 to 2022. This decline then slows down but there remains an overall decline of 4.8% in the population of this group over the period 2012 to 2026. In addition, there is an overall decline in the 25 to 29 age group of 6.8% during the period 2012 to 2026. Of less significance for pitch sports is the decline of 6.8% in the population in the 45 to 49 age group (see **Table 4.2**).

**Table 4.2: Projected change in population by age group – 2006-2026**

Age Group	% change 2012-2017	% change 2012-2022	% change 2012-2026
0-4	10.0%	8.5%	6.8%
5-9	14.5%	23.1%	22.2%
10-14	10.7%	24.9%	33.0%
15-19	1.7%	10.9%	21.5%
20-24	-4.5%	-7.2%	-4.8%
25-29	1.1%	-4.0%	-6.8%
30-34	4.0%	4.3%	0.7%
35-39	1.1%	3.6%	4.9%
40-44	-2.9%	-3.4%	-1.1%
45-49	-1.6%	-6.4%	-6.8%
50-54	7.4%	4.5%	1.0%
55-59	5.2%	11.9%	9.9%
60-64	-1.5%	3.2%	9.2%
65-69	1.5%	-0.4%	3.5%
70-74	11.3%	13.0%	10.9%
75-79	-2.3%	9.0%	14.9%
80-84	62.7%	3.2%	10.6%
85 and over	7.4%	20.3%	32.6%
<b>All ages</b>	4.7%	5.5%	6.8%

Source: Projections based on 2006 sub-national population projections: ONS

## 5. Facilities

Changing patterns of use, rising maintenance costs and technological developments will have implications for the future provision of facilities for pitch sports.

### 5.1 Football

The FA National Game Strategy provides a strategic framework that sets out the key priorities, expenditure proposals and targets for football over a six year period. The main issues facing grassroots football include:

- Growth and retention of young players
- Growth and retention of adult players
- Football for All
- Raising standards of behaviour
- Player development
- Running the game
- Football work force – improving the skills of the paid and volunteer workforce
- Build, protect and enhance sustainable football facilities
- Developing partnerships and increasing investment
- Promotion

The Strategy reinforces the urgent need to provide affordable, new and improved facilities in schools, clubs and on local authority sites.

Over 84% of football is played on public sector facilities rather than in private members clubs. The leisure budgets of most local authorities have been reduced over recent years as priorities have been in other sectors. This has resulted in decaying facilities that do not serve the community and act as a disincentive to play football. The loss of playing fields has also been well documented and adds to the pressure on the remaining facilities to cope with the demand, especially in inner city and urban areas. The FA is concerned that funding cuts in local authorities will lead to the loss of playing fields, reduction in access and increased costs.

The Football Association's National Game Strategy<sup>21</sup> includes a key objective:

'Build, protect and enhance sustainable football facilities to improve the experience of the nation's favourite game'

The strategy explains that between 2008–11 over £253 million has been invested in improving the quantity and quality of facilities with over 1,000 playing pitches improved or protected from development. The FA's new strategy includes a further £300 million investment programme to improve the quality of facilities.

The FA is therefore seeking to manage existing resources more effectively by providing specific guidance and support the protection of existing facilities; updating FA technical standards and developing a support/advice/maintenance package for existing pitch/facility providers.

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<sup>21</sup> 'Developing football for everyone' National Game Strategy 2011–15, Football Association

In seeking to improve the quality of pitches, the FA, together with the Institute of Groundsmanship (IOG) and Sport England, have developed the Performance Quality Standard (PQS) which provides a recommended minimum quality standard for the construction of new and refurbished natural grass pitches. It sets the basic standard for natural grass pitches and covers important factors such as the grass cover and specification, levels, drainage and maintenance. Principally, this recommends that a natural grass pitch must:

- have adequate grass cover
- low level of weed coverage
- be flat
- have the ability to drain water
- have sufficient carrying capacity<sup>22</sup>

Natural grass pitches have a limited carrying capacity, i.e. the number of matches that can be staged per week. However, a good quality, well maintained natural grass pitch will cater for up to 7 hours use per week and therefore will maximise community use.

#### *Pitch Sizes*

The FA provides guidance on the suggested size of football pitches for the different age groups. These are detailed in **Appendix A**. These sizes determine whether a pitch is classified as a mini soccer pitch, a youth pitch or an adult pitch when considering the supply of football pitches in relation to demand.

There is an overlap between the maximum size of a Youth U15 –U16 pitch and the minimum size of a Youth U17 – U18 & Seniors pitch. It is therefore sometimes difficult to determine whether a pitch has been laid out for youth or adult usage.

#### *FA Charter Standard*

The FA Charter Standard programme provides recognition and rewards a club that is well run, sustainable, with safeguarding children and safety paramount. It also recognises the commitment to coaching, player and coach development and the raising of standards of behaviour in the game. Of the 51 clubs in Harrow, 15 have achieved Charter Standard. Two clubs have achieved Development Club Status.

#### *Community Clubs*

The FA's Community Clubs initiative builds upon the foundations of the Charter Standard scheme. There are no facility criteria as part of achieving the FA Charter Standard Community Club status because the FA recognises that many clubs operate across a variety of different facilities and Community Clubs in particular often rely on a number of sites to operate because of the size of the club. Community Club accreditation is recognised as the pinnacle of the FA's kite mark and priority assessment of facility projects is weighted in favour of those that reach the Community Club status.

#### *Women's football*

Changing provision for women and girls remains generally poor at all pitch sites and is likely to act as a deterrent to new and continued participation, as well as raising serious questions over equalities.

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<sup>22</sup>Natural Grass Pitches, Football Foundation.

Any new build or refurbishment projects supported by the FA must provide changing facilities which are fully self contained units with ensuite shower and lavatory provision and a lobby area or privacy screen for safeguarding children. This provides maximum flexibility of use providing for male, female and adult and youth provision.

#### *Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs)*

There are effectively three types of artificial grass surface:

- Sand-dressed pitches – the pile of the carpet is filled to within 5-8 mm of the tips of the fibre with fine sand. This type of surface is often used for hockey.
- Sand filled pitches – the pile of the carpet is filled almost to the top with sand. The sand makes the pitch rough and harder. In comparison with water-based pitches or sand-dressed pitches, ball speed across the surface is often noticeably slower. This is a versatile surface that can provide casual play for a variety of sports.
- Third Generation Artificial Grass Pitches – generally a longer pile filled with sand and topped with rubber crumb. This is the preferred surface for football due to the similarity with natural grass.

For football, artificial surfaces complement rather than replace natural turf pitches. The main role of AGPs for football is to absorb midweek training and, in some cases, they are used for matches which could not be played on grass pitches due to the lack of lighting. Mostly they are used to accommodate five-a-side football.

The main advantage of AGPs<sup>23</sup> is that they have a much higher capacity than natural turf pitches and can be used 7 days a week. They can also be used in most weather conditions. However, they cannot accommodate the range of activities suited to natural turf.

The FA is fully supportive of the use of the 3rd Generation (3G) artificial pitches in football for competitive matches and training purposes. The FA recognises the value and benefit of 3G facilities and the positive impact these facilities have had and will have in the future. The development of 3G artificial grass pitches with a longer pile now allows football to be played on artificial grass that replicates the playing qualities of the best quality natural turf pitches. The success of these surfaces is such that they are now being used in major competitions including FIFA World Cup qualification matches and the UEFA Champions League as well as grass roots football and small sided centres. Many local leagues are approving the use of the 3G pitches for matches particularly given the lack of available quality pitches for clubs.

The use of 3G facilities is acceptable in the following FA competitions (12/13 season)

- FA Trophy
- FA Vase
- FA Youth Cup (qualifying rounds only)
- FA Women's Premier League and Cup
- FA Sunday Cup
- FA County Youth Cup

The use of 3G pitches is currently not acceptable in

- FA cup all rounds

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<sup>23</sup> This term covers all sand based and rubber crumb (Third Generation) pitches.

- FA youth cup (proper rounds)

Furthermore a full size 3G pitch combined with the higher capacity of use provides greater flexibility of use and can accommodate 11 v 11 adult, 9 v 9, mini soccer and 5 a side matches. For training the operator has the flexibility for marketing and dividing the pitch into halves or thirds depending on the demand.

In terms of modelling demand for AGPs the recommended approach is to use the Sport England strategic planning tool, Active Places Power. There are seven full size AGPs in Harrow and one three quarter size 3G rubber crumb pitch.

#### *Commercial small-sided football*

The significant growth of the small-sided (mainly five-a-side) game as a commercial venture principally involves small, all-weather, floodlit pitches. This could supplement and possibly displace demand for full-sized natural turf pitches. There is no commercial five-a-side venue in Harrow. The nearest facilities are Goals in Ruislip and Powerleague in Wembley.

#### *Goalpost Safety*

Unsafe goalposts and the incorrect use of goalposts have been the cause of serious injuries and some fatalities over recent years. The FA has therefore issued guidance on such matters as the need to anchor securely to the ground. In particular, the use of metal cup hooks on goals was banned from the start of the 2007/08 season and match officials have been instructed not to commence matches for safety reasons where such net fixings are evident. Nets should only be secured by plastic hooks, net grips or tape and not by metal cup hooks. Goalposts which have been altered from their original size or construction also must not be used. The FA and BSI have developed two standards for goalposts – BSEN 748 (2004) and BS 8462 (2005) and a Code of Practice BS 8461 has also been completed.

## **5.2 Rugby**

Changing patterns of participation have significant implications for pitch provision (with more small-sided Mini-Rugby pitches needed) and for changing facilities (with appropriate provision made for juniors and women).

Third generation (3G) artificial carpet systems are used to accommodate training needs. These are generally a 50-65mm long pile, non-abrasive carpet system, in-filled with recycled rubber to replicate natural turf. Underneath is a pad designed for firmness, yet capable of absorbing impact when a player falls under a heavy tackle.

In 2003 the International Rugby Board (IRB) produced guidance on pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union.<sup>24</sup> Pitches meeting this standard can accommodate full contact activity, including tackling, rucking and mauling, scrummaging and line outs. Recognising the synergy between rugby and football, the RFU, supported by the FA, produced guidance for dual use artificial grass rugby/football pitches.<sup>25</sup>

## **5.3 Cricket**

The England and Wales Cricket Board has produced guidance on the construction and preparation of cricket pitches.<sup>26</sup> Cricket demands a firm, level surface that provides consistent

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<sup>24</sup>'Performance Specification for Artificial Grass Pitches for Rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22'

<sup>25</sup>'Artificial Grass Pitches for Rugby and Association Football'

<sup>26</sup>TS4 Recommended Guidelines for the Construction, Preparation and Maintenance of Cricket Pitches and Outfields at all Levels of the Game.

bounce and pace. The aim of the guidance is to achieve the best possible playing surface at all levels of the game.

Cricket grounds should have a boundary with a minimum of 45.72 metres from the centre of the pitch in current use. Pitches must run approximately north/south to minimise the risk of batsmen or bowlers facing a low sun. The pitch axis must point in a direction between 325 degrees and 55 degrees on the compass. One pitch area is 22.86m long x 3.05m wide. The number of pitch areas required in a season determines the size of the cricket square. The ECB's suggested maximum number of games per pitch is five matches during the season.

There is a continuing trend for cricket clubs to acquire and develop their own facilities in contrast to football clubs, the majority of which rely heavily on the public sector.

Increased participation by women has resulted in a need for good quality segregated changing facilities.

#### **5.4 Hockey**

Nearly all club games are played on Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs) and the number of full size STPs in England is now in excess of 600.

There are a number of different types of synthetic surface available. These fall generally under one of the following headings:

- *Filled surface*: a surface (or carpet) comprising a synthetic yarn filled with sand (or similar material) to the full height of the pile to help maintain its verticality. Hockey is played on a pitch of this type at the Jewish Free School in Brent by the only Harrow club.
- *Dressed surface or water-based filled surface*: a surface (or carpet) comprising a synthetic yarn filled with sand (or similar material) to between 65% and 80% of the pile height. For optimum performance, this type of surface should be watered.
- *Water-based unfilled surface*: a surface (or carpet) comprising a very dense synthetic pile of short length which is maintained wet during play

#### **5.5 Tennis**

The demand for better facilities that can be used throughout the year has led to the development of a range of synthetic sports surfaces of which synthetic grass has become one of the most widely used and well accepted.

- Initially *synthetic grass tennis surfaces* were sand-filled tufted carpets with pile heights traditionally in the range of 18 to 23mm with a particulate or granular fill introduced into the carpet to support the pile and form a major part of the playing surface. However, problems with an inconsistent and low bounce led to the development of shorter pile, denser carpets.
- *Impervious acrylic* sometimes referred to as "hard courts" is widely used. The playing surface consists of multiple applications of coloured impervious acrylic materials installed on a sub-base, usually of dense macadam, which is laid on a suitable depth of well-compacted aggregate foundation. Most proprietary systems offer optional "cushioned" layers of varying depth, intended to provide a degree of player comfort. The surface's playing characteristics makes it suitable for all standards of play, up to the highest levels of competition.
- *Porous Macadam* is a very popular surface representing approximately 80% of courts in the UK. This is mainly attributed to its porous properties, designed to allow rapid

drainage through the entire surface, which means a speedier return to play. Porous macadam also requires a comparatively low level of initial capital cost for court construction.

Although there are currently 10,000 park courts in the UK, the Tennis Foundation says there were about 33,000 three years ago. Many councils have decided to convert courts to other uses which get more use.

Most of the tennis courts in Harrow are located at private clubs. There are also a number of tennis courts in parks that have fallen into disuse.

## **5.6 Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs)**

Sport England has prepared guidance notes<sup>27</sup>, in partnership with the Sports and Play Construction Association (SAPCA) for MUGAs. □ □

Five principal types of MUGA/AGP are detailed in this guidance although not all of these are recommended as being suitable for the pitch sports considered in this report. Each type has a different surface although certain surface types are more suitable than others for different sports. Types 1 and 2 have macadam surface and these are not considered suitable for football, hockey or rugby. Type 3 has a polymeric surface which has a degree of inherent shock absorption. To provide the high degree of slip resistance required by sports such as tennis and netball a specially modified final coating can be applied, although the use of this surface for ball contact sports will cause a rapid reduction in its slip resistance. Type 4 MUGAs have thicker forms of polymeric surface to accommodate five-a side football, basketball and general sports and recreational training and play. Type 5 MUGAs have a surface with a shockpad and either sand filled or sand dressed Artificial Grass or a needle-punch carpet. These areas are used for sports such as hockey, uni-hockey, five-a-side football, football, lacrosse, American football and training areas for activities such as rugby union and rugby league.

## **5.7 Bowls**

In Harrow flat green bowls is the predominant discipline. A bowls green should be 34 metres by 34 metres minimum with a preferred size of 40 metres by 40 metres. The pitch size excludes the perimeter ditch. Play rotates North/South and East/West, which means that the pitch should be equal sided. The width of the rinks are between a minimum of 5.5 metres and a maximum of 5.8 metres under World Bowls rules although rink widths for club play can be 4 metres minimum. Normally the surface is natural turf but synthetic surfaced pitches are becoming more popular.

The green is surrounded by a perimeter ditch which as a minimum should be 0.2 metres up to a maximum of 0.38 metres. A perimeter bank to stop bowls leaving the green should be vertical and 0.23 metres above the green level.

## **5.8 Pétanque**

A pétanque terrain does not require a high initial outlay and maintenance is minimal once it is established. A good terrain requires a well-drained base on which has been spread a quite thin layer of small loose material. The area required for each game is called a lane. For International competition and National Championships the minimum dimensions for a single lane is 15 metres x 4 metres with a dead boule line a metre outside this area plus another 30

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<sup>27</sup> Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs) including Multi-Sport Synthetic Turf Pitches (STPs) Part 1 to 3 – General Guidance and Design Considerations; Dimensions and Layouts. Produced by Sport England, in conjunction with the Sports and Play Construction Association.



centimetres before any solid barriers, so one full size lane will require an area 17.6 metres x 6.6 metres. However these dimensions are frequently altered for club and leisure situations to take account of limited space available. Many club terrains are built to have 12 metre x 3 metre lanes.

There is no exact laid down specification for a lane, except in size. As a basic rule it must not be so flat that a boule can be rolled dead straight on it, neither should the top dressing be so thick that it allows little or no forward movement of a boule once it lands.

## 6. Sports Participation Profile

### 6.1 Sports people in Harrow participate in.

The Active People Survey measures participation across over 250 different sports and recreational activities. Within the survey, respondents are asked about their participation over the last four weeks. This enables analysis of sport specific participation rates across all sports, based on participation at least once in the last four weeks. The results for Harrow and for England from APS4 are shown in **Table 6.1**. The outdoor sports for which participation in Harrow exceeds the national average is football with 7.42% of all adults participating at least once in the past month compared to 7.33% nationally and Tennis with 2.78% of all adults participating at least once in the past month compared to 1.98% nationally.

**Table 6.1: Results from the period October 2009-October 2010 (Active People Survey 4), for monthly participation rates, by sport.**

Sport participated in (all adults)	Harrow %	National %
Swimming	9.70%	12.94%
Football	7.42%	7.33%
Athletics	5.40%	6.56%
Cycling	4.10%	9.03%
Golf	2.97%	3.36%
Tennis	2.78%	1.98%
Badminton	1.94%	2.13%
Boxing	1.64%	0.37%
Squash	1.47%	1.15%
Bowls	0.41%	0.91%

The sports indicated in **Table 6.1** are those where there were sufficient responses to calculate the participation rate. There were insufficient sample sizes for once a month participation rates for cricket, rugby and hockey.

### 6.2 Profile of sports participants in Harrow

Sport England has developed nineteen sporting segments to provide a better understanding of people's attitudes to sport, their motivations and barriers. The key data sources were DCMS's 'Taking Part' survey and Active People. Further data was added from Experian Mosaic databases. Population data is used for people aged 18 and over.

Segmentation provides information on who participates in sport and what they want in terms of sport and active recreation provision. In total there are nineteen segments. In England, 21% of all adults regularly take part in sport and active recreation. Half of all segments participate at a level that is below the national average.

**Chart 6.1** and **Table 6.2** below show the relative importance of the individual market segments Harrow and their distribution.

**Table 6.2 Market Segments in Harrow**

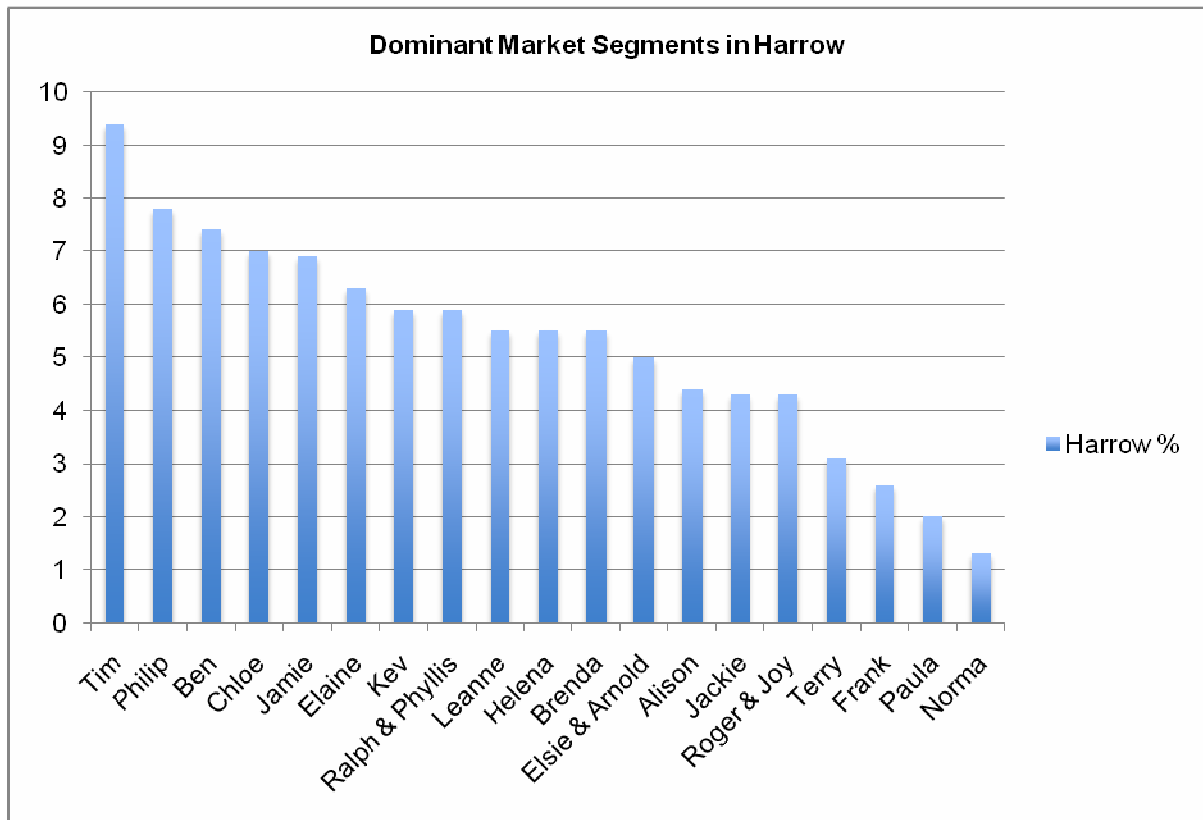
Segment Number	Segment	Harrow Population %
6	Tim	9.4
11	Philip	7.8
1	Ben	7.4
3	Chloe	7
2	Jamie	6.9
12	Elaine	6.3
9	Kev	5.9
17	Ralph & Phyllis	5.9
14	Brenda	5.5
5	Helena	5.5
4	Leanne	5.5
19	Elsie & Arnold	5
7	Alison	4.4
8	Jackie	4.3
13	Roger & Joy	4.3
15	Terry	3.1
18	Frank	2.6
10	Paula	2
16	Norma	1.3

Market segmentation demonstrates the importance of age with a sharp decrease in activity as people get older. It also demonstrates the impact of gender with women having a much lower participation rate. Social deprivation is another factor which leads to lower participation rates.

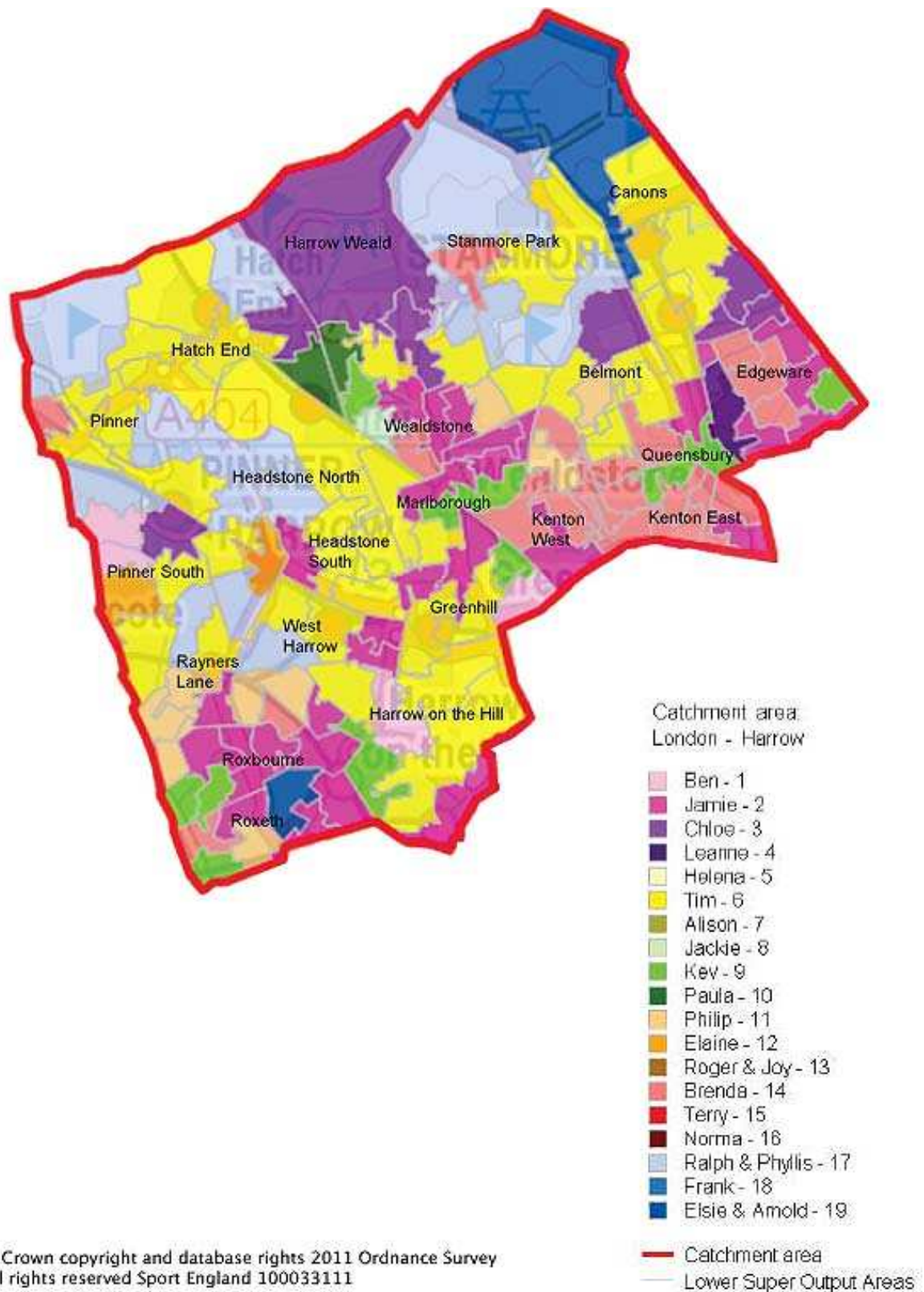
This tool makes it possible to analyse the sport and recreation market in the London Borough of Harrow. Each segment has been assigned a name that reflects the most popular first names for the group.

The market segmentation map (**Map 1**) shows the distribution of the dominant market segments in Harrow by Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs).

**Chart 6.1: Dominant market segments in Harrow by % Harrow Population**



**Map 1 - Dominant market segments in Harrow by population and location**



The five most dominant market segments in Harrow are as follows:

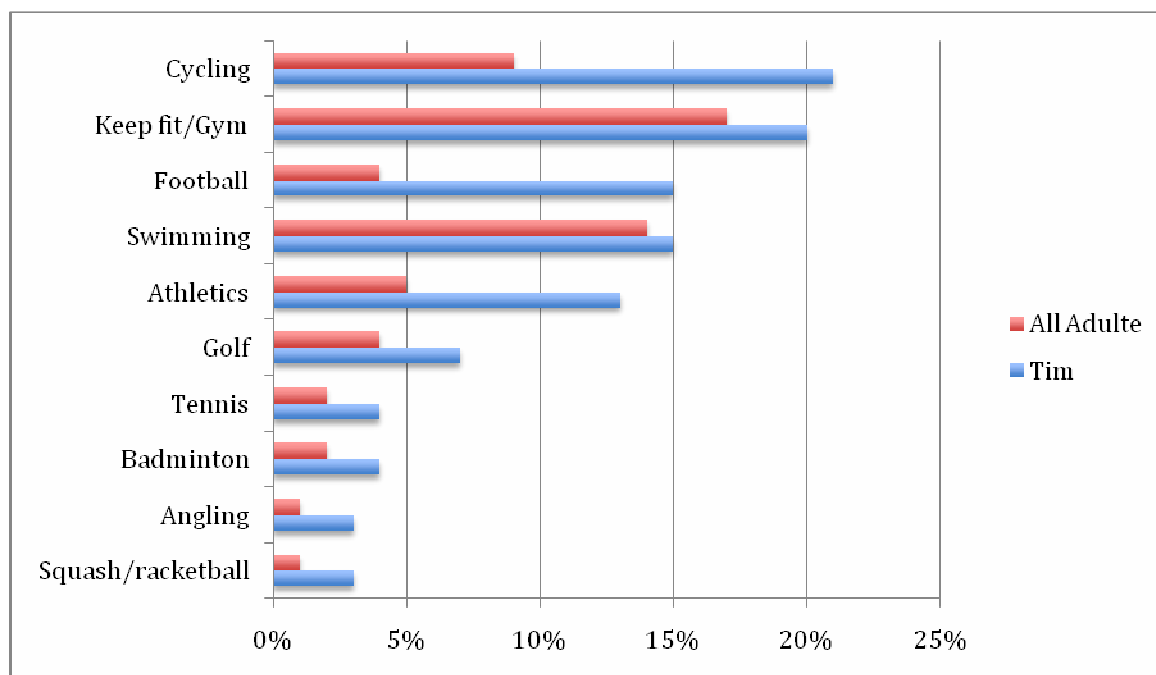
**Tim (segment 6) - Settling Down Males**

Tim is a member of a segment characterised by sporty male professionals, buying a house and settling down with a partner. He is representative of 9% of all adults; 18% of adult men.

The ethnic origin of individuals in this segment is predominantly White British (77%), or Other White (10%) origin; or may also be Asian/Asian British (6%), of Irish heritage (5%), Black/Black British (1%), Chinese (1%) or belong to another ethnic group (1%).

Tim is an active type that takes part in sport on a regular basis: almost two thirds take part in sport at least once a week, compared with 40% of all adults. 27% of this segment does three 30-minute sessions of moderate intensity sport per week, compared to 15% of all adults.

**Chart 6.2: Top sports that Tim participates in.**



The top sports that Tim participates in are shown in **Chart 6.2** above: 21% of this segment take part in cycling compared to 9% of all adults; 20% of this segment take part in keep fit/gym, compared to 17% of all adults. In terms of outdoor sports, Tim is more likely to take part in football (21%) compared to all adults (9%), and athletics (13%) compared to all adults (5%).

**Table 6.3: Sports Participation - Tim**

Sport	Tim	All Adults
Cycling	21%	9%
Keep fit/Gym	20%	17%
Swimming	15%	14%
Football	15%	4%
Athletics	13%	5%
Golf	7%	4%
Badminton	4%	2%
Tennis	4%	2%
Squash/racketball	3%	1%
Angling	3%	1%

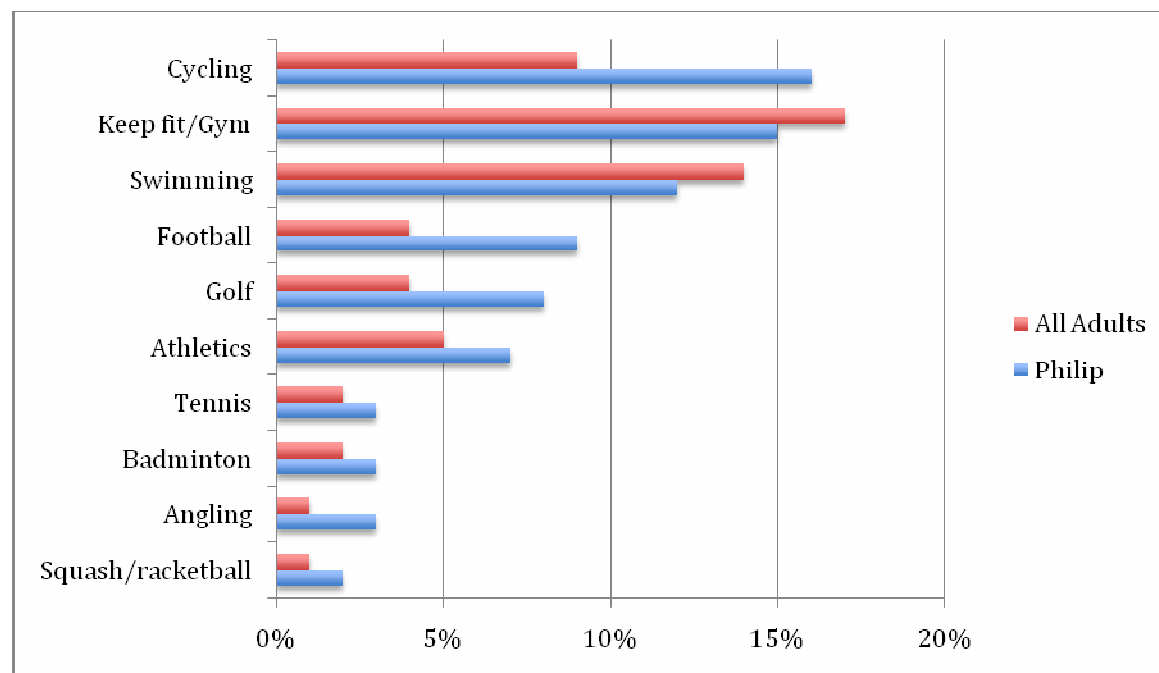
Tim is the dominant segment in the Headstone North and Headstone South, Pinner and Pinner South, Belmont and Canons areas of Harrow.

**Philip (segment 11) - ‘Comfortable Mid-Life Male’**

Philip is likely to be in his late forties, an owner-occupier and married with two older children. He is at the height of his career and enjoying a comfortable salary. Philip keeps up his love of sport and plays badminton in a local team, enjoys a swim at the health club. He is representative of 9% of all adults; 18% of adult men.

Individuals in this segment are predominantly of White British (82%), or Other White (7%) origin; or may also be of Irish heritage (6%), Asian/Asian British (4%), Black/Black British (1%), Chinese (0.5%) or belong to another ethnic group (0.5%).

**Chart 6.3: Top sports that Phillip participates in.**



Philip can be considered a ‘sporty’ segment, with above average levels of sports participation. Half of this segment has done no sport in the past four weeks, compared with

the average of 60% of all adults. 30% of Philips are members of a club to participate in sport, which is higher than the national average.

The proportion of this segment playing sport at least once a week is 11 percentage points above the national average, and almost a fifth have undertaken three sessions of sport a week, compared with a national average of 15%.

The top sports that Philip participates in are shown in **Chart 6.3** above and **Table 6.4** below. His top sport is cycling with 16% of this segment doing this at least once a month - almost double the national average. Philip also enjoys keep fit/gym, swimming, football, golf and athletics (running). His participation in football, golf, athletics and tennis is above the national average, which is indicative of the priority he places on sport.

In terms of latent demand Philip would like to do more golf (7%) and a smaller proportion of this segment would also like to do more athletics (running).

Phillip is the dominant segment in parts of the Rayners Lane area, parts of West Harrow and some parts of Wealdstone, Belmont and Roxeth.

**Table 6.4: Sports Participation - Phillip**

Sport	Philip	All Adults
Cycling	16%	9%
Keep fit/Gym	15%	17%
Swimming	12%	14%
Football	9%	4%
Golf	8%	4%
Athletics	7%	5%
Angling	3%	1%
Badminton	3%	2%
Tennis	3%	2%
Squash/racketball	2%	1%

**Ben (segment 1) ‘Competitive male urbanite’.**

This group is male aged 18-25, single and a graduate professional with a ‘work-hard, play-hard’ attitude. He is representative of 5% of all adults; 10% of adult men.

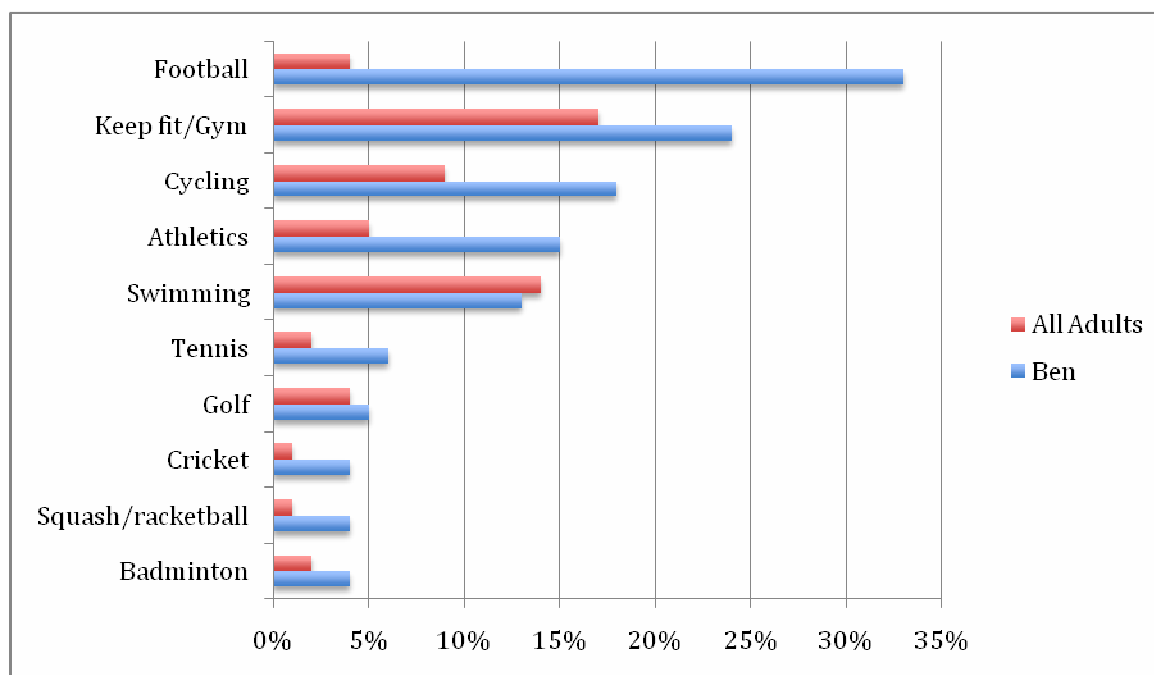
Ethnic origin Individuals in this segment are predominantly of White British (74%), or Other White (12%) origin; or may also be Asian/Asian British (7%), of Irish heritage (5%), Black/Black British (1%), Chinese (1%) or belong to another ethnic group (1%).

The top sports that Ben participates in are football with 33% of Bens playing football, compared to 4% of all adults; 24% of this segment take part in ‘keep fit and gym’ compared to 17% of all adults; 18% of this segment take part in cycling, and 15% take part in athletics or running. Other outdoor sports which Ben may participate in are tennis, golf, and cricket. (see **Chart 6.4** and **Table 6.5**)

Ben is the most active segment across the entire adult population. He is likely to take part in sport on a regular basis: 39% of this segment does three 30- minute sessions of moderate intensity sport per week, compared to 15% of all adults. Almost 70% of Bens take part in sport at least once a week and around a quarter do no sport (in the past month).



**Chart 6.4: Top sports that Ben participates in.**



In terms of latent demand, 62% of this segment would like to do more sport, compared to 52% of all adults. Of these 10% would like to do more football 7% more tennis (7%); and athletics or running (6%).

Ben is likely to be a member of a club to play sport (38% of this segment are club members compared to 23% of all adults). He is also likely to take part in competition (33% of this segment have competed in the past 12 months, compared to 13% of all adults).

**Table 6.5: Sports Participation - Ben**

Sport	Ben	All Adulte
Football	33%	4%
Keep fit/Gym	24%	17%
Cycling	18%	9%
Athletics	15%	5%
Swimming	13%	14%
Tennis	6%	2%
Golf	5%	4%
Badminton	4%	2%
Squash/racketball	4%	1%
Cricket	4%	1%

The main barrier to Ben’s participation in sport is time with 44% of this segment saying they would do more sport if they were less busy, compared to 46% of the overall adult population. Also, 21% of this segment say they would do more sport if admission to facilities and activities was cheaper compared to 18% of the overall adult population. Overall, the factors

that would encourage Ben to do more sport were similarly important to the overall adult population.

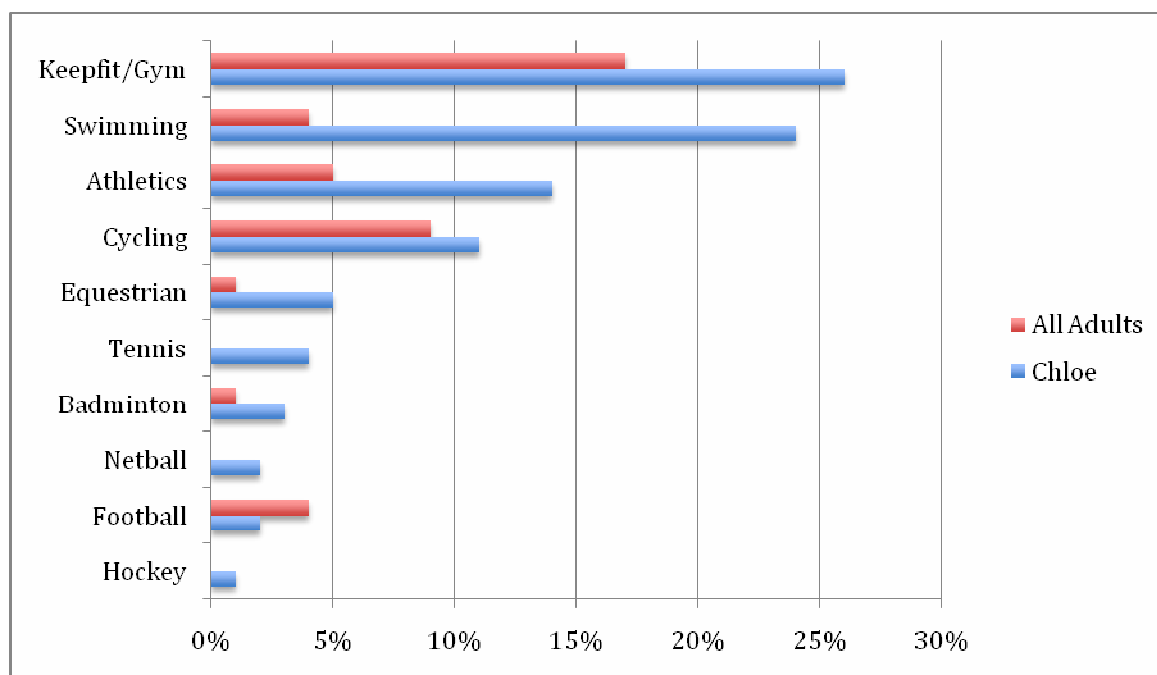
Ben is a major segment across much of the borough but is the dominant segment only in individual LSOAs in Pinner South, Harrow on the Hill and Greenhill.

**Chloe (segment 3) ‘Fitness class friend’.**

Chloe is likely to be a young image-conscious female who likes to keep fit. This segment is mainly in the 18-25 year age group, single and a graduate professional. The Chloe segment represents 5% of all adults; 9% of adult women. She takes part in sport on a regular basis (27% overall).

In terms of ethnic origin, individuals in this segment are predominantly of White British (75%), or Other White (12%) origin; or may also be Asian/Asian British (6%), of Irish heritage (5%), Black/Black British (2%), Chinese (1%) or belong to another ethnic group (2%).

**Chart 6.5: Top sports that Chloe participates in.**



In terms of sports **Chart 6.5** shows that 28% of this group take part in ‘keep fit and gym’ compared to 17% of all adults; 24% take part in swimming compared to 4% of all adults; 14% take part in athletics compared to 5% all adults; she also takes part in cycling, equestrian, tennis, hockey and netball. (see **Table 6.6**) Chloe is the dominant segment in the Harrow Weald area, individual LSOAs in Pinner South, Hatch End, Belmont and Edgware.

**Table 6.6: Sports Participation - Chloe**

Sport	Chloe	All Adulte
Keep fit/Gym	28%	17%
Swimming	24%	14%
Athletics	14%	5%
Cycling	11%	9%
Equestrian	5%	1%
Tennis	4%	2%
Badminton	3%	2%
Football	2%	4%
Netball	2%	0%
Hockey	1%	0%

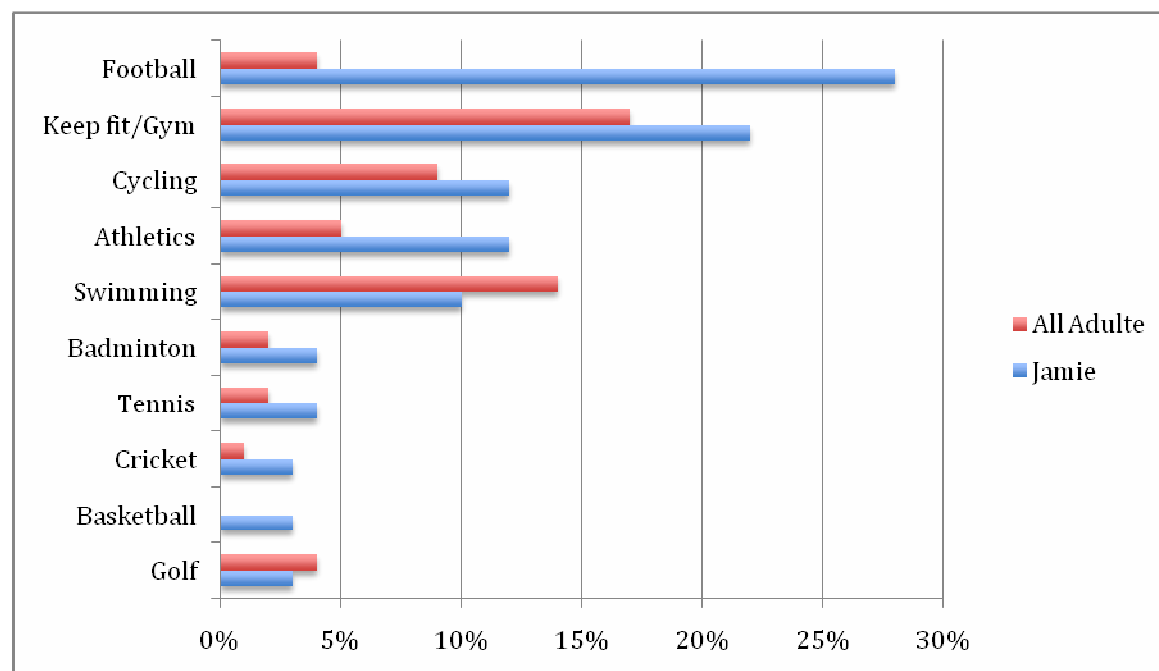
Chloe is an active type that takes part in sport on a regular basis: 23% of this segment does three 30- minute sessions of moderate intensity sport per week, compared to 15% of all adults. Chloe may take part in sports competition; 15% have competed in the past 12 months, compared to 13% of all adults. Chloe is fairly likely to be a member of a club to play sport (26%) and is likely to receive instruction (29%, compared to 17% of all adults).

**Jamie (segment 2) ‘sports team lad’.**

Jamie is mainly aged 18-25, single and likely to be a vocational student. The segment is mostly made up of young males enjoying football, pints and pool. They constitute 5% of all adults and 11% of adult men.

Jamie is likely to play football in the local youth league and play computer games with his friends from the team. He is unlikely to be concerned about his health or diet.

**Chart 6.6: Top sports that Jamie participates in.**



Individuals in this segment are predominantly of White British (60%), or Other White (15%) origin; or may also be Asian/Asian British (14%), of Irish heritage (5%), Black/Black British (2%), Chinese (1%) or belong to another ethnic group (2%).

Jamie is a very active type that takes part in sport on a regular basis. Almost 60% do sport at least once a week compared with 40% of adults. 31% of this segment does three 30-minute sessions of moderate intensity sport per week, compared to 15% of all adults.

The top sports that Jamie participates in are shown in **Chart 6.6** above: 28% of this group play football, compared to 4% of all adults; 22% take part in 'keep fit and gym' compared to 17% of all adults; 12% take part in both athletics (running) and cycling, and 10% go swimming. Jamie may also take part in badminton, tennis, cricket, basketball and golf.

Jamie is the second most active segment, after Ben, across the entire adult population.

**Table 6.7: Sports Participation - Jamie**

Sport	Jamie	All Adults
Football	28%	4%
Keep fit/Gym	22%	17%
Athletics	12%	5%
Cycling	12%	9%
Swimming	10%	14%
Tennis	4%	2%
Badminton	4%	2%
Golf	3%	4%
Basketball	3%	0%
Cricket	3%	1%

In terms of latent demand, 64% of this segment would like to do more sport, compared to 52% of all adults. Of this segment, 14% would like to do more swimming compared to 27% of all adults. Other sports that Jamie would like to do more of are cycling (9%), football (8% compared to 2% of all adults), keep fit and gym (8% compared to 14% of all adults) and athletics (6%).

Jamie is likely to be a member of a club to play sport (29% of this segment are club members compared to 23% of all adults). He is also likely to take part in competition (24% have done so in the past 12 months, compared to 13% of all adults). Of this segment, 20% receive instruction and 8% volunteer in sporting activity.

The main motivations for Jamie playing sport are enjoyment (54%), keeping fit (37%), and socialising (22%). These motivations are more significant for Jamie than they are for all adults.

The main barrier to playing sport for 33% of the Jamie segment are factors such as 'left school', 'no opportunity' and 'economic/work reasons'. Work commitments are a barrier for 27% of this segment, which is higher than amongst the overall adult population (19%). In addition, 'Health, injury and disability' are considered a barrier to playing sport by 13% of this segment.

Jamie is a dominant segment in several LSOAs in Roxbourne, Roxeth and Rayners Lane. Jamie also has a significant presence in Marlborough, Greenhill Wealdstone and parts of Queensbury, Kenton West, Kenton East and Edgeware.

### 6.3 Outdoor Sports

Sport England’s Market Segmentation tool also provides information about which segments are more likely to play a particular sport. This can be used to examine the profile of participants in each of the outdoor sports.

#### Outdoor Sport

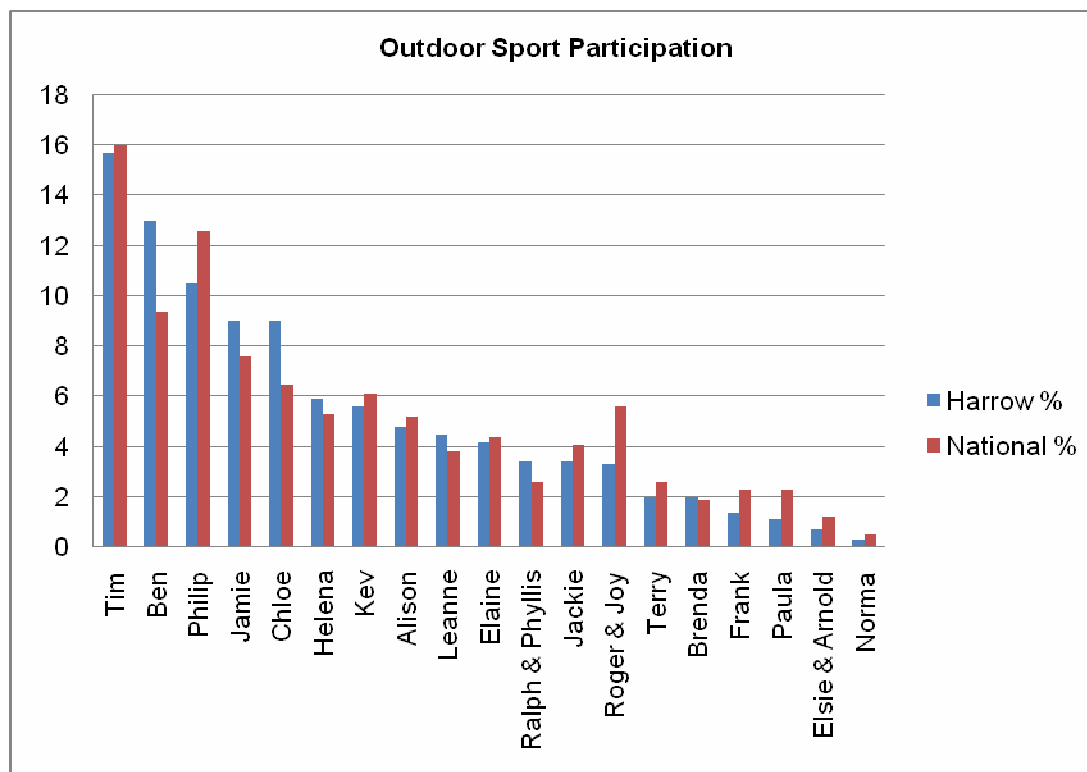
Looking at how participation differs between segments, **Chart 6.7** and **Table 6.8** show that participation in outdoor sports is concentrated in five main segments – Tim, Ben, Phillip, Jamie and Chloe. These five groups account for approximately 28,500 participants, which equates to 57% of all adult participants in outdoor sport. Participation by Ben, Jamie and Chloe is higher than the national average. However, this is balanced by participation by Tim, and Phillip, which is lower than the national average.

**Table 6.8: Outdoor Sports Participation**

Segment	Harrow %	National %
Tim	15.7	16
Ben	13	9.4
Phillip	10.5	12.6
Jamie	9	7.6
Chloe	9	6.5
Helena	5.9	5.3
Kev	5.6	6.1
Alison	4.8	5.2
Leanne	4.5	3.8
Elaine	4.2	4.4
Ralph & Phyllis	3.4	2.6
Jackie	3.4	4.1
Roger & Joy	3.3	5.6
Terry	2	2.6
Brenda	2	1.9
Frank	1.4	2.3
Paula	1.1	2.3
Elsie & Arnold	0.7	1.2
Norma	0.3	0.5

Looking at people who would like to play outdoor sport, the total number of potential adults who wish to participate is about 35,500 with about 20,00 of these being from the same groups as currently participate. This latent demand represents about 21% of the total adult population.

**Chart 6.7: Outdoor Sports Participation**



**Football**

Looking at the percentage of adult population participating in football for all market segments the data shows that for the majority of the borough between 5.1% and 10% of the adult population play football. However this rises to between 10.1% and 15% of the adult population in the LSOAs in the Greenhill and Harrow-on-the-Hill areas.

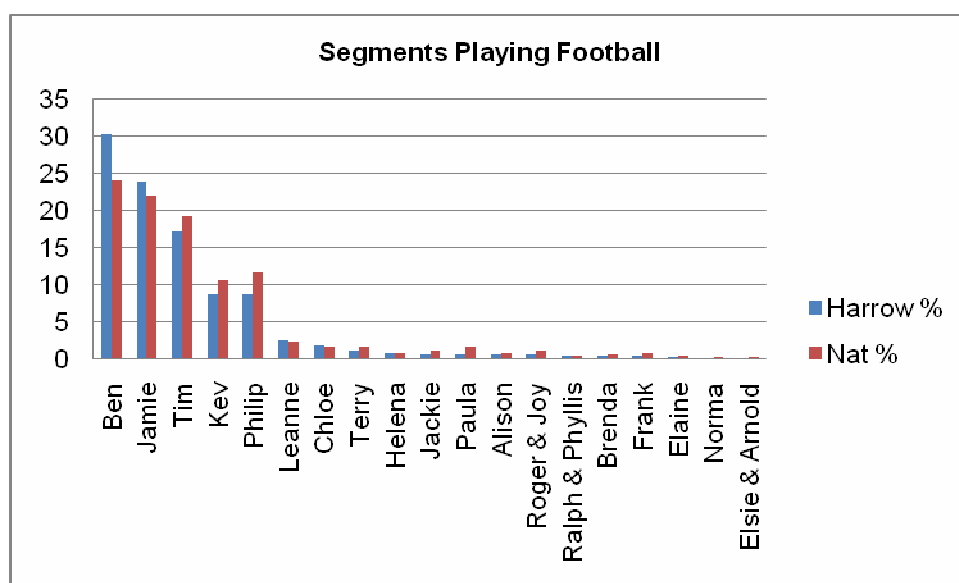
Looking at how participation differs between segments, **Chart 6.8** and **Table 6.9** show that this participation is concentrated in five main segments – Ben, Jamie, Tim, Kev and Phillip. These five groups account for 80% of football participation with just under 11,000 footballers, who play football in a competitive environment, out of a total of just over 13,600. Participation by Ben and Jamie is higher than the national average. However, this is balanced by participation by Tim, Kev and Phillip which is lower than the national average.

**Table 6.9 Football Participation**

Segment	Harrow Pop.	Harrow %	Nat Pop.	Nat %
Ben	4152	30.4	663400	24.1
Jamie	3283	24	606287	22
Tim	2357	17.2	528079	19.2
Philip	1206	8.8	319944	11.6
Kev	1196	8.8	288786	10.5
Leanne	337	2.5	61527	2.2
Chloe	260	1.9	41643	1.5
Terry	157	1.1	44056	1.6
Helena	105	0.8	20606	0.7
Jackie	101	0.7	27049	1
Paula	93	0.7	41359	1.5
Alison	86	0.6	20389	0.7
Roger & Joy	80	0.6	29933	1.1
Ralph & Phyllis	67	0.5	11418	0.4
Brenda	61	0.4	12766	0.5
Frank	53	0.4	19462	0.7
Elaine	43	0.3	9792	0.4
Elsie & Arnold	16	0.1	6088	0.2
Norma	12	0.1	4411	0.2
Total	13665	99.9	2756995	100.1

Looking at people who would like to play football, the total number of potential adults who wish to play football is about 2,600 substantially from the same groups as currently participate. This latent demand represents about 1.6% of the total adult population.

**Chart 6.8 Football Participation**



## Cricket

Looking at the percentage of population participating in cricket for all market segments the data (**Chart 6.9**) shows that for the majority of the borough between 1.1% and 2% of the adult population play cricket.

This participation is concentrated in the same five main segments as for football – Ben, Jamie, Tim, Kev and Phillip. **Table 6.10** shows that these five groups account for 84% of cricket participation with over 1,500 participants, who play cricket out of a total of just under 1,800. Participation by Ben and Jamie is higher than the national average. However, this is balanced by participation by Tim, Kev and Phillip which is lower than the national average.

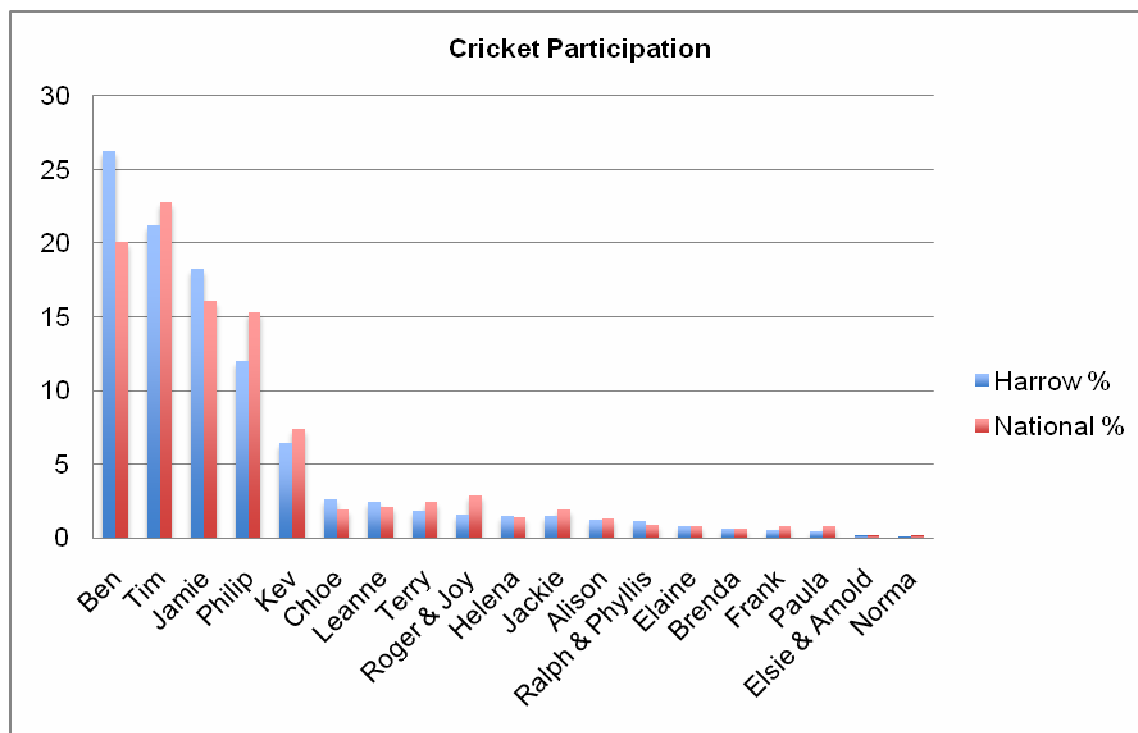
**Table 6.10: Cricket Participation**

Segment	Harrow %	National %
Ben	30.4	24.1
Jamie	24	22
Tim	17.2	19.2
Kev	8.8	10.5
Phillip	8.8	11.6
Leanne	2.5	2.2
Chloe	1.9	1.5
Terry	1.1	1.6
Helena	0.8	0.7
Jackie	0.7	1
Paula	0.7	1.5
Alison	0.6	0.7
Roger & Joy	0.6	1.1
Ralph & Phyllis	0.5	0.4
Brenda	0.4	0.5
Frank	0.4	0.7
Elaine	0.3	0.4
Norma	0.1	0.2
Elsie & Arnold	0.1	0.2
Total	99.9	100.1

In terms of people who would like to play cricket, the total number of potential adults who wish to play cricket is just under 1,000 with 80% coming from the same groups as currently participate. This latent demand represents about 0.6% of the total adult population.



**Chart 6.9: Cricket Participation**



**Rugby**

Looking at the percentage of adult population participating in rugby for all market segments the data shows that there are differences in the level of participation across the Borough but for the majority of the borough between 1.1% and 2.0% of the adult population play rugby. However this rises to between 2.1% and 5% of the adult population in the LSOAs in the Greenhill and Harrow-on-the-Hill, Stanmore, Hatch End and Pinner areas.

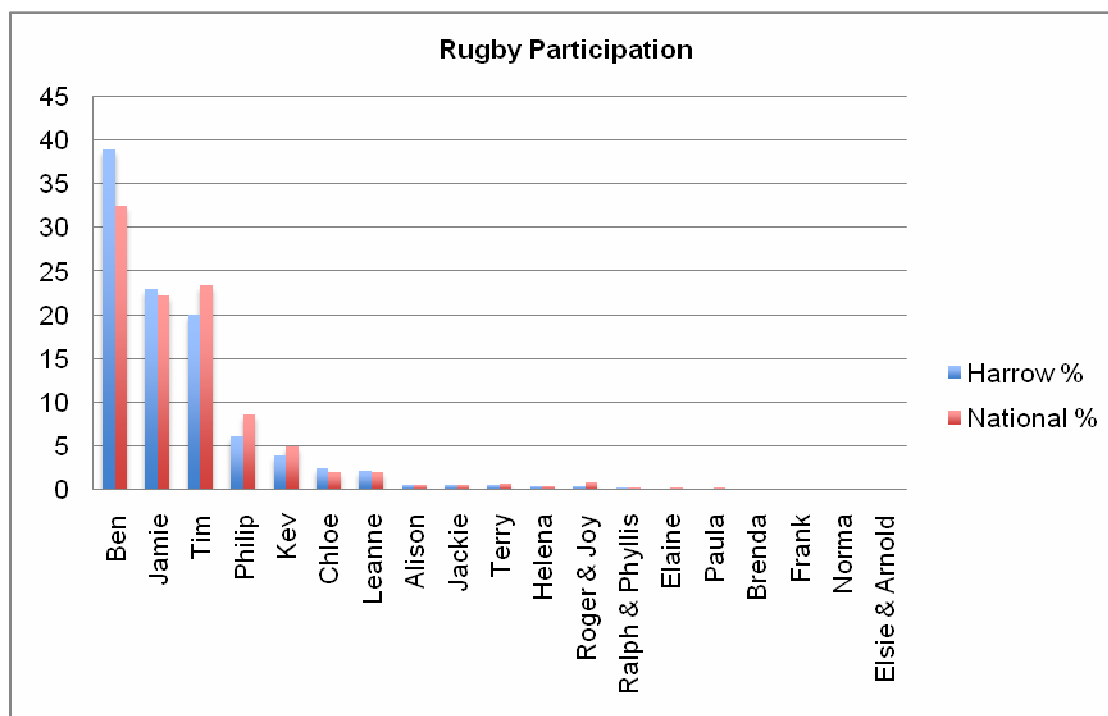
Looking at how participation differs between segments, **Chart 6.10** and **Table 6.11** show that this participation is concentrated in five main segments – Ben, Jamie, Tim, Kev and Phillip. These five groups account for 92% of rugby participation with about 2,800 rugby players, out of a total of just over 3,000. Participation by Ben and Jamie is higher than the national average. However, this is balanced by participation by Tim, Kev and Phillip, which is lower than the national average.

**Table 6.11: Rugby Participation**

Segment	Harrow %	National %
Ben	39	32.5
Jamie	23	22.2
Tim	20	23.4
Philip	6.2	8.6
Kev	3.9	4.9
Chloe	2.5	2
Leanne	2.2	2.1
Alison	0.5	0.6
Jackie	0.5	0.6
Terry	0.5	0.7
Helena	0.4	0.4
Roger & Joy	0.4	0.8
Ralph & Phyllis	0.3	0.3
Elaine	0.2	0.3
Paula	0.1	0.3
Brenda	0.1	0.1
Frank	0.1	0.1

Looking at people who would like to play rugby, the total number of potential adults who wish to play rugby is about 700 with 88% coming from the same groups as currently participate. This latent demand represents about 0.4% of the total adult population.

**Chart 6.10: Rugby Participation**



## Tennis

Looking at the percentage of adult population participating in tennis for all market segments the data shows that for the majority of the borough between 2.1% and 5% of the adult population play tennis. There are pockets of lower levels of participation (1.1% to 2% of the adult population) in the LSOAs in the Roxeth, Roxbourne, Kenton, Edgware and Marlborough areas.

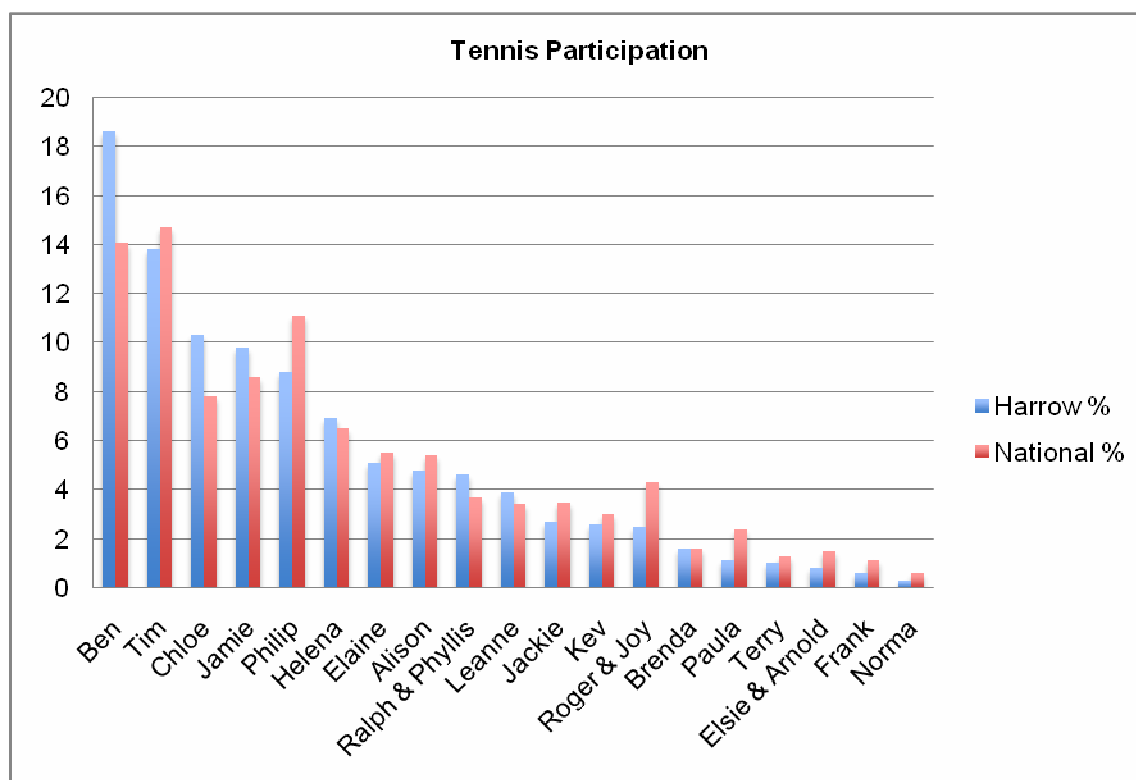
Looking at how participation differs between segments, **Chart 6.11** and **Table 6.12** show that this participation is concentrated in six main segments – Ben, Tim, Chloe Jamie, Phillip and Helena. These six groups account for about 68% of tennis participation with just over 2,800 participants out of a total of just over 4,000 people. Participation by Ben, Chloe, Jamie and Helena is higher than the national average. However, this is balanced by participation by Tim and Phillip, which is lower than the national average.

**Table 6.12: Tennis Participation**

Segment	Harrow %	National %
Ben	18.6	14.1
Tim	13.8	14.7
Chloe	10.3	7.8
Jamie	9.8	8.6
Philip	8.8	11.1
Helena	6.9	6.5
Elaine	5.1	5.5
Alison	4.8	5.4
Ralph & Phyllis	4.6	3.7
Leanne	3.9	3.4
Jackie	2.7	3.5
Kev	2.6	3
Roger & Joy	2.5	4.3
Brenda	1.6	1.6
Paula	1.1	2.4
Terry	1	1.3
Elsie & Arnold	0.8	1.5
Frank	0.6	1.1
Norma	0.3	0.6
Total	99.8	100.1

Looking at people who would like to play tennis, the total number of potential adults who wish to play tennis is about 4,500, which is more than the number of people currently playing tennis. The segments wanting to participate in tennis are mainly from the same groups as currently participating together with Leanne and Alison. This latent demand represents about 2.5% of the total adult population.

**Chart 6.11: Tennis Participation**



**Bowls**

Looking at the percentage of adult population participating in bowls for all market segments the data shows that for the majority of the borough between 0.1% and 1% of the adult population play bowls. However this rises to between 1.1% and 2% of the adult population in the LSOAs in the Stanmore and Pinner areas.

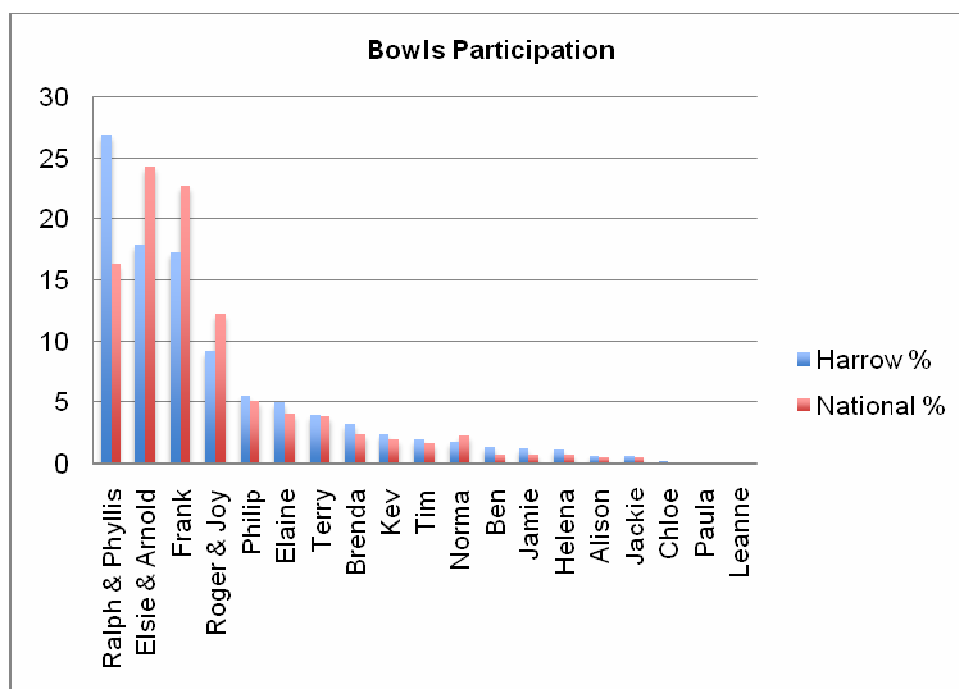
Looking at how participation differs between segments, **Chart 6.12** and **Table 6.23** show that this participation is concentrated in five main segments – Ralph & Phyllis, Frank, Elsie & Arnold, Roger & Joy and Terry. These five groups account for 77% of bowls participation with over 1,000 bowlers out of a total of about 1,400 people. Participation by Ralph & Phyllis and Phillip is higher than the national average. However, this is balanced by participation by the remaining three segments, which is lower than the national average.

**Table 6.13: Bowls Participation**

Segment	Harrow %	National %
Ralph & Phyllis	26.9	16.3
Frank	17.9	24.3
Elsie & Arnold	17.3	22.7
Roger & Joy	9.2	12.2
Terry	5.5	5.1
Philip	5	4.1
Kev	3.9	3.8
Elaine	3.2	2.4
Brenda	2.4	2
Ben	2	1.6
Tim	1.7	2.3
Norma	1.3	0.7
Helena	1.2	0.7
Jackie	1.1	0.7
Jamie	0.6	0.5
Chloe	0.6	0.5
Leanne	0.2	0.1
Alison	0.1	0.1

Looking at people who would like to play bowls, the total number of potential adults who wish to play bowls is just over 300 from the same groups as currently participate. This latent demand represents about 0.2% of the total adult population.

**Chart 6.12: Bowls Participation**



### **Implications for the Outdoor Sports Strategy**

Sport England's market segmentation facilitates a more detailed analysis of participation in outdoor sports in Harrow by adults aged over 16 years.

The top five dominant market segments in Harrow, Tim, Philip, Ben, Chloe and Jamie are also the top participants in outdoor sport. For football, cricket, tennis and rugby with the exception of Chloe, all are in the top five participants in these sports. Chloe makes a strong showing in tennis. This is a very encouraging result for participation in outdoor sports and demonstrates the potential for increasing participation in these sports, provided that good quality facilities are available at a reasonable cost.

## 7. Football

### Introduction

This section provides a comprehensive picture of the demand for football facilities and the supply of those facilities in Harrow. It examines the degree to which current supply meets the demand both in terms of quantity and quality and identifies key issues relating to football.

The demand for football is expressed in terms of the number of teams using football facilities and the teams who would like to use facilities in Harrow. The information on demand was secured through a questionnaire survey of all known football clubs that are based in Harrow whose players, for the most part, live in the Borough; clubs that are located outside the Borough that use facilities located in the Borough and clubs whose members live in Harrow but use facilities located outside the Borough. Compiling a list of clubs to be contacted was undertaken with the help and assistance of the Middlesex Football Association.

Questionnaires were sent to over fifty football clubs. It became apparent from the responses that some clubs were not Harrow based and these were therefore excluded from the survey. There are 51 clubs in final list of Harrow clubs. In addition, two wheelchair football clubs responded to the questionnaire survey to provide a perspective on disabled football in the Borough. Two clubs declined to participate in the survey

An audit of all football facilities in Harrow was undertaken to determine the supply of facilities. The size of the pitches and goalposts was ascertained by measurement and a visual quality assessment undertaken of both the pitches and, where access could be obtained, the changing facilities. The visual quality assessment is based on that provided by Sport England in its Electronic Toolkit but has been developed by the audit team to encompass a more comprehensive set of criteria.

### Survey of Football Clubs in Harrow

A questionnaire survey was undertaken of all the football clubs in Harrow. Questionnaires were distributed by post to the secretaries of the sports clubs and a follow up reminder sent to those clubs who had not responded after a certain time period. Further chasing up was done by telephone after which clubs either agreed to complete the questionnaires by email or the survey was undertaken by telephone. It was necessary to undertake reminder telephone follow-ups at least 6 times to many of the clubs. The final response rate achieved for football was 96%. One club who were playing at the start of the season had disbanded by the time of the survey and three of the clubs who responded were eliminated from the survey because they were not based in Harrow and played outside the Borough.

### Membership

The numbers of players currently playing football in Harrow is shown in **Table 7.1** below.

**Table 7.1: Number of football players**

Mini Soccer (under 7 to under 10 years)		Youth (under 11 to under 18 years)		Adult (18 years to 45 years)		Veteran (over 45)	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
791	35	1531	60	1287	20	66	0

There are an estimated 3,831 people playing football in Harrow<sup>28</sup> who are members of 51 football clubs. Of these, 3,716 (97%) of all players are male and 115 (3%) of all players are female. Males under 18 years number 2,322 (60.6%) and females under 18 years number 95 (2.5%); adult males total 1,328 (34.7%), adult females 20 (0.5%) and veterans 66 (1.7%) of the total number of people playing football in Harrow. These results are shown in detail in **Table 7.2** below.

Mini soccer and youth players number 2,417 (63.1%) of all players with adults numbering 1,373 (35.8%).

There are 49 football clubs whose players either live in Harrow or have teams that play their home games in Harrow. The number of clubs with adult members only is 36 with only one of these having adult female members. Of the 36 adult only clubs 23 have only one team.

**Table 7.2: Breakdown of people playing football**

Players	Number	% of Total Players
Total Players	3,831	
Male	3,716	97%
Female	115	3%
Players Under 18	2,417	63.1%
Male players Under 18	2,322	60.6%
Female players Under 18	95	2.5%
Adult	1,373	35.8%
Male	1,287	33.6%
Female	20	0.5%
Veteran	66	1.7%

There are 17 clubs with players under 18 years of age and these are shown in **Table 7.3** below. Of the clubs with players under 18 years of age, 9 (53%) have in 100 or more players. Two more clubs have number of players in the high 90's. The largest club is St Josephs Youth 88 FC with 370 players under 18 years of age.

<sup>28</sup>This does not include people who play in disability football teams.



**Table 7.3: Football Clubs with Players Under 18**

Club	Mini Soccer (under 7 to under 10 years)		Youth (under 11 to under 18 years)		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Belmont United Youth	100	5	80		185
Brent Sikh Centre	9		7	3	19
Elite Soccer Academy + Pinner Jewish Youth FC	80	10	85		175
Harrow Borough (Including Harrow Borough (U18))			25		25
Harrow St Marys Youth	65	3	130		198
Harrow Town	40		30		70
Headstone Manor Under 21 and Youth	120	5	240	35	400
Kodak Harrow and Youth FC	43	1	164		208
Kuwaiti FC			10		10
Lpossa and Youth FC			20		20
Parkfield Youth	104		162	1	267
Pinner Albion	15		80		95
Pinner United	22		77		99
Pinnstars	98	1	99		198
St Josephs Youth 88 FC	105	5	244	16	370
Venceremos	30	5	60	5	100
Wealdstone FC			30		30
<b>Total</b>	<b>831</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>1543</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>2469</b>

### Coaches

Clubs were asked about the number of coaches in the club. In total there are 248 coaches in the 51 football clubs. The clubs with the highest number of coaches are St Josephs Youth 88 FC and Headstone Manor Under 21 and Youth both of which have 40 coaches followed by Kodak Harrow and Youth FC and Parkfield Youth both of which have 21 coaches. The clubs with a greater number of coaches are all the youth clubs. Many single team adult clubs do not have a coach.

### Disability Football

There are four Disability Football Clubs and these are:

- Aspire Powerchair
- Harrow Stones Stars
- North London Aspire
- The Bridge

Aspire Powerchair are a powerchair football club to enable all people in powered wheelchairs to participate in playing football. Their home base is the ASPIRE National Training Centre which provides facilities that are specifically designed for people with mobility disabilities and there are regular training and coaching sessions to help players to

develop new skills and play football. The club plays in the Wheelchair Football Association Sirius National League. The club uses indoor venues so the number of participants has not been included in the membership calculations.

Harrow Stones Stars FC is a football club for people of all ages with learning disabilities. Their base is Harrow Leisure Centre where training sessions are held regularly. The club plays in the play in the Middlesex FA PAN Disability County League. This is held at Goals in Ruislip on the first Sunday of each month during the football season. The club is expanding and aim to have two teams playing in competitions in the future.

The Bridge FC also plays in the Middlesex FA PAN Disability County League. All the season’s fixtures take place at Goals Soccer Centre in Ruislip.

North London Aspire is a Futsal Club, which plays indoor 5 a side.

Harrow Stones Stars FC is concerned about the lack of suitable facilities for disability clubs, notably all weather five-a-side facilities. This club, and others, have to travel outside the Borough to use facilities in Hillingdon, Brent or Camden.

### Membership Trends

Of the 41 clubs that responded to the question about whether their membership had increased, decreased or stayed the same, 10 (28%) responded that the membership of the club was increasing; 8 clubs (22%) reported that their membership was declining with 18 (50%) indicating that membership was static. An additional 4 clubs stated that this was their first season so they were unable to indicate any trend.

Of the 15 Youth Football clubs that responded to the question about whether their membership had increased, decreased or stayed the same, 5 (33%) reported increases in membership, 5 (33%) reported that its membership was declining with 5 (33%) indicating that membership was static. Out of the 8 clubs with over 100 players under the age of 18 years 3 reported that their membership was increasing, 3 that membership had declined and 2 that it had stayed about the same.

### Number of Teams

To ascertain the details of the number of teams in the study area, in addition to data from the questionnaire survey, we worked in partnership with the Middlesex County Football Association and also employed the Football Association’s ‘Find a Club’ website.

There are 49 football clubs in the Harrow Council area whose players are either resident in Harrow or whose players are not resident in Harrow but have teams that play their home games in Harrow. In total there are 213 teams. Details of the numbers of mini, youth and adult teams are shown in **Table 7.4** below.

**Table 7.4: Football Teams in the Study Area.**

Number of Mini teams	Number of Youth teams		Number of Senior teams		Number of Veteran teams	
	Male	Female	Female	Male	Female	Male
Mixed						
<b>59</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>

There are 59 mixed mini soccer teams representing 28% of all football teams in Harrow. About 60% of all male teams are youth teams (90) compared to the number of adult male teams<sup>29</sup>(59), which make up 40% of the total number of male teams (149). Women’s football

<sup>29</sup>includes 3veteran’s men’s teams

is not well represented with only 1 adult women’s team and 4 youth girl’s teams located in the Harrow Council area (see Table 7. 5 below).

**Table 7.5: Women’s/Girls Teams**

Team	Number of Players	League
Headstone Manor Ladies	20	Greater London Women’s League
St Joseph’s Youth 88 (under 14)	16	Hertfordshire Girls Football Partnership League
Headstone Manor Youth (Under 14)	18	Hertfordshire Girls Football Partnership League
Headstone Manor Youth (Under 16)	17	Bucks Girls Football League

### Mini Soccer

The number of mini soccer teams is 61. These are teams that fall within the under 7,8,9 and 10 categories. The majority of the teams are male and some are mixed although they are all viewed as being mixed teams. Details are shown in Table 7.6 below. Most of these teams play in the Harrow Soccer 7’s Combination which runs mini-soccer for Under 9’s and Under 10’s teams mainly on Sundays. In addition, there are a number of teams that play in the Watford Friendly League and the one girl’s team plays in the Capital Girls League Football Festival.

**Table 7.6: Clubs with Mini Soccer Teams**

Club	Players		Mixed Teams
	Male	Female	
Brent Sikh Centre	9	0	1
Venceremos	15	5	1
Pinner Albion	15	0	1
Pinner United	22	0	2
Harrow Town	40	0	
Kodak Harrow and Youth FC	43	1	3
Harrow St Marys Youth	65	3	6
Elite Soccer Academy + Pinner Jewish FC	80	10	7
Pinnstars	98	1	7
Belmont United Youth	100	5	8
Parkfield Youth	104	0	7
St Josephs Youth 88 FC	105	5	10
Headstone Manor Youth	120	5	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>816</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>61</b>

## **Leagues**

Mini soccer and youth teams in Harrow play in ten different leagues, the largest of these is the Harrow Youth Football League which has 88 teams from Harrow followed by the Harrow Soccer Sevens Combination which hosts 41 teams. These are shown in **Table 7.7** below.

Adult football teams in Harrow play in a total of 20 leagues although one of these is the Rymans Premier League for semi-professional teams. The leagues are listed in **Table 7.8** below.

**Table 7.7: Youth & Mini Soccer Football Leagues**

<b>Youth Club</b>	<b>Number of Teams</b>	<b>Leagues</b>	<b>Time Play</b>	<b>Venue</b>
Belmont United Youth	6	Harrow Soccer Sevens Combination	Sunday a.m.	William Ellis Sports Ground
	3	Watford Friendly League	Sunday a.m.	William Ellis Sports Ground
	2	Harrow Youth Football League	Sunday a.m.	William Ellis Sports Ground
Harrow Borough U18	1	Ryman Youth	Wednesday eve	Earlesmead
Harrow St Marys Youth	13	Harrow Youth Football League	Sunday a.m.	Harrow Recreation Ground
Headstone Manor Youth	8	Harrow Soccer Sevens Combination	Sunday a.m.	Headstone Manor
	14	Harrow Youth Football League	Sunday a.m.	Headstone Manor
	1	Herts Girls League	Saturday am	Headstone Manor
Headstone Manor Youth	1	Bucks Girls League	Saturday am	Headstone Manor
Kodak Youth FC	9	Harrow Youth Football League	Sunday a.m.	Kodak Sports Ground
	3	Harrow Soccer Sevens Combination	Sunday a.m.	Kodak Sports Ground
Lpossa Youth FC	1	West Middlesex & Hayes Youth Football League	Sunday a.m.	Post Office Ground, Sudbury
Parkfield Youth	11	Harrow Youth Football League	Sunday a.m.	John Rumney
	10	Harrow Soccer Sevens Combination	Sunday a.m.	John Rumney
Pinner Albion	4	Harrow Youth Football League	Sunday a.m.	Headstone Manor
	1	Harrow Soccer Sevens Combination	Sunday a.m.	Headstone Manor
Pinner Jewish FC	8	Watford Friendly League	Sunday a.m.	Roger Bannister Sports Ground
Pinner United	4	Harrow Youth Football League	Sunday a.m.	New Pond Playing Fields, Sidmouth Drive, Ruislip Manor HA4 0BY
	2	Harrow Soccer Sevens Combination	Sunday a.m.	Cannon Lane School
	1	Berks & Bucks League	Sunday a.m.	New Pond Playing Fields, Sidmouth Drive, Ruislip Manor HA4 0BY

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Pinnstars	13	Harrow Youth Football League	Sunday a.m.	Montesoles or Roxbourne Park
St Josephs Youth 88 FC	10	Harrow Soccer Sevens Combination	Sunday a.m.	Kenton Rec
	1	Herts Girls League		Kenton Rec
	13	Harrow Youth Football League	Sunday a.m.	Kenton Rec
Venceremos	1	Capital Girls League Football Festival	Sat pm	Harrow Town
	3	Harrow Youth League	Sunday a.m.	Harrow Town
	1	Harrow Soccer Sevens Combination	Sunday a.m.	Harrow Town
Wealdstone FC (U17 & U15))	2	Harrow Youth Football League	Sunday a.m.	Grosvenor Vale, Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 6JQ.

**Table 7.8: Adult Football Leagues**

League	Number of Teams
Amateur Football Combination	4
Capital Football League Western Division	1
Garston Veterans League	1
Greater London Womens Football League	1
Harrow Sunday Challenge	14
Hellenic	2
Hendon and district	3
London Airport	1
London Commercial	5
Maccabi Southern Football League	10
Maccabi Masters	1
Middlesex County Football League	6
Ryman Youth	1
Southern Amateur League	4
West Hayes and Middlesex	1
West London Veteran's League	1

It is estimated<sup>30</sup> that 67% of all games are played on Sunday morning and 21% of all games on Saturday afternoon with a further 8% of games being played on Sunday afternoon. The patterns are different between adult and youth football as is shown in **Table 7.9** below. There is a fairly even split for adult football between Saturday afternoon (49%) and Sunday morning (47%) with other matches being played on Sunday afternoon and Wednesday afternoon. Youth football is mainly played on Sunday morning (82%) with a smaller number played on Sunday afternoon (14%) and Saturday morning (5%).

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<sup>30</sup>Estimates are based on club's responses to the questionnaire and information on league fixtures. Inevitably a small number of games will be played on other days because of the need to play matches that have been cancelled because of pitch condition.

**Table 7.9: Times when football matches are played**

<b>Adult Football</b>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Number of Matches in Season</b>	<b>%</b>
Saturday am	0	0%
Saturday pm	390	49%
Sunday am	373	47%
Sunday pm	11	1%
Wednesday pm	22	3%
Total	796	
<b>Youth Football</b>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Number of Matches</b>	<b>%</b>
Saturday am	48	5%
Sunday am	854	82%
Sunday pm	141	14%
Total	1043	

**Area in which majority of players live**

Clubs were asked where the majority of their players live. Of the 54 clubs that were identified, 50 provided a response about where their players live and in the case of the 4 remaining clubs assumptions were made on the basis of their name, website and home ground location. The locations cited by each club have been analysed and it is evident that players are travelling across the Harrow area to play for individual clubs. There are 17 clubs who state that they only have players who live in Harrow.

The remaining 33 clubs attract players both from Harrow as well as adjoining boroughs. Players are likely to live in Ruislip, Hillingdon and north west London (Golders Green, Finchley, Edgware, Mill Hill and Hendon). The excellent facilities available at the Hive are attracting teams and players from north-west London and into Hertfordshire. Several clubs attract players from inner London, namely Brent.

No pattern emerges that would justify breaking the Harrow into sub areas.

**Live outside, play in Harrow**

There are seven football clubs that are based outside Harrow (with all their members living outside the Borough) but which play at locations inside the Borough boundary (see **Table 7.10**). Most of these are clubs that use the facilities at The Hive.



**Table 7.10 Clubs Playing in Harrow based outside.**

Club	Teams	Home Ground	Location where players live
Barnet Municipal Officers	1	Kodak	Mill Hill, Edgware, Cambridge, Greenford and Harrow
Brent Sikh Centre	1	RTC Ground, Headstone Lane	Brent & Harrow
Camden Park	1	The Hive	NW8 & NW11
Faithfold	3	The Hive	North West London
FC Team	1	Hatch End Playing Fields	Boreham Wood, Barnet, West Hampstead, Mill Hill and Harrow.
Montana Boca	1	The Hive	Bushey
Temple Fortune	1	The Hive	North West London, Borehamwood, Elstree, Radlett.

**Clubs playing outside Harrow**

There are twelve clubs with 21 teams that use pitches located outside the local authority area. These are shown in **Table 7.11** below.

Three clubs are playing at the London Post Office Sports and Social Association (LPOSSA) ground at Greenford Road, Sudbury Hill, which is on the border of Harrow but located just in Brent. An additional two clubs play at Northwick Park which is another location in Brent close to the Borough boundary. Other clubs playing outside Harrow play at venues further afield.

Wealdstone FC is a large football club that was originally based in Harrow. It was obliged to move from the Lower Mead stadium in central Harrow when the ground was sold and the site developed as a supermarket. In 2008 the club acquired the lease to the Grosvenor Vale stadium in Ruislip. At the time a large proportion of players were Harrow based but the advice of club officials is that only two teams have retained their links with the Borough.

**Table 7.11: Clubs playing outside Harrow**

Club	Teams	Home Ground	Location where players live
AFC Pinner	1	Brunel University	Pinner
Broadfields United	1	Middlesex Stadium	Harrow, Ruislip.
Centenary Park	1	Northwick Park, Brent	Harrow
Headstone Manor FC	2	Birkbeck, Greenford	Harrow
Kenton Town	1	Vale Farm, Brent	Harrow, Wembley
Lpossa and Youth FC	3	London Post Office Sports and Social Association (LPOSSA) ground.	50% Harrow, Hayes, Heathrow.
Old Alportonians	2	London Post Office Sports and Social Association (LPOSSA) ground.	Harrow, Brent
Pinner 2002	1	Northwick Park, Brent	Harrow
Pinner United	5	New Pond Playing Fields, Sidmouth Drive, Ruislip	Harrow, Ruislip.
St Nicholas	1	London Post Office Sports and Social Association (LPOSSA) ground.	Harrow, Northolt
Stanmore Town	1	Northwick Park, Brent	Harrow
Wealdstone FC	2	St. Georges Stadium, Grosvenor Vale □ Ruislip	Harrow, Ruislip.
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>		

The evidence shown in **Table 7.11** provides an indication of unmet demand.

### Key Issues for Football Clubs

Clubs were asked whether there were any issues that presented problems for the club at present. Forty-six clubs provided a response to this question specifying key issues and problems. Of these, 32 are adult clubs, 11 are youth, 2 are disability clubs and 1 is the women's team. The lack of finance, cost of hiring pitches, quality and quantity of pitches, poor condition of changing rooms, shortage of available pitches and declining membership were the problems most frequently encountered by football clubs<sup>31</sup>. Youth football clubs are principally concerned with the quality of the football pitches and changing facilities provided by the Council and the key issue for two is the lack of support or commitment from Harrow Council.

The main problems encountered by respondent football clubs are summarised in **Table 7.12**. The table indicates the number of clubs who specifically stated that the issue affected their club. Some clubs mentioned a number of different issues all of which were recorded.

<sup>31</sup>The survey included all the community football clubs in Harrow.

## Finance

The most frequently mentioned issue for football clubs is finance and costs, which are cited by 18 of the respondent clubs. Clubs are concerned about the cost of running their club. One club that runs football sessions for Somali children cannot afford to join a league and just plays friendly matches. Typical statements include:

“Funding in youth league. Do training and occasional friendly matches to keep youth off streets but cannot afford to play in youth league.”

“Finance - increasing costs of running club. Affects most teams. Have subsidy from a couple of local sponsors to cover kit and equipment; players still pay subs weekly to cover the rest.”

“Finances are tight.”

“Finance is the main problem, cost of pitches from local council plus affiliation fees and levies”

**Table 7.12: Key Issues for Football Clubs**

Key Issue	Number of responses
Finance	18
Cost of hiring	12
Quality of Changing rooms	11
Quality of Pitches	9
Lack of Pitches	7
Declining membership	5
Lack of officials/volunteers	4
Availability of changing rooms	3
Lack of support/commitment from Harrow Council	3
Lack of Training Facilities	3

## Cost of Hiring Pitches and Changing Rooms

Linked to the problem of finance is the cost of hiring facilities. Twelve clubs mentioned this issue

“Pitch hire scandalous. £134 per senior pitch.”

“Pitch costs by far the highest expenditure.”

“Pitch at right price. Better changing facilities and clubhouse. Finance would improve with above.”

“Hire charges going up but maintenance of pitches and pavilion is not.”

There is also a perception that value for money is poor with clubs indicating that the cost of hiring is high in relation to the quality of the facilities on offer.

## Quality of the Pitches

Nine clubs mention the poor quality of the pitches. Concern is focused on poor maintenance with complaints about the state of the playing surface. Typical comments are:

“Pitches in Harrow dreadful!”

“We were unable to get pitches of any quality in Harrow for our 11 a side teams so play in LB Hillingdon.”

“Poor playing pitches and facilities available.”

“State of pitch. Four away teams suggested the match was played on their pitch.”

“Council pitches are so poorly maintained that we are forced to go for more expensive venues.”

“Lack of maintenance (long and short term) of pitches.”

### **Changing rooms**

The existing quality of changing rooms does not meet the expectations of at least eleven football clubs. The facilities on private grounds and at the Hive are good. Concern about the quality of changing facilities is almost exclusively confined to teams playing on Harrow Council pitches. Typical problems are poor showers and toilets, vandalism and poor condition of the building fabric. None of these have segregated changing facilities. Typical comments are:

“Shortage of facilities to run two games at the same time - only one set of changing rooms.”

“Quality of facilities (esp Bannister SC)”

“Changing facilities on all Council Grounds have deteriorated in the last 10 years.”

“Would like tea room facilities at Roxbourne/Montesole or use of facilities at Croft but cannot get permission to refurbish or fund project if leasing.”

“Have approached Council on several occasions asking if we could refurbish changing rooms as they are so poor but have not had positive response.”

Most changing rooms do not have segregated changing facilities as indicated by the comment below.

“Shortage of affordable pitches, with adequate changing facilities for women”

### **Lack of Pitches**

Linked to the problem of the poor quality of pitches is the issue of lack of available pitches, which is mentioned by seven clubs. Comments on this issue include:

“No facilities to play matches within borough of Harrow.”

“Shortage of good pitches.”

### **Other Issues**

Other issues focused on the lack of officials for matches, lack of volunteers, declining membership, lack of training facilities and lack of support/commitment from Harrow Council. Comments on the last point include:

“Commitment and support from Harrow Council is not there at present.”

“Council won't entertain longer lease so no access to grants etc.”

“We need to renew our lease on the Clubhouse which expires Oct 2013. Council agreed in principle to a 30 year lease in 2004 but not followed through.”

“Have approached Council on several occasions asking if we could refurbish changing rooms as they are so poor but have not had positive response.”

## Future Plans

Clubs were asked about any future plans their club has. These include possibilities such as increasing the number of members, expanding the range of facilities provided, refurbishing existing facilities or relocation to different premises. Forty-three clubs provided a response to this section of the questionnaire. The results are shown in **Table 7.13** below.

**Table 7.13: Future Plans**

Aim	Number of Clubs
Increase the number of members	28
Expand the range of facilities provided	12
Refurbish existing facilities	12
Relocation to different premises	11

Clubs clearly regard the need to increase their membership as a high priority with over half (28) the respondent clubs confirming their intention in this regard. Several teams indicated a desire to start youth and mini soccer teams and one club aims to start a women’s team.

About a quarter (12) would like to expand the range of facilities. Of these seven also would like to refurbish their existing facilities as would a further five clubs. Eleven clubs indicated an intention to relocate to different premises with three of these clubs also having stated an intention to expand the range of facilities. A number of clubs indicated that it had no plans for the future.

In expanding on their plans, seven clubs indicated a particular intention to improve their pavilion. Other improvements included a desire to improve the quality of their playing pitches through the installation of drainage.

## Supply of Football Pitches

There are a total of 106 football pitches currently in use in Harrow. Of these 48 (45%) are adult size football pitches; 27 (25%) are pitches for youth football and 32 (30%) are for mini soccer. The breakdown is shown in **Table 7.14** below. The locations of football pitches in Harrow are shown in **Map 2**.

**Table 7.14: Football pitches**

Pitch Size	Number	%
Adult	48	45%
Youth	27	25%
Mini	32	30%
Total	107	

### Ownership and accessibility

The ownership and accessibility of pitches will influence their actual availability for community use. The definition of pitches in ‘secured community use’<sup>32</sup> includes those in Category A in **Table 7.15** below.

**Table 7.15: Categories of pitches**

Category	Definition	Supplementary information
A(i)	Secured community pitches	Pitches in local authority or other public ownership or management
A(ii)		Pitches in the voluntary, private or commercial sector which are open to members of the public <sup>33</sup>
A(iii)		Pitches at education sites which are available for use by the public through formal community use arrangements <sup>34</sup>
B	Used by community, but not secured	Pitches not included above, that are nevertheless available for community use, e.g. school/college pitches without formal user agreements
C	Not open for community use	Pitches at establishments which are not, as a matter of policy or practice, available for hire by the public.

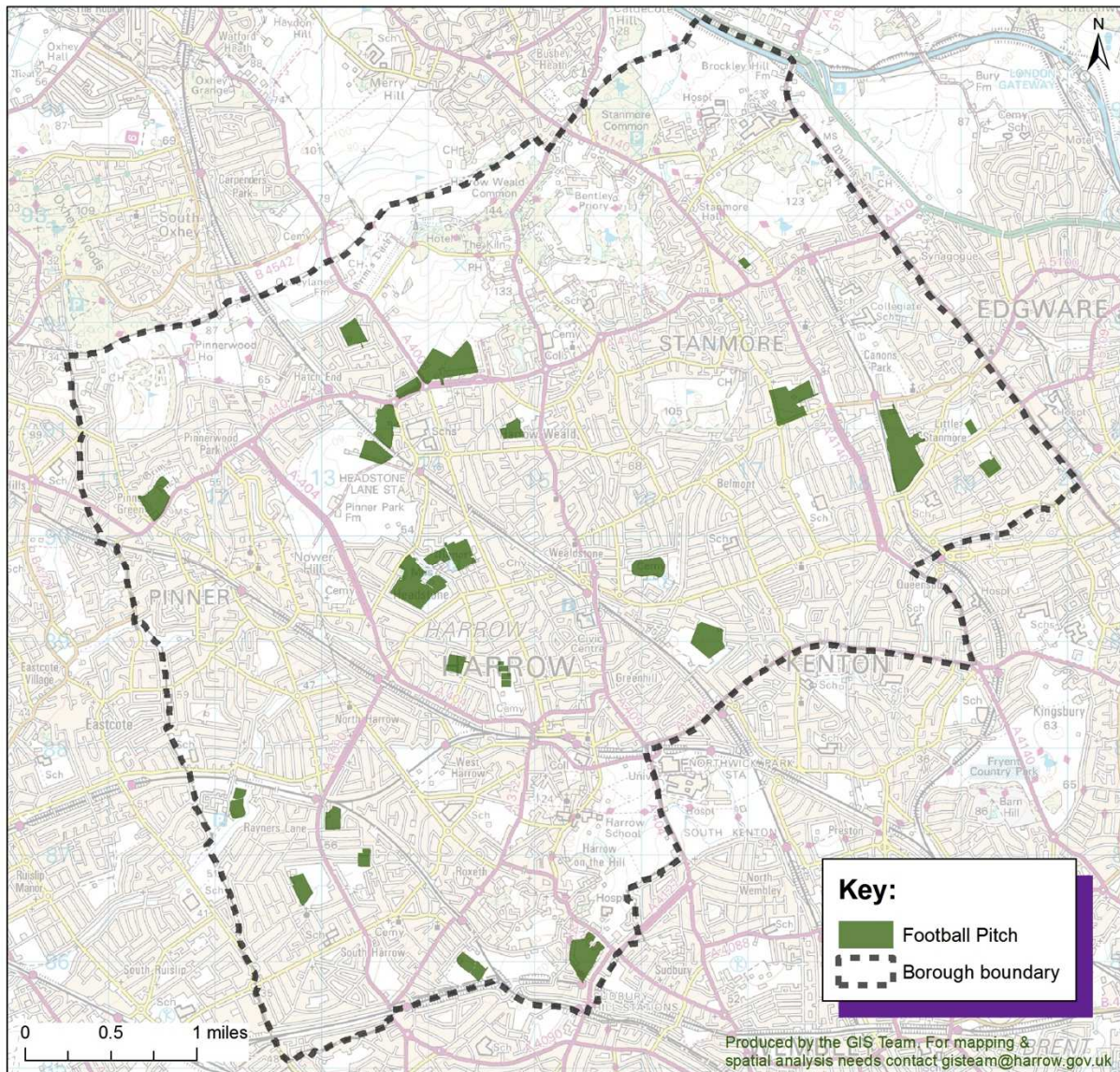
<sup>32</sup>Towards a Level Playing Field

<sup>33</sup>Where there is a charge, this must be reasonable and affordable for the majority of the community.

<sup>34</sup>Pitches in secured community use are pitches that are available for use by community teams and whose future use is secured for the coming seasons by one or more of the following:

- a formal community use agreement
- a leasing/management arrangement between the school and LEA requiring the pitch(es) to be available to community teams
- a policy of community use minuted by the school or LEA, including tariff of charges, etc
- minutes of the board of school governors allowing use of pitches by community teams
- written commitment from the school to the current community team(s) using the pitch(es), and, where it is the intention of the school to maintain access for community teams to its pitch(es) at peak times (ie evenings, weekends and/or school holidays) for the next two or more years.

## Map 2: Football Pitch Locations







**Table 7.16: Football Pitches in Secured Community Use.**

Site Name	Adult Pitches	Youth Pitches	Mini Soccer Pitches	Artificial Pitches	Car Parking	Male Changing Rooms	Female Changing Rooms	Officials Changing Rooms	Segregated
<b>Local Authority</b>									
Bannisters Sports Ground	2	2	1		Yes	4	1	1	Yes
Byron Recreation Ground	2	1	0		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Chandos Recreation Ground	0	1	0		Yes	2	0	1	No
Harrow Recreation Ground	4	0	2		Yes	Yes	No		No
Harrow Weald Recreation Ground	1	2	3		Yes	4	0	1	No
Hatch End Playing Fields	2	2	0		Yes	2	0	1	No
Headstone Manor Recreation Ground	4	5	5		Yes	4	0	1	No
Kenton Recreation Ground	4	0	6		Yes	4	0	1	No
Montesole Playing Fields	1	1	2		Yes	4	0	1	No
Newton Farm Playing Fields	1	0	0		No	No	No		
Roxbourne Playing Fields	1	1	2	1	Yes	4	0	1	No
Roxeth Recreation Ground	2	0	0		Yes	4	0	1	No
Saddlers' Mead	1	0	0		Yes	2	0	1	No
Stanmore Recreation Ground	1	0	0		Yes	2	0	1	No
Whitchurch Playing Fields	4	1	2		Yes	No	No		
<b>Private Club</b>									
Old Lionians	2	0	0		Yes	2	0	1	No

Harrow Outdoor Sports Strategy

Harrow Borough Football Club	1	0	0		Yes	Yes			
Harrow Town Sports Club	1	1	1		Yes	3	0	1	No
John Rumney Playing Fields <sup>35</sup>	0	3	3		Yes	4	0	1	No
Kodak Sports	2	1	1		Yes	5	0	1	No
Old Millhillians	0	1	0		Yes	4	0	1	No
R.C.T. Playing Fields	2	0	0		Yes	2		1	Yes
The Hive	6	3	2		Yes	14		4	Yes
Tithe Farm Social Club	1	0	0		Yes	2	0	1	No
William Ellis Sports Ground <sup>36</sup>	1	2	2		Yes	No	No		
<b>Education</b>									
John Lyon School (Private)	2	0	0		Yes	Yes	Yes		
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>32</b>						

<sup>35</sup>Site owned by Harrow Council with long lease to club.

<sup>36</sup>Site owned by Harrow Council with long lease to club.

The number and type of football pitch<sup>37</sup> at each site in Harrow is shown in **Table 7.16** above. There are 48 adult pitches, 27 youth pitches and 32 mini soccer pitches. The breakdown of ownership of pitches in Harrow is shown in **Table 7.17** below.

**Table 7.17: Ownership of Football Pitches**

Pitch Type	Local Authority	Private Club	Education
Adult Pitches	30	16	2
Youth Pitches	16	11	0
Mini Pitches	23	9	0
<b>Total</b>	69	36	2

Harrow Council is the largest provider of football pitches in Harrow, providing 30 adult pitches, 16 junior and 23 mini soccer pitches at 15 sites of which 10 have changing facilities. There are 10 private club sites providing 16 adult, 11 youth and 9 mini soccer pitches. Changing facilities are provided at 9 of these sites. One education site (a private school) provides 2 adult pitches at 1 site, which has changing facilities.

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<sup>37</sup>The FA's suggested pitch sizes and goal post sizes can be found at **Appendix A**.

### Mini Soccer Pitches

There are different possible pitch dimensions for mini soccer, depending on the team size. The pitch sizes suggested by the Football Association in their Handbook for 2011-2012 can be found in **Appendix A**. There are 32 mini soccer pitches in Harrow; 23 on local authority sites and 9 on private sites (see **Table 7.18**). All these pitches are in secured community use. However, pitches are also marked out on a temporary basis. Any shortfall in mini-soccer pitches is difficult to identify because the playing pitch model only takes account of marked-out pitches. Mini-soccer can be and is played on larger pitches and on artificial surfaces.

**Table 7.18: Mini Soccer Pitches**

Site Name	Outdoor Mini Pitches
<b>Local Authority</b>	
Bannisters Sports Ground	1
Harrow Recreation Ground	2
Harrow Weald Recreation Ground	3
Headstone Manor Recreation Ground	5
Kenton Recreation Ground	6
Montesole Playing Fields	2
Roxbourne Playing Fields	2
Whitchurch Playing Fields	2
<b>Private Club</b>	
Harrow Town Sports Club	1
John Rumney Playing Fields	3
Kodak Sports	1
The Hive	2
William Ellis Sports Ground	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

### Youth Football

The calculation of the adult / youth team ratio shows that the percentage of adult teams in Harrow is 31% compared with the percentage of youth (58%) and mini soccer teams (35%). This is not entirely reflected in the availability of football pitches with the number of adult pitches that are available for community use accounting for 40% of pitch provision compared with 29% for youth and 31% for mini soccer pitches.

### Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs)

Active Places Power<sup>38</sup> enables a comparison to be made of the number of facilities in Harrow with that of national and regional levels of provision and those of near neighbour authorities.

<sup>38</sup>Active Places Power uses the 2001 Census population for the of calculation facilities per 1000 population.

**Table 7.19: Facilities per 1,000 population**

Local Authority	Total Number Of Pitches	Total Population (2001 Census)	Capacity Ratio Per 1000
Hillingdon	15	243065	0.062
Enfield	10	273530	0.037
Barnet	11	314506	0.035
Brent	8	263507	0.03
Greater London Authority			0.03
<b>Harrow</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>206822</b>	<b>0.029</b>
Ealing	6	300975	0.02

Active Places Power indicates that there are 7 AGPs of in Harrow. The ratio of provision given is therefore 0.029 per 1000 population compared with 0.03 for England and 0.03 for the London Region. There are other neighbouring authorities with a higher level of provision (see **Table 7.19** above). The locations of AGPs in Harrow are shown on **Map 3**.

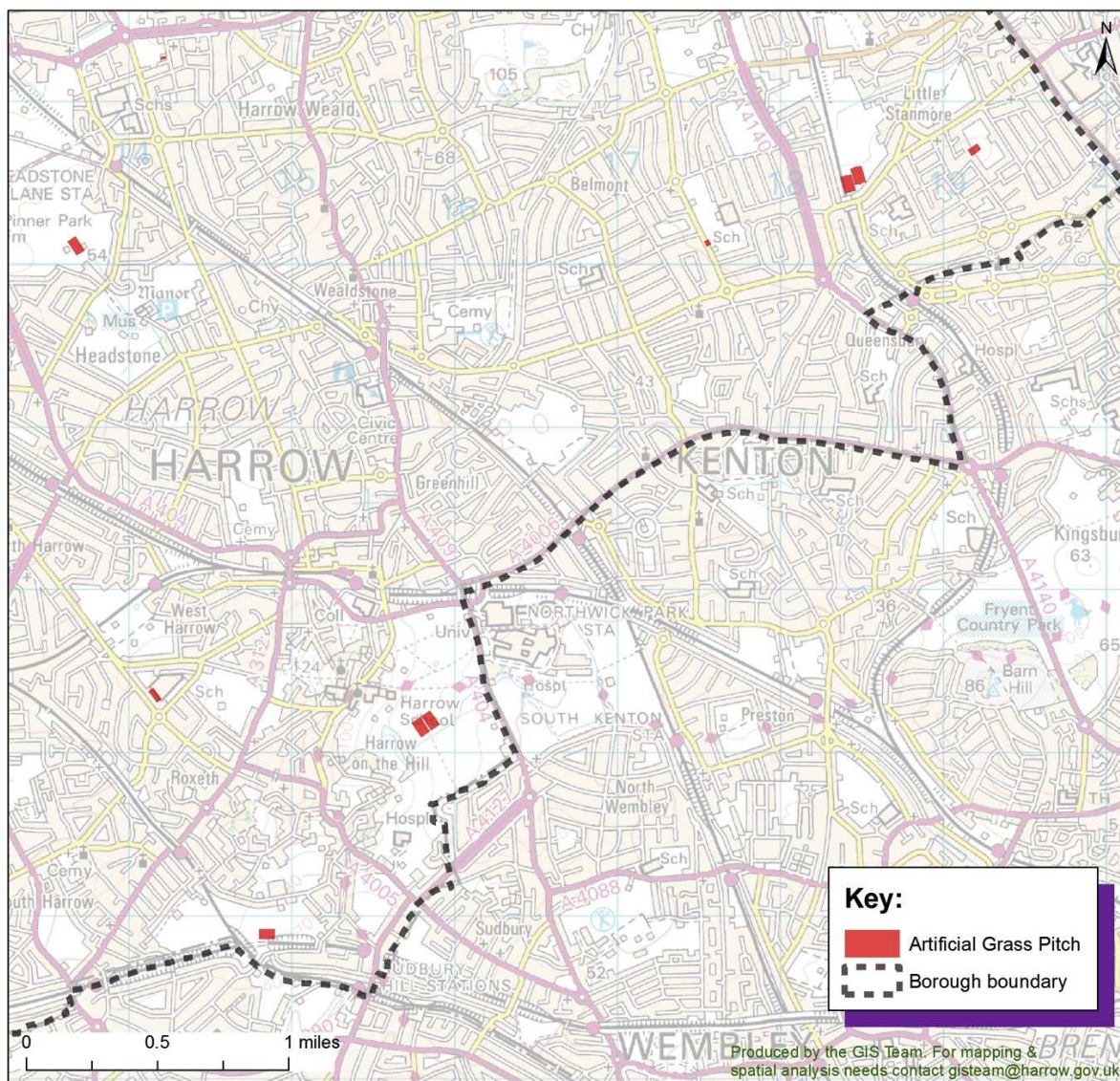
Whilst Active Places Power indicates that there are seven AGPs in Harrow. There is one AGP at Orley School and another at Whitmore School, neither has floodlights and both are only for private use. The AGP listed under Broadfields Country Club is a sand based five-a-side facility with 8 pitches which are in a poor condition. This site is now owned by The Mumbai Gardens Restaurant and, although these pitches are available for community use, there is now no other sport on this site. Two of the AGPs are located at and managed by Harrow School and are available for community use but only on a very limited basis. The other two AGPs are at The Hive (see **Photograph 1**) and are fully available for community use. These are listed in **Table 7.20** below:

**Table 7.20: Artificial Grass Pitches listed in Active Places Power**

Location	Type of AGP	Year Built	Floodlighting	Dimensions
Harrow School	Sand Based	2003 (refurb 2007)	Yes	100m x 60m
Harrow School	Rubber Crumb	2003 (refurb 2007)	Yes	100m x 60m
The Hive	Rubber Crumb	2009	Yes	100m x 60m
The Hive	Rubber Crumb	2009	Yes	100m x 60m
Broadfields Country Club,	Sand Based	2000	Yes	102m x 58m (split into 8 mini size pitches)
Whitmore School	Rubber Crumb	2011	No	100m x 60m
Orley Farm School	Sand Based	1999	No	100m x 60m

On the basis that only two of the seven AGPs listed in Active Places Power are fully available for community use as a full size pitch, the actual Capacity Ratio per 1000 is 0.10, which, relative to other neighbouring local authorities and London as a whole, is a very low level of provision.

**Map 3: Locations of Artificial Grass Pitches**



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In addition to the full size AGPs, there is a training 3G rubber crumb pitch (60m x 40m) at Krishna-Avanti School in Camrose Avenue. This is adjacent to the Belmont United pitches at William Ellis Sports Ground.

The Sports Facility Calculator<sup>39</sup> indicates a current requirement for 7.34 AGPs. Even if the two AGPs at Harrow School are included in the current supply, there is still a shortfall of 3 AGPs.

Sport England has produced the Facilities Planning Model for Artificial Grass Pitches in the London West sub region<sup>40</sup> as the evidence base for artificial grass pitches for the Mayor's London Plan. This report states that there are 3 AGPs on 2 sites in Harrow constituting

<sup>39</sup>Sport England's planning tool which helps to estimate the amount of demand for key community sports facilities that is created by a given population.

<sup>40</sup>



8.3% of pitches in West sub region. The report refers to a dual AGP site and commercial AGP (Broadfields Country Club) in Harrow.

**Photograph 1: Artificial Grass Pitch at the Hive**



In terms of pitches per 1,000 population, the average for the West sub region is 0.23 and the lowest standard is in Harrow at 0.14 pitches per 1,000 population. As has been shown above, the data on supply in the report is incorrect and there are only two pitches available in Harrow, equal to 0.10 pitches per 1,000 population.

**Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs)**

There are six locations with at least one Multi Use Games Area although not all of these are suitable for football training (see **Table 7.21**). There is a new facility under construction at Cedars Open Space as part of the multi purpose centre being built by Watford FC's Community Sports and Education Trust. A training 3G pitch with floodlights is available at Centenary Park. The remaining MUGAs all have a tarmac surface and are used for training.

**Table 7.21: MUGAs**

Location	Facility
Cedars Open Space	New Artificial Grass Pitch under development by Watford FC's Community Sports and Education Trust
Centenary Park	Artificial Grass 3G 39m x 34m with floodlights
Harrow High School & Sports College	4 tarmac floodlit courts
Queensbury Park Recreation Ground	Tarmac MUGA 39m x 43m
Rayners Lane Football Club	Tarmac MUGA training pitch
The Beacon Centre	MUGA 41m x 20m

## Higher League Football

The English Football League system or football pyramid functions at different levels. Promotion is subject to FA Ground Grading requirements as well as other rules and requirements of the various leagues. There are two clubs in Harrow playing in higher leagues. Harrow Borough FC plays in the Ryman League Premier Division, which is a step 3 and 4 league which forms the seventh and eighth levels of the English football league system. It has various regional feeder leagues and the league as a whole is a feeder league mainly to the Conference South. Rayners Lane FC play in the Hellenic League Division 1 (East) which is a step 5 and 6 league.

## Quality of the Playing Pitches and Changing Rooms

### Visual quality assessment

A visual quality assessment was undertaken of all the playing pitches and changing rooms. This assessment employed a 'bespoke' assessment sheet based on the Sport England Visual Quality Assessment which is provided with the Electronic Toolkit for 'Towards a Level Playing Field'. This assessment sheet uses a greater number of criteria than the Sport England version and provides a more detailed assessment. The assessment sheets can be found at **Appendix B**.

The assessment is intended to provide a standard approach in helping to assess the quality of pitches. The intention is that it is capable of being carried out by individuals who do not have any specific technical expertise in pitch quality. The assessment provides a snapshot of the condition of the playing surface and supporting facilities on the day of the assessment. The survey was undertaken during the football season.

The quality ratings are as shown in **Table 7.22** below.

**Table 7.22: Pitch Quality Ratings**

Score	Quality Rating
91%+	An excellent pitch
71-90%	A good pitch
61-70%	An average pitch
40-60%	A below average pitch
Less than 40	A poor pitch

### Quality of Football Pitches

The detailed results of the assessments for football pitches can be found in **Appendix C** and the ratings of the pitches are summarised in **Table 7.23**.



**Table 7.23: Summary of Football Pitch Quality Ratings**

Quality Rating	Number of Pitches	%
An excellent pitch	11	10%
A good pitch	20	19%
An average pitch	38	36%
A below average pitch	35	33%
A poor pitch	2	2%
Total	106	

106 football pitches were assessed. Of these 11 (10%) achieved a score of excellent. These were all the new pitches at The Hive, which officially opened on December 15th 2009. These pitches are maintained to a very high standard.

**Photograph 2: ‘Excellent’ Pitches (The Hive)**



There are 20 pitches (19%) that achieved a “good” score. The majority of these achieved a score that was only marginally better than the score required for an ‘average’ pitch. The exceptions are the two pitches at John Lyon School and the pitch at Tithe Farm Social Club, which scored well above the minimum level for a ‘good’ pitch. The majority of high scoring pitches are at private centres.

**Photograph 3: A. 'Average' Pitch (Raghuvanshi Charitable Trust Sports Ground)**



Only 29% of football pitches have been assessed as being 'good' or 'excellent'. The median score is 66%, which equates to an 'average' pitch (see **Photograph 3**). Some of the Harrow Council pitches achieved a higher score than would normally be the case because they have not had many, and in some cases any, matches played on them this season.



**Photograph 4: A 'Below Average' Pitch (Roxborough Park)**



All the 'below average' pitches apart from one pitch are on Harrow Council owned and managed sites (see **Photograph 4**). The remaining pitch is John Rumney Playing Fields which owned by Harrow Council and leased to Parkfield Youth FC. This club has aspirations to install drainage to the pitches to improve their quality. There are two pitches that were assessed as being 'poor'. One is at Newton Park and is not in a fit condition to be used for league matches. The other is at Byron Recreation Ground and is used regularly for competitive matches. This pitch has a cast iron manhole cover together with a paving slab set in the middle of the playing surface.

#### **Football club views about pitch quality**

Clubs were asked to assess the overall quality of their main match pitch on a five-point scale ranging between very good and very poor (see **Table 7.24**). The club's assessment reflects the overall performance of pitches over the season. 45 clubs provided a response to this question with 62% (28), of clubs rated their main match pitch as being good or very good. 18% (8) rated their main match pitch as being moderate, 20% (9) thought their main match pitch was poor or very poor.

**Table 7.24: Clubs assessment of the overall quality of main match pitch**

Rating	Number	%
Very good	14	31%
Good	14	31%
Moderate	8	18%
Poor	8	18%
Very poor	1	2%
Total	45	

Six of the fourteen clubs who considered their home ground to be very good, play their home games at The Hive. Another six of the 14 clubs play in locations outside Harrow with the remaining two being private clubs within Harrow. Five out of the eight clubs that considered their main match pitch to be poor play at the Harrow Council facilities at Headstone Manor, Harrow Recreation Ground, Stanmore Recreation Ground and Roxeth Recreation Ground. The remaining match pitches considered to be poor are Kodak Sports Ground, Tithe Farm Sports & Social Club and a location outside the borough.

Clubs were also asked about the overall quality of any other home match pitch. The majority of the clubs responding to this question considered the quality to be good or moderate (68%). The pattern of responses is similar to that for the quality of the main match pitch because most of the other home match pitches are located at the same venue as the main match pitch. The Hive is cited as being very good and Stanmore Recreation Ground is the only very poor other match pitch. The results are shown in **Table 7. 25** below.

**Table 7.25: Clubs assessment of any other home match pitch**

Rating	Number	%
Very good	2	4%
Good	9	29%
Moderate	12	39%
Poor	7	23%
Very poor	1	3%
Total	31	

### 10.2.5 Football Clubs' views on the Maintenance of their Pitches

Clubs were asked to rate the quality of the maintenance of their pitch. Of the 45 responding clubs, (53%) considered maintenance of their pitch to be good or very good. Of the sites considered to be very good, The Hive was cited by 7 clubs and 3 clubs cited home grounds which are outside the Borough with the remaining 3 clubs referring to home grounds a private clubs. The results are shown in **Table 7.26** below.

**Table 7.26: Football clubs' rating of maintenance of their pitch.**

Rating	Number	%
Very good	13	29%
Good	11	24%
Moderate	11	24%
Poor	6	13%
Very poor	4	9%
Total	45	

10 clubs (22%) indicated that maintenance was poor or very poor. Four clubs considered maintenance to be very poor and these included Harrow Recreation Ground and Stanmore Recreation Ground. Six clubs considered maintenance to be poor and the sites mentioned were Roxeth Recreation Ground, Montesoles Playing Fields, Roxbourne Park, Headstone Manor and Kodak Sports Ground.

Clubs were asked which pitches they considered were the three best played on during the past season and which were the three worst pitches.

The most frequently mentioned 'best' pitch is The Hive (12 responses), Kodak Sports Ground (4), British Airways Concorde Club, Cranford (3) and three sites in Harrow which were mentioned by 2 clubs each. More details of the club responses are to be found in **Table 7.27**.

**Table 7.27: ‘Best’ Pitches**

Best Pitch	No. Mentions	Second Best Pitch	No. Mentions	Third Best Pitch	No. Mentions
The Hive	12	Belstone FC, Elstree	2	Warren Farm	2
Kodak Sports Ground	4	Kodak Sports Ground	2	Whitchurch Playing Fields	1
British Airways Concorde Club, Cranford.	3	Rowley lane, Arkley	2	RCT Sports Ground, Headstone lane.	1
John Lyon School	2	Brunel University	2	Kenton Recreation Ground	1
Tithe Farm SSC	2	Ruislip Rangers, Eastcote	2	Tithe Farm SSC	1
Broadfields	2	Kenton Recreation Ground	2	The Hive	1

With regard to the worst pitches (**Table 7.28**), the most frequently mentioned sites were Northwick Park (4 responses), Harrow Recreation Ground (4), Byron Recreation Ground (3) and Copthall, Barnet (2). These locations are also mentioned in the second and third choice worst pitches.

**Table 7.28: ‘Worst’ Pitches**

Worst Pitch	No. Mentions	Second Worst Pitch	No. Mentions	Third Worst Pitch	No. Mentions
Northwick Park, Brent	4	Northwick Park, Brent	4	Headstone Manor	3
Harrow Recreation Ground	4	Headstone Manor	3	Hatch End Playing Fields	3
Byron Recreation Ground	3	Harrow Recreation Ground	2	Byron Recreation Ground	1
Copthall, Barnet	2	Hatch End Playing Fields	2	Bannisters Sports Ground	1
Roxeth Recreation Ground	1	Kenton Recreation Ground	2		
Stanmore Recreation Ground	1	Broadfields	2		
Hatch End Playing Fields	1				

## Training

The use of the home match pitch for training by clubs can be one of the reasons for the poor condition of football pitches. Clubs were therefore asked whether they used the match pitch for training. 46 clubs responded to this question and 26 (74%) stated that they did not use the match pitch for training although 9 (26%) confirmed that they did.

## Changing Accommodation

The quality of the changing accommodation at sites with football pitches was assessed using the assessment criteria to be found at **Appendix B**. The results are shown in **Table 7.29** below:

**Table 7.29: Quality scores for changing accommodation**

Site	Changing Room score
<b>Local Authority</b>	
Roger Bannister Sports Ground	87%
Byron Recreation Ground	68%
Chandos Recreation Ground	51%
Harrow Recreation Ground	64%
Harrow Weald Recreation Ground	17%
Hatch End Playing Fields	39%
Headstone Manor	No Access
Kenton Recreation Ground	48%
Montesoles Playing Fields	17%
Roxbourne Recreation Ground	No Access
Roxeth Park	49%
<b>Private Clubs</b>	
Harrow Town Sports & Social Club	43%
John Lyon School	93%
Old Lyonians	64%
Parkfield Youth FC	57%
Raghuvanshi Charitable Trust Sports Ground	88%
The Hive	100%

Changing accommodation is provided by the local authority (11 sites), private clubs (6 sites) and schools (1site). The quality of changing accommodation varies considerably with scores ranging between 100% and 17%. The highest scoring facility was The Hive Football Centre which is the Barnet FC Centre of Excellence that opened in December 2009.

**Photograph 5: The Hive Changing Facilities**



The worst scoring facilities are Montesoles Playing Fields and Harrow Weald Recreation Ground where the changing rooms are in a very poor state of repair and both scored 17%. Most of the Harrow 'standard' changing blocks scored poorly (see **Photograph 6**)

There are no changing or toilet facilities at William Ellis Sports Ground, which is the home ground for Belmont United Youth. This club runs 11 football teams ranging from Under 8's to Under 16s. The original site (4.46 hectares) was reduced to 2.25 hectares following the granting of planning permission for the construction of a primary school in August 2007.

Permission was granted subject to a S106 Agreement for a contribution of £500,000 for the formation and/or improvement of the football facilities including clubhouse facilities. Planning permission for a single and two storey clubhouse was granted in May 2011 but has not been implemented.



**Photograph 6: Standard ‘Harrow’ Changing Block – Roxeth**



**Football club views about changing accommodation**

Clubs were asked to assess the overall quality of the changing accommodation at their main match pitch on a five-point scale ranging between very good and very poor. (see **Table 7.30** below)

**Table 7.30: Football clubs rating of changing accommodation at their main match pitch.**

Rating	Number	%
Very good	13	29%
Good	12	27%
Moderate	9	20%
Poor	5	11%
Very poor	6	13%
Total	45	

45 clubs provided a response to this question. 56% (13), of clubs rated their changing accommodation as being good or very good. 20% (12) rated their changing accommodation as being moderate. 24% (11) thought their changing accommodation was poor or very poor.

### **National Governing Body Consultations**

The Middlesex County Football Association and the Football Association are satisfied that the key findings of the report are based on robust methodology and consultation of its member football clubs. The County FA is particularly pleased with the response rate of 96% particularly given the fact that it is often a struggle to mobilise the football clubs to respond to such surveys. The key findings reflect the strength of feeling among football clubs in Harrow to resolve some of the issues they face.

Middlesex FA considers that there is an urgent need for Harrow Council to resolve the issue of goalpost safety which is highlighted in the report and would be very happy to support an application to the Football Foundation for 50% of the costs of replacing unsafe goals (see **Photograph 7**). The County FA is equally willing to explore, where appropriate, how this can be combined with a plan for Harrow to address the youth development review proposals and the purchase of 9 v 9 goals.

### **Photograph 7: Unsafe Goalpost at Chandos Recreation Ground**



Any new build or refurbishment projects supported by the FA must provide changing facilities which are fully self contained units with ensuite shower and lavatory provision and a lobby area or privacy screen for safeguarding children. This provides maximum flexibility of use providing for male, female and adult and youth provision. Ideally the FA would like to see the Council adopt these standards when building new or upgrading its changing facilities irrespective of the funding route. It is worth noting that a some local leagues have included a minimum standard of facilities that must be available if the site is used for playing matches in that particular league.

Middlesex FA would welcome the opportunity to discuss with Harrow Council the possible solutions to the identified issues in the report and contribute to an action and implementation plan that starts to address these issues. Furthermore, should the Council agree and adopt the strategy and the action plan, the County FA would be very happy to explore any future funding options and identify an agreed list of priority projects for Harrow Council and Middlesex FA.

## Playing Pitch Model – Matching Demand to Supply

The analysis of demand for and supply of football pitches requires the use of the Playing Pitch Model (PPM). The playing pitch calculator seeks to determine whether there are sufficient pitches available to meet demand from football teams at peak times

### Team Generation Rates

Team Generation Rates (TGRs) provide an indication of how many people in a specified age group are required to generate one team. TGRs are derived by dividing the appropriate population age band in the area by the number of teams playing within that area in that age band. Calculating TGRs enables fair comparison to be made between different areas where similar studies have been undertaken.

The following examples help clarify what TGRs mean:

1:100            £            high TGR            £            relatively low latent (unmet) demand

1: 1000            £            low TGR            £            relatively high latent (unmet) demand

### Team Generation Rates for Football

Dividing the number of football teams in the study area into the estimated total active population aged between 6 - 45 years gives a TGR of 1:769. This means that there is one football team for every 769 persons aged 6 – 45, which is below the National Average of 1:452. The TGR for adult men’s football is 1:860 compared to the National Average of 1:452. The TGR for mini soccer (U7s to U10s) is 1: 203 or one team for every 203 children aged 6 to 9 years which is higher than the National Average of 1:431. The TGRs for Youth Boys is 1:95, which is much higher than the National Average of 1:195, and for Youth Girls it is 1:1988 which is higher than the National Average of 1:4038. These relatively high TGR rates for mini soccer and youth football indicate a relatively low latent demand for these age groups.

**Table 7.31** below compares TGRs for football in Harrow with those of studies in other Authorities. One source of this information is the TGR database provided by Sport England. However, this data is dated summer 2004. The results for Nottingham, Erewash and Middlesbrough are from more recently completed studies. The ONS defined similar local authorities to Harrow as Dartford, Medway, Basildon and Broxbourne. The most up to date results for Dartford and Basildon are included in the tables.

**Table 7.31: Local Authority Football TGRs - Population per Team<sup>41</sup>**

Local Authority	Mini -Soccer 6-9yrs	Junior Boys 10-15yrs	Junior Girls 10-15yrs	Senior Men 16-45 yrs
Basildon	1:208	1:63	1:1608	1:577
Bradford	1:204	1:104	1:696	1:372
Charnwood	1:172	1:61	1:694	1:328
Chelmsford	1:141	1:57	1:905	1:248
Dartford	1:113	1:56		1:239
Erewash	1:127	1:64	1:401	1:367
<b>Harrow</b>	<b>1:203</b>	<b>1:95</b>	<b>1:1988</b>	<b>1:860</b>

<sup>41</sup> Sport England TGR database and individual studies.

Medway	1:736	1:46		1:196
Middlesbrough	1:143	1:82	1:3199	1:460
Milton Keynes	1:228	1:66	1:1718	1:437
Nottingham	1:142	1:104	1:1053	1:449
Sefton	1:102	1:136		1:131
Swindon	1:102	1:76	1:684	1:370
Test Valley	1:435	1:61	1:1533	1:261
Thurrock	1:101	1:57	1:345	1:302
Walsall	1:341	1:76	1:2050	1:451
<b>National Averages</b>	<b>1:431</b>	<b>1:195</b>	<b>1:4038</b>	<b>1:452</b>

### 11.2.3 Assumptions

A number of factors are built into the Playing Pitch Model (PPM) process. Firstly, that the temporal demand should reflect patterns of play. These have been assessed on the basis of the information obtained from League Handbooks and the responses to the questionnaire. The split in times of play has been based on the numbers of teams within each league that play in Harrow. The leagues have standard kick off times so it is possible to assess what proportion of teams are playing at peak times i.e. Saturday and Sunday.

The picture of football clubs playing in Harrow is quite complex. **Table 7.32** shows that in addition to Harrow based clubs playing in the Borough there are Harrow based clubs with teams playing on facilities outside the Borough. There are also clubs with teams playing at facilities located in Harrow who originate from outside the borough.

**Table 7.32: Where teams play.**

<b>Harrow Clubs Playing in Harrow</b>	<b>Harrow Clubs Playing Outside Harrow</b>	<b>Clubs from Outside Harrow whose Home Pitch is within Harrow</b>	<b>Disability Teams</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>52</b>

For the purposes of the Playing Pitch Calculator it has been assumed that the Disability Teams do not require grass football pitches and they have therefore been left out of the calculations.

It is assumed that, provided there were pitches of a good quality available at a reasonable price, then the Harrow based teams playing outside the Borough would wish to use these. These teams have therefore been included as part of the demand. It has also been assumed that it is not possible to exclude teams based outside Harrow from using the facilities in Harrow so they have also been included in the demand.

The questionnaire survey revealed that many clubs include players from outside the Borough. A decision needed to be made about which teams should count as a 'Harrow based team'. This was particularly important where teams are playing at facilities outside the Borough. For example, Headstone Manor FC has three teams, First, Reserves and Thirds who play in the Harrow Sunday Challenge League. The First and Reserve Teams play at the Birkbeck College Sports Ground in Ealing. It is clear from the questionnaire that all the players are resident in Harrow so the two teams are included. Where a team had only a small minority of players from Harrow they are excluded. Hayes Postal FC was excluded on this basis although they play at the London Postal Sports Ground which is on the border of Harrow, in Brent.

A growth factor of 5% over the baseline level of participation in 2012 has been built in to the calculator to allow for increased participation up to 2017. Increased participation is likely to be stimulated by sports development initiatives and wider national governing body programmes to increase activity. A growth rate of 8% above the 2012 baseline has been used for the period up to 2026.

The population projections used are those provided by the GLA 2011 Round of Demographic Projections - SHLAA which provide yearly population projections up to 2026 which is the time horizon for the LDF Core Strategy.

Although there are 2 AGPs available for community use in Harrow, there is only a small number of league matches played by football clubs on these pitches. These teams use the 3G pitches at the Hive and exclusively play in the Maccabi Southern Football League (MSFL). The pitches are mainly used for training, mini soccer and five a side games. They have not therefore been included in the PPM on the grounds that to do so would provide a misleading result.

**Stage 1 Identifying teams**

Number of Mini Soccer Teams (Mixed)	59
Number of Boys Youth Teams	90
Number of Girls Youth Teams	4
Number of Senior Men’s Teams	56
Number of Senior Women’s Teams	1
Number of Men’s Veteran’s Teams	3
Total number of teams	213

**Stage 2 Calculating home games per team per week**

Ratio of home games	0.5
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**Stage 3 Assessing total home games per week**

(Stage 1 x Stage 2)

Games per week (senior)	30.5
Games per week (junior)	47

**Stage 4 Establishing temporal demand for games**

**Table 7.33: Temporal Use**

Temporal Use %	Senior	Junior	Mini
Saturday AM	0.0%	3.4%	0%
Saturday PM	44.4%	0.0%	0%
Sunday AM	50.1%	79.2%	100%
Sunday PM	1.4%	13.3%	0%
Mid week 1- Wed afternoon	1.3%	1.1%	0%
Mid week 2-Wed evening	2.8%	0%	0%

**Stage 5 Defining pitches used/required on each day**

(Stage 3 x Stage 4)

**Table 7.34: Average number of games per day**

Saturday AM (senior)	Saturday PM (senior)	Sunday AM (senior)	Sunday PM (senior)	Tuesday (senior)	Thursday (senior)
0	14	15	0	0	1

Saturday AM (junior)	Saturday PM (junior)	Sunday AM (junior)	Sunday PM (junior)	Tuesday (junior)	Thursday (junior)
2	0	37	6	1	0

### Stage 6 Establishing pitches available

The audit identified:

Adult Senior Pitches	48
Youth Pitches	27
Mini-Soccer Pitches	32

### Stage 7 Assessing the findings

(Stage 6 – Stage 5)

#### Current Situation

The current situation with regard to football is summarised in **Table 7.35** below. For Football the Active Population is between 6 and 45 years.

**Table 7.35: Current Situation**

Shortfall or surplus											
Saturday AM (senior)	Saturday PM (senior)	Saturday AM (junior)	Saturday PM (junior)	Sunday AM (senior)	Sunday PM (senior)	Sunday AM (junior)	Sunday PM (junior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (senior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (junior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (senior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (junior)
48	34	25	27	33	48	-10	21	48	26	47	27

The audit of pitches revealed that there are a total of 48 senior football pitches and 27 youth pitches in secured community use available in Harrow.

The model calculates the number of games played on each day. The shortfall in provision occurs at the time of peak demand when there are not enough pitches in secured community use to meet that demand.

The current situation for football indicates that there is a shortfall in provision of 10 youth pitches at the peak time of Sunday morning. However, there is a surplus of 33 adult pitches in Harrow on Sunday morning.

**Table 7.36** shows that if an allowance of 10% for the rest and recuperation of playing pitches is taken into account the shortfall in youth pitches would be 13 on Sunday morning and the surplus of senior pitches would be 28 pitches. On this basis there would be sufficient playing pitches available at all times.

The problem of the shortage of youth pitches would appear to be being resolved in a number of ways. It is likely that youth sides are using adult pitches. The dimensions of some senior adult pitches also conform to the FA's suggested maximum size for a youth pitch (U15-U16) so it is likely that these will be used for youth matches. It is also possible that the number of games being played on some pitches is greater than the capacity of those pitches.



**Table 7.36: Current Situation with 10% Allowance**

Shortfall or surplus											
Saturday AM (senior)	Saturday PM (senior)	Saturday AM (junior)	Saturday PM (junior)	Sunday AM (senior)	Sunday PM (senior)	Sunday AM (junior)	Sunday PM (junior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (senior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (junior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (senior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (junior)
43	29	22	24	28	43	-13	18	43	23	42	24

**Future Situation**

In the first instance, the future situation is considered up to 2017. A playing pitch assessment can only reflect the situation at one point in time. There will be changes in the pattern of supply and demand for all outdoor sports over time and after 3 years this assessment will have only limited value. For this reason it is recommended that the study should be reviewed after a three-year period.

The results for the future situation in 2017 are shown in **Table 7.36** below.

**Table 7.37: Situation in 2017**

Shortfall or surplus											
Saturday AM (senior)	Saturday PM (senior)	Saturday AM (junior)	Saturday PM (junior)	Sunday AM (senior)	Sunday PM (senior)	Sunday AM (junior)	Sunday PM (junior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (senior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (junior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (senior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (junior)
48	34	25	27	32	48	-13	20	48	26	47	27

In calculating the future situation the model assumes that the number of pitches in secured community use remains static. However, demand changes partly because of changes in the population and partly because the model builds in growth of 5% as a result of increased participation stimulated by sports development initiatives and an increase in interest in healthy activity. This is evidenced in Harrow by the growth in the popularity of Youth Football.

The future situation shown in **Table 7.37** assumes a growth rate of 5% and indicates that the shortage of youth pitches for football will be 13 youth pitches at the peak time of Sunday morning. However, there is a surplus of 32 adult pitches in Harrow on Sunday morning.

The shortfall of youth pitches at the peak time of Sunday morning will only be met where there is a surplus of adult pitches available that are suitable and which are not in use at other times during the weekend period.

If an allowance of 10% for the rest and recuperation of playing pitches is taken into account **Table 7.38** shows that the shortfall in youth pitches would be 22 on Sunday morning and the surplus of senior pitches would be 30 pitches. On this basis there would still be an overall surplus in pitch provision on Sundays.

**Table 7.38: Situation in 2017 with 10% Allowance**

Shortfall or surplus											
Saturday AM (senior)	Saturday PM (senior)	Saturday AM (junior)	Saturday PM (junior)	Sunday AM (senior)	Sunday PM (senior)	Sunday AM (junior)	Sunday PM (junior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (senior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (junior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (senior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (junior)
43	32	22	24	30	43	-22	16	43	23	42	24

The actual requirement for achieving a balance in provision of senior and junior football pitches at peak times of usage in 2017 under this scenario would be achieved if there were 26 adult pitches and 47 youth pitches. This compares with the current level of provision of 42 adult pitches and 31 junior pitches.

**Pitch Capacity**

Towards a Level Playing Field includes a provision for taking account of pitch capacity. The methodology acknowledges that the number of community matches a grass pitch can absorb is a function of the needs of other users and the quality of the pitch. On this basis pitches may not be able to take two matches per week. Therefore, in addition to running the playing pitch methodology based on the actual number of pitches available, the model has been recalculated to take into account the apparent quality of the pitches.

There is no formula for calculating the carrying capacity of pitches as it is dependent on a wide range of factors, including the proportion of games that were cancelled in the previous season due to the poor condition of the pitch; whether the condition of the pitch has been declining year on year; the maintenance regime for the pitch etc. However, it is argued that information from the questionnaire survey, and an analysis of usage patterns facilitates the classification of each pitch into the categories listed in **Table 7.39** below.

**Table 7.39 Carrying capacity for each type of pitch**

Carrying capacity	Multiplication factor
Three matches (or more) per week	1.5
Two matches	1.0
One match per week	0.5
One match (or less) per fortnight	0.25

Assessments of the football pitches in Harrow have been undertaken and pitch capacities adjusted accordingly. After application of the multiplication factor the number of pitches was calculated as shown in **Table 7.40** below. The detailed analysis can be found in **Appendix D**

**Table 7.40: Pitch Capacity Adjustments**

Type of Pitch	Actual number of pitches	Adjusted number of pitches
Mini	32	24
Youth	27	23
Adult	48	37

The net effect on the current situation is shown in **Table 7.41**. It would increase the deficiency of youth pitches to 14 pitches from 10 pitches on Sunday morning. This shortfall would be balanced by a surplus of 22 adult pitches (surplus reduced from 33 pitches) on Sunday morning.

**Table 7.41: Current Situation with Carrying Capacity applied**

Shortfall or surplus											
Saturday AM (senior)	Saturday PM (senior)	Saturday AM (junior)	Saturday PM (junior)	Sunday AM (senior)	Sunday PM (senior)	Sunday AM (junior)	Sunday PM (junior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (senior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (junior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (senior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (junior)
37	23	21	23	22	37	-14	17	37	22	36	23

If the allowance for the rest and recuperation of playing pitches is taken into account there would be a shortfall of 16 junior pitches on Sunday morning and a surplus of 18 adult pitches.

However, the situation in 2017 (shown in **Table 7.42**), based on the 5% growth rate without any allowance for the rest and recuperation of playing pitches is that a shortfall of 17 youth pitches on Sunday morning, which would be balanced by a surplus of 21 adult pitches..

**Table 7.42: Situation in 2017 with Carrying Capacity applied**

Shortfall or surplus											
Saturday AM (senior)	Saturday PM (senior)	Saturday AM (junior)	Saturday PM (junior)	Sunday AM (senior)	Sunday PM (senior)	Sunday AM (junior)	Sunday PM (junior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (senior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (junior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (senior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (junior)
37	23	21	23	21	37	-17	16	37	22	36	23

If the allowance for the rest and recuperation of playing pitches is taken into account there is a shortfall of 25 youth pitches on Sunday morning which would not be balanced by a surplus of 21 adult pitches. In this circumstance, there would be an overall shortfall of 4 pitches on Sunday morning. This is shown in **Table 7.43** below

Overall, if pitch capacity is taken into account together with the allowance for the rest and recuperation of playing pitches, the number of pitches is not adequate to meet demand on Sunday morning.

**Table 7.43: Situation in 2017 with Carrying Capacity and 10% contingency allowance applied**

Shortfall or surplus											
Saturday AM (senior)	Saturday PM (senior)	Saturday AM (junior)	Saturday PM (junior)	Sunday AM (senior)	Sunday PM (senior)	Sunday AM (junior)	Sunday PM (junior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (senior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (junior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (senior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (junior)
33	22	19	21	20	33	-25	13	33	20	32	21

### Mini Soccer

There are 32 mini soccer pitches in Harrow and the number of mini football teams is 59. However, consultation with clubs indicated that numbers of children participating in mini-soccer are increasing. Similar to most other local authorities, Harrow continues to experience significant growth in mini soccer.

Teams in Harrow play in the Harrow Soccer Seven's Combination apart from one team that plays in the Watford Friendly League. In these leagues, mini soccer is played in a similar way to youth and adult soccer with teams playing home and away. Under 7 & Under 8s play 20 minutes each way; Under 9s play 25 minutes each way; and, Under 10s: 30 minutes each way.

Demand and supply can therefore be modelled using the PPM.

**Table 7.35: Current and Future Mini Soccer Situation**

Current shortfall or surplus				2017 shortfall or surplus			
Saturday AM	Saturday AM	Saturday PM	<b>Sunday AM</b>	Sunday PM	Saturday PM	<b>Sunday AM</b>	Sunday PM
32	32	32	<b>3</b>	32	32	<b>0</b>	32

All teams play on Sunday morning. The two mini-soccer teams from Pinner United play outside the Borough at New Pond Playing Fields, Ruislip. The current situation indicates a surplus of 3 mini soccer pitches at the peak time of Sunday morning. However, by 2017 there will not be a surplus as **Table 7.35** shows.

If the 10% contingency allowance is taken into account, there is a current shortfall of 1 mini-soccer pitch and by 2017 this will have increased to 3 mini-soccer pitches. If carrying capacity is taken into account there is a current shortfall of 6 mini-soccer pitches and by 2017 this will have increased to 8 mini-soccer pitches. Incorporating the 10% contingency allowance into the pitch supply that is based on carrying capacity results in a current shortfall of 8 mini-soccer pitches and a future shortfall of 10 mini-soccer pitches.

## Accessibility

Paragraph 7 of PPG17 notes that authorities should include cost when considering accessibility<sup>42</sup>. A benchmarking exercise was therefore undertaken to establish the tariffs charged by adjacent local authorities for booking pitches. A summary of the results is shown in **Table 7.38** The full results of the benchmarking exercise can be found at **Appendix E**.

The summary shows the cost per match<sup>43</sup> for Adult and Junior pitches when a Season Ticket is purchased and for a casual 'one off' booking. Season Tickets are exempt from VAT where they are to purchase, 'a series of 10 or more sessions'<sup>44</sup>.

The median cost per match for an Adult Season is £46.86. The cost of a Harrow pitch is £48.52 Monday to Saturday and £60.93 on Sunday. The only other local authority to differentiate between Saturday and Sunday is Enfield where the cost per match for an Adult pitch is £39.13 on Saturday and £45.19 on Sunday. The Harrow Sunday price is the highest price in the group of providers with the exception of Hertsmere where the cost is £86.40.

<sup>42</sup>Para 7 (iii) Planning Policy Guidance (PPG)17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation

<sup>43</sup>It was only possible to make comparisons between providers when costs were measured on a per match basis.

<sup>44</sup>HMRC Reference:Notice 701/45 (August 2011)

The median cost per match for a Junior Season is £21.77. The cost of a Harrow pitch is £26.69 Monday to Saturday and £37.62 on Sunday. Harrow's price is the highest in the group of providers regardless of the day of play.

Taking the cost per match for a casual booking of an Adult pitch, the median price is £74.33. The cost of an Adult pitch in Harrow is £125 which is the second highest charge in the group of providers. The highest charge is for a pitch at Peak time at the Hive is £170 and Off Peak is £120. The quality of pitches at the Hive is excellent. Harrow Council pitches cannot compare with the high quality of a pitch at the Hive. The cost of a casual booking of an Adult pitch in Harrow is 57% higher than a Grade A pitch in the neighbouring local authority of Ealing and 127% higher than the cost of a casual booking in Hillingdon.

Turning to the cost of a casual booking for a Junior pitch, the median price is £40. The cost of a Harrow Junior pitch is £69.80. The cost of a full size youth pitch (U13/U14) at the Hive is £140 at Peak and £100 Off Peak, a full size youth pitch (U11/U12) is £120 Peak and £ 80 Off Peak. The cost of a casual booking of a junior pitch in Harrow is higher than any other provider with the exception of the Hive. The cost of a casual booking of a Youth pitch in Harrow is 134% higher than a pitch in the neighbouring local authority of Brent.

**Table 7.38: Pitch Tariff Benchmarking**

Local Authority	Adult Season Per Match	Youth Season Per Match	Casual Adult Per Match	Casual Youth Per Match	
<b>Harrow</b>					
Monday-Saturday	£48.52	£26.69	£125	£69.80	
Sunday	£60.93	£37.62	£125	£69.80	
<b>Enfield</b>					
Grade 1 Saturday	£39.13	£21.94	£82	£35.50	
Grade 1 Sunday	£45.19	£21.94			
Grade 2 Saturday/Sunday	£25.00	£12.50	£60	£30	
<b>Barnet</b>			£87		
<b>Ealing</b>					
Grade A	£53.22		£79.84		
Grade B	£34.38		£51.56		
<b>Hillingdon</b>					
With Changing	£49		£55		
Without Changing	£23	£17	£18		
<b>The Hive</b>					
Peak			£170	£140	£120
Off Peak			£120	£100	£80
<b>Brent</b>	£58.46		£65	£40	
<b>St Albans</b>	£43.03	£15.72-£16.39	£68.81	£42.28	
<b>Hertsmere</b>	£86.40	£21.60	£86.40	£21.60	
<b>North Hertfordshire</b>			£28.32	£14.40	

## Key Issues for Football

1. The Playing Pitch Model indicates that there is a current and future shortfall in the provision of youth pitches whilst at the same time there are sufficient adult senior pitches to accommodate the demand for youth football. However, the supply of pitches is reduced significantly once the requirement for a 10% contingency allowance and carrying capacity is taken into account. When these factors are incorporated, there will be an overall shortfall in youth and senior pitches by 2017. The issue is more immediate for provision for mini soccer where there is a current shortfall when the 10% contingency and carrying capacity are taken into account.
2. The demand for football pitches in Harrow is distorted by the fact that 13 clubs with 22 teams are playing their 'home' matches on pitches outside the Borough. In addition, there are 7 clubs with 9 teams from outside the Borough that are playing on pitches within the Borough.
3. The development of The Hive has resulted in a significant increase in the supply of grass football pitches and the provision of two 3G AGPs. Whilst a small number of clubs use the AGPs for training, the only Harrow based club to use the grass pitches is Old Salvatorians F.C. which has seven teams. Most of the clubs using The Hive as their 'home' ground are from adjoining local authority areas in north-west London. The increase in the number of grass pitches at the The Hive is counterbalanced by the loss of three grass football pitches at the former Broadfields Country Club.
4. The quality of a large proportion of the stock of playing pitches is poor. Harrow Council provides most of these low quality pitches. A poor playing surface will be detrimental to the quality of the playing experience and at times will result in the pitch being unavailable. Many factors can affect the quality of the pitch including levels of maintenance, slope, exposure (openness to elements), soil type, drainage and grass cover. These factors will have a major impact on the number of games that can be played on a pitch over a given period, and hence the overall pitch capacity. Factors such as drainage and soil type will also greatly influence the extent to which matches may be lost during periods of wet weather.
5. There is a discrepancy between the results for the quality of pitches assessed through the audit process and the views expressed by clubs. This is mainly due to the fact that some clubs are opting out of using Harrow Council pitches to play on better pitches in locations outside the Borough and is satisfied with the quality of these pitches. Other clubs, usually playing at a lower level, are not so critical and have remained. These clubs appear to be relatively satisfied with the current quality of their pitches.
6. There are goalposts on some Harrow Council pitches that fail to meet the standard for goalpost safety set by the FA. In particular, there are goalposts, which have been altered from their original construction and should not be used. There is a need to carry out a full inspection of goalposts because the FA has reported that non-compliant goalposts have been the cause of a number of deaths and injuries.
7. The quality of ancillary facilities particularly changing accommodation but also car parking, social provision and practice areas also determine whether the facility can contribute to meeting the demand from various groups and for different levels of play. Harrow Council provides most of the poor quality changing accommodation. Some of this changing accommodation is no longer fit for purpose and is unusable. In a small number of cases there are health and safety and environmental health issues which cannot be overcome without a complete refurbishment or redevelopment of the building. This is significant for the growth of girls and women's football because the only location with suitable facilities is The Hive and clubs are finding the prices at this venue to be prohibitive.



8. There is a shortage of good training facilities. The only artificial grass pitches available to football clubs in Harrow are at The Hive. The cost of hiring the two 3 G pitches is beyond the means of many clubs. Belmont United Youth has access to the 3G training pitch at the Krishna-Avanti School but this pitch is not generally available to community football clubs. The five-a-side pitches at Mumbai Gardens restaurant are currently available and are used by a small number of clubs. However, sport is no longer the focus for this site.

9. The availability of finance and the cost of hiring football pitches and changing rooms are significant problems for many clubs.

10. The pitch cost benchmarking exercise provides evidence that the cost of hiring pitches and changing accommodation in Harrow is significantly higher than it is for neighbouring local authorities. There is a strong perception amongst football clubs that Harrow Council facilities do not provide good value for money.

11. At least three adult 11 a side teams have folded in the last 12 months and at least one club has stated that it will fold at the end of the season. Nationally, the FA is concerned about the decline in male adult 11-a-side with the number of adult, male, 11-a-side teams falling from 33,568 in 2005-06 to 30,355 in 2010-11, driven by a rapid fall in the numbers of 16-19-year-olds playing the sport.

12. There is only one adult female 11-a-side team and four youth girls' teams. The majority of football facilities in the Borough, including all Harrow Council facilities, do not cater for girls and women's football. The single women's team is Headstone Manor whose home ground is The Hive. The costs of hiring the facilities at The Hive means that the club will need to find a new home ground for next season.

13. A significant change to the format of youth football will be introduced following the FA Youth Development Review. This is the introduction of 9-a-side football for under 11s and under 12s. At present, in the change from Mini-Soccer at U10 to 11v11 at U11, the size of the goal is increased by 265% and the size of the pitch up to 400%. The new format is designed to help bridge the gap between mini-soccer at under 10s and 11-a-side football at under 11s. This is being done to address the large drop off in participation in this age group. The 9v9 pitches can be marked in blue lines within 11 a side pitches. Portable intermediate-sized (16' x 7') goalposts will also be required. Harrow Council will need to embrace and promote these changes if participation in football is to be sustained.

14. The lack of suitable 5-a-side facilities is frustrating the development of disability football in the Borough.

## 8. Cricket

### Introduction

This section provides a comprehensive picture of the demand for cricket facilities and the supply of those facilities in Harrow. A questionnaire survey of cricket clubs was undertaken to ascertain the demand for cricket in Harrow with assistance of the Middlesex Cricket Board. The clubs included in the survey are either based in Harrow or use facilities in the Borough. Clubs were also asked about the quality of the facilities. An audit of all cricket facilities in Harrow was undertaken to determine the supply of facilities.

A total of 28 clubs were sent a questionnaire and responses were received from 25, a response rate of 89%. There were in addition, 5 clubs playing or with members living in the borough who are not affiliated with the Middlesex Cricket Board and for whom no contact details could be obtained and so it was not possible to send them a questionnaire. General information was secured through a website search about these clubs where possible.

### Membership

There are an estimated 2,427 playing members of 30 cricket clubs that either play in Harrow or where at least a proportion of members live within the Borough. Adult members make up 56 % of the membership and youth members account for 44% of all members. Male members account for 98% of the total membership. Details are shown in **Table 8.1** below.

### Clubs

There are 30 regular cricket clubs based within the Harrow Council area. There may be a number of other casual sides but it was not possible to discover any details about these teams.

The largest club is Stanmore CC with 307 members followed by Harrow C.C. with 220 members and Harrow St. Mary's C.C. with 204 members. The majority of clubs (68%) have less than 100 members. Seven clubs have achieved Focus Club status and these are listed in **Table 8.2** below. A Focus Club under the England and Wales Cricket Trust scheme is one that has been identified for a clear strategic reason, and one that is committed to long-term youth development. The aim of the programme is to build a nationwide network of 'vibrant, robust and dynamic cricketing communities' that offer high-quality youth development programmes for young players.

**Table 8.1: Cricket Club membership**

Name of club	Junior Male members	Junior Female members	Adult Male members	Adult Female members	Veteran members	Total members
Belmont & Edgware C.C.	0	0	63	0	0	63
Bessborough C.C.	110	0	50	0	10	170
Brentham C.C. (Third & Fourth XIs)	0	0	22	0	0	22
CRS Cardinals	0	0	24	0	19	43
Ealing Three Bridges C.C.	0	0	60	0	12	72
Early Risers	0	0	22	0	0	22
Harrow Council C.C.	0	0	12	0	6	18
Harrow C.C.	142	0	67	0	11	220
Harrow St. Mary's C.C.	149	0	40	0	15	204
Harrow Town C.C.	40	5	33	0	10	88
Haryom C.C.	0	0	27	0	0	27
Hatch End C.C.	0	0	15	0	0	15
Headstone Manor Ladies C.C.	0	18	0	12	0	30
Kenton C.C.	95	0	31	0	9	135
Lankian C.C.	0	0	18	0	12	30
Lohana (Harrow) C.C.	67	8	34	2	5	116
Muktajivan C.C.	3	0	30	0	2	35
Neasden C.C.	0	0	35	0	7	42
North Harrow C.C.	0	0	30	0	0	30
Old Lyonians C.C.	0	0	60	0	0	60

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Parkfield & Headstone C.C.	7	0	101	0	23	131
Pinner C.C.	94	3	50	0	20	167
South Harrow C.C.	0	0	24	0	10	34
Stanmore C.C.	240	2	50	0	15	307
Tamil Union C.C.	0	0	45	0	0	19
Yarl Cricket Club						
United Warriors C.C.	0	0	89	0	0	89
West Harrow C.C.	78	0	60	0	20	158
Youth Wing	8	0	32	0	14	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>1033</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>1124</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>2427</b>

**Table 8.2: Harrow Focus Clubs.**

Focus Club
Bessborough CC
Harrow CC
Harrow St Mary's CC
Kenton CC
Lohana (Harrow) CC
Pinner CC
Stanmore CC

The clubs field an estimated total of 124 teams and these are listed in **Table 8.3** below. There are 74 adult teams and 51 youth teams of under 18's. Out the 28 clubs, only 10 have junior (Colts) teams. The remaining 18 clubs have adult teams. There is one women's cricket club, Headstone Manor Ladies, which has 3 junior teams and 1 adult team.

Name of club	Youth Teams	Adult Teams
Belmont & Edgware Cricket Club		2
Bessborough Cricket Club	7	5
Brentham Cricket Club		2
CRS Cardinals		1
Ealing Three Bridges Cricket Club		3
Early Risers		1
Harrow Council Cricket Club		1
Harrow Cricket Club	7	5
Harrow St. Mary's Cricket Club	4	5
Harrow Town Cricket Club	4	5
Haryom Cricket Club		1
Hatch End Cricket Club		1
Headstone Manor Ladies Cricket Club	3	1
Kenton Cricket Club	3	5
Lankian Cricket Club		2
Lohana (Harrow) Cricket Club	5	6
Muktajivan Cricket Club		2
Neasden Cricket Club		2
North Harrow Cricket Club		1
Old Lyonians Cricket Club		2
Parkfield & Headstone Cricket Club		4
Pinner Cricket Club	5	4
South Harrow Cricket Club		1
Stanmore Cricket Club	8	6
Tamil Union Cricket Club		2

United Warriors Cricket Club		3
West Harrow Cricket Club	5	6
Youth Wing		2
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>74</b>

### Membership Trends

Of the 23 clubs that responded to the question about whether the club's membership had increased, decreased or had stayed the same over the last five years, 11 clubs reported an increase, the membership of 8 clubs had declined and 4 had stayed the same.

### Area in which majority of players live

Clubs were asked where the majority of their players live. Approximately 1 in 3 of the respondent clubs indicated that all their players live in the Harrow area. Players in most clubs live in north and west London with a proportion of their membership living in Harrow. The only exception is Brentham CC, which has players who live in west London and none resident in Harrow. Details are shown in **Table 8.4** below.

**Table 8.4: Where players live**

Name of club	Area in which majority of players live
Belmont & Edgware Cricket Club	25% Harrow
Bessborough Cricket Club	Harrow, Eastcote, Northolt, Edgware, Pinner, Stanmore, Uxbridge, Wembley, Kingsbury (HA1, HA2, HA3, HA4, HA5, HA6, HA&, HA9, UB5, NW9)
Brentham Cricket Club	W5, W13, W7
CRS Cardinals	NW10, Harrow, W12, W14.
Ealing Three Bridges Cricket Club	HA1, HA3, UB1, W13
Early Risers	North Harrow, Pinner
Harrow Council Cricket Club	Harrow, Watford, Stanmore.
Harrow Cricket Club	Harrow
Harrow-on-the-Hill Cricket Club	Harrow
Harrow St. Mary's Cricket Club	Harrow
Harrow Town Cricket Club	Harrow
Haryom Cricket Club	
Hatch End Cricket Club	
Headstone Manor Ladies Cricket Club	Harrow; Kenton/Kingsbury; Pinner.
Kenton Cricket Club	HA3, HA9, HA7, HA8, NW9, Wembley.
Lankian Cricket Club	Harrow, Wembley.
Lohana (Harrow) Cricket Club	Harrow HA postcodes, Brent, Mill Hill
Muktajivan Cricket Club	Northwest London; Wembley; Stanmore, Kenton area
Neasden Cricket Club	Harrow, Brent, Northwood
North Harrow Cricket Club	Harrow HA1 to HA3; Rickmansworth, Watford.
Old Lyonians Cricket Club	Harrow, Ealing, Hillingdon

Parkfield & Headstone Cricket Club	Pinner HA5, Harrow, Wembley
Pinner Cricket Club	Hounslow, Pinner, Watford
South Harrow Cricket Club	HA3, HA2, HA5, HA7, UB6, UB7, NW10, W3, NW11
Stanmore Cricket Club	Stanmore, Bushey, Edgware HA8.
Tamil Union Cricket Club	
United Warriors Cricket Club	
West Harrow Cricket Club	Harrow & Wembley
Youth Wing	Harrow, North London

## Leagues

Cricket clubs in Harrow play in 11 cricket leagues covering Middlesex and Hertfordshire. Thirty Colts teams play in the Middlesex Colts Association (North Area). The largest league for adult teams is the Middlesex Championship League which has 26 teams from Harrow. Leagues are shown in **Table 8.5** below.

**Table 8.5: Cricket Leagues**

League	No. Teams	Clubs
Middlesex County Cricket League	15	C.R.S. Cardinals CC
		Ealing Three Bridges CC
		Harrow St Mary's CC
		Lohana CC
		Old Lionians CC
		Pinner CC
		South Harrow CC
		West Harrow CC
		Youth Wing CC
1987 Cricket League	10	Bessborough CC
		Brentham CC
		Harrow St Mary's CC
		Kenton CC
		Lohana CC
Chess Valley Sunday League	6	Harrow CC
		Harrow St Mary's CC
		Harrow Town CC
		Bessborough CC
ETCL (Tamil League)	1	Tamil Union Cricket Club
Middlesex Championship League	19	Bessborough CC
		Brentham CC
		Harrow CC

		Harrow St Mary's CC
		Harrow Town CC
		Kenton CC
		Stanmore CC
Middlesex Colts Association (North Area)	30	Bessborough CC
		Harrow CC
		Harrow St Mary's CC
		Harrow Town CC
		Kenton CC
		Lohana CC
		Pinner CC
		Stanmore CC
		West Harrow CC
Middlesex (Sunday) Premier Cricket League	7	Haryom CC
		West Harrow CC
MCB [Sunday] Development League	2	
North London Women's Cricket League	1	Headstone Manor Ladies CC
Seaxe League	3	Headstone Manor Ladies CC
The Saracens Hertfordshire Cricket League	4	Hatch End CC
		Parkfield & Headstone CC
<b>Total</b>	<b>98</b>	

### Pattern of Play

Clubs were asked to indicate the day and time when each team plays its matches during the season. The majority of matches are played on either Saturday afternoon (32.2%) or Sunday afternoon (27.1%). Over 1 in 3 (34%) of matches are played in the evening Monday to Friday. The majority of these midweek evening matches are Colts matches with most adult matches taking place at the weekend. The pattern of play is shown in **Table 8.6** below.

**Table 8.6: Times when matches are played**

Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Monday	0%	0%	8.5%
Tuesday	0%	0%	8.5%
Wednesday	0%	0.8%	4.2%
Thursday	0%	0%	8.5%
Friday		0%	4.2%
Saturday	3.4%	32.2%	
Sunday <sup>45</sup>	2.5%	27.1%	

### Location

<sup>45</sup> All Saturday and Sunday games also take place in the evening.



Clubs play at a variety of venues in Harrow, which are either private grounds or Harrow Council pitches located in parks. One club from Ealing, which does not have any members living in Harrow, Brentham CC uses the facilities at Harrow CC for the club's Third XI and Harrow Town CC for its Fourth XI.

One club, Hatch End CC was based at Shaftesbury Playing Fields until its pavilion was burnt down. Declining membership and the high cost of leasing the ground forced the club to move outside the Borough. The club now ground shares with Elstree CC but still has some members (25%) living in Harrow. The cricket square at Shaftesbury Playing Fields is no longer used.

Three clubs are 'wandering clubs', that is they have no home ground and play friendly matches at the grounds of other clubs. The three clubs all have members living in Harrow. These are the North Harrow, United Warriors and Harrow-on-the-Hill Cricket Clubs. One club, not based in Harrow, which plays at the London Post Office Ground located on the border of Harrow, is Middlesex Tamil Sports & Social Club (MTSSC). This club draws members from across Middlesex some of whom are likely to live in Harrow.

Belmont & Edgware's home ground was Parmiter's School in Watford. However, in 2012 they will return to play in Harrow at the Old Lyonians ground. Currently only about one in four members live in Harrow but they have been included in the calculations in view of their future move. Details of where cricket clubs play are shown in **Table 8.7** below

**Table 8.7: Where clubs play**

<b>Name of club</b>	<b>Main home match pitch</b>	<b>Other home match pitch</b>
Belmont & Edgware Cricket Club	Parmiters Sports Ground, Garston Nr. Watford	Moving to Old Lyonians
Bessborough Cricket Club	Bessborough CC Main Pitch, Headstone Manor	Bessborough CC Second Pitch, Headstone Manor
Brentham Cricket Club Third XI	Harrow Cricket Club	
Brentham Cricket Club Fourth XI	Harrow Town Cricket Club	
CRS Cardinals	Chandos Recreation Ground	
Ealing Three Bridges Cricket Club	Harrow Recreation Ground	
Early Risers	Harrow Recreation Ground	
Harrow Council Cricket Club	Roxbourne Park	
Harrow Cricket Club	Harrow Cricket Club, Wood End Road.	
Harrow-on-the-Hill Cricket Club	Wandering Club	
Harrow St. Mary's Cricket Club	Sat 1st and 2nd X1 alternate at home ground in Headstone Lane	Sat 3rd X1 use Lohana (RCT Ground) next door.
Harrow Town Cricket Club	Harrow Town Sports & Social Club	
Haryom Cricket Club	Jewish Free School	
Hatch End Cricket Club	Elstree CC, Aldenham Road, Elstree	
Headstone Manor Ladies Cricket Club	RCT Sports Ground	Canons High School, Shaldon Road
Kenton Cricket Club	Kenton Sports Ground	
Lankian Cricket Club	West Harrow Recreation Ground	
Lohana (Harrow) Cricket Club	RCT Sports Ground	
Muktajivan Cricket Club	Kenton Cricket Ground, Kenton Park Road	
Neasden Cricket Club	Headstone Manor	

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North Harrow Cricket Club	Travelling Side	
Old Lyonians Cricket Club	Old Lyonians	
Parkfield & Headstone Cricket Club	Saddlers Mead	Old Camdenians, Mill Hill
Pinner Cricket Club	Montesole Playing Fields	
South Harrow Cricket Club	Roxeth Recreation Ground	West Harrow Recreation Ground
Stanmore Cricket Club	Stanmore	Metropolitan Police, Bushey
Tamil Union Cricket Club	Roxbourne Park	
United Warriors Cricket Club	Wandering Club	
West Harrow Cricket Club	Headstone Manor	
Yarl Cricket Club	West Harrow Recreation Ground	
Youth Wing Cricket Club	West Harrow Recreation Ground	

## **Key Issues for Cricket Clubs**

In response to the question about whether there are any issues which present problems for the club, 18 clubs made observations.

### **Finance**

One of the most difficult aspects of running a successful club is keeping it funded. For this reason, finance is the most frequently mentioned issue and is cited as being a problem by 8 clubs. Clubs are concerned about the lack of finance and the costs of running their club. One club referred to the cost of running its colts' section, which is in excess of £22,000 per annum taking into account the cost of utilities, hire of winter practice facilities, maintenance of grounds etc. Typical statements include:

"Finance is a major problem with rising costs"

"We are constantly applying to Trusts, Foundations, Sporting Bodies for funds."

### **Costs of hiring facilities**

Linked to the issue of finance is the cost of hiring facilities. Two clubs related the problem of rising costs with the inability to recruit new members. Typical statements include:

"Cost of playing in Harrow is prohibitive. Can't recruit new and young members because they are unable to pay the membership fees (£100) and match fee (£7) per match."

"Have had to pressure Council to protect square and improve changing rooms but the charges are same as being sought for locations with good facilities."

"With rising costs, it is difficult to recruit members."

### **Recruiting new members**

Recruiting young people to join the club is a problem for four clubs. Typical statements include:

"Recruitment is always an issue; 50% players always available - other 50% variable. Struggle if we lose core members."

### **Poor quality changing facilities**

Four clubs mention the poor quality of the changing facilities at Harrow Council venues. Typical statements include:

"Changing rooms are dire with poor lighting and showers rarely work. Toilet/washroom need updating as unusable in current condition."

"Water supply was cut off in September when water pipe to pavilion was moved to a different position. Needs resolution ...".

"Changing rooms are substandard. Tea room hasn't any proper chairs or tables for a sit down tea."

### **Need for refurbishment**

Linked to the poor quality of changing facilities is the need for refurbishment, which is mentioned by four clubs. Typical statements include:

"Getting Harrow Council to make improvements."

"Clubs have brought pressure on the Council to make improvements."

"Council owned facilities so lack of funding, facilities in need of improvement, new pavilion, fencing along river."

“Need for urgent refurbishment of nets; artificial pitches; improve facilities in general.”

### Quality of pitch

The quality of the playing surface is of vital importance to enjoyment of the game. Poor quality pitches concern three clubs. Typical statements include:

“We are concerned that the maintenance of the pitch may not be of an adequate standard for the County League to which the side just been promoted.”

### Volunteers

Clubs are increasingly reliant on their unpaid workforce who play an integral part in their club’s development. Two cricket clubs are finding it increasingly difficult to find volunteers. Typical statements include:

“...a major problem with .. finding volunteers to help run the club.”

“State of the pitch. To play in better league, we need to improve the state of our pitch drastically.”

Other issues raised by the clubs include the need for facilities for women’s cricket, problems with vandalism and anti-social behaviour and the amount of time required to prepare applications for grants.

### Future Plans

Twenty clubs provided a response to the question about any plans the club might have for the future. A summary of the responses is shown in **Table 8.8** below. All the clubs stated that they were seeking to increase their membership with two of the clubs stating a desire to increase the number of Colts and one club wishing to run an additional team in the next season.

**Table 8.8: Future Plans**

Aspiration	No. Clubs
Increase membership/ number of teams	20
Improve/Refurbish Facilities	16
Expand the range of facilities	11
Relocate/Move	6
Gain accreditation.	1

Sixteen clubs have aspirations to either improve or refurbish their existing facilities. Harrow Town Cricket Club is seeking funding to refurbish their clubhouse and provide disabled access as well as updating showers, providing segregated changing and permanent outdoor nets. The club is currently in discussions with Headstone Manor Ladies Cricket Club about a possible merger of the two clubs. Existing facilities do not cater for women participants. Headstone Manor Ladies consider that:

“High overheads and lack of resources are drivers for amalgamation and greater sustainability.”

Lohana (Harrow) Cricket Club has aspirations to build a new clubhouse and changing facilities. Other clubs, such as Harrow St Mary’s, wish to refurbish their existing facilities. Harrow St Mary’s wants:

“..to provide a welcoming environment to enable us to attract people to use the facilities e.g. double glazing, central heating etc.”

Eleven clubs wish to expand the range of facilities at their club. For example, Bessborough Cricket Club is seeking to expand into an adjoining field and provide more cricket facilities.

There are six clubs that are looking to relocate in the future. In addition to Headstone Manor Ladies CC this includes Belmont and Edgware CC who have already made arrangements to leave the Parmiters School in Watford and will in future be based at the Old Lyonians CC ground. Parkfield & Headstone CC have a second ground at Old Camdenians in Barnet and are hoping to find a new ground close their existing home ground at Saddlers Mead.

Harrow Cricket Club, in partnership with Orley Farm School, is developing links with seven local state schools through the ‘Chance to Shine’ programme which provides a structured coaching and competition programme of cricket for Primary and Secondary School pupils.

## Supply of Cricket Facilities

The audit and revealed that there are 30 cricket squares available in Harrow which have a total of 270 cricket strips. The details of cricket facilities being used by Harrow cricket clubs are summarised in **Table 8.9** below. The locations of cricket pitches in Harrow are shown in **Map 4**.

Not all the cricket grounds have a ‘home’ club. At present there is no club using the square at Shaftesbury Playing Fields, which was formerly used as the home ground for Hatch End CC. Also there is no club based at Hatch End Playing Fields although this venue accommodates a summer cricket tournament.

There are four cricket clubs, which have a proportion of their membership formed of players who are resident in Harrow, that play at grounds outside the Borough. Belmont & Edgware CC currently use the cricket square at Parmiters School in Watford; Hatch End CC are now ground sharing with Elstree CC; Haryom CC are based at the Jewish Free School in Brent; and Parkfield & Headstone CC second XI play at the Old Camdenians ground in Barnet.

## Ownership

The breakdown of ownership of pitches in Harrow is shown in **Table 8.9** below. There are 10 locations with cricket squares owned by Harrow Council and 7 locations owned by private clubs with one cricket square that is available for community use at John Lyon School.

All the Harrow Council facilities are located in public open space in the form of parks or playing fields. However, the facilities at Shaftesbury Playing Fields have now been leased in their entirety to Pinner & Grammarians rugby club. There is very little prospect of cricket being resumed at this site.

## Quality of Cricket Pitches

A cricket pitch should ideally be:

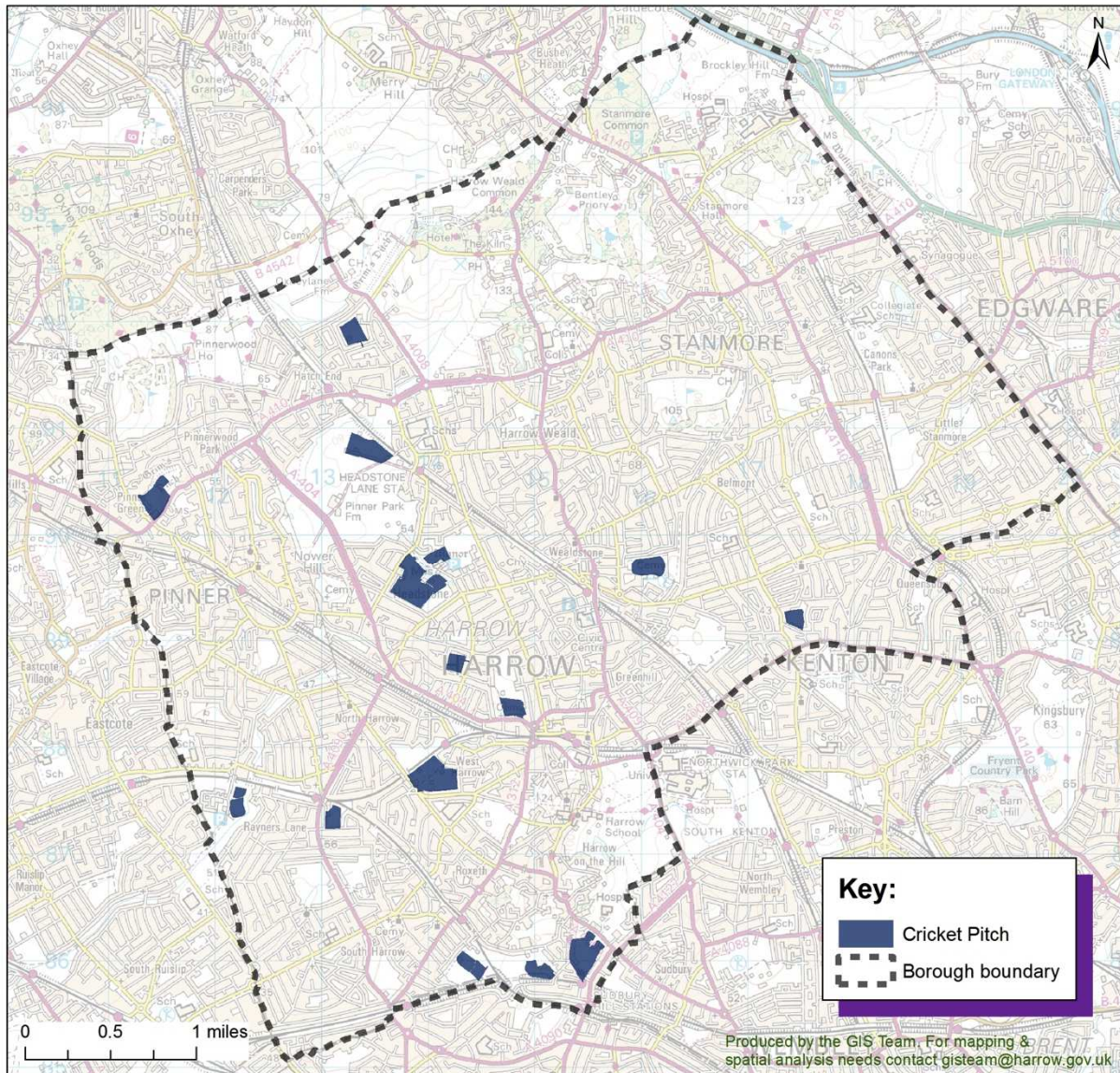
- even throughout, with no undulations or depressions;
- well consolidated, giving good and appropriate ball bounce;
- covered with a dense sward of desirable grasses that have good root density and depth;

In addition, a well-prepared pitch should ideally be able to withstand the equivalent of three, five-hour games.<sup>46</sup>

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<sup>46</sup>Institute of Groundsmanship

### Map 4: Cricket Pitch Locations



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**Table 8.9: Cricket Pitches**

<b>Cricket Ground</b>	<b>Outdoor Cricket Pitches</b>	<b>Estimated Number of Strips</b>	<b>Changing Rooms</b>	<b>Artificial Wicket</b>	<b>Nets</b>	<b>Owner</b>
Bessborough CC (Headstone Manor) Main	1	12	Yes	1	Yes	Local Authority
Bessborough CC (Headstone Manor) No.2	1	9	Yes	1	Yes	Local Authority
Chandos Recreation Ground	1	9	Yes	0	No	Local Authority
Harrow Cricket Club, Wood End Road. Main	1	17	Yes	1	Yes	Private Club
Harrow Cricket Club, Wood End Road. No 2	1	9	Yes	1	Yes	Private Club
Harrow Recreation Ground. Main	2	11	Yes	1	Yes	Local Authority
Harrow Recreation Ground. No.2	2	7	Yes	0	Yes	Local Authority
Harrow St Mary's	1	15	Yes	1	Yes	Private Club
Harrow Town Sports & Social Club. Main	1	16	Yes	1	Yes	Private Club
Harrow Town Sports & Social Club. No.2	1	4	Yes	0	Yes	Private Club
Hatch End Sports Ground	1	9	Yes	0	No	Local Authority
Headstone Manor	1	9	Yes	2	Yes	Local Authority
John Lyon School	1	8	Yes	0	Yes	School
Kenton Sports Ground. Main	1	12	Yes	1	Yes	Private Club
Kenton Sports Ground.	1	8 + 3	Yes	0	Yes	Private Club



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No.2						
Montesoles Playing Fields	1	12	Yes	0	No	Local Authority
Old Lyonians	1	8	Yes	0	No	Private Club
RCT Sports Ground. Main	1	12	Yes	0	Yes	Private Club
RCT Sports Ground. No.2	1	4	Yes	0	Yes	Private Club
Roxbourne Park	1	9	Yes	0	No	Local Authority
Roxeth Recreation Ground	1	13	Yes	0	Yes	Local Authority
Saddlers Mead	1	10	Yes	1	Yes	Local Authority
Shaftesbury Playing Fields	1	12	No	0	No	Local Authority
Stanmore	1	12	Yes	0	Yes	Private Club
West Harrow Recreation Ground	2	10+10	Yes	0	No	Local Authority
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>270</b>		<b>11</b>		
<b>Outside Harrow</b>						
Elstree CC, Aldenham Road, Elstree	1	9	Yes			Private Club
Jewish Free School	1	8	Yes	1	No	School
Old Camdenians □□Mill Hill□London □NW7						Private Club
Parmiters Sports Ground, Garston Nr. Watford	1	9	Yes	0	No	School

The ECB recommended approach to objectively assessing the quality of the cricket pitch is to assess the pitch against the Performance Quality Standards (PQS), which were developed by the Institute of Groundsmanship (IOG).

Within the PQS there are three categories of measurement that relate to the overall quality of a facility. These are:

*Structural Quality*

This looks at both surface and subsurface criteria and is the physical make-up of an area. Criteria include appropriate range for the length of grass, amount of bare areas present, desirable grass content, a pH range for appropriate grass growth and amount of weed content within the turf.

*Presentational Quality*

This is the visual look of the surface including the appearance of the surface of the turf including the uniformity of turf and colour.

*Playing Quality*

This category considers what a player experiences on a pitch and includes how hard the surface is, the amount of surface traction (grip) provided by the turf and the disintegration of the surface on a cricket pitch.

However, a PQS takes about ¾ hour per pitch so in this instance the quality of cricket pitches was assessed using a modified version of the Sport England Visual Quality Assessment Tool (VQA). This modified version of the VQA includes several factors not taken into account by Sport England's original version. The additional factors taken into account utilise several of the key elements of the PQS but cannot substitute for a PQS. The assessments were undertaken in the winter months in a period when cricket was not being played. This meant that there was minimal maintenance of the pitches being undertaken and the grass was at its winter height. The quality scores therefore are necessarily only indicative and cannot substitute for a PQS.

The quality scores of the cricket pitches were rated in accordance with the Sport England criteria shown in **Table 8.10**.

**Table 8.10 Sport England Pitch Quality Ratings**

<b>% Score</b>	<b>Rating</b>
91%+	An excellent pitch
71-90%	A good pitch
61-70%	An average pitch
40-60%	A below average pitch
Less than 40	A poor pitch

Quality assessments were undertaken of 25 cricket squares of which all except one scored as either good or excellent. 10 pitches (40%) achieved a score of excellent and 14 (56%) were good. One pitch was rated as average and no pitches scored below this level. The results of the assessments for cricket pitches can be found in **Appendix F**.

The best scoring pitches are those at the private clubs of Stanmore and Harrow St Marys and the pitch at John Lyon School. The lowest scoring pitches are the three pitches at Headstone Manor and the square at Shaftesbury Playing Fields. A summary of pitch quality ratings is shown in **Table 8.11** below.

**Table 8.11: Summary of Cricket Pitch Quality Ratings**

<b>Quality Rating</b>	<b>Number of Sites</b>
An excellent pitch	10
A good pitch	14
An average pitch	1
A below average pitch	0
A poor pitch	0

**Cricket club views about pitch quality**

Clubs were asked to assess the quality of the following at their main match pitch on a five-point scale ranging from very good to very poor.

- Cricket square
- Outfield
- Maintenance
- Changing Accommodation

The club’s assessment reflects the overall performance of pitches over the season. Twenty three clubs provided a response to these questions in relation to sixteen cricket grounds in Harrow.

Fifteen clubs (65%) rated their cricket square as being good or very good, seven clubs (30%) rated their cricket squares as moderate and one club (4%) rated its square as poor (West Harrow Recreation Ground).

Eleven clubs (48%) rated their outfield as being good or very good and twelve clubs (52%) rated their outfield as moderate or poor. This is probably due to the fact that their outfield areas are used as football pitches in the winter months.

Twelve clubs (34%) rated the maintenance of their cricket pitches as being good or very good. Eleven out of the twelve clubs play on private club sites or a Harrow Council site where the club undertakes its own maintenance. The remaining ten clubs (65%) rated the maintenance of their cricket grounds as being moderate to very poor. Harrow Council maintains 10 of the cricket grounds rated as moderate to very poor for maintenance.

Clubs were also asked about the quality of their changing accommodation and 8 clubs (43%) consider their changing facilities to be good or very good. However, 15 clubs (65%) consider that the changing facilities are moderate to very poor. The majority of these clubs (10) are referring to Harrow Council changing accommodation.

These results are summarised in **Table 8.12** below.

**Table 8.12: Cricket Club Responses about the Quality of Facilities**

Rating	Cricket Square	Outfield	Maintenance	Changing accommodation
Very Good.	17%	13%	9%	4%
Good	48%	35%	48%	30%
Moderate	30%	43%	30%	30%
Poor	4%	9%	9%	26%
Very Poor	0%	0%	4%	9%

### Best and Worst Pitches

Clubs were asked which were the three best and three worst pitches they had played on during the previous season. The results are shown in **Table 8.13 and 8.14** below.

**Table 8.13: 'Best' Pitches**

Best Pitch	No. Mentions	Second Best Pitch	No. Mentions	Third Best Pitch	No. Mentions
Ealing CC	3	Kenton CC	2	Uxbridge CC	3
Harrow St Mary's CC	2	Mill Hill Village CC	2	Harrow CC	1
Bessborough main pitch	1	Metropolitan Police, Bushey	2	Metropolitan Police, Bushey	1
West Harrow Recreation Ground	1	Uxbridge CC	2	Bessborough Main Pitch	1
Mill Hill Village CC	1	Stanmore CC	1	Winchmore Hill CC	1
Finchley CC	1	Winchmore Hill CC	1	Roxeth CC	1

The 'best' pitch is Ealing CC with 3 votes with Harrow St Mary's gaining 2 votes. Thirteen other pitches were mentioned including Bessborough main pitch and West Harrow Recreation Ground. Four clubs obtained 2 votes for second 'best' pitch, Kenton CC, Metropolitan Police, Bushey, Uxbridge CC and Mill Hill Village CC. Eight other grounds were

mentioned including Stanmore CC. The third ‘best’ pitch is Uxbridge CC with 3 votes, all the remaining thirteen getting one mention, including Bessborough main pitch and Roxeth CC.

With regard to the worst pitches, the most frequently mentioned sites are West Harrow Recreation Ground (6), Northwick Park (3), Ealing Central Sports Ground (2) and Perivale Sports Ground, Ealing (2). This result clearly points to a need to address the quality issues raised by the clubs in relation to West Harrow Recreation Ground and Hatch End Playing Fields.

**Table 8.14: ‘Worst’ Pitches**

<b>Worst Pitch</b>	<b>No. Mentions</b>	<b>Second Worst Pitch</b>	<b>No. Mentions</b>	<b>Third Worst Pitch</b>	<b>No. Mentions</b>
Northwick Park	3	West Harrow Recreation Ground	3	Vale Farm Sports Ground, Brent	2
Ealing Central Sports Ground	2	Harrow Weald Recreation Ground	1	Hatch End Playing Fields	1
Perivale Sports Ground, Ealing	2	Boston Manor Playing Fields	1	West Harrow Recreation Ground	1
West Harrow Recreation Ground	2	Warren Farm, Ealing	1	Middlesex Tamil Sports & Social Club (MTSSC), Ealing Park	1
2nd pitch RCT Sports Ground	1	Southall Dragons, Southall	1	Warren Farm, Ealing	1
Old Camdenians, Mill Hill	1	New Southgate	1	The Pavilion, East Lane, Wembley.	1
Copthall Playing Fields	1	Trailfinders, Perivale	1	Hampstead CC	1

### **Changing Accommodation**

The quality of the changing accommodation at sites with cricket pitches was assessed using the assessment criteria to be found at **Appendix B**. The results are shown in **Appendix F**.

Changing accommodation is provided by the local authority (10 sites), private clubs (6 sites) and schools (1site). The quality of changing accommodation varies considerably with scores ranging between 93% (John Lyon School) and 43% Harrow Town Sports Club). The overall median score is 63% which is the score for both West Harrow Recreation Ground and Saddlers Mead.

### Cricket club views about changing accommodation

Clubs were asked to assess the overall quality of the changing accommodation at their main match pitch on a five-point scale ranging between very good and very poor. (see **Table 8.15** below)

**Table 8.15: Cricket clubs rating of changing accommodation at their main match pitch.**

Rating	Number	%
Very good	1	4%
Good	7	30%
Moderate	7	30%
Poor	6	26%
Very poor	2	9%
Total	23	

23 clubs provided a response to this question. 34% (8), of clubs rated their changing accommodation as being good or very good; 30% (7) rated their changing accommodation as being moderate; 35% (8) thought their changing accommodation was poor or very poor. Changing accommodation considered to be poor or very poor is Bessborough CC, Harrow Town CC, Roxborough Park, Roxeth Recreation Ground and Headstone Manor.

### National Governing Body Consultations

The Middlesex Cricket Board has found that the results of the questionnaire survey provide membership numbers that are not consistent with figures submitted to ECB by the clubs in October 2011 as part of their annual club development plan. The eight leading clubs in the Borough have a combined total membership of 1,530 (compared with 1,307 from the questionnaire). Therefore, the survey findings may well underestimate the number of club members in Harrow by around 15%.

The Middlesex Cricket Board has found that membership in the clubs that they support is up more than 12% over the last 2 years.

Both the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) and the MCB do not consider Sport England's Visual Quality Assessment to be a reliable indicator of the quality of a cricket pitch and therefore cannot support any conclusions derived from the results. Performance Quality Standard assessments, coupled with (sometimes) umpire marks are a much better indicator.

In reviewing the results for club's views on best and worst pitches (Table 8.13) it is not clear whether clubs were answering on the quality of the pitch or the clubhouse facilities as there are a number of "anomalies" in the results.

What is clear is that the council-maintained pitches are consistently rated the worst by clubs, despite them facing far higher fees than clubs in neighbouring Boroughs.

The MCB does not accept that the supply of pitches is in balance with demand. It is apparent from visits to cricket facilities in the Borough that there are many squares that exist in name only and do not present a realistic viable 'home' for cricket teams. MCB estimates that, by 2015, just looking at the eight clubs in the Borough with Clubmark accreditation, they will require three extra cricket squares (of suitable quality) together with changing facilities as a result of:

a) meeting their club's growth, and

b) to address the current issue of teams playing outside the Borough.

Concern is expressed by the MCB that there is a real possibility of some existing council-maintained facilities being taken out of use over the next 3-5 years, given their poor state. Investment is required to improve the buildings otherwise the lack of (accessible) cricket squares in the Borough will be far more acute.

In the view of the MCB, the local authority needs to take a far more pro-active and long term view on the future of outdoor sports facilities in the Borough. This can be achieved in two respects:

1. By working in partnership with NGBs such as MCB and their Clubmark-accredited clubs to achieve long term sustainability at a number of sites – both existing and new
2. By renovating some of the existing building stock before it is too late.

Benefits for the sport may be achieved through Asset Transfer. The London Borough of Ealing has demonstrated what can be achieved in partnership working. One of the major benefits of such an approach is that it has enabled significant external funding to be accessed for specific projects, for a much smaller investment by the Borough itself.

The MCB would be happy to work with the Borough in the future on particular facilities projects and help to ensure a return on investment.

The ECB is concerned that the data from a non-technical visual assessment has led to a conclusion that Harrow pitches are of good quality. This contrasts with the evidence from the questionnaire survey which indicates that Harrow Council pitches are of a poor quality.

It is also clear from the questionnaire survey that, whilst increased club membership was number one priority in clubs' aspirations, the next three priorities were all about improving facilities so the club can grow.

The conclusions of the ECB Regional Funding & Facilities Manager are that, based on the evidence provided, there are generally enough pitches in Harrow to meet current demand but there is an issue with the quality of some of the provision, both pitches and changing facilities. This needs to be the main priority for Harrow Council. This does not necessarily mean large capital investments although it may be necessary in some cases. Many of the problems can be addressed by improved maintenance, skills training of grounds staff and ensuring that up to date practices are used which ensure a quality pitch is maintained within a tight budget. The ECB and IOG can support this process to ensure the improvement is sustainable.

## **Cricket – Matching Demand to Supply**

### **Team Generation Rates**

The TGRs for junior boys and senior men's cricket shown in **Table 8.16** below are both above the national average and are higher than most of the examples from other local authorities. This high TGR for cricket indicates a relatively low latent demand.

**Table 8.16 Team Generation Rates for Cricket**

Local Authority	Junior Boys 11-17yrs	Junior Girls 11-17yrs	Senior Women 18-55yrs	Senior Men 18-55 yrs
Maidstone	1:248			1:495
Erewash	1:128	1:2428	1:24177	1:527
Test Valley	1:165	1:5,184		1:742
<b>Harrow</b>	<b>1:180</b>	<b>1:1,833</b>	<b>1:63,309</b>	<b>1:897</b>
Solihull	1:816		1:48,939	1:904
Thurrock	1:374			1:1,153
Swindon	1:2,807		1:25,696	1:1,285
Middlesbrough	1:364			1:1,326
Dartford	1:284	1:1224		1:1393
Sefton	1:488			1:1,462
Milton Keynes	1:476	1:4,891	1:59,007	1:1,723
Basildon	1:981		1:44329	1:2504
Nottingham	1:1,180			1:3,887
<b>National Averages</b>	<b>1:1,481</b>	<b>1:15,926</b>	<b>1:72,518</b>	<b>1:1,333</b>

**Current Situation**

The current situation with regard to cricket is summarised in **Table 8.17** below. For cricket the Active Population is between 11 and 55 years.

**Table 8.17: PPM Summary of Current Situation for Cricket**

Cricket	Stage 7											
	Shortfall or Surplus											
Cricket Current Situation	Saturday AM (senior)	Saturday PM (senior)	Saturday AM (junior)	Saturday PM (junior)	Sunday AM (senior)	Sunday PM (senior)	Sunday AM (junior)	Sunday PM (junior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (senior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (junior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (senior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (junior)
Harrow	<b>29</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>22</b>

The audit revealed that there are 30 cricket pitches available in Harrow. There are 75 senior teams and 51 junior teams that use these pitches together with 4 grounds located outside Harrow. Junior and senior matches are played on different days and at different times. It has been assumed that overall demand includes the teams playing on pitches outside Harrow. On this basis there are sufficient cricket pitches available to accommodate all the matches being played at the peak time of Saturday afternoon.



However, the model only considers the number of squares and not the number of wickets available on each square. In the case of Harrow this varies between 6 strips and 14 strips and it is estimated that there are 270 strips in total (see **Table 8.9** for details). Each strip should be able to accommodate 3-4 games of average club standard<sup>47</sup>. If it is assumed that 3 games a season are played on each strip the overall capacity of the cricket pitches in Harrow is 810 and if 4 games a season is applied the overall capacity is 1,080. This suggests that cricket strips are being played to their full capacity.

The clubs reported the number of games they play on their home pitch in the questionnaire and the estimated total is 976. An estimated 53 of these games are played at locations outside the Borough giving a total of 923 matches per season. However, Belmont & Edgware will be moving back to Harrow in the 2012 season and this will increase the number of matches being played to 951. Clearly, the strips on some grounds are more likely to be able to accommodate 4 games per season although this is counterbalanced by the fact that one square is not currently in use<sup>48</sup>; there is no club based at Hatch End Playing Fields and the quality of some cricket squares may not be of a standard to meet player's expectations. Overall, it would appear that there is a balance of supply and demand at the peak times of Saturday and Sunday. However, this does not take into account the allowance of 10% for the rest and recuperation recommended by Sport England. If this is taken into account, the playing pitch calculator indicates that there would be a sufficient supply of cricket pitches to accommodate the current and future level of demand. However, the number of strips available would appear to be only just sufficient to meet current demand if the ECB guideline of 3-4 games per season is applied.

### Future Situation

The future situation with regard to cricket is summarised in **Table 8.18** below. This assumes a 5% growth in participation between 2010 and 2017.

**Table 8.18: PPM Summary of Future Situation for Cricket in 2017**

Cricket	Stage 7											
	Shortfall or Surplus											
Cricket Future Year 2017	Saturday AM (senior)	Saturday PM (senior)	Saturday AM (junior)	Saturday PM (junior)	Sunday AM (senior)	Sunday PM (senior)	Sunday AM (junior)	Sunday PM (junior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (senior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (junior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (senior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (junior)
Harrow	30	8	29	30	30	14	25	30	30	20	29	20

The model indicates that there will be sufficient pitches to accommodate the number of matches being played at the peak time of Saturday afternoon. Overall, the number of cricket pitches in Harrow appears to be adequate to meet future needs. Looking at the number of games to be accommodated on the strips available there are only just sufficient cricket strips to meet future demand.

<sup>47</sup>Ts4 Recommended Guidelines for the construction, preparation and maintenance of cricket pitches and outfield at all levels of the game, ECB, 2011.

<sup>48</sup>Shaftsbury Playing Fields.

The situation in the Harrow area could change if the impact of focus club status and the Chance to Shine programme results in increased participation in cricket at the youth level.

## Accessibility

The benchmarking exercise was confined to local authority cricket pitches. The summary of the fees and charges of adjacent local authorities for booking cricket pitches is shown in **Table 8.19**.

The summary shows the cost per match<sup>49</sup> for Adult and Junior pitches when a Season Ticket is purchased and for a casual 'one off' booking. Season Tickets are exempt from VAT where they are to purchase, 'a series of 10 or more sessions'<sup>50</sup>.

The cost of a Harrow cricket pitch is £134.00 per match for a cricket season and £135.00 for a casual match. Harrow's charges are higher than adjoining local authorities. The charge for an adult pitch is Barnet where the cost is £113.50 and for a junior pitch it is £58.00. The cost of an adult pitch for a season in Ealing is £72.52 for a Grade A pitch and £57.52 for a Grade B pitch. A casual booking in Ealing costs £91.61 for a Grade A pitch. In Brent the comparable cost is £90.45 and in Hillingdon it is £102.57 for a Class 1 A pitch with a season booking and £122.05 for a casual booking.

Enfield differentiates between Saturday and Sunday and the cost per pitch for a Grade 1 cricket pitch is £50.00 on Saturday and £55.00 on Sunday. The cost per pitch for a Grade 2 cricket pitch is £42.50 on Saturday and Sunday. The cost for a casual match is £70 for a Grade 1 pitch and £55.00 for a Grade 2 pitch.

Harrow's price is the highest in the group of providers regardless of the day of play. The cost of hiring a pitch in Harrow is almost 10% higher than the cost of the next highest charge which is Hillingdon where the pitch is a Class 1A pitch with modern dressing accommodation with hot and cold showers. A harrow cricket pitch with very poor changing accommodation does not therefore represent value for money.

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<sup>49</sup>It was only possible to make comparisons between providers when costs were measured on a per match basis.

<sup>50</sup>HMRC Reference:Notice 701/45 (August 2011)

**Table 8.19: Pitch Tariff Benchmarking**

Local Authority	Grade	Frequency of play	Total matches	Cost 2011/2012	Cost per match
<b>Harrow</b>					
Cricket Seasonal (18 week season)		1 match per week	18	£2,412.00	£134
Cricket Casual		per match	1	£135	£135
<b>Enfield</b>					
Season	Grade 1 Pitch *	Every Saturday	20	£1,000	£50.00
	Grade 1 Pitch *	Every Sunday	20	£1,100	£55.00
	Grade 1 Pitch *	Alternate Saturdays	10	£500	£50.00
	Grade 1 Pitch *	Alternate Sundays	10	£550	£55.00
	Grade 2 Pitch **	Every Saturday	20	£850	£42.50
	Grade 2 Pitch **	Every Sunday	20	£850	£42.50
	Grade 2 Pitch **	Alternate Saturdays	10	£425	£42.50
	Grade 2 Pitch **	Alternate Sundays	10	£425	£42.50
Casual bookings	Grade 1 Pitch *	Per day	1	£70.00	£70.00
	Grade 2 Pitch **	Per day	1	£55.00	£55.00
	* includes change rooms				
	** no change rooms				
<b>Barnet</b>					
Cricket casual adult (inc Pavilion)		game	1	£113.50	£113.50
Cricket casual junior (inc Pavilion)		game	1	£58.00	£58.00
Cricket nets adult		hour	1	£7.00	
<b>Ealing</b>					

Grade A pitches (with changing facilities, not always including toilets and/or showers.	Casual booking (six hours)		1	£91.61		£91.61
	Seasonal bookings (all at one venue and paid in advance)		10+	£72.52 per game		£72.52
Grade B pitches (no changing facilities)	Casual booking (six hours)		1	£72.31		£72.31
	Seasonal bookings (all at one venue and paid in advance)		10+	£57.52 per game.		£57.52
<b>Hillingdon</b>	Cricket (pro-rata per match)			Charges Residents from 1st April 2011 £ Pro – rata per match	Charges Non Residents from 1st April 2011 £ Pro – rata per match	
(1) The seasonal letting is based on a season of 20 weeks for cricket. (2) Evening cricket games (Monday to Friday only) commencing after 5.00pm will be charged at 50% of the rates indicated.	Class 1A: Modern dressing accommodation with hot & cold showers			£102.57	£110.50	£102.57
	Class 111: Dressing accommodation			£66.67	£71.84	£66.67
	Class 1V: Other			£52.30	£56.36	£52.30

	grounds					
	Class 1A: Modern dressing accommodation with hot & cold showers			£122.05	£131.53	£122.05
	Class 1B: Older dressing accommodation with hot & cold showers			£112.82	£121.58	£112.82
	Class 11 Dressing accommodation with washing facilities			£88.20	£95.05	£88.20
	Additional charge per match for seasonal or single lettings			£16.41	£17.68	£16.41
<b>Brent</b>				Proposed charges 2012/13 (£)		
	Cricket Adult	Alternate week	11 Week Season	£995		£90.45
	Cricket Adult single			£94.50		
	Cricket Junior			£520		
	Cricket junior single			£55		

## Key Issues for Cricket

1. The Playing Pitch Model indicates that there are sufficient pitches available to meet current and future demand. However, if the ECB guideline of 3-4 games per season per strip is applied the number of strips available is only just sufficient. Either the provision of additional strips or increasing the number of games being played on existing strips would be required to accommodate any increase in participation over and above the 5% increase anticipated in the model.
2. Of the 25 clubs that responded to the questionnaire survey, 20 indicated that they intend to increase their membership by recruiting new members. The desire to increase membership may well be linked to the key issue of lack of finance. Increasing membership will enhance prospects for the long term sustainability of cricket clubs
3. The cricket clubs that play on Harrow Council cricket pitches are concerned about the poor quality of the changing accommodation provided by the Council. In response to the question concerning the overall quality of the changing accommodation at their home ground, clubs consider the facilities at West Harrow Recreation Ground and Headstone Manor to be very poor and those at Roxbourne Park, Roxeth Recreation Ground and Harrow Town to be poor. In some cases the clubs concerned are seeking to relocate to better facilities.
4. The visual quality assessments of Harrow Council cricket pitches are of limited value. However, the views expressed by cricket clubs about 'worst' pitches are of greater significance and these indicate a concern about the quality of the pitches at West Harrow Recreation Ground and Hatch End Playing Fields.
5. Cricket Leagues are setting more demanding quality standards for the pitches used by clubs in their leagues. There is an increasing need to provide high quality pitches to meet with these League requirements. In the context of cutbacks in local government finance, Harrow Council will need to consider how the demand for improved quality can be met.
6. The cost of hiring a cricket pitch from Harrow Council is significantly higher than the cost of hiring pitches in adjoining Boroughs.
7. There is only one women's cricket club, which has one adult and three youth girls' teams. The club has 60 members but numbers have declined in the past five years. Last season the club had a one year lease on a pitch at the RCT Sports Ground but is now working in partnership with Harrow Town Cricket Club to secure funding for the refurbishment of the facilities at the club. Failure to attract funding may well jeopardise the club's future.

## 9. Hockey

There is one hockey club in Harrow which is the Harrow Hockey Club based at Kenton Sports Club. The club plays its matches at the Jewish Free School in The Mall in Kingsbury within the London Borough of Brent where they play on the sand based AGP. The club has ClubFirst accreditation from English Hockey.

### Membership

**Table 9.1: Membership of Hockey Clubs**

Club	Number of Male Junior members	Number of Female Junior members	Number of Male Senior members	Number of Female Senior members	Number of Veteran members (Male & Female)	Total members
Harrow HC	30	20	28	35	10	123

Harrow HC has a total of 123 members. There are 73 adult members (59%) and 50 junior members (41%) There are 62 male members (50%) and 61 female members (50%). Details are shown in **Table 9.1** above.

### Membership Trends

Harrow HC has experienced a decline in membership over the last five years. The club has aspirations to increase the number of members. All the members live in the Harrow area.

### Number of Teams

Harrow HC has 8 teams 3 of which are junior teams (38%) and 5 are adult teams (63%). 3 of the teams are male (38%) and 3 female (38%) and two mixed (25%). Details are shown in **Table 9.2** below.

**Table 9.2: Hockey Teams**

Club	Number of Mixed Junior teams	Number of Male Junior Teams	Number of Male Adult Teams	Number of Female Adult Teams	Number of Veteran teams	Total number of teams
Harrow HC	2	3	2	3	0	10

### Leagues and matches

The Under 10s mixed and the Under 12's mixed teams and the Under 16's boy's team play in the Mercian Home Counties Colts Hockey League.

The Ladies First team plays in the South League Division Two, the Second Team plays in the Middlesex League Premier Division and the Third Team in the Middlesex League Fourth Division. The Men's First team plays in the Middlesex, Berks, Bucks & Oxon League - Division 3 and the Second team in Division 8 of the same league.

All the adult matches are played on Saturday at various times and all the junior matches are played on Sunday morning. A total of 55 matches were played at the home ground at the Jewish Free School last season.

The club trains for two hours a week at its home pitch and once a week travel to Slough Hockey Club for training.

### **Pitches**

The club considers its home match pitch and the changing facilities which are hired from the Jewish Free School to be of good quality. The pitch is well maintained.

The best pitches that the club has played on are Southgate HC, Reading HC and Guildford HC, which are home pitches for teams that play in the higher leagues. The worst pitches played on were Hampstead & Westminster HCs pitch at Paddington Recreation Ground , Ashford HC and Whitefields School at Brent Cross.

### **Key Issues**

1. The club is based at Kenton Sports Club but is obliged to play its hockey matches at a site in the London Borough of Brent because there is no AGP available in Harrow which it considers to be affordable.
2. The sand based Artificial Grass Pitch on which the club plays its matches will need to be replaced within the next two years. However, the club has no influence over the decision to replace and if this does not happen the club will need to relocate.
3. The club has problems recruiting new players despite actively advertising the club. The fact that it does not play its hockey in Harrow is perceived to be a barrier to development.
4. The club would like to become more active in coaching hockey at schools in Harrow.



## 10. Rugby

### Teams

There are three Rugby Football Union Clubs in Harrow. These are Harrow R.F.C., Pinner & Grammarians R.F.C. and Old Millhillians R.F.C.

Pinner & Grammarians R.F.C. and Old Millhillians RFC participated in the questionnaire survey. However, Harrow R.F.C refused to participate.

Information obtained about the three clubs indicates that there are 6 adult teams, 2 veterans team, 7 youth teams and 10 mini sides. The ratio of adult to junior teams is 32% (8) to 68% (17). There are no women's teams. Details of the teams are shown in **Table 10.1** below:

**Table 10.1: Rugby Teams**

Club	Number of U7-U12 teams	Number of U13-U18 teams	Number of Adult teams	Number of Veteran teams
Pinner & Grammarians R.F.C.	U7 U8 U9 U10 U11 U12	U13 U15	First XV Second XV	None
Old Millhillians R.F.C.	None	One team	First XV Second XV	Veterans XV
Harrow R.F.C.	U7 U8 U10 U12	Colts U16 U15 U14 U13	First XV Second XV	Veterans XV
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>

### Leagues

The Adult First XV of Old Millhillians R.F.C. plays in the London & SE Division - Herts/Middlesex 1 with Pinner & Grammarians R.F.C and Harrow R.F.C. playing in Herts/Middlesex 2. The Adult Second XV's of Old Millhillians R.F.C. and Harrow R.F.C. play in the Hertfordshire/Middlesex Merit Table. Junior and youth teams play in the Saracens Herts & Middlesex Leagues. Details of the leagues are shown in **Table 10.2** below.

The U7 – U17 teams play their matches on Sunday morning. The Adult First and Second XV play on Saturday afternoon.

**Table 10:2: Rugby Teams and Leagues**

<b>Club</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>League</b>
Pinner & Grammarians R.F.C.	First XV	Herts & Middlesex 2
	U15	Saracens Herts & Middlesex League - U15s Division 6
Old Millhillians R.F.C.	First XV	Herts & Middlesex 1
	Second XV	Hertfordshire/Middlesex Merit Table 7
Harrow R.F.C.	First XV	Herts & Middlesex 2
	Second XV	Hertfordshire/Middlesex Merit Table 5
	U16	Saracens Herts & Middlesex League - U16s Division 4
	U15	Saracens Herts & Middlesex League - U15s Division 4
	U14	Saracens Herts & Middlesex League - U14s Division 3
	U13	Saracens Herts & Middlesex League - U13s Division 4

**Membership**

Only one club gave details of numbers of members, the Pinner and Grammarians. Details are shown in **Table 10.3**

**Table 10.3: Club Membership**

Club	Total Members	Junior Male members (U7-U12)	Junior Female (U7-U12) members	Youth Male (U13-U18) members	Youth Female (U13-U18) members	Adult Male members	Adult Female members	Veteran members	Golden Oldie members
Pinner & Grammarians R.F.C.	251	141	3	37	0	41	1	19	9
Old Millhillians R.F.C.	Not known								
Harrow R.F.C.	Not known								

### Membership Trends

Pinner & Grammarians R.F.C. has seen its membership increase over the last five years whereas membership of Old Millhillians has stayed about the same.

### Area in which majority of players live

Pinner & Grammarians R.F.C. attracts members mainly from Harrow with a small number of players resident in Hillingdon. Members of Old Millhillians come from all over North West London.

### Rugby Facilities

The three rugby clubs have their own grounds.

Pinner & Grammarians R.F.C. is based at Shaftsbury Playing Fields, which it leases from Harrow Council. Teams play fifty matches at their home ground each season. The club has its own clubhouse on the site and there are two pitches. The club uses the outfield area for training once a week.

Old Millhillians R.F.C. shares the Millhillian Sports Club site in Headstone Lane with Harrow and St Mary's Cricket Club. The club has joint use of the clubhouse on the site and there are two pitches.

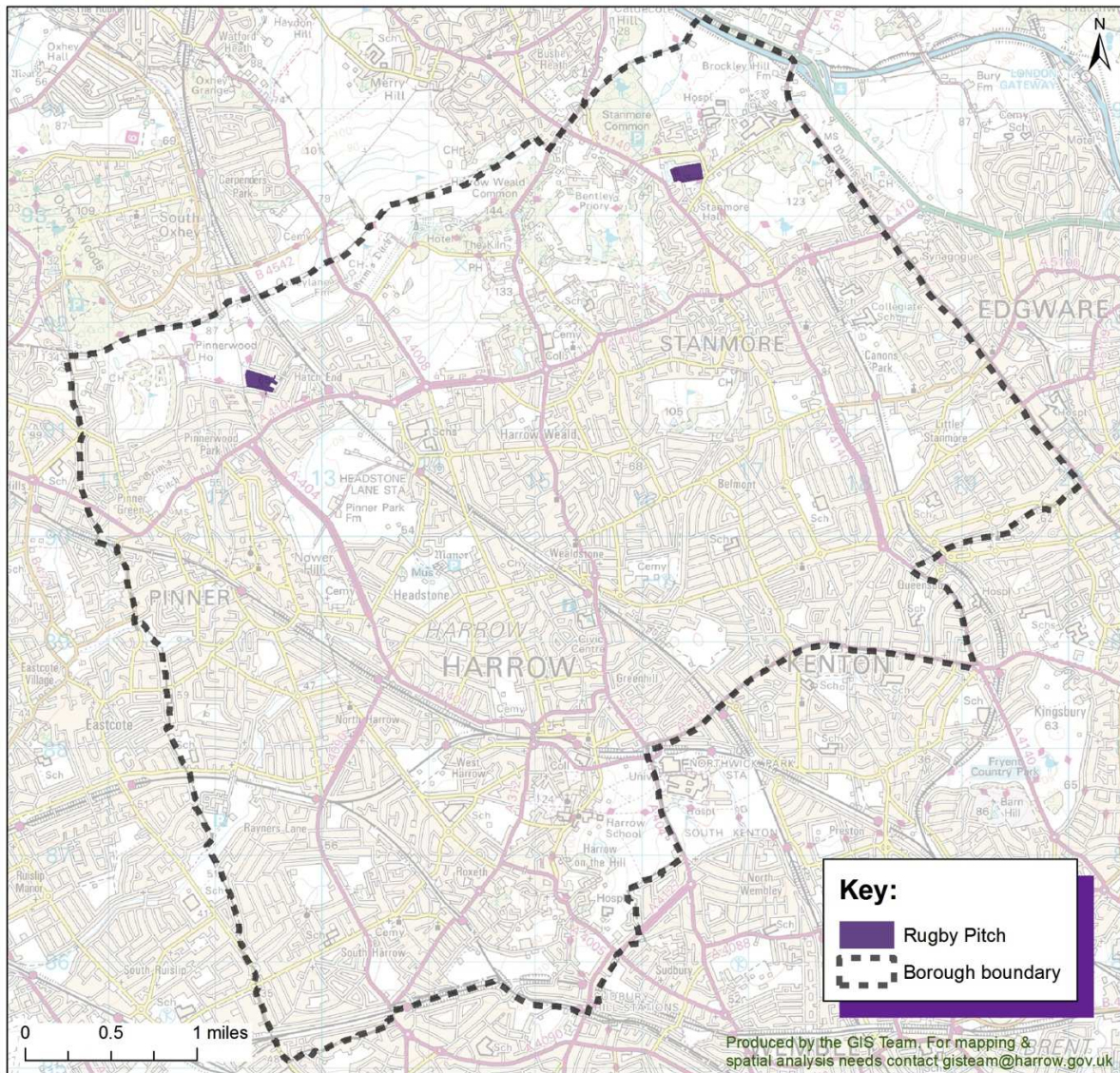
Harrow R.F.C. has exclusive use of The Grove in Stanmore where there is a clubhouse and three pitches.

There are also two rugby pitches at Bannister's Sports Ground.

The location of rugby pitches in Harrow is shown in **Map 5**.

Quality scores for the rugby pitches are shown in **Table 10.4** below. All 9 pitches were assessed using the visual quality assessment and rated according to Sport England's Pitch Quality Rating. The seven rugby pitches which are the home pitches of the three rugby clubs achieved a good rating; the two pitches at the Bannister Sports Ground were rated as average.

Map 5: Rugby Pitch Locations



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**Table 10.4: Rugby Pitch Quality Scores**

Location	Rugby Pitch 1	Size	Rugby Pitch 2	Size	Rugby Pitch 3	Size
<b>Shaftesbury Playing Fields</b>	83%	Main Pitch: 100m x 69m In goal area 10m	83%	Main Pitch: 90m x 67m In goal area 6m		
<b>Grove Field</b>	86%	Main Pitch: 100m x 70m In goal area 8m	86%	Main Pitch: 100m x 70m In goal area 7m	84%	Main Pitch: 100m x 65m In goal area 7m
				Floodlit		Part floodlit
<b>Roger Bannister Sports Ground</b>	61%	Main Pitch: 100m x 70m In goal area 10m	66%	Main Pitch: 100m x 70m In goal area 10m		
		May not be in use		Training pitch		
<b>Old Millhillians</b>	83%	Main Pitch: 89m x 62m In goal area 7m	87%	Main Pitch: 100m x 70m In goal area 8m		
				Part Floodlit		

Clubs were asked to rate the overall quality of their main home match pitch. Pinner & Grammarians R.F.C. rated the quality of their main pitch as good. New drainage has been installed on this pitch and this has had a significant impact in improving the playing surface. The club's second pitch was rated as being moderate. Maintenance of the pitch is considered by the club to be poor. Old Millhillians rate their main pitch as good and their second as moderate. Maintenance is considered to be good.

Pinner & Grammarians R.F.C. considered the three 'best' pitches they had played on to be Old Merchant Taylors in Northwood, Uxbridge R.F.C. and Richmond R.F.C. The 'worst' pitches played on were Old Grammarians, Wood Green; London French at Barn Elms and Royston R.F.C in Hertfordshire.

### Changing Accommodation

Clubs were asked to rate the quality of the changing accommodation at their clubhouse. Pinner & Grammarians R.F.C. considered their changing facilities to be moderate and Old Millhillians consider theirs is good.

The quality of the changing accommodation at sites with rugby pitches was assessed using the assessment criteria to be found at **Appendix B**. The results are shown in **Table 10.5** below:

**Table 10.5: Rugby Changing Quality Scores**

Site	Changing Room score
Shaftesbury Playing Fields	68%
Grove Field	No Access
Roger Bannister Sports Ground	87%
Old Millhillians	58%

The Pinner & Grammarians R.F.C. changing facilities at Shaftesbury Playing Fields are part of the clubhouse. There are some structural issues with the building, which should be resolved in the near future. The club has plans to extend the existing facilities and to improve the quality of provision. The changing for Old Millhillians R.F.C. is basic and is in need of refurbishment.

### **National Governing Body Consultation**

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) and local Rugby Clubs are seeking to promote rugby in local schools. Pinner & Grammarians are setting up liaison relationships with local schools and Saracens are currently coaching in five local schools through the Saracens RFC – Aviva Premiership Rugby Programme and Saracens Foundation. The intention is that the rugby pitches at Bannister Sports Centre would provide a focus for schools rugby and become a focus for the development of rugby in the Borough

The RFU is aware that Harrow Rugby Club is at capacity at Grove Field and may be seeking to relocate in the future.

The development of rugby in Harrow would be assisted by having access to third generation pitches for training with preferred access for local sports clubs.

### **Current and Future Situations**

The audit identified a total of nine rugby pitches. However two of these are located at Bannister Sports Ground and are not used by community rugby clubs and have therefore been excluded from the Playing Pitch Model calculations. The seven pitches included in the calculations are all adult size pitches; there are no junior rugby pitches. All adult matches take place on Saturday afternoon and all junior matches take place on Sunday morning. An increase of 5% in participation has been factored into the calculations.

The current situation shown in **Table 10.6** identifies a shortfall of 9 junior pitches on Sunday morning. However, this is counterbalanced by a surplus of 7 senior pitches. Clearly, because there are no pitches with junior dimensions, all matches are played on adult size pitches and therefore there is an overall shortfall in provision of 2 junior rugby pitches.

**Table 10.6: Current Situation**

Shortfall or surplus											
Saturday AM (senior)	Saturday PM (senior)	Saturday AM (junior)	Saturday PM (junior)	Sunday AM (senior)	Sunday PM (senior)	Sunday AM (junior)	Sunday PM (junior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (senior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (junior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (senior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (junior)
7.0	4	0.0	0.0	7.0	7.0	-9	0.0	7.0	0.0	7.0	0.0

Turning to the situation in 2017, the shortfall in junior pitches has been reduced to 4 pitches whilst the number of senior pitches available is 7. **Table 10.7** indicates that there is no overall shortfall in provision in 2017.

**Table 10.7: Situation in 2017**

Shortfall or surplus											
Saturday AM (senior)	Saturday PM (senior)	Saturday AM (junior)	Saturday PM (junior)	Sunday AM (senior)	Sunday PM (senior)	Sunday AM (junior)	Sunday PM (junior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (senior)	Mid Week 1 Tuesday (junior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (senior)	Mid Week 2 Thursday (junior)
7	3	0	0	7	7	-4	0	7	0	7	0

**Key Issues**

Pinner & Grammarians R.F.C. cited the declining numbers of players, lack of sponsorship and lack of funds to renovate the clubhouse.

**Hurling**

There is one hurling club based in the Borough which is the Granuaile Hurling Club (Fáilte Roimh). The club trains at the Bannister Sports Ground.



## 11. Bowls and Pétanque

### Bowls

There are 8 Bowls clubs in Harrow playing on 8 bowling greens. Details of each green are shown in **Table 11.1** below. Seven of these are in Council ownership and one is a privately owned club. Clubs were contacted and asked to complete a questionnaire and a response was obtained from all 8 clubs giving a 100% response rate.

Harrow has recently lost 3 bowls greens and clubs. These are the greens at Roxeth Recreation Ground and Kenton Recreation Ground and, more recently, the green at the Kodak site. These greens are now derelict and will not be re-instated as bowls greens.

Current provision equates to 0.03 bowling greens per 1000 population of 1 green per 28,946 people.

**Table 11.1 – Bowls Clubs in Harrow**

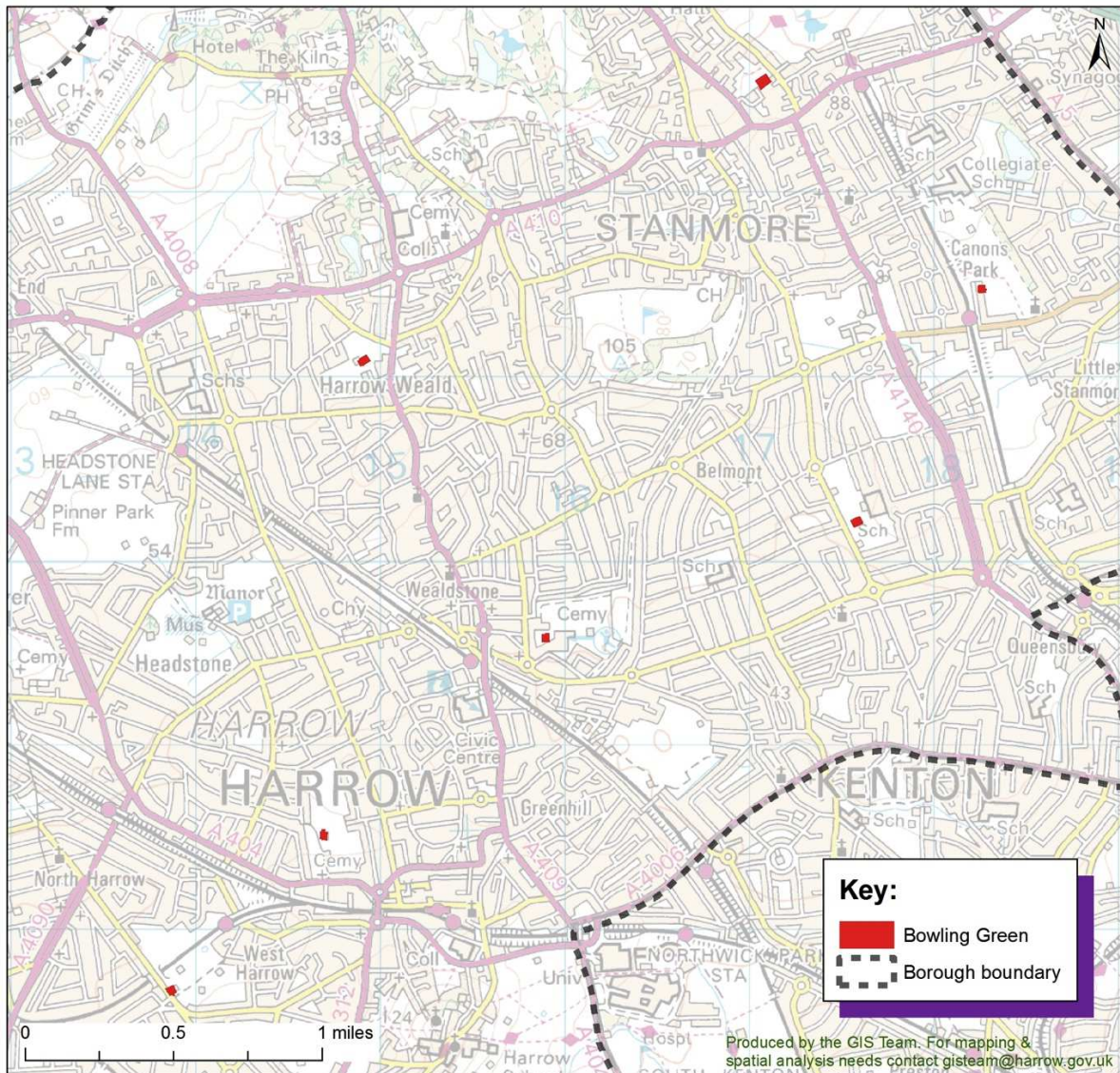
Bowls Club	Bowls Green	Number of Greens	Ownership	Management of Green
Culver Bowls Club	Centenary Park	1	London Borough of Harrow	Local Authority
Harrow Bowls Club	Harrow Recreation Ground	1	London Borough of Harrow	Local Authority
Harrow Weald Bowls Club	Harrow Weald Recreation Ground	1	London Borough of Harrow	Local Authority
Lupton Bowls Club	Arnold House Activity Centre	1	Arnold House School	Arnold House Activity Centre
Pinner Bowls Club	Pinner Memorial Park	1	London Borough of Harrow	Local Authority
Stanmore Bowls Club	Stanmore Recreation Ground	1	London Borough of Harrow	Local Authority
Wealdstone Bowls Club	Byron Park	1	London Borough of Harrow	Bowls Club
West Harrow Bowls Club	West Harrow Recreation Ground	1	London Borough of Harrow	Local Authority

### Membership and Leagues

There are 453 playing members of the 8 bowls clubs, three fifths of whom are men and two fifths women. There are no junior members in any bowls club. Clubs vary in size from the largest, Stanmore with 78 members and Harrow with 73 to the smallest which is the private club, Lupton with 38 members. All clubs have both male and female members most having a ratio of approximately 3 men to 2 women. However Harrow Weald has equal numbers of men and women and the Harrow and Lupton clubs both have twice as many men as

women. The location of Bowling Clubs and Green in Harrow is shown in **Map 6**. The bowling greens were not assessed for quality because the audit was undertaken during the winter months when the bowling greens were closed and were not being actively maintained; any results would not have been a fair reflection of the quality of the greens.

**Map 6 : Locations of Bowling Greens**



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In terms of membership trends the pattern is either of staying the same or decreasing with no clubs reporting an increase in membership. Five clubs report that membership is decreasing and three that it is fairly static.

All Bowls clubs report that their members live within the Borough, and in most cases that they are very local to the club. No clubs report any members living outside the Borough.

All but one club have a several coaches; most clubs have 3 coaches, two male and one female. Culver Bowls Club has 5 coaches.

Most of the clubs play in District and Local Leagues, mostly in Harrow and Brent. One club also plays in National Leagues. The Leagues which most local clubs take part in are the Harrow and District League including the Veterans League, the Bidgood League and the Weald Ladies League. Many clubs also play in the Middlesex League and Cup competitions. Other Leagues and competitions which some clubs take part in are the Brent League, Chiltern and Counties League, Three Counties League and the Woodcock Park Shield. All clubs play in League matches but also play "friendly games".

All clubs play matches on Saturday and Sunday afternoons; matches are also played at various weekday afternoons and early evenings. Most clubs play around 40 to 50 games on their green each season.

### **Facilities**

Bowls Clubs were asked to rate the quality of their bowling green and changing accommodation. One green was rated as very good – the only privately owned green at the Arnold House School by its club the Lupton. Half the clubs gave their greens a good rating including the Wealdstone's green at Byron Park which is the only Council owned green which is maintained by the club. Two clubs rated their greens as poor – both Council owned and managed; these are the Culver Bowls Club at Centenary Park and the green at Harrow Weald Recreation Ground. Reasons given for these ratings are that the green at Centenary park is poor because: "In spite of the best efforts of the groundsman there is insufficient commitment from Harrow Council to produce a superior surface". In the case of Harrow Weald Recreation Ground the club feels that there is "insufficient attention and expertise given to rolling, weeds, pests and diseases".

Several clubs reported that they had raised funds and built their own pavilions. These were generally rated as better quality – with Harrow Weald, who state that they built their own pavilion in 1982, being the only club to rate this as excellent. The majority of clubs rated their changing accommodation as either good or moderate in quality. Culver is the only club to give a poor rating.

Clubs were asked which they consider to be the three best and three worst greens they have played on in the past season. Some clubs said that this is difficult to determine as greens vary from time to time and at different times of year. Local clubs with the greens considered to be the best are the self managed green at Wealdstone which was mentioned by all 6 clubs who responded and the privately managed green at Lupton which was mentioned by 3 clubs. Other greens mentioned are Ladygate at Ruislip and Northwood, each by 2 clubs.

In terms of the worst rated greens, there was less consistency; the greens at Harrow Weald and Culver Bowls club were each rated worst by 3 clubs and the Stanmore Green by 2 clubs. Other greens rated worst are Wembley and Woodcock Park both mentioned by 2 clubs.

## **Problems and Issues**

### ***Finance/ High cost for Green Maintenance***

All but one club report finance as a problem which is linked to the perception that charges for the maintenance of greens are high and some clubs report that declining membership makes these costs harder to manage.

One club states that,

“Finance is the main problem with over £8,000 being charged for green maintenance and lease costs on the club pavilion. We cannot understand why Harrow's bowling maintenance charges are so much higher than the Boroughs of Hillingdon and Brent.”

And another,

“finance - a dwindling membership means increasing fees beyond affordability in order to pay the very high green maintenance costs imposed by the London Borough of Harrow.”

“ Since the late 2000's the ground maintenance costs from the Council have almost doubled. We are now being charged £6,800 per annum (together with rental for the pavilion and ground rent for the portakabin).

It is the general belief of clubs in Harrow that the Local Authority has a negative policy to outdoor bowls in the borough. Hillingdon Council are continually making substantial grants to bowls clubs through their “chrysalis” scheme, and our other neighbouring borough Brent, although not providing as much ground maintenance assistance, charges the Bowls Clubs only approximately £2,000 per annum. “

### ***Declining Membership and Publicity***

Several clubs reported declining membership to be a problem and 2 clubs felt that more could be done by Harrow Council to help publicise bowling and therefore encourage new members.

One club stated

“ Harrow Council's website could improve information about its bowling greens and could promote bowling in its community publications with opening times and contact information. The council's current contact number on notice boards is unobtainable”

and another,

“ Help to locally publicise bowls each spring is difficult though we request it from Harrow Council”

### ***Loss of rate relief / issues around CASC***

One club reported the loss of rate relief as a problem and the lack of guidance on the mitigation of this.

“Loss of tax/rate relief from Harrow Council; deciding whether to register for Casc. Clear guidance for small clubs would be appreciated. Clubs simply want the lowest overheads.”

### ***Lack of support and help with making Grant Applications***

One club, Culver Bowls, has had problems with making improvements to its changing pavilion. Assistance for a new was requested from the Council in the early 2000's, but the Council refused and referred the club to the National Lottery. The club spent a great deal of time and effort submitting the application with no assistance from the Council. In the event the application was refused because it was not part of a joint submission with the Council, who owned the land and existing pavilion.

### ***Standards of maintenance of the Green***

Two clubs report problems with the quality of maintenance of the green and one club, Harrow Weald has problems with watering the green –

“A longstanding malfunction of the automatic green watering system still has not been fixed despite endless promises.”

### ***Parking***

Shortage of parking and parking charges are mentioned by two clubs.

“Parking charges for members and visitors. An afternoon match will last up to 8 hours.”

### ***Shortage of other clubs to play***

One club reported that there is a shortage of clubs to play particularly with the recent demise of the clubs at Roxeth and Kenton.

### **National Governing Body Consultations**

Harrow & District Bowls Association (HDBA) is concerned that this strategy should place more emphasis on the positives that bowls can bring to the community. At present there is no clear plan for bowls in Harrow to go forward.

The Association is aware that Wealdstone BC’s green management is the responsibility of the club under a self-management agreement and that a similar agreement has been reached with Harrow BC. Self-management enables the club to reduce the costs of maintenance and to take greater control over the management of their facilities. However, success is dependent on club members acquiring the necessary skills to be able to deliver a high quality playing surface. Bowls England provides training courses and support for clubs that wish to take this direction.

The HDBA is concerned that membership of bowls clubs is not increasing despite the proactive efforts of clubs such as Harrow BC to attract new members. There is a need to increase awareness of opportunities to participate in both individual and club competition at a variety of levels. There is also a need to promote opportunities for people to just “roll up” and have a friendly afternoon. For example, Stanmore BC is the largest club in Harrow but focus more on non-competitive games and have a low competitive uptake.

Lack of groundsmanship skills is a concern for the HDBA. Very specific skills are required to prepare a bowling green and it is apparent that these skills are absent in Harrow Council’s grounds maintenance staff. Many parks maintenance operatives have only generic horticultural skills and there appears to be a lack of personal pride in the outcome of their work.

The HDBA is concerned about automatic watering systems which are often left to work even when there is heavy rainfall. The Council should ensure that a suitably trained person in the club takes responsibility for the watering system.

Car parking is a particular problem for bowls clubs particularly for clubs in areas where commuters park their cars all day.

There is a need for Harrow Council to work with clubs to actively promote the sport, and help clubs such as Culver BC, which is struggling to survive. Clubs themselves need to do more to attract new members. More emphasis should be placed on the positive aspects of playing bowls i.e. bowls is a sport for all abilities, young and old, black and minority ethnic people, and disabled people.

### **Key issues**

The main issue affecting bowls clubs is lack of finance which is linked to a high cost of leasing facilities from the Council and declining membership and the resulting decline in club’s income. These factors are affecting the sustainability of clubs and there is evidence

that the clubs at Kenton and Roxeth closed due to an inability to retain sufficient membership to cover costs of running the club.

There is a perception that Harrow's charges are higher than those of neighbouring Authorities and that there is a lack of support from Harrow Council. It is also felt that the Council could be more pro-active in promoting the sport and helping to attract new membership.

The clubs with the highest rated bowling greens are those which are either privately owned and managed or self managed by the club. There is criticism from some clubs about the Council's standards of greens maintenance.

## **Pétanque**

The Harrow pétanque club has 27 male and 5 female members. Members mainly live in Harrow and Kingsbury. The number of members has been relatively static over the last five years. The club has teams that play in the Thames Valley Pétanque League and in various London competitions.

The club's piste/terrain is located at the Old Lionians Sports Ground. The club's teams play informal matches at the weekend, on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning/afternoon, and on Thursday evenings. League matches are played on Tuesday evenings. The club is active throughout the year but most of the member's activity is in the summer. An estimated 100 matches are played per year. The best piste/terrain played on are its own; Boyne Hill, Maidenhead; and Burnham Cricket Club. However, the club only assesses its own piste/terrain as being moderate but considers the changing facilities are good.

## 12. Tennis

Harrow has 14 private tennis clubs and in addition 8 sites in parks and recreation grounds have tennis courts most of which are available for public access free of charge. One tennis club, Kodak, has recently ceased to exist due to the courts at Zoom Leisure being no longer available.

Questionnaires were sent to 13 clubs, but in the case of one small club it was not possible to obtain contact details. 12 clubs responded giving a response rate of 92%; one club refused to participate. It was possible to obtain some details about the missing clubs from the Middlesex Lawn Tennis Association.

### **Club Membership and Leagues.**

There are 2,367 registered playing members of the 14 tennis clubs in Harrow. Just over one third (37%) of these are junior members and two thirds (63%) are adults. In terms of the gender split, just under two thirds are male (64%) one third are female. This proportion is the same for both adult and junior members.

Most clubs are large and have between 100 and 250 members. The largest club is West End Tennis club with 400 playing members followed by Lowlands with 271 members. Only 4 clubs have fewer than 100 members, the smallest club being Harrow Town with only 22 members. Most clubs have a substantial junior section which varies between one quarter to one half of total membership. However one club, Elms Tennis club, has a predominance of junior members with a ratio of 3 juniors to 1 adult member.

In terms of membership trends, 4 clubs report that membership is increasing, 4 that it is decreasing and 4 that it remains static. The 3 clubs with increasing membership all have a large proportion of junior members – Elms with 75% juniors and Harrow Weald and Headstone both with around 50%. The largest clubs tend to report membership as staying relatively static. The smaller clubs may have declining membership but, as two of the smallest clubs did not respond to the survey, this cannot be substantiated.

Members live fairly close to their clubs. In all clubs except one membership comprises entirely of Harrow residents; the one exception is Elms Tennis club in Stanmore with members living in Stanmore, Radlett and Mill Hill. This club has a very high proportion of junior members.

All the clubs except the smallest one have qualified coaches. Most clubs have between 2 and 4 coaches; the club with the greatest number is Elms with 13 coaches, followed by Headstone with 7 and Pinner with 6.

The number of teams in each club varies from 11 to 17 with the exception of Harrow Baptist with only 84 members and 4 teams and Harrow Town where members only play friendly matches so there are no teams as such. The clubs with the greatest number of teams are the Pinner and West End clubs. Most clubs participate in the Middlesex Leagues and Cups including adult and junior. Some clubs play in the Middlesex winter floodlit league and the Kenton winter league. Harrow Town does not play League tennis but members play friendly matches against other clubs.

Most, but not all, clubs play matches at the weekend; in particular cup matches and junior matches are played on Saturday and Sunday either morning or afternoon. Adult league and winter league matches are mainly played on weekday evenings Monday to Thursday. Most clubs report playing between 40 and 70 matches in a season but those clubs participating in winter leagues may play more than this.



## Facilities

Clubs were asked to rate the quality of their tennis courts and changing facilities. Tennis courts were nearly all rated as very good or good. The exceptions are the main courts at Headstone LTC and the second courts at Harrow TC (the Harrow School facilities) which are classed as moderate. Both these clubs rated their other courts as good however. Rating of changing facilities was less positive with only one club, Headstone, rating these as very good and two clubs giving a good rating. Three clubs, Elms, Hatch End and Harrow Town rated facilities as poor.

Clubs were asked to list the best and worst courts they have played on. There is great variation in the courts listed indicating that there are strong personal preferences for particular types of court surface. Some courts were the best in the eyes of some clubs and the worst in others. The courts mentioned as best courts by the greatest number are those at Lowlands and Pinner Tennis clubs each mentioned 3 times. Other good courts are those at Hatch End, Kenton and Headstone clubs each mentioned twice. In terms of the worst courts the only local courts cited by more than one club are those at Harrow School used by Harrow Tennis club, which were rated by 4 clubs as among the worst; 2 clubs mentioned the courts at Northwood Tennis Club and several other local courts were cited but none by more than one club.

## Audit of Tennis Courts

There are 103 tennis courts in current use in Harrow on 22 sites; 14 of these are private tennis clubs and the remaining 8 are Local Authority sites situated in Parks and Recreation Grounds. Three quarters of all courts are in private clubs (75 courts) and the remaining quarter is Local Authority owned (28 courts). This gives a figure of 0.44 courts per 1000 population or 1 court per 2248 people. The locations of tennis courts in Harrow are shown on **Map 7**.

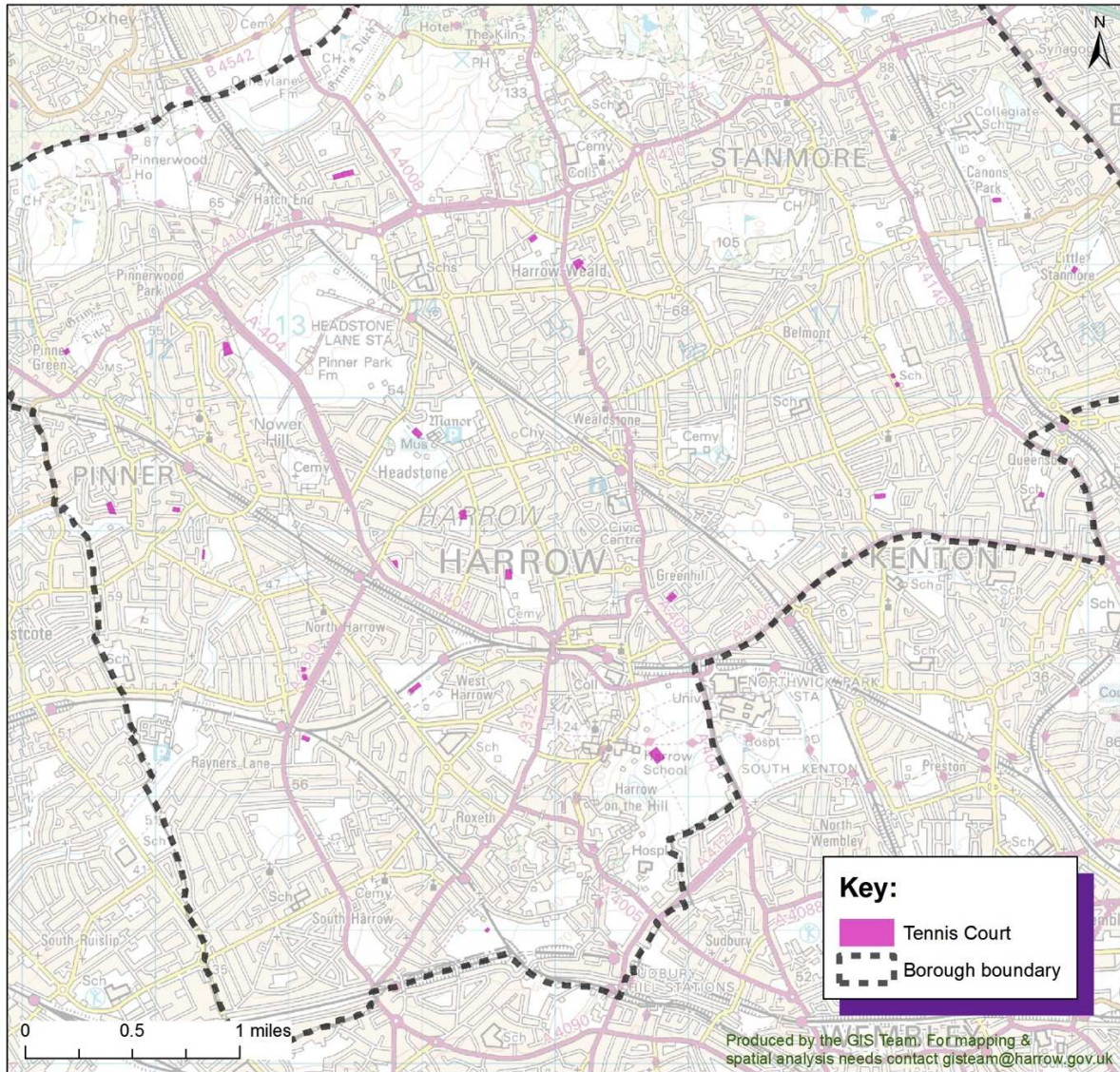
Private tennis clubs operate a membership scheme so that availability is very different from local authority courts, which are mostly available to residents free of charge. It is therefore important to bear in mind that, although Harrow has a large number of tennis courts, many are only available to those who are able to afford the membership fees.

The tennis courts were assessed using a visual quality assessment which covers features such as the condition of the court surface, lines, nets, fencing and the surrounds and the extent to which the courts are level. The results of the assessment are shown in **Table 12.1** and **Table 12.2** below. However it should be pointed out that although an asphalt court is suitable for casual play, there are many types of modern court surface, which enhance playing at a higher level and some of these provide a surface which cushions the impact on players. Players and clubs tend to have a preference for a particular type of surface so it is not possible to indicate objectively which are the better types. Also the quality assessment does not take these into account when quantifying a score for the courts.

Courts scoring over 90% are given a score of excellent and below 60% a poor score. Most sites have several courts, which may not all achieve the same score, hence the variation of rating on the same site.



Map 7: Locations of Tennis Courts



**Table 12.1 – Quality rating - Courts at Private Tennis Clubs**

<b>Club</b>	<b>Ownership Status</b>	<b>Number of Courts</b>	<b>Type of Court</b>	<b>Quality Rating</b>
Acorn LTC	Leased	6	Carpet	Excellent
Elms LTC	Leased	3	Macadam	Good
Harrow LTC	Leased	12	Acrylic	Good
Harrow Baptist LTC	Owned	4	Macadam	Excellent
Harrow Town TC	Owned	4	Acrylic	Good
Harrow Weald LTC	Owned	4 1	Carpet Acrylic	Excellent
Hatch End TC	Owned	7	Acrylic (synthetic grass)	Excellent/ Good
Headstone TC	Owned	5	Carpet (“Spring step”)	Excellent/ Good
Kenton LTC	Owned	6	Claytex	Excellent
Lowlands TC	Owned	3 3	Claytex Carpet	Excellent/ Good
North Harrow TC	Owned	3	Macadam	Good
Vagabonds TC	Owned	2	Macadam	Excellent
West End (Pinner)TC	Owned	6	Carpet (“Tiger Turf”)	Excellent/ Good

**Table 12.2 – Quality rating - Local Authority Tennis Courts**

Location	Ownership	Number of Courts	Type of Court	Quality Rating
Byron Recreation Ground	Local Authority	2	Macadam	Poor
Centenary Park	Local Authority	4	Macadam	Good
Harrow Recreation Ground	Local Authority	4	Macadam	Excellent/ Good
Harrow Weald Recreation Ground	Local Authority	4	Macadam	Average/ Poor
Headstone Manor	Local Authority	6	Macadam	Good/ Average
Kenton Recreation Ground	Local Authority	4	Macadam	Poor
Montesoles	Local Authority	2	Macadam	Good
Queensbury Recreation Ground	Local Authority	2	Macadam	Poor

The tennis courts in the Private Tennis Clubs are all of either excellent or good quality. However the Local Authority Courts are of varying quality with the best courts being those at Harrow Recreation Ground and Montesoles and the worst are the courts at the recreation grounds of Kenton and Queensbury.

In addition to the Local Authority Courts in **Table 12.2** there are 2 sites where the usage has been changed. These are Chandos Park and Roxeth Recreation Ground. Three sites contain tennis courts which are now derelict; these are Pinner Village Gardens (2 courts), Park Drive (5 courts) and West Harrow Recreation Ground (6 courts).

### **Problems and Issues for Clubs**

#### ***Flood lights and planning issues***

Several clubs reported problems obtaining permission for floodlights or general problems with planning permission.

Typical comments are:-

“we would like floodlights on one more court but planning issues always present a problem”

and

“Persistent issues with certain neighbours objecting to any planning applications we submit.”

And from Harrow LTC,

“We would like to have lighting installed so hours can be extended in winter and summer. Planning permission obtained but now lapsed. We are waiting for Harrow school to part fund this and give permission for plans to go ahead.”

## **Funding**

One club reports finance to be a problem and several clubs need funds to improve facilities, especially changing rooms but also re-laying tennis courts which can be very expensive.

Comments include:-

“Club House is in a sorry state”

“Club room could do with renovating.”

“Our 3 match courts will need relaying in the next 3 years. They are OK at the moment but we are raising funds with the plan to relay them as soon as possible - any help with funding would be much appreciated.”

## **Other issues**

Other issues reported by clubs include shortage of members and insufficient car parking space.

## **National Governing Body Consultations**

There is a strong base of places to play in Harrow, however it is predominantly made up of private members clubs. This mix of available places to play does not complement the LTA's primary focus of increasing junior and adult participation. None of the 14 private members clubs are LTA Performance accredited clubs catering for players who show particular tennis potential although 5 clubs are Tennis Clubmark accredited clubs. These are Elms LTC, Harrow LTC, Kenton LTC, Lowlands LTC and Pinner LTC. These clubs demonstrate good on and off court policies, programmes and procedures and meet regularly with the Middlesex Tennis County Office team.

The parks infrastructure in Harrow is not so strong and none of the parks sites are registered with Middlesex Tennis. There are no Beacon Status parks despite the fact that most if not all venues are available free of charge<sup>51</sup>. Harrow does not have a system in place which would allow the management of parks courts to be undertaken by coaching operators, or private coaches, which could increase activities. Additionally, there are no structured coaching programmes operating on any park site.

Discussions about a project to secure the development of the derelict tennis courts at West Harrow Recreation Ground foundered because no partnership funding was available from Harrow to bring this site back into use and proposals had met with overriding neighbour objections.

Initial discussions, about 4-years ago were held with Harrow Council about Centenary Park, which offers good multi sports facilities but the offer of registration was not taken up.

The availability of floodlit courts in private members clubs is mixed with 8 of the 14 clubs having access to floodlit facilities. Of the 75 club courts available less than half (32) are floodlit.

There are 227 regularly competing juniors based at Harrow clubs (these are 18 and under players that have played 6 or more matches in the past year).

Lowlands LTC is one of only a few clubs in Middlesex to have a purpose built Mini Tennis Red court specifically constructed for use by players aged 8 and under. This facility was part funded by Middlesex Tennis.

There is a strong involvement with schools tennis in the Borough, through the Harrow School Improvement Partnership, who have worked closely with Eastcote LTC and Harrow Weald LTC to provide schools tennis delivery. This has been part funded by the partnership

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<sup>51</sup>Beacon sites are park sites that provide an element of free and affordable tennis for the community use

in previous years. Additionally, The Elms tennis club also works in several Harrow schools, offering after school sessions.

A Primary Schools Teacher Training Course was held in Harrow last year that was attended by 4 local schools. Each school was given £500 worth of free tennis equipment.

There is no tennis development plan currently in place for Harrow; the last plan was produced in 1999 and expired in 2004.

### **Key Issues for Tennis**

Although Harrow has a large number of tennis facilities, the majority are private clubs which charge a fee for membership and therefore are not accessible to large sections of the community.

Overall the quality of facility at the private clubs is much better than that provided by those courts available to the wider public.

There has been a decline in recent years in the number of publicly accessible Local Authority Courts, most of which are available free of charge for casual play. Most public courts appear to be well used.

There are a number of locations in Parks and Recreation Grounds where tennis courts have become derelict. These could offer the opportunity for additional provision if they were refurbished. Alternatively they could be converted for other uses such as Multi Use Games Areas.

### 13. Multi Use Games Areas

There are a number of Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs) across the borough which meet some demand for casual play. These are listed in **Table 13.1** below. They do not offset the demand for facilities for competitive fixtures and formal training. The MUGAs are of a variable quality ranging from the high quality 3G rubber crumb facility adjacent to the Krishna-Avanti Primary School and William Ellis Playing Fields to the low quality tarmac surfaced MUGA adjacent to Rayners Lane Football Club.

**Table 13.1: MUGAs**

UPRN	MUGA	Location
MUG001	Cedars Open Space MUGA	Chicheley Road
MUG002	Centenary Park MUGA	Culver Grove
MUG004	William Ellis Playing Fields MUGA	Camrose Avenue
MUG005	Queensbury Recreation Ground MUGA	Honeypot Lane
MUG006	Rayners Lane Football Club MUGA	Lucas Avenue
MUG007	Beacon Centre MUGA	Scott Crescent
MUG008	Harrow Sports College	Gayton Road
MUG009	Broadfields Sports Ground MUGA	Broadfields, Hatch End

Current provision equates to one facility per 28,946 people. This compares with Brent, which has one facility to 20,217 people.

The Harrow PPG17 Open Space Sport and Recreation Study recommended an accessibility standard of 15 minutes walking time for MUGAs. It is reasonable for the Borough to aspire to a provision of at least one facility per 20,000 people. To achieve this level of provision the number of MUGAs would need to increase to 1 in total. Converting and refurbishing derelict tennis courts with some of the Borough's parks could readily achieve this.

## 14. Objectives

The audit and the assessment of need indicates that, in order to maintain and enhance outdoor sports provision in Harrow, the following key areas need to be addressed:-

- Any quantitative surpluses or shortfalls
- Any qualitative deficiencies
- Accessibility
- The need to protect existing provision
- The development of a local standard
- The future management and funding of outdoor sports provision

### Key Aims

The key aims of Harrow Council's Outdoor Sport Strategy are to:

- provide a sufficient number of adult and junior sports pitches and other outdoor sports facilities to meet both current and future demand;
- ensure that the quality of outdoor sports facilities and ancillary changing accommodation meets the expectations of current and future participants;
- ensure that outdoor sports facilities and ancillary changing accommodation are easily accessible to participants;
- secure improvements in the operational management and maintenance of outdoor sports facilities and changing rooms.

## Quantitative surpluses and deficiencies

### Playing Pitches

There is a need to protect existing areas of playing pitch land in public, private and educational ownership located in Harrow.

#### *Football*

Whilst there is not an apparent overall shortfall in the provision of grass football pitches to meet both current and future demand at the peak time there is still nevertheless a need to protect the existing stock of pitches. This is justified by the fact that a significant number of Harrow based football teams are currently playing on pitches outside the Borough. This is due in part to the poor quality of a large proportion of the football pitches available and in part to the high cost of hiring pitches and changing rooms. Existing football pitches therefore need to be retained and improved.

The poor quality of many football pitches, mostly those maintained by Harrow Council, reduces their capacity to accommodate matches. The Playing Pitch Model assumes that pitches are able to take two games per week. However, if a pitch is of poor quality, it may only be able to accommodate one match per week, it is equivalent to half a pitch. There are

a number of football pitches within the borough that are able to take only one game per week.

The application of the Carrying Capacity analysis detailed in **Appendix D** is to increase the current deficiency of youth pitches on Sunday morning although this is still balanced by a surplus of adult pitches. If the allowance for the rest and recuperation of playing pitches is taken into account there would be a shortfall of 16 junior pitches on Sunday morning and a surplus of 18 adult pitches. By 2017 there is an overall shortfall of youth pitches on Sunday morning.

There is a need to respond to the demand for youth pitches. In view of the fact that there are currently a sufficient number of adult pitches, it would be appropriate to reconfigure some of these pitches for use by youth football teams. In addition, there is a need to respond to the FA's initiative to introduce the 9v9 game by making pitches of the appropriate size available across the Borough.

#### *Cricket*

If the ECB guideline of 3-4 games per season per strip is applied to the number of strips available in the Borough, there are only just sufficient strips available. In view of the fact that there are Harrow based cricket teams playing on pitches outside the Borough, a situation could arise where the current balance in provision could become a shortfall. Existing cricket facilities must therefore be protected.

#### **The Need for a "Strategic Reserve" of Pitches**

Sport England advises that there should *always* be a "strategic reserve" of pitches. The reasons for this are:

- There will usually be some pitches out of use because, for example, they are waterlogged or the surface is damaged and the pitches need to be "rested".
- The demand for each of the different pitch sports is changing and it is necessary to keep the number of pitches for each sport under review. It may be possible to re-mark a pitch from, say, adult football to junior football; but a need for an additional junior football pitch does not automatically mean a local need for one less adult football pitch.
- There are initiatives currently to increase pitch sport participation over the next decade.
- There is a growing need for small-sided pitches for mini soccer, mini-rugby and other junior coaching initiatives.

This "strategic reserve" should be at least 10% and may need to be higher where pitch drainage is poor and levels of pitch use are high.

#### ***Objective 1.***

##### ***To safeguard existing playing fields and outdoor sports provision from development.***

Such protection should be afforded through the development of planning policies within the emerging Local Development Framework and would give the additional safeguard of making Sport England a statutory consultee on any planning application to develop a site.

Playing pitches should not be developed unless a playing pitch or pitches of equivalent or better quantity and quality and in a suitable location would replace the playing pitches that would be lost as a result of any proposed development.



### **Objective 2.**

**To meet shortfalls in the provision of youth football pitches in part through the development of additional sports pitch provision and in part by converting existing pitches of types that are assessed to be surplus to current demand (senior football) into those types for which there is a deficit (youth football and in future 9v9 pitches).**

The PPM analysis found that there is a surplus of adult football pitches and a shortfall in the provision of youth pitches. It has been assumed that youth teams are therefore playing on senior pitches at the peak times of demand. Converting senior to youth pitches could theoretically address a significant proportion of the deficiencies in youth pitch provision. However, this would need to be demonstrated in practice before any disposal is considered because there may not be enough pitches that are not needed for senior football to allow enough to be converted in practice to youth pitches.

Shortfalls would only be balanced if adult pitches were suitable for being marked out for youth football. Some surplus adult pitches may not be on sites that are suitable for youth football or may be in the wrong places within Harrow to meet needs of youth football. In addition, many senior pitches will be used more than once over a weekend and it will not be practical to change pitch markings and goals from day to day, it will only be possible to guarantee converting senior pitches to youth pitches where they are surplus during the busiest period i.e. Sunday.

### **Objective 3.**

**To ensure that there is an adequacy of existing and future pitch and outdoor sports facility provision in Harrow through the adoption of local standards of provision and the development of new outdoor sports facilities.**

An important outcome from a playing pitch strategy is the development of local standards of provision, in accordance with national planning policy. Such standards will:

- underpin negotiations with developers over their contributions towards new pitch provision to meet the needs of new residential developments
- provide an additional overview of the general supply of pitches/level of provision
- assist in protecting land in playing field use
- assist in benchmarking with other areas/authorities.

For each site, a calculation has been made of the area of land in the principal types of outdoor sport use. The areas were totalled and then related to the population to obtain an existing 'standard'. Estimates were then made of the land required to achieve a balance in provision in 2016.

### **Playing Pitches**

The current level of provision is 0.69 hectares per 1,000 population (excluding AGPs). This area is based on the average size of pitch together with an allowance of 50% for safety/run off. In addition a site multiplier of 15% has been applied to take into account changing, parking, landscaping etc. The measurement of the area of playing pitches in this strategy differs from the approach set out in 'Towards a Level Playing Field'. The pitch sizes used in 'Towards a Level Playing Field' are those recommended by the 'Fields in Trust' (formally the NPFA). The approach adopted for this study has been agreed with Sport England and more accurately employs the pitch sizes recommended by the National Governing Bodies for each sport. The method is set out in **Appendix G**.

The number of playing pitches required to meet the demand in 2017 is shown in **Table 12.1**. These figures incorporate the 10% contingency recommended by Sport England.

**Table 12.1: Number and Type of Pitches required for 2017 with 10% contingency**

Type of Pitch	Number
Senior football pitches	29
Youth football pitches	52
Mini soccer pitches	36
Cricket pitches	33
Senior Rugby	4
Junior Rugby	4

The area required for this number of pitches is then calculated. This is then related to the estimated population for Harrow in the year 2017 to obtain a minimum target standard for provision for the period up to the review of this strategy.

**Table 12.2: Playing Pitches Local Standard of Provision**

(A) Area of existing pitches in secured community use (hectares)	(B) Hectares required by 2017	Allowance 10% for rest and recovery	Total Required	2017 Population	Hectares required per 1000 population
160.1	170.93	14.49	170.93	239,743	0.71

The recommended standard is 0.71 hectares per 1,000 population. This standard incorporates the 10% contingency.(see **Table 12.2**)

The standard will need to be reviewed in 2017 for the period up to 2026.

**Artificial Grass Pitches**

There are 4 AGPs in Harrow which are available for community use. Community use provision equates to 2.76 hectares based on the standard dimensions of a full size AGP with a 15% allowance for circulation etc. There is a requirement for 3 additional AGPs based on the Sports Facilities Calculator. The calculation of the standard is shown in **Table 12.3** below.

**Table 12.3: Artificial Grass Pitches Local Standard of Provision**

(A) Area of existing pitches in secured community use (hectares)	Hectares required by 2017	2017
2.76	4.83	

The recommended standard is 0.020 hectares per 1,000 population.

**Multi-Use Games Areas**

There are eight existing MUGAs and a need for additional MUGAs. A standard of at least one facility per 20,000 people is proposed.

**Bowling Greens**

There is current provision of 9 bowling greens. Whilst levels of participation are declining, the increased numbers and proportion of the population over 65 justify the retention of 9 bowling greens to meet future demand. The calculation of the standard is shown in **Table 12.4** below.

**Table 12.4: Bowling Greens Local Standard of Provision**

(A) Area of existing bowling greens (hectares) <sup>52</sup>	Hectares required by 2017	2017 Population	Hectares required per 1000 population
2.31	2.31	239,743	0.010

The recommended standard is 0.010 hectares of bowling greens per 1,000 population.

**Tennis Courts**

There are 22 locations with tennis courts xxx courts are in a usable condition. The recommended standard is xxxxx hectares of tennis courts per 1,000 population.

<sup>52</sup>When paths, surrounds and pavilion are included the size of a bowling green is 3822m<sup>2</sup> per facility.

**Table 12.5: Tennis Courts Local Standard of Provision**

(A) Area of existing tennis courts (hectares) <sup>53</sup>	Hectares required by 2017	2017 Population	Hectares required per 1000 population
		239,743	

**Athletics**

The criteria for the provision of athletics facilities is one outdoor synthetic track (6 or 8 lanes) per 250,000 within 20 minutes drive time. The athletics Track at Bannister Sports Centre satisfies this requirement.

**Proposed Planning Policy Guidance**

A number of key policy guidance principles proposed for new playing pitch provision are recommended. These are:

- All new or upgraded pitch and pavilion developments should meet Sport England, Football Foundation and the relevant national governing body for sport recommendations applicable at the time.
- Single pitch site developments will be discouraged. The priority is for multi pitch site developments.
- Where a residential development creates the need for new outdoor sports provision such additional provision should be made on multi pitch/multi sport sites either:
  - through the creation of a multi pitch site funded by contributions from a number of developers where each individual development creates the need for less than two sports pitches, bowling green or tennis court, or
  - through the provision of additional pitches on existing sites, or
  - as a contribution to improving existing pitches/land and changing accommodation (or the provision of changing accommodation) to increase existing pitch capacity or bring redundant pitches into use.

The solution will depend on the specific development circumstances and location, but this strategy should inform the requirements.

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<sup>53</sup>The typical club court which meets the Lawn Tennis Association Recreational Standard covers an area of 34.75m x 17.07m (0.6 ha) including back and side runs.  
[http://www.saa.gov.uk/practice\\_notes/s\\_to\\_z/mpc16.html](http://www.saa.gov.uk/practice_notes/s_to_z/mpc16.html)

## Qualitative Deficiencies

### Playing pitches

A poor playing surface will be detrimental to the quality of the playing experience and at times will result in the pitch being unavailable. Many factors can affect the quality of the pitch including slope, exposure (openness to elements), soil type, drainage and grass cover. These factors will have a major impact on the number of games that can be played on a pitch over a given period, and hence the overall pitch capacity. Factors such as drainage and soil type will also greatly influence the extent to which matches may be lost during periods of wet weather.

The quality of ancillary facilities such as changing, car parking, social provision and practice areas also determine whether the facility can contribute to meeting the demand from various groups and for different levels of play.

#### **Objective 4.**

***To ensure that all existing sports pitches, bowling greens and tennis courts meet a minimum quality standard.***

A realistic level of quality and standard for all pitches in Harrow is the Performance Quality Standard<sup>54</sup>, which is the minimum quality standard for the maintenance and construction of pitches recommended by the National Governing Bodies for football, cricket and rugby.

It is recommended that Harrow Council commission PQS assessments of cricket pitches at sites prioritised in **Section 15** before undertaking any improvements.

Club and ground staff should endeavour to achieve this standard through the effective management of the pitch. It is recognised that standards and desired parameters will probably not be achieved all of the time, especially as the season progresses. However, the intent should be to aspire to this standard throughout the whole year.

The Performance Quality Standard (PQS) sets the basic standard recommended for natural grass pitches, which may be located at a variety of locations including a club site, within a park or recreational ground. □□Principally, this recommends that a natural grass pitch must:

- Have adequate grass cover
- Low level of weed coverage
- Be flat
- Have the ability to drain water

If met, the PQS ensures a flat drained surface suitable for 'recreational' and competitive pitch sports.

The quality of sports pitches was assessed using the Visual Quality Assessment. The Sport England gradings for football, rugby and cricket pitches range from Excellent to Very Poor. It is recommended that all pitches should at least meet the quality score for a 'Good' pitch i.e. 64% - 90%.

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<sup>54</sup>Facilities Guidance Note 3: Maintenance of Grass Pitches for Rugby. RFU 2006.

TS4 Recommended Guidelines for the Construction, Preparation and Maintenance of Cricket Pitches and Outfields at all Levels of the Game. England and Wales Cricket Board 2007  
[http://www.thefa.com/GetIntoFootball/Facilities/Performance\\_Quality\\_Standard.aspx](http://www.thefa.com/GetIntoFootball/Facilities/Performance_Quality_Standard.aspx)

### **Objective 5.**

#### **To develop a programme of improvement and maintenance for playing pitches, bowling greens and tennis courts.**

It is recommended that the Council and all other providers should adopt a rolling programme of improvements to their playing pitches with a view to meeting the minimum quality standard for all pitches.

New residential development should contribute to the improvement of the quality of existing playing fields (and changing facilities) because the residents of such development will be using existing sites for meeting their needs. This requirement should be explicitly set out in the relevant Supplementary Planning Documents.

Priority should be given to locations identified as hub sites in the hierarchy of provision.

### **Football**

Improvements could be achieved through:

1. Implementation of a programme of levelling and drainage improvements such as the re-instatement of sand slits to link up with existing drainage, at the sites prioritised in **Section 15**:
2. Initiation of a programme of re-turfing/re-seeding the worn areas of goalmouths and other areas of the playing surfaces of pitches that have suffered damage. Where possible there should be sufficient space to facilitate variation in the layout of pitches to help them to recover from natural wear and tear.
3. Reducing the number of pitches at selected sites to allow pitches to be re-orientated and moved to reduce the impact of wear and tear.
4. Introduction of kickabout goals at sites that are subject to unauthorised use. Often children and young people will play casual games on pitches and inevitably will seek to use the area in front of the goals when goalposts are left in place. This leads to excessive wear in the goalmouth area. Some of the pitches at Harrow Recreation Ground are particularly vulnerable to damage from informal football games. One way to counter this is to provide alternative facilities in the form of kickabout areas with goalposts away from the main pitch areas.
5. Co-ordination of the provision of grounds maintenance courses for clubs and organisations who are currently maintaining their own facilities.

### **Cricket**

A cricket pitch should ideally be

- even throughout, with no undulations or depressions;
- well consolidated, giving good and appropriate ball bounce;
- covered with a dense sward of desirable grasses that have good root density and depth;

In addition, a well-prepared pitch should ideally be able to withstand the equivalent of three, five-hour games. The England and Wales Cricket Board suggested that a pitch be expected to last for 3-4 games of average club standard with a maximum of maximum of five matches per pitch during the season should ideally be observed<sup>55</sup>.

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<sup>55</sup>Recommended Guidelines for the construction, preparation and maintenance of cricket pitches and outfield at all levels of the game. England and Wales Cricket Board 2007.

The aim should be for a cricket pitch that plays well, is safe and is managed in a cost-effective manner. Pitches should conform to nationally accepted criteria (IOG Performance Quality Standards).

Harrow Council working in partnership with cricket clubs should take advantage of the ECB Pitch Advisory Scheme<sup>56</sup> to obtain advice on the quality performance of pitches / squares and recommendations (where necessary) for any improvements at the sites prioritised in **Section 15**:

### ***Bowling Greens***

Harrow Council working in partnership with bowls clubs should work towards achieving greens that are even and level throughout, with no undulations or depressions. The surface should also be firm and with a complete coverage of desirable grasses. Where necessary it might be appropriate to seek advice from the Bowls England greens advisor.

### ***Tennis Courts***

There are a number of tennis courts that are no longer 'fit for purpose'. Action is required to either refurbish these facilities or seek alternative outdoor sports uses for the sites.

### **Training Areas**

Clubs need not only access to playing facilities, but also to training facilities. Given that most training during the season will take place during the evenings, these facilities need to be floodlit. Given also the inclement weather during the winter floodlit Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs) are more likely to provide consistent training opportunities.

### ***Objective 6.***

**To ensure that there is adequate provision of floodlit Artificial Grass Pitches and training areas that are fully accessible to community sports clubs.**

### ***Artificial Grass Pitches***

Training on grass pitches that are also used for matches leads to greater wear and tear and has a significant impact on pitch quality. The quality of pitches can only be improved if the measures taken to improve pitch quality are matched by the provision of good training opportunities. Artificial Grass Pitches provide opportunities for training and practice for football and rugby.

However, there is evidence that clubs in Harrow are not making use of the AGPs for training because of the high cost of hiring the facilities. This is particularly the case with Youth Football clubs.

It is therefore recommended that Harrow Council examines ways of making these facilities more accessible and affordable.

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<sup>56</sup>There are two bands of fees applicable to Pitch Advisers.

1. Prioritised detailed assessment - £250 (inclusive of follow up visits).
2. Basic Assessments - £75-150 (by arrangement with club).

## **Changing accommodation**

### **Objective 7**

***To ensure that changing accommodation is available and meets a minimum quality standard.***

The quality of existing changing rooms does not meet the expectations of many users.

Changing room designs and layouts should follow the minimum standards which are acceptable to the National Governing Bodies. Pavilions and changing rooms should be in conformity with the minimum quality standards set out by Sport England<sup>57</sup>. The Sport England Guidance concentrates on pavilions that are free-standing and designed primarily for cricket, football, hockey and rugby. The recommendations also apply to pavilions for bowls, tennis and athletics, and to outdoor changing facilities that form part of a sports centre. The standards outlined can be applied to the upgrading of existing accommodation. In addition facilities should comply with Sport England Access for Disabled People Guide to meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

### ***Playing pitches changing facilities***

There is a need to ensure that the quality of changing facilities at all multi pitch locations meets the minimum quality standard.

The lack of segregated changing rooms is considered to be an impediment to the development of women's football.

### **Actions to improve the quality of changing facilities**

It is recommended that all facility providers should adopt a rolling programme of improvements to changing facilities, such that all eventually conform with at least the 'average' standard set out in the Sport England Visual Quality Assessment. Particular attention should be paid to:

- Provision for use by women and girls.
- Access and use by people with disabilities.
- Provision of fire precautions.
- Child Protection - adults should not change or shower at the same time as youth teams using the same facilities.<sup>58</sup>

This particularly applies to locations that have been identified as having sub-standard changing facilities. Sites are identified in **Section 15** for improvement or replacement.

### ***Bowling Greens Changing Facilities***

There is a need to work with bowls clubs in identifying the facilities that should have priority for improvement in future.

### **Playing pitch sites currently lacking changing accommodation**

There is an urgent need to resolve the issue of the lack of changing facilities at William Ellis Sports Ground. Funding has been provided via a S106 Agreement for the development of changing facilities on the site and planning permission has been granted but the scheme has not been implemented.

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<sup>57</sup> Guidance Note - Pavilions and Clubhouses (Ref: 798R, ISBN 1 86078 090 7) 1999.

<sup>58</sup> [http://www.nspcc.org.uk/inform/cpsu/helpandadvice/organisations/clubguidelines/clubguidelines\\_wda60689.htm](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/inform/cpsu/helpandadvice/organisations/clubguidelines/clubguidelines_wda60689.htm)  
!#Changing\_rooms



## 5 Accessibility

Sports pitches will only have value to the local community if they are able to be reached by those who want to use them. Sports pitches that are inaccessible will have little relevance in terms of meeting identified local needs. Centralising a number of sports pitches on a single municipal site will have major effects on accessibility, particularly for young people and those without a car. Local community pitches are still needed to meet local need. At the same time, the majority of the community must consider the cost of use reasonable and affordable.

In addition there is a requirement to provide people with disabilities with full access to all sports facilities. Full access means being able to make full use of the facility as a participant, spectator or as a member of staff. Pavilions and changing facilities should comply with the Sport England Access for Disabled People Guide to meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. This guidance note presents the minimum requirements for achieving good access.

### **Objective 8.**

***To ensure that all existing and future sports pitch provision is easily accessible to all members of the local community who wish to use them.***

There is a need to provide facilities which enable progression through various stages of competitive play, i.e. are there facilities to cater for the various standards of league competition played by local teams?

Provision should facilitate progression by individuals from learning basic skills at an early age in a 'doorstep' location, moving on to becoming members of a local team playing on a pitch close to their local community and finally playing with a larger club that may be located at a 'hub' site.

A hierarchy of provision could be considered based on :

- a **hub** which represents the peak of the hierarchy and might cater for clubs in regional leagues e.g. The Hive. Facility requirements will be commensurate with the standard of play and might include spectator facilities, floodlighting and so on. The catchment for this type of facility is the 20 minute drive time (**Tier 1**).
- the **secondary hub** level offers facilities for those teams that have reached a good standard of play and are playing regular league matches where there may be requirements for well-drained, 'true' playing surfaces and changing facilities. An example could, in the future, be Whitchurch Playing Fields. This type of facility will also attract users from a wider area with a 20 minute drive time. (**Tier 2**).
- the **local** level offers facilities for those clubs on the lowest rungs of regular competitive play, where changing accommodation will normally be available and pitches will be of a reasonable quality. Local facilities indicate a walking distance of between 1,000 metres to 1.6km e.g. Harrow Recreation Ground. (**Tier 3**).
- the **casual** level of the hierarchy would include kick-about areas, five-a-side pitches, MUGAs and 'rough' pitches for casual use which encourage initial participation. These should be within easy walking distance from the place of residence, indicating a catchment of around 800 to 1000 metres walking distance e.g. The Croft. (**Tier 4**).

Informal facilities clearly play an important part in the local hierarchy of provision. Their provision should not be considered in isolation from formal facilities.

For the purpose of the Outdoor Sports Strategy, hub sites are considered primarily as facilities which provide multi-sport and multi-activity opportunities. However, Sport England's concept of hub sites goes beyond this. They see the facilities as a method for improving the coaching and voluntary workforce. Therefore, the model for a hub site is effectively a campus style facility at which a number of sports take place, and within which there will be benefits from the common elements of organised sport and physical activity. These common elements would include:

- Coaching and coach education
- Administration and facilities
- Changing and social provision
- Training and conditioning
- Child protection
- Club development

The overall concept of the hub embraces neighbouring or "satellite" hub sites that are able to add value, as additional, complementary opportunities through their being associated with the core facility. The hub concept therefore calls for a shift in outlook away from the traditional sports approach.

The cohesion between each part will be vital in ensuring that individuals can readily access the activity that attracts them. As their skills develop, individuals will also be better placed to be able to find pathways to the level of participation or performance to which they aspire.

The hubs could enable economies of scale to be realised. These include:

- changing facilities that service different sports;
- a direct contribution from AGP income;
- grass pitches that can be more frequently let, due to their improved condition; and,
- improved security, through controlled access and increased presence (where a school or leisure centre site is used).

### ***Bowling Greens***

Bowling greens and pavilions should be accessible to people with disabilities to help club members to become fully integrated into their local clubs and play in league games, matches and competitions at club and higher levels.

### ***Tennis***

Tennis courts and changing facilities should enable tennis to become affordable and accessible to people of all ages and abilities, all the year round.

### ***Netball***

Given the lack of good access to netball provision in the west of Harrow, consideration should be given to the inclusion of netball courts in the proposals for the multi sport hub at Belhus Park.

### **Accessibility Standard**

Consultation undertaken for the PPG17 Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study indicated that the majority of people walk to outdoor sports facilities. The accessibility standard is therefore mainly based on walking distance.

There is no accessibility standard for playing pitches. This is because it is not possible to identify a given catchment area for playing pitches. To do so misrepresents the actual travel patterns involved and would not be related to the location of demand, capacity of the pitches or reflect the different levels of play. In the case of Harrow it is clear that players are prepared to travel a significant distance in order to be able to use better quality pitches and facilities. A catchment area would therefore give a misleading impression about the total picture of supply and demand.

The accessibility standard for different types of outdoor sports provision are shown in **Table 12.6** below.

**Table 12.6: Accessibility Standards**

Type of Outdoor Sports Facility	Accessibility Standard
Playing Pitches	Not Applicable
Bowls	15 minute walking time (1,200 metres)
Tennis	15 minute walking time (1,200 metres)
AGP	20 minute drive time (approximately 7 miles straight line distance)
MUGA	15 minute walking time (1,200 metres)

**Objective 9.**

***To make available the outdoor sports facilities together with access to toilet/changing facilities at schools in Harrow for use by the community outside school hours.***

***Community use of education facilities***

At present, the only school that makes its sports pitches available for community use is John Lyon School. The opening up of school sports facilities is a cost effective means of maximising access for all in the community to sporting opportunities. The challenge is to promote and manage community use in ways which will achieve worthwhile results in terms of sport and generate community satisfaction, without being in any way detrimental to the over-riding educational role of the school or socially exclusive. Schools themselves can benefit from a widening of networks with a whole range of other organizations such as local sports clubs and an improved relationship with their communities.

Whilst the community use of sports pitches in schools seeks to make optimal use of existing resources there are some issues which need to be considered, including:

- the capacity of school pitches to accommodate both curricular use in school time and community use ‘out of hours’ without detriment to the quality of the playing surface;
- the poor quality of the playing surface of many school sports pitches with poor drainage and low quality of maintenance;
- difficulties of providing access to changing facilities;
- problems of availability during school terms; and
- change of pitch use from football to cricket for curricular use may not coincide with the requirements of community use terms.

Access to existing and proposed school facilities by the general community will be secured through the following actions:-

- a) Securing Community Use Agreements for new football pitches for use by local junior football teams.

- b) Securing Community Use Agreements for school sites in Harrow where there is potential for existing playing pitches to be used by community teams
- c) Securing Community Use Agreements for community access to AGP provision on school sites.

## **6 Management**

### ***Self Management***

#### ***Objective 10.***

***To consider the introduction of self management agreements for outdoor sports facilities and changing facilities to be managed by individual sports clubs.***

Responsibility for running outdoor grassed pitches and changing facilities has been handed over to users in a number of successful self-management arrangements in Harrow. Ealing Three Bridges Cricket Club has a self management agreement to maintain its cricket pitch and pavilion at Harrow Recreation Ground. Wealdstone Bowls Club has a self management agreement which gives the club greater control over facilities and longer term sustainability of their facilities.

Self management has the benefit of empowering the community to manage the facilities they use, instilling ownership and pride. In addition, there is the potential for facilities to be better maintained and it could help to reduce vandalism. Other benefits include an increase in help from volunteers, improved partnership working with local community groups, and an increase in external funding, often match funding for Football Foundation grants to improve facilities. This could lead to cost savings for both the council and the clubs in terms of administration and officer time. The potential result would be the long-term sustainability of high quality local community facilities.

However, self-management is not a universal solution to every situation. The success of self-management is often dependant on two factors, commitment and capacity. No scheme for devolved management will work unless there is sustained commitment to it on the part of the local authority, the sports club and its members. Harrow Council needs to be sure that the club to which responsibilities are devolved will remain a committed, reliable and responsible partner, even when there are changes of membership. There also needs to be a reciprocal requirement for a consistent commitment from the local authority.

The capacity of a sports club to make a success of self management will depend in part on the extent of the responsibilities devolved but also on a wide range of other variables which may or may not be within its control e.g. the size of the site, the quality of the infrastructure, the level of rental income and the leadership abilities of present and future club representatives. This capacity may vary over time, which may be problematic, because once a local authority has devolved some of its management responsibilities it may be difficult to reassume them.

### ***Funding Opportunities***

#### ***Objective 11.***

***To maximise external funding opportunities.***

The Council will need to maximise its ability to secure external funding for improving pitch facilities and working in partnership with other agencies as an important means of unlocking additional funding sources.

- (a) The Council should work with the Middlesex County FA and the Football Foundation to improve facilities for football in local communities.
- (b) The Council should work with the National Governing Bodies for Cricket, Rugby and Hockey to secure additional funding for facility improvement.
- (c) The Council could seek to work in partnership with the Lawn Tennis Association to help support the many tennis clubs in Harrow.
- (d) There is little evidence that the Council has sought to engage with the National Governing Bodies for Bowls (Bowls England). Whilst this body does not have access to external funding, a number of clubs that are currently struggling to survive could benefit from their support. In addition there may be opportunities to secure loans for improvements to facilities.

A number of other funding potential sources could support improvements to outdoor sports provision. These can be found in **Appendix F**.

### **Objective 12**

#### ***To secure Planning Obligations, Section 106 Agreements and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)***

The Local Development Framework will be the statutory instrument for implementing the Harrow Outdoor Sport Strategy through the planning process. Planning obligations under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 can secure the provision of recreational, sports, and other community facilities as part of new developments. Government Circular 05/05 gives further guidance on the use of Section 106 agreements.

#### **On-site provision or developers' contributions to off-site provision**

The need for on-site provision or developers' contributions to off-site provision may arise from applications for two types of development:

- Residential or larger employment use applications where development creates the need for outdoor sports provision in the area.
- Applications relating to the redevelopment of existing outdoor sports provision for some other use i.e. replacement of lost facilities.

Both types of development require the application of adopted provision standards. The standards of provision determine whether there is a deficiency or surplus in terms of accessibility, quality and/or quantity deficiency, within a defined area. This will determine the need for either additional provision or the enhancement of existing provision.

The process proposed for considering planning obligations relating to new housing includes five steps by which the scale of any contributions due will be calculated. Developers would need to enter into discussion with the Council at an early stage in the development process in order to determine the likely outdoor sport requirements for their schemes.

The five steps start with the consideration of whether the scheme contains eligible types of development. If the scheme does include eligible types of development, the requirements for outdoor sport can be calculated based on the standards of provision. A determination of whether the provisions should be on site or off site constitutes the third step. If the provision is off site the level of contribution can then be calculated. Step five covers the calculation of commuted maintenance sums.

#### **Infrastructure Delivery Plan**

The Council has prepared an Infrastructure Delivery Plan, which sets out a list of social and physical infrastructure requirements needed to support sustainable development, promote

economic growth, and improve the quality of life for residents. The Infrastructure Delivery Plan represents the beginnings of a capital works programme, coordinating the Council's, developer's, and delivery partner's investment in infrastructure in Harrow. It sets out criteria for prioritising infrastructure investment although it is likely that the priorities for infrastructure investment will be subject to yearly review and updating.

The current definition of infrastructure provided by the CIL Regulations includes 'Recreation and Leisure' which covers outdoor sports facilities.

The Infrastructure Delivery Schedule for Harrow includes a section on Outdoor Sports Pitches as follows:

- Increase in provision of playing pitches, especially within the central and southwestern sub areas where deficiency in provision is greatest.
- Significant improvement in existing football pitch quality, and a improvement in rugby pitch quality
- Provision for additional MUGAs and Synthetic Sports Turf pitches bowls facilities across the borough.

### **Objective 13.**

#### **To undertake regular monitoring and review of this strategy**

It is important that this strategy is monitored and reviewed. Sport England recommends a review of Playing Pitch Assessments (PPA) every 2 years or every three years if annual monitoring of supply and demand takes place.

Monitoring should be based on a number of indicators including:

- changes in the levels of pitch and facility bookings each season;
- changes in the number of outdoor sports facilities available each season;
- changes in the numbers of clubs and teams for each of the outdoor sports;
- changes in the quality of facilities, including sports pitches.

It may be appropriate to hold an annual liaison meeting with NGB representatives which the needs of their sport are changing.

Changes in demand and supply mean that it will be necessary to undertake a fundamental review in 2015 when all aspects of the Strategy will need to be reassessed. The review will develop a revised strategy that will cover the period 2015-2026 to ensure consistency with the Local Development Framework (LDF) plan period which ends in 2026.

## 15. Harrow Outdoor Sport Priorities

### Football

Outdoor sports sites with football pitches were assessed against a range of criteria which reflect their potential to secure the key objectives for football in the Borough. These include objectives to achieve a better balance in the supply of senior and junior pitches; their location in relation to areas of deficiency of supply of pitches and the site's position in the hierarchy of outdoor sports provision. In addition sites were graded for their potential to increase participation generally and particularly for youth and women's football. Sites were also assessed for their potential to attract external funding in order to secure improvements.

The results are shown in **Table 15.1** below and the full scoring matrix can be found in **Appendix H**. Sites have been given a total score and ranked accordingly; the scoring does not take account of the funding potential but this is considered as a separate measure.

The highest scoring site is **Kenton Recreation Ground** with 4 senior pitches and 6 mini pitches. This site is at Level 2 in the hierarchy<sup>59</sup> because it serves more than the local area. This site is the home ground of St Josephs 88 Youth Football Club which has full Charter Standard status. The club has 400 members of which two thirds are youth members and one third play mini soccer; the club reports that membership is increasing and plans exist to increase the number of girls teams. At present the club runs 10 mini soccer teams and 14 youth teams including one girls team.

The pitches at Kenton Recreation Ground are of average and below average quality based on the visual quality assessment. The changing rooms are the standard 'Harrow Model' with a flat roof, social area and four separate changing rooms each with showers. The condition of the changing block is poor. It would be virtually impossible to provide wheelchair access. It is unlikely that a refurbishment would be able to satisfy the Sport England/ Football Foundation requirements.

There is good potential to reconfigure the pitches on this site to provide youth and mini-soccer pitches<sup>60</sup> and there is additional space available, which is not currently marked out for pitches. This site contains football pitches only and no cricket or rugby.

Recommended improvements would include the installation of drainage and the leveling of the pitch surface and the provision of a new changing pavilion. It is considered that this site should have good potential to secure external funding.

Two sites scored slightly below Kenton Recreation Ground – these are Headstone Manor Recreation Ground and Whitchurch Playing Fields.

**Whitchurch Playing Fields** is currently the subject of a tender for a partnering development for the development and management of the site. It is therefore not appropriate to evaluate this site further at this stage. However, it should be noted that this is a large site with the potential to accommodate a significant number of football pitches.

**Headstone Manor Recreation Ground** is a very large site which currently has four senior football pitches, five youth pitches and five mini-soccer pitches. In the hierarchy this is considered to be a Level 2 site i.e. a site which serves more than local need.

This site is the home ground of Headstone Manor Youth Football Club which has a membership of 400 of whom two thirds are youth members and one third are mini soccer members. The club has runs 8 mini-soccer teams and 14 youth teams of which 2 are girls

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<sup>59</sup>The hierarchy is explained in Appendix I

<sup>60</sup>

teams. The site also accommodates another youth football club, Pinner Albion which has a membership of 95 boys and runs 5 teams. Both clubs have Charter Standard status.

Headstone Manor also accommodates 3 cricket squares, 2 of which are used by Bessborough Cricket Club (a Focus Club) and one by West Harrow Cricket Club.

Overall the quality of the football and cricket pitches on the site is average. There are two main changing blocks of the 'Harrow Model' type on this site as well as two separate cricket pavilions which were built by the clubs. The standard of the main changing blocks is poor and the cricket pavilions are better and of moderate standard. One of the main changing blocks has been converted for use by a local children's nursery. The other, like Kenton, could not be converted to meet current standards.

The site has good potential for the reconfiguration of pitches to provide more youth and mini size pitches and there is some extra space which is currently unusable due to waterlogging.

Recommended improvements include the provision of pitch drainage and playing surface improvements for both football and cricket and the construction of a new changing block. Improvements to the cricket pavilions would enhance the quality of facilities for the cricket teams.

This is a multi-sport site so that this may increase the potential to attract external funding.

**Roxbourne Park** scored slightly below the previous 2 sites. It is a smaller site with one senior, one youth and 2 mini size pitches. It also has one cricket square which has recently been re-laid. This site is a level 3 site which merely serves the local area. One reason for the relatively high score is that this site lies in an area of deficiency identified in the Open Space Study.

The quality of the football pitches is below average and the cricket pitch is good. The changing block is the standard Harrow model and is of poor quality.

The site is the home ground of the Pinnstars Youth Football Club (but the club also plays at Montesoles) There are 200 members; half are youth aged and half are aged under 10. The club has Charter Standard status and runs 7 mini soccer and 6 youth teams. The club rates their changing facilities as being very poor and would like to refurbish these and to have tea room facilities. The club feels that it cannot compete with clubs who have a home ground with proper facilities.

The site has some potential to reconfigure to provide youth pitches and there is some additional space which was previously used for pitches and could be brought back into use.

Recommended improvements would again focus on drainage and the need to improve the playing surface and utilisation of the additional area. It is also recommended that the changing block be replaced. Roxbourne Park is in an area of deprivation and therefore would achieved higher priority for external funding. It is also a multi sport site.

The final priority site in the highest five is **Bannister Sports Ground**. The main pitch site has 2 senior, 2 youth and one mini pitch as well as an athletics track. The adjoining field is currently marked out for 2 rugby pitches which are under-used. The changing block is of a good standard and is of significantly better quality than on most sites in Harrow Council's ownership.

The site is the home ground of the Pinner Jewish Football Club which has 219 members, mainly youth players but also including 34 adult males. The club has Charter Standard status and membership has increased in recent years.

The quality of the football pitches is average and there is some capacity for reconfiguration; in addition the rugby pitches on the adjoining field are not well used and there is potential to reduce the number of rugby pitches and provide additional space for football.



Recommended improvements would include installation of pitch drainage and improvements to the playing surface including some leveling which may be subject to the need for planning consent. The main potential of this site is the capacity to accommodate additional pitches on the adjoining field. However, it would be necessary to enlarge the changing accommodation to cater for the extra usage.

This site is not in an area of deficiency but may nevertheless attract external funding although it is more likely to be funded either through developer contributions or, in the longer term, through the Community Infrastructure Levy.

**Table 15.1: Football Priorities**

Site Name	Priority Level
Kenton Recreation Ground	1
Headstone Manor Recreation Ground	2=
Whitchurch Playing Fields	2=
Roxbourne Playing Fields	4
Bannisters Sports Ground	5
Byron Recreation Ground	6
Harrow Recreation Ground	7=
Hatch End Playing Fields	7=
The Hive	7=
Harrow Town Sports Club	10=
R.C.T. Playing Fields	10=
John Rumney Playing Fields	12
William Ellis Playing Fields	13
Montesole Playing Fields	14
Roxeth Recreation Ground	15
Harrow Weald Recreation Ground	16
Old Lyonians	17
Saddlers' Mead	17
Tithe Farm Social Club	19
Chandos Recreation Ground	20=
Newton Farm Playing Fields	20=
Stanmore Recreation Ground	21
John Lyon School	N/A

It should be noted that Bannister Sports Ground is within the Green Belt and the Harrow Weald Ridge area of Special Character. The Planning Department has stated that,-

'In Green Belt terms normal policy issues apply i.e. there is a need to retain openness and visual amenity. The Area of Special Character is a local 'landscape' designation and the issues with this site in particular .....are that:

- (a) it is highly prominent from Uxbridge Road and Oxhey Lane etc and
- (b) it slopes steeply upward towards Old Redding.

Obviously outdoor sports is an appropriate use of Green Belt land and a case for some limited built development to facilitate that use could therefore be made. However this would need to be very sensitively sited, and if additional pitches require excavation into the hillside to create level surfaces that could also be an issue.'

### **Cricket.**

In terms of the highest scoring cricket grounds 4 out of the top 5 are private clubs (see **Table 15.2** below and the priority scoring matrix in **Appendix H**). The implications for this strategy are that the Council should seek to work in partnership with these 4 clubs and support any proposals which the clubs may have to improve their facilities.

The **Harrow Cricket Club** scores highly because it is situated in an area of deficiency and is a Focus Club which also has ECB Clubmark status. The club already has a large Colts development programme and membership has increased over the last five years. It therefore has the potential to contribute to the further development of the game and of junior cricket in particular. The club has its own ground which has two high quality cricket squares and good changing facilities.

**Harrow Town Cricket Club** is part of the Harrow Town Sports and Social Club which also caters for football and tennis. The two cricket squares are of average quality and the changing accommodation is poor. This club is situated within an area of deficiency and also of high deprivation. The club plans to amalgamate with a women's cricket club and also plans to develop a disability cricket team. Half its current membership is comprised of junior players and the club has achieved ECB Club Mark status. It is therefore well placed to increase participation in junior and women's cricket. The club has plans to improve the club house including providing disabled access. Given the club's location and priorities it may well attract external funding.

**Kenton Cricket Club** is also at a multi sport venue, the Kenton Sports Ground. This also caters for the Kenton tennis club and the Harrow Hockey Club. There are 3 cricket squares of good quality, a club house including changing accommodation which is of poor quality. The club has recently been successful in their application to the Inspired Facilities Programme to improve their changing pavilion.

**RCT Sports Ground** is a multi sport site which caters for football and cricket. It is the home ground of the Lohana Cricket Club which is a Focus Club with ECB Clubmark status. The club has a membership of 120, around two thirds of whom are junior members including girls.

The club has aspirations to improve the club house and changing facilities to accommodate its increasing membership.

**Harrow Recreation Ground** is the home of the Ealing Three Bridges Cricket Club and a number of smaller clubs. There are 2 cricket squares both of which are of good quality. Changing accommodation is moderate. Ealing Three Bridges runs 3 adult teams and has not achieved any accreditation from the ECB. It aspires to initiate a Colts section and achieve accreditation. The site has been visited by the Middlesex Cricket Board Development Officer and is considered to have potential to become as a more significant venue for cricket development. It is recommended that consideration be given to an application for funding to improve the facilities on this site and to promote the site for Junior Development.

**Table 15.2: Cricket Priorities**

Site Name	Priority Level
Harrow Cricket Club, Wood End Road. Main	1
Harrow Town Sports & Social Club. Main	2=
Kenton Sports Ground.	2=
Harrow Recreation Ground. Main	4=
RCT Sports Ground. Main	4=
Bessborough CC (Headstone Manor)	6
West Harrow	7
Stanmore	8
Harrow St Mary's	9=
Montesole Playing Fields	9=
Roxeth Recreation Ground	9=
Roxbourne Park	12
Saddlers Mead	13
Hatch End Sports Ground	14=
West Harrow Recreation Ground	14=
Old Lionians	16

### Tennis

Harrow is well served by tennis facilities but the majority of these are in private clubs thus restricting access to those who can afford the membership fees. The private tennis clubs reported in the questionnaire survey that, in the main, they did not face any significant problems.

This situation contrasts with the state of publicly accessible tennis court in Harrow which are provided by the Council. The courts at 3 park locations are of reasonably good quality and one is of moderate quality; however the remaining 8 sites are considered to be either of poor quality or derelict (see the priority scoring matrix in **Appendix H**) **Table 15.3** below provides a summary and it is recommended that courts at multi-sport sites should be given priority for improvement. One possible avenue for funding is the AEGON Parks Tennis programme. The LTA Development Officer has offered to discuss the potential for initiatives in Harrow and this should be pursued.

**Table 15.3: Tennis Priorities**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Priority Level</b>
Centenary Park	High
Harrow Recreation Ground	High
Headstone Manor	High
Queensbury Recreation Ground	High
Harrow Weald Recreation Ground	Middle
Kenton Recreation Ground	Middle
Montesoles	Middle
Roxeth Recreation Ground	Middle
Byron Recreation Ground	Low
Pinner Village Gardens	Low
West Harrow Recreation Ground	Low
Rayners Mead	Low

### **Bowls**

There are eight bowling greens in Harrow, seven of which are located in Harrow Council parks. Wealdstone BC is at present the sole self managed club and are very active and are seeking to promote the sport in local schools. They also have sessions for people with learning disabilities. Harrow BC has open days and is actively promoting the sport; it is understood that this club is currently negotiating to manage and maintain its own facilities. Stanmore BC is the largest in terms of membership numbers and, according to the Harrow and District Bowling Association, seeks to encourage increased participation by offering the opportunity to 'roll up' for friendly matches.

**Table 15.4: Bowls Priorities**

<b>Bowls Club</b>	<b>Priority Level</b>
Harrow Bowls Club	High
Wealdstone Bowls Club	High
Stanmore Bowls Club	High
Lupton Bowls Club	Middle
Pinner Bowls Club	Middle
Harrow Weald Bowls Club	Middle
Culver Bowls Club	Middle
West Harrow Bowls Club	Middle

## **APPENDIX A: FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION SUGGESTED PITCH SIZES**

Suggested Pitch Size (yards)	Suggested Size of Goalposts	Pitch Dimensions in Yards				Pitch Dimensions in Metres			
		Length		Width		Length		Width	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
<b>Mini-Soccer U7 &amp; U8</b>									
50 x 30	6ft x 12ft	50	30	30	20	45.75	27.45	27.45	18.3
<b>Mini-Soccer U9 &amp; U10</b>									
60 x 40	6ft x 12ft	60	50	40	30	54.9	45.75	36.6	27.45
<b>9v 9</b>									
80 x 50	7ft x 16ft	85	70	55	45	78.46	64	50.77	42
<b>Youth U11 &amp; U12 (11 v 11)</b>									
80 x 50	7ft x 16ft	90	75	55	45	82	68.25	50.77	42
<b>Youth U13 &amp; U14 (11 v 11)</b>									
90 x 55	7ft x 21ft	100	80	60	50	91	72.8	56	45.5
<b>Youth U15 &amp; U16 (11 v 11)</b>									
100 x 60	8ft x 24ft	110	90	70	50	100.6	82.3	64	45.5
<b>Youth U17 &amp; U18 and Seniors (11 v 11)</b>									
110 x 70	8ft x 24ft	130	100	100	50	120	90	90	45.5

## **APPENDIX B: VISUAL QUALITY ASSESSMENT SHEETS FOR PITCHES AND CHANGING ROOMS**

### Non Technical Visual Quality Assessment - Individual Pitch Assessment

Pitch Number ID:   
 Site ID:

Site Name:   
 Pitch Type:

Background information: Number of games played on pitch each season   
 Number of games cancelled due to unfitness of pitch (excluding frozen pitches)   
 % of games cancelled per season

**Assessment Criteria** (please rank each of the following aspects for each pitch with an 'X' in the coloured box to the right of the chosen answer)

Element	Rating					Guidance notes	Comments
<b>About the winter pitch/cricket field</b>							
Grass cover - entire pitch/cricketfield	>94%	85-94%	70-84%	60-69%	<60%	Where, 90%+ grass cover should be given 'Excellent'; less than 60% should be considered 'very poor'. Bare goal mouths would represent about 5% each. Weed cover should be treated as 'bare patches of grass'. Estimate the % of weed cover on the pitch and subtract it from the total grass cover %. The common weeds are dandelion, clover.	
Presence of weeds	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor		
Length of grass	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	The ideal length of grass will vary between sports	
Size of pitch /cricketfield	Yes - fully		No - butadequate		No - notadequate	Does it meet the NGB standard? See pitch sizes tab for dimensions	
Adequate safety margins	Yes - fully		No - butadequate		No - notadequate	Does it meet the NGB standard? See pitch sizes tab for dimensions	
Slope of pitch /cricketoufield (gradientand cross fall)	Flat	Slight	Gentle	Moderate	Severe	Cricket wickets should be flat.	
Evenness of pitch /cricketfield	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Where field is completely level - "Excellent"	
Goalmouth	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Is the goalmouth flat or scoured? What is the extent of wear?	
Areas of excessive wear	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Likely to be in the centre, penalty area of a football pitch.	
Problem Areas: Evidence of Dog fouling	None		Evidence		Unacceptable	If no evidence, assume none. May wish to refer to user survey	
Problem Areas: Evidence of Glass/stones/litter	None		Evidence		Unacceptable	If no evidence, assume none. May wish to refer to user survey	
Problem Areas: Evidence of Unofficialuse	None		Evidence		Unacceptable	eg informal, casual use, unbooked use, kids kickabout etc. If no evidence, assume none .May wish to refer to user survey	
Problem Areas: Evidence of Damage to surface	None		Evidence		Unacceptable	eg. golf divots, car-parking on field etc. If no evidence, assume none.May wish to refer to user survey	
Training area	Full Provision	Partprovision	Outfield	None		Training which takes place on the pitch area	
<b>Changing Accomodation</b>							
Changing Accomodation	Yes		No		Is the pitch served by changing facilities		
<b>About the equipment/ wicket...</b>							
Winter Sports Only- Goal Posts - quality	Good		Moderate	Poor		Upright, straight, painted, for football, goals are there safe net hooks at both ends. If posts are dismantled after game, or are removable goals, assume Excellent.	
Cricket Only - Is the wicketprotected w hen notused	Yes		No		Is the wicket protected when not in use - can be roped off or covered.		
Line markings - quality	Good		Moderate	Poor		e.g. Have they been painted recently; are lines straight and clear etc	
Condition of outfield	Good		Moderate	Poor		eg nets/ goals/ grids off main body of pitch	

<b>Scoring:</b>	Pitch	####	out of	68	<b>Key:</b> 91% + An excellent pitch 71-90% A good pitch 61-70% An average pitch 40-60% A below average pitch Less than 40 A poor pitch
	Equipment	0	out of	12	
	TOTAL	####		80	

Total Score ##### %



**Non Technical Visual Quality Assessment - Changing Accomodation**

Site ID  
Changing  
Accom  
Name

Assessment undertaken by:

Date of Assessment:

Site Name:

Capacity of changing rooms;

(Number of teams that can change at any one time in the facility)

**Assessment Criteria** (please rank each of the following aspects for each pitch with an X in the coloured box to the right of the chosen answer)

Element	Rating					Guidance notes	Comments		
<b>About the Changing Accomodation</b>									
Overall Quality	Excellent		Good		Average		Poor	No changing	Perceived quality of changing accommodation Does it look well maintained, clean, safe etc
Evidence of vandalism	None		Yes - some			Yes - lots			Damage to pavilion, graffiti, broken glass etc
Showers	Yes - Good		Yes - OK			Yes -poor		No	Are there showers facilities, what is their quality (if known)?
Toilets	Yes - Good		Yes - OK			Yes -poor		No	Are there toilets - what is their condition (if known)?
Cleanliness	Yes - Good		Yes - OK			Yes -poor		No	Has the mud and litter been cleared away with floors corridors etc all clean?
Lighting	Yes - Good		Yes - OK			Yes -poor		No	Is the building well lit or are there areas that are poorly illuminated?
Heating	Yes - Good		Yes - OK			Yes -poor		No	Is the heating system capable of maintaining a reasonable temperature?
Benches/Hooks	Yes - Good		Yes - OK			Yes -poor		No	Are there a sufficient number of benches/hooks in each changing room for the number of players likely to use it?
Disabled Access	Yes - Good		Yes - OK			Yes -poor		No	Is there full disabled access?
Floor (non slip etc)	Yes - Good		Yes - OK			Yes -poor		No	Is the floor surface suitable e.g. non slip, and in good condition?
Fire Safety	Yes - Good		Yes - OK			Yes -poor		No	Does the building have appropriate means of escape and fire extinguishers?
Parking		Good						OK	Is there enough for circa 20 cars, bays marked out etc
Links to public transport		Good						OK	Is the site close to public transport links, proximity to bus stop, train station, hubs.
Security		Good						OK	Does the accommodation look secure - secure doors/windows, evidence of breakins ( may get info from User Surveys)
Segregated changing			Yes					No	Are there separate changing rooms for each team - can accommodation be used by both male and female teams at same time
Officials changing			Yes					No	Are there separate changing rooms for officials

Scoring:

0 out of 75

Key:

over 90% Excellent  
60% -89% Good  
40% -59% Average  
30% -39% Poor  
Less than 30% Very Poor

**Total Score**

**0 %**

## **APPENDIX C: HARROW FOOTBALL PITCH QUALITY SCORES**

## Harrow Football Pitch Quality Scores

Location	Pitch Number F1	Pitch Number F2	Pitch Number F3	Pitch Number F4	Pitch Number F5	Pitch Number F6	Pitch Number F7	Pitch Number F8
<b>Bannisters Sports Ground</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>57%</b>			
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	56 x 37	70 x 41	82 x 51	105 x 57	105 x 57			
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	6 x 12		8 x 24	8 x 24	8 x 24			
<b>Byron Recreation Ground</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>67%</b>					
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	90 x 73	82 x 60	90 x 53					
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	8 x 24	7 x 24	8 x 24					
<b>Chandos Recreation Ground</b>	<b>59%</b>							
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	92 x 60							
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	8 x 24							
<b>Harrow Recreation Ground</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>66%</b>		
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	96 x 59	60 x 40	100 x 67	98 x 67	58 x 41	100 x 75		
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	7'9" x 21	6 x 12	8'3" x 21	8'4" x 21	6 x 12	8'4" x 21		
<b>Harrow Weald Recreation Ground</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>45%</b>		
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	54 x 35	54 x 37	54 x 37	90 x 46	78 x 55	98 x 54		
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	6'6" x 12	6'6" x 12	6'6" x 12	7 x 20	7'6" x 20	7'10" x 20		
<b>Hatch End Playing Fields</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>68%</b>				
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	86 x 46	100 x 55	88 x 61	98 x 60				
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	7 x 24	8 x 24	8 x 24	8 x 24				
<b>Headstone Manor Recreation Ground</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>57%</b>
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	106 x 55	106 x 53	86 x 51	82 x 50	92 x 54	94 x 60	92 x 59	94 x 54
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>			7 x 24	7 x 24	8'6" x 24	7 x 24	7'6" x 24	8 x 24

Location	Pitch Number F1	Pitch Number F2	Pitch Number F3	Pitch Number F4	Pitch Number F5	Pitch Number F6	Pitch Number F7	Pitch Number F8
<b>Headstone Manor Recreation Ground</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>67%</b>		
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	58 x 34	94 x 59 (Girls)	54 x 37	58 x 36	58 x 36	54 x 36		
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	6 x 12	8 x 24	6 x 12	6 x 12	6 x 12	6 x 12		
<b>Kenton Recreation Ground</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>68%</b>
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	102 x 61	104 x 58	96 x 58	106 x 59	59 x 32	63 x 40	58 x 39	62 x 33
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	8 x 24	8 x 24	8 x 24	8 x 24	6 x 12	6 x 12	6 x 12	6 x 12
<b>Kenton Recreation Ground</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>66%</b>						
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	62 x 40	62 x 43						
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	6 x 12	6 x 12						
<b>Montesole Playing Fields</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>52%</b>				
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	58 x 38	58 x 40	96 x 54	100 x 52				
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>			7' 6" x 24	8 x 24				
<b>Newton Park Playing Fields</b>	<b>38%</b>							
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	(Full Size)							
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	8 x 24							
<b>Roxbourne Playing Fields</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>57%</b>				
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	96 x 54	90 x 54	56 x 38	56 x 38				
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	8 x 24	7'6" x 24						
<b>Roxeth Recreation Ground</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>46%</b>						
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	98 x 60	104 x 59						
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	8 x 24	8 x 24						
<b>Saddlers' Mead</b>	<b>61%</b>							
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	107 x 69							

Harrow Outdoor Sports Strategy

Location	Pitch Number F1	Pitch Number F2	Pitch Number F3	Pitch Number F4	Pitch Number F5	Pitch Number F6	Pitch Number F7	Pitch Number F8
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	8 x 24							
<b>Stanmore Recreation Ground</b>	<b>54%</b>							
<i>Dimensions</i>	100 x 73							
<i>Size of Goalposts</i>	8' x 24							
<b>Whitchurch Playing Fields</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>67%</b>	
<i>Dimensions</i>	62 x 40	68 x 40	90 x 55	100 x 68	108 x 57	102 x 58	72 x 51	
<i>Size of Goalposts</i>	6 x 12	6 x 12	8 x 24	8 x 21	8 x 24	8 x 21	7 x 24	
<b>Old Lyonians</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>81%</b>						
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	98 x 58	106 x 66						
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	8'3" x 24	8 x 24						
<b>Harrow Borough Football Club</b>								
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>								
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>								
<b>Harrow Town Sports Club</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>59%</b>					
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	76 x 46	100 x 55	57 x 39					
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	7 x 20	8 x 24	6 x 12					
<b>John Rumney Playing Fields</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>59%</b>		
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	79 x 56	84 x 56	81 x 43	58 x 40	59 x 40	44 x 31		
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	8 x 24	8 x 24	7'6" x 20	6 x 12	6 x 12	6 x 12		
<b>Kodak Sports</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>79%</b>				
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	96 x 48	56 x 37	104 x 65	110 x 63				
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	7 x 20	6 x 12	8 x 24	8 x 24				
<b>Old Millhillians</b>	<b>82%</b>							
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	85 x 62							

Harrow Outdoor Sports Strategy

Location	Pitch Number F1	Pitch Number F2	Pitch Number F3	Pitch Number F4	Pitch Number F5	Pitch Number F6	Pitch Number F7	Pitch Number F8
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	8 x 24							
<b>R.C.T. Playing Fields</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>72%</b>						
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	102 x 62	104 x 65						
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	8 x 24	8 x 24						
<b>The Hive</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>97%</b>
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>								
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>								
<b>The Hive</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>95%</b>					
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>								
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>								
<b>Tithe Farm Social Club</b>	<b>83%</b>							
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>								
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	8 x 24							
<b>William Ellis Sports Ground</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>77%</b>			
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	76 x 56	90 x 65	50 x 34	88 x 49	58 x 37			
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	7 x 20	8 x 24	6 x 12		6 x 12			
<b>John Lyon School</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>79%</b>						
<i>Dimensions (metres) Lth x Wdt</i>	100 x 68	98 x 64						
<i>Size of Goalposts (feet) Ht x Wdt</i>	8 x 24	8 x 24						

## **APPENDIX D: CARRYING CAPACITY ANALYSIS**

Site	Ownership	Number of adult football pitches	Factor	Score (no. x Factor)	Number of youth football pitches	Factor	Score (no. x Factor)	Number of mini football pitches	Factor	Score (no. x Factor)
<b>Bannisters Sports Ground</b>	Local Authority	2	0.5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
				0	1	0.5	0.5			0
<b>Byron Recreation Ground</b>	Local Authority	2	1	2	1	0	0			0
<b>Chandos Recreation Ground</b>	Local Authority			0	1	0.5	0.5			0
<b>Harrow Borough Football Club</b>	Private Club	1	1	1			0			0
<b>Harrow Recreation Ground</b>	Local Authority	2	1	2			0	1	1	1
		2	0.5	1				1	0.5	
<b>Harrow Town Sports Club</b>	Private Club	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.5	0.5
<b>Harrow Weald Recreation Ground</b>	Local Authority	1	0.5	0.5	1	1	1	3	0.5	1.5
					1	0.5	0.5			
<b>Hatch End Playing Fields</b>	Local Authority	2	1	2	1	1	1			0
					1	0.5	0.5			
<b>Headstone Manor Recreation Ground</b>	Local Authority	1	1	1	5	1	5	3	1	3
		3	0.5	1.5			0	2	0.5	1
<b>John Lyon School</b>	School	2	1	2			0			0
<b>John Rumney Playing Fields</b>	Private Club			0	3	1	3	3	0.5	1.5
<b>Kenton Recreation Ground</b>	Local Authority	1	1	1			0	4	1	4
		3	0.5					2	0.5	



Harrow Outdoor Sports Strategy

<b>Kodak Sports</b>	Private Club	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Montesole Playing Fields</b>	Local Authority	1	0.5	0.5	1	1	1	2	1	2
<b>Newton Park Playing Fields</b>	Local Authority	1	0	0			0			0
<b>Old Lyonians</b>	Private Club	2	1	2			0			0
<b>Old Millhillians</b>	Private Club			0	1	1	1			0
<b>R.C.T. Playing Fields</b>	Private Club	2	1	2			0			0
<b>Roxbourne Playing Fields</b>	Local Authority	1	0.5	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	1	1	1
								1	0.5	0.5
<b>Roxeth Recreation Ground</b>	Local Authority	2	0.5	1			0			0
<b>Saddlers' Mead</b>	Local Authority	1	0.5	0.5			0			0
<b>Stanmore Recreation Ground</b>	Local Authority	1	0.5	0.5			0			0
<b>The Hive</b>	Private Club	6	1	6	3	1	3	2	1	2
<b>Tithe Farm Social Club</b>	Private Club	1	1	1			0			0
<b>Whitchurch Playing Fields</b>	Local Authority	4	1	4	1	0.5	0.5	2	1	2
<b>William Ellis Sports Ground</b>	Private Club	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	2
<b>Total</b>		48		37	27		23	32		24

## **APPENDIX E: PITCH BOOKING FEES BENCHMARKING**

### Comparison of Scale of Charges for Booking Football Pitches

Local Authority	Type of Booking	Frequency of Play	No. Weeks	Cost	Price per match
<b>Harrow</b>	Adult Season (exempt VAT)	Monday – Saturday (1 match per week)	29	£1,407.00	£48.52
	Adult Season (exempt VAT)	Sunday (1 match per week)	29	£1,767.00	£60.93
	Junior Season (exempt VAT)	Monday – Saturday (1 match per week)	29	£774.00	£26.69
	Junior Season (exempt VAT)	Sunday (1 match per week)	29	£1,091.00	£37.62
	Seasonal Junior Pitch Letting (exempt VAT)	Monday - Saturday No Changing (1 match per week)	29	£564.00	£19.45
	Seasonal Junior Pitch Letting	Sunday No Changing	29	£832.00	£28.69
	<i>Casual Bookings</i>				
	Adult Single Match	Per match		£125.00	£125.00
	Youth Single Match	Per match		£69.80	£69.80
	Youth Single Match No changing	Per match		£51.60	£51.60
	Use of shower and dressing room without use of pitch when available (per team)	Per match		£43.00	
<b>Enfield</b>					
	Senior Grade 1 Season	Every Saturday	32	£1,252	£39.13

Harrow Outdoor Sports Strategy

	Senior Grade 1 Season	Every Sunday	32	£1,446	£45.19
	Senior Grade 1 Season	Alternate Saturdays	16	£626	£39.13
	Senior Grade 1 Season	Alternate Sundays	16	£723	£45.19
	Senior Grade 2 Season	Every Saturday/Sunday	32	£800	£25.00
	Senior Grade 2 Season	Alternate Saturdays/Sundays	16	£400	£25.00
	Junior Grade 1 Season	Every Saturday/Sunday	32	£702	£21.94
	Junior Grade 1 Season	Alternate Saturdays/Sundays	16	£351	£21.94
	Junior Grade 2 Season	Every Saturday/Sunday	32	£400	£12.50
	Junior Grade 2 Season	Alternate Saturdays/Sundays	16	£200	£12.50
	7-A-Side Season	Every Sat/Sun	32	£295	£9.22
	<b>Casual Bookings</b>				
	Senior Grade 1*	Per match		£82	
	Senior Grade 2**	Per match		£60	
	Junior Grade 1*	Per match		£35.50	
	Junior Grade 2**	Per match		£30	
	* includes change rooms				
	** no change rooms				

<b>Barnet</b>	Football <b>casual</b> adult (inc pavilion)	Per match		£87.00	
<b>Ealing</b>	Grade A pitches (with changing facilities, not always including toilets and/or showers)	Saturday/ Sunday	10	£532.20	£53.22
	Grade B pitches (no changing facilities)	Saturday/ Sunday	10	£343.80	£34.38
	<i>Casual Bookings</i>				
	Grade A Casual booking (2.5 hours)	Per match			£79.84
	Grade B Casual booking (2.5 hours)	Per match			£51.56
<b>Hillingdon</b>	Senior (with changing facilities)	Pro – rata per match			£49.00
	Senior (without changing facilities)	Pro – rata per match			£23.00
	Junior (without changing facilities)	Pro – rata per match			£17.00
	Soccer 7's (without changing facilities)	Pro – rata per match			£17.00
	<i>Casual Bookings</i>				
	Class 1A	Per match			£55.00
	Junior (without changing facilities)	Per match			£18.00
	Soccer 7's (without changing facilities)	Per match			£18.00
<b>The Hive</b>	<i>Casual bookings</i>			Peak	Off Peak

Harrow Outdoor Sports Strategy

	Adult (Full Size)			£170.00	£120.00
	Youth (Full Size)			£140.00	£100.00
	Junior (Full Size)			£120.00	£80.00
	Mini Soccer			£60.00	£40.00
<b>Brent</b>	Short Season	Alternate Week	13	£760.00	£58.46
	Long Season	Alternate Week	17	£995.00	£58.53
	<i>Casual bookings</i>				
	Single Match			£65.00	£65.00
	Junior Match (under 16's)			£40.00	£40.00
<b>St Albans</b>	Adult Season				
	Pitch	Changing		Total	
	£926.77	£450.29	32	£1,377.06	£43.03
	£463.39	£225.15	16	£688.53	£43.03
	Junior Season		32	£502.98	£15.72
			16	£262.31	£16.39
	<i>Casual bookings</i>	Pitch	Changing	Total	
	Adult Single Pitch	£46.70	£22.11	£68.81	£68.81
	Junior Single Pitch	£25.07	£17.21	£42.28	£42.28
<b>Hertsmere</b>	Senior Pitch		32	£2,764.80	£86.40
	Senior Pitch		16	£1,382.40	£86.40
	Junior Pitch		32	£691.20	£21.60
	Junior Pitch		16	£345.60	£21.60
	<i>Casual bookings</i>				
	Senior	One Off		£86.40	£86.40

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	Junior	One Off		£21.60	£21.60
<b>North Hertfordshire</b>	<i>Casual bookings</i>				
	Senior	One Off		£28.32	£28.32
	Junior	One Off		£14.40	£14.40

## **APPENDIX F: CRICKET QUALITY RESULTS**



### Cricket Pitch Quality Results

Site Name	Pitch Quality Score %	Quality Rating
Bessborough CC (Headstone Manor) Main	75%	A good pitch
Bessborough CC (Headstone Manor) No.2	70%	An average pitch
Chandos Recreation Ground	Not currently in use	
Harrow Cricket Club, Wood End Road. Main	91%	An excellent pitch
Harrow Cricket Club, Wood End Road. No 2	91%	An excellent pitch
Harrow Recreation Ground. Main	86%	A good pitch
Harrow Recreation Ground. No.2	86%	A good pitch
Harrow St Mary's	96%	An excellent pitch
Harrow Town Sports & Social Club. Main	81%	A good pitch
Harrow Town Sports & Social Club. No.2	78%	A good pitch
Hatch End Sports Ground	75%	A good pitch
Headstone Manor Pitch 1	71%	A good pitch
John Lyon School	93%	An excellent pitch
Kenton Sports Ground. Main	91%	An excellent pitch
Kenton Sports Ground. No.2	91%	An excellent pitch
Montesole Playing Fields	88%	A good pitch
Old Lyonians	80%	A good pitch
RCT Sports Ground. Main	91%	An excellent pitch
RCT Sports Ground. No.2	88%	A good pitch
Roxborough Park	87%	A good pitch
Roxeth Recreation Ground	91%	An excellent pitch
Saddlers Mead	91%	An excellent pitch

Harrow Outdoor Sports Strategy

Shaftesbury Playing Fields	72%	A good pitch
Stanmore	93%	An excellent pitch
West Harrow Recreation Ground Pitch 1	84%	A good pitch
West Harrow Recreation Ground Pitch 2	84%	A good pitch

**Table 8.15: Quality scores for cricket changing accommodation**

<b>Site</b>	<b>Changing Room score</b>	<b>Number of Changing Rooms</b>
<b>Local Authority</b>		
Bessborough CC Main Pitch	69%	1
Chandos Recreation Ground	51%	1
Harrow Recreation Ground Small Pavilion	58%	1
Headstone Manor	53%	1
Montesole Playing Fields	No access	1
Roxborough Park	No access	1
Roxeth Recreation Ground	49%	1
Saddlers Mead	63%	1
West Harrow Recreation Ground	63%	1
<b>Private Clubs</b>		
Harrow Cricket Club, Wood End Road.	86%	1
Harrow St Mary's	58%	1
Harrow Town Sports & Social Club	43%	1
John Lyon School	93%	
Kenton Sports Ground	58%	1
Old Lionians	64%	1
RCT Sports Ground	88%	1
Stanmore	No access	1

## **APPENDIX G: PITCH AREA CALCULATIONS**

## 2012 Calculations

		Calculation - see below*			Using TaLPF figures**		
	No of pitches from Harrow study	Pitch size	Total	ha/1000	Pitch size	Total	ha/1000
<b>Football</b>							
Senior	48	0.9	43.20		1.40	67.20	
Youth	27	0.75	20.25		0.50	13.50	
Mini	32	0.36	11.52		0.30	9.60	
<b>Rugby</b>	7	1.25	8.75		1.20	8.40	
<b>Cricket</b>	30	1.85	55.50		2.00	60.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>144</b>		<b>139.22</b>	<b>0.60</b>		<b>158.70</b>	<b>1.06</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>With 15% site multiplier</b>	<b>160.10</b>	<b>0.69</b>		<b>182.51</b>	<b>1.22</b>
		* based on average size of pitch +50% safety/run off					
		** using figures in Towards A Level Playing Field Appendix					
		Assume population of 231,568					

## 2017 Calculations

		Calculation - see below*			Using TaLPF figures**		
	No of pitches from Harrow study +10% Contingency	Pitch size	Total	ha/1000	Pitch size	Total	ha/1000
<b>Football</b>							
Senior	29	0.9	25.74		1.40	40.04	
Youth	52	0.75	38.78		0.50	25.85	
Mini	36	0.36	13.07		0.30	10.89	
<b>Rugby</b>	8	1.25	10.00		1.20	9.60	
<b>Cricket</b>	33	1.85	61.05		2.00	66.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>158</b>		<b>148.63</b>	<b>0.62</b>		<b>152.38</b>	<b>1.02</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>With 15% site multiplier</b>	<b>170.93</b>	<b>0.71</b>		<b>175.24</b>	<b>1.17</b>
		* based on average size of pitch +50% safety/run off					
		** using figures in Towards A Level Playing Field Appendix					
		Assume population of 239,743					

## **APPENDIX H: PRIORITY SCORING MATRIX**

**Table 1: Football Priorities Scoring Matrix**

Site Name	Priority Level	Total Score	Senior Pitches	Youth Pitches	Mini Pitches	Quality of Pitches	Quality of Changing	Funding Potential
Kenton Recreation Ground	1	38	4	0	6	Average	Poor	Yes
Headstone Manor Recreation Ground	2=	35	4	5	5	Average	Poor	Yes
Whitchurch Playing Fields	2=	35	4	1	2	Average	N/A	Yes
Roxbourne Playing Fields	4	34	1	1	2	Below Average	Poor	Yes
Bannisters Sports Ground	5	32	2	2	1	Average	Good	Yes
Byron Recreation Ground	6	31	2	1	0	Average	Moderate	No/ Low
Harrow Recreation Ground	7=	30	4	0	2	Average	Moderate	Yes
Hatch End Playing Fields	7=	30	2	2	0	Average	Poor	Yes
The Hive	7=	30	6	3	2	Excellent	Excellent	No
Harrow Town Sports Club	10=	29	1	1	1	Average	Poor	Yes
R.C.T. Playing Fields	10=	29	2	0	0	Good	Good	Yes
John Rumney Playing Fields	12	24	0	3	3	Average	Moderate	Yes
William Ellis Playing Fields	13	23	1	2	2	Good	N/A	Yes
Montesole Playing Fields	14	22	1	1	2	Average	Poor	No



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Roxeth Recreation Ground	<b>15</b>	<b>19</b>	2	0	0	Below Average	Poor	No
Harrow Weald Recreation Ground	<b>16</b>	<b>18</b>	1	2	3	Below Average	Poor	No
Old Lyonians	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	2	0	0	Good	Moderate	No
Saddlers' Mead	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	1	0	0	Average	Moderate	Yes
Tithe Farm Social Club	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	1	0	0	Good		Yes
Chandos Recreation Ground	<b>20=</b>	<b>12</b>	0	1	0	Below Average	Moderate	No
Newton Farm Playing Fields	<b>20=</b>	<b>12</b>	1	0	0	Poor	N/A	No
Stanmore Recreation Ground	<b>21</b>	<b>3</b>	1	0	0	Below Average	Poor	No
John Lyon School			2	0	0	Good	Excellent	

**Table 2: Cricket Priorities Scoring Matrix**

Site Name	Priority Level	Total Score	Quality of Pitches	Quality of Changing	Focus Club	Potential for Colts Development	Area of Deficiency	Potential to Increase Participation	Potential for Self Management	Funding Potential
Harrow Cricket Club, Wood End Road. Main	1	25	91%	Good	Yes	9	8	8	Yes	Yes
Harrow Cricket Club, Wood End Road. No 2	1	25	91%	Good	Yes	9	8	8	Yes	Yes
Harrow Town Sports & Social Club. Main	2=	24	81%	Poor	No	8	8	8	Yes	Yes
Harrow Town Sports & Social Club. No.2	2=	24	78%	Poor	No	8	8	8	Yes	Yes
Kenton Sports Ground. Main	2=	24	91%	Poor	Yes	8	8	8	Yes	Yes
Kenton Sports Ground. No.2	2=	24	91%	Poor	Yes	8	8	8	Yes	Yes
Kenton Sports Ground. No.3	2=	24	91%	Poor	Yes	8	8	8	Yes	Yes
Harrow Recreation Ground. Main	4=	21	86%	Moderate	No	7	6	8	Yes	Yes

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Harrow Recreation Ground. No.2	<b>4=</b>	21	86%	Moderate	No	7	6	8	Yes	Yes
RCT Sports Ground. Main	<b>4=</b>	21	91%	Good	Yes	8	5	8	Yes	Yes
Bessborough CC (Headstone MaNor) Main	<b>6</b>	20	Good	Moderate/ Good	Yes	9	3	8	Yes	Yes
Bessborough CC (Headstone MaNor) No.2	<b>6</b>	20	Moderate	Moderate/ Good	Yes	9	3	8	Yes	Yes
West Harrow (Headstone Manor)	<b>7</b>	19		Moderate	No	8	3	8	Yes	Yes
Stanmore	<b>8</b>	18	93%	Good	Yes	9	1	8		
Harrow St Mary's	<b>9=</b>	17	96%	Poor	Yes	8	1	8	Yes	Yes
Montesole Playing Fields	<b>9=</b>	17	88%	Poor	Yes	8	2	7	Yes	No
Roxeth Recreation Ground	<b>9=</b>	17	91%	Poor	No	4	9	4	No	No
Roxbourne Park	<b>12</b>	16	87%	Poor	No	4	8	4	No	No
Saddlers Mead	<b>13</b>	15	91%	Moderate	No	7	1	7	Yes	Yes
Hatch End Sports Ground	<b>14=</b>	11	75%	Poor	No	2	1	8	No	Yes
West Harrow Recreation Ground	<b>14=</b>	11	84%	Poor	No	2	7	2		
Chandos Recreation Ground			Poor	Moderate	No					
John Lyon School			93%	Excellent	No					

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Old Lyonians		10	80%	Moderate	No	2	5	3	Yes	No
RCT Sports Ground. No.2			88%		Yes					
Shaftesbury Playing Fields			72%		No					

**Table 3: Tennis Priorities Scoring Matrix**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Number of Courts</b>	<b>Type of Court</b>	<b>Quality Rating</b>	<b>Priority Level</b>
Centenary Park	Local Authority	4	Macadam	Good	High
Harrow Recreation Ground	Local Authority	4	Macadam	Excellent/ Good	High
Headstone Manor	Local Authority	6	Macadam	Good/ Average	High
Queensbury Recreation Ground	Local Authority	2	Macadam	Poor	High
Harrow Weald Recreation Ground	Local Authority	4	Macadam	Average/ Poor	Middle
Kenton Recreation Ground	Local Authority	4	Macadam	Poor	Middle
Montesoles	Local Authority	2	Macadam	Good	Middle
Roxeth Recreation Ground	Local Authority	1	Macadam	Average	Middle
Byron Recreation Ground	Local Authority	1.5	Macadam	Poor	Low
Pinner Village Gardens	Local Authority	2	Macadam	Derelict	Low
West Harrow Recreation Ground	Local Authority	5	Macadam	Derelict	Low
Rayners Mead	Local Authority	5	Macadam	Derelict	Low

**Table 4: Bowls**

<b>Bowls Club</b>	<b>Bowls Green</b>	<b>Number of Greens</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Management of Green</b>	<b>Priority Level</b>
Harrow Bowls Club	Harrow Recreation Ground	1	London Borough of Harrow	Local Authority	High
Harrow Weald Bowls Club	Harrow Weald Recreation Ground	1	London Borough of Harrow	Local Authority	Middle
Stanmore Bowls Club	Stanmore Recreation Ground	1	London Borough of Harrow	Local Authority	High
Lupton Bowls Club	Arnold House Activity Centre	1	Arnold House School	Arnold House Activity Centre	Middle
Pinner Bowls Club	Pinner Memorial Park	1	London Borough of Harrow	Local Authority	Middle
Wealdstone Bowls Club	Byron Park	1	London Borough of Harrow	Bowls Club	High
Culver Bowls Club	Centenary Park	1	London Borough of Harrow	Local Authority	Middle
West Harrow Bowls Club	West Harrow Recreation Ground	1	London Borough of Harrow	Local Authority	Middle

## **APPENDIX I: HIERARCHY OF PROVISION**

**Level 1: Sites of Strategic Importance**

Authority area importance e.g. The Hive.

**Level 2: Sites of Special Importance**

Playing pitches serving more than a local need, and/or serving a specialist sports market not available elsewhere. Community football development sites (Community Clubs), rugby club sites, and Artificial Grass Pitches.

**Level 3: Sites of Local Importance**

For example, local club based at site. Important for mini and junior pitches in the more deprived wards.

**Level 4: Other Sites**

Single pitch sites or no longer in use e.g. The Croft