

4 Assessment of Playing Pitches

Introduction

4.1 Typologies: This section contains an analysis of playing pitch and related changing facilities provision in Uttlesford. The pitch types examined are as follows:

- a) Adult football pitches.
- b) Junior football pitches.
- c) Mini-soccer pitches.
- d) Cricket pitches.
- e) Rugby pitches.

Methodology

4.2 The analysis follows the PPG17 methodology. As advocated in the PPG17 Companion Guide, an additional assessment specific to playing pitches, Sport England's Playing Pitch Model (PPM) and a methodology for qualitative pitch audits was applied, as set out in '*Towards a Level playing Field - A guide to the production of Playing Pitch Strategies*' (2005). However, to ensure consistent treatment with the other PPG17 typologies, the following minor variations in approach were adopted:

- a) Because the strategy assesses publicly-accessible provision, the analysis is confined to pitches with community access, rather than including any private facilities without public access. The vast majority of pitches without community access in Uttlesford are on school sites, some of which may offer opportunities to accommodate external users in the future.
- b) The outputs from the PPM were used to guide the development of local standards of provision and as with the other typologies, these standards have then been applied to determine current and future needs, rather than just the numerical outputs of the PPM and related material such as Team Generation Rates and the Conversion Rates advocated by the Football Association.
- c) The methodology for the qualitative audit was based upon Sport England's recommended criteria.

4.3 Synthetic turf pitches are analysed separately in the sports facilities section, but where such facilities serve the needs of grass pitch users, for example as a training facility, this has been reflected in the respective assessments.

4.4 The following stakeholders were consulted as part of the playing pitch assessment process:

- a) The county governing bodies of football, cricket and rugby.
- b) All football, cricket and rugby clubs in the district.
- c) All parish councils in the district.
- d) All schools in the district.

Data on teams

4.5 Introduction: The data on local pitch sport teams is detailed overleaf. It was compiled from the following sources and cross referenced with the clubs survey.

- a) The Football Association's 2010/2011 Football Participation report for Uttlesford.
- b) The England and Wales Cricket Board's 'Play-Cricket' database.
- c) The local rugby club website.

4.6 Football clubs: The following clubs and teams currently play in the district.

Club	Home pitches	Adult teams	Junior teams	Mini teams
Ashdon Villa FC	Bartlow Road, Ashdon	1	0	0
Barnston FC	High Easter Road, Barnston	2	0	0
Birchanger FC	Birchanger Social Club	1	0	0
Debden FC	Debden Recreation Ground	2	0	0
Dunmow FC	Dunmow Recreation Ground	1	0	0
Dunmow Rhodes FC	Dunmow Recreation Ground	2	0	0
Dunmow Rhodes Youth FC	Dunmow Recreation Ground	0	7	4
Dunmow Vets FC	Dunmow Recreation Ground	2	0	0
Elsenham Eagles FC	Elsenham Playing Fields	1	0	0
Elsenham Youth FC	Elsenham Playing Fields	0	5	3
Great Chesterford FC	Chesterford Recreation Ground	1	0	0
Felsted Rovers FC	Felsted Playing Field	1	0	0
Fritch Youth FC	Alcott Playing Field	0	3	1
Hatfield Broad Oak	Hatfield Broad Oak Sports Club	1	0	0
Hatfield Heath FC	Calves Pasture	3	0	0
Ickleton FC	Ickleton Village Hall Ground	1	0	0
Littlebury FC	Littlebury Recreation Ground	1	0	0
Lower Street FC	The Old Mill Playing Field	1	0	0
Manuden Junior FC	Manuden Playing Field	0	3	2
Manuden United FC	Manuden Playing Field	1	0	0
Newport Veterans FC	Newport Recreation Ground	1	0	0
Plantation Youth FC	Herbert Farm Playing Fields	1	3	4
Queen's Park Stansted FC	Hargrave Park	2	0	0
Quendon Athletic FC	Quendon Recreation Ground	1	0	0
Radwinter Colts FC	Radwinter Recreation Ground	0	1	0
Saffron Crocus FC	Ickleton Village Hall Ground	2	0	0
Saffron Dynamos FC	Carver Barracks	1	0	0
Saffron Hawks Youth FC	Katherine Semar School	0	1	2
Saffron Rangers FC	Linton Village College	1	0	0
Saffron Walden Town FC	Caton's Lane Quendon Recreation Ground	4	0	0
Saffron Walden Town Girl's FC	Katherine Semar School	0	1	0
Saffron Walden Town Ladies FC	Caton's Lane	1	0	0
Saffron Walden Town Youth FC	Caton's Lane Dame Bradbury School	0	6	3
Sharp One FC	Jubilee Field, Clavering	1	0	0
Spartak 78 Youth FC	Herbert Farm Playing Field	0	7	3
Stansted FC	Hargrave Park	2	0	0
Stansted Junior Youth FC	Mountfitchet High School	0	1	0
Stansted Youth FC	Hargrave Park	0	1	0
Takeley FC	Station Road, Takeley	2	0	0
Takeley Youth FC	Station Road, Takeley	0	2	0
Thaxted Rangers FC	Thaxted Recreation Ground	2	0	0
Thaxted Rangers Youth FC	Thaxted Recreation Ground	0	5	5
Walden Wanderers Youth FC	Wimbish Recreation Ground	0	1	0
White Roding Sports FC	White Roding Sports Club	3	0	0
TOTAL	-	46	47	27

4.7 Football team data: Analysis of the football teams information from the FA's Football Participation report for Uttlesford for 2010/2011 reveals the following:

- a) Trends: The number of adult teams decreased by one (2.3%) between seasons 2009/10 and 2010/11, junior teams remained the same at 47 and mini-soccer teams decreased by one (3.7%) in the same period.
- b) Conversion rates: The proportion of the population from each age group and gender that plays football in Uttlesford in 2010/2011 is tabulated below, with comparative data for the East and England as a whole. The figures show that rates of adult male participation are higher than the national and regional averages, but that adult women, junior and mini-soccer rates are all below the averages. Consultation with the Essex FA suggests that the main reason for the relatively low conversion rates in Uttlesford is exported demand to neighbouring areas with very active youth and mini-soccer leagues:

	<i>Uttl ford</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>England</i>
Adult male	7.4%	6.9%	5.4%
Adult female	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%
Junior male	18.4%	25.8%	21.4%
Junior female	0.4%	2.6%	2.3%
Mni-soccer (mixed)	7.1%	10.6%	9.1%
All forms	6.2%	7.1%	5.9%

4.8 Cricket clubs: The following clubs and teams currently play in the district:

<i>Club</i>	<i>Home pitches</i>	<i>Adult teams</i>	<i>Junior teams</i>
Ashdon CC	Walton's Park, Ashdon	2	0
Audley End & Littlebury CC	Audley End House	2	0
Aythorpe Roding CC	Roundbush Green	5	3
Birchanger CC	Birchanger Social Club	2	0
Chesterfords CC	Great Chesterford Recreation Ground	2	0
Chrishall CC	Jigney's Meadow	1	0
Clavering CC	Hill Green, Clavering	1	0
Clogham's Green CC	Clogham's Green, Leaden Roding	2	0
Dunmow CC	St. Edmunds Lane, Dunmow	4	5
Eastons CC	Little Easton Recreation Ground	1	0
Elmdon CC	Pilgrim's Hill, Elmdon	3	0
Farnham CC	Hazel End, Farnham	2	0
Great Canfield CC	Green Street, Great Canfield	3	0
Hatfield Broad Oak CC	Hatfield Broad Oak Sports Club	1	0
Hatfield Heath CC	The Heath, Hatfield Heath	2	0
High Easter CC	The Street, High Easter	1	0
High Roding CC	Rands Road, High Roding	4	5
Hockerill CC	Beldham's Lane, Hockerill	7	3
Langley CC	Langley Upper Green	1	0
Lindsell CC	Gallows Green, Lindsell	1	0
Little Bardfield Village CC	Churchend, Little Bardfield	2	0
Little Hallingbury CC	Gaston Green, Little Hallingbury	2	0
Mblehill Green CC	School Lane, Mblehill Green	2	0
Newport CC	Newport Recreation Ground	3	1
Radwinter CC	Radwinter Recreation Ground	1	0
Rickling Ramblers CC	Rickling Green	2	0
Saffron Walden CC	Anglo-American Playing Field County High Sports Centre Friends School Wenden's Ambo Playing Field	6	19
Sampfords CC	High Street, Great Sampford	1	0

Stansted CC	Hargrave Park, Stansted Henham Road, Elsenham	3	2
Stansted Hall & Elsenham CC	Stansted Hall	4	6
Stebbing CC	Stebbing Recreation Ground	1	0
Takeley CC	Parsonage Road, Takeley	1	2
Thaxted CC	Bardfield End Green, Thaxted	4	3
Wenden CC	Wenden's Ambo Playing Field	1	0
White Roding CC	White Roding Sports Club	2	0
TOTAL	-	82	49

4.9 Rugby clubs: The following club and teams currently play in the district:

Saffron Walden RFC	Springgate, Chickney Road, Henham	4	10	7
--------------------	-----------------------------------	---	----	---

4.10 Team Generation Rates: Team Generation Rates (TGRs) for each pitch sport in Uttlesford are tabulated below. These compare the number of teams of each type with the number of people in the respective age groups, to take account of the 'active age groups' for each sport:

Adult men's football (16 - 45)	46	13,076	1: 284
Adult women's football (16 - 45)	1	13,884	1: 13,884
Boy's Junior football (10 - 15)	46	3,142	1: 68
Girl's Junior football (10 - 15)	1	3,018	1: 3,018
Mxed Mini-soccer (6 - 9)	27	3,760	1: 139
Adult men's cricket (18 - 55)	82	17,606	1: 215
Adult women's cricket (18 - 55)	0	-	-
Junior boy's cricket (11 - 17)	46	3,590	1: 78
Junior girl's cricket (11 - 17)	3	3,450	1: 1,150
Adult men's rugby (18 - 45)	4	11,679	1: 2,920
Adult women's rugby (18 - 45)	0	-	-
Junior boy's rugby (13 - 17)	10	2,530	1: 253
Junior girl's rugby (13 - 17)	0	-	-
Mxed Mini-rugby (8 - 12)	7	5,000	1: 714

4.11 TGR's in context: Team Generation Rates enable comparisons to be made with national averages (compiled from data from Sport England's Playing Pitches Toolkit) as follows:

		England
Adult men's football (16 - 45)	1: 284	1: 386
Adult women's football (16 - 45)	1: 13,884	1: 14,728
Boy's Junior football (10 - 15)	1: 68	1: 157
Girl's Junior football (10 - 15)	1: 3,018	1: 2,129
Mxed Mini-soccer (6 - 9)	1: 139	1: 399
Adult men's cricket (18 - 55)	1: 215	1: 989
Adult women's cricket (18 - 55)	-	1: 45,938
Junior boy's cricket (11 - 17)	1: 78	1: 381
Junior girl's cricket (11 - 17)	1: 1,150	1: 5,928
Adult men's rugby (18 - 45)	1: 2,920	1: 3,666
Adult women's rugby (18 - 45)	-	1: 19,725
Junior boy's rugby (13 - 17)	1: 253	1: 702
Junior girl's rugby (13 - 17)	-	1: 5,395

Mixed Mini-rugby (8 - 12)	1: 714	1: 1,346
---------------------------	--------	----------

4.12 Team equivalents: In addition to the teams requiring access to pitches to play competitive fixtures, the impact on overall demand from training use can be assessed by calculating the 'team equivalents' that such usage generates. The following information was derived from the survey of pitch sports clubs and the additional team equivalents have been included in the application of the Playing Pitch Model below:

- Adult football: Adult teams in Uttlesford typically train on average once a week in addition to their competitive fixtures. Because of the lack of floodlights at most grass pitches in the district, the facilities used for midweek evening training include sports halls, the full-sized synthetic turf pitches and multi-use games areas. Training on grass frequently involves the use of training 'grids' rather than the pitches themselves. As a result, the additional 'team equivalents' generated by training usage on grass pitches equates to an estimated 7 teams (15% of the training volume), concentrated in the midweek period. Whilst this does not impact directly upon peak demand periods, the wear and tear on some of the lower quality pitches does affect their carrying capacity.
- Junior football: Junior teams typically train an average of once a week and use a similar mix of facilities. The additional 'team equivalents' generated by training usage on grass pitches equates to an estimated 7 teams (15% of the training volume), concentrated in the midweek period.
- Mini-soccer: Mini-soccer teams typically train an average once a week and use a similar mix of facilities. However, because of the nature of the mini-game and the small size of the players, wear and tear on grass pitches is a less significant factor. As a result, the additional 'team equivalents' generated by training usage on grass pitches equates to an estimated 3 teams (10% of the training volume), concentrated in the midweek period.
- Cricket: Clubs typically train twice a week during the cricket season, but this has a negligible effect on pitches because the training involves the use of nets on the outfield or synthetic turf wickets. As a result, the additional 'team equivalents' generated by training usage on match wickets is zero.
- Rugby: Saffron Walden Rugby Club has access to a floodlit training pitch and adult and junior teams typically train once a week on midweek evenings. As a result, the additional 'team equivalents' generated by training usage on match pitches is zero.

Pitches in Uttlesford

4.13 Definition: The pitches included in the analysis are defined as natural turf areas permanently laid out with regulation markings, with the following dimensions for club-level play as specified in Sport England's 'Comparative Sizes of Sports Pitches and Courts' (2011), have community access and are used for competitive play.

<i>Pitch Type</i>	<i>Pitch length</i>	<i>Pitch width</i>	<i>Size including run-offs</i>
Adult football	Max. 120m /Min. 90m	Max. 90m /Min. 45.5m	Max. 126m x 96m
Junior football	Max. 100.6m /Min. 68.25m	Max. 64m /Min. 42m	Max. 106.6m x 70m
Mini-soccer	Max. 45.75m /Min. 27.45m	Max. 27.45m /Min. 18.3m	Max. 54.9m x 36.6m
Adult cricket	20.12m	Max. 36.6m /Min. 3.05m	111.56m x 106.69m
Junior cricket	19.2m	Max. 27.45m /Min. 3.05m	92.36m x 88.41m
Adult rugby	Max. 144m	Max. 70m	Max. 154m x 80m
Mini-rugby	Max. 70m	Max. 43m /Min. 30m	Max. 80m x 53m

4.14 Security of access: A key consideration in assessing pitch supply is the extent to which provision is available for unrestricted community use and subject to formalised access arrangements that cannot easily be rescinded. Sport England has produced a formal classification for access to playing pitches which is set out below. In common with the other PPG17 typologies, this study has focused exclusively on categories A and B.

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

* Where there is a charge, this must be reasonable and affordable for the local community.

4.15 'Quantitative analysis: Details of all pitches with community access in Uttlesford are listed below, with the access category recorded for each'. The information on pitches was compiled from:

- Sport England's 'Active Places' database.
- The survey of town and parish councils.
- The qualitative audit which involved a visit to every pitch site in the district to verify the quantity and quality of pitches and related facilities.

Site	Access category	Adult football	Junior football	Mini-soccer	Cricket	Rugby
Alcott Playing Field	A(i)	1	-	1	-	-
Anglo-American Playing Field	A(i)	-	-	-	1	-
Audley End House	B	-	-	-	1	-
Ashdon Villa Football Club	A(ii)	1	-	-	-	-
Barnston Football Club	A(ii)	1	1	-	-	-
Birchanger Social Club	A(ii)	1	-	-	-	-
Burns Playing Field, Great Easton	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Calves Pasture	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Carver Barracks	B	2	-	-	-	-
Causeway Recreation Ground	A(i)	2	1	1	-	-
Clavering Village Green	A(i)	-	-	-	1	-
Clogham's Green Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
County High Sports Centre	B	-	-	-	1	-
Dame Bradbury's School	B	-	1	3	-	-
Debden Recreation Ground	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Dunmow Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Elmdon Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Elsenham Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Elsenham Playing Fields	A(i)	1	1	-	-	-
Farnham Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Felsted Playing Field	A(i)	1	1	-	-	-
Friends School	B	-	-	-	2	-
Great Canfield Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Great Chesterford Recreation Ground	A(i)	1	-	-	1	-
Great Dunmow Leisure Centre	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Hargrave Park	A(ii)	1	-	-	1	-
Hatfield Broad Oak Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Hatfield Broad Oak Sports Club	A(ii)	1	-	-	-	-
Hatfield Heath Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Herbert Farm Playing Fields	A(i)	2	1	-	-	-
High Easter Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-

High Easter Playing Field	A(i)	-	1	1	-	-
High Roding Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Hockerill Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	2	-
Ickleton Village Hall Ground	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Jigney's Meadow, Chrishall	A(i)	-	-	-	1	-
Jubilee Field	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Katherine Semar School	B	-	3	3	-	-
Langley Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Laundry Lane Playing Field	A(i)	-	1	-	-	-
Lindsell Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Little Bardfield Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Little Easton Recreation Ground	A(i)	-	-	-	1	-
Little Hallingbury Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Littlebury Recreation Ground	A(i)	1	-	-	-	-
Manuden Playing Fields Association	A(i)	1	1	-	-	-
Molehill Green Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Mbuntfitchet High School	A (iii)	3	-	-	-	-
Newport Recreation Ground	A(i)	2	-	-	1	-
Quendon Recreation Ground	A(i)	1	-	1	-	-
Radwinter Recreation Ground	A(i)	1	-	-	1	-
Rickling Ramblers Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Roundbush Green	A(i)	1	-	-	1	-
Saffron Walden Rugby Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	-	2
Saffron Walden Town FC	A(ii)	1	1	2	-	-
Sampfords Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Sewards End Recreation Ground	A(i)	-	1	-	-	-
Stansted Hall Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Stansted Recreation Ground	A(i)	-	1	-	-	-
Stebbing Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Takeley Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Takeley Football Club	A(ii)	1	-	-	-	-
Takeley Recreation Ground	A(i)	1	2	-	-	-
Thaxted Cricket Club	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Thaxted Recreation Ground	A(i)	1	1	1	-	-
Walton's Park, Ashdon	A(ii)	-	-	-	1	-
Wenden's Ambo Playing Field	A(i)	-	-	-	1	-
White Roding Sports Club	A(ii)	1	-	2	1	-
Wimbish Recreation Ground	A(i)	2	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	38	18	15	39	2

4.16 Per capita provision: The number of pitches of each type per capita is as follows:

Pitch type	Pitches per capita
Adult football	1: 2,021
Junior football	1: 4,267
Mni-soccer	1: 5,120
Cricket	1: 1,969
Rugby	1: 38,400

4.17 Security of access: The number and percentage of pitches of each type in each access category in Uttlesford is shown below. It shows that almost 14% of all pitches are in the least secure access category (available for community use but without formal user arrangements), including nearly half of the mini-soccer pitches. Since community use of these (mostly school) pitches could in theory

be rescinded at any time, efforts should be made to secure more formal Community Use Agreements.

	No.		No.		No.		No.
Senior football	25		8		3		2
Junior football	12		2		0		4
Mni-soccer	5		4		0		6
Cricket pitches	9		26		0		4
Rugby pitches	0		2		0		0
TOTAL	51		42		3		15

4.18 Qualitative analysis: The qualitative audit used the methodology specified by Sport England, which generated percentage scores for each aspect of each site. The assessment criteria are based on the methodology in Sport England's 'Playing Pitch Toolkit'. Every pitch site in Uttlesford was visited by an experienced assessor and 'scored' against the following criteria:

- Pitches: The assessment included the quality of grass cover and length, pitch size, safety margins, slope and evenness, dog-fouling, unofficial use, damage to surface, goalposts, cricket wicket protection and line markings.
- Changing provision: The assessment included overall quality, evidence of vandalism, the quality of showers, toilets, security and segregated changing.
- Other aspects: The assessment included the quality of car parking and public transport.

4.19 The full results of the qualitative audit are set out below. Any aspects of the facilities that were rated as below 'average' have been highlighted to identify those facilities where qualitative improvements should be prioritised:

			Other aspects
Alcott Playing Field	78%	42%	48%
Anglo-American Playing Field	92%	91%	51%
Audley End House	77%	38%	44%
Ashdon Villa Football Club	58%	61%	21%
Barnston Football Club	61%	59%	50%
Birchanger Social Club	91%	79%	55%
Burns Playing Field, Great Easton	85%	62%	44%
Calves Pasture	48%	43%	49%
Carver Barracks	89%	77%	25%
Causeway Recreation Ground	59%	95%	90%
Clavering Village Green	61%	63%	22%
Clogham's Green Cricket Club	77%	41%	34%
County High Sports Centre	82%	89%	75%
Dame Bradbury's School	79%	71%	88%
Debden Recreation Ground	73%	63%	53%
Dunmow Cricket Club	68%	41%	59%
Elmdon Cricket Club	75%	40%	50%
Elsenham Cricket Club	78%	44%	48%
Elsenham Playing Fields	62%	82%	44%
Farnham Cricket Club	61%	58%	45%
Felsted Playing Field	67%	47%	67%
Friends School	80%	91%	95%
Great Canfield Cricket Club	71%	55%	45%
Great Chesterford Recreation Ground	58%	97%	75%
Great Dunmow Leisure Centre	60%	77%	74%

			<i>Other aspects</i>
Hargrave Park	90%	55%	62%
Hatfield Broad Oak Cricket Club	67%	48%	55%
Hatfield Broad Oak Sports Club	48%	45%	58%
Hatfield Heath Cricket Club	80%	41%	51%
Herbert Farm Playing Fields	55%	48%	88%
High Easter Cricket Club	81%	63%	44%
High Easter Playing Field	77%	59%	35%
High Roding Cricket Club	62%	43%	39%
Hockerill Cricket Club	92%	79%	88%
Ickleton Village Hall Ground	79%	0%	50%
Jigney's Meadow	68%	55%	50%
Jubilee Field	41%	23%	45%
Katherine Semar School	76%	82%	67%
Langley Cricket Club	81%	43%	65%
Laundry Lane Playing Field	75%	40%	55%
Lindsell Cricket Club	49%	60%	34%
Little Bardfield Cricket Club	78%	33%	46%
Little Easton Recreation Ground	63%	61%	58%
Little Hallingbury Cricket Club	83%	66%	44%
Littlebury Recreation Ground	81%	0%	50%
Manuden Playing Fields Assoc.	71%	69%	44%
Molehill Green Cricket Club	64%	44%	37%
Mountfitchet High School	82%	84%	68%
Newport Recreation Ground	64%	82%	57%
Quendon Recreation Ground	66%	59%	55%
Radwinter Recreation Ground	62%	67%	48%
Rickling Ramblers Cricket Club	77%	79%	58%
Roundbush Green	71%	62%	41%
Saffron Walden Rugby Club	72%	69%	29%
Saffron Walden Town FC	81%	78%	88%
Sampfords Cricket Club	69%	59%	25%
Sewards End Recreation Ground	78%	42%	52%
Stansted Hall Cricket Club	66%	48%	34%
Stansted Recreation Ground	75%	0%	47%
Stebbing Cricket Club	61%	76%	33%
Takeley Cricket Club	77%	81%	49%
Takeley Football Club	91%	79%	88%
Takeley Recreation Ground	74%	21%	44%
Thaxted Cricket Club	73%	41%	51%
Thaxted Recreation Ground	64%	65%	33%
Walton's Park, Ashdon	76%	59%	44%
Wenden's Ambo Playing Field	57%	37%	39%
White Roding Sports Club	81%	63%	46%
Wimbish Recreation Ground	60%	50%	34%



Herbert Farm Playing Fields - showing the sloping pitches

- 4.20 'The table below sets out the number of pitches which were rated as below average and are therefore in a condition that is likely to compromise the quality and quantity of play that they can accommodate.'

<i>Pitch type</i>	<i>No. pitches below 'average'</i>	<i>% pitches below 'average'</i>
Adult football	3	7.9%
Junior football	0	0.0%
Mni-soccer	0	0.0%
Cricket	1	1.9%
Rugby	0	0.0%
ALL PITCHES	4	3.6%

- 4.21 Pitch carrying capacity: Pitch carrying capacity is the number of games per week that a pitch can accommodate. Consultation with pitch providers suggests that an 'average' quality pitch in Uttlesford (i.e. rated 50% or higher on Sport England's qualitative scoring system) can accommodate two games (and/or training sessions) per week without detriment to the quality of the pitch. Below average pitches, cater for one or fewer matches/training sessions per week due to their poor quality. For the purposes of calculating supply through the Playing Pitch Model, such pitches effectively count as less than one pitch, because of their periodic non-availability in the peak demand period. The table below shows the calculated carrying capacity of each type of pitch in Uttlesford:

<i>Pitch Type</i>	<i>Average quality or better</i>			<i>Below average quality</i>			<i>Total effective availability</i>
	<i>No. pitches</i>	<i>Multiplication factor</i>	<i>Effective availability</i>	<i>No. pitches</i>	<i>Multiplication factor</i>	<i>Effective availability</i>	
Adult football	35	x 1	35	3	x 0.5	1.5	36.5
Junior football	18	x 1	18	0	x 0.5	-	18.0
Mni-soccer	15	x 1	15	0	x 0.5	-	15.0
Cricket pitch	38	x 1	38	1	x 0.5	0.5	38.5
Adult rugby	2	x 1	2	0	x 0.5	-	2.0

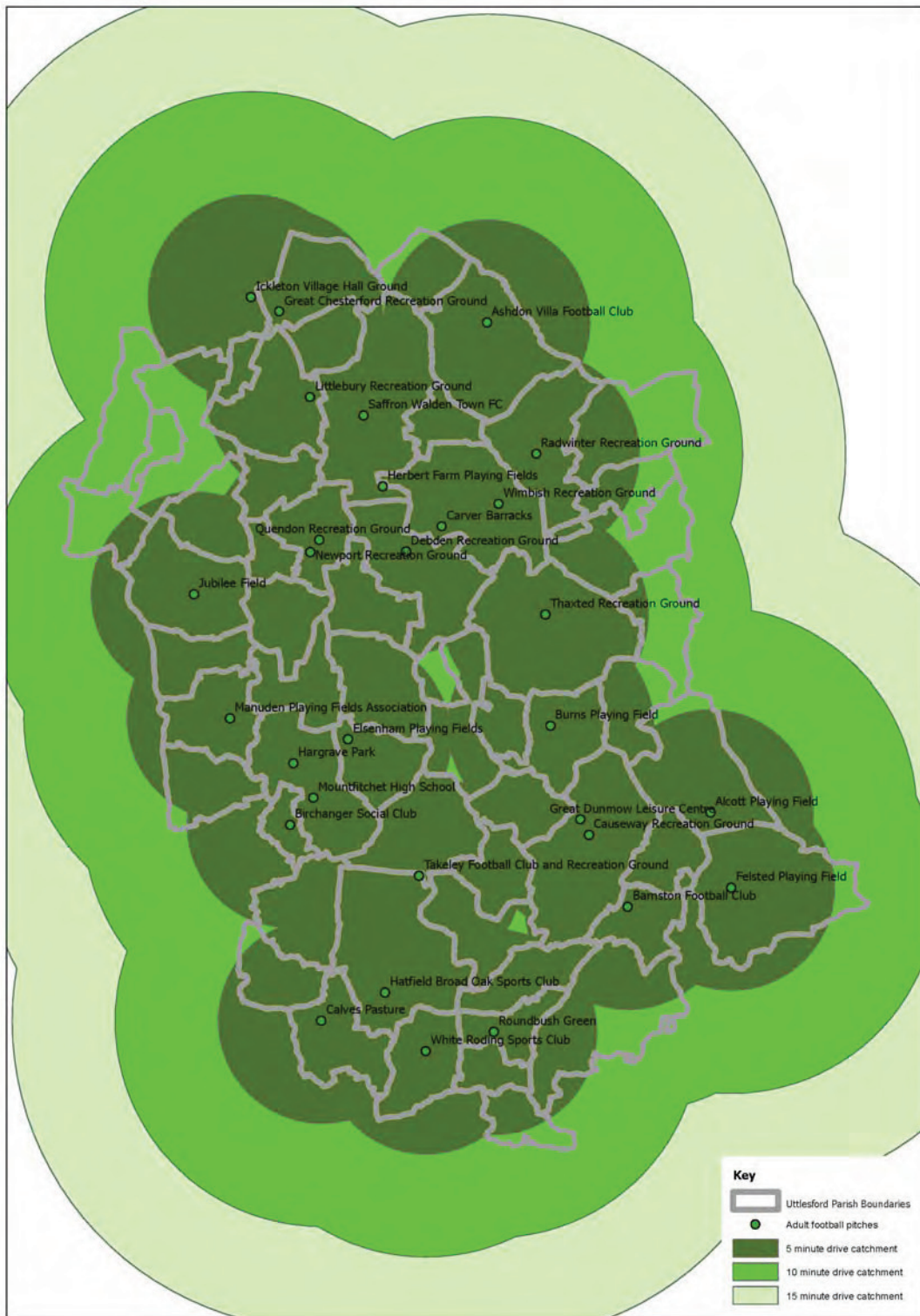
- 4.22 Changing facilities: The quality of changing facilities was assessed. 26 (39.4%) were rated as below 'average'. These facilities collectively serve 32 (28.9%) of the 111 pitches in the district. Poor quality changing provision compromises the overall playing experience and whilst it may be tolerated by existing players, it is likely to have a detrimental effect on attracting and retaining new participants.



Changing facilities at Herbert Farm Playing Fields - showing signs of wear and tear

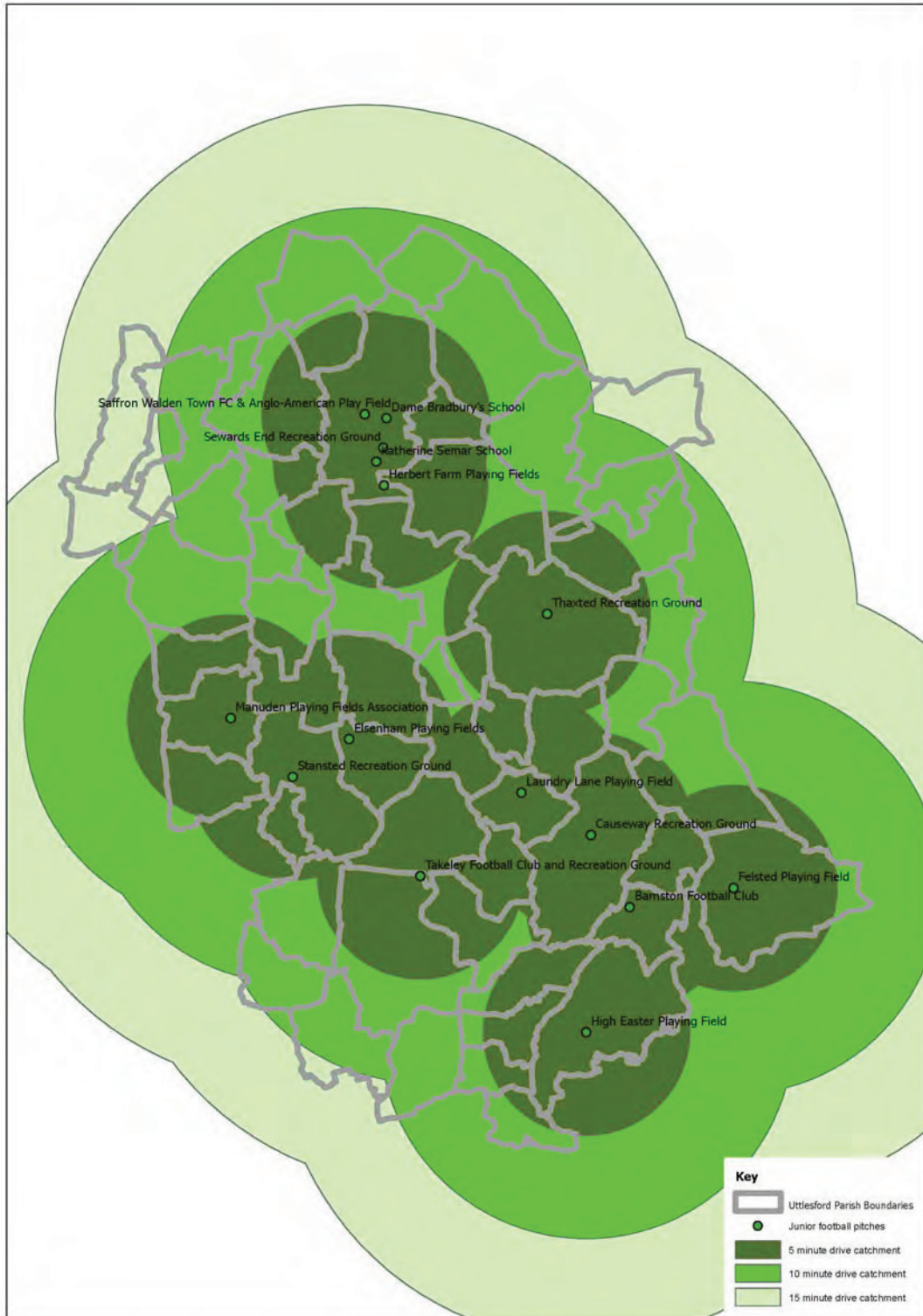
- 4.23 Effective catchment: 76.6% of the pitch users in the leisure centre users survey travel by car and 95.7% of them have a journey of 15 minutes or less.
- 4.24 Patterns of provision of adult football pitches: A map showing adult football pitches in Uttlesford, with 15 minute drive time catchments is below. It shows that the entire population is within 15 minutes drive of a pitch. The five and ten minute drive time catchments are also shown, to illustrate those parts of the district where pitches are relatively less accessible and show that most of the district is within five minutes drive of an adult football pitch.

Figure 4.1: Provision of Adult Football Pitches in Uttlesford



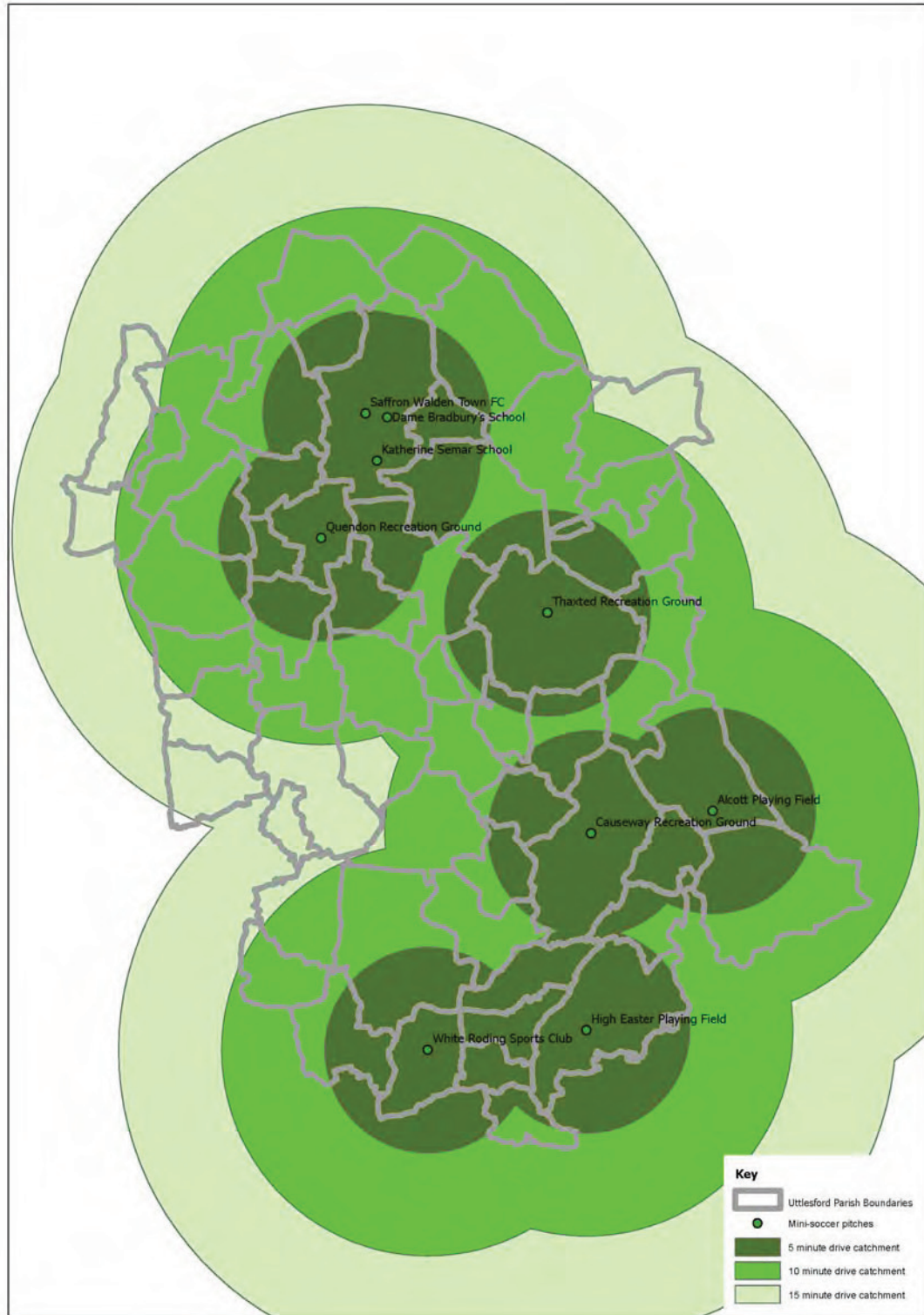
4.25 Patterns of provision of junior football pitches: A map showing the location of junior football pitches in Uttlesford, together with 15 minute drive time catchments is below. The map shows that the entire population is within 15 minutes drive of a pitch. The five and ten minute drive time catchments are also shown, to illustrate those parts of the district where pitches are relatively less accessible and show that most of the district is within ten minutes drive of a junior football pitch:

Figure 4.2 Provision of Junior Football Pitches in Uttlesford



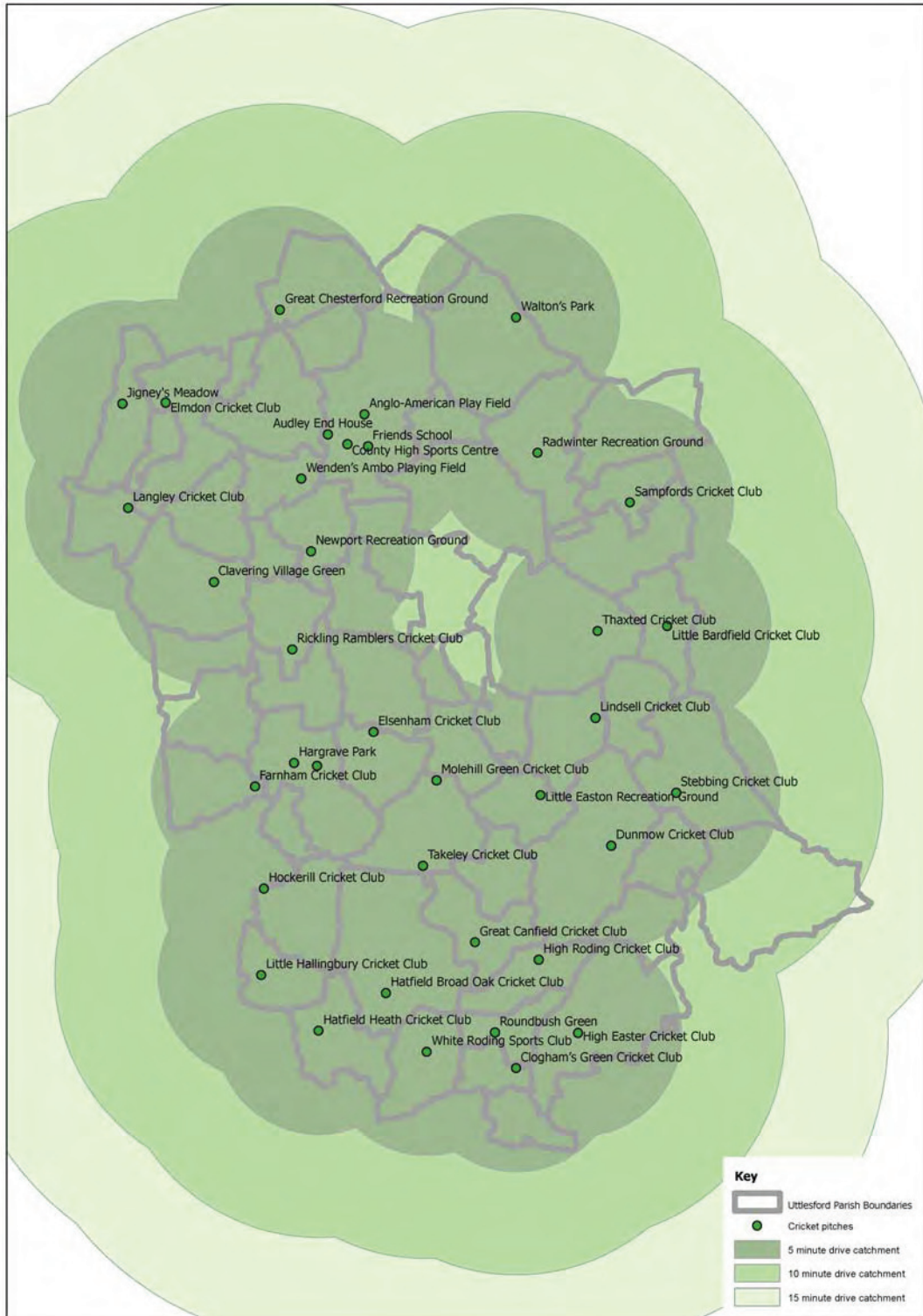
4.26 Patterns of provision of mini-soccer pitches: A map showing the location of mini-soccer pitches in Uttlesford, together with 15 minute drive time catchments is below. The map shows that a small part of the south-west of the district is further than 15 minutes drive from the nearest pitch, although demand will be served by facilities just over the boundary in Bishop's Stortford. The five and ten minute drive time catchments are also shown, to illustrate those parts of the district where pitches are relatively less accessible:

Figure 4.3: Provision of Mini-soccer Pitches in Uttlesford



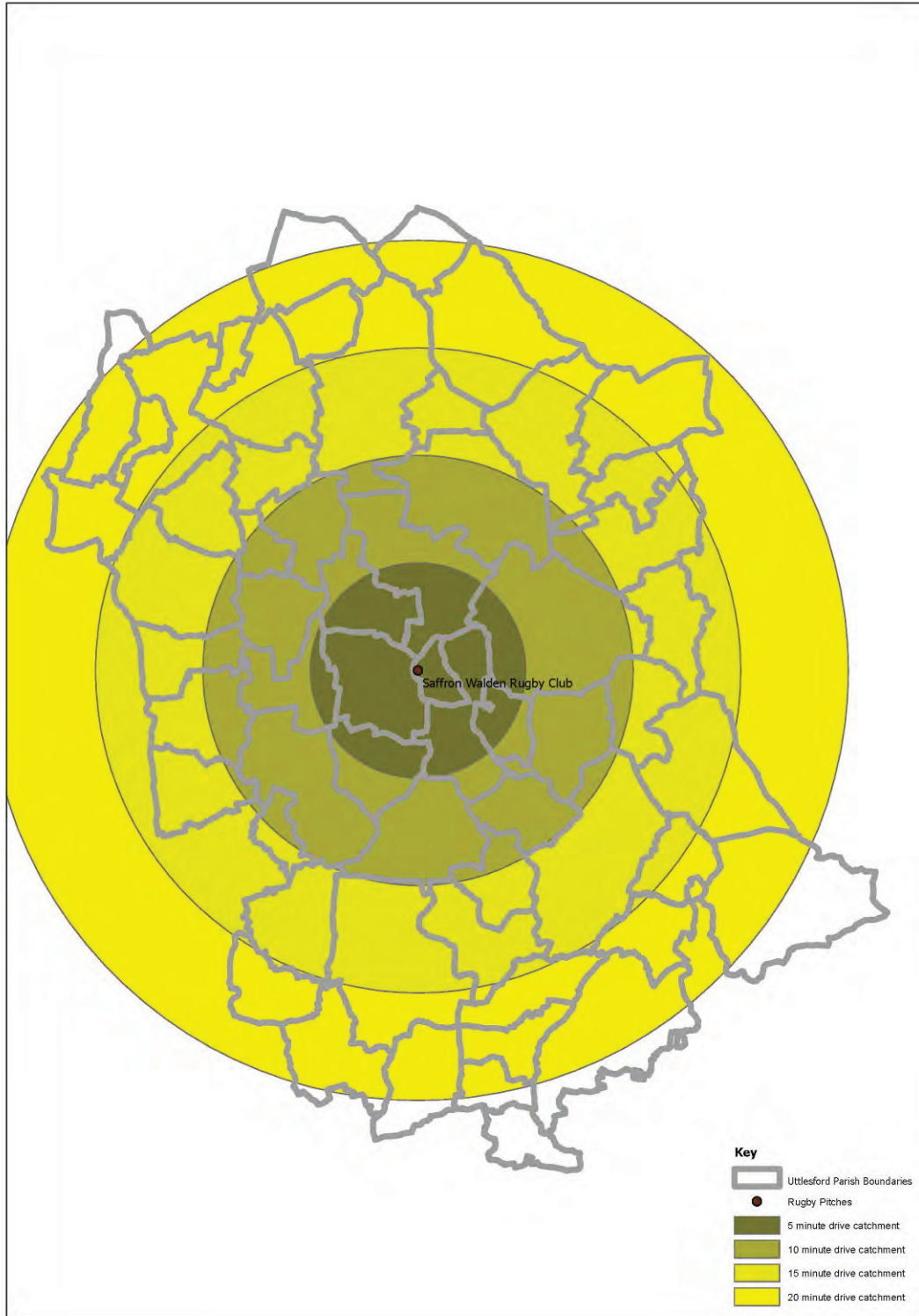
4.27 Patterns of provision of cricket pitches: A map showing the location of cricket pitches in Uttlesford, together with 15 minute drive time catchments is below. The map shows that the entire district is within 15 minutes drive of a pitch. The five and ten minute drive time catchments are also shown, to illustrate those parts of the district where pitches are relatively less accessible and show that most of the district is within five minutes drive of a cricket pitch.

Figure 4.4: Provision of Cricket Pitches in Uttlesford



4.28 Patterns of provision of rugby pitches: A map showing the location of rugby pitches in Uttlesford, together with a 20 minute drive time catchment is below. The map shows that only the extreme northern and southern parts of the district are more than 20 minutes drive of a pitch and these areas will be served by provision in South Cambridgeshire and Chelmsford respectively. The five, ten and fifteen minute drive time catchments are also shown, to illustrate those parts of the district where pitches are relatively less accessible:

Figure 4.5: Provision of Rugby Pitches in Uttlesford



The Playing Pitch Model

- 4.29 Introduction: To assess the adequacy of playing pitch provision in Uttlesford, Sport England's Playing Pitch Model (PPM) was applied, in line with its document 'Towards a Level Playing Field: A Guide to the Production of Playing Pitch Strategies' (2003). The PPM involves the following stages:
- Stage one - Identifying teams/team equivalents:* The full list of all clubs and teams in the district are identified and their match and training needs are converted into team equivalents.
 - Stage two - Calculating home games per team per week:* These figures are identified from the above data and include provision for training use of pitches.
 - Stage three - Assessing total home games per week:* These are calculated from the above outputs.
 - Stage four - Establishing temporal demand for games:* This is identified from the regular timings of matches, to identify the periods of peak demand.
 - Stage five - Defining pitches used on each day:* This is calculated by applying the peak demand.
 - Stage six - Establishing the number of pitches available for each sport:* All pitches for each sport in the district are identified and their carrying capacity is calculated by assessing qualitative data.
 - Stage seven - Identifying the balance:* This is done by comparing data generated from the previous six stages.
 - Stage eight - Identifying local influences on demand:* A range of factors are considered to establish whether the 'raw' outputs of the PPM need to be refined to take account of local circumstances that influence demand.
- 4.30 PPM Results: The results of applying the PPM in Uttlesford are as follows:

		Football	Cricket	Rugby	
Stage 1 Identifying team equivalents	Adult male teams	45	82	4	
	Junior male teams	46	46	10	
	Mixed Mni teams	27	0	7	
	Adult female teams	1	0	0	
	Junior female teams	1	3	0	
Stage 2 Calculate home games per week	Adult male games	0.65	0.7	0.5	
	Junior male games	0.65	0.7	0.5	
	Mixed Mni games	0.5	-	0.5	
	Adult female games	0.65	0.7	0.5	
	Junior female games	0.65	0.7	0.5	
Stage 3 Assessing total home games per week	Adult male games	29.3	57.4	2.0	
	Junior male games	29.9	32.2	5.0	
	Mixed Mni games	13.5	-	3.5	
	Adult female games	0.65	-	-	
	Junior female games	0.65	2.0	-	
Stage 4 Establish temporal demand for pitches	Saturday morning	Adult male teams	-	-	-
		Junior male teams	-	13%	-
		Mixed Mni teams	-	-	-
		Adult female teams	-	-	-
	Saturday afternoon	Adult male teams	22%	60%	100%
		Junior male teams	-	-	-
		Mixed Mni teams	-	-	-
		Adult female teams	-	-	-

			Football	Cricket	Rugby
	Sunday morning	Junior female teams	-	-	-
		Adult male teams	51%	-	-
		Junior male teams	15%	37%	100%
		Mxed Mni teams	100%	-	100%
		Adult female teams	-	-	-
	Sunday afternoon	Junior female teams	-	100%	-
		Adult male teams	-	26%	-
		Junior male teams	65%	-	-
		Mxed Mni teams	-	-	-
		Adult female teams	67%	-	-
	Midweek	Junior female teams	67%	-	-
		Adult male teams	27%	14%	-
		Junior male teams	20%	50%	-
		Mxed Mni teams	-	-	-
		Adult female teams	33%	-	-
Stage 5 Defining pitches needed each day	Saturday morning	Junior female teams	33%	-	-
		Adult male pitches	-	-	-
		Junior male pitches	-	4.2	-
		Mxed Mni pitches	-	-	-
		Adult female pitches	-	-	-
	Saturday afternoon	Junior female pitches	-	-	-
		Adult male pitches	6.5	34.4	2.0
		Junior male pitches	-	-	-
		Mxed Mni pitches	-	-	-
		Adult female pitches	-	-	-
	Sunday morning	Junior female pitches	-	-	-
		Adult male pitches	14.9	-	-
		Junior male pitches	4.5	11.9	5.0
		Mxed Mni pitches	13.5	-	3.5
		Adult female pitches	-	-	-
	Sunday afternoon	Junior female pitches	-	2.0	-
		Adult male pitches	-	14.9	-
		Junior male pitches	19.4	-	-
		Mxed Mni pitches	-	-	-
		Adult female pitches	0.7	-	-
Midweek	Junior female pitches	0.7	-	-	
	Adult male pitches	7.9	8.1	-	
	Junior male pitches	6.0	16.1	-	
	Mxed Mni pitches	-	-	-	
	Adult female pitches	0.3	-	-	
Stage 6 Establishing pitches effectively available	Adult pitches		36.5	38.5	2
	Junior pitches		18		
	Mni pitches		15		
Stage 7 Identifying deficits (-) and surplus (+)	Saturday morning	Adult pitches	+ 36.5	+ 34.3	+ 2.0
		Junior pitches	+ 18.0		
		Mni pitches	+ 15.0		
	Saturday afternoon	Adult pitches	+ 30.0	+ 4.1	+ 0.0
		Junior pitches	+ 18.0		
		Mni pitches	+ 15.0		
	Sunday morning	Adult pitches	+ 21.6	+ 24.6	-6.5
		Junior pitches	+ 13.5		
		Mni pitches	+ 1.5		

			Football	Cricket	Rugby
Sunday afternoon	Adult pitches		+ 34.8	+ 24.0	+ 2.0
	Junior pitches		-2.1		
	Mni pitches		+ 15.0		
Midweek	Adult pitches		+ 28.3	+ 14.3	+ 2.0
	Junior pitches		+ 11.7		
	Mni pitches		+ 15.0		



The cricket pavilion on Clavering Green - an attractive facility in a rural setting

4.31 Local influences on demand: To supplement the above analysis, the local influences on demand for each pitch sport is examined below and factored in to the preliminary numerical assessment of deficiency:

a) Football:

Factor	Analysis in Uttlesford	Impact on latent demand
Current frustrated demand	'The area being predominantly rural does not have high levels of participation which is strange because some of its neighbouring authorities such as East Hertfordshire and Chelmsford have very high levels of participation. We put this down to the majority of villages in the district being on the small side so there are often not the numbers of people to grow larger clubs' – Essex FA response to the Uttlesford governing bodies of sport survey (2011). None of the football clubs responding to the clubs survey indicated that they are unable to increase their membership as a result of the non-availability of pitches - Uttlesford pitch sports clubs survey (2011).	There is no evidence of frustrated demand for football in the district.

Factor	Analysis in Uttlesford	Impact on latent demand
Sports development initiatives	The FA has a national target to increase weekly participation in football by 5% between 2009 and 2013. - 'FA National Game Strategy 2008 - 2012' (2008). The number of football teams in Uttlesford decreased slightly between seasons 2009/10 and 2010/11. - FA 'Local Area Data for Uttlesford' (2011).	It has been assumed that the impact of football development programmes will maintain demand for football pitches.
Quality of pitches/facilities	The audit of pitch quality carried out for this study identified that only 6.9% of adult football pitches are rated as below 'average' and this may limit the quantity of football they can accommodate. - Uttlesford pitch audit (2011).	The poor quality of some pitches in the district limits their carrying capacity and this has been factored in to assessments of deficiency.
National sporting success	The high media profile that football enjoys as the 'national game' makes it an attractive option for many young players. - 'FA National Game Strategy 2008 - 2012' (2008). The increased media coverage of the women's game has helped it to overtake Netball as the most popular women's team sport. - 'FA National Game Strategy 2008 - 2012' (2008)	There is no firm evidence that the performance of the national team has specifically influenced participation rates.
Pricing policies	All the football respondents to the pitch sports clubs survey believe that pitch hire charges represent 'good' or 'acceptable' value for money, so there is no evidence that price is deterring use. - Uttlesford pitch sports clubs survey (2011).	There is no discernible impact of pricing on latent demand.
School sport	There is no evidence that the volume of school sport is compromising the ability of schools pitches to accommodate community use. - 'Uttlesford schools survey' (2011).	There is no discernible impact of school sport on local supply and demand.
Long-term impact of mini-sports	Adult and mini-soccer teams both reduced slightly in Uttlesford between seasons 2009/10 and 2010/11. - FA 'Local Area Data for Uttlesford' (2011).	Adult and junior/mini-soccer demand levels appear to be convergent at present.
Lifestyle changes	Changing lifestyles (for example more weekend working) have created a trend where larger pools of players are needed to form a team. The FA recognises this phenomenon and has set a target of maintaining the current number of adult men's teams, despite an overall increase in the number of players. - 'FA National Game Strategy 2008 - 2012' (2008). Many players are prolonging their careers, which has led to the development of small-sided versions of the game for older players. - 'FA National Game Strategy 2008 - 2012' (2008).	Lifestyle changes are unlikely to have any further significant impact upon overall demand for football.

b) Cricket:

Factor	Analysis in Uttlesford	Impact on latent demand
Current frustrated demand	None of the cricket clubs responding to the clubs survey identified that they are unable to increase their membership as a result of the non-availability of pitches. - Uttlesford pitch sports clubs survey (2011).	There is no evidence of frustrated demand for cricket in Uttlesford.
Sports development initiatives	The ECB has a national target to increase weekly participation by 37% per between 2009 and 2013 which if achieved will have a significant impact on demand for cricket pitches. - 'Play Cricket - Making a Difference' (2007).	Demand for cricket is already very high in the district and is unlikely to increase significantly further.
Quality of pitches/facilities	The audit of pitch quality carried out for this study identified that no cricket pitches are rated as below 'average' and as a result are unlikely to limit the quantity of cricket they can accommodate. - Uttlesford pitch audit (2011).	There is no evidence that pitch quality compromises cricket needs in Uttlesford.
National sporting success	The success of the England team in the Ashes Series' in 2005 does not appear to have had a sustained impact on overall weekly adult participation in cricket, which increased by only 0.01% (from 0.48% to 0.49% between 2006 and 2008). - Active People Survey (2008).	The impact of national sporting success in cricket does not appear to have had a significant sustained effect at community level.
Pricing policies	All the cricket respondents to the pitch sports clubs survey believe that pitch hire charges represent 'good' value for money, so there is no evidence that price is deterring use. - Uttlesford pitch sports clubs survey (2011).	There is no discernible impact of pricing on latent demand.
School sport	There is no evidence that the volume of school sport is compromising the ability of schools pitches to accommodate community use. - 'Uttlesford schools survey' (2011).	There is no discernible impact of school sport on local supply and demand.
Long-term impact of mini-sports	The number of junior teams is smaller than the number of adult teams and it is unlikely that when age group participation converts into adult teams that demand for pitches will increase substantially. - Uttlesford pitch sports clubs survey (2011).	It is likely that demand for pitches will remain the same as the current numbers of junior players get older.
Lifestyle changes	The age band by which TGRs for adult cricket are calculated already extends to 55. - 'Towards a Level Playing Field: A Guide to the Production of Playing Pitch Strategies' (2005).	Lifestyle changes are likely to have a limited impact on latent demand.



A good quality pavilion serving football and cricket at Roundbush Green

c) Rugby:

Factor	Analysis in Uttlesford	Impact on latent demand
Current frustrated demand	Saffron Walden Rugby Club identified that the non-availability of pitches does not limit its ability to recruit new members. - Uttlesford pitch sports clubs survey (2011).	There is no evidence of frustrated demand for rugby in Uttlesford.
Sports development initiatives	The RFU is keen to develop 'Leisure Rugby' as a game, to expand its appeal to a wider range of prospective players. - 'The Rugby Union Whole Sport Plan 2009 - 2013' (2009). The RFU has a national target to increase weekly participation by 2% for adult males, 30% for adult females and 30% for 16 - 19 year olds per between 2009 and 2013 which if achieved will have a significant impact on demand for rugby pitches. - 'The Rugby Union Whole Sport Plan 2009 - 2013' (2009).	Demand for rugby in Uttlesford may increase further, but Saffron Walden Rugby Club has some capacity to expand its pitches on adjacent land if necessary.
Quality of pitches/facilities	The audit of pitch quality carried out for this study rated both rugby pitches as above 'average' and as a result they cope with a high volume of play. - Uttlesford pitch audit (2011).	The quality of pitches will not deter participation in rugby in the district.
National sporting success	Adult participation in rugby increased by 0.1% (from 0.46% to 0.56% between 2006 and 2008). - Active People Survey (2008).	National success does not seem to be directly linked to participation increases
Pricing policies	Saffron Walden Rugby Club's response to the pitch sports clubs survey indicated that its pitch hire changes represent 'good' value for money and so there is no evidence that price is deterring use. - Uttlesford pitch sports clubs survey (2011).	There is no discernible impact of pricing on latent demand.
School sport	There is no community use of school rugby pitches in Uttlesford. - 'Uttlesford schools survey' (2011).	There is no impact of on local supply and demand.

Factor	Analysis in Uttlesford	Impact on latent demand
Long-term impact of mini-sports	The RFU is seeking to address the drop-off in participation in post-16 players by increasing numbers by 30% by 2013. If achieved, this will have a significant impact on pitch demand. - 'The Rugby Union Whole Sport Plan 2009 - 2013' (2009).	It is likely that demand for pitches will increase if a higher proportion of junior and mini players are retained
Lifestyle changes	Many players are prolonging their careers, which has led to the development of veteran's competitions for older players. - 'The Rugby Union Whole Sport Plan 2009 - 2013' (2009). The development of 'Leisure Rugby' is likely to attract a wider cross-section of players. - 'The Rugby Union Whole Sport Plan 2009 - 2013' (2009).	Lifestyle changes are likely to have a limited impact on latent demand.



Ashdon Villa FC - Showing the sloping pitch

- 4.32 Localised deficiencies: The districtwide assessment of pitch supply and demand identifies the position across Uttlesford as a whole and the accessibility maps illustrate the geographical distribution of provision. However, in some instances concentrations of demand may lead to localised shortfalls in pitch provision and a 2007 playing pitch assessment of the Saffron Walden area in connection with a proposed housing development identified a significant shortfall of junior football and mini-soccer pitches within the four wards that comprise the town. These findings accord broadly with the findings of this study and emphasise that there is a case for additional pitch provision to be made in the Saffron Walden area.
- 4.33 Pitch development proposals: Whilst there are currently no known development proposals for the loss of playing pitches in Uttlesford, four proposed schemes that would enhance existing provision are planned at:
- a) The Anglo-American Playing Field, Saffron Walden.
 - b) Herberts Farm, Saffron Walden.
 - c) Oakwood Park, Flitch Green.
 - d) A new 4.5ha playing field in Manuden.
- 4.34 Imported and exported demand: Demand imported to, or exported from the district can also affect the adequacy of local pitch provision. In the case of Uttlesford, there is limited evidence from the

surveys of governing bodies and clubs, or the review of playing pitch assessments in neighbouring areas, that displaced demand has a significant effect on supply and demand locally:

- a) Exported demand: Only one team in Uttlesford (Saffron Rangers FC) plays its home fixtures on a pitch outside the district, which suggests that almost all local demand can be accommodated.
- b) Imported demand: Of the neighbouring districts to Uttlesford, only East Herts has a current (2010) playing pitch strategy. This concludes that there are shortfalls in junior football, mini-soccer, cricket and rugby pitch provision in the Bishop's Stortford area and as a result, some limited demand is exported to pitches in the south-western parts of Uttlesford.

4.35 Strategic reserve: Another important consideration with playing pitches is the issue of maintaining a strategic reserve. This allows pitches to be 'rested' on a weekly or seasonal basis, to allow playing surfaces to recover and regenerate. Typically the strategic reserve should equate to a minimum of 10% of the number of pitches required at the peak demand period.

4.36 Analysis of PPM results: The 'raw' data outputs of the PPM and the analysis of latent demand have been qualified as follows, to produce an accurate reflection of the situation in the district:

- a) Adult football: There is a notional surplus of 21.6 adult football pitches during the peak demand period on Sunday mornings. There is no evidence of any significant local latent demand to adjust this figure. However, an additional 10% strategic reserve of the 14.9 pitches needed in the peak period reduces the notional surplus by a further 1.5 pitches to 20.1 pitches.
- b) Junior football: There is a deficit of 2.1 junior pitches during the peak demand period on Sundays. There is no evidence of any significant local latent demand to adjust this figure. The current deficiency is managed through a combination of scheduling back-to-back fixtures on the same pitch and playing matches on senior pitches, neither of which is ideal. The addition of a 10% strategic reserve of the 20.1 pitches needed in the peak period increases the deficit by 2.0 pitches to 4.1 pitches.
- c) Mini-Soccer: There is a notional surplus of 1.5 pitches during the peak period on Sunday mornings. There is no evidence of any significant local latent demand to adjust this figure. The current deficiency is managed through a combination of scheduling back-to-back fixtures on the same pitch and playing two matches simultaneously across an adult pitch, neither of which is ideal. The addition of a 10% strategic reserve of the 15 mini-soccer pitches needed in the peak period produces a precise balance between supply and demand.
- d) Cricket: There is a notional surplus of 4.1 pitches during the peak period on Saturday afternoons. There is no evidence of any significant local latent demand to adjust this figure. However, an additional 10% strategic reserve of the 34.3 cricket pitches needed in the peak period reduces the notional surplus by a further 3.4 pitches, to a notional surplus of 0.7 pitches.
- e) Rugby: There is a deficit of 6.5 pitches during the peak demand period on Sunday mornings. However, this is managed by playing three mini-rugby matches simultaneously across one of adult pitches, playing back to back junior games on the adult pitches and using the training pitch for junior games. The addition of a 10% strategic reserve of the 8.5 rugby pitches needed in the peak period increases the notional deficit by a further 0.9 pitches to 7.4 pitches, although in practice, the existing pitches can accommodate all current demand.

4.37 Taking account of the above qualifications, the effective position in the district at present, based upon the preliminary interpretation of the PPM is as follows:

Pitch type	Effective position	Explanation
Adult football	Surplus of 20.1	The notional surplus of 21.4 pitches calculated by the PPM

pitches	pitches	reduces by 1.5 pitches to take account of the strategic reserve.
Junior football pitches	Deficit of 4.1 pitches	The deficit of 2.1 pitches calculated by the PPM increases by 2.0 pitches to take account of the strategic reserve.
Mni-soccer pitches	Supply and demand balanced	The notional surplus of 1.5 pitches calculated by the PPM reduces by 1.5 pitches to take account of the strategic reserve.
Cricket pitches	Surplus of 0.7 pitches	The notional surplus of 4.1 pitches calculated by the PPM reduces by 3.4 pitches to take account of the strategic reserve.
Rugby pitches	Deficit of 0.9 pitches	The notional surplus of 6.5 pitches calculated by the PPM reduces by 0.9 pitches to take account of the strategic reserve but with scheduling, the existing pitches can accommodate all current demand, so the effective deficit is only that required for the strategic reserve.

Local standards of provision

4.38 Based on the evidence above, the following local standards of provision were set:

Facility	Standard	Justification
Adult football pitches	One adult pitch (1.2ha) per 4,000 people.	Existing levels of provision adjusted for pitch carrying capacity equate to one pitch per 2,021 people. - Quantitative audit (2011). The Playing Pitch Model indicates a current adjusted surplus of 20.1 pitches at the peak period, suggesting that 18.4 of the current 38.5 adult pitches (or one per 4,174) are required to cater for existing demand. - 'Playing Pitch Model' (2011) 126m x 96m is the prescribed maximum size of an adult football pitch with run-offs. - 'Comparative Sizes of Sports Pitches and Courts' (2011).
	Qualitative improvements to ensure that all aspects of all pitches and ancillary facilities rate 'above average' or better.	The overall quality of three (8.3%) of the adult football pitches in the district is currently rated as below 'average'. - Qualitative audit (2011). The overall quality of 26 (39.4%) changing facilities is currently rated as below 'average'. - Qualitative audit (2011).
	The whole population within 15 minutes drive or walk of the nearest pitch.	95.7% of respondents to the leisure centre user's survey travel for 15 minutes or less to reach grass pitches. - Uttlesford Leisure Centre Users Interview Survey (2011). 76.6% of respondents to the leisure centre user's survey travel grass pitches by car. - Uttlesford Leisure Centre Users Interview Survey (2011).
Junior football pitches	One junior pitch (0.75ha) per 3,450 people.	Existing levels of provision equate to one pitch per 4,267 people. - Quantitative audit (2011). The Playing Pitch Model indicates a current adjusted deficit of 4.1 pitches at the peak period, suggesting that 22.1 junior pitches (or one per 3,420 people in the district) are required to cater for existing demand, compared with the current 18 - 'Playing Pitch Model' (2011). 106.6m x 70m is the prescribed maximum size of a junior football pitch with run-offs. - 'Comparative Sizes of Sports Pitches and Courts' (2011).

Facility	Standard	Justification
	Qualitative improvements to ensure that all aspects of all pitches and ancillary facilities rate 'above average' or better.	All junior football pitches in the district are currently rated as 'average' or better. - Qualitative audit (2011). The overall quality of 26 (39.4%) changing facilities is currently rated as below 'average'. - Qualitative audit (2011).
	The whole population within 15 minutes drive or walk of the nearest pitch.	95.7% of respondents to the leisure centre user's survey travel for 15 minutes or less to reach grass pitches. - Uttlesford Leisure Centre Users Interview Survey (2011). 76.6% of respondents to the leisure centre user's survey travel grass pitches by car. - Uttlesford Leisure Centre Users Interview Survey (2011).
Mni-soccer pitches	One mini-soccer pitch (0.2ha) per 5,000 people.	Existing levels of provision equate to one pitch per 5,120 people. - Quantitative audit (2011). The Playing Pitch Model indicates a current balance between supply and demand for pitches at the peak period, suggesting that 15 mini-soccer pitches (or one per 5,040 people in the district) are required to cater for existing demand, compared with the current 15. - 'Playing Pitch Model' (2011) 54.9m x 36.6m is the prescribed maximum size of a mini-soccer pitch with run-offs. - 'Comparative Sizes of Sports Pitches and Courts' (2011).
	Qualitative improvements to ensure that all aspects of all pitches and ancillary facilities rate 'above average' or better.	All mini-soccer pitches in the district are currently rated as 'average' or better. - Qualitative audit (2011). The overall quality of 26 (39.4%) changing facilities is currently rated as below 'average'. - Qualitative audit (2011).
	The whole population within 15 minutes drive or walk of the nearest pitch.	95.7% of respondents to the leisure centre user's survey travel for 15 minutes or less to reach grass pitches. - Uttlesford Leisure Centre Users Interview Survey (2011). 76.6% of respondents to the leisure centre user's survey travel grass pitches by car. - Uttlesford Leisure Centre Users Interview Survey (2011).
Cricket pitches	One cricket pitch (1.2ha) per 2,000 people.	Existing levels of provision equate to one pitch per 1,969 people. - Quantitative audit (2011). The Playing Pitch Model indicates a current adjusted surplus of 0.7 pitches at the peak period, suggesting that 37.8 cricket pitches (or one per 2,031 people in the district) are required to cater for existing demand, compared with the current 38.5. - 'Playing Pitch Model' (2011). 111.56m x 106.69m is the prescribed maximum size of a cricket pitch with run-offs. - 'Comparative Sizes of Sports Pitches and Courts' (2011).

Facility	Standard	Justification
	Qualitative improvements to ensure that all aspects of all pitches and ancillary facilities rate 'above average' or better.	The overall quality of one (3.1%) of the cricket pitches in the district is currently rated as below 'average'. - Qualitative audit (2011). The overall quality of 26 (39.4%) changing facilities is currently rated as below 'average'. - Qualitative audit (2011).
	The whole population within 15 minutes drive or walk of the nearest pitch.	95.7% of respondents to the leisure centre user's survey travel for 15 minutes or less to reach grass pitches. - Uttlesford Leisure Centre Users Interview Survey (2011). 76.6% of respondents to the leisure centre user's survey travel to grass pitches by car. - Uttlesford Leisure Centre Users Interview Survey (2011).
Rugby pitches	One rugby pitch (1.2ha) per 26,000 people.	Existing levels of provision equate to one pitch per 38,400 people. - Quantitative audit (2011). The Playing Pitch Model indicates a current adjusted deficit of 0.9 pitches at the peak period, suggesting that 2.9 rugby pitches (or one per 26,482 people in the district) are required to cater for existing demand, compared with the current 2 - 'Playing Pitch Model' (2011) 154m x 80m is the prescribed maximum size of a rugby pitch with run-offs. - 'Comparative Sizes of Sports Pitches and Courts' (2011).
	Qualitative improvements to ensure that all aspects of all pitches and ancillary facilities rate 'above average' or better.	All rugby pitches in the district are currently rated as 'average' or better. - Qualitative audit (2011). The overall quality of the changing facilities at Saffron Walden Rugby Club is currently rated as 'above average'. - Qualitative audit (2011).
	The whole population within 20 minutes drive or walk of the nearest pitch.	Saffron Walden Rugby Club members typically travel for up to 20 minutes to reach the club. - Uttlesford pitch sports clubs survey (2011). Saffron Walden Rugby Club members typically travel by car to reach the club. - Uttlesford pitch sports clubs survey (2011)

Applying the standards

- 4.39 Introduction: The tables below contain the results of applying the playing pitch standards, including an assessment of future needs based upon the effects of population increases. This has been modelled based upon the 2008-based sub-national population projections (ONS, 2011) which show a projected increase in the district's population to 89,600 by 2028, a 16.7% increase and the additional demand attributable to this is included. In line with recent trends in the 'Active People' survey data, no allowance has been made for any future increases in participation rates in the pitch sports. Where the calculations have generated needs indicating a fraction of a pitch, the number of pitches required has been rounded up to the nearest whole pitch:

4.40 *Adult football pitches:*

Assessed criterion	Assessed position
Current provision	38 pitches (36.5 adjusted for pitch carrying capacity).
Current needs	No current quantitative deficiency (notional surplus of 20.1 pitches). Quality improvements needed to adult football pitches at Hatfield Broad Oak Sports Club and Jubilee Field (Clavering). Quality improvements needed to changing facilities at Alcott Playing Field (Stebbing), Calves Pasture (Hatfield Heath), Felsted Playing Field, Hatfield Broad Oak Sports Club, Herbert Farm Playing Fields, Jubilee Field (Clavering), and Takeley Recreation Ground. No accessibility deficiency. Negotiate secured community access to 'Category B' pitches at Carver Barracks.
Future needs	3 additional pitches. Changing facilities to meet Sport England/governing body guidelines. All aspects of quality 'above average'. Within 15 minutes drive of new developments.
Total future needs	21.5 pitches (18.4 to meet existing demand plus 3 to meet population growth).

4.41 *Junior football pitches:*

Assessed criterion	Assessed position
Current provision	18 pitches
Current needs	4.1 additional pitches. No pitch qualitative improvements. Quality improvements needed to changing facilities serving junior football pitches at Felsted Playing Field, Herbert Farm Playing Fields, Laundry Lane Playing Field (Little Easton), Swards End Recreation Ground and Stansted Recreation Ground. No accessibility deficiency. Negotiate secured community access to 'Category B' pitches at Dame Bradbury's School and Katherine Semar School.
Future needs	4 additional pitches once the existing deficiency has been met. Changing facilities to meet Sport England/governing body guidelines. All aspects of quality 'above average'. Within 15 minutes drive of new developments.
Total future needs	27 pitches

4.42 *Mini-soccer pitches:*

Assessed criterion	Assessed position
Current provision	15 pitches
Current needs	Supply and demand effectively balanced. No pitch qualitative improvements. No qualitative improvements needed at changing facilities serving mini-soccer pitches. No accessibility deficiencies. Negotiate secured community access to 'Category B' pitches at Dame Bradbury's School and Katherine Semar School.
Future needs	3 additional pitches. Changing facilities to meet Sport England/governing body guidelines. All aspects of quality 'above average'. Within 15 minutes drive of new developments.
Total future needs	18 pitches

4.43 *Cricket pitches:*

Assessed criterion	Assessed position
Current provision	39 pitches (38.5 adjusted for pitch carrying capacity).
Current needs	No current quantitative deficiency (notional surplus of 0.7 pitches). Quality improvements needed to changing facilities serving cricket pitches at Audley End House, Clogham's Green CC, Dunmow CC, Elmdon CC, Elsenham CC, Hatfield Broad Oak CC, Hatfield Heath CC, High Roding CC, Langley CC, Lindsell CC, Little Bardfield CC, Molehill Green CC, Stansted Hall CC, Thaxted CC and Wenden's Ambo Recreation Ground. No accessibility deficiencies. Negotiate secured community access to 'Category B' pitches at County High Sports Centre and Friends School.
Future needs	7 additional pitches once the existing deficiency has been met. Changing facilities to meet Sport England/governing body guidelines. All aspects of quality 'above average'. Within 15 minutes drive of new developments.
Total future needs	45 pitches

4.44 *Rugby pitches:*

Assessed criterion	Assessed position
Current provision	2 pitches.
Current needs	0.9 additional pitches No qualitative deficiency. No accessibility deficiency.
Future needs	0.5 pitches. Changing facilities to meet Sport England/governing body guidelines. All aspects of quality 'above average'. Within 20 minutes drive of new developments.
Total future needs	4 pitches.



A good quality junior football pitch at Barnston Youth FC

Summary of playing pitch needs

- 4.45 The table below summarises the additional playing pitch needs, based upon the combined effects of population and participation increases. Where the calculations have generated needs indicating a fraction of a pitch, the number of pitches required has been rounded up to the nearest whole pitch:

<i>Type of provision</i>	<i>Provision in 2011*</i>	<i>Needs in 2011</i>	<i>Extra needs in 2028</i>	<i>Total needs in 2028</i>
Adult football pitches	38 (36.5)	19	3	22
Junior football pitches	18 (18)	23	4	27
Mni-soccer pitches	15 (15)	15	3	18
Cricket pitches	39 (38.5)	38	7	45
Rugby pitches	2 (2)	3	1	4

* Pitch carrying capacity shown in brackets.