

2. CHANGE OF MEMBERSHIP

REPORT OF: SOLICITOR TO THE COUNCIL
Contact Officer: Sally Blades, Committee Co-Ordinator (PA to the Chairman of
the Council and the Leader of the Council)
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Wards Affected: All
Key Decision No

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to inform Members of a change of membership to the Better Environment Advisory Group.

Recommendations

2. **The Committee is requested to note that Councillors Irene Balls and Bernard Gillbard have replaced Councillors Brian Hall and Edward Matthews respectively as members of this Advisory Group.**

Financial Implications

3. There are no financial implications relating to this report.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment

4. There are no legal implications or risk assessment issues relating to this report.

Background Papers

Report to Council 19/01/11 - Political balance: section 15 local government and housing act 1989; the local government (committees and political groups) regulations 1990.

Council Minute 97 of 2010/11

Email received from the Liberal Democrat Group Leader.

6. PLANNING POLICY GUIDANCE 17 AUDIT - REFRESH 2010

REPORT OF: Head of Leisure & Sustainability
Contact Officer Simon Hardy or Elaine Clarke, Email: elainec@midsussex.gov.uk
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Wards Affected: All
Key Decision No

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present to members of the Advisory Group, the findings from the refreshed Assessment of the level of open space, sport and recreation provision in the district.

Summary

2. The purpose of the review has been to update the findings of the original audit produced by Kit Campbell Associates in 2006 and test the benchmark standards which were produced at that time. This work involved ensuring that the information was robust, including new provision developed since 2006 and amendments affected by the reconfiguration of pitches and other new recreational facilities led by demand.
3. The outcome of this review will provide an updated audit of outdoor recreational facilities for each of the District's three Towns. In addition separate assessments will be presented for the Development Management Team Areas (North, South and Central), including the relevant data for Town's, encompassing the needs of the District's rural villages. These figures will also demonstrate the amount of formal sports provision within the twenty minute driving threshold standard as laid down by Sport England. The use of the three local plan areas then provides a picture of the District's need as a whole.
4. The 'refresh' of the audit has been undertaken by consulting with the District Council's Outdoor Business Team in relation to Council owned facilities, confirming provision included within educational establishments, information from Town/Parish Councils, cross referencing the PPG17 overlay information on the Council's GIS local view system and use of data from the research for the Leisure & Cultural strategy.
5. The findings show that there have been some improvements in the deficiencies of outdoor provision both in terms of quality and quantity, particularly in terms of artificial pitches, play and skatepark areas. It does however remain that there are deficiencies in most areas and with increasing residential development the demand from this will create a further burden on the current provision. It is therefore essential that our requirement to fund the quality enhancement and extra capacity that these developments require, through S106 contributions and any successor system, continues.

Recommendations

6. Members of the Advisory Group are recommended to

- (1) provide feedback on the detail of the findings and also comment on the standards
- (2) note the findings of the refreshed Assessment of Planning Policy Guidance 17: Planning for open space, sport and recreation (PPG17) and proposals regarding the adoption of standards.

Background - Why Is PPG17 Being Reviewed?

7. PPG17 (2006) introduced the need for local councils to undertake a robust assessment for outdoor recreational facilities and adopt local standards to replace what some saw as the aspirational standards laid down in the standards of the National Playing Field Association (NPFA).
8. The updated Assessment will inform the Infrastructure Plan and Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule, where it relates to the provision of recreational infrastructure.
9. The revised standards could potentially be included within the planning framework for the District. These standards will include those for multifunctional green spaces and allotments, for which the previous NPFA standards did not make provision. These local standards will be applied when considering residential development and improvements to the Leisure infrastructure within the district.
10. In addition to the above, these findings will replace those previously compiled by the PPG17 Assessment (2006) and any related findings within other audits undertaken by the Council in the past.

Standards

11. The findings of the original PPG17 Assessment presented to the Better Environment Advisory Group in October 2006, identified local standards for the first time based upon the audit of the District's outdoor provision. The findings were presented with the understanding that the recommended standards could not be put in place until the adoption of the then Core Strategy and revised Infrastructure SPD.
12. The following table outlines the recommended standard size for each area of outdoor provision per head as provided within the original PPG17 Audit.

Provision	Sq m/ per person
Allotments	1.75
Artificial Turf Pitches	0.50
Bowling Greens	0.17
Equipped Play (LEAPs & NEAPs)	0.65
Grass Pitches – Total*	12.25
Individual	
Football Adult	4.25
Football Junior	2.7
Cricket	4.45
Rugby	0.85
Amenity Greenspace	8
Parks and Gardens (Towns)	2
Teenage Areas	0.30
Tennis Courts	0.44
TOTAL Sqm per person	26.06 sqm (NPFA standard 24.3sqm)

****Grass Pitches – The PPG17 report (Sept 2006) states; It is not sensible simply to aggregate these standards as football and even rugby can be played on cricket outfields. The aggregate of the winter sports is 7.8 sq m per person and adding approximately 50% of the cricket requirement comes to a total of 12 sq m per person which we recommend as the overall grass pitch quantity standard.**

Formal Pitches And Open Spaces -Methodology

13. In order to calculate the existing quantitative level of provision, given that the 2006 assessment provided a benchmark for provision, the quantitative standard for each provision (sq metre per head) included in that PPG17 Assessment has been multiplied by the total amount of existing provision in the Town/area as calculated through the 'refresh'. This calculation provides the total square metre figure.
14. This is then compared with the 'standard' multiplied by the population of the Town/area, taken from the Census 2001, published by the Office of National Statistics which provides a total square metre outdoor recreation need figure for the Town/area and identifies the actual need.
15. The actual square metre outcome has then been set against the need for the Town, to identify if there is an under/over provision for each provision. The total shortfall/over provision is broken down to numbers of pitch, court, rod or rink by dividing the shortfall/over provision by the standard size in the PPG17 assessment. These figures have been broken down to identify state and private educational establishments eg school playing fields. It should be noted that the access to private education facilities are very limited and in the majority of cases cannot be classed as accessible by the community.

Towns and Local area Chapters

16. The existing level of provision and the level of need within the District's three main towns, and the rural areas (set in the Development Management Team Areas) are attached in Appendices A-F to this report.
17. These findings present a figure for over/under provision in each of the District's Town's with specific highlights linked to each.
18. The Development Management Team Areas, which are consistent with the areas used for the original PPG17 Assessment (2006), are key to identifying deficiencies as there is a recognition that accessibility for formal sports should be based upon a travel time of 20 mins (Sport England). Therefore the purpose of the three planning area's information is to formulate the district analysis and highlight key observations. Whilst there are tables for each of the three towns – their purpose is to identify key opportunities for 'hub' type facilities such as the Burgess Hill Centre for Community Sport

Overall Picture within the District

19. The overall picture is shown as a total amount of provision for the District taken from the 'area chapters' set against the over/under provision level for each area of outdoor provision. The provision within schools (both private and state schools) has been included within the calculations only where community use is practicable and of suitable frequency.

Provision	Amount of Provision	Under/Over Provision levels.
Football Adult	50	-14
Football Junior	37	-19
Mini (FA Standard)	29	n/a
Cricket	37	+5
Rugby	9	0 (-)
Allotments (Rod)	1290	-196
Artificial Turf Pitches	6	-3
Bowls Greens (6 Rink)	12	-3

Tennis (Court)	109	+25
Multifunctional Green Space	Due to the nature of the District this calculation is being used for the Towns.	

District Wide Headlines

20. The following outlines a brief summary of the issues for the district as a whole.
- The level of provision for allotments, shows an under-provision against the benchmark standard as well as the identified need, which over the past five years has increased significantly as every plot within the district is currently occupied and significant waiting lists exist.
 - Consistent with the original findings of the PPG17 Assessment (2006) there is a shortfall in grass football pitch provision and Artificial Turf Pitches across Mid Sussex, the latter being due to the fact that at least three are provided at educational facilities which have limiting capacity.
 - The over provision of cricket, results from PPG17 original standard of 8.9 square metres per person, which has been reduced to 4sq metre per head due to the acceptance that other grassed sports can be on the outfield in the winter months. This figure is misleading because most of the cricket provision within Mid Sussex is played on privately owned club pitches designated solely for cricket.
 - As the number of homes in the District continues to rise there is a need to promote the 'bigger and better' philosophy through multi sports sites to address the needs of an increased population and provide economies of scale. In addition there is a need to work with existing clubs and organisations to increase the capacity of their operations and where possible move them to provide 'sporting hubs'. This is particularly the case in the Towns.
 - The District's grass pitches also suffer due to pitches being on Wealden Clay, which even with substantial drainage does lead to reduction of capacity in the event of bad weather.
 - Relatively little additional pitch provision has been achieved due to the amount of small developments which do not justify the on site provision of playing pitches within those developments. However two development sites in the Central area in Bolnore and Cuckfield will provide some additional pitch provision in the very near future.
 - It is considered that private school provision is not easily accessible due to the nature of the premises and the very limited holiday time and therefore the spare capacity available.

Leisure Strategy Findings

21. The Leisure and Cultural strategy adopted by the Council last year included an assessment of Leisure provision through a Club and householder survey.
22. The results of these surveys identified that of those who expressed an opinion there was general agreement that the quantity of outdoor provision was about right however there were certain geographic differences over the district. The

provision of playing pitches in the central area being about right and in the north a high satisfaction rate for Synthetic turf pitches and Tennis courts.

23. The highest dissatisfaction rate was in relation to Cycle tracks/ paths (Overall) and facilities for Athletics (Central) and Watersports (Overall).
24. To underpin the District wide findings of the audit, the following actions are included in Mid Sussex's Leisure Strategy and relate directly to and affect the outdoor informal and formal recreational space included in the 'refresh'.
 - Seek and adopt the recommendations of the PPG17 report relating to outdoor sports facilities.
 - Examine opportunities to use a wider range of facilities as venues for sport and physical activities in the District parks and open spaces, including the provision of fitness trails and gyms.
 - Prepare a Playing Pitch plan to assist with the planning for sports pitches in response to projected housing increases.
 - Develop a database of school sports facilities to cover details of access, activities undertaken and use used capacity.
 - Work with West Sussex County Council and schools to explore how access to school facilities out of school hours can be achieved.
 - Establish partnering arrangements between West Sussex County Council and the District Council over the provision of future leisure facilities across the District.
25. In addition to the Household survey there was good feedback from Stakeholders including Towns and Parish Councils – although most comments related to specific geographic areas there were common threads particularly in relation to facilities for younger people ie youth and transport issues.

Equipped Play Areas Within The District

26. The refreshed Assessment shows that the District is well provided for, in the wider aspect of play facilities and there have been significant addition to the number of play/teenage facilities particularly as a result of new residential developments since the 2006 audit.
27. In comparison to many other Local authorities, Mid Sussex is at the top end in terms of the quantity of play facilities within its district. However whilst numbers are a useful factor to assess new developments, the issue for play is more qualitative than quantitative and the distance threshold and standard of provision are significant factors.
28. The 2006 Assessment identified the following issues in respect of the quantitative approach to play provision as follows
29.*To date the Council has followed the recommendations of the National Playing Fields Association in relation to play areas for children and used it as the basis for "playing space" provision standards in its Local Plan .*
 - *A very high level of provision of small sites, many of them simply shoehorned into housing developments, with very limited play value and low levels of use by young children, coupled with high maintenance costs as a result of abuse and vandalism*
 - *Fairly characterless amenity and other greenspaces in housing areas designed for cheapness and ease of maintenance rather than as attractive play environments for children.*

30. The report included the following major recommendations for play provision:
- Design local greenspaces in such a way as to maximise their play value for children of different ages with opportunities to hide, climb, run around, see nature at work, handle sticks and stones and get dirty or wet
 - Fewer but larger play facilities as part of new developments (using the large area in Bolnore Village as its exemplar), coupled with requiring developers to design greenspaces in housing areas in such a way that they provide stimulating play environments for children
 - Rationalise existing play provision as and when major repairs or refurbishments are needed and “retro-fitting” this new approach to those existing housing areas with an unnecessarily high level of provision (eg the west side of Burgess Hill), including the upgrading of local greenspaces to make them more stimulating for play
 - Work with Towns and Parishes to identify suitable sites for additional teenage provision concentrating in the first instance on recreation grounds.
31. It was also recommended that the District Council should adopt a new approach to children’s play provision. The quantity standard is based on the fact that play areas do not have a fixed capacity to accommodate use so, it is not possible to adopt a supply and demand approach to determine an appropriate quantity standard. Accordingly a standard has been developed based on a conceptual model using the recommended quality standards and distance thresholds.
32. In October 2006, the Cabinet adopted the Council’s Play Strategy which incorporated a number of key observations and recommendations from the original PPG17 assessment of play areas.
33. As a result of these findings, The Play strategy identified the recommended minimum sizes and distances that people should travel to reach play provision:
- **Young Children below 8 years of age** - Minimum size 400 sq metres, equivalent to a LEAP. • Distance from to nearest - 5 minutes walk or 300 metres.
 - **Older Children aged 8 – 12 years** - Minimum size 1000 sq metres, equivalent to NEAP. • Distance (recommended thresholds) - 10 minutes or 600 metres walk.
 - **Teenage Areas** - Distance (recommended thresholds) - 10 minutes or 600 metres walk or 1500m cycling
34. In the past five years, playgrounds and teenage (skatepark) areas are the only area of outdoor provision to have increased and using the standard in quantative terms based upon people per facility in the 2006 assessment broadly meets the quantative standard with 85% of the population able to access play facilities within the distance threshold. However, in terms of quality and access there are still areas of deficiency. The philosophy of ‘bigger and better’ has begun to be enacted although there is a long way to go as there is a significant amount of small, limited play provision including equipped LAPs.
35. The Play Strategy has delivered a significant amount of new teenage facilities in certain areas with the development of new Skateparks and new style play areas developed with quality and reflecting the local area eg. Ashplatts Wood in East Grinstead, as well as refurbishment which have increased the quality of the play experience offer.

36. There is a need to further develop data around the distance thresholds and quality assessments for not only play areas but also teenage facilities to give a ongoing assessment of improvement of provision – this work has already started and will continue.

Conclusions

37. The 2006 assessment provided a number of key tools to help address the shortfall in provision in play, formal sport and open space – these tools not only addressed the quantative issues but also those of quality.
38. Whilst there has been some additional provision in certain areas where residential development has taken place or where specific local demand has provided clubs with opportunities to extend their provision, the main area of achievement has been through the investment into existing facilities thereby increasing the quality of facilities and capacity. Since 2006 two new ATP's have been installed with community access at St Pauls Catholic College and Oathall Community College. There are 12 new play areas in Bolnore village and existing play provision has been improved at Hollands Way, East Court and Lindfield Common with Big Lottery funding. The BLF project also provided two new skate parks at Whitemans Green and the Haven Centre.
39. This has been achieved by existing maintenance and improvement programmes such as improved pavilion and playground provision as well as investment of grants and S106 contributions into community use facilities via clubs. This work needs to continue to utilise the results of the findings in developing a proactive approach to enhanced outdoor leisure provision.
40. The changes to the 'Building Schools for the Future' programme has been a blow to the continuing improvement in community use facilities in Schools where over the past five years new ATP's have been provided in the central and southern areas of the district. It will be necessary to work closely with the Education sector to ensure that these improvements continue to take place and their facilities are opened up to community use outside of the educational timetable. It must be noted however, that in practical terms private school provision although very high is unlikely to satisfy community demand due to the very restricted accessibility and therefore cannot be taken into account in present and future assessments.
41. Overall whilst the picture is an improving one, there is still a need to invest in the improvement of Leisure facilities in the district to increase capacity and quality to address the increasing demand from residential developments. Therefore there is a continuing need for infrastructure contributions.

Way Forward

42. In the main, this 'refresh' broadly concurs with the original PPG17 assessment and the findings set the basis for local standards which are to be incorporated into future planning documents. There are a number of standards which will require further consideration namely allotments, cricket and rugby where the local demand is greater than the applied standard. Therefore it is intended to carry out further analysis to provide the rationale for a local robust standard prior to further consultation and adoption by the Council.
43. As a technical document, the 'refresh' supports actions included in the Council's Leisure and Cultural Strategy, which will be drilled down to a local level through the development of a Playing Pitch plan.

44. The work carried out in this refresh and that of a playing pitch plan will support the preparation of the Infrastructure Plans where they relate to the provision of recreation infrastructure.
45. In the past, the deficiencies in provision have been exacerbated by piecemeal developments where onsite provision cannot be provided or justified.
46. Through this work and the preparation of the Local Development Framework, these deficiencies may be able to be addressed by establishing a policy framework to bring together planning gains from the smaller housing developments. This will include addressing the issue of off-site contributions and the lack of land availability for new recreation sites.

Policy Context

47. Planning Policy Guidance 17 lays out the requirement for Local Authorities to produce standards for outdoor recreation and open space.

Financial Implications

48. This report has no quantifiable financial implications at the current time.

Background Papers

- MSDC Leisure Strategy 2009 -2020
- Planning Policy Guidance 17 Assessment (PPG17) (2006)

Burgess Hill (population 28,803)

Provision (Draft standard for district per person)	Standard Size (Sq m)	Population per pitch	Amount of Club / LA Provision	Amount of School pitches with community use	Total Club / Community provision	Total Sqm In Town	Need (Population x PPG17 size standards per head)	Under/Over provision.	Schools not confirmed public use
Football Adult (4.25 sqm pp)	8,500	2,000	3	2	5	42,500	122,412	9 under	0
Football Junior (2.7 sqm pp)	6,100	2,259	4	2	6	36,600	77,768	7 under	4
Mini (FA Standard)	1,875	N/a	4	1	5	9,375	N/a	N/a	1
Cricket (4.45 sqm pp)	17,550	3,944	2	0	2	35,100	128,173	5 under	0
Rugby (0.85 sqm pp)	11,850	13,941	2	1	3	35,550	24,483	1 over	0
Allotments (1.75 sqm pp)	150	71	210	N/a	210	31,500	50,405	126 under	N/a
Artificial Turf Pitches (0.5 sqm pp)	7,420	14,840	1	1	2	22,260	14,401	1 over	0
Bowls Greens (0.17 sqm pp)	1,475	11,346	1	N/a	1	1,475	4,897	2 under	N/a
Tennis courts (0.44 sqm pp) PLUS multi-courts with tennis	666	1,514	7	6	13	8,658	12,673	6 under	5

Town Headlines

- The town is under provided for in relation to adult and junior football.
- Cricket also appears to be under provided.
- Rugby provision is slightly higher than the PPG17 requirement.
- Allotments show a significant under provision in the Town and analysis of demand identifies that there is a need for further sites due to waiting lists.
- There are also less bowling greens and tennis courts than required in the Town.
- The level of Artificial Turf Pitches is slightly higher than needed.

South Area & Burgess Hill (population 44,798¹)

Burgess Hill, Bolney, Twineham, Albourne, Fulking, Hurstpierpoint, Poynings, Newtimber, Pyecombe and Hassocks

Provision (Draft standard for district per person)	Standard Size (Sq m)	Population per pitch	Amount of Club / LA Provision	Amount of School pitches with community use	Total Club / Community provision	Total Sqm	Need (Population x PPG17 size standards per head)	Under/Over provision.	Schools not confirmed public use
Football Adult (4.25 sqm pp)	8,500	2,000	11	2	13	110,500	190,391	9 under	3
Football Junior (2.7 sqm pp)	6,100	2,259	9	2	11	67,100	120,955	9 under	5
Mini (FA Standard)	1,875	N/a	7	1	8	15,000	N/a	N/a	2
Cricket (4.45 sqm pp)	17,550	3,944	11	0	11	193,050	199,351	-	6
Rugby (0.85 sqm pp)	11,850	13,941	2	1	3	35,550	38,078	-	5
Allotments (1.75 sqm pp)	150	71	349	N/a	349	52,350	78,396	174 under	N/a
Artificial Turf Pitches (0.5 sqm pp)	7,420	14,840	1	2	3	21,720	22,399	-	1
Bowls Greens (0.17 sqm pp)	1,475	11,346	3	N/a	3	4,425	7,616	2 under	N/a
Tennis courts (0.44 sqm pp) PLUS multi-courts with tennis	666	1,514	25	13	38	25,308	19,711	8 over	13

Headlines

- According to the PPG17 formula the South area of the district has adequate adult football provision and the shortfall is in Burgess Hill town which is significantly under provided for, by nine pitches.
- Similarly junior football facilities are also lacking primarily in Burgess Hill town (7) but also in the the South area (2), there are a total of nine pitches fewer than required for the population.
- There are significantly less allotments than required and an analysis of demand shows there is a need for more sites.
- There area has three bowling greens in Burgess Hill, Adastra Park and Hassocks, this is two less than required for the area.
- There is an adequate supply of cricket and rugby pitches across the South area.
- There are enough ATP's available for community use, one at the Triangle and two on school sites at Downlands Community School and St Paul's Catholic College although it should be noted there are some constraints regarding the use of the Downlands Community School pitch so this site has a reduced level of capacity.
- There are a total of 38 tennis courts which is eight more than needed to meet the requirements of the PPG17 quantity standards.

¹ Census 2001

Haywards Heath (population 31,460)

Provision (Draft standard for district per person)	Standard Size (Sq m)	Population per pitch	Amount of Club / LA Provision	Amount of School pitches with community use	Total Club / Community provision	Total Sqm In Town	Need (Population x PPG17 size standards per head)	Under/Over provision.	Schools not confirmed public use
Football Adult (4.25 sqm pp)	8,500	2000	9	0	9	76,500	133,705	7 under	4
Football Junior (2.7 sqm pp)	6,100	2259	1	7	8	48,800	84,942	6 under	16
Mini (FA Standard)	1,875	N/a	2	0	2	3,750	N/a	N/a	0
Cricket (4.45 sqm pp)	17,550	3944	6	0	6	105,300	139,997	2 under	9
Rugby (0.85 sqm pp)	11,850	13941	0	0	0	0	26,741	2 under	6
Allotments (1.75 sqm pp)	150	71	325	N/a	325	48,750	55,055	42 under	N/a
Artificial Turf Pitches (0.5 sqm pp)	7,420	14840	0	1	1	7,420	15,730	1 under	0
Bowls Greens (0.17 sqm pp)	1,475	11346	4	N/a	4	5,900	5,348	-	N/a
Tennis courts (0.44 sqm pp) PLUS multi-courts with tennis	666	1514	12	16	28	18,648	13,842	7 over	3

Town Headlines

- Adult and junior football are both under provided although this may be reduced by the development of the Bolnore Leisure site.
- Cricket is also under provided although the surrounding villages would appear to satisfy current demand for pitches.
- Rugby is under provided although developments at Beech Farm Field adjacent to HH Rugby Club could address this in time.
- Allotments show a significant shortfall which has been recognised by the Town Council.
- ATP's are one under - there is one at Oathall Community College that is available for hire in the evenings and weekends.
- Tennis is over provided if the school sites are taken into account, although there is currently no observed additional demand observed through consultation with users.

Central Area & Haywards Heath (population 39,669²)

Haywards Heath, Balcombe, Slaugham, Cuckfield, Cuckfield Rural, Lindfield and Lindfield Rural

Provision (Draft standard for district per person)	Standard Size (Sq m)	Population per pitch	Amount of Club / LA Provision	Amount of School pitches with community use	Total Club / Community provision	Total Sqm	Need (Population x PPG17 size standards per head)	Under/Over provision.	Schools not confirmed public use
Football Adult (4.25 sqm pp)	8,500	2,000	17	0	17	144,500	168,593	3 under	4
Football Junior (2.7 sqm pp)	6,100	2,259	2	7	9	54,900	107,106	9 under	16
Mini (FA Standard)	1,875	N/a	4	4	8	15,000	N/a	N/a	1
Cricket (4.45 sqm pp)	17,550	3,944	13	2	15	263,250	176,527	5 over	9
Rugby (0.85 sqm pp)	11,850	13,941	3	0	3	35,550	33,719	-	6
Allotments (1.75 sqm pp)	150	71	465	N/a	465	69,750	69,421	2 over	N/a
Artificial Turf Pitches (0.5 sqm pp)	7,420	14,840	0	1	1	7,420	19,834	2 under	0
Bowls Greens (0.17 sqm pp)	1,475	11,346	6	N/a	6	8,850	6,744	1 over	N/a
Tennis courts (0.44 sqm pp) PLUS multi-courts with tennis	666	1,514	14	18	32	21,312	17,454	8 over	3

Headlines

- There are 17 adult football pitches on local authority / club sites, which is three less than the PPG17 recommended number for the population.
- There are junior football pitches at Hickmans Lane (1) and Whitemans Green (1) plus a further seven pitches on school sites at Oathall Community Centre (1) and Handcross Prep (6) that are available for community use, making a total of nine. This is nine less than the recommended level of provision for the area. There are another 16 junior football pitches on school sites that are not available for community use.
- Cricket provision is five sites above the recommended level but all are well used and meeting local demand.
- There are 2 allotments more than required but an analysis of demand shows there is a need for more sites.
- There is only one 3G artificial turf pitch available in the area for community hire at evenings and weekends, at Oathall Community College, and two more would be needed to meet the recommended level of provision.
- There area has a total of six bowling greens which is one more than required for the area.

² Census 2001

- There are a total of 32 tennis courts available for community use in the Central area, including 18 on school sites, which is eight more than necessary to meet the PPG17 standards.
- The above figures will be augmented by the very recent provision of additional pitches at Beech Farm Field Cuckfield however at the time of compilation the configuration of pitches were unknown.

East Grinstead & Ashurst Wood (population 25,713)

Provision (Draft standard for district per person)	Standard Size (Sq m)	Population per pitch	Amount of Club / LA Provision	Amount of School pitches with community use	Total Club / Community provision	Total Sqm In Town	Need (Population x PPG17 size standards per head)	Under/Over provision.	Schools not confirmed public use
Football Adult (4.25 sqm pp)	8,500	2000	6	6	12	102,000	109,280	1	0
Football Junior (2.7 sqm pp)	6,100	2259	4	7	11	67,100	69,425	1	10
Mini (FA Standard)	1,875	N/a	6	5	11	20,625	N/A	N/A	5
Cricket (4.45 sqm pp)	17,550	3944	2	1	3	52,650	114,423	3 under	7
Rugby (0.85 sqm pp)	11,850	13941	3	0	3	35,550	21,856	1 over	8
Allotments (1.75 sqm pp)	150	71	238	N/a	238	35,700	44,998	62 under	N/a
Artificial Turf Pitches (0.5 sqm pp)	7,420	14840	2	0	2	14,840	12,856	0	0
Bowls Greens (0.17 sqm pp)	1,475	11346	2	0	2	2950	4,371	1 under	0
Tennis courts (0.44 sqm pp) PLUS multi-courts with tennis	666	1514	15	12	27	17,982	11,314	10 over	3
Multifunctional Green Space	Minimum Size 2000	-	N/A			650,000	664,477	0	0

Town Headlines

- The area has an adequate supply of adult football pitches if school sites with community use are taken into account - these pitches are at Fonthill Lodge School (1) and Imberhorne Upper School (3), Sackville Community College (2) although the latter two sites are also used as football pitches dependant upon the school term*.
- Evidence from discussions with Junior football clubs show that there is demand for more junior football facilities however the area has an adequate supply of junior football pitches if school sites with community use are taken into account . These pitches are at Ashurst Wood Primary (1 – 1700sqm max), Blackwells Primary School (1) and Halsford Park Primary School (4 – max 9000 sqm). There are a further 10 junior football pitches on school sites that are not currently available for community use. In addition, there are mini-soccer pitches available for community use at Estcots Primary School (1 – 4000sqm max), Fonthill Lodge School (3) and The Meads Primary School (1 – 1350sqm max) and five more that are not available for hire.
- Cricket appears to be under provided however there are two squares at East Court & King Georges field which have been closed due to lack of demand . There are additional facilities that are not currently available for community use at Imberhorne Upper School (1 artificial), Sackville Community College (1 artificial) and Brambletye School the former two pitches are artificial, in addition there are a number of Cricket clubs close to the town in villages which provide additional accessibility (T/Hill, Craw Down, Copthorne, Lingfield, Forest Row, Newchapel and Dormansland). East Grinstead Cricket Club has an arrangement to use the site at Fonthill Lodge School.

- Rugby provision is slightly higher than the PPG17 requirement and there are pitches potentially available for community hire on secondary school sites that are interlinked with football provision *.
- Allotments show an under provision in the Town and analysis of demand identifies that there is a need for increased provision due waiting lists.
- There is around the right level of multifunctional green space. The Town is lucky to have good access to the Countryside especially through the East Court Estate.
- There are also less bowling greens than required.
- There are a surplus of tennis courts in the Town - there are 21 multi-courts on school sites, 15 of these are marked for tennis and of these 12 are available for community use plus a further 15 local authority or club tennis courts, making a total of 27 available.
- The level of Artificial Turf Pitches is about right although additional pitches would alleviate the pressure on grass pitches for training purposes for both rugby and football. There are two Redgras pitches at Sackville Community College that are potentially available for hire although practical use of this type of facility is very limited. It should be noted that one of the artificals at the EG Sports Club is water based and only for hockey therefore subject to demand there could be a need for an additional ATP within the town perhaps dual use with a secondary school . Given the current policy on Building Schools for the future it is important to consider what approach the County Council may take regarding their vision of providing a MUGA and ATP in every secondary school.

North Area & East Grinstead (population 42,911³)

East Grinstead, Worth, Ashurst Wood, Turners Hill, Ardingly, West Hoathly and Horsted Keynes

Provision (Draft standard for district per person)	Standard Size (Sq m)	Population per pitch	Amount of Club / LA Provision	Amount of School pitches with community use	Total Club / Community provision	Total Sqm	Need (Population x PPG17 size standards per head)	Under/Over provision.	Schools not confirmed public use
Football Adult (4.25 sqm pp)	8,500	2,000	14	6	20	170,000	182,372	1 under	11
Football Junior (2.7 sqm pp)	6,100	2,259	8	9	17	103,700	115,860	2 under	27
Mini (FA Standard)	1,875	N/a	8	5	13	24,375	N/a	N/a	9
Cricket (4.45 sqm pp)	17,550	3,944	10	1	11	193,050	190,954	-	17
Rugby (0.85 sqm pp)	11,850	13,941	3	0	3	35,550	36,474	-	24
Allotments (1.75 sqm pp)	150	71	476	N/a	426	71,400	75,094	25nder	N/a
Artificial Turf Pitches (0.5 sqm pp)	7,420	14,840	2	0	2	14,840	21,455	1 under	1
Bowls Greens (0.17 sqm pp)	1,475	11,346	3	N/a	3	4,425	7,295	2 under	N/a
Tennis courts (0.44 sqm pp) PLUS multi-courts with tennis	666	1,514	27	12	39	25,974	18,881	11 over	27

Headlines

- There are 25 fewer allotments than required (including those at Copthorne Bank managed by Burstow Parish Council) and an analysis of demand shows there is a need for more sites.
- The area has 1 adult and 2 junior football pitches less than recommended by the PPG17 Assessment but it is reasonably well provided for if pitches on school sites are taken into account.
- There are two artificial turf pitches at East Grinstead Sports Club but one is water based and only suitable for hockey. There is also ATP at Ardingly College but it is not available for regular community use. Therefore subject to demand there could be a need for an additional ATP within the town perhaps dual use with a secondary school.
- There area has three bowling greens at Mount Noddy recreation ground, Felbridge and West Hoathley bowling clubs - this is two less than required for the area.
- There is adequate cricket and rugby provision in the area.
- The area is well provided for in terms of tennis courts with a total of 39 available for community use and further 27 on school sites that do not allow regular public access.

³ Census 2001

7. WORK PROGRAMME 2010/11

REPORT OF: HEAD OF CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT
Contact Officer: Judith Morgan, Senior Member Services Officer;
email judithm@midsussex.gov.uk, tel: 01444 477111
Wards Affected: All
Key Decision: No

Purpose Of Report

1. The purpose of this report is for the Advisory Group to review the work programme, note any changes and, if it wishes, add additional matters or remove items as it considers appropriate

Recommendations

2. **The Advisory Group is recommended to agree its work programme.**

Financial Implications

4. This report does not contain any direct financial or other effects at this stage.

Other Material Implications

5. No other material implications have been identified as arising from this report.

Better Environment Advisory Group

Date	Item	Purpose
29 Sept	Protocol for Planning Applications	
	Protocol for Member Involvement in Planning Appeals	
7 Dec deferred to 2 Feb	Finches Field Deferred	
	PPG 17 audit and review of standards for outdoor recreation facilities	To consider the audit findings and proposed standards
29 March 2011	To be confirmed.	
Other items (date to be advised)	Finches Field	
	Update on Planning Policy and Sustainable Growth in Mid Sussex	To consider the latest position on national planning policy and the Localism Bill. To provide an update on work being undertaken to assess the housing numbers necessary for sustainable growth in the District