

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

| CONTENTS | Page |
|--|-------------|
| <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/> | |
| Glossary of terms | 3 |
| 1. Introduction | 4 |
| 2. Summary of shortfall from the assessment report | 5 |
| 2.1 General | 5 |
| 2.2 Area by area key issues summary | 7 |
| 2.3 Local standards | 10 |
| 3. A strategic framework for pitch and non-pitch improvements | 11 |
| 3.1 Introduction | 11 |
| 3.2 Aim | 11 |
| 3.3 Strategic context | 11 |
| 3.4 Strategic objectives | 14 |
| 3.5 Management objectives | 15 |
| 4. Targets | 17 |
| 4.1 Introduction | 17 |
| 4.2 Development route of pitch provision | 17 |
| 4.3 Generic targets | 20 |
| 4.4 Sports specific targets | 21 |
| 4.5 Education sites | 25 |
| 5. Resources | 28 |
| 5.1 Planning agreements | 30 |
| 5.2 Location of pitch and outdoor sports provision | 30 |
| 5.3 Method of securing outdoor sports provision | 31 |
| 5.4 Maintenance | 34 |
| 5.5 Future recommendations | 34 |
| 6. Action plan | 36 |

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

| | |
|--|-----------|
| 6.1 Priorities | 36 |
| 7. Identifying priorities | 46 |
| 7.1 Criteria | 46 |
| 7.2 Guideline estimated capital and revenue cost | 49 |

List of tables

| Table no. | Title | Page no. | Table no. | Title | Page no. |
|-----------|---|----------|-----------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| 1 | Summary of inadequate pitches and latent demand across the District | 6 | 8 | Funding resources | 28 |
| 2 | North Craven sub are | 7 | 9 | North Craven sub area action plan | 37 |
| 3 | Settle sub area | 7 | 10 | Settle sub area action plan | 38 |
| 4 | Skipton sub area | 8 | 11 | Skipton sub area action plan | 40 |
| 5 | South craven sub area | 8 | 12 | South Craven sub area action plan | 43 |
| 6 | YDNP sub area | 9 | 13 | YDNP action plan | 44 |
| 7 | Summary of local standards | 10 | | | |

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

| | |
|--------|--------------------------------------|
| CDC | Craven District Council |
| ATPs | Artificial Turf Pitches |
| MACAs | Multi Activity Community Areas |
| FC | Football Club |
| PFA | Playing Fields Association |
| RUFC | Rugby Union Football Club |
| YDNP | Yorkshire Dales National Park |
| SSCO | School Sports Co-ordinator |
| DDA | Disability Discrimination Act |
| NYCC | North Yorkshire County Council |
| NGB | National Governing Body |
| WRFA | West Riding Football Association |
| ECB | English Cricket Board |
| YCB | Yorkshire Cricket Board |
| RFU | Rugby Football Union |
| LTA | Lawn Tennis Association |
| NRA | National Rounders Association |
| PESSCL | PE, School Sport and Club Links |
| SSCP | School Sports Co-ordinator Programme |

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

I. INTRODUCTION

Out of the PPG17 typologies, this section of the document is specifically targeted at outdoor sports facilities including all pitches, tennis, netball, crown green bowls, athletics tracks, golf and multi-activity community areas (MACAs). The Strategy has been developed from research and analysis of pitch and non-pitch provision and use within Craven. It follows an Assessment Report, which details provision, quality and usage levels.

Craven District Council (CDC) commissioned the study in December 2003. The principal research was carried out between December 2003 and March 2004.

The Strategy sets out a vision for the next five years in relation to the provision and improvement of pitch and non-pitch sites and associated facilities. The Action Plan recommends a number of high priority projects for the District, which should be implemented over the next five years (2004-2009). It should be recognised that the strategy and action plan is outlined to provide a framework for improvement of facilities. Resources may not currently be in place to implement it, and therefore partnerships and possible sources of external funding have been identified.

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

2. SUMMARY OF SHORTFALL FROM THE ASSESSMENT REPORT

2.1 General

Across the District, playing pitches are provided on over 100 sites. These include CDC parks and recreation grounds, schools and further education establishments, private and voluntary sports clubs and playing fields associations.

There are a total of 124 pitches, including ATPs, across the District. Of these 96 (77%) are available for clubs and teams to book for matches with 69 of these not being at school sites. Almost all of those not available for community use are at schools. 53 of the 124 pitches are either at secondary or primary schools of which 27 are available for community use.

Of the playing pitches which are available for community use:

- 65% service senior, junior and mini football
- 11% service rugby
- 5% service hockey
- 19% service cricket

In addition to this there are 34 tennis courts, 22 netball courts and 14 bowling greens situated on public parks, private sports clubs and at schools. 82% of tennis courts are available for community use. 41% of netball courts are available for community use and 100% of bowling greens are available for community use. Almost all of those not available for community use are tennis and netball courts located at schools.

As well as the above facilities there are five MACAs situated in parks, recreation grounds or schools. The majority of these support training within club structures as well as a valuable recreation resource.

The pitches, courts and greens accommodate over 250 teams across all the relevant sports each week.

For the purposes of analysis, the District has been split into administrative areas. In each area the number and location of pitches and non-pitches considered to be inadequate in terms of quality has been identified. Further to this, the number of additional pitches needed to meet local unmet (latent) demand has also been taken into consideration.

The amount of unmet demand varies in each area and in some cases there is no identified latent demand. The study has identified that provision in the District is meeting current demand, although latent demand has been expressed by a number of clubs.. However, in a number of cases, consultation with sports clubs suggests that

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

if more pitches and ancillary facilities of the right quality were available they would be in a position to generate and run additional teams. Many sites are not used to their capacity because of poor quality facilities or because they do not have ancillary facilities. Further detail on the location of latent demand in relation to capacity can be found in Part 5 of the assessment report and detail on individual sites can be found in Part 4.

The table below demonstrates that, in the majority of cases, unmet/potential demand can be absorbed by improvements to the capacity of other pitches, the notable exception being mini football in the north of the District and senior cricket and junior rugby in the YDNP. For example, there are a number of available pitches (10 senior football) currently not being played to capacity in the Skipton sub area of Craven that could absorb the expressed unmet demand (one senior football). It should not be assumed that improvements to the inadequate pitches (three senior football) will necessarily cater for this demand. Increases to the capacity of existing sites should be undertaken via the programme provided in the Action Plan.

However, this is not intended to be entirely prescriptive. The analysis/information contained in the Assessment Report and Strategy and Action Plan is intended to assist CDC and its partners regarding each proposed action.

Table 1: Summary of inadequate pitches and latent demand across the District:

| Area | No. of inadequate pitches | Latent demand expressed | Available pitches not being played to capacity | Peak football shortfall |
|-----------------------|--|--|--|--|
| North Craven sub area | 0 | 3 mini football | 3 senior football 2 junior football 1 junior rugby | +1 senior football +2.5 junior football -0.5 mini football |
| Settle sub area | 2 senior football 2 junior football | 1 junior football | 4 senior football 1 junior football 4 senior rugby | +4.5 senior football +0.5 junior football |
| Skipton sub area | 3 senior football 1 junior football 1 junior rugby | 1 senior football 1 junior football 1 junior rugby | 10 senior football 4 junior football 1 mini football 1 junior rugby | +7.5 senior football +1.5 junior football |
| South Craven sub area | 2 junior football 2 mini football 2 junior rugby | 0 | 5 senior football 2 junior football 3 mini football 3 senior rugby | +3.5 senior football +2 junior football +3 mini football |
| YDNP sub area | 1 senior football | 1 junior football 1 senior cricket 1 junior rugby | 4 senior football | +3.5 senior football +1 junior football |

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--------------------|
| | | | +1.5 mini football |
|--|--|--|--------------------|

2.2 Area by area key issues summary

The following is a summary of key issues from each of the areas of the District. For specific detail on numbers of pitches, identified inadequacy and shortfall please refer to sections 4 and 6 of the accompanying Assessment Report. Where a 'sufficient' level of provision has been identified, this indicates that no pitches in that area have been identified as of inadequate quality and/or no latent demand has been identified. Conversely, where an insufficient level of provision has been identified this is because one or more sites/pitches have been rated as poor quality and/or are being over-played and/or latent demand has been expressed.

Table 2: North Craven sub area

| Pitch and non-pitch provision | No. of inadequate pitches | Latent demand expressed | Key issues |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|---|
| Sufficient | 0 | 3 mini football pitches, Craven Wanderers FC. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No pitches have been rated as poor – they are either average or good. <input type="checkbox"/> Majority of sites are being played just under capacity allowing for some recovery time. <input type="checkbox"/> There is only one site being played over capacity; Ingleton Middle School. <input type="checkbox"/> Key site includes Bentham Sports Field where a mini soccer pitch and training area is currently being developed. The quality of tennis courts, however, are poor at the site. |

Table 3: Settle sub area

| Pitch and non-pitch provision | No. of inadequate pitches | Latent demand expressed | Key issues |
|-------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Sufficient | 2 senior football 2 junior football | 1 junior football, Hellifield Junior FC. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> A number of sites (i.e. Harrison Playing Field, Lords Playing Field and Hellifield Playing Field) where no sports clubs have been identified as using the pitches for formal games. <input type="checkbox"/> Settle High and Middle School pitches are being played over capacity (taking into account curriculum lessons) even though the condition of the site is good, with the exception of the MACA which is in poor condition. <input type="checkbox"/> A key site in the analysis area is Hellifield Recreation Field where a Football Foundation |

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | | bid was planned to improve pitch quality and the clubhouse. Latent demand has also been identified by Hellifield FC. |
|--|--|--|--|

Table 4: Skipton sub area

| Pitch and non-pitch provision | No. of inadequate pitches | Latent demand expressed | Key issues |
|-------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Sufficient | 3 senior football 1 junior football | 1 senior football, Skipton LMS FC 1 junior football, Skipton Town FC 1 junior rugby, Skipton TUFC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> There are a number of small recreation grounds (Middle Green, Raikeswood Road Recreation Ground, Burnside Crescent Recreation Ground and North Parade Recreation Ground) where no formal team games have been identified. All the aforementioned sites have been rated as either poor or average. <input type="checkbox"/> There is some spare capacity at other sites but again this allows for some recovery time for the pitches. <input type="checkbox"/> Provision of rugby is insufficient where overplay has been identified at Skipton Rugby Union Football Club. The pitches are of good quality but they are being played over capacity. <input type="checkbox"/> Latent demand has been identified by Skipton London Midland and Scottish (LMS) Football Club, Skipton Town Football Club and Skipton Rugby Union Football Club. <input type="checkbox"/> Skipton Lawn TC has gradually declined in members over the last 20 years and is no longer one of the main clubs in Skipton as it once used to be. |

Table 5: South Craven sub area

| Pitch and non-pitch provision | No. of inadequate pitches | Latent demand expressed | Key issues |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Sufficient | 2 junior football 2 mini football | 0 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> There are three sites (Lothersdale Recreation Ground, Cononley Playing Fields and Keighley Road Recreation Ground), which are used as informal sports provision by the local residents. Consultation suggests that the Keighley Road Recreation ground is particularly well used. <input type="checkbox"/> The remaining football sites are being played under capacity allowing some recovery time for pitches. <input type="checkbox"/> Key sites include Bradley Playing Fields and |

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

| | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| | | | South Craven School. The Club at the Playing Fields is currently in the process of installing French drains via funding received from the Football Foundation. The pitches and tennis courts at South Craven School require improvements to the drainage. |
|--|--|--|---|

Table 6: Yorkshire Dales National Park sub area

| Pitch and non-pitch provision | No. of inadequate pitches | Latent demand expressed | Key issues |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|--|
| Insufficient | 1 senior football | 1 junior football, Grassington FC 1 senior cricket, Upper Wharfedale CC 1 junior rugby, Wharfedale RUFC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Playing fields (owned by the PFAs) are not being used for formal sport provision, although they are available to do so, with the exception of Grassington Playing Fields. ❑ Grassington FC highlighted that the senior pitch at their home ground is being overplayed. ❑ There is insufficient rugby provision in the YDNP with Wharfedale RUFC being played significantly over capacity. Matches are also often cancelled due to poor drainage. ❑ The cricket club in the area is also being played over capacity with the square being played on most days of the week throughout the season. ❑ A key site includes the south east side of Burnsall Bridge which is currently used as a venue for an annual event but has the potential to be developed as a multi sport site to cater for some of the latent demand and over play identified. |

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

2.3 Local standards

Within the accompanying Assessment Report, local standards (in hectares per thousand of population) for playing pitch provision are calculated based on the 1991 Sport England Playing Pitch Strategy methodology. This methodology is a local demand based, qualitative assessment, the focus of which is the generation of qualitative local standards. In February 2003, Sport England published its revised playing pitch strategy methodology, 'Towards A Level Playing Field', which focuses on supply and demand analysis, team generation rates and qualitative capacity of sites. These elements of analysis have also been incorporated into this study.

Table 7: Summary of local standards

| Area | Population | Required improvements to existing playing pitch space (ha) | Required additional playing pitch space (ha) | Playing pitch and non-pitch local standard (ha per 1,000) |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---|---|--|
| North Craven sub area | 6, 279 | 0 | 0.14 | 2.82 |
| Settle sub area | 4, 895 | 1.25 | 0.17 | 4.78 |
| Skipton sub area | 18, 921 | 0.31 | 0.16 | 2.52 |
| South Craven sub area | 12, 938 | 0.55 | 0 | 2.31 |
| YDNP sub area | 10, 561 | 0.28 | 0.31 | 2.55 |
| Craven | 53, 621 | 0.41 | 0.15 | 2.71 |

It is recommended that CDC update the qualitative local standards on a regular basis to take into account improvements to existing sites, instatement of new sites and subsequent fluctuations in localised latent demand.

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

3. A STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR PITCH AND NON-PITCH IMPROVEMENTS

3.1 Introduction

The following section provides a framework for Craven and partners to maintain and improve the outdoor sports facilities within the District.

3.2 Aim

The overall aim of the Strategy is as follows:

'By 2009 Craven will have an appropriate distribution and range of high quality pitch and non-pitch sites with associated facilities, which will provide opportunities for participation from all sections of the community.'

3.3 Strategic context

The Strategy supports a number of statutory, corporate and wider objectives. These include:

- *The Department of Media, Culture & Sport 'The Game Plan' and 'A Sporting Future for All Action Plan' 2000* requirement for playing pitch audits and strategies to be produced by 2005.
- The revision of *Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 'Sport, Open Space and Recreation' (Consultation Paper)* requirement for local planning authorities to carry out robust assessments of need and policies for the protection/provision of new facilities.
- *Craven District Council's Corporate Plan (2003-2007)* highlights the Council's aim to conserve the environment and work with the communities and partners to create a prosperous future, deliver excellent services and improve the quality of life for all.
- *Craven District (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) Local Plan* sets out a development strategy for the plan area and contains all land use policies and proposals needed for the future development of the plan area for the period up to 2006:
 - Specific reference given in policy SRC1 refers to the protection of land of recreation and amenity value. The Council will not permit development on existing, publicly or privately owned land of recreation and amenity value including playing fields, allotments, children's play areas, sports facilities etc within housing areas. Exceptions will only be made where alternative provision can be provided, it is clearly demonstrated that the site is no longer required for its existing use, the recreation and amenity value of the site to

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

the local population can be secured or improved through development of a small part, or the site is not of townscape or nature conservation value.

- SRC3 highlights that proposals for formal sport and recreational facilities of an open nature will be permitted adjacent to Development Limits provided the proposal does not adversely affect the character and appearance of the countryside, cannot be located inside a built up area, in respect of buildings exhibits a high standard of design, is accessible by foot, cycle and public transport, or would not result in loss of amenity to neighbouring residents, nature conservation value or architectural or historical importance.
- Dual use of facilities is supported by the Council (SRC4) unless the dual use of the proposed facility will create unacceptable neighbourhood amenity problems or would create conditions prejudicial to highway safety.
- *Craven's Community Strategy (2003-2013)* sets out a common vision of the needs of craven for the next 10 years. These are arranged under five themes three of which relate to the Pitch and Non-Pitch Strategy;
 - Sustainable communities – to develop and support sustainable and vibrant local communities through community based services, improved access for isolated communities and an increased capacity for community self-help and participation within all sections of the community.
 - Good health and social well-being – to enhance the general well-being of the community, through the achievement of improved health, social care and affordable housing, a reduction in crime, and support for quality of life initiatives through culture, leisure and sport.
 - A quality environment – to conserve and enhance Craven's environment for present and future residents and visitors to enjoy, to find effective solutions to waste and pollution, and develop sustainable transport.

National governing bodies of sport (NGB) development and facility strategies

Rugby Football Union (RFU) Facilities Strategy

The facilities strategy has been developed in the context of a number of other national, regional and local rugby plans, the Sport England Lottery Fund Strategy and other policies and documents. It provides a national framework for development under different club typologies.

RFU facility funding is focused on increasing the number of floodlit field turf training facilities, ground floodlighting and pitch and training area improvements. Wharfedale

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

RUFC has been put forward for the Pitch Improvement Scheme and hence have made an application to receive the grant. This will mean that the RFU will make a

financial contribution, of up to £30, 000, if the Club meets certain criteria. This criteria includes forming a girls section, undertaking proactive inclusion development, complete the Seal of Approval accreditation, and complete development plans. Skipton RUFC may be a possible club in the future to receive some funding to install new floodlights.

West Riding FA Facilities Strategy (2003-2006)

A number of strategic priorities for future facility development have been agreed which will address the issues of a shortfall of particular types of facility, limited access and their variable quality. The West Riding FA facility development strategy will prioritise projects which address the following;

- ❑ Provision of additional mini soccer pitches in areas of identified shortage.
- ❑ New grass pitches in areas of identified shortage with specific reference to Bradford and Craven.
- ❑ Artificial grass pitches of the third generation type in areas of identified shortage.

- ❑ Development of school based capital schemes (in conjunction with accredited clubs) where this provides secured access to football facilities.
- ❑ Improvements to the quality of pitches and ancillary accommodation.

New or improved football facilities proposals must be underpinned by a Football Development Plan.

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

3.4 Strategic objectives

The aim will be worked towards by the implementation of the following objectives:

1. Provide usable, accessible and sustainable pitches and ancillary facilities within the District.
2. Seek to ensure that this provision is of an appropriate distribution, quantity and quality.
3. This should support the implementation of related policies and strategies.
4. Meet identified shortfall as outlined in the Assessment Report through improvements to the current pitch stock and ancillaries.
5. The capacity of the current pitch stock to accommodate future shortfall/latent demand will be monitored on an ongoing and regular basis.
6. At a corporate level advocacy work to be undertaken with the Yorkshire Dales National Park to identify possible routes of development particularly where shortfall has been identified in this particular analysis area.
7. Take into account the needs and aspirations of NGBs, leagues, clubs, the wider community and CDC.
8. Encourage, support and develop out-of-hours learning linked to SSCO programme, and partnerships with local schools, which do not have formal community use arrangements to develop structured use of existing pitches.
9. Proactive use of planning powers to quantify and secure appropriate developer contributions for new or enhanced facilities.
10. Work in tandem with the parish councils, PFAs and private/voluntary sector clubs, with regards to securing and developing pitch and non-pitch provision for the use of sport and recreation.
11. Ensure that existing and future provision complies with DDA legislation and is fully accessible for all residents (including juniors and girls).

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

3.5 Management objectives

A number of management objectives should be implemented to enable the above strategic objectives to be delivered. They include:

1. Identify areas of open space that have the potential to contribute to outdoor sports provision. Including education playing fields, parks and recreation grounds.
2. Within a phased programme, improve the quality, security and defensibility of outdoor sports facilities including their ancillary amenities such as changing accommodation and car parking.
3. Use development opportunities and consult with the sporting community and parish councils to identify facility need and increase and/or improve the existing.
4. Increase participation, in particular by under-represented groups, in outdoor sports through sports development initiatives and work with local clubs to produce sports development plans in order to identify and secure facility improvements, appropriate sites for new facility development and funding opportunities. Included in this, increase the number of clubs receiving club mark or relevant NGB accreditation.
5. Develop policy guidance, through the local development framework process, to enable specific local clubs and Playing Fields Associations, where needs have been identified, to implement development proposals.
6. Develop policy guidance, through the local development framework, that would seek the provision of high quality sports facilities in lieu of the loss of existing facilities to meet the consequent suppressed and future demand.
7. Develop policy guidance, through the local development framework, to ensure that where sites may be lost through development or closure of access, that facilities of the same or improved standard are provided in the local area to meet the continued needs of residents.
8. Work with and assist partner agencies (such as the YDNP, PFAs, NYCC) to provide usable, accessible and viable outdoor sports facilities.
9. Identify outdoor sports facilities that are well used but have the potential to increase sports participation levels.
10. Identify outdoor sports facilities that are under used but have the potential to increase sports participation levels and develop such sites to either meet shortfall or provide additional facilities.

**CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL:
PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY
AND ACTION PLAN**

11. Provide support and guidance, to the PFAs, parish councils, and private/voluntary sector clubs to ensure that existing provision and future development conform to DDA legislation and are fully accessible to all members of the community.
12. Work in tandem with the sports colleges and the SSCOs to ensure that community use of schools facilities is appropriate and links with the out-of-hours learning.
13. Sympathetic development of new facilities with minimal displacement of users from existing sites.

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

4. TARGETS

4.1 Introduction

A number of targets have been developed and should be implemented to enable the policy objectives to be delivered. It is recommended that CDC adopt these to enable it to achieve the Strategy's aims and objectives.

4.2 Development route of pitch provision

4.2.1 Development route model

With particular reference to the provision of football pitches, CDC should develop a development route pitch provision model that can be applied to all types of sites in the District. This approach should facilitate the delivery of appropriately specified pitches, servicing all levels of demand. It must recognise demand and supply issues within specific catchment areas.

TARGET 1

Outline a development route of provision, which enables resources to be targeted at sites of strategic importance on a local and district-wide level.

A number of characteristics for each development route are identified. These apply either to site elements that are already in place or, in some instances, are not in place but have the potential to be developed:

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

| Development route 1 | Development route 2 | Development route 3 |
|--|---|---|
| Strategically placed in the District context. Accessible for all residents in Craven e.g. Coulthurst Craven Sports Centre . | Strategically placed in the local analysis area and town context. Accessible for residents within local analysis/settlement area e.g. Bentham Playing Fields Association. | Strategically placed in the local village context Accessible for residents in the immediate locality e.g. Austwick Tennis Club. |
| 15 minute drive-time. | 10 minute drive-time. | 5 minutes or under drive-time |
| Services multi sports e.g. Football, rugby, tennis. | Often services two sports, e.g. football, tennis. | Often services one pitch sport and one or two clubs use as a home ground e.g. football. |
| High quality ancillary facilities with changing room/showers (men's and women's)/toilet/officials room/kitchen/social facilities/car parking. Fully compliant with DDA requirements. | Good quality ancillary facilities with changing rooms/shower (men's and women's)/toilets. Making reasonable adjustments to comply with DDA requirements. | Ideally include good quality ancillary facilities with changing rooms/showers/toilets. Making reasonable adjustments to comply with DDA requirements. |
| Linked to NGB facilities strategies. Clubs have achieved Charter Standard or equivalent accreditation. | Linked to NGB facilities strategies. Clubs have/are working towards achieving Charter Standard or equivalent accreditation. | Clubs currently working towards achieving Charter Standard or equivalent accreditation. |

Reference has been made to the above routes in the action plan where each site has been classified into one of the three development routes.

4.2.2 Development Route 1 and 2

Development Route 1 sites are the largest single-site providers of playing pitches in the District. CDC and its partners should secure and commit significant funding to their improvement. Improvements in the quality of these pitches will relieve pressure on other sites across the District and increase capacity and the adequacy of a large proportion of the pitch stock. Consideration should be given to prioritise those sites highlighted as being played over capacity or under capacity (due to poor quality).

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Development Route 2 sites are smaller than development Route 1 sites. Generally these sites have the potential to become Development Route 1 sites but are often smaller, require higher levels of initial investment, more ongoing maintenance and some pitch infrastructure work.

4.2.3 Development Route 3

Development Route 3 sites are classified as such, because core club infrastructure is already in place or has the potential to be developed. Many of these sites will require capital investment particularly for ancillary facility improvements.

Some of these sites could be considered as sites for junior and mini soccer, which are clearly lacking in the District.

Conclusion

It should be recognised that this model is intended to be flexible to assist with funding priorities. Through investment, sites can be reclassified. It should also be noted that although Development Route 2 sites would generally be considered as local priorities in some instances they may become district-wide priorities. This is likely to be the case in areas which have a particularly low level of provision.

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

4.3 Generic targets

TARGET 2

Regular meetings to be established with Parish Council clerks to ascertain good working relationships and in order to disseminate information between the parish councils and CDC.

TARGET 3

Investigate the possibility of gaining funding for an additional sports development officer role to assist in the objectives, targets and action plan outlined in this report.

TARGET 4

Review action plan and re-run the analysis on a bi-annual basis.

TARGET 5

In line with PP3 of the Regional Plan for Sport, CDC to consider offering 100% rate relief to community amateur sports clubs that contribute to increasing and widening participation in sport and active recreation.

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

4.4 Sports specific targets

It is also important to recognise targets, which have been outlined for specific sports. These targets have been identified through consultation with the sports governing body officers, CDC development officers, clubs and leagues. In many instances the targets for each sport can be incorporated into the targets outlined for education and parks and recreation grounds. The following sports specific targets have been outlined in order to assist the achievement of the objectives:

TARGET 6 – Football

- ❑ Work closely with the football development officer post to fully utilise the ATP at Sandylands for the development of football in Craven and deliver the development plan.
- ❑ Support the Craven Football Development Forum, to facilitate the development of football, including facilities in Craven.
- ❑ Mini soccer centres, linked to local leagues, located strategically within the District should be established to cater for demand, essentially releasing pressure off some of the larger sites and providing specific sites to develop mini soccer.
- ❑ Sites identified under Development Route One and Two, should be improved to increase quality and capacity. This will help to meet current and latent demand particularly for junior football.
- ❑ Support should be provided in outlining the facility development plans of clubs that have achieved or are working towards Charter Standard.
- ❑ Support Hellifield FC in the progression of the Football Foundation bid to improve their facilities.
- ❑ Work towards updating the WRFA facilities strategy as a result of the findings of this report.
- ❑ Football clubs should be encouraged to create action plans, which enable them to access development funds through the FA.
- ❑ Improve the access to courses provided by the WRFA in the District.
- ❑ Support clubs in recruiting and maintaining volunteers in order to develop clubs.
- ❑ Identify sites where there are no formal teams utilising the facilities and investigate the possible developments for the site i.e. could it be converted from a senior pitch to a mini soccer centre.

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

4.4.1 Mini soccer centres

The demands for, and needs created by mini soccer are quite different to those for other age groups (junior/youth/adult) of competitive football. The age groups assigned to mini soccer mean that the level of wear and tear on the pitches is less per match and therefore more games per week/day can be accommodated by one pitch.

Health and safety and child protection issues associated with providing changing facilities on pitch sites where children and adults are potentially playing/changing at the same time are significant.

It is recommended that 'mini soccer centres' are established whereby these issues can be addressed. These centres should meet the following criteria:

- ❑ Site to have at least two to three mini pitches.
- ❑ Site to meet development route 2 changing facility standards.
- ❑ Where sites also accommodate senior pitches/matches, segregation of changing facilities and/or careful scheduling of matches should be in place for child protection reasons.

TARGET 7 – Cricket

- ❑ Each secondary school should work towards provision of at least an artificial turf wicket to ECB standard.
- ❑ All cricket clubs should have access to practice nets.
- ❑ A further grass square should be developed, subject to resources, at Upper Wharfedale, to cater for the Dales Evening League.
- ❑ All private cricket clubs should have covered squares.
- ❑ Cricket clubs should be encouraged to create development plans, which enable them to access funds through the ECB.
- ❑ Improve access to courses provided by YCB, in the District.

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

- ❑ **TARGET 8 – Rugby**
- ❑ Support Upper Wharfedale RUFC and North Ribblesdale RUFC to improve their facilities in order to increase the capacity of the site.
- ❑ Encourage greater delivery of girl's rugby in schools in Craven by supporting school led, pitch and facility development and coaching initiatives, particularly where demand has been highlighted (i.e. at Settle High School).
- ❑ Rugby clubs should be encouraged to create development plans, which enable them to access funds through the RFU.
- ❑ Support the recently established steering group to take on board some of the targets outlined above.

TARGET 9 – Hockey

- ❑ Schools are encouraged to incorporate markings for mini hockey on the playgrounds. These should be colourful and attractive in order to be appealing to young people.
- ❑ Existing full sized ATPs should have sinking funds in operation in order to refurbish/upgrade pitches as and when necessary.
- ❑ Refurbishment of existing pitches should include the following elements:
 - Carpet
 - Fencing
 - Floodlighting
 - Changing facilities

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

TARGET 10 – Tennis

- ❑ Support Skipton Lawn TC in re-establishing as a key club, participating in league games.
- ❑ Work with the PFAs (Austwick and Bentham PFA in particular) to gain funding to re-surface the tennis courts at the sites. Work with Bentham PFA to re-establish club-based tennis activity.
- ❑ Encourage clubs to affiliate to the LTA and subsequently meet club vision accreditation. Support with development work.
- ❑ In consultation with local residents consider the possibility of decommissioning use of tennis sites at Cononley and Keighley Road. Consequently encourage residents to utilise facilities at, for example, Skipton Lawn Tennis Club.

TARGET 11 – Rounders

- ❑ Encourage clubs, if they wish to do so, to affiliate to the NRA.

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

4.5 Education sites

A number of key aims of the School Sport Co-ordinator Programme include:

- To improve the PE and School Sport Programme by establishing and developing links within and between the families of schools.
- To increase all young people's participation in community sport through creating and strengthening links with sports clubs, leisure facilities and community providers.

At the time of the consultation process, the SSCP was not fully established and it was anticipated that a Partnership Development Manager, once employed in Easter, would fully implement the programme by the 2004/2005 curriculum year.

4.5.1 Primary schools

There are some primary schools in Craven that currently allow community use on their pitches. This brings in extra income and increases schools roles in the local community, thus increasing relationships with local families and magnifying community ownership of the schools facilities. However where primary schools do have their own pitches it is important to take into consideration the fact that there will be curriculum use also and pitches will require some recovery time.

TARGET 12

Every primary and junior school should have an adequate quality playground surface (regardless of size) for sports activities with appropriate playground markings on the ground and on walls/fences etc to facilitate cricket and hockey as well as other sports (netball, basketball, short tennis) and general movement and ball skills.

Schemes which, should be considered to facilitate this include:

- England Cricket Board playground markings.
- Youth Sport Trust – 'Zoneparc'.
- DfES Sporting Playgrounds.

TARGET 13

Primary and junior schools which have existing playing fields on site or immediately adjacent should look towards marking out a minimum of one 60m x 40m training grid which can be used for pitch sports (e.g. mini soccer, tag rugby, kabbadi etc.).

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

4.5.2 Secondary schools

A number of schools allow community use of their pitches. The most significant of these being South Craven School and Settle High and Middle School. It is apparent that these facilities are well used, particularly taking into account curriculum use. Consultation with the schools, however, did not highlight any additional demand required, although representatives did specify certain improvements that were needed to pitch and non-pitch facilities.

There is substantial potential for the development of sporting opportunities in the District, particularly with the School Sports Co-ordinator Programme (SSCP) being in place and creating avenues for funding. It is paramount that CDC works with the SSCP in order to fully utilise the facilities available to meet the targets in the PESSCL strategy.

TARGET 14

Continue the development of community use of schools pitches. Provide support, where appropriate in order for schools to achieve effective community use agreements. Improvements to pitches and ancillary facilities to accommodate additional wear and tear, and improvements to site access and security may be required. This must include access to changing facilities, and where not possible access to toilets as a minimum.

TARGET 15

Where opportunities exist, hard-court areas should be converted into floodlit MACA/synthetic turf surfaces. Where they already exist, these should be refurbished if inadequate. These facilities can be expected to accommodate football, rugby, hockey and tennis and should be as multi functional as possible. This should be done in consultation with local clubs and sports development officers to enable more effective community use and locally influenced club development. Priority should be given to schools, which do not have on site playing fields/pitches.

It is important to recognise the commitment, which needs to be demonstrated by schools to increase community access during the evenings and weekends and the revenue implications of hosting this.

**CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL:
PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY
AND ACTION PLAN**

TARGET 16

Support those schools that have existing community use and require improvements to the facilities to enable increased capacity as well improving facilities for curriculum purposes.

TARGET 17

Work closely with the SSCP, once it is fully established, to extend the range of sporting opportunities within Craven DC. This includes taking full advantage of the new facilities at Upper Wharfedale School. Consider the possibility of promoting this site as an 'outdoor sport' school and Aireville School as a 'traditional sport' school.

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

5. RESOURCES

Inevitably the lack or availability of finance is a major determining factor in the development of sports clubs and pitch and non-pitch facilities. Local authority finance has for many years suffered from restrictions. There are, however, various external sources of funding which are available. These are outlined below:

Table 8: Funding resources

| Funding body/organisation | Description | Maximum grant |
|---|--|--|
| Football Foundation | Offers funding through the grass roots programme where the aim is to provide opportunities for anyone of any age, background or ability to participate. Examples of grass roots funding include, changing room improvements, pitch drainage, artificial pitch installation, floodlighting and clubhouse development and refurbishment. The football Foundation will also promote community and education initiatives, to enhance football's role as a positive force in society, to improve social inclusion and to raise educational standards. | Up to £1m although to date the average grant awarded is 65%. |
| Lawn Tennis Association | The LTA's work and investment is based around their three priority areas; clubs, juniors and performance. | Can receive interest free loans but have to be financially viable clubs. |
| Active England | This is a £108m joint programme between Sport England and New Opportunities Fund (NOF) seeking to increase participation in active recreation and sport, via both capital and revenue projects which offer new and creative ways in engaging individuals in physical activity. | No maximum grant – although £50, 000 is the minimum |
| RDA – Yorkshire – Community Investment Fund | All applications must meet the national criteria for the Community Investment Fund. Projects must either increase participation in sport and active recreation or keep people involved in sport and active recreation. | £200, 000 |

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

| Funding body/organisation | Description | Maximum grant |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Developer contribution | <p>Arising from new residential and other development through planning obligations under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act. It is clear from planning regulations that in principle recreational facilities are legitimate recipients for funding through such means. It is increasingly common to secure assistance towards off-site improvements, as well as on-site provision, so long as the beneficiary is related to the development in question.</p> <p>(Please refer to open spaces strategy and action plan for further breakdown of planning objectives)</p> | Dependent on site and scope of development. |
| RFU – Pitch Improvement Scheme | <p>The RFU will make a financial contribution to the improvement of facilities providing the club meets certain criteria. This might include, starting a girls section, undertaking inclusion work, completing Seal of Approval (RFU Kitemark), and completing development plans.</p> | |
| Sportsmatch | <p>The Sportsmatch scheme is funded in England by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) through Sport England. It has been designed to improve the quality and quantity of the sponsorship which grass-roots sport receives in Great Britain.</p> <p>Through the scheme, every pound of ‘new’ money put forward by a business sponsor can be matched.</p> <p>A Sportsmatch award can allow a sponsor to enjoy all the commercial benefits of a sponsorship, whilst contributing only half of the cost. Thus, for each £1 paid by the business sponsor to the organising body Sportsmatch can match this with £1 up to a maximum for any one event or activity of £50,000.</p> | £50,000 |

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

5.1 Planning agreements

The Council will negotiate for contributions to improve, maintain or provide new outdoor sports facilities. These negotiations will be based around an assessment of:

- ❑ Scale of the proposed development.
- ❑ Level of deficiency or improvements required to community facilities within the locality.
- ❑ Whether the need for new or improvements to existing community facilities directly relate to the proposal.

The provision of outdoor sports facilities in terms of legal agreements is set out within the Open Spaces Strategy and Action Plan. This Strategy and Action Plan, however, outlines the recommended approach for CDC to follow in terms of outdoor sports provision.

5.2 Location of pitch and outdoor sports provision

Pitch and outdoor sports provision can be provided either on or off site:

a) On site provision

Wherever possible the outdoor sports requirement should be provided on site, as it is usually the most practical way to serve the recreational need of new housing development. On site provision is an option in areas where:

- ❑ There is a deficiency in the type of outdoor sports provision within the analysis area and settlement.
- ❑ Developments are large enough to create their own demand for facilities and the sum of contributions will be large enough to create a site greater than the following minimum size:
 - Outdoor playing pitches 0.2ha

Thresholds for on site development have been set at twenty dwellings due to the financial contributions needed to meet minimum site requirements. Developers will be required to maintain the outdoor sports provision provided on their sites for a period of twelve months from satisfactory completion, and as a condition to any approval, must enter into a legal agreement with the Council for the future maintenance of the site for a ten year period. CDC will then proceed to distribute this funding to a group or organisation to carry out site maintenance, e.g. parish council, grounds maintenance company.

b) Off site provision

The creation/enhancement of off site provision is an option when:

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

- There is demand in the analysis area and settlement for new provision or the enhancement of existing provision.
- The development does not contain housing, which will create a financial contribution large enough to create outdoor sports provision of the minimum size.

Off site provision can be in the form of new provision of outdoor sports provision or upgrading of existing provision off site. If it is not possible to provide the various types of outdoor sports provision at functional and maintainable sizes and dimensions, then developers may offer a sum towards the new provision or upgrading of existing off site provision by way of a commuted sum. Payment of commuted sums will only be appropriate provided they can be targeted to sites with deficiencies within the same sub area as the proposed development. Fifteen per cent of commuted payments will be set aside for the maintenance of the development and a budget for outdoor sports provision expansion. Commuted sums would be directed to a particular “area leisure development pot” in order to deal with deficiencies in provision within a specific sub area. The “area leisure development pot” approach to directing commuted sums is explained within the methods below.

5.3 Methods of securing outdoor sports provision

The options below provide CDC with a number of choices in terms of achieving on site provision and the collection of commuted sums for off site provision:

a) Section 106 agreements

Entering into a planning agreement in the form of a Section 106 agreement with the District Council is a method of achieving on and off site provision of pitch and non-pitch facilities, to ensure control of the development, maintenance and transfer or ownership of the land to the Council. The provision of facilities should be achieved through a planning agreement where it cannot be achieved through a planning condition.

b) Unilateral undertaking

A legal agreement in the form of a unilateral undertaking is the usual method of payment for small developments where outdoor sports provision is not being provided on site. Details must be discussed with CDC before a decision can take place.

c) Area leisure development pot approach

Where commuted sums are provided by a developer through a legal agreement they will be used to create an area leisure development pot for each of the five sub areas. The pots will allow commuted sums to be spent strategically at a sub area level and

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

therefore deficiencies in access and provision can be addressed according to community need.

In areas of deficiency the 'area leisure development pot' will be used to create new provision at strategic sites. In areas of surplus the pot will be used to improve and enhance current sites.

Contributions must be made towards the maintenance/enhancement of existing sites where there is a surplus of provision in the analysis area, which will not be significantly depleted by the residential development.

Five percent of each sub area leisure development pot should be set aside for the development/partnership work needed for outdoor sports provision development. When a developer contributes to the area leisure development pot they will not be liable to pay the revenue costs of 10 years maintenance. They will therefore pay the capital costs only of the commuted sum.

(Please refer to the Financial Contribution tables in the Open Space Strategy).

5.3.1 Commuted sums

Where new residential development is proposed developers will be liable to pay the costs below to Craven District Council in relation to the number and type of dwellings created. Local standards were used to develop the formulas outlined below. To view a comprehensive outline of the method used to calculate the local standards please refer to the open spaces planning objective guidance (section three).

| | Local Standard | Financial Contribution |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Outdoor sports provision | 2.71ha/1000 m ² or 27 m ² per person | 27m ² *capital and 10 years revenue cost of 1 sqm ² . |

The table provides information on the financial contribution required per dwelling.

| Size of dwelling | Group typology | Cost of new provision |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| One bedroom | Outdoor Sports | 27m ² *capital and 10 years revenue cost of 1 sqm ² . |
| Two bedroom | Outdoor Sports | 54m ² *capital and 10 years revenue cost of 1 sqm ² . |
| Three bedroom | Outdoor Sports | 81m ² *capital and 10 years revenue cost of 1 sqm ² . |

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------|--|
| Four bedroom plus | Outdoor Sports | 108m ² *capital and 10 years revenue cost of 1 sqm ² . |
|-------------------|----------------|--|

5.3.2 *The delivery of commuted sums*

In the past the maintenance of any on site provision, secured through a legal agreement has been completed through the transfer of the Site to the relevant parish/town council or local group. All commuted sums are usually paid to the Council and then transferred to the appropriate group. The transfer of the Site is dependent on the group. This process has been long winded and taken years to complete in many cases. In order to increase the efficiency of the process the following options have been created for the delivery of commuted sums. In both options it is imperative that CDC completes quality consultation with parish councils and local residents to meet local needs.

Option one – The creation of provision (on or off site)

1. On site provision is created by developer funding (unilateral undertaking or section 106 agreement).
2. Consultation should be completed with the local parish council and local residents to create detailed site plans.
3. Ownership of the site is passed to a responsible body, agreed through a legal agreement.
4. Maintenance funds gained from any legal agreement are added to the 'area leisure development pot' to ensure that the site is maintained for ten years and beyond.

Option two – The enhancement and maintenance of current provision

1. No changes are made to the current ownership of the Site.
2. Consultation is completed with relevant parish councils and local residents to create plans on how current provision can be improved.
3. CDC uses the money to fund an enhancement project of the site through their administration.
4. Maintenance funds from the 'area leisure development pot' are used to ensure that the site is maintained. Maintenance of the facility by a responsible body will be ensured through a legal agreement.
5. Consultation with parish/town councils has been completed as part of this study and has been used to inform the process. Regular consultation should be carried out with these groups in order to ensure regular monitoring and review of completed developments.

Where demand is demonstrated for both the enhancement of current provision and the development of new provision, the safety of current provision must be assessed with regards to health and safety guidelines. Sites mentioned within the action plan

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

should be considered primarily. If it is deemed that there is no health and safety risk created by the need to maintain/enhance current provision, funds should be used to create off site provision elsewhere. If it is considered that current provision is unsafe then funding should be used to enhance and maintain existing facilities.

5.4 Maintenance

There are currently over 60 sites that are parish and town council owned in the Craven District. These sites are in a variable condition and maintained independently from each other and CDC.

Further involvement by CDC in the maintenance and management of these sites is needed in order to incur the following advantages:

- ❑ Work could be completed to meet health and safety requirements.
- ❑ Sites could be developed strategically, in order to create new sites where need has been identified and enhance current provision elsewhere.
- ❑ Increase in partnership working.
- ❑ The expenditure of Section 106 funding can be planned and spent efficiently.
- ❑ Economies of scale – low cost services.

The following future recommendations sets out a suggested framework to be implemented by the Council to achieve further involvement in the maintenance and management of parish and town council owned sites.

5.5 Future recommendations

Recommendation 1

It is recommended that CDC set a minimum standard for the maintenance and condition of outdoor sports provision. Information supplied by the National Playing Fields Association (NPFA) and legal legislation will support this process.

- ❑ A full audit of CDC sites using this standard will bring attention to specific problems. CDC sites must be enhanced and created in line with this standard.
- ❑ The standard should be made available to parish councils and other public open space landowners so that they can develop their sites accordingly. CDC could link the provision of funding to landowners that meet this standard.

Recommendation 2

An implementation arm is created within CDC in order to administer and develop outdoor sports provision strategically. Implementation arms currently exist in within the leisure departments at Birmingham City Council and Wolverhampton City

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Council. 'Arms' have been created in order to ensure specific funds are ring fenced for leisure and open space development/enhancement rather than being combined in a general community fund. A small percentage of funding from the area leisure development pots could be used to support the employment of a part time officer responsible for open space, sport and recreation development.

Recommendation 3

The delivery of commuted sums is achieved under the existing structure. It is recommended this existing structure be modified to ensure that the Council are provided with an opportunity for local groups to apply for a proportion of commuted sums for new or upgrading of existing provision, or for the maintenance of existing facilities. A community use agreement must be created between the local authority and the appropriate user group.

The strategy and action plan for outdoor sports provision would form the criteria for assessing such applications and directing sums to areas of deficiency through an "area leisure development pot" approach.

Resources will be needed within the community facilities and leisure department to manage the implementation of commuted sums effectively. It is recommended that the proposed Implementation Arm, within the Council, would be responsible for managing and implementing this funding process. The London Borough of Barnet is currently in a similar position and is therefore advertising for appropriate personnel.

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

6. ACTION PLAN 2004 – 2009

6.1 Priorities

Taking into account the findings of the Assessment Report, in particular the site by site section and the consultation, it is paramount that CDC secure and improve its existing pitch stock and ancillary facilities. In addition to this it is important that CDC provide support and guidance to the relevant partners (i.e. parish councils, PFAs, private and voluntary sports clubs) within CDC to apply for funding to improve their facilities.

The following sites have been identified as having the greatest priority for attention and investment over the next five years in Craven. They have been identified as such using the criteria outlined in section seven of this document as well as the independent consultation that was undertaken as part of the report.

This has been separated into each analysis area, with the key current issues highlighted about the site, the recommended actions that should be implemented in partnership with CDC, the relevant clubs or PFAs, schools etc. Potential funding streams have also been identified to provide a steer for the partners in terms of where appropriate sources of capital or revenue funding that could be applied for. The action plan also emphasises the targets that the particular site meets from within the strategy and highlights the timescale for which the actions should be implemented.

Key for timescales:

- S – Short
- M – Medium
- L - Long

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Table 9: North Craven sub area action plan

| Site | Development route | Current issues | Recommended actions | Partnerships | Outcomes | Strategy targets | Potential external funding | Time scale |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|---|--|------------------|---|------------------------------|--|------------|
| Bentham Sports Field, High Bentham | 2 | A mini soccer pitch and training area is being developed at the site. This requires some additional funding to complete the proposals. In addition to this, new ancillary facilities are being erected so that the existing clubhouse can be converted into a lounge area. There are also aspirations to re-surface the tennis courts but there is no identified funding for this. | Support Bentham PFA in completing the developments. Work in tandem with the Association to identify additional sources of funding to complete the drainage work and re-surface the tennis courts. | Bentham PFA, CDC | A good quality multi-sport site servicing the north Craven sub area. A mini-soccer centre catering for existing and latent demand expressed. | 1, football (6), tennis (10) | Football Foundation – Grass Roots Funding Awards for All Lawn Tennis Association | S |

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Table 10: Settle sub area action plan

| Site | Development route | Current issues | Recommended actions | Partnerships | Outcomes | Strategy targets | Potential external funding | Time scale |
|---|-------------------|---|---|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|---|------------|
| Hellifield Recreation Field, Hellifield | 3 | <p>The quality of the site is generally poor, particularly the ancillary facilities.</p> <p>A Football Foundation bid was proposed to improve the facilities but this has not yet taken place.</p> <p>The Club based at the site also identified latent demand.</p> | Support Hellifield FC in the development of the Football Foundation bid to improve the quality of pitches and ancillary facilities. | Hellifield FC, CDC | <p>A good quality site with appropriate ancillary facilities to meet DDA legislation and suitable for all including women and girls.</p> <p>Increased capacity of site thus catering for expressed latent demand.</p> | I, football (6) | Football Foundation - Grass Roots Funding | S |
| Harrison Playing Field and Lords Playing Field, Giggleswick | 2 | Currently these sites are not being used for formal team games and have no ancillary facilities attached to them. | Further investigation into the reasons for no formal sports clubs using the facilities. Opportunities do exist for these sites to be used in order to release pressure off some sites that are being overplayed in the area. There is also the opportunity to convert one site into a mini soccer centre. | Giggleswick School, CDC | <p>Development of mini soccer centre to service the community</p> <p>Making use of facilities that are currently played under capacity.</p> | I, football (6), rugby (8) | N/a | M |

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

| Site | Development route | Current issues | Recommended actions | Partnerships | Outcomes | Strategy targets | Potential external funding | Time scale |
|--|-------------------|---|--|--|--|------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Hellifield Playing Field, Hellifield | 3 | Currently this site is not being used for formal team games and has no ancillary facilities attached to them. | Further investigation into the reasons for no formal sports clubs using the facility. Opportunities do exist for this site to be used in order to release pressure off some sites that are being overplayed in the area. | Landowner, Hellifield FC, CDC. | Making use of facilities that are currently played under capacity. | 1, football (6), | N/a | M |
| Settle High and Middle School, Giggleswick | 2 | The site has a good structure for community use and, as a result, consultation identified that it is over played. This is with exception of the MACA, which is available for hire but is not used due to its poor condition. | Identify certain teams that could be transferred to sites that are being played under capacity. The School to identify funding sources to improve the MACA for curriculum delivery. | Settle high and Middle School, SSCO, NYCC. | A good quality site with the appropriate level of community use. Improved MACA thereby increasing the facilities on offer for hire. | 1, 15 | NOF | L |
| North Ribblesdale RUFC, Settle | 3 | The pitches are generally in good condition although line markings and posts are a bit old. On occasion the pitches do become flooded. The drainage system was installed 15 years ago and has a tendency not to filter the water | Support the rugby club in investigating possible sources of funding to improve the drainage of the pitches. | North Ribblesdale RUFC, CDC | A well-drained site with increased capacity of pitches, with spare capacity to develop the Club. | 1, rugby (5) | RFU – Pitch Improvement Scheme | L |

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

| Site | Development route | Current issues | Recommended actions | Partnerships | Outcomes | Strategy targets | Potential external funding | Time scale |
|------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------|----------|------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| | | properly. | | | | | | |

Table 11: Skipton sub area action plan

| Site | Development route | Current issues | Recommended actions | Partnerships | Outcomes | Strategy targets | Potential external funding | Time scale |
|----------------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|--|------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| Sandylands ATP, Skipton | 1 | This is a new facility which will have a clear focus to provide a good quality service for the local community and the wider catchment. | Encourage local clubs, in particular, to take advantage of the location of the facility to develop junior, mini and girls football. | Skipton LMS FC, Skipton RUFC, Skipton Bulldogs FC, CDC | Development of high quality mini soccer centre to service the community. Fully utilise a facility on the 'doorstep'. Servicing the community and catering for latent demand identified by clubs. | 1, football (6), | N/a | S |
| Ermystead's Grammar School | 2 | The School, in conjunction with NYCC, own a substantial amount of land which could be the equivalent of six pitches. It is not marked out or used by the community due to the poor drainage. Ermystead's Grammar School and Skipton Girls High | Investigate the possibility of allowing this land to be used by the general community. Skipton RUFC could then apply for funding to improve the drainage of this site. | Ermystead's Grammar School, Skipton Girls High School, NYCC, Skipton RUFC, CDC | Making appropriate use of a site that is currently not being utilised. Cater for expressed latent demand. | 1, rugby (8) | RFU | |

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|----------------|-----|---|
| | | School occasionally utilise the site for PE lessons. | | | | | | |
| Burnside Crescent Recreation Ground, Skipton | 3 | The quality of the site has been rated as adequate. There are, however, no formal team games have been identified at the site. This is one of three sites that is not currently being used by sports clubs. There are no ancillary facilities. | Consideration should be given to converting this pitch into a rugby pitch to cater for latent demand expressed by Skipton RUFC, or if the above action is preferred then consider other options for this site. Further consultation to be carried out with local residents to determine the feasibility of this. | Skipton RUFC, landowner, local residents, CDC | Making appropriate use of a site that is currently being played under capacity. Catering for expressed latent demand. | I, rugby (8) | RFU | L |
| Skipton LTC, Skipton | 3 | The tennis club requires support to improve the usage of the facilities and for it to continue as a formal sports club participating in league tennis. | Work with Skipton LTC to encourage the use of the facilities and to improve tennis opportunities for residents of Skipton and the locality. | Skipton LTC, CDC | Making appropriate use of a site that is currently being played under capacity. Increasing sporting and recreation opportunities for the residents of Skipton and the locality. | I, tennis (10) | N/a | M |
| Crosshills | 3 | If the tennis site is | Work with | Crosshills TC, | Improving sporting and | I, tennis | N/a | L |

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|--|--|-----------------------------|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Tennis Club, Crosshills | | decommissioned at Cononley Playing Fields, this will result in the loss of a recreational tennis site for the local residents. | Crosshills Tennis Club to improve tennis opportunities for the residents of South Craven. | CDC | recreation opportunities for the residents of South Craven. | (10) | | |
| Aireville School, Skipton | 2 | The playing fields are quite uneven and the mini football pitch can become waterlogged. | Identify sources of funding to level the playing fields particularly as the School is receiving sports college status. | Aireville School, SSCO, CDC | A good quality, level site that is available for community use and for formal school club links. | 1, football (6), rugby (8) | Football Foundation, NOF | S |

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Table 12: South Craven sub area action plan

| Site | Development route | Current issues | Recommended actions | Partnerships | Outcomes | Strategy targets | Potential external funding | Time scale |
|--|-------------------|---|---|---|---|------------------|---|------------|
| Keighley Road Recreation Ground, Cowling | 3 | The site is used by the local youth club for football. However a constantly waterlogged pitch, litter and unsuitable lighting detracts young people from making full use of the site. | Drainage improvements and improved lighting to be developed at the site. | Cowling Youth Club and football club, Landowner, C DC | Well drained pitch and secure site for use by young people. | I, football (6) | Football Foundation – Grass Roots Funding | M |
| South Craven School, Crosshills | 2 | The site is very well used by the local community but there are issues surrounding the poor drainage of the pitches and the tennis courts. The MACA at the School is inadequate. | The School identifying funding sources to improve the drainage of the site and the quality of the MACA. | South Craven School, SSCO, NYCC | An improved quality site with increased capacity both for curriculum and community use. | I, football (6) | NOF, Football Foundation | L |

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Table 13: Yorkshire Dales National Park action plan

| Site | Development route | Current issues | Recommended actions | Partnerships | Outcomes | Strategy targets | Potential external funding | Time scale |
|---|-------------------|--|--|---|---|------------------|---|------------|
| Wharfedale RUFC, Threshfield | 2 | The general condition of the site is relatively good, however, problems do arise with certain pitches becoming waterlogged hence matches often have to be cancelled. Contributing to this is the fact that the site is heavily overplayed. | Work in tandem with the Club (and Upper Wharfedale School – as they are adjacent to each other) to improve the quality of the pitches i.e. improve the drainage. | Wharfedale RUFC, Upper Wharfedale School, CDC | Well drained site thus increasing the capacity of the pitches (i.e. more matches can take place with little chance of being cancelled). | I, rugby (8) | RFU, Pitch Improvement Scheme Community Club Development programme | S |
| Grassington Playing Fields, Grassington | 2 | Grassington FC highlighted that the senior pitch is heavily overplayed. Refurbishment of the Clubhouse was also identified as a need through consultation. | Work with the Club to transfer some teams to, and make use of, the nearby Burnsall greenspace, where no team games have been identified. Support Grassington FC in investigating possible sources of funding to improve the ancillary facilities. | Grassington FC, CDC | Creating some spare capacity at Grassington Playing Fields to allow some recovery time for the pitch. | I, football (6) | Football Foundation Awards for All | M |
| Upper Wharfedale CC, Grassington | 3 | Upper Wharfedale CC is an extremely well used facility as it caters for some teams in the Dales | Work with the Club to identify where teams could potentially play other | Upper Wharfedale CC, CDC | Creating some spare capacity at the Club and allowing recovery time for the square. | I, cricket (7) | ECB | M |

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------|---|---|---------------------|--|------------------------------|---|---|
| | | Friendly League that do not have their own facilities. Although the square and pitch is in excellent condition, ideally an additional square is required to cater for these teams. This would allow some recovery time for the pitch. | than at the club. One possibility may be at the South east side of Burnsall Bridge (please see below). | | | | | |
| South East side of Burnsall Bridge | Possibly 3 | This is a large site (4.42 ha) that is used for on an annual basis for the Burnsall Sports Festival. It has substantial potential to be developed into a multi-sport site. | Investigate the possibility of developing the site to cater for a junior and mini soccer pitch. It has potential to be developed into a more formal site for competitive play. | Parish Council, CDC | Creation of a multi-sport site catering for specific expressed latent demand identified by Upper Wharfedale CC and Grassington FC. | 1, football (6), cricket (7) | Football Foundation Community Club Development programme | L |

**CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL:
PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY
AND ACTION PLAN**

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

7. IDENTIFYING PRIORITIES

In the identification of future priorities for action the following criteria can be used as a guideline.

7.1 Criteria

FINANCIAL

Capital Costs

- Within budget
- Value for money
- Affordable

Impact of project on existing revenue costs

- Increase
- Decrease
- No change

Partnership funding

- Availability
- Timing
- Feasibility of co-ordinating different funding streams (if necessary)

Funding opportunities

- Internal
 - any sources (yes/no)
 - sufficient
 - probability of success in securing
- External
 - any sources (yes/no)
 - sufficient
 - probability of success in securing

STRATEGIC IMPACT

Borough playing pitch strategy

- Site/facility, in the case of MACA's and ATP's has been identified as a priority and there is an identified need.
- Site developments match recommendations of strategy

Sports Strategies

- Consistency with facility recommendations
- Consistency with other aspects

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

PESSCL

- Help schools deliver at least 2 hours of high quality PE and sport
- Improve links between schools and clubs

Neighbourhood renewal objectives

- Tackling unemployment; Improving health; Reducing crime; Raising educational achievement; Improving the physical environment

Community strategy objectives

- Enhance and develop a range of high quality local and borough-wide recreation, leisure, culture and tourism facilities and events.

Cultural strategy objectives

- Develop sport participation as a key element of community development and capacity building.

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT IMPACT

Number of existing users

- Total number
- Profile paying particular attention to representation of low participant groups

Projected number of new users

- Profile paying particular attention to low participant groups
- Impact on increasing participation (does it provide the greatest increase?).

Meeting identified need

- Degree of pitch shortfall in area
- Identified latent demand
- Demand from people not currently using pitches
- Contributing to increasing the number of people involved in physical activity/recreation

Support for existing programmes

- Active Sports
- Ward Development Plan

IMPACT ON SCHOOLS

Primary schools

- Amount of current use by primary schools
- Number of primary schools within walking distance
- Number of primary schools giving in principle

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

- Commitment to use
- Site available for extra curricula/Saturday morning use by primary schools

Secondary schools

- Amount of current use by secondary schools
- Number of secondary schools within walking distance
- In principle commitment of local secondary schools to use
- Site available for extra curricula/Saturday morning use by secondary schools

MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Planning

- Is planning permission required?
- Will the project have a detrimental impact on existing playing field supply?

Borough council site

- Shared site management opportunity
- Leasing to external organisations(s) in place/being developed
- Management arrangements with external organisation(s) in place/being developed
- Long term future of revenue funding
- Consistency with Asset Management Plan

Other sites

- Financial viability
- Security of tenure

Sports development

- Site sports development plan in place/being developed
- User club(s) with development plan(s) in place/being developed

CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

7.2 Guideline estimated capital and revenue cost

Sport England guidelines suggest that an average new build, changing facility should cost around £1,000 per sq. metre and that a standard changing room for football should be 16 sq. metres in size (18 sq. metres for rugby). On top of this 5% – 10% should be factored in to cover circulation/corridor space. Changing room cost estimates should, therefore, take account of rebuild or refurbishment (up to approximately £20,000 to £30,000/room – including ancillaries).

Revenue estimates should include an allowance based on approximately £3,000 per pitch per year for maintenance (not including additional year one to three costs incurred as part of the cost of construction, for example initial seeding. This cost should be absorbed within the capital expenditure budget).

Capital estimates should include an allowance based on up to £50,000/pitch installation (including year one to three additional maintenance).

In order to carry out drainage works to pitches an allowance of between £10,000 and £30,000 should be taken into consideration, with £30,000 being for a top high specification pitch.

Site car parking should be refined/altered on a case-by-case basis.

(The prices outlined above are reflective of 2004).