

Epping Forest Council Playing Pitch Strategy

PROJECT DETAILS	
CLIENT NAME	Epping Forest District Council
ASSIGNMENT TITLE	Epping Forest Council Playing Pitch Strategy
PURPOSE OF REPORT	ENGLAND AND WALES CRICKET BOARD DATA APPENDICES

Summary update:

- All cricket sites assessed
- Received responses from 15 out of 17 cricket clubs (88%)
- Information gathered in 4 global online platform www.playingpitch.com

Sign-off Process:

This datasheet is split into two sections;

- **Stage B Data** – Supply and demand data captured through site assessments and club consultations
- **Stage C Data and site by site analysis** – This is the analysis undertaken per site showing capacity, key issues and club requirements. This version of the data sheet will include a basic capacity analysis of all cricket sites, with further detail to be included in the full PPS report

STAGE A DATA**Pitch Supply**

The following table provides a full overview of all cricket pitches in the area.

The supply for grass and artificial is calculated by assuming that grass pitches can accommodate 5 matches per season and artificial pitches can accommodate 60 matches per season

Table 1: Cricket site breakdown

Playing Pitch Sites – currently providing community use for cricket	Community Use On Site	Secured Community Use	Ownership	Squares	Wickets (grass)	Wickets (artificial)	Supply: grass - artificial
Abridge Cricket Club	Available	Secured	Sports Club	1	6	1	30-60
Buckhurst Hill Cricket And Lacrosse Club	Available	Secured	Epping Forest DC /Sports Club	1	12	0	60-0
Buckhurst Hill Cricket Club	Available	Secured	Corporation of London	1	8	0	40-0
Buxton Playing Field	Available	Secured	Other	1	8	0	40-0
Chigwell School	Not Available	Unsecured	Private	1	32	0	160-0
Coopersale Cricket Club	Available	Secured	Corporation of London	1	9	0	45-0
Davenant Foundation School	Not Available	Unsecured	Academy	1	0	1	0-60
Epping Cricket Club	Available	Unsecured	Copper Hall Estate (Private)	1	11	0	55-0
Epping Foresters Cricket Club	Available	Unsecured	Corporation of London	1	12	0	60-0
Fives And Heronians Cricket Club	Available	Secured	Private	1	10	0	50-0
Fyfield Sports And Social Club	Available	Secured	Fyfield Parish Council	1	10	0	50-0
Hereward Primary School	Not Available	Secured	LEA	1	1	0	50-0
High Beach Cricket Club	Available	Secured	Private	1	6	0	30-0

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Jubilee Park Pavilion	Available	Secured	Ongar Town Council	1	10	1	50-60
Larsens Recreation Ground	Available	Secured	Parish Council (Specific PC unknown)	1	no cricket on site currently		N/A
Loughton Cricket Club	Available	Secured	Sports Club	1	12	0	60-0
Matching Green Cricket Club	Available	Secured	Sports Club	1	11	0	55-0
Memorial Playing Fields	Available	Secured	Community Organisation	1	9	0	45-0
Metropolitan Police (Chigwell Sports Club)	Available	Secured	Lord Mayors Office	1	8	0	40-0
Nazeing Common	Available	Unsecured	Private	1	14	0	80-0
Old Chigwellians Club	Available	Unsecured	Other	1	8	0	40-0
Queens Head Meadow	Available	Secured	Sports Club	1	no cricket on site currently		N/A
Roding Valley Cricket Club	Available	Secured	Epping Forest District Council	4	10	0	50-0
Roding Valley High School	Not Available	Unsecured	LEA	1	0	2	0-120
Roydon Playing Fields	Available	Secured	Roydon Playing Fields Trust	1	10	0	50-0
South Loughton Cricket Club	Available	Secured	Loughton Town Council	1	8	0	40-0
Townmead Leisure Park	Available	Secured	Waltham Abbey Town Council	1	no cricket on site currently		N/A
Willingale Cricket Club	Available	Secured	Willingale Parish Council	2	7	1	35-60

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Tenure/ management breakdown

The following table provides a breakdown of the cricket pitches in the area by ownership and management (please note that this table refers to pitches and not sites).

Table 2: Ownership of cricket sites

Type of ownership	Ownership	Management
Academy	1	0
Corporation of London	3	0
Epping Forest DC	2	3
LEA	2	0
Other	4	1
Private	5	0
School	0	4
Sports Club	4	16
Town / Parish Council	6	1
Trust	1	3

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Quality Assessment

4 global has visited and assessed all cricket sites in the area. Each site (and pitch) has been provided with quality ratings for 5 areas (as per Sport England guidance) that can be seen in the table below.

Table 3: Pitch quality scores

Site	Outfield	Artificial Wickets	Grass Wickets	Changing /Pavilion	Non Turf Practice	Overall Score	Rating
Abridge Cricket Club	100.00%	57.14%	100.00%	80.00%	58.33%	79.10%	Good
Buckhurst Hill Cricket And Lacrosse Club	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	91.67%	97.92%	Good
Buckhurst Hill Cricket Club	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%	92.00%	0.00%	97.33%	Good
Buxton Playing Field	93.33%	0.00%	83.33%	80.00%	58.33%	78.75%	Good
Chigwell School	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%	80.00%	91.67%	92.92%	Good
Chigwell School	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%	72.00%	91.67%	90.92%	Good
Chigwell School	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	Good
Chigwell School	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	Good
Coopersale Cricket Club	50.00%	0.00%	50.00%	40.00%	0.00%	46.67%	Poor
Davenant Foundation School	76.67%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	76.67%	Good
Epping Cricket Club	73.33%	0.00%	66.67%	40.00%	66.67%	61.67%	Standard
Epping Foresters Cricket Club	80.00%	0.00%	66.67%	72.00%	66.67%	71.33%	Standard

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Site	Outfield	Artificial Wickets	Grass Wickets	Changing /Pavilion	Non Turf Practice	Overall Score	Rating
Fives And Heronians Cricket Club	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	58.33%	89.58%	Good
Fyfield Sports And Social Club	93.33%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	0.00%	97.78%	Good
Hereward Primary School	86.67%	71.43%	0.00%	60.00%	0.00%	72.70%	Standard
High Beach Cricket Club	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%	52.00%	0.00%	84.00%	Good
Jubilee Park Pavilion	86.67%	42.86%	100.00%	92.00%	0.00%	80.38%	Good
Loughton Cricket Club	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	83.33%	95.83%	Good
Matching Green Cricket Club	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	83.33%	95.83%	Good
Memorial Playing Fields	60.00%	0.00%	66.67%	52.00%	83.33%	65.50%	Standard
Metropolitan Police (Chigwell Sports Club)	100.00%	28.57%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	76.19%	Good
Nazeing Common	80.00%	0.00%	83.33%	20.00%	66.67%	62.50%	Standard
Old Chigwellians Club	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%	Good
Roding Valley Cricket Club	86.67%	0.00%	100.00%	32.00%	0.00%	72.89%	Standard
Roding Valley High School	56.70%	28.57%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.60%	Poor
Roding Valley High School	56.70%	28.57%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.60%	Poor

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Site	Outfield	Artificial Wickets	Grass Wickets	Changing /Pavilion	Non Turf Practice	Overall Score	Rating
Roydon Playing Fields	73.33%	0.00%	66.67%	52.00%	0.00%	64.00%	Standard
South Loughton Cricket Club	80.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	0.00%	93.33%	Good
Willingale Cricket Club	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	92.00%	0.00%	98.00%	Good

Key Site Summaries

Site	Assessment Summary
Abridge Cricket Club	A high quality site with a good clubhouse. The site is owned by Trustees and the committee undertake the maintenance. Loughton cricket club lease the site for disability cricket. Concerns were raised about trees - starting to affect the ground – the council have cut back but not enough.
Buckhurst Hill Cricket And Lacrosse Club	High quality site with new sight screens, good nets, good club house and changing facilities. The site has potential to develop a 2nd pitch on the back field if some hedge timing / tree removal took place. Or an artificial practice pitch could be installed for junior cricket. The club have access to Bancrofts School for Indoor net. The site can suffer from flood damage (pavilion flooded twice in recent years)
Buxton Playing Field	Another high quality site, owned by Buxton Trust. A contractor looks after the wickets and the rest of site looked after by volunteers. They have had numerous requests for more football pitches and there is a constant battle for time on playing field between football and cricket. Changing rooms were built in 2015. The site has a fenced shed for machinery and an electronic score board.
Coopersale Cricket Club	A site surrounded on two sides by Epping Forest. The ancillary facility requires significant attention. The pitch, which is maintained by volunteers, is in an adequate condition. The site appeared to be suffering from some issues with vandalism and minor anti social behaviour
Davenant Foundation School	The site is owned and predominately used by the school. It has 1 artificial wicket, no pavilion or practice nets. Loughton cricket club have a lease coming to an end in April 2018 - they use the site during the week and weekends. School contractors undertake maintenance.

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Epping Cricket Club	The club's ancillary facilities are in a poor state and require urgent attention. Otherwise the pitch, outfield and practice facilities are in an adequate condition. The site has been proposed for housing in the local plan but the club are confident of remaining on the site for the foreseeable future. Volunteers are at a premium but generally the club is operating well.
Epping Foresters Cricket Club	Corporation of London owned, yearly rent (Peppercorn). New showers, netting, and score board are needed. The pitch struggles to retain nutrients in soil. They also struggle with deer and rabbits.
Fives And Heronians Cricket Club	High quality site (owned by a family), with good changing rooms and pavilion. Shortage is a concern and a priority for club. Their lease is due in 2 years time.
Fyfield Sports And Social Club	Low quality pitch. The club are left to maintain square, the sports and social club fund a contractor to cut the outfield. The club has no access to the pavilion on match days, due to ongoing issue with Village Hall Committee
High Beach Cricket Club	The site is difficult to find – poor signage. The land is owned by Wallsgrove House (local resident) and the Cricket club have an agreement with the owners (no money involved). Maintenance is undertaken by volunteers from the club. The clubhouse is dated but in acceptable condition (have licensed bar). The club would like funding for new machinery and a bowling machine.
Jubilee Park Pavilion	Council maintained site which is in good quality. The club are taking on maintenance from October.
Loughton Cricket Club	A good site with high a quality club house with separate changing & umpires building. Some issues were identified with balls going out of the ground and netting is now required. A second pitch at Davenant School has been created but not used due to the high cost (£4k cost for 18 games). The club are currently using Whitbread's (Redbridge) Ground at £100 a game, year on year lease.
Matching Green Cricket Club	Village green setting, with a new Sport England Inspired Facilities Funding Pavilion, and a well maintained pitch/outfield. No immediate needs identified in consultation. Potential for internal work on the second floor of the pavilion. Groundsman volunteer/ club has own equipment (possibly in need of an upgrade in next 2-3 years)
Memorial Playing Fields	A good site and pavilion but with drainage issues. The cricket outfield is maintained by a contractor and the square by the club. The site has recently had new nets installed (paid by the LA). There is a lack of adequate maintenance equipment on the site but both of maintenance sheds for the football and cricket clubs are in a poor condition. Vandalism is also an issue on the site. The centre requires new fire doors.

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Nazeing Common	The land is owned by tithe cottages meaning there is no formal security of tenure. The pavilion is in need of replacement. They have a design costing 300k - the club could provide 10% of the funds.
Old Chigwellians Club	Club house and changing rooms are separate from the school site. It is used by Fives and Heronians as a second ground.
Roding Valley Cricket Club	The club have 11 years left on a 25 years lease. The site has problems around vandalism of clubhouse and nets (burnt down 2 years ago). The pitch is in good condition, maintained by club, and the council cut the outfield. It suffers from motor bikes/ dog fouling. The site is on flood plain, which will flood once a year. Changing rooms currently have no hot water.
South Loughton Cricket Club	The site is on a flood plan and the buildings suffer from vandalism. The club have an excellent junior programme in place and a strong club structure.
Willingale Cricket Club	Village cricket site, with a good quality setting, that is maintained by club volunteers.

Pitch Demand

This section provides an overview of the clubs in the area. Table 4 provides a summary breakdown of clubs that have responded to 4 global. Table 5 provides a breakdown of clubs that have yet to respond, along with action already undertaken and suggested further action required.

Table 4: Responding cricket clubs

Club	No. of competitive teams			Total
	Senior men	Senior women	Juniors	
Abridge CC	2	0	0	2
Buckhurst Hill CC*	6	0	5	11
Coopersale CC*	1	0	0	1
Epping CC	3	0	0	3
Epping Foresters CC	4	0	4	8
Fives & Heronians CC	4	0	6	10
Fyfield CC	1	0	3	4
High Beach CC	1	0	0	1
Loughton CC	6	0	13	19
Matching Green CC	4	0	1	5

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Nazeing Common CC	5	0	1	6
North Weald CC	2	0	1	3
Ongar CC	1	0	0	1
Roding Valley CC	5	0	0**	5
South Loughton CC	4	0	3	7
Theydon Bois CC	2	0	3	5
Willingale CC	2	0	0	2
Total	53	0	44	97

* Failed to respond to 4 global's survey. Team information obtained via online research

** Roding Valley CC previously had senior and junior teams as part of the same club, however due to a disagreement within the club the junior side have now split and play under the name Bancroft Lions. This demand is displaced outside of the District to Bancroft West Grove Playing Fields.

Table 5: Non responding cricket clubs

Club	4G contact	4G contact 2	Reason for no contact
Buckhurst Hill CC*	Several emails sent	Several emails sent	No response – contact number required
Coopersale CC*	Several emails sent	Several emails sent	No response – contact number required

Key club consultation summaries

Loughton CC: a total of 19 teams, with 6 adult sides and a large junior section with teams ranging from U7s to U18s. The club has seen an increase in demand in recent years, particularly in the junior groups, and is expecting further growth of at least one more adult and two adult teams in coming seasons.

Three adult sides are currently playing home fixtures outside of the study area in Redbridge due to the high cost of hiring the pitch at Davenant School (a site they used to play at and that they have identified as their preferred one for these teams).

Loughton Cricket Club ground is trustee owned (soon to be taken by Loughton Town Council) and managed and maintained by the club. They have rated the quality of the pitches as good and the ancillary was deemed adequate but with some room for improvement. A need for additional parking space was also identified.

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Epping Foresters CC: a total of 8 teams, with 4 adults and juniors in the U7, U9, U11 and U13 groups. They currently rent their ground from Corporation of London and they manage and maintain it themselves. The quality of the pitch was rated as good, although some evidence of dog fouling/litter and an uneven outfield were identified. Ancillary facilities were also deemed good but the club stated a need for additional training facilities (mobile net cage and flik training carpet)

Roding Valley CC: 5 adult and 4 junior teams (U7, U9, U11, U13). The club has seen an increase in demand in recent years, growing from 3 to 5 adult sides due to new players coming through from the juniors. In the next 3 years, they are expecting to have an additional men's team, a new women's one and 2 more juniors.

The club have a 25 year lease (approx. 11 left) from Epping Forest Council at their ground. Pitch quality has been identified as good and showing slight improvements from previous seasons due to additional maintenance work carried out by the club in the off season. The ancillary facilities were deemed acceptable and the club stated that the site suffers from severe vandalism problems (constant graffiti around the building, practice nets set on fire, building broken into are some of the recent incidences).

Two of the senior teams currently play outside of Epping Forest at Clayhall Park due to a lack of available pitches. The club stated that they would prefer this play to take place within the study area: "We have a large playing area adjacent to the existing ground and combining with existing area we can have 2 playing areas at the same location"

STAGE C SITE-BY-SITE ANALYSIS**3. SUPPLY AND DEMAND BALANCE – CAPACITY ANALYSIS**

Table 7 below presents the supply and demand capacity analysis for cricket in the area.

Table 6: Capacity Analysis

Site Name	No of Pitches	No of wickets	No of Non-Turf wickets	Games Per Season		Site Comments
				Games played (Adult – Junior)	Capacity	
Abridge Cricket Club	1	6	1	30-0	30-60	The site is currently at capacity for grass wickets
Buckhurst Hill Cricket And Lacrosse Club	1	12	0	40-25	60-0	The site is currently over capacity for grass wickets
Buckhurst Hill Cricket Club	1	8	0	20-0	40-0	his site is currently under capacity for grass wickets
Buxton Playing Field	1	8	0	20-15	40-0	This site is currently under capacity for grass wickets
Coopersale Cricket Club	1	9	0	10-0	45-0	This site is currently under capacity for grass wickets
Davenant Foundation School	1	0	1	9-0	0-60	This site is currently over capacity for grass wickets
Epping Cricket Club	1	11	0	30-0	55-0	This site is currently under capacity for grass wickets
Epping Foresters Cricket Club	1	12	0	48-40	60-0	The site is currently over capacity for grass wickets
Fives And Heronians Cricket Club	1	10	0	40-30	50-0	The site is currently over capacity for grass wickets
Fyfield Sports And Social Club	1	10	0	4-10	50-0	This site is currently under capacity for grass wickets

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High Beach Cricket Club	1	6	0	10-0	30-0	This site is currently under capacity for grass wickets
Jubilee Park Pavilion	1	10	1	10-0	50-60	This site is currently under capacity for grass wickets
Loughton Cricket Club	1	12	0	34-96	60-0	The site is currently over capacity for grass wickets
Matching Green Cricket Club	1	11	0	37-6	55-0	This site is currently under capacity for grass wickets
Memorial Playing Fields	1	9	0	30-10	45-0	This site is currently under capacity for grass wickets
Nazeing Common	1	14	0	29-5	80-0	This site is currently under capacity for grass wickets
Old Chigwellians Club	1	8	0	9-0	40-0	This site is currently under capacity for grass wickets
Roding Valley Cricket Club	4	10	0	50-0	50-0	The site is currently at capacity for grass wickets
South Loughton Cricket Club	1	8	0	43-18	40-0	The site is currently over capacity for grass wickets
Willingale Cricket Club	2	7	1	20-0	35-60	This site is currently under capacity for grass wickets