

DRAFT

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

ASSESSMENT REPORT NOVEMBER 2025

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

Knight, Kavanagh & Page Ltd
Company No: 9145032 (England)

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

Registered Office: 1 -2 Frecheville Court, off Knowsley Street, Bury BL9 0UF
T: 0161 764 7040 E: mail@kcp.co.uk www.kcp.co.uk



Cert Num: 6543-QMS-001

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

CONTENTS

PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY	1
1.1: Introduction	1
1.2: Prepare and tailor the approach (Stage A)	1
1.3: Gather information and views on supply of and demand for provision (Stage B)	8
1.4: Assess the supply and demand information and views (Stage C)	12
1.5: Develop the strategy (Stage D)	14
PART 2: FOOTBALL	15
2.1: Introduction	15
2.2: Supply	18
2.3: Demand	37
2.4: Capacity analysis	48
2.5: Supply and demand analysis	66
2.6: Conclusion	70
PART 3: THIRD GENERATION TURF (3G) ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCHES (AGPS).....	72
3.1: Introduction	72
3.2: Supply	72
3.3: Demand	84
3.4: Supply and demand analysis	87
3.5: Conclusion	92
PART 4: RUGBY UNION	94
4.1: Introduction	94
4.2: Supply	94
4.3: Demand	101
4.4: Capacity analysis	104
4.5: Supply and demand analysis	108
4.6: Conclusion	108
PART 5: RUGBY LEAGUE	110
5.1: Introduction	110
5.2: Supply	110
5.3: Demand	118
5.4: Capacity analysis	121
5.5: Supply and demand analysis	123
5.6: Conclusion	125
PART 6: HOCKEY	127
6.1: Introduction	127
6.2: Supply	128
6.3: Demand	135
6.4: Supply and demand analysis	138
6.5: Conclusion	141

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 7: CRICKET	143
7.1: Introduction	143
7.2: Supply	145
7.3: Demand	160
7.4: Capacity analysis	167
7.5: Supply and demand analysis	174
7.6: Conclusion	176
PART 8: ATHLETICS	179
8.1: Introduction	179
8.2: Supply	179
8.3: Demand	184
8.4: Supply and demand analysis	187
8.5: Conclusion	188
PART 9: BOWLS	189
9.1: Introduction	189
9.2: Supply	190
9.3: Demand	199
9.4: Supply and demand analysis	200
9.5: Conclusion	202
PART 10: TENNIS	204
10.1: Introduction	204
10.2: Supply	204
10.3: Demand	213
10.4: Supply and demand analysis	218
10.5: Conclusion	218
PART 11: PADEL	220
11.1: Introduction	220
11.2: Supply	220
11.3: Demand	221
11.4: Conclusion	221
PART 11: NETBALL	223
11.1: Introduction	223
11.2: Supply	223
11.3: Demand	228
11.4: Supply and demand analysis	230
11.5: Conclusion	231

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 13: CYCLING	232
13.1: Introduction	232
13.2: Supply	232
13.3: Demand	232
13.4: Supply and demand analysis	234
13.5: Conclusion	234
PART 14: OTHER SPORTS	235
14.1: Outdoor water sports	235
14.2: Climbing and Bouldering	237
14.3: American football	239
14.4: Archery	239
14.5: Pickleball	241
14.6: Basketball	241
APPENDIX 1: SPORTING CONTEXT	243
APPENDIX 2: NON TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT SHEETS	255

DRAFT

ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third Generation (artificial turf)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
ANOG	Assessing Needs & Opportunities Guide
BCGBA	British Crown Green Bowling Association
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FF	Football Foundation
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
GMA	Grounds Maintenance Association
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GPMF	Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund
HC	Hockey Club
PP	PitchPower
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LFA	Lancashire Football Association
LCF	Lancashire Cricket Foundation
LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
LFFP	Local Football Facility Plan
MES	Match equivalent session
MUGA	Multi use games area
NFFS	National Football Facilities Strategy
NGB	National Governing Body
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NLS	National League System
ONS	Office of National Statistics
PPOSS	Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sport Strategy
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
RFC	Rugby Football Club
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RFL	Rugby Football League
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
U	Under
WNLS	Women's National League System

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

1.1: Introduction

Knight Kavanagh & Page (KKP) has been jointly commissioned by Chorley Council, Preston City Council and South Ribble Borough Council to develop a joint Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sport Strategy (PPOSS). The PPOSS will replace the previous study, which was completed in 2018.

This report presents a supply and demand assessment of playing pitch and outdoor sport facilities across Central Lancashire. For playing pitch sports, it is delivered in accordance with Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) Guidance. This details five stages for the developing the study:

- ◀ Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach (1).
- ◀ Stage B: Gather information and views on supply of and demand for provision (2 & 3).
- ◀ Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views (4, 5 & 6).
- ◀ Stage D: Develop the strategy (7 & 8).
- ◀ Stage E: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date (9 & 10).

Stages A to C are covered in this report, with Stage D covered in the ensuing strategy document. Stage E references the ongoing work that will be required once the PPOSS has been approved and adopted.

For "non-pitch" sports, Sport England's 'Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide (ANOG) is followed. This has a similar staged approach:

- ◀ Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach.
- ◀ Stage B: Gather information on supply and demand.
- ◀ Stage C: Assessment – bringing the information together.
- ◀ Application: Application of an assessment.

1.2: Prepare and tailor the approach (Stage A)

Management arrangements

The project team from the Chorley Council, Preston City Council and South Ribble Borough Council have worked with KKP to ensure that all relevant information is readily available and to support the consultants as necessary to ensure that project stages and milestones are delivered on time, within the cost envelope and to the required standard to meet Sport England guidance.

A wider Steering Group is also leading and driving the Strategy forward during its development whilst ensuring the delivery of its recommendations. Membership of the Steering Group is balanced and representative of the different parties and key drivers behind the Strategy. It comprises of representatives from the Council (including officers from public health, planning, greenspace, GIS and education), Sport England, the relevant NGBs (e.g., the Football Foundation on behalf of the FA, Lancashire FA, ECB, Lancashire Cricket Foundation, RFU, EH, RFL, England Athletics, Lawn Tennis Association, England Netball, British Crown Green Bowling Association, Archery GB and England Golf).

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Discussions and sign off is required by the Steering Group at the following key stages:

- ◀ Initial preparation (stage A).
- ◀ Information gathering update (stage B).
- ◀ Assessment Report (stage C).
- ◀ Strategy development (stage D).
- ◀ Strategy sign off and implementation (stage E).

The Steering Group will also be involved in the following:

- ◀ Identifying who should be consulted in regard to supply and demand information.
- ◀ Helping to achieve club survey response rates.
- ◀ Establishing the approach to collecting quality data and agreeing quality ratings.
- ◀ Checking and challenging key findings within the Assessment Report.
- ◀ Defining the scenarios that need to be tested.
- ◀ Checking and challenging recommendations and actions within the Strategy.
- ◀ Where unforeseen problems occur, deciding how to progress the PPOSS.

It is important that there is regular annual monitoring and review against the actions identified in the Strategy once it is completed. This monitoring should be led by the local authority and supported by the Steering Group. Understanding and learning lessons from how the PPOSS has been applied should also form a key component of monitoring its delivery. This should form an on-going role of the Steering Group.

Why the Strategy is being developed

Local context

A new joint Local Plan for the three authorities of Chorley, Preston and South Ribble is currently being prepared to cover the period to 2041. It will provide a robust strategy to attract new investment whilst continuing to protect the unique characteristics of the area, to deliver sustainable development. The new PPOSS will help support the production of the new Local Plan as serving a key evidence base for the protection and development of playing pitches and outdoor sports.

The below outlines previous strategies and plans which will form the basis for the emerging Central Lancashire Local Plan.

Central Lancashire Adopted Core Strategy (2012)¹

The Central Lancashire Core Strategy has been produced by the Central Lancashire authorities of Preston, South Ribble and Chorley, with assistance from Lancashire County Council.

The Core Strategy is a key document in Central Lancashire's Local Development Framework. Its purpose is to help co-ordinate development in the area and contribute to boosting investment and employment. Above all it is a strategic policy document and will encourage sustainable managed growth, whilst protecting and enhancing green spaces and access to open countryside, enhancing Central Lancashire's character as a place with 'room to breathe'.

¹<https://centrallocalplan.lancashire.gov.uk/media/1032/central-lancashire-core-strategy-july-2012-v1.pdf>

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

The Core Strategy is a clear statement of the positive benefits of joint working in Chorley, South Ribble and Preston. It is a single strategy for Central Lancashire, and the Councils are committed to applying the policies consistently. Joint working makes sense because the three Districts have much in common, including their transport networks, and shared housing, employment and retail markets.

Chorley Local Plan

The Chorley Local Plan (adopted 2015) identifies the scale of development in each settlement and allocates sites to meet the development needs of Chorley up to the period 2026 in order to achieve the vision for growth as outlined in the Core Strategy. The Local Plan identifies key local issues and provides a set of policies to manage change which will be used by the Council to determine planning applications. The Local Plan is in general conformity with the strategic objectives of the adopted core strategy.

South Ribble Local Plan

The Local Plan (2012 – 2026) forms part of the statutory Development Plan for South Ribble. It identifies and allocates land required over a 15 year period in order to achieve the vision for growth as outlined in the Central Lancashire Core Strategy. The Local Plan was adopted at Full Council on 22 July 2015.

Preston Local Plan

This Local Plan was adopted by resolution of Full Council on 2 July 2015. It is a Development Plan Document produced under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (as amended) 2004. The Preston Local Plan forms part of the statutory Development Plan for Preston. The role of the Plan is twofold:

- ◀ To identify the scale of development and allocate sites to meet the development needs of Preston in order to achieve the vision for growth as outlined in the Central Lancashire Core Strategy.
- ◀ To identify key local issues and provide a set of policies to manage change which will be used by decision makers to determine planning applications. These are known as Development Management (DM) Policies.

The Preston City Centre Plan is an Area Action Plan and sits alongside the Preston Local Plan. It was adopted on 30th June 2016.

Active Lancashire

Active Lancashire is the strategic lead for Sport and Physical Activity in Lancashire. It connects with like-minded local organisations and individuals to help bring about active lifestyles. Nationally it is one of the many Sport England-led Active Partnerships that drives a sports delivery system across the country.

It believes that sport and physical activity have the power to influence behaviours and develop skills which can have a broader, positive impact on people's lives. Its work in leading and facilitating effective partnerships across the county from key influential decision makers, through to community grass roots organisations aims to encourage Lancashire residents to engage in sport and physical activity and lead a happy, more prosperous life.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

More broadly, the PPOSS will ensure that Central Lancashire conforms to requirements set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). One of the core planning principles of this is to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs.

Section eight of the NPPF deals specifically with the topic of healthy communities, with Paragraph 103 stating that “planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate.”

Paragraph 104 sets three criterion that ensures existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields and formal play spaces, should not be built on unless:

- a) An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or
- b) The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
- c) The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.

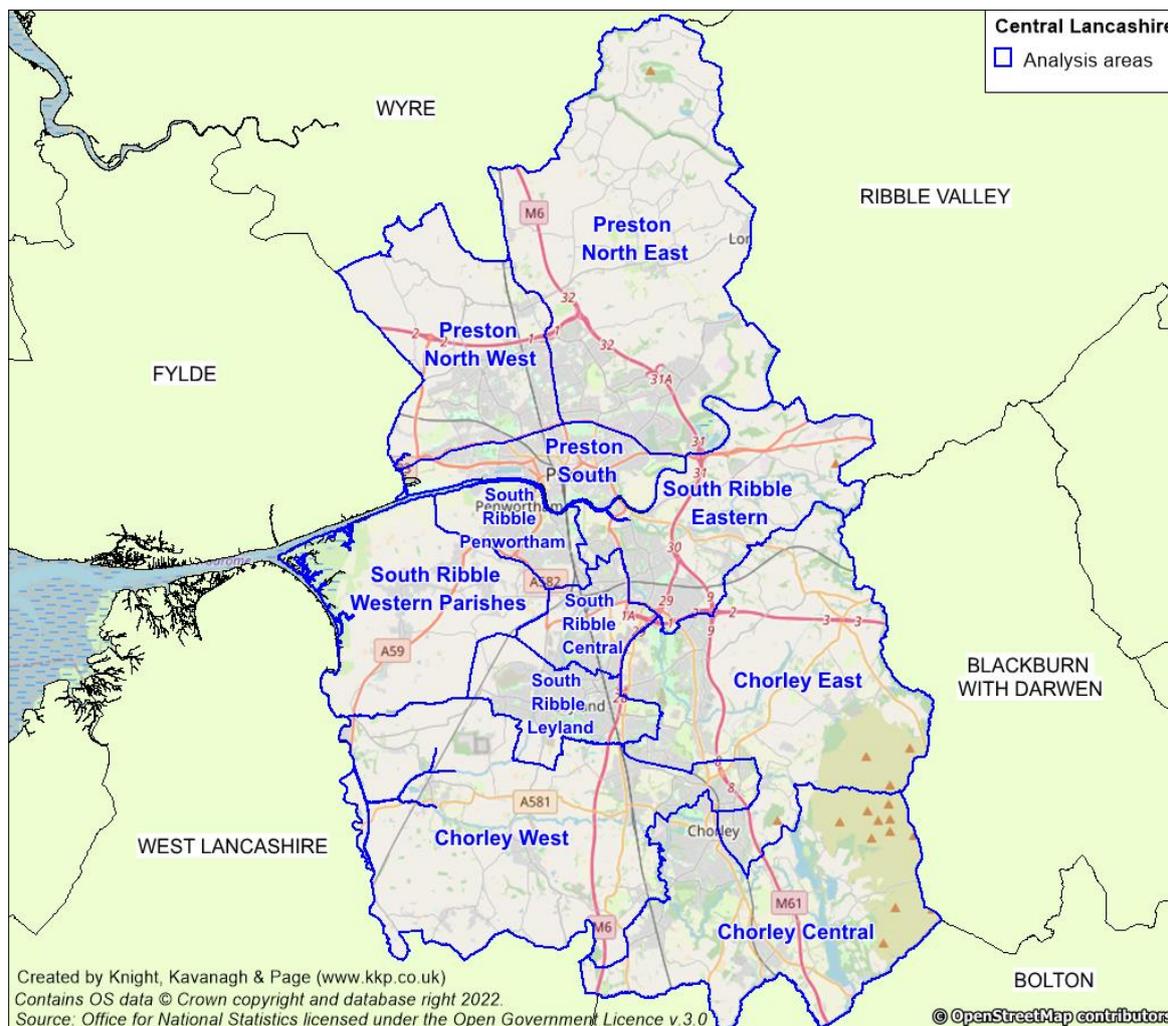
Paragraphs 105, 106, and 107 set the parameters for the designation of Local Green Space. Such spaces may include playing fields and outdoor sport facilities.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Study area

The study area includes the three Central Lancashire authorities of Chorley, Preston and South Ribble. Each local authority is sub divided into separate analysis areas as outlined in the map below.

Figure 1.1: Analysis area map

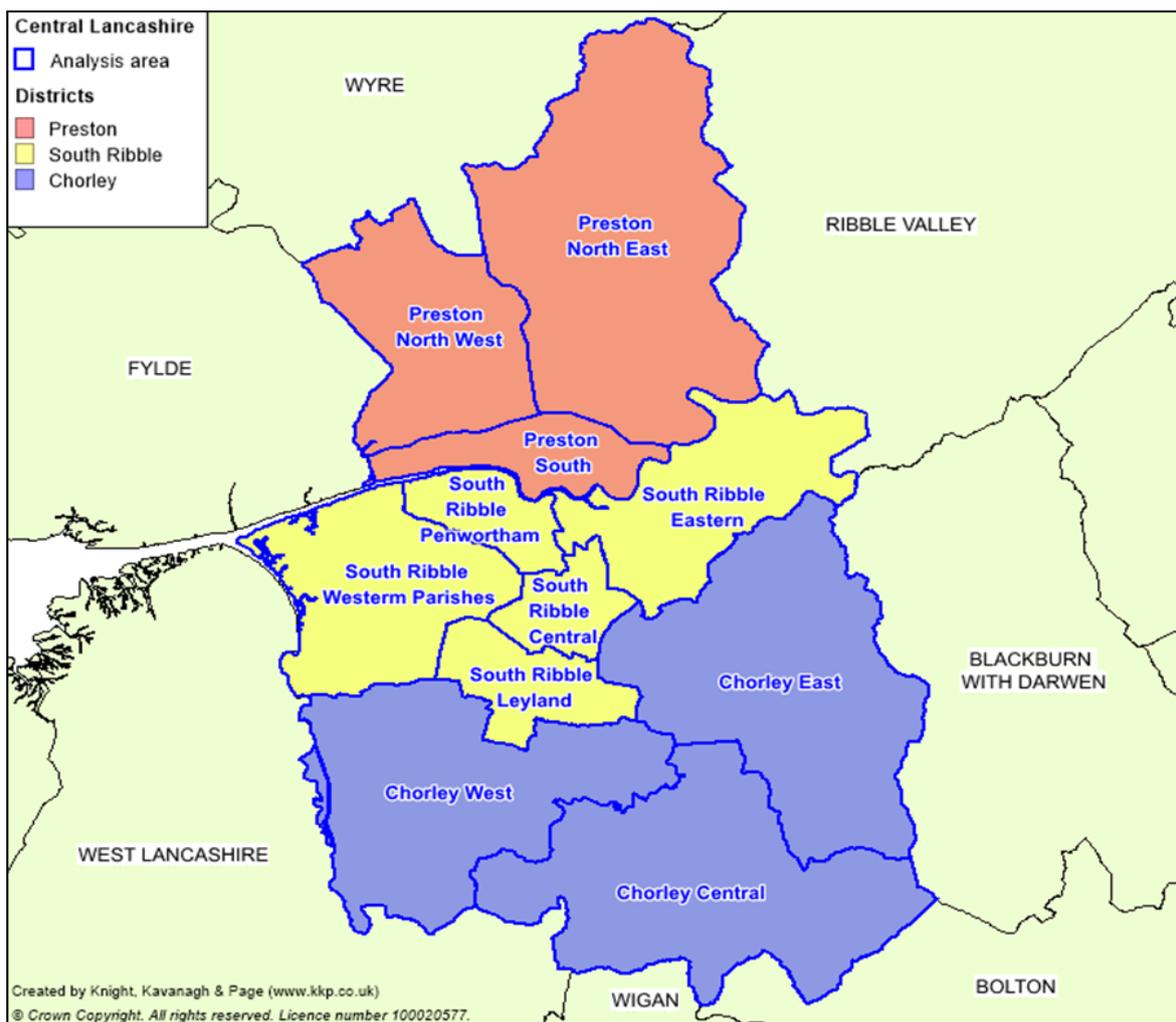


For Preston and South Ribble these analysis areas will be the exact same boundaries as the previous study with the Preston being divided into the three areas North West, North East and South and South Ribble being separated into the five areas of Leyland, Eastern, Penwortham, Western Parishes and Central.

In the instance of Chorley, it will keep the same three analysis areas of East, West and Central, however, there have been some amendments to the ward boundaries. The previous analysis area map has been included below for comparison.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Figure 1.2: Central Lancashire analysis area map 2018



Cross-boundary aspects are also recognised in regard to neighbouring local authorities to understand levels of imported and exported demand into and from Chorley, Preston and South Ribble.

Scope

The scope of the PPOSS will focus geographically on all local provision, regardless of ownership and management arrangements. The scope of work is as follows:

- ✦ Football pitches (including third generation (3G) pitches).
- ✦ Rugby union pitches.
- ✦ Rugby league pitches.
- ✦ Hockey artificial grass pitches (AGPs).
- ✦ Cricket pitches.
- ✦ Tennis/padel/pickleball courts.
- ✦ Athletics tracks/running.
- ✦ Bowling greens.
- ✦ Cycling.
- ✦ Netball courts.
- ✦ Archery.
- ✦ Outdoor water sports.
- ✦ Outdoor climbing and bouldering.

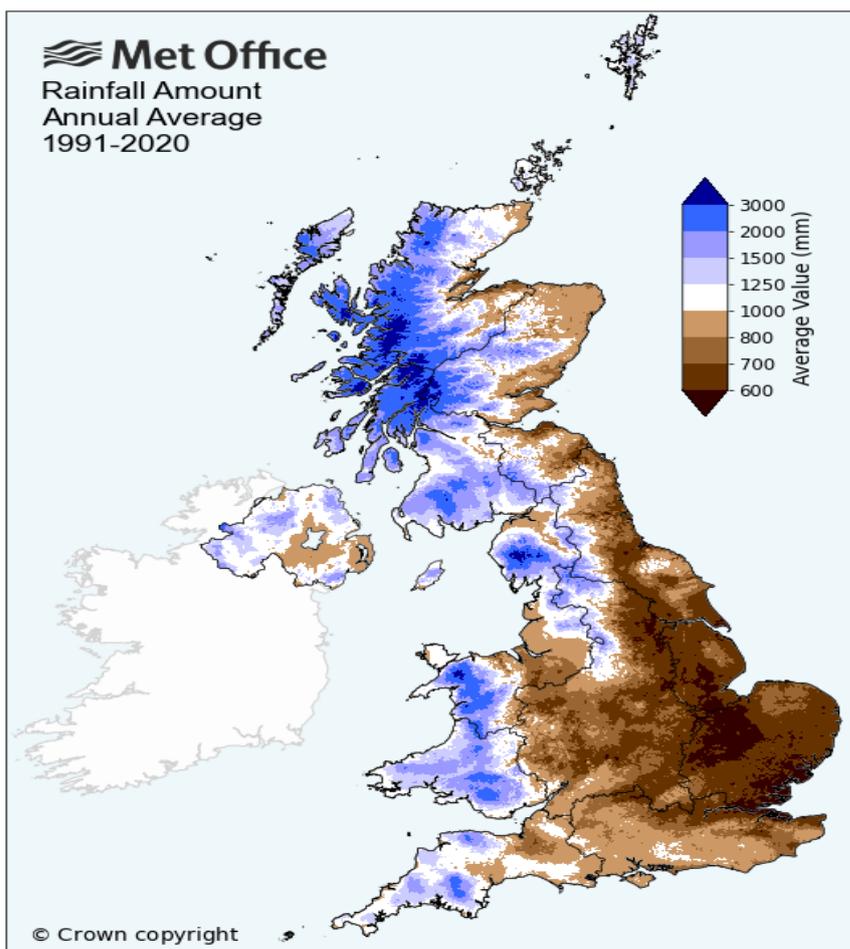
CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

What makes the area different

Rainfall

As discussed in the previous Central Lancashire PPOSS (2018), there is evidence of higher levels of rainfall across Lancashire when compared to much of England, in particular in western regions. Evidence provided by the Met Office² indicates that this is to do with the proximity to the Lake District and prevailing westerly winds from the Atlantic.

Figure 1.3: Rainfall amount annual average (1991 – 2020)



Shown visually in the Figure above, the North West averages 1,319mm annually which is significantly higher than the national average. In comparison the South East is the driest with only 788mm a year. This anecdotally can have a direct impact on grass pitch quality making it more difficult to carry out routine dedicated maintenance especially if provision is withholding water. This will be discussed in the below report where relevant and in more detail in proceeding Strategy & Action Plan.

²<https://weather.metoffice.gov.uk/learn-about/weather/types-of-weather/rain/how-much-does-it-rain-in-the-uk>

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Third generation turf (3G) considerations

A potential option to address higher than average rainfall, and poor grass pitch quality, is to increase the utilisation of 3G pitches which can be used in most weather conditions. However, there are ongoing discussions and studies regarding the potential health concerns associated with 3G pitches and in particular their infill materials, which is commonly rubber granules made from recycled car tires (crumb rubber). The key areas of concern and most recent research identify the following issues:

- ◀ Chemical exposure.
- ◀ Heat and burns.
- ◀ Respiratory irritation.
- ◀ Infection and hygiene.
- ◀ Environmental concerns.

Current evidence from studies, including those from the U.S Environmental Protect Agency (EPA) and European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) have not found a clear link to exposure to rubber crumb and adverse health effects. With this being said, it is also identified that there are gaps in the limited data gathered to date especially concerning long term exposure.

There are ongoing regulatory reviews ongoing in the EU, UK and US with some countries such as the Netherlands imposing stricter guidelines and promoting alternative infill materials such as cork, coconut fibre and thermoplastics. Although not outlined in great detail in the below report, considered options will be reviewed within the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document on how to address these issues.

The Football Foundation (FF) position is that it continues to support the use of rubber crumb infill (and other SAPCA approved alternative infills) within 3G pitches. It remains committed to the testing and exploration of unproven and unadopted alternative infills on environmental grounds to ensure 3G pitches can be as environmentally sustainable as possible in future.

1.3: Gather information and views on supply of and demand for provision (Stage B)

A clear picture of the supply and demand for playing pitches and outdoor sport facilities in the area is required to enable an accurate assessment of quantity, quality and usage. This is achieved through site assessments and consultation with key stakeholders.

Gather supply information and views – an audit of provision

Quantity

Where known, all playing pitch facilities are included within the PPOSS, irrespective of ownership, management and use. Sites have been initially identified using Sport England's Active Places web-based database, with the Council and NGBs supporting this process by checking and updating this initial data as well as by supplying their own affiliation data and booking information. For each site, the following details are recorded in the project database:

- ◀ Site name, address (including postcode) and location.
- ◀ Ownership and management type.
- ◀ Security of tenure.
- ◀ Community availability.
- ◀ Total number, type and quality of provision.
- ◀ Usage levels.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Sport England's guidance uses the following definitions of a playing pitch and playing field. These definitions are set out by the Government in the 2015 'Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order':

- ◀ **Playing field** – the whole of a site that encompasses at least one playing pitch.
- ◀ **Playing pitch** – a delineated area which is used for association football, rugby, cricket, hockey, lacrosse, rounders, baseball, softball, American football, Australian football, Gaelic football, shinty, hurling, polo or cycle polo.

Although the statutory definition of a playing field sets out a minimum size, the PPOSS takes account of smaller sized pitches that contribute to the supply side. For example, a site containing a mini 5v5 football pitch is included despite it potentially being smaller than 0.2ha. The study counts individual grass pitches (as a delineated area) as the basic unit of supply, with the definition of a playing pitch also including artificial grass pitches (AGPs). As far as possible, this report aims to capture all of the playing pitches within Central Lancashire; however, there may be instances that have led to omissions, such as unused school sites where access was not possible (although facilities at sites not accessed are still included within the study where provision is known to exist from other sources e.g., affiliation data or club/league consultation).

Where provision has not been recorded within the report, it is still considered to exist for planning purposes and will continue to do so. Furthermore, any exclusion does not mean that the provision is not required from a supply and demand point of view.

Accessibility

Not all pitches offer the same level of access to the community. The ownership and accessibility of playing pitches also influences their actual availability for community use.

Each site is assigned a level of community use as follows:

- ◀ **Community use** – facilities in public, voluntary, private or commercial ownership or management (including education sites) recorded as being available for hire and currently in use by teams/members/individuals (depending on the sport).
- ◀ **Available but unused** - facilities that are available for hire but are not currently used externally; this most often applies to school sites but can also apply to sites which are expensive to hire or particularly poor quality.
- ◀ **No community use** - facilities which are, as a matter of policy or practice, unavailable for external hire. This includes professional club pitches along with some semi-professional club pitches where play is restricted to the first or second team of the host club.
- ◀ **Disused playing field** – any sites where outdoor sports facilities were once provided but are no longer used, yet they remain undeveloped and could therefore be brought back into use.

The lawful use of a disused playing field is still that of a playing field until such time as it is developed for a non-pitch sport use or its use is formally changed through the planning system. There is no positive obligation, under planning law, for a playing field to be actively used as such.

In addition, there should be a good degree of certainty that provision will be available to the community for at least the following three years. If this is not the case, the provision is still included within the assessment but is noted as having unsecure tenure. A judgement is made based on the information gathered and a record of secured or unsecured community use is put against each site.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Disused sites provide the opportunity to help address deficiencies in pitch sport if brought back into use or replaced in a more sustainable location to meet need. These sites will be assessed to establish whether they are surplus to meet an identified need in the area in which they are situated within this PPOSS, should be retained and protected for future use or could be replaced in accordance with Sport England's Playing Field Policy and paragraph 104 of the NPPF.

In addition to above, there are some existing playing field sites which may be able to or have previously accommodated more pitches than are presently marked. Where known, these will be identified through the PPOSS. There may also be sites which are no longer prepared and used for formal sport but serve another function, such as a public open space or park. These sites should not be considered disused as they continue to operate as part of the green infrastructure typology and remain playing field, which could be brought back into use with marked out playing pitches and have the potential to contribute to supply.

Quality

The capacity of provision to regularly provide for competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of provision affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of a sport. In extreme circumstances, it can result in a facility being unable to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off-peak times.

The quality of all provision identified in the audit and the ancillary facilities supporting them are assessed as part of a PPOSS, regardless of ownership, management and availability. Along with capturing any details specific to the individual facilities and sites, a quality rating is also recorded within the audit for each pitch/facility. These ratings are then used to help estimate the capacity (aligned to NGB guidance) to accommodate competitive and other play within the supply and demand assessment.

For the purposes of quality assessments, the PPOSS refers to playing facilities and ancillary facilities separately as being of 'good', 'standard' or 'poor' quality. However, some good quality sites may have poor quality elements and vice versa (e.g., a good quality pitch may be serviced by poor quality changing facilities).

Good quality refers to facilities with, for example, good grass cover, even surfaces and that are free from vandalism and litter. For ancillary facilities, it refers to access for disabled people, sufficient provision for referees, juniors/women/girls and appropriate showers, toilets and car parking. The age of the facilities can also have a significant bearing on the overall quality rating.

Standard quality refers to playing provision that have, for example, adequate grass cover, minimal signs of wear and tear and goalposts that may be secure but in need of minor repair. In terms of ancillary facilities, standard quality refers to adequately sized changing rooms, storage provision and the provision of toilets, although some level of improvement/ modernisation may be required.

Poor quality refers to playing provision with, for example, inadequate grass cover, uneven surfaces and poor drainage, whilst for ancillary facilities it may relate to changing rooms, no showers, no running water and old, dated interiors. They are often unsuitable for mixed gender use.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

To ensure accurate findings, site assessments for each sport are carried out during the playing season for that sport. As such, the site assessments for sports played in the winter (i.e., football, rugby union and hockey) were carried out in February 2025, whilst the sports played in the summer (i.e., rugby league, tennis, bowls, cricket, netball) are planned to be carried out in July 2025.

In addition to undertaking non-technical assessments (using the templates provided within the guidance), users and providers have also been consulted on the quality as well as the Council and relevant NGBs. In some instances, the quality rating has been adjusted to reflect this (thus establishing an “agreed quality rating”).

Furthermore, technical assessments have also been provided, where undertaken, such as those carried out by the Grounds Maintenance Association (GMA), which now provides technical assessments across football, rugby union, rugby league and cricket (known as PitchPower reports). PitchPower reports, where carried out, have informed the quality assessments for the PPS to ensure the findings align (unless there is a clear reason for a differential e.g., recent improvements/deterioration).

Gather demand information and views

Current demand

Presenting an accurate picture of current demand for playing pitches (i.e., recording how and when provision is used) is important when undertaking a supply and demand assessment. To that end, demand for provision in the study area tends to fall within the following categories:

- ◀ Organised competitive play.
- ◀ Organised training.
- ◀ Informal play.
- ◀ Unofficial use.

Current and future demand for provision is presented on a sport-by-sport basis within the relevant sections of this report. In addition, unmet, latent, imported and exported demand for provision is also identified within each section (unless no such demand has been identified).

Unmet demand is existing demand that is not getting access to provision. It is usually expressed, for example, when a team is in training but is unable to access a match pitch, or when a league has a waiting list due to a lack of provision, which in turn is hindering the growth of the competition. In comparison, latent demand is defined as the number of additional teams (or members) that could be accommodated if access to a sufficient number of playing pitch facilities (and ancillary provision) was available.

Exported and imported demand refers to those that are playing outside of their local authority area of choice. This therefore includes study area-based demand that travels outside of the authority to access provision (exported demand), as well as demand from nearby authorities that travel into the area (imported demand). This can often be linked to capacity and/or quality issues within an authority.

A variety of consultation methods have been used to collate demand information. Firstly, face-to-face consultation has been carried out with key clubs from each sport (as identified by the Council and the relevant NGBs), thus allowing for the collection of detailed demand information and further interrogation of key issues. For all remaining clubs and leagues, telephone consultation or an online survey (converted to postal if required) has been utilised.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Key providers and other users of provision have also been contacted, including schools and further/higher education establishments. This involves face-to-face meetings with secondary schools, colleges and universities and an online survey being sent to primary schools and independent schools.

Future demand

Alongside current demand, it is important for a PPOSS to assess whether the future demand for provision can be met. Using Office of National Statistics (ONS) population projections and proposed housing growth, as well as likely participation growth informed through consultation, an estimate can be made of the likely future demand for the relevant facilities. Assumptions can then be made as to whether existing provision can cater for such growth.

Team generation rates are used to provide an indication as to how many people it may take to generate a team (by gender and age group). This ratio can then be applied to predicted participation, population and housing growth to help estimate the change in demand for each sport that may arise in the future.

Other information sources that were used to help identify future demand include:

- ◀ Recent trends in the participation.
- ◀ The nature of the current and likely future population and their propensity to participate.
- ◀ Feedback from clubs on plans to develop additional teams / attract additional members.
- ◀ Any local and NGB specific sports development targets e.g., women's and girls' activity.

All future demand projections across the PPOSS for Central Lancashire cover the period up until 2041, in line with the Council's emerging Local Plan.

1.4: Assess the supply and demand information and views (Stage C)

Supply and demand information gathered is used to assess the adequacy of playing pitch provision in Central Lancashire and to identify key issues, challenges and aspirations. This forms the basis of this report.

Understanding the situation at individual sites

Qualitative ratings are linked to a capacity rating derived from NGB guidance and tailored to suit a local area. For playing pitch sports, the quality and use of each pitch is assessed against recommended capacity to indicate how many match equivalent sessions provision could accommodate. Each pitch is then said to have potential spare capacity, be at capacity, or be overplayed – as follows:

Potential spare capacity: Play is below the level the site could sustain.	
At capacity: Play is at a level the site can sustain.	
Overused: Play exceeds the level the site can sustain.	

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Pitches have a limit of how much play they can accommodate over a certain period of time before their quality, and in turn their use, is adversely affected. As the main usage of pitches is likely to be for matches, it is appropriate for the comparable unit to be match equivalent sessions but may for example include training sessions and informal use. One team accessing one whole pitch is considered to use the pitch for 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week based on them playing home and away fixtures on an alternate basis (therefore only requiring access to their home pitch every two weeks).

As a guide, the NGBs for football, cricket, rugby union, rugby league and hockey have set a standard number of matches that each pitch type should be able to accommodate without adversely affecting its quality. Given how the sports operate, this is per week for football, rugby league, rugby union, per day for hockey and per season for cricket and is further detailed in the table below.

Table 1.2: Capacity of playing pitches in match equivalent sessions

Sport	Pitch type	Good	Standard	Poor
Football	Adult pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Football	Youth pitches	4 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Football	Mini pitches	6 per week	4 per week	2 per week
Rugby union	Natural Inadequate (D0)	2 per week	1.5 per week	0.5 per week
Rugby union	Natural Adequate (D1)	3 per week	2 per week	1.5 per week
Rugby union	Pipe Drained (D2)	3.25 per week	2.5 per week	1.75 per week
Rugby union	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	3.5 per week	3 per week	2 per week
Rugby league	Adult pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Rugby league	Junior pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	4 per season	0 per season
Cricket	One synthetic wicket	60 per season	60 per season	60 per season
Hockey	One AGP	4 matches per day	4 matches per day	0 matches per day

More detailed sport specific capacity guidance is detailed within the relevant sections of this report. There is, however, no capacity guidance for 3G pitches, with availability and usage instead determined by a programme/hours-led approach.

Develop the current and future picture of provision

Once capacity is determined on a site-by-site basis, actual spare capacity is calculated on a Council-wide and an area-by-area basis via further interrogation of peak time demand (i.e., the day/time demand is most likely to exist). This then identifies whether there is overall spare capacity or whether there is a shortfall of capacity.

Although spare capacity may be identified at some sites and in some areas, it does not necessarily mean that there is surplus provision. For example, spare capacity may not be available when it is needed (actual spare capacity), or a site may be retained in a 'strategic reserve' to enable rotation and to reduce wear and tear. There may also be a need to discount some capacity, for example at poor quality sites that should not be used until they are improved, or at unsecure sites where long-term access cannot be guaranteed.

Conversely, where a shortfall of capacity is identified, this does not necessarily mean there is a need for increased provision via new facilities. Instead, it may be possible for deficits to be overcome through better utilising the existing stock, such as through quality improvements or through improving community access.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Once current capacity has been determined, future capacity can then also be calculated via incorporating the future demand that has been identified as well as any unmet, latent and exported demand.

Identify the key findings and issues

The Assessment Report, which is this document, is drafted and presented on a sport-by-sport basis, with data analysis undertaken on both a Council-wide and sub-area basis. This focuses on reporting research findings, consultation, site audit information and data analysis supported by detailed GIS mapping. It is agreed and 'signed off' prior to moving on to the strategy and action plan development stages.

Each included section (from Part 2 onwards) summarises the local administration of the included playing pitch facilities. Each provides a summary of the supply of and demand for provision, with key issues identified and an overall supply and demand analysis undertaken.

1.5: Develop the strategy (Stage D)

The Strategy follows the production of this Assessment Report, once it has been finalised and signed off by the Steering Group. It will feature:

- ◆ **Headline findings.**
- ◆ **An overall vision and associated aims for the PPOSS.**
- ◆ **Sport-by-sport recommendations and scenarios.**
- ◆ **Strategic recommendations.**
- ◆ **A site-by-site and area-by-area Action Plan.**
- ◆ **Housing growth scenarios.**

Additionally, it will provide detail as to how to deliver the PPOSS and keep it robust and up to date (Stage E).

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 2: FOOTBALL

2.1: Introduction

The organisation responsible for the development of football in Central Lancashire is Lancashire FA. It is also responsible for the administration, in terms of discipline, rules and regulations, cup competitions and representative matches, development of clubs and leagues, facilities, volunteers, referees and delivering national football schemes.

Facility development for football is largely the responsibility of the Football Foundation (FF), which is a charity, linked to and funded by the Premier League, The FA and the Government (via Sport England). Working in partnership with Lancashire FA, they help communities improve their local football facilities through grant funding.

This section of the report focuses on the supply and demand for grass football pitches, where formal demand is generally defined through five formats of play and five pitch types, linked to the age of teams and players. Please refer to the table below for more detail relating to this.

Table 2.1: Football grass pitch formats

Format/pitch type	Age range	Recommended pitch size (metres)
Adult	U17s+	100 x 64
Youth 11v11	U15s-U16s	91 x 55
Youth 11v11	U13s-U14s	82 x 50
Youth 9v9	U11s-U12s	73 x 46
Mini 7v7	U9s-U10s	55 x 37
Mini 5v5	U7s-U8s	37 x 27

Part 3 captures supply and demand for third generation artificial turf pitches (3G pitches), which is the preferred artificial surface type for football.

Local Football Facility Plans (LFFPs)

To support in delivery of both the current and superseding FA National Game Strategy, the FA commissioned a nationwide consultancy project to develop an LFFP for every local authority across England, with each plan being unique to its area as well as being diverse in its representation.

The LFFP is strategically aligned to the National Football Facilities Strategy (NFFS); a 10-year plan to change the landscape of football facilities in England. The NFFS represents a major funding commitment from the national funding partners (the FA, Premier League and Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)) and is delivered through the Football Foundation (FF) to inform and direct an estimated one billion pounds of investment into football facilities over the next ten years.

Each LFFP builds upon PPOSS findings (where present and current) regarding the formal affiliated game.

The LFFP for Chorley, Preston and South Ribble were produced in 2019 and were recently updated alongside the production of the PPOSS to ensure they are based on the findings and recommendations that need to be incorporated to guide potential investment priorities. LFFPs identify key projects to be delivered and act as an investment portfolio for projects that require potential funding through the FF.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Notwithstanding the above, it is important to recognise that the LFFP is an investment portfolio of priority projects for potential FF investment; it is not a detailed supply and demand analysis of all pitch provision in a local area. Consequently, it cannot be used in place of a PPOSS and is not an accepted evidence base for site change of use or disposal. An LFFP does, however, build on available/existing local evidence and strategic plans.

Consultation

In total there are 782 teams across 101 clubs identified as playing regular, competitive matches on football pitches within Central Lancashire during the 2024/25 season. It should be noted that these figures do not include imported demand which will be included in the analysis below.

The overall current consultation response rate from football clubs equates to a team response rate of 62% (485/782 teams and 49/101 clubs). The response rate breakdown by Local Authority can be seen in the table below. The table below summarises the clubs which have responded to consultation to date. Continued efforts will be made to increase this with assistance provided by Lancashire FA and the Council.

Table 2.2: Summary of consultation

Clubs	Responded?
Chorley	-
Adlington Junior	Yes
Astley & Buckshaw Juniors	Yes
Astley & Buckshaw Utd	No
Astley FC	Yes
Bridge Celtic	No
Brinscall Village JFC	Yes
Charnock Richard FC	Yes
Charnock Richard Junior	Yes
Chorley FC	Yes
Chorley Wanderers Junior	Yes
Chorley Women FC	Yes
Coppull United	No
Croston Sports Club	No
Croston Sports Club Juniors	No
Eccleston & Heskin (Juniors)	No
Eccleston & Heskin (Seniors)	No
Euxton Girls	Yes
Euxton Villa	Yes
Final Third Football Club	No
Freestyle Urban Soccer	Yes
Gillibrand Warriors	Yes
JFC Chorley	Yes
Mawdesley FC	Yes
Pine Villa	Yes
Steven Gerrard Academy Chorley	No
Whittle Wanderers	No
Response rate	196/241 (teams) = 81%

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Clubs	Responded?
Preston	-
AFC Preston	No
Ashton Villa MHFC	Yes
BAC/EE Preston JFC	No
Broughton Amateurs A.F.C.	Yes
Cadley	Yes
FC Bartle	No
FC Friargate	Yes
Fishwick Rangers	No
Fulwood Amateurs	Yes
Greenlands FC	No
Hesketh Bank AFC	No
Longridge Town	Yes
Longridge Town Junior	Yes
Longsands JFC	No
Man v Fat Preston FC	Yes
Midgery Court	Yes
Moor Park United	No
PNE Community & Education Trust	No
Preston City Football Club	No
Preston North End FC	No
Preston North End Womens FC	Yes
Ribbleton Athletic	No
Ribbleton F.C.	Yes
Sir Tom Finney FC	Yes
Sir Tom Finney Preston Soccer Centre	Yes
Sporting Preston	No
Springfields (Preston)	No
St Anthony's SC FC	Yes
The Lonsdale Casuals	No
Theatre Boys	No
University of Lancashire	Yes
Walton North End JFC	Yes
Wilbraham Athletic	No
Response rate	151/252 (teams) = 60%
South Ribble	-
AFC Ashwood	No
AFC Bamber	Yes
AFC Penwortham	No
Appley Bridge	No
Bamber Bridge FC	Yes
Bamber Bridge Town	No
Bamber Bridge United	No
Bamber Bridge United Seniors	Yes
Chipping	No
Gables FC	Yes
Gregson Lane J.F.C.	Yes
Gregson Lane Wanderers	No
Hoole United	No

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Clubs	Responded?
Kingsfold FC	Yes
L&Y	No
Lancashire Constabulary	No
Lancashire Player Development Programme	Yes
Lancon Junior	Yes
Leyland Albion FC	Yes
Leyland B.T.R.	Yes
Leyland Pirates Football Club	Yes
Leyland Seven Stars FC	No
Lokomotiv Leyland	No
Lostock Hall FC	No
Lostock Hall Juniors	Yes
Lostock St Gerards	No
Mill Hill Diversity	No
New Longton Rovers (Seniors)	No
New Longton Rovers JFC	No
Penwortham St Teresa's	Yes
Penwortham Town	Yes
PNE Womens (Juniors)	No
Preston Guild	No
Ribble Wanderers	Yes
Runshaw College	Yes
SRDC	No
Tarleton Corinthians	Yes
The Beehive FC	No
Vernons Vets	No
Walmer Bridge	Yes
Walton Le Dale Juniors	Yes
Worden Rangers	No
Response rate	159/289 (teams) = 55%

Consultation was also carried out with the University of Lancashire which was formerly known as UCLAN.

2.2: Supply

In total, there are 285 pitches across 124 unique sites in Central Lancashire, of which, 264 across 114 sites are available for community use. All pitches that are not available for community use are either located at education sites or elite sports clubs' facilities such as Preston North End Football Club.

Table 2.3: Summary of grass pitches available for community use

Analysis area	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
Chorley	20	23	18	20	9	90
Preston	25	14	16	8	3	66
South Ribble	25	19	23	19	22	108
Central Lancashire	70	56	57	47	34	264

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Most community available pitches can be found in South Ribble with 108 pitches provided (41%). This is followed by Chorley with 90 (34%) pitches and Preston with 66 (25%) pitches.

There are more adult pitches (70) identified when compared to other pitch sizes, which suggests high demand for adult football. However, it should be noted that youth 11v11 demand is higher, despite there being less youth 11v11 pitches. This is common nationally, with many youth 11v11 teams playing on adult pitches, although this can be due to a lack of dedicated provision rather than through preference.

In accordance with the FA Youth Review, u17s and u18s can play on adult pitches. The FA's recommended pitch size for adult, youth and mini pitches can be seen in the table above.

The number of pitches since the previous study in 2018 has decreased by 4% which saw 294 grass football pitches across 131 sites, of which, 281 pitches across 123 sites identified as being available for community use on some level.

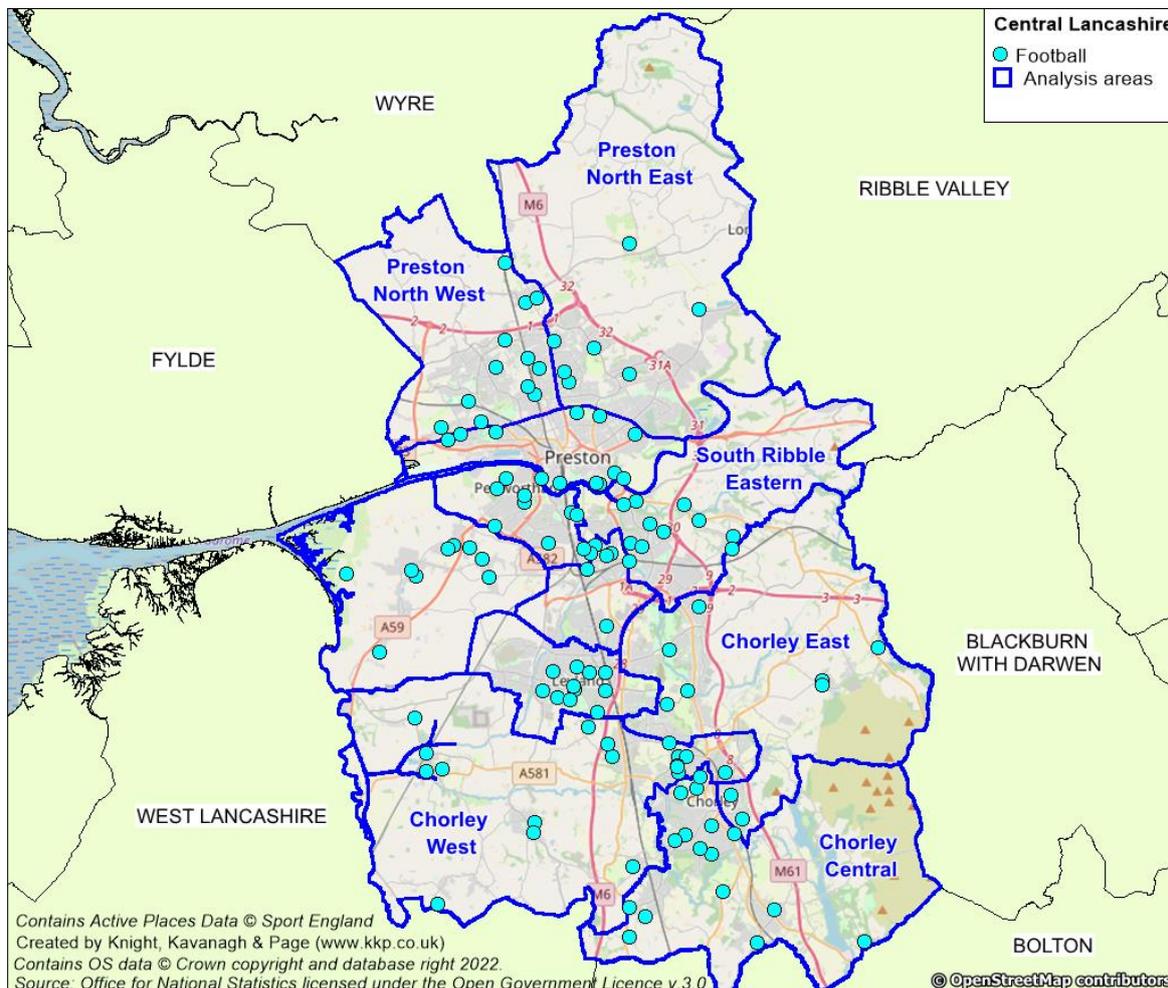
The change in the number of pitches is mainly due to pitch reconfiguration at sites and the creation of new 11v11 3G pitches such as University of Lancashire, St Marys Catholic High School, Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre), West Way Sports Hub, Jim Fowlers Memorial Ground (Euxton Villa FC) and Parklands High School.

The mini 7v7 pitch at Fairview Youth and Community Centre (Chorley Central) is no longer actively marked and therefore has not been include in the analysis below. The area of land is still available to hire through the community centre and is maintained by Chorley Council.

Figure 2.1 identifies all grass football pitches currently servicing Central Lancashire, regardless of community use. For a key to the map, see Table 2.15.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Figure 2.1: Map of sites with football pitch provision within Central Lancashire



Potential future supply

Chorley FC reports it is in conversation with Chorley FC Community Trust, Chorley FC Academy, Chorley FC Women and Southlands High School regarding a collaboration development to improve four grass pitches, creation of an additional pitch and refurbishment of the existing small size artificial grass pitch (AGP) located at Southlands High School. It should be noted that this is early discussions at this stage.

A planning application has recently been approved for the creation of new tennis courts as part of the new Whittingham and Goosnargh Sports and Social Club redevelopment. The proposed new facility will include new pavilion, one senior football pitch, tennis court and retention of existing bowling green.

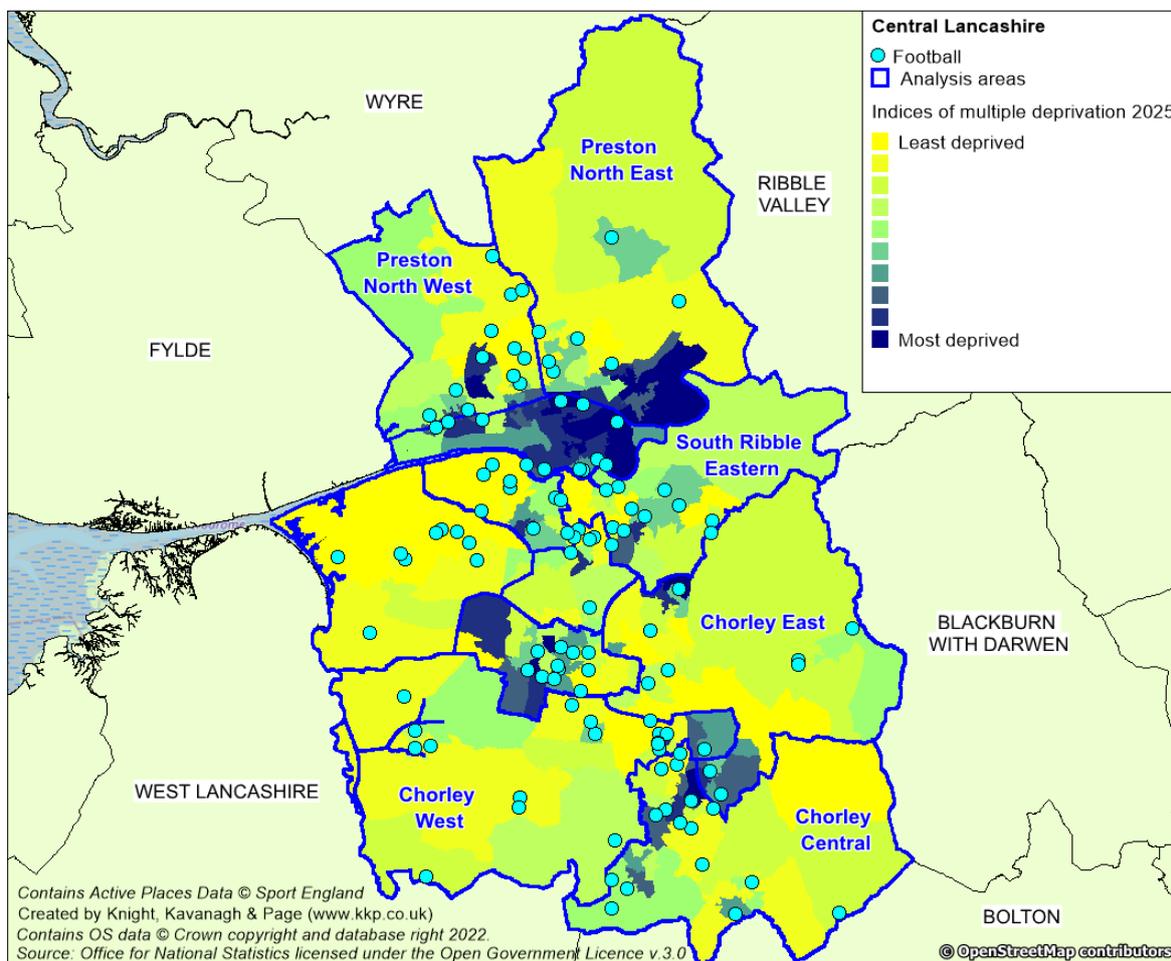
A planning application has recently been submitted (06/2025/0994) to Preston City Council known as the Longridge Sports Village, with plans including a new 11v11 3G pitch, two small sided 3G pitches, six padel courts, indoor cricket nets and a new 5k Park Run route. The proposed development is located in the neighbouring authority, Ribble Valley, however given its close proximity to Preston it is likely this development could accommodate demand from Preston.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)

The figure below shows all active football sites located in the more deprived area across Central Lancashire can be seen in the map below.

Figure 2.2: Location of football sites against IMD



Security of tenure

Tenure of sites across Central Lancashire is generally secure i.e., through a long-term lease or a guarantee that pitches will continue to be provided over the next three years. This relates to most of the Council operated pitches, with such provision protected as part of an ongoing commitment to providing a leisure offering.

A common exception to providing security of tenure is found at schools and academies that state their own policies and are more likely to restrict levels of community use, as exemplified with six educational providers not currently allowing community use across Central Lancashire of some of their pitches. The reasons for not allowing community use varies, although the most common justification is that the school want to protect their pitches for curricular and extra-curricular purposes due to existing quality issues. Other motives include staffing issues, health and safety issues and a perceived lack of profitability.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Sport England promotes the use of education providers sports facilities to be available for wider community use and provides guidance³.

Most large clubs (such as Euxton Girls, Euxton Villa FC, Fulwood Amateur and Astley & Buckshaw Juniors) have freehold/long term leases or licence agreements for their respective sites. Cadley FC states it's in the process of renewing its long-term lease at South Drive, Conway Drive and Sherwood Park from the Council. Most smaller clubs play on Council facilities which are classified as being secure.

Lancon Juniors currently use provision at Lancashire Constabulary, Training Headquarters, Hutton. Despite using the site for several years, and having a positive working relationship with the owners, the Club is classed as having unsecure tenure as there is no formal long term agreement in place. However, the site has been subject to planning proposals for development, but the police has indicated that they want to work to improve facilities for the football club at the site in future.

Pitch quality

The quality of football pitches across Central Lancashire has been assessed via a combination of site visits carried out in February 2025 (using non-technical assessments as determined by the FA), PitchPower reports (see below), and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating on a scale of good, standard and poor. For the full site assessment criteria, please refer to Appendix 2.

Pitch quality primarily influences the carrying capacity of a site; often pitches lack the drainage and maintenance necessary to sustain use. Pitches that receive little to no ongoing repair or post-season remedial work are likely to be assessed as poor, therefore limiting the number of games they can accommodate each week without it having a detrimental effect on quality.

Conversely, well maintained pitches are likely to be of a higher standard and capable of taking a number of matches without a significant reduction in surface quality.

The table below summarises the quality of community available pitches in Central Lancashire. Most pitches in Central Lancashire are assessed as poor quality, the main reasons relate more so to drainage issues coupled with heavy usage.

Table 2.4: Summary of pitch quality (community use pitches)

Pitch type	Good	Standard	Poor
2018			
Adult	16	29	32
Youth 11v11	3	22	33
Youth 9v9	7	17	38
Mini 7v7	2	23	33
Mini 5v5	-	2	24
Total	28 (10%)	93 (33%)	160 (57%)
2025			
Adult	11	36	23
Youth 11v11	14	19	23
Youth 9v9	14	20	23
Mini 7v7	12	13	22

³ <https://www.sportengland.org/funds-and-campaigns/use-our-school>

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Pitch type	Good	Standard	Poor
Mini 5v5	1	10	23
Total	52 (19%)	98 (38%)	114 (43%)

When broken down by Authority; Chorley has a total of 13 good (17%), 35 standard (37%) and 43 poor quality (46%) community available pitches.

Preston has a total of 16 good (26%), 28 standard (44%) and 19 poor quality (30%) community available pitches.

Finally, South Ribble has a total of 23 good (21%), 34 standard (31%) and 51 poor quality (47%) community available pitches.

As mentioned, in Part 1: Introduction and Methodology, there is evidence that Lancashire receives higher levels of rainfall when compared to the rest of the Country. This is a potential contributing factor as to why there are so a high proportion of poor quality pitches across Central Lancashire (most of the provision 43%). This is also further supported by club consultation, as outlined below.

Euxton Girls states the pitches at Greenside Recreation Field are poor quality due to heavy usage and poor drainage. However, it is currently accessing the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund to make improvements.

Penwortham Town is looking into purpose built drainage in order to improve the quality of the pitches at Vernon Carus Sports & Social Club.

Ribble Wanderers and St Anthony's indicate pitches at Wellfield Academy and Our Lady RC High School, respectively, drain poorly leading to games to be frequently postponed. The latter club aspire to gain access to at Mill Lane or Ashton Park if it cannot use the facilities at the School.

Adlington JFC reports the pitches located at King George V Field are poor quality due to heavy usage with some areas of the pitches heavily worn and suffering in wet conditions.

AFC Bamber states the pitches at Frenchwood Recreation Ground are poor quality due to the lack of maintenance and poor drainage. Additionally, Kingsfold JFC highlights the pitches located at Kingsfold Drive Playing Fields are poor quality due to drainage issues.

Chorley Council is in the process of upgrading two of the sites it manages namely Astley Park and Gillett Playing Fields both in the Chorley Central Analysis Area.

The former site has had pitch condition surveys undertaken with a budget in place for improvements. Initial plans are to drain the entire area then use evidence within the PPOSS to understand what pitch provision should be reinstated with a relevant anchor club/s to assigned. The pavilion is also set to be upgraded with extra storage added.

Regarding Gillet Fields, a masterplan is in situ, with improvements to the cricket square already carried out. Works are in progress to improve the football pitches and changing rooms on the site with planning permission obtained. Similarly, the PPOSS needs to identify the potential for a anchor club if feasible.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Pitch improvement

The FA has a Pitch Improvement Programme aimed at improving the standard of grass pitches across the Country. For provision included in the programme, clubs can utilise the services of the FF's PitchPower app to carry out a free on-site assessment of their pitches. This then provides the Grounds Management Association (GMA) with the detail needed to create a personalised, informative report to advise on how improvements can be made. Clubs then receive bespoke advice and support to help with any future actions, funding applications and equipment.

The web app is open to access by all providers, including clubs, schools and local authorities. Following a PitchPower report, organisations can work towards the recommended dedicated maintenance regime identified to improve the quality of their pitches. Applicants are required to submit a PitchPower assessment for each of their pitches as a condition of a grant funding application for FF grass pitch investment, such as the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (detailed later in this section).

PitchPower is less restricted by the seasonal window of in-season play than the non-technical assessments, instead being able to be undertaken within a 10-month period, with assessments completed and submitted within one of three windows: July - October, November – March or April – June.

As well as the completion of other supporting information such as detail of volunteer training and what maintenance equipment is available, the assessment requires the taking of images and a single soil sample at each assessment site. There are three assessment sites for adult and youth pitches at each goal area and the centre circle, whilst for mini pitches there are two sites at the centre circle and one goal area.

The PitchPower assessments use a new five step Performance Quality Standard (PQS) rating system developed by the GMA, with the FF and Sport England agreeing alignment with the capacity guidance within the existing PPS guidance. This alignment is shown in the table below.

Table 2.5: Agreed equivalent PPOSS quality rating for PQS ratings

PQS Rating	PPOSS quality rating
Poor	Poor
Basic	Standard
Good	Good
Advanced	Good
High	Good

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

In Central Lancashire, 40 sites have received a PitchPower assessment. The findings of these in comparison to the PPOSS findings are shown in the table below.

Table 2.6: Summary of PitchPower findings compared to PPOSS quality ratings

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	PitchPower rating	Submission date	PPOSS rating (2025)	Users	Comments	Agreed quality score to be used in the PPOSS
	Chorley							
175	West Way Sports Hub	Youth 11v11	Poor	26/02/2023	Good	Astley & Buckshaw Juniors FC	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from Astley & Buckshaw Juniors FC.	Good
175	West Way Sports Hub	Adult	-	-	Good	Astley & Buckshaw Juniors FC	No PP report remains as good quality.	Good
175	West Way Sports Hub	Mini 7v7	-	-	Good	Astley & Buckshaw Juniors FC	No PP report remains as good quality.	Good
180	Brinscall St John's C of E Methodist Primary School	Mini 7v7	Advanced	24/01/2023	Good	Brinscall Village JFC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good
180	Brinscall St John's C of E Methodist Primary School	Mini 7v7	-	-	Good	Brinscall Village JFC	No PP report remains as good quality.	Good
180	Brinscall St John's C of E Methodist Primary School	Mini 5v5	Advanced	24/01/2023	-	-	Pitch not marked out during non-tech assessment.	-
188	Charnock Richard Football Club	Adult	Basic	11/04/2021	Good	Charnock Richard FC	PP assessment to supersede non-tech report given evidence from recent PP visit.	Standard
188	Charnock Richard Football Club	Adult	-	-	Standard	Charnock Richard FC	No PP report remain as standard quality.	Standard
188	Charnock Richard Football Club	Youth 11v11	-	-	Standard	Charnock Richard FC	No PP report remain as standard quality.	Standard
188	Charnock Richard Football Club	Youth 9v9	-	-	Standard	Charnock Richard FC	No PP report remain as standard quality.	Standard
206	Eccleston Village Recreation Ground	Youth 11v11	Basic	08/08/2021	-	-	Pitch not marked out during non-tech assessment.	-
206	Eccleston Village Recreation Ground	Youth 11v11	Basic	08/08/2021	-	-	Pitch not marked out during non-tech assessment.	-
206	Eccleston Village Recreation Ground	Youth 11v11	Good	08/08/2021	-	-	Pitch not marked out during non-tech assessment.	-
206	Eccleston Village Recreation Ground	Mini 7v7	Basic	08/08/2021	-	-	Pitch not marked out during non-tech assessment.	-
206	Eccleston Village Recreation Ground	Adult	-	-	Standard	Eccleston & Heskin (Juniors) FC	No PP report remain as standard quality.	Standard
206	Eccleston Village Recreation Ground	Adult	-	-	Standard	Eccleston & Heskin (Juniors) FC	No PP report remain as standard quality.	Standard
206	Eccleston Village Recreation Ground	Youth 9v9	-	-	Standard	Eccleston & Heskin (Juniors) FC	No PP report remain as standard quality.	Standard
206	Eccleston Village Recreation Ground	Mini 5v5	-	-	Poor	Eccleston & Heskin (Juniors) FC	No PP report remain as poor quality.	Poor
214	Greenside Recreation Field	Various	Basic	27/02/2025	Poor	Euxton Girls FC	PP assessment to supersede non-tech report given evidence from recent PP visit.	Standard
221	Jim Fowlers Memorial Ground (Euxton Villa FC)	Various	Good / Advanced	13/05/2025	Standard	Euxton Villa FC	PP assessment to supersede non-tech report given evidence from recent PP visit.	Good
226	Mawdesley Cricket Club (Rectory Field)	Mini 7v7	Basic	22/03/2021	Poor	Mawdesley FC	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from non-tech visit.	Poor
231	Sandy Lane, Brinscall (BWARA)	Youth 9v9	Advanced	20/01/2023	Good	Brinscall Village JFC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good
237	St Michael's Church of England School and Performing Arts College	Youth 11v11	Basic	25/03/2024	Standard	Astley & Buckshaw Juniors FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
237	St Michael's Church of England School and Performing Arts College	Youth 9v9	Basic	25/03/2024	Standard	Astley & Buckshaw Juniors FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
237	St Michael's Church of England School and Performing Arts College	Mini 5v5	-	-	Poor	Astley & Buckshaw Juniors FC	No PP report remains as poor quality.	Poor
242	Twin Lakes (Croston Sports Club)	Youth 11v11	Good	02/07/2021	Standard	Croston Juniors FC	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from non-tech visit.	Standard
247	Whittle-Le-Woods FC	Adult	Good	27/10/2023	Good	Whittle Wanderers FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good
249	Withnell Fold Sports & Social Club	Mini 7v7	Good	25/01/2023	-	-	Pitch not marked out during non-tech assessment.	-
267	Clayton-Le-Woods C of E Primary School	Mini 7v7	Poor	18/12/2023	Poor	Whittle Wanderers FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Poor
277	Abbey Village Sports Field	Youth 11v11	Advanced	24/01/2023	Good	Brinscall Village JFC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	PitchPower rating	Submission date	PPOSS rating (2025)	Users	Comments	Agreed quality score to be used in the PPOSS
Preston								
1	Archbishop Temple School	Adult	Basic	17/03/2021	Standard	Archbishop Temple School	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
1	Archbishop Temple School	Adult	Basic	17/03/2021	-	-	Pitch not marked out during non-tech assessment.	-
1	Archbishop Temple School	Youth 11v11	Basic	17/03/2021	Standard	Archbishop Temple School	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
1	Archbishop Temple School	Youth 11v11	-	-	Standard	Archbishop Temple School	No PP report remain as standard quality.	Standard
1	Archbishop Temple School	Youth 9v9	-	-	Standard	Archbishop Temple School	No PP report remain as standard quality.	Standard
3	Ashton Park (Preston)	Youth 9v9	Good	20/05/2024	Standard	Fishwick Rangers	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from non-tech visit.	Standard
3	Ashton Park (Preston)	Youth 9v9	Basic	20/05/2024	Standard	Fishwick Rangers	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
5	BAC/EE	Adult	Basic	13/12/2020	Standard	Preston JFC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
5	BAC/EE	Youth 11v11	Good	13/12/2020	Standard	Preston JFC	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from non-tech visit.	Standard
5	BAC/EE	Mini 5v5	Good	13/12/2020	Standard	Preston JFC	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from non-tech visit.	Standard
5	BAC/EE	Youth 9v9	-	-	Standard	Preston JFC	No PP report remain as standard quality.	Standard
12	Conway Drive	Youth 11v11	Poor	12/07/2024	Good	Cadley FC	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from Cadley FC.	Good
12	Conway Drive	Youth 11v11	Poor	12/07/2024	Good	Cadley FC	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from Cadley FC.	Good
12	Conway Drive	Mini 7v7	Poor	12/07/2024	Good	Cadley FC	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from Cadley FC.	Good
12	Conway Drive	Mini 5v5	Poor	12/07/2024	Good	Cadley FC	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from Cadley FC.	Good
12	Conway Drive	Mini 5v5	Poor	12/07/2024	-	-	Pitch not marked out during non-tech assessment.	-
16	Fishwick Recreation Ground	Adult	Basic	10/03/2022	Standard	Midgery Court	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
17	Frenchwood Recreation Ground	Adult	Poor	10/03/2022	Poor	AFC Preston / Ribbleton Athletic / Sporting Preston	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Poor
17	Frenchwood Recreation Ground	Adult	Basic	10/03/2022	Poor	AFC Preston / Ribbleton Athletic / Sporting Preston	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from non-tech visit.	Poor
20	Fulwood Amateurs Association Football Club	Adult	Advanced	15/02/2025	Standard	Fulwood Amateur	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from Fulwood Amateur.	Good
20	Fulwood Amateurs Association Football Club	Youth 11v11	Advanced	15/02/2025	Standard	Fulwood Amateur	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from Fulwood Amateur.	Good
46	Mill Lane Playing Fields	Adult	Basic	10/03/2022	Standard	FC Bartle	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
48	Moor Park	Adult	Poor	10/05/2024	Poor	Ashton Villa MHFC / Fishwick Rangers / Freckleton FC (Sunday) / Greenland FC / Springfields (Preston)	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Poor
48	Moor Park	Adult	Poor	10/05/2024	Poor	Ashton Villa MHFC / Fishwick Rangers / Freckleton FC (Sunday) / Greenland FC / Springfields (Preston)	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Poor
48	Moor Park	Adult	Poor	10/05/2024	Poor	Ashton Villa MHFC / Fishwick Rangers / Freckleton FC (Sunday) / Greenland FC / Springfields (Preston)	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Poor

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	PitchPower rating	Submission date	PPOSS rating (2025)	Users	Comments	Agreed quality score to be used in the PPOSS
48	Moor Park	Adult	Basic	10/05/2024	Standard	Ashton Villa MHFC / Fishwick Rangers / Freckleton FC (Sunday) / Greenland FC / Springfields (Preston)	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
48	Moor Park	Adult	Basic	10/05/2024	-	-	Pitch not marked out during non-tech assessment.	-
48	Moor Park	Adult	Basic	10/05/2024	-	-	Pitch not marked out during non-tech assessment.	-
60	Preston Sports Club	Youth 11v11	Poor	10/03/2022	Good	BAC/EE Preston JFC	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from non-tech visit.	Good
60	Preston Sports Club	Youth 9v9	Poor	10/03/2022	-	-	Pitch not marked out during non-tech assessment.	-
60	Preston Sports Club	Mini 7v7	Poor	10/03/2022	Good	BAC/EE Preston JFC	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from non-tech visit.	Good
63	Ribbleton Park	Adult	Basic	22/05/2024	Standard	Fishwick Rangers / Wilbraham Athletic	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
63	Ribbleton Park	Youth 11v11	Basic	22/05/2024	Standard	Fishwick Rangers / Wilbraham Athletic	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
63	Ribbleton Park	Youth 9v9	Basic	22/05/2024	-	-	Pitch not marked out during non-tech assessment.	-
63	Ribbleton Park	Mini 7v7	-	-	Standard	Fishwick Rangers / Wilbraham Athletic	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
65	South Drive	Youth 9v9	Basic	12/07/2024	Good	Cadley FC	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from Cadley FC.	Good
65	South Drive	Youth 9v9	Basic	12/07/2024	Good	Cadley FC	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from Cadley FC.	Good
77	Tanterton Playing Fields	Adult	Basic	25/10/2022	Standard	Sir Tom Finney FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
77	Tanterton Playing Fields	Adult	Basic	25/10/2022	Standard	Sir Tom Finney FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
79	Sherwood Park	Youth 11v11	Poor	12/07/2024	Good	Cadley FC	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from Cadley FC.	Good
79	Sherwood Park	Youth 9v9	Poor	12/07/2024	Good	Cadley FC	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from Cadley FC.	Good
79	Sherwood Park	Youth 9v9	Poor	12/07/2024	Good	Cadley FC	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from Cadley FC.	Good
79	Sherwood Park	Mini 7v7	Poor	12/07/2024	Good	Cadley FC	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from Cadley FC.	Good
278	Millennium Hall (Mill Field)	Youth 9v9	Good	19/02/2025	Good	Longsands JFC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good
278	Millennium Hall (Mill Field)	Mini 7v7	Good	19/02/2025	Good	Longsands JFC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good
South Ribble								
45	Longton Victory Memorial Recreation Ground	Youth 9v9	Basic	24/07/2024	Standard	New Longton Rovers Juniors FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
86	All Saints' Church of England Primary School	Mini 7v7	Basic	24/07/2024	Standard	New Longton Rovers Juniors FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
90	Cardinal Newman College (Off Site Playing Fields) Kem Mill Lane	Adult	Good	29/03/2025	Good	Penwortham Town FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good
90	Cardinal Newman College (Off Site Playing Fields) Kem Mill Lane	Adult	Good	29/03/2025	Good	Penwortham Town FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good
90	Cardinal Newman College (Off Site Playing Fields) Kem Mill Lane	Youth 9v9	Good	29/03/2025	Good	Penwortham Town FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good
90	Cardinal Newman College (Off Site Playing Fields) Kem Mill Lane	Mini 7v7	Basic	29/03/2025	Standard	Penwortham Town FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	PitchPower rating	Submission date	PPOSS rating (2025)	Users	Comments	Agreed quality score to be used in the PPOSS
99	Fox Lane Sports Club	Various	Good	14/02/2025	Standard	Leyland Albion FC	PP assessment to supersede non-tech score given most recent report data.	Good
119	Longton Playing Field	Youth 11v11	Basic	24/07/2024	Standard	New Longton Rovers Juniors FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
123	Lostock St Gerards Football Club	Adult	Advanced	29/04/2024	Good	Lostock St Gerards FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good
123	Lostock St Gerards Football Club	Adult	Good	29/04/2024	Good	Lostock St Gerards FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good
123	Lostock St Gerards Football Club	Mini 7v7	Good	29/04/2024	Good	Lostock St Gerards FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good
123	Lostock St Gerards Football Club	Youth 9v9	-	-	Good	Lostock St Gerards FC	No PP report remain as good quality.	Good
132	New Longton Village Hall	Youth 9v9	Basic	24/07/2024	Standard	New Longton Rovers Juniors FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
132	New Longton Village Hall	Mini 7v7	Basic	07/05/2024	Standard	New Longton Rovers Juniors FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
145	Walton-Le-Dale Juniors FC	Youth 9v9	Advanced	18/03/2025	Good	Walton-le-Dale Juniors	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good
145	Walton-Le-Dale Juniors FC	Mini 7v7	Good	18/03/2025	Standard	Walton-le-Dale Juniors	PP assessment to supersede non-tech score given most recent report data.	Good
145	Walton-Le-Dale Juniors FC	Youth 11v11	-	-	Standard	Walton-le-Dale Juniors	No PP report remain as standard quality.	Standard
145	Walton-Le-Dale Juniors FC	Mini 7v7	-	-	Poor	Walton-le-Dale Juniors	No PP report remain as poor quality.	Poor
151	St Marys Catholic High School (Leyland)	Youth 11v11	Basic	26/02/2024	Standard	Leyland B.T.R / Leyland Pirates Football Club	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
151	St Marys Catholic High School (Leyland)	Youth 11v11	Basic	26/02/2024	Standard	Leyland B.T.R / Leyland Pirates Football Club	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Standard
159	Vernon Carus Sports & Social Club	Adult	Advanced	29/03/2025	Good	Penwortham Town FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good
159	Vernon Carus Sports & Social Club	Youth 9v9	Good	29/03/2025	Good	Penwortham Town FC	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good
254	BTR Fields	Adult	Good	30/06/2021	Standard	Earnshaw Bridge FC	Non-tech assessment to supersede PP report given evidence from non-tech visit.	Standard
254	BTR Fields	Adult	-	-	Standard	Earnshaw Bridge FC	No PP report remain as standard quality.	Standard
256	Penwortham Priory Academy	Youth 11v11	Good	26/02/2025	Good	AFC Penwortham / Penwortham St Teresa's / Penwortham Town / PNE Women (Juniors)	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good
256	Penwortham Priory Academy	Youth 11v11	Good	26/02/2025	Good	AFC Penwortham / Penwortham St Teresa's / Penwortham Town / PNE Women (Juniors)	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good
256	Penwortham Priory Academy	Youth 11v11	Good	26/02/2025	Good	AFC Penwortham / Penwortham St Teresa's / Penwortham Town / PNE Women (Juniors)	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good
256	Penwortham Priory Academy	Youth 11v11	Good	26/02/2025	Good	AFC Penwortham / Penwortham St Teresa's / Penwortham Town / PNE Women (Juniors)	PP report score and non-tech assessment correspond.	Good
256	Penwortham Priory Academy	Youth 9v9	Good	26/02/2025	Standard	AFC Penwortham / Penwortham St Teresa's / Penwortham Town / PNE Women (Juniors)	PP assessment to supersede non-tech score given most recent report data.	Good
256	Penwortham Priory Academy	Youth 9v9	Good	26/02/2025	Standard	AFC Penwortham / Penwortham St Teresa's / Penwortham Town / PNE Women (Juniors)	PP assessment to supersede non-tech score given most recent report data.	Good
275	Richard Holmes Memorial Ground	Adult	Good	16/04/2025	Standard	Walmer Bridge FC	PP assessment to supersede non-tech score given most recent report data.	Good

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	PitchPower rating	Submission date	PPOSS rating (2025)	Users	Comments	Agreed quality score to be used in the PPOSS
275	Richard Holmes Memorial Ground	Youth 9v9	Good	16/04/2025	Standard	Walmer Bridge FC	PP assessment to supersede non-tech score given most recent report data.	Good

DRAFT

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Where there are discrepancies, it has been agreed with the FF and Lancashire FA to use the PPOSS quality scores, as these, alongside consultation with clubs are the most up to date. The pitches where the non-technical assessments have superseded the PitchPower reports are located at Ashton Park, BAC/EE, Frenchwood Recreation Ground, Greenside Recreation Field, Mawdesley Cricket Club (Rectory Field), Twin Lakes (Croston Sports Club) and BTR Fields this is due to visible drainage issues that were identified during the non-technical assessments and issues raised through consultation with clubs.

Additionally, there are 17 pitches across six sites which the non-technical assessments have superseded the PitchPower reports due to quality improving at these sites since the PitchPower assessments were carried out.

*Football Foundation (FF) Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund*⁴

With quality of grass pitches becoming one of the biggest influences on participation in football, the FA has made it a priority to work towards improving quality of grass pitches across the country. This has resulted in the creation of the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (GPMF). As part of this, grass pitches identified as having quality issues by the GMA via PitchPower assessment can apply to access funding to improve pitches to good quality or sustain them at good quality.

Once a PitchPower grass pitch assessment report has been produced for the site, eligible organisations can then apply for grant funding support through the FF Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund, a fund offering six-year tapered grants to help eligible clubs/organisations enhance or sustain the quality of their grass pitches. The fund is a key part of the FF's Grass Pitch Improvement Programme - an ambition to deliver 12,000 quality grass pitches by 2028.

If a site is categorised as 'poor' or 'basic' then organisations can apply for funding to enhance pitch quality, whilst clubs with good or standard quality pitches can also apply for a lower level of funding to sustain quality.

All applicants must have the landowner's permission (as a minimum) and have received a PitchPower Pitch Assessment Report, with the fund currently open to football clubs, (excluding pitches used for men's National League System play), leagues, education establishments, Club Community Organisations (CCOs), County FAs, Parish & Town Councils, Women's Football Pyramid (Tiers 1-4) and charities.

Several clubs/sites in Central Lancashire have been awarded funding from the FF to improve the quality of their pitches including, Astley & Buckshaw Juniors FC, Whittle Wanderers FC, Euxton Girls FC, Brinscall Village JFC, Ecclestone & Heskin (Juniors) FC, Longsands Lynx Community Junior Football Club, Preston Sports Club, Penwortham Priory Academy, Lostock St Gerards FC, Penwortham Town FC, Walmer Bridge FC and Leyland Albion FC.

Ancillary facilities

Ancillary facility ratings are primarily influenced by the type of amenities which are available on a site accompanied by their quality, such as a clubhouse, changing rooms, car parking, dedicated official and spectator facilities. Good quality ancillary facilities are particularly important for rugby clubs as they can assist with income generation. Furthermore, it is becoming increasingly important for the provision to be inclusive, particularly due to growing women's and girls', disability and junior/mini demand.

⁴ [Link to the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund](#)

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Although the size and configuration of ancillary provision may alter based on the sports using the provision, and the number of pitches it services, generally the same principles are recommended to allow for varied use from all demographics:

- ◀ Accessible changing areas which can be separated, or are private/self-contained, to allow for separate male/female/all gender or senior/junior separation
- ◀ A private accessible changing room (with relevant changing and showering provision) for someone who requires assistance
- ◀ Separate female / male / all gender toilet provision
- ◀ Suitably designed and specified showering cubicles to all users to maintain dignity and privacy whilst showering.

Open planned changing, toilets and particularly showering facilities can provide a significant barrier to many people resulting in them either not taking part or having a poorer sporting experience.

As a result of the above, those ancillary facilities that do not meet the above criteria, cannot be rated anything higher than standard quality for the purposes of this document. Additional context behind the rationale is provided below.

Please note the information does not include primary schools which generally only provide mini pitches with the relevant teams not requiring access to changing rooms as teams generally come ready to play.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Table 2.7: Ancillary provision at community available grass pitch sites

Site ID	Site name	Clubs	Type of demand	Overall building quality	Changing room quality ⁵	Comments
-	Chorley	-	-	-	-	-
174	Astley Park	Whittle Wanderers	Youth boys	Standard	Poor	Ancillary facilities are outdated and in need of modernisation. Plans are underway to improve these facilities.
175	West Way Sports Hub	Astley & Buckshaw Juniors / Astley FC / Brinscall Village JFC / Chorley FC / Chorley Wanderers Juniors / Ribble Wanderers / Fishwick Rangers	Mini mixed Youth boys Youth girls Adult men	Good	Good	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site for football
177	Bishop Rawstone C of E Language College	Croston Sports Club Juniors / Euxton Villa / Mawdesley	Youth boys Youth girls Adult men	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
179	Bretherton Recreation Ground	Croston Sports Club Juniors	Mini mixed	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
180	Brinscall St John Primary School	Brinscall Village JFC	Mini mixed	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
181	Brinscall Village Junior Football Club	Brinscall Village JFC	Youth boys	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
183	Buckshaw Primary School	JFC Chorley	Mini mixed	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
184	Buckshaw Village Community Association	Astley & Buckshaw Juniors / Euxton Girls	Youth boys Youth girls Adult women	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
188	Charnock Richard Football Club (Mossie Park)	Charnock Richard FC / Charnock Richard Junior	Mini mixed Youth boys Adult men	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
192	Brookfields Park (Previously Chorley Rugby Union Club)	Astley & Buckshaw Juniors	Youth boys Adult men	Good	Good	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site for football
198	Coppull United	Chorley Women FC / Coppull United	Adult women Adult men	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
200	Croston Sports Club	Croston Sports Club / Croston Sports Club Juniors	Youth boys Adult men	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
206	Eccleston Recreation Ground	Eccleston & Heskin (Juniors) / Eccleston & Heskin (Senior)	Mini mixed Youth boys Adult men	Standard	Poor	Site was originally FF funded in 2003 however needs refurbishment especially to accommodate growth from women and girls demand.
207	Eccleston St Mary's CE Primary School	Eccleston & Heskin (Juniors)	Mini mixed	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
211	Gillett Playing Fields	-	Youth 11v11	Standard	Standard	Planning permission has recently been granted for a new pavilion including changing facilities and carparking to accommodate both football and cricket.
212	Buttermere Green	Freestyle Urban Soccer	Youth boys	Good	Good	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site for football. Provision also used by teams accessing adjacent playing pitch site Gillibrand Playing Pitches.
213	Great Green's Lane Playing Pitch	Bamber Bridge United	Adult men	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
214	Greenside Recreation Field	Euxton Girls	Mini mixed Youth girls	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
217	Highfield Primary School	Chorley Wanderers Junior	Mini mixed	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
220	Holy Cross High School	Chorley Wanderers Junior	Mini mixed Youth boys	Standard	Poor	Overall building is of standard quality however changing rooms need modernisation due to school and community use.

⁵ Including changing areas, toilets and showering facilities.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Clubs	Type of demand	Overall building quality	Changing room quality ⁵	Comments
221	Jim Fowlers Memorial Ground (Euxton Villa FC)	Euxton Villa FC	Mini mixed Youth boys Youth girls Adult men	Good	Good	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site for football
222	Jubilee Playing Pitches	Bridge Celtic / Adlington Juniors	Youth boys Adult men	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
223	King George V Field	Adlington Juniors	Mini mixed Youth boys Youth girls	Good	Good	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site for football
231	Sandy Lane, Brinscall (BWARA)	Brinscall Village JFC	Youth boys Youth girls	Standard	Poor	Provision needs improving to cater for all types of demand accessing the site (boys and girls).
232	Southlands High School	Chorley Wanderers Junior / Gillibrand Warriors	Mini mixed Youth boys	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
242	Twin Lakes (Croston Sports Club)	Croston Sports Club Juniors	Youth boys	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
243	Victory Park - Chorley FC	Chorley FC	Adult men	Good	Good	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site for football
247	Whittle-le-Woods FC	Whittle Wanderers	Youth boys Adult men	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
257	St Josephs Catholic Primary School	Freestyle Urban Soccer	Mini mixed	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite. The Club report no access to toilet facilities.
263	Brindle Gregson Lane Primary School	Walton North End JFC	Youth boys	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
269	Rivington and Blackrod High School	Old Rivington Sports Club	Mini mixed Youth boys Youth girls Adult men	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
277	Abbey Village (BVJFC)	Brinscall Village JFC	Youth boys	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
331	St Johns C of E Primary School	Pine Villa	Mini mixed	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
332	Euxton Primrose Hill Primary School	Leyland Albion FC	Mini mixed Youth boys	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
335	Cottage Fields	-		N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
336	Tansley Park	-		N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
-	Preston	-	-	-	-	-
2	Ashton Community Science College	Cadley / Ribbleton FC	Mini mixed Youth boys Adult men	Standard	Poor	Overall building is of standard quality however changing rooms need modernisation due to school and community use.
3	Ashton Park	Fishwick Rangers	Youth boys	Poor	Poor	Buildings not currently fit for use – disused. Plans in process to create new facilities on the site as the current provision would require demolishing.
5	BAC/EE	BAC/EE Preston Juniors JFC	Youth boys Adult men	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
11	Christ the King Catholic High School	Ribbleton FC / Walton North End JFC	Mini mixed Youth boys	Poor	Poor	Facilities are tired / dated and in need of modernisation due to school and community use.
12	Conway Drive	Cadley FC	Mini mixed Youth boys Youth girls Adult men Adult women	Standard	Poor	Ancillary facilities are outdated and in need of modernisation. There are aspirations to improve the overall ancillary provision including enhancing changing rooms and increasing carparking. Site also suffers from vandalism and unofficial access.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Clubs	Type of demand	Overall building quality	Changing room quality ⁵	Comments
13	Corpus Christi Catholic High School	Preston City FC	Youth boys Youth girls Adult men	Standard	Poor	Overall building is of standard quality however changing rooms need modernisation due to school and community use.
16	Fishwick Recreation Ground (London Road)	Midgery Court	Adult men	Poor	Poor	No dedicated clubhouse with basic changing rooms available.
17	Frenchwood Recreation Ground	AFC Preston / Ribbleton Athletic / Sporting Preston	Adult men	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
19	Fulwood Academy	Chorley FC / Longsands JFC	Mini mixed Youth boys Youth girls	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
20	Fulwood Amateurs Association Football Club	Fulwood Amateur	Youth boys Adult men	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
22	Goosnargh Village Football Club	-		N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
28	Grimsargh Cricket Club	Myerscough Junior F.D.C	Youth girls	Good	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
41	King George V Playing Field, Broughton Village	-		N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
42	Lea Community Primary School	Springfields	Mini mixed Youth boys	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
46	Mill Lane Playing Field	FC Bartle	Adult men	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
48	Moor Park	FC Friargate / Fishwick Rangers / Freckleton FC / Greenland FC / Moor Park United / Springfields / The Lonsdale Casuals	Youth boys Adult men	Poor	Poor	Ancillary facilities are outdated and in need of modernisation. Plans are underway to improve these facilities with funding granted.
51	Our Lady RC High School	St Anthony's SC FC	Adult men	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
59	University of Lancashire	Fulwood Amateur / Preston North End FC / Preston North End Women FC / Sir Tom Finney FC	Mini mixed Youth boys Youth girls Adult men Adult women	Good	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
60	Preston Sports Club	BAC/EE Preston JFC	Mini mixed Youth boys	Good	Good	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
63	Ribbleton Park	Ribbleton FC / Fishwick Rangers / Willbraham Athletics	Mini mixed Youth boys Youth girls Adult men	Poor	Poor	Ancillary facilities are outdated and in need of modernisation. Plans are underway to improve these facilities with funding granted.
65	South Drive	Cadley FC	Youth boys Youth girls	Standard	Poor	Current provision is not suitable for the levels demand on the site and is situated far away from the actual pitches. There are aspirations to improve the overall ancillary provision.
76	Station Lane	-		N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
77	Tanterton Playing Fields	Sir Tom Finney FC	Youth boys	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
79	Sherwood Park	Cadley FC	Mini mixed Youth boys	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
97	Frank Thompson Sports Ground	Gregson Lane JFC	Youth boys Adult men	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
278	Millennium Hall (Mill Field)	Longsands JFC	Mini mixed Youth boys	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
South Ribble						
45	Longton Victory Memorial Ground	New Longton Rovers JFC	Youth boys	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
85	All Hallows Catholic High School	Penwortham St Teresa's	Youth boys	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Clubs	Type of demand	Overall building quality	Changing room quality ⁵	Comments
86	All Saints' Church of England Primary School	New Longton Rovers JFC	Mini mixed	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
87	Balshaw's C of E High School	Lostock Hall Juniors / Euxton Villa / Chorley FC	Youth boys Youth girls	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
88	Bamber Bridge FC (QED Stadium)	Bamber Bridge / Blackpool FC	Adult men	Good	Good	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
90	Cardinal Newman College (Off site playing fields)	Cardinal Newman College / Penwortham Town	Mini mixed Youth boys Youth girls Adult men Adult women	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
99	Fox Lane Sports Club	Leyland Albion FC	Mini mixed Youth boys	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
100	Gregson Lane	Gregson Lane JFC	Mini mixed Youth boys	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site. This is within the onsite community centre.
103	Higher Walton Primary School	Walton North End JFC	Mini mixed	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
104	Holland House Road Football Pitch	Walton-Le-Dale Juniors	Youth boys	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
108	Hutton C of E Grammar School	Penwortham St Teresa's	Adult men	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
107	Hurst Grange Park	-		N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
109	Hutton Playing Field	Penwortham St Teresa's	Youth boys	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
110	King George V Playing Field, Higher Walton	Bamber Bridge Town / Bamber Bridge United Seniors / Walton-Le-Dale Juniors	Youth boys Adult men	Poor	Poor	There is a need to improve the current provision due to not suitable for the levels demand on the site.
111	King George V Playing Field, Penwortham	-		N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
112	Kingsfold Drive Playing Fields	Kingsfold FC / Penwortham St Teresa's	Mini mixed Youth boys Adult men	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
114	Lancashire Constabulary Training Headquarters	Lancon Juniors / Lancashire Constabulary	Mini mixed Youth boys Youth girls Adult men Adult women	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
115	Lancashire County Football Association Headquarters	AFC Ashwood / Appley Bridge / Blackburn Rovers FC / Brinscall Village JFC / Euxton Villa / Leyland Albion FC / Lostock Hall Juniors / New Longton Rovers / Preston Guild / SRDC / The Beehive FC	Mini mixed Youth boys Youth girls Adult men	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
116	Leyland Methodists Junior School	Ribble Wanderers	Mini mixed	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
119	Longton Playing Field	-		N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
120	Lostock Hall Academy	Lostock Hall Juniors	Youth boys Youth Girls	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
121	Lostock Hall Community Primary School	Lostock Hall Juniors	Mini mixed	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
123	Lostock St Gerards FC	Lostock St Gerards	Mini mixed Youth boys Youth girls Adult men Adult women	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
129	Much Hoole Playing Field	Hoole United	Adult men	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
131	New Longton Sports & Social Club	New Longton Rovers JFC / New Longton Rovers (Seniors)	Youth boys Adult men	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
132	New Longton Village Hall	-		N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Clubs	Type of demand	Overall building quality	Changing room quality ⁵	Comments
139	Penwortham Holme Recreation Centre	Used by multiple clubs as site is a central venue	Mini mixed	Poor	Poor	Buildings not currently fit for use and in need of upgrading and modernisation. This site is used as a central venue for Mid Lancashire Colts JFL.
145	Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale)	Walton-Le-Dale Juniors	Mini mixed Youth boys	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
146	Runshaw College	Runshaw College	Adult men Adult women	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
147	Seven Stars Primary School	SRDC	Mini mixed	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
151	St Mary's Catholic High School & College	Leyland BTR / Leyland Pirates	Mini mixed Youth boys	Standard	Standard	Leyland BTR indicate provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
157	Lostock Hall Recreation Ground (Tardy Gate Playing Fields)	Lostock Hall FC	Adult men	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
159	Vernon Carus Sports & Social Club	Penwortham Town / Vernons Vets	Youth boys Youth girls Adult men Adult women	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
161	Walton-Le-Dale High School	Gregson Lane JFC	Mini mixed Youth boys Youth girls	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
162	Walton-Le-Dale Primary School	Walton Le Dale Juniors	Mini Mixed	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
163	St Cuthbert's Playing Field	Lostock Hall Juniors	Mini Mixed	Poor	Poor	Ancillary facilities are outdated and in need of modernisation.
164	Wellfield Academy	Ribble Wanderers	Youth boys	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
166	Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre)	Various	Mini mixed Youth boys Youth girls Adult men	Good	Good	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
167	Woodlea Junior School	Bamber Bridge United	Mini mixed Youth boys	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
168	Worden Park	Chorley Wanderers Juniors / Euxton Villa / Gables FC / Gregson Lane Wanderers / Leyland Albion FC / Leyland Seven Stars FC / Worden Rangers	Youth boys Adult men	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
169	Academy @ Worden	Leyland Pirates FC	Adult men	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
254	BTR Recreation Ground	Leyland Albion FC	Youth boys	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.
256	Penwortham Priory Academy	Penwortham St Teresa's	Mini mixed Youth boys Youth girls	Standard	Poor	Overall building is of standard quality however changing rooms need modernisation due to school and community use.
259	Brownedge St Mary's Catholic High School	Leyland Pirates FC	Mini mixed Youth boys	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
275	Richard Holmes Memorial Ground	Walmer Bridge	Mini mixed Adult men	Standard	Standard	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.
333	Moor Hey School	Lockstock Hall Juniors	Youth girls	N/A	N/A	No purpose-built ancillary provision onsite.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

As seen in the table above, 16 sites across Central Lancashire have poor quality changing facilities largely due to the fact they are outdated and need modernisation or do not offer suitable separation between male/female or adult/youth. The changing facilities located at Ashton Park, Moor Park, Ribbleton Park and Astley Park are all identified as poor quality with improvement plans underway.

Charnock Richard JFC report plans to improve the changing rooms at Charnock Richard Football Club (Mossie Park) to make them more accessible for women and girls' demand.

A planning application (24/00459/CB3) has recently been approved for the development of a new pavilion, resurfacing of car parking and refurbishment of existing toilet block to provide a grounds maintenance store located at Gillet Playing Fields. The ratings referenced above are based on the improvements already being made, as they will have been completed before the completion of this document.

As seen in the table above there is a broad understanding that across the three authorities accompanying ancillary provision is not of suitable quality and/or cannot be accessed (primarily at education sites). This is particularly for accommodating differing types of demographics such women and girls demand and mini / youth and adult demand. In order to accommodate current demand and allow for growth there is a need to improve these facilities. Strategic sites will be outlined in the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document on where enhancements need to be made.

2.3: Demand

In total there are 798 football teams across 112 clubs which currently play within Central Lancashire with most teams competing at youth 11v11 (27% or 214 teams), this is closely followed by adult teams (22% or 172 teams).

Table 2.8: Summary of football demand in Central Lancashire

Age group	No. of teams
Adult Men's (16-45)	127
Adult Women's (16-45)	22
Youth Boys (12-15)	192
Youth Girls (12-15)	45
Youth Boys (10-11)	109
Youth Girls (10-11)	27
Mini Mixed (8-9)	138
Mini Mixed (6-7)	138
Total	798

Football in Central Lancashire is played more within South Ribble (44%) with 354 teams and most in Penwortham Analysis Area (142 teams) followed by the Chorley with 231 teams (29%) and Preston with 213 teams (27%). This is further summarised in the following table.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 2.9: Number of teams by analysis area

Analysis area	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
Central	16	30	16	23	10	95
East	5	13	8	6	-	32
West	9	38	21	23	13	104
Chorley – Total	30	81	45	52	23	231
North East	10	11	11	3	-	35
North West	29	46	16	14	8	113
South	17	16	15	11	6	65
Preston - Total	56	73	42	28	14	213
Central	1	11	5	5	-	22
Eastern	15	18	19	16	9	77
Leyland	26	23	11	15	-	75
Penwortham	12	20	10	14	86	142
Western Parishes	9	11	4	8	6	38
South Ribble – Total	63	83	49	58	101	354
Central Lancashire	149	237	136	138	138	798

There has been an overall increase in demand (by 19%) since the 2018 study with a further 149 teams being accommodated across Central Lancashire. It should be noted that the above figures do not include exported demand, which is outlined in greater detail later in the section.

It should be noted that the above figures include 12 teams from disability leagues and health initiatives such as Lancashire FA Ability Counts and Man v Fat. This demand has been factored into the supply and demand analysis below and included within the FA Training Scenario within Part 3: Third Generation Turf (3G), as most of the competitive play takes place on artificial surfaces.

National League System demand

The National League System (NLS) is a series of interconnected leagues for adult men's football clubs in England. It begins below the Football League (from the National League at Step 1) and comprises of six steps, with various leagues at each level and more leagues lower down the system than at the top. The NLS has a hierarchical format with promotion and relegation between the steps, allowing even the smallest club the theoretical possibility of rising to the top of the system.

Clubs playing within the NLS must adhere to Stadium Accreditation⁶ requirements set out by the FA. The higher the level of football being played the higher the requirements. Clubs cannot progress into the league above if the ground grading requirements do not meet the correct specifications. Stadium Accreditation assesses grounds from Grade 1 to 7, which aligns with Step 1 clubs down to Step 6 clubs making the transition from Regional Feeder League. Please refer to the FA website⁷ for the full specifications for each.

Four teams from four clubs play within the NLS, as seen in the table below. This is in addition to professional club, Preston North End FC, which plays within the Championship.

⁶ <https://premierleaguestadiumfund.co.uk/stadium-accreditation-programme>

⁷ <http://www.thefa.com/get-involved/player/ground-grading>

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 2.10: Summary of teams playing within the NLS

Team	League	Level
Charnock Richard FC	North West Counties Football League	Step 5
Chorley FC	National League North	Step 2
Euxton Villa	North West Counties Football League	Step 5
Bamber Bridge	Northern Premier League	Step 3

It should be noted that Coppull United, Croston Sports Club and Lostock St Gerards all have teams that play within the Regional Feeder League to Step 6 in the West Lancashire Football League.

Bamber Bridge has highlighted it is facing financial difficulties following a decrease in sponsorship and attendance. The Club has reached out to its community and recently started a fundraiser to support them through these challenges.

Women's National League System

Correspondingly there is a Women's National League System similar to the adult men's which provide structure to the women's game. This ranges from Tier 1 to Tier 6 with each Tier requiring differing ground grading requirements.

Although women's clubs still need to meet ground requirements set out by the FA these differ from the men's National League System. Ratings range from grade A to C each with differing minimum requirements. Tier 1 and 2 in the Women's National League System is akin to Tier 3 and 4 of the men's National League System, although not exactly the same. The system is also hierarchical format with promotion and relegation between the levels, allowing even the smallest club the theoretical possibility of rising to the top of the system.

Table 2.11: Summary of teams playing within the Women's NLS

Team	League	Level
Preston North End Women FC	North West Women's Regional League	Tier 6
Chorley Women FC	FA Women's National League	Tier 4
Sir Tom Finney FC	Lancashire Women's County League	Tier 6
Penwortham Town	North West Women's Regional League	Tier 6

As seen above Preston North End Women FC, Chorley Women FC, Sir Tom Finney FC and Penwortham Town all have teams that play within the Women's NLS.

Chorley Women have a development team 'Chorley Development' allocated into Tier 6 NW Regional Football League D1 North for 2025/26.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Additional demand

Walking football

Walking football⁸ is an alternate version of football than the format which is governed by The Walking Football Association. The sport has picked up popularity in recent years and has a typical demographic of over 50s for men and over 40s for women. It provides a less physically demanding version of the usual game due to the rules not allowing for any contact or fast-paced movement thus providing a more inclusive game for participants.

Whilst the game is governed by The Walking Football Association, and it provides competitive structures through national cup competitions. Much of the activation work undertaken nationally for this activity type is promoted by professional football club community organisations or by leading community grassroots football clubs.

Chorley FC Community Foundation offers walking football sessions in Chorley with sessions held at Clayton Green Sports Centre on Tuesdays and Inspire Youth Zone on Fridays from 10:30 until 11:30.

Preston North End Walking Football host regular walking football sessions on Tuesday evenings from 19:00 until 20:00 and Friday mornings from 09:45 until 11:00 located at Woodlumpton Road (PR2 3TS).

Walking football sessions are held at the South Ribble Tennis & Fitness Centre on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. It should be noted that sessions held on Mondays are free and open to everyone.

Disability football

The FA released a new four-year strategy for disability football in England known as Football Without Limits with one key aim to increase the number of players by more than a third across all disability football formats, reaching 28,300 registered players by 2028. Disability football formats include, pan disability football, amputee football, blind football, cerebral palsy football, deaf football, frame football, partially sighted football, powerchair football and other disability football.

There are several clubs across Central Lancashire which cater for disability groups and teams including Chorley Wanderers JFC, Lancashire and Mersey Amputees and Sir Tom Finney Preston Soccer Centre. Additionally, disability football sessions are held at PlayFootball Preston every Friday from 7pm.

Training

Access to affordable sports lit training facilities is a significant issue for most clubs in Central Lancashire, particularly those with many youth and mini teams. Of the 36 clubs that responded to consultation requests, 23 state a demand for additional training facilities with some of their teams struggling to train due to not being able to find a training location.

⁸ <https://thewfa.co.uk/who-plays-walking-football/>
<https://thewfa.co.uk/womens-walking-football/>

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

There are currently 19 11v11 3G pitches in Central Lancashire and an additional 14 small sided 3G pitches. However, some clubs indicate that they train outside of Central Lancashire to access suitable 3G pitches at the following sites:

- ◀ Longridge High School (Longridge Town Juniors - Ribble Valley).
- ◀ Centenary Sports Ground (Hesketh Bank FC - West Lancashire).

In Central Lancashire there are several clubs which have feeder teams. These teams consist of children under the age of seven who are not old enough to participate in formalised league matches and instead train on a regular basis. Clubs with feeder teams have aspirations to eventually progress to compete in competitive fixtures once they have reached the required age. Astley & Buckshaw Juniors, Cadley FC, Sir Tom Finney Soccer Centre, Gregson Lane JFC, Lostock Hall Juniors and Penwortham Town all have feeder teams which train on a regular basis. For more information regarding training see Part 3: Third Generation Turf (3G) Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs).

Latent demand

Latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision. The table below shows consultation findings where clubs have identified where their growth in teams is limited by a lack of suitable quantity/quality match pitches, training facilities (specifically 3G pitches) and ancillary facilities.

Table 2.12: Potential team increases identified by clubs

Club name	Analysis area	Match pitches	Training facilities	Ancillary facilities
Adlington JFC	Chorley Central	Yes	Yes	Yes
AFC Bamber	South Ribble Eastern	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ashton Villa MHFC	Preston South	Yes	Yes	Yes
Astley & Buckshaw Juniors	Chorley West	Yes	Yes	Yes
Astley FC	Chorley West	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bamber Bridge Utd (S)	South Ribble Eastern	No	No	No
Brinscall Village JFC	Chorley East	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cadley FC	Preston North East	No	Yes	Yes
Charnock Richard JFC	Chorley Central	Yes	Yes	No
Chorley Wanderers	Chorley Central	Yes	No	No
Chorley Women FC	Chorley Central	Yes	Yes	Yes
Euxton Girls	Chorley West	Yes	Yes	No
Freestyle Urban Soccer FC	Chorley Central	No	Yes	No
Fulwood Amateur	Preston North West	Yes	Yes	No
Gillibrand Warriors FC	Chorley Central	No	Yes	No
Gregson Lane JFC	South Ribble Eastern	Yes	Yes	Yes
JFC Chorley	Chorley West	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kingsfold JFC	South Ribble Penwortham	Yes	Yes	No
Leyland B.T.R.	South Ribble Leyland	Yes	Yes	No
Leyland Pirates FC	South Ribble Leyland	Yes	Yes	Yes

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Club name	Analysis area	Match pitches	Training facilities	Ancillary facilities
Longridge Town Juniors	South Ribble Penwortham	Yes	No	No
Lostock Hall Juniors	South Ribble Central	Yes	Yes	No
MAN v FAT Preston	Preston North West	Yes	Yes	No
Mawdesley FC	Chorley West	Yes	Yes	No
Midgery Court	Preston South	Yes	Yes	No
Penwortham St Teresa's	South Ribble Penwortham	Yes	Yes	Yes
Penwortham Town	South Ribble Penwortham	Yes	Yes	No
Preston North End Juniors FC	Preston North West	Yes	No	No
Ribbleton FC	Preston South	Yes	Yes	No
Ribble Wanderers	South Ribble Leyland	Yes	No	Yes
Sir Tom Finney Football Club	Preston North West	Yes	Yes	No
Sir Tom Finney Soccer Centre	Preston North West	Yes	Yes	No
Tarleton Corinthians FC	South Ribble Penwortham	Yes	Yes	No
Walmer Bridge FC	South Ribble Western Parishes	Yes	Yes	No
Walton Le Dale Juniors	South Ribble Eastern	Yes	Yes	Yes
Walton North End JFC	Preston South	Yes	Yes	No
Total	-	32 / 36	31 / 36	14 / 36

Of the clubs which responded and answered the relevant questions, most indicate they would be able accommodate more teams if they had better access to more suitable match pitches. This is closely followed by training facilities such as 3G pitches and then ancillary provision.

Exported demand

Exported demand refers to teams that are currently accessing pitches for home fixtures outside of the study area, this can be due to their pitch requirements not being met (lack of supply or quality issues) or needing to access a central venue due to the league they play in.

The main example of this are mini teams from Chorley and Preston travelling to the Penwortham Holme and Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre) in South Ribble. These sites operate as central venues for the Mid Lancashire Colts Junior Football League.

In total 33 teams from Chorley and 43 teams from Preston play their competitive fixtures within South Ribble. Due to the nature of the League (central venue) these teams are not seeking to return to their own Authority as this is how it operates.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Imported demand

Imported demand refers to any demand from neighbouring local authorities that accesses facilities within the study area due to a lack of available facilities in other local authorities where such team or club is based.

Blackburn Rovers Women FC currently imports match play demand of three teams (one senior women's and two youth girls' teams) into Preston, utilising facilities located at University of Lancashire.

Based solely on the location of where Old Rivingtonians Sports Club plays fixtures (Rivington and Blackrod High School), it technically imports 21 teams into the Chorley Central Analysis Area. However, the site is situated close to the boundary with Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council and is therefore accessed as a matter of convenience due to its location. As a result, the demand is likely to remain imported for the foreseeable future.

Bury Youth Service (one men's and one boy's youth 11v11), Southport & Ainsdale Amateurs (one adult men's) and South Trinity (one men's) all import demand to Lancashire County Football Association Headquarters (South Ribble Leyland). However, this is due to the central venue nature of the league they play in and is therefore not demand that needs to be classified as imported. Similarly, Blackpool FC U18s uses the Step football pitch at Bamber Bridge FC (South Ribble East Analysis Area). It has used the site for a number of years to meet its ground requirements and will therefore likely remain imported for the foreseeable future.

Additionally, both Appley Bridge (one senior men's team) and Blackburn Rovers FC (one men's senior team u23) import match play demand for one team respectively into South Ribble, utilising Lancashire County Football Association Headquarters.

These teams have been included in the capacity analysis below.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and by using population forecasts.

The Strategy & Action Plan will contain housing growth scenarios that will estimate the additional demand for football arising from housing development within Central Lancashire.

Participation growth

Of responding clubs, 24 report aspirations to increase the number of teams they provide within the next two seasons, totalling a predicted growth of 73 teams, as seen below.

Table 2.13: Potential team increases identified by clubs

Club	Analysis area	Team type	Number of teams	Pitch size	MES per week ⁹
Adlington JFC	Chorley Central	Men's	1	Adult	0.5
Adlington JFC	Chorley Central	Boys	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
Adlington JFC	Chorley Central	Girls	1	Youth 9v9	0.5

⁹ Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, 0.5 pitches can therefore be seen in the table where there is latent demand for one team.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Club	Analysis area	Team type	Number of teams	Pitch size	MES per week ⁹
Adlington JFC	Chorley Central	Girls	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
AFC Bamber	South Ribble Eastern	Men's	1	Adult	0.5
AFC Bamber	South Ribble Eastern	Boys	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
Astley FC	Chorley West	Men's	1	Adult	0.5
Charnock Richard JFC	Chorley Central	Men's	1	Adult	0.5
Charnock Richard JFC	Chorley Central	Women's	1	Adult	0.5
Charnock Richard JFC	Chorley Central	Girls	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
Charnock Richard JFC	Chorley Central	Girls	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
Charnock Richard JFC	Chorley Central	Boys	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
Charnock Richard JFC	Chorley Central	Boys	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
Charnock Richard JFC	Chorley Central	Mixed	3	Mini 5v5	1.5
Chorley Wanderers	Chorley Central	Men's	1	Adult	0.5
Chorley Wanderers	Chorley Central	Boys	2	Youth 11v11	1
Chorley Wanderers	Chorley Central	Mixed	1	Mini 7v7	0.5
Chorley Wanderers	Chorley Central	Mixed	1	Mini 5v5	0.5
Chorley Women FC	Chorley Central	Girls	2	Youth 11v11	1
Euxton Villa	Chorley West	Mixed	2	Mini 5v5	1
Euxton Villa	Chorley West	Mixed	2	Mini 7v7	1
Freestyle Urban Soccer FC	Chorley Central	Mixed	2	Mini 5v5	1
Gillibrand Warriors FC	Chorley Central	Mixed	2	Mini 5v5	1
Gregson Lane JFC	South Ribble Eastern	Mixed	2	Mini 5v5	1
JFC Chorley	Chorley West	Girls	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
Kingsfold JFC	South Ribble Penwortham	Mixed	4	Mini 7v7	2
Leyland B.T.R.	South Ribble Leyland	Mixed	2	Mini 5v5	1
Leyland Pirates FC	South Ribble Leyland	Men's	1	Adult	0.5
Leyland Pirates FC	South Ribble Leyland	Women's	1	Adult	0.5
Leyland Pirates FC	South Ribble Leyland	Girls	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
Leyland Pirates FC	South Ribble Leyland	Girls	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
Leyland Pirates FC	South Ribble Leyland	Boys	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
Leyland Pirates FC	South Ribble Leyland	Boys	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
Leyland Pirates FC	South Ribble Leyland	Mixed	1	Mini 5v5	0.5
Longridge Town Juniors	South Ribble Penwortham	Girls	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
Longridge Town Juniors	South Ribble Penwortham	Girls	1	Youth 9v9	0.5

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Club	Analysis area	Team type	Number of teams	Pitch size	MES per week ⁹
Midgery Court	Preston South	Boys	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
Penwortham Town	South Ribble Penwortham	Men's	1	Adult	0.5
Penwortham Town	South Ribble Penwortham	Boys	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
Penwortham Town	South Ribble Penwortham	Girls	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
Preston North End Juniors FC	Preston North West	Women's	1	Adult	0.5
Ribble Wanderers	South Ribble Leyland	Mixed	2	Mini 5v5	1
Sir Tom Finney Football Club	Preston North West	Girls	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
Sir Tom Finney Football Club	Preston North West	Mixed	2	Mini 7v7	1
Sir Tom Finney Football Club	Preston North West	Mixed	2	Mini 5v5	1
Sir Tom Finney Soccer Centre	Preston North West	Girls	2	Youth 11v11	1
Sir Tom Finney Soccer Centre	Preston North West	Girls	2	Youth 9v9	1
Tarleton Corinthians FC	South Ribble Penwortham	Men's	1	Adult	0.5
Tarleton Corinthians FC	South Ribble Penwortham	Women's	1	Adult	0.5
Tarleton Corinthians FC	South Ribble Penwortham	Girls	1	Youth 11v11	0.5
Tarleton Corinthians FC	South Ribble Penwortham	Girls	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
Walmer Bridge FC	Preston South	Boys	2	Youth 9v9	1
Walton Le Dale Juniors	South Ribble Eastern	Girls	1	Youth 9v9	0.5
-	-	Totals	72	-	36

Cadley FC, Euxton Girls, Penwortham St Teresa's FC, Fulwood Amateur and Astley & Buckshaw Juniors all report of ambitions to increase demand, however, do not quantify this.

For Chorley this equates to 2.5 match equivalent sessions for adult, 3.5 match equivalent sessions for youth 11v11, 2.5 match equivalent sessions for youth 9v9, 1.5 match equivalent sessions for mini 7v7 and five match equivalent sessions for mini 5v5 pitches.

For Preston this equates to 0.5 match equivalent sessions for adult, two match equivalent sessions for youth 11v11, two match equivalent sessions for youth 9v9 and one match equivalent session each for mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches.

For South Ribble this equates to three match equivalent sessions for adult, 3.5 match equivalent sessions for youth 11v11, 2.5 match equivalent sessions for youth 9v9, two match equivalent sessions for mini 7v7 and 3.5 match equivalent sessions for mini 5v5 pitches.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

The total future demand expressed by the clubs listed above amounts to 36 match equivalent sessions per week (as two teams equates to one match equivalent session playing on a home and away basis).

Broken down by pitch type, six match equivalent sessions per week are identified on adult pitches, nine match equivalent sessions per week on youth 11v11 pitches, seven match equivalent sessions per week on youth 9v9 pitches, 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week on mini 7v7 pitches and 9.5 match equivalent session per week on mini 5v5 pitches.

In light of FA aspirations to increase female participation in football through the establishment and foreseen future effect of the FA Wildcats programme, FA Squad and the Reaching Higher strategy, it is likely that the growth in affiliated women's and girl teams may exceed that shown through team generation rates. Compared to the previous PPOSS (2018) there has been an increase of 12 additional women's teams and 37 additional girls' team. Taking this into consideration combined with the aspirations highlighted through club consultation it can be said that women and girls' participation is going to continue to grow. As such, it is imperative that sufficient facilities are suitable for female access, particularly in relation to toilets and appropriate changing provision.

To what extent is not currently quantifiable, however, this increase in female demand is likely to be captured within the club aspirational future demand figures expressed in Table 2.12.

Population growth

Based on population projections to 2041 (the period to which this assessment projects population based future demand), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator can estimate the likely additional demand for grass football pitches that will arise from any growth. This is through using the current and future populations in each of the relevant age groups together with the current team numbers. Team generation rates have then been established to understand how much growth is required to establish one new team.

The table below shows the number of likely teams generated by the new population (400,002 by 2041) and the requisite match equivalent sessions per week.

Table 2.14: Authority wide team generation rates

Age group	Team generation rate	No. of new teams generated by the new population	No. of new teams generated by the new population - rounded figure	No. of match equivalent sessions per week ¹⁰
Chorley	-	-	-	-
Adult Men's (18-45)	1:2,600	2.22	2	1
Adult Women's (18-45)	1:11,150	0.18	0	-
Youth Boys (12-17)	1:177	3.52	4	2
Youth Girls (12-17)	1:1,545	0.92	1	0.5
Youth Boys (10-11)	1:142	2.34	2	1
Youth Girls (10-11)	1:836	0.43	0	-
Mini Mixed (8-9)	1:256	3.21	3	1.5
Mini Mixed (6-7)	1:168	1.42	1	0.5
Preston	-	-	-	-

¹⁰ Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, one team accounts to 0.5 match equivalent sessions on their relevant pitch type.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Age group	Team generation rate	No. of new teams generated by the new population	No. of new teams generated by the new population - rounded figure	No. of match equivalent sessions per week ¹⁰
Adult Men's (18-45)	1:1,301	2.09	2	1
Adult Women's (18-45)	1:3,685	0.68	1	0.5
Youth Boys (12-17)	1:276	2.59	3	1.5
Youth Girls (12-17)	1:528	0.56	1	0.5
Youth Boys (10-11)	1:147	1.23	1	0.5
Youth Girls (10-11)	1:342	0.44	0	-
Mini Mixed (8-9)	1:518	1.05	1	0.5
Mini Mixed (6-7)	1:134	0.49	0	-
South Ribble	-	-	-	-
Adult Men's (18-45)	1:10,653	2.80	3	1.5
Adult Women's (18-45)	1:11,542	0.26	0	-
Youth Boys (12-17)	1:1471	2.43	2	1
Youth Girls (12-17)	1:1805	0.74	1	0.5
Youth Boys (10-11)	1:953	1.49	1	0.5
Youth Girls (10-11)	1:761	0.54	1	0.5
Mini Mixed (8-9)	1:1462	2.38	2	1
Mini Mixed (6-7)	1:1428	0.70	1	0.5

As the 33 teams expected to be generated (equating to 16.5 match equivalent sessions per week) are authority wide and not accredited to any analysis area, they will be added onto the overall supply and demand total for each pitch type within the 'Supply and Demand' section later.

Figures surrounding the extra demand generated for football training provision (hours per week on a 11v11 3G pitch with sports lighting) from future population will be referenced within Part 3: Third Generation Turf (3G) Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs).

Future demand summary

Future demand carried through to the supply and demand analysis in this assessment is based on population growth. This is for consistency with other sports and as future demand reported by clubs is considered more aspirational.

Therefore, as identified in Table 2.13, a total requirement for four match equivalent sessions per week is identified on adult pitches, six match equivalent sessions on youth 11v11 pitches, 2.5 match equivalent sessions on youth 9v9 pitches, three match equivalent sessions on mini 7v7 pitches and one match equivalent sessions on mini 5v5 pitches, is identified.

The Strategy & Action Plan will test alternative team growth scenarios including reported club aspirations and growth based on CFA trends from previous seasons.

In addition, the Strategy document will consider additional future population demand associated with planned housing growth, with this not necessarily accounted for within the above figures. This is because ONS data does not account for this.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

2.4: Capacity analysis

The capacity for pitches to regularly provide for competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of a pitch affect the playing experience and people's enjoyment. In extreme circumstances, it can result in the inability of a pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off-peak times.

As a guide, The FA has set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without it adversely affecting its quality.

Taking into consideration the guidelines on capacity, the following ratings were used in the Central Lancashire:

Adult pitch quality	Matches per week	Youth pitch quality	Matches per week	Mini pitch quality	Matches per week
Good	3	Good	4	Good	6
Standard	2	Standard	2	Standard	4
Poor	1	Poor	1	Poor	2

Table 2.16 applies the above pitch ratings against the actual level of weekly play recorded to determine a capacity rating as follows:

Potential capacity	Play is below the level the site could sustain
At capacity	Play matches the level the site can sustain
Overplayed	Play exceeds the level the site can sustain

Match equivalent sessions per week

Pitches have a limit of how much play they can accommodate over a certain period of time before their quality, and in turn their use, is adversely affected. As the main usage of pitches is likely to be for matches, it is appropriate for the comparable unit to be match equivalent sessions but may for example include training sessions and informal use.

Education sites

To account for curricular/extra-curricular use of education pitches it is likely that the usage at such sites will need to be adjusted. The only time this would not happen is when a school does not use its pitches at all, and the sole use is community use. The adjustment is typically dependent on the amount of play carried out, the number of pitches onsite and whether there is access to an onsite AGP.

In some cases, where there is no identified community use, there is a little capacity to accommodate further play. Internal usage often exceeds recommended pitch capacity, which is further exacerbated by basic maintenance regimes that may not extend beyond grass cuttings and line marking.

For school sites which are available for community use but that currently do not have any external hirers, one match equivalent session per week, per pitch has been accredited to indicate use for curricular and extracurricular activity as opposed to them being completely unused.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Peak time

Spare capacity can only be considered as actual spare capacity if pitches are available at peak time. In Central Lancashire, peak time for adult football is Sunday AM and mini football is Saturday morning, whereas it is Sunday morning for all remaining pitch types, as most teams across all age groups play at this time.

A pitch is only said to have 'actual spare capacity' if it is available for community use and available at the peak time for that format of play. Any pitch not meeting this criterion is therefore not considered to have additional capacity.

Pitches that are of a poor quality are not deemed to have actual spare capacity due to the already low carrying capacity of the pitches. Any identified spare capacity should be retained to relieve the pitches of use, which in turn will aid the improvement of pitch quality. Furthermore, any pitches with unsecured tenure are not considered to have actual spare capacity as no further play should be encouraged on such sites given that future access cannot be guaranteed. The table below identifies the way capacity balance is represented in Table 2.16.

Table 2.15: Capacity balance examples

Spare capacity in peak period (examples)	Explanation of capacity balance
1	Highlighted in green with a number denotes that the pitches have actual spare capacity at peak time.
-	With a dash, this indicates that the pitch is unavailable in the peak period. If it were to be made available, actual spare capacity could exist.
0	Highlighted in orange with a zero, this indicates the pitch is played to capacity, either overall or during the peak period.
1	Not highlighted by with a value, this indicates that the pitch has spare capacity in the peak period; however, capacity has been discounted. This may be due to unsecure tenure and/or poor pitch quality.
1	Highlighted in red with a number denotes that the pitches are overplayed and have no spare capacity across the week. This includes at peak time, despite any availability at peak time which may exist.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Table 2.16: Football pitch capacity analysis

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
-	Chorley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
171	Albany Science College	1201745	PR7 3AY	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	Played to capacity.
171	Albany Science College	1201745	PR7 3AY	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	Played to capacity.
174	Astley Park	6006735	PR7 1NP	Central	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	3	Poor	0.5	3	2.5	2.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
174	Astley Park	6006735	PR7 1NP	Central	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
175	West Way Sports Hub	6006752	PR7 6DJ	West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	1.5	3	1.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
175	West Way Sports Hub	6006752	PR7 6DJ	West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	3.5	6	2.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
175	West Way Sports Hub	6006752	PR7 6DJ	West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Good	4	4	-	-	Played to capacity.
177	Bishop Rawstone C of E Language College	1203346	PR26 9HH	West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	Played to capacity.
177	Bishop Rawstone C of E Language College	1203346	PR26 9HH	West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	2.5	1	1.5	-	Overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week
177	Bishop Rawstone C of E Language College	1203346	PR26 9HH	West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	2.5	1	1.5	-	Overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
179	Bretherton Recreation Ground	6020897	PR26 9AH	West	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	2	2	-	-	Played to capacity.
179	Bretherton Recreation Ground	6020897	PR26 9AH	West	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	-	1	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
180	Brinscall St John Primary School	6012766	PR6 8PT	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Good	5	12	7	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
181	Brinscall Village Junior Football Club	-	PR6 8PY	East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Good	1.5	4	2.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
183	Buckshaw Primary School, Chancery Road	30008615	PR7 1XP	West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
184	Buckshaw Village Community Association	1038194	PR7 7BF	East	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Poor	3.5	2	1.5	-	Overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
186	Chancery Road Playing Field (Derian House)		PR7 1DH	West	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	-	1	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
188	Charnock Richard Football Club (Mossie Park)	-	PR7 5LZ	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	0.5	3	2.5	0.5	Spare capacity amounting to 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
188	Charnock Richard Football Club (Mossie Park)	-	PR7 5LZ	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity amounting to 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
188	Charnock Richard Football Club (Mossie Park)	-	PR7 5LZ	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	2	2	-	-	Played to capacity.
188	Charnock Richard Football Club (Mossie Park)	-	PR7 5LZ	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	3	4	1	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
188	Charnock Richard Football Club (Mossie Park)	-	PR7 5LZ	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
192	Brookfields Park (Previously Chorley Rugby Union Club)	30010358	PR7 1DG	West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	2	3	1	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
198	Coppull United	-	PR7 5HD	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
200	Croston Sports Club	1040868	PR26 9RR	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	3	2	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent sessions per week.
206	Eccleston Recreation Ground	6021034	PR7 5SY	West	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Adult	-	2	Standard	2.5	4	1.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
206	Eccleston Recreation Ground	6021034	PR7 5SY	West	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
206	Eccleston Recreation Ground	6021034	PR7 5SY	West	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
207	Eccleston St Mary's C E Primary School	-	PR7 5TE	West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
211	Gillett Playing Fields	1208107	PR6 9EE	Central	Yes	Council	Secure	Youth	11v11	1	Standard	-	2	2	1	Actual spare capacity at peak time.
212	Buttermere Green	1069939	PR7 2JG	Central	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	-	2	2	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
213	Great Green's Lane Playing Pitch	6007368	PR5 8HL	East	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
214	Greenside Recreation Field	1040867	PR7 6BL	West	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(11v11) ¹¹	1	Standard	5	2	3	-	Overplayed by three match equivalent sessions per week.
214	Greenside Recreation Field	1040867	PR7 6BL	West	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9) ¹²	1	Standard	2	2	-	-	Played to capacity.
217	Highfield Primary School	-	PR6 0SP	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
220	Holy Cross High School	1201360	PR7 3LS	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	2	6	4	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
220	Holy Cross High School	1201360	PR7 3LS	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Good	2.5	8	4.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
221	Jim Fowlers Memorial Ground (Euxton Villa FC)	6020621	PR7 6HQ	West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	4	3	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent session per week.

¹¹ Overmarked by a mini 7v7

¹² Overmarked by a mini 5v5

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
221	Jim Fowlers Memorial Ground (Euxton Villa FC)	6020621	PR7 6HQ	West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Good	3.5	12	8.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
221	Jim Fowlers Memorial Ground (Euxton Villa FC)	6020621	PR7 6HQ	West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	3	4	1	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
222	Jubilee Playing Pitches	6006718	PR7 4LA	Central	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1	2	1	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
222	Jubilee Playing Pitches	6006718	PR7 4LA	Central	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
223	King George V Field	1208109	PR6 9LP	Central	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	2	Poor	2	4	2	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
223	King George V Field	1208109	PR6 9LP	Central	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	2	Poor	3	4	1	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
223	King George V Field	1208109	PR6 9LP	Central	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Poor	3.5	2	1.5	-	Overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
223	King George V Field	1208109	PR6 9LP	Central	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Poor	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
226	Mawdesley Cricket Club (Rectory Field)	1040863	L40 3TG	West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	-	2	2	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
229	Parklands High School	1008060	PR7 1LL	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
229	Parklands High School	1008060	PR7 1LL	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
231	Sandy Lane, Brinscall (BWARA)	-	PR6 8PT	East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	3	4	1	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
232	Southlands High School	6015121	PR7 2NU	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	2	4	2	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
232	Southlands High School	6015121	PR7 2NU	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Standard	3	4	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
232	Southlands High School	6015121	PR7 2NU	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	3	2	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent sessions per week.
237	St Michael's CE High School	1201754	PR7 1RS	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
237	St Michael's CE High School	1201754	PR7 1RS	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
237	St Michael's CE High School	1201754	PR7 1RS	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
242	Twin Lakes (Croston Sports Club)	1040879	PR26 9AA	West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity amounting to 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
243	Victory Park - Chorley FC	6016098	PR7 3DU	Central	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
247	Whittle-le-Woods FC	1041612	PR6 7EA	East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	1.5	3	1.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
248	Wigan Lane Playing Field	6008544	PR7 4BY	Central	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	-	2	2	1	Spare capacity amounting to one match equivalent sessions per week.
257	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	6012839	PR6 0JF	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	3	2	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent sessions per week.
263	Brindle Gregson Lane Primary School	30010998	PR5 0DR	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	2	1	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent sessions per week.
269	Rivington and Blackrod high school (upper School)	1201526	BL6 7RU	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Standard	6.5	2	4.5	-	Overplayed by 4.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
269	Rivington and Blackrod high school (upper School)	1201526	BL6 7RU	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	3	2	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent sessions per week.
269	Rivington and Blackrod high school (upper School)	1201526	BL6 7RU	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
269	Rivington and Blackrod high school (upper School)	1201526	BL6 7RU	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	3.5	4	0.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
267	Clayton-le-woods C of E Primary School	6012743	PR6 7EU	East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
277	Abbey Village (BVJFC)	30008624	PR6 8DA	East	Yes	Sports club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Good	2	4	2	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
331	St Johns C of E Primary School	-	PR7 5DU	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
332	Euxton Primrose Hill Primary School	6012711	PR7 6BA	West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	2	1	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent sessions per week.
335	Cottage Fields	1069941	PR7 3QE	Central	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	-	2	2	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
336	Tansley Park	50000487	PR7 5DJ	Central	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	-	2	2	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
339	Preston North End Training Ground	-	PR7 6FA	West	No	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	3	Good	-	-	-	-	Elite club ground.
344	Astley Village Playing Field	-	PR7 6DJ	West	Yes	LCC	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	-	Played to capacity at peak time.
345	Gillibrand Playing Pitches	-	PR7 2JG	Central	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	-	2	2	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
345	Gillibrand Playing Pitches	-	PR7 2JG	Central	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	-	1	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
345	Gillibrand Playing Pitches	-	PR7 2JG	Central	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
-	Preston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	Archbishop Temple High School	1201330	PR2 8RA	North East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
1	Archbishop Temple High School	1201330	PR2 8RA	North East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Standard	2	4	2	2	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
1	Archbishop Temple High School	1201330	PR2 8RA	North East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
2	Ashton Community Science College	1004579	PR2 1SL	North West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Poor	5.5	2	3.5	-	Overplayed by 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
3	Ashton Park	6004979	PR2 1LH	South	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity of one match equivalent session per week.
5	BAC/EE	1208488	PR1 8JP	South	Yes	Private	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
5	BAC/EE	1208488	PR1 8JP	South	Yes	Private	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
5	BAC/EE	1208488	PR1 8JP	South	Yes	Private	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	-	4	4	1	Spare capacity of one match equivalent session per week.
8	Broughton Business Enterprise College & High School	1201203	PR3 5JJ	North West	No	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	Played to capacity.
8	Broughton Business Enterprise College & High School	1201203	PR3 5JJ	North West	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	Played to capacity.
11	Christ the King Catholic High School	1203210	PR1 4LX	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
12	Conway Drive	6004976	PR2 3WY	North West	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Good	2.5	8	5.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
12	Conway Drive	6004976	PR2 3WY	North West	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	1	6	5	1	Spare capacity of one match equivalent session per week.
12	Conway Drive	6004976	PR2 3WY	North West	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Good	1	6	5	1	Spare capacity of one match equivalent session per week.
13	Corpus Christi Catholic High School	1201769	PR2 8QY	North East	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Poor	2	2	-	-	Played to capacity.
16	Fishwick Recreation Ground (London Road)	1038832	PR2 5AN	South	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent session per week.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
17	Frenchwood Recreation Ground	6004984	PR1 4LX	South	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	2	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
19	Fulwood Academy	1201441	PR2 9YR	North West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Poor	5	2	3	-	Overplayed by three match equivalent sessions per week.
19	Fulwood Academy	1201441	PR2 9YR	North West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	2.5	1	1.5	-	Overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
19	Fulwood Academy	1201441	PR2 9YR	North West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
20	Fulwood Amateurs Association Football Club	30006810	PR4 0AE	North West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	1	3	2	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
20	Fulwood Amateurs Association Football Club	30006810	PR4 0AE	North West	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Good	3	3	-	-	Played to capacity.
22	Goosnargh Village Football Club	6004989	PR3 2BH	North East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	-	2	2	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
28	Grimsargh Cricket Club	1208494	PR2 5LH	North East	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
41	King George V Playing Field, Broughton Village	30004781	PR3 5JB	North West	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	1	Poor	-	1	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
42	Lea Community Primary School	30004788	PR2 1PD	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	3.5	1	2.5	-	Overplayed by 2.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
42	Lea Community Primary School	30004788	PR2 1PD	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
42	Lea Community Primary School	30004788	PR2 1PD	South	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	3	2	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent sessions per week.
46	Mill Lane Playing Field	6004988	PR2 3SD	North West	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
48	Moor Park	1208500	PR1 6AU	South	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	3	Poor	3.5	3	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
48	Moor Park	1208500	PR1 6AU	South	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	2	2	-	-	Played to capacity.
51	Our Ladys RC High School	1201739	PR2 3SQ	North West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Poor	1.5	1	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
51	Our Ladys RC High School	1201739	PR2 3SQ	North West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	Played to capacity.
58	Preston North End Football Club	30003650	PR1 6UT	South	No	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	-	-	-	-	Elite club ground.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
59	University of Lancashire	1004645	PR2 1SG	North West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	6	Standard	16	12	4	-	Overplayed by 4 match equivalent sessions per week.
59	University of Lancashire	1004645	PR2 1SG	North West	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Standard	6.5	4	2.5	-	Overplayed by 2.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
60	Preston Sports Club	1014660	PR1 8JP	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	0.5	6	5.5	1	Spare capacity of one match equivalent sessions per week.
60	Preston Sports Club	1014660	PR1 8JP	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Good	0.5	4	3.5	0.5	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
63	Ribbleton Park	6004975	PR1 4SX	South	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1	2	1	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
63	Ribbleton Park	6004975	PR1 4SX	South	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1.5	4	2.5	0.5	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
63	Ribbleton Park	6004975	PR1 4SX	South	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
65	South Drive	-	PR2 9ST	North East	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Good	2	8	6	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
66	Springfields Sports Ground (Preston North End)	-	PR2 1XR	North West	No	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	2	Good	1	6	5	-	Unavailable for community use.
76	Station Lane	6004962	PR3 5DY	North West	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	-	2	2	1	Spare capacity of one match equivalent sessions per week.
77	Tanterton Playing Fields	6004986	PR2 7DD	North West	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	2	Standard	0.5	4	3.5	1.5	Spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
79	Sherwood Park	30002778	PR2 9HP	North East	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	1.5	6	4.5	0.5	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
79	Sherwood Park	30002778	PR2 9HP	North East	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Good	1.5	4	2.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
79	Sherwood Park	30002778	PR2 9HP	North East	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Good	2	8	6	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
97	Frank Thompson Sports Ground	30009674	PR1 4AP	South	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	2	2	-	-	Played to capacity.
264	St Bernard Catholic Primary School	-	PR2 1RP	South	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	Played to capacity.
278	Millennium Hall (Mill Field)	-	PR2 6GG	North East	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	1	2	1.5	-	Played to capacity at peak period.
278	Millennium Hall (Mill Field)	-	PR2 6GG	North East	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	1	2	1	-	Played to capacity at peak period.
-	South Ribble	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	Longton Victory Memorial Ground	1041189	PR4 5YA	Western Parishes	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	-	Played to capacity at peak period.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
85	All Hallows Catholic High School	1201338	PR1 0LN	Penwortham	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Poor	2	1	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent session per week.
85	All Hallows Catholic High School	1201338	PR1 0LN	Penwortham	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
85	All Hallows Catholic High School	1201338	PR1 0LN	Penwortham	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	2	1	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent session per week.
86	All Saints' Church of England Primary School	-	PR4 4XA	Western Parishes	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	3	4	1	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
87	Balshaw's C of E High School	1203212	PR25 3AH	Leyland	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Poor	6.5	2	4.5	-	Overplayed by 4.5 match equivalent session per week.
87	Balshaw's C of E High School	1203212	PR25 3AH	Leyland	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	2	1	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent session per week.
88	Bamber Bridge FC (QED Stadium)	6006104	PR5 6UU	Eastern	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1	2	1	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
90	Cardinal Newman College (Off Site Playing Fields) Kem Mill Lane	1042741	PR1 9TZ	Penwortham	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	2	Good	5	6	1	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
90	Cardinal Newman College (Off Site Playing Fields) Kem Mill Lane	1042741	PR1 9TZ	Penwortham	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	3.5	4	0.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
90	Cardinal Newman College (Off Site Playing Fields) Kem Mill Lane	1042741	PR1 9TZ	Penwortham	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	1.5	2	0.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
99	Fox Lane Sports Club	1208495	PR25 1HB	Leyland	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity of one match equivalent sessions per week.
99	Fox Lane Sports Club	1208495	PR25 1HB	Leyland	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
100	Gregson Lane	6005289	PR5 0DP	Eastern	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
100	Gregson Lane	6005289	PR5 0DP	Eastern	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	Played to capacity.
103	Higher Walton Primary School	6012778	PR5 4FE	Eastern	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent session per week.
104	Holland House Road Football Pitch	1041417	PR5 4JG	Eastern	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	Played to capacity.
107	Hurst Grange Park	6005283	PR1 9XH	Penwortham	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	-	1	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
108	Hutton C of E Grammar School	1201365	PR4 5SN	Western Parishes	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Poor	1.5	1	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent session per week.
110	King George V Playing Field, Higher Walton	6005273	PR5 4HU	Eastern	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1	2	1	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
110	King George V Playing Field, Higher Walton	6005273	PR5 4HU	Eastern	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
111	King George V Playing Field, Penwortham	6005281	PR1 0HX	Penwortham	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	-	1	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
112	Kingsfold Drive Playing Fields	6005284	PR1 9EQ	Penwortham	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
112	Kingsfold Drive Playing Fields	6005284	PR1 9EQ	Penwortham	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
112	Kingsfold Drive Playing Fields	6005284	PR1 9EQ	Penwortham	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
114	Lancashire Constabulary Training Headquarters, Hutton	1036528	PR4 5TJ	Western Parishes	Yes	Private	Unsecure	Adult	-	2	Standard	4.5	4	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
114	Lancashire Constabulary Training Headquarters, Hutton	1036528	PR4 5TJ	Western Parishes	Yes	Private	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	2.5	4	1.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
114	Lancashire Constabulary Training Headquarters, Hutton	1036528	PR4 5TJ	Western Parishes	Yes	Private	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1.5	4	2.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
114	Lancashire Constabulary Training Headquarters, Hutton	1036528	PR4 5TJ	Western Parishes	Yes	Private	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1	2	1	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
115	Lancashire County Football Association Headquarters	1103443	PR25 2LF	Leyland	Yes	LFA	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	5	3	2	-	Overplayed by two match equivalent sessions per week.
116	Leyland Methodist Junior School	6012729	PR25 3ET	Leyland	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	2	2	-	-	Played to capacity.
119	Longton Playing Field	6005300	PR4 5HA	Western Parishes	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	-	2	2	1	Spare capacity amounted to one match equivalent sessions per week.
120	Lostock Hall Academy	6005300	PR5 5UR	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
120	Lostock Hall Academy	6005300	PR5 5UR	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Standard	6	4	2	-	Overplayed by two match equivalent sessions per week.
120	Lostock Hall Academy	6005300	PR5 5UR	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
121	Lostock Hall Community Primary School	6012874	PR5 5AS	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
123	Lostock St Gerards FC	1041551	PR5 5UA	Eastern	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	2	Good	5	6	1	-	Played to capacity.
123	Lostock St Gerards FC	1041551	PR5 5UA	Eastern	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	1	6	5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period
123	Lostock St Gerards FC	1041551	PR5 5UA	Eastern	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	1.5	4	2.5	-	Played to capacity.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
129	Much Hoole Playing Field	6005275	PR4 4QL	Western Parishes	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	0.5	2	1.5	0.5	Spare capacity amounted to 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
129	Much Hoole Playing Field	6005275	PR4 4QL	Western Parishes	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Poor	-	2	2	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
131	New Longton Sports & Social Club	1041416	PR4 4AA	Western Parishes	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Standard	2	2	-	-	Played to capacity.
132	New Longton Village Hall	6005299	PR4 4AA	Western Parishes	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	-	4	4	1	Spare capacity amounted to one match equivalent sessions per week.
132	New Longton Village Hall	6005299	PR4 4AA	Western Parishes	Yes	Parish Council	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	-	2	2	1	Spare capacity amounted to one match equivalent sessions per week.
137	Penwortham Girls High School	1201129	PR1 0SR	Penwortham	No	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Pitch unavailable for community use.
137	Penwortham Girls High School	1201129	PR1 0SR	Penwortham	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	1	2	1	1	Pitch unavailable for community use.
139	Penwortham Holme Recreation Centre	1041527	PR1 9UD	Penwortham	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	6	Standard	21	24	3	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
139	Penwortham Holme Recreation Centre	1041527	PR1 9UD	Penwortham	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Mini	(5v5)	12	Poor	21	24	3	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
145	Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale)	6005297	PR5 4HB	Eastern	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	-	2	2	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
145	Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale)	6005297	PR5 4HB	Eastern	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	1	4	3	1	Spare capacity amounted to one match equivalent sessions per week.
145	Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale)	6005297	PR5 4HB	Eastern	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	-	2	2	1	Spare capacity amounted to one match equivalent sessions per week.
145	Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale)	6005297	PR5 4HB	Eastern	Yes	Community Organisation	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	2	4	2	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
146	Runshaw College	1009054	PR25 3DQ	Leyland	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Adult	-	1	Poor	2	1	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent sessions per week.
147	Seven Stars Primary School	6012800	PR25 1TD	Leyland	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	3.5	2	1.5	-	Overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
150	St Leonard's C of E Primary School	-	PR5 4JL	Eastern	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality and unsecure tenure.
151	St Mary's Catholic high school & College	-	PR25 1BS	Leyland	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Standard	4	4	-	-	Played to capacity.
157	Lostock Hall Recreation Ground (Tardy Gate Playing Fields)	6005280	PR5 5JH	Central	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	1	Poor	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
159	Vernon Carus Sports & Social Club	1041399	PR1 9TE	Penwortham	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	5	3	2	-	Overplayed by two match equivalent sessions per week.
159	Vernon Carus Sports & Social Club	1041399	PR1 9TE	Penwortham	Yes	Sports Club	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	1.5	4	2.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
161	Walton-Le-Dale High School (Walton-Le-Dale Arts College and High School)	1203449	PR5 6RN	Eastern	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(5v5)	1	Standard	3	4	1	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
161	Walton-Le-Dale High School (Walton-Le-Dale Arts College and High School)	1203449	PR5 6RN	Eastern	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	2	4	2	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
161	Walton-Le-Dale High School (Walton-Le-Dale Arts College and High School)	1203449	PR5 6RN	Eastern	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Standard	2	2	-	-	Played to capacity.
161	Walton-Le-Dale High School (Walton-Le-Dale Arts College and High School)	1203449	PR5 6RN	Eastern	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
162	Walton-Le-Dale Primary School	6012111	PR5 4TD	Eastern	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Poor	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
163	St Cuthbert's Playing Field	-	PR5 5TL	Central	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	2	4	2	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
164	Wellfield Academy (Wellfield Business and Enterprise College & high school)	1201632	PR25 2TP	Leyland	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	1	Poor	1.5	1	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
164	Wellfield Academy (Wellfield Business and Enterprise College & high school)	1201632	PR25 2TP	Leyland	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	2	1	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent sessions per week.
167	Woodlea Junior School	6012157	PR25 1JL	Leyland	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Standard	1.5	4	2.5	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
167	Woodlea Junior School	6012157	PR25 1JL	Leyland	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Standard	1.5	2	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
168	Worden Park	6005274	PR25 3DH	Leyland	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	4	Poor	3	4	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
168	Worden Park	6005274	PR25 3DH	Leyland	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(11v11)	3	Poor	2	3	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
168	Worden Park	6005274	PR25 3DH	Leyland	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	3	Poor	1	3	2	2	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
169	Academy @ Worden (Worden Sports College)	1201744	PR25 1QX	Leyland	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Poor	2.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
169	Academy @ Worden (Worden Sports College)	1201744	PR25 1QX	Leyland	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	Played to capacity.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site name	Active Places ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Management	Security of tenure	Pitch type	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Agreed quality rating	Current play	Carrying capacity	Capacity balance	Spare capacity in peak period	Comments
254	BTR Recreation Ground	6005276	PR25 3GR	Central	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	2	Standard	1.5	4	2.5	0.5	Spare capacity amounting to 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
256	Penwortham Priory Academy	30009478	PR1 0JE	Penwortham	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	4	Good	9	16	7	-	Played to capacity in the peak period
256	Penwortham Priory Academy	30009478	PR1 0JE	Penwortham	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	2	Good	3	4	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
271	St Mary's & St Benedicts RC Primary School	1041185	PR5 6TA	Eastern	No	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(11v11)	2	Poor	2	2	-	-	Played to capacity.
275	Richard Holmes Memorial Ground	30002782	PR4 5JY	Western Parishes	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	1	Good	1	2	1	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
275	Richard Holmes Memorial Ground	30002782	PR4 5JY	Western Parishes	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Mini	(7v7)	1	Good	1	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to overmarking.
275	Richard Holmes Memorial Ground	30002782	PR4 5JY	Western Parishes	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Good	-	2	2	1	Spare capacity amounting to one match equivalent session per week.
315	Hutton Playing Field	-	PR4 5SE	Western Parishes	Yes	Local Authority	Secure	Adult	-	1	Poor	1	1	-	-	Played to capacity.
333	Moor Hey School	-	PR5 5SS	Central	Yes	Education	Unsecure	Youth	(9v9)	1	Poor	2	1	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent session per week.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Actual spare capacity

The table below identifies actual spare capacity by site and pitch type across Central Lancashire. It totals 22 match equivalent sessions per week and is identified across 30 pitches at 21 sites.

Table 2.17: Actual (peak time) spare capacity site by site

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (MES)
Chorley					
188	Charnock Richard Football Club (Mossie Park)	Central	Adult	1	0.5
188	Charnock Richard Football Club (Mossie Park)	Central	Adult	1	0.5
211	Gillett Playing Fields	Central	Youth 11v11	1	1
242	Twin Lakes (Croston Sports Club)	West	Youth 11v11	1	0.5
248	Wigan Lane Playing Field	Central	Youth 11v11	1	1
Preston					
3	Ashton Park	South	Youth 9v9	2	1
5	BAC/EE	South	Mini 5v5	1	1
12	Conway Drive	North West	Mini 7v7	1	1
12	Conway Drive	North West	Mini 5v5	1	1
16	Fishwick Recreation Ground (London Road)	South	Adult	1	0.5
46	Mill Lane Playing Field	North West	Adult	1	0.5
60	Preston Sports Club	South	Mini 7v7	1	1
60	Preston Sports Club	South	Youth 11v11	1	0.5
63	Ribbleton Park	South	Mini 7v7	1	0.5
76	Station Lane	North West	Adult	1	1
77	Tanterton Playing Fields	North West	Adult	2	1.5
79	Sherwood Park	North East	Mini 7v7	1	0.5
South Ribble					
99	Fox Lane Sports Club	Leyland	Mini 7v7	1	1
99	Fox Lane Sports Club	Leyland	Youth 9v9	1	0.5
119	Longton Playing Field	Western Parishes	Youth 11v11	1	1
129	Much Hoole Playing Field	Western Parishes	Adult	1	0.5
132	New Longton Village Hall	Western Parishes	Mini 7v7	1	1
132	New Longton Village Hall	Western Parishes	Youth 9v9	1	1
145	Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale)	Eastern	Mini 7v7	1	1
145	Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale)	Eastern	Youth 11v11	1	1
254	BTR Recreation Ground	Central	Adult	2	0.5
275	Richard Holmes Memorial Ground	Western Parishes	Youth 9v9	1	1
-	-	-	Total	29	21

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Actual spare capacity is broken down by local authority and pitch type in the table below. As seen, actual spare capacity is identified in all three local authorities with the Preston having the most with 10 match equivalent sessions per week closely followed by South Ribble with 8.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

Mini 7v7 pitches have the most actual spare capacity of all the pitch types with six match equivalent sessions per week with the least being on mini 5v5 pitches with just two match equivalent sessions per week.

Table 2.18: Actual spare capacity summary in match sessions per week

Local Authority	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
Chorley						
Central	1	2	-	-	-	3
East	-	-	-	-	-	-
West	-	0.5	-	-	-	0.5
Total	1	2.5	-	-	-	3.5
Preston						
North East	-	-	-	0.5	-	0.5
North West	3	-	-	1	1	5
South	0.5	0.5	1	1.5	1	4.5
Total	3.5	0.5	1	3	2	10
South Ribble						
Central	0.5	-	-	-	-	0.5
Eastern	-	1	-	1	-	2
Leyland	-	-	0.5	1	-	1.5
Penwortham	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western Parishes	0.5	1	2	1	-	4.5
Total	1	2	2.5	3	-	8.5
Central Lancashire 2025	5.5	5	3.5	6	0	22
Central Lancashire 2018	15.5	3	5.5	7	2	33
Percentage change	65%	67%	36%	14%	-	33%

There is significantly less actual spare capacity on grass pitches compared to the 2018 study. In total it has dropped from 33 match equivalent sessions to 22 match equivalent sessions.

This is due to significant growth in age formats which predominantly play on grass pitches, such as adult and youth 9v9. In comparison the growth in youth 11v11, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 demand has been accommodated, in part, on the increases in 3G pitches.

Overplay

Overplay occurs when there is more play accommodated on a site than it can sustain (based on its quality rating), which can often be due to the low carrying capacity of pitches. In Central Lancashire, 61 pitches across 32 sites are overplayed by a combined total of 63 match equivalent sessions per week.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 2.19: Overplay site-by-site

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (MES)
Chorley					
177	Bishop Rawstorne C of E Language College	West	Youth 11v11	1	1.5
177	Bishop Rawstorne C of E Language College	West	Youth 9v9	1	1.5
184	Buckshaw Village Community Association	East	Youth 11v11	2	1.5
200	Croston Sports Club	Central	Adult	1	1
214	Greenside Recreation Field	West	Youth 11v11	1	3
221	Jim Fowlers Memorial Ground (Euxton Villa FC)	West	Adult	1	1
223	King George V Field	Central	Youth 11v11	2	1.5
223	King George V Field	Central	Youth 9v9	2	0.5
232	Southlands High School	Central	Youth 9v9	1	1
257	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	Central	Mini 7v7	1	1
263	Brindle Gregson Lane Primary School	East	Youth 9v9	1	1
269	Rivington and Blackrod high school (upper School)	Central	Adult	1	4.5
269	Rivington and Blackrod high school (upper School)	Central	Mini 5v5	1	1
269	Rivington and Blackrod high school (upper School)	Central	Mini 7v7	1	0.5
332	Euxton Primrose Hill Primary School	West	Youth 9v9	1	1
Preston					
2	Ashton Community Science College	North West	Youth 11v11	2	3.5
5	BAC/EE	South	Adult	1	0.5
19	Fulwood Academy	North West	Youth 11v11	2	3
19	Fulwood Academy	North West	Youth 9v9	1	1.5
42	Lea Community Primary School	South	Youth 9v9	1	2.5
42	Lea Community Primary School	South	Mini 7v7	1	0.5
42	Lea Community Primary School	South	Mini 5v5	1	1
48	Moor Park	South	Adult	3	0.5
51	Our Ladys RC High School	North West	Adult	1	0.5
59	University of Lancashire	North West	Adult	6	4
59	University of Lancashire	North West	Youth 9v9	2	2.5
South Ribble					
85	All Hallows Catholic High School	Penwortham	Adult	1	1
85	All Hallows Catholic High School	Penwortham	Youth 9v9	1	1
87	Balshaw's C of E High School	Leyland	Youth 11v11	2	4.5

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Capacity rating (MES)
87	Balshaw's C of E High School	Leyland	Youth 9v9	1	1
103	Higher Walton Primary School	Eastern	Mini 7v7	1	0.5
108	Hutton C of E Grammar School	Western Parishes	Adult	1	0.5
114	Lancashire Constabulary Training Headquarters, Hutton	Western Parishes	Adult	2	0.5
115	Lancashire County Football Association Headquarters	Leyland	Adult	1	2
120	Lostock Hall Academy	Central	Youth 11v11	2	2
120	Lostock Hall Academy	Central	Youth 9v9	1	0.5
146	Runshaw College	Leyland	Adult	1	1
147	Seven Stars Primary School	Leyland	Mini 7v7	1	1.5
159	Vernon Carus Sports & Social Club	Penwortham	Adult	1	2
161	Walton-Le-Dale High School (Walton-Le-Dale Arts College and High School)	Eastern	Youth 9v9	1	0.5
164	Wellfield Academy (Wellfield Business and Enterprise College & high school)	Leyland	Youth 11v11	1	0.5
164	Wellfield Academy (Wellfield Business and Enterprise College & high school)	Leyland	Youth 9v9	1	1
169	Academy @ Worden (Worden Sports College)	Leyland	Youth 11v11	2	0.5
333	Moor Hey School	Central	Youth 9v9	1	1
-	-	-	Totals	61	63

Pitches are generally overplayed due to high levels of demand coupled with poor pitch quality. Additionally overplay can be found at 21 education sites where community, curricular and extracurricular demand all contribute to overplay.

Overplay is broken down by local authority and pitch type in the table below. As seen, most overplay is located on youth 11v11 pitches and in South Ribble.

Table 2.20: Overplay summary in match sessions per week

Analysis area	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini 7v7	Mini 5v5	Total
Central	5.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1	11
East	-	1.5	1	-	-	2.5
West	1	4.5	2.5	-	-	8
Chorley – Total	6.5	7.5	5	1.5	1	21.5
North East	-	-	-	-	-	-
North West	4.5	6.5	4	-	-	15
South	1	-	2.5	0.5	1	5
Preston - Total	5.5	6.5	6.5	0.5	1	20
Central	-	2	1.5	-	-	3.5
Eastern	-	-	0.5	0.5	-	1
Leyland	3	5.5	2	1.5	-	12
Penwortham	3	-	1	-	-	4
Western Parishes	1	-	-	-	-	1

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

South Ribble – Total	7	7.5	5	2	-	21.5
Central Lancashire 2025	19	21.5	16.5	4	2	63
Central Lancashire 2018	18	12	6.5	8	-	44.5
Percentage change	6%	79%	153%	50%	-	42%

As shown in levels of overplay have broadly increased in Central Lancashire since the 2018 study. This is due in part to the increase in levels of demand and the worsening overall of pitch quality.

2.5: Supply and demand analysis

Having considered supply and demand, the tables below identify current demand (i.e., spare capacity taking away overplay) in each of the analysis areas for each pitch type, based on match equivalent sessions. As stated earlier, future demand, at this stage, is calculated based on what has been identified through population growth.

Adult pitch capacity

Table 2.21: Supply and demand balance of adult pitches in match sessions per week

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total
Central	1	5.5	4.5
East	-	-	-
West	-	1	1
Chorley – Total	1	6.5	-5.5
North East	-	-	-
North West	3	4.5	1.5
South	0.5	1	0.5
Preston - Total	3.5	5.5	-2
Central	0.5	-	0.5
Eastern	-	-	-
Leyland	-	3	3
Penwortham	-	3	3
Western Parishes	0.5	1	0.5
South Ribble – Total	1	7	-6

The table above shows that there is currently a shortfall of 13.5 match equivalent session per week on adult pitches across Central Lancashire. Shortfalls can be found in Chorley Central, Chorley West, Preston North West, Preston South, South Ribble Leyland, South Ribble Penwortham and South Ribble Western Parishes analysis areas.

Table 2.22: Future supply and demand position for adult pitches in match sessions per week

Analysis area	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Chorley	5.5	1	6.5
Preston	2	1.5	3.5
South Ribble	6	1.5	8

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

After considering future demand, the shortfalls increase in Chorley to 6.5 match equivalent sessions per week, in Preston to 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week and South Ribble to eight match equivalent sessions per week.

Youth 11v11 pitch capacity

Table 2.23: Supply and demand balance of youth 11v11 pitches in match sessions per week

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total
Central	2	1.5	0.5
East	-	1.5	1.5
West	0.5	4.5	4
Chorley – Total	2.5	7.5	-5
North East	-	-	-
North West	-	6.5	6.5
South	0.5	-	0.5
Preston - Total	0.5	6.5	-6
Central	-	2	2
Eastern	1	-	1
Leyland	-	5.5	5.5
Penwortham	-	-	-
Western Parishes	1	-	1
South Ribble – Total	2	7.5	-5.5

The table above shows that there is currently a shortfall of 16.5 match equivalent session per week on youth 11v11 pitches are Central Lancashire. Shortfalls, as a result of overplay, can be found in each of the local authorities. Actual spare capacity is identified in Chorley Central, Preston South, South Ribble Eastern and South Ribble Western Parishes analysis areas.

Table 2.24: Future supply and demand position for youth 11v11 pitches in match sessions per week

Analysis area	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Chorley	5	2.5	7.5
Preston	6	2	8
South Ribble	5.5	1.5	7

After considering future demand, the shortfall increases to 7.5 in Chorley, nine in Preston and seven match equivalent sessions per week in South Ribble.

Youth 9v9 pitch capacity

Table 2.25: Supply and demand balance of youth 9v9 pitches in match sessions per week

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total
Central	-	1.5	1.5
East	-	1	1
West	-	2.5	2.5
Chorley – Total	-	5	5
North East	-	-	-
North West	-	4	4

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total
South	1	2.5	1.5
Preston - Total	1	6.5	-5.5
Central	-	1.5	1.5
Eastern	-	0.5	0.5
Leyland	0.5	2	1.5
Penwortham	-	1	1
Western Parishes	2	-	2
South Ribble – Total	2.5	5	-2.5

There is currently a shortfall amounting to 13 match equivalent session per week on youth 9v9 pitches across Central Lancashire. Overplay can be found in each of the local authorities. Actual spare capacity is identified in South Ribble Western Parishes analysis areas.

Table 2.26: Future supply and demand position for youth 9v9 pitches in match sessions per week

Analysis area	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Chorley	5	1	6
Preston	5.5	0.5	6
South Ribble	2.5	1	3.5

After considering future demand, the shortfall increases to six in Chorley, six in Preston and 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week in South Ribble.

Mini 7v7 pitch capacity

Table 2.27: Supply and demand balance of mini 7v7 pitches in match sessions per week

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total
Central	-	1.5	1.5
East	-	-	-
West	-	-	-
Chorley – Total	0	1.5	-1.5
North East	0.5	-	0.5
North West	1	-	1
South	1.5	0.5	1
Preston - Total	3	0.5	2.5
Central	-	-	-
Eastern	1	0.5	0.5
Leyland	1	1.5	0.5
Penwortham	-	-	-
Western Parishes	1	-	1
South Ribble – Total	3	2	1

There is currently actual spare capacity amounting to three match equivalent session per week on mini 7v7 pitches across Central Lancashire. Overplay can be found in the Chorley Central and South Ribble Leyland analysis areas with all remaining analysis areas having actual spare capacity or played to capacity.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 2.28: Future supply and demand position for mini 7v7 pitches in match sessions per week

Analysis area	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Chorley	1.5	1.5	3
Preston	2.5	0.5	2
South Ribble	1	1	-

After considering future demand, a shortfall increases to three match equivalent sessions per week in Chorley with Preston still having actual spare capacity and South Ribble played to capacity.

Mini 5v5 pitch capacity

Table 2.29: Supply and demand balance of mini 5v5 pitches in match sessions per week

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total
Central	-	1	1
East	-	-	-
West	-	-	-
Chorley – Total	-	1	-1
North East	-	-	-
North West	1	-	1
South	1	1	-
Preston - Total	2	1	1
Central	-	-	-
Eastern	-	-	-
Leyland	-	-	-
Penwortham	-	-	-
Western Parishes	-	-	-
South Ribble – Total	-	-	-

Across Central Lancashire, mini 5v5 pitches are currently played to capacity. Overplay is identified in the Chorley Central Analysis Area amounting to one match equivalent sessions per week with the Preston North West Analysis Area showing actual spare capacity of one match equivalent sessions per week. All remaining analysis areas are played to capacity.

Table 2.30: Future supply and demand position for mini 5v5 pitches in match sessions per week

Analysis area	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Chorley	1	0.5	1.5
Preston	1	-	1
South Ribble	-	0.5	0.5

After considering future demand, a shortfall arises of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week in South Ribble with Preston still having actual spare capacity amounting to one match equivalent session per week. In Chorley, the shortfall increases to 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

2.6: Conclusion

Using the supply and demand tables above, the table below summarises the overall Central Lancashire supply and demand balance by pitch type.

Table 2.31: Summary of supply and demand in match equivalent sessions per week

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Total
Chorley					
Adult	1	6.5	5.5	1	6.5
Youth 11v11	2.5	7.5	5	2.5	7.5
Youth 9v9	-	5	5	1	6
Mini 7v7	0	1.5	1.5	1.5	3
Mini 5v5	-	1	1	0.5	1.5
Preston					
Adult	3.5	5.5	2	1.5	3.5
Youth 11v11	0.5	6.5	6	2	8
Youth 9v9	1	6.5	5.5	0.5	6
Mini 7v7	3	0.5	2.5	0.5	2
Mini 5v5	2	1	1	-	1
South Ribble					
Adult	1	7	6	1.5	8
Youth 11v11	2	7.5	5.5	1.5	7
Youth 9v9	2.5	5	2.5	1	3.5
Mini 7v7	3	2	1	1	-
Mini 5v5	-	-	-	0.5	0.5

There are current shortfalls across all pitch types in Chorley amounting to 18 match equivalent sessions per week. When considering future demand shortfall amounts to 24.5 match equivalent sessions per week with a shortfall identified across each pitch type.

In Preston, there are current shortfalls amounting to 10 match equivalent sessions per week with this increasing to 14.5 match equivalent sessions per week when considering future demand. Shortfalls are identified on adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitch types.

In South Ribble, there are current shortfalls across all pitch types apart from mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 amounting to 13 match equivalent sessions per week. When considering future demand shortfall amounts to 19 match equivalent sessions per week.

Shortfalls across Central Lancashire is due to high levels of demand combined with poor pitch quality across all pitch types.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ There are current shortfalls across all pitch types in Chorley amounting to 18 match equivalent sessions per week. When considering future demand shortfall amounts to 24.5 match equivalent sessions per week with a shortfall identified across each pitch type.
- ◀ In Preston, there are current shortfalls amounting to 10 match equivalent sessions per week with this increasing to 14.5 match equivalent sessions per week when considering future demand. Shortfalls are identified on adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitch types.
- ◀ In South Ribble, there are current shortfalls across all pitch types apart from mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 amounting to 13 match equivalent sessions per week. When considering future demand shortfall amounts to 19 match equivalent sessions per week.

Supply summary

- ◀ In total, there are 285 pitches across 124 unique sites in Central Lancashire, of which, 264 across 114 sites are available for community use. All pitches that are not available for community use are either located at education sites or elite sports clubs' facilities such as Preston North End Football Club.
- ◀ Most community available pitches can be found in South Ribble with 108 pitches provided (41%). This is followed by Chorley with 90 (34%) pitches and Preston with 66 (25%) pitches.
- ◀ When broken down by Authority; Chorley has a total of 13 good (17%), 35 standard (37%) and 43 poor quality (46%) community available pitches.
- ◀ Preston has a total of 16 good (26%), 28 standard (44%) and 19 poor quality (30%) community available pitches.
- ◀ Finally, South Ribble has a total of 23 good (21%), 34 standard (31%) and 51 poor quality (47%) community available pitches.
- ◀ In Central Lancashire, 15 sites have poor quality changing facilities largely due to the fact they are outdated and need modernisation or do not offer suitable separation between male/female or adult/youth.

Demand summary

- ◀ In total there are 798 football teams across 112 clubs which currently play within Central Lancashire with most teams competing at youth 11v11 (27% or 214 teams), this is closely followed by adult teams (22% or 172 teams).
- ◀ Football in Central Lancashire is played more within South Ribble (44%) with 354 teams and most in Penwortham Analysis Area (142 teams) followed by the Chorley with 231 teams (29%) and Preston with 213 teams (27%).
- ◀ In Central Lancashire, 60 pitches across 32 sites are overplayed by a combined total of 63 match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ Across Central Lancashire spare capacity totals 22 match equivalent sessions per week and is identified across 30 pitches at 21 sites.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 3: THIRD GENERATION TURF (3G) ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCHES (AGPS)

3.1: Introduction

Competitive football can take place on 3G surfaces that have been FIFA or International Matchball Standard tested and approved by the FA for inclusion on the FA 3G Pitch Register. As such, in addition to training demand, a growing number of 3G pitches are now used for competitive match play, providing that the performance standard meets FIFA quality requirements.

World Rugby produced the 'Performance Specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22', which provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. The artificial surface standards identified in Regulation 22 allows matches to be played on surfaces that meet the required standard, meaning full contact activity, including tackling, rucking, mauling and lineouts, can take place.

Competitive rugby league play and contact practice is permitted to take place on 3G pitches which are deemed by the Rugby Football League (RFL) to meet its Performance Standard. RFL Stadium pitches require testing every two years and is slightly above the requirements for WR22/RFL Community pitches which requires retesting every three years. Community games can be played on RFL Community compliant pitches, but Tiers 1 & 2 must be played on a RFL Stadium compliant surface if they intend to play on 3G. Training demand can take place on both RFL Stadium and RFL Community pitches.

Many test contractors offer reduced rates through efficiency savings to carry out multiple performance tests in the same session, therefore providers seeking 3G pitch compliancy for a number of sports would be recommended to consider this opportunity. Other sports that are known to use 3G pitches for training and match play include American football and lacrosse.

EH's Artificial Grass Playing Surface Policy (June 2016) advises that 3G pitches should not be used for hockey matches or training and that they can only be used for lower-level hockey (introductory level) as a last resort when no sand-based or water-based AGPs are available.

3.2: Supply

The recommended dimensions for an 11v11 size 3G artificial grass pitch for football are 100 x 64 metres. This extends to an area of 106 x 70 metres with the recommended minimum three metre run off area included. These dimensions allow for all age group match play to take place including adults, youth under 17/18 and younger age groups via overmarked pitches, e.g., the marking out of two 9v9 pitches for under 11/12s.

For rugby union, a 3G pitch must measure 106 x 68 metres for senior match play, with a 5-metre run off around the full perimeter. Smaller sized pitches can, however, be used to support training demand providing that they are installed to the correct specifications.

For rugby league, the preferred size of a 3G pitch must measure 116 x 68 metres, with a maximum size 3G pitch measuring 122 x 68 metres and for a minimum size 3G pitch it must measure 100 x 55 metres all with a standard three metre run off.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

If a new pitch is proposed to measure below the recommended dimensions for the relevant sports, then justification must be provided for this in relation to the identified needs it will provide for and/or site constraints. In doing so, the impacts of a reduced pitch size in meeting current and future needs must be considered e.g., for football, a pitch not providing the recommended dimensions for adult match play and/or only being able to accommodate one rather than two overmarked 9v9 pitches. This justification needs to be included in the planning application details submitted to the relevant Local Planning Authority for the new pitch.

There are 18 11v11 3G pitches in Central Lancashire across 16 sites. All 18 pitches are available for community use but 17 have sports lighting, with the pitch at Fulwood Academy not provided with sports lighting.

DRAFT

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 3.1: 11v11 3G pitches in Central Lancashire

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Active Places Power ID	Ownership / management	Postcode	Community use?	Sports lit?	Size ¹³	Year installed / refurbished	Certification	Expiry
Chorley											
175	West Way Sports Hub	West	6006752	Chorley Leisure	PR7 6DJ	Yes	Yes	100 x 64	2021	FIFA	31/05/28
177	Bishop Rawstone C of E Language College	West	1203346	Education	PR26 9HH	Yes	Yes	94 x 55	2014	FA	31/05/27
221	Jim Fowlers Memorial Ground (Euxton Villa FC)	West	6020621	Sports Club	PR7 6HQ	Yes	Yes	100 x 64	2024	FIFA	31/05/27
229	Parklands High School	Central	1008060	Education	PR7 1LL	Yes	Yes	91 x 55	2024	FIFA	31/05/27
Preston											
2	Ashton Community Science College	North West	1004579	Education	PR2 1SL	Yes	Yes	95 x 58	2012	FA	31/05/28
13	Corpus Christi Catholic High School	North East	1201769	Education	PR2 8QY	Yes	Yes	91 x 55	2006	FIFA	31/02/27
19	Fulwood Academy	North West	1201441	Education	PR2 9YR	Yes	No	95 x 51	2015	FA	31/05/28
54	Preston College	North East	1010250	Education	PR2 8UR	Yes	Yes	95 x 55	2007	FA (Expired)	31/05/25
56	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	North West	1036112	Sports Club	PR4 0AP	Yes	Yes	114 x 68	2017	FA WR	31/05/27 07/06/26
59	University of Lancashire	North West	1004645	Education	PR2 1SG	Yes	Yes	100 x 60	2020	FIFA	31/05/26
59	University of Lancashire	North West	1004645	Education	PR2 1SG	Yes	Yes	122 x 67	2016	FA WR (Expired)	31/05/26 25/05/25
South Ribble											
87	Balshaw Church of England High School	Leyland	1203212	Education	PR25 3AH	Yes	Yes	91 x 55	2015	FIFA	31/05/27
146	Runshaw College	Leyland	1009054	Education	PR25 3DQ	Yes	Yes	91 x 55	2013	-	-
151	St Marys Catholic High School Leyland	Leyland	1004609	Education	PR25 1BS	Yes	Yes	91 x 55	2022	FIFA	31/05/27
166	Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre)	Eastern	6005272	South Ribble Leisure	PR5 6YJ	Yes	Yes	100 x 64	2022	FIFA	31/05/26
166	Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre)	Eastern	6005272	South Ribble Leisure	PR5 6YJ	Yes	Yes	100 x 64	2022	FIFA	31/05/26
256	Penwortham Priory Academy	Penwortham	30009478	Education	PR1 0JE	Yes	Yes	91 x 55	2015	FA	31/05/27
259	Brownedge St Marys Catholic High School	Eastern	1201732	Education	PR5 6PB	Yes	Yes	91 x 55	2013	FA	31/05/27

¹³ Size is in metres
November 2025

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Four 11v11 3G pitches are in Chorley with seven pitches each in Preston and South Ribble.

Table 3.2: Summary of the number of 11v11 3G pitches by analysis area

Local Authority	No. of 11v11 pitches available for community use
2018	
Chorley	1
Preston	6
South Ribble	5
Central Lancashire	12
2025	
Chorley	4
Preston	7
South Ribble	7
Central Lancashire	18

Since 2018 there has been an increase of seven 3G pitches with one pitch each provided at University of Lancashire, St Marys Catholic High School Leyland, West Way Sports Hub, Jim Fowlers Memorial Ground (Euxton Villa FC), Parklands High School and two new pitches provided at Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre).

As well as the 11v11 3G pitches, there are also 15 smaller size outdoor 3G pitches across eight sites. Of these, all 15 are available to the community and are sports lit.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Table 3.3: Additional supply of 3G provision (outdoor)

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Active Places Power ID	Ownership / management	Postcode	Number of pitches	Com use?	Sports lit?	Size ¹⁴	Year installed / refurbished	Certification	Expiry
Chorley												
196	Clayton Green Sports Centre	East	1004590	Chorley Leisure	PR6 7TL	2	Yes	Yes	35 x 18	Unknown	-	-
Preston												
5	BAC/EE	South	1208488	Sports Club	PR1 8JP	1	Yes	Yes	40 x 20	2009	-	-
11	Christ the King Catholic School	South	1203210	Education	PR1 4LX	1	Yes	Yes	73 x 46	2020	FA	31/05/28
24	Grange Primary School	North East	1201752	Education	PR2 6PS	1	Yes	Yes	35 x 25	2013	-	-
80	Playfootball (Preston)	North West	1008791	Commercial	PR2 3TX	1	Yes	Yes	40 x 30	2009	-	-
80	Playfootball (Preston)	North West	1008791	Commercial	PR2 3TX	2	Yes	Yes	31 x 22	2009	-	-
81	West View Leisure Centre	South	1004649	Commercial	PR1 5EP	1	Yes	Yes	38 x 26	2009 / 2024	-	-
South Ribble												
115	Lancashire County Football Association Headquarters	Leyland	1103443	Lancashire FA	PR25 2LF	1	Yes	Yes	81 x 55	2011	FA	31/05/26
115	Lancashire County Football Association Headquarters	Leyland	1103443	Lancashire FA	PR25 2LF	1	Yes	Yes	37 x 27	2011	FA	31/05/26
225	South Ribble Tennis and Fitness Centre	Eastern	1006768	South Ribble Leisure	PR5 6BJ	4	Yes	Yes	26 x 16	2016	-	-

¹⁴ Size is in metres

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Preston has the most amount of small size 3G pitches with seven followed by South Ribble providing six pitches and Chorley providing the least with two pitches.

Whilst not large enough to accommodate adult match play, smaller size provision can be used to accommodate youth and mini matches, in addition to training demand, providing that they are on the FA 3G Pitch Register, of an adequate size and with appropriate run-off areas.

The smaller size pitch located at Christ the King Catholic School and the two pitches at Lancashire County Football Association Headquarters are on the FA 3G Pitch Register and therefore can accommodate match play.

Figure 3.1 identifies the location of all 11v11 3G pitches in Central Lancashire.

Figure 3.1: Location of 11v11 3G pitches in Central Lancashire



CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Potential future supply

Table 3.4: FA recommended 3G pitch sizes

Age group	Playing format	Recommended pitch dimensions (metres excluding run offs)	Recommended pitch dimensions (metres including run offs)
Mini-Soccer U7/U8	5v5	37x27	43x33
Mini-Soccer U9/U10	7v7	55x37	61x43
Youth U11/U12	9v9	73x46	79x52
Youth U13/U14	11v11	82x50	88x56
Youth U15/U16	11v11	91x55	97x61
Youth U17/U18	11v11	100x64	106x70
Over 18/Adult	11v11	100x64	106x70

Cadley FC states aspiration to develop a smaller size 3G pitch on its home ground, Conway Drive (Preston North West Analysis Area) to accommodate the Clubs training demand. Additionally, Penwortham Priory Academy states it aspires to have a second 11v11 3G pitch at the site.

St Michael's High School (Chorley Central) highlights it would benefit from a 3G pitch due to losing half of its playing field for a long period of time over winter due to poor drainage.

Chorley FC reports its in conversation with Chorley FC Community Trust, Chorley FC Academy, Chorley FC Women and Southlands High School regarding a collaboration development to improve four grass pitches, creation of an additional pitch and refurbishment of the existing smaller size AGP located at Southlands High School. It should be noted that this is just conversations at this stage.

Croston Sports Club / Croston Sports Club Juniors indicate aspirations to create a 3G provision at Croston Sports Club (Chorley Central). The Club has not submitted any formal plans to date.

All Hallows Catholic High School (South Ribble Penwortham) has previously contacted the FF to express an interest in creating a 11v11 size 3G pitch. It is understood the School has enough capital to fund the project itself however as nothing has been presented to planning this remains aspirational at this time.

University of Lancashire has aspiration to develop an additional 11v11 3G pitch in replacement of its seven current poor quality smaller size AGPs which will be available for community use alongside its other provision.

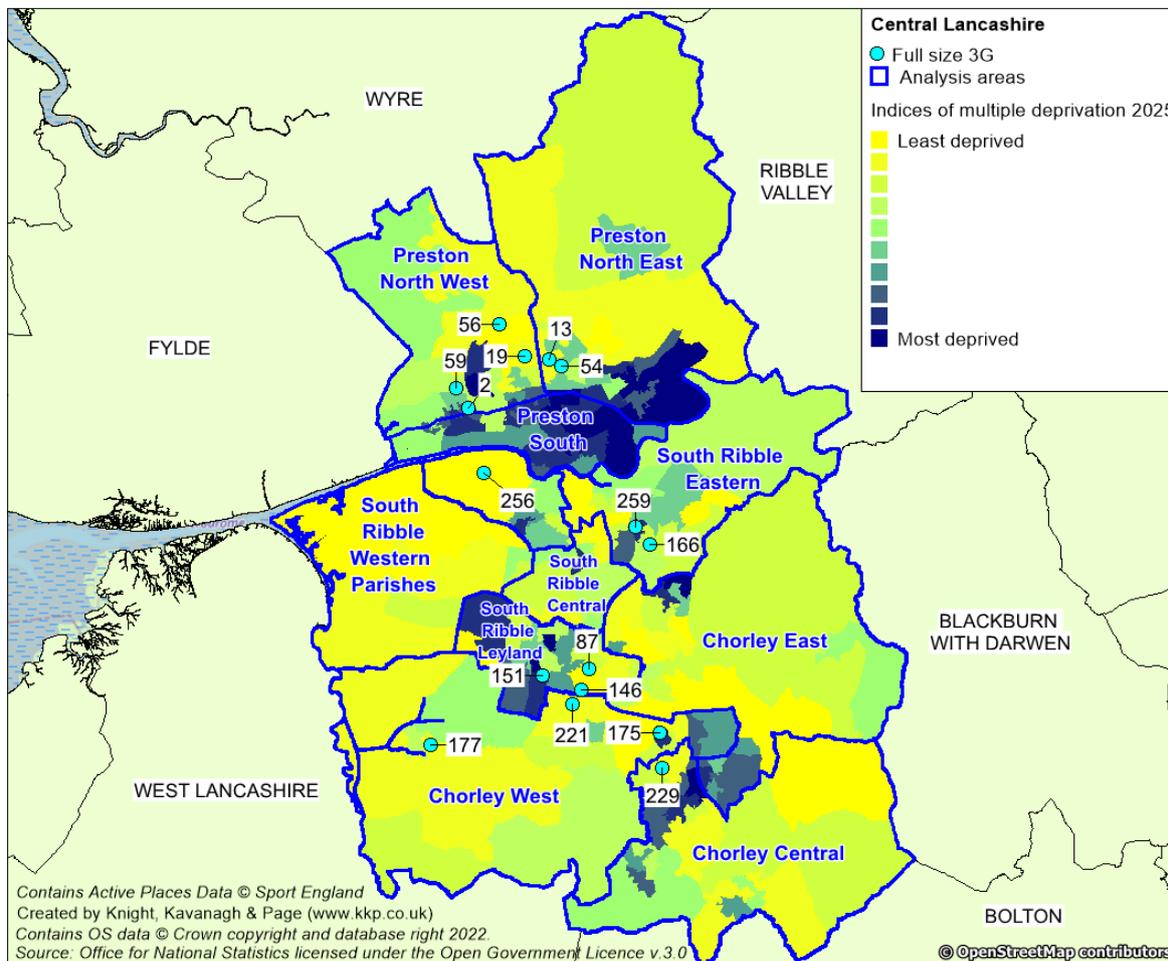
A planning application has recently been submitted (06/2025/0994) to Preston City Council known as the Longridge Sports Village, with plans including a new 11v11 3G pitch, two small sided 3G pitches, six padel courts, indoor cricket nets and a new 5k Park Run route. The proposed development is located in the neighbouring authority, Ribble Valley, however given its close proximity to Preston it is likely this development could accommodate demand from Preston.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)

The figure below shows all active 3G pitches located in the more deprived area across Central Lancashire can be seen in the map below.

Figure 3.2: Location of 11v11 3G pitches against IMD



Future demand

FA 3G Pitch Register

In order for competitive matches to be played on 3G pitches, the pitch should be FIFA or IMS tested and approved and added to the FA 3G Pitch Register, which can be found at: <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/3g-pitch-register>.

Pitches undergo testing to become a FIFA Quality pitch or a FIFA Quality Pro pitch, with provision commonly constructed, installed and tested in situ to achieve either accreditation. The differences between the accreditations are that FIFA Quality pitches are designed to accommodate substantial levels of regular usage, whereas FIFA Quality Pro pitches are more for high level performance, with usage levels therefore more limited to protect the standard. Generally, FIFA Quality pitches can be typically used for 60-85 hours per week, whereas FIFA Quality Pro pitches are able to accommodate 20-30 hours.

To remain on the Register, pitches must be reassessed every three years to ensure that quality has not deteriorated beyond acceptable levels, although this is required annually for clubs using 3G pitches within the National League System (Step 1-6).

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 3.5: Summary of 3G pitches on The FA Pitch Register

Site ID	Site name	Playing format	Pitch size (metres)	Number of AGPs	Certification	Expiry
	Chorley					
175	West Way Sports Hub	11v11	100 x 64	1	FIFA	31/05/28
177	Bishop Rawstone C of E Language College	11v11	94 x 55	1	FA	31/05/27
221	Jim Fowlers Memorial Ground (Euxton Villa FC)	11v11	100 x 64	1	FIFA	31/05/27
229	Parklands High School	11v11	91 x 55	1	FIFA	31/05/27
	Preston		-	-	-	-
2	Ashton Community Science College	11v11	95 x 58	1	FA	31/05/28
11	Christ the King Catholic School	Smaller size	73 x 46	1	FA	31/05/28
13	Corpus Christi Catholic High School	11v11	91 x 55	1	FIFA	31/02/27
19	Fulwood Academy	11v11	95 x 51	1	FA	31/05/28
54	Preston College	11v11	95 x 55	1	FA (Expired)	31/05/25
56	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	11v11	114 x 68	1	FA WR	31/05/27 07/06/26
59	University of Lancashire	11v11	100 x 60	1	FIFA	31/05/26
59	University of Lancashire	11v11	122 x 67	1	FA WR	31/05/26 25/05/25
	South Ribble					
87	Balshaw Church of England High School	11v11	91 x 55	1	FIFA	31/05/27
115	Lancashire County Football Association Headquarters	Smaller size	81 x 55	1	FA	31/05/26
115	Lancashire County Football Association Headquarters	Smaller size	37 x 27	1	FA	31/05/26
151	St Marys Catholic High School Leyland	11v11	91 x 55	1	FIFA	31/05/27
166	Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre)	11v11	100 x 64	2	FIFA	31/05/26
256	Penwortham Priory Academy	11v11	91 x 55	1	FA	31/05/27
259	Brownedge St Marys Catholic High School	11v11	91 x 55	1	FA	31/05/27

The FA certification on the 11v11 size 3G pitch located at Preston College has expired and therefore will require retesting to continue to accommodate match play.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

World Rugby compliant pitches

To enable 3G pitches to accommodate competitive rugby union matches, World Rugby has developed the Rugby Turf Performance Specification. This is to ensure that the surfaces can replicate the playing qualities of good quality grass pitches, provide a playing environment that will not increase the risk of injury and are of an adequate durability.

The specification included a rigorous test programme that assesses ball/surface interaction and player/surface interaction and has been modified to align the standard with that of FIFA. Any 3G pitch used for any form of competitive rugby must comply with this specification and must be tested every two years to retain compliance.

In Central Lancashire, there is currently one 3G pitch which is World Rugby compliant located at Preston Grasshoppers RFC (PR4 0AP, Preston North West Analysis Area).

RFL compliant pitches

3G pitches for rugby league are classed as either RFL Community or RFL Stadium. RFL Community is suitable for Tiers 4-6 and training. If used for competitive games they should be tested every two years, and if it only used training only then every three years. RFL Stadium pitches are considered suitable for match play use in Tiers 1-3 and should be retested annually if used for competitive games. More information can be found in Section five here [Materials Science Consultants Ltd](#).

The WR22 test complies with the RFL Community element of this, but the frequency of retest is different should the 3G be used for competitive rugby league. The RFL Stadium criteria requires an additional test.

In Central Lancashire, there is currently no 3G pitch which is RFL compliant. Given there is currently no RFL compliant 3G pitches located in Central Lancashire, the closest facility for clubs to access would be located in Wigan at Leigh Sports Village and Sutton Park.

Management

Majority of 11v11 3G pitches in Central Lancashire are managed by education providers (13 or 72%). The two pitches located at Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre) are managed by South Ribble Leisure, with the 11v11 3G pitch located at West Way Sports Hub managed by Chorley Leisure and the pitch located at Lancashire County Football Association Headquarters managed by Lancashire FA. The remaining two 11v11 3G pitches (Preston Grasshoppers RFC and Jim Fowlers Memorial Ground are managed by sports clubs.

The smaller size 3G pitches are managed by either education providers (two), commercial management (four), leisure operators (six) sports clubs (one) or Lancashire FA (two).

Availability

The following table summarises the availability within the peak period of 11v11 3G pitches in Central Lancashire. Sport England Facilities Planning Model (FPM) applies a generic overall peak period for AGPs based the following hours for AGPs 34 hours a week (Monday to Thursday 17:00-21:00; Friday 17:00-19:00; Saturday and Sunday 09:00-17:00).

The availability at each venue providing a 11v11 3G pitch is summarised in the Table 3.5.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 3.6: Summary of 11v11 3G pitch availability

Site ID	Site	Availability in the peak period (hours)	Availability
2	Ashton Community Science College	29	Available to the community from 18:00 until 21:00 on weekdays and from 09:00 until 17:00 at weekends.
13	Corpus Christi Catholic High School	32	Available to the community from 17:00 until 20:30 on weekdays and from 09:30 until 20:30 at weekends.
19	Fulwood Academy	16	Not available midweek due to the lack of sports lighting. Pitch is available on from 09:00 until 21:00 at weekends.
54	Preston College	34	Available to the community from 17:00 until 21:00 on weekdays and from 08:00 until 19:00 at weekends.
56	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	34	Available to the community from 09:00 until 22:00 on weekdays, from 09:00 until 18:00 on Saturdays and from 09:00 until 21:00 on Sundays.
59	University of Lancashire	34	Available to the community from 09:00 until 22:00 on weekdays (until 7pm on Fridays), from 09:00 until 17:00 on Saturdays and from 09:00 until 18:00 on Sundays.
87	Balshaw Church of England High School	34	Available to the community from 17:00 until 22:00 on weekdays, from 08:00 until 21:00 on Saturdays and from 08:00 until 18:00 on Sundays.
146	Runshaw College	13.5	Available to the community from 17:30 until 20:30 on weekdays and unavailable on weekends.
151	St Marys Catholic High School Leyland	34	Available to the community from 17:00 until 21:00 on weekdays and from 08:00 until 21:00 at weekends.
166	Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre)	34	Available to the community from 08:00 until 22:00 on weekdays and from 08:00 until 18:00 at weekends.
175	West Way Sports Hub	34	Available to the community from 09:00 until 22:00 on weekdays and from 09:00 until 18:00 at weekends.
177	Bishop Rawstorne C of E Language College	29	Available to the community from 18:00 until 21:00 on weekdays and from 08:00 until 17:00 at weekends.
221	Jim Fowlers Memorial Ground (Euxton Villa FC)	34	Available to the community from 09:00 until 22:00 on weekdays and from 08:00 until 20:00 at weekends.
229	Parklands High School	29	Available to the community from 18:00 until 22:00 on weekdays and from 08:00 until 18:00 at weekends.
256	Penwortham Priory Academy	34	Available to the community from 17:00 until 22:00 on weekdays and from 09:00 until 20:00 at weekends.
259	Brownedge St Marys Catholic High School	34	Available to the community from 17:00 until 21:00 on weekdays and from 08:00 until 21:00 at weekends.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Quality

Depending on use, it is considered that the carpet of a 3G pitch usually lasts for approximately ten years', and it is the age of the surface, combined with maintenance levels, which most commonly affects quality. It is therefore recommended that pitch replacement funds be put into place by providers to enable long-term sustainability, ongoing repairs and future refurbishments beyond this period.

In Central Lancashire, there are eight 11v11 3G pitches assessed as good quality located at Preston Grasshoppers RFC, University of Lancashire, St Marys Catholic High School Leyland, Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre), West Way Sports Hub, Jim Fowlers Memorial Ground (Euxton Villa FC) and Parklands High School.

Additionally, there are eight 11v11 3G pitches assessed as standard quality and two assessed as poor quality located at Runshaw College and Preston College.

Table 3.7: Summary of 11v11 3G pitch quality

Site ID	Site	Year installed/resurfaced	Quality 2018	Quality 2025
Chorley				
175	West Way Sports Hub	2021	N/A	Good
177	Bishop Rawstorne C of E Language College	2014	Good	Standard
221	Jim Fowlers Memorial Ground (Euxton Villa FC)	2024	N/A	Good
229	Parklands High School	2024	N/A	Good
Preston				
2	Ashton Community Science College	2012	Good	Standard
13	Corpus Christi Catholic High School	2006	Poor	Standard
19	Fulwood Academy	2015	Good	Standard
54	Preston College	2007	Standard	Poor
56	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	2017	Good	Good
59	University of Lancashire	2021	N/A	Good
59	University of Lancashire	2016	Good	Standard
South Ribble				
87	Balshaw Church of England High School	2015	Good	Standard
146	Runshaw College	2013	Good	Poor
151	St Marys Catholic High School Leyland	2022	N/A	Good
166	Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre)	2022	N/A	Good
166	Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre)	2022	N/A	Good
256	Penwortham Priory Academy	2015	Good	Standard
259	Brownedge St Marys Catholic High School	2013	Standard	Standard

As seen in the table above, there are nine 11v11 3G pitches which are over 10 years old and showing signs of wear and tear. It is likely that all these pitches require a replacement surface within the next three years.

The FF is actively working with Penwortham Priory Academy to bring forward a submission for refurbishment anticipated for late 2025. The site is deemed strategically important to meet football match play and training demand within Central Lancashire.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

It should be noted that pitch at Corpus Christi Catholic High School, despite its age and not having been refurbished since 2006, is rated as standard quality as it is still certified to accommodate match play until 2027. It is highly likely that this will not meet the relevant specification when retested and will need refurbishing.

In addition to above, there are two good quality, eight standard quality and five poor quality smaller size 3G pitches. The poor quality pitches are located at BAC/EE, Grange Primary School and Playfootball (Preston).

Table 3.8: Summary of smaller size 3G pitch quality

Site ID	Site	Number of AGPs	Year installed/resurfaced	Quality
	Chorley			
196	Clayton Green Sports Centre	2	Unknown	Standard
	Preston			
5	BAC/EE	1	2009	Poor
11	Christ the King Catholic School	1	2020	Good
24	Grange Primary School	1	2013	Poor
80	Playfootball (Preston)	3	2009	Poor
81	West View Leisure Centre	1	2009 / 2024	Good
	South Ribble			
115	Lancashire County Football Association Headquarters	2	2011	Standard
225	South Ribble Tennis and Fitness Centre	4	2016	Standard

Several clubs (including Penwortham Town, Walmer Bridge FC, Sir Tom Finney, Astley FC, AFC Bamber, Kingsfold JFC, Charnock Richard JFC, JFC Chorley, Walton North End JFC, Euxton Girls, Astley & Buckshaw Juniors, Fulwood Amateurs AFC and Penwortham St Teresa's FC) highlight the lack of 3G pitches for training, with all clubs struggling to access training slots throughout the winter months.

3.3: Demand

The 11v11 3G pitches currently available for community use in Central Lancashire are all reported to be operating at or close to capacity at peak times, especially during winter months when grass pitches cannot be used for training or recreational demand (due to a lack of sports lighting).

Currently, it is considered that all the community-based activity on 3G pitches is mainly football related with some rugby union usage.

The table below summarises usage levels of the 11v11 3G provision in Central Lancashire based on booking sheets supplied by the operators. This compared against availability at peak time, using Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM). This applies an overall peak period for AGPs of 34 hours per week; split between 18 hours midweek and 16 hours at the weekend (Monday to Thursday 17:00-21:00; Friday 17:00-19:00; Saturday and Sunday 09:00-17:00).

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 3.9: Current usage of 11v11 3G pitches across Central Lancashire in peak time

Site ID	Site name	Club user	Midweek availability (hours)	Midweek usage (hours)	Weekend availability (hours)	Weekend usage (hours)
2	Ashton Community Science College	Cadley / Fulwood Amateur / Man V Fat Preston FC / Ribbleton FC / Springfields (Preston)	13	12	16	10
13	Corpus Christi Catholic High School	Cadley / Preston City Football Club	16	16	16	9
19	Fulwood Academy	Chorley FC / Longsands JFC	-	-	16	16
54	Preston College	AFC Preston / Bamber Bridge FC / PNE Community & Education Trust / Ribbleton FC / Broughton Amateurs	18	18	16	13
56	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	Preston Grasshoppers RFC / Typhoons RFC	18	14	16	11
59	University of Lancashire	Preston North End FC / Preston North End Womens FC / Sir Tom Finney FC / Sir Tom Finney Preston Soccer Centre / Fulwood Amateur	18	16	16	16
87	Balshaw Church of England High School	Chorley FC / Euxton Villa / Lostock Hall Juniors / Ribbleton Wanderers	18	15	16	12
146	Runshaw College	Euxton Villa / Ribble Wanderers	13.5	10	-	-
151	St Marys Catholic High School Leyland	Leyland B.T.R / Leyland Pirates Football Club	18	15	16	8
166	Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre)	Coppull United / Steven Gerrard Academy Chorley / Walton Le Dale Juniors / AFC Bamber / Bamber Bridge United / Euxton Villa	18	18	16	14
175	West Way Sports Hub	Astley & Buckshaw Juniors / Brinscall Village JFC / Chorley FC / Chorley Wanderers Juniors / Final Third Football Club / Ribbleton Wanderers / Fishwick Rangers / Gillibrand Warriors / Astley FC / Euxton Girls	18	16	16	16
177	Bishop Rawstorne C of E Language College	Croston Sports Club / Croston Sports Club Juniors / Euxton Villa / Mawdesley FC	13	13	16	8
221	Jim Fowlers Memorial Ground (Euxton Villa FC)	Euxton Villa	18	16	16	16

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Club user	Midweek availability (hours)	Midweek usage (hours)	Weekend availability (hours)	Weekend usage (hours)
229	Parklands High School	Euxton Girls / Charnock Richard JFC / Chorley Wanderers	13	13	16	11
256	Penwortham Priory Academy	AFC Penwortham / Kingsfold JFC / Penwortham St Teresa's / Penwortham Town / PNE Womens (Juniors) / South Ribble Futsal Club / Astley FC / Bamber Bridge / Preston North End Womens FC / Walmer Bridge FC	18	17	16	8
259	Brownedge St Marys Catholic High School	Leyland Pirates Football Club	18	15	16	13

As seen, there is limited midweek and weekend availability as pitches are either at capacity or close to capacity. This data should be used to establish a baseline that can be reviewed annually to see if the position changes, taking into account any new pitches that are established and the impact these have.

Despite that table above indicating that University of Lancashire is fully available and used by the community it is known that the majority of this demand is from the University or professional sports clubs (Preston North End FC / Preston North End Women FC) leaving limited capacity for grass roots clubs.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

3.4: Supply and demand analysis

Football

The FA considers high quality 3G pitches as an essential tool in promoting coach and player development, with the pitches considered to be great assets on account of being able to support intensive use and use during inclement weather. Primarily, such facilities have been installed for social use and training; however, they are increasingly being used for competition, which the FA wholly supports.

Training demand

To quantify the potential 3G pitch shortfall for football, the FA has established a training model, which suggests that one 11v11 3G pitch can accommodate 38 affiliated teams (with capacity built in for other forms of demand). It also has an aspiration for all teams to train once per week on a 3G pitch, although it is recognised that nationally some activity may need to be retained on sand-based pitches to ensure the sustainability of them.

For the model, some smaller size pitches are also included as nationally many are suitable for accommodating training demand, especially larger ones.

The contribution each pitch makes towards the modelling is summarised in the table below. This then informs the proceeding modelling tables. Any pitch too small to accommodate training demand are discounted, as well as any pitches that are unavailable for community use.

Table 3.10: Contribution of 3G pitches in meeting training requirements

Site name	Analysis area	Size (metres)	Comments	Full size adult pitch equivalents
Chorley – 11v11	-	-	-	-
West Way Sports Hub	West	100 x 64	11v11 3G pitch fully available to the community.	1
Bishop Rawstone C of E Language College	West	94 x 55	11v11 3G pitch fully available to the community.	1
Jim Fowlers Memorial Ground (Euxton Villa FC)	West	100 x 64	11v11 3G pitch fully available to the community.	0.75 ¹⁵
Parklands High School	Central	91 x 55	11v11 3G pitch fully available to the community.	1
Chorley – Smaller size	-	-	-	-
Clayton Green Sports Centre	East	35 x 18	Too small to accommodate training demand.	-
Preston – 11v11	-	-	-	-
Ashton Community Science College	North West	95 x 58	11v11 3G pitch fully available to the community.	1

¹⁵ Capacity reduced due to midweek NLS match play usage.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Site name	Analysis area	Size (metres)	Comments	Full size adult pitch equivalents
Corpus Christi Catholic High School	North East	91 x 55	11v11 3G pitch fully available to the community.	0.75 ¹⁶
Fulwood Academy	North West	95 x 51	11v11 3G pitch fully available to the community but has no sports lighting.	-
Preston College	North East	95 x 55	11v11 3G pitch fully available to the community.	1
Preston Grasshoppers RFC	North West	114 x 68	11v11 WR complaint 3G pitch which is mainly used for rugby union demand.	-
University of Lancashire	North West	100 x 60 122 x 67	Two 11v11 3G pitches available to the community. Used to accommodate mainly educational and partner usage with limited community training availability.	0.25
Preston – Smaller size	-	-	-	-
BAC/EE	South	40 x 20	Too small to accommodate training demand.	-
Christ the King Catholic School	South	73 x 46	Large enough to accommodate training demand.	0.75
Grange Primary School	North East	35 x 25	Too small to accommodate training demand.	-
Playfootball (Preston)	North West	40 x 30	Too small to accommodate training demand.	-
Playfootball (Preston)	North West	31 x 22	Too small to accommodate training demand.	-
West View Leisure Centre	South	38 x 26	Too small to accommodate training demand.	-
South Ribble – 11v11	-	-	-	-
Balshaw Church of England High School	Leyland	91 x 55	11v11 3G pitch fully available to the community.	1
Runshaw College	Leyland	91 x 55	11v11 3G pitch fully available to the community.	0.75 ¹⁷
St Marys Catholic High School Leyland	Leyland	91 x 55	11v11 3G pitch fully available to the community.	1

¹⁶ Capacity reduced due to midweek availability only till 20:30.

¹⁷ Capacity reduced due to midweek availability only till 20:30.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Site name	Analysis area	Size (metres)	Comments	Full size adult pitch equivalents
Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre)	Eastern	100 x 64	11v11 3G pitch fully available to the community.	1
Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre)	Eastern	100 x 64	11v11 3G pitch fully available to the community.	1
Penwortham Priory Academy	Penwortham	91 x 55	11v11 3G pitch fully available to the community.	1
Brownedge St Marys Catholic High School	Eastern	91 x 55	11v11 3G pitch fully available to the community.	1
South Ribble – Smaller size	-	-	-	-
Lancashire County Football Association Headquarters	Leyland	81 x 55	11v11 3G pitch fully available to the community.	0.5
Lancashire County Football Association Headquarters	Leyland	37 x 27	Too small to accommodate training demand.	-
South Ribble Tennis and Fitness Centre	Eastern	26 x 16	Too small to accommodate training demand.	-
-	-	-	Total	14.75

Given there is a total of 798 football teams which originate in Central Lancashire, there is a theoretical need for 21 11v11 3G pitches. As there are currently 14.75 pitch equivalents provided, this means that there is a potential need for 6.25 additional 11v11 3G pitches to meet all current training demand.

Table 3.11: Current demand for 11v11 3G pitches in Central Lancashire (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Current number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 11v11 size 3G pitch equivalents	Current shortfall
798	21	14.75	6.25

When considering future demand for an additional 42 teams (based on growth identified in Part 2 of this report), there is potential demand for 22 full size pitches overall (rounded down from 21.11), which means a theoretical future shortfall of 6.75 pitches.

Table 3.12: Future demand for 11v11 3G pitches in Central Lancashire (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Future number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 11v11 size 3G pitch equivalents	Future shortfall
840	22.11 - 22	14.75	7.25

Alternatively, the table below considers the number of 3G pitches required if every team was to remain training within the respective analysis area that they play in. This not only identifies where the potential needs exist across Central Lancashire, but it can also be used to guide which areas should be targeted for new provision.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 3.13: Current demand for 11v11 3G pitches by analysis area (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Analysis area	Current number of teams	Current requirement	Current number of 11v11 pitch equivalents	Current shortfall
Central	95	2.5	1	1.5
East	32	0.84 – 0.75	-	0.75
West	104	2.74 – 2.75	2.75	
Chorley – Total	231	6.08 – 6	3.75	- 2.25
North East	35	0.92 – 1	1.75	0.75
North West	113	2.97 – 3	1.25	1.75
South	65	1.71 – 1.75	0.75	1
Preston - Total	213	5.60 – 5.75	3.75	- 2
Central	22	0.58 – 0.5	-	0.5
Eastern	77	2.03 – 2	3	1
Leyland	75	1.97 – 2	3.25	1.25
Penwortham	142	3.74 – 3.75	1	2.75
Western Parishes	38	1	-	1
South Ribble – Total	354	9.32 – 9.25	7.25	-2
Central Lancashire	798	21	14.75	6.25

This shows an overall shortfall of 6.25 11v11 3G pitch equivalents, aligning to the shortfall across Central Lancashire as a whole. It also identifies that there are specific shortfalls in Chorley, Preston and South Ribble needing at least one additional pitch in each.

Following the development of the new 11v11 3G pitches located at Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre), there is a number of teams from Chorley and Preston exporting demand to South Ribble to access these facilities.

The table below considers imported and exported demand between all three authorities. For ease of reference the current requirement and current shortfalls have been rounded to the nearest whole number, where possible, to understand strategically where 11v11 size 3G provision should be established across Central Lancashire.

Table 3.14: Current demand for 11v11 3G pitches if every team was to remain training within the respective local authority (based on 38 teams per pitch)

Analysis area	Current number of teams	Current requirement	Current number of 11v11 pitch equivalents	Current shortfall
Chorley				
Central	105	2.76 - 3	1	2
East	55	1.44 – 1	-	1
West	105	2.74 – 3	2.75	
Preston				
North East	48	1.26 – 1	1.75	1
North West	121	3.18 – 3	1.25	2
South	86	2.26 – 2	0.75	1
South Ribble				
Central	22	0.58 – 1	-	1
Eastern	69	1.82 – 2	3	1
Leyland	64	1.68 – 2	3.25	1
Penwortham	85	2.24 – 2	1	1
Western Parishes	38	1	-	1

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Using the above analysis the shortfalls in each area have been summarised below:

- ◀ Chorley – two in the Central Analysis Area and one in the East Analysis Area.
- ◀ Preston - two in the North West Analysis Area and one in the South Analysis Area.
- ◀ South Ribble – One each in the Penwortham and Western Parishes analysis areas.

It is understood that that the oversupply in the Eastern and Leyland analysis areas in South Ribble can alleviate the minor shortfall in the Central Analysis Area. With this being said future demand levels should be monitored as this could lead to an 11v11 size pitch shortfall. More in detail scenarios will be run in the Strategy and Action Plan surrounding how these shortfalls can be alleviated.

Match play demand

Improving grass pitch quality is one way to increase the capacity at sites but given the cost of doing such work and the continued maintenance required (and associated costs), alternatives need to be considered that can offer a more sustainable model for the future of football. The alternative or supplement to grass pitches is the use of 3G pitches for competitive matches, providing that the pitch is FA approved, sports lit and available for community use during the peak period.

In Central Lancashire, currently 153 affiliated teams across 40 clubs are registered as using 3G pitches for regular match play.

As the number of 3G pitches increases in line with meeting training demand shortfalls, so should the number of teams utilising the provision for matches, which in turn should relieve grass pitches of use. As such, whilst the number of 3G pitches needed for matches will never outweigh the number of 3G pitches needed for training (as they would not be sustainable without midweek usage), maximising the pitches that are in place and that are proposed should be fully supported.

Rugby union

Given the inclement weather often experienced throughout the winter months of the rugby union season, more clubs are becoming increasingly receptive towards training on artificial pitches. Clubs traditionally train on match pitches where sports lighting is in place or one pitch designated for all training in particular, unless there is a separate floodlit grass training area. It often results in deterioration in pitch quality coupled with decreasing maintenance budgets.

The recent RFU strategy on investment in 3G pitches both at club and community based sites is indicative of the growing acceptance of 3G pitches amongst clubs nationally. Nationally clubs identify the use of 3G pitches for training as a method of protecting the match pitches and providing a high quality surface for full contact practice. Competitive play continues to take place on grass pitches for the most part, with ad hoc use of 3G pitches for fixtures in the case of unsuitable pitches due to waterlogging or frost.

There is currently one World Rugby compliant 11v11 3G pitch in Central Lancashire which is located at Preston Grasshoppers RFC (PR4 0AP, Preston North West Analysis Area). This pitch is used to accommodate training demand for both Typhoons RFC and Preston Grasshoppers RFC.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Rugby league

Nationally, rugby league clubs tend to use match pitches for training due to clubs preferring to use grass pitch provision, but also the cost of hiring 3G facilities is too high. However, this leads to overplay of pitches due to accommodating both training and matches.

Both Leyland Warriors ARLFC and Preston & South Ribble Rabbitohs ARLFC utilise match pitches to accommodate its training demand. The latter does indicate a need for more affordable and accessible 3G provision with it currently hiring several facilities which is a significant cost to the Club.

Given there is currently no RFL compliant 3G pitches located in Central Lancashire, the closest facility for clubs to access would be located in Wigan at Leigh Sports Village and Sutton Park.

Other sports

Currently, no other sports clubs/users are presently identified as accessing the existing stock of 3G pitches in Central Lancashire (outside of some school activity).

3.5: Conclusion

In conclusion, there is insufficient supply of 11v11 size 3G pitches to meet current and anticipated future football training demand in Central Lancashire. When analysed as a collective across the three authorities there is a shortfall of 6.25 11v11 3G pitch equivalents.

Once broken down by analysis area, with each club allocated to their authority of origin, this increases to eight 11v11 3G pitch equivalents. Equating to three in Chorley (two in the Central Analysis Area and one in the East Analysis Area), three in Preston (two in the North West Analysis Area and one in the South Analysis Area) and two in South Ribble (one each in the Penwortham and Western Parishes analysis areas).

In addition, to ensure that current supply and any future supply is maintained to a good enough standard to accommodate demand, providers are encouraged to put pitch replacement funds in place to ensure long-term sustainability. This will allow for re-surfacing to take place when required and will ensure that pitches can remain on the FA 3G Pitch Register.

As mentioned above, there is currently one World Rugby compliant 11v11 3G pitch in Central Lancashire which is utilised by both clubs (Typhoons RFC and Preston Grasshoppers RFC) to accommodate match and training demand with no highlighted need for any additional 3G pitch provision for rugby union. However, there is currently no RFL compliant 3G pitch located in Central Lancashire, with the closest facility located in Wigan. Responding clubs highlight a need for additional 3G provision to accommodate training demand which is also affordable. The potential benefit of this will be tested as a scenario within the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ There is insufficient supply of 11v11 size 3G pitches to meet current and anticipated future football training demand in Central Lancashire, with a potential current shortfall of 5.75 11v11 3G pitches identified and an anticipated future shortfall of 6.75 11v11 3G pitches.
- ◀ Once broken down by analysis area, with each club allocated to their authority of origin, this increases to eight 11v11 3G pitch equivalents. Equating to three in Chorley (two in the Central Analysis Area and one in the East Analysis Area), three in Preston (two in the North West Analysis Area and one in the South Analysis Area) and two in South Ribble (one each in the Penwortham and Western Parishes analysis areas).

Supply summary

- ◀ There are 18 11v11 3G pitches in Central Lancashire across 16 sites. All 18 pitches are available for community use but only 18 have sports lighting, with the pitch at Fulwood Academy not provided with sports lighting.
- ◀ Four 11v11 3G pitches are in Chorley with seven pitches each in Preston and South Ribble.
- ◀ Since 2018 there has been an increase of seven 3G pitches with one pitch each provided at University of Lancashire, St Marys Catholic High School Leyland, West Way Sports Hub, Jim Fowlers Memorial Ground (Euxton Villa FC), Parklands High School and two new pitches provided at Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre).
- ◀ As well as the 11v11 3G pitches, there are also 15 smaller size outdoor 3G pitches across eight sites. Of these, all 15 are available to the community and are sports lit.
- ◀ Some clubs/education sites report aspirations to develop 3G pitches including Cadley FC Penwortham Priory Academy, Croston Sports Club, All Hallows Catholic High School, Chorley FC/Southlands High School and University of Lancashire.
- ◀ In Central Lancashire, there is currently one 3G pitch which is World Rugby compliant located at Preston Grasshoppers RFC (PR4 0AP, Preston North West Analysis Area).
- ◀ Most 11v11 3G pitches in Central Lancashire are managed by education providers (13 or 68%).
- ◀ The smaller size 3G pitches are managed by either education providers (two or 14%), commercial management (four or 29%), leisure operators (six or 43%), sports clubs (one or 7%) or Lancashire FA (one or 7%).
- ◀ Overall, eight 11v11 3G pitches assessed as good quality nine as standard quality and two assessed as poor quality located at Runshaw College and Preston College.
- ◀ In addition to above, there are two good quality, seven standard quality and five poor quality smaller size 3G pitches. The poor quality pitches are located at BAC/EE, Grange Primary School and Playfootball (Preston).

Demand summary

- ◀ Given there is a total of 798 football teams which originate in Central Lancashire, there is a theoretical need for 21 11v11 3G pitches. As there are currently 15.25 pitch equivalents provided, this means that there is a potential need for 5.75 additional 11v11 3G pitches to meet all current training demand.
- ◀ When considering future demand for an additional 42 teams (based on growth identified in Part 2 of this report), there is potential demand for 22 full size pitches overall (rounded down from 21.11), which means a theoretical future shortfall of 6.75 pitches.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 4: RUGBY UNION

4.1: Introduction

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) is split into four areas across the country with a workforce team that covers development, coaching, governance and competitions. It governs a variety of formats and programmes, including 15-a-side, 10-a-side, 7-a-side and Tag rugby as well as the O2 Touch programme. Its aim is to increase and retain participation within the game, with facilities needing to be appropriate, affordable and accessible in order to enable this.

For traditional rugby union, there are generally three playing formats, based on the age of the players involved. These are now known as age grade mixed rugby (previously mini), age grade boys/girls rugby (previously junior) and senior rugby.

The rugby union playing season operates from September to May.

Consultation

There are two rugby union clubs playing in Central Lancashire with both located in Preston. Only Preston Grasshoppers RFC has responded to consultation requests to date which results in a 50% response rate. This is summarised in the table below.

Table 4.1: Rugby club response rate

Club name	Type of consultation	Club response
Typhoons RFC	-	No
Preston Grasshoppers RFC	Face to face	Yes

Continued efforts will be made to obtain a response from the outstanding club (Typhoons RFC).

Since the previous study both Chorley RFC and Leyland Warriors RFC have folded with the latter now solely a rugby league club.

4.2: Supply

The audit of rugby union pitches across Central Lancashire identifies a total of 17 pitches across 11 unique sites, of which, 14 pitches across eight sites are available for community use. The breakdown by analysis area can be seen in the table below.

Table 4.2: Supply of grass rugby union pitches available for community use in Central Lancashire

Local Authority	No. of community available rugby union pitches	No. of unavailable rugby union pitches
Chorley	2	-
Preston	4	2
South Ribble	8	1
Central Lancashire	14	3

The audit only identifies dedicated, line marked pitches that are serviced by goalposts. However, nationally, there are some additional spaces that are used, without goalposts, particularly for age grade rugby. It is also common for age grade matches to be played on senior pitches via the use of cones.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

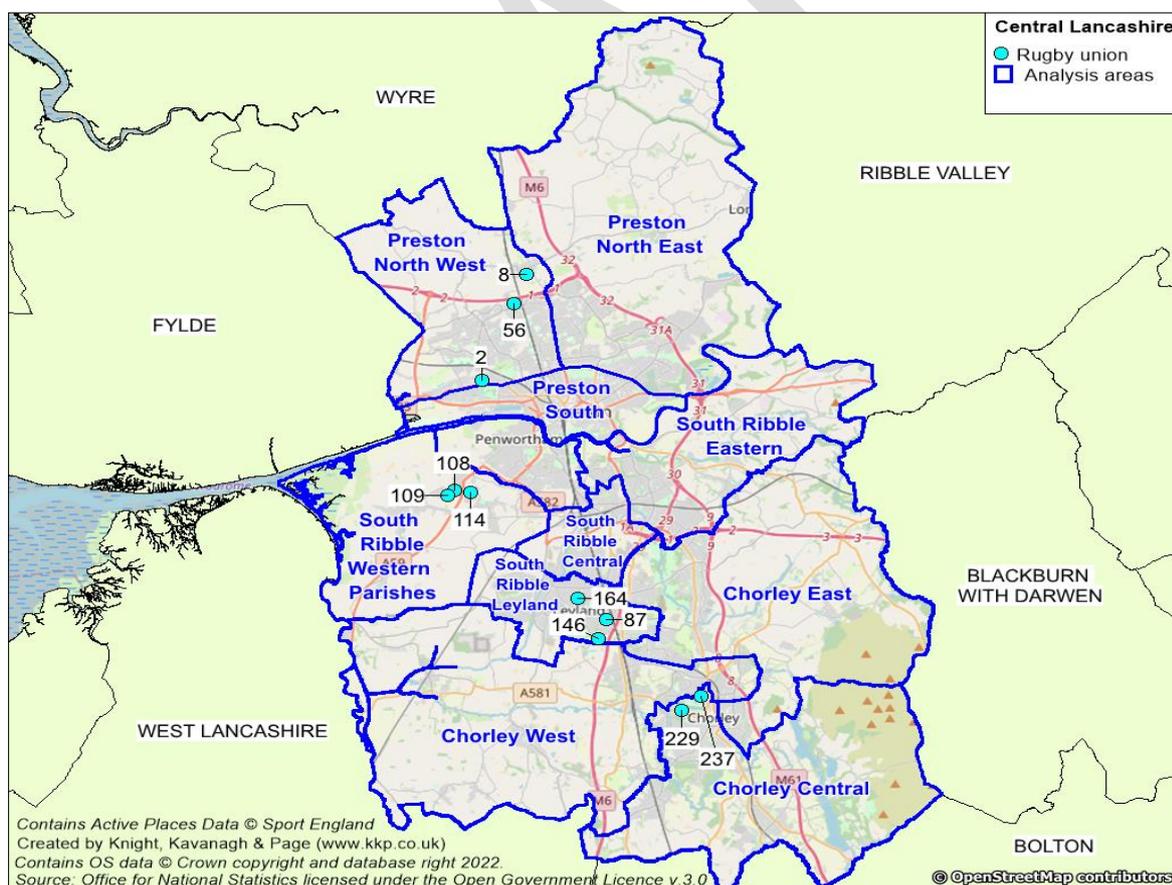
Recommended pitch dimensions for all formats of play are shown in the table below.

Table 4.3: Rugby union pitch dimensions

Age	Playing format	Maximum pitch dimensions (metres) ¹⁸
U7	Age grade mixed	20 x 12
U8	Age grade mixed	45 x 22
U9	Age grade mixed	60 x 30
U10	Age grade mixed	60 x 35
U11	Age grade mixed	60 x 43
U12	Age grade mixed	60 x 43
U13	Age grade boys/girls	90 x 60 (60 x 43 for girls)
U14	Age grade boys/girls	100 x 70
U15	Age grade boys/girls	100 x 70
U16	Age grade boys/girls	100 x 70
U17	Age grade boys/girls	100 x 70
U18	Colts	100 x 70
Senior	Senior	100 x 70

Figure 4.1 overleaf shows the location of all rugby union pitches currently servicing Central Lancashire. For a key to the map, see Table 4.16.

Figure 4.1: Location of rugby union pitches within Central Lancashire



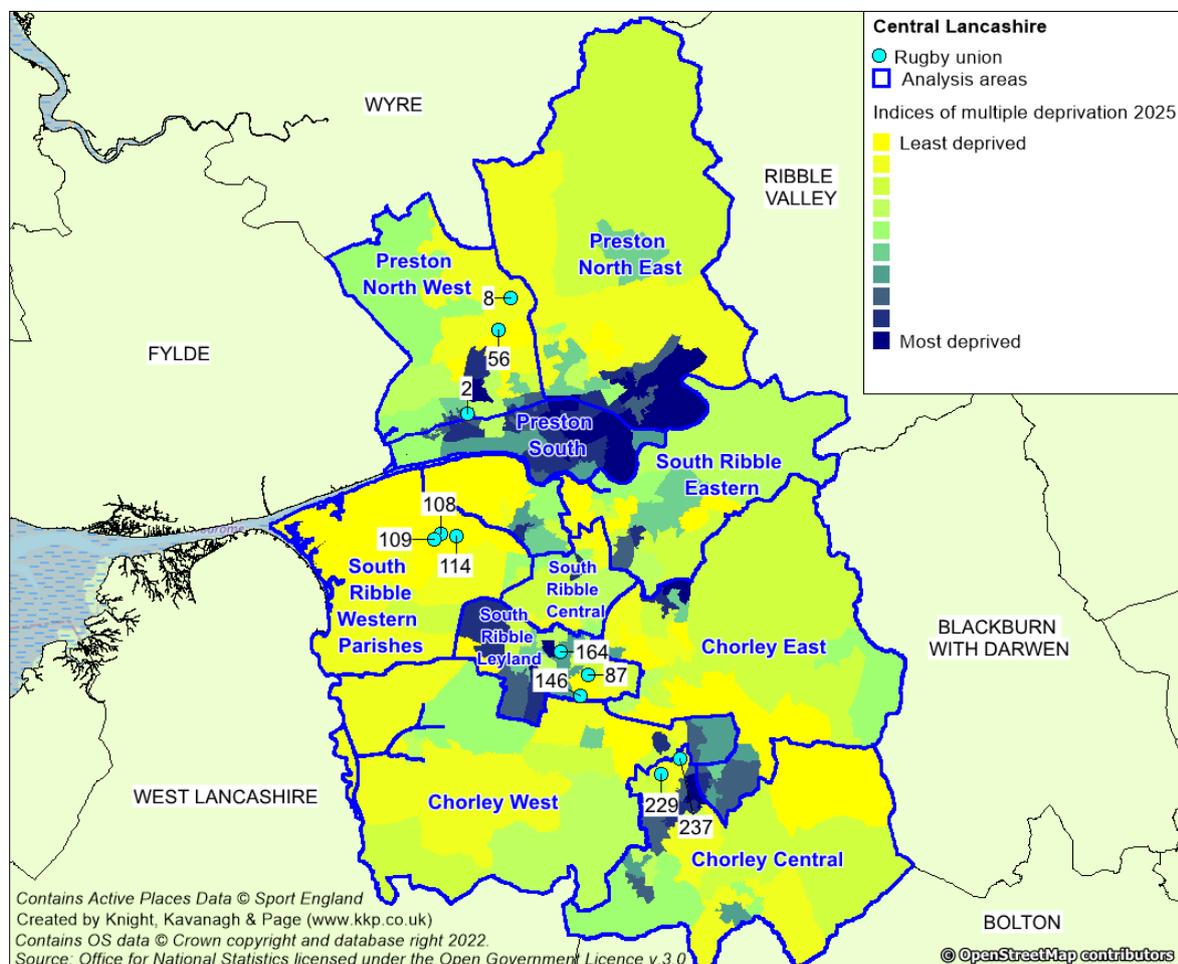
¹⁸ Recommended run off area for all pitch types requires five-metres each way and a minimum in-goal length of six metres.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)

The figure below shows all active rugby sites located in the more deprived area across Central Lancashire can be seen in the map below.

Figure 4.2: Location of rugby union sites against IMD



Disused provision

As per the previous PPS, one rugby union pitch was marked out at Archbishop Temple High School (PR2 8RA) and one pitch located at Moss Side Recreation Ground (PR26 7XU) which both are now no longer marked out for rugby union.

Management and security of tenure

Preston Grasshoppers RFC owns its home venue freehold, including grass pitches and ancillary facilities. For the 3G pitch, the Club has a lease agreement with RFU for 25 years, as the RFU funded the installation of the pitch as one of the initial sites for the RFU's Rugby 365 programme.

Typhoons RFC rents the World Rugby compliant 3G pitch at Preston Grasshoppers RFC for both match and training demand.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Pitch quality

The quality of rugby union pitches across Central Lancashire has been assessed via a combination of site visits carried out in February 2025 (using non-technical assessments as determined by the FA) and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed quality rating. For the full site assessment criteria, please refer to Appendix 2.

The assessment of rugby union pitch quality looks at two key elements; the maintenance programme and the level of drainage on each pitch. For maintenance, each pitch is given a maintenance rating of M0, M1 or M2, based on the regime that is usually undertaken, with the definitions of these shown in the table below.

Table 4.4: Definition of maintenance categories

Category	Definition
M0	Minimal or no maintenance is undertaken
M1	Regular maintenance is undertaken that extends beyond a basic regime
M2	A sophisticated, regular and dedicated maintenance regime is undertaken

For drainage, a rating of D0, D1, D2 or D3 is assigned to each pitch. This is based on whether drainage is adequate and considers the presence of an operational system. The figures are based upon a pipe drained system at 5m centres that has been installed in the last eight years and a slit drained system at 1m centres installed in the last five years.

Table 4.5: Definition of drainage categories

Category	Definition
D0	Drainage is natural but inadequate
D1	Drainage is natural and adequate
D2	A pipe drainage system is installed (at 5-metre centres and within the last eight years)
D3	A pipe and slit drainage system is installed (at 1-metre centres in the last five years)

An overall quality based on both drainage and maintenance can then be generated on a scale of good, standard and poor as shown below.

Table 4.6: Quality ratings based on maintenance and drainage scores

		Maintenance		
		Poor (M0)	Adequate (M1)	Good (M2)
Drainage	Natural Inadequate (D0)	Poor	Poor	Standard
	Natural Adequate (D1)	Poor	Standard	Good
	Pipe Drained (D2)	Standard	Standard	Good
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	Standard	Good	Good

For the full assessment criteria, please refer to Appendix 2.

Of the community available pitches in Central Lancashire, two are assessed as good quality, four as standard quality and eight are assessed as poor quality. The poor quality pitches are located at Balshaw's C of E High School, Hutton C of E Grammar School (off site), Runshaw College, St Michael's CE High School, Wellfield Academy and Parklands High School.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 4.7: Quality of pitches available for community use in Central Lancashire

Analysis area	Good	Standard	Poor
Chorley	-	-	2
Preston	2	2	-
South Ribble	-	2	6
Central Lancashire	2	4	8

A pitch-by-pitch breakdown can be seen in the table overleaf.

DRAFT

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 4.8: Site quality ratings

Site ID	Site name	Active Places Power ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Tenure	Management	No. of pitches	Sports lit?	Quality score	Quality rating
Chorley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
229	Parklands High School	1008060	PR7 1LL	Central	Yes	Unsecure	Education	1	No	M0/D0	Poor
237	St Michael's CE High School	1201754	PR7 1RS	Central	Yes	Unsecure	Education	1	No	M0/D0	Poor
Preston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	Ashton Community Science College	1004579	PR2 1SL	North West	No	Unsecure	Education	1	No	M0/D0	Poor
8	Broughton Business Enterprise College & High School	1201203	PR3 5JJ	North West	No	Unsecure	Education	1	No	M0/D1	Poor
56	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	1036112	PR4 0AP	North West	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	1	Yes	M2/D1	Good
56	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	1036112	PR4 0AP	North West	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	1	No	M2/D1	Good
56	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	1036112	PR4 0AP	North West	Yes	Secure	Sports Club	2	No	M2/D0	Standard
South Ribble	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
87	Balshaw's C of E High School	1203212	PR25 3AH	Leyland	Yes	Unsecure	Education	1	No	M0/D1	Poor
108	Hutton C of E Grammar School	1201365	PR4 5SN	Western Parishes	Yes	Unsecure	Education	2	No	M1/D1	Standard
109	Hutton C of E Grammar School (off site)	6005277	PR4 5SE	Western Parishes	Yes	Unsecure	Local Authority	3	No	M0/D1	Poor
114	Lancashire Constabulary Training Headquarters, Hutton	1036528	PR4 5TJ	Western Parishes	No	Secure	Other	1	No	M0/D1	Poor
146	Runshaw College	1009054	PR25 3DQ	Leyland	Yes	Unsecure	Education	1	No	M0/D1	Poor
164	Wellfield Academy (Wellfield Business and Enterprise College & High School)	1201632	PR25 2TP	Leyland	Yes	Unsecure	Education	1	No	M0/D1	Poor

Preston Grasshoppers RFC report it has invested into two pitches at Preston Grasshoppers RFC which has led it to improve in quality. The Club plans to improve the drainage of the remaining two pitches and is in the process of looking to obtain relevant funding assistance.

Most of the poor quality pitches listed in the table above are located at education providers (7/17 or 41%) where maintenance is limited and generally only involves grass cutting and line marking when required and issues with drainage.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Ancillary facilities

Ancillary facility ratings are primarily influenced by the type of amenities which are available on a site accompanied by their quality, such as a clubhouse, changing rooms, car parking, dedicated official and spectator facilities. Good quality ancillary facilities are particularly important for rugby clubs as they can assist with income generation. Furthermore, it is becoming increasingly important for the provision to be inclusive, particularly due to growing women's and girls', disability and junior/mini demand.

Although the size and configuration of ancillary provision may alter based on the sports using the provision, and the number of pitches it services, generally the same principles are recommended to allow for varied use from all demographics:

- ◀ Accessible changing areas which can be separated, or are private/self-contained, to allow for separate male/female/all gender or senior/junior separation.
- ◀ A private accessible changing room (with relevant changing and showering provision) for someone who requires assistance.
- ◀ Separate female / male / all gender toilet provision.
- ◀ Suitably designed and specified showering cubicles to all users to maintain dignity and privacy whilst showering.

Open plan changing rooms and showering facilities can provide a significant barrier to many people resulting in them either not taking part or having a poorer sporting experience.

As a result of the above, those ancillary facilities that do not meet the above criteria, cannot be rated anything higher than standard quality.

Table 4.9: Ancillary provision of the clubs that responded to consultation

Site ID	Site name	Users	Overall building quality	Changing room quality ¹⁹	Comments
56	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	Good	Poor	Seven changing rooms including dedicated women and girls' facilities. The Club states it has made some improvements to the changing rooms (painting etc.). However, the facilities will need full refurbishment eventually given the age and general wear and tear.

Preston Grasshoppers RFC highlights an aspiration to install solar panels to become more energy sufficient and to reduce its running costs. It should be noted that Typhoons RFC rent the use of ancillary provision from Preston Grasshoppers RFC.

¹⁹ Including changing areas, toilets and showering facilities.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

4.3: Demand

Demand for rugby pitches within Central Lancashire tends to fall within the categories of organised competitive play and organised training.

Competitive demand

Across Central Lancashire there are two clubs providing a total of 22 teams which equates to six senior men's, one senior women, seven age grade boys, two age grade girls and six age grade mixed teams. All demand is in the Preston North West Analysis Area.

Table 4.10: Summary of number of teams (demand) by club

Club	Analysis area	Men's	Women's	Age grade boys'	Age grade girls'	Age grade mixed	Total
2018							
Typhoons RFC	North West	1	-	-	-	-	1
Preston Grasshoppers RFC	North West	7	2	5	1	6	21
-	Total	8	2	5	1	6	22
2025							
Typhoons RFC	North West	1	-	-	-	-	1
Preston Grasshoppers RFC	North West	4	1	7	2	6	20
-	Total	6	1	7	2	6	22
Percentage change	-	25%	50%	29%	50%		

Both senior men's and senior women's demand has decreased slightly since the previous study (2018) by three teams (75%). However, there has been a growth of three teams in the age grade boy's and girl's demographic with age grade mixed demand remaining the same.

As previously mentioned, since the previous study both Chorley RFC and Leyland Warriors RFC have folded with the latter now solely a rugby league club.

Training demand

Throughout the Country, many rugby teams train at their home ground on match pitches. As a result, usage is concentrated which reduces the capacity for match play on these pitches and means they are more likely to be overplayed. A key factor in determining the extent of training on match pitches is the presence of sports lighting.

The activity and training arrangements for each club and the level of this is highlighted in the table below

Table 5.11: Summary of rugby union club facility use for evening training

Club	Site ID	Site	Training demand	Match equivalent sessions (per week)
Typhoons RFC	56	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	Training demand takes place on the WR compliant 3G pitch.	1
Preston Grasshoppers RFC	56	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	Training demand takes place on the WR compliant 3G pitch.	5

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Both Typhoons RFC and Preston Grasshoppers utilise the WR compliant 3G pitch located at Preston Grasshoppers RFC to accommodate all its training demand. No issues have been raised through consultation regarding training.

Use of artificial pitches

The alternative to training on grass pitches is the use of 3G pitches. World Rugby produced the 'Performance Specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union. A World Rugby compliant pitch also enables the transfer of match demand from grass pitches onto 3G pitches, which alleviates overplay of grass pitches and as a result protects quality.

There is currently one World Rugby compliant 11v11 3G pitch in Central Lancashire which is located at Preston Grasshoppers RFC (PR4 0AP, Preston North West Analysis Area). This pitch is used to accommodate training demand for both Typhoons RFC and Preston Grasshoppers RFC.

See Part 3 of this report for further information.

Exported/imported demand

Exported demand refers to Central Lancashire registered teams that are currently accessing pitches outside of the Area for their home fixtures, conversely, imported demand are teams entering the area to access provision. There is no known exported or imported rugby union demand regarding Central Lancashire.

Latent demand

Latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision. No latent demand has been highlighted through consultation with Preston Grasshoppers RFC.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined through multiple ways, including through participation increases and by using population forecasts. In addition, the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document will contain housing growth scenarios that can be used to estimate additional demand for rugby union arising from housing developments across Central Lancashire.

Participation growth

The RFU indicates Preston Grasshoppers RFC to grow by two girls teams whereas Typhoons RFC should increase by another senior team. This is supported by Preston Grasshoppers RFC response to consultation which states a clear aspiration to increase its female participation.

Population growth

Based on population projections to 2041 (in line with the Council's Local Plan), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator can estimate the likely additional demand for grass rugby pitches that will arise from any growth. This is by using the current and future populations in each of the relevant age groups together with the current team numbers, with team generation rates then established to understand how much growth is required to establish one new team.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

The table below shows the number of new teams generated by the new population and the required match equivalent sessions. As seen, no additional rugby teams are predicted to be generated via population growth alone. The figures used are solely based on the Authority of Preston as this is where all the demand in Central Lancashire is located.

Table 5.12: Preston North West Analysis Area

Age group	Team generation rate	Number of new teams generated by the new population	Number of new teams generated by the new population - rounded figure	Match equivalent sessions ²⁰
Men (19-45yrs)	1:1,118	0.37	0	-
Women (19-45yrs)	1:6,914	0.06	0	-
Boys (13-18yrs)	1:218	0.43	0	-
Girls (13-18yrs)	1:678	0.12	0	-
Mixed (7-12yrs)	1:527	0.37	0	-

As the project is based across three local authorities, the TGRs in the above table, do not accurately represent the potential growth in the area. Demand from Chorley and South Ribble import into Preston to access the only rugby union facility in the area, however, this is difficult to quantify with specific numbers.

If this demand was replicated for each local authority across Central Lancashire this would represent an increase on one men's, one boys and one mixed team. This future demand will be used in the supply and demand analysis below.

Furthermore, the ONS projections do not account for the scale or distribution of housing growth in the Area, as will be proposed in the review of the Local Plan. This will therefore also be subject to scenarios in the Strategy document and/or via future assessment work undertaken by the councils.

Notwithstanding the above, team generation rates do not account for specific development work within certain areas or focused towards certain groups, such as NGB initiatives. As such, increased future growth is still considered possible despite population projections indicating that there will be no growth. A growth in women and girls' rugby is thought to be highly likely given current RFU aspirations and upcoming 2025 Women's Rugby World Cup.

Women's Rugby World Cup 2025

For the first time ever, the expanded showcase event will be hosted across eight venues and cities around England (Brighton & Hove, Bristol, Exeter, London, Manchester, Northampton, Sunderland and York) with 16 teams competing to be crowned world champions.

The countrywide format makes it the most accessible Women's Rugby World Cup ever, offering an unparalleled opportunity for fans to see, engage with and support the stars of the women's game in towns and cities around England.

Women's Rugby World Cup 2025 will represent a generational moment for global rugby that will set new standards, welcome new fans and families to the sport and inspire a new generation of players, providing an exciting catalyst to nationwide and global rugby growth.

²⁰ Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, one team accounts to 0.5 match equivalent sessions on their relevant pitch type.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Based on current ancillary provision, Preston Grasshoppers RFC has the facilities (separate changing rooms and showering facilities) to accommodate current and anticipated future levels of women's and girls' demand.

Future demand summary

In the supply and demand analysis at the end of this section of the report, it is considered unfeasible for all future demand to be factored in. This is because it is likely that club aspirations will absorb the future demand identified through population growth, rather than them being judged separately and therefore double counted. As such, population growth is taken forward within the Assessment Report, with club demand considered to be more theoretical and aspirational but will be included as a scenario within the Strategy & Action Plan.

The peak period

To fully establish actual spare capacity, the peak period needs to be established for all types of rugby. For senior teams in Central Lancashire, it is Saturday PM, whilst it is Sunday AM for age grade rugby.

4.4: Capacity analysis

The capacity for pitches to regularly accommodate competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of a pitch affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of playing rugby. In extreme circumstances, it can result in the inability of a pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off-peak times.

To enable an accurate supply and demand assessment of rugby union pitches, the following assumptions are applied to the site-by-site and pitch-by-pitch analysis:

- ◀ All sites that are or could be used for competitive rugby matches (regardless of whether this is secured community use) are included on the supply side.
- ◀ All competitive play is on senior sized pitches, with age grade teams playing on overmarked pitches, unless dedicated age grade pitches are known to be used instead.
- ◀ From U13s upwards, teams play 15v15 and use a full pitch.
- ◀ For senior and age grade boys/girls' teams, the current level of play per week is set at 0.5 match equivalent sessions for each match played based on all teams operating on a home and away basis.
- ◀ Age grade mixed teams (U6s-U12s) play on half of a senior pitch, meaning two matches and four teams can be accommodated at any one time.
- ◀ Play per week for age grade mixed teams is set at 0.25 match equivalent sessions for each match played based on teams operating on a home and away basis.
- ◀ Training that takes place on marked pitches is reflected by the addition of match equivalent sessions to current usage levels (one training session is one match equivalent session).
- ◀ Internal use of school pitches is added to current play, where community availability is offered, as determined on a site-by-site basis depending on levels of activity.
- ◀ Other usage of pitches (e.g., by football teams) is added as match equivalent sessions based on the level and regularity of play.

As a guide, the RFU has set a standard number of matches that each pitch should be able to accommodate, based on quality, as set out below.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 4.13: Pitch capacity (matches per week) based on quality assessments

		Maintenance		
		Poor (M0)	Adequate (M1)	Good (M2)
Drainage	Natural Inadequate (D0)	0.5	1.5	2
	Natural Adequate or Pipe Drained (D1)	1.5	2	3
	Pipe Drained (D2)	1.75	2.5	3.25
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	2	3	3.5

Please see Table 4.14 overleaf for the site-by-site capacity analysis.

DRAFT

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Table 4.14: Capacity table for rugby pitches in Central Lancashire

Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Tenure	Community use?	Sports lighting?	Non-technical assessment score	Quality rating	Pitch capacity (sessions per week)	Match equivalent sessions (per week)	Training equivalent sessions (per week)	Capacity rating	Actual spare capacity at peak time	Comments
-	Chorley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
229	Parklands High School	PR7 1LL	Chorley Central	Unsecure	Yes	No	M0/D0	Poor	0.5	1	-	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
237	St Michael's CE High School	PR7 1RS	Chorley Central	Unsecure	Yes	No	M0/D0	Poor	0.5	1	-	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
-	Preston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
56	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	PR4 0AP	Preston North West	Secure	Yes	Yes	M2/D1	Good	3	1.5	-	1.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
56	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	PR4 0AP	Preston North West	Secure	Yes	No	M2/D1	Good	3	1.5	-	1.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
56	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	PR4 0AP	Preston North West	Secure	Yes	No	M2/D0	Standard	2	1.5	-	0.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
56	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	PR4 0AP	Preston North West	Secure	Yes	No	M2/D0	Standard	2	1.5	-	0.5	-	Played to capacity in the peak period.
2	Ashton Community Science College	PR2 1SL	Preston North West	Unsecure	No	No	M0/D0	Poor	0.5	1	-	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
8	Broughton Business Enterprise College & High School	PR3 5JJ	Preston North West	Unsecure	No	No	M0/D1	Poor	1.5	1	-	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
-	South Ribble	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
87	Balshaw's C of E High School	PR25 3AH	South Ribble Leyland	Unsecure	Yes	No	M0/D1	Poor	1.5	1	-	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
146	Runshaw College	PR25 3DQ	South Ribble Leyland	Unsecure	Yes	No	M0/D1	Poor	1.5	1	-	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
164	Wellfield Academy (Wellfield Business and Enterprise College & High School)	PR25 2TP	South Ribble Leyland	Unsecure	Yes	No	M0/D1	Poor	1.5	1	-	0.5	0.5	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
108	Hutton C of E Grammar School	PR4 5SN	South Ribble Western Parishes	Unsecure	Yes	No	M1/D1	Standard	2	1	-	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
108	Hutton C of E Grammar School	PR4 5SN	South Ribble Western Parishes	Unsecure	Yes	No	M1/D1	Standard	2	1	-	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
109	Hutton C of E Grammar School (off site)	PR4 5SE	South Ribble Western Parishes	Unsecure	Yes	No	M0/D1	Poor	1.5	-	-	1.5	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
109	Hutton C of E Grammar School (off site)	PR4 5SE	South Ribble Western Parishes	Unsecure	Yes	No	M0/D1	Poor	1.5	-	-	1.5	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
109	Hutton C of E Grammar School (off site)	PR4 5SE	South Ribble Western Parishes	Unsecure	Yes	No	M0/D1	Poor	1.5	-	-	1.5	1	Spare capacity discounted due to poor quality.
114	Lancashire Constabulary Training Headquarters, Hutton	PR4 5TJ	South Ribble Western Parishes	Secure	No	No	M0/D1	Poor	1.5	1	-	0.5	0.5	Pitch is unavailable for community use.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Actual spare capacity

There may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as actual spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to regularly operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for regular friendly matches and activities that take place but are difficult to quantify on a weekly basis.

Furthermore, there are some rugby union pitches across Central Lancashire at education sites that are unused by clubs despite being reported as available. Whilst these may theoretically provide some spare capacity, it would not be reasonable to equate this as actual spare capacity as school usage itself is likely to limit what additional activity should take place on the provision. Moreover, the nature of club rugby generally means that clubs are generally unwilling to utilise secondary venues, making community use unlikely. It is also unlikely that clubs would have security of tenure at education sites, even if they were to access them, with usage more likely to be ad hoc.

In addition, any pitches that are used by clubs to capacity at peak time or that are poor quality are not considered to have actual spare capacity.

For age grade rugby, ascertaining actual spare capacity can be unclear with regards to the programming of matches as it can vary from week to week. This is because junior and mini sections tend to enter cup competitions or play organised friendly fixtures, with clubs arranging for several of their age groups to play those from another club all at once, either at home or away. Then when fixtures are not scheduled, clubs will generally hold training sessions, which means that clubs may require use of home pitches for consecutive weeks, or not at all for the same time period.

Given the above, it is generally assumed that no pitches used by age grade teams have significant actual spare capacity for an increase in demand. However, it is acknowledged that some capacity does exist during weekends when the pitches are not in use.

Across Central Lancashire there is no actual spare capacity at peak time identified on pitches.

Overplay

The table below examines the level of overplay recorded on rugby union pitches across Central Lancashire. In total there is 1.5 match equivalent session of overplay per week with 0.5 of this located in the Preston North West Analysis Area and one match equivalent session within the Chorley Central Area.

Table 4.15: Summary of overplay

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Number of overplayed pitches	Overplay (match equivalent sessions)
2	Ashton Community Science College	Preston North West	1	0.5
229	Parklands High School	Chorley Central	1	0.5
237	St Michael's CE High School	Chorley Central	1	0.5
-	-	-	Total	1.5

In Central Lancashire, overplay is a result of poor quality pitch stock, as all overplayed pitches are located at education sites where limited maintenance takes place.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

4.5: Supply and demand analysis

Having considered supply and demand, the table below identifies the overall spare capacity and overplay in each local authority as well as across Central Lancashire as a whole for rugby union based on match equivalent sessions. It should be noted that future demand is based upon future growth from population increases rather than club aspirations.

Table 4.16: Supply and demand balance of rugby pitches in match equivalent sessions

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
2018					
Chorley	-	-	0	-	0
Preston	1	-	1	-	1
South Ribble	-	0.5	0.5	1	1.5
Central Lancashire	-	0.5	0.5	1	0.5
2025					
Chorley	-	1	1	-	1
Preston	-	0.5	0.5	1.5	2
South Ribble	-	-	0	-	0
Central Lancashire	-	1.5	1.5	1.5	3

As seen, there is a current shortfall of 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week to meet rugby union demand. This equates to a shortfall of 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week in the Preston North West Analysis Area and one match equivalent session per week in the Chorley Central Analysis Area.

It should be noted that no overplay has been identified on the pitches located at Preston Grasshoppers RFC which used to accommodate match and training demand from both Typhoons RFC and Preston Grasshoppers RFC. This is due to a good maintenance regime and the WR compliant 3G pitch onsite accommodating all training demand.

When taking into account future demand the shortfall increase to three match equivalent sessions.

As shown the shortfall is slightly worse in 2025 compared to the 2018 study which is due to pitches reducing in quality at education sites.

4.6: Conclusion

There is a shortfall of rugby union capacity in both Chorley and Preston amounting to 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week collectively. This therefore needs to be overcome with quality improvements to the existing stock.

As there is no future demand anticipated from population growth, a separate scenario will be run in the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document to understand the impact of other potential future growth opportunities such as reported club aspirational demand.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ Overall, there is a shortfall of rugby union capacity in both Chorley and Preston amounting to 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week collectively.
- ◀ As there is no future demand anticipated from population growth, a separate scenario will be run in the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document to understand the impact of other potential future growth opportunities such as reported club aspirational demand.

Supply summary

- ◀ The audit of rugby union pitches across Central Lancashire identifies a total of 17 pitches across 11 unique sites, of which, 14 pitches across eight sites are available for community use.
- ◀ As per the previous PPS, one rugby union pitch was marked out at Archbishop Temple High School (PR2 8RA) and one pitch located at Moss Side Recreation Ground (PR26 7XU) which both are now no longer marked out for rugby union.
- ◀ Preston Grasshoppers RFC owns its home venue freehold, including grass pitches and ancillary facilities. For the 3G pitch, the Club has a lease agreement with RFU for 25 years, as the RFU funded the installation of the pitch as one of the initial sites for the RFU's Rugby 365 programme.
- ◀ Typhoons RFC rents the World Rugby compliant 3G pitch at Preston Grasshoppers RFC for both match and training demand.
- ◀ Of the community available pitches in Central Lancashire, two are assessed as good quality, four as standard quality and eight are assessed as poor quality. The poor quality pitches are located at Balshaw's C of E High School, Hutton C of E Grammar School (off site), Runshaw College, St Michael's CE High School, Wellfield Academy and Parklands High School.
- ◀ Preston Grasshopper RFC has poor quality changing facilities due to being outdated and in need of modernisation.

Demand summary

- ◀ Across Central Lancashire there are two clubs providing a total of 22 teams which equates to six senior men's, one senior women, seven age grade boys, two age grade girls and six age grade mixed teams. All demand is located in the Preston North West Analysis Area.
- ◀ Both senior men's and senior women's demand has decreased slightly since the previous study (2018) by three teams (75%). However, there has been a growth of three teams in the age grade boy's and girl's demographic with age grade mixed demand remaining the same.
- ◀ There is currently one World Rugby compliant 11v11 3G pitch in Central Lancashire which is located at Preston Grasshoppers RFC (PR4 0AP, Preston North West Analysis Area). This pitch is used to accommodate training demand for both Typhoons RFC and Preston Grasshoppers RFC.
- ◀ There is no known exported or imported rugby union demand regarding Central Lancashire.
- ◀ Across Central Lancashire there is no actual spare capacity at peak time identified on pitches.
- ◀ In total there is 1.5 match equivalent session of overplay per week with 0.5 of this located in the Preston North West Analysis Area and one match equivalent session within the Chorley Central Area.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 5: RUGBY LEAGUE

5.1: Introduction

The Rugby Football League (RFL) is the governing body for rugby league in Britain and Ireland. It administers the England national rugby league team, the Challenge Cup, Super League, and the Championships which form the professional and semi-professional structure of the game structure in the UK. The RFL also administers the amateur and junior game across the country in association with the British Amateur Rugby League Association (BARLA).

Most community club rugby league is played throughout the summer season (from February to October). However, rugby league is considered a winter season sport within schools, colleges and universities and therefore pitch provision for matches and training can also be required throughout the winter months.

Senior rugby league is played on a pitch measuring 100 x 68 metres. The preferred pitch size for U7s, U8s and U9s is 60 x 40 metres, whereas for U10s and U11s it is 80 x 30 metres, with U12s and above generally playing on senior pitches. Teams from U7s to U11s are known as primary teams, whilst teams from U12s to U18s known as junior teams.

Consultation

There are three rugby league clubs located in Central Lancashire, one in Chorley (Chorley Panthers) and two clubs in South Ribble (Leyland Warriors and Preston & South Ribble Rabbitohs). Currently, both Leyland Warriors and Preston & South Ribble Rabbitohs RLFC have responded to consultation requests, resulting in a 67% response rate. Consultation attempts are still on going to get a response from Chorley Panthers ARLFC.

Table 5.1: Summary of consultation

Clubs	Responded?
Chorley	-
Chorley Panthers ARLFC	No
South Ribble	-
Leyland Warriors ARLFC	Yes
Preston & South Ribble Rabbitohs RLFC	Yes

5.2: Supply

The audit of rugby league pitches identifies a total of 12 pitches across six unique sites with five pitches located in Chorley and seven pitches located in South Ribble. No provision has been identified in Preston.

Table 5.2: Summary of grass rugby league pitches available to the community

Analysis area	No. of available pitches	No. of unavailable pitches
2018		
Chorley	6	-
Preston	1	-
South Ribble	6	-
Central Lancashire	13	0
2025		
Chorley	5	-
Preston	-	-

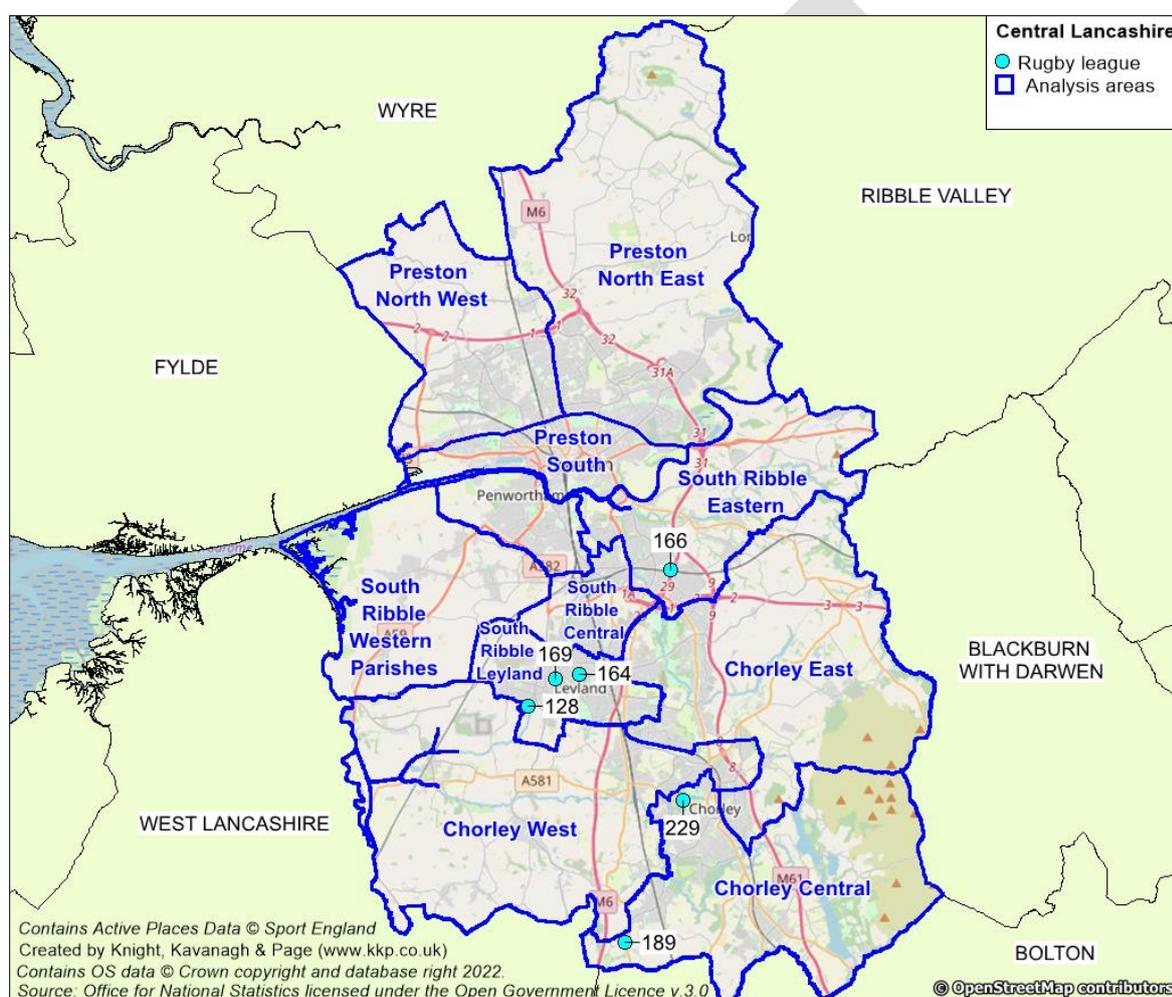
CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Analysis area	No. of available pitches	No. of unavailable pitches
South Ribble	7	-
Central Lancashire	12	0

The number of unavailable pitches has reduced, in part, due to pitches which were previously marked at education sites including Holy Cross High School and University of Lancashire which are now either used for football or left as general playing field areas. Conversely, there has been a creation of an additional pitch located at Moss Side Recreation Ground.

Figure 5.1 highlights all rugby league pitches currently across Central Lancashire, regardless of community use. For a key to the map, see Table 5.13.

Figure 5.1: Location of rugby league pitches across Central Lancashire



CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Security of tenure

Tenure of sites across Central Lancashire is generally secure i.e. through a long-term lease or a guarantee that the pitch will continue to be provided over the next three years, with most sites ensuring community use is available.

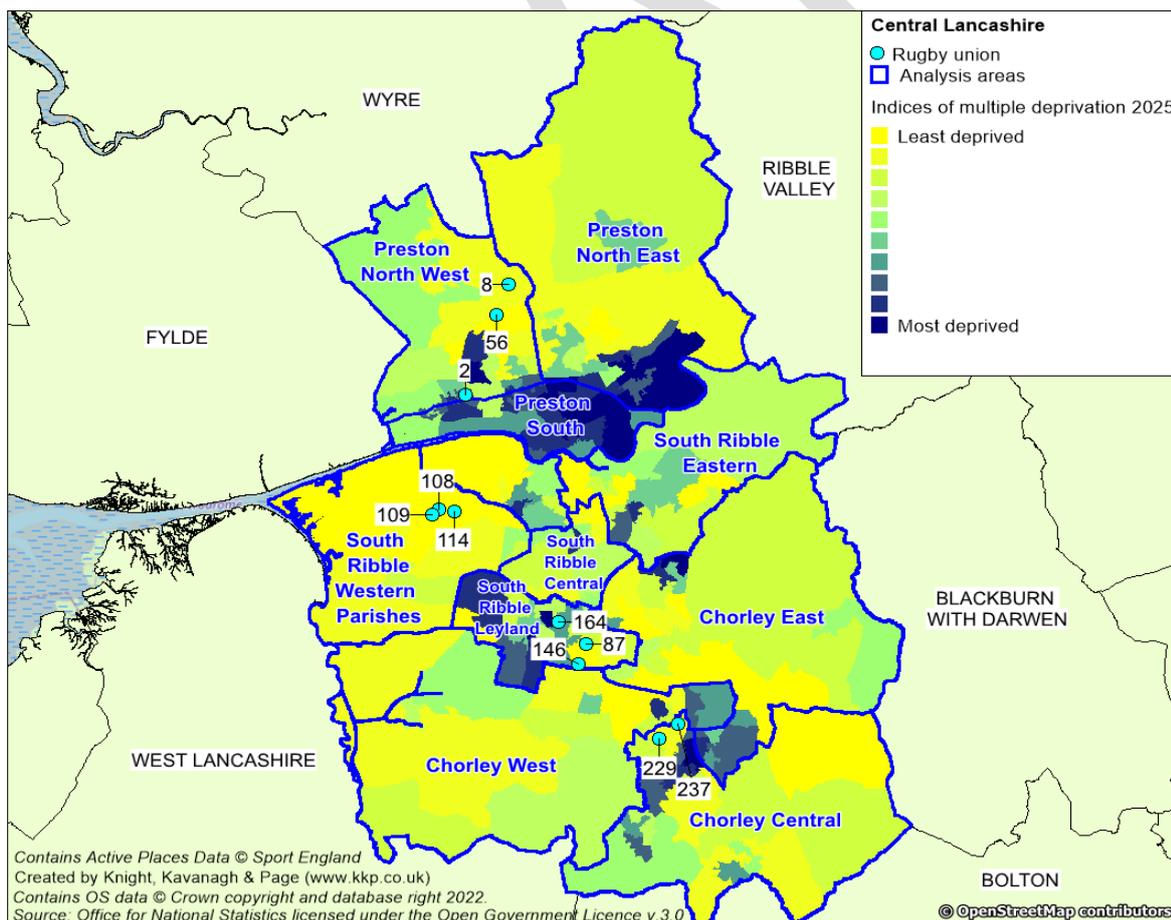
Table 5.3: Summary of tenure for community rugby league clubs

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Clubs playing at pitches	Notes of ownership/management
128	Moss Side Recreation Ground	South Ribble Leyland	Leyland Warriors ARLFC	Long term lease agreement.
166	Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre)	South Ribble Eastern	Preston & South Ribble Rabbitohs RLFC	Rents from South Ribble Council.
189	Chisnall Lane – Chorley Panthers Rugby League	Chorley Central	Chorley Panthers ARLFC	Long term lease agreement.

Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)

The figure below shows all active rugby sites located in the more deprived area across Central Lancashire can be seen in the map below.

Figure 5.2: Location of rugby league sites against IMD



CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Pitch quality

The quality of rugby league pitches across Central Lancashire has been assessed via a combination of PitchPower reports, club consultation and site visits, carrying out non-technical assessments as determined by the RFL (undertaken in July 2025), and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating as follows:

- ◀ Good.
- ◀ Standard.
- ◀ Poor.

Pitch quality influences the carrying capacity of a site; often pitches lack the drainage and maintenance necessary to sustain high levels of use. It is likely that pitches that receive little or no ongoing repair or off-season remedial work will be assessed as poor, therefore limiting the number of games able to take place each week without it having a detrimental effect on quality.

Conversely, well maintained pitches which are tended to regularly are likely to be a higher standard and capable of taking several matches without a significant reduction in surface quality.

Private sites (e.g. sports clubs) can often offer better quality facilities than Council and school playing pitches as such sports clubs tend to have dedicated ground staff or volunteers working on pitches regularly during the week. Also, private sites are often secured by fencing which prevents unofficial use whilst council pitches are generally located within parks and open spaces, regularly used by the public.

PitchPower Assessment

PitchPower (a technical assessment of quality) for rugby league began to be used in 2024 with the initial reports being produced towards the end of the season. More information surrounding PitchPower, and its functionality is available in Part 2: Football.

PitchPower assessments use a new five step Performance Quality Standard (PQS) rating system developed by the GMA, with the FF and Sport England agreeing alignment with the capacity guidance within the existing PPS guidance. This alignment is shown in the table below.

Table 5.4: Agreed equivalent PPOSS quality rating for PQS ratings

PQS Rating	PPOSS Quality Rating
Poor	Poor
Basic	Standard
Good	Good
Advanced	Good
High	Good

Across Central Lancashire, two rugby league sites have received a PitchPower assessment. The findings of these in comparison to the PPOSS findings are shown in the table below.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 5.5: Summary of PitchPower findings compared to PPOSS quality ratings

Site ID	Site name	Club users	PitchPower rating	PPOSS Non tech rating
128	Moss Side Recreation Ground	Leyland Warriors ARLFC	Basic	Standard
128	Moss Side Recreation Ground	Leyland Warriors ARLFC	Basic	Standard
128	Moss Side Recreation Ground	Leyland Warriors ARLFC	Basic	Standard
128	Moss Side Recreation Ground	Leyland Warriors ARLFC	Poor	Poor
189	Chisnall Lane – Chorley Panthers Rugby League	Chorley Panthers ARLFC	Advanced	Good
189	Chisnall Lane – Chorley Panthers Rugby League	Chorley Panthers ARLFC	Good	Good
189	Chisnall Lane – Chorley Panthers Rugby League	Chorley Panthers ARLFC	Basic	Standard
189	Chisnall Lane – Chorley Panthers Rugby League	Chorley Panthers ARLFC	Good	Good

For reference the PPOSS quality scores will be the ones used in the pitch capacity analysis to follow. All ratings from PitchPower assessments are aligned with those from the non-technical assessments.

Using the information above, as well as club feedback and non-technical site assessments, a breakdown of each pitch quality for every site can be seen in the table below.

Table 5.6: Site quality ratings of rugby league pitches available for community use

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Sports lit?	Overall quality rating
-	-	Chorley	-	-	-
189	Chisnall Lane – Chorley Panthers Rugby League	Chorley Central	Senior	No	Good
189	Chisnall Lane – Chorley Panthers Rugby League	Chorley Central	Senior	Yes	Good
189	Chisnall Lane – Chorley Panthers Rugby League	Chorley Central	Senior	No	Standard
189	Chisnall Lane – Chorley Panthers Rugby League	Chorley Central	Mini	No	Good
229	Parklands High School	Chorley Central	Senior	No	Standard
-	-	South Ribble	-	-	-
128	Moss Side Recreation Ground	South Ribble Leyland	Senior	No	Standard
128	Moss Side Recreation Ground	South Ribble Leyland	Senior	No	Standard
128	Moss Side Recreation Ground	South Ribble Leyland	Senior	No	Standard
128	Moss Side Recreation Ground	South Ribble Leyland	Junior	No	Poor
164	Wellfield Academy (Wellfield Business and Enterprise College & High School)	South Ribble Leyland	Senior	No	Poor

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Sports lit?	Overall quality rating
166	Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre)	South Ribble Eastern	Senior	No	Poor
169	Academy @ Worden (Worden Sports College)	South Ribble Leyland	Senior	No	Poor

The non-technical assessment of rugby league pitches in the Central Lancashire identifies that there are three (25%) good quality pitches (all located in Chorley), however, five (42%) are standard quality (two located in Chorley) and four (33%) are assessed as poor quality (all located in South Ribble).

Leyland Warriors ARLFC highlights the quality of the main pitch has become slightly poorer due to drainage issues with the Club stating plans to improve pitch maintenance to improve the quality.

The main issue raised by Preston & South Ribble Rabbits RLFC relates to a lack of sports lighting at Withy Grove Park which limits usage of the pitch in winter months and public use of the facility with issues public access resulting in dog fouling and litter.

Grass pitch maintenance fund²¹

Community Clubs and Foundations can now take advantage of the revolutionary Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund which is being delivered in partnership with the Premier League, The FA and Government's Football Foundation.

Over the next three years, £5 million of Sport England National Lottery funding will be made available via the Foundation to support the improvement of grass pitches in rugby league's community clubs.

Upon submitting a PitchPower assessment, clubs will receive a bespoke maintenance plan from the Grounds Management Association (GMA) enabling them to access a six-year tapered grant, providing up to £3,600 for every 'match equivalent' pitch in the first two years and tapered down over the remaining period. This funding can be used to employ contractors and purchase materials to improve pitches over a 10-year period.

Ancillary facilities

Ancillary facility ratings are primarily influenced by the type of amenities which are available on a site accompanied by their quality, such as a clubhouse, changing rooms, car parking, dedicated official and spectator facilities. Good quality ancillary facilities are particularly important for rugby clubs as they can assist with income generation. Furthermore, it is becoming increasingly important for the provision to be inclusive, particularly due to growing women's and girls', disability and junior/mini demand.

²¹ [Grass Pitch Fund \(rugby-league.com\)](https://www.rugby-league.com/grass-pitch-fund)

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Although the size and configuration of ancillary provision may alter based on the sports using the provision, and the number of pitches it services, generally the same principles are recommended to allow for varied use from all demographics:

- ◀ Accessible changing areas which can be separated, or are private/self-contained, to allow for separate male/female/all gender or senior/junior separation.
- ◀ A private accessible changing room (with relevant changing and showering provision) for someone who requires assistance.
- ◀ Separate female / male / all gender toilet provision.
- ◀ Suitably designed and specified showering cubicles to all users to maintain dignity and privacy whilst showering.

Open planned changing, toilets and particularly showering facilities can provide a significant barrier to many people resulting in them either not taking part or having a poorer sporting experience.

As a result of the above, those ancillary facilities that do not meet the above criteria, cannot be rated anything higher than standard quality for the purposes of this document. Additional context behind the rationale is provided below.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 5.7: Rugby league ancillary facilities quality

Site ID	Site name	Users	Overall building quality	Changing room quality ²²	Comments on changing rooms/clubhouses
Chorley	-	-	-	-	-
189	Chisnall Lane – Chorley Panthers Rugby League	Chorley Panthers ARLFC	Good	Unknown	The Club is currently unresponsive to consultation requests; therefore, the quality of the changing facilities is unknown.
South Ribble	-	-	-	-	-
128	Moss Side Recreation Ground	Leyland Warriors ARLFC	Standard	Poor	The Club states the quality of the changing facilities are standard quality, however, the facilities do not currently offer separate senior/junior changing areas or dedicated facilities for women and girls.
166	Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre)	Preston & South Ribble Rabbitohs RLFC	Good	Good	Provision is suitable for the levels of demand accessing the site.

²² Including changing areas, toilets and showering facilities.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Currently, Leyland Warriors ARLFC has no dedicated women and girls changing rooms. Given it accommodates the only senior women's team across Central Lancashire alongside the rising popularity of the sport within this demographic, there is a need to upgrade facilities to better accommodate demand given participation is increasing across the Country.

5.3: Demand

Demand for rugby league across Central Lancashire tends to fall within the categories of organised competitive play and organised training. As the majority of rugby league play takes place during the summer period, when the nights are lighter, a significant amount of training takes place on pitches in addition to the competitive match play.

Competitive play

A total of 25 teams are identified as playing competitive rugby league across Central Lancashire. This consists of three senior men's, one senior women's, nine junior boys' teams and 12 primary teams. The table below summarises all demand by local authority including one university team from the University of Lancashire, which is only available to students and is based at University of Lancashire.

Table 5.8: Comparison of rugby league community club demand

Analysis area	Senior	Junior	Primary	Total
2018				
Chorley	1	6	5	12
Preston	1	-	-	1
South Ribble	3	4	4	11
Central Lancashire	5	10	9	24
2025				
Chorley	1	6	6	13
Preston	1	-	-	1
South Ribble	2	3	6	11
Central Lancashire	4	9	12	25

As seen overall there has been an increase in demand since the 2018 PPS with an increase primary teams, despite a minor decrease in senior and junior teams.

The table below breaks down the levels of demand by team and by demographic.

Table 5.9: Club by club summary of teams

Club	Senior men (inc. masters)	Senior women (inc. masters)	Junior boys (U13–U18)	Junior girls (U13– U18)	Primary (mixed) U7s–U12s	Total
Chorley Panthers ARLFC	1	-	6	-	6	13
Leyland Warriors ARLFC	1	1	2	-	6	10
Preston & South Ribble Rabbitohs RLFC	-	-	1	-	-	1
Total	2	1	9	0	12	24

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

It should be noted that Chorley Panthers ARLFC and Leyland Warriors ARLFC have dedicated teams included within their primary age group sections.

Training

Nationally, rugby league clubs tend to use match pitches for training due to clubs preferring to use grass pitch provision, but also the cost of hiring 3G facilities is too high. However, this leads to overplay of pitches due to accommodating both training and matches.

Both Leyland Warriors ARLFC and Preston & South Ribble Rabbitohs ARLFC utilise match pitches to accommodate it training demand. The latter does indicate a need for more affordable and accessible 3G provision with it currently hiring several facilities which is a significant cost to the Club.

Given there is currently no RFL compliant 3G pitches located in Central Lancashire, the closest facility for clubs to access would be located in Wigan at Leigh Sports Village and Sutton Park.

Imported/exported demand

Exported demand refers to Authority based teams that are currently accessing pitches outside of the local authority for their home fixtures, normally because their pitch requirements cannot be met, which is usually because of pitch supply, in some cases quality issues or stipulated league requirements for access to certain facilities. There is no exported demand.

Imported demand refers to any demand from neighbouring local authorities that accesses facilities within the study area due to a lack of available facilities in other local authorities where such team or club is based. There is no known club based imported demand into Chorley, Preston or South Ribble.

Unmet/latent demand

Unmet demand is existing demand at clubs which is not able to access sufficient supply of pitches for match play or training. It is usually expressed, for example, where a team is already training but is unable to access a match pitch or where a league or club operates a waiting list. Consultation did not highlight any potential unmet demand.

Latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision.

Leyland Warriors ARLFC highlights if it had access to better ancillary provision (dedicated female changing) at its home site, Moss Side Recreation Ground, it would be able to field additional teams.

Future demand

Future demand can be defined in two ways, through participation increases and using population forecasts. In addition, the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document will contain housing growth scenarios that will estimate the additional demand for rugby league arising from housing developments across Central Lancashire.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Population increase

Based on population projections to 2041 (the period to which this assessment projects population based future demand), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator (PPC) can estimate the likely additional demand for grass rugby pitches that will arise from any growth.

Using the current and future populations in each of the relevant age groups together with the current team numbers, team generation rates (TGRs) have been established to understand how much growth is required to establish one new team.

Table 5.10: Authority wide team generation rates

Age group	Team generation rate	Number of new teams generated by the new population	Number of whole new teams generated by the new population	Match equivalent sessions ²³
Men (19-45yrs)	1:21,316	0.18	0	-
Women (19-45yrs)	1:62,286	0.06	0	-
Boys (13-18yrs)	1:1,831	0.54	1	0.5
Girls (13-18yrs)	-	-	0	-
Mixed (7-12yrs)	1:2,368	0.60	1	0.5

As seen in the table above, two teams expect to be generated (equating to one match equivalent sessions per week) are authority wide and not accredited to any analysis area, they will be added onto the overall supply and demand total for each pitch type within the 'Supply and Demand' section later.

Participation increase

Of responding clubs, both Leyland Warriors ARLFC and Preston & South Ribble Rabbitohs RLFC highlight plans to increase membership amounting to two teams in total. This can be seen in the table below.

Table 5.11: Future demand from club aspirations

Club	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys	Junior girls	Primary	Total
Leyland Warriors ARLFC	1	-	-	-	-	1
Preston & South Ribble Rabbitohs RLFC	-	-	1	-	-	1
Total						

The impact of this potential growth will be run as a scenario in the Strategy and Action Plan to follow.

²³ Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, one team accounts to 0.5 match equivalent sessions on their relevant pitch type.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

5.4: Capacity analysis

The capacity for pitches to regularly provide for competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of a pitch affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of playing. In extreme circumstances it can result in the inability of a pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during the peak period and off-peak times.

The carrying capacity of a pitch is dependent upon the quality of a pitch which is outlined below:

Category	Capacity
Good	3 matches per week
Standard	2 matches per week
Poor	1 match per week

The next step is to ascertain whether any identified 'potential capacity' can be deemed 'actual capacity'. There may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to regularly operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for several regular friendly matches and activities that takes place but are difficult to quantify on a weekly basis. Where actual spare capacity exists, it is highlighted in Table 5.13.

The peak period

To fully establish actual spare capacity, the peak period needs to be established. As the majority of competitive rugby league takes place on senior rugby league pitches the peak period is Saturday PM, Sunday AM for junior rugby and Sunday AM for mini rugby demand.

Education sites

To account for curricular/extra-curricular use of education pitches it is deemed that usage should be adjusted and increased by one match equivalent session per week, per pitch. The only time this does not apply is when a school does not use its pitches at all and the sole use is that made by the community.

The table below identifies the way capacity and overplay is represented in Table 5.13.

Table 5.12: Spare capacity examples

Spare capacity in peak period (examples)	Explanation of spare capacity
1	If the cell is highlighted in green with a number, it means that the pitch(es) have actual spare capacity at peak time.
0	If the cell has a 0 in it, this means that the pitch(es) is/are played to capacity, either overall or during the peak period.
1	If the cell has a number in it but is not highlighted, it means the pitch has spare capacity in the peak period; however, this is discounted. This is most commonly due to unsecure tenure and/or poor pitch quality but can also be due to the site being unavailable to the community.
1	If the cell is highlighted in red with a number, it means that the pitch(es) are overplayed.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Table 5.13: Rugby league capacity table (match equivalent sessions per week)

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Active Places Power ID	Post code	Community use?	Type of Tenure	Pitch type	Sports lit?	Quality rating	Match equivalent sessions of play	Training demand	Site capacity	Capacity rating	Capacity at peak time	Comments
Chorley	-	-													
189	Chisnall Lane – Chorley Panthers Rugby League	Chorley Central	1208096	PR7 5EA	Yes	Secure	Senior	No	Good	1	2	3	-	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
189	Chisnall Lane – Chorley Panthers Rugby League	Chorley Central	1208096	PR7 5EA	Yes	Secure	Senior	Yes	Good	1	3	3	1	-	Overplayed by one match equivalent sessions per week.
189	Chisnall Lane – Chorley Panthers Rugby League	Chorley Central	1208096	PR7 5EA	Yes	Secure	Senior	No	Standard	1.5	2	2	1.5	-	Overplayed by 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
189	Chisnall Lane – Chorley Panthers Rugby League	Chorley Central	1208096	PR7 5EA	Yes	Secure	Mini	No	Good	3	-	3	-	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
229	Parklands High School	Chorley Central	1008060	PR7 1LL	Yes	Unsecure	Senior	No	Standard	1	-	2	1	1	Spare capacity discounted due to unsecure tenure.
South Ribble	-	-					-	-	-						
128	Moss Side Recreation Ground	South Ribble Leyland	20001890	PR26 7XU	Yes	Secure	Senior	No	Standard	0.5	1.5	2	-	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
128	Moss Side Recreation Ground	South Ribble Leyland	20001890	PR26 7XU	Yes	Secure	Senior	No	Standard	1	1	2	-	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
128	Moss Side Recreation Ground	South Ribble Leyland	20001890	PR26 7XU	Yes	Secure	Senior	No	Standard	1	1.5	2	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
128	Moss Side Recreation Ground	South Ribble Leyland	20001890	PR26 7XU	Yes	Secure	Junior	No	Poor	1	-	1	-	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
164	Wellfield Academy (Wellfield Business and Enterprise College & High School)	South Ribble Leyland	1201632	PR25 2TP	Yes	Unsecure	Senior	No	Poor	1	-	1	-	-	Pitch is played to capacity.
166	Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre)	South Ribble Eastern	6005272	PR5 6YJ	Yes	Secure	Senior	No	Poor	0.5	1	1	0.5	-	Overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.
169	Academy @ Worden (Worden Sports College)	South Ribble Leyland	1201744	PR25 1QX	Yes	Unsecure	Senior	No	Poor	1	-	1	-	-	Pitch is played to capacity.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Actual spare capacity

The next step is to ascertain whether or not any identified ‘potential capacity’ can be deemed ‘actual capacity’. There may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to regularly operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of regular friendly matches and other activities that are difficult to quantify on a weekly basis.

Across Central Lancashire there is no actual spare capacity at peak time identified on pitches.

Overplay

The total amount of overplay amounts to 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week. Pitches which are identified as being overplayed is largely due to high levels of demand for both matches and training combined with standard or poor pitch quality.

Table 5.14: Overplay

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch size	No. of pitches	Capacity rating
189	Chisnall Lane – Chorley Panthers Rugby League	Chorley Central	Senior	1	1
189	Chisnall Lane – Chorley Panthers Rugby League	Chorley Central	Senior	1	1.5
128	Moss Side Recreation Ground	South Ribble Leyland	Senior	1	0.5
166	Withy Grove Park (Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre)	South Ribble Eastern	Senior	1	0.5
-	-	-	Total		3.5

For a clearer understanding of the shortfall, overplay has been outlined below by local authority and by pitch type.

- ✦ Chorley (Chorley Central) – 2.5 match equivalent sessions on senior pitches.
- ✦ South Ribble (South Ribble Leyland) – 0.5 match equivalent sessions on senior pitches.
- ✦ South Ribble (South Ribble Eastern) – 0.5 match equivalent sessions on senior pitches.

5.5: Supply and demand analysis

Having considered supply and demand, the table below identifies the overall spare capacity and overplay in each local authority for all rugby league grass pitches based on match equivalent sessions per week. It should be noted that future demand referenced is solely from population increases and does not include club aspirational growth. The latter will be run as a scenario within the Strategy & Action Plan.

Senior pitches balance

The table below identifies the current levels of spare capacity at peak time against the current levels of overplay on senior pitches to understand the present capacity balance.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 5.15: Supply and demand balance of senior rugby league pitches across Central Lancashire

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total
Chorley	-	2.5	2.5
Preston	-	-	-
South Ribble	-	1	1
Central Lancashire	0	3.5	3.5

As no spare capacity at peak time is identified on senior pitches, there is a current a shortfall of 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week with overplay identified in both Chorley and South Ribble.

Table 5.16: Future supply and demand balance of senior rugby league pitches across Central Lancashire

Analysis area	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Central Lancashire	3.5	-	3.5

With no future demand identified from population growth alone, the current shortfalls of 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week remains.

Junior pitches balance

In regard to junior pitches there is no evident spare capacity at peak time or overplay identified across Central Lancashire, meaning junior pitches are currently played to capacity.

When accounting for future demand from population increases a shortfall arises to 0.5 match equivalent sessions a week.

Table 5.17: Future supply and demand balance of junior rugby league pitches across Central Lancashire

Analysis area	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Central Lancashire	-	0.5	0.5

Mini pitches balance

Similar to junior pitches, there is no spare capacity or overplay identified resulting in mini pitches currently being played to capacity.

After considering future demand from population growth, a shortfall arises amounting to 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

Table 5.18: Future supply and demand balance of mini rugby league pitches across Central Lancashire

Analysis area	Current total	Future demand	Future total
Central Lancashire	-	0.5	0.5

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

5.6: Conclusion

Overall, there is a shortfall on senior pitches amounting to 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week with junior and mini pitches played to capacity. This remains largely consistent with the previous study with the current and future overplay on senior and junior pitches being similar. The main difference has been the loss of spare capacity on mini pitches. This can be explained in part, due to the increase in primary teams since the previous study resulting in heavy use on mini pitches.

Table 5.19: Overall supply and demand for grass rugby league pitches across Central Lancashire

Pitch type	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand	Future total
2018	-	-	-	-	-
Senior pitches	1	8.5	7.5	-	7.5
Junior pitches	-	-	-	0.5	0.5
Mini pitches	1	-	1	0.75	0.25
2025	-	-	-	-	-
Senior pitches	-	3.5	3.5	-	3.5
Junior pitches	-	-	-	0.5	0.5
Mini pitches	-	-	-	0.5	0.5

Supply and demand summary

- Overall, there is a shortfall on senior pitches amounting to 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week with junior and mini pitches played to capacity. This remains largely consistent with the previous study with the current and future overplay on senior and junior pitches being similar.
- The main difference has been the loss of spare capacity on mini pitches. This can be explained in part, due to the increase in primary teams since the previous study resulting in heavy use on mini pitches.

Supply summary

- The audit of rugby league pitches identifies a total of 12 pitches across six unique sites with five pitches located in Chorley and seven pitches located in South Ribble. No provision has been identified in Preston.
- The number of unavailable pitches has reduced, in part, due to pitches which were previously marked at education sites including Holy Cross High School and University of Lancashire which are now either used for football or left as general playing field areas. Conversely, there has been a creation of an additional pitch located at Moss Side Recreation Ground.
- The non-technical assessment of rugby league pitches in the Central Lancashire identifies that there are three (25%) good quality pitches (all located in Chorley), however, five (42%) are standard quality (two located in Chorley) and four (33%) are assessed as poor quality (all located in South Ribble).
- Leyland Warriors ARLFC highlights the quality of the main pitch has become slightly poorer due to drainage issues with the Club stating plans to improve pitch maintenance to improve the quality.
- The main issue raised by Preston & South Ribble Rabbitohs RLFC relates to a lack of sports lighting at Withy Grove Park which limits usage of the pitch in winter months and public use of the facility with issues public access resulting in dog fouling and litter.
- Leyland Warriors ARLFC access a poor quality changing facility at Moss Side Recreation Ground which also has no dedicated women and girls changing rooms.

Demand summary

- A total of 25 teams are identified as playing competitive rugby league across Central Lancashire. This consists of three senior men's, one senior women's, nine junior boys' teams and 12 primary teams.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

- ◀ There has been an increase in demand since the 2018 PPS with an increase primary teams, despite a minor decrease in senior and junior teams.
- ◀ Both Leyland Warriors ARLFC and Preston & South Ribble Rabbitohs ARLFC utilise match pitches to accommodate it training demand. The latter does indicate a need for more affordable and accessible 3G provision with it currently hiring several facilities which is a significant cost to the Club.
- ◀ Leyland Warriors ARLFC highlights if it had access to better ancillary provision (dedicated female changing) at its home site, Moss Side Recreation Ground, it would be able to field additional teams.
- ◀ Of responding clubs, both Leyland Warriors ARLFC and Preston & South Ribble Rabbitohs RLFC highlight plans to increase membership amounting to two teams in total.

DRAFT

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 6: HOCKEY

6.1: Introduction

Hockey in England is governed by England Hockey (EH).

Competitive league hockey matches, and training sessions must be played on artificial grass pitches (AGPs) that are either sand-filled, sand-dressed, or water-based. Third generation (3G) turf pitches are not suitable for adult or junior club training. However, where no alternative surface is available, introductory-level hockey may be permitted on 3G pitches

EH's Artificial Grass Playing Surface Policy details suitability of surface type for varying levels of hockey, as shown below.

Table 6.1: England Hockey guidelines on artificial surface types suitable for hockey

Category	Surface	Essential Playing Level	Desirable Playing Level
1	Water surface approved within the FIH Global/National Parameters	International hockey (training and matches).	Domestic National Premier League competition; Higher levels of player pathway (performance centres and upwards).
2	Sand dressed surfaces within the FIH National Parameter	Domestic National Premier League competition; Higher levels of player pathway (academy centres and upwards).	All adult and junior league hockey; Intermediate or advanced school hockey; EH competitions for clubs and schools.
3	Sand filled surfaces within the FIH National Parameter	All adult and junior club training and league hockey; EH competitions for clubs and schools; Intermediate or advanced school hockey.	Lower level hockey (introductory level).
4	Gen 2 Pitch (sand dressed surface with modified shock pad)	Education, local authority and leisure sites that require multi-sport use. Suitable for community clubs playing up to EHL standards.	

Gen2: In collaboration with the International Tennis Federation (ITF) and England Netball (EN), England Hockey (EH) has supported the development of a multi-sport surface to accommodate lower levels of hockey demand on a pitch that is also suitable for sports such as netball, tennis, and recreational football. This reduces the need for multiple specialised playing surfaces.

The Gen2 system is a sand dressed synthetic turf with a compatible shock pad to suit several sports at a community level. The concept is designed for shared-use environments like schools, to maximise available space and enables the provision to be utilised to its full potential.

For senior-level hockey matches, a full-size pitch must measure a minimum of 91.4 x 55 metres, excluding required run-off areas, which must be two metres on the sides and three metres at the ends. England Hockey recommends more generous dimensions, with preferred run-offs of four metres at the sides and five metres at the ends, resulting in a total area of approximately 101.4 x 63 metres.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

It is considered that a hockey pitch can accommodate a maximum of four matches on one day, providing that it has sports lighting. Training is generally midweek for senior activity and requires access to a pitch and sports lights, whereas many junior teams train on a Sunday as well as during midweek.

Consultation

There are four hockey clubs playing across Central Lancashire with two located in Chorley, one in Preston and one in South Ribble. All four clubs have responded to consultation requests which results in an 100% response rate.

Table 6.2: Summary of consultation

Name of club	Responded?
Chorley	-
Leyland & Chorley HC	Yes
Chorley Phoenix HC	Yes
Preston	-
Preston HC	Yes
South Ribble	-
Brookfield HC	Yes

Longridge HC is known to import demand to use hockey suitable facilities at Preston Sports Arena (ULCAN) as an overspill venue with its primary facility located in Ribble Valley (Longridge Sports Centre). Attempts are still ongoing to consult with the Club and understand its current position.

Since the previous study, Garstang HC has returned all its demand to Wyre with no teams currently using facilities within Central Lancashire as an overspill venue. Additionally, Fulwood HC has folded.

6.2: Supply

In Central Lancashire, there is a total of six full size AGPs with three pitches located in Preston, one pitch located in South Ribble and two pitch located in Chorley. Five of the six full size AGPs are available for community use with the pitch located at Broughton Business Enterprise College & High School unavailable for community use due to not being provided with sports lighting.

The number of full size AGPs has changed slightly since the previous PPS, with a reduction of three pitches due to being converted to 3G, one pitch is located at University of Lancashire, one pitch at Parklands High School and one pitch at St Marys Catholic High School Leyland.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 6.3: Full size hockey suitable pitches in Central Lancashire

Site ID	Site	Active Places Power ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Community use?	Sports lit?	Surface	Dimensions (metres)	Users
Chorley									
184	Buckshaw Village Community Association	1038194	PR7 7BF	East	Yes	Yes	Sand dressed	92 x 55	Leyland & Chorley HC Chorley Phoenix HC
220	Holy Cross High School	1201360	PR7 3LS	Central	Yes	Yes	Sand filled	92 x 55	-
Preston									
8	Broughton Business Enterprise College & High School	1201203	PR3 5JJ	North West	No	No	Sand filled	92 x 55	-
59	University of Lancashire	1004645	PR2 1SG	North West	Yes	Yes	Sand filled	92 x 55	Preston HC University of Lancashire HC
60	Preston Sports Club	1014660	PR1 8JP	South	Yes	Yes	Sand filled	92 x 55	Preston HC
South Ribble									
161	Walton-Le-Dale High School	1203449	PR5 6RN	Eastern	Yes	Yes	Sand dressed	92 x 55	Chorley Phoenix HC Brookfield HC

Additionally, there are 13 smaller size AGPs with 10 located in Preston, two in South Ribble and one in Chorley.

Table 6.4: Smaller size AGPs in Central Lancashire

Site ID	Site	Active Places Power ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Number of AGPs	Community use?	Sports lit?	Surface	Dimensions (metres)
Chorley									
232	Southlands High School	6015121	PR7 2NJ	Central	1	Yes	Yes	Sand Dressed	62 x 32
Preston									
1	Archbishop Temple High School	1201330	PR2 8RA	North East	1	Yes	No	Sand Dressed	53 x 33
24	Grange Primary School	1201752	PR2 6PS	North East	1	Yes	Yes	Sand Dressed	35 x 25
59	University of Lancashire	1004645	PR2 1SG	North West	6	Yes	Yes	Sand Filled	36 x 18
59	University of Lancashire	1004645	PR2 1SG	North West	1	Yes	Yes	Sand Filled	50 x 28

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Site ID	Site	Active Places Power ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Number of AGPs	Community use?	Sports lit?	Surface	Dimensions (metres)
71	St Teresa's Catholic Primary School (Callon All Weather Pitch)	30005176	PR1 4RH	South	1	Yes	Yes	Sand Dressed	70 x 38
	South Ribble								
92	Cop Lane Church of England Primary School	6012844	PR1 9AE	Penwortham	1	No	No	Sand Filled	16 x 10
120	Lostock Hall Academy	6005300	PR5 5UR	Central	1	Yes	Yes	Sand Filled	50 x 35

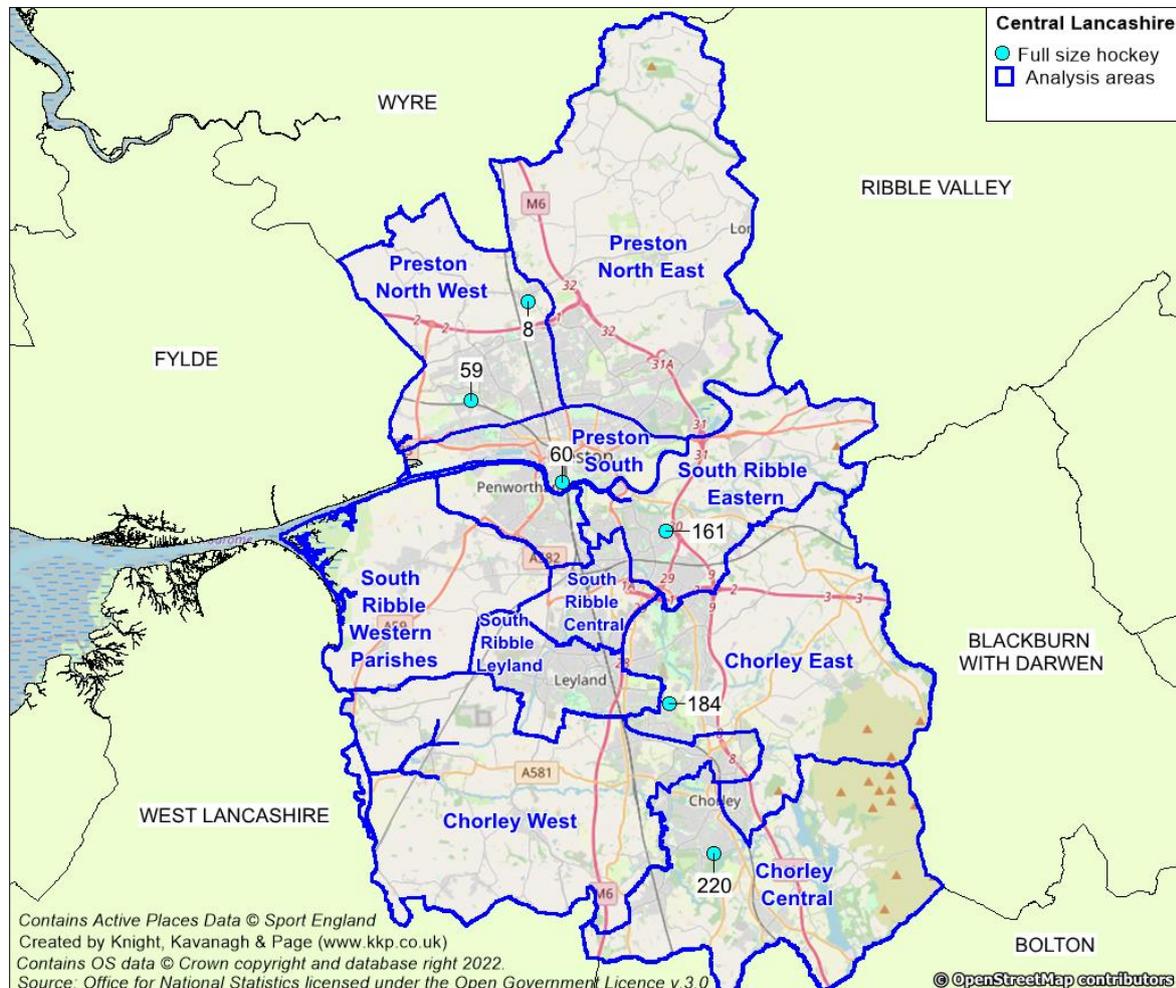
Nationally, most smaller size pitches are considered too small to accommodate any purposeful hockey demand, although some larger ones are utilised for training demand and junior play. However, in Central Lancashire, none of the smaller size pitches are considered suitable as they are either too small, unavailable for community use, or without sports lighting.

Based on this, the stock is discounted from this point forward as the pitches are not relevant from a hockey perspective. Notwithstanding the above, it is recognised that the smaller size pitches can be valuable assets for accommodating curricular and extra-curricular hockey demand as well as recreational community activity where availability is offered.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

For the location of the full size AGPs, please see Figure 6.1 below.

Figure 6.1: Location of full size hockey pitches across Central Lancashire



Future developments

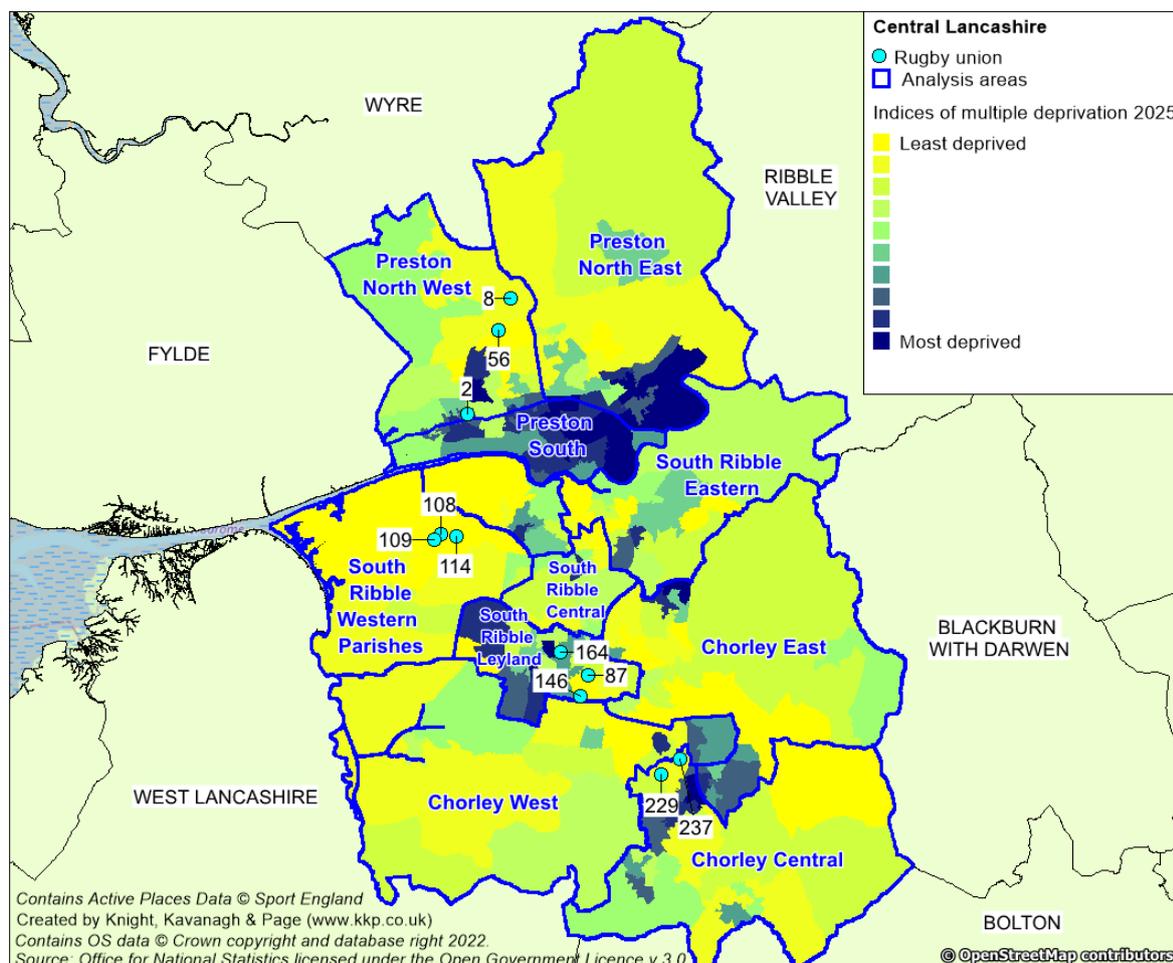
The pitch at Buckshaw Village Community Association is poor quality with it being approximately 20 years old and limited maintenance taking place. This pitch is home to both Leyland & Chorley HC and Chorley Phoenix HC. Conversations are currently underway between England Hockey, Chorley Council and RMG (facility operator) regarding the resurface of this pitch.

Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)

The figure below shows all active hockey sites located in the more deprived area across Central Lancashire can be seen in the map below.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Figure 6.2: Location of hockey sites against IMD



Management and security of tenure

A site is thought to provide security of tenure if there is a long-term lease agreement in place or a guarantee that the pitch will continue to be provided over the next three years.

To attract external funding, clubs and sites generally need long-term security of tenure. The table below summarises the pitches and whether security of tenure is provided to the clubs that use them.

Table 6.6: Summary of venues used by hockey clubs and relevant tenure

Site ID	Club	Users	Comments	Tenure
	Chorley			
184	Buckshaw Village Community Association	Leyland & Chorley HC Chorley Phoenix HC	Rental from the RMG monthly.	Unsecure
	Preston			
59	University of Lancashire	University of Lancashire HC Preston HC	Preston HC rent from the university monthly. Used as overspill venue.	Unsecure
60	Preston Sports Club	Preston HC	Long term lease.	Secure

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

	South Ribble			
161	Walton-Le-Dale High School	Brookfields HC Chorley Phoenix HC	Rental from the school monthly.	Unsecure

In Central Lancashire, only Preston HC has security of tenure through long term lease of its principal venue (Preston Sports Club). Brookfields HC, Chorley Phoenix HC and Leyland & Chorley HC all rent their provision monthly and therefore are considered to have unsecure tenure. Additionally, Preston HC rents the provision located at University of Lancashire as an overspill venue with no formal agreement in place so is also considered to have unsecure tenure at this site.

Availability

Sport England's Facilities Planning Model (FPM) applies an overall peak period for AGPs of 34 hours per week (Monday to Thursday 17:00-21:00; Friday 17:00-19:00; Saturday and Sunday 09:00-17:00). In Central Lancashire, majority of the full-size pitches are fully available at peak time.

Using the peak time modelling, the availability at each site providing a full-size pitch in Central Lancashire is summarised in the table overleaf. However, please note that this only refers to overall availability and opening hours, rather than considering current capacity, which is instead accounted for within the demand part of this section. A pitch may theoretically have good availability but may currently be operating at capacity, especially during peak times, based on existing usage levels.

Table 6.7: Availability of full-size hockey suitable AGPs

Site ID	Site name	Hockey club users	Availability	Midweek availability in the peak period	Weekend availability in the peak period
Chorley					
184	Buckshaw Village Community Association	Leyland & Chorley HC Chorley Phoenix HC	Available all day throughout the week	18/18	16/16
220	Holy Cross High School	-	Midweek 18:00 – 21:00 Weekend 09:00 – 21:00	13/18	16/16
Preston					
59	University of Lancashire	University of Lancashire HC Preston HC	Midweek 09:00 – 22:00 (until 7pm on Friday) Weekend 09:00 – 18:00	18/18	16/16
60	Preston Sports Club	Preston HC	Available all day throughout the week	18/18	16/16
South Ribble					
161	Walton-Le-Dale High School	Brookfields HC Chorley Phoenix HC	Midweek 17:00 – 21:00 Weekend 09:00 – 18:00	18/18	16/16

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

The pitch at Broughton Business Enterprise College & High School (North West Analysis Area) is currently unavailable for community use as it is not sports lit. Consultation with the School indicate it would be open to allow the pitch to be unused at the weekend for matches, however, it is yet to be asked. Additionally, it mentions that it would allow for full community use throughout the week if it can establish sports lighting.

Quality

Depending on use, it is considered that the carpet of an AGP usually lasts for approximately ten years, and it is the age of the surface, together with maintenance levels, that most commonly affects quality. An issue for hockey nationally is that some providers did not financially plan to replace the carpet when first installed, leading to many pitches now being outside of their recommended lifespan and, consequently, poor quality.

For the PPOSS, each AGP has been assigned a quality rating of good, standard or poor following site assessments undertaken in November/December 2024 and provider/user consultation. This rating is linked to the condition and age of the playing surface, as well as surrounding hard areas and the maintenance that is undertaken. For the full assessment criteria, please refer to Appendix 2.

The following table indicates when each of the full-size pitches were installed or last resurfaced within Central Lancashire, together with an agreed quality rating.

Table 6.8: Age and quality of full-size hockey suitable AGPs

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	No. of pitches	Year installed/resurfaced	2018 quality	2025 quality
Chorley						
184	Buckshaw Village Community Association	East	1	2005	Poor	Poor
220	Holy Cross High School	Central	1	2006 / 2021	Standard	Good
Preston						
8	Broughton Business Enterprise College & High School	North West	1	2015	Standard	Poor
59	University of Lancashire	North West	1	2010	Good	Standard
60	Preston Sports Club	South	1	2010 / 2020	Poor	Good
South Ribble						
161	Walton-Le-Dale High School	Eastern	1	2016	Good	Standard

Leyland & Chorley HC state the pitch at Buckshaw Village Community Association has never been maintained to the required standard resulting in the pitch needing an immediate resurface. England Hockey is currently in negotiations with Chorley Council and the Grounds Maintenance Company that manages the site with a hope to resurface the pitch to continue to safely accommodate hockey.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Options for the preferred surface type when the refurbishment take place at Buckshaw Village Community Association, should be explored. In order to maximise its utilisation a Gen 2 multi-sport surface could be explored to allow for usage from such sports as Tennis and Netball. This will be explored in greater detail in the Strategy & Action Plan.

Ancillary provision

Preston HC states the clubhouse, and changing facilities are good quality due to recent refurbishment to the bar, kitchen, four changing rooms, showers, toilets, umpires changing room and storage.

Leyland & Chorley HC states the ancillary facilities are standard quality with home and away changing rooms, lockers, showers, toilets, kitchen and storage provided. The Club aspires to have its own clubhouse/social space to accommodate players and spectators after matches.

No other issues were identified during consultation with all remaining clubs accessing sufficient facilities.

6.3: Demand

Across Central Lancashire there is a total of 29 dedicated hockey teams across four community clubs with the most prominent being senior men's teams and senior women's teams with 11 (38%) respectively, followed by four junior girls (14%) and three junior boys' teams (10%). There are no dedicated mini teams.

Additionally, University of Lancashire HC has two BUCS teams utilising the provision at University of Lancashire.

Table 6.9: Summary of number of hockey teams within Central Lancashire

Name of club	Senior men	Senior women	Junior boys	Junior girls	Mini	Total
Chorley						
Chorley Phoenix HC	-	2	-	1	-	3
Leyland & Chorley HC	3	3	-	-	-	6
Preston						
Preston HC	8 ²⁴	3	3	3	-	17
South Ribble						
Brookfield HC	-	3	-	-	-	3
Central Lancashire						
Total	11	11	3	4	-	29

Table 6.10: Summary of club demand within Central Lancashire

Name of club	Senior men (17-55)	Senior women (17-55)	Junior boys (14-16)	Junior girls (14-16)	Junior boys (11-13)	Junior girls (11-13)	Mini mixed (5-10)	Total
Chorley								
Chorley Phoenix HC	-	25	-	-	-	2	6	33
Leyland & Chorley HC	38	26	8	14	12	12	18	128

²⁴ Includes one Vets team

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Name of club	Senior men (17-55)	Senior women (17-55)	Junior boys (14-16)	Junior girls (14-16)	Junior boys (11-13)	Junior girls (11-13)	Mini mixed (5-10)	Total
Preston								
Preston HC	98	33	16	19	26	20	25	237
South Ribble								
Brookfield HC	1	30	-	5	-	-	-	36
Total	137	114	24	38	38	34	49	434

Away from club-based match play and training demand, there are also several initiatives supported by EH that operate across the Country, including:

- ◀ Back to Hockey.
- ◀ Flyerz Hockey.
- ◀ Hockey Heroes.
- ◀ Quicksticks.
- ◀ Rush Hockey.
- ◀ In2 Hockey.
- ◀ Walking Hockey.

Where undertaken, these initiatives add to the hockey demand at sites. Each is summarised below.

Back to Hockey

Back to Hockey sessions are fun, social, and informal and are aimed at people who either have not played for a number of years or that are looking to play for the first time. They are generally hosted by clubs, with EH providing guidance on how to deliver the programme.

Benefits of clubs being involved in Back to Hockey include:

- ◀ More members.
- ◀ More casual players.
- ◀ Additional income.
- ◀ Extra publicity.
- ◀ New volunteers.

Brookfield HC, Chorley Phoenix HC and Preston HC run Back to Hockey sessions at their respective home venues.

Flyerz Hockey

Flyerz is the name widely associated with grassroots disability hockey in Great Britain. There are now more than 50 Flyerz sections across England, Wales, and Scotland, providing inclusive hockey for disabled people.

In Central Lancashire, Chorley Phoenix HC is the only club to run Flyerz Hockey sessions.

Hockey Heroes

Hockey Heroes is a six-week hockey programme aimed at beginners (children aged five to eight) that not only focuses on helping children develop some physical hockey skills such as dribbling, passing and goal scoring, but also places as much emphasis on character development including teamwork, communication, perseverance, and respect.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

There are currently no Hockey Heroes courses operating in Central Lancashire.

In2Hockey

In2Hockey is England Hockey's adapted game format aimed at players 10-14 years old and is played as a 6-a-side game without goalkeepers, or as a 7-a-side game with goalkeepers.

No In2Hockey activity is identified in Central Lancashire.

Quicksticks

Quicksticks is designed to introduce young people (aged 7-11) to the game of hockey. It is 4-a-side, can be played on any surface, and uses a larger, lighter and safer ball. It is a fun, fast, safe and exciting game that has been designed so that anyone can deliver the game, regardless of previous hockey experience.

Currently no clubs in Central Lancashire offer dedicated Quicksticks delivery.

Rush hockey

Rush hockey is a new way to play hockey, designed as a small-sided hockey game for adults. It can be played by men and women in mixed or single gender teams, indoors or outdoors and on pitches of varying sizes. Teams are four or five aside and it is played with a standard hockey stick but with unique goals and balls.

No Rush hockey activity is identified in Central Lancashire.

Walking hockey

Increasing in popularity, walking hockey is perfect for players looking for a less physically demanding version of the game but still enjoy showing their skills and being involved in the team and social aspect.

There are currently no Walking Hockey sessions operating in Central Lancashire.

Imported/exported demand

As previously mentioned, Longridge HC currently imports some of its demand to the hockey suitable AGP at University of Lancashire as an overspill venue with its primary venue located in Ribble Valley (Longridge Sports Centre).

Future demand

Chorley Phoenix HC states plan to increase its number of teams by one senior men's, one senior women's and two junior teams.

Neither Brookfield HC nor Preston HC indicate dedicated plans to increase teams, with their main goal to sustain current levels of demand.

Latent demand

Unmet/latent demand is defined as the number of additional teams (or members) that could be accommodated if access to enough or improved facilities (and ancillary provision) was available.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Leyland & Chorley HC is the only club in Central Lancashire to report of latent demand. The Club state the pitch at Buckshaw Village Community Association is poor quality and affecting its growth.

Peak time demand

For matches, most senior hockey activity in Central Lancashire takes place on a Saturday, whereas most junior activity occurs on a Sunday. For training, peak time is midweek evenings, although preference is generally given for Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays due to clubs wanting to avoid training near to weekend matches.

6.4: Supply and demand analysis

When assessing the capacity of hockey pitches, all usage needs to be considered. This is because, in addition to hockey activity, there is often heavy football usage of the provision and occasionally other sporting use which can take capacity away from hockey-based demand.

The table below details the usage at all sites providing full size hockey suitable pitches in Central Lancashire. It compares availability during peak time against hockey use and other activity as well as taking into consideration any remaining spare capacity.

Spare capacity is considered to exist for matches if there are currently less than eight teams assigned to a pitch on a Saturday or Sunday (and if the remaining capacity is not being utilised for other purposes). It exists for training if at least a section of a pitch is available for at least an hour during midweek evenings (Tuesday-Thursday).

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 6.11: Usage of full-size hockey suitable AGPs

Site ID	Site name	No. of pitches	Availability in the peak period (hours)	% of hockey usage	% of other usage (e.g., football/rugby league)	Spare capacity	Hockey club users	Training capacity comments (mid-week)	Match capacity comments (weekend)	Capacity summary
-	Chorley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
184	Buckshaw Village Community Association	1	34	65%	25%	10%	Leyland & Chorley HC Chorley Phoenix HC	Chorley Phoenix HC train on Tuesday evenings from 18:30 until 19:30. Leyland & Chorley HC train on Wednesday evenings from 17:15 until 21:00. Used to accommodate football training demand.	Used for match play by Chorley Phoenix HC (one team). Used to accommodate all match demand from Leyland & Chorley HC.	Limited spare capacity at unfavorable times. Pitch is used primarily by the hockey club, however, there is also some usage by football teams.
220	Holy Cross High School	1	34	0%	65%	35%	-	Primarily used to accommodate football training demand.	Pitch is not currently used to accommodate match play demand on weekends.	Limited spare capacity at unfavorable times midweek with the pitch currently not used to accommodate match demand on weekends. No hockey club is currently accessing this pitch.
-	Preston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
59	University of Lancashire	1	34	35%	45%	20%	Preston HC University of Lancashire HC	Used to accommodate demand from University of Lancashire men's and University of Lancashire women's. Used to accommodate football training demand.	Used occasionally as an overspill venue by Preston HC to accommodate match play demand. Occasional imported demand from Longridge HC (one team).	Limited spare capacity at unfavorable times. Pitch is used by the hockey clubs, however, there is also extensive usage by football teams.
60	Preston Sports Club	1	34	100%	0%	15%	Preston HC	Primarily used to accommodate training demand from Preston HC.	Used all day Saturday and Sunday 09:00 – 19:30.	No spare capacity is identified with the pitch used to capacity in the peak period.
-	South Ribble	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
161	Walton-Le-Dale High School	1	34	53%	35%	12%	Chorley Phoenix HC Brookfield HC	Brookfield HC train on Tuesday evenings from 20:00 until 21:00. Used to accommodate football training demand.	Used for match play by Chorley Phoenix HC (one team). Used to accommodate all match demand from Brookfield HC.	Limited spare capacity at unfavorable times. Pitch is used primarily by the hockey club, however, there is also extensive usage by football teams.

The pitch located at Walton-Le-Dale High School, Holy Cross High School and Buckshaw Village Community Association all have some level of spare capacity midweek with the pitch at Holy Cross High School also having sufficient capacity on weekends due to not currently accommodating any match play demand. Although spare capacity is identified at Buckshaw Village Community Association, it should be noted that this pitch is currently poor quality and in need of a full resurface to continue to safely accommodate demand. The Pitch at Preston Sports Club is currently used to capacity to accommodate hockey demand from Preston HC.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Match play analysis

It is suggested that a full-size hockey suitable, sports lit AGP can accommodate four match equivalent sessions on one day. With teams playing on a home and away basis, this equates to one pitch being able to cater for eight 'home' teams at peak time (one team requires 0.5 match equivalent sessions per week on its 'home' AGP).

Using the above calculations, on the basis that there are currently five full size community available hockey suitable pitches in Central Lancashire, this provides a theoretical opportunity to accommodate up to 40 senior teams at peak time. However, the provision at Buckshaw Village Community Association is discounted resulting in an actual capacity of just 32 teams. The pitch is poor quality and in need of a full resurface.

The table below therefore further explores the level of capacity provided, for senior hockey (i.e., on a Saturday).

Table 6.12: Summary of hockey pitch capacity for peak time match play (Saturday)

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of pitches	Potential capacity in teams	Actual capacity in teams	Number of hockey teams using the provision at peak time	Capacity balance
59	University of Lancashire	Preston North West	1	8	8	6 ²⁵	2
60	Preston Sports Club	Preston South	1	8	8	8	
161	Walton-Le-Dale High School	South Ribble Eastern	1	8	8	4	4
184	Buckshaw Village Community Association	Chorley East	1	8	-	7	7
220	Holy Cross High School	Chorley Central	1	8	8	-	8
-	-	Total	5	40	32	25	7

Overall, it is determined that current provision can accommodate 25 senior teams on a Saturday, even with the pitch at Buckshaw Village Community Association discounted due to poor quality.

For junior hockey matches, the need for pitches is generally less than it is for senior hockey. This is because younger age groups can play on half a pitch (meaning two fixtures can take place at one time) and because there are fewer junior teams in Central Lancashire than there are senior teams. As such, provision adequate to accommodate senior demand is also likely to be adequate to accommodate junior demand, although the same capacity pressures are likely to apply where existing usage is significant.

²⁵ Demand from Preston HC (six teams), University of Lancashire HC (two teams) and Longridge HC (one team)

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

6.5: Conclusion

There is currently a sufficient supply of full-size hockey suitable AGPs across Central Lancashire to cater for demand. However, it should be noted that the pitch located at Buckshaw Village Community Association is poor quality and in need of resurface to continue to safely accommodate hockey demand.

The pitches at University of Lancashire, Preston Sports Club, Walton-Le-Dale High School, Buckshaw Village Community Association are well used for hockey and as such are a priority sites for long term protection as hockey suitable surfaces. These should be accompanied by good quality ancillary provision (sports lights and changing rooms) and improved as required.

Although the pitch located at Holy Cross High School does not currently accommodate affiliated hockey demand, it should be considered for Leyland & Chorley HC and Chorley Phoenix HC to utilise this pitch short term whilst the pitch at Buckshaw Village Community Association is being resurfaced.

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ **There is currently a sufficient supply of full-size hockey suitable AGPs across Central Lancashire to cater for demand. However, it should be noted that the pitch located at Buckshaw Village Community Association is poor quality and in need of resurface to continue to safely accommodate hockey demand.**

Supply summary

- ◀ In Central Lancashire, there is a total of six full size AGPs with three pitches located in Preston, one pitch located in South Ribble and two pitch located in Chorley. Five of the six full size AGPs are available for community use with the pitch located at Broughton Business Enterprise College & High School unavailable for community use due to not being provided with sports lighting.
- ◀ The number of full size AGPs has changed slightly since the previous PPS, with a reduction of three pitches due to being converted to 3G, one pitch is located at University of Lancashire, one pitch at Parklands High School and one pitch at St Marys Catholic High School Leyland.
- ◀ The pitch at Buckshaw Village Community Association is poor quality and is home to both Leyland & Chorley HC and Chorley Phoenix HC. Conversations are currently underway regarding the resurfacing of this pitch.
- ◀ Only Preston HC has security of tenure through long term lease of its principal venue (Preston Sports Club). All other clubs rent provision and therefore are considered to have unsecure tenure.
- ◀ Of the full-size hockey suitable pitches in Central Lancashire, two are assessed as good quality, two as standard quality and two as poor quality located at Buckshaw Village Community Association and Broughton Business Enterprise College & High School.
- ◀ Preston HC's clubhouse is good quality and Leyland & Chorley HC's ancillary facilities are standard quality.

Demand summary

- ◀ Across Central Lancashire there is a total of 29 dedicated hockey teams across four community clubs with the most prominent being senior men's teams and senior women's teams with 11 (38%) respectively, followed by four junior girls (14%) and three junior boys' teams (10%). There are no dedicated mini teams.
- ◀ Additionally, University of Lancashire HC has two teams utilising the provision at the University site.
- ◀ Brookfield HC, Chorley Phoenix HC and Preston HC run Back to Hockey sessions at their respective home venues and Chorley Phoenix HC is the only club to run Flyerz Hockey sessions.
- ◀ Longridge HC currently imports some of its demand to the hockey suitable AGP at University of Lancashire as an overspill venue with its primary venue located in Ribble Valley (Longridge Sports Centre).

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

- ◀ Chorley Phoenix HC states plan to increase its number of teams by one senior men's, one senior women's and two junior teams.
- ◀ Leyland & Chorley HC is the only club in Central Lancashire to report of latent demand. The Club state the pitch at Buckshaw Village Community Association is poor quality and affecting its growth.
- ◀ The pitch located at Walton-Le-Dale High School, Holy Cross High School and Buckshaw Village Community Association all have some level of spare capacity midweek with the pitch at Holy Cross High School also having sufficient capacity on weekends due to not currently accommodating any match play demand.
- ◀ Although spare capacity is identified at Buckshaw Village Community Association, it should be noted that this pitch is currently poor quality and in need of a full resurface to continue to safely accommodate demand. The Pitch at Preston Sports Club is currently used to capacity to accommodate hockey demand from Preston HC.

DRAFT

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 7: CRICKET

7.1: Introduction

Lancashire Cricket Foundation (LCF) is the main governing and representative body for cricket for Central Lancashire. Working closely with the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), it is responsible for the management and development of every form of recreational cricket for men, women and children within each authority. It is also currently working with the ECB on delivering and laying the foundations for its Strategy, Inspiring Generations, with an updated mission to inspire a generation to say “cricket is a game for me.” The Strategy has recently been refreshed with its 2028 Vision to:

- ◀ Become the most inclusive team sport.
- ◀ Unite and grow the game.
- ◀ Lead the game through global transformation.

For adult cricket in across Central Lancashire there are three main offerings; Saturday, Sunday and midweek cricket. The youth league structure tends to be club based matches which are played mid-week.

County Facilities Strategy (CFS)

In 2022, to build upon the ECB’s Inspiring Generations Strategy, the ECB has started the process of producing County Facilities Strategies (CFS). A CFS will be produced by each individual county cricket board and will be unique to its geographical area as well as being diverse in its representation.

The CFS will be a ‘long-term’ plan with county boards ensuring the Strategy provides a ten-year view of facility needs. Like a PPS (or PPOSS in this instance), the county cricket boards will establish key stakeholders (clubs, leagues, county sports partnerships, county pitch advisors & Sport England etc) within its locality to consult during the development of the Strategy.

Each county cricket board will utilise up to date PPS within its locality to support the development of the CFS, utilising the PPS findings as a ‘high-quality’ evidence base. The CFS will look at a range of facilities which support cricket across its region, with the ECB setting out guidelines to ensure that the following facilities are considered throughout the development of the CFS:

Types of facility

- ◀ “Traditional” outdoor facilities:
 - ◀ Pitches and Outfields
 - ◀ Pavilions
 - ◀ Practice
- ◀ “Non-traditional” facilities:
 - ◀ Multi Use Games Areas
 - ◀ Tapeball/softball spaces
 - ◀ Courts or cages
- ◀ Indoor facilities:
 - ◀ Practice (multi use halls)
 - ◀ Performance (cricket specific)
 - ◀ Matchplay (6 or 8 a side)

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Each CFS will be used to shape investment decisions and priorities, particularly how each county cricket board will use the devolved budget within the County Grants Fund and prioritise larger scale strategic projects.

Notwithstanding the above, it is important to recognise that the CFS is an investment portfolio of priority projects for potential investment; it is not a detailed supply and demand analysis of all pitch provision in a local area. Consequently, it cannot be used in place of a PPS (or PPOSS in this instance) and is not an accepted evidence base for development proposals that need to be judged against the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Field Policy.

Consultation

There are 24 cricket clubs located across Central Lancashire. Of these, 14 clubs are based in Chorley, five in Preston and six in South Ribble. Response rates for each authority can be seen in the table below.

Table 1.1: Summary of consultation

Clubs	Responded?
Chorley	-
Adlington CC	Yes
Bretherton CC	Yes
Brinscall Cricket Club	Yes
Charnock St James CC	No
Chorley CC	Yes
Croston CC	Yes
Eccleston CC	Yes
Euxton CC	Yes
Hoghton CC	Yes
Mawdesley CC	Yes
White Coppice CC	Yes
Whittle & Clayton Le Woods CC	Yes
Withnell Fold CC	Yes
Total	12/13 or 92%
Preston	-
BAC/EE CC	Yes
Fulwood & Broughton CC	Yes
Grimstargh CC	Yes
Preston CC	Yes
Preston Strikers CC	No
Whittingham & Goosnargh CC	No
Total	5/7 or 71%
South Ribble	-
Gregson Lane CC	Yes
Leyland CC	Yes
New Longton CC	Yes
Penwortham CC	Yes
Vernon Carus CC	No
Walton-le-Dale CC	Yes
Total	5/6 or 83%

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

7.2: Supply

In total, there are 26 grass wicket cricket squares across Central Lancashire provided across 26 sites. Of the 26 squares, 14 are in Chorley (54%), five located in Preston (19%) and seven in South Ribble (27%). Additionally, all the grass wicket cricket squares are available for community use.

Table 7.2: Summary of grass wicket squares and community availability

Local Authority	No. of community available squares
Chorley	14
Preston	5
South Ribble	7
Central Lancashire	26

Since the previous study there has been a decrease of seven community available grass cricket square within Central Lancashire. These are detailed below in the disused provision section below.

Disused provision

There are seven sites across Central Lancashire which no longer provide a grass cricket wicket square, however, six of these sites still provide a non-turf wicket as detailed in the NTP section below.

Previously one square was available at St Michaels CE High School in Chorley, whilst four squares were available at Archbishop Temple High School, Broughton Business Enterprise College & High School, Our Lady's RC High School and Preston Grasshoppers RFC in Preston and two grass wickets squares were available at Hutton C of E Grammar School and Wellfield Academy in South Ribble. The former grass cricket wicket squares are no longer marked, however, all sites apart from St Michaels CE High School still provide an NTP wicket as seen in the table below.

Non-turf pitches (NTPs)

A total of 26 non-turf pitches (NTPs) are identified in across Central Lancashire with eight located in Chorley (five supporting existing grass wicket squares), 12 in Preston (five supporting existing grass wicket squares) and six in South Ribble (one supporting an existing grass wicket).

Table 7.3: Summary of NTPs in Central Lancashire

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Management type	Community use?	Position
Chorley	-	-	-	-	-
170	Adlington Cricket Club	Chorley Central	Sport Club	Yes	Square
171	Albany Science College	Chorley Central	Education	No	Standalone
177	Bishop Rawstone C of E Language College	Chorley West	Education	No	Standalone
191	Chorley Cricket Club (Windsor Park)	Chorley Central	Sport Club	Yes	Square

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Management type	Community use?	Position
200	Croston Sports Club	Chorley Central	Sport Club	Yes	Square
205	Eccleston Cricket Club	Chorley West	Sport Club	Yes	Square
226	Mawdesley Cricket Club (Rectory Field)	Chorley West	Sports Club	Yes	Square
269	Rivington and Blackrod High School (Upper School)	Chorley Central	Education	No	Standalone
Preston	-	-	-	-	-
1	Archbishop Temple High School	Preston North East	Education	Yes	Standalone
5	BAC/EE Preston Sports and Social Club	Preston South	Sport Club	Yes	Square
11	Christ the King Catholic High School	Preston South	Education	No	Standalone
18	Fulwood & Broughton Cricket Club	Preston North East	Sport Club	Yes	Square
28	Grimsargh Cricket Club	Preston North East	Sport Club	Yes	Square
33	Haslam Park	Preston North West	Local Authority	Yes	Standalone
48	Moor Park	Preston South	Local Authority	Yes	Standalone
48	Moor Park	Preston South	Local Authority	Yes	Standalone
51	Our Lady's RC High School	Preston North West	Education	No	Standalone
56	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	Preston North West	Sport Club	Yes	Standalone
60	Preston Sports Club	Preston South	Sport Club	Yes	Square
83	Whittingham and Goosnargh Cricket Club	Preston North East	Sport Club	Yes	Square
South Ribble	-	-	-	-	-
99	Fox Lane Sports and Social Club	South Ribble Leyland	Sport Club	Yes	Square
108	Hutton C of E Grammar School	South Ribble Western Parishes	Education	Yes	Standalone
109	Hutton C of E Grammar School (off site)	South Ribble Western Parishes	Local Authority	Yes	Standalone
120	Lostock Hall Academy	Education	Education	No	Standalone
164	Wellfield Academy (Wellfield Business and Enterprise College & High School)	South Ribble Leyland	Education	Yes	Standalone

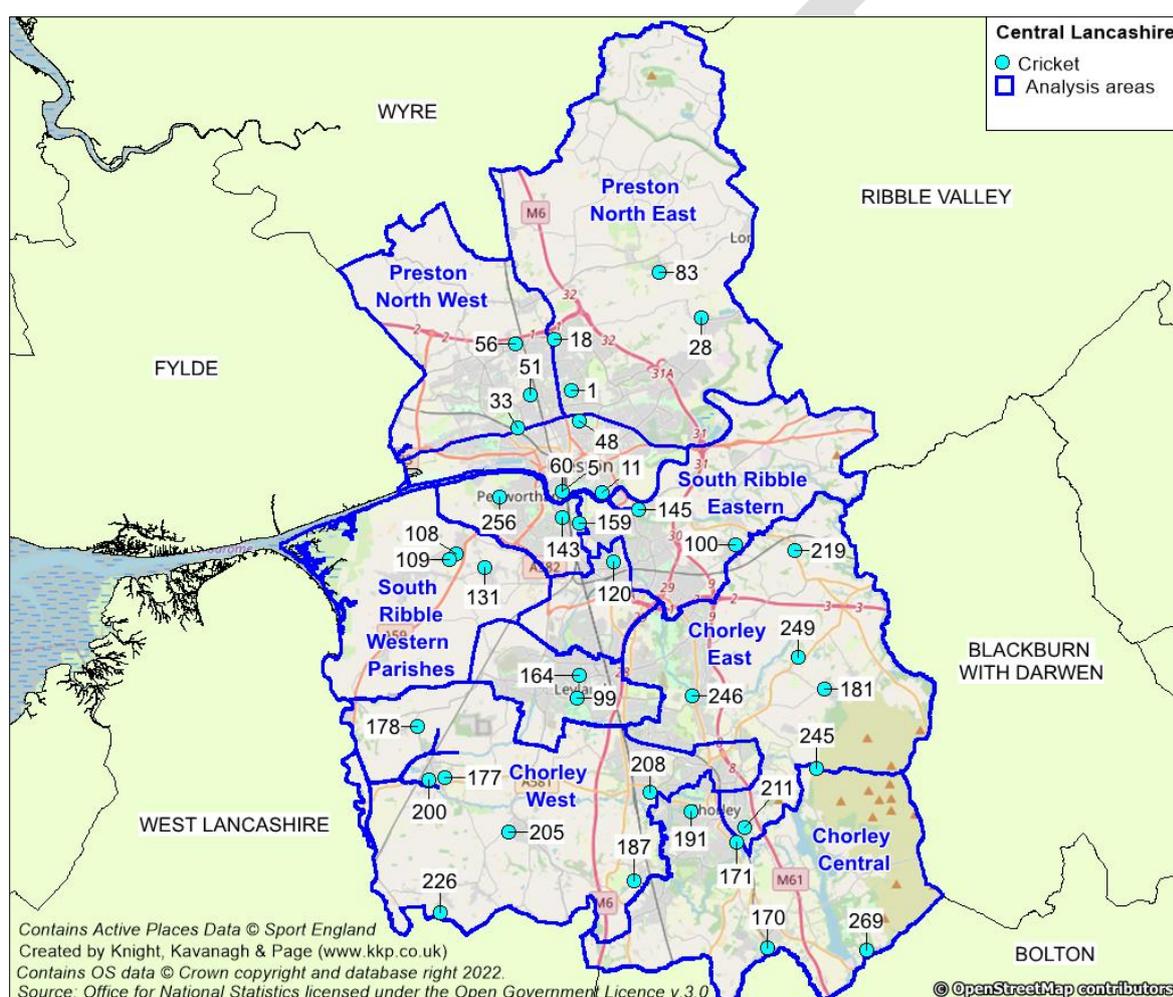
CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Management type	Community use?	Position
256	Penwortham Priory Academy	South Ribble Penwortham	Education	Yes	Standalone

NTPs, particularly when located at club sites, can aid with training and practice and can help reduce overplay on grass wickets when used for matches. The ECB highlights that NTPs which follow its TS6 guidance on performance standards are suitable for high level, senior play. Additionally, NTPs are frequently used for junior matches across the Country.

For the location of all grass wicket and NTP cricket provision, see Figure 7.1 below. For a key to the map, refer to Table 7.4.

Figure 7.1: Location of cricket squares in Central Lancashire



**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Table 7.4: Key to map of cricket squares

Site ID	Active Places Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Management type	Community use?	No. of squares	No. of wickets (Grass)	No. of wickets (NTP)
Chorley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
170	1208071	Adlington Cricket Club	PR7 4HD	Chorley Central	Sport Club	Yes	1	13	1
171	1201745	Albany Science College	PR7 3AY	Chorley Central	Education	No	1	-	1
177	1203346	Bishop Rawstorne C of E Language College	PR26 9HH	Chorley West	Education	No	1	-	1
178	1041191	Bretherton Cricket Club	PR26 9AB	Chorley West	Sport Club	Yes	1	8	-
181	-	Brinscall Village Junior Football Club	PR6 8PY	Chorley East	Sport Club	Yes	1	16	-
187	1208093	Charnock Richard Cricket Club	PR7 5NL	Chorley Central	Sport Club	Yes	1	8	-
191	1208081	Chorley Cricket Club (Windsor Park)	PR7 1LG	Chorley Central	Sport Club	Yes	1	16	1
200	1040868	Croston Sports Club	PR26 9RR	Chorley Central	Sport Club	Yes	1	12	1
205	1208091	Eccleston Cricket Club	PR7 5QZ	Chorley West	Sport Club	Yes	1	12	1
208	1208092	Euxton Cricket Club	PR7 6DD	Chorley West	Sport Club	Yes	1	12	-
211	1208107	Gillett Playing Fields	PR6 9EE	Chorley Central	Local Authority	Yes	1	8	-
219	1040865	Hoghton Cricket Club	PR5 0SG	Chorley East	Sports Club	Yes	1	14	-
226	1040863	Mawdesley Cricket Club (Rectory Field)	L40 3TG	Chorley West	Sports Club	Yes	1	12	1
245	1208112	White Coppice Cricket Club	PR6 9DE	Chorley East	Sports Club	Yes	1	8	-
246	-	Whittle and Clayton Le Wood Cricket Club	PR6 7EA	Chorley East	Sports Club	Yes	1	8	-
249	1041113	Withnell Fold Sports and Social Club	PR4 8BA	Chorley East	Sports Club	Yes	1	11	-
269	1201526	Rivington and Blackrod High School (Upper School)	BL6 7RU	Chorley Central	Education	No	1	-	1
Preston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	1201330	Archbishop Temple High School	PR2 8RA	Preston North East	Education	Yes	1	-	1
5	1208488	BAC/EE Preston Sports and Social Club	PR1 8JP	Preston South	Sport Club	Yes	1	12	1
11	1203210	Christ the King Catholic High School	PR1 4LX	Preston South	Education	No	1	-	1
18	1208491	Fulwood & Broughton Cricket Club	PR3 5JE	Preston North East	Sport Club	Yes	1	9	1
28	1208494	Grimsargh Cricket Club	PR2 5LH	Preston North East	Sport Club	Yes	1	10	1
33	1042964	Haslam Park	PR2 1JD	Preston North West	Local Authority	Yes	1	-	1
48	1208500	Moor Park	PR1 6DT	Preston South	Local Authority	Yes	2	-	2
51	1201739	Our Lady's RC High School	PR2 3SQ	Preston North West	Education	No	1	-	1
56	1036112	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	PR4 0AP	Preston North West	Sport Club	Yes	1	-	1
60	1014660	Preston Sports Club	PR1 8JP	Preston South	Sport Club	Yes	1	6	1
83	1041190	Whittingham and Goosnargh Cricket Club	PR3 2JH	Preston North East	Sport Club	Yes	1	2	1
South Ribble	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
99	1208495	Fox Lane Sports and Social Club	PR25 1HB	South Ribble Leyland	Sport Club	Yes	1	16	1
100	6005289	Gregson Lane Playing Field	PR5 0DP	South Ribble Eastern	Community Organisation	Yes	1	11	-
108	1201365	Hutton C of E Grammar School	PR4 5SN	South Ribble Western Parishes	Education	Yes	1	-	1
109	6005277	Hutton C of E Grammar School (off site)	PR4 5SE	South Ribble Western Parishes	Local Authority	Yes	1	-	1
120	6005300	Lostock Hall Academy	PR5 5UR	South Ribble Central	Education	No	1	-	1
131	1041416	New Longton Sports & Social Club	PR4 4AA	South Ribble Western Parishes	Sport Club	Yes	1	6	-
143	1041291	Penwortham Sports and Social Club (Penwortham Cricket Club)	PR1 9QE	South Ribble Penwortham	Sport Club	Yes	1	12	-
145	6005297	Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale Recreation Ground)	PR5 4HB	South Ribble Eastern	Community Organisation	Yes	1	6	-
159	1041399	Vernon Carus Sports Club	PR1 9TE	South Ribble Penwortham	Sport Club	Yes	1	3	-
159	1041399	Vernon Carus Sports Club	PR1 9TE	South Ribble Penwortham	Sport Club	Yes	1	5	-

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Site ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Management type	Community use?	No. of squares	No. of wickets (Grass)	No. of wickets (NTP)
164	1201632	Wellfield Academy (Wellfield Business and Enterprise College & High School)	PR25 2TP	South Ribble Leyland	Education	Yes	1	-	1
256	30009478	Penwortham Priory Academy	PR1 0JE	South Ribble Penwortham	Education	Yes	1	-	1

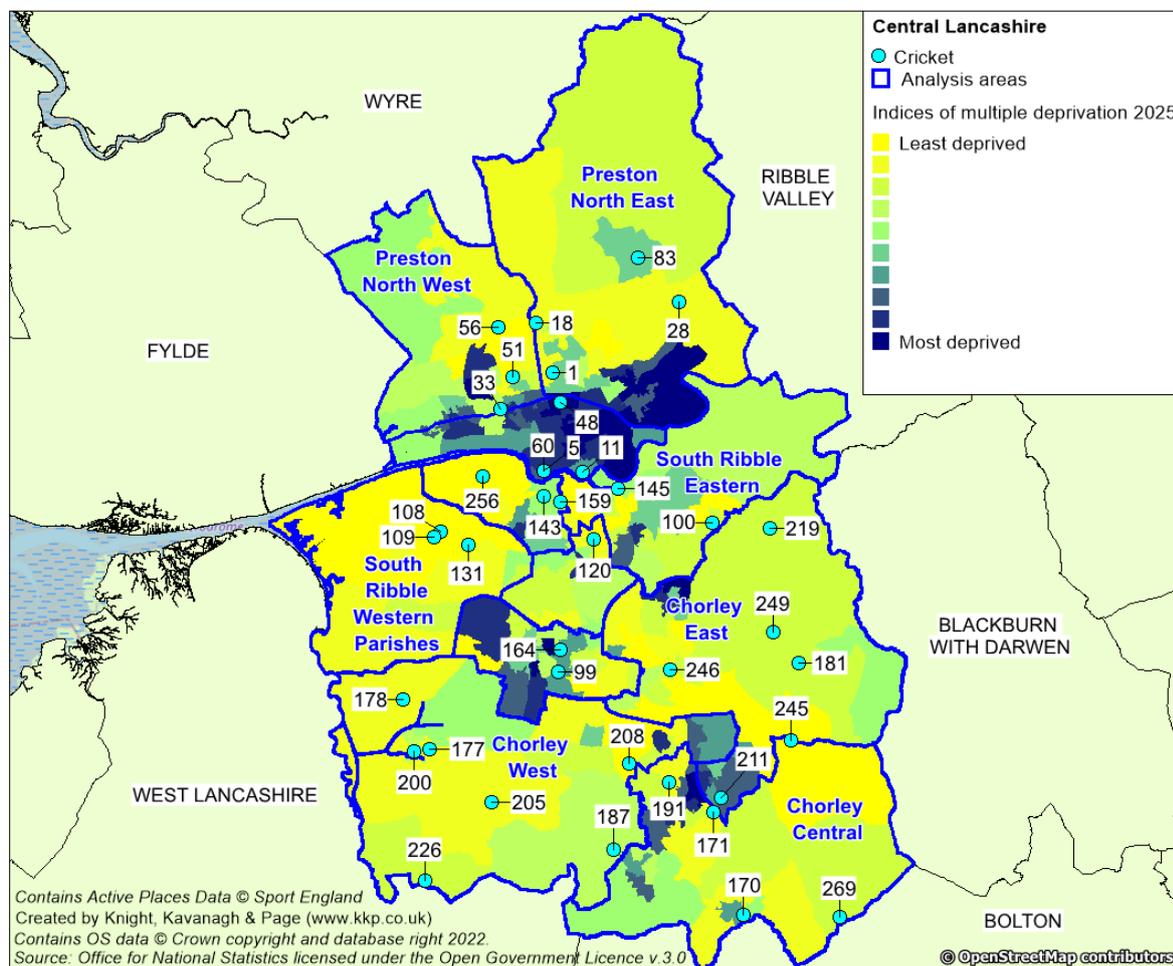
DRAFT

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)

The figure below shows all active cricket sites located in the more deprived area across Central Lancashire can be seen in the map below.

Figure 7.2: Location of cricket sites against IMD



Future supply

Farington Project

Lancashire Cricket and the County Council are working together to build a new, high quality, professional and community cricket facility in Farington (South Ribble) with work currently underway and the facility planned to be available for the 2026 season. This site will be the second home to Lancashire Cricket in addition to Emirates Old Trafford, particularly the women's team.

The development includes two new cricket ovals (one professional and one community available), a new indoor cricket dome including a five-lane training net facility and a new pavilion with viewing facilities. The new facility will support in growing women and girls' game further in the North West of England.

Additionally, the facility will help Lancashire Cricket Foundation to deliver a number of their nationwide cricket programmes such as All Stars Cricket and Dynamos Cricket programme, which all have the aim of increasing participation in cricket.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Fulwood & Broughton CC has an aspiration to develop a second square located at its site, Fulwood & Broughton Cricket Club. Although the land is available and planning permission has been approved as part of a wider application including new cricket training nets and extension to its clubhouse, the Club is in the process of looking for funding support to assist with developing the second square.

Additionally, a planning application has recently been submitted (06/2025/0994) to Preston City Council known as the Longridge Sports Village, with plans including a new 11v11 3G pitch, two small sided 3G pitches, six padel courts, indoor cricket nets and a new 5k Park Run route. The proposed development is located in the neighbouring authority, Ribble Valley, however given its close proximity to Preston it is likely this development could accommodate demand from Preston.

Management and security of tenure

The below table is a summary of clubs' tenure at their primary sites. As shown, most clubs across Central Lancashire are considered to have secure tenure through either a long-term lease (three to five years) or freehold.

Table 7.5: Summary of security of tenure for clubs at their primary site

Site ID	Site name	Club user	Agreement	Security of tenure?
-	Chorley	-	-	-
170	Adlington Cricket Club	Adlington CC	Freehold	Secure
178	Bretherton Cricket Club	Bretherton CC	25-year lease agreement	Secure
181	Brinscall Village Junior Football Club	Brinscall Cricket Club	Freehold	Secure
187	Charnock Richard Cricket Club	Charnock St James CC	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
191	Chorley Cricket Club (Windsor Park)	Chorley CC	Freehold	Secure
200	Croston Sports Club	Croston CC	Freehold	Secure
205	Eccleston Cricket Club	Eccleston CC	Freehold	Secure
208	Euxton Cricket Club	Euxton CC	Freehold	Secure
219	Hoghton Cricket Club	Hoghton CC	Long term lease agreement	Secure
226	Mawdesley Cricket Club (Rectory Field)	Mawdesley CC	25-year lease agreement	Secure
245	White Coppice Cricket Club	White Coppice CC	Freehold	Secure
246	Whittle and Clayton Le Wood Cricket Club	Whittle & Clayton Le Woods CC	5-year lease agreement	Secure
249	Withnell Fold Sports and Social Club	Withnell Fold CC	Freehold	Secure
-	Preston	-	-	-
5	BAC/EE Preston Sports and Social Club	BAC/EE CC	Long term lease agreement	Secure
18	Fulwood & Broughton Cricket Club	Fulwood & Broughton CC	Freehold	Secure
28	Grimsargh Cricket Club	Grimsargh CC	Long term lease agreement	Secure
60	Preston Sports Club	Preston CC	Long term lease agreement	Secure
56	Preston Grasshoppers RFC	Preston Strikers CC	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Unknown</i>

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Club user	Agreement	Security of tenure?
83	Whittingham and Goosnargh Cricket Club	Whittingham & Goosnargh CC	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
-	South Ribble	-	-	-
99	Fox Lane Sports and Social Club	Leyland CC	Long term lease agreement	Secure
100	Gregson Lane Playing Field	Gregson Lane CC	15-year lease agreement	Secure
131	New Longton Sports & Social Club	New Longton CC	Long term lease agreement	Secure
143	Penwortham Sports and Social Club (Penwortham Cricket Club)	Penwortham CC	Freehold	Secure
145	Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale Recreation Ground)	Walton-le-Dale CC	Rent from Walton-le-Dale Recreation Society	Unsecure
159	Vernon Carus Sports Club	Vernon Carus CC	<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Unknown</i>

Across Central Lancashire, 10 clubs own the freehold for their home ground, whilst 10 clubs have a long-term lease of their home venue. Walton-le-Dale CC has unsecure tenure due to renting its venue at Queens Victoria Road with no formal agreement in place.

Given Charnock St James CC, Whittingham & Goosnargh CC and Vernon Carus CC are currently unresponsive to consultation requests, tenure is unknown at these sites.

Mawdesley CC highlights it's in negotiations to buy its venue located at Mawdesley Cricket Club (Rectory Field) following a recent crowdfund campaign.

Square quality

The quality of cricket squares has been assessed via a combination of site visits undertaken in July 2025 (using non-technical assessments as determined by the ECB), PitchPower reports (see below), and user consultation to reach and apply an agreed rating on a scale of good, standard and poor. For the full site assessment criteria, please see Appendix 2.

The percentage parameters used for the non-technical assessments were as follows; Good (>80%), Standard (50-79%), Poor (<49%).

Maintaining high pitch quality is the most important aspect of cricket; if the wicket is poor, it can affect the quality of the game and can, in some instances, become dangerous. As an example, if a square is poor quality, a ball can bounce erratically on a wicket and become a danger to nearby players.

The audit of grass wicket cricket squares in Chorley found nine (64%) to be good quality and five (36%) to be of standard quality.

In Preston, two (40%) squares are good quality, one (20%) is standard quality and two (40%) are poor quality located at BAC/EE Preston Sports and Social Club and Whittingham and Goosnargh Cricket Club.

In South Ribble, three (43%) squares are good quality, three (43%) are standard quality and one (14%) is poor quality located at Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale Recreation Ground).

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 7.6: Quality ratings for all grass wicket squares (site-by-site)

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Square quality (PP rating)	Outfield quality (PP rating)
-	-	Chorley	-	-
170	Adlington Cricket Club	Chorley Central	Standard	Good
178	Bretherton Cricket Club	Chorley West	Good	Good
181	Brinscall Village Junior Football Club	Chorley East	Standard (Basic)	Standard (Basic)
187	Charnock Richard Cricket Club	Chorley Central	Standard	Standard
191	Chorley Cricket Club (Windsor Park)	Chorley Central	Good (Advanced)	Standard (Basic)
200	Croston Sports Club	Chorley Central	Good (Advanced)	Standard (Basic)
205	Eccleston Cricket Club	Chorley West	Good	Good
208	Euxton Cricket Club	Chorley West	Good (Good)	Good (Good)
211	Gillett Playing Fields	Chorley Central	Good	Good
219	Hoghton Cricket Club	Chorley East	Good	Standard
226	Mawdesley Cricket Club (Rectory Field)	Chorley West	Standard (Basic)	Standard (Basic)
245	White Coppice Cricket Club	Chorley East	Standard	Standard
246	Whittle and Clayton Le Wood Cricket Club	Chorley East	Good	Standard
249	Withnell Fold Sports and Social Club	Chorley East	Good (Advanced)	Standard (Basic)
-	-	Preston	-	-
5	BAC/EE Preston Sports and Social Club	Preston South	Poor	Poor
18	Fulwood & Broughton Cricket Club	Preston North East	Standard (Basic)	Standard (Basic)
28	Grimstargh Cricket Club	Preston North East	Good (Advanced)	Standard (Basic)
60	Preston Sports Club	Preston South	Standard (Basic)	Standard (Basic)
83	Whittingham and Goosnargh Cricket Club	Preston North East	Poor	Poor
-	-	South Ribble	-	-
99	Fox Lane Sports and Social Club	South Ribble Leyland	Good (Advanced)	Good (Advanced)
100	Gregson Lane Playing Field	South Ribble Eastern	Standard	Standard
131	New Longton Sports & Social Club	South Ribble Western Parishes	Standard	Poor
143	Penwortham Sports and Social Club (Penwortham Cricket Club)	South Ribble Penwortham	Good (Advanced)	Standard (Basic)

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Square quality (PP rating)	Outfield quality (PP rating)
145	Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale Recreation Ground)	South Ribble Eastern	Poor	Poor
159	Vernon Carus Sports Club	South Ribble Penwortham	Standard (Basic)	Standard (Basic)
159	Vernon Carus Sports Club	South Ribble Penwortham	Good	Good

It should be noted that PitchPower (PP) ratings generally supersede the non-technical assessments as they are more in-depth in their analysis, as long as they are current. For the purposes for the PPOSS these ratings have been equated to the non-technical squares to allow for capacity analysis as seen below:

- ◀ (Poor) = Poor.
- ◀ (Basic) = Standard.
- ◀ (Good / Advanced / High) = Good.

Although capacity solely derives from square quality, as outlined later in the section, the ratings for outfields have also been included. This is because their quality can affect the accessibility of the square in addition to them also been used for cricket initiatives for junior (All Stars/Dynamos) and women's cricket (Softball).

A direct quality comparison to the previous study cannot be done due to a change in the way both the square and outfield has been assessed this time round.

Although assessed as standard quality, the grass cricket square and outfield located at Preston Sports Club is overmarked with football pitches resulting in heavy usage all year round which reduces the quality.

The cricket square at Whittingham and Goosnargh Cricket Club has been assessed as poor quality due to a lack of maintenance which was evident during the non-technical assessments relating to the length of grass and the surface being uneven.

BAC/EE CC is not currently using its home venue located at BAC/EE Preston Sports and Social Club due to flood defence works which are underway which cricket planned to return in 2026.

Walton-le-Dale CC states the square and outfield at Queen Victoria Ground is poor quality due to pitch being located on a slope meaning water is not draining properly and seeping under the pitch covers affecting the quality.

New Longton CC highlights issues with drainage on one end of its site which is affecting the quality of the outfield.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Grass Pitch Improvement Fund²⁶

To coincide with the utilisation of PitchPower (PP) for cricket the ECB in partnership with Sport England and National Lottery has released the Grass Pitch Improvement Fund (GPIF). The GPIF aims to tackle inequalities by providing improved access to good quality, safe playing facilities for targeted groups. The Sport England Lottery Fund will provide funding for projects in England with projects in Wales supported by the England and Wales Cricket Trust.

Priority will be given to applications which support cricket for the following groups:

- ◀ Women's and girls' cricket.
- ◀ Cricket in diverse communities.
- ◀ Disability cricket.
- ◀ Low socio-economic groups (LSEG).

Investment will be targeted into three main areas:

- ◀ Improving the quality of squares and outfielders (for grass pitches rated 'unsuitable' or 'basic' to improve to at least 'good').
- ◀ Creating sustainable management of sites (through irrigation and machinery improvements).
- ◀ Installing hybrid pitches to increase playing capacity.

The fund will run until March 2027, or whenever the funding is full allocated, whichever is sooner.

Ancillary facilities

The extent of ancillary facilities required differs between times of play. For example, senior teams playing at weekends typically need to access clubhouse and kitchen facilities to provide teas, whereas this is often not required for junior and short format senior matches, where the need is more for access to suitable changing and/or toilet facilities.

Ancillary facility rating is primarily influenced by the type and quality of amenities which are available on a site, such as a clubhouse, changing rooms, showering provision, car parking, dedicated umpire, spectator facilities and boundary fencing. Provision of high quality ancillary facilities is a key aspect of the ECB's Inspiring Generations Strategy, to meet the expectations of the core participation base as well as key growth markets such as women and girls, South Asian and BAME communities and All Stars and Dynamos cricket (detailed later in the section).

Although the size and configuration of ancillary provision may alter based on the sports using the provision, and the number of pitches it services, generally the same principles are recommended to allow for varied use from all demographics:

- ◀ Accessible changing areas which can be separated, or are private/self-contained, to allow for separate male/female/all gender or senior/junior separation.
- ◀ A private accessible changing room (with relevant changing and showering provision) for someone who requires assistance.
- ◀ Separate female / male / all gender toilet provision.
- ◀ Suitably designed and specified showering cubicles to all users to maintain dignity and privacy whilst showering.

²⁶<https://resources.ecb.co.uk/ecb/document/2024/07/23/a754a60b-a11a-4dee-aa7e-06fbdc040297/GPIF-guidance-notes.pdf>

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Open planned changing, toilets and particularly showering facilities can provide a significant barrier to many people resulting in them either not taking part or having a poorer sporting experience.

As a result of the above, those ancillary facilities that do not meet the above criteria, cannot be rated anything higher than standard quality for the purposes of this document. Additional context behind the rationale is provided below.

The audit of ancillary facilities at community available grass pitch cricket sites in Chorley determines that two site (17%) is accompanied by good quality changing provision, nine sites (75%) are accompanied by standard quality provision and one site (8%) has poor quality supporting changing provision, located at Whittle and Clayton-Le-Woods Cricket Club.

In Preston, two sites (40%) are accompanied by good quality changing provision, and two sites (40%) are accompanied by standard quality provision. No changing facilities are assessed as poor quality, however, given Whittingham & Goosnargh CC are unresponsive to consultation requests the quality of the changing provision at Whittingham and Goosnargh Cricket Club is unknown.

Across South Ribble, one site (17%) is accompanied by good quality changing provision, and four sites (67%) are accompanied by standard quality provision. No changing facilities are assessed as poor quality, however, given Vernon Carus CC is unresponsive to consultation requests, the quality of the changing provision at Vernon Carus Sports Club is unknown.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 7.7: Changing room quality (at community available sites with natural turf squares)

Site ID	Site name	Club	Clubhouse quality	Changing facility quality	Comments on changing rooms/clubhouses
-	Chorley	-	-	-	-
170	Adlington Cricket Club	Adlington CC	Standard	Standard	The Club does not have suitable changing rooms for female players.
178	Bretherton Cricket Club	Bretherton CC	Good	Standard	The Club does not have suitable changing rooms for female players.
181	Brinscall Village Junior Football Club	Brinscall Cricket Club	Good	Good	Provision is suitable for the level of demand accessing the site. No issues raised through consultation.
187	Charnock Richard Cricket Club	Charnock St James CC	Good	Unknown	Unknown
191	Chorley Cricket Club (Windsor Park)	Chorley CC	Good	Good	Provision is suitable for the level of demand accessing the site. No issues raised through consultation.
200	Croston Sports Club	Croston CC	Good	Standard	The Club does not have suitable changing rooms for female players.
205	Eccleston Cricket Club	Eccleston CC	Good	Standard	The Club does not have suitable changing rooms for female players.
208	Euxton Cricket Club	Euxton CC	Standard	Standard	The Club does not have suitable changing rooms for female players.
211	Gillett Playing Fields	Penwortham CC / Chorley CC	Standard	Standard	Planning permission has recently been granted for a new pavilion including changing facilities and carparking to accommodate both football and cricket.
219	Hoghton Cricket Club	Hoghton CC	Standard	Standard	The Club highlights aspiration to expand and improve its current pavilion with it looking for funding support.
226	Mawdesley Cricket Club (Rectory Field)	Mawdesley CC	Good	Standard	The Club does not have suitable changing rooms for female players.
245	White Coppice Cricket Club	White Coppice CC	Standard	Standard	The Club does not have suitable changing rooms for female players.
246	Whittle and Clayton Le Wood Cricket Club	Whittle & Clayton Le Woods CC	Poor	Poor	Provision needs updating as is not compatible for women's and girls' demand.
249	Withnell Fold Sports and Social Club	Withnell Fold CC	Good	Standard	The Club does not have suitable changing rooms for female players.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Club	Clubhouse quality	Changing facility quality	Comments on changing rooms/clubhouses
-	Preston	-	-	-	-
5	BAC/EE Preston Sports and Social Club	BAC/EE CC	Good	Good	Provision is suitable for the level of demand accessing the site. No issues raised through consultation.
18	Fulwood & Broughton Cricket Club	Fulwood & Broughton CC	Good	Standard	Clubhouse extension has recently been approved; however, this is not yet under construction.
28	Grimsargh Cricket Club	Grimsargh CC	Standard	Standard	The Club does not have suitable changing rooms for female players.
60	Preston Sports Club	Preston CC	Good	Good	Provision is suitable for the level of demand accessing the site. No issues raised through consultation.
83	Whittingham and Goosnargh Cricket Club	Whittingham & Goosnargh CC	Standard	Unknown	Unknown
-	South Ribble	-	-	--	-
99	Fox Lane Sports and Social Club	Leyland CC	Good	Standard	The Club does not have suitable changing rooms for female players.
100	Gregson Lane Playing Field	Gregson Lane CC	Good	Standard	The Club does not have suitable changing rooms for female players.
131	New Longton Sports & Social Club	New Longton CC	Good	Good	Provision is suitable for the level of demand accessing the site. No issues raised through consultation.
143	Penwortham Sports and Social Club (Penwortham Cricket Club)	Penwortham CC	Good	Standard	Provision is not compatible for women's and girls' demand. The Club does highlight aspiration to upgrade its current social space.
145	Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale Recreation Ground)	Walton-le-Dale CC	Standard	Standard	The Club does not have suitable changing rooms for female players.
159	Vernon Carus Sports Club	Vernon Carus CC	Good	Unknown	Unknown

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Of responding clubs, 14 (58%) report not having suitable/separate changing rooms for women's and girls' provision, which can be seen in the table above. Of the clubs that cater for women's and girls' cricket, only Brinscall CC, Fulwood & Broughton CC, Preston CC and New Longton CC are believed to have suitable/separate changing rooms, whilst the remaining clubs do not.

Given the above and the significant growth in women's and girls' demand since the previous study (an additional 27 teams), the remaining cricket sites will require investment in order to better accommodate current and future levels of women and girls' demand in particular at Bretherton CC, Mawdesley CC, Leyland CC and Penwortham CC given these sites accommodate at least one senior women's team respectively.

Training facilities

Access to cricket nets is important, particularly for training purposes. The table below identifies the practice facilities that are available across Central Lancashire.

All cricket club sites across Central Lancashire are serviced by practice nets in some form apart from Gregson Lane CC. Nine sites offer both permanent and mobile nets, situated at Adlington Cricket Club, Brinscall Village Junior Football Club, Croston Sports Club, Eccleston Cricket Club, Mawdesley Cricket Club, Whittle and Clayton Le Wood Cricket Club, Withnell Fold Sports and Social Club, Vernon Carus Sports Club and Fulwood & Broughton Cricket Club with the fixed netting provision at the latter site being recently installed.

Table 7.8: Summary of training facilities at club sites

Site ID	Site name	Club user	Does the ground have nets?	Type of training provision	Demand for improved/ additional training provision?
-	Chorley	-	-	-	-
170	Adlington Cricket Club	Adlington CC	Yes	2 x fixed nets Mobile net	No
178	Bretherton Cricket Club	Bretherton CC	Yes	Mobile net	Yes
181	Brinscall Village Junior Football Club	Brinscall Cricket Club	Yes	1 x fixed net Mobile net	Yes
187	Charnock Richard Cricket Club	Charnock St James CC	Yes	Mobile net	Unknown
191	Chorley Cricket Club (Windsor Park)	Chorley CC	Yes	5 x fixed nets	Yes
200	Croston Sports Club	Croston CC	Yes	2 x fixed nets Mobile net	Yes
205	Eccleston Cricket Club	Eccleston CC	Yes	1 x fixed net Mobile net	Yes
208	Euxton Cricket Club	Euxton CC	Yes	3 x fixed net	Yes
219	Hoghton Cricket Club	Hoghton CC	Yes	Mobile nets	No
226	Mawdesley Cricket Club (Rectory Field)	Mawdesley CC	Yes	2 x fixed nets Mobile net	Yes
245	White Coppice Cricket Club	White Coppice CC	Yes	Mobile nets	Yes
246	Whittle and Clayton Le Wood Cricket Club	Whittle & Clayton Le Woods CC	Yes	1 x fixed net Mobile net	Yes

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Club user	Does the ground have nets?	Type of training provision	Demand for improved/ additional training provision?
249	Withnell Fold Sports and Social Club	Withnell Fold CC	Yes	2 x fixed nets Mobile net	Yes
-	Preston	-	-	-	-
5	BAC/EE Preston Sports and Social Club	BAC/EE CC	Yes	Mobile net	Yes
18	Fulwood & Broughton Cricket Club	Fulwood & Broughton CC	Yes	4 x fixed nets Mobile net	No
28	Grimsargh Cricket Club	Grimsargh CC	Yes	1 x fixed bay	Yes
60	Preston Sports Club	Preston CC	Yes	Mobile net	Yes
83	Whittingham and Goosnargh Cricket Club	Whittingham & Goosnargh CC	Yes	Mobile net	Unknown
-	South Ribble	-	-	-	-
99	Fox Lane Sports and Social Club	Leyland CC	Yes	4 x fixed bays	Yes
100	Gregson Lane Playing Field	Gregson Lane CC	No	-	Yes
131	New Longton Sports & Social Club	New Longton CC	Yes	2 x fixed nets	Yes
143	Penwortham Sports and Social Club (Penwortham Cricket Club)	Penwortham CC	Yes	2 x fixed nets	No
145	Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale Recreation Ground)	Walton-le-Dale CC	Yes	Mobile net	Yes
159	Vernon Carus Sports Club	Vernon Carus CC	Yes	1 x fixed net Mobile net	Unknown

A planning application has recently been approved for two new fixed bays for training located at Grimsargh Cricket Club with work set to commence in winter 2025.

Indoor training facilities

Of the responding clubs, 19 states to be using indoor facilities for training located across a number of sites including, Lukey 's Cricket Academy, Hutton Grammar School, Parkland High School, Lostock High School, St Michael's CE High School, Bishop Rawstorne C of E Language College and Wellfield Academy.

7.3: Demand

There are 24 affiliated clubs across Central Lancashire which collectively provide 164 teams. This equates to 77 senior men's, seven senior women's and 80 junior teams (57 junior boys' and 23 junior girls' team).

As seen in the table below, most teams are based in Chorley with 75 teams (46%), followed by South Ribble (58 teams or 35%). Preston provides the least number of teams with 31 (19%).

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 7.9: Summary of affiliated teams by analysis area

Club	Analysis area	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys'	Junior girls'	Total
Adlington CC	Chorley Central	3	-	2	-	5
Bretherton CC	Chorley West	2	1	1	1	5
Brinscall Cricket Club	Chorley East	3	-	4	1	8
Charnock St James CC	Chorley Central	3	-	-	-	3
Chorley CC	Chorley Central	4	-	5	1	10
Croston CC	Chorley Central	3	-	2	1	6
Eccleston CC	Chorley West	2	-	3	1	6
Euxton CC	Chorley West	3	-	3	4	10
Hoghton CC	Chorley East	2	-	-	-	2
Mawdesley CC	Chorley West	3	1	5	1	10
White Coppice CC	Chorley East	3	-	-	-	3
Whittle & Clayton Le Woods CC	Chorley East	2	-	-	-	2
Withnell Fold CC	Chorley East	3	-	2	-	5
Chorley Total	-	36	2	27	10	75
BAC/EE CC	Preston South	2	-	-	-	2
Fulwood & Broughton CC	Preston North East	4	1	6	1	12
Grimsargh CC	Preston North East	4	-	3	1	8
Preston CC	Preston South	4	-	2	2	8
Whittingham & Goosnargh CC	Preston North East	1	-	-	-	1
Preston Total	-	15	1	11	4	31
Gregson Lane CC	South Ribble Eastern	3	-	-	-	3
Leyland CC	South Ribble Leyland	5	2	5	3	15
New Longton CC	South Ribble Western Parishes	3	1	3	1	8
Penwortham CC	South Ribble Penwortham	6	1	4	2	13
Vernon Carus CC	South Ribble Penwortham	5	-	5	1	11
Walton-le-Dale CC	South Ribble Eastern	4	-	2	2	8
South Ribble Total	-	26	4	19	9	58
-	Central Lancashire Total	77	7	57	23	164

Changes from the previous study

As seen in table below, overall demand has increased by 22 teams (15% increase) since the 2018 study with demand across all age groups increasing apart from junior boys which has seen a slight decrease. Additionally, both senior women and junior girls demand has seen an increase amounting to 27 teams.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 7.10: Comparison of cricket community club demand

Local Authority	Senior men's	Senior women's	Junior boys'	Junior girls'	Total
2018	-	-	-	-	-
Chorley	29	0	35	0	64
Preston	16	0	9	0	25
South Ribble	25	3	25	0	53
Central Lancashire	70	3	69	0	142
2025	-	-	-	-	-
Chorley	36	2	27	10	75
Preston	15	1	11	4	31
South Ribble	26	4	19	9	58
Central Lancashire	77	7	57	23	164

Unaffiliated demand

There are four unaffiliated clubs identified across Central Lancashire utilising NTPs located at, Preston Grasshoppers RFC, Moor Park, Grimsargh Cricket Club, Whittingham & Goosnargh Cricket Club. All clubs are listed below.

- ◀ Preston Grasshoppers CC.
- ◀ Preston North End CC.
- ◀ NHS Lancashire Teaching Hospital.
- ◀ Barton Grange CC.

Unmet/latent demand

Unmet demand is existing demand at clubs which is not able to access sufficient supply of pitches for match play or training. It is usually expressed, for example, where a team is already training but is unable to access a match pitch or where a league or club operates a waiting list. Consultation did not highlight any potential unmet demand.

Latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision. Both Leyland CC and New Longton CC identify that if they had access to additional pitches for matches within Preston, they would be able to field additional teams.

Imported demand

Imported demand refers to any demand from neighbouring local authorities that accesses facilities within the study area due to a lack of available facilities in other local authorities where such team or club is based. There is no known club based imported demand into Chorley, Preston or South Ribble.

Exported demand

Exported demand refers to Authority-based teams that are currently accessing pitches outside of the local authority for their home fixtures, normally because their pitch requirements cannot be met, which is usually because of pitch supply, in some cases quality issues or stipulated league requirements for access to certain facilities. There is no known club based exported demand.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Additional activity

The ECB is currently running a number of initiatives across the Country which results in additional cricket demand and use of cricket facilities. Whilst these do not generally utilise grass wickets, they can impact upon availability when sessions are being held due to use of cricket outfield, making squares unusable for matches during these periods. This can mean no availability on one or two nights a week.

Women's and girls' cricket

One of the six key priorities within ECB's Inspiring Generations strategy is 'transforming the women and girls' game'. Through the strategy, ECB have pledged to increase the representation of women and girls in every level of cricket by:

- ◀ Growing the base through participation and facilities investment.
- ◀ Launching centres of excellence and a new elite domestic structure.
- ◀ Investing in girls' county age group cricket.
- ◀ Delivering a girls' secondary school programme.

There are currently 15 clubs fielding women's and girls' teams across Central Lancashire. Hardball fixtures are played on the square, but softball fixtures typically take place on outfield and some are played within round-robin 'festival' format to maximise participation for those involved. Women and girls' teams are included within Table 7.10 above.

All Stars cricket

In partnership with the ECB and Chance to Shine, cricket clubs can register to become an ECB All Stars Cricket Centre. Once registered, a club can deliver the programme which aims to introduce cricket to children aged from five to eight. Subsequently, this may lead to increased interest and demand for junior cricket at clubs.

The programme seeks to achieve the following aims:

- ◀ Increase cricket activity for 5-8 year olds in the school and club environment.
- ◀ Develop consistency of message in both settings to aid transition.
- ◀ Improve generic movement skills for children, using cricket as the vehicle.
- ◀ Make it easier for new volunteers to support and deliver in the club environment.
- ◀ Use fun small-sided games to enthuse new children and volunteers to follow and play the game.

Where known through consultation, 16 clubs currently deliver All Stars activity of which nine clubs are in Chorley, one in Preston and six in South Ribble. A breakdown of participants can be seen in the table below.

Dynamo's cricket

A key development area for the ECB in delivering on the outcomes of 'Inspiring Generations' will be the Dynamos programme for 8-11 year olds, which originally aimed to launch in 2020. It plans on building on the significant growth of the All Stars and will develop the pathway to retain juniors who progress. Where All Stars seeks to engage children in cricket activity and learning the skills, Dynamo's seeks to engage children in learning how to play, introducing a modified softball format as competitive progression with a view to eventual transition through to hardball cricket. The programme will be strongly linked to The Hundred, a new short format competition which also aimed to launch in 2020 (pre-Covid-19).

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Where known through consultation, 14 clubs currently deliver Dynamos cricket of which seven clubs are in Chorley, one in Preston and six in South Ribble.

The below table summarises which community cricket clubs have All Stars and Dynamos activity.

Table 7.11: Central Lancashire clubs involved in ECB initiatives

Site ID	Site	Club name	All Stars count	Dynamos
-	Chorley	-	-	-
170	Adlington Cricket Club	Adlington CC	54	21
178	Bretherton Cricket Club	Bretherton CC	22	11
181	Brinscall Village Junior Football Club	Brinscall Cricket Club	20	28
191	Chorley Cricket Club (Windsor Park)	Chorley CC	60	-
205	Eccleston Cricket Club	Eccleston CC	38	40
208	Euxton Cricket Club	Euxton CC	72	11
226	Mawdesley Cricket Club (Rectory Field)	Mawdesley CC	35	9
246	Whittle and Clayton Le Wood Cricket Club	Whittle & Clayton Le Woods CC	26	18
249	Withnell Fold Sports and Social Club	Withnell Fold CC	24	-
-	Preston	-	-	-
28	Grimsargh Cricket Club	Grimsargh CC	41	19
-	South Ribble	-	-	-
99	Fox Lane Sports and Social Club	Leyland CC	11	4
100	Gregson Lane Playing Field	Gregson Lane CC	12	25
131	New Longton Sports & Social Club	New Longton CC	40	7
143	Penwortham Sports and Social Club (Penwortham Cricket Club)	Penwortham CC	26	18
145	Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale Recreation Ground)	Walton-le-Dale CC	21	9
159	Vernon Carus Sports Club	Vernon Carus CC	43	23
-	-	Total	545	243

Future demand

Future demand can be defined via several ways, including through participation increases and by using population forecasts. In addition, the proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document will contain housing growth scenarios that will estimate additional demand that could arise from developments across Central Lancashire.

Participation increases

ECB has recently established a target of trebling the number of girls' teams across the Country by 2026/2027, with this therefore likely to further increase in demand across Central Lancashire. This will be further tested as a scenario in the Strategy.

For female cricket to grow further across Central Lancashire, it is imperative that existing provision adapts to better accommodate women's and girls' demand. Some existing clubhouses are dated and provide unsegregated changing areas as well as communal showers that are unsuitable for mixed gender access.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

In total, 14 of the responding clubs across Central Lancashire report future demand aspirations. This totals a potential increase of 32 teams, which broken down equates to six senior men's, nine senior women's and 17 junior teams. This is summarised in the following table.

Table 7.12: Summary of future demand

Club	Analysis area	Senior men's	Senior women's	Juniors	Total
Chorley	-	-	-	-	-
Bretherton CC	Chorley West	-	1	2	3
Brinscall Cricket Club	Chorley East	-	1	1	2
Eccleston CC	Chorley West	-	1	1	2
Euxton CC	Chorley West	-	-	2	2
Hoghton CC	Chorley East	3	1	1	4
Mawdesley CC	Chorley West	-	1	1	2
Whittle & Clayton Le Woods CC	Chorley East	-	1	2	3
Preston	-	-	-	-	-
BAC/EE CC	Preston South	1	-	1	2
Grimsargh CC	Preston North East	-	1	1	2
Preston CC	Preston South	-	1	-	1
South Ribble	-	-	-	-	-
Gregson Lane CC	South Ribble Eastern	-	-	2	2
Leyland CC	South Ribble Leyland	1	-	2	3
New Longton CC	South Ribble Western Parishes	1	-	-	1
Walton-le-Dale CC	South Ribble Eastern	-	1	1	2
-	Total	6	9	17	32

Population forecasts

For population projections, Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator can estimate the likely additional demand for grass wicket cricket squares that will arise from forecasted growth (2041). This uses the current population within each relevant age group together with current participation levels to establish team generation rates that are applied to future population projections.

The table below shows the number of likely teams generated by the new population (400,002 by 2041) and the requisite match equivalent sessions per season.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 7.13: Future demand via population growth (2041)

Age group	Team generation rate	No. of new teams generated by the new population	No. of new teams generated by the new population - rounded figure	Peak time for population	Average games for age group	No. of match equivalent sessions per season ²⁷
Chorley	-	-	-	-	-	-
Men (18-55yrs)	1:2,221	2.34	2	Saturday	12	24
Women (18-55yrs)	1:3,520	0.12	0	Sunday	8	0
Boys (7-18yrs)	1:1,067	1.67	2	Midweek	6	12
Girls (7-18yrs)	1:4,741	0.56	1	Midweek	6	6
Preston	-	-	-	-	-	-
Men (18-55yrs)	1:9,466	1.11	1	Saturday	12	12
Women (18-55yrs)	1:10,786	0.06	0	Sunday	8	0
Boys (7-18yrs)	1:2,765	0.68	1	Midweek	6	6
Girls (7-18yrs)	1:4,076	0.24	0	Midweek	6	0
South Ribble	-	-	-	-	-	-
Men (18-55yrs)	1:3,487	0.81	1	Saturday	12	12
Women (18-55yrs)	1:6,980	0.14	0	Sunday	8	0
Boys (7-18yrs)	1:1,856	0.51	1	Midweek	6	6
Girls (7-18yrs)	1:2,788	0.31	0	Midweek	6	0

As seen in the above, there are nine additional teams expected to be generated by population growth alone across Central Lancashire generating demand for 78 match sessions per season.

These figures are applied to the supply and demand analysis later in this section.

Notwithstanding the above, it is important to acknowledge that there are plans and strategies in place to increase the number of teams at some formats beyond what current trends and population changes would suggest. For example, consultation with the ECB suggests that further development of women and girl's participation in cricket across Central Lancashire is likely as it is currently a national priority. This also applies to potential increased growth in junior cricket, linked to the abovementioned All Stars and Dynamos initiatives.

Furthermore, the demand identified is based solely upon current levels of formal demand from community-based cricket clubs and does not capture informal or recreational activity.

Future demand summary

Future demand carried through to the supply and demand analysis in this assessment is based on population growth. This is for consistency with other sports and as future demand reported by clubs is considered more aspirational. To summarise, this equates to, two senior men's teams, two junior boys' and one junior girls' team is expected to grow for Chorley, with one senior men's and one junior boys' team for both Preston and South Ribble respectively through population growth alone.

²⁷ Two teams require one pitch to account for playing on a home and away basis; therefore, one team accounts to 0.5 match equivalent sessions on their relevant pitch type.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

The proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document will contain a scenario that considers the impact if club aspirations are also realised.

In addition, the Strategy document will consider additional future population demand associated with planned housing growth, with this not necessarily accounted for within the above figures. This is because ONS data does not account for this.

7.4: Capacity analysis

Capacity analysis for cricket is measured on a seasonal rather than a weekly basis. This is due to playability (as only one match is generally played per pitch per day at weekends or weekday evening) and because wickets are rotated throughout the season to reduce wear and tear and to allow for repair.

The capacity of a square to accommodate matches is driven by the number and quality of wickets. This section of the report presents the current pitch stock available for cricket and illustrates the number of competitive matches per season per square.

For good quality squares, capacity is considered to be five matches per wicket per season, whilst for a standard quality square, capacity is four matches per wicket per season. For poor quality squares, no capacity is considered to exist as such provision is not deemed safe for play.

The number of matches played by each team has been derived from consultation with the clubs. Where consultation was not possible, the assumption has been made that all senior teams play between ten and 12 home matches per year and all junior teams play between four and eight matches per year depending on their age and level of competition.

The above is used to allocate capacity ratings as follows:

Potential capacity	Play is below the level the site could sustain
At capacity	Play matches the level the site can sustain
Overused	Play exceeds the level the site can sustain

Please note that NTPs have been discounted from the table overleaf. No NTPs are recorded as accommodating more than 60 matches per season; therefore, all NTPs are considered to have spare capacity. This translates to actual spare capacity for junior cricket as peak time is midweek, whereby non-turf wickets are more commonly used and matches can be played on a variety of days.

The capacity analysis assumes that all clubs rotate their wickets evenly. However, this may not be the case at all sites, with central wickets potentially used more commonly than outer wickets that are closer to a boundary, especially for senior matches. The idea is to showcase what the capacity is or could be if best practice is followed for the whole square, rather than doing it on a wicket-by-wicket basis.

Peak time demand

An analysis of match play identifies that peak time demand for senior cricket in Central Lancashire is Saturday, although several teams also play on a Sunday including senior women's teams. As such, both are considered within the supply and demand analysis later in the section. For junior cricket, peak time is midweek.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Spare capacity

The table below explains the difference between the potential spare capacity referenced in Table 7.15 and the actual spare capacity identified in the final three columns (Saturday, Sunday and midweek).

Table 7.14: Spare capacity examples

Examples	Explanation of spare capacity
No	If the cell has a “no” it means that the pitch is played to capacity within this period and therefore cannot accommodate any further demand.
Yes	If the cell has a “yes” that is not highlighted it means there is spare capacity to accommodate further demand within this designated peak period; however, this is discounted due to unsecure tenure, poor quality, the lack of community availability, or the pitch already being played to capacity or being overplayed.
Yes	If the cell has a “yes” and is also highlighted in green it means there is actual available spare capacity within this peak period which can be utilised.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Table 7.15: Capacity analysis of community available grass cricket squares across Central Lancashire

Site ID	Active Places Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Security of tenure	Club users	Management type	Square quality	No. of grass wickets	No. of artificial wickets	Capacity (Sessions per season)	Actual play (Sessions per season)	Capacity rating (sessions per season)	Potential spare capacity for senior cricket? (Saturday)	Potential spare capacity for senior cricket? (Sunday)	Potential spare capacity for junior cricket? (Midweek)
-	-	-	Chorley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
170	1208071	Adlington Cricket Club	Chorley Central	Secure	Adlington CC	Sport Club	Standard	13	1	52	38	14	No	Yes	Yes
178	1041191	Bretherton Cricket Club	Chorley West	Secure	Bretherton CC	Sport Club	Good	8	-	40	28	12	Yes	No	Yes
181	-	Brinscall Village Junior Football Club	Chorley East	Secure	Brinscall Cricket Club	Sport Club	Standard	16	-	64	44	20	No	Yes	Yes
187	1208093	Charnock Richard Cricket Club	Chorley Central	Unknown	Charnock St James CC	Sport Club	Standard	8	-	32	38	6	No	No	No
191	1208081	Chorley Cricket Club (Windsor Park)	Chorley Central	Secure	Chorley CC	Sport Club	Good	16	1	80	61	19	No	No	No
200	1040868	Croston Sports Club	Chorley Central	Secure	Croston CC	Sport Club	Good	12	1	60	40	20	No	Yes	Yes
205	1208091	Eccleston Cricket Club	Chorley West	Secure	Eccleston CC	Sport Club	Good	12	1	60	34	26	No	Yes	Yes
208	1208092	Euxton Cricket Club	Chorley West	Secure	Euxton CC	Sport Club	Good	12	-	60	54	6	No	No	No
211	1208107	Gillett Playing Fields	Chorley Central	Secure	Penwortham CC	Local Authority	Good	8	-	40	36	4	No	No	No
219	1040865	Hoghton Cricket Club	Chorley East	Secure	Hoghton CC	Sports Club	Good	14	-	70	24	46	No	Yes	Yes
226	1040863	Mawdesley Cricket Club (Rectory Field)	Chorley West	Secure	Mawdesley CC	Sports Club	Standard	12	1	48	46	2	No	No	No
245	1208112	White Coppice Cricket Club	Chorley East	Secure	White Coppice CC	Sports Club	Standard	8	-	32	29	3	No	No	No
246	-	Whittle and Clayton Le Wood Cricket Club	Chorley East	Secure	Whittle & Clayton Le Woods CC	Sports Club	Good	8	-	40	24	16	Yes	Yes	Yes
249	1041113	Withnell Fold Sports and Social Club	Chorley East	Secure	Withnell Fold CC	Sports Club	Good	11	-	55	57	2	No	No	No
-	-	-	Preston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	1208488	BAC/EE Preston Sports and Social Club	Preston South	Secure	BAC/EE CC	Sport Club	Poor	12	1	-	-	²⁸	-	-	-
18	1208491	Fulwood & Broughton Cricket Club	Preston North East	Secure	Fulwood & Broughton CC	Sport Club	Standard	9	1	36	61	25	No	No	No
28	1208494	Grimsargh Cricket Club	Preston North East	Secure	Grimsargh CC	Sport Club	Good	10	1	50	56	6	No	No	No
60	1014660	Preston Sports Club	Preston South	Secure	Preston CC	Sport Club	Standard	6	1	24	50	26	No	No	No
83	1041190	Whittingham and Goosnargh Cricket Club	Preston North East	Unknown	Whittingham & Goosnargh CC	Sport Club	Poor	2	1	-	22	22	No	No	No
-	-	-	South Ribble	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
99	1208495	Fox Lane Sports and Social Club	South Ribble Leyland	Secure	Leyland CC	Sport Club	Good	16	1	80	92	12	No	No	No

²⁸ As mentioned above, this square is currently out of use due to flood defence works which are being carried out. It's planned for the square to be back in use for the 2026 season.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Security of tenure	Club users	Management type	Square quality	No. of grass wickets	No. of artificial wickets	Capacity (Sessions per season)	Actual play (Sessions per season)	Capacity rating (sessions per season)	Potential spare capacity for senior cricket? (Saturday)	Potential spare capacity for senior cricket? (Sunday)	Potential spare capacity for junior cricket? (Midweek)
100	6005289	Gregson Lane Playing Field	South Ribble Eastern	Secure	Gregson Lane CC	Community Organisation	Standard	11	-	44	35	9	No	No	Yes
131	1041416	New Longton Sports & Social Club	South Ribble Western Parishes	Secure	New Longton CC	Sport Club	Standard	6	-	24	43	19	No	No	No
143	1041291	Penwortham Sports and Social Club (Penwortham Cricket Club)	South Ribble Penwortham	Secure	Penwortham CC	Sport Club	Good	12	-	60	53	7	No	No	No
145	6005297	Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale Recreation Ground)	South Ribble Eastern	Unsecure	Walton-le-Dale CC	Community Organisation	Poor	6	-	-	46	46	No	No	No
159	1041399	Vernon Carus Sports Club	South Ribble Penwortham	<i>Unknown</i>	Vernon Carus CC	Sport Club	Standard	3	-	12	32	20	No	No	No
159	1041399	Vernon Carus Sports Club	South Ribble Penwortham	<i>Unknown</i>	Vernon Carus CC	Sport Club	Good	5	-	25	48	23	No	No	No

DRAFT

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Actual spare capacity

A square is only considered to have actual spare capacity if it is available for further usage during a particular peak period. Using the capacity analysis, this section considers the level of actual spare capacity available for each playing format.

Notwithstanding the above, it should be noted that the actual spare capacity on Saturdays, Sundays and during midweek should not be viewed collectively as utilising it across different days may result in overplay. For example, a site with 12 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity per season theoretically has capacity for one additional senior team and two additional junior teams; however, it does not have capacity for both. As such, this needs to be taken into consideration on a site-by-site basis as and when demand grows.

Saturday cricket spare capacity

For senior men's cricket, peak time is Saturday as this is when most demand exists. As only one match can be played on each square per day, only two Saturday teams can be assigned to play home matches on one square (based on matches being played on an alternate home and away basis). As such, if a square has two Saturday teams already playing home fixtures on it, no actual spare capacity is perceived to exist for additional senior usage. If one or no teams are playing on a square on a Saturday, and it has overall capacity, actual spare capacity for senior demand is generally identified.

Notwithstanding the above, there may be situations where, although a site is highlighted as potentially able to accommodate some additional play, this should not be recorded as actual spare capacity against the site. For example, a site may be managed to operate slightly below full capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of regular training sessions, or to protect the quality of the site. As such, no sites that are over, at, or close to capacity are considered to have actual spare capacity (at least 12 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity are required for an additional senior team to be accommodated) and neither are sites with unsecure tenure as future usage cannot be guaranteed.

Taking the above into consideration, there are two squares all located in Chorley which currently have spare capacity for an increase in Saturday demand.

Table 7.16: Summary of actual spare capacity for senior cricket (Saturday) by site

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (sessions per season)	Comments	Actual spare capacity required for additional teams (MES)
178	Bretherton Cricket Club	Chorley West	12	Spare capacity for one additional Saturday team.	12
246	Whittle and Clayton-Le-Wood Cricket Club	Chorley East	16	Spare capacity for one additional Saturday team.	12

Taking the above into consideration there is spare capacity for two additional teams on a Saturday across two sites located at Bretherton Cricket Club and Whittle and Clayton-Le-Woods Cricket Club equating to 24 match equivalent sessions a season.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Sunday cricket spare capacity

Like Saturday cricket, a square on a Sunday is only considered to have actual spare capacity if it is not already used by two teams at this time, has secure tenure and is not over, at, or close to capacity.

Taking this into consideration, there are six squares all located in Chorley that has potential capacity to accommodate further Sunday demand.

Table 7.17: Summary of actual spare capacity for senior cricket (Sunday) by site

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (sessions per season)	Comments	Actual spare capacity required for additional teams (MES)
170	Adlington Cricket Club	Chorley Central	14	Spare capacity for one additional Sunday team.	8
181	Brinscall Village Junior Football Club	Chorley East	20	Spare capacity for one additional Sunday team.	8
200	Croston Sports Club	Chorley Central	20	Spare capacity for one additional Sunday team.	8
205	Eccleston Cricket Club	Chorley West	26	Spare capacity for two additional Sunday teams.	16
219	Hoghton Cricket Club	Chorley East	46	Spare capacity for two additional Sunday teams.	16
246	Whittle and Clayton-Le-Wood Cricket Club	Chorley East	16	Spare capacity for one additional Sunday team.	8

Taking the above into consideration there is spare capacity for eight additional teams on a Sunday across six sites equating to 64 match equivalent sessions a season.

Midweek cricket spare capacity

For midweek cricket, most squares with spare capacity have actual spare capacity for an increase in demand. This is because usually most of the demand is from junior matches which are generally played during midweek, where matches can be spread across numerous days, meaning capacity is not limited to two teams.

For a square to have actual spare capacity for junior cricket, it must not be poor quality, have secure tenure, not be overplayed and have at least six match equivalent sessions per season of spare capacity, the average number of home matches an additional junior team would play.

Furthermore, a square is not considered to have capacity for an increase in demand if it is already used by six midweek teams or more, as availability is then assumed to be limited. On average, clubs are able to play junior fixtures on three nights per week, with other nights reserved for other activity such as square remediation/preparation, training activity or All Stars and Dynamos cricket activity.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Taking the above into consideration there are eight squares across the same number of sites in Central Lancashire that have potential capacity to accommodate further demand during midweek. This is shown in the table below.

Table 7.18: Summary of actual spare capacity for midweek cricket by site

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Actual spare capacity (sessions per season)	Comments	Actual spare capacity required for additional teams (MES)
170	Adlington Cricket Club	Chorley Central	14	Spare capacity for two additional midweek teams.	12
178	Bretherton Cricket Club	Chorley West	12	Spare capacity for two additional midweek teams.	12
181	Brinscall Village Junior Football Club	Chorley East	20	Spare capacity for one additional midweek team.	6
200	Croston Sports Club	Chorley Central	20	Spare capacity for three additional midweek teams.	18
205	Eccleston Cricket Club	Chorley West	26	Spare capacity for two additional midweek teams.	12
219	Hoghton Cricket Club	Chorley East	46	Spare capacity for six additional midweek teams.	36
246	Whittle and Clayton-Le-Wood Cricket Club	Chorley East	16	Spare capacity for two additional midweek teams.	12
100	Gregson Lane	South Ribble Eastern	9	Spare capacity for one additional midweek team.	6

As seen, there is spare capacity for 19 additional teams (114 match equivalent sessions per season) midweek, 30 match equivalent sessions per season in the Chorley Central Analysis Area, 24 in the Chorley West Analysis Area, 54 in the Chorley East Analysis Area and six in the South Ribble Eastern Analysis Area.

Overplay

Overplay translates to a site accommodating more demand than it can sustain based on the number of wickets provided and the quality of the square.

Table 7.19: Summary of overplay

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Overplay (MES)
-	Chorley	-	-
187	Charnock Richard Cricket Club	Chorley Central	6
249	Withnell Fold Sports and Social Club	Chorley East	2
-	Preston	-	-
18	Fulwood & Broughton Cricket Club	Preston North East	25
28	Grimsargh Cricket Club	Preston North East	6

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Overplay (MES)
-	Chorley	-	-
60	Preston Sports Club	Preston South	26
83	Whittingham and Goosnargh Cricket Club	Preston North East	22
-	South Ribble	-	-
99	Fox Lane Sports and Social Club	South Ribble Leyland	12
131	New Longton Sports & Social Club	South Ribble Western Parishes	19
145	Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale Recreation Ground)	South Ribble Eastern	46
159	Vernon Carus Sports Club	South Ribble Penwortham	20
159	Vernon Carus Sports Club	South Ribble Penwortham	23
-	-	Total	207

Across Central Lancashire, 11 squares are overplayed across 10 sites equating to 207 match equivalent sessions a season. This is mainly due to high demand accessing standard or poor quality provision with limited capacity. Broken down by Authority, Chorley provides the least number of overplayed pitch provision (two or 18%) due to the overall higher number of pitches provided compared to Preston and South Ribble.

7.5: Supply and demand analysis

Consideration must be given to the extent to which current provision can accommodate current and future demand for both senior and junior cricket. This section therefore looks at actual spare capacity on grass wicket squares considered against overplay and identified future demand. Match equivalent sessions for future demand are calculated using the average number of matches played per season (12 matches for senior Saturday teams, eight match for Sunday teams and six matches for junior teams).

It should be noted that as the methodology has changed since the previous study (2018), a direct comparison cannot be made regarding the supply and demand analysis.

Senior cricket supply and demand analysis (Saturday)

The below looks at actual spare capacity during the peak period (Saturday) for senior cricket against overplay.

For actual spare capacity, please note that this is converted from the number of squares to match equivalent sessions. This is calculated by using the average number of matches played per season by senior teams (12) multiplied by the number of additional teams that can be fielded at peak time (one team per 0.5 squares that are available). The entirety of spare capacity available at each site is not used as this number of matches may not be able to be accommodated at peak time (the maximum amount of spare capacity that can be accommodated on one square at peak time is 24 match equivalent sessions per season).

Table 7.20: Capacity balance of grass cricket squares for Saturday cricket

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand from population growth (2041)	Future total
Central	-	6	6	12	18
East	12	2	10	-	10
West	12	-	12	12	-

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand from population growth (2041)	Future total
Chorley – Total	24	8	+16	24	-8
North East	-	53	53	12	65
North West	-	-	-	-	-
South	-	26	26	-	26
Preston - Total	-	79	-79	12	-91
Central	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern	-	46	46	12	58
Leyland	-	12	12	-	12
Penwortham	-	72	72	-	72
Western Parishes	-	19	19	-	19
South Ribble – Total	-	149	-149	12	-161

There is currently an overall shortfall amounting to 212 match equivalent sessions per season on grass wicket squares across Central Lancashire for Saturday cricket. However, after considering future demand, the shortfall increases to 260 match equivalent sessions per week. As seen in the table above, only Chorley has spare capacity in the East and West analysis areas with shortfalls identified in both Preston and South Ribble.

Senior cricket supply and demand analysis (Sunday)

The table below looks at actual spare capacity on Sunday for cricket against overplay and identified future demand. For this, actual spare capacity is considered in multiples of eight based on the average number of matches played by existing Sunday teams.

Table 7.21: Capacity balance of grass cricket squares for Sunday cricket

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand from population growth (2041)	Future total
Central	16	6	10	-	10
East	32	2	30	-	30
West	16	-	16	-	16
Chorley – Total	64	8	+56	0	+56
North East	-	53	53	-	53
North West	-	-	-	-	-
South	-	26	26	-	26
Preston - Total	-	79	-79	0	-79
Central	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern	-	46	46	-	46
Leyland	-	12	12	-	12
Penwortham	-	72	72	-	72
Western Parishes	-	19	19	-	19
South Ribble – Total	-	149	-149	0	-149

There is currently an overall shortfall across Central Lancashire amounting to 172 match equivalent sessions per season on grass wicket squares on Sundays. As there is no anticipated growth from population increases the shortfall remains the same. As seen in the table above, only Chorley has spare capacity to accommodate additional demand on Sundays both now and in the future with shortfalls identified in Preston and South Ribble.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Midweek cricket supply and demand analysis (midweek)

For junior cricket, most squares with spare capacity have actual spare capacity for an increase in demand. This is because junior matches are generally played during midweek, where matches can be spread across numerous days, meaning capacity is not limited to two teams.

For a square to have actual spare capacity for junior cricket, it must not be poor quality or have unsecure tenure, and it must not be overplayed; at least six match equivalent sessions of spare capacity are required for an additional junior team to be accommodated (the average number of matches junior teams play per season). Furthermore, a square is not considered to have capacity for an increase in demand if it is already used by six midweek teams or more as availability is then assumed to be limited (on average, clubs are able to play junior fixtures on three nights per week, with other nights reserved for other activity such as All Stars).

Table 7.22: Capacity balance of grass cricket squares for Midweek cricket

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total	Future demand from population growth (2041)	Future total
Central	30	6	24	6	18
East	18	2	16	6	10
West	60	-	60	6	54
Chorley – Total	108	8	+100	18	+118
North East	-	53	53	6	59
North West	-	-	-	-	-
South	-	26	26	-	26
Preston - Total	-	79	-79	6	-85
Central	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern	6	46	40	-	40
Leyland	-	12	12	-	12
Penwortham	-	72	72	6	78
Western Parishes	-	19	19	-	19
South Ribble – Total	6	149	-143	6	-149

There is currently an overall shortfall amounting to 122 match equivalent sessions per season on grass wicket squares across Central Lancashire for midweek cricket. However, after considering future demand, the shortfall increases to 116 match equivalent sessions per week. As seen in the table above, only Chorley has spare capacity to accommodate additional demand midweek both now and in the future with shortfalls identified in Preston and South Ribble.

7.6: Conclusion

In Chorley, there is currently sufficient capacity of natural turf cricket squares to meet current peak time demand for club cricket on Saturday, Sundays and midweek. However, for Preston and South Ribble there is a shortfall across Saturday, Sunday and midweek. When accounting for future demand the shortfall worsens in Preston and South Ribble with Chorley still showing actual spare capacity apart from on Saturdays where a shortfall arises.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 7.23: Capacity balance of grass cricket squares summary

Peak time period	Actual spare capacity	Overplay	Current total (2025)	Future demand (2041)	Future total
Chorley	-	-	-	-	-
Saturday	24	8	16	24	8
Sunday	64	8	56	0	56
Midweek	108	8	100	18	118
Preston	-	-	-	-	-
Saturday	-	79	79	12	91
Sunday	-	79	79	0	79
Midweek	-	79	79	6	85
South Ribble	-	-	-	-	-
Saturday	-	149	149	12	161
Sunday	-	149	149	0	149
Midweek	6	149	143	6	149

There is a clear need to address overplay in Preston and South Ribble, including at sites assessed as standard or poor quality such as Fulwood & Broughton Cricket Club, Preston Sports Club, Whittingham and Goosnargh Cricket Club, New Longton Sports and Social Club, Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale Recreation Ground) and Vernon Carus Sports Club.

The proceeding Strategy & Action Plan document will further explore the benefit of improving pitch quality at these sites in greater detail.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Cricket – supply and demand summary

- ◀ In Chorley, there is currently sufficient capacity of natural turf cricket squares to meet current peak time demand for club cricket on Saturday, Sundays and midweek. However, for Preston and South Ribble there is a shortfall across Saturday, Sunday and midweek.
- ◀ When accounting for future demand the shortfall worsens in Preston and South Ribble with Chorley still showing actual spare capacity apart from on Saturdays where a shortfall arises.

Cricket – supply summary

- ◀ In total, there are 26 grass wicket cricket squares across Central Lancashire provided across 26 sites. Of the 26 squares, 14 are in Chorley (54%), five located in Preston (19%) and seven in South Ribble (27%). Additionally, all the grass wicket cricket squares are available for community use.
- ◀ Since the previous study there has been a decrease of seven community available grass cricket square within Central Lancashire.
- ◀ A total of 26 non-turf pitches (NTPs) are identified in across Central Lancashire with eight located in Chorley (five supporting existing grass wicket squares), 12 in Preston (five support existing grass wicket squares) and six in South Ribble (one supporting an existing grass wicket).
- ◀ Lancashire Cricket and the County Council are working together to build a new, high quality, professional and community cricket facility in Farington (South Ribble) with work currently underway and the facility planned to be available for the 2026 season.
- ◀ Across Central Lancashire, 10 clubs own the freehold for their home ground, whilst 10 clubs have a long-term lease of its home venue. Walton-le-Dale CC has unsecure tenure due to renting its venue at Queens Victoria Road with no formal agreement in place.
- ◀ The audit of grass wicket cricket squares in Chorley found nine (64%) to be good quality and five (36%) to be of standard quality.
- ◀ In Preston, two (40%) squares are good quality, one (20%) is standard quality and two (40%) are poor quality located at BAC/EE Preston Sports and Social Club and Whittingham and Goosnargh Cricket Club.
- ◀ In South Ribble, three (43%) squares are good quality, three (43%) are standard quality and one (14%) is poor quality located at Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale Recreation Ground).
- ◀ The audit of ancillary facilities at community available grass pitch cricket sites across Central Lancashire determines that four squares (20%) are accompanied by good quality changing provision, 15 squares (70%) are accompanied by standard quality changing provision, and two squares (10%) have poor quality supporting changing provision, located at Chorley Cricket Club and Whittle and Clayton-Le-Woods Cricket Club.

Cricket – demand summary

- ◀ There are 24 affiliated clubs across Central Lancashire which collectively provide 164 teams. This equates to 77 senior men's, seven senior women's and 80 junior teams (57 junior boys' and 23 junior girls' team).
- ◀ Overall demand has increased by 22 teams (15% increase) since the 2018 study with demand across all age groups increasing apart from junior boys which has seen a slight decrease. Additionally, both senior women and junior girls demand has seen an increase amounting to 27 teams.
- ◀ Both Leyland CC and New Longton CC highlight that if it had access to additional facilities within Preston, it would be able to field additional teams.
- ◀ Where known through consultation, 16 clubs currently deliver All Stars activity of which nine clubs are in Chorley, one in Preston and six in South Ribble.
- ◀ Where known through consultation, 14 clubs currently deliver Dynamos cricket of which seven clubs are in Chorley, one in Preston and six in South Ribble.
- ◀ There are nine additional teams expected to be generated by population growth alone across Central Lancashire generating demand for 78 match sessions per season.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 8: ATHLETICS

8.1: Introduction

England Athletics (EA) is the not-for-profit membership and development body responsible for grassroots athletics and running in England. EA supports 1,750 affiliated clubs and organisations (covering track and field, road running, fell, hill, trail and cross-country clubs), 147,000 registered athletes, 18,700 licensed coaches and leaders, 3,800 officials and 6.2m regular running participants. EA's Athletics purpose is to inspire more athletes and runners of all abilities and backgrounds to fulfil their potential and to have a lifelong love for the sport. Their vision is for athletics and running to become an inclusive sport where everyone belongs and can flourish.

Consultation

There are two track & field athletics clubs in Central Lancashire: Chorley Athletics and Tri Club (Chorley) and Preston Harriers (Preston) of which both have responded to consultation requests, resulting in a 100% response rate. The number of clubs has not changed since the 2018 study.

8.2: Supply

There is one community available athletics track in Central Lancashire located in Preston at the University of Lancashire, which is an eight lane, synthetic 400 metre track. The track is provided with sports lighting to support activities on both the track and infield and provides all accompanying field event facilities including a throws cage (hammer, discus & club), javelin, high jump, long/triple jump and shot put area.

There is also a 400m cinder track located in South Ribble at Lancashire Constabulary Training Headquarters (Hutton Police Training Academy). This track is unavailable for community and not provided with sports lighting.

In addition to the above, there is an eight-lane synthetic compact track immediately adjacent to the 11v11 3G pitch located at West Way Sports Hub in Chorley. Total Fitness Preston also provides one indoor oval track which is available to members.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 8.1: Summary of community available athletics tracks across Central Lancashire

Site ID	Site	Post code	Active Place Site ID	Analysis area	Community use?	Used by	Surface type	Size	Number of lanes	Sports lighting?
Chorley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
175	West Way Sports Hub	PR7 6DJ	6006752	Chorley West	Yes	Chorley Athletics and Tri Club	Synthetic	100m	8	Yes
Preston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
59	University of Lancashire	PR2 1SG	1004645	Preston North West	Yes	Preston Harriers AC	Synthetic	400m	8	Yes

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

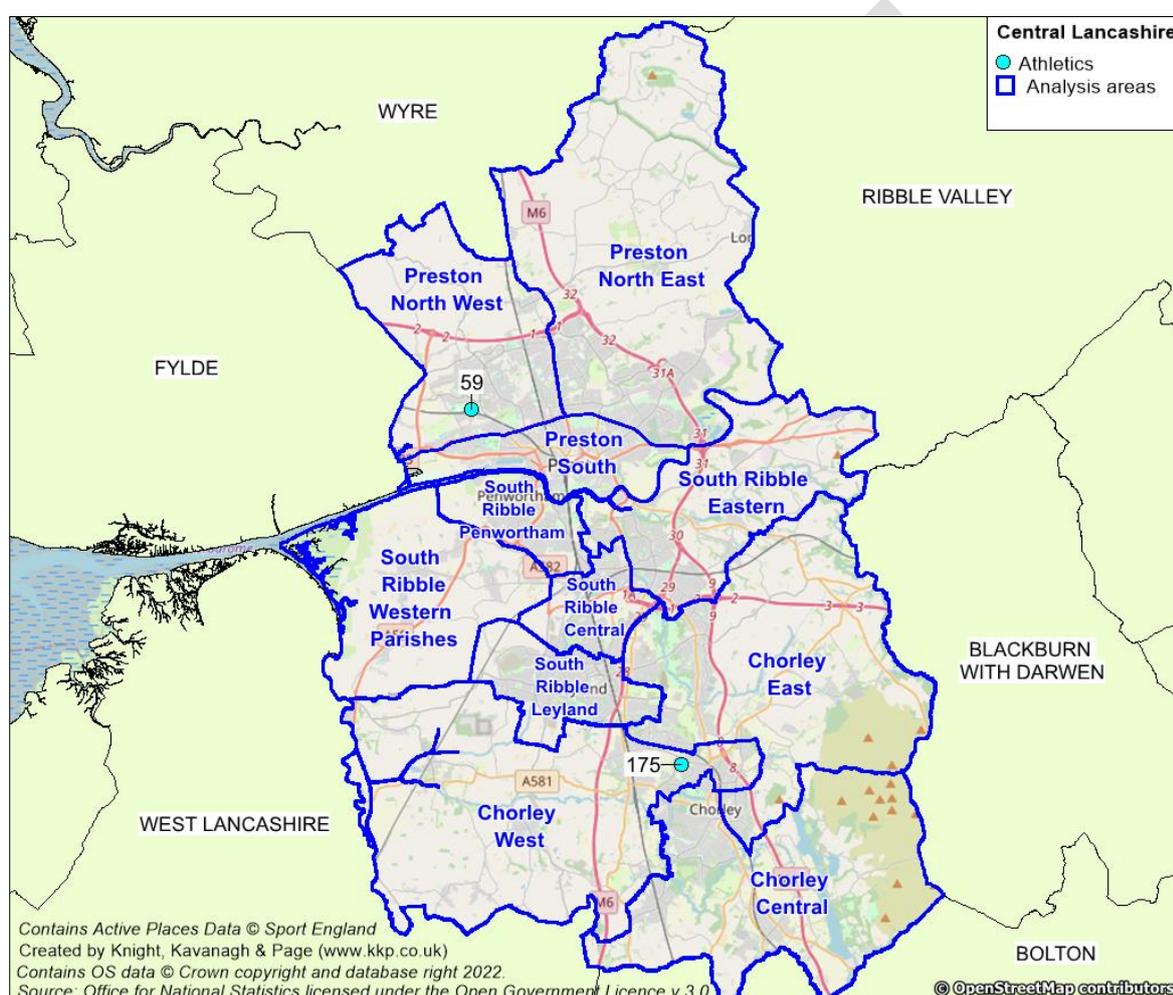
Management

The athletics track located at University of Lancashire is owned and managed by the education provider then rented annually by Preston Harriers AC. Chorley Athletics and Tri Club rents the facility located at West Way Sports Hub from Chorley Council.

The only difference between the current management structure and the one in 2018 is that Chorley Athletics and Tri Club now rents the new provision at West Way Sports Hub.

The specific location of the provision can be seen in Figure 8.1 below.

Figure 8.1: Location of athletics tracks across Central Lancashire



Potential future provision

England Athletics strategic position is that in most areas of the country there is a sufficient supply of traditional synthetic outdoor 400m tracks to meet club and competition needs and that there should focus on protecting and maintaining this provision. In addition to traditional facilities, EA is keen to support the development of a new generation of innovative athletics & running facilities (NewGen), as well as a country-wide network of indoor athletics facilities developed as part of future indoor multisport projects.

Priority for both NewGen and indoor developments will be given to those areas that sit outside EAs recommended drivetime catchment of existing facilities or where there is additional, demonstrable demand.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

NewGen facility concepts

Track and field (run/jump/throw)

- ◀ **Play Track:** The simple animation of dated playground surfaces using colourful painted lines and markings to (KS1 & KS2) – encouraging participation in run/jump/throw activities by creating challenging and inspiring environments.
- ◀ **CompactTrack:** A sports-lit, multiple lane, synthetic sprint straight with optional jumps and throws provision.
- ◀ **MiniTrack:** A sports-lit synthetic “mini” running oval, with sprint straight, multi-sport “infield” and optional jumps and throws provision.

Recreational running/endurance running/multi-sport

- ◀ **Active Track:** A free to access, macadam running / cycling circuit designed to be sympathetic to the local environment and support the recreational needs of local communities.
- ◀ Ideally lit by low level lighting / solar columns, ActiveTracks can be introduced to existing parks, open spaces and playing fields or integrated into the master planning of new housing developments.
- ◀ Sport England Case Study: ActiveTrack: [Sowerby Sports Village](#)

Chorley Council has plans to develop an Active Track (700m long) at West Way Sports Hub with funding in place. This would be an addition to the 11v11 3G pitch and 100m sprint track which is already provided.

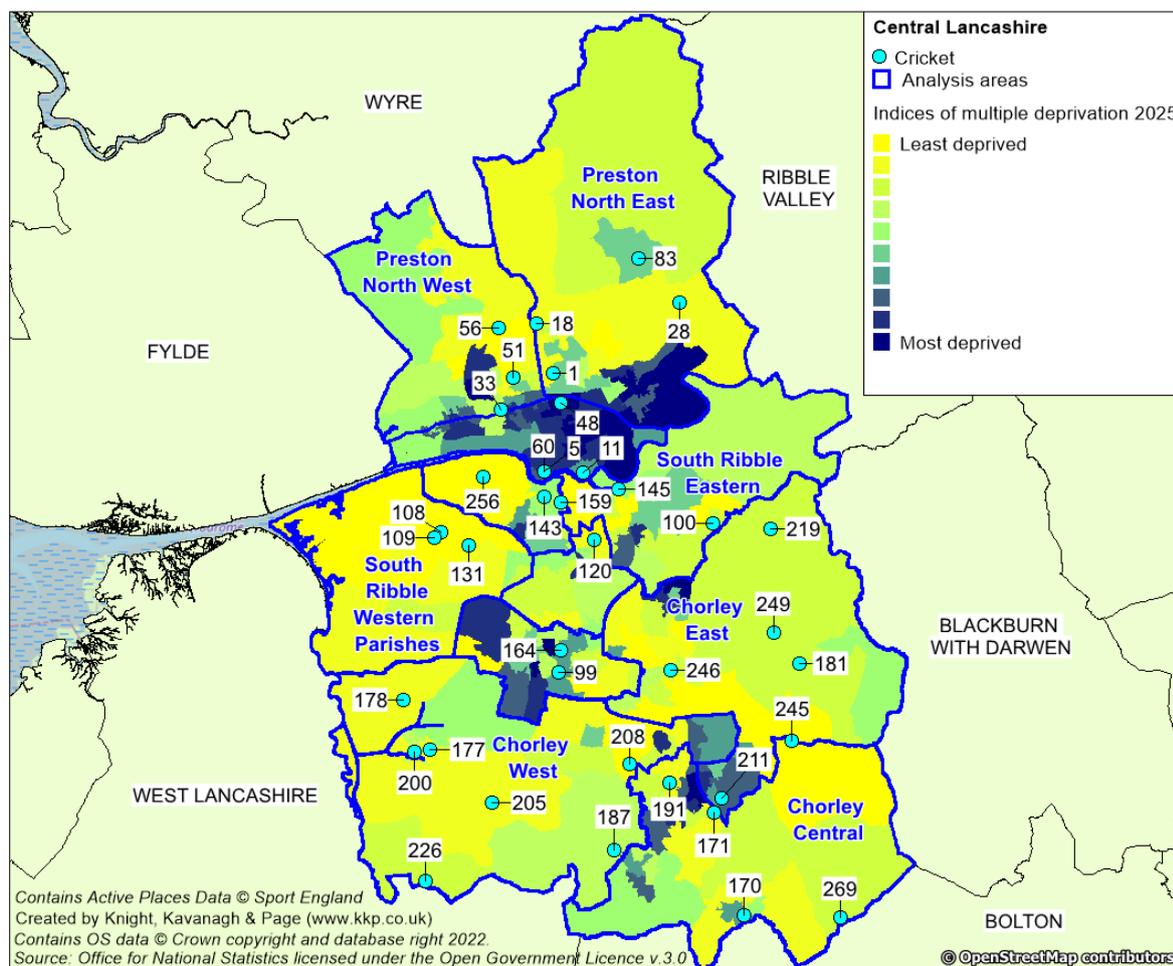
Additionally, a planning application has recently been submitted (06/2025/0994) to Preston City Council known as the Longridge Sports Village, with plans including a new 11v11 3G pitch, two small sided 3G pitches, six padel courts, indoor cricket nets and a new 5k Park Run route. The proposed development is located in the neighbouring authority, Ribble Valley, however given its close proximity to Preston it is likely this development could accommodate demand from Preston.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)

The figure below shows all active athletics tracks located in the more deprived area across Central Lancashire can be seen in the map below.

Figure 8.2: Location of athletics tracks against IMD



Quality

Key factors impacting upon the quality ratings of athletics facilities include the condition and age of the track surface, the prominence of the line markings and any signs of wear and tear or unofficial use. For the full site assessment criteria, please see Appendix 2.

Table 8.2: Quality of community available athletics tracks in Central Lancashire

Site ID	Site	Analysis area	Number of lanes	Surface	Quality (2018)	Quality (2024)
Chorley	-	-	-	-	-	-
175	West Way Sports Hub	Chorley West	8	Synthetic	-	Good
Preston	-	-	-	-	-	-
59	University of Lancashire	Preston North West	8	Synthetic	Standard	Good

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

The non-technical assessment identifies the track and accompanying field facilities located at University of Lancashire as good quality, with the compact track located at West Way Sports Hub also assessed as good quality due to being installed in 2021.

In comparison to the previous 2018 study, the track located at University of Lancashire has improved in quality due to resurfacing of the track in 2024.

*TrackMark*²⁹

TrackMark is UK Athletics' quality assurance scheme for outdoor track and field athletics facilities. A venue that achieves TrackMark is recognised by UK Athletics as having well managed, compliant facilities that are accessible to participants of all abilities. From 2021, venues that actively choose not to pursue accreditation are not eligible to apply for a competition licence at any level.

The athletics track located at University of Lancashire is TrackMark accredited, which expires in January 2027.

Ancillary facilities

Facilities located at both West Way Sports Hub and University of Lancashire are good quality and consists of changing rooms, fencing, showers, access for disabled, toilets and storage for track and field events. No issues have been raised during consultation with relevant stakeholders.

8.3: Demand

For the purposes of this study, athletics demand is considered to come in various forms, rather than just traditional track and field activity. As such, running clubs are also considered, as are organised running events and various running initiatives, some of which are governed by England Athletics. It is also acknowledged that recreational running forms a large part of demand, although this is difficult to measure.

Table 8.3: Summary of track and field club membership

Name of club	Home site	Male	Female	Junior (U18s)	Total number of members
Preston Harriers AC	University of Lancashire	238	138	217	593
Chorley Athletics and Tri Club	West Way Sports Hub	122	43	198	363
-	Total	360	181	415	956

It should be noted that Chorley Athletics and Tri Club also exports some of its demand to Bolton to use the track and field facilities located at Bolton Arena. The Club highlights the need for a 400m track in Chorley to cater for its demand.

²⁹ <https://www.uka.org.uk/about/what-we-do/facilities/>

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Chorley

Chorley Athletics and Tri Club

Chorley Athletics and Tri Club is a track and field athletics club within Chorley with 122 male, 43 female and 198 under 18 members. It indicates membership has stayed the same within the previous three years for both its senior and junior section. The Club currently operates a waiting list consisting of 50 people wishing to join, stating this is due to needing access to additional provision to be able to accommodate more demand.

The Club aspires to have access to some form of dedicated 400m track within Chorley; with it currently exporting some demand to Bolton to access the track at Bolton Arena.

Running clubs

There are two running clubs in Chorley, Runfit Chorley and Lions Running Community both of which are RunTogether registered. Both aim to provide runners of all abilities with a safe inclusive environment. Lions Running Club has a variety of sessions which take place across the week with the Club meeting at either Golden Lion or Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre. Runfit Chorley host a Monday morning mixed ability run at 9.30am starting from Buckshaw Railway car park.

Preston

Preston Harriers

Preston Harriers is the largest athletics club within Central Lancashire with 238 male, 138 female and 217 U18s members. It indicates membership has increased within the previous three years for its senior and junior section due to word of mouth. The Club currently operates a waiting list consisting of 130 people wishing to join with it highlighting a need for additional volunteers to be able to accommodate more demand.

The Club also runs fell running sessions located at Bowland fells, Pendle Hill and the West Pennine Moors.

Lancashire Constabulary Athletics sections utilise the standard outdoor grass athletics track located at Hutton Police Training Academy.

Red Rose Road Runners is one of the largest clubs accommodating over 300 members in Lancashire and caters for all abilities and meets every week at Lostock Lane. The Club also participates in cross country, trail, off-road and fell running.

Riversway Road Runners is a UKA affiliated club based in Preston utilising facilities such as Total Fitness Preston. It currently runs 10k, half marathons and marathon.

Running clubs

Central Lancashire Running & Triathlon Club caters for all abilities and those who like to swim, cycle or run or combine all three. Additionally, both staff and students of University of Lancashire utilise the track and field facilities onsite.

South Ribble

There is currently no dedicated track and field club located in South Ribble, however, there are several running groups as seen below.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Running clubs

South Ribble Runners is a female only running group which is RunTogether registered. It meets on both Tuesdays at 6.30pm and Thursday 7pm at Leyland Leisure Centre. The Club accommodates runners of all abilities. Additionally, Lions Running Community offers a free and friendly running community which meets every Monday and Wednesday at 18.30 at Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre. Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service & AA currently participates in cross country, hill and fell running and road running with the group meeting weekly near Hurst Grange Park.

ParkRun

ParkRun is a series of 5k runs held on Saturday mornings in areas of open space around the UK, with 1,063 events now operating across the Country. They are open to all, free, and are safe and easy to take part in. Runners must first register online to access a printed barcode which gives them access to all ParkRun events.

Table 8.4: Summary of ParkRun across Central Lancashire

Location	Event	Number of events	Total finishes
Avenham Park	ParkRun	589	182,501
Worden Park	ParkRun	89	16,903
Worden Park	Junior ParkRun	212	14,768
Avenham Park	Junior ParkRun	356	16,602

There are two ParkRuns and two junior ParkRuns across Central Lancashire which are held on Saturday and Sunday morning, respectively. There are also numerous other events taking place in the neighbouring authorities of Bolton, Wigan, Ribble Valley and Blackburn with Darwin.

Couch to 5k

Couch to 5k is a national health initiative promoted by the National Health Service (NHS) to encourage absolute beginners to get into running as part of establishing and maintaining an active and healthy lifestyle, including regular exercise.

The plan consists of three runs per week and a day of rest in between, with a different schedule for each of the nine weeks to completion. It starts with a mix of running and walking, to gradually build up fitness and stamina, in order to create realistic expectations and a sense of achievability to encourage participants to stick with it. The end goal of the plan is for the participant to be able to run 5k.

Through the Couch to 5k plan the NHS particularly promotes the health benefits of running and regular exercise which underpin the initiative, such as improved heart and lung health, weight loss and possible increases in bone density which can help protect against bone diseases such as osteoporosis. This also includes mental benefits of running through goal setting and challenge setting, which can help boost confidence and self-belief. Furthermore, running regularly has been linked to combating depression.

It is believed that an increase in people running through the Couch to 5k plan may increase interest and possibly have a knock-on effect of leading to increased demand at running groups and clubs as people may wish to continue develop their running further.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Additional activity

In addition to the above, there are a number of 10k, half marathons and marathons that take place across Central Lancashire. Chorley host an annual 10k and 2k family run which takes place in Chorley Town Centre and around Astley Park with Preston hosting Ribble Runfest every year which takes place at Avenham Park and distances includes 10k, half marathon, full marathon and ultra marathon.

Latent/unmet demand

Unmet/latent demand is defined as the number of additional teams (or members) that could be accommodated if access to enough or improved facilities (and ancillary provision) were available.

Chorley Athletics and Tri Club indicates a significant need for improved access to facilities, particularly a 400m athletics track in Chorley with the Club currently exporting some of its demand outside the Authority to Bolton.

Further to this both Chorley Athletics and Tri Club and Preston Harriers are operating waiting lists of 180 members collectively with Chorley Athletics and Tri Club highlighting a need to access additional provision and the latter in need of more volunteers to be able to accommodate more demand.

Exported demand

In addition to Chorley Athletics and Tri Club operating from West Way Sports Hub it also uses one site in Bolton, Bolton Arena. The Club highlights the following to be problematic issues which could be affecting its growth plans: lack of appropriate local facilities with only a compact track in Chorley and lack of voluntary assistance.

Future demand

Neither Preston Harriers or Chorley Athletics and Tri Club highlight plans to increase with both clubs currently operating waiting lists with the latter indicating the lack of dedicated provision is making growing the Club challenging.

England Athletics believes that demand is likely to increase in the future, particularly for initiatives such as ParkRun, although again to what extent is difficult to quantify.

8.4: Supply and demand analysis

It is considered that for an athletics track to be sustainable, a club membership of circa 200 is required, of which both clubs are operating above the recommended membership figures collectively are accommodating 956 members.

Based on the levels of demand at each of the athletics tracks (University of Lancashire and West Way Sports Hub) across Central Lancashire and given that Chorley Athletics and Tri Club is currently exporting some of its demand to Bolton, there is insufficient quantity of facilities to meet demand.

A potential way to increase capacity particularly in Chorley, would be the creation of additional provision such as an Active Track. As mentioned above, Chorley Council has plans to develop an Active Track at West Way Sports Hub to cater for demand.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

8.5: Conclusion

As both University of Lancashire and West Way Sports Hub are currently used for club athletics, there is a need to protect all facilities and ensure that quality remains sufficient to accommodate the level of demand received.

Additionally, given that Chorley Athletics and Tri Club is currently exporting some of its demand outside of the Authority to access sufficient facilities, there is need to create additional provision to adequately accommodate current demand. This will be further explored in the Strategy and Action Plan.

Away from track and field, emphasis should also be placed on supporting the other more informal athletics/running activities taking place across Central Lancashire, with a focus on retaining and increasing participation and growing the various initiatives that are in place.

Supply and demand summary

- It is considered that for an athletics track to be sustainable, a club membership of circa 200 is required, of which both clubs are operating above the recommended membership figures collectively are accommodating 956 members.
- Based on the levels of demand at each of the athletics tracks (University of Lancashire and West Way Sports Hub) across Central Lancashire and given that Chorley Athletics and Tri Club is currently exporting some of its demand to Bolton, there is insufficient quantity of facilities to meet demand

Supply summary

- There is one community available athletics track in Central Lancashire located in Preston at the University of Lancashire, which is an eight lane, synthetic 400 metre track. The track is provided with sports lighting to support activities on both the track and infield and provides all accompanying field event facilities including a throws cage (hammer, discus & club), javelin, high jump, long/triple jump and shot put area.
- There is also a 400m cinder track located in South Ribble at Lancashire Constabulary Training Headquarters. This track is unavailable for community and not provided with sports lighting.
- In addition to the above, there is an eight-lane synthetic compact track immediately adjacent to the 11v11 3G pitch located at West Way Sports Hub in Chorley.
- The athletics track located at University of Lancashire is owned and managed by the education provider then rented annually by Preston Harriers AC. Chorley Athletics and Tri Club rents the facility located at West Way Sports Hub from Chorley Council.
- Chorley Council has plans to develop an Active Track (700m long) at West Way Sports Hub with funding in place. This would be an addition to the 11v11 3G pitch and 100m sprint track which is already provided.
- The non-technical assessment identifies the track and accompanying field facilities located at University of Lancashire as good quality, with the compact track located at West Way Sports Hub also assessed as good quality due to being installed in 2021.
- Chorley Athletics and Tri Club also exports some of its demand to Bolton to use the track and field facilities located at Bolton Arena. The Club highlights the need for a 400m track in Chorley to cater for its demand.
- Facilities located at both West Way Sports Hub and University of Lancashire are good quality and consists of changing rooms, fencing, showers, access for disabled, toilets and storage for track and field events. No issues were raised during consultation with relevant stakeholders.

Demand summary

- Five clubs have a current focus on athletics and/or running activity across Central Lancashire.
- There are two ParkRuns and two Junior ParkRuns across Central Lancashire which are held on Saturday and Sunday morning, respectively.
- Chorley Athletics and Tri Club indicates a significant need for improved access to facilities, particularly a 400m athletics track in Chorley with the Club currently exporting some of its demand outside the Authority to Bolton.
- Further to this both Chorley Athletics and Tri Club and Preston Harriers are operating waiting lists consisting of 180 members collectively.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 9: BOWLS

9.1: Introduction

Outdoor bowls across Central Lancashire is played on crown greens, with a typical season running in the Summer from May until September. The British Crown Green Bowling Association (BCGBA) is the NGB with overall responsibility for ensuring effective governance of the sport.

Flat green bowls is another version of bowls played in England, governed separately by Bowls England. However, this format of the sport is played predominately in the South of England.

Consultation

There are 51 bowls clubs located across Central Lancashire. Of these, 17 clubs are based in Chorley, 16 in Preston and 14 in South Ribble. Current response rates are included within the table below, continued efforts are being made to obtain additional responses with support from the Council and the Bowls Development Alliance.

A low response rate is not uncommon when it comes to bowls, as a lot of contact information and club websites can be outdated and therefore makes it difficult when trying to contact clubs.

Table 9.1: Summary of consultation

Name of club	Responded?
Brinscall	No
Chorley Subscription	No
Coppull CC	No
Croston Black Horse	Yes
Croston Subs	No
East Ward	No
Eccleston	Yes
Mawdesley	No
St Chads	No
St Georges	No
St Joseph's Anderton	No
St Joseph's Chorley	No
St Pauls Adlington	No
Rivington	No
Tatton	Yes
Withnell Fold Bowling Club	Yes
Wymott	No
Chorley total	4/17 or 24%
Acregate Labour BC	Yes
Ashton BC	No
Ashton Nomads BC	No
Barton BC	No
Broughton & District BC	No
Frenchwood Social BC	No
Fulwood BC	No

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Name of club	Responded?
Lea BC	No
Lonsdale BC	No
Moor Park BC	No
Parkfield Labour BC	No
St Anthony's BC	No
The Preston and District Blind BC	No
Thurlby BC	No
Victoria BC	No
Whitechapel & Inglewhite BC	Yes
Whittingham & Goosnargh BC	No
Woodplumpton BC	No
Preston total	2/17 or 12%
Bamber Bridge Catholic BC	No
Eagle & Child BC	Yes
Farington & District Cons BC	No
Farington St Paul's BC	No
Fox Lane BC	Yes
Hoole Village Memorial Hall BC	No
Higher Walton BC	Yes
Leyland & Farington BC	No
Longton Victory Memorial BC	Yes
Lostock Hall Cons BC	Yes
New Longton BC	In progress
Penwortham Sports Club	No
Vernons Bowling Club	Yes
Walton-le-Dale BC	No
South Ribble total	6/14 or 43%

9.2: Supply

There are 64 crown bowling greens and one flat bowling green identified across Central Lancashire across 62 sites. Of these, 40 greens are serviced with sports lighting.

The only flat green is located at Moor Park in Preston following development work to reinstate the green.

Of the 65 bowling greens, 28 (43%) greens are in Chorley, 20 (31%) greens are in Preston, and 17 (26%) greens are in South Ribble.

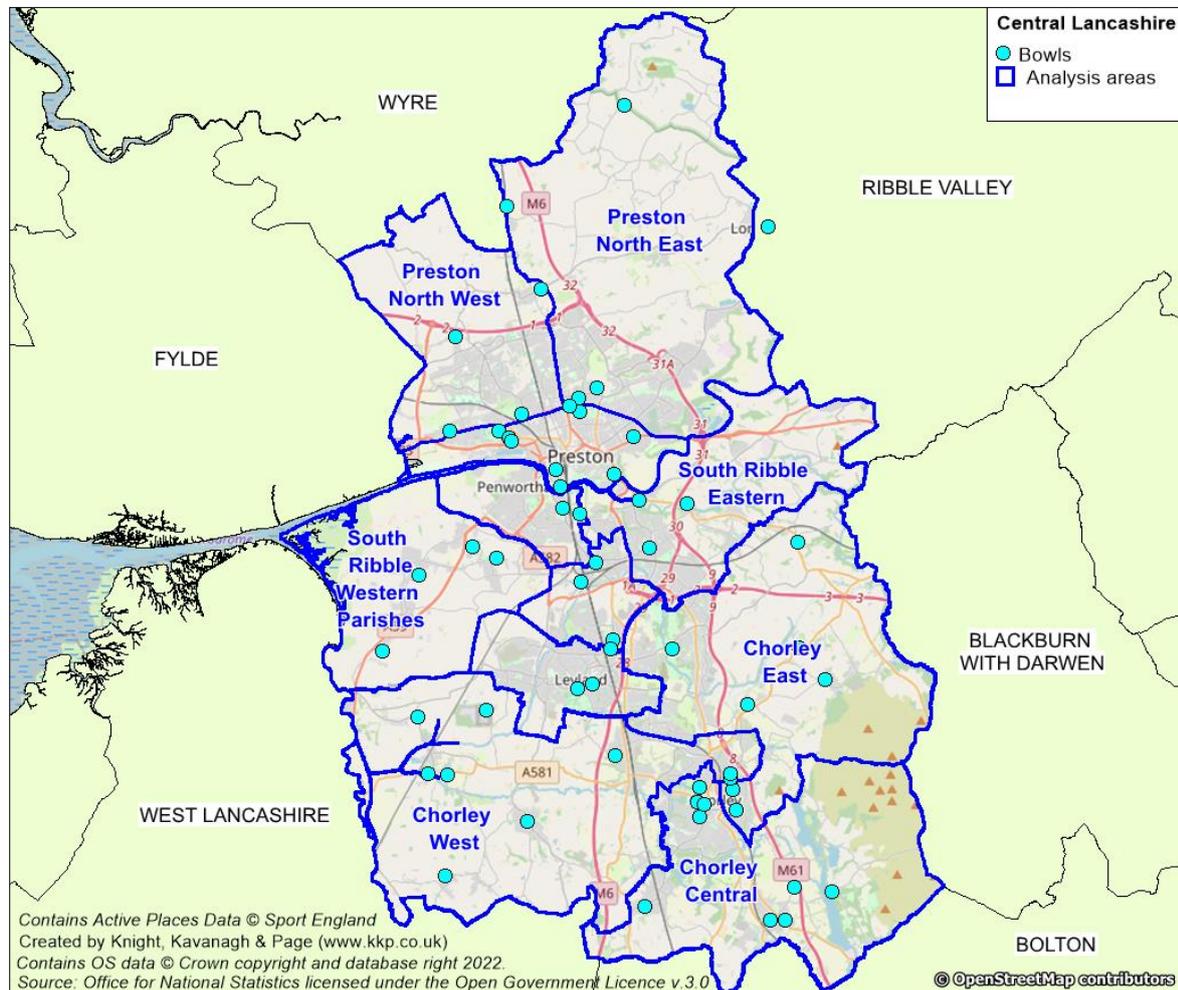
Table 9.2: Summary of community available greens by local authority

Analysis area	Number of bowling greens
Chorley	28
Preston	20
South Ribble	17
Central Lancashire	65

The figures below show the location of the greens servicing Central Lancashire. For a key to the map, see Table 9.3.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Figure 9.1: Location of bowling greens across Central Lancashire



CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 9.3: Key to map

Site ID	Active Places Power ID ³⁰	Site	Postcode	Analysis area	No. of greens	Type of green	Sports Lighting?	Club user	Quality
Chorley	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
173		Anderton St Joseph's Bowling Club	PR6 9NA	Chorley Central	1	Crown	No	St Joseph's Anderton	Good
174	6006735	Astley Park	PR7 1NP	Chorley Central	2	Crown	No	-	Standard
176	-	Bay Horse Pub, Heath Charnock	PR6 9ER	Chorley Central	1	Crown	No	-	Standard
179	6020897	Bretherton Recreation Ground	PR26 9AB	Chorley West	1	Crown	No	-	Good
181	-	Brinscall Village Junior Football Club	PR6 8PY	Chorley East	1	Crown	No	Brinscall BC	Good
194	-	Chorley Subscription Bowling Green	PR7 1LN	Chorley Central	1	Crown	Yes	Chorley Subscription BC	Good
197	-	Coppull Conservative Club	PR7 5DF	Chorley Central	1	Crown	Yes	Coppull BC	Good
199	1042965	Coronation Recreation Ground	PR7 2DJ	Chorley Central	2	Crown	Yes	-	Standard
201	-	Croston Black Horse	PR26 9RQ	Chorley West	1	Crown	No	Croston Black Horse BC	Good
203	-	East Ward Conservative Club	PR6 0AT	Chorley Central	1	Crown	Yes	East Ward BC	Good
214	-	Greenside Recreation Ground	PR7 6BL	Chorley West	1	Crown	No	-	Good
215	-	Harpers Lane Recreation Ground	PR6 0HP	Chorley Central	1	Crown	No	-	Standard
218	-	Hoghton Cricket Club	PR5 0SG	Chorley East	1	Crown	No	-	Poor
224	-	Ley Inn Bowling Club	PR6 7EU	Chorley East	1	Crown	No	-	Poor
227	-	Mawdesley Hall	L40 2QT	Chorley West	1	Crown	Yes	Mawdesley BC	Good
230	-	Rivington Bowling Club	BL6 7SE	Chorley Central	1	Crown	Yes	Rivington BC	Good
233	-	St Chad's Bowling Club	PR6 8AJ	Chorley East	1	Crown	No	St Chad's BC	Standard
234	-	St George's Club	PR7 2DW	Chorley Central	1	Crown	Yes	St Georges BC	Good
235	-	St Joseph's Club	PR6 0HR	Chorley Central	1	Crown	Yes	St Joseph's Chorley	Good
236	-	St Mary's Club	PR7 2BY	Chorley Central	1	Crown	Yes	-	Standard
238	-	St Paul's	PR6 9QZ	Chorley Central	1	Crown	Yes	St Paul's Adlington	Standard
240	-	Tatton Recreation Ground	PR6 0PR	Chorley Central	1	Crown	Yes	Tatton BC	Standard
249	-	Withnell Fold Sports & Social Club	PR6 8BA	Chorley East	1	Crown	No	Withnell Fold Bowling Club	Good
250	-	Wymott Bowling Club	PR26 8NH	Chorley West	1	Crown	Yes	Wymott BC	Good
281	-	Eccleston The Green	PR7 5TE	Chorley West	1	Crown	Yes	Eccleston BC	Good
293	-	Croston Subscription Bowling Club	PR26 9HH	Chorley West	1	Crown	No	Croston Subs BC	Standard
Preston	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	6004979	Ashton Park	PR2 1LH	Preston South	1	Crown	No	Ashton Nomads BC	Good
48	1208500	Moor Park	PR1 6AU	Preston South	1	Flat	No	The Preston and District Blind BC	Good
48	1208500	Moor Park	PR1 6AU	Preston South	1	Crown	No	-	Good
282	-	Acregate Labour	PR1 5QL	Preston South	1	Crown	Yes	Acregate Labour BC	Good
284	-	Ashton Bowling Club	PR2 1AL	Preston South	1	Crown	Yes	Ashton BC	Good
285	-	Ashton-on-Ribble Bowling & Social Club	PR2 1AL	Preston South	1	Crown	Yes	Thurlby BC	Standard
286	-	Barton & Myerscough Tennis Club	PR3 5AL	Preston North East	1	Crown	Yes	Barton BC	Standard
288	-	Empire Services Club	PR1 8PP	Preston South	2	Crown	Yes	-	Standard
289	-	The Fulwood Club	PR2 8NH	Preston North East	1	Crown	No	Fulwood BC / St Anthonys BC	Good
290	1037864	Broughton & District Club	PR3 5DA	Preston North East	1	Crown	Yes	Broughton & District BC	Standard
292	-	Frenchwood Social Club	PR1 4NJ	Preston South	1	Crown	Yes	Frenchwood Social BC	Standard
294	-	Lonsdale Club	PR2 8BY	Preston North East	1	Crown	Yes	Lonsdale BC	Good
296	1042927	Woodplumpton & District Tennis Club	PR4 0RU	Preston North West	1	Crown	No	Woodplumpton BC	Standard
309	-	Lea Bowling Club	PR2 1YN	Preston North West	1	Crown	Yes	Lea BC	Good
310	-	Parkfield Labour Club	PR2 2LH	Preston North West	1	Crown	Yes	Parkfield Labour BC	Standard
311	-	Moor Park Sports and Social Club (Formerly Fulwood Conservative Club)	PR2 3AE	Preston North West	1	Crown	Yes	Moor Park BC	Standard

³⁰ Where relevant as not all bowling greens are listed on APP.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power ID ³⁰	Site	Postcode	Analysis area	No. of greens	Type of green	Sports Lighting?	Club user	Quality
312	-	Whitechapel & Inglewhite (Whitechapel Village Hall)	PR3 2EX	Preston North East	1	Crown	No	Whitechapel & Inglewhite BC	Good
316	-	Victoria Bowling Club	PR1 8JP	Preston South	1	Crown	Yes	Victoria BC	Poor
341	-	Whittingham Club	PR3 2JE	Preston North East	1	Crown	No	Whittingham & Goosnargh BC	Standard
South Ribble	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	Longton Victory Memorial Ground	PR4 5YA	South Ribble Western Parishes	2	Crown	Yes	Longton Victory Memorial BC	Good
99	1208495	Fox Lane Sports and Social Club	PR25 1HB	South Ribble Leyland	2	Crown	Yes	Fox Lane BC	Standard
110	-	King George V Playing Field, Higher Walton	PR5 4HU	South Ribble Eastern	1	Crown	Yes	Higher Walton BC	Good
114	1036528	Lancashire Constabulary Training Headquarters, Hutton	PR4 5TJ	South Ribble Western Parishes	1	Crown	No	-	Poor
129	6005275	Much Hoole Playing Field (Hoole Village Memorial Hall)	PR4 4QL	South Ribble Western Parishes	1	Crown	Yes	Hoole Village Memorial Hall BC	Good
143	-	Penwortham Sports and Social Club (Penwortham Cricket Club)	PR1 9QE	South Ribble Penwortham	1	Crown	Yes	Penwortham Sports Club	Good
145	-	Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale Recreation Ground)	PR5 4HB	South Ribble Eastern	1	Crown	Yes	Walton-Le-Dale BC	Good
159	1041399	Vernon Carus Sports Club	PR1 9TE	South Ribble Penwortham	1	Crown	No	Vernons Bowling Club	Good
298	-	Farington & District Conservative Club	PR25 4QL	South Ribble Central	1	Crown	Yes	Farington & District Cons BC	Good
299	-	Eagle & Child	PR25 3AA	South Ribble Leyland	1	Crown	Yes	Eagle & Child BC	Good
300	-	Leyland & Farington Club	PR25 4GB	South Ribble Central	1	Crown	Yes	Leyland & Farington BC	Standard
301	6012437	Farington St. Pauls	PR26 6PR	South Ribble Central	1	Crown	No	Farington St Paul's BC	Good
302	-	Bamber Bridge Catholic Club	PR5 6TA	South Ribble Eastern	1	Crown	Yes	Bamber Bridge Catholic BC	Good
306	-	New Longton	PR4 4JL	South Ribble Western Parishes	1	Crown	Yes	New Longton BC	Good
307	-	Lostock Hall Conservative Club	PR5 5AA	South Ribble Central	1	Crown	No	Lostock Hall Cons BC	Good

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Changes to provision (2018 – 2025)

Since the previous study a number of bowls clubs have folded including, Catforth Village Hall BC, Clayton-Le-Woods, Deepdale BC, Deepdale Labour BC, Empire Services BC, Fishwick Ramblers BC, Our Lady and St Bernard's BC, Preston Blind BC, Salwick St Bernard's BC, St Martin's Hall BC, Bamber Bridge Cons BC, Leyland SA BC, Middleforth RBL, St Gregory's BC and St Gerard's BC.

The table below summarises the active bowling greens which were identified in the previous PPS (2018) but not counted within this PPOSS and the supply table totalling 15 greens. Details surrounding these sites are outlined in detail below.

Table 9.4: Summary of bowling greens identified in previous PPS but not in this PPOSS

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Postcode	Comments
-	Chorley	-	-	-
239	St Peter's Club	Chorley Central	PR6 0DX	Previous PPS identified one bowling green, however, this green now no longer exists.
-	Preston	-	-	-
32	Hartington Road Recreation Ground	Preston South	PR1 8PY	Previous PPS identified one bowling green, however, this green is now disused.
33	Haslam Park	Preston North West	PR2 1JD	Previous PPS identified two bowling green, however, these greens are now disused.
48	Moor Park	Preston South	PR1 6AU	Previous PPS identified four bowling green, however, two of these greens are now disused.
63	Ribbleton Park	Preston South	PR1 4SX	Previous PPS identified two bowling green, however, these greens are now disused.
283	Deepdale Bowling Club	Preston South	PR1 6LN	Previous PPS identified one bowling green, however, this green is now disused.
287	Deepdale Labour Social & Bowling Club	Preston South	PR1 6RX	Previous PPS identified one bowling green, however, this green is now disused.
291	Catforth Village Hall	Preston North West	PR4 0HE	Previous PPS identified one bowling green, however, this green is now disused.
295	Salwick Social Club (Smiths Arms Bowling Club)	Preston North West	PR4 0RN	Previous PPS identified one bowling green, however, this green is now disused.
340	Smith's Recreation Ground	Preston South	PR1 4LB	Previous PPS identified one bowling green, however, this green is now disused.
-	South Ribble	-	-	-
297	Leyland Sports Association	South Ribble Leyland	PR25 2LF	Previous PPS identified two bowling green, however, these greens are now disused.
303	Bamber Bridge Conservative Club	South Ribble Eastern	PR5 6TU	Previous PPS identified one bowling green, however, this green is now disused.

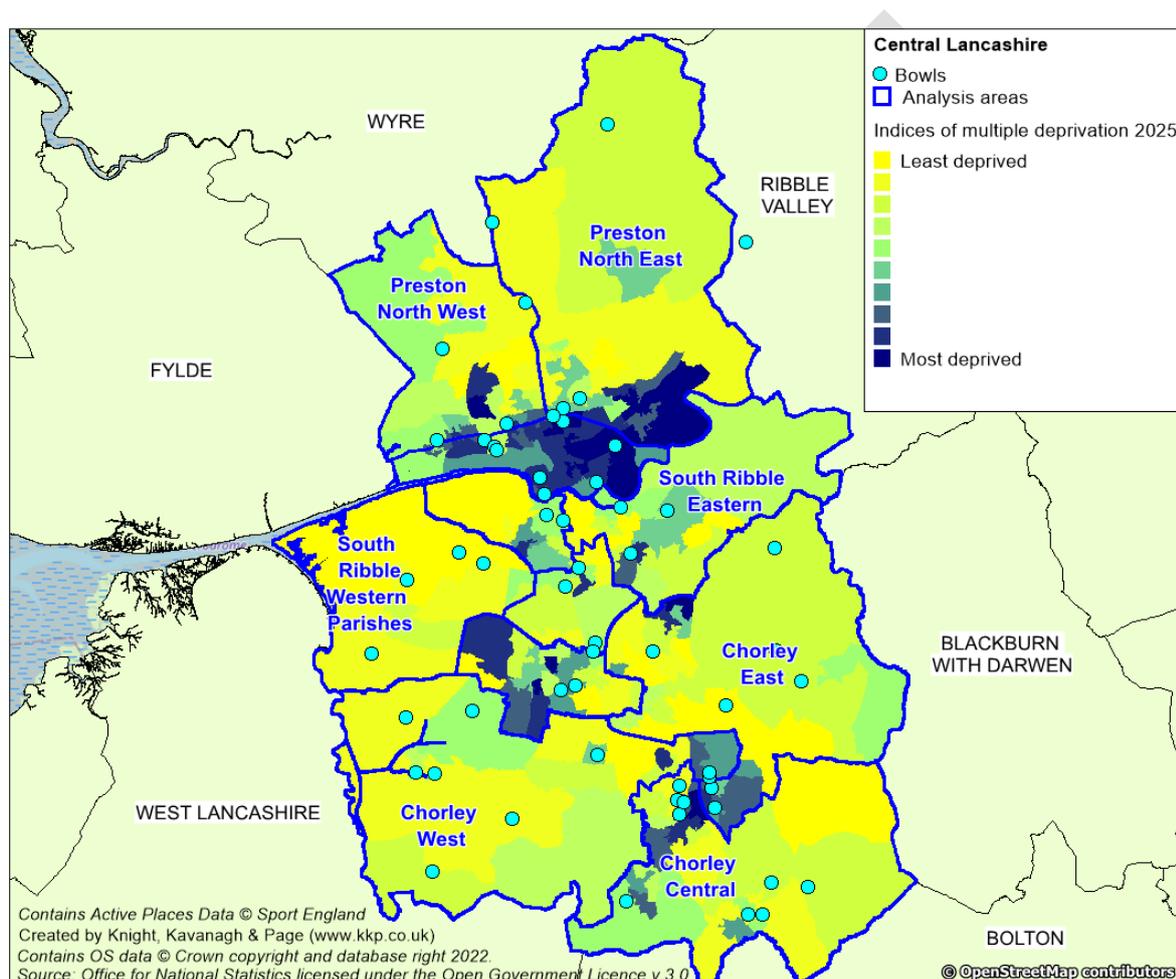
CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Postcode	Comments
317	Our Lady & St Gerard's Church	South Ribble Central	PR5 5AA	Previous PPS identified one bowling green, however, this green is now disused.

Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)

The figure below shows all active bowling greens located in the more deprived area across Central Lancashire can be seen in the map below.

Figure 12.2: Location of bowling greens against IMD



Quality

Non-technical assessment of greens across Central Lancashire (carried out in July 2025) have been cross referenced with the findings against club consultation (where received) to generate a quality score. The table below identifies these scores for every site.

The percentage parameters used for the non-technical assessments for bowling greens are as follows: Good (>80%), Standard (50-70%), Poor (<70%) and include, but are not limited to, the examination of; evenness of playing surface, condition of ditches/boarding, quality of surrounding hard areas, disability access, evidence of litter/leaf fall/fouling/inappropriate use.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 9.5: Summary of bowling green quality by local authority

Analysis area	Good	Standard	Poor	Total
2018	-	-	-	-
Chorley	26	1	-	27
Preston	18	4	6	28
South Ribble	1	8	11	20
Central Lancashire	45	13	17	75
2025	-	-	-	-
Chorley	15	11	2	28
Preston	9	10	1	20
South Ribble	14	2	1	17
Central Lancashire	38	23	4	65

Of the bowling greens located in Chorley, 15 (52%) are assessed as good quality, 11 (37%) as standard quality and two (11%) as poor quality.

In Preston, nine (45%) bowling greens are assessed as good quality, 10 (50%) as standard quality and one (5%) as poor quality.

Of the bowling greens located in South Ribble, 14 (88%) are assessed as good quality, two (6%) as standard quality and one (6%) as poor quality.

A green is considered good quality if it has a high percentage of grass coverage, an even playing surface and limited signs of wear and tear on surrounding ditches/boarding and hard standing areas. In addition, there must be little to no evidence of litter, dog fouling, leaves and inappropriate usage of the green.

Croston Black Horse Bowling Club aspires to install a 3,000 litre rainwater harvesting watering system but would need support with funding.

Of the remaining clubs which responded to consultation requests, all state the quality of their respective green to coincide with the quality which is identified from the non-technical assessments.

Ancillary facilities

All clubs which responded to consultation have access to some form of clubhouse/pavilion on site or through an adjoining public house. The quality of these ranges from purpose built brick pavilions to basic wooden huts and shelters.

Across Central Lancashire, 27 (46%) sites are accompanied by good quality facilities, with 22 (39%) sites having standard quality facilities and eight (15%) sites having poor quality facilities.

Table 9.6: Summary of ancillary provision quality

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of greens	Ancillary quality rating
-	Chorley	-	-	-
173	Anderton St Joseph's Bowling Club	Chorley Central	1	Standard
174	Astley Park	Chorley Central	2	N/A
176	Bay Horse Pub, Heath Charnock	Chorley Central	1	Standard

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of greens	Ancillary quality rating
179	Bretherton Recreation Ground	Chorley West	1	Standard
181	Brinscall Village Junior Football Club	Chorley East	1	Good
194	Chorley Subscription Bowling Green	Chorley Central	1	Good
197	Coppull Conservative Club	Chorley Central	1	Good
199	Coronation Recreation Ground	Chorley Central	2	N/A
201	Croston Black Horse	Chorley West	1	Poor
203	East Ward Conservative Club	Chorley Central	1	Good
214	Greenside Recreation Ground	Chorley West	1	Good
215	Harpers Lane Recreation Ground	Chorley Central	1	N/A
218	Hoghton Cricket Club	Chorley East	1	Good
224	Ley Inn Bowling Club	Chorley East	1	Good
227	Mawdesley Hall	Chorley West	1	Standard
230	Rivington Bowling Club	Chorley Central	1	Good
233	St Chad's Bowling Club	Chorley East	1	Standard
234	St George's Club	Chorley Central	1	Good
235	St Joseph's Club	Chorley Central	1	Good
236	St Mary's Club	Chorley Central	1	Good
238	St Paul's	Chorley Central	1	Good
240	Tatton Recreation Ground	Chorley Central	1	Good
249	Withnell Fold Sports & Social Club	Chorley East	1	Good
250	Wymott Bowling Club	Chorley West	1	Standard
281	Eccleston The Green	Chorley West	1	Standard
293	Croston Subscription Bowling Club	Chorley West	1	Poor
-	Preston	-	-	-
3	Ashton Park	Preston South	1	Standard
282	Acregate Labour	Preston South	1	Standard
284	Ashton Bowling Club	Preston South	1	Good
285	Ashton-on-Ribble Bowling & Social Club	Preston South	1	Good
286	Barton & Myerscough Tennis Club	Preston North East	1	Standard
288	Empire Services Club	Preston South	2	Standard
289	The Fulwood Club	Preston North East	1	Good
290	Broughton & District Club	Preston North East	1	Good
292	Frenchwood Social Club	Preston South	1	Standard
294	Lonsdale Club	Preston North East	1	Good
296	Woodplumpton & District Tennis Club	Preston North West	1	Good
309	Lea Bowling Club	Preston North West	1	Standard
310	Parkfield Labour Club	Preston North West	1	Good
311	Moor Park Sports and Social Club (Formerly Fulwood Conservative Club)	Preston North West	1	Standard
312	Whitechapel & Inglewhite (Whitechapel Village Hall)	Preston North East	1	Good
316	Victoria Bowling Club	Preston South	1	Standard
341	Whittingham Club	Preston North East	1	Standard
-	South Ribble	-	-	-
45	Longton Victory Memorial Ground	South Ribble Western Parishes	2	Good
99	Fox Lane Sports and Social Club	South Ribble Leyland	2	Standard

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	No. of greens	Ancillary quality rating
110	King George V Playing Field, Higher Walton	South Ribble Eastern	1	Poor
129	Much Hoole Playing Field (Hoole Village Memorial Hall)	South Ribble Western Parishes	1	Poor
143	Penwortham Sports and Social Club (Penwortham Cricket Club)	South Ribble Penwortham	1	Good
145	Queen Victoria Ground (Walton-Le-Dale Recreation Ground)	South Ribble Eastern	1	Standard
159	Vernon Carus Sports Club	South Ribble Penwortham	1	Standard
298	Farington & District Conservative Club	South Ribble Central	1	Standard
299	Eagle & Child	South Ribble Leyland	1	Poor
300	Leyland & Farington Club	South Ribble Central	1	Poor
301	Farington St. Pauls	South Ribble Central	1	Good
302	Bamber Bridge Catholic Club	South Ribble Eastern	1	Good
306	New Longton	South Ribble Western Parishes	1	Standard
307	Lostock Hall Conservative Club	South Ribble Central	1	Standard

The ancillary facilities identified as poor quality are located across seven sites, Croston Black Horse, Croston Subscription Bowling Club, King George V Playing Field (Higher Walton), Much Hoole Playing Field, Eagle & Child and Leyland & Farington Club this is due to being outdated and in need of modernisation.

Croston Black Horse Bowling Club has recently applied for a grant to repair the bowls hut roof and is awaiting a decision.

Fox Lane Bowls Club highlights aspiration to refurbish the both the bowls huts, shelters and on-site furniture at Fox Lane Sports Club. Additionally, Lostock Hall Cons Bowling Club has aspiration for a new bowls cabin to better accommodate current members and attract new members.

Higher Walton Bowling Club state the current clubhouse and outdoor seating area is outdated and in need of refurbishment.

The Green located at Harpers Recreation Ground and Tatton Recreation Ground are now fenced with a new bowls hut developed at the latter site.

No other issues or future for ancillary provision were highlighted through consultation with clubs.

Sports lighting

Across Central Lancashire, 40 greens are serviced by sports lighting with 14 greens identified in Chorley and 13 greens in both Preston and South Ribble respectively. The table below breaks down the number of greens which are provide sports lighting.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 9.7: Summary of the number of courts which have sports lighting by local authority

Analysis area	No. of greens which have sports lighting	No. of greens which don't have sports lighting
Chorley	14	13
Preston	13	5
South Ribble	13	4
Central Lancashire	40	23

Longton Victory Memorial BC has applied to Lancashire Environment Fund to improve its current sports lighting. Additionally, there is a current planning application (06/2024/0051) to install sports lighting at Whitechapel & Inglewhite Bowling Club.

Greens with sports lighting offer opportunities to access provision for training and matches during evenings outside of the summer months.

9.3: Demand

Current demand

There are 51 bowling clubs identified as playing across Central Lancashire although only 12 clubs have responded to consultation requests to date and given membership figures. Membership of the responsive clubs where known can be seen in the table below.

Table 9.8: Membership for responding bowls clubs across Central Lancashire

Club name	Senior males	Senior females	Juniors (U18)	Total
Chorley	-	-	-	-
Croston Black Horse	24	12	-	36
Eccleston	32	28	1	61
Tatton	11	8	-	19
Withnell Fold Bowling Club	21	11	-	32
Preston	-	-	-	-
Acregate Labour BC	35	9	-	44
Whitechapel & Inglewhite BC	30	30	-	60
South Ribble	-	-	-	-
Eagle & Child BC	56	23	1	80
Fox Lane BC	35	19	3	57
Higher Walton BC	25	21	1	47
Longton Victory Memorial BC	73	46	-	119
Lostock Hall Cons BC	52	4	-	56
Vernons Bowling Club	19	9	-	28

The largest club according to known membership is currently Longton Victory Memorial BC in South Ribble, with 119 members.

Future demand

The BCGBA is actively working to negate the stereotype that bowls is a sport is for the older generation. As such, it is taking active steps at a county and national level to encourage younger players.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Of the responding clubs, eight (Lostock Hall Cons BC, Longton Victory Memorial BC, Higher Walton BC, Fox Lane BC, Vernon's Bowling Club, Withnell Fold Bowling Club, Tatton BC and Whitechapel & Inglewhite BC) highlights plans to increase membership, however, only seven quantify an amount equating to 84 members collectively.

Latent and unmet demand

Unmet demand is existing demand at clubs which is not able to access sufficient supply of greens for match play or training. It is usually expressed, for example where a club operates a waiting list. Consultation did not highlight any potential unmet demand.

Latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision. There is currently no latent demand which is highlighted through consultation.

None of the bowling clubs across Central Lancashire are reported as operating at capacity, with all clubs willing to accept new members. As such, it is considered that anyone within Chorley, Preston or South Ribble who would like to start participating, could do so at the clubs and greens already in existence.

9.4: Supply and demand analysis

The capacity of a bowling green is very much dependent on the leagues and the day that they operate. A green may have no spare capacity on an afternoon or evening when a popular league operates but may be unused for the rest of the week. However, in many cases, greens are used during the afternoons by club members who bowl socially, with access a potential issue during peak times if membership is particularly high.

The BCGBA does not have any specific guidance on bowling green capacity, stating that it can vary from site-to-site and from club-to-club.

However, as a guide, it states that any green used by at least 20 members is generally considered to be sustainable, whilst any green operating with a membership of over 60 may need additional resource to ensure that it is meeting its required level of demand. Therefore, capacity ratings for bowling greens are classified as follows:

Within capacity range	Membership ensures green is sustainable without capacity issues
Outside capacity range	Membership is below or above the recommended capacity range

Following this, the table below highlights the level of usage each green across Central Lancashire receives, where the information is known (i.e. clubs have responded). Where no membership information is known, further communication is required with clubs to fully understand their needs and any potential capacity or sustainability issues.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 9.9: Bowling green supply vs demand analysis

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Users	No. of greens	Total members	Current capacity	Future members	Future capacity
-	Chorley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
201	Croston Black Horse	Chorley West	Croston Black Horse BC	1	36	24	-	24
240	Tatton Recreation Ground	Chorley Central	Tatton BC	1	19	41	9	32
249	Withnell Fold Sports & Social Club	Chorley East	Whitnell Fold Bowling Club	1	32	28	20	8
281	Eccleston The Green	Chorley West	Eccleston BC	1	61	1	-	1
-	Preston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
282	Acregate Labour	Preston South	Acregate Labour BC	1	44	16	-	16
312	Whitechapel & Inglewhite (Whitechapel Village Hall)	Preston North East	Whitechapel & Inglewhite BC	1	60	-	10	10
-	South Ribble	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	Longton Victory Memorial Ground	South Ribble Western Parishes	Longton Victory Memorial BC	2	119	1	10	9
99	Fox Lane Sports and Social Club	South Ribble Leyland	Fox Lane BC	2	57	63	13	50
110	King George V Playing Field, Higher Walton	South Ribble Eastern	Higher Walton BC	1	47	13	-	13
159	Vernon Carus Sports Club	South Ribble Penwortham	Vernon's Bowling Club	1	28	32	10	22
299	Eagle & Child	South Ribble Leyland	Eagle & Child BC	1	80	20	-	20
307	Lostock Hall Conservative Club	South Ribble Central	Lostock Hall Cons BC	1	56	4	12	8

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Of the responding clubs, the table above shows that all but eight (Croston Black Horse BC, Whitnell Fold Bowling Club, Acregate Labour BC, Longton Victory Memorial BC, Fox Lane BC, Higher Walton BC, Vernons Bowling Club and Lostock Hall Cons BC) are currently operating within a 'sustainable' membership range.

There are three clubs (Eccleston BC, Whitechapel & Inglewhite BC and Eagle & Child BC) operating at or above BCGBA capacity guidelines. However, no club specifically mentions a need for an additional bowling green as a way to accommodate existing or future demand. Tatton BC currently accommodates 19 members which is below to the recommendation (20 members) to be considered sustainable and therefore needs to be monitored.

Those clubs which have a substantial level of demand need to be monitored to ensure they have the appropriate quantity and quality of provision. The BCGBA identifies that clubs operating with a membership of over 60 members per green could have capacity issues. Emphasis in this regard should therefore be on supporting clubs with aspirations to improve their sites as this will likely improve the capacity for the provision to accommodate increased levels of demand.

9.5: Conclusion

Total membership for the 12 responsive clubs equates to 639. Of these clubs, nine highlight aspirations to increase membership. These clubs all suggest that future demand can adequately be accommodated on their existing green.

Although all current identified demand is being accommodated, three clubs (Eccleston BC, Whitechapel & Inglewhite BC and Eagle & Child BC) are operating at or above the recommended capacity levels and therefore need to be monitored to ensure that supply remains adequate. It should be noted that there is currently no quality issues identified at these three sites with all three clubs accessing good quality bowling greens.

Conversely, Tatton BC is currently accommodating 19 members which is below to the recommendation (20 members) to be considered sustainable and therefore needs to be monitored to ensure long-term survival of the club. It should be noted that the Club currently access a standard quality bowling green, therefore improving the bowling green at this site could attract more members to help sustain it.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ Of the responding clubs, all but eight (Croston Black Horse BC, Withnell Fold Bowling Club, Acregate Labour BC, Longton Victory Memorial BC, Fox Lane BC, Higher Walton BC, Vernon's Bowling Club and Lostock Hall Cons BC) are currently operating within a 'sustainable' membership range.
- ◀ Total membership for the 12 responsive clubs equates to 628. Of these clubs, eight highlight aspirations to increase membership. These clubs all suggest that future demand can adequately be accommodated on their existing green.

Supply summary

- ◀ There are 64 crown bowling greens and one flat bowling green identified across Central Lancashire across 62 sites with the only flat green located at Moor Park in Preston following development work to reinstate the green.
- ◀ Of these, 40 greens are serviced with sports lighting. Of the 65 bowling greens, 28 greens are in Chorley, 20 greens are in Preston, and 17 greens are in South Ribble.
- ◀ Since the previous study, 15 greens are now considered disused.
- ◀ Of the bowling greens located in Chorley, 15 (52%) are assessed as good quality, 11 (37%) as standard quality and two (11%) as poor quality.
- ◀ In Preston, seven (44%) bowling greens are assessed as good quality, 10 (50%) as standard quality and one (6%) as poor quality.
- ◀ Of the bowling greens located in South Ribble, 15 (88%) are assessed as good quality, one (6%) as standard quality and one (6%) as poor quality.
- ◀ Across Central Lancashire, 27 (46%) sites are accompanied by good quality facilities, with 22 (39%) sites having standard quality facilities and eight (15%) sites having poor quality facilities.
- ◀ Across Central Lancashire, 40 greens are serviced by sports lighting with 14 greens identified in Chorley and 13 greens in both Preston and South Ribble respectively.

Demand summary

- ◀ There are 51 bowling clubs identified as playing across Central Lancashire although only 12 clubs have responded to consultation requests to date and given membership figures. Total membership for the 12 responsive clubs equates to 628.
- ◀ The largest club according to known membership is currently Longton Victory Memorial BC in South Ribble, with 119 members.
- ◀ Of the responding clubs, eight (Lostock Hall Cons BC, Longton Victory Memorial BC, Higher Walton BC, Fox Lane BC, Vernon's Bowling Club, Withnell Fold Bowling Club, Tatton BC and Whitechapel & Inglewhite BC) highlights plans to increase membership, however, only seven quantify an amount equating to 84 members collectively.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 10: TENNIS

10.1: Introduction

The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) is the organisation responsible for the governance of tennis and administers the sport locally across Central Lancashire. It has recently restructured its strategic approach to target several national focus areas, with a priority on developing the sport at park sites.

Consultation

There are 15 tennis clubs playing across Central Lancashire with five located in Chorley, seven in Preston and three in South Ribble. Current response rates are included within the table below, continued efforts are being made to obtain additional responses with support from the Council and the LTA.

Table 10.1: Summary of consultation

Name of club	Responded
Mawdesley Tennis Club	Yes
Croston Tennis Club	No
Chorley Tennis Club	No
Houghton Family TC	No
Withnell Fold Sports & Social Club	No
Chorley total	1/5 or 20%
Barton & Myerscough TC	No
Broughton & District Club	Yes
Fulwood Lawn TC	Yes
Goosnargh TC	No
Springfields TC	No
Tulketh Community TC	No
Woodplumpton TC	No
Preston total	2/7 or 29%
Leyland Lawn TC	Yes
Longton Memorial TC	No
Penwortham TC	No
South Ribble total	1/3 or 33%

10.2: Supply

There are 134 tennis courts identified in Central Lancashire across 39 sites with 43 courts found in Chorley, 51 courts in Preston and 40 courts identified in South Ribble. Of these, 86 courts are available for community use (33 courts in Chorley, 37 courts in Preston and 17 courts in South Ribble).

Table 10.2: Summary of the number of courts by local authority

Analysis area	No. of courts available for community use	No. of courts unavailable for community use
2018	-	-
Chorley	37	14
Preston	36	24
South Ribble	31	14

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Table 10.3: Tennis courts across Central Lancashire

Site ID	Active Places Power ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Ownership	Community use?	No. of courts	Sports lighting?	Surface type	Court quality
Chorley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
171	1201745	Albany Science College	PR7 3AY	Chorley Central	Education	No	6	No	Macadam	Poor
174	6006735	Astley Park	PR7 1NP	Chorley Central	Local Authority	Yes	3	No	Macadam	Standard
177	1203346	Bishop Rawstone C of E Language College	PR26 9HH	Chorley West	Education	Yes	4	No	Macadam	Good
179	6020897	Bretherton Recreation Ground	PR26 9AB	Chorley West	Local Authority	Yes	1	No	Macadam	Poor
191	1208081	Chorley Cricket Club (Windsor Park)	PR7 1LG	Chorley Central	Sports Club	Yes	5	Yes	Macadam	Good
199	1042965	Coronation Recreation Ground	PR7 2DJ	Chorley Central	Local Authority	Yes	1	No	Macadam	Standard
200	1040868	Croston Sports Club	PR26 9RR	Chorley Central	Sports Club	Yes	3	No	Macadam	Good
219	1040865	Houghton Cricket Club	PR5 0SG	Chorley East	Sports Club	Yes	2	No	Macadam	Poor
227	-	Mawdesley Hall	L40 2QT	Chorley West	Sports Club	Yes	4	Yes	Artificial turf	Good
229	1008060	Parklands High School	PR7 1LL	Chorley Central	Education	No	4	No	Macadam	Good
237	1201754	St Michael's CE High School	PR7 1RS	Chorley Central	Education	Yes	4	No	Macadam	Good
249	1041113	Withnell Fold Sports & Social Club	PR6 8BA	Chorley East	Sports Club	Yes	2	Yes	Macadam	Good
280	1001591	David Lloyd Club (Chorley)	PR6 8AB	Chorley East	Sports Club	Yes	3	No	Artificial turf	Good
280	1001591	David Lloyd Club (Chorley)	PR6 8AB	Chorley East	Sports Club	Yes	1	Yes	Artificial turf	Good
Preston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	1201330	Archbishop Temple High School	PR2 8RA	Preston North East	Education	No	3	No	Macadam	Standard
3	6004979	Ashton Park	PR2 1LH	Preston South	Local Authority	Yes	2	No	Macadam	Good
8	1201203	Broughton Business Enterprise College & High School	PR3 5JJ	Preston North West	Education	No	3	No	Macadam	Standard
13	1201769	Corpus Christi Catholic High School	PR2 8QY	Preston North East	Education	No	4	No	Macadam	Poor
17	-	Frenchwood Recreation Ground	PR1 4LX	Preston South	Charity	Yes	1	No	Macadam	Standard
19	1201441	Fulwood Academy	PR2 9YR	Preston North West	Education	No	4	No	Clay	Poor
33	1042964	Haslam Park	PR2 1JD	Preston North West	Local Authority	Yes	3	No	Macadam	Good
48	1208500	Moor Park	PR1 6DT	Preston South	Local Authority	Yes	6	No	Macadam	Good
48	1208500	Moor Park	PR1 6DT	Preston South	Local Authority	Yes	1	No	Macadam	Poor
59	1004645	University of Lancashire	PR2 1SG	Preston North West	Education	Yes	4	Yes	Macadam	Good
286	-	Barton & Myerscough Tennis Club	PR3 5AL	Preston North East	Sport Club	Yes	2	Yes	Macadam	Good
290	1037864	Broughton & District Club	PR3 5DA	Preston North West	Sport Club	Yes	5	Yes	Macadam	Good
290	1037864	Broughton & District Club	PR3 5DA	Preston North West	Sport Club	Yes	2	Yes	Clay	Good
296	1042927	Woodplumpton & District Tennis Club	PR4 0RU	Preston North West	Sport Club	Yes	2	Yes	Macadam	Standard
312	-	Whitechapel & Inglewhite (Whitechapel Village Hall)	PR3 2EX	Preston North East	Parish Council	Yes	3	No	Artificial turf	Standard
313	-	Fulwood Tennis Club	PR2 8DY	Preston North East	Sport Club	Yes	4	Yes	Artificial turf	Good
314	-	Goosenargh Tennis Club	PR3 2BN	Preston North East	Sport Club	Yes	2	Yes	Macadam	Standard
South Ribble	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	Longton Victory Memorial Ground	PR4 5YA	South Ribble Western Parishes	Local Authority	Yes	2	Yes	Macadam	Good
85	1201338	All Hallows Catholic High School	PR1 0LN	South Ribble Penwortham	Education	No	3	No	Macadam	Standard
87	1203212	Balshaw's C of E High School	PR25 3AH	South Ribble Leyland	Education	No	4	No	Macadam	Poor
99	1208495	Fox Lane Sports and Social Club	PR25 1HB	South Ribble Leyland	Sport Club	Yes	3	Yes	Macadam	Good
99	1208495	Fox Lane Sports and Social Club	PR25 1HB	South Ribble Leyland	Sport Club	Yes	1	No	Macadam	Poor
120	6005300	Lostock Hall Academy	PR5 5UR	South Ribble Central	Education	No	3	No	Macadam	Good
129	6005275	Much Hoole Playing Field (Hoole Village Memorial Hall)	PR4 4QA	South Ribble Western Parishes	Local Authority	Yes	3	No	Macadam	Poor
137	1201129	Penwortham Girls High School	PR1 0SR	South Ribble Penwortham	Education	No	4	No	Macadam	Poor
146	1009054	Runshaw College	PR25 3DQ	South Ribble Leyland	Education	No	2	No	Macadam	Poor
164	1201632	Wellfield Academy (Wellfield Business and Enterprise College & High School)	PR25 2TP	South Ribble Leyland	Education	No	4	No	Macadam	Poor

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Active Places Power ID	Site name	Postcode	Analysis area	Ownership	Community use?	No. of courts	Sports lighting?	Surface type	Court quality
256	30009478	Penwortham Priory Academy	PR1 0JE	South Ribble Penwortham	Education	Yes	3	Yes	Macadam	Standard
259	1201732	Brownedge St Mary's Catholic High School	PR5 6PB	South Ribble Eastern	Education	No	3	No	Macadam	Poor
305	30004202	Penwortham Lawn Tennis Club	PR4 4BH	South Ribble Western Parishes	Sports Club	Yes	5	Yes	Artificial turf	Good

DRAFT

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Changes to provision (2018 – 2025)

The table below summarises the tennis courts identified in the previous PPS (2018) but not counted within this PPOSS and the supply table totalling 43 courts. Details surrounding these sites are outlined in detail below.

Table 10.4: Summary of tennis courts identified in previous PPS but not in this PPOSS

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Postcode	Comments
-	Chorley	-	-	-
181	Brinscall Village Junior Football Club	Chorley East	PR6 8PY	Previous PPS identified two tennis courts, however, these courts are now disused.
220	Holy Cross High School	Chorley Central	PR7 3LS	Previous PPS identified two tennis courts, however, now only netball courts are marked out.
269	Rivington & Blackrod High School	Chorley Central	BL6 7RU	Previous PPS identified six tennis courts, however, now only netball courts are marked out.
-	Preston	-	-	-
1	Archbishop Temple High School	Preston North East	PR2 8RA	Previous PPS identified seven tennis courts, however, now only three courts are provided.
2	Ashton Community Science College	Preston North West	PR2 1SL	Previous PPS identified four tennis courts, however, now only netball courts are marked out.
8	Broughton Business Enterprise College & High School	Preston North West	PR3 5JJ	Previous PPS identified six tennis courts, however, now only three courts are provided.
53	Sit Tom Finney Community High School (Preston City High School)	Preston North East	PR2 6EE	Previous PPS identified three tennis courts, however, these courts have been replaced with a small sided 3G pitch.
80	Playfootball (Preston)	Preston North West	PR2 3TX	Previous PPS identified three tennis courts, however, these courts have now been replaced with carparking.
-	South Ribble	-	-	-
109	Hutton C of E Grammar School (off site)	South Ribble Western Parishes	PR4 5SE	Previous PPS identified four tennis courts, however, these courts are now disused.
120	Lostock Hall Academy	South Ribble Central	PR5 5UR	Previous PPS identified four tennis courts, however, now only three courts are provided.
315	Hutton Playing Field	South Ribble Western Parishes	PR4 5SE	Previous PPS identified two tennis courts, however, these courts are now disused.

Potential loss of provision

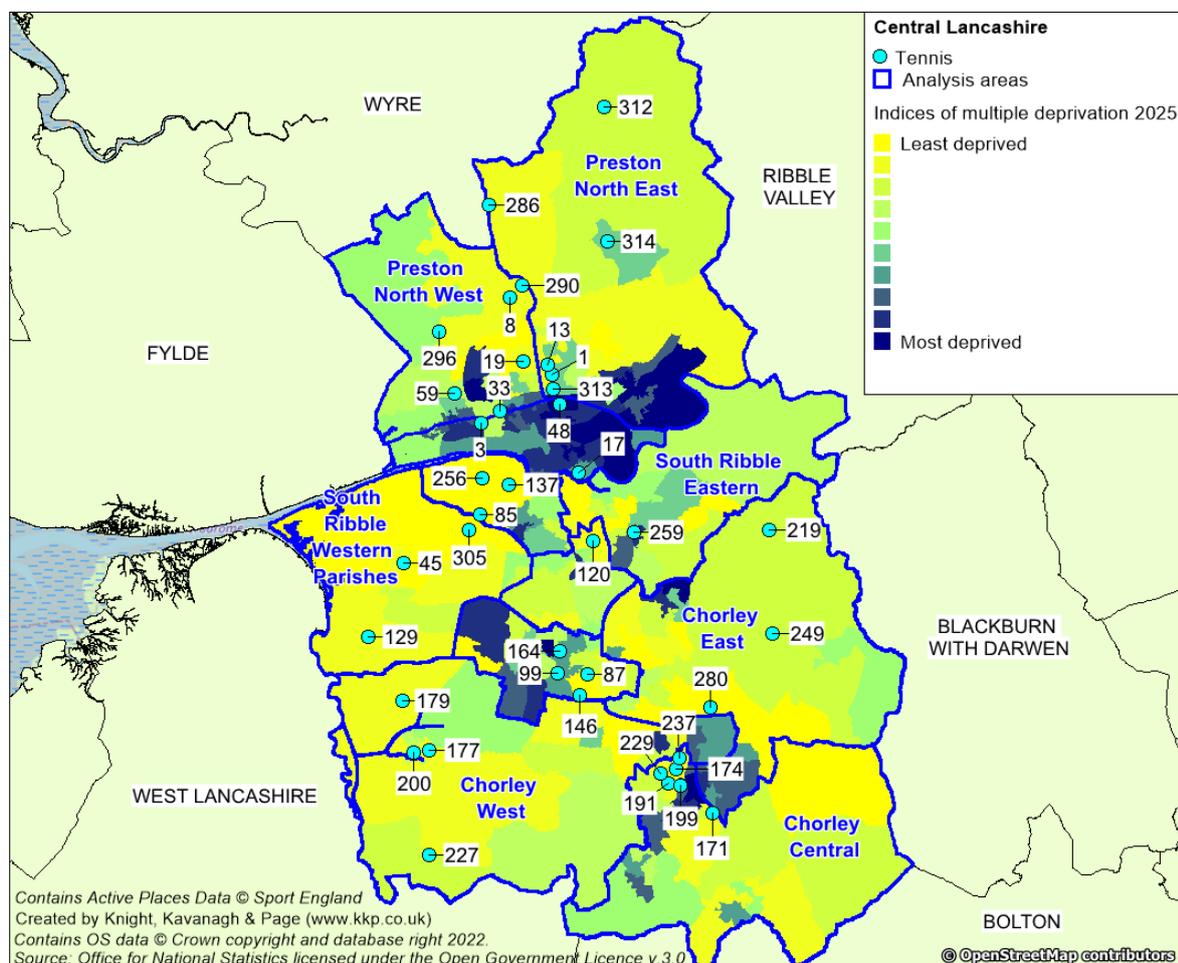
There is a current planning application for the creation of two new padel courts located at David Lloyd Club (Chorley). It should be noted that the proposed location would result in the loss of two of the four tennis courts.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)

The figure below shows all active tennis courts located in the more deprived area across Central Lancashire can be seen in the map below.

Figure 10.2: Location of tennis courts against IMD



Future supply

A planning application has recently been approved for the creation of new tennis courts as part of the new Whittingham and Goosnargh Sports and Social Club redevelopment. The proposed new facility will include new pavilion, one senior football pitch, tennis court and retention of existing bowling green.

Management and security of tenure

The table below highlights the management of tennis courts across Central Lancashire. Most tennis courts are operated by education providers (62 or 47%), this is closely followed by 46 (35%) tennis courts operated by sports clubs. There are 22 (16%) tennis courts which are managed by the Council and three (2%) courts managed by a town/parish council.

Table 10.5: Tennis courts by management type

Community use?	Sports club	Local Authority	Education	Parish/town Council
Available	46	22	15	3

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Community use?	Sports club	Local Authority	Education	Parish/town Council
Unavailable	-	-	47	-
Total	46	22	62	3

Court type

Most outdoor tennis courts across Central Lancashire have a macadam surface, with 108 being of this type and 65 of these being available for community use. The estimated lifespan of a macadam court is ten years, depending on levels of use and maintenance levels. Additionally, six courts have a clay surface with two of this courts being available for community use.

There are 20 courts with an artificial surface provided with all 20 of these being available for community use. The estimated lifespan of such provision is similar to that of a macadam surface, although it generally allows for greater levels of access, especially during inclement weather spells. Nevertheless, the cost of resurfacing the courts is usually more expensive and more regular maintenance is required, due to multi-sport activity on the surface which will increase the required maintenance with this also likely to reduce the surface lifespan.

Sports lighting

Courts with sports lighting enable use throughout the year and are identified by the LTA as being a key priority for growing participation nationally. The LTA reports that sports lighting allow for a 35% increase in available court time on an annual basis.

Across Central Lancashire, 46 tennis courts are serviced by sports lights, representing just 35% of the provision.

A lack of sports lighting at many of the school sites presents a key reason as to why many of the courts are unavailable for community use.

Access to courts with sports lighting is considered particularly key at parks and club sites as it allows for more usage of provision. The LTA aspires to add sports lighting to tennis courts located at park sites. To that end, it must be noted that not all tennis clubs across Central Lancashire have access to sports lit courts with the courts located at Croston Sports Club not provided with sports lighting.

The table below breaks down the number of courts which are available for community use and provide sports lighting by analysis area.

Table 10.6: Summary of the number of courts which have sports lighting by analysis area

Analysis area	No. of courts which have sports lighting	No. of courts which don't have sports lighting
Central	5	21
East	3	5
West	4	5
Chorley – Total	12	31
North East	8	10
North West	13	10
South	-	10
Preston - Total	21	30
Central	-	3
Eastern	-	3

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Analysis area	No. of courts which have sports lighting	No. of courts which don't have sports lighting
Leyland	3	11
Penwortham	3	7
Western Parishes	7	3
South Ribble – Total	13	27
Central Lancashire	46	88

Majority of clubs in Central Lancashire are access courts which are provided with sports lighting with only Croston TC (Croston Sports Club) and Houghton Family TC (Houghton Cricket Club) utilising non sport lit courts.

LTA Quick Access Loan Scheme³¹

The LTA's mission is to grow tennis and padel by making them accessible, welcoming, and enjoyable. Ensuring local communities have access to quality facilities is critical to attracting and retaining more players. As such, the LTA's Quick Access Loan Scheme aims to provide interest-free loans to support venues investment in facilities, prioritising the installation and construction of covered courts.

The objectives of the fund are to:

- ✦ Provide covered or sports-lit playing facilities to encourage community accessible play all year.
- ✦ Retain and increase the number of participants at the venue.
- ✦ Offer and increase both non-members pay and play usage and coaching opportunities.
- ✦ Grow the numbers of adults and juniors on the coaching programme.
- ✦ Provide seamless booking of tennis courts and lessons through an [online booking system](#).

As part of the fund, the LTA will fund:

- ✦ Lighting upgrades to LED (outdoor and indoor).
- ✦ New sports lights.
- ✦ New court provision.
- ✦ Outdoor padel courts.
- ✦ Covered padel (courts and cover).
- ✦ Covered tennis courts.

Over marking

Tennis courts, particularly within school, are often over marked by netball, basketball and/or football courts. Courts which are over marked tend to receive higher level of use which can be detrimental to quality over time, as well as creating capacity issues if there is community demand from more than one sport.

Of the 134 courts, 60 courts (45%) are overmarked by netball provision, with 19 courts located in Chorley, 18 in Preston and 23 in South Ribble.

³¹ [Quick Access Loan Scheme for tennis facilities \(lta.org.uk\)](#)

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Quality

The quality of tennis courts has been informed through non-technical site assessments (July 2025) and consultation with providers/clubs to assign each court a rating of good, standard or poor. Key aspects informing the findings include surface quality, grip underfoot, line marking quality, evenness, and evidence of inappropriate use (e.g., vandalism and/or littering). For the full assessment criteria, please refer to Appendix 2.

Of the community available courts in Chorley, 26 (79%) are assessed as good quality, four (12%) as standard quality and three (9%) as poor quality.

Across Preston, 28 (78%) are assessed as good quality, eight (19%) as standard quality and one (3%) as poor quality.

Within South Ribble, 10 (59%) are assessed as good quality, three (18%) as standard quality and four (23%) as poor quality.

Table 10.7: Quality of community available tennis courts across Central Lancashire

Community use?	Good	Standard	Poor
2018	-	-	-
Chorley	25	11	1
Preston	17	8	11
South Ribble	4	18	9
Central Lancashire	46	37	21
2025	-	-	-
Chorley	26	4	3
Preston	28	8	1
South Ribble	10	3	4
Central Lancashire	64	15	8

Although assessed as good quality, it should be noted that significant damage was evident to one of the three tennis courts at Haslam Park caused by motorbikes. The Council is in the process of repairing the damage to the affected court.

Leyland Lawn Tennis Club aspires to resurface one of its courts to allow for either pickleball or padel use. Additionally, Broughton and District Tennis Club highlights plans to repaint two of its courts in the coming months.

The courts assessed as poor quality and available for community use are identified at two sports club sites (Houghton Cricket Club and Fox Lane Sports and Social Club) three local authority sites with the latter being Bretherton Recreation Ground (Chorley), Moor Park (Preston) and Much Hoole Playing Fields (South Ribble).

Issues recorded at these sites include poor grip underfoot, the presence of moss, worn line markings and loose gravel, with maintenance also considered to be basic and infrequent at these sites. This leads to further deterioration in quality.

Across the 15 clubs in Central Lancashire, majority are serviced with good quality tennis courts apart from Woodplumpton & District TC (Woodplumpton & District Tennis Club), Goosenargh TC (Goosenargh Tennis Club), Leyland Lawn TC (Fox Lane Sports and Social Club) and Houghton Family TC (Houghton Cricket Club) with the latter two sites assessed as poor quality.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

A planning application is soon to be submitted for the redevelopment of Wellfield Academy including demolishing and replacing the currently school building. The area of the playing field which will be lost following the redevelopment will be re provided elsewhere onsite. It is yet unknown if the tennis courts will be refurbished and provided with sports lighting.

Renovation fund³²

The LTA secured a £22 million investment fund to be put into park tennis courts across Britain, together with an £8.5 million investment from the LTA. This has seen thousands of public park tennis courts that are in poor or unplayable condition improved for the benefit of the local communities.

The LTA's ambition is to drive participation across park tennis sites, as well as ensuring the future sustainability of these facilities. As well as paying for the refurbishment of public park courts, the new investment requires the implementation of sustainable operating models for the facilities, to maintain the quality of the courts for the future, with activities to optimise community utilisation. The LTA is looking for sites to offer a Barclays Big Tennis Weekend event, Free Parks Tennis session and offer a Local Tennis League.

Ancillary provision

Of the responding clubs, both Leyland Lawn Tennis Club and Fulwood Lawn Tennis Club reports its serviced with good quality ancillary facilities with both Broughton & District Tennis Club and Mawdesley Tennis Club serviced with standard quality ancillary facilities.

Broughton and District Tennis Club highlights plans to upgrade its pavilion and is in the process of repainting the interior.

For non-club courts, ancillary provision is generally considered to be problematic, most of the sites do provide changing facilities and/or toilets, they are not specific for tennis and are generally too far away from the courts to be realistically used. Often, the facilities predominately service football/cricket pitch users and therefore are not readily available or suited to tennis court users. In some instances, quality is also poor.

Insight from the LTA indicates good quality ancillary facilities such as toilets, changing rooms and cafes encourage players to visit community available provision and stay for extended periods of time. Therefore, a potential way to increase usage of such provision would be to invest in suitable ancillary amenities, which can then also provide a source of income.

10.3: Demand

Competitive tennis

Of the responding clubs, there is a total of 1,586 members. As a breakdown, this equates to 793 senior members and 260 junior members as seen in the table below. As a comparison to the previous PPS (2018), this sees an overall increase amounting to 225 members.

Membership figures are currently unknown for the remaining outstanding clubs.

³²[Renovation Fund for tennis facilities \(lta.org.uk\)](https://www.lta.org.uk)

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 10.8: Current tennis demand by club (responded clubs)

Club	Total members (2018)	Total members (2025)	No. of senior members (2025)	No of junior members (2025)
Chorley	-	-	-	-
Mawdesley TC	170	136	72	64
Preston	-	-	-	-
Broughton and District TC	180	390	260	130
Fulwood Lawn TC	130	195	160	35
South Ribble	-	-	-	-
Leyland Lawn TC	88	72	41	31
Total	568	793	533	260

Participation trends

Nationally, the LTA has announced participation figures for 2022 showing sustained success in getting more people playing tennis more often, with growth across all demographics, regions and nations of Great Britain. This is particularly amongst 16-34 year-olds and those from lower socio-economic backgrounds.

The number of adults reporting that they had played tennis during the year increased 43% compared to the previous year (2021), rising from 3.3 million to 4.7 million from January through to December. This is the highest total recorded since 2017 and has continued the growth seen in 2018-19 before being interrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

In addition, more than two million adults play monthly, and this is the highest level recorded since the LTA started tracking this measure seven years ago. This means that the LTA has achieved the targets set out in its five-year 2018-23 strategy for adult annual and monthly participation one year ahead of schedule.

Finally, children's weekly participation in tennis has seen positive growth in the past year with over three and a half million children playing tennis and with an extra 328,000 children playing tennis in schools.

Broughton and District TC reports that demand has increased over recent years by roughly 100 senior members and 60 junior members. Conversely, both Fulwood Lawn TC and Mawdesley TC highlights that demand has decreased over recent years largely due to the Covid pandemic.

Additionally, Leyland Lawn TC highlight its membership has remained static over recent years due to losing some members but also gaining new members.

Informal and parks tennis

The LTA has developed a package of support for local authorities and other providers to grow the use of tennis courts by removing key barriers to participation. The three products are ClubSpark, Play and Gate Access, which are further detailed below.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

ClubSpark – Improving the booking process

ClubSpark is a flexible and simple venue management platform with multiple products and applications to help venues, local authorities and coaches manage their sport. ClubSpark is a tool that is offered for free as part of LTA venue registration and allows administrators to manage all functions at their venue(s), including:

- ◆ Managed website - create and manage a mobile friendly website tailored to LA/club requirements to promote events and activities.
- ◆ Managed coaching – set up coaching lessons and courses online.
- ◆ Membership management - improve membership engagement by making it easier for the venue and for members to pay, renew and keep in touch (includes online payments, direct debits and the monitoring of revenue streams; membership modules can also be used to take season ticket payments for venues operating a non-traditional annual facility fee).
- ◆ Organise payments - set the way payments are taken, whether it's immediate pay and play, or bookable as part of a membership package.
- ◆ Court bookings – reduced administration for managing bookings; give staff, coaches, members and the general public access to book and pay for courts, classes or other resources online.
- ◆ Scheduling - set unique booking and price rules to suit the venue and enable lights to switch on/off automatically when linked to the LTA Premium Gate Access system.
- ◆ Book and pay remotely - customers can make bookings and payments for a venue anytime, anywhere via the real-time booking app.
- ◆ Reporting - ClubSpark allows administrators to view reports highlighting income, court usage, revenue and number of members and season ticket holders; this allows for identification of trends and patterns and evidence to demonstrate participation levels and impact.

LTA Play

LTA Play is an aggregator that collects all booking and coaching information via ClubSpark pages and displays it for participants in one easy to view page. It allows players to search for venues close to them and provides booking options, removing the barriers of not knowing where courts are or how to book.

LTA Play provides a helpful customer journey, with a personal profile to review and manage bookings, and helpful reminders. Courts can be set to book for free of charge or at a fee agreed by the provider.

Smart Access

The LTA has developed two Smart Access gate access systems that work in association with ClubSpark to secure courts and to allow access to booked customers only. Members of the public can book a court online (making payment if required) and receive a four digit access code via email to enter using a courtside keypad. The gate access system then allows entry for the time booked if a correct code is entered.

There are two gate options available: SmartAccess Premium and SmartAccess Lite. The demands and needs of users plus the setup of the venue determines the most appropriate system for each site.

Nationally, the LTA report that in the last three years, sites with a gate access system installed have attracted 64,841 unique players, leading to 609,671 courts being booked. This has generated income of over £1 million.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Additional demand

The LTA has a variety of initiatives to attract and retain players, thereby growing court demand. There are different formats that provide opportunities for tennis to be fully inclusive. These are all detailed below.

*Barclays Local Tennis League (Parks)*³³

Parks local tennis league provides adults with a fun and local competitive opportunity against players of a similar ability. Beginner tennis leagues are being activated around key parks for players who are new to the game.

Across Central Lancashire, there is the Preston Tennis League that takes place.

Barclays Free Park Tennis

FPT is a requirement offer for LA key sites as part of the Parks Investment but is also encouraged at sites with no capital investment. It provides a weekly community play opportunity for juniors and adults

We Do Tennis has partnered with Preston City Council to host Free Park Tennis sessions in Preston located at Moor Park every Saturday from 10am.

Barclays Big Tennis Weekend

The LTA Big Tennis Weekend is an LTA initiative which all registered venues can access. Clubs and venues have the ability to sign up to host open days, which are free of charge, and create a relaxed and welcoming environment for those new to tennis to participate. This in turn can potentially lead to the clubs attracting new members.

The LTA hosts three dedicated weekends a year (in May, July and September) that are the UK's biggest public tennis events. Furthermore, venues are able to run additional events outside these dates and will benefit from their events being promoted on the national LTA campaign website. All clubs running an open day are asked to promote a follow-on offer to all attendees, such as a reduced rate introductory membership or a number of free coaching sessions, to encourage people to continue playing after the event.

We Do Tennis has partnered with Preston City Council to host a Big Tennis Weekend in Preston; however, the date or location is yet to be confirmed.

LTA Youth Programmes

The LTA provides children with the perfect opportunity to learn the fundamentals of tennis at an early age. Designed for children aged between 4-10, mini tennis utilises smaller courts, nets and rackets as well as lower-bouncing tennis balls to develop vital tennis skills and techniques.

The game is split out into five levels, with the LTA stating that each stage has key aims and goals as follows:

- ◀ Blue Stage: Age 4-6 – learn the basics.
- ◀ Red Stage: Age 6-8 – serve, rally and score.
- ◀ Orange Stage: Age 8-9 – develop a rounded game.
- ◀ Green Stage: Age 9-10 – test your skills.
- ◀ Yellow Stage: Age 10+ - take your skills further.

³³ [Play in a Barclays Local Tennis League | LTA](#)

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

No mini tennis courts have been identified across Central Lancashire.

Latent/unmet demand

Latent demand for tennis nationally is reported to be high by the LTA, which has an insight tool that suggests that 18% of the five million players that pick up a racket each year would play more often if key barriers such as poor promotion of opportunities to get on court, unclear booking journeys (especially those that are 'offline') and low quality facilities were addressed.

Furthermore, the LTA conducted some research to understand how the public feels about tennis and the main barriers to accessing the sport. The research was split into club, community and education sectors, the headline findings of which are below:

- ◀ Around five million people play once per year with the majority of this in parks.
- ◀ 46% of tennis played by those 14 years is on park courts.
- ◀ 80% of those that do not play tennis but would like to see parks as their first option.
- ◀ Barriers preventing use of courts located in parks include the quality of the courts, ease of booking and the number of courts available to play.
- ◀ Demand for tennis amongst those who stopped playing in the last five years is from 14 upwards.
- ◀ Although there is demand for tennis amongst working class individuals, the highest latent demand is from upper middle, middle and lower middle classes.

Further research carried out by the LTA suggests that many more people would play tennis if they knew where courts were located, particularly local authority courts. Its assertion is that better promotion would increase demand.

Responding clubs report that existing membership can be accommodated on the current level of provision available to them and that no potential members are being turned away due to capacity issues. As such, no clubs report any latent or unmet demand, with the majority actively trying to recruit new members.

This suggests that the latent demand identified through other methods is for non-club activity, or that other barriers aside from facilities are preventing activity.

Future demand

Of the responding clubs, Mawdesley TC plans to increase its membership by 15 senior members and 25 junior members with Leyland Lawn TC planning to increase its membership by five senior members and five junior members.

Away from club-based demand, it is considered that all remaining future demand will be picked up via the latent/unmet demand noted above and attracted to non-club and particularly Council courts. Therefore, protecting and improving existing facilities will be important in accommodate any future demand.

The Sport England Sports Facility Calculator (SFC) is an interactive tool which allows its user to help quantify the additional demand for key community sports facilities created by a new population. The SFC has been used to quantify how many new tennis courts would be needed to account for ONS based population projection rather than the growth associated with new housing developments in the district and therefore will not fully account for housing growth. The calculation results show that there is a need for an extra 0.94 tennis courts in Chorley at a cost of £104,419, with an extra 1.24 tennis courts in Preston at a cost of £138,401 and an extra 0.61 courts in South Ribble at a cost of £68,198.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

10.4: Supply and demand analysis

For club-based tennis, the LTA suggests that non-sports lit courts can accommodate a maximum of 40 members, whereas courts with sports lighting can accommodate 60 members. Using this, the table below identifies the capacity balance at all sites currently used by clubs, taking into account current demand.

As some clubs are currently unresponsive to consultation requests current demand is unknown at those clubs.

Table 10.9: Capacity analysis (club courts)

Site ID	Site	Club users	Available for community use?	Current demand (members)	Current capacity (members)	Capacity balance (members)
-	Chorley	-	-	-	-	-
227	Mawdesley Hall	Mawdesley TC	Yes	136	240	104
-	Preston	-	-	-	-	-
290	Broughton & District Club	Broughton & District TC	Yes	390	420	30
313	Fulwood Tennis Club	Fulwood Lawn TC	Yes	195	240	45
-	South Ribble	-	-	-	-	-
99	Fox Lane Sports and Social Club	Leyland Lawn TC	Yes	72	220	148

As seen in the table above, Mawdesley TC, Broughton and District TC, Fulwood Lawn TC and Leyland Lawn TC all have sufficient capacity to accommodate its membership both now and in the future. However, it should be noted that one court at Fox Lane Sports and Social Club is currently poor quality and is in need of refurbishment to continue to safely accommodate tennis demand.

Further investigation is required to determine capacity at the remaining clubs which are currently unresponsive to consultation requests.

Away from clubs, although no courts are identified as having any capacity issues, precedence should be placed on improving the supply in ways that can meet unmet and latent demand identified at sites such as Bretherton Recreation Ground (Chorley), Moor Park (Preston) and Much Hoole Playing Field (South Ribble).

10.5: Conclusion

In conclusion, where known through consultation, Mawdesley TC, Broughton and District TC, Fulwood Lawn TC and Leyland Lawn TC all have sufficient capacity to facilitate club demand both now and in the future. It should be noted that one tennis court located at Fox Lane Sports and Social Club is currently poor quality and is in need of refurbishment.

For non-club courts, whilst no courts are identified as having any capacity issues, it cannot be said that supply is sufficient to meet demand due to the amount of unmet and latent demand evidenced both nationally and in the Authority. There is instead a clear need to improve and retain the current supply in ways that can attract and better accommodate more users at sites such as Bretherton Recreation Ground (Chorley), Moor Park (Preston) and Much Hoole Playing Field (South Ribble). This should include improving the current quality of court provision, and in addition enhancing levels of sports lighting to allow for more usage.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Supply and demand summary

- For club-based tennis, where known through consultation, Mawdesley TC, Broughton and District TC, Fulwood Lawn TC and Leyland Lawn TC all have sufficient capacity to facilitate club demand both now and in the future. It should be noted that one tennis court located at Fox Lane Sports and Social Club is currently poor quality and is in need of refurbishment.
- For non-club courts, whilst no courts are identified as having any capacity issues, it cannot be said that supply is sufficient to meet demand due to the amount of unmet and latent demand evidenced both nationally and in the Authority. There is instead a clear need to improve and retain the current supply in ways that can attract and better accommodate more users at sites such as Bretherton Recreation Ground (Chorley), Moor Park (Preston) and Much Hoole Playing Field (South Ribble).

Supply summary

- There are 134 tennis courts identified in Central Lancashire across 39 sites with 43 courts found in Chorley, 51 courts in Preston and 40 courts identified in South Ribble. Of these, 86 courts are available for community use (33 courts in Chorley, 37 courts in Preston and 17 courts in South Ribble).
- Since the previous study, 43 courts are identified as disused.
- A planning application has recently been approved for the creation of new tennis courts as part of the new Whittingham and Goosnargh Sports and Social Club redevelopment. The proposed new facility will include new pavilion, one senior football pitch, tennis court and retention of existing bowling green.
- Most tennis courts are operated by education providers (62 or 47%), this is closely followed by 46 (35%) tennis courts operated by sports clubs. There are 22 (16%) tennis courts which are managed by the Council and three (2%) courts managed by a Parish Council.
- Across Central Lancashire, 46 tennis courts are serviced by sports lights, representing just 35% of the provision.
- Of the community available courts in Chorley, 26 (79%) are assessed as good quality, four (12%) as standard quality and three (9%) as poor quality.
- Across Preston, 28 (78%) are assessed as good quality, eight (19%) as standard quality and one (3%) as poor quality.
- Within South Ribble, 10 (59%) are assessed as good quality, three (18%) as standard quality and four (23%) as poor quality.

Demand summary

- There are 15 tennis clubs across Central Lancashire.
- Of the responding clubs, there is a total of 1,586 members. As a breakdown, this equates to 793 senior members and 260 junior members.
- Across Central Lancashire, there is the Preston Tennis League that takes place.
- We Do Tennis has partnered with Preston City Council to host Free Park Tennis sessions in Preston located at Moor Park every Saturday from 10am.
- We Do Tennis has partnered with Preston City Council to host a Big Tennis Weekend in Preston; however, the date or location is yet to be confirmed.
- Of the responding clubs, both Mawdesley TC and Leyland Lawn TC plans to increase its membership by 20 senior members and 30 junior members collectively.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 11: PADEL

11.1: Introduction

Padel tennis is relatively new to Great Britain and is growing in popularity, particularly since its recognition as a sport and integration within the LTA. It is played mainly in a doubles format on an enclosed court and can be played in groups of mixed ages and abilities. The rules are broadly the same as tennis, although you serve under-arm and the walls are used as part of the game with the ball allowed to bounce off them.

In order to grow the sport, the LTA is focused on improving the infrastructure and the coach education pathway. At the end of 2020, there were 87 courts, whereas there were 350 at the end of 2023 and 129,000 identified participants, with this illustrating significant growth. It is therefore envisaged that the infrastructure and participation in padel will continue to increase substantially in the next five years, with the LTA identifying an aim to grow the number of courts to 1,000 and the number of players to 400,000.

11.2: Supply

There are currently eight padel tennis courts in Central Lancashire, with all eight located in Preston at West View Leisure Centre (two padel courts), Broughton & District Club (two padel courts), two new courts located at Fishwick Rangers Padel and two new padel courts located at Just Padel Preston on Corporation Street.

Chorley Padel Club aspires to build a dedicated padel facility with two covered padel courts in Chorley and is in the process of speaking with the Council regarding a suitable facility. Additionally, University of Lancashire and Chorley Community Trust highlights aspiration to develop padel courts.

There is a current planning application for the creation of two padel courts located at David Lloyd Club (Chorley). It should be noted that David Lloyd is in the process of updating the internal layout as the current proposed location would result in the loss of two tennis courts. Additionally, there is a planning application for four new padel courts located at Buckshaw Village (PR7 7EL).

A planning application has recently been approved for the creation of four indoor padel courts located on Belgrave Court in Preston which is due to be open October 2025.

Additionally, a planning application has recently been submitted (06/2025/0994) to Preston City Council known as the Longridge Sports Village, with plans including a new 11v11 3G pitch, two small sided 3G pitches, six padel courts, indoor cricket nets and a new 5k Park Run route. The proposed development is located in the neighbouring authority, Ribble Valley, however given its close proximity to Preston it is likely this development could accommodate demand from Preston.

Given padel is a relatively new sport and growing fast, LTA has recently carried out a mapping exercise that sets out the level of provision that could be sustained within a local authority, based on population and demand. This model identifies that up to nine courts could be warranted in Chorley, 11 courts in Preston and nine courts in South Ribble. It should be noted that these figures (30 courts collectively) is not a limit but an analysis for community provision based on adult population which can change over the years.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

In terms of future supply, the LTA states that a variety of tennis environments can be considered, with padel courts often situated next to or managed by those running existing tennis facilities. To that end, padel court development at parks and leisure centre sites can be particularly beneficial as provision can be tied into other sports facilities and profit from an already established operating model. Furthermore, they can benefit clubs and particularly those that may be otherwise struggling due to the additional revenue that they can provide. Additionally, padel courts are often provided at commercial sites where costs are high, meaning there is a need for any new provision to provide an opportunity for all members of the community to have the opportunity to play the sport.

Notwithstanding the above, the LTA also states that it is not encouraging clubs or local authorities to convert existing tennis courts to padel courts, unless a benefit to both tennis and padel can be evidenced. This is to ensure that the provision of traditional courts remains sufficient and the growth of padel is not to the detriment of tennis.

11.3: Demand

As of the end of 2023, 129,000 people reportedly play padel more than once a year in England, which represents a significant increase compared to 2021 data when the number was 15,000. This exemplifies the continued growth of the sport and the need to ensure that such demand is being adequately catered for. One of the LTAs key strategies is to find new ways to grow participation and padel is an innovative format of tennis that is fun, flexible, easy to play and extremely sociable.

11.4: Conclusion

There are currently eight padel tennis courts across Central Lancashire, with a minimum of 30 courts identified by the LTA mapping as being needed relative to population. As mentioned above, this figure is not a limit but an analysis for community provision based on adult population which can change over the years. There is a need for provision to provide an opportunity for all members of the community where they are located, to have the opportunity to play the sport.

Given the information collated above, there is an identified need based on population demand to warrant to creation of new padel courts across Central Lancashire. Therefore, the LTA is supportive of plans for new provision to be established. However, consideration should also be given to provide playing opportunity for all members of the community.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Supply and demand summary

- There are currently eight padel tennis courts across Central Lancashire, with 30 courts identified by the LTA mapping as being needed relative to population. There is a need for provision to provide an opportunity for all members of the community where they are located, to have the opportunity to play the sport.

Supply summary

- There are currently eight padel tennis courts in Central Lancashire, with all eight located in Preston at West View Leisure Centre (two padel courts), Broughton & District Club (two padel courts), two new courts located at Fishwick Rangers Padel and two new padel courts located at Just Padel Preston on Corporation Street.
- Chorley Padel Club aspires to build a dedicated padel facility with two covered padel courts in Chorley and is in the process of speaking with the Council regarding a suitable facility.
- Additionally, University of Lancashire and Chorley Community Trust highlights aspiration to develop padel courts.
- There is a current planning application for the creation of two padel courts located at David Lloyd Club (Chorley). It should be noted that David Lloyd is in the process of updating the internal layout as the current proposed location would result in the loss of two tennis courts. Additionally, there is a planning application for four new padel courts located at Buckshaw Village (PR7 7EL).
- A planning application has recently been approved for the creation of four indoor padel courts located on Belgrave Court in Preston which is due to be open October 2025.
- Additionally, a planning application has recently been submitted (06/2025/0994) to Preston City Council known as the Longridge Sports Village, with plans including a new 11v11 3G pitch, two small sided 3G pitches, six padel courts, indoor cricket nets and a new 5k Park Run route. The proposed development is located in the neighbouring authority, Ribble Valley, however given its close proximity to Preston it is likely this development could accommodate demand from Preston.

Demand summary

- The LTA has recently carried out a mapping exercise that sets out the level of provision that could be sustained within a local authority, based on population and demand, with this identifying a need for 30 courts across Central Lancashire.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 12: NETBALL

12.1: Introduction

England Netball is the governing body with overall responsibility for ensuring the effective governance of the sport.

Whilst often played indoors, there are far more outdoor courts provided and in use by the netball community than there are indoor. Nationally, England Netball reports that the challenge is that the supply of outdoor netball courts is generally not of a good enough standard for use by the community, whilst accessibility can also be problematic.

Consultation

Key netball clubs across Central Lancashire include Chorley Inferno Netball Club, Leyland Excel Netball Club, Preston Netball Club, Newman NC and South Ribble Netball Club. Currently, Newman NC is the only Club which has responded to consultation requests.

There is also a junior England Netball member league known as the Lancashire Junior Netball League which runs from multiple venues across Central Lancashire utilising indoor courts over winter and outdoors courts over summer.

Information to inform this section of the report was primarily obtained through internet research and from consultation with England Netball.

12.2: Supply

There are 91 outdoor netball courts identified in Central Lancashire across 30 sites with 26 courts (28%) found in Chorley, 27 courts (30%) in Preston and 38 courts (42%) identified in South Ribble. Of these, 48 courts are available for community use (23 courts in Chorley, 11 courts in Preston and 12 courts in South Ribble).

It should be noted that a comparison to 2018 cannot be made throughout this section as netball wasn't included in the previous study.

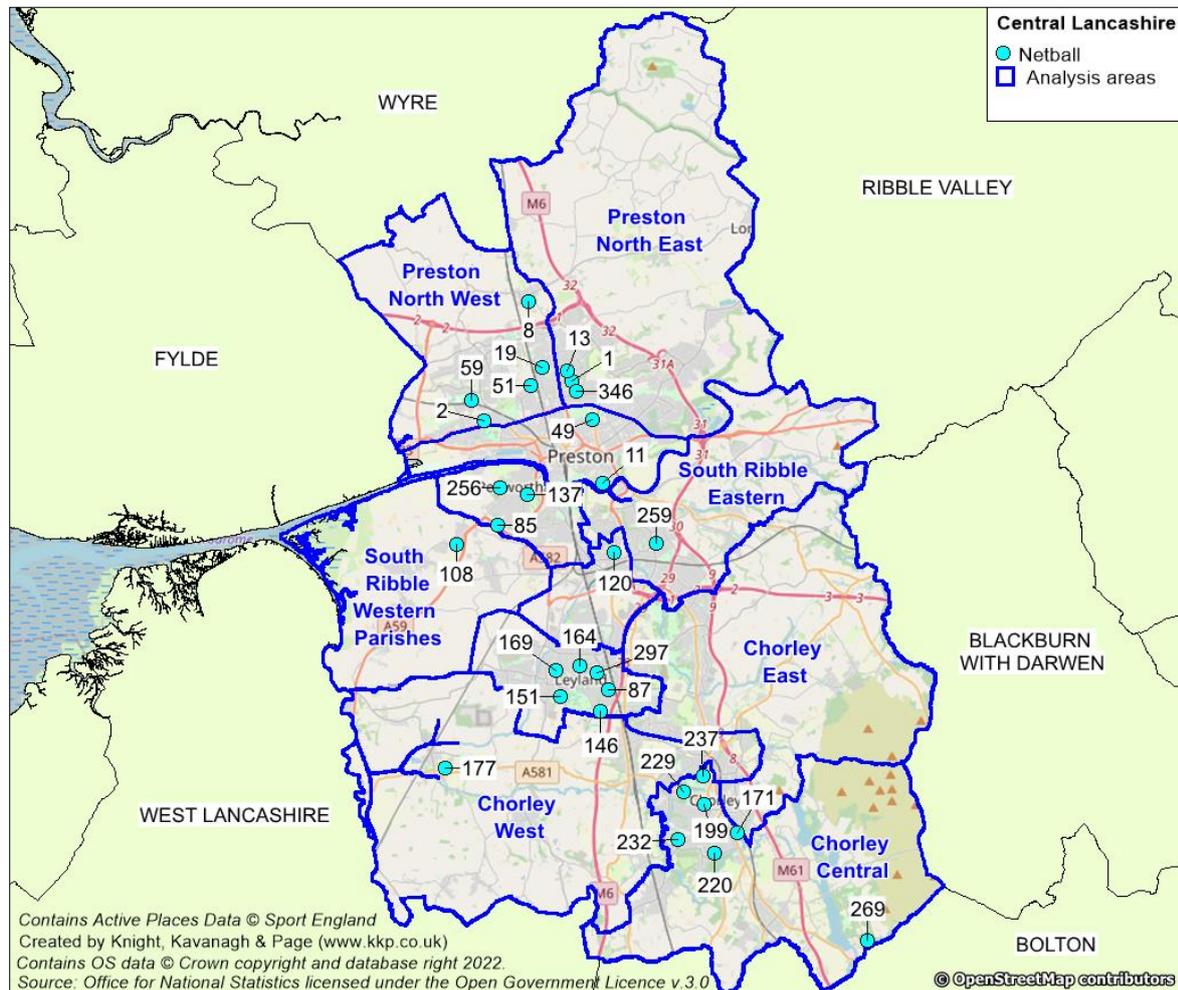
Table 12.1: Summary of the number of courts by analysis area

Local Authority	No. of courts available for community use	No. of courts unavailable for community use
Chorley	23	3
Preston	11	16
South Ribble	14	24
Central Lancashire	48	43

For a site-by-site breakdown of the courts supplied across Central Lancashire, please refer to Table 12.2 and Figure 12.1 below.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Figure 12.1: Location of netball courts across Central Lancashire



**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Table 12.2: Netball courts across Central Lancashire

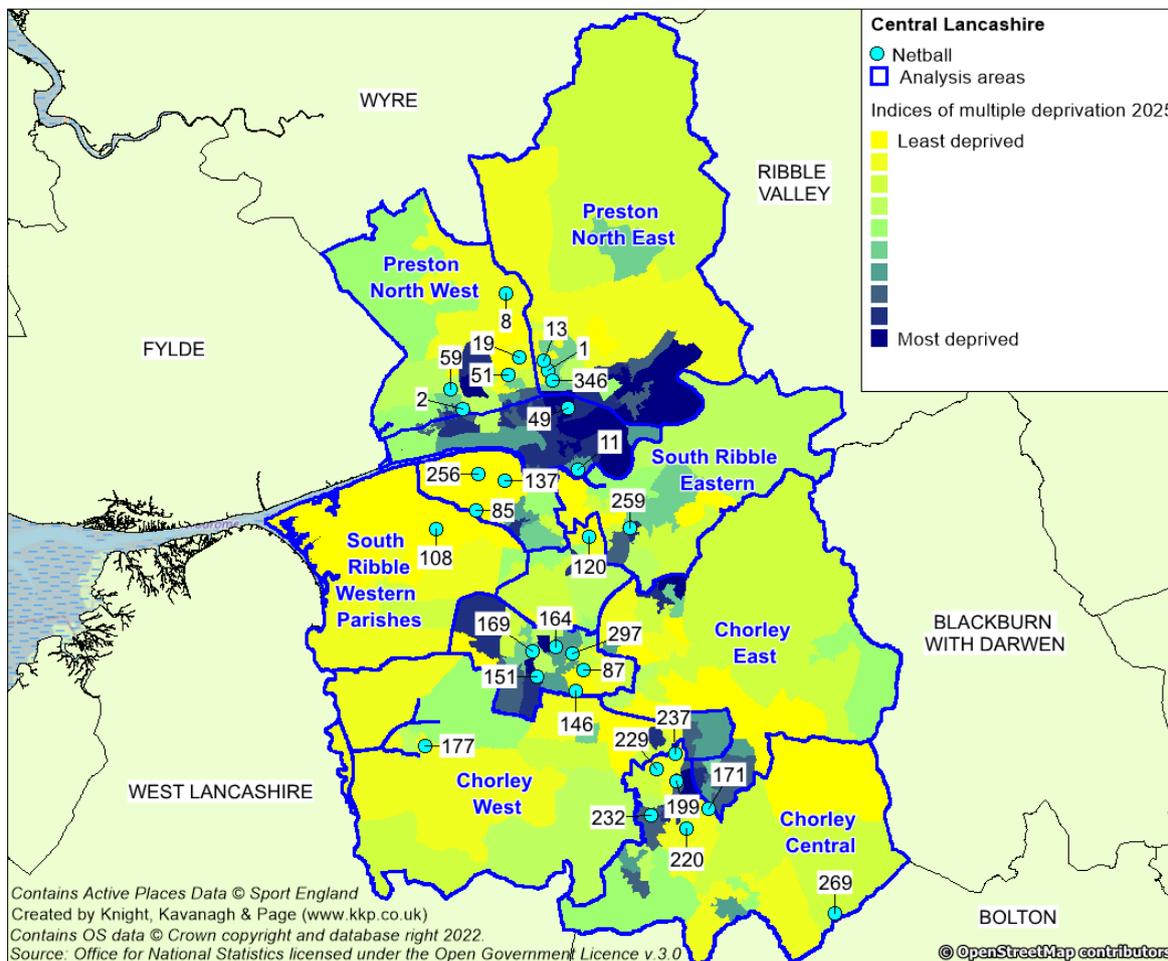
Site ID	Site name	Active Places Power ID	Postcode	Analysis area	Availability for community use?	Management	Surface type	Number of courts	Sports lighting?	Quality rating
-	Chorley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
171	Albany Science College	1201745	PR7 3AY	Chorley Central	Yes	Education	Macadam	6	No	Poor
177	Bishop Rawstorne C of E Language College	1203346	PR26 9HH	Chorley West	Yes	Education	Macadam	3	No	Good
199	Coronation Recreation Ground	1042965	PR7 2DJ	Chorley Central	Yes	Local Authority	Macadam	1	No	Standard
220	Holy Cross High School	1201360	PR7 3LS	Chorley Central	Yes	Education	Macadam	2	No	Standard
229	Parklands High School	1008060	PR7 1LL	Chorley Central	No	Education	Macadam	3	No	Good
232	Southlands High School	6015121	PR7 2NJ	Chorley Central	Yes	Education	Macadam	3	No	Poor
237	St Michael's CE High School	1201754	PR7 1RS	Chorley Central	Yes	Education	Macadam	3	No	Good
269	Rivington and Blackrod High School	1201526	BL6 7RU	Chorley Central	Yes	Education	Artificial	3	Yes	Good
269	Rivington and Blackrod High School	1201526	BL6 7RU	Chorley Central	Yes	Education	Macadam	2	Yes	Good
-	Preston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	Archbishop Templer High School	1201330	PR2 8RA	Preston North East	No	Education	Macadam	2	No	Poor
2	Ashton Community Science College	1004579	PR2 1SL	Preston North West	Yes	Education	Macadam	4	No	Standard
8	Broughton Business Enterprise College & High School	1201203	PR3 5JJ	Preston North West	No	Education	Macadam	3	No	Standard
11	Christ the King Catholic High School	1203210	PR1 4LX	Preston South	No	Education	Macadam	2	No	Poor
13	Corpus Christi Catholic High School	1201769	PR2 8QY	Preston North East	No	Education	Macadam	3	No	Poor
19	Fulwood Academy	1201441	PR2 9YR	Preston North West	No	Education	Clay	3	No	Poor
49	Moor Park Business and Enterprise College	-	PR1 6DT	Preston South	No	Education	Macadam	1	No	Poor
59	University of Lancashire	1004645	PR2 1SG	Preston North West	Yes	Education	Macadam	4	Yes	Good
51	Our Lady's RC High School	1201739	PR2 3SQ	Preston North West	Yes	Education	Macadam	3	No	Good
346	The Olive School	-	PR2 8DW	Preston North East	No	Education	Macadam	2	No	Standard
-	South Ribble	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
85	All Hallows Catholic High School	1201338	PR1 0LN	South Ribble Penwortham	No	Education	Macadam	6	No	Standard
87	Balshaw's C of E High School	1203212	PR25 3AH	South Ribble Leyland	No	Education	Macadam	3	No	Poor
108	Hutton C of E Grammar School	1201365	PR4 5SN	South Ribble Western Parishes	No	Education	Macadam	2	No	Poor
120	Lostock Hall Academy	6005300	PR5 5UR	South Ribble Central	No	Education	Macadam	3	No	Good
137	Penwortham Girls High School	1201129	PR1 0SR	South Ribble Penwortham	No	Education	Macadam	4	No	Poor
146	Runshaw College	1009054	PR25 3DQ	South Ribble Leyland	No	Education	Macadam	2	No	Poor
151	St Mary's Catholic High School Leyland	1004609	PR25 1BS	South Ribble Leyland	No	Education	Macadam	2	No	Poor
164	Wellfield Academy (Wellfield Business and Enterprise College & High School)	1201632	PR25 2TP	South Ribble Leyland	Yes	Education	Macadam	2	No	Poor
169	Academy @ Worden (Worden Sports College)	1201774	PR25 1QX	South Ribble Leyland	Yes	Education	Macadam	4	No	Standard
256	Penwortham Priory Academy	30009478	PR1 0JE	South Ribble Penwortham	Yes	Education	Macadam	3	Yes	Standard
259	Brownedge St Mary's Catholic High School	1201732	PR5 6PB	South Ribble Eastern	No	Education	Macadam	2	No	Poor
297	Leyland Sports Association	-	PR25 2LF	South Ribble Leyland	Yes	Other	Macadam	5	Yes	Good

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)

The figure below shows all active netball courts located in the more deprived area across Central Lancashire can be seen in the map below.

Figure 12.2: Location of netball courts against IMD



Management

Although not uncommon across the Country, netball provision across Central Lancashire is largely located on educational sites. This creates a particular issue surrounding community availability where there is often limited or reduced community access.

There is one netball court located across one Council site (Coronation Recreation Ground), which is overmarked with tennis. Additionally, there are five dedicated netball courts located at Leyland Sports Association.

Table 12.3: Courts by management type

Community use	Council	Education	Other
Available	1	42	5
Unavailable	-	43	-
Central Lancashire	1	85	5

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Potential future provision

Preston City Council is in conversation with England Netball regarding the creation of a netball court located at Moor Park. Given all netball courts in Preston are currently located at education sites (with majority unavailable for community use) this would create an opportunity for a community accessible court located within the Authority.

Court type

Most outdoor netball courts across Central Lancashire have a macadam surface, with 83 being of this type and 34 of these being available for community use. The remaining six courts have either an artificial or clay surface. The estimated lifespan of a macadam court is ten years, depending on levels of use and maintenance levels.

Sports lighting

Only 17 netball courts (22%) are serviced by sports lighting. These are located at:

- ◀ Rivington and Blackrod High School (five courts).
- ◀ University of Lancashire (four courts).
- ◀ Penwortham Priory Academy (three courts).
- ◀ Leyland Sports Association (five courts).

A lack of sports lighting on netball courts is an issue nationwide, with England Netball's national database (updated in April 2020) identifying that only 1,941 of 5,108 outdoor netball courts are sports-lit throughout the Country (38%).

Over marking

Netball courts, particularly within school, are often over marked by tennis, basketball and/or football courts. Courts which are over marked tend to receive higher level of use which can be detrimental to quality over time, as well as creating capacity issues if there is community demand from more than one sport.

Of the 91 netball courts, 62 (68%) are overmarked with 29 (32%) courts being dedicated netball courts located at Holy Cross High School, Southlands High School, Rivington and Blackrod High School, Ashton Community Science College, Moor Park Enterprise College, Our Lady's RC High School, St Mary's Catholic High School Leyland and Leyland Sports Association.

Quality

The quality of netball courts has been informed through non-technical site assessments (July 2025) and consultation with providers to assign each court a rating of good, standard or poor. Key aspects informing the findings include surface quality, grip underfoot, line marking quality, evenness and evidence of inappropriate use (e.g. vandalism and/or littering).

For the full assessment criteria, please refer to Appendix 2.

Across Chorley, 15 (56%) are assessed as good quality, three (11%) as standard quality and nine (33%) as poor quality. Of the good quality netball courts, 11 are available for community use.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Of the courts in Preston, seven (26%) are assessed as good quality, nine (33%) as standard quality and 11 (41%) as poor quality. Of the good quality tennis courts, all seven are available for community use.

Within South Ribble, eight (21%) are assessed as good quality, 13 (34%) as standard quality and 17 (44%) as poor quality. Of the good quality tennis courts, five are available for community use.

Table 12.4: Quality of all netball courts

Community use	Good	Standard	Poor
Available	23	14	11
Unavailable	7	11	25
Central Lancashire	30	25	36

All poor quality courts are located at education sites which are currently unavailable for community use. Problems recorded during site assessments include poor grip underfoot, the presence of moss and worn line markings, with maintenance also considered to be basic.

In contrast, the good quality courts which are supplied at:

- ✦ Bishop Rawstone C of E Language College (three courts).
- ✦ St Michael's CE High School (three courts).
- ✦ Rivington and Blackrod High School (five courts).
- ✦ University of Lancashire (four courts).
- ✦ Our Lady's RC High School (three courts).
- ✦ Lostock Hall Academy (three courts).
- ✦ Leyland Sports Association (five courts).

Of these, six sites are available for community use with only Lostock Hall Academy unavailable for community use.

Ancillary provision

Ancillary provision is generally considered to be sufficient, whilst most sites provide changing facilities and/or toilets.

12.3: Demand

Demand for outdoor netball tends to come in two forms; league and club-based netball that consists of matches and training, as well as various netball-based initiatives such as Back to Netball and walking netball.

Chorley Inferno Netball Club

Chorley Inferno Netball Club is a well-established netball club which focuses on developing players both on and off the court, promoting teamwork, personal growth and a love for the game. Training is structured by age and ability, from under-8s to under-16s, and delivered by experienced coaches, many of whom are Level 2 qualified. The Club uses Holy Cross High School, Southlands High School and Albany High School utilising both the indoor and outdoor courts.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Leyland Excel Netball Club

Leyland Excel Netball Club is a community netball club which utilises facilities at several venues including St Michael's CE High School and Parklands High School. It caters for all ages and a wide range of abilities.

South Ribble Netball Club

South Ribble Netball Club is a community netball club based in Leyland, with training sessions held mainly at Wellfield Academy. The club caters to players from as young as age 5 up to under-18s of all abilities. The Club also host Walking Netball Sessions every Monday at Wellfield Academy.

Preston Netball Club

Preston Netball Club, established in 2005, is a community-focused club offering netball coaching and competitive opportunities for players of all ages and abilities. With over 100 junior members, the club runs multiple training sessions throughout the week, primarily at Preston College. The Club trains both Monday and Wednesday evenings.

Newman Netball Club

Newman Netball Club is a community netball club based in Preston, with weekly training sessions held at Cardinal Newman College (Wednesday) and Penwortham Priory Academy (Monday and Tuesday). It caters for all ages and abilities, creating a fun environment to develop your netball skills. The Club highlights its recently increased in membership with the Club continuing to grow, however, it does highlight a need for additional coaches to meet the demand.

Lancashire Junior Netball League

Lancashire Junior Netball League is an England Netball Member League which founded in 2021 for junior clubs, teams and school across Lancashire. It encourages and promotes and safe environments of junior players to play netball. The League runs from multiple venues across Central Lancashire utilising indoor courts over winter and outdoors courts over summer.

Back to Netball (B2N)

Back to Netball is a scheme put into place by England Netball in 2010, with participation increasing ever since. Sessions are running weekly by qualified coaches across England with the aim of re-introducing female players over the age of 16 to the sport.

A funded project known as The Preston Netball Project previously offered Back to Netball every Monday from 5pm at West View Leisure Centre. There are current conversations to get this project underway again. Additionally, both South Ribble NC and Preston NC run Back to Netball sessions at Wellfield Academy with the latter at Preston College.

Walking netball

Walking netball is a slower version of the sport, designed so that anyone can play regardless of age or fitness level. It can give those who are isolated an outlet, provide an activity for those who do not deem themselves fit enough and offer a stepping-stone for those looking for a pathway back into traditional netball.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

The Preston Netball Project also previously offered walking netball sessions every Monday from 5pm at West View Leisure Centre. There are currently conversations to get this project underway again. Additionally, South Ribble Netball Club offers walking netball sessions every Monday at Wellfield Academy.

Gregson Lane WI also hold a bi-weekly walking netball session at South Ribble Leisure centre. Mondays 2-3pm.

Netball Now

Netball Now is a simple, straight forward way to play netball. It is not a competition led by rules or scores but rather a simple session where players can play a variety of positions and even have a go at umpiring.

South Ribble NC currently runs Netball Now session located at Wellfield Academy on Mondays from 8pm.

Bee Netball

A new initiative by England Netball, Bee Netball a programme for children all about friendship, inclusion, fair play and teamwork, with each session managed by an England Netball accredited coach.

Chorley Inferno NC, Leyland Excel NC, South Ribble NC, Preston Netball Club and Newman NC all host Bee Netball sessions across a number of venues including Preston College and Hutton C of E Grammar School.

ParaNetball

England Netball have developed a ParaNetball Strategy and offer a diverse range of opportunities to play, train and develop and now we are excited to bring deaf and disabled women and girls into the Netball Family. There is no ParaNetball session that takes place across Central Lancashire currently.

Mums & Daughters

The Sahara centre hold weekly mums and daughters' netball sessions on Saturdays at St Josephs Primary school, PR1 5XL

12.4: Supply and demand analysis

There is clear current demand for outdoor courts, and seasonal usage is critical to sustaining netball all year round. There are structured leagues, school delivery, and England Netball programmes already in place which rely on outdoor provision. Removing outdoor netball courts from future protection risks undermining a large portion of grassroots delivery, especially among underserved participation groups. The high number of poor quality courts is particularly concerning with substantial investment needed to improve these sites to meet existing demand, enable the growth of netball provision, and support future projects currently in development.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

12.5: Conclusion

In summary, there is a need to protect the current number of outdoor netball courts across Central Lancashire in order to sustain current levels of demand. There is also a need to improve the quality of courts in order to accommodate additional demand. Additionally, exploration should be given to opening up unavailable sites for community use.

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ **In summary, there is a need to protect the current number of outdoor netball courts across Central Lancashire in order to sustain current levels of demand. There is also a need to improve the quality of courts in order to accommodate additional demand. Additionally, exploration should be given to opening up unavailable sites for community use.**

Supply summary

- ◀ There are 91 netball courts identified in Central Lancashire across 30 sites with 26 courts found in Chorley, 27 courts in Preston and 38 courts identified in South Ribble. Of these, 46 courts are available for community use (23 courts in Chorley, 11 courts in Preston and 12 courts in South Ribble).
- ◀ There is one netball court located across one Council site (Coronation Recreation Ground), which is overmarked with tennis. Additionally, there are five dedicated netball courts located at Leyland Sports Association. All remaining courts are located at education sites.
- ◀ Only 17 netball courts (22%) are serviced by sports lighting.
- ◀ Across Chorley, 11 (42%) are assessed as good quality, three (12%) as standard quality and 12 (46%) as poor quality. Of the good quality netball courts, all 11 are available for community use.
- ◀ Of the courts in Preston, seven (26%) are assessed as good quality, nine (33%) as standard quality and 11 (41%) as poor quality. Of the good quality tennis courts, all seven are available for community use.
- ◀ Within South Ribble, eight (21%) are assessed as good quality, 13 (34%) as standard quality and 17 (44%) as poor quality. Of the good quality tennis courts, five are available for community use.

Demand summary

- ◀ Key netball clubs across Central Lancashire include Chorley Inferno Netball Club, Leyland Excel Netball Club, Preston Netball Club and South Ribble Netball Club.
- ◀ The Preston Netball Project offers both Back to Netball every Monday from 5pm at West View Leisure Centre.
- ◀ The Preston Netball Project offers both walking netball sessions every Monday from 5pm at West View Leisure Centre. Additionally, South Ribble Netball Club offers walking netball sessions every Monday at Wellfield Academy.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 13: CYCLING

13.1: Introduction

British Cycling is the NGB for all forms of cycling. It oversees six sporting disciplines, with each having a dedicated facility type:

- ◆ Track cycling – velodromes.
- ◆ Road cycling – closed road circuits.
- ◆ Mountain biking – trails.
- ◆ BMX racing – race/pump tracks.
- ◆ Cycle speedway – cycle speedway tracks.
- ◆ Cyclocross – non-dedicated, non-permanent venues.

British Cycling aids in the development of all six formats, helping to safeguard those that wish to participate in a competitive and compelling environment. The popularity of cycling has increased since recent, elite sporting success in the Olympics and Paralympics as well as in other major championships.

Consultation

Information for cycling was gathered through online research and via consultation with British Cycling.

13.2: Supply

There is one good quality BMX Pump Track located at Coppull BMX (Chisnall Lane) and one standard quality BMX Pump Track at Harpers Lane Recreation Ground, of which both are located in Chorley. Only the track at Coppull BMX is provided with sports lighting.

Additionally, there is one standard quality BMX Pump Track located within South Ribble located at Much Hoole which is not provided with sports lighting.

In Preston, there is a good quality BMX Pump Track located at Fishwick Recreation Ground (London Road) which is home to Preston Pirates BMX Club and has sports lighting to provide all year-round usage. The track has seen recent investment into improving the facility including refurbishing two berms (raised corners) to improve the riders' safety and experience and improvements to drainage.

Additionally, there is a good quality 1.5km outdoor cycling track and a 0.75km outdoor junior cycle track around the sports facilities at University of Lancashire.

A planning application has recently been approved for the creation of a new BMX Pump Track located at Waverly Park (Preston) with work set to commence summer 2025.

13.3: Demand

There are nine prominent cycling clubs based across Central Lancashire. The name of the clubs, membership levels and relevant types of cycling activity that they provide are outlined in the table below.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Table 13.1: Summary of cycling demand across Central Lancashire

Club name	Members ³⁴	Types
Chorley	-	-
Chorley Cycling Club	192	Coaching / Cyclo-Cross / Recreation / Road / Track / Women only sessions
Preston	-	-
BMX Widow Photography	22	BMX Racing
Hoppers Rollers	57	Cyclo-Cross, Recreation, Road, Track, Women only sessions
Mid Lancs BMX	232	BMX Racing, Coaching
Preston Pirates BMX Club	152	BMX Racing, Coaching, Women only sessions
Rabracing	17	BMX Racing
Red Rose Olympic CC	22	Coaching, Cyclo-Cross, MTB Cross Country, Recreation, Road, Track
Ribble Valley CRC	57	Time Trialling, Mountain Biking, Weekly Club Runs, Social Rides, Touring, Audax, Sportives, Cyclo-Cross, Training Rides
Ribble Valley Juniors CC	26	Coaching, Cyclo-Cross, MTB Cross Country, Recreation, Road, Track

Go-Ride

Go-Ride is a British Cycling's development programme for young people. It offers a fun and safe way to introduce young people to the sport and provides a platform to improve cycling skills. People can get involved through holiday coaching programmes or through their local accredited club which allows them to sample the various disciplines of the sport. Progression is obtainable with Go-Ride Racing, offering competition for riders to transition from school or club coaching to inter club and open regional competitions.

Go Velo Learn to Ride operates Go-Ride sessions at University of Lancashire utilising 1.5km cycling track and a 0.75km junior cycle track around the sports facilities. Additionally, Chorley Cycling Club hosts Go-Ride sessions.

Breeze

Breeze is a British Cycling's development programme for women. It offers three categories easy going, steady and challenging to allow women of all abilities to get involved. The programme offers exercise whilst also creating a comfortable environment to meet people.

Across Central Lancashire, there are currently no Breeze sessions taking place.

Latent/future demand

Whilst some latent and future demand is likely to exist for cycling, exact levels are difficult to determine given that most activity takes place outside of the club environment and is not monitored. As such, most growth will not require space within a club or at a dedicated facility. Instead, most new participants will likely take up cycling by themselves (or with friends) on a recreational basis and will utilise the local road network to fulfil this.

³⁴ Information gathered from British Cycling data.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

13.4: Supply and demand analysis

High demand for cycling is identified across Central Lancashire using a mixture of formally built provision, such as Fishwick Recreation Ground (London Road), and less formal provision such as the already established walking and road networks.

13.5: Conclusion

It is considered that demand for cycling across Central Lancashire is being adequately accommodated. The priority should be sustaining the quality of existing facilities so that it continues to meet demand.

Notwithstanding the above, there is a need for the Council to continue to engage with key stakeholders and clubs to sustain/increase participation and to further develop cycling across Central Lancashire.

Cycling – supply and demand summary

- ◀ **It is considered that demand for cycling across Central Lancashire is being adequately accommodated. The priority should be sustaining the quality of existing facilities so that it continues to meet demand.**

Cycling – supply summary

There is one good quality BMX Pump Track located at Coppull BMX (Chisnall Lane) and one standard quality BMX Pump Track at Harpers Lane Recreation Ground, of which both are located in Chorley. Only the track at Coppull BMX is provided with sports lighting.

Additionally, there is one standard quality BMX Pump Track located within South Ribble located at Much Hoole which is not provided with sports lighting.

In Preston, there is a good quality BMX Pump Track located at Fishwick Recreation Ground (London Road) which is home to Preston Pirates BMX Club and has sports lighting to provide all year-round usage. The track has seen recent investment into improving the facility including refurbishing two berms (raised corners) to improve the riders' safety and experience and improvements to drainage.

Additionally, there is a good quality 1.5km outdoor cycling track and a 0.75km outdoor junior cycle track around the sports facilities at University of Lancashire.

- ◀ A planning application has recently been approved for the creation of a new BMX Pump Track located at Waverly Park (Preston) with work set to commence summer 2025.

Cycling – demand summary

- ◀ There are nine prominent cycling clubs based across Central Lancashire, Chorley Cycling Club, BMX Widow Photography, Hoppers Rollers, Mid Lancs BMX, Preston Pirates BMX Club, Rebracing, Red Rose Olympic CC, Ribble Valley CRC and Ribble Valley Juniors CC.
- ◀ Go Velo Learn to Ride operates Go-Ride sessions at University of Lancashire utilising 1.5km cycling track and a 0.75km junior cycle track around the sports facilities. Additionally, Chorley Cycling Club hosts Go-Ride sessions.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PART 14: OTHER SPORTS

14.1: Outdoor water sports

Introduction

Water sports in England are governed by various bodies, including:

- ◀ British Canoe Union.
- ◀ British Kite Surfing Association.
- ◀ British Rowing.
- ◀ British Sub-Aqua Club.
- ◀ British Swimming.
- ◀ British Water Ski.
- ◀ Royal Yachting Association.
- ◀ Surfing Great Britain.

For the purposes of this section the supply and demand has been reviewed in a holistic approach across Central Lancashire and nearby facilities due to the nature of the supply (rivers/canals etc).

Supply

Outdoor water sports provision in Chorley, Preston, and South Ribble is primarily centred around inland waterways such as the Lancaster Canal, River Ribble, and man-made facilities like Preston Dock Basin. While Chorley and South Ribble have limited natural water sports infrastructure, Preston features multiple clubs and facilities operating from the dock and river. A new large-scale leisure lake is also in development at Phoenix Park, near Preston Marina, which will significantly expand future provision.

A planning application (06/2023/0245) was approved in March 2023 for the development at Phoenix Park including the creation of a dry ski slope, mountain bike track and leisure lake which can accommodate canoeing, paddle boarding and other forms of watercraft. It should be noted that despite being approved the development is yet to commence.

Demand

The following clubs and organisations currently operate in the area:

- ◀ Euxton Canoe Club.
- ◀ Ribble Canoe Club.
- ◀ Clitheroe Canoe Club.
- ◀ Preston Keelboat Club.
- ◀ Preston Dragons.
- ◀ Preston Divers (Just a Bunch of Divers).
- ◀ John O'Gaunt Rowing Club.
- ◀ Ribble Cruising Club.
- ◀ The Anderson Centre

Euxton Canoe Club

Based near Chorley, Euxton Canoe Club is affiliated with Paddle UK (formerly British Canoeing). It uses Yarrow Valley Country Park for outdoor paddling and offers indoor pool sessions in winter months.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Ribble Canoe Club

Located near Preston, the Club uses the Lancaster Canal and nearby rivers for canoeing, kayaking, and occasional Stand Up Paddleboarding. It caters to paddlers of all levels and runs regular training sessions and trips.

Clitheroe Canoe Club

Although slightly outside South Ribble, this Club serves local paddlers and uses rivers and lakes across Lancashire. It also offers white water trips and flatwater training.

Preston Keelboat Club

Based at Preston Dock Basin, the Club is affiliated with the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) and offers keelboat sailing, racing, and training on a 40-acre enclosed water body.

Preston Dragons

Operating out of Preston Marina, this Club provides dragon boat racing for fitness and recreation. Open to adults of all ages and experience levels.

Preston Divers (Just a Bunch of Divers)

Affiliated with the British Sub-Aqua Club (BSAC), this scuba diving club operates in the Preston and Penwortham area. Although primarily using swimming pools, the Club organises diving excursions in open water across the region.

John O'Gaunt Rowing Club

Based in Lancaster, this rowing club serves athletes from the broader Lancashire area, including Preston and South Ribble. It rows on the River Lune, offering beginner and competitive training programmes.

Ribble Cruising Club

Located in Lytham (Ribble Estuary), this club caters to sailors and cruisers across Preston and South Ribble. It is affiliated with the RYA and offers estuary sailing, dinghy racing, and social events.

The Anderson Centre

The Anderson Centre located in Chorley offers outdoor water sport sessions including Kayaking and canoeing. It should be noted that the Centre also offers inclusive, adapted sessions and facilities to cater for everyone.

Conclusion

Outdoor water sports in Chorley, Preston, and South Ribble are moderately well served, particularly in the Preston area where the Dock Basin supports a variety of water-based activities. Clubs provide opportunities in canoeing, kayaking, sailing, scuba diving, and dragon boating. While Chorley and South Ribble have limited direct outdoor water access, nearby rivers and clubs cater to local demand. The upcoming Phoenix Park leisure lake is expected to significantly increase water sports capacity and variety in the near future. Overall, provision appears to meet current demand, with clubs actively welcoming new members and running regular sessions.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

14.2: Climbing and bouldering

Introduction

This section focuses on facilities which provide opportunities for climbing.

The British Mountaineering Council (BMC) is the national representative body that champions the interests of climbers, hill walkers, mountaineers and ski mountaineers in England and Wales. It is recognised by Sport England as the NGB for competition climbing. BMC's is currently in the process of creating its strategy for 2025-20230, however, the latest Strategic Plan (2020-2024) outlines the vision of 'to create a better future for climbers, hill walkers and mountaineers'. It sets out five key strategic themes:

- ◀ Access, conservation & environmental sustainability.
- ◀ Membership engagement, services & support.
- ◀ Education, inspiration & skills.
- ◀ Organisational development & sector leadership.
- ◀ GB Climbing - competitions, talented athletes & the GB Teams.

Sport climbing (speed, bouldering and lead) officially debuted at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics. All three disciplines can be hosted at indoor venues and are popular formats of climbing. Bouldering is identified as a high growth area, especially for children entering the sport.

BMC would be open to exploring the feasibility of working with other sports such as skateboarding to develop a national performance centre with indoor climbing facilities. Early discussions with the BMC and other NGBs have taken place.

The International Federation of Sport Climbing (IFSC) has several requirements for climbing walls used in Olympic standard competitions, they include:

Boulder: maximum height of 4m and safety mats below, climbers solve (complete) problems on four/ five boulders in the lowest number of attempts over a set period of time.

Lead: climbers secured by a rope, one at a time, on an overhanging route climb to the highest point in an individual attempt on a 15m high wall as possible in six minutes. (Climbers can preview the route for six minutes prior and are kept in isolation before performing their attempt).

Speed: Secured from above, climbers run up standardised parallel routes on a 15m wall. The fastest climber wins.

Supply

Indoor climbing and bouldering in Chorley, Preston, and South Ribble is primarily served by two major facilities:

Boulder UK (opened September 2017)

Located at 3B Carnfield Place, Walton Summit, Bamber Bridge, this dedicated indoor bouldering centre serves the South Ribble and wider Preston area. It offers a wide range of bouldering problems from beginner to elite, a training zone, and coaching provision. It is the area's largest dedicated bouldering facility.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

PrestonWall Climbing Centre at West View Leisure Centre, Preston

Fully refurbished at the end of Summer 2021, this climbing centre provides over 500 sqm. of bouldering and 700 sqm. of roped climbing. It includes top-rope and lead routes, overhangs, volumes, and a dedicated disability and beginner climbing area to cater for inclusive sessions, regular disability groups, and younger climbers.

Outdoor climbing and bouldering take place at nearby natural crags and disused quarries, often organised by local mountaineering clubs.

Demand

The following clubs and organisations are active in the area:

Preston Mountaineering Club (PMC)

Preston Mountaineering Club meets weekly (often at PrestonWall) and organises outdoor trad, sport, and bouldering meets throughout Lancashire and beyond.

Lancashire Climbing & Caving Club (LCCC)

Lancashire Climbing & Caving Club offers extensive outdoor climbing and caving trips, with regular meets at local bouldering areas and crags

Fylde Mountaineering Club

Boulder UK runs events, open comps, and performance sessions, drawing in climbers from South Ribble, Chorley and wider Lancashire.

Boulder UK (community sessions, comps, coaching)

West View Leisure Centre provides climbing tuition, beginner sessions, school and group climbing, and accessible climbing programmes.

West View Leisure Centre / PrestonWall programmes

Fylde Mountaineering Club supports indoor and outdoor climbing across the region, including bouldering and hill walking.

Conclusion

The climbing and bouldering offer in Chorley, Preston, and South Ribble is strongly centred around two modern indoor facilities — Boulder UK and PrestonWall — both of which cater for a wide range of climbers from complete beginners to experienced athletes. With over 1,200 sqm. of climbing space combined, and inclusive features for children and those with disabilities, these facilities meet current demand well.

Outdoor opportunities are supported through active local clubs that organise access to natural crags for bouldering and climbing. While South Ribble and Chorley lack large-scale climbing facilities themselves, proximity to Boulder UK and West View Leisure Centre ensures accessible provision for residents across the district. Overall, the area is well served for climbing and bouldering despite the lack of natural climbing locations within urban limits.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

14.3: American football

Introduction

American football in the UK is governed and administered by the British American Football Association (BAFA). This covers both contact and flag activity.

Adult contact teams play within the BAFA National League or the BAFA Women's National League and play home and away fixtures per the regular season with a playoff system to follow for those which qualify. Junior contact football is played as a full 11v11 format league season for U19s, whilst U16s contact football is played as a 5v5 format with full equipment and tackling based across a series of day tournaments as part of a festival structure.

Flag football is the fastest growing format of the game not only in Great Britain, but also across the world, with professional leagues such as the American Flag Football League and the newly established NFL Flag starting to spring up. It is a high-octane, non-contact version of American football, where tackles are made by pulling off flags which all players wear on their hips. There are multiple formats and variations globally, but in Great Britain the predominant format is 5v5 aligning with the current International Federation of American Football competition format.

Supply

There is currently no dedicated American football pitch located across Central Lancashire. Following consultation with Chorley Buccaneers, the Club is utilising a range of 11v11 3G pitches including at the University of Lancashire. However, it highlights the lack of access to available provision can be an issue for both matches and training.

Demand

Chorley Buccaneers currently accommodates roughly 175 members and aspires to keep growing, however, the lack of access to facilities for matches and training is making this challenging. The Club highlights a need for a dedicated home venue in either Chorley, Preston or South Ribble to accommodate both its training and match demand.

Conclusion

Given the above, supply is currently insufficient for American football with the Club accessing multiple sites across Central Lancashire due to the lack of dedicated American football provision. Additionally, when considering future demand, it is highlighted that the lack of facilities is affecting the Club's growth.

14.4: Archery

Archery GB is the NGB for the sport of archery in England. It is responsible for all levels of archery within the UK from grassroots to performance level. There are several disciplines of archery including target archery, indoor archery, field and 3D archery, paralympic archery, flight archery and run archery.

Target archery, which is the discipline of shooting arrows at circular targets at a fixed distance, is the most widely known due to its inclusion on the programme of the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games and World Games. Para archery is one of the sports with the most similarity to its able-bodied counterpart and disabled archers can compete in both the Olympics and Paralympics as long as they meet the qualification criteria. Para archers may use their assistive devices to level the playing field against their able-bodied competitors.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Field archery is the discipline of shooting at stationary circular targets of different sizes set at varying distances, heights and angles around a course of natural terrain. 3D archery is the discipline of shooting at stationary foam targets in the shapes of different animals set at varying distances, heights and angles around a course.

The Archery GB rules of shooting includes clear guidelines on range layout, which includes the standards to be met depending on the distance being shot and/or the bow being used. The range guidelines also include overshoot and side safety areas to account for arrows that may go beyond the targets (either missing or deflections).

In addition, Archery GB has a range assessment process for any range that does not meet the rules of shooting compliance to ensure required standards are met and followed at all times. Dispensations are only given where safety expectations can be successfully met.

Archery is a sport participated in all-year round; outdoor activity takes place between April and October, whilst during the winter indoor facilities are used.

Consultation

There are three affiliated archery clubs across Central Lancashire known as Chorley Bowmen, Preston Grasshoppers Bowmen and Samlesbury Longbow Archers. Currently, none of the clubs have responded to consultation requests. As such, online research have been used to inform the report.

Supply

Chorley Bowmen currently utilise Wigan Lane Sports and Community Hub in the summer months with the Club based at Clayton green Sports Centre. Preston Grasshoppers Bowmen and Samlesbury Longbow Archers are located at Preston Grasshoppers RFC utilising a purpose built indoor 20-yard range with occasional outdoor usage on the rugby pitches.

In addition to the above, Fishwick Rangers Sports City provides archery sessions at its indoor facility.

Demand

Chorley Bowmen

Chorley Bowmen is a well-established archery club based in Chorley and affiliated with Archery GB. The club is open to people of all ages and abilities, including those with disabilities, and offers a welcoming environment for both beginners and experienced archers.

Members shoot outdoors during the summer at the Wigan Lane Sports and Community Hub and move indoors during winter to facilities such as Clayton Green Sports Centre. The Club offers regular training, social shoots, internal competitions, and beginners' courses throughout the year, with qualified coaches providing structured guidance.

Preston Grasshoppers Bowmen

Preston Grasshoppers Bowmen is a friendly, community club based in Preston, using the facilities at Preston Grasshoppers RFC. Additionally, it's affiliated with Archery GB. The Club shoots all year round utilising its purpose-built 20-yard range, with it occasionally using the outdoor grass rugby pitches onsite when not in use.

Regular shooting times are Mondays and Thursday from 5pm, and Sunday mornings from 10.30am. The Club also hosts beginner courses and junior sessions on Sunday mornings.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Samlesbury Longbow Archers

The Club has been based at Preston Grasshoppers RFC since 2004 and currently accommodates over 40 members. Shooting takes place on Monday, Thursday and Saturdays. It hosts a number of open shoots including the four Counties shoot and the Azincourt shoot at the end of October.

Conclusion

Archery across Central Lancashire is well catered for through facilities such as: Wigan Lane Sports and Community Hub, Clayton Green Sports Centre and Preston Grasshoppers RFC, meaning that archery is particularly well catered for when it comes to both indoor and outdoor venues.

14.5: Pickleball

Introduction

Sport England has now recognised Pickleball England (PBE) as the national governing body for pickleball in England.

Pickleball is a paddle sport that is fast becoming one of the most popular racquet sports globally. It combines elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong and is played on a badminton-sized court (up to four can fit on a standard tennis court), with a slightly modified tennis net. Players use paddles to hit a plastic ball between them, and it can be played as both singles and doubles.

Supply

There are a number of indoor facilities across Central Lancashire which offer pickleball located at All seasons Leisure Centre and Clayton Green Sports Centre in Chorley, Sir Tom Finney Sports Centre in Preston and Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre and Leyland Leisure Centre in South Ribble. There is also pickleball provision located just outside of Preston at Longridge Pickleball Club.

Additionally, there are two dedicated outdoor pickleball courts located at Chorley Tennis Club.

Conclusion

Pickleball across Central Lancashire is well catered for through facilities such as: Chorley Tennis Club, All seasons Leisure Centre, Clayton Green Sports Centre, Sir Tom Finney Sports Centre, Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre and Leyland Leisure Centre meaning that pickleball is particularly well catered for when it comes to both indoor and outdoor venues.

14.6: Basketball

Introduction

Basketball is one of the most popular and widely played sports in the world, known for its fast-paced action and athletic skill. The game of basketball is typically played between two teams of five players each. The objective is to score points by shooting a ball through the opposing team's hoop, which is mounted 10 feet above the ground. Players must use a combination of dribbling, passing, shooting and defending skills.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Supply

There are seven dedicated basketball courts identified across Central Lancashire across five sites all located in Preston. Of these, all seven are available for community use, however, only two courts are sports lit.

Table 14.1: Quality of basketball courts

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Analysis area	No. of courts	Surface type	Sports lighting?	Quality
3	Ashton Park	PR2 1LH	Preston South	1	Macadam	No	Standard
33	Haslam Park	PR2 1JD	Preston North West	1	Macadam	No	Poor
48	Moor Park	PR1 6DT	Preston South	1	Macadam	No	Standard
48	Moor Park	PR1 6DT	Preston South	2	Macadam	No	Poor
340	Smith's Recreation Ground	PR1 4LB	Preston South	1	Macadam	Yes	Poor
343	Fairfax Road	PR2 6YP	Preston North East	1	Macadam	Yes	Standard

There are potential plans for all basketball courts list above to be refurbished through UKSPF funding, however, this is yet to be confirmed. Additionally, it proposed the court located at Moor Park to be refurbished alongside improvements to the changing facilities onsite.

Conclusion

Across Central Lancashire, supply is considered sufficient for basketball given the number of dedicated facilities available to the Community. However, there is a clear need to improve and retain the current supply in ways that can attract and better accommodate more users at sites such as Haslam Park, Moor Park and Smith's Recreation Ground. This should include improving the current quality of court provision, and in addition enhancing levels of sports lighting to allow for more usage.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Supply and demand summary

- ◀ Outdoor water sports in Chorley, Preston, and South Ribble are moderately well served, particularly in the Preston area where the Dock Basin supports a variety of water-based activities.
- ◀ The climbing and bouldering offer in Chorley, Preston, and South Ribble is strongly centred around two modern indoor facilities — Boulder UK and PrestonWall — both of which cater for a wide range of climbers from complete beginners to experienced athletes. With over 1,200 sqm. of climbing space combined, and inclusive features for children and those with disabilities, these facilities meet current demand well.
- ◀ Given the above, supply is currently insufficient for American Football with the Club accessing multiple sites across Central Lancashire due to the lack of dedicated American Football provision. Additionally, when considering future demand, it is highlighted that the lack of facilities is affecting the Club's growth.
- ◀ Archery across Central Lancashire is well catered for through facilities such as: Wigan Lane Sports and Community Hub, Clayton Green Sports Centre and Preston Grasshoppers RFC, meaning that archery is particularly well catered for when it comes to both indoor and outdoor venues.
- ◀ Pickleball across Central Lancashire is well catered for through facilities such as: Chorley Tennis Club, All seasons Leisure Centre, Clayton Green Sports Centre, Sir Tom Finney Sports Centre, Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre and Leyland Leisure Centre meaning that pickleball is particularly well catered for when it comes to both indoor and outdoor venues.
- ◀ Across Central Lancashire, supply is considered sufficient for basketball given the number of facilities available to the Community.

Supply summary

- ◀ Outdoor water sports provision in Chorley, Preston, and South Ribble is primarily centred around inland waterways such as the Lancaster Canal, River Ribble, and man-made facilities like Preston Dock Basin.
- ◀ Indoor climbing and bouldering in Chorley, Preston, and South Ribble is primarily served by two major facilities: Boulder UK and PrestonWall Climbing Centre at West View Leisure Centre.
- ◀ There is currently no dedicated American football pitch located across Central Lancashire.
- ◀ Chorley Bowmen currently utilise Wigan Lane Sports and Community Hub in the summer months with the Club based at Clayton green Sports Centre. Preston Grasshoppers Bowmen and Samlesbury Longbow Archers are located at Preston Grasshoppers RFC utilising a purpose built indoor 20-yard range with occasional outdoor usage on the rugby pitches.
- ◀ There are a number of indoor facilities across Central Lancashire which offer pickleball located at All seasons Leisure Centre and Clayton Green Sports Centre in Chorley, Sir Tom Finney Sports Centre in Preston and Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre and Leyland Leisure Centre in South Ribble. There is also pickleball provision located just outside of Preston at Longridge Pickleball Club.
- ◀ Additionally, there are two dedicated outdoor pickleball courts located at Chorley Tennis Club.
- ◀ There are seven basketball courts identified across Central Lancashire across five sites all located in Preston. Of these, all seven are available for community use.

Demand summary

- ◀ There are a number of clubs across Central Lancashire including, Euxton Canoe Club, Ribble Canoe Club, Clitheroe Canoe Club, Preston Kellboat Club, Preston Dragons, Preston Divers, John O'Gaunt Rowing Club and Ribble Cruising Club.
- ◀ There are a number of climbing clubs across Central Lancashire including, Preston Mountaineering Club, Lancashire Climbing & Caving Club, Fylde Mountaineering Club, Boulder UK and West View Leisure Centre/PrestonWall Programmes.
- ◀ Chorley Buccaneers currently accommodates roughly 175 members and aspires to keep growing, however, the lack of access to facilities for matches and training is making this challenging. The Club highlights a need for a dedicated home venue to accommodate both its training and match demand.
- ◀ There are three archery club across Central Lancashire, Chorley Bowmen, Samlesbury Longbow Archers and Preston Grasshoppers Bowmen.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

APPENDIX 1: SPORTING CONTEXT

The following section outlines a series of national, regional and local policies pertaining to the study and which will have an important influence on the Strategy.

National context

The provision of high quality and accessible community outdoor sports facilities at a local level is a key requirement for achieving the targets set out by the Government and Sport England. It is vital that this strategy is cognisant of and works towards these targets in addition to local priorities and plans.

Department of Media, Culture and Sport Get Active: A Strategy for the Future of Sport and Physical Activity (2023)

The Government published its new strategy for sport in August 2023. The 2015 government sport strategy, Sporting Future: A New Strategy for a More Active Nation, was a fundamental re-framing of sport and physical activity in the UK. It set out five outcomes delivered by sport and physical activity:

- ◀ Physical wellbeing.
- ◀ Mental wellbeing.
- ◀ Individual development.
- ◀ Social and community development.
- ◀ Sustainable economic development.

This new strategy builds on the foundations of Sporting Future and retains these five outcomes at its core. In order to measure its success in producing outputs which accord with these aims it has also adopted a series of three core priorities, with seven indicators to achieve these priorities as follows:

- ◀ **Being unapologetically ambitious in making the nation more active**
 - ◀ Ensuring everyone is focused on increasing physical activity, meaning fewer inactive children, and narrowing the gap on inactivity where groups are not being reached, with visible progress across the country by 2030
 - ◀ Focusing on evidence, data and metrics
 - ◀ Setting the future direction for facilities and spaces where people can be active
- ◀ **Making sport and physical activity more inclusive and welcoming for all that everyone can have confidence that there is a place for them in sport**
 - ◀ Helping the sector to be welcoming to all
 - ◀ Improving how issues and concerns are dealt within the sector
- ◀ **Moving towards a more sustainable sector that is more financially resilient and robust**
 - ◀ Supporting the sector to access additional, alternative forms of investment
 - ◀ Working towards a more environmentally sustainable sector

Delivering against these priorities will help create a more active nation and a more sustainable sport sector. These aims are complementary; greater participation, stronger governance and confidence in the sector will help to drive investment, which in turn helps to attract new audiences. The vision is to make sport and physical activity accessible, resilient, fun and fair, for now and the years to come – for the benefit of individuals and the country.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Sport England Uniting the Movement: Our 10-year vision to transform lives and communities through sport (2021-2031)

Sport and physical activity makes people happier and healthier, and movement is the lens through which we can make that happen. It does the same thing for our communities, with life-changing, sustainable benefits that have huge economic and social value. That's why Sport England wants sport and physical activity to be recognised as essential to help overcome these national challenges.

The Strategy recognises the need to invest in sport and physical activity through NGBs, other sports bodies and local sports clubs, organisations and community groups to increase engagement for different groups as part of our core purpose. It states that there is now a need to go further in promoting movement in general as the means to unlock sport and activity for some people.

Tackling inequalities

There are deep-rooted inequalities in sport and physical activity, which means that there are people who feel excluded from being active because the right options and opportunities aren't there. These inequalities are at the very core of the Uniting the Movement.

Sport England plans on having a laser focus on tackling inequalities in all that it does, because providing opportunities to people and communities that have traditionally been left behind, and helping to remove the barriers to activity is vitally important.

National Planning Policy Framework (2024)

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out planning policies for England. It details how these changes are expected to be applied to the planning system. It also provides a framework for local people and their councils to produce distinct local and neighbourhood plans, reflecting the needs and priorities of local communities.

The NPPF states the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. It identifies that the planning system needs to focus on three themes of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. A presumption in favour of sustainable development is a key aspect for any plan-making and decision-taking processes. In relation to plan-making the NPPF sets out that Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs.

The 'promoting healthy communities' theme identifies that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficiencies or surpluses in local areas should also be identified. This information should be used to inform what provision is required in an area.

As a prerequisite the NPPF states existing open space, sports and recreation buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

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

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

In order for planning policies to be ‘sound’ local authorities are required to carry out a robust assessment of need for open space, sport and recreation facilities.

The FA National Football Facilities Strategy (2018-28)

The Football Association’s (FA) National Football Facilities Strategy (NFFS) provides a strategic framework that sets out key priorities and targets for the national game (i.e., football) over a ten-year period.

The Strategy sets out shared aims and objectives it aims to deliver on in conjunction with The Premier League, Sport England and the Government, to be delivered with support of the Football Foundation.

These stakeholders have clearly identified the aspirations for football to contribute directly to nationally important social and health priorities. Alongside this, the strategy is clear that traditional, affiliated football remains an important priority and a core component of the game, whilst recognising and supporting the more informal environments used for the community and recreational game.

Its vision is: *“Within 10 years we aim to deliver great football facilities, wherever they are needed”*

£1.3 billion has been spent by football and Government since 2000 to enhance existing football facilities and build new ones. However, more is needed if football and Government’s shared objectives for participation, individual well-being and community cohesion are to be achieved. Nationally, direct investment will be increased – initially to £69 million per annum from football and Government (a 15% increase on recent years).

The NFFS investment priorities can be broadly grouped into six areas, recognising the need to grow the game, support existing players and better understand the different football environments:

- ◀ **Improve 20,000 Natural Turf pitches**, with a focus on addressing drop off due to a poor playing experience;
- ◀ **Deliver 1,000 3G AGP ‘equivalents’** (mix of full size and small sided provision, including MUGAs - small sided facilities are likely to have a key role in smaller / rural communities and encouraging multi-sport offers), enhancing the quality of playing experience and supporting a sustainable approach to grass roots provision;
- ◀ **Deliver 1,000 changing pavilions/clubhouses**, linked to multi-pitch or hub sites, supporting growth (particularly in women and girls’ football), sustainability and providing a facility infrastructure to underpin investment in coaching, officials and football development;
- ◀ **Support access to flexible indoor spaces**, including equipment and court markings, to support growth in futsal, walking football and to support the education and skills outcomes, exploiting opportunities for football to positively impact on personal and social outcomes for young people in particular;
- ◀ **Refurbish existing stock** to maintain current provision, recognising the need to address historic under-investment and issues with refurbishment of existing facilities;
- ◀ **Support testing of technology and innovation**, building on customer insight to deliver hubs for innovation, testing and development of the game.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

The FA: A Thriving Grassroots Game (2024-28)

This new strategy aims to enhance participation, improve facilities and create a more inclusive and enjoyable environment for players, coaches, volunteers and officials.

The strategy focuses on five main areas:

- 1. Improving Playing Choice and Opportunity**
Creating diverse and flexible playing options to cater to all individuals.
- 2. Delivering Equal Opportunities for Women and Girls**
Ensuring every woman and girl has access to football in a safe and enjoyable setting.
- 3. Building and Improving Facilities**
Increasing the quality and quantity of grassroots football pitches and facilities.
- 4. Tackling Poor Behaviour**
Reducing incidents of poor behaviour and discrimination, promoting positive conduct.
- 5. Developing a Valued Network of Volunteers, Coaches, and Referees**
Growing and supporting the grassroots workforce to sustain the game's future.

To achieve these priorities, the FA has identified three key drivers:

- ◀ **Supporting Thriving Community Clubs**
Assisting clubs to grow sustainably and provide excellent football experiences.
- ◀ **Connecting and Serving Participants**
Enhancing digital services to offer personalized and accessible opportunities.
- ◀ **Progressing the Game's Governance**
Implementing high governance standards to serve all football participants effectively.

These initiatives are developed in collaboration with County FAs to ensure local needs are met.

The FA's strategy aims to transform grassroots football by addressing key challenges, investing in facilities, and promoting inclusivity and positive behaviour.

The FA: Inspiring Positive Change Through Football (2024-28)³⁵

The FA launched its new Strategy which aims to 'take English football forward, with clear focus on the biggest opportunities and challenges that need to be addressed'.

To achieve this, eight key strategic priorities are identified which include four 'Game Changer' objectives and four 'Drivers' objectives as detailed below. The strategy also outlines how The FA's plans to achieve these objectives.

Game Changers:

- ◀ Win tournaments
 - ◀ Develop pathways
 - ◀ Support elite players
 - ◀ Enhance environments
 - ◀ Collaborate and influence
- ◀ A game free from discrimination
 - ◀ Boost representation
 - ◀ Drive more inclusion
 - ◀ Tackle discrimination
- ◀ Equal opportunities for women & girls
 - ◀ Increase school participation
 - ◀ Increase club participation
 - ◀ Enhance women's competitions

³⁵ [FA Strategy 2024-2028: The Football Association](#)

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

- ◀ Support female coaches and referees
- ▶ Transform the pitch landscape
 - ◀ Sustain and grow high-quality grass pitches
 - ◀ Deliver new 3G pitches
 - ◀ Support inclusivity accessibility and environmental sustainability of facilities
- ▶ Drivers:
 - ▶ Thriving community clubs
 - ◀ Develop club opportunities
 - ◀ Support the current and future generation of club leaders
 - ◀ Equip clubs to add long-term value to local communities
 - ▶ World-class FA cups
 - ◀ Broaden commercial appeal
 - ◀ Evolve the Adobe Women's FA Cup format
 - ▶ Participant led
 - ◀ Place participants at the centre of decision making
 - ◀ Create flexible models to meet participants needs
 - ◀ Provide digital tools to improve experiences
 - ▶ Progressive governance
 - ◀ Support integration of women's and girls' football
 - ◀ Support governance of the NLS
 - ◀ Support our County Football Associations (CFAs)

The FA: Reaching Higher (2024-28)³⁶

The FA's 2020-2024 strategy, 'Inspiring Positive Change', coincided with record growth across the sport, with more women and girls playing, coaching, officiating and supporting the flourishing professional game than ever before.

This strategy aims to build on the success achieved to date and strives to continue working to unlock the full potential of the women's and girls' game. The strategy outlines four strategic priorities as seen below.

1. **Build and Protect the Uniqueness of the Women's Game:** Continue to honour the history of women's football and recognise those who have contributed towards making it so unique, whilst ensuring the distinct qualities and unique culture of the women's game are valued and protected.
2. **Win a Major Tournament:** Continue to be world-leaders both on and off the pitch, developing players and building an inclusive talent pathway system to make football more equal and accessible at every level of the game, ensuring the England pathway and teams represent society.
3. **Build Robust, High-Quality Competition:** Create compelling competition structures and support clubs to develop to the appropriate level within the game, while enabling people to grow and develop within The FA's competition structures.
4. **Deliver Equal Opportunities for Women and Girls to Play:** Sustain growth in schools whilst tackling inequalities. Continue to grow the number of female teams and deliver vibrant league offers whilst extending and enhancing the sessional football offer. The ambition is for 90% of schools to deliver equal access for girls to play football in key stages two and three.

There are five golden threads which weave through each of the four strategic priorities and across all levels of the women's and girls' game, which will be instrumental for delivering the next phase of growth by 2028:

³⁶ [The FA Womens & Girls Football Strategy 2024-28](#)

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE

PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

1. **Female Health and Wellbeing:** Develop the game to support women and girls with their health and wellbeing needs, providing them with environments in which they can thrive.
2. **Safeguarding:** Support the evolution of an ever-safer culture across the women's and girls' game.
3. **Refereeing:** Grow and nurture a new generation of referees who are representative of our society.
4. **Coaching:** Support and develop brilliant coaches capable of unleashing every player's potential in a safe and inclusive game.
5. **Diversity and Inclusion:** Ensure the game is more reflective of our society.

Inspiring Generations – Cricket's Game-wide Strategy (2025 – 28)^[1]

In October 2024 the ECB released its new strategy Inspiring Generations – Cricket's Game-wide Strategy (2025 – 28). Cricket in England and Wales has seen transformative growth since the publication of its previous strategy Inspiring Generation (2020-24). Its new strategy represents an evolution of its plans, however, many of its previous themes are still relevant. Its main purpose is to say 'Cricket is a game for me' through its vision:

- ◀ To become the most inclusive team sport
- ◀ To grow and unite the game
- ◀ Lead the game through global transformation

It aims to obtain this vision through six key objectives

- ◀ Make cricket diverse, inclusive and accessible
- ◀ Transform Women's and Girl's cricket
- ◀ Connect communities through play
- ◀ Inspire through winning England teams
- ◀ Support a thriving and sustainable men's and women's professional game
- ◀ Win the battle for attention

Underpinning these six ambitions are a series of enablers that cut-across multiple areas of the game, alongside Cricket's Core Values.

The Rugby Football Union Strategy 2021 Onwards

Through the strategy, the RFU aims to enrich lives, introduce more people to rugby union and develop the sport for future generations. The goal is to achieve this by strengthening and uniting rugby union in England and producing consistently winning England teams.

Eight key strategic priorities are identified with all investment decisions aligned to these. The strategy also outlines the RFU's core activities which form the backbone of its business operations and services to the game.

The priorities include four 'Game Objectives' and four 'Driving Objectives' as detailed below.

Game Objectives:

- ◀ Enjoyment – enable positive player experiences on and off the field
- ◀ Winning England – create the best possible high-performance system for England Rugby
- ◀ Welfare – enhance player welfare to protect and support the wellbeing of players

^[1]<https://resources.ecb.co.uk/ecb/document/2024/10/22/19a925d7-3c92-4a36-8e7b-f49cb470377f/ECB-Inspiring-Generations-2025-2028.pdf>

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

- ◀ Flourishing rugby communities – support clubs to sustain and grow themselves and to reflect society

Driving Objectives:

- ◀ Diversity & Inclusion – drive rugby union in England to reflect the diversity of society
- ◀ Understand – build a deep understanding of players, volunteers and fans to shape the future of the game
- ◀ Connect – connect with and grow the rugby community and create exceptional experiences
- ◀ Commercial and operational excellence – ensure a sustainable and efficient business model delivered by an inspired workforce

England Hockey Strategy (2023 – 2028)

England Hockey's Facilities Strategy can be found [here](#).

Aiming to make hockey more noticeable, relevant, and accessible to all, England Hockey have launched their new strategy 'Creating a Future for Our Game Together' on 3rd October. The new strategy is a continued effort to re-engage with the current hockey community and to reach out to potential newcomers to introduce them to hockey.

Underpinning the strategy and of importance to the hockey community are four values, "collaborate inclusively, care for people and places, play with spirit win with grace and resilient in everything we do".

The strategy is the culmination of two years consultation with various stakeholders across the sport and larger sporting sector. Hockey will be guided by five key objectives over the next five years.

1. **Lead Positive Change:** to create and champion positive change within the community by broadening and widening the engagement of the sport and making it more ethnically and culturally diverse.
2. **Meaningful Growth:** to make sure that our sport thrives and grows into the future, we want to nurture a love of hockey within a more diverse group of young players and communities to reflect society.
3. **Drive Visible Impact:** to produce and release high-quality, engaging content that shares the love of the game, captures the passion, builds a deep connection and amplifies the voices of the hockey community with new and existing participants.
4. **Responsible Leadership:** to provide forward thinking, compassionate and inclusive leadership. Leadership that fosters trust within physically and psychologically safe environments and which puts players, the community and sustainability at heart of every decision.
5. **Inspirational International Success:** inspirational club and national teams delivering podium success in Europe and on the world stage, underpinned by a thriving talent system and domestic game.

The strategy aligns with Sport England's 'Uniting the movement' strategy and UK Sport's 'Powering Success, Inspiring Impact' strategic plan.

Rugby Football League – National Community Facilities Strategy (2024 – 2030)

The RFL has developed a new National Facilities Strategy which will guide investment into the game from 2024 through to 2030. The proposed investment package aligned to the Strategy will not only transform facilities, but also bolster the sport's social impact, reinforcing its position as a vital part of the nation's sporting and social fabric.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

The four focus areas of the Strategy are:

- ◀ **Security of Tenure** – allowing clubs to plan for the long-term
- ◀ **Accessible and Inclusive Facilities** – providing suitable facilities for all and creating safe spaces for the wider community
- ◀ **Adequate and Appropriate Pitch Provision**– investment both in playing surfaces, and in upskilling a volunteer workforce to maintain them
- ◀ **Sustainability**– both environmental and financial

The Strategy will deliver on the four focus areas by delivering against a set of five recommendations which are set within the Strategy and are detailed below. These recommendations reflect the wider strategic aspirations across the sport and are for the RFL to work to deliver.

◀ **Focus Community Clubs**

- ◀ Ensure the RFL has sufficient capacity and resource to deliver the recommendations identified within this Strategy to support its community clubs.
- ◀ Ensure all community clubs have the knowledge and resource to provide good quality grass pitches.
- ◀ Supporting clubs to have good quality changing and social facilities which can support the scale of need at each club. These must be inclusive for all participants and benefit target user groups such as women and girls' participants.
- ◀ Ensure clubs can accommodate a sustainable operational programme for clubhouses to ensure the longevity of provision.
- ◀ Work with clubs and key partners to increase the number of clubs with secured tenure of their club facilities.
- ◀ Develop a dedicated funding programme which is specifically aimed at supporting clubs to gain security of tenure at their respective site.
- ◀ Highlight success stories and best practices from community clubs to inspire others and showcase the positive impact of these efforts.

◀ **Deliver positive social and environmental impact**

- ◀ Support clubs through training and advice on how to promote facilities for non-rugby league purposes.
- ◀ Work with Active Partnerships across England to enable higher usage and activation of rugby league assets for non-rugby league activity.
- ◀ Prioritise clubs for wellbeing hubs which may offer the widest social benefit (relative to local need) – particularly those in high deprivation areas.
- ◀ Use the activation of club facilities as a prerequisite to capital funding for club house improvements / new development.
- ◀ Collaborative working with sports partners and key agencies.

◀ **Collaborative working with sports partners and key agencies**

- ◀ Ensure continued working with Sport England and National Governing Bodies of other sports to capitalise on shared investment opportunities.
- ◀ Work with the Football Foundation to maximise Multi-Sport funding opportunities – utilising the framework provided in this Strategy as the baseline of shared investment.
- ◀ Work closely with Active Partnerships in areas with high club densities to establish opportunities for pitch access via the Open School Facilities programme.

◀ **Technological solutions**

- ◀ Ensure the RFL gathers greater levels of information from clubs via affiliation. To include (e.g.) security of tenure information and an integrated self-assessment audit of community facilities.
- ◀ Continue expanding the use and application of PitchPower so all clubs can self-assess provision and support clubs to make positive contributions to improving the quality of grass pitches.
- ◀ Promote technological solutions which progress clubs into being more sustainable, energy efficient and ensure their long-term viability as community assets.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

- ◀ Create a platform or resource hub where clubs can access information on funding opportunities, facility management, and sustainable operational practices.
- ◀ **Working with Charitable Community Organisations and Wheelchair Rugby League**
 - ◀ Develop an investment package to support the operational delivery of professional club foundation led wheelchair activity focusing on storage and logistical solutions.
 - ◀ Prioritise capital investment into community club sites which also accommodate professional club foundations as tenants for community Rugby League activity.
 - ◀ Begin work on the feasibility of developing a national wheelchair centre which includes exploring partnership opportunities with other sports to maximise multisport value and return on investment.
 - ◀ Consult with professional club foundations, where possible, to understand the need for 3G access and work to ascertain sufficient access hours during peak times of need.

LTA – Tennis Opened Up 2024-2026

The LTA's vision for 2024-2026, is Tennis Opened Up. Its mission is to transform communities through tennis, by making it by making it relevant, accessible, welcoming, enjoyable and inspiring. The objectives of the LTA are:

- Put tennis at the heart of communities.
- Grow and diversify our audience of fans and players.
- Attract and engage the tennis workforce for the next generation.
- Be one of the most respected nations in the world for player development.
- Secure a sustainable future for tennis in Britain.

These objectives will be delivered through six strategies: Invest, Grow, Engage, Perform, Diversity and Lead. The LTA will implement a facilities strategy with a focus on parks, covered courts, Community Indoor Tennis Centres and Padel.

England Athletics Facility Strategy (2018 – 2025)

The purpose of this document is to set out our long term vision for athletics facilities in England. Facilities form a vital component of the overall England Athletics strategy. The development, protection and enhancement of facilities will support our strategic plan and help England Athletics contribute to the delivery of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport's Sporting Futures: A New Strategy for Sport and Sport England's strategy Towards an Active Nation. Appropriate facilities help to attract and inspire new participants and provide the foundation and focus for a significant proportion of the England Athletics family. The England Athletics Strategic Plan notes that the sport increasingly needs to become financially sustainable and that a business-like and innovative approach is a vital component of its future success. Facilities are fundamental, but they are also expensive to create and to maintain. The sport therefore faces a significant challenge to develop, improve and maintain facilities, most of which are currently operated and funded by third parties.

This strategy sets out a challenge to all those involved with the delivery of the sport to be innovative and business like in the operation and development of facilities at a time of financial challenge, as it aims "To create an innovative and inspiring network of sustainable athletic facilities, with the capacity to meet both current and future demand across England".

England athletics strategy plan 2021 – 2032: Athletics and runners at the heart – creating opportunities, enhancing experiences and powering potential

This strategy ensures a robust and clearly defined future direction for the sport which places athletics and runners at the heart of everything we will do over the 12 year period to 2032.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

England Athletics overarching purpose and visions are:

Purpose: 'To inspire more athletics and runners of all abilities and backgrounds to fulfil their potential and to have a lifelong love for the sport.'

Vision: 'For athletics to become an inclusive sport where everyone belongs and can flourish.'

At the heart of this plan, and the focal point for everything England Athletics do, are the people and communities involved in athletics across the following five areas:

1. Clubs, Club Leaders and facilities
2. Competition
3. Coaches and officials
4. Participation: young people and running
5. Talented athletes

Each has its own unique challenges and opportunities, yet also the opportunity to positively influence the success and growth of the other areas.

There are four key supporting activities that will be essential in enabling us to deliver the strategic priorities and ultimately achieve goals:

- ◀ Provide strong leadership that builds trust and respect by creating an open and positive culture.
- ◀ Embrace technology and reduce our environmental impact by putting digital first and encouraging innovation and creativity.
- ◀ Ensure greater engagement through sharing of high-quality insight, information and content.
- ◀ Develop commercial minds to maximise funding opportunities and diversify income.

England Golf Course Planner – Strategic Direction (2021-2025)

England Golf has always had a mission to lead, support, inspire and deliver for its community of golfers, golf clubs and counties. To help enable this, its Course Planner forms the core of its strategy, with 18 guiding principles established that are designed to best position growth in the game:

- ◀ Strengthen governance in all aspects of the sport
- ◀ Deliver safeguarding throughout the golfing community
- ◀ Utilise data and technology to enhance decision making
- ◀ Drive equality and equity in everything it does
- ◀ Support golf clubs with member recruitment and retention
- ◀ Connect and engage with all golfers
- ◀ Inspire and educate golf's network of volunteers
- ◀ Increase golf's influence
- ◀ Advocate and inform on all elements of sustainability
- ◀ Drive diversity at all levels of golf
- ◀ Create more opportunities for junior and young adults
- ◀ Promote the health and wellbeing of golf
- ◀ Inspire more women and girls to play golf
- ◀ Develop greater access for disabled people
- ◀ Enthuse all golfers through relatable role models
- ◀ Communicate a positive perception change for golf
- ◀ Deliver an excellent talent development pathway
- ◀ Host best-in-class competitions for all golfers

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

<https://www.englandgolf.org/englandgolfstrategy/>

Archery GB's Strategic Plan (2021-2026)

This Strategic Plan aims to enrich lives through archery and rebuild, reimagine and re-present archery in the next five years. To do this, it has six strategic ambitions:

- ◀ Membership structure – an effective and efficient governance and delivery structure for the whole sport, with a member-centric membership offer.
- ◀ Empowering workforce – connections that engage, recruit and support the thousands of people who create opportunities for archery to happen.
- ◀ Diversity throughout – a diverse and inclusive organisation that enables everyone to be themselves and develop in a way that suits them.
- ◀ Archer recruitment – a revitalised club network, rebuilding from the damage of Covid-19, new groups, partnerships, places that increase the breadth of our archery communities.
- ◀ Digital first – putting digital transformation at the heart of the organisation, leveraging technology to modernise systems and resources.
- ◀ Pathway & podium – redefine GB performance archery and be the pioneers on the world archery stage.

British Crown Green Bowling Association

Please note there is no current facility guidance provided by British Crown Green Bowling Association responsible for crown green bowls in England.

<http://bcgba.org.uk/index.html>

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

APPENDIX 2: NON TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT SHEETS

Grass football pitch non-technical assessment

Non Technical Visual Quality Assessment - Football							
Please complete one form per pitch							
Site reference:	<input type="text"/>		Site Name:	<input type="text"/>			
6 figure grid reference	<input type="text"/>		Pitch ID(s):	<input type="text"/>			
Number of football pitches on site:	<input type="text"/>		Pitch size:	<input type="text"/> (Adult 11v11, Youth 11v11, 9v9, 7v7 Mini, 5v5, 7v7)			
Availability	<input type="text"/>		Are any other pitches marked out over this pitch?	<input type="text"/>			
If yes, please indicate what pitches are overmarked? (i.e. one youth pitch is overmarked on a adult pitch) in Pitch Issues							
Weather at time of visit & date of visit	<input type="text"/>						
Pitch Issues:	<input type="text"/>						
Assessment Criteria (please rank each of the following aspects for each pitch with an 'X' in the coloured box to the right of the chosen answer)							
Element (Gathered via a non technical site assessment)	Rating			Guidance notes	Comments		
Playing surface							
Grass Cover	Good >80%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adequate 60-80%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor <60%	<input type="checkbox"/>	Advice is to walk through the middle of the pitch
Does the pitch meet The FA minimum size?	Yes - as per the FA recommended size	<input type="checkbox"/>	Within FA recommended guidelines	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	See size chart below for recommended dimensions
Slope of pitch (gradient and cross fall)	Flat	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Severe	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Length of grass	Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Too long	<input type="checkbox"/>	Too short	<input type="checkbox"/>	Good 30mm-50mm, Too long 51mm plus, Too short 29mm less
Evenness of pitch	Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adequate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Problem Areas: Evidence of dog fouling/glass/litter/vehicle tracks	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes - some	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes - lots	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Problem Areas: Evidence of unofficial use/damage to the surface	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes - some	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes - lots	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Problem Areas: Evidence of poor drainage	No evidence of standing water or poor drainage	<input type="checkbox"/>	Some evidence of poor drainage	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, poor drainage	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Maintenance programme (information from maintenance schedule/grounds team/club survey)							
Grass cutting	Yes, as required	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, but not frequent enough	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Seeded	Yes, as required	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not known	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Aerated (per year)	Three or more times	<input type="checkbox"/>	Once/ twice	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sand dressed	Within the last 12 months	<input type="checkbox"/>	Within the last 2 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Fertilised	Within the last 12 months	<input type="checkbox"/>	Within the last 2 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Weed killed	Within the last 12 months	<input type="checkbox"/>	Within the last 2 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Section total							
NB If none of this information is provided you should assume that only the grass is being cut and the rest of the maintenance items should be marked with the lowest score option.							
PITCH SCORE			0.0%	RATING	Poor		

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Grass rugby pitch non-technical assessment

Non Technical Visual Quality Assessment - Rugby Union										
Please complete one form per pitch										
Site reference										
6 figure grid reference										
Date of assessment										
Number of pitches on site										
Availability										
Community Use - used, Community Use - unused, No Community Use, Available but Unused										
Weather at time of visit										
General comments/observations										
Assessment Criteria (please rank each of the following aspects for each pitch with an 'X' in the coloured box to the right of the chosen answer)										
Qualitative information (gathered on site)	Rating					Guidance notes	Comments			
Grass Coverage	Good					>90% = good, <80% = poor				
Size of pitch	Acceptable (between recommended minimum and maximum sizes)		Flag for further investigation (below recommended minimum size)		Poor	Unacceptable (above maximum size)	Maximum size = width 70m, goal line to goal line 100m, in goal area 22m, run offs 5m where practical. Recommended minimum size = width 68m, goal line to goal line 94m, in goal area 6m, run offs 5m where practical.			
Length of grass	Too Long		Good		Too short		Too long = >75mm. Too short = <50mm			
Problem Areas: Evidence of glass/litter/vehicle tracks/dog fouling	None		Yes - some		Yes lots					
GOALPOSTS										
Are goalposts installed?	Yes		No							
Is there any obvious danger on posts?	Yes		No							
Are the posts stable in the ground?	Yes		No							
Is the crossbar fixed securely?	Yes		No							
Is there evidence of rust on the posts?	Yes		No							
ANCILLARY										
Is the pitch floodlit?	Yes		No							
Is there changing accommodation for the pitch?	Yes		No							
Is an appropriate level of car parking available?	Yes		No							
Pitch maintenance (information gathered via club survey/ pitch provider consultation) - refer to the guidance notes below										
Aerated (per year)	three or more times		twice		once		never			
Sand dressed (per year)	three or more times		twice		once		never			
Fertilised (per year)	three or more times		twice		once		never			
Weed killed (per year)	three or more times		twice		once		never			
Chain harrowed	every week		fortnightly		monthly		never			
							Pitch Maintenance Score			
Drainage	Natural (inadequate) SCORE D0		Natural (adequate) SCORE D1		Pipe drained SCORE D2		Pipe and slit drained SCORE D3		Unknown SCORE D0	Natural (adequate) = 3 or less training/match cancellations per season Natural (inadequate) = 4 or more training match cancellations per season *Based on a pipe drained system at 5m centres that has been installed in the previous eight years **Based on a slit drained system at 1m centres completed in the previous five years.

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Artificial grass pitches non-technical assessment (including third generation turf pitches)

Non Technical Visual Quality Assessment - Artificial grass pitches									
Site reference				Site Name					
6 figure grid reference				Pitch ID					
Number of AGPs on site				Pitch size	Full (i.e., 100m x 60m)		Half (i.e., 60m x 40m)		
Availability	Community Use - used, Community Use - unused, No Community Use, Available but Unused								
Type of pitch	Long Pile 3G (65mm with shock pad) Sand Dressed		Medium Pile 3G (55-60mm) Sand Filled		Short Pile 3G (40mm) Water based				
Assessment Criteria (please rank each of the following aspects for each pitch with an 'X' in the coloured box to the right of the chosen answer)									
Element	Rating						Guidance notes	Site comments	
Age of Surface	less than 2 years		2-5 years		5-10 years		over 10 years		
Evidence of moss/lichen (all surfaces)	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Loose gravel (macadam surface)	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Holes or rips in surface (macadam, art. grass or polymeric surfaces)	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Grip underfoot	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Line markings - quality	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Problem Areas: Evidence of Glass/ stones/ litter	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Problem Areas: Evidence of inappropriate use	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots				
Problem Areas: Evidence of damage to surface	None		Yes - some		Yes - lots		If no evidence, assume none.		
Access for disabled players. i.e.: ramps onto courts, width of gates	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Condition of posts/ nets/ goals	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Surrounding fencing	Good		Adequate		Poor				
Adequate safety margins (w here appropriate)	Yes - fully		No- but adequate		No - not adequate				
Is the AGP floodlit?	Yes				No				
Is the AGP left open at all times?	Yes				No				
Are there dug outs?	Yes				No				
Are there youth shelters/spectator seating around AGP?	Yes				No				
Is there changing accommodation for the AGP?	Yes				No				
Maximum score	93		Scoring:	Poor <=50		Total Score	0		
				Standard 51-79		Potential Rating	Poor		
				Good 80+					