



WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON - PITCH ASSESSMENT

March 2002

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

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WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Waveney pitch and non-pitch sport assessment. It assesses the supply of, and demand for, pitch and non-pitch sports provision in the Waveney District Council area.

In line with National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) 'The Six Acre Standard' (1989) and the NPFA/Sports Council/CCPR 'Playing Pitch Strategy' (1991), the report covers football, rugby, cricket and hockey pitch provision and use. Non-pitch sports are identified as, predominantly, bowls, tennis, athletics, netball and basketball.

The report's purpose is to consider the situation as it currently exists across the whole of the District area and the anticipated level of demand over the next five years. It assesses the situation both across the District as a whole and in key settlement groupings. It identifies:

- Short falls in provision against current and potential demand.
- a Local standards for levels of provision for the whole the District and for the main settlement groupings.

Waveney District Council (WDC) commissioned the report in November 1999. The majority of the research was carried out during January, February and March 2000.

The terms of reference of the commission required it to provide:

- An assessment of demand for playing pitches in the District using Sport England's preferred methodology.
- An assessment of current supply using the Register of Recreational Land and any other additional survey and interviews necessary to bring this information up to date.
- A reasoned conclusion about the adequacy of existing provision to meet future demand, any qualitative or quantitative measures arising from this and the identification of a range of possible policy issues to be addressed.
- The development of a local standard for playing pitch provision, a justification for why this should differ from the NPFA standard and its implication for current policy in the Local Plan.
- Guidance that will allow the Local Authority to develop its own Playing Pitch Strategy from the findings of the assessment.

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What catchment parameters have been used?

Findings are presented based on supply and demand in the context of the whole District. Estimates are also based upon local settlements. For the purposes of this study these are as follows:

- *Lowestoft:* Lowestoft, Blundeston, Carlton Colville, Corton, Flixton, Gisleham, Kessingland, Lound, Oulton and Somerleyton. Total population 75,050.
- *Beccles:* Beccles, Barnby, Barsham, Ellough, Henstead, Ilketshall St. Andrew, Mutford, North Cove, Redisham, Ringsfield, Rushmere, Shadingfield, Shipmeadow, Sotterley, Weston, Willingham And Worlingham. Total population 16,380.
- *Bungay:* Bungay, Flixton, Homersfield, Ilketshall St Lawrence, Ilketshall St Margaret, Rumburgh and The South Elhams (All Saints, St Cross, St. James, St Margarets, St Michael and St Peter). Total population 6,500.
- *Southwold:* Southwold, Benacre, Covehithe, Frostenden, Henham, Reydon, South Cove, Uggeshall, Wangford and Wrentham. Total population 6,040.
- *Halesworth:* Halesworth, Blyford, Brampton, Holton, Sotherton, Spexhall, Stoven, Westhall and Wissett. Total population 6,850.

The total population for Waveney is assumed to be 110,820 (based on Suffolk County Council mid-1998 estimates).

Teams that have a notional base and/or draw the majority of their members from within one of the defined areas and yet play their `home' matches outside that area may be considered to be playing outside the locality/catchment area. This can be significant when adjudging the adequacy of supply in any particular location.

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Research methodology

What methodology has been used?

There are several techniques and formulae for assessing play space and pitch and nonpitch supply and demand. This report employs generally recognised qualitative and quantitative techniques.

Quantitative assessment

The principal quantitative method used in this case is based on the National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) minimum standards for outdoor playing space of 2.43 hectares (6 acres) per 1,000 population. Within this, the NPFA standard states that between 1.6 and 1.8 hectares should be provided for youth and adults, of which 1.21 hectares should be formal playing pitches and approximately 0.5 hectares for non pitch sports.

Qualitative assessment

The NPFA/Sports Council/CCPR 'Playing Pitch Strategy' (1991) outlines a complementary assessment process based on more qualitative, local evaluation. This was devised to enable policy makers to review playing pitch requirements at a local level. It is a method, which, while recognising national guidance, does not set universal standards for application. It is based upon local assessment and consultation.

The method is designed to cater only for voluntary participation and competitive activity by adults and young people in pitch sports. It excludes participation in these sports by young people in school, and by anyone in a casual manner.

The method uses sports teams as the basic unit of demand assessment. Sports are evaluated separately and a demand equation presented which, in essence, compares the number of matches to be accommodated with the number of pitches available.

In this study this qualitative methodology is also applied to provision of non-pitch activities

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Which facilities have been included?

In line with NPFA recommendations, only facilities, that are currently available for hire/community use, have been included in final calculations. This includes facilities under public, private and voluntary sector management.

All facilities have been included where, in consultation with the facility managers/owners public access is positively permitted. Facilities on school sites have only been included where the school has specifically indicated that general public access is available. In some cases there are no current or designated users.

An important distinction is made between facilities, which are, in practical terms, available for public access and those which, for reason of policy, cost or standard of ancillary facilities are not currently accessible. This primarily relates to pitches on school sites, which although used for curricular and extra curricular activity are not available for community or league based use.

Quantitative assessment of provision

To assist in the quantitative assessment of supply and demand an estimate has been made of the absolute provision of playing pitches by area. This is based on the maximum assumed area of pitches. (as noted below).

Pitches are judged as 'senior' if they are recognised by users and managers as meeting minimum Sport England/governing body regulations and are marked out, and have appropriately sized goals/posts, for use by senior (over 18 year old) teams. For each sport pitch/facility, dimensions are based on Sports England guidelines for regional, county or lesser competitions. The calculations are, therefore, where no specific sizes exist, based on generous estimates and will, as a consequence, provide a slight overestimate of provision.

The issue of levels of use and pitch management is dealt with in the qualitative assessment. It should not, however be assumed that it is appropriate for all pitches to be made available for full and comprehensive hire, even when ancillary facilities allow. It is accepted 'good practice' to endeavour to maintain some pitches to a higher standard for cup or prestigious competition final matches and also to provide, where possible, the capacity for some match by match or season by season rotation of use.

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Outdoor basketball sites, tennis courts on public parks and some MUGAs.

Outdoor basketball facilities are, as a rule, designed to be available for free and informal access. Almost all competitively structured (league) basketball takes place in sports halls. Although plans may be introduced for some competitions to be encouraged through sports development initiatives at outdoor sites, this has not been done to date. Experience in other parts of the Country suggest that while this is important and will need to be recognised, it is usually based around 'short life span' or 'one event' teams and represents only a small part of the overall demand for the facilities.

An assumption is made that excess demand for basketball courts is not necessarily expressed through displacement of teams use to other sites. Specific sport and community based organisations have been consulted on facility shortfall. A court by court analysis is not, therefore, included in the qualitative assessment.

Multi use games areas (MUGAs) are defined here as hard surface multi-functional spaces, that is they are over-marked for a number of activities, which may include basketball, netball five-a-side football and/or tennis. These areas will sometimes have free access.

Self evidently MUGAs are not of any prescribed or standard size, although their dimensions are normally between 20m x 40m and 40m x 60m. Full sized artificial surfaces, which may be marked for football, hockey and/or tennis and/or netball, are not defined as MUGAs but classified separately as artificial turf pitches (ATPs).

All tennis courts in public parks in Waveney have some level of non-bookable, access. Identifying any 'shortfall' in provision from this user group is therefore very difficult. Furthermore, the value to, and the contribution of, these courts to structured, competitive participation is generally accepted as being limited, unless part of:

- The competitive infrastructure of a formal tennis club or
- Part of some other tennis development programme, which may be sanctioned or organised through the local authority's, sports development function.

Only tennis and netball courts used by an established club(s) have been included in qualitative assessment of supply and demand. (Tennis courts not used by clubs have been included, and specifically identified, within the quantitative assessment calculations).

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What dimensions have been used?

Total formal playing pitch area has been calculated using maximum pitch dimensions (Handbook of Sports & Recreational Design Vol. I: Outdoor Sports; Sports Council, 1995.) In each case an additional 50% has been added to the dimension of playing surfaces to make allowance for side movement, safe playing margins and the need for ancillary facilities, such as training areas and pavilions. This is in accordance with NPFA recommendations ('The Six Acre Standard' NPFA, 1989).

For non-pitch sports, an estimate has been made of the absolute provision of green/courts by area. This is based on the maximum assumed area of green/courts. The overall size in each case is based on maximum dimensions. Total area has been calculated based on Sport England guidance notes (ref. Bowls- Crown and Lawn 1994) and the Handbook of Sports & Recreational Design Vol. I: Outdoor Sports; Sports Council, 1995.). While governing body and Sport England dimensions are provided for playing surfaces and safe run-off, no specific guidelines exist to allow a global 'per court' calculation of area allowing for pavilion, circulation and training. This is unlike guidelines provided for pitch sports (as above)

In order to allow a maximum provision calculation to be generated for non-pitch sports, the following allowances have been made:

- A 'circulation area' of 3m around each bowling green has been added to the recommended maximum green dimensions.
- Tennis courts are assumed to be 34m x 17m.
- Mirroring NPFA guidance for pitch provision, 50% been added to the above areas.

The resulting unit of provision (0.3ha for each bowling green and 885sqm for each tennis court) has been used as the basis for the quantitative assessment.

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What is meant by 'demand' and 'supply'

Demand for pitches is assessed principally on the basis of the number of teams seeking to use pitches within any of the settlement groupings and within the District as a whole. The views of users and team organisers are also taken into account. This is particularly useful when considering both the facility pressures associated with playing sport in the area (i.e. the location, quality, cost and availability of facilities) and any anticipated growth in participation (i.e. perceived trends and the impact of development programmes and/or changes in facility availability).

Temporal demand

Temporal demand is the analysis of the fluctuation and, crucially, peaking of demand across any period. In practice it involves assessing on what days, and at which times, demand for facilities is greatest. It is important to recognise that, for pitch sports, nearly all participation is organised through leagues with what are often wide geographic catchments. Demand in any one of the areas groupings cannot, therefore, be seen in isolation. Teams, which are members of area/regional leagues, must meet the regulations of that league - some of which dictate the day and time that matches should be played.

Latent demand

Latent demand refers to unfulfilled demand and takes two forms:

- Suppressed demand: Those who wish to play but for whatever reason cannot.
- Potential demand: Those who do not wish to play but who might, under the right circumstances, be persuaded to do so.

Suppressed and potential demand is taken into account where it can be realistically quantified and where facility issues are likely to be a significant factor in any change. Reference is made to the impact of the quality of ancillary facilities (changing rooms' etc.) on demand. For example, lack of facilities of a certain standard may prevent a team from joining certain leagues and thus be suppressing a demand.

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Future demand

Where information is available, reference is made to anticipated future demand. Importantly, in this context, it takes into account the level of anticipated demand which may be generated. This is most significant in Waveney where it relates to mini soccer (played in the small sided format) and junior football (played in the 11 -a-side format).

Supply

This is calculated principally by recognising pitches, greens and courts that are accessible at a particular time. It is not sufficient, for example, simply to detail the overall number of pitches. In order to be recognised as part of any supply calculation they must be:

- In an acceptable playing condition
- Of the correct (or at least an acceptable) size and layout
- Be available for use at the appropriate time.

Furthermore, as a rider to any inclusions in the supply list, other issues are considered which impact on overall desirability. These include access to, and quality of, changing facilities, location and cost. These factors can, in practice, restrict or even prohibit access and might be a particular issue for junior boys and girls' and women's participation.

What is 'capacity'?

The term capacity is used in this context to refer to the level of use a pitch can accommodate.

Although, in theory, applicable to bowling greens, the nature of use rarely makes 'physical capacity' a predominant issue. Of more importance in this case is the quality of the playing surface as a consequence of the level and manner of maintenance rather than over-play.

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In relation only to pitches therefore, a judgement is made according to the following:

- The timetabling of demands on the pitch. Is it available when the demand requires?
- The overall physical ability of the surface to support regular matches before the overall quality of the surface is damaged making it unfit for competitive play and/or causing it damage which cannot be rectified during the closed season.

Pitch capacity varies. Issues impacting on capacity vary from one sport to another. Variation can be attributed to several factors. Of most significance in this context are those which directly affect use of football pitches. These are generally limited to/dependent on drainage/substructure, soil make up and maintenance.

The English Sports Council -ESC (Factfile 2 - Planning and Provision for Sport: The Selection, Maintenance, Usage and Cost Effectiveness of Natural Turf Football Pitches; Sports Council 1994) suggests that, in most instances, a well drained football pitch, maintained in accordance with general local authority specifications, should be able to accommodate 2 or 3 football matches per week. It is noted that juniors can cause far less damage than adults; one estimate is that players under 15 cause about half the level of damage of players over the age of 15. This does not necessarily negate the fact that junior players usually use the same goal mouth s/penalty areas, where wear and tear is more intense, and where existing damage can be compounded. Furthermore the category for junior play adopted by leagues extends up to 18, with associated increases in pitch sizes and at which point wear and tear differences are minimal.

It is, however, widely accepted that use by junior teams (players aged under 16 years old) is less damaging to pitches. Most pitches accommodate senior and junior demand during various ground and weather conditions and in many cases there is some level of unauthorised access. It is, therefore, still appropriate to apply the 3 matches per week guide. Pitches with poor drainage or where there are other impacting site factors, and/or where maintenance is not appropriate, can accommodate fewer matches per week.

Where overplay occurs, including play on waterlogged or otherwise damaged pitches, damage can occur from which a pitch may not recover during or beyond that season.

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In general it is accepted that privately owned and managed pitches have more restricted access than publicly managed sites. Similarly, those accommodating teams in senior leagues are normally used for no more than one or two matches per week. In both cases pitches are likely to be subject to more stringent cancellation criteria than local authority owned pitches.

[Sand carpet and suspended water table pitches will, in theory, accommodate more matches (up to 4-5). There are no pitches in Waveney of such construction and they are normally relatively expensive to install and maintain.

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SECTION 2: SPORT SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT

This section presents a District wide overview of provision for all the main sports included in this study.

Summary of the adequacy of local provision based on expressed and potential demand

Waveney as a whole provides 123.6 ha. of formal recreational space for pitch and nonpitch sports available for community use.

All football and cricket pitch areas are included in the 123.6 ha total, even where these pitches are overlain on the same site. This has been done for the following reasons:

- To enable a qualitative assessment be completed and appropriate local standards identified, the figure for existing provision (supply) must be based on all available pitches. This allows it to be compared with required provision (demand), which is team generated and based on all users.
- Temporal demand for football and cricket does not overlap. The pitches are, in all aspects, organised, managed and used as separate entities.

NPFA quantitative standard of provision

Based on the recognised NPFA standard of provision of 1.6 ha of space per 1000 people in the District, Waveney has an overall deficiency for pitch and non-pitch sports of approximately 54 ha.

Qualitative assessment

Considering the deficiency in pitch provision based, on a detailed qualitative assessment, the shortfall is 15.7 ha. (see Appendix 2.1). Qualitative research suggests that the deficiency in provision for non-pitch sports, principally bowls and tennis, is approximately 0.5 ha.

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Comparing methods of analysis

Both methods of calculating the adequacy of provision indicate that the shortfall is concentrated in and around the town of Lowestoft.

The NPFA quantitative standard of provision suggests that that, while Bungay (-2.78ha.), Halesworth (- 1.25ha.) and Beccles (- 1.7ha.) have a surplus of provision, Lowestoft has a deficiency of over 59 ha. Southwold and Reydon is considered as having a slight deficit of 0.43 ha.

The qualitative assessment of supply and demand, which also recognises anticipated shortfall suggests that the deficiency in provision is much more evenly spread across the District. Out of a total shortfall in the District of around 15.7ha, approximately 7.17ha. is identified within Lowestoft. Beccles has a deficiency of 2.45 ha., Bungay has a deficiency of 2.14 ha., Southwold and Reydon has a deficiency of 1.22 ha. and Halesworth has a deficiency of 2.16 ha. (The Halesworth deficiency includes a presumption for development of an full sized ATP).

A local standard based on this qualitative assessment has been calculated for each area and for Waveney as a whole. Lowestoft has the lowest local standard of 0.85ha/ 1000 population. This means that the deficiency *per person* in the Town is low, although, in terms of absolute hectareage, Lowestoft has the highest overall deficiency. This is, in part, explained by the fact that Lowestoft has a relatively large population and that per capita demand is very low.

Based on local standards across the district as a whole, and recognising anticipated demand over the next three to five years, provision of formal pitch space should be based on 1.10ha. per 1000 people. This is 0.11 ha less than the general NPFA standard for provision, which is 1.21 ha.

Accommodating non-pitch sports within this approach is unreliable. Patterns of participation, particularly the combination of structured and unstructured participation that is presented, suggest that a locally based qualitative approach is the most accurate method of assessing shortfall.

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The impact of the quality of facilities on demand

As noted below, the quality of facilities in the District is variable, and, in general terms, while some facilities are described by users as being of good quality (or better), many provide no more than minimum acceptable standards for participation. This is particularly the case for publicly managed football pitches, cricket squares and bowling greens.

There is little explicit evidence that the quality of playing surfaces is, at the moment, suppressing demand. Evidence from other parts of the Country however suggests that the quality of pitches and ancillary facilities is likely to discourage participation in girls and women's football. If this sport is to be promoted in Waveney, the provision of good quality facilities is an important issue.

Predictions about the numbers of people that will be taking part in outdoor pitch sports in coming years recognise anticipated growth profiles and assume the quality of facilities will be such that it will not inhibit or restrict participation.

Key elements of the qualitative research

The information that follows below provides the key elements of the qualitative research findings. It details a sport by sport/site by site assessment of supply and demand.

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Summary of quantitative *and qualitative* assessments

Available playing space for Waveney as a whole = 123.6ha

Senior football (100m x 64m)	45.12
Junior football (90m x 46m)	19.25
Mini football (55m x 36.6m)	3.93
Rugby union (110m x 53m)	8.75
Cricket (1.5 ha)	27.0
Grass hockey (91 m x 55m)	1.50
ATP (110m x 75m)	1.24
Tennis/netball courts (34.7m x 17m)	8.32
Bowling greens (0.3ha)	8.55
	123.6

Quantitative analysis for Waveney as a whole = 54 ha. deficiency -
based on the NPFA 1.6 ha. standard for pitch and non pitch sports

Total population (1998 mid-term projections)	110,820
Required provision based on 1.6 ha standard	177.3
Estimated available playing space	123.6
Estimated available playing space/ 1000	1.12
Deficiency/ 1000	0.48
Overall deficiency	54

Local standard for pitch sports -for Waveney as a whole = 1.1
Based on a deficiency of 15.7ha.

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Playing pitch standard: Waveney District

Total Population in Waveney	110,820
Total existing provision	106.73
Total shortfall in formal pitch space	15.7
Required Playing Pitch space (existing plus shortfall)	122.43
Waveney Local Standard (required pitch space/ 1000's)	1.10

Available playing space (hectares) for Lowestoft = 60.79 ha.
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Senior football (100m x 64m)	24.96
Junior football (90m x 46m)	13.04
Mini football (55m x 36.6m)	3.62
Rugby union (I 10m x 53m)	2.62
Cricket (1.5 ha)	11.25
Grass hockey (9 I m x 55m)	0
ATP (I 10m x 75m)	1.24
Tennis/netball courts (34.7m x 17m)	0
Bowling greens (0.3ha)	4.05
Total	60.79

Quantitative for Lowestoft = 59.29 ha. Deficiency Based on the NPFA 1.6 ha. standard for pitch and non pitch sports
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Total population (1998 mid-term projections)	75,050
Required provision based on 1.6 ha standard	120.08
Estimated available playing space	60.79
Estimated available playing space/ 1000	0.81
Deficiency/ 1000	0.79
Overall deficiency	59.29

Local standard for pitch sports for Lowestoft = 0.85ha./ 1000 Based on a deficiency of 7.17 ha.
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Playing Pitch Standard Lowestoft

Total population in Lowestoft	75,050
Total existing provision	56.74
Total shortfall in formal pitch space	7.17
Required playing pitch space (existing plus shortfall)	63.91
Lowestoft local standard (required pitch space/ 1 000's)	0.85

Available playing space (hectares) for Beccles/Worlingham = 27,86 ha.

Senior football (100m x 64m)	10.56
Junior football (90m x46m)	2.48
Mini football (55m x 36.6m)	0.60
Rugby union (110m x 53m)	6.12
Cricket (1.5 ha)	4.5
Grass hockey (91 m x 55m)	0.75
ATP (110m x 75m)	0
Tennis/netball courts (34.7m x 17m)	1.50
Bowling greens (0.3ha)	1.35
Total	27.87

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Quantitative analysis for Beccles/Worlingham = 1.7 ha. surplus
Based on the NPFA 1.6 ha. standard for pitch and non pitch sports

Total population (1998 mid-term projections)	16,380
Required provision based on 1.6 ha standard	26.21
Estimated available playing space	27.9
Estimated available playing space/ 1000	1.70
Deficiency/ 1000	-0.10
Overall deficiency	-1.7

Local standard for pitch sports for Beccles/Worlingham = 1.68ha./1000
Based on a deficiency of 2.45ha

Playing pitch standard: Beccles

Total Population in Beccles	16,380
Total existing provision	25.02
Total shortfall in formal pitch space	2.45
Required playing pitch space (existing plus shortfall)	27.47
Beccles local standard (required pitch space/1000s)	1.68

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Available playing space for Bungay = 12.22ha.

Senior football (100m x 64m)	2.88
Junior football (90m x 46m)	1.86
Mini football (55m x 36.6m)	0.30
Rugby union (110m x 53m)	0
Cricket (1.5 ha)	4.5
Grass hockey (91 m x 55m)	0
ATP (110m x 75m)	0
Tennis/netball courts (34.7m x 17m)	1.33
Bowling greens (0.3ha)	1.35
Total	12.22

Quantitative analysis for Bungay = 2.78ha. surplus
based on the NPFA 1.6 ha. standard for pitch and non pitch sports

Total population (1998 mid-term projections)	6,500
Required provision based on 1.6 ha standard	10.4
Estimated available playing pitch space	12.22
Estimated available playing pitch space/ 1000	1.88
Deficiency/ 1000	-0.28
Overall deficiency	-1.82

Local standard pitch sports for Bungay = 1.80ha/ 1000 based on a deficiency of 2.14ha.

Playing pitch standard: Bungay

Total population in Bungay	6,500
Total existing provision	9.54
Total shortfall in formal pitch space	2.14
Required playing pitch space (existing plus shortfall)	11.68
Bungay local standard (required pitch space/1000's)	1.80

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Available playing space for Southwold/Reydon = 9.23ha.

Senior football (100m x 64m)	1.92
Junior football (90m x 46m)	0.621
Mini football (55m x 36.6m)	0.30
Rugby union (l 10m x 53m)	1.75
Cricket (1.5 ha)	2.25
Grass hockey (91 m x 55m)	0
ATP (110m x 75m)	0
Tennis/netball courts (34.7m x 17m)	0.53
Bowling greens (0.3ha)	0.9
Total	9.23

Quantitative for Southwold/Reydon = 0.43ha. deficiency
Based on the NPFA 1.6 ha. standard for pitch and non pitch sports

Total population (1998 mid-term projections)	6,040
Required provision based on 1.6 ha standard	9.66
Estimated available playing pitch space	8.27
Estimated available playing pitch space/ 1000	1.37
Deficiency/ 1000	0.23
Overall deficiency	0.43

Local standard for pitch sports for Southwold and Reydon 1.33ha./1000
Based on a deficiency of 1.22ha.

Playing pitch standard :Southwold and Reydon

Total population in Southwold & Reydon	6,040
Total existing provision	6.84
Total shortfall in formal pitch space	1.22
Required playing pitch space (existing plus shortfall)	8.06
S&R local standard (required pitch space/ 1 000's)	1.33

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Available playing space (hectares) for Halesworth = 13.18 ha.

Senior football (100m x 64m)	3.84
Junior football (90m x 46m)	1.86
Mini football (55m x 36.6m)	0
Rugby union (110m x 53m)	0
Cricket (1.5 ha)	4.5
Grass hockey (91 m x 55m)	0.75
ATP (110m x 75m)	0
Tennis/netball courts (34.7m x 17m)	0.35
Bowling greens (0.3ha)	0.9
Total	13.18

Quantitative for Halesworth = 1.25ha. surplus
Based on the NPFA 1.6 ha. standard for pitch and non pitch sports

Total population (1998 mid-term projections)	6,850
Required provision based on 1.6 ha standard	10.96
Estimated available playing pitch space	12.21
Estimated available playing pitch space/ 1000	1.78
Deficiency/ 1000	-0.18
Overall deficiency	-1.25

Local standard for pitch sports for Halesworth 1.91 ha/ 1000
Based on a deficiency of 2.16ha

Playing pitch standard: Halesworth

Total Population in Halesworth	6,850
Total existing provision	10.95
Total shortfall in formal pitch space	2.16
Required Playing Pitch space (existing plus shortfall)	13.11
Halesworth Local Standard (required pitch space/1000's)	1.91

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Football

The qualitative and the quantitative analysis of playing venues indicates that almost all principal WDC pitches are played up to and beyond defined pitch capacity.

Pitches are made available through a combination of sites owed by WDC, schools (under local management) and parish councils.

Publicly owned pitches not on school sites

With notable exceptions, publicly owned pitches offer no more than adequate playing surfaces. In some circumstances pitches are of poor quality. Pitch users report that a significant number of pitches are overplayed. This term refers to use, which, in the context of varying weather conditions, causes a progressive deterioration in the playing surface. This results, most obviously, in loss of grass cover, uneven surfaces and waterlogging.

Many users have made observations about the quality of grounds maintenance. There is wide concern that, irrespective of other factors, inadequate basic maintenance and damage repair often leaves pitches unable to withstand a normal season's use. This results in matches either being cancelled or, more usually, played when the pitch is in poor condition. As a consequence, damage is caused which is difficult to redress in the closed season.

The quality and provision of changing rooms varies. At a significant number of sites there is either no, or only inadequate, changing facilities. Communal showers and limited segregation between team changing is common. This restricts simultaneous use by senior and juniors and/or males and females. Provision of appropriate changing facilities is cited by users as being important to their enjoyment and continued involvement in the sport.

Pitches owned by Suffolk County Council Education Department, managed locally by schools

Increasing use of school facilities is one way of providing access to a greater number of pitches. Where there is no current usage, schools are generally reluctant to accommodate community use. Where pitches are available, particularly junior pitches, access to changing rooms is limited.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Senior football

Two football leagues accommodate the majority of senior football teams based within the WDC area. These are Lowestoft and District Saturday League and the Lowestoft Sunday League.

In addition the Anglian Combination League accommodates teams from AC Smarties, Kirkley FC and Ashlea FC. Bungay Angles 1st team play in the South Norfolk League. Both Halesworth Town teams play in the Ipswich League. Lowestoft Town play in the Jewson League, Premier Division.

There is no evidence of a significant shortfall in pitch provision for Saturday football. The exceptions being concerns over the quality of available playing and ancillary facilities for Ashlea FC and Kirkley FC. In both instances, although teams play in the recognised feeder league, pitches are played on by a range of other, Sunday league, teams.

There is specific evidence of a shortfall in supply of pitches for Sunday league matches. The Lowestoft Sunday League, which accommodates teams from across the Waveney District, reports a shortage of approximately 2 to 3 pitches in the Lowestoft area. This is based, principally, on the number of teams, each year, which cannot be accommodated on the existing stock (an average of 5). Provision of 3 new pitches would also allow overall pressure on existing pitches to be relieved (for example by redistributing some Saturday matches from the most heavily used pitches) and contribute to a general improvement of playing surface standard.

In the context of this shortfall, the previously maintained pitch at Rugby Joinery (Waveney Drive, Lowestoft) is currently not used and the main site at Somerleyton appears to have spare capacity for laying and marking one or more additional pitches. The use of these pitches in the future could alleviate some of the identified shortfall. (see also Section 3 - Lowestoft)

No significant shortfall is identified in other areas of the District.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Junior football

In this report the term junior football incorporates:

- Football played in the small-sided (up to 7-a-side) format, for under 10 year olds on specific mini soccer pitches. In this report the small sided format is referred to as mini soccer.
- Under 16 year olds, playing 11-a-side football, ideally on specific junior pitches.
- Youth football, played by under 18 year olds, often able to be accommodated on full size senior pitches.

Almost all junior football in the WDC area is organised through the Norfolk and Suffolk Youth League.

Juniors/introduction of mini-soccer

It is FA policy that, from the beginning of the 1999 - 2000 season, all football for under 10 year olds should be required to be played in the small sided format. Under 10s football played in the 11-a-side format cannot be FA affiliated and should be considered to be outside any official governing body regulation, guidelines or insurance. This is significant and should be recognised by WDC in terms of its policy on supporting and enabling junior opportunities.

The format of mini soccer has, since its voluntary and latterly compulsory introduction, proved very popular. This is a national trend but is clearly reflected in participation patterns in Waveney. The Norfolk and Suffolk Youth League currently caters for 60 teams at under 9's and under 10's. Under 9 football is played on a non league basis as a consequence all junior football clubs report a very significant increase in numbers playing mini and, as a consequence of increase numbers at the lower age range, junior football. This trend is likely to continue.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

The introduction of the small-sided game raises a number of issues for local authorities to consider. Assuming that WDC is able to make a commitment to supporting the game in this format, these include:

- The Council's ability to provide an adequate number of pitches, at the various required sizes.
- The location and development of sites which are locally accessible.
- Provision of appropriate match time tabling allowing access to pitches and changing rooms.
- Potential to improve access to school sites.

It is estimated that across the District as a whole, and based on current demand, there is a shortfall of approximately four or five junior (11-a-side) pitches. The predicted growth in mini soccer is likely to have an impact on demand for junior football. Therefore an allowance of a further three junior soccer pitches should be made over the next three to five years. The total shortfall up to 2005 is therefore estimated to be eight or nine junior pitches.

An estimated shortfall of nine mini soccer pitches is identified. All clubs running mini soccer predict increased demand in coming years. This is based on an anticipated continuation of the current profile of the sport. This mirrors the experience and predictions of clubs throughout most of the UK, rather than a quantifiable per-capita growth calculation.

Within the life span of this report (five years) it is anticipated that, in total, approximately 12-14 new mini soccer pitches will be required to meet demand.

Although probably unsuitable for senior use, further use, for mini soccer, of the cricket outfield at Denes Oval would alleviate some of this shortfall.

Girls and women's football

There is one FA affiliated junior girls club based in the WDC area; Lowestoft FC. It runs 14 teams. Corton Celtic plays in the FA Eastern League. Its home pitch is at Corton Playing Fields.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Although, relative to other parts of the Country, girls and ladies football does not have a high profile in Waveney, there is some evidence that there is likely to be a significant increase in demand in coming years. A number of local team managers (mini soccer, junior football as well as girls' teams) have indicated that they are being approached by girls and their parents about the possibility of offering increased opportunity for girls football. They suggest that as more opportunities become available what is, at the moment, potential demand, will result in an increase in participation. Linked to this, is WDC's involvement in Sport England's Active Sport programme, which prioritises girls and women's football. As a consequence there will be increased support for the game in Waveney over the next two years.

The FA, in association with the English Schools FA (ESFA), sanctions mixed football in schools for under 10 year olds. It does not recognise mixed football in any other circumstances.

While a significant increase in participation in girls and women's football is anticipated over the next three to five years, the temporal demands of the sport (peak times are Sunday afternoons) may not in themselves result in a significant pressure on pitch access. Additional demand for pitches should be absorbed by a combination of existing and recommended new stock in relation to senior and junior football and mini soccer. The following should be given careful consideration:

- Improvements to changing facilities: There is general agreement nationally between the FA, league organisations and players representatives, that participation will be suppressed if ancillary facilities are of poor quality. A large number of the changing rooms at pitch sites in Waveney are of a standard likely to discourage, rather than encourage, use.

Properly specified changing rooms: These should provide segregation between users, allowing effective management by reducing changing room congestion and pitch 'turn around' time.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Rugby

The principal rugby clubs in Waveney are Lowestoft and Yarmouth RFC, which plays in London (2) North division, Beccles RFC, which plays in the Norfolk League and Southwold which plays in the Suffolk League.

Lowestoft and Yarmouth RFC supports at least 4 senior men's teams, colts and strong 'mini rugby' sections. The Beccles and Southwold clubs' support an average of 3 teams each. Southwold runs the only women's section in the area.

There is no clear deficiency in the provision of rugby pitches at the moment. Predictions of increase demand in the area are modest and do not indicate any significant anticipated shortfall within the next three to five years.

Cricket

Principal cricket clubs in the Waveney District Area are:

- Beccles CC (Beccles Sport Ground).
- Bungay CC (Maltings Meadow).
- Kessingland CC (Kessingland Community Centre).
- Kirkley CC (Gunton Park - Lowestoft and Yarmouth RFC).
- Lowestoft Railway (Kirkley Recreation ground).
- Lowestoft Town CC (Denes Oval).
- Ringsfield CC (Ringfield Community Centre).
- Southwold CC (Southwold Common).

In addition, around 24 'single team' clubs play in the two divisions of a mid-week 'works cricket league' This is played, predominantly in and around Lowestoft, using mainly parks pitches.

There is a general view that good quality wickets are in relatively short supply across the authority area although there is no significant evidence of a shortfall.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Only one club, Kirkley CC, has stated specifically that it needs more cricket wickets. In this case increasing the number of wickets would allow higher standard wickets to be maintained. It would not allow more teams to be generated or satisfy any suppressed demand. Kirkley CC junior (under 15s) team currently plays home matches at Normanston Park on Saturday mornings.

Discussion with ground maintenance client/contractors, indicate that there is no demonstrable shortage of wickets on public parks, with no waiting list for access. There appears, for example, to be less demand from works league teams for access to wickets at Kirkley Recreation Ground for the 2000 season than in previous years. Kirkley Recreation Ground does however play an important role accommodating Club 'overspill' matches.

Bungay Cricket Club has indicated that it is unable to provide adequate home venue pitch provision for its existing and potential team demand. (See Section 3 - Area based analysis - Bungay).

In summary the existing provision of cricket wickets across the District is considered to be adequate to meet demand. Specific consideration should, however, be given to the provision and maintenance of good quality wickets.

Two sites have been identified where additional pitches should be considered. These are:

- An additional pitch within Lowestoft, to alleviate peak time match congestion at Kirkley Recreation Ground.
- An additional pitch at or near Makings Meadow to allow the expansion of Bungay Cricket Club.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Hockey

The five principal hockey clubs based in the District are:

- Lowestoft Railway.
- Lowestoft Town.
- Lowestoft Ladies.
- Beccles Ladies.
- Waveney.

Access to artificial turf pitches (ATPs) is an important issue for a number of user groups. The District's only ATP is at Kirkley High School. The Cliff Park High School ATP in Great Yarmouth also has the potential to service parts of Lowestoft/North Waveney.

With the exception of Waveney Vets. and Beccles Ladies, all competitive, community based hockey in Waveney is played on artificial turf.

There is some evidence to suggest that a second ATP could be justified in the District. At the moment Waveney Men, although based in Harleston play all matches, and run training sessions, at Kirkley High School. Although, in general terms, hockey clubs and their members are prepared to travel reasonable distances to gain access to artificial turf pitches, the development of a club based facility focus is undoubtedly an advantage to club dynamics as well as the provision of a stronger sports development climate. Despite it's best efforts the remote playing venue, in this case, appears to be undermining the sustainability of Waveney Hockey Club, which is struggling to maintain it's youth and veterans sections on the existing grass pitch.

Halesworth Town Council has identified significant local demand for a new ATP based around existing and potential hockey use, as well as recreation and 'tournament' football. There is evidence that this user base could be sustained and a pitch in this location would probably be viable. It is a scenario, which would allow Waveney Hockey Club to reestablish itself locally, as well as providing access to a multi-purpose surface for other sports. The existing grass hockey pitch could be used to address a local deficiency in junior football pitches. A site at the middle school has been ear-marked for development.

Any further development of full size ATPs in the area could however be geared towards complementing the operational infrastructure of principal clubs. To this end

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

consideration should be given to the England Hockey Association's regional development plan. The principal clubs in the District are as follows:

Lowestoft Railway

The Club runs 3 senior men's teams, one ladies team and 1 colts (under 16) team. The first team plays in the Crowe Insurance League.

All home matches and most training (2.5hr/week) is at Kirkley High School ATP.

The club has no immediate or expressed plans to grow and has not directly linked availability of a new pitch to any expansion of teams or coaching/development. It probably does have the potential to grow - by possibly adding vets and pre-colts if more, affordable, pitch time was made available and development links with schools strengthened. This may increase levels of participation to include an additional senior team within 3 years of access to more pitch time.

It currently uses Kirkley ATP for about 6hr/week. (3.5hrs on Saturday). It should be noted that the Club does not at the moment appear to be actively seeking more time at Kirkley High and is adopting a passive approach to development. Research indicates that some training slots could be booked at Kirkley if a determined and pre-planned effort was made to secure them. The club has not, to date, done this.

An expanded club with more, and affordable, access to a pitch would use up to 8/9 hr/week (5hrs on Saturday) by year 3.

Lowestoft Town

Lowestoft Town HC is a single team club with no structured 1st team training programme. It runs a junior coaching session and plays all senior home matches at Kirkley High School. It would be unlikely to relocate to any other ATP or make significant additional use of the Kirkley pitch if booking slots became available.

Lowestoft Ladies

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Lowestoft Ladies HC run 2 senior sides with a third team playing once or twice a month. It also provides an occasional under 19 colts team for irregular matches (players comprise existing team members). The Club plays all its home matches at Kirkley High School, where it also trains 2 hrs/week.

It would be unlikely to relocate to any new pitch and there is no evidence that it would use more pitch time or expand coaching hours, or the number of teams, should more time become available at Kirkley High.

Beccles Ladies

Beccles Ladies HC runs 1 senior team in the Norfolk League. It currently plays and trains on grass at Beccles. It would be reluctant to move away from this site to play on any ATP as a home venue although might consider it if opportunity became available.

Waveney

Waveney HC run two adult sides, a senior men's 1st team in the Crowe Insurance League and a vets. team playing friendly matches. Its home base is Halesworth. The 1st team plays at Kirkley High School and training takes place at Sir John Leman School in Beccles. The vets. play at the home ground on grass at Dairy Hill in Halesworth.

The club is generally unhappy at having to travel to Kirkley to play matches and would be unlikely to relocate **except** to a pitch nearer to Halesworth. It similarly it would be unlikely to use additional training time at Kirkley if it became available.

The Sport England Facility Planning Model (FPM) indicates that there is, in general terms a shortfall of supply over demand in Waveney as a whole. In theory this equates to less than two thirds of a pitch. The case for developing an additional ATP within Waveney is therefore, by no means 'clear-cut'.

A pitch development in Halesworth (Waveney HC) would probably be justified, and be well used, if no further development takes place at Harleston (10 miles).

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Bowls

Bowls is a strong, popular sport across the Waveney Area. Many clubs report that greens are at saturation point. Users of publicly owned greens consistently express concern that although green fees have increased in recent years, the quality of greens and ancillary facilities has not improved.

Principal clubs are:

• Beccles Bowls Club	• Oulton Broad Bowls Club
• Bungay Bowls Club	• Oulton Broad Ladies Bowls club
• Halesworth Angel Bowls Club	• Solebay Bowls Club
• Kensington Gardens Men's Bowls Club	• Sparrows Nest Bowls Club
• Lowestoft Railway BC	• Waveney Labour Bowls Club
• Corton Bowls Club	

Across the District as a whole there is no significant shortage of bowling greens. There is a shortfall in the number of good quality greens. Future resources should be directed at improving green quality and, in partnership with key user groups, identifying an appropriate pricing formula. This could be based on a green quality ranking scale.

A shortfall of one green has been identified in Lowestoft.

Tennis

Eight competitive tennis clubs play regularly in the Waveney area. These clubs support 15 teams, all of which play in the Lowestoft and District Lawn Tennis League. These are:

- Beccles TC
- Bungay TC
- Gunton TC
- Halesworth TC
- Mutford TC
- Southwold TC
- Wrentham TC
- Normanston TC

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Other non-competitive tennis is played on the following courts, which are owned and managed by WDC

- Kensington Gardens (Waveney tennis Club).
- Nicholas Everitt Park (Oulton Broad Tennis Club).
- Denes Oval (Irregular non competitive hirer).

In general terms there is a slight shortfall in tennis provision across the District. This is most evident at Gunton Park. Two additional courts developed in conjunction with Gunton Tennis Club would allow greater access and provide a significant contribution to provision.

If facilities at Gunton TC were improved (particularly alongside facilities at Beccles) it would help justify investment in facilities at local 'village sites' facilities used by Mutford TC or Southwold TC. These could be maintained or improved within current footprints allowing them to work more effectively as part of a local development framework. Aspiring players from Mutford might be encouraged to progress to play at Beccles.

Many facilities across the Authority are servicing consistent demand on poor quality surfaces and with little or no ancillary provision. Providing more courts in this context is less important than providing better quality facilities.

Given the proposed indoor tennis facility at Cliffe Park High School (Gt. Yarmouth), it is important that development structures with WDC are robust and effective. They need to provide local players with the opportunity to progressively access the best coaches and the best facilities, as they become available.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

SECTION 3 AREA BASED ANALYSIS

This section presents an area based assessment of the provision for all the main sports included in the study.

For each of the main catchment areas, a site by site appraisal is given for the main pitch sports of football, cricket and rugby plus bowls and tennis. Other outdoor sports are included as appropriate. Where it informs the analysis of use and current and future demand, a specific club profile is provided.

While recognising location, the analysis of supply and demand for bowls provision has been undertaken on a club by club basis. The variety of competitive opportunities open to clubs (and individual members) is, in practice, almost unique to bowls amongst the formal outdoor sports. Opportunities are usually exploited, through bespoke cup and league competitions. These take place in the mornings, afternoons and evenings, seven days a week throughout the main April to September/October season. This is reflected by the fact that any shortfall in the extent and quality of provision is not directly expressed by overplay of facilities or whole club relocation/displacement. Similarly few clubs will report obvious membership capacity or obvious playing limitations at times of highest (temporal) demand.

Hockey provision in the WDC area is addressed in the context of the District as whole (as above) rather than in an area/settlement based context. This is because of the specific artificial turf requirements of hockey and the District wide catchment of the only artificial turf pitch (ATP) at Kirkley High School.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Lowestoft

This area is taken to include Lowestoft, Blundeston, Carlton Colville, Corton, Flixton, Gisleham, Kessingland, Lound, Oulton and Somerleyton. Its population, based on Suffolk County Council estimates for 1998, is 75,050.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Summary of qualitative analysis

Senior football

A shortfall of three senior pitches. This has been identified based on consideration of the following information:

- There is specific evidence of a shortfall in supply of pitches for Sunday league matches in the area. The Lowestoft Sunday League, which accommodates teams from across the District, reports a shortage of 2 to 3 pitches, recognising the number of teams each year, which cannot be accommodated on the existing stock (an average of five).
- Existing stock in the area is operating up to capacity at periods of highest temporal demands - as detailed below.
- Provision of 3 new pitches would also allow overall pressure on existing pitches to be relieved (for example by redistributing some Saturday matches from the most heavily used pitches) and contribute to a general improvement in playing surface standard.

Opportunities exist to develop the Somerleyton Parish Council site, where two/three new pitches could be installed alongside a new pavilion and changing facilities. Kirkley Recreation Ground has capacity for 1 additional pitch.

The capital and revenue cost implications of developing pitches at the Somerleyton site would be significant and should be carefully considered. To date, other, possibly more cost effective, alternatives at school sites have not been identified, although WDC may revisit schools when, and if, an investment budget can be identified.

Opportunities to access and/or upgrade other previously used pitches/facilities should be investigated. Sites might include Rugby joinery pitch at Waveney Drive and underused village pitches at North Cove, Oulton Community Centre and Ringsfield.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Junior football

A current shortfall of two junior football pitches is identified. This is based on:

- The significant pressure placed on Benjamin Britten High School, Dip Farm and Normanston Park by Waveney Youth FC and Pakefield Boys FC. Both clubs are currently using sites with no, or limited, capacity to expand.
- The inability of Waveney Youth FC to accommodate, within its current pitch allocation, its u 12 and u 13 teams which are current forced to operate a restricted league fixture list.
- The general acceptance that that changing facilities at Kirkley Recreation Ground are unacceptable for juniors.

A preferred option would be to develop at least one of the pitches at Kirkley Recreation Ground, given the development of senior pitches 'out of town' at Somerleyton.

In the season 2001/2002 an increase in demand for access to the existing junior pitch at Kessingland should be anticipated although this should be able to be accommodated within current levels of provision. (Kessingland Junior School runs a popular under 9's team but has no regular access to a pitch).

An anticipated throughput from mini soccer is however likely to result in further demand for pitches in future years. An overall shortfall in provision of 4 junior pitches is therefore predicted up to 2005.

Throughout Lowestoft, changing room improvements should be considered. *Mini soccer*

A current shortfall of up to four mini soccer pitches is identified. This is based on the pressure on existing pitches used by all clubs running mini soccer sections. There is a specific problem of access to enough pitches for Pakefield Boys FC and Blundeston FC. Both teams report an existing shortfall. The organisation of mini soccer, particularly at under 9's, allows some match and fixture flexibility, which is forcing teams to operate through facilities which are, in the long term, untenable.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

An increase in demand should also be anticipated at Kessingland Community Centre where changing room improvements, and possible over-marking for mini soccer on either of the two existing pitches, should be considered. Anticipated growth in demand over the next three to five years suggest a total of six mini soccer pitches should be provided within this time-frame. This is based on the anticipated continuation of the current growth profile of the sport. This mirrors the experience and predictions of clubs throughout most of the UK, rather than a quantifiable per-capita growth calculation. These pitches may be best developed at school sites in conjunction with affiliated league/club organisers. Accessibility and child protection should be priority issues. Car parking is also an important issue on this site.

Rugby

Improvements to the quality of pitches and ancillary facilities at Lowestoft and Yarmouth Rugby Club would benefit the Club and the development of rugby in the area. However, the principal ingredients to improve rugby, (specifically development of infrastructure, pitches, training space and ancillary facilities) exist within the current site.

There is no strong evidence that a new site, will, in itself, increase the capacity of the club to provide either more opportunities to play rugby or lead to significantly improved standards of performance.

Cricket

No significant shortfall is identified, although better facilities at Somerleyton may alleviate pitch congestion for Kirkley Cricket Club.

Hockey

No significant shortfall is identified in Lowestoft although development of an ATP should be seen in a District wide context (see above).

Tennis

Facilities in the Town are generally considered to be poor. Two of the courts at Kensington Gardens are good but not used for competitive play. Courts at Normanston Park were originally well specified but now are in poor state of repair,

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

suffer from poor drainage, leaf fall and access difficulties for the resident club.

Gunton Tennis Club has access to two poor quality courts with substandard ancillary facilities. It does, however, provide an operational and administrative club structure with the capacity to deliver a properly organised and effective sports development programme.

As part of the LTA Community Tennis Partnership (CTP) programme it should probably have access to 4 good quality courts and improved ancillary facilities. Development of improved facilities, possibly on its existing site, should therefore be considered.

As the CTP programme develops, further use might be made of the two useable courts at Kensington Gardens. This could be done in partnership with the existing club users or through Gorton TC/WDC outreach. Use of these courts would not obviate the need for more courts at Gunton Park

Bowls

A shortfall of one green has been identified by existing club members in the Town itself. This deficiency may be addressed by promoting greater use of facilities in Oulton Broad, where green fees and car parking charges are cited as discouraging use.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Football in Lowestoft

This category is dominated by football use and consequently each report is based on football pitch provision. Primary school sites servicing only mini soccer have not been included.

Barnards Meadow, (Roman Hill Middle School) Lowestoft				
Football			Cricket	Hockey/Rugby/other
Snr	Jnr	Mini		
1				
Teams			Leagues	
Waveney Youth			Norfolk & Suffolk Youth	
Oulton Broad Res			L&D Saturday	

Assessment
<p>This is a one pitch site described (by the only team which plays on it) as reasonable. Changing facilities are available. Car parking is limited causing local congestion.</p>

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Site name: Benjamin Britten School				
Football			Cricket	Hockey/rugby/other
Snr	Jnr	Mini		
1	2	1		
Teams			Leagues	
Gunton FC			L&D Saturday	
Gunton			L Sunday	
Gunton Youth			Norfolk and Suffolk Youth	

Assessment
<p>The pitch quality on this site is considered to be adequate and, given average weather conditions supports play throughout the season. Users do report occasional problems with waterlogging.</p> <p>The pitch manager reports that at peak time there is little or no capacity to increase use.</p> <p>Changing facilities are communal.</p> <p>Adequate, accessible and safe car parking.</p>

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Carlton Colville Community Centre					
Football		Cricket		Hockey/rugby/other	
Snr	Jnr	Mini			
1					
Teams			Leagues		
Sanyo FC			L&D Saturday		
Star Athletic			L Sunday		
Carlton Red House			L Sunday		
Waveney Gunners			L Sunday		

Assessment
<p>This is a single pitch site described by users as of variable quality. It often has a poor surface and is regularly waterlogged. As a consequence, it is often played up to and beyond capacity.</p> <p>Although changing facilities are available they have no showers and are inappropriate to support regular senior football provision. Parking spaces available.</p>

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
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Corton Playing Fields				
Football		Cricket		Hockey/rugby/other
Snr	Jnr	Mini		
2	1			
Teams		Leagues		
Corton A		L&D Saturday		
Ac. Smarties		Anglia Combination		
Ac. Smarties		L Sunday		
Corton Old Boys		L Sunday		
Corton Celtic		FA Eastern (Ladies)		
Corton Celtic Res		FA Eastern (Ladies)		
Gunton Youth JFC		Norfolk & Suffolk Youth		

Assessment
<p>This is a two pitch site, in reasonable condition, but with some potholes. Changing facilities are described as satisfactory. Parking can be a problem when all pitches are in use.</p>

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Denes High School				
Football			Cricket	Hockey/rugby/other
Snr	Jnr	Mini		
1	1	2		
Teams			Leagues	
Waveney			L&D Saturday	
Waveney Res.			L&D Saturday	
Waveney Junior			Norfolk and Suffolk Youth	

Assessment
Adequate facilities. Users work closely with pitch manager to provide adequate access. There is limited opportunity to extend use beyond that taking place at the moment.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Dip Farm					
Football			Cricket	Hockey/Rugby/other	
Snr	Jnr	Mini			
4					
Teams			Leagues		
FC Parkers			L&D Saturday		
Marquis of Lorne			L&D Saturday		
Stanford arms			L&D Saturday		
Bayfields			L Sunday		
Carlton red House			L Sunday		
Carlton Red House Res			L Sunday		
Etc's			L Sunday		
Holton Eagles			L Sunday		
Tudor Rose			L Sunday		
Whitton			L Sunday		
Oxford arms			L Sunday		
Lowestoft Railway			L Sunday		
Gunton Res			L Sunday		
Pakefield boys			Norfolk and Suffolk Youth		
Waveney Youth			Norfolk and Suffolk Youth		

Assessment
<p>This is one of the District's principal football pitch sites. All pitches on this site are played on up to capacity. It is considered by users to be providing pitches that are 'adequate' or 'better than adequate'. The site compares well with other publicly owned facilities. The quality of pitches falls to adequate (or below) in the last quarter of most seasons.</p> <p>Changing facilities are not adequate to accommodate peak time demand.</p> <p>Car parking facilities are reasonable but occasionally get congested when all pitches are in use.</p>

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Normanston Park			
Football		Cricket	Hockey/Rugby/other
Snr			
4		2	
Teams		Leagues	
Ashlea FC,		Anglia Combination	
Broadlands		L&D Saturday	
Hearts of Oak		L&D Saturday	
Whifflers		L&D Saturday	
Intachem		L&D Saturday	
Mariners		L Sunday	
New House		L Sunday	
Oak Tavern		L Sunday	
Lowestoft Railway		L Sunday	
Waveney A		L Sunday	
Ole Frank		L Sunday	
Waveney Youths		Norfolk and Suffolk Junior	
Waveney Youth Res		Norfolk and Suffolk Junior	
Assessment			
<p>This is a key pitch site and is at the centre of Lowestoft's main public park. It is open to regular public access. All grass pitches are well used. All pitches are played on up to, and often beyond, capacity. The site slopes and tends to waterlog. This results in increase surface damage. Pitches quality is further reduced by regular unauthorised use of goalmouths, motor vehicle trespass and dog fouling.</p> <p>Changing facilities are criticised by users as being over-crowded. Incidents of vandalism and theft are, apparently, regularly experienced. Car parking is adequate. Ashlea FC, which plays in the Anglia Combination League, consistently identifies its pitch as 'below' the overall standard expected from, and usually provided by, teams at this level.</p> <p>In practical terms, these problems extend beyond what can be rectified by sports turf management and require a wider usage, programming and management review.</p>			

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Kessingland Community Centre				
Football			Cricket	Hockey/Rugby/other
Snr	Jnr	Mini		
1	1			
Teams			Leagues	
Juggs			L&D Sunday	
Non affiliated team			Saturday friendlies	
Assessment				
<p>This site is leased by Kessingland Parish Council to its playing fields committee. It includes one full sized football pitch and one (sloping) junior football pitch.</p> <p>The pitches are described as adequate and used below their capacity. An increase in demand for junior football is anticipated from the local junior school (Kessingland Junior) which has an under 9's team but no regular pitch access on this site.</p> <p>Changing rooms are described as below adequate and improvements should be considered.</p>				

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Kirkley Recreation Ground				
Snr	Jnr	mini	Cricket	Rugby/other
4			1	1 grass hockey - surplus 1 grass athletics
Teams			Leagues	
Kirkley			Anglia Combination	
Crusaders			L&D Saturday	
Fire service			L&D Saturday	
Glue Pot			L&D Saturday	
Kirkley A			L&D Saturday	
Pot Black			L&D Saturday	
Trowel & Hammer			L&D Saturday	
AFC Railway			L Sunday	
Dutchmans			L Sunday	
Frank Colby Sports			L Sunday	
Lowestoft Railway			L Sunday	
Pakefield			L Sunday	
Pakefield Res			L Sunday	
Pot Black Mariner			L Sunday	
Waveney (U 16)		Youth	Norfolk and Suffolk Youth	

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Assessment

This is one of the Districts principal football pitch sites. Pitch quality is variable across the season but generally described by users as adequate to good.

Changing facilities are poor with no effective separation between teams and communal showers.

Parking facilities are inadequate.

The opportunity exists to develop an additional football pitch on the area previously used as a grass hockey pitch. This would require review of pitch layout and probable provision of 8m ball retaining fence to the border of houses along Silverwood Close.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Kirkley High School				
Football			Cricket	Hockey/Rugby/other
Snr	Jnr	Mini		
1				
Teams			Leagues	
Harrods UK			L Sunday	

Assessment

This is a single pitch site which is in good condition. Changing facilities, described as excellent, are made available to users. The pitch manager has indicated that, because of pressures on the playing surface from community use, there is little or no capacity to increase community access beyond its current level.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Oulton Village					
Football			Cricket	Hockey/rugby/ other	
Snr	Jnr	Mini			
1					
Teams			Leagues		
Oulton			L Sunday		
Burnt Hill 95 (youth)			Norfolk and Suffolk Youth		

Assessment

This is a single pitch site. The playing surface is described as good throughout the season. Changing facilities are basic and improvements to segregation and showers should be considered.

Car parking is adequate to accommodate demand.

WDC owns this ground but not the changing facilities.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Somerleyton Parish Council site - Station Road					
Football			Cricket		Hockey/rugby/other
Snr	Jnr	Mini			
1			1		
Teams			Leagues		
Dukes Head			L&D Sunday league		
Gunton Hall			L&D Sunday league		

Assessment

Although this site has previously been marked for two pitches, only one is currently in use. It is of adequate or better than adequate quality and is believed to have the capacity to accommodate an increase in use.

Changing facilities are poor, with no electricity and limited changing/showers.

There is no hard standing or formal car parking space and on-road parking is limited on the adjacent narrow lane. Grass parking copes in dry weather.

This site appears to have the spatial capacity to accommodate at least two senior football pitches. It does not, at the moment, however, have the ancillary facilities or service capacity to meet any increased use.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Uplands Community Centre				
Football			Cricket	Hockey/rugby/other
Snr	Jnr	Mini		
1				
Burnt Hill Rangers			L&D Saturday	
Burnt Hill Rangers			L Sunday	
Burnt Hill Rangers			L Sunday	

Assessment
<p>This is single pitch site with a poor playing surface subject to waterlogging. It is not level and ancillary facilities are occasionally vandalised. Changing facilities are described as reasonable but have no showers.</p> <p>The community centre provides a large car park.</p>

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Cricket

In Lowestoft competitive cricket is played, principally, at Gunton Park (Kirkley CC), Denes Oval (Lowestoft Town CC plus works league), Kirkley Recreation Ground (Lowestoft Railway plus works league) and Normanston Park (works league).

Denes Oval

Denes Oval is owned and managed by WDC. The site provides one pitch with up to 10 wickets and practice nets. It has changing and pavilion facilities associated with the public park.

The pitch is the home ground of Lowestoft Town CC, which has a long term access agreement. Its first team plays in the Norwich Union Norfolk Cricket Alliance League.

The site is used by the Club for matches and practice most weekdays and for matches every Saturday and Sunday. In addition, it is used by the Lowestoft Works Cricket League one night per week, (Monday).

Wickets on this site are recognised to be of good standard and capable of accommodating a good standard of competition. The outfield is laid over grass hockey pitches. Although the grass outfield surface is maintained to a good standard, in practice the hockey pitches are no longer used, and the facility (excluding adjacent tennis courts), can be considered a cricket only site.

Although there is no reason in practice why the outfield on the site could not be developed for football it would cause damage to the cricket facilities. It would also be strongly resisted by the Cricket Club. Consideration could be given to development of the outfield for mini-soccer where demand is set to increase.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Gunton Park

This site is owned by Lowestoft and Yarmouth Rugby Club. It accommodates one pitch of seven wickets, laid between rugby pitches. It provides a well established pavilion, changing and social facilities and two outdoor practice nets that are in need of refurbishment. The Rugby Club is seeking to improve the facilities on this or another site.

Kirkley CC is the only cricket user. It is a long- term tenant/hirer of facility but is not a constituted member. Its first team plays in the Norwich Union Norfolk Cricket Alliance League.

It runs three adult Saturday sides, one or two Sunday sides and a junior side. It currently uses its existing seven wicket square to capacity. The Club's junior team plays home matches at Normanston Park (4 miles)

It is seeking to increase the number of wickets available to 15. Increased square capacity would allow a higher standard of pitch to be maintained for all teams. It would also allow the pitch to be used on 2 weekday nights to be used by works teams that currently play on public pitches at Normanston Park, Kirkley Recreation Ground and Denes Oval and as such, contribute to an overall increase in supply within the area.

An increase in wickets would not, in and of itself, allow more teams to be generated at the Club and could not be achieved on the present site without removing at least one rugby pitch.

Kirkley Recreation Ground

Kirkley Recreation Ground is owned and managed by WDC. The site has one pitch comprising up to 10 grass wickets. The site has changing and pavilion facilities associated with the public park.

The pitch is used four nights per week by the Lowestoft Works Cricket League and at weekends by Lowestoft Railway CC and Kirkley CC third and/or junior teams.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Wickets on this site are recognised to be of acceptable standard but, in terms of reliability of bounce, fall short of the standard usually expected at privately managed facilities. The outfield, which is laid over football pitches, is acceptable for local league competition although such an over-marked arrangement is never a preferred choice.

Normanston Park

Normanston Park is owned and managed by WDC. The site provides two pitches comprising 4 grass wickets each. The site has changing and pavilion facilities associated with the public park. As mentioned above, in relation to football, ancillary facilities at this site are regarded as poor.

Both pitches on this site are used five nights per week by the Lowestoft Works Cricket League and at least one pitch is used each Saturday by a Kirkley CC junior team.

Pitches and wickets are widely recognised to be of poor quality, both in terms of 'reliability' and evenness of the wickets and the significant slope of the outfield, which is over-marked on football pitches.

Despite apparent efforts of the contractor, unauthorised use, vandalism and overall site topography, make this a generally unacceptable facility for most cricket. It is, nevertheless, a well-used site.

Somerleyton, Station Road

This is a single pitch site with potentially five to seven wickets available. The playing surface and outfield appear to be acceptable for local club competition.

The site has limited ancillary facilities and is used, primarily, by locally based teams. There is some spare capacity to develop use on this site and, potentially, relieve demand pressure from Kirkley CC, which uses poorer quality pitches elsewhere for junior and third team matches.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Rugby Gunton Park

This site is owned by Lowestoft and Yarmouth Rugby Club. It accommodates three rugby pitches and a floodlit training area. It provides a well established club house/pavilion with changing and showers for six teams. As mentioned elsewhere, the site also provides one cricket pitch and two tennis courts. In addition, two squash courts are attached to the main club house.

Pitches and training facilities on the site are adequate for the standard of rugby being played at the moment although the RFU regional development officer (RDO) knows the pitches to be 'heavy' and sees improvements to these as potentially helping the standard of rugby to improve. The single storey, flat roofed, club house is, according to the Club, in poor structural condition. It is seeking to improve the facilities on this or on another site.

The Club runs a maximum of 4 teams and colts and has a strong junior/mini section. Its 1st team plays in the London (2) North League and it has recently appointed a rugby development officer. Improvements in the standard of youth rugby in the area, which have occurred in recent years, are attributed, by the RDO, to the work of the Club.

The Club does not identify a need for more pitches although pitches and ancillary facilities of a higher standard are seen as necessary to improve the quality of participation and, possibly attract more members.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Tennis

Gunton Park

Gunton Park Tennis Club has two hard surface courts and very limited pavilion/changing accommodation. Access can be gained to the adjacent rugby club pavilion if required. Both courts are in poor condition and fall well below that expected for competition at inter-club level.

The site is used exclusively by Gunton Park Tennis Club, which has a lease agreement with the site owner; Lowestoft and Yarmouth Rugby Club.

The Club provides the most accessible development opportunities in the Town. It has around 40-50 playing members and runs 3 regular teams. It is the only tennis club in Lowestoft with 'on site' facilities. Membership is under pressure because facilities fail to meet expected standards.

Considerable opportunity exists at Gunton Park for tennis development. This will not be possible unless improvements are made to facilities. It requires new surfaces to courts, probably at least two new courts, floodlighting and improved social and changing facilities.

The anticipated LTA Community Tennis Programme initiative to be located at Gunton will (in KKP's opinion) require a programme of improvements along these lines to be outlined and a commitment made to achieving them, before CTP status will be awarded. The potential to develop tennis, in partnership with Denes High School and possibly Benjamin Britten High and local first/middle schools is considerable and worthy of further work.

The proposed development of an indoor centre at Cliff Park High School, Gorleston, adds weight to the value of a positive tennis development programme on outdoor courts in Lowestoft.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Normanston Park

Normanston Park tennis courts are owned and maintained under contract by WDC. It provides four artificial turf courts which are described by club users as in very poor condition and in need of fundamental refurbishment or replacement. No courts are floodlit. All courts are, except when being used by Normanston Tennis Club, available for public hire.

Two courts are hired, on an established agreement, by Normanston TC, which has 35 members. Park changing facilities are, in principal, available to the Club but are frequently locked or in accessible as a result of vandalism. The Club reports that it faces significant problems at the site. There is frequent unauthorised use and accessing courts at predetermined times is often difficult. The inadequacies of the venue and facilities is restricting the Club's operation and potential to grow. As a consequence, it has no future plans for development.

There appears to be no absolute shortfall at the site. Very significant problems do present themselves associated with quality and access. Measures to address these issues should be considered.

Kensington Gardens

Kensington Gardens provides four tennis courts on a WDC public park site. Two of these courts have recently been refurbished. The remaining two are over-marked with a basketball practice court. South Lowestoft Tennis Club has an established hiring arrangement with WDC. The Club is small (less than 20 members) and does not play competitive league tennis.

Since the court refurbishment has taken place court drainage is poor. Use of the remaining courts is restricted by poor surface condition and basketball marking and posts.

Denes Oval

Denes Oval provides eight tennis courts on a WDC public park site. Four of these courts have been resurfaced in the past two years. The site is open for public use but does not accommodate a recognised club.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Bowls

Kirkley Cliff Lowestoft:

Kensington Gardens Men's Bowls Club

The Club has 30 members.

This is a two-green site providing 12 rinks, which is run and managed under contract by WDC. Playing surfaces have in the past been poor although they are said to be improving now. Club representatives consider the greens to be overplayed and in short supply.

Waveney Labour Bowls Club

The Club has 30 members. The Green provision is adequate for the needs of the Club at present. Access to the green is seen as being adequate for present club needs.

Nicholas Everett Park, Oulton Broad

Oulton Broad Bowls Club

The club has 57 members. Representatives report that the green is under-used because car parking is expensive and the green fees 'are putting people off.'

The playing surface is poor although there is a good covering of grass. The green is not overplayed and is adequate for the club. There are no changing facilities or showers.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Sparrows Nest Bowls Club
Sparrows Nest Park
Whapload Road
Lowestoft

The club has 67 members. It appears there is general overplay of the facility. This results in poor grass coverage during peak times.

Lowestoft Railway (formally known as Kirkley Park Bowls Club)
Carlton Road Corton Bowls Club, Lowestoft Road.

This is a private members club, with 113 men and women members. It plays on a single green facility. Members are able to access social and changing facilities, which also service used adjacent indoor facilities. The playing service and ancillary facilities are describe by members as satisfactory. Based on information available, given the level of current and anticipated use, existing provision is satisfactory to accommodate demand for the next five years

Corton Bowls Club

This is a members only, private club with 31 members. The site has one green, which has a good surface and is not overplayed. There is one changing room.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Beccles/Worlingham

Beccles is taken to be Beccles Barnby, Barsham, Ellough, Henstead, Ilketshall St. Andrew, Mutford, North Cove, Redisham, Ringsfield, Rushmere, Shadingfield, Shipmeadow, Sotterley, Weston, Willingham and Worlingham. Based on Suffolk County Council 1998 estimates the population is assumed to be 16,380.

The principal facility provision in Beccles is Beccles Sport Ground. Within the overall site is the Beccles FC 'Beef Meadow' pitch. The whole site is sometimes known as Beef Meadow. It is owned by Beccles Town Council and leased to Beccles Sports Association. Pitches are maintained, under contract, by WDC.

The site comprises three senior football pitches, two rugby pitches, one grass hockey pitch, cricket pitch and a central pavilion. Pavilion provision is currently being upgraded through a Sport England Lottery Grant.

The site is adjacent to Common Lane Playing Fields, also known as Caxton Meadow, which is privately owned.

Summary of quantitative analysis

Senior football

No significant shortfall is identified

Junior football

A current shortfall of one junior football pitch is identified. This is based on the current heavy use of facilities at Sir John Leman School by St Bennets Wasps. Club organisers believe that junior participation in the area is being significantly suppressed by an inability to provide more junior pitches.

Consideration should be given to further development at Sir John Leman School. Increased demand is anticipated in forthcoming years, partly as a result of throughput from mini soccer. It is therefore suggested that a total of two junior pitches should be provided within Beccles.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Mini soccer

A current shortfall of up to two mini soccer pitches. St Benets Wasps consistently report difficulty gaining appropriate access to mini soccer facilities

Consideration should be given to further development at Sir John Leman School and note taken of comments made at Lowestoft (above). Recognising anticipated growth in demand a total of four mini soccer pitches should be identified within the next three to five years.

Further consideration should be given to use of pitches at Ringsfield for mini and junior football. They are currently unused and have changing facilities/car parking.

Rugby

No significant shortfall is identified *Cricket*

No significant shortfall is identified *Hockey*

No significant shortfall - Beccles Ladies would play on an ATP if one could be developed close to their existing base. At the moment they do not travel to Cliffe Park School ATP, which is within a 20 minute drive time.

Tennis

This assessment does not identify an overall shortage of tennis courts in the area. Mutford TC believes it has sufficient demand to justify an additional court. Rather than providing additional courts at Mutford, it would probably be more appropriate to continue to support tennis at the Club (including any improvement to the quality of facilities), at the same time encouraging aspiring players to progress to the larger and better resourced clubs at Beccles TC or Gunton TC.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Football

Beccles Sports Ground				
Football			Cricket	Hockey/rugby/other
Snr	Jnr	Mini		
3			1	2 rugby 1 grass hockey
Teams			Leagues	
Lowestoft Ch Society			L Sunday	
Barsham			L&D Saturday	
Caxton A			L&D Saturday	
Beccles FC			Anglia Combination	
Beccles FC			Anglia Combination	
Beccles FC			L&D Saturday	
St Benets Wasps			Mini league	

Assessment

All pitches are described as of good quality, although, there is an occasional problem with waterlogging. There are also signs of overplay toward the end of the season. Changing facilities are described as basic but good with all amenities provided in separate dressing rooms. Adequate car parking is available

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Common Lane Playing Fields (Caxton Meadows)				
Football			Cricket	Hockey/rugby/other
Snr	Jnr	Mini		
1				1 rugby
Teams			Leagues	
Beccles reserves		Caxton	L&D Saturday	

Assessment

Pitch quality good, no evident signs of overplay; changing facilities meet user requirements in terms of size, but are not always clean. Adequate parking facilities.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Rugby

Beccles Rugby Club has two senior teams and one junior under 15 team. It plays 1st team home matches on Beef Meadow and is an affiliate Club of Beccles Sports Association. Its second pitch is effectively unusable for up to three months every season due to local waterlogging. Relocated matches and/or junior fixtures are played at the adjacent Caxton Meadow site.

The Club does not identify any significant shortfall in provision.

Cricket

Beccles Cricket Club has two senior teams and one junior under 15 team. It plays 1st team home matches on Beef Meadow and is an affiliate Club of Beccles Sports Association

The Club does not identify any significant shortfall in provision.

Tennis

Mutford

Mutford Tennis Club plays all home matches on a single tarmac court owned and managed by the Parish Council. The court is inadequate for league matches. The site has no changing facilities.

Mutford Tennis Club has identified a need for at least one more court to accommodate current demand at peak times.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Beccles Tennis Club

The Club use three floodlit tarmac courts adjacent to Beef Meadow. They are in good condition and have floodlighting; although some need repainting. The changing facilities consist of a wooden hut with two large rooms.

The Club considers itself to be in a growth phase since the installation of floodlights. Its immediate priorities are to strengthen its junior section and develop better clubhouse facilities.

No significant shortfall in provision is identified at the moment or anticipated within the next two to three years.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Bungay

Bungay is taken to be Bungay, Flixton, Homersfield, Ilketshall St John, Ilketshall St Lawrence, Ilketshall St Margaret, Rumburgh and the South Elmhams (All Saints, St Cross, St James, St Margarets, St Michael and St Peter). Its population is taken to be 6,500.

The principal pitch site in Bungay is Malting Meadow. It contains three football pitches, a cricket square, two tennis courts and a hard play/basketball court. Ancillary facilities are not effectively rationalised and appear to be of varying standards. The site is leased to Bungay Sports Association.

Bungay is in a unique position, in that the main villages which surround the Town are outside Waveney. These are Broome, Ditchingham, Earsham and Ellingham. Consideration should be given to increased use of facilities at these villages as well as at Makings Meadow. There are two junior football pitches close to Maltings Meadow at Pirnhov Street, in Broome.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Summary of quantitative analysis

Senior football

No significant shortfall is identified

Junior football

No significant shortfall is identified at the moment. Provision of one additional pitch should be considered for the future. Consideration should be given to further development at Makings Meadow or at other sites at Pirnhow Street, Broome; The Street, Earsham and the Village Green, Ditchingham. Changing accommodation servicing juniors should be considered to be important and sought to be improved wherever necessary.

Mini soccer

No significant shortfall at the moment. Provision of one additional pitch should be considered for the future, probably at Makings Meadow.

Cricket

A shortfall of one pitch is identified, with a preferred location on or close to Makings Meadow. The existing users have significant demand from second and junior teams, particularly for Sunday matches.

Tennis

No significant shortfall is identified although improvements to the quality of facilities would increase use and support club development.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Football

Site name: Makings Meadow				
Football			Cricket	Hockey/rugby/other
Snr	Jnr	Mini		
3	1	1		
Teams			Leagues	
Bungay			Anglia Combination	
Bungay A			L&D Saturday	
Bungay Rangers				
Mini soccer				

Assessment

The principal pitch on this site is of a high standard with spectator accommodation. Other pitches on this site are recognised by users to be of acceptable quality. Changing facilities are described as adequate. There are problems with vandalism to pitches and changing rooms. Car parking at peak times is problematic.

Users express concern about security of tenure.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Site name: Rectory, Geldeston Road Ellingham					
Football		Cricket		Hockey/rugby/other	
Snr	Jnr	mini			
1					
Teams			Leagues		
Ellingham FC			L&D Saturday		
Ellingham Res FC			L&D Saturday		

Assessment
This is another one pitch site with low demand; Ellingham is the only club to play there. The pitch in reasonable/good condition.

Site name: The Street, Earsham					
Football		Cricket		Hockey/rugby/other	
Snr	Jnr	mini			
1					
Teams			Leagues		
Earsham			L&D Saturday		
Mettingham			L Sunday		

Assessment
Pitch quality is good. Changing facilities consist of a 'portacabin' for changing. This site has experienced problems with vandals. Parking facilities are available for 10 cars.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Cricket

The only competitive cricket club in Bungay is Bungay Cricket Club, which plays at Maltings Meadow. The site is leased to Bungay Sports Association. It has 10 wickets, described by the Club as adequate. The outfield is over-marked on football pitches.

The Club has three teams, two senior and one junior, with 40 playing members.

The club expressed its concern about the single year lease available to it. This is restricting development and inhibiting access to grant aid.

It has identified a need for an additional pitch on or close to the Maltings Meadow site. This should include a non turf wicket. It is the contention of the Club that improved facilities would attract more members.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Tennis

Maltings Meadow

There are two tarmac tennis courts in Bungay located on the Maltings Meadow site. They are owned and managed under contract by WDC. The tennis club is the principal users although the courts are available for public access. The facility is described by the club as very poor. Visual inspection of the courts suggests that they require resurfacing. One court is over-marked with an outdoor basketball court.

Changing facilities are poor with no electricity or showers.

The poor standard of facilities is likely to be inhibiting the Clubs development and there is a clearly expressed desire for better quality surfaces and the completion of fence refurbishment.

Although no absolute shortfall in provision is identified the quality of courts is a legitimate concern, particularly as it restricts opportunity for structured competition and coaching.

Bowls

St. John's Road

Bungay

Bungay Bowls Club

Bungay Bowls Club has 60 members. Facilities are described as good, with male, female and disabled changing rooms although there are no showers. There is no vandalism although parking is inadequate.

The green is managed and maintained by the club. The playing surface is improving, there is a good covering of grass.

No significant shortfall in provision is reported.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Southwold and Reydon

Southwold is taken to include Southwold, Benacre, Covehithe, Frostenden, Henham, Reydon, South Cove, Uggeshall, Wangford and Wrentham. Based on Suffolk County Council 1998 estimates the total population is assumed to be 6,040.

Current

Sport	Team	Venue
Football	Southwold Town FC I 't XI	Southwold Common
Football	Sole Bay hunters mini/youth	Old Reydon High School
Football	Southwold Town FC Res	Southwold Common
Football	Southwold/Reydon FC 'A'	Old Reydon High School
Football	Hunters Juniors FC (3 teams)	Old Reydon High School
Rugby	Southwold RUFC (matches)	Southwold Common
Rugby	Southwold R.UFC (training)	Reydon Recreation Ground

Planned

Sport	Team	Venue
Football	Southwold Town FC I ⁵ L XI	Southwold Common
Football	Southwold Town FC Res	Southwold Common
Football	Southwold Town FC 'A'	Old Reydon High School
Football	Solebay Hunters Junior FC	Old Reydon High School
Rugby	Southwold RUFC (matches)	Southwold Common
Rugby	Southwold RUFC (training)	Reydon Recreation Ground

Southwold FC and Reydon FC amalgamated in the season 1999/2000 forming Southwold Town FC. Southwold Town FC hires a pitch at the Old Reydon High school site for its 'A' team fixtures and hires training facilities at the same venue. It is Southwold Town's understanding That the Old Reydon High School site will continue to be managed by the Reydon Community Association as a branch of the Southwold and District Recreational Council.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

The Reydon Recreation Ground has one floodlit rugby pitch. Southwold RUFC uses this pitch for training. No change to the use of this site is anticipated.

Southwold Town FC intends to play its football on Southwold Common for the foreseeable future.

Summary of quantitative analysis

Senior football - The Old Reydon High School has only one football pitch. There is insufficient room to provide a second pitch. The intention is for the school site to host Southwold Town 'A' fixtures for the present.

Junior football - there is no significant shortfall. The site has one junior pitch that is host to three teams. There is potential for two teams to schedule simultaneous home kickoffs, and enough flexibility on the site, through occasional alterations in kick-off times, to address any booking congestion when/if it arises.

Mini soccer - There is a current shortfall of one pitch. The pitch at the Old Reydon High School serves the Club. With the current levels of play and, if forecasts mirror those nationally, it can be reasonably expected that demand will increase. To satisfy this demand, at least one other pitch should be created. This should ideally be on the same site as the other pitch or alternatively, Southwold Common. There is potentially room on the Reydon Recreation Ground but there are severe molehill problems at this site. To accommodate anticipated demand within the next three to five years a total of two new mini soccer pitches should be identified in the area.

Rugby - Southwold and Reydon RUFC should benefit from having access to the Common. While rugby is currently played on the Common there is little opportunity for development because the Club has no security of tenure. Two pitches and one grass floodlit training area is adequate for the needs of the sport in this area of Waveney.

Cricket - no significant shortfall.

Hockey - no significant shortfall.

Tennis - no significant shortfall.

Bowls - no significant shortfall.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Football

Site name: Former Reydon High School					
Football			Cricket	Hockey/rugby/other	
Snr	Jnr	Mini			
2	1	1			
Teams			Leagues		
Southwold Town FC `A'			L and D Saturday		
Solebay Hunters Juniors FC (3 teams)			Norfolk and Suffolk junior		

Assessment

The pitch is of adequate condition and the site has the capacity to accommodate current demand. There are no changing and showering facilities.

Site name: Southwold Common					
Football			Cricket	Hockey/rugby/other	
Snr	Jnr	Mini			
I					
Teams			Leagues		
Southwold Town FC I S` XI			Anglian combination		
Southwold Town FC Res			L and D Saturday		

Assessment

Pitch quality is average, changing facilities have showers, parking on match day can be congested.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Site name: London Road, Wrentham				
Football			Cricket	Hockey/rugby/other
Snr	Jnr	Mini		
1				
Teams			Leagues	
Wrentham			L&D Saturday	

Assessment
This is a single pitch site, with pitch quality described as average. There is evidence of occasional water-logging. There are changing and parking facilities available.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Bowls

Solebay Bowls Club

Halesworth Road, Reydon

Solebay Bowls Club is a private facility. The club incorporates an indoor and outdoor section. The outdoor section has 150 members for the one outdoor green. The outdoor green is described by users as of a very good standard and is not overplayed. There is one male and one female changing room although they are in need of refurbishment. There are no showers, no vandalism and parking is inadequate.

Tennis

Southwold Tennis Club

There are three (red shale) tennis courts available for public hire in Southwold, only two are able to accommodate league based competitive play. It is recognised that the courts need resurfacing and this work is currently being undertaken. Courts are not floodlit.

Users report no difficulty in accessing courts at peak times and available changing is adequate. The courts are subject to some unauthorised use.

The Club reports that it would grow if better quality courts were available. In the last two years a number of players have been lost because of individuals concerns about the quality of facilities. Future plans include completing court improvement work and promoting junior development. At the moment there are no structured or formal links with schools.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Halesworth

Halesworth is taken to include Halesworth, Blyford, Brampton, Holton, Sotherton, Spexhall, Stoven, Westhall and Wissett. Based on Suffolk County Council 1998 estimates the population is assumed to be 6,850.

Summary of quantitative analysis

Senior football

There is no significant shortfall. The existing pitch at Dairy Hill would benefit from deep drainage improvement. The Basley Pitch (Bramfield Road) has very poor drainage and is, at the moment, use by Norwich Road Rangers for training only.

Junior football

In line with relocation of hockey to a ATP, a junior pitch could be developed on the Dairy Hill site, complementing club development work and demand from unauthorised use.

Mini soccer

An additional mini soccer pitch should be considered on the Dairy Hill site. *Rugby* - no significant shortfall

Cricket - No significant shortfall.

Hockey - Dependent on governing body support, the Halesworth Middle School site should be considered for development of an ATP. (A presumption is made in shortfall calculations that a Halesworth ATP can, within the wider strategic context, be justified).

Tennis - Good existing facilities. *Bowls* - No significant shortfall.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Football

Site name: Westhall village				
Football			Cricket	Hockey/rugby/other
Snr	Jnr	Mini		
1				
Teams			Leagues	
Orientals FC			L&D Saturday	
Westhall FC			L&D Saturday	

Assessment

The quality of the pitch is average/poor as evidence suggests that it suffers from waterlogging. There are no changing facilities at the pitch, therefore, teams use the village hall, where showers are available. Parking is not a problem on this site.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Site name: Dairy Hill					
Football			Cricket	Hockey/rugby/other	
Snr	Jnr	Mini			
1			1 pitch	1 x grass hockey	
Teams			Leagues		
Halesworth Town FC			Ipswich & District		
Norwich Road Rangers JFC U8,U9 & U16			Norfolk and Suffolk League.		

Assessment
<p>All pitches are described as of good quality, although, there is an occasional problem with waterlogging. There are also signs of overplay toward the end of the season. Changing facilities are good, provided as part of a club pavilion. The age and construction of the pavilion is likely to demand significant maintenance investment in the next two years.</p> <p>Adequate car parking is available.</p>

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Site name: Halesworth Road, Spexhall				
Football		Cricket		Hockey/rugby/other
Snr	Jnr	Mini		
	1			
Teams		Leagues		
Spexhall		L&D Saturday		
Norwich Road Rangers JFC U14				

Assessment
A single pitch site with minimal demand. Only one team plays there. Pitch quality is good. Changing facilities are described as very poor with no hot or cold water.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Hockey (see also page 27)

Waveney HC is based at Dairy Hill. It runs two adult sides, a senior men's 1st team in the Crowe Insurance League and a vets. team playing friendly matches. Its home base is Halesworth. The 1st team plays at Kirkley High School and training at Sir John Leman School in Beccles. The vets. play at the home ground on grass at Dairy Hill in Halesworth.

It is concerned that all first team matches must be played away from the Club's base at the Kirkley High School ATP. The Club is generally unhappy at having to travel to Kirkley to play matches and would be likely to relocate except to a pitch nearer to Halesworth. Similarly it would be unlikely to use additional training time at Kirkley if it became available.

Access to artificial turf pitches (ATPs) is, in general, an important issue for hockey clubs. It is of increasing importance for Waveney HC, which reports that even its vets team, which is recognised as being strong and successful, is now finding it difficult to sustain a full fixture schedule on the Dairy Hill grass pitch. Many vets teams are reluctant to play on grass.

With the exception of Waveney Vets. and Beccles Ladies, all competitive, community based hockey in Waveney is played on artificial turf.

There is some evidence to suggest that a second ATP could be accommodated in the District in or around Halesworth. At the moment Waveney Men, play all matches, and run training sessions, at Kirkley High School. Despite its best efforts, the remote playing venue in this case appears to be undermining the sustainability of the Club, which is struggling to maintain its youth and veterans section on its existing grass pitch.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Bowls

Halesworth Angel Bowls Club

Dairy Hill

Halesworth

This is a members club but the public is encouraged to use the green. There are 75 members (male and female) and there are 8 junior members. There is one green, which is not full size, although it has a good quality, playing surface. There are changing rooms but no toilets. An application has been made for an extension to the pavilion. There is no vandalism and parking is only a problem if it rains because the car park is on grass.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Tennis

Halesworth Tennis Club

Dairy Hill

There are two mixed teams. There are 25 male, 25 female, 15 junior member and 30 family members. The courts are part of a complex owned by Halesworth Playing Field Association. The courts are all weather tarmac and are in an excellent condition. There are no changing facilities although there is a pavilion, which has, showers (not used).

There is a seating area for spectators and security is reported to be 'adequate' with a password system in operation for members. Fencing is adequate with enclosed courts and there is floodlighting. Parking is adequate and there is no problem with illegal use. There has been a small amount of vandalism (broken window, stones thrown on court) but generally it is not a problem.

Weekday evenings are identified as periods of highest demand although even during these periods Club members report no significant difficulty in accessing courts.

The Club is considering the viability of developing indoor tennis provision and, although it reports considerable interests from local players, at present, no specific plans have been tabled.

The Club runs a junior development programme working with around 10 to 15 young people each week. It is keen on encouraging young players and has well-developed links with the local high school.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

Application of local standards and use of development control

The identification of local standards allows justifiable frameworks to be established for future planning policy. They allow for a more appropriate focusing of policy, generation of realistic guidance and, in relation to playing pitches and formal recreation open space, targeted exploitation of opportunities to establish, maintain and develop the right facilities in the right places.

The value of these standards is increased if they are researched and presented in the context of local sporting structure, sports development and community generated activities. Although, most pitches are owned by local authorities, most activity is generated and managed through the voluntary sector, which perceives the 'facility' as a means to an end. Imaginative use of development control to improve the quality, capacity and accessibility of facilities should be given consideration.

While the needs of residents and user groups varies dependent upon age, gender and income, the practical delivery of accessibility must also be well thought-out. The provision of mini soccer centres may be appropriate locally or within walking distance of where young people live. Their location must also recognise the 'delivery' club or league infrastructure, which may be seeking more centralised venues where sports development, coaching and security can be effectively controlled. Similarly provision of dedicated but isolated venues for girls and women's football may be less attractive than busier venues with well specified and segregated changing facilities. It should be noted that most adult men's football teams draw their members from a relatively wide catchment and are often willing to travel some distance to a home venue if good quality playing surfaces and changing rooms can be guaranteed.

In the Waveney context, planning policy and triggers for its implementation should take account of specific requirements at a very local, community or district level. The qualitative context provided in this report is an attempt to assist this.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

The information below is a summary of the application of planning policy.

Liverpool City Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
Generally the development policy applies in schemes of 200 plus housing units.	Greater than 20 sq. m. of open space or dwelling.	In smaller schemes a commuted sum is required to enhance existing nearby open space.

Bath & N.E Somerset District Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
50 housing units + required to provide a Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP)	NPFA six acre standard	Section 106 Agreement. A commuted maintenance sum if a public open space is likely to serve the development only; 10 years if dedicated to the Parish Council.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Derby City Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
<p>10 units.</p> <p>100 plus units will require major open space (2000 sq.m. of play area and 1500 sq.m. of passive recreation per 100 dwellings.</p>	<p>NPFA (own hierarchy of parks neighbourhood, district and city parks); requirement per dwelling: active play areas within housing developments 35 sq. m; new parks (off site) 60 sq. m. - the latter is not normally for sites less than 4ha.</p>	<p>Section 106 Agreement. A 10 years commuted maintenance sum for small areas of benefit to the development only.</p>

Carlisle City Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
<p>40 plus (family) dwellings; developments greater than 5ha,</p>	<p>0.1 ha of sports ground per ha required. 150 sq. m. per ha of outdoor play space 270 sq. m. per ha of informal play space.</p>	<p>Legal agreement and commuted maintenance sum for off site provision; 10 years commuted maintenance sum where play space is to be adopted; smaller sites are expected to contribute to the provision of play space via the commuted maintenance sum if there is a local deficiency.</p>

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Leeds City Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control
0.2 ha for every 50 dwellings or in planning permission outline approximately 10% of the total site area.	1. Local amenity space (including the children's play scheme) of 0.2 ha for every 50 dwellings. 2. Local recreation areas (including informal recreation and the needs of older children and adults) of 2.8 ha within 400m of dwellings; 3. Neighbourhood and District Parks of 1.2 ha within 800 m; 4. Major Parks are those providing for the city as a whole.	The commuted maintenance sum is usually for a 10-year period secured by a planning obligation.

Norwich City Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
For 10 units and above, but for smaller sites a commuted maintenance sum for off site provision is acceptable.	7.5 sq. m. of public open space for each child bed space; there must be children's play space within 200 m of all Dwellings Local amenity areas, for adults and youths with children's play space for older children within 400 m. A Neighbourhood Park must be within 400 m. Informal open space, that is non-play, is calculated at 4 acres for every 1000 people.	Section 106 Agreement is the general rule. The Supplementary Planning Guidance refers to 15 years of the commuted maintenance sum.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

St Albans District Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
30 to 100 dwellings There have been problems at appeal because this was not defined in the development plan.	For every 5 dwellings toddlers play area of 3sq. m. 100 or more dwellings require 1.2ha for every 1000 of the population of public open space including children's play area.	There is a condition or the Section 106 Agreement that the commuted maintenance sum is not an issue.

Fylde Borough Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
	NPFA is referred to in the development plan; it is based on multiplying (10) sq. m each bedroom/dwelling, for example, 32 sq. m. for each 3-bedroom dwelling. Where sites are capable of supporting greater than 0.1 ha of public open space, and where there are 100 dwellings and above the council requires its standard to be doubled	The commuted maintenance sum, via a legal agreement, is secured for a wider provision than the development itself.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Northampton Borough Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
This is for 1000 dwellings and above in respect of sports facilities	NPFA	Normally Section 106 Agreement with a 40 years commuted maintenance sum.

South Kesteven District Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
100+ dwellings. More than 50 dwellings or more than 2ha	NPFA but it does reflect local circumstances: 1.6ha for every 1000 of the population or; 40sq. m. for each dwelling for sports pitches or; 0.8 ha for every 1000 of the population or; 20 sq. m. for each dwelling for children's play space.	There is a commuted sum if it is impractical for on site provision.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Sheffield City Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
This is at 5 dwellings and above but does not include nursing homes, institutional uses, etc. The Council's Leisure Services will not normally adopt an informal open space of less than 0.4ha.	Broadly NPFA	Financial contributions in lieu of direct open space provision is allowable (UDP H. 16). The Section 106 Agreement is normally appropriate. All this is normally relevant where sites are less than 1ha.

London Borough of Croydon

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
30 dwellings or above - a number accepted by a Plan Inquiry Inspector.	NPFA. The standard required is estimated from the number of habitable rooms, (which is seen as an estimation of the likely number of occupiers of a site.)	Based on Section 106 Agreements. There is no commuted maintenance sum and no fixed initial maintenance period (of open space by the developer before adoption by the local authority). It is decided on its merits.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Blackburn Borough Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
40 dwellings or above,	NPFA; an informal (non-play) open space of 0.45ha for every 1000 of the population children's play space of 18sq/m public amenity space of 12 sq. m. for each dwelling.	There are normally conditions covering provision and maintenance. There is a commuted sum for 5 years with moves to increase this to 10 years on larger sites. There is an initial maintenance period of 1 year. Alternatives to provision include a commuted maintenance sum for an off site provision.

Birmingham City Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
	NPFA, but includes 2 ha of public open space and 1.2 ha of public or private playing fields/ 1000 pop. Stipulation is for children's play space within 400m of dwelling and (draft) 625sq. m. min area for the children's play space, and 1 acre for public open space	A commuted sum via the Section 106 Agreement for 10 years and a separate legal agreement for dedication. There is a preference for the Local Authority to design or build to its own specifications. If the area is designed and built privately a year's maintenance is required before adoption and a commuted maintenance sum is required to cover 9 year's maintenance.

Peterborough City Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
15 or more dwellings.	There is a local assessment based on NPFA, e.g. a play space or open space within or directly relating to a site 15sq. m/ family dwelling.	There is a commuted maintenance sum via agreement (local Government Act 1972) to cover 15 years. There is no provision for an initial maintenance period. There is a provision of open space via condition or the Section 106 Agreement.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Borough of Poole

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
	<p>Based on the NPFA: 3.2 ha of open space for every 1000 people; amenity open space of 0.8 ha, a casual and equipped children's play space of 0.6 to 0.8 ha and youth and adult play area of 1.6 to 1.8 for every 1000. On site provision if it is capable of accommodating 0.2ha of open space. Otherwise there is an off site contribution</p>	<p>There is a planning obligation and commuted maintenance sum for off site provision if not possible to accommodate on site. The commuted maintenance sum includes adoption and maintenance in the first 2 years. There is no financial contribution required if the facilities are on site.</p>

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Shrewsbury & Atcham Borough Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
30 or more dwellings.	30 to 150 dwellings 0.1 to 0.2 ha of public open space; 1500 to 3000 dwellings 2.5 to 5 ha of public open space; 0.5ha children's play space for every 1000.	A commuted sum via Section 106 Agreement covering a 10-year maintenance period. There is no fixed initial maintenance period, so this is subject to negotiation.

St. Edmundsbury Borough Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
I Local Area for Play (LAP - NPFA category) for every 25 dwellings. I Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP) for every 450 dwellings. I Neighbourhood Equipped area for Play (NEAP) for every 2800 dwellings.	NPFA. 1.2 ha for every 1000 population for sports pitches. There should be 25 sq. m. for children's play space and the same of amenity open space for every dwelling.	With the Section 106 Agreement there is a 10 year commuted maintenance sum if the works are off site. They may also seek a commuted sum for on site works.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Aylesbury Vale District Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
<p>1 minimum of 10 units; 2 600 and above persons play pitches and play areas expected.</p>	<p>NPFA</p>	<p>Section 106 Agreement. 2 years initial maintenance period. Commuted sums may be required where development is too small to provide public open space adequately.</p>

Salisbury District Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
<p>All new housing developments.</p>	<p>NPFA Where sites contain 10 or more units, equipped children's play space should be on site, unless the local planning authority is satisfied that off site provision would be more beneficial.</p>	<p>Section 106 Agreement. There is a commuted maintenance sum for on site provision only for a 20-year period. Otherwise the contribution is via Section 106 Agreement for off site provision enhancement of existing amenity. There is an initial maintenance period of 1 year.</p>

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Wansbeck District Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
<p>With 10 or more dwellings, there should be play areas of 17 sq. m. for each person.</p> <p>With 50 or more dwellings there should be dual play areas or open space to include an area for ball games.</p>	<p>NPFA and local standard</p>	<p>Conditions and Development Briefs. A legal agreement may be used concerning maintenance. An initial maintenance period has not been specified.</p>

Spelthorne Borough Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
<p>50 or more dwellings require the minimum size of the open space to be 0.1 ha. However in BE 18 this requirement is at 30 or more dwellings.</p>	<p>NPFA</p>	<p>Section 106 Agreement, with a commuted maintenance sum for 10 years. There is no fixed period for an initial maintenance period.</p>

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Winchester City Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
<p>All new housing developments should wherever possible provide amenity space on site. Whether recreational space is required on site will normally depend on the size and the nature of the development. Off site contributions are based on the size of the dwellings, that is bedrooms, for example a 2 bedroom dwelling requires an off site open space provision for £1200.</p>	<p>NPFA for children's play space and sports grounds with an additional amount for informal open space. The children's play space is 0.7 ha for every 1000 people; sportsgrounds at 1.7 ha for every 1000 people and general use at 0.4 ha for every 1000 people.</p>	<p>Voluntary developer contribution or via Section 106 Agreement. Section 106 is for the commuted maintenance sum. There is no maintenance element for off site provision as considered contrary to advice in 16/91. There is a 1-year initial maintenance period.</p>

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Stockport Metropolitan Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
<p>There is a requirement for all residential developments. A development accommodating approximately 57 people should provide a Local Area for Play of 400sq. m including a buffer zone.</p>	<p>NPFA. The formula is based on the number of bedrooms; for example a 1-bedroom dwelling requires 14 sq. m for children's play space and 34 sq. m for formal open space such as pitches and parks.</p>	<p>There is an off site commuted sum if the development site is inappropriate to provide the public open space requirement (especially a formal open space); there is a 25 year commuted maintenance sum (considered as one generation) via voluntary payment or Section 106 Agreement. There is an initial payment period of 1 year.</p>

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Salford County Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
<p>For developments of 50 to 200 bedrooms, open spaces are to be provided on site or a contribution to an off site public open space. It is costed on a scheme by scheme basis. 200 and above bedroom spaces (H 11) are to be given 0. 12 ha of open space, 1000 and above are to be given 0.6 ha and so on.</p>	<p>NPFA. 1.5 acres of open space, that is 0.6 ha for every 1000 bedroom spaces of which 2/3 is casual space and 1/3 are children's play space.</p>	<p>There is the Section 106 Agreement for the provision of public open space and a commuted maintenance sum for a 10-year period, following a 1-year initial maintenance period.</p>

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Leicester City Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
10 or more units of family accommodation.	NPFA plus 1.6 ha, that is 4 acres for non-play informal recreation space. This is a total of 4 ha of public open space for every 1000 of the population.	This is the Section 106 Agreement with conditions. The commuted maintenance sum or initial maintenance period is not specified.

Conwy County Borough Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
Sites greater than 20 dwellings with neighbouring open space are expected on site; small developments require contributions for off site provisions, including major open space.	Based on NPFA with additional provision for amenity, passive, space; this is at 3 ha for every 1000 of the population of which 1.7 ha is open space for active use, 0.3 ha for amenity purposes, 0.7 ha of neighbourhood open space for active play and 0.3 ha for amenity space that is considered passive.	The commuted sum is an off site contribution. An appendix to the development plan is set up by a voluntary sum or via the Section 106 Agreement. There is a 25 years commuted maintenance sum, via on or off site. There is a 1-year initial maintenance period.

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Flintshire County Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
<p>15 to 22 dwellings with a minimum of 0.3 acres, that is 1215 sq. m. of formal play areas; 25 units or more, that is 56 sq. m. of play area for each dwelling. In the case of 100 dwellings and above then the first 0.6 acres of play space will equal the formal play space on one or more sites on the development.</p>	<p>The children's play space is 1.4 acres for every 100 dwellings in the adopted local plans. There are 1.5 acres for every 1000 of the population in the draft policy. 4.5 acres are for youth and adult play space.</p>	<p>For small sites that are less than 15, the local planning authority may agree to a contribution to off site provision. This is not normally expected on schemes less than 5 units on self contained sites. Section 106 Agreement and conditions to provide space. There is a percentage of years on the initial maintenance period. There is no commuted maintenance sum.</p>

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Bridgend County Borough Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
<p>Most new developments. There are exemptions occasionally for small sites within areas of good public open space provision, small flats, elderly housing, etc. The minimum size for C. I is 100 sq. m.; C. II is 500sq. m. and C. III is 1000 sq. m.</p>	<p>There is a hierarchy of open space:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Play space for pre school children where the number of dwellings is multiplied by 5 sq. m. 2. Play areas and 3. Kickabout areas for school children where the number of units is multiplied by 10 sq. m. 	<p>Section 106 Agreement or conditions apply. The commuted maintenance sum is based on a 10-year maintenance period for amenity open space and 5 years for an equipped children's play space.</p>

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Torfaen County Borough Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
<p>Schemes up to 1000 dwellings are expected to include informal recreational areas, a children's play space, a small community centre and possibly 1 or 2 play pitches. With 1000 to 2500 dwellings, there will be a larger community centre and other sports facilities such as tennis courts. There is the possibility of the dual use of school facilities.</p>	<p>For every 1000 of the population there will be recreation space of 4 acres (1.6 ha), children's play space of 0.8 ha and amenity open space of 0.4 ha.</p>	<p>There is an initial maintenance period of 1 year. There is a commuted maintenance sum of 2 years or a commuted maintenance sum equal to the development cost and 3 years maintenance cost. This is secured by the Section 106 Agreement.</p>

**WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT**

Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
Generally sites greater than 1 acre.	NPFA. There will be a children's play space of 2 acres and outdoor pitches of 4 acres for every 1000 of the population.	Section 106 Agreement normally. There are off site contributions for small sites in practice, an initial maintenance period of 1 year and a 20 year commuted maintenance sum.

Newbury District Council

Trigger for Development Plan Policy	Standard of open space required	Form of implementation control (e.g. condition, obligation)
At 10 or more dwellings.	REC 1 refers to 3. There are 4.3 ha of public open space for every 1000 of the population.	There are conditions for provision. The commuted sum for maintenance of the open space and for off site provision is secured by voluntary payments and Section 106 Agreement. There is a 10 year commuted maintenance sum.

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

FOOTBALL

Waveney District Council and parish council managed football pitches

	Senior	Junior	Mini
Basley Pitch, Bramfield Road			1
Beccles Rec.Gd. (inc Beef Meadow)	3		
Carlton Colville Community Centre	1		
Corton Playing Fields	2	1	
Dairy Hill	2		
Dip Farm	4		
Earsham Playing Field	1		
Halesworth Road	1		
Kessingland Community Centre	1	1	
Kirkley Recreation Ground	4		
Makings Meadow	3	1	1
Mutford Parish Council (Common Ln.)		1	
New Field, Ringsfield	1	1	1
Normaston Park	4		
Oulton Village	1		
Pinewood Gardens, North Cove	1		
Reydon HS, Wangford Road	1	1	1
Shadingfield (London Road)	1		
Somerleyton Parish Council	1		
Southwold Common	1		
Spexhall (Stone Street)	1		
Station Road, Brampton		1	
Uplands Community Centre	1		
Westhall Village	1		
Total	36	8	3

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

School managed football pitches

	Senior	Junior	Mini
Albert Pye Primary School		1	
Barnby & North Cove Primary		1	
Benjamin Britten School	1	2	1
Blundeston School		1	
Bungay Middle School		2	
Dene High School	1	1	2
Elm Tree Middle School		2	
Elm Tree Primary School		1	
Foxborough Middle School		1	
Gisleham Middle		2	
Harris Middle School (Lowestoft)			1
Kessingland Primary School		1	
Kirkley High School	1		
Lothlingland Middle School		2	2
Ilklesstone St Lawrence		1	
Pakefield Middle School		2	
Pakefield Primary School		2	2
Roman Hill Middle School	1		
Sir John Leman	1		
Warren School		1	2
Total	1	23	10

Waveney District Council leased football pitches

	Senior	Junior	Mini
Crown Meadow, Lowestoft Town FC	1		
Total	1	0	0

Privately owned/managed football pitches

	Senior	Junior	Mini
Old Makings Lesiure Club		1	
Caxton Meadow (Common Lane)	1		
Pontins	2		
Total	3	0	0

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

TOTAL FOOTBALL PITCHES

	Senior
Waveney District Council and parish council managed	36
School managed	7
Waveney District Council leased football pitches	1
Privately owned/managed	3
Total	47

RUGBY UNION

Waveney District Council and parish council managed rugby pitches

	Senior	Junior
Beccles Sports Ground	2	
Reydon Recreation Ground	1	
Southwold Common	1	
Total	4	

Waveney District Council leased rugby union pitches

	Senior	Junior
Total	0	0

School managed rugby union pitches

	Senior	Junior
Sir John Leman School	2	
Total	2	0

Privately managed/owned rugby union pitches

	Senior	Junior
Lowestoft & Great Yarmouth RFC	3	
Caxton Meadow	1	
Total	4	0

TOTAL RUGBY UNION PITCHES

Waveney District Council managed rugby pitches	4
School managed	2
Privately owned/managed	4
Waveney District Council leased rugby pitches	0
Total	10

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

CRICKET

Waveney District Council managed cricket pitches

Beccles Sports Ground	1
Corton Playing Fields	1
Dairy Hill	1
Denes Oval	1
Frostenden Playing Fields	1
New Field, Ringsfield	1
Normanstan park	2
Somerlyton	1
Southwold Common	1
Total	10

Waveney District Council leased cricket pitches

Makings Meadow	1
Bank's Farm, Rumburgh	1
Total	2

School managed cricket pitches

Total	0
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Privately managed/owned cricket pitches

Total	0
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TOTAL CRICKET PITCHES

Waveney District Council managed cricket pitches	10
School managed	0
Waveney District Council leased cricket pitches	2
Privately owned/managed	0
Total	12

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

HOCKEY (grass pitches)

Waveney District Council grass hockey pitches

Beccles Recreation Ground	1
Dairy Hill	1
Total	2

School managed hockey pitches

Total	0
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Private Grass Hockey Pitches

Total	0
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Waveney District Council leased grass hockey pitches

Total	0
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TOTAL GRASS HOCKEY PITCHES

Waveney District Council managed hockey pitches	2
School managed	0
Waveney District Council leased hockey pitches	0
Privately owned/managed	0
Total grass hockey pitches	2

ARTIFICIAL TURF PITCHES

Education sites

Kirkley High School	1
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TOTAL ATPs	1
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TENNIS/NETBALL COURTS

School managed tennis/netball courts

Beccles Middle School	3
Bungay Middle School	8
Bungay High School	7
Denes High School	6
Kirkley High School	6
Lothlingland Middle School	2
Pakefield Middle School	10
Sir John Leman High School	11
Total	53

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

PRIVATELY MANAGED FACILITIES

Old Makings Leisure Club	2
Total	2

Waveney District Council and Parish Council managed Tennis Courts

Beccles Sports Ground	3
Dairy Hill	2
Denes Oval	8
Hotson Road	3
Kensington Gardens	4
Mutford Common	1
Nicholas Everitt Park	4
Normanston Park	7
Southwold Common	3
Waveney Sports Centre	3
Village Hall, Blundeston	1
Total	39

Waveney District Council leased tennis courts

Total	0
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TOTAL TENNIS/NETBALL COURTS

Waveney District Council and parish council managed tennis/netball	39
School managed	53
Waveney District Council leased tennis/netball facility	0
Privately owned/managed	2
Total	94

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

BOWLING GREENS

Privately managed facilities

Caxton Works	1
Conservative Club	1
Kirkly Park Bowls club	1
Library, Beccles Institute	1
Lound Bowls Club	1
Solebay Bowls Club	2
Tallyho PH	1
Bungay Sports Club	1
The Plough Inn	1
Total	10

Public bowling greens

Dairy Hill	1
Honeypot Meadow	1
Kensington Gardens	2
Nicolas Everitt Park	1
Sparrows Nest Park	2
Station Road	1
The Street, Corton	1
Total	9

TOTAL BOWLING GREENS

Private Bowling Greens	10
Public Bowling Greens	9
Total	19

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

TOTAL PITCH COUNT

	Senior	Junior	Mini
Football	47	31	13
Rugby union	10	0	
Cricket	12		
Hockey (grass)	2		
ATP	1		
Tennis/netball courts	94		
Bowling greens	19		

AVAILABLE PLAYING AREA (hectares)

Senior football (100m x 64m)	30.08
Junior football (90m x 46m)	12.834
Mini football (55m x 36.6m)	2.617
Rugby union (110m x 53m)	5.83
Cricket (1.5 ha)	18
Grass hockey (91 m x 55m)	1
ATP (110m x 75m)	0.83
Tennis/netball courts (34.7m x 17m)	5.55
Bowling greens (0.3ha)	5.7

AVAILABLE PLAYING SPACE (Hectares)

Senior football (100m x 64m)	45.12
junior football (90m x 46m)	19.25
Mini football (55m x 36.6m)	3.93
Rugby union (110m x 53m)	8.75
Cricket (1.5 ha)	27.0
Grass hockey (91 m x 55m)	1.50
ATP (110m x 75m)	1.24
Tennis/netball courts (34.7m x 17m)	8.32
Bowling greens (0.3ha)	8.55
	123.6

WAVENEY DISTRICT COUNCIL PITCH AND NON-PITCH SPORT ASSESSMENT

QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

Total population (1998 mid-term projections)	110,820
Required provision based on 1.6 ha standard	177.3
Estimated available playing space	123.6
Estimated available playing space/ 1000	1.12
Deficiency/ 1000	0.48
Overall deficiency	54