

LK2

SPORTS FACILITY ASSESSMENT
City of Lincoln Council



CITY OF
Lincoln
COUNCIL

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1. Executive Summary

City of Lincoln Council (CoLC) has an ambition to have more **strategic influence** over the Sport, Leisure and Recreation provision across the City, including the strategic delivery of the sport and leisure service to the community.

The provision of sporting venues and playing pitches across the City is **currently disparate** and has been developed over the years on the basis of demand rather than strategic thinking. It is hoped that in the future, a coordinated approach to provision could dramatically improve the **participation rates** for sport, physical activity and health and wellbeing activity and maximise efficiencies, particularly in maintenance, programming, and financial sustainability.

CoLC should be at the forefront of this by taking a **different approach** to provision of services and or maintaining assets.

This assessment and report provides CoLC with a **holistic review** of the existing provision of grass pitches, artificial pitches and ancillary facilities across the City. This assessment has been conducted in order to assist CoLC to make **informed decisions** about the future needs and requirements and provides a detailed, **evidence-based** document for sport and leisure provision across the City of Lincoln and its boundaries.

The facilities assessment has reviewed the existing provision, current usage from sports clubs, predicted population growth, supply and demand modelling and aligned the implications of the **western growth corridor** and the demographics of the catchment areas that surround the facilities.

The western growth corridor, which is Lincoln's Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE), will see the Lincoln population rise significantly. This will lead to **increased pressure** on the **existing sporting** infrastructure, with the population expected to rise by over **7000 new residents**, in addition to Lincoln's expected population growth.

Through evaluating the **quantity, community accessibility and availability** of the existing sport and leisure provision within Lincoln, we have been able to identify current and future need. Alongside this, we have also provided advice and insight into the existing local and national policies that influence future provision and which policies need to be adhered to within any future rationalisation. This is especially important when considering the impact of the WGC and future infrastructure changes.

The report summarises the **local and national sport associated strategies**, which will influence key decisions for the sports being assessed in this review and in particular we have aligned to the FA national pitch improvement plan (PIP).

The conclusions reached within this study are that a tiered system should be developed for the provision of pitch-based sports in the City. These tiers are classified as per the graphic below.



Tier one – *Large single site with multiple indoor and outdoor sport offerings with full community access.*



Tier two – *Single site with multiple sport offerings with managed or agreed community access*



Tier three – *Small single site with separate sports / activity offerings*



Tier four – *Small single site with only one sport / activity offering.*

It is proposed within this report that each tier will have a discreet strategy to either ‘invest, maintain or support’ in CoLC assets, which will be reviewed on a periodic basis.

It is further believed that the tier one facilities should be **strategically located** across the City to provide a **‘geographical split’** based on demand, population density and available associated facilities. The remaining tiered facilities (2,3,4) are then chosen to support the principal site in that **sub-region**. This is particularly important when considering the impact of the western growth corridor.

This approach will enable CoLC to have control of the budget for sports and leisure facilities and strategically provide venues for sports teams and clubs based on a prescribed priority list. Over the long term, this will bring about cost efficiency (savings) for CoLC and a more organised approach to the provision of playing pitches and sports facilities in the City.

2. Introduction

City of Lincoln Council (CoLC) are currently reviewing the existing provision of grass pitches, artificial turf pitches and ancillary sports facilities across the City, with a view to making informed decisions about the future needs and requirements.

Accordingly, this report will assess the following:

- Existing facility provision within the Lincoln boundary:
 - Assessment of all Grass Pitch Provision across all Sports,
 - Assessment of all Artificial Turf Pitches across all Sports,
 - Assessment of all Ancillary Sports Facilities.
- Current usage from identified sports clubs,
- Predicted population growth,
- Analysis of the proposed Sustainable Urban Extension - Western Growth Corridor,
- Future demand analysis,
- Recommendations for facility provision to meet future demands within the city boundary.

CoLC has noted the drive to implement a strategic approach in the delivery of its sport and leisure services to the community. The Council acknowledges the important role it plays, but also notes the need for collaboration with its key partners throughout this assessment.

This assessment encompasses a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the existing supply and demand of Football, Rugby Union, Hockey, Tennis and Cricket to provide robust whole pitch use / demand in line with Sport England methodology.

Whilst the assessment is based on the facilities within the City of Lincoln boundary, the report recognises the wider Lincolnshire County and neighbouring district contributions. It is to be noted, given the tight City of Lincoln boundary, a significant proportion of the 'Central Lincolnshire' population extends to adjoining districts of North Kesteven and West Lindsey.

This assessment identifies and notes the 'cross-boundary' catchment and facilities and therefore addresses the impact of these within the report. In addition, the population growth of the Central Lincolnshire area should be considered when making decisions about future supply of facilities and services.

The resident population of Lincoln is currently circa 99,309 and this is set to increase significantly to 104,200 by 2040 as a consequence of a number of key developments across the City including the western growth corridor which will see:

- up to 3200 dwellings, with a local centre comprising of retail and commercial units and a new primary school
- a commercial employment area of up to 20Ha
- a regional sport and leisure complex, comprising a new stadium, health and leisure facilities, a hotel and ancillary facilities.

For the Central Lincolnshire authorities of City of Lincoln, North Kesteven and West Lindsey, a total of 36,960 new homes have been identified, alongside new employment, commercial and leisure developments, as well as supporting infrastructure such as schools, sports pitches and public open space.

As the biggest settlement within Central Lincolnshire, the City of Lincoln and its immediate surrounding area is required to deliver approximately two thirds of this development.

To ensure this development is brought forward in a planned and sustainable manner, the majority of Lincoln's development is to be delivered through a combination of urban regeneration and the creation of four sustainable urban extensions (SUEs). The Western Growth Corridor is one of these four SUEs, and its development is key to meeting the objectives of the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan and ensuring the continued growth and success of the City of Lincoln.

This population growth will lead to increased participation and therefore increased pressure on the existing sporting infrastructure. These developments need to be factored into the strategic thinking to align demand from population growth against the facility provision largely in respect of the main sports.

- Due to the nature of the City of Lincoln boundary, a 10-mile radius has been utilised initially in order to analyse clubs and population that is pertinent to Lincoln residents.
- It is acknowledged that the facilities that are located within the 10 miles will be used by residents from neighbouring districts and therefore the facilities 'import usage'.
- It is also acknowledged that Lincoln residents may choose to use facilities outside of the city boundary and this creates 'export' usage.
- In order to ensure the data is robust in the context of the wider Central Lincolnshire catchment, a 20 minute drive-time analysis (as a snapshot) has been applied.

This sports facility assessment provides a holistic review and assessment of the actual supply and demand for pitch-based sports now and in the future. To achieve this, all relevant sites and full extent of demand, usage and supply across the identified pitch sports will be undertaken to provide the City of Lincoln Council with a clear strategy going forward.

3. Project Methodology

To deliver this assessment, LK2 and CoLC set out a robust methodology in response to the project brief.

The methodology used for this assessment follows the key concepts as constructed by Sport England in relation to the production of a playing pitch strategy (as per diagram below). **However, for clarity this assessment is not a full Playing Pitch Strategy.** This assessment has been developed in alignment to Sport England PPS methodology (where possible) in order to support CoLC in future developments of their strategic documentation.

Figure 1: Developing and Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy – The 10 Step Approach



The methodology has been created in a bespoke way in order to maximise the efficiencies and local elements associated with the City of Lincoln and surrounding area. This assessment will focus on the core sports of Football, Rugby Union, Hockey, Tennis and Cricket, whilst incorporating all types of Artificial Turf Pitches to provide robust data.

The purpose of this approach to the development of this assessment is to align the findings from this report into a full playing pitch strategy, if this is deemed necessary.

4. Influencing factors

There are a number of factors which influence strategic decisions which may be made as a consequence of this sports facility assessment. These influences are either direct or indirect. Direct influences are known about and will have an impact on the decision-making process. Indirect influences are not yet known about and may have an impact on future decisions.

Some of these influences are highlighted in the infographic below.



4.1 Physical Activity Strategy

This sports facility assessment is intrinsically linked to the strategies for developing physical activity levels across the communities in the City.

CoLC has undertaken a detailed assessment into Physical Activity within the city’s boundaries and as a result has identified two distinct strategies which formally link to the Sports Facility Assessment.

- The City of Lincoln Physical Activity Strategy – Communities & Residents
- The City of Lincoln Physical Activity Strategy – Council Employee’s.

The **City of Lincoln Physical activity** for its residents is guided by the following vision:

‘To deliver, support facilitate and above all inspire Lincoln residents to be more active, more often and make physical activity part of everyday life’

The strategy, will run from 2021-2026, will have four strategic objectives and associated guiding principles in order achieve this vision.

- **Strategic Objective 1** - Increased participation through using council owned sports, leisure and community centres
- **Strategic Objective 2** - Increased participation through outreach programmes in the community
- **Strategic Objective 3** - Increased participation through physical activity campaigns
- **Strategic Objective 4** - Increased participation through better use of data, trend analysis and targeted approach to advertising and marketing for specific groups



Lincoln City is part of the multi-agency approach to improving physical levels in Lincolnshire. As such the authority plays a role in the following local and national strategies

- Let's move Lincolnshire – Physical Activity taskforce
- Active Lincolnshire – Strategic Plan for Physical Activity
- Health & Wellbeing: 'Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy'
- STP: 'Sustainable Transformation Plan'
- Local area plans & the voluntary sector (including infrastructure)
- Sport England – Towards an Active Nation
- DCMS: 'Sporting Futures'
- PHE: 'Everybody active, every day'
- NHS: Five-Year Forward View
- UK Active – More people, more active, more often.



More people
More active
More often



Current Physical Activity levels

It is fundamental to the City of Lincoln Council that the data within the Physical Activity Strategy and Sports Facility Assessment are intrinsically linked and impacts (positively) upon the supply and demand modelling for the future sports provision across the City of Lincoln catchment.

The total adult population of the City of Lincoln is 55,200 adults (16+). The Sport England Active Lives Survey data demonstrates the levels of activity of adults (16+) in sport and active recreation in each area.

In the City of Lincoln from May 2019 to May 2020 the following statistics were recorded: -

- Inactive (Less than 30 minutes a week)
 - Fairly Active (30–149 minutes a week)
 - Active (150+ minutes a week)
- 28.7% of the resident population in City of Lincoln are inactive. City of Lincoln has a lower inactivity rate when compared to the county (Lincolnshire – 30.6%) and is about the same as the national (England – 25.5%) averages.
 - 8.8% of the resident population of the City of Lincoln are fairly active compared to 12.4% in Lincolnshire and 11.7% across England.
 - 62.5% of the total population are active which compares to 57.0% in Lincolnshire and 62.8% in England.

In December 2018, Sport England’s Active Lives Survey data was extended to Children and Young People (School Years 1 to 11). The data demonstrates levels of activity in sport and active recreation in the City of Lincoln from academic year 2018/19: -

- Less Active (Less than an average of 30 minutes a day)
 - Fairly Active (An average of 30-59 minutes a day)
 - Active Every Day (60+ Minutes or more every day)
- 20.7% of children and young people in the City of Lincoln are less active. City of Lincoln is lower when compared to the county (Lincolnshire – 23.2%) and national (England – 29%) averages.
 - 53% of children and young people the City of Lincoln are active every day. City of Lincoln has a better active everyday participation rate when compared to county (Lincolnshire – 50.6%) and national (England – 46.8%) averages.

Please see Appendix 2 for detailed information on active lives data.

4.2 Demographics

Lincoln, a vibrant city is home to just under 100,000 people, has seen extensive infrastructural growth since the 1990's. The City is one of eight British Heritage Cities, principally due to the presence of the Cathedral and the Castle Quarter. The introduction of Lincoln University, several city centre developments and multi-million-pound investments have transformed the City.

Of the 99,038 people, 49,217 are male and 49,822 are female. The most popular age range is 25-29 which is much higher than the England average. In relation to the Sport England demographic segments and Sport England Active Lives surveys which measure the activity levels of people across England, the highest percentage of the Lincoln's population are classified within Jamie 9.9%, Leanne 7.0%, Phillip 7.5% and Kev 8.3%. Of these segments Jamie and Leanne are typically aged between 18- 25 and Jamie, in particular, has the propensity to play team sports. Please see Appendix 3 for more details on Sport England segmentation.

The key demographics of the City are captured in the info graphic below



4.3 Population growth

The rate of Lincolnshire's population growth has increased in recent years, but latest figures show that it is below the national rate of growth. Projections made by the office of national statistics indicate that by 2041 the population growth of Lincolnshire will increase 11 per cent. Whilst this growth rate is below the projected national growth rate of 12 per cent, in real terms the population of Lincolnshire is projected to increase by approximately 79,600 people.

The trend towards an ageing population profile will continue, with the proportion of people over 75 years of age projected to increase by 88% between 2016 and 2041.

The City of Lincoln population is set to increase to 104,200 by 2041, representing a 7% increase from 2016.

The table below shows the summary of the population projections for Lincolnshire when compared to regional and nationwide figures.

	2016	2021	2031	2041	Change (%) 2016-2021	Change (%) 2016-2031	Change (%) 2016-2041
Lincolnshire	744,800	766,300	802,000	824,400	3	8	11
Boston	67,700	69,600	71,800	73,300	3	6	8
East Lindsey	138,700	140,700	144,900	147,700	1	4	6
Lincoln	97,400	98,500	102,400	104,200	1	5	7
North Kesteven	113,600	117,400	123,200	126,900	3	8	12
South Holland	92,500	95,900	101,200	105,200	4	9	14
South Kesteven	140,900	146,500	155,500	161,400	4	10	15
West Lindsey	93,900	97,600	103,000	105,700	4	10	13
East Midlands	4,725,400	4,874,100	5,127,100	5,311,400.00	3	9	12
England	55,268,100	57,030,500	59,789,800	61,952,100.00	3	8	12

Source: Office for National Statistics

This sports facility assessment highlights the need to understand the relationship between population growth and playing pitch / sports facility supply and demand. A higher population growth would mean more teams for particular clubs in certain areas resulting in the potential greater need for pitches and sporting facilities. However, evidential data will need to be evaluated for each site to determine the site carrying capacity.

4.4 Sustainable Urban Extensions – The Western Growth Corridor

The Western Growth Corridor is a Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) to Lincoln, which will deliver approximately 3,200 new homes across 20 hectares. At an average occupancy of 2.2 people per dwelling, this will increase the population of Lincoln by circa 7,000 new residents. This is in addition to the population estimates noted above and would lead to a city population of circa 111,000.

The SUE also includes a range of mixed-use development including commercial, leisure, retail, primary education and open space, which will attract employment and other commercial benefits.

NB: the formal mix of the Western Growth Corridor infrastructure and facilities is still to be agreed.

The developments proposed as part of the western growth corridor will have a positive impact on the City of Lincoln and these need to be taken into account when assessing future need. / demand alongside other significant housing growths within the immediate catchment.



Position Update – September 2020

Plans which will see Lincoln benefit from a Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) of 3,200 new homes with improved infrastructure and the creation of thousands of new jobs have moved a step closer to becoming reality.

Revised and additional documents relating to the Western Growth Corridor have been submitted to the city's planning authority in September 2020.

The plans include

- 3,200 new homes (20 per cent of which would be affordable),
- 20 hectares of commercial/employment space,
- a new Leisure Village,
- green space and
- flood mitigation improvements.

The development area is one of four sustainable urban extensions (SUE) areas allocated in the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan.

The majority of Lincoln's development is to be delivered through a combination of urban regeneration and the creation of four sustainable urban extensions (SUEs). The Western Growth Corridor is one of these four SUEs, and its development is key to meeting the objectives of the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan and ensuring the continued growth and success of the City of Lincoln.

It is to be noted the demand from the associated residential developments as noted above, needs to be taken into account, the City of Lincoln council will use this assessment and associated facility works to support and help inform the Western Growth Corridor proposals for Sport, Leisure and Recreation.

4.5 Team Generation Rates and the Playing Pitch Calculator

Team Generation Rate (TGR's)

Team generation rates (TGR's) are a long-standing methodology for calculating the propensity of a population to take part in pitch-based sports within a team structure.

TGR's are a measure of the number of people in a specified age group required to generate one team. The TGR is derived by dividing the appropriate population age band in an area by the number of teams in the area in that age band.

$$\text{TGR} = \text{population in age group} / \text{number of teams}$$

This information is very important to the supply and demand assessment of the existing facilities now and critical for projection of future requirements.

The Team Generation Rate calculation uses the current number of teams and the current population to calculate a proxy measure of the number of total residents per relevant sports team. This measure is therefore applied to the projected population (depending on the length of the strategy) to predict how many additional teams will be required in order to satisfy the demand from the 'new' population.

It is important to note that this calculation assumes that clubs, the Council and the National Governing Bodies do not improve their marketing or participation schemes over the period and are therefore no more successful than they are now in attracting new players to participate in sport in the study area.

In reality, it is expected that there will be improved channels of digital communication and improved maintenance technology, as well as higher quality ancillary provision. The output of this will be a higher quality and an improved ability to generate demand and convert it into participation.

Playing Pitch Calculator (PPC)

The purpose of the playing pitch calculator is to assist the development and implementation for sport and facility assessments within local authorities. It has been developed to help local authorities with estimating the demand that may be generated for the use of playing pitches by a new population. It looks to provide a consistent 'starting point' to estimating the demand which can then be refined locally as appropriate.

The calculator can be used to inform the development and/or update of a strategy by helping to estimate the demand from:

- overall population growth in an area to feed into the assessment of future demand.
- the population of individual development proposals (e.g. an urban extension, such as the WGC) to feed into any scenario testing at the strategy development stage.

The calculator can also be used to inform the implementation of a strategy by informing discussion, alongside the assessments itself, on the demand that may be generated by a proposed residential development (at the pre-application and planning application stages)

Robust and up to date information enables the use of the Playing Pitch Calculator, the use of the PPC needs to be in conjunction, read and interpreted alongside this Sports Facility Assessment and associated actions plans.

For clarity, Sport England sanction the use of the Playing Pitch Calculator once a formal Playing Pitch Strategy is agreed by all as being robust. CoLC will consider the advancement of this assessment into a Playing Pitch Strategy when applicable.

4.6 Sport England Planning Policy Guidance

To help protect and enhance the provision of playing fields within England, Sport England is a statutory consultee in the planning system. This means that local planning authorities are required to consult Sport England on planning applications, which affect playing fields.

As part of this assessment site by site or sport by sport action plans may lead to planning applications that affect Playing Fields, it is therefore key that the strategic evidence contained within this report is linked to the relevant and further documentation, for example a) Playing Pitch Strategy, 2) National Planning Policy Framework (Para 96).

Subject to these reports proposals, CoLC should continue to engage and consult with Sport England. Sport England should be identified as a project stakeholder, with assessment carried out as a strategic exercise based on robust data rather than ad-hoc planning applications (where possible).

As a statutory consultee, significant weight should be given to Sport England response in the determination of any planning application affecting playing fields and open space.

Sport England will oppose the granting of planning permission for any development which would lead to the loss of, or would prejudice the use of:

- All or any part of a playing field, or
- Land which has been used as a playing field and remains undeveloped, or
- Land allocated for use as a playing field.

Unless, in the judgement of Sport England, the development as a whole meet with one or more of five specific exceptions, which are outlined in full below.

Exception 1 – Excess of provision – A carefully quantified and documented assessment of current and future needs has demonstrated to the satisfaction of Sport England that there is an excess of playing field provision in the catchment, and the site has no special significance to the interests of sport.

Exception 2 – Ancillary development – The proposed development is ancillary to the principal use of the site as a playing field or playing fields and does not affect the quantity or quality of pitches or adversely affect their use.

Exception 3 – Land incapable of forming part of a pitch – The proposed development affects only land incapable of forming, or forming part of, a playing pitch, and does not result in the loss of or inability to make use of any playing pitch (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins), a reduction in the size of the playing areas of any playing pitch or the loss of any other sporting/ancillary facilities on the site.

Exception 4 – Replacement provision – The playing field or playing fields, which would be lost because of the proposed development, would be replaced by a playing field or playing fields of an equivalent or better quality and of equivalent or greater quantity, in a suitable location and subject to equivalent or better management arrangements, prior to the commencement of development.

Exception 5 – Sports facilities – The proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor sports facility, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss of the playing field or playing fields.

A key consideration for an assessment of need to help shape and assess the project proposals, which may affect existing sporting provision, is the need to satisfy Paragraph 97 of the NPPF which states that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be 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; or
- The development is for an alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.

The evidence contained within this assessment and associated strategies will be used to inform policy and decisions in line with NPPF Paragraph 97.

4.7 Links to Wider Strategies

The following information has been extracted from identified strategies and studies to help lead, inform and support potential future development of sports facilities. Please note information below comprises of verbatim extracts from relevant documentation.

The Central Lincolnshire Local Plan

The Central Lincolnshire Local Plan was adopted on 24 April 2017 and provides planning policies for the growth and regeneration of Central Lincolnshire until 2036. Between the Central Lincolnshire authorities (City of Lincoln, North Kesteven and West Lindsey), a total of 36,960 new homes need to be delivered over a 25-year period.

As Lincoln is one of the largest settlements it is required to deliver approximately two-thirds (64%) of the total developments. Approximately 25 per cent have been built or given permission since 2012.

In addition to the new homes there will be new employment, commercial and leisure developments, schools, sports pitches and public open spaces.

This ensures the development of homes, jobs and essential facilities take place in the right areas and are well planned – building for the future while protecting green, open spaces, preserving our heritage and providing habitats for wildlife.

The key findings from the local plan highlight:

Delivery of a large number of new homes with community facilities and services to support these. This increased population will still impact on existing provisions in the region.

Lincolnshire County Council Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy

The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) is a document that aims to inform and influence decisions about the commissioning and delivery of health and social care services in Lincolnshire, so that they are focused on the needs of the people who use them and tackle the factors that affect everyone's health and wellbeing. Initially created in 2013, the strategy was to cover the period up to 2018. A review process then began in 2016 to create the second phase of the strategy which began from 2018 onwards.

The key themes of the JHWS strategy are:

Aims

Have a strong focus on prevention and early intervention

Ensure a focus on issues and needs which will require partnership and collective action across a range of organisations to deliver

Deliver transformational change through shifting the health and care system towards preventing rather than treating ill health and disability

Focus on tackling inequalities and equitable provision of services that support and promote health and wellbeing

Priorities

Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing (children and young people)

Mental Health (Adults)

Carers

Physical Activity

Housing & Health

Obesity

Dementia

The strategy has identified task force groups for each of the priorities. A 'Physical Activity taskforce' has been created to develop work in this strategic priority area.

Let's Move – Lincolnshire. A blueprint for creating a more active Lincolnshire.

The let's move blueprint has been produced by the physical activity taskforce, a group which was identified by the JHWS.

The Lincolnshire Physical Activity Taskforce (LPAT) has a shared vision and commitment to tackling low levels of physical activity across the County.

Vision – to improve people's lives through habitual physical activity

Mission – everyone in Lincolnshire is leading a physically active life regardless of age, wealth, gender, ability or circumstance.

Goals – Active Society, Active Place, Active People, Active System

Within each of the goals that have been set for the strategy, a number of targets have been identified. The targets and commitments with 'active places' are particularly pertinent to this sports facility assessment.

Active Places – to create and maintain environments that promote and safeguard opportunities for all people, of all ages, to have equitable access to safe places and spaces, in which to engage in regular physical activity, according to ability

We will:

- Create safe, modern and well-maintained facilities and public open spaces that provide opportunities for all to enjoy walking, cycling and other active pastimes
- Promote active travel which will be an embedded feature of all future planning and transport developments
- Create areas where people can relax and enjoy physical activities safely. We will ensure that everyone can access good quality open areas, sports and leisure facilities, green networks and other recreational sites including river and coastal sites

The **Intended outcome** of the strategy is that 'Lincolnshire will become the most active county in England where physical activity is part of everyday life'.

Central Lincolnshire Playing Pitch Strategy 2013 (PPS) (October 2015 update)

The 2013 assessment work on the Central Lincolnshire PPS was primarily based on 2012 data. It is important to note that this assessment was not taken forward and therefore was never developed into a formal strategy document. It is also noted that the assessment data is now circa 8 years old.

This Sports Facility Assessment is the first work of this nature to take place since the 2013 assessment. As already stated, this assessment is not a comprehensive Playing Pitch Strategy but has been aligned to ensure that where applicable, we have sought to align Sport England methodology. This will allow CoLC to adopt this work in future developments of their strategic documentation.

The Central Lincolnshire Playing Pitch Needs and Evidence assessment work in 2013 included the following:

- Needs and Evidence assessment.
- Indoor and Built Sports Facilities Study.
- Informal Outdoor Sports Needs and Evidence Report.

These studies were commissioned as part of the evidence base to support the Central Lincolnshire Core Strategy and are considered by the Central Lincolnshire Authorities as evidence to support the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan. In addition, an Open Space Provision Standard Review was prepared, which used the Playing Pitch Needs and Evidence study to identify the level of playing pitch provision and future need for playing pitches, considering future population growth, to reflect the Local Plan period up to 2036.

The text below provides a brief review of the Central Lincolnshire Playing Pitch Needs And Evidence assessment findings from 2013. This Sports Facility Assessment will provide a robust and up to date assessment based on the current position in 2020.

The Central Lincolnshire Playing Pitch Needs and Evidence assessment reveals that there is limited spare capacity on existing playing fields in Lincoln and that:

There is a clear and stated need for additional football pitch provision – this primarily relates to a need for additional junior and mini soccer pitches in recognition of the adequate amount of adult pitches that already exist within Lincoln.

There is also an identified requirement for a further 3G pitch.

There is a potential requirement for cricket facilities, given the evidence to suggest that there is a need for at least one more pitch up to 2031 and that this should either be delivered through use of a school site, or alternatively as a satellite facility to a club base (potentially on a SUE).

Rugby in Lincoln is now catered for through the new Lincoln RUFC site following the relocation of Lincoln RUFC shortly after the completion of the assessment and strategy.

The recent provision of a new sand-based hockey pitch at Lindum Sports Association, along with the retention of the sand-based pitch at Yarborough Leisure Centre means that requirement for hockey are current met.

Natural Grass Playing Pitch – Key Considerations from 2013 Assessment:

- The overall statement that there are enough playing pitches across Central Lincolnshire disguises an imbalance in use of pitches and pockets of unmet demand, particularly for football and cricket.
- The evidence demonstrates that while the ageing population will largely negate the increase in population up to 2022 (meaning that the priority is to address current issues up to 2022), if development goes ahead as proposed between 2022 and 2031, there will be a requirement for additional provision in areas of high population growth.
- This impacts all sports, but it should be noted that there may be a requirement for increased provision in football with the City of Lincoln boundaries.
- It can be demonstrated that a shortfall of -4.9 junior football pitches and -5.0 mini football pitches exists within the City of Lincoln.
- Analysis of the adequacy of pitches indicates that considering just pitches with secured community access, provision on a peak day is sufficient to meet demand, with 14 adult pitches spare. There are however shortfalls of 0.9 junior pitches and 4 mini pitches.

FTP's – Key Considerations from 2013 Assessment:

- There is a limited direct Council role in the ownership and operation of FTP's, whilst acknowledging the pitches at Yarborough (and NK Sports Centre) are on school sites but the management and operation is controlled by the Council. Overall, there is the need to negotiate with individual site owners to gain or retain public access to pitches.
- Lincoln City has a positive supply and demand balance, which means total supply from the 4 Lincoln pitches exceeds total demand from the Lincoln population. Total supply in Lincoln is 3.6 pitches for public use and access and total demand is for 3.4 pitches, there is a positive balance of 0.2 of one pitch.
- In Lincoln City, the estimate is that 100% of all the pitch time available for public use at peak times is used.
- The Sport England facilities planning model indicates that there is little justification for additional FTPs, although many are at or approaching capacity. Reflecting this, the FA highlight a requirement of one additional pitch in City of Lincoln (to the west side).

City of Lincoln Council – Local Football Facilities Plan (LFFP)

The FA, in partnership with the Premier League and the DCMS, have made a commitment to make a major investment into local football facilities over the next 10 years.

LFFP's are a key priority in the National Football Facility Strategy, which aims to increase football participation by delivering:

- 1000 new 3G (FTP'S) Artificial Grass Pitches
- 1000 new pavilions (supporting key multi-pitch grass sites)
- 20,000 improved natural turf pitches
- New or improved access to better indoor and outdoor spaces for social and recreational football

CoLC have worked alongside the following key partners to develop the LFFP for the City of Lincoln: -

- Clubs
- Sport England
- Football Foundation
- Lincolnshire Football Association
- Active Lincolnshire

The City of Lincoln LFFP outlines the following key points and priority projects within the city: -

3G FTP's

- FA data states that there are currently four 3G FTPs in Lincoln. On this basis, there is sufficient supply relative to affiliated demand. However, two of these; Lincoln Christs Hospital School and Lincoln City Football Club currently offer only limited community use. Taking this into account, there is a shortfall of two full-sized 3G FTPs.
- Further to this, two full-sized 3G FTPs are about to be developed (both are now open); one each at Yarborough and Birchwood leisure centres. These will address the aforementioned shortfalls for affiliated demand.
- Three priority projects for potential investment are identified. (Two of these are now operational).
- Two of the projects proposed (Ruston's Sports & Social Club / Sincil Bank) involve resurfacing existing 3G FTPs. One (West Lincoln) is a potential new build 3G FTP to be considered in the longer term to service potential future demand.

Improved Grass Pitches

- Pitch finder indicates that there are currently ten grass pitch sites in Lincoln with three or more full-size pitch equivalents. These contain 47 grass pitches.
- In addition to the ten grass pitch sites noted, one site (West Lincoln) is a brand-new site that would also require pitch improvement investment.
- Four priority projects for potential investment are identified. Each has three or more full-size pitch equivalents, with the exception of the new site yet to be developed; however, this is considered to be a site of strategic importance.

Key sites for investment: -

- Ruston Sports & Social Club
- West of Lincoln
- Priory City of Lincoln Academy
- Skellingthorpe Road

Changing Room Pavilions / Clubhouses

- Of the ten key sites with three or more full-size pitch equivalents in Lincoln, six have suitable changing room pavilions/clubhouses, three have facilities that need improvement/ replacement, and one requires a new changing pavilion.
- should the 3G FTP be resurfaced at Lincoln City Football Club (works approved 2020), consideration should be given to refurbishment of the existing ancillary facilities to enable it to better accommodate outreach work.

Key sites for investment: -

- Ruston Sports & Social Club
- Sincil Bank
- West of Lincoln
- Priory City of Lincoln Academy
- Skellingthorpe Road
- Birchwood Leisure Centre

Small-Sided Facilities

- Local consultation indicates that three indoor facilities require improvement to develop small-sided football. There is also potential to create a new indoor facility.
- Two potential opportunities for MUGAs are identified. In each case the rationale is based on the site being in a well populated area with limited green space, high levels of deprivation and proportions of people from lower social economic groups and corresponding high local demand for informal football.

Key sites for investment: -

- West of Lincoln – New Indoor Football Facility
- Moorland Community Centre – Small-Sided Informal MUGA / Refurbish Indoor Football Facility
- Sudbrooke Drive Community Centre – Refurbish Indoor Football Facility
- St Giles Community Centre - Small-Sided Informal MUGA / Refurbish Indoor Football Facility

Linked to the LFFP, we are aware that the significant Educational providers in Lincoln including the University of Lincoln are currently conducting internal review of their sports and leisure facilities and that this could impact upon the facility mix within the city. The University has grown substantially over the past few years and the existing sports and leisure facilities are now deemed inadequate for student and community requirements.

The developments could lead to increased sports and leisure facilities that are available to students and to the community within the central area of the city boundary.

Lincoln College and Bishop Grosseteste University have also undertaken their own internal reviews into sports and leisure provision. Whilst these are both at early stages, it is important to continually assess their impact on the recommendations of this report. It is to be noted all 3 educational establishment are stakeholders in the preparation of this report

5. Club and National Governing Body Consultations

As part of this facility assessment, it is important to also assess and understand the views of users and their support networks. Accordingly, within the consultation phase of this assessment, we have made contact to key clubs in the City and the relevant local representatives from the National Governing Bodies (NGB's).

Sport	NGB / Club	Contact Name	Role
Football	Lincolnshire FA	Adam Thurston	Football Development Manager
Football	Lincoln City FC	Liam Scully	Chief Executive Officer
Football	Ruston Sports	Roger Woodlock	Chairman
Football	St Helens	Chris Mumford	Chairman
Football	North Lindum Hawks	Tim Edwards	Chairman
Football	Lincoln United	Lee Griffin	Chairman
Football	Birchwood	Cliff Penning	Chairman
Football	Lincoln City Foundation	Charlotte Hornsby	Head of Operations
Rugby	Rugby Football Union	Chloe McMorran	Area Facilities Manager
Rugby	Rugby Football Union	Jason Bowers	Area Facilities Manager
Rugby	Rugby Football Union	Stuart Eades	Rugby Development Officer
Rugby	Lincoln Rugby Club	Ross Tarnowski	Youth Director of Rugby
Rugby	Lincoln Rugby Club	Ady Brodrick	Facilities Lead
Rugby	Hykeham Rugby Club	Adrian France	Club Chairman
Cricket	England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB)	Dan Musson	Head of Facilities Planning
Cricket	Hartsholme Cricket Club	Adrian Bunn Ian Dovey	Adult & Youth Coach Youth Development Manager
Cricket	Lindum Cricket Club	Sally Mundy	Club Representative
Hockey	England Hockey Board (EHB)	Simon Dowdy	Facility Relationship Manager
Hockey	England Hockey Board (EHB)	Gary Johnson	Relationship Manager
Hockey	Lindum Hockey Club	Andy Thorne	Club Chairman

Summary of Discussions – National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGB's)

This section provides a summary of the consultation held with the NGB's that support each core pitch-based sports (football, rugby, cricket and hockey) in Lincoln. The consultation process was to host a round table with all four NGB's via video conference. The round table conference call was followed up with individual conversations with each NGB representative.

Summary of the Round Table Discussion

The round table video call was held on 4th August 2020 and was attended by Adam Thurston from Lincolnshire FA (LFA) and Simon Dowdy from England Hockey (EH). Apologies were given from Chloe McMorrان, Rugby Football Union (RFU) and from Dan Musson England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB).

LK2 hosted the video conference, which began with an introduction to the project and explanation of the methodology and objectives for the assessment. The key points from the video conference are noted below:

- Adam from LFA noted that the current position for football in Lincoln was that the supply of 3G pitches meets the affiliated demand, but the expectations are that the game are growing meaning that this is likely to not be maintained in the near future. For instance, the Lincoln Sunday league is growing by 13 teams this year and the Saturday Lincolnshire League is also experiencing growth of 5 teams. (It was noted that this growth was Lincolnshire wide and not necessarily Lincoln only). Junior football continues to grow with record numbers of teams joining the Mid-Lincs youth league each year.
- Simon from EH noted that Hockey continues to be dominated by a single large club in Lincoln, Lindum Hockey Club. Simon noted that Lindum have over 500 connected hockey players to the club and over 1000 associated memberships. The club have a wide range of junior teams and offer many new initiatives to entice new players (including back to hockey, walking hockey). The club works in the community through outreach programmes to grow the game. The club has a gender split of 50/50 and has an active policy to get juniors playing within the adult game from the age of 13. Investment was noted as key issue for the sport, with no recognised funding streams directly available and therefore Hockey have a heavy reliance on Sport England. Simon noted that the club have been actively seeking another training and match play pitch to complement the existing pitch. In fact, the club has sufficient interest to warrant 3 pitches. Simon anticipates a 'single year dip' in overall numbers across the sport, but Lindum Hockey should not be affected by this as they are the main club in Lincoln.

Rugby Football Union (RFU) – Chloe McMorrان and Jason Bowers

A separate video call was carried out with the Area Facilities Manager from the RFU. Chloe noted that the contact with both local clubs (Lincoln Rugby Club and Hykeham Rugby Club) is minimal. The main issues raised were for training and in particular evening training under floodlights. Both Clubs have their own venues and utilise these for match play and training. However, there is a lack of sustainable training venues that can accommodate evening training during the winter months.

Further consultation was concluded with NGB officers in regard to the latest playing number data and also the demand & supply club figures within the city. These figures further support the need for additional floodlit grass provision as it was discussed there is an under supply of -2 MES for training within the midweek.

During the time of the report Chloe McMorrان changed roles within the RFU and Jason Bowers has taken over in regard to this and future projects within the City of Lincoln and Central Lincolnshire. An update and agreed sign off call were conducted in early November 2020 to address any issues and keep the RFU up to date on the going report. We agreed that this report was just a snapshot in time in regard to supply and demand data as a result of no match play this season as a result of the ongoing pandemic. As a result, we have used historic data in regard to team numbers and members (2019 / 20), this should be updated following resulting reviews of the strategy and the continued growth of the city with

England & Wales Cricket Board (EBC) – Dan Musson

The ECB declined the invitation to take part in the consultation phase due to the fact that cricket had only just returned following COVID. It was felt that the pitch assessments could not be completed for 2020, as no play was possible prior to the assessment period and only limited play was possible in the whole of 2020. Therefore, to complete this assessment, the data from 2019 was used for the supply of pitches and discussions were held with the main clubs in Lincoln to establish previous and current demand.

Summary of Discussions – Educational Establishments

A series of consultation video calls were carried out with the following people from local higher and further educational establishments.

Organisation	Name	Role
Lincoln College	Nick Pettit	Head of Estates Development
University of Lincoln	David Braham	Chief Finance Officer
Bishop Grosseteste University	Suzanne Kane	Director of Estates & Facilities at Bishop Grosseteste University

The purpose of the consultation was to update each organisation as to the purpose of the facility strategy, seek their views on the current provision and to discuss the likely future requirements.

University of Lincoln

The University has expressed that they do still have ambitions to deliver high quality sport and leisure provision, but the “world” has changed recently, so no immediate plans for significant investment, the university will need to take stock for a period but do acknowledge they must improve their sport and leisure offering to their students in the first instance and then can this impact upon the wider community. The University have welcomed being a part of the discussions and wish to be included in future updates and the process due to the potential WGC and further developments.

Lincoln College

The College are currently evaluating their existing sports and leisure facilities. The College owns and operates two separate site in the City. The indoor facility (Deans Sports & Leisure Centre) is located within main college campus and the outdoor sports are located at the Ravendale Drive site. The sports facilities are primarily used by students with some community access at the Deans Sports & Leisure Centre. The College are currently looking at future options for the Ravendale Drive site as this is a cost burden due to limited community access.

Bishop Grosseteste University

The University are currently reviewing their own sports facilities with a view to opening up more opportunities for the community to access their site. This community use would need to compliment the usage requirements from students but is seen as a way of making the sports facilities more sustainable in the future. This project has stalled due to the current pandemic, but it is recognised that investment is required. The University is also currently exploring options to forge a relationship with Yarborough Leisure Centre, to secure a wide variety of additional opportunities for its students.

Other Organisations - Active Lincolnshire

A separate call was held with Active Lincolnshire to discuss the current and future provision of sports and physical activity venues across the City. Active Lincolnshire is the Counties ‘Active Partnership’ which provides support to City of Lincoln Council in maximising the participation of sports and physical activity through facilities and programmes. Active Lincolnshire are an active member of the Lincolnshire Physical Activity Taskforce and therefore work on common goals with City of Lincoln Council. The consultation call was held with Emma Tatlow, CEO, Active Lincolnshire and Navaz Sutton, Area Lead for Lincoln for Active Lincolnshire.

Summary of Supply and Demand:

Through our consultation and roundtable discussion with the national governing body officers and major clubs of each core sport we were able to determine the overall supply and demand within the City of Lincoln. This supply and demand is in relation to the overall supply of playing pitches within the study area and associated quality score (poor, standard and good) and also the demand of total team numbers within each respected age group. This demand data is from the latest data from the NGB officers regarding team numbers of the most recent season (2019 / 20) unless otherwise stated. This data should be considered as a ‘**snapshot**’ in time audit for each sport and the relevant factsheets have been created as an appendix item to express this. Please see Appendix 4. Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic the majority of sports have been unable to do conduct matches or training which will have resulted inaccurate data for the quality assessments.

6. Facility Assessment - Football

The FA has a multitude of funding schemes across the UK with the intent to increase participation in football. In 2016, the FA launched a significant new strategy for the national game, which identified four key areas. The investment of £260m was to focus on **facilities, coaching, participation and developing the football workforce**. Lincoln has seen the benefit of FA funding through a number of local schemes, including most recently funding for 3G FTP's at Yarborough and Birchwood Leisure Centres.

Alongside the national game strategy is the pitch improvement plan (PIP), which has the target of improving over 20,000 grass pitches nationally. As part of this review, the FA are taking the opportunity to conduct a strategic overview of grass pitch provision. It is reported that there is an oversupply of pitches to the current and future demand. Therefore, this project to review strategy provision of pitches in the City of Lincoln has many synergies with the national FA strategy.

Football remains one of the main sports that is played across the city, with high levels of adult participation. The recent success of Lincoln City Football Club has breathed new life into the area and opportunities now exist to develop the game further over the coming years.

Football is the only one of the six sports in the assessment to register in the most popular sports activities. It is the fourth most popular activity in Lincoln with 8.3% of the adult population participating and this is higher than the East Midlands regional and England wide percentages at 7% and 7.2% respectively.

As a city, in addition to its main professional club, Lincoln has a number of long-standing amateur clubs and a very rich history of successful local league structures. There are several adult weekend leagues, a very large junior league that spans the whole of Lincolnshire, a women and girls county league and an 'Ability Counts' League. (the latter two leagues will have representation from Lincoln based clubs/teams).

The clubs that are based in the city predominantly use facilities that are within the city of Lincoln boundaries. However, it is also important to note that there are communities being served by facilities that are located outside of the city boundary. For instance, North Kesteven Sport Centre has 3 full sized pitches, 2 mini pitches and a 3G FTP and is home to one the largest football clubs in the area, Greenbank. Many residents of the CoLC are members of this club.

Please see Appendix 4 for the full data sheets used in this assessment.

The graphic on page 33 shows the overview of the existing facility structure in the City.

A summary of football within the City of Lincoln.(as at the end of 2019 season)



42 11v11 pitches



1x League One Professional Club



32 adult teams

20 junior pitches



1 Saturday League



60 junior / mini teams



15 mini pitches



5 Sunday Leagues



8 Women's teams

6 full sized FTP'S



1 U21 Leagues



11 Disabilit



1 sand filled AWP



1 Under 18's League



1 centre of excellence

10 pavilions



1 x Junior League



Circa 2000 players



The supply of grass pitches across the City of Lincoln comprises of a mixed economy in terms of ownership and management. There is also a range of pitch type and quality. As there is a multitude of different datasets available for the collation of this information, we have created a master list for all grass pitches in the city boundary. We have utilised a combination of the datasets, including the football foundation's 'Pitch Finder' website and Sport England 'Active Places Power'. The full master list is contained in Appendix 1.

Quantity of the pitches – 10 miles radius from Lincoln City.

There are 77 grass pitches based within the City of Lincoln, the make-up of which is as follows: -

- 42 x full sized 11 v 11 grass pitches.
- 20 x Med sized 11 v 11 grass pitches.
- 2 x 9v9 sized grass pitches.
- 13 x mini-soccer grass pitches.
- City of Lincoln have community use agreements to 28 facilities.

Outside of the city boundary (10-mile radius), there are an additional 87 grass pitches, which are strategically important to CoLC as they serve residents, even though they are located in other local districts. This is also an important consideration for future discussions with Sport England, as any playing pitch assessment will use a 10-mile radius, 25-minute drive or a 30-minute walk time. These locations are broken down as follows: -

- 42 x full sized 11 v 11 grass pitches.
- 32 x Med sized 11 v 11 grass pitches.
- 1 x 9v9 sized grass pitches.
- 12 x mini-soccer grass pitches.

There are several key challenges for the provision of grass pitches, FTP's and ancillary facilities.

- Maintenance of grass pitches is labour intensive and expensive (CoLC currently retain this cost in house).
- Some of the existing ancillary facilities are basic.
- Some of the existing ancillary facilities are in a poor state of repair.
- Access agreements into some facilities is limited.
- Cross over between winter and summer sports within shared venues.
- Extension of playing seasons leads to conflict on shared venues. Conflict over uses of space and also due to different maintenance requirements.

FTP Ratings and Quality Scores:

The FA and Football Foundation considers high quality 3G pitches as essential in promoting coach and player development across all age groups. These pitches can support intensive use and as such are valuable assets for both playing and training. Primarily, such facilities have been installed for community use and training however they are increasingly used for competition, which the FA wholly supports providing the pitch has been appropriately tested and is on the FA 3G pitch register. The FA's long-term ambition is to provide every affiliated team in England with the opportunity to train once a week on a floodlit 3G surface together with priority access for Charter Standard Community Clubs through a partnership agreement

The FA has adopted the use of 3G pitches across all its competitions and incorporated this into the standard code of rules. This decision was taken due to the significant advances that have been made to the development of 3G Football Turf (FT) and the adoption of these surfaces by professional leagues throughout Europe and by both UEFA and FIFA for major competitions.

The FTP scores were calculated through using the latest guidance from Sport England and by using a combination of desktop research, consultation and historical data from previous studies. It was the objective to conduct detailed site visits but due to the pandemic situation these were unable to take place. The age of the surface was used to determine an element of the overall quality score which was taken from Active Places and consultations with clubs and service providers.

Summary of Club Consultations

St Helens Football Club recorded that they have 9 current teams playing at the Skellingthorpe Road venue. This is made up of 8 junior teams and one open age team. The Club Chairman noted within the survey that the pitches are rated as average to poor and made the following comments:

- The pitch quality is largely governed by the weather conditions - up until this season the pitches have been good on Skellingthorpe Road but the pitches, especially the pitch used by our U13, U14 & U15 teams has been unplayable for a large portion of the season due to flooding. The pitch slopes away on one side and with the high volume of rain during the last season has resulted in waterlogging - this could be solved by moving the pitch up towards the road by 10 yards. The pitch used mainly by our men's team has a watermain running underneath it which has collapsed on occasion during a period of draught but is generally well drained.
- The playing surfaces aren't helped by motorbikes & quadbikes running across them at times. Boundary posts between the carpark and the playing field are quite far apart which allow these vehicles access the site.
- Parking can be a problem when all pitches are in use at the same time.
- Changing facilities are basic but manageable. The portacabins are a little tight on space when two adult teams are trying to change at the same time, but with a bit of thought it's workable. There are separate changing facilities & toilets for juniors.
- The City Council doesn't employ an attendant at this site - the home teams are responsible for opening and closing up the facilities, but this is reflected in the season's pitch fees.

Birchwood Football Club recorded that they have 13 current teams, all of which are junior teams. All but one of the teams play their home matches at Birchwood Leisure Centre. The under 15's use Hykeham Memorial Ground. All pitches were noted as being 'good' by the club.

North Lindum Hawks are currently in the process of moving from 17 teams to 20 teams and are based at Yarborough Leisure Centre for both training and match play. All teams are junior teams. The Club Chairman noted that whilst they have access to the new 3G pitch and grass pitches at Yarborough Leisure Centre, they are at capacity and require more space. The pitches were noted as being average in terms of playing quality and sadly are damaged by motorised vehicles (quad bikes) driving across them. The length of grass was also noted as being an issue. In the growing season, more frequent cutting is required. One of the 11v11 pitches was noted as having an un-level surface.

Ruston's Sports currently have 14 teams ranging from under 7's up to open aged teams. Ruston's have a multi-sport home venue with a grass pitches, a 3G pitch, a large club house, squash courts and outdoor tennis courts.

Lincoln United have 20 teams ranging from under 8's to the open aged teams. Included in the open age teams are the first team who play in the Northern Premier League, a development squad and the Ladies first team who play in the East Midlands Women's Regional Football League, Division One North. There is a strong growing junior section, with wildcats and mini-soccer development sessions being held by the club on a weekly basis.

Community Use and Demand:

It is important for the local authority and clubs within the study area to have access to sites on a secured basis with open and ongoing community use. This can be achieved in a number of ways such as user agreements with schools or long-term leases of land through the local authority that are designated as protected open space. To calculate the overall carrying capacity of all sites within the local authority it is also advised to remove sites that are restricted to community use (typically educational establishments). This will result in a clearer picture as to what is available for local clubs and teams to either dedicate their training or match play demand. From our consultations and analysis, we have concluded that these sites listed below do not have open community use or access. These sites have been highlighted (in yellow) on the table below also for reference.

- Manor Leas Junior Academy
- Bishop Grosseteste University College
- Sobraon Barracks Playing Fields
- Hartsholme Academy
- Ravendale Drive (Lincoln College)
- University of Lincoln

Site Surveys and Pitch Quality Scores

Name of Facility	Pitch Sub Type	Agreed Pitch Rating	Pitch Capacity Score
Lincoln City FC	FTP - 3G	Standard	3
The Priory Academy, Cross o Cliff	Adult Football	Standard	4
The Priory Academy, Cross o Cliff	Adult Football	Standard	
St Peter & St Paul School	Adult Football	Poor	4
St Peter & St Paul School	Youth Football 11v11	Standard	
St Peter & St Paul School	Youth Football 11v11	Poor	
Moorlands Sports Ground	Adult Football	Poor	2
Moorlands Sports Ground	Youth Football 11v11	Poor	
The Priory Academy, Skellingthorpe	Adult Football	Standard	12
The Priory Academy, Skellingthorpe	Youth Football 11v11	Standard	
The Priory Academy, Skellingthorpe	Youth Football 9v9	Poor	
The Priory Academy, Skellingthorpe	Mini Soccer 5v5	Standard	
The Priory Academy, Skellingthorpe	Mini Soccer 5v5	Standard	
The Priory Academy, Skellingthorpe	FTP - 3G	Good	
Lindum Sports	FTP -Sand Based	Good	3
The Priory Witham Academy	Adult Football	Standard	6
The Priory Witham Academy	Adult Football	Standard	
The Priory Witham Academy	Youth Football 11v11	Standard	
Hartsholme Academy	Mini Soccer 5v5	Standard	2
Christs Hospital School	Adult Football	Standard	9
Christs Hospital School	Adult Football	Standard	
Christs Hospital School	Youth Football 9v9	Standard	
Christs Hospital School	FTP - 3G	Good	
Skellingthorpe Road	Adult Football	Standard	7
Skellingthorpe Road	Adult Football	Poor	
Skellingthorpe Road	Youth Football 11v11	Poor	
Skellingthorpe Road	Youth Football 9v9	Poor	
Skellingthorpe Road	Mini Soccer 7v7	Poor	
Skellingthorpe Road	Mini Soccer 7v7	Poor	
Skellingthorpe Road	Mini Soccer 5v5	Poor	2
Morland Community Centre	Adult Football	Standard	
Yarborough Leisure Centre	Adult Football	Standard	11
Yarborough Leisure Centre	Youth Football 11v11	Poor	
Yarborough Leisure Centre	Youth Football 11v11	Poor	
Yarborough Leisure Centre	Youth Football 9v9	Poor	
Yarborough Leisure Centre	Mini Soccer 7v7	Poor	
Yarborough Leisure Centre	Mini Soccer 5v5	Poor	
Yarborough Leisure Centre	FTP - 3G	Poor	
Yarborough Leisure Centre	FTP -Sand Based	Poor	

Name of Facility	Pitch Sub Type	Agreed Pitch Rating	Pitch Capacity Score
Bishop Grosseteste University	Adult Football	Standard	2
Lincoln St Christopher's School	Mini Soccer 7v7	Standard	2
Lincoln United	Adult Football	Basic	1.5
Manor Leas Junior Academy	Youth Football 9v9	Standard	4
Manor Leas Junior Academy	Youth Football 9v9	Standard	
Ruston's S&S	Adult Football	Poor	8
Ruston's S&S	Youth Football 11v11	Poor	
Ruston's S&S	Youth Football 9v9	Poor	
Ruston's S&S	Mini Soccer 7v7	Standard	
Ruston's S&S	Mini Soccer 5v5	Standard	
Ruston's S&S	FTP - 3G	Poor	
Lincoln College (Ravendale)	Adult Football	Standard	5
Lincoln College (Ravendale)	Adult Football	Standard	
Lincoln College (Ravendale)	Adult Football	Poor	
Lincoln College (Ravendale)	Youth Football 11v11	Poor	
Lincoln College (Ravendale)	Youth Football 11v11	Poor	
St Giles Academy	Adult Football	Standard	2
Sobraon Barracks Playing Fields	Adult Football	Poor	1
Sudbrooke Drive	Adult Football	Standard	4
Sudbrooke Drive	Adult Football	Standard	
King Georges Field (Macauley Drive)	Adult Football	Standard	4
King Georges Field (Macauley Drive)	Adult Football	Standard	
Birchwood Leisure Centre	Youth Football 9v9	Poor	7
Birchwood Leisure Centre	Mini Soccer 7v7	Poor	
Birchwood Leisure Centre	Mini Soccer 5v5	Poor	
Birchwood Leisure Centre	Mini Soccer 5v5	Poor	
Birchwood Leisure Centre	FTP - 3G	Good	7
University of Lincoln	FTP - 3G	Good	
University of Lincoln	FTP - 3G	Good	
University of Lincoln	FTP -Sand Based	Poor	
Birchwood Junior School	Youth Football 9v9	Standard	4
Birchwood Junior School	Youth Football 9v9	Standard	

Overall Supply and Demand:

Provision - Site	Total Number of Pitches	Total Pitch Capacity	Total Demand (Match Equivalents)	Difference Between Capacity & Demand Match Equivalents
Lincoln City FC - 11v11 Full	1	3	0.5	2.5
The Priory Academy, Cross o Cliff - 11v11 Full	1	2	0	2
The Priory Academy, Cross o Cliff - 11v11 Full	1	2	0	2
St Peter & St Paul School - 11v11 Full	1	1	0	1
St Peter & St Paul School - 11v11 Junior	1	2	0	2
St Peter & St Paul School - 11v11 Junior	1	1	0	1
Moorlands Sports Ground - 11v11 Full	1	1	1	0
Moorlands Sports Ground - 11v11 Junior	1	1	1	0
The Priory Academy, Skellingthorpe - 11v11 Full	1	2	3.5	-1.5
The Priory Academy, Skellingthorpe - 11v11 Junior	1	2	1.5	0.5
The Priory Academy, Skellingthorpe - 9v9	1	1	2	-1
The Priory Academy, Skellingthorpe - 5v5	1	4	3	1
The Priory Academy, Skellingthorpe - 5v5	1	4	3	1
The Priory Witham Academy - 11v11 Full	1	2	0	2
The Priory Witham Academy - 11v11 Full	1	2	0	2
The Priory Witham Academy - 11v11 Junior	1	2	0	2
Hartsholme Academy - 5v5	1	4	0	4
Christ's Hospital School - 11v11 Full	1	2	0	2
Christ's Hospital School - 11v11 Full	1	2	0	2
Christ's Hospital School - 9v9	1	2	0	2
Skellingthorpe Road - 11v11 Full	1	2	2	0
Skellingthorpe Road - 11v11 Full	1	1	1.5	-0.5
Skellingthorpe Road - 11v11 Junior	1	2	0	2
Skellingthorpe Road - 9v9	1	2	1	1
Skellingthorpe Road - 7v7	1	4	0.5	3.5
Skellingthorpe Road - 7v7	1	4	0	4
Skellingthorpe Road - 5v5	1	4	1	3
Moorland Community Centre - 11v11 Full	1	2	0.5	1.5
Yarborough Leisure Centre - 11v11 Full	1	2	0.5	1.5
Yarborough Leisure Centre - 11v11 Full	1	1	0	1
Yarborough Leisure Centre - 11v11 Junior	1	2	1	1
Yarborough Leisure Centre - 11v11 Junior	1	2	0.5	1.5
Yarborough Leisure Centre - 9v9	1	2	3.5	-1.5
Yarborough Leisure Centre - 7v7	1	4	2.5	1.5
Yarborough Leisure Centre - 5v5	1	4	1	3
Bishop Grosseteste University 11v11 Full	1	2	2	0
Lincoln St Christopher's School - 7v7	1	2	0	2
Lincoln United - 11v11 Full	1	1	1	0
Manor Leas Junior Academy - 9v9	1	2	0	2
Manor Leas Junior Academy - 9v9	1	2	0	2
Ruston Sports & Social - 11v11 Full	1	1	4.5	-3.5

Provision - Site	Total Number of Pitches	Total Pitch Capacity	Total Demand (Match Equivalents)	Difference Between Capacity & Demand Match Equivalents
Ruston Sports & Social - 11v11 Junior	1	1	2.5	-1.5
Ruston Sports & Social - 9v9	1	1	2	-1
Ruston Sports & Social - 7v7	1	2	1	1
Ruston Sports & Social - 5v5	1	2	1	1
Lincoln College (Ravendale) - 11v11 Full	1	2	1	1
Lincoln College (Ravendale) - 11v11 Full	1	2	1	1
Lincoln College (Ravendale) - 11v11 Full	1	2	0	2
Lincoln College (Ravendale) - 11v11 Junior	1	2	0	2
Lincoln College (Ravendale) - 11v11 Junior	1	2	0	2
St Giles Academy	1	1	1	0
Sobraon Barracks Playing Fields	1	1	0	1
Sudbrooke Drive	1	2	1	1
Sudbrooke Drive	1	2	1	1
King Georges Field (Macauley Drive)	1	2	0.5	1.5
King Georges Field (Macauley Drive)	1	2	0.5	1.5
Birchwood Leisure Centre	1	2	1.5	0.5
Birchwood Leisure Centre	1	4	1.5	2.5
Birchwood Leisure Centre	1	4	1	3
Birchwood Leisure Centre	1	4	0.5	3.5

Football Stakeholders

There are 58 unique football clubs and organisations within the City of Lincoln.

Lincoln City are the highest ranked team and are currently playing in Football League one. Lincoln City also has a ladies team and a large junior academy.

Lincoln City are supported by several semi-professional and non-league amateur clubs such as Lincoln United (Northern Premier League South East) and Lincoln Moorlands Railway FC.

There are six adult leagues, including one Saturday league and five Sunday leagues, catering for 53 teams. Further consultation and reference should be addressed in future reviews of the document in terms of league growth due to the ongoing pandemic situation and the stop and start nature of this season.

There is one large Lincolnshire wide junior league called the Mid-Lincs Youth League. There are several large clubs that are based within the Lincoln City boundary that play in this league. The largest clubs are as follows: -

- Ruston Sports
- St Helens
- North Lindum Hawks
- Birchwood
- Lincoln United

In addition, it is worth noting that there are also several junior clubs based on the outskirts of the city of Lincoln boundary, but serve residents in the City.

- Greenbank FC – (North Kesteven)
- Welton JFC – (West Lindsey)

Lincolnshire FA are currently working with clubs and leagues locally to grow the game in line with the FA's National Game Strategy.

Playing Pitch Calculator Demand - Football

The analysis in table below show the results using the playing pitch calculator for football. It is important that this analysis is used alongside the findings, recommendations and action plan of the assessment for the Lincoln area to help determine the most appropriate way of meeting the demand and justifying any resulting proposals.

Playing Pitch Calculator Team's Generated - Football:

Sport age groups	Q1. How many people from the new population may fall within the individual sport age groups?		Q2. How many teams may be generated by the new population?		
	Percentage of the total population in the area	A1. Number of people in each sport age group	Team generation rate	Number of teams generated by the new population	A2. Number of teams generated by the new population (with any selected % adjustment in demand applied)
Football					
Men 11v11 (16-45yrs)	23.60%	24588.72	644	38.15	38.15
Women 11v11 (16-45yrs)	22.76%	23716.46	2238	10.60	10.60
Boys 11v11 (12-15yrs)	1.89%	1969.22	133	14.84	14.84
Girls 11v11 (12-15yrs)	1.81%	1890.79	595	3.18	3.18
Boys 9v9 (10-11yrs)	1.09%	1138.29	51	22.26	22.26
Girls 9v9 (10-11yrs)	0.97%	1007.93	476	2.12	2.12
Mixed 7v7 (8-9yrs)	2.13%	2216.16	149	14.84	14.84
Mixed 5v5 (6-7yrs)	2.25%	2346.53	201	11.66	11.66

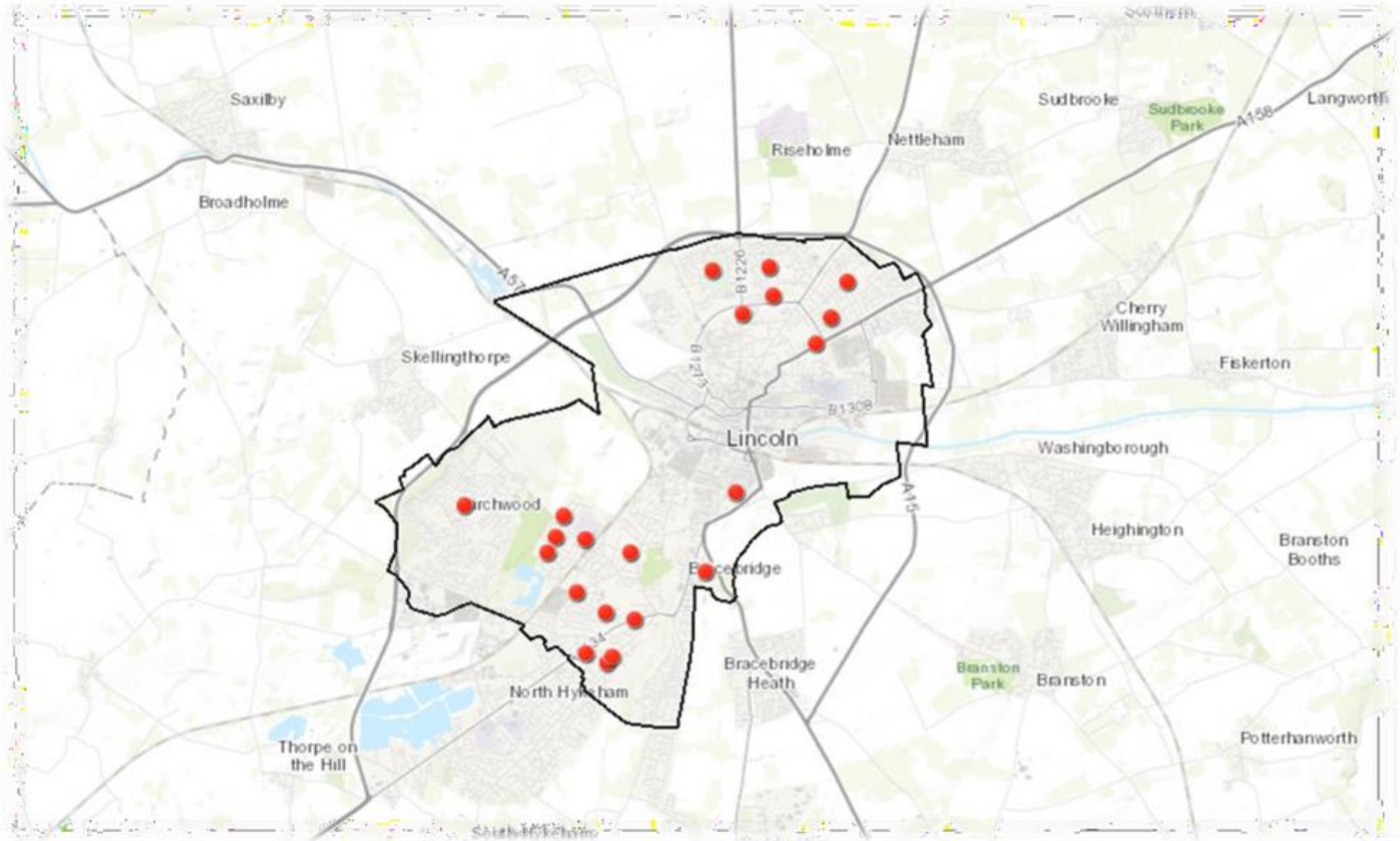
*Population figures agreed with local authority and team numbers from Lincolnshire FA

Locations of existing grass pitch provision – (football only)

Site Name	Post Code	Community Use	Security of Community Use	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini Soccer 7v7	Mini Soccer 5v5	AGP – 3G	AGP - Sand Based
Birchwood Junior School	LN6 0NL	No	Unsecured			2				
Birchwood Leisure Centre	LN6 0JE	Yes	Secured			1	1	2	1	
Bishop Grosseteste University	LN1 3DY	Yes	Secured	1						
Christ's Hospital School	LN2 4PN	Yes	Unsecured	2		1			1	
Hartsholme Academy	LN6 0DE	No	Unsecured					1		
King Georges Field (Macauley Drive)	LN2 4ET	Yes	Secured	2						
Lincoln City FC	LN5 8LD	Yes	Unsecured						1	
Lincoln College (Ravendale)	LN2 2JN	No	Unsecured	3	2					
Lincoln St Christopher's School	LN6 8AR	Yes	School (in house)				1			
Lincoln United	LN6 0DY	Yes	Unsecured	1						
Lindum Sports		Yes	Secured							1
Manor Leas Junior Academy	LN6 8BE	Yes	Unsecured			2				
Moorlands Sports Ground	LN6 8RT	Yes	Secured	1	1					
Morland Community Centre	LN6 8RT	Yes	Secured	1						
Ruston's S&S	LN6 8RN	Yes	Secured	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Skellingthorpe Road	LN6 0HF	Yes	Secured	2	1	1	2	1		

Site Name	Post Code	Community Use	Security of Community Use	Adult	Youth 11v11	Youth 9v9	Mini Soccer 7v7	Mini Soccer 5v5	AGP – 3G	AGP - Sand Based
Sobraon Barracks Playing Fields	LN1 3QE	No	Unsecured	1						
St Giles Academy	LN2 4LQ	Yes	Unsecured	1						
St Peter & St Paul School	LN6 7SX	Yes	Unsecured	1	2					
Sudbrooke Drive	LN2 2EF	Yes	Secured	2						
The Priory Academy, Cross o Cliff	LN5 8PW	No	Unsecured	2						
The Priory Academy, Skellingthorpe	LN6 7DT	Yes	Unsecured	1	1	1		2	1	
The Priory Witham Academy	LN6 7DT	No	Unsecured	2	1					
University of Lincoln	LN6 7TS	Yes	Secured						2	1
Yarborough Leisure Centre	LN1 3SP	Yes	Secured	1	2	1	1	1	1	1

Football Sites within the City of Lincoln



7. Facility Assessment - Cricket

The supply of cricket wickets across the City of Lincoln is limited but is driven in part by the demand. There are two principle clubs (Hartsholme and Lindum) that accommodate the majority of participation and one further club (Bracebridge Heath), located just outside of the boundary that picks up the remaining demand. In addition, there are several other satellite venues, outside of the city boundary that pick-up demand. However, it should be noted that these locations are typically linked to either school sports facilities or football locations, meaning that they are not dedicated cricket venues.

Whilst we have established the number of cricket clubs, grounds and fine turf wickets within the city, we have not completed a detailed assessment of the quality of these. Ongoing maintenance by skilled grounds staff is an integral part of providing playing pitches and grounds are rated based on this. The level and quality of maintenance also denotes which standard of cricket can be played by clubs. (i.e. how high within the regional and national they can be promoted) This is coupled to the attainment of clubmark status.

The Institute of Groundmanship (IOG) have been working with county cricket boards to develop a RAG rating system for existing wicket provision. The next stage of this process would be to understand the status of the sites in Lincoln in relation to the IOG rating.

Cricket across the county of Lincolnshire has a very comprehensive offer with a multitude of leagues and competitions. There are 195 registered cricket clubs with 38 different competition offers. These range from Saturday county wide leagues, Sunday local leagues, midweek indoor leagues, cup competitions, table cricket, disability cricket and junior leagues. The provision of cricket facilities across the county is mixed ranging from high quality, multi venues to single pitch sites.

Cricket within the City of Lincoln boundary is by comparison relatively limited both in terms of provision and also in terms of clubs. There are two principle venues hosting clubs across the city and two clubs. According to the Central Lincolnshire Playing Pitch Strategy (2015) there are 17 adult male teams, no female teams, 15 junior boys' teams and 2 junior girls' teams. This report also highlights that despite having the least supply of pitches, the overall propensity to participate in cricket is highest within the City of Lincoln. This indicates that demand is not currently met by the supply of pitch provision.

Through additional consultation and developments within the clubs for 2019 there are a total of 24 teams throughout the junior and adult sections, a total of 10 adult teams and 14 junior teams with a full breakdown of teams highlighted in the stakeholder section below.

Please see Appendix 4 for the full data sheets used in this assessment.

Cricket Stakeholders

There are two key clubs in the City of Lincoln boundary who are stakeholders in this process.

- Hartsholme Cricket Club
- Lindum Cricket Club

It should also be noted that despite Bracebridge Heath Cricket Club being located just outside the city boundary, they are also a stakeholder to any future process. Lincolnshire do have a very large county representative set up. There are squads at each step of a comprehensive pathway including Men's, Ladies, Veterans, Under 11's, 12's, 13's, 14's 15's and 17's (all age groups have male and female sides).

Club Consultations

Lindum Cricket Club is based in the north of the City at Lindum sports ground. The cricket clubhouse is part of the Lindum sports association and was refurbished 18 months ago. Facilities include:-

- Male/Female changing rooms
- Electronic scoreboard
- Grass and artificial wickets / outdoor nets / sight screens / covers

In 2020 the club had 13 teams which comprised of

- 5 Senior Teams (Men's)
- 8 Juniors – U9 – U17 all mixed

Over the last few years, the club have used the Sobraon Barracks on Burton Road as their 2nd ground.

The club have a number of aspirations

- To develop a 2nd ground to alleviate pressure off Sat/Sun fixtures.
- If the above is not possible, the club will seek to play junior games in the week.
- To further develop Junior section and harness their growth into adult cricket.
- To develop the Women & Girls game and introduce a dedicated section for Women's team
- To extend the clubs non-playing memberships to older members / supporters
- Retain the family friendly approach

Hartsholme Cricket Club is based in the south of the city at Ashby Avenue sports ground. This is shared with Lincoln United Football Club. The buildings are under a long term lease with City of Lincoln Council (25 years)

- Male/Female changing rooms – linked to social club
- Scoreboard
- Grass wickets / outdoor nets / sight screens / covers.

In 2020 the club had 11 teams which comprised of

- 5 Senior Teams (4 men's and 1 ladies)
- 6 Juniors – U9 – U17 all mixed

The club uses the indoor training facilities at the nearby Priory (City school). The club have a number of aspirations

- To develop a dedicated cricket pavilion.
- Rejuvenate the playing square
- Removal of trees is an ongoing concern and potential large cost to the club. There are many very tall leylandii trees that create a boundary between the club and local housing.

Locations of existing grass pitch provision – (Cricket only)

Site Name	Community use on site	Security of Community Use	Management	Wickets (Grass)	Wickets (artificial)
Hartsholme Cricket Club	Available	Secured	Sport Club	21	0
Lincoln Christs Hospital School	Available	Unsecured	School / College	11	1
Lindum Sports Association	Available	Secured	Commercial Management	10	1
Sobraon Barracks Playing Fields	Not Available	Unsecured	Local Authority	10	0
St Peter & St Paul Catholic High School	Not Available	Unsecured	School / College	3	1

Cricket Sites within the City of Lincoln



Playing Pitch Calculator Demand - Cricket

Cricket provision across the City boundary is catered for at the present time and there appears to be no future change in this requirement. However, the opportunity that is presented by the western growth corridor will have an impact on this assessment and could lead to an increased requirement. The tiered approach will help CoLC to prioritise the cricket provision across the city boundary and quantify the requirement with or without the new homes and population as part of the western growth corridor.

If a new tier one location is developed as a consequence of the western growth corridor, we would recommend that this includes one additional cricket pitch, outdoor nets and linked indoor training facilities.

This facility assessment also recommends that the existing facilities and relationships with clubs be retained. The table below highlights the potential cricket teams that might be generated up to 2041 with the latest population data available, this has been supplied through the local authority.

Sport age groups	Q1. How many people from the new population may fall within the individual sport age groups?		Q2. How many teams may be generated by the new population?		
	Percentage of the total population in the area	A1. Number of people in each sport age group	Team generation rate	Number of teams generated by the new population	A2. Number of teams generated by the new population (with any selected % adjustment in demand applied)
Cricket					
Men (18-55yrs)	28.38%	29574.29	1641	18.02	18.02
Women (18-55yrs)	27.78%	28941.56	0	0.00	0.00
Boys (7-18yrs)	6.25%	6511.77	410	15.90	15.90
Girls (7-18yrs)	5.83%	6075.11	2866	2.12	2.12

8. Facility Assessment – Rugby Union

Introduction and Strategic Context

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) is the national governing body responsible for grassroots and elite rugby in England, with the season operating from September to June. RFU Strategic Plan (2017- 2021). In October 2017, the RFU published its strategic plan, with the overall objective of being England’s strongest sport, underpinned by good governance and regulation, as well as increased investment in the game to drive elite performance and community participation. The following key areas of focus are particularly relevant for this strategy.

- **Protect our clubs:** Support clubs to protect themselves against risks to sustainability in the key areas of leadership, facilities and finances. Support clubs to meet all their statutory and regulatory obligations
- **Expand places to play through Artificial Grass Pitches:** Install and manage strategically placed Artificial Grass Pitches (FTP’s) nationwide, increasing playing opportunities for the 15- a-side game and other variants in communities where natural turf pitches are significantly overused. Improve access to rugby in non-traditional and urban areas
- **Engage new communities in rugby:** Increase female player numbers, with more teams and matches, expansion in the education environment and transitioning more players to clubs
- **Grow the grass-roots game:** Increase the number of active male and female (14+) 15-a-side teams by 10%. Increase the number of 15-a-side matches played by 20%. Increase the number of active rugby union players by 10%.

Rugby Stakeholders

Lincoln has two rugby clubs, with both being located outside the city boundary. **Lincoln Rugby Club** is based to the east of Nettleham in the West Lindsey district. The club has 3 adult men’s teams, a lady’s team, 11 junior teams ranging from under 6’s to under 16’s, a junior girl’ team and a colt’s team. **North Hykeham RFC** are located to the south east of the city, within North Kesteven local authority. This club currently has two adult teams and two youth teams with approximately 110 members. North Hykeham RFC have more a sporadic junior team base with fluctuating numbers and members.

These team and member numbers are from last season (2019 / 2020) due to the current pandemic there is currently no official sanctioned RFU matches occurring. The University of Lincoln and Lincoln College also have rugby teams as part of their educational offer. It should be noted these numbers should be caveated due to the fact there has currently been no formal matches within England currently (as of November 9th).

There are two main venues that provide opportunities for Rugby in Lincoln with all other pitches being based on school facilities. There is little community use availability at educational sites due to a mix of lack of demand and also poor-quality offerings.

- Lincoln Rugby Club (West Lindsey)
- Bishop Grosseteste University
- The Priory Academy
- North Hykeham RFC

Rugby Club Play Members (2019 / 2020)

Club	Adult Male Players	Adult Female Players	Youth Male	Youth Female
Lincoln RFC	78	37	96	9
North Hykeham RFC	79	0	28	0
Total	157	37	124	9

Supply and Demand

In order for there to be an adequate number of match and training venue for the quantity and quality of the pitches within the local authority should be considered in order to determine the overall carrying capacity to be calculated. The table below highlights the carrying capacity of both sites and also the match and midweek training demand. Lincoln RFC is currently the only club within the city limits that have on site floodlit training provision due to having floodlights on one and a half of their senior pitches. Due to this fact there is still a midweek training deficit within the local authority creating the need for more floodlights either on or off site. North Hykeham RFC currently have no floodlit training provision and have to used off site locations for their training requirements.

Supply and Demand Figures / Carrying Capacity (2019 / 2020)

Club/Univ/College	Mini Midi Teams	Youth Teams U13-18	Adult teams	Midweek Match Equivalents	Floodlit	Midweek Training Capacity	Full size Pitches	Match Play Demand (Weekend)	Match Play Capacity (Weekend)	Overall Site Capacity	Pitch Deficit or Surplus
Lincoln RFC	6	6	5	7	2.5	-2	6	7.00	5	3.00	1.50
North Hykeham RFC	0	2	2	2	0	-2	1	2.00	0.00	-2.00	-1.00
Totals	0	2	2	2	0	-2	1	2	0	-2	-1

Unmet and Latent Demand

In addition to the existing demand, the study also seeks to identify where existing current demand is not being fulfilled. The 2013 Sport England Methodology prescribes that this should be done through the identification of demand that is unmet, or latent. The definitions of these terms can be found below:

- Unmet demand is demand that is known to exist but unable to be accommodated on current supply of pitches. This could be in the form of a team with access to a pitch for matches but nowhere to train or vice versa. This could also be due to the poor quality and therefore limited capacity of pitches in the area and/or a lack of provision and ancillary facilities which meet a certain standard of play/league requirement. League secretaries may be aware of some unmet demand as they may have declined applications from teams wishing to enter their competitions due to a lack of pitch provision which in turn is hindering the growth of the league.
- Latent demand is demanding that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision. This could include feedback from a sports club who may feel that they could set up and run an additional team if they had access to better provision.

The table below captures the levels of unfulfilled demand in the Study Area

Club Name	Senior		Junior		Mini	Total	Reason(s)
	Men	Women	Boys	Girls			
Lincoln RFC	0	1	0	1	0	2	Floodlit training capacity restricts growth of female sides and further changing room extensions,
North Hykeham RFC	0	0	1	0	0	1	Secured home site with limited flood lit training capacity
Total	0	1	1	1	0	3	

Club Consultations:

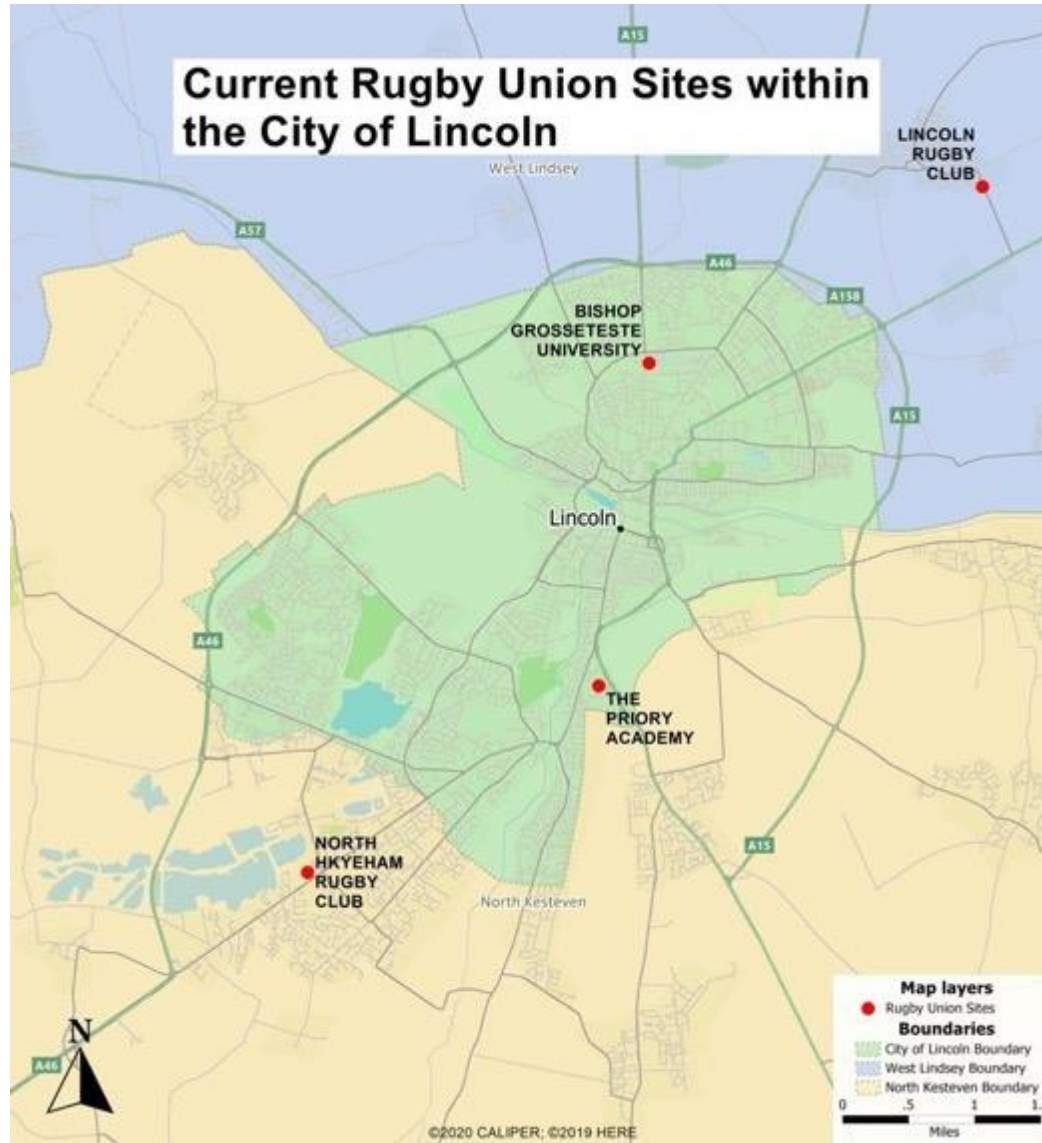
Lincoln Rugby Club are the largest rugby club within the City of Lincoln, located just outside of the city’s boundary to the north east. This club has 17 teams ranging from the mini section to the adult teams. They currently have 4 senior teams with 3 being male and one female side. There is floodlit training provision on site but with this there is an under supply due to the number of teams. As a result of this high demand two of the senior pitches are of poor quality with the increased usage. In total there are 220 playing members within the club with the main improvements highlighted being pitch drainage and car parking improvements.

Hykeham Rugby Club are located within the south western portion of the study area, just outside of the city’s boundaries, within the wider Hykeham Sports and Social club. They are the smaller of the two teams within the study area with 2 senior teams and 2 youth teams, this encompasses 102 playing members. The current site the club play and train on is available for external community use and public higher. In terms of improvements, they have wished for pitch improvements and changing room extensions. The pitches have been noted as saying they are ‘standard’ by the club, but they wish for additional winter training provision.

Locations of existing grass pitch provision – (Rugby only)

Site Name	Access Type	Management Type	Year Built
BISHOP GROSSETESTE UNIVERSITY	Sports Club / Community Association	School/College/University (in house)	n/a
THE PRIORY ACADEMY	Sports Club / Community Association	School/College/University (in house)	1955
LINCOLN RUGBY CLUB	Leasehold	Sports Club	n/a
NORTH HYKEHAM RUGBY CLUB	Sports Club / Community Association	Trust	n/a

Rugby Sites within the City of Lincoln



Playing Pitch Calculator Demand - Rugby

Rugby provision across the City boundary is catered for at the present time in regard to match play provision. Following on from discussions with the clubs and also RFU there is a need for mid-week floodlit provision due to a lack of supply currently. To alleviate this demand of floodlit provision additional supply can be created either on site at the current clubs or at external locations depending on future developments.

As highlighted below there will be an increase of teams and therefore training demand as the population increases up to 2041.

Therefore, this assessment recommends that the existing facilities and relationships with clubs be retained. The table below highlights the potential rugby teams that might be generated up to 2041 with the latest population data available, this has been supplied through the local authority

Sport age groups	Q1. How many people from the new population may fall within the individual sport age groups?		Q2. How many teams may be generated by the new population?		
	Percentage of the total population in the area	A1. Number of people in each sport age group	Team generation rate	Number of teams generated by the new population	A2. Number of teams generated by the new population (with any selected % adjustment in demand applied)
Rugby Union					
Men (19-45yrs)	22.10%	23023.31	7241	3.18	3.18
Women (19-45yrs)	21.24%	22134.09	20884	1.06	1.06
Boys (13-18yrs)	2.88%	2997.28	471	6.36	6.36
Girls (13-18yrs)	2.87%	2991.98	2823	1.06	1.06
Mixed (7-12yrs)	6.33%	6598.68	1245	5.30	5.30

Please see Appendix 4 for the full data sheets used in this assessment.

Rugby Union Summary

Key Findings for Rugby Union in City of Lincoln

Key Question	Analysis
<p>What are the main characteristics of the current supply and demand for provision?</p>	<p>There are only two clubs within the City of Lincoln, and both of these are outside of the cities boundary's (Lincoln RFC and North Hykeham RFC) but historically had their home sites within the city. Currently there is adequate match play provision for these clubs but there is a deficit of midweek training demand which has community use and floodlights.</p>
<p>Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet current demand?</p>	<p>There is enough accessible and secured community use sites within the city with both clubs having secured tenure on site a long-term community agreement.</p>
<p>Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?</p>	<p>Due to the current pandemic current site assessments were unable to be conducted for this season (2020 / 2021). There have also been no formal matches this season so a reflective quality score would of pitches is not available. Following review of the strategy and next stages will incorporate quality site assessments.</p>
<p>What are the main characteristics of the future supply and demand for provision?</p>	<p>In regard to the future supply and demand there is a lack of midweek floodlit provision which can be counted by increasing on or off-site provision. Lincoln RFC have indicated they wish to have enhanced floodlighting on site and there are also plans for a bespoke WR22 3G FTP pitch at a new development within the city. Lincoln RFC wish to increase their female sides/</p>
<p>Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet future demand?</p>	<p>Yes – both sites have secured community access for meet future demand.</p>

9. Facility Assessment - Hockey

The supply of playing surfaces (sand filled all-weather) across the City of Lincoln for hockey is limited to 3 principle locations. The current provision (supply) meets the demands for the sport, according to the Central Lincolnshire Playing Pitch Strategy (2015).

There is one large hockey club based in the city of Lincoln boundary. Lindum Hockey Club has 11 adult teams and 5 junior teams. Lindum Hockey Club was formed in 2015 and is an amalgamation of Lincoln Hockey Club and Lincoln Roses Hockey Club, both of which have long histories in the sport in Lincoln.

The club plays across a number of different leagues, as there is no nominated Lincoln or Lincolnshire based league anymore. The senior men's team play in the north premier division and the ladies play in the north division 2 (south east).

The University of Lincoln has 5 teams, who utilise the facility based at the main university sports centre within the Brayford campus.

There are 3 main venues that provide opportunities for Hockey in Lincoln as the sport is played on artificial pitches.

- Lindum Sports Association
- Yarborough Leisure Centre
- University of Lincoln

Lincolnshire do have county representative sides at Men's, Ladies, Veterans, Under 12's, 13's, 15's, 17's and 21's (all age groups have male and female sides).

It should be noted, the artificial pitch for hockey at Yarborough Leisure Centre has recently been refurbished in 2019.

Please see Appendix 4 for the full data sheets used in this assessment.

Hockey Stakeholders

There is one hockey club catering for the needs of the sport within the city boundary. Lindum Hockey Club is based within the boundary and has 16 teams across adults and junior section.

Club Consultations:

Lincoln Hockey Club is based at the Lindum Sports Association. The club have a single pitch for training and match site. The pitch is used daily Monday – Friday from 6pm-10pm and 9am – 6pm Saturday and 10am – 4pm Sundays.

To accommodate all club fixtures, the pitches at University of Lincoln and the Lincoln Castle Academy (Yarborough Leisure Centre) on Saturdays and Sundays.

The club has 1517 members based on affiliation data.

- 550 Junior and senior Category A (Match/Training),
- 967 category B (informal training, community programme members).

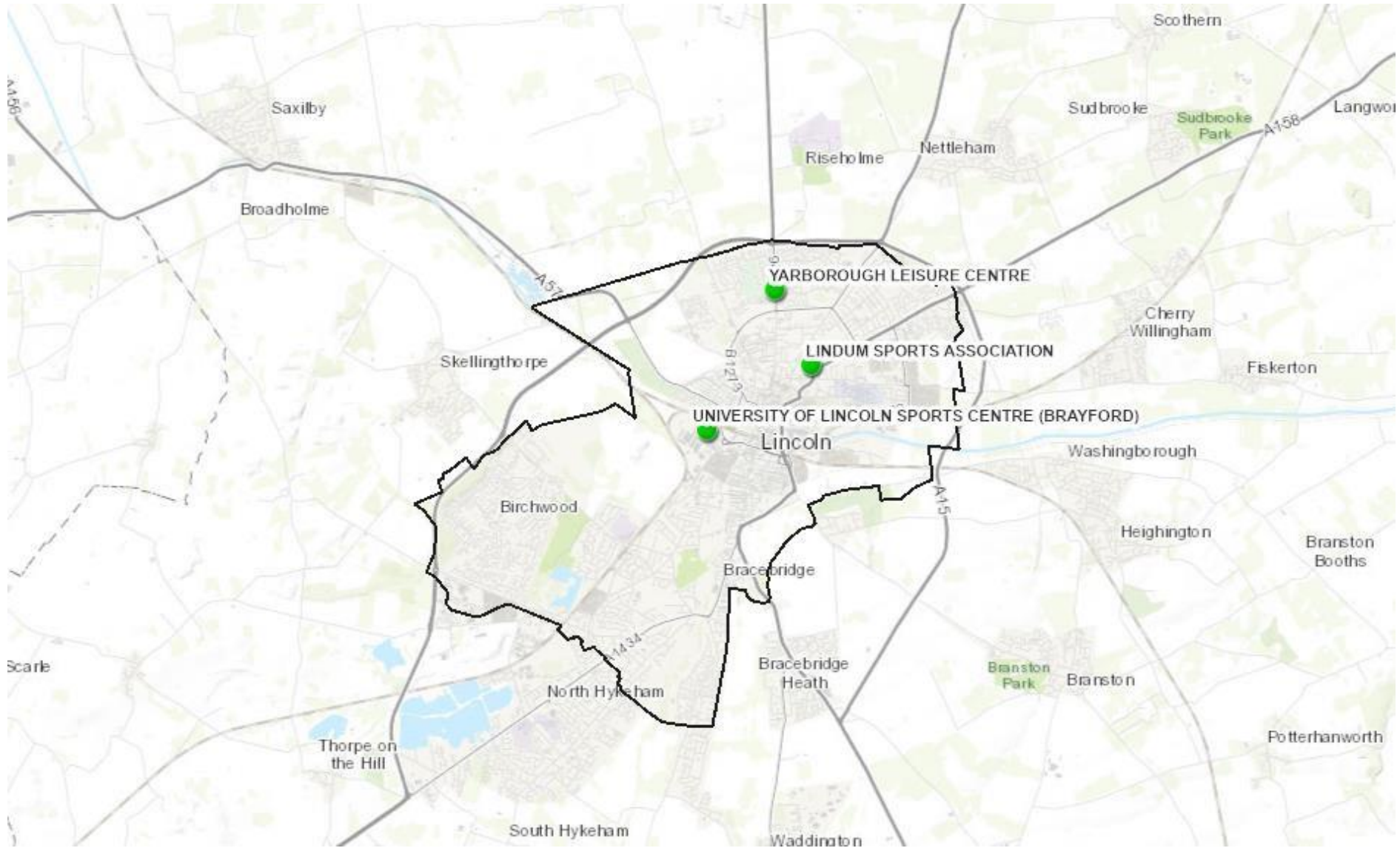
Lindum HC also have a large schools programme which covers 1957 school children between September – May. The club sees a steady flow of new members from this programme.

The club expects to see around 7-8% rise in Category A and B members per year subject to the current pandemic. The key aspiration for the club is to secure a 2nd pitch, ideally in the same location, so the club can expand training options and provide a better quality of service to members in the week. The University of Lincoln and Yarborough are not available mid-week for use and at times limit the weekend usage.

Locations of existing hockey pitch provision – (Sand filled all weather surfaces)

Site Name	Access Type	Management Type	Year Built
LINDUM SPORTS ASSOCIATION	Sports Club / Community Association	Commercial Management	2014
UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN SPORTS CENTRE (BRAYFORD)	Private Use	School/College/University (in house)	2000
YARBOROUGH LEISURE CENTRE	Pay and Play	Trust	1996

Hockey Sites within the City of Lincoln



Playing Pitch Calculator Demand - Hockey

Hockey provision across the City boundary is catered for at the present time and there appears to be no future change in this requirement.

Therefore, this assessment recommends that the existing facilities and relationships with clubs be retained. The table below highlights the potential rugby teams that might be generated up to 2041 with the latest population data available.

Sport age groups	Q1. How many people from the new population may fall within the individual sport age groups?		Q2. How many teams may be generated by the new population?		
	Percentage of the total population in the area	A1. Number of people in each sport age group	Team generation rate	Number of teams generated by the new population	A2. Number of teams generated by the new population (with any selected % adjustment in demand applied)
Hockey					
Men (17-55yrs)	28.85%	30056.53	4727	6.36	6.36
Women (17-55yrs)	28.20%	29380.34	5544	5.30	5.30
Boys (14-16yrs)	1.33%	1387.35	655	2.12	2.12
Girls (14-16yrs)	1.30%	1353.44	1277	1.06	1.06
Boys (11-13yrs)	1.53%	1598.27	1508	1.06	1.06
Girls (11-13yrs)	1.40%	1461.55	1379	1.06	1.06
Mixed U10s (5-10yrs)	6.54%	6814.89	0	0.00	0.00

10. Facility Assessment - Tennis

The supply of playing courts for tennis is provided through a mixture of local authority owned (free to use courts) and private member clubs. The supply is provided across four principle locations in the city.

These four locations are as follows

- Eastgate Tennis Club
- Boutham Park
- Ruston's Sports & Social Club
- West Common

In addition to these locations, it is important to also recognise other local facilities that serve Lincoln residents but are not located in the City boundary.

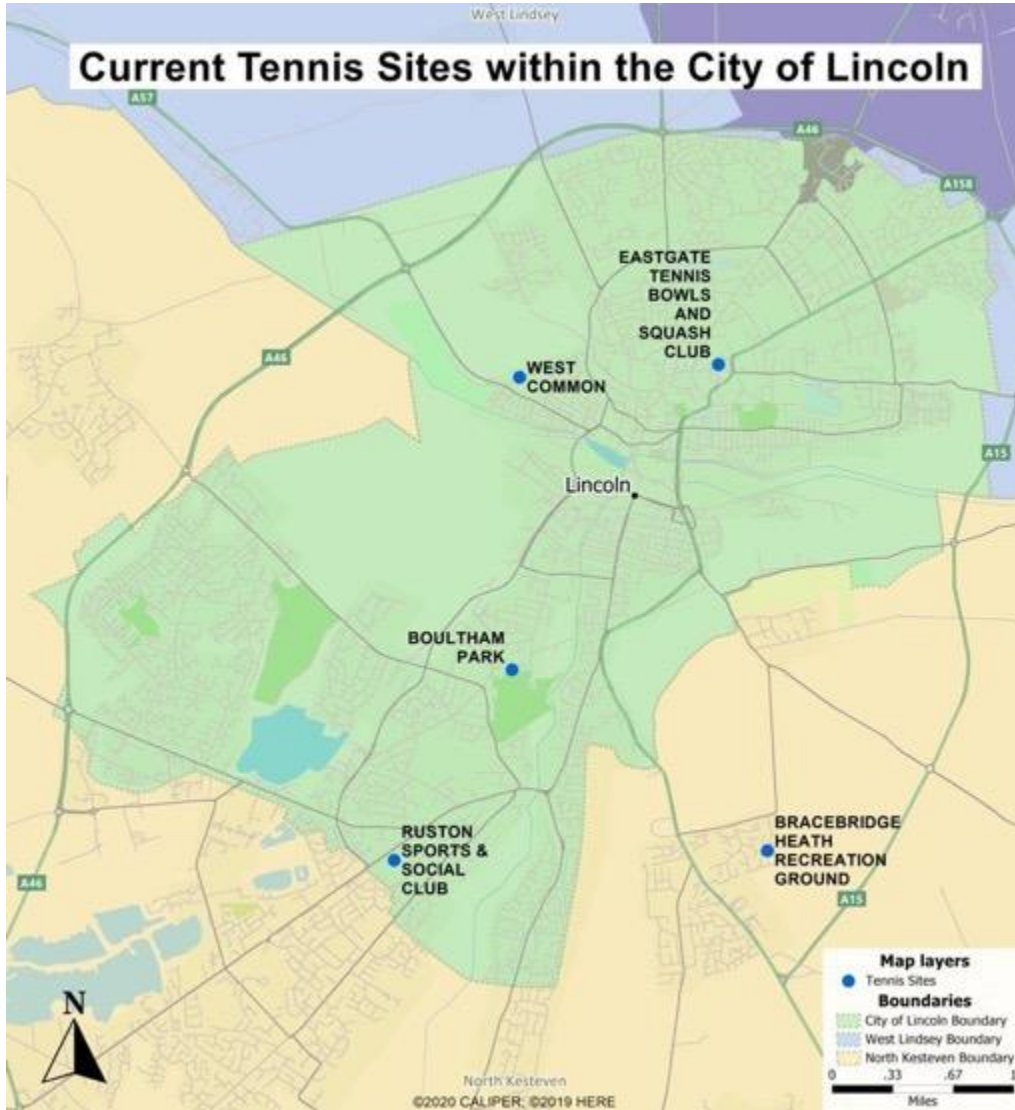
David Lloyd Lincoln is located at nearby Burton Waters, which is 3 miles from the centre of Lincoln. This is a significant health and rackets club offering 4 indoor and 4 outdoor courts. A dome covering is used in the winter months to permit all year round play on the outdoor courts. This provision is complimented by 2 squash courts and 4 badminton courts. The health and rackets club is an integral part of a larger offering including fitness suites, studios, children's activities and a large café.

- **Nettleham Tennis Club**, Nettleham, located in the West Lindsey District. 5 outdoor courts (floodlight).
- **Lincoln Tennis Academy**, Dunholme located in the West Lindsey District. 2 courts within a tennis dome.
- **Heighington Tennis Club** located in the North Kesteven District. 2 outdoor courts.
- **Canwick Tennis Club** located in the North Kesteven District. 2 outdoor courts.
- **Washingborough Tennis Club** located in the North Kesteven District. 2 outdoor courts (floodlight).
- **Branston Tennis Club** located in the North Kesteven District. 4 outdoor courts.
- **Reepham & District Tennis Club** located in the West Lindsey District. 2 outdoor courts (floodlight).

Whilst not noted on active places power, there are 3 outdoor courts located at Bracebridge Heath Recreation Ground. These are located in the district of North Kesteven.

The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) highlighted during the initial consultation phase of this study that the provision of tennis courts is deemed adequate for the current demand although further investigation is required (post pandemic) to re-establish the actual demand levels. The LTA are willing to work with City of Lincoln Council to establish the level of demand in 2021 once tennis returns to pre-pandemic levels. The LTA have established a detailed approach to market segmentation and associated latent demand, which can be used to assess the supply versus demand calculations once the sport returns.

Tennis Sites within the City of Lincoln



Site Name	Access Type	Management Type	Courts	Year Built
Boultham Park	Pay & Play	Local Authority	3	2000
Eastgate Tennis Club	Sports Club	Sports Club	8	1976
Ruston’s Sports & Social Club	Sports Club	Sports Club	6	2007
West Common	Free Public Access	Local Authority	3	2000

It is also noted that there are further tennis facilities within schools that are multi-sport / playground spaces. These are not listed for community access.

Summary of Tennis Assessment

Tennis provision across the city and within the immediate surrounding area, provides sufficient courts and associated facilities for the existing demand. However, the CoLC will work with the LTA to understand future demand requirements, once a full return to play has taken place after the current pandemic.

Please see Appendix 4 for the full data sheets used in this assessment.

11. Facility Assessment - 3G FTP's

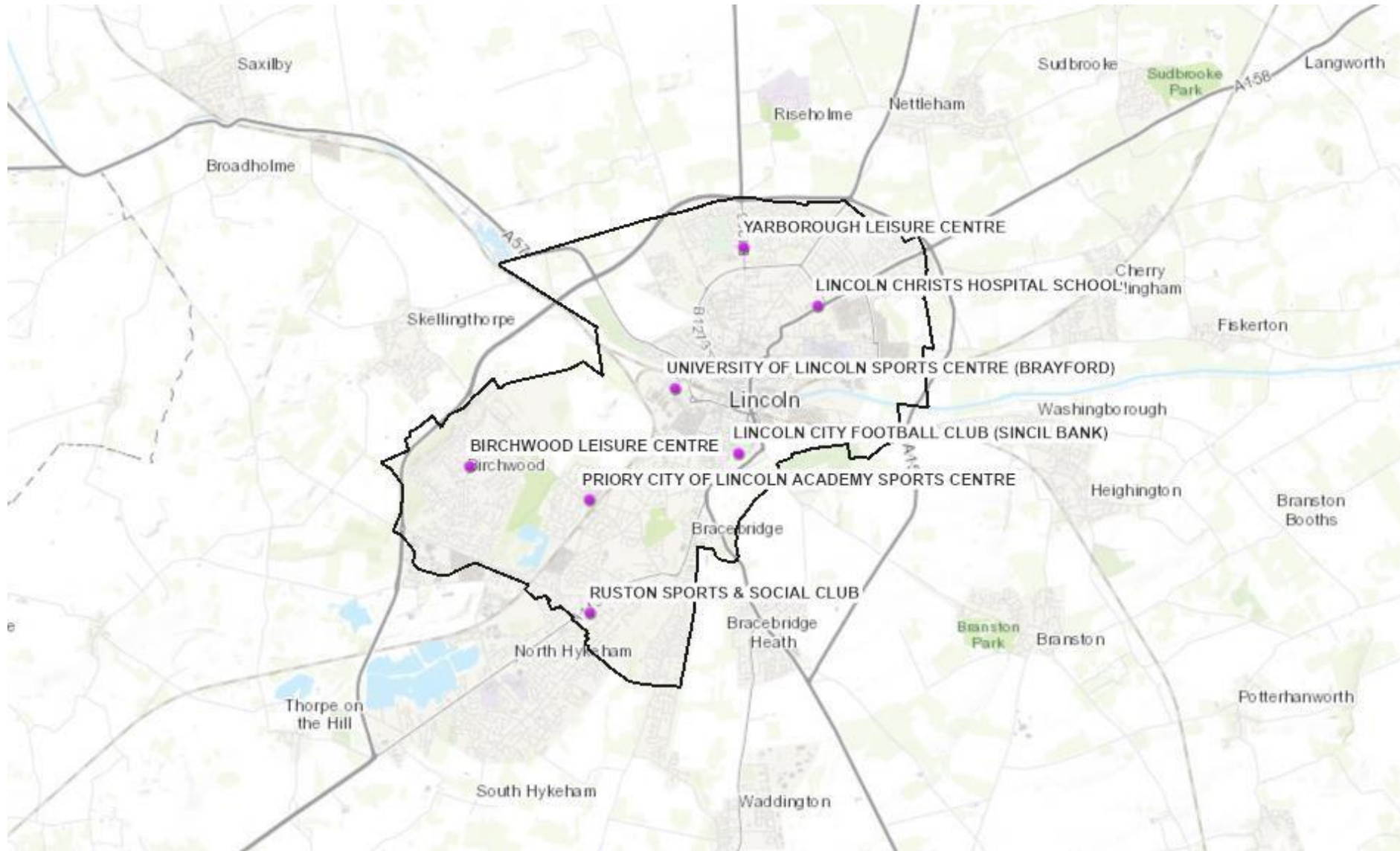
The development of 3G pitches in the past few years has transformed the way in which many leagues function, in particular junior football leagues. Lincoln has benefitted from the increase in usage from 3G FTP's and the Co-op Mid-Lincs league in particular, has been able to grow in terms of clubs and teams. This is principally due to the changing format of the game, including mini-festivals, and also through being able to play more games per week on the 3G FTP.

There are currently seven 3G FTP's within the Lincoln city boundary (source - active places power). In addition, there are two further full sized 3G FTP 's that service Lincoln City residents. One of these is with the North Kesteven district at the ONE NK sports centre. The second 3G FTP is based in West Lindsey and is located at the Pembroke Priory School, Cherry Willingham. In addition, and for consideration in this assessment, is a small (7v7) 3G training pitch at Manor Park, Welton.

Locations of existing artificial grass pitches provision:

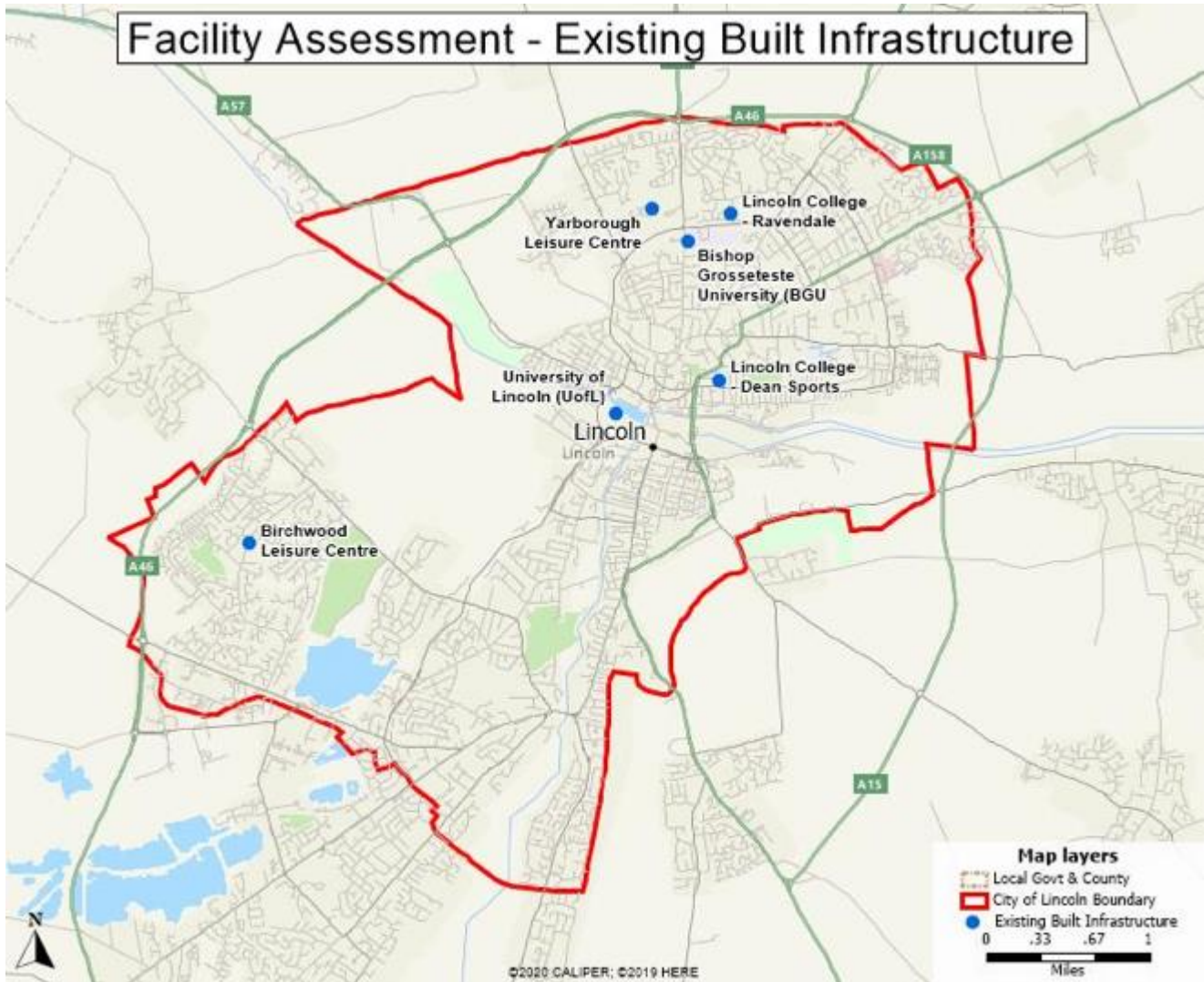
Site Name	Address	Size	Ownership Type	Management Type	Year Built
BIRCHWOOD LEISURE CENTRE	BIRCHWOOD AVENUE	Full Sized	Local Authority	Trust	2019
LINCOLN CHRISTS HOSPITAL SCHOOL	WRAGBY ROAD	Full-Sized	Voluntary Aided School	School/College/University (in house)	2009
LINCOLN CITY FOOTBALL CLUB (SINCIL BANK)	SINCIL BANK	Full-Sized	Commercial	Commercial Management	1998
PRIORY CITY OF LINCOLN ACADEMY SPORTS CENTRE	SKELLINGTHORPE ROAD	Full-Sized	Academies	School/College/University (in house)	2014
RUSTON SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB	NEWARK ROAD	Full-Sized	Sports Club	Sport Club	2007
UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN SPORTS CENTRE (BRAYFORD)	RUSTON WAY	Small-Sized	Higher Education Institution	School/College/University (in house)	2000
YARBOROUGH LEISURE CENTRE	RISEHOLME ROAD	Full-Sized	Local Authority	Trust	2019

FTP Sites within the City of Lincoln

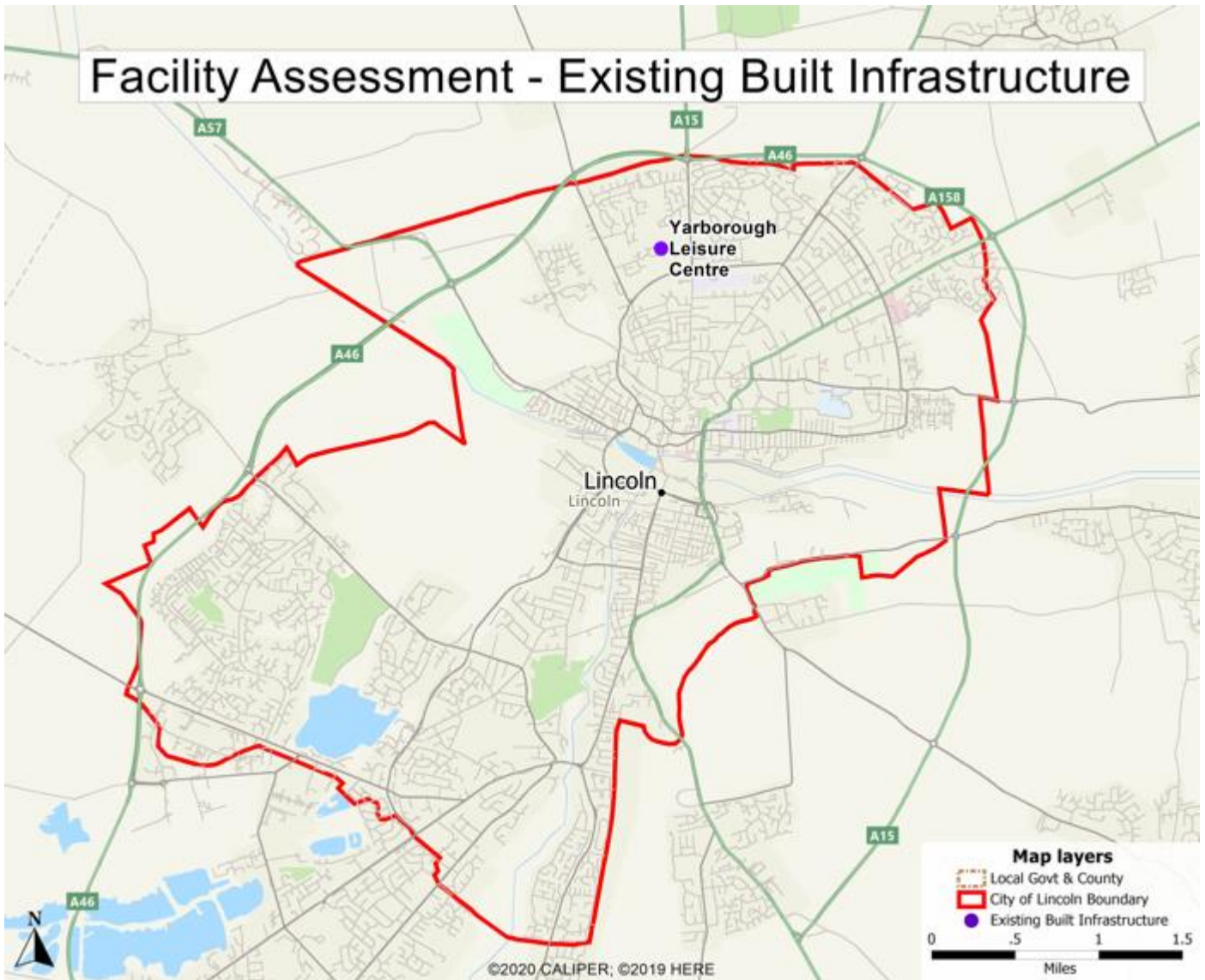


12. Facility Assessment - Existing Built Infrastructure

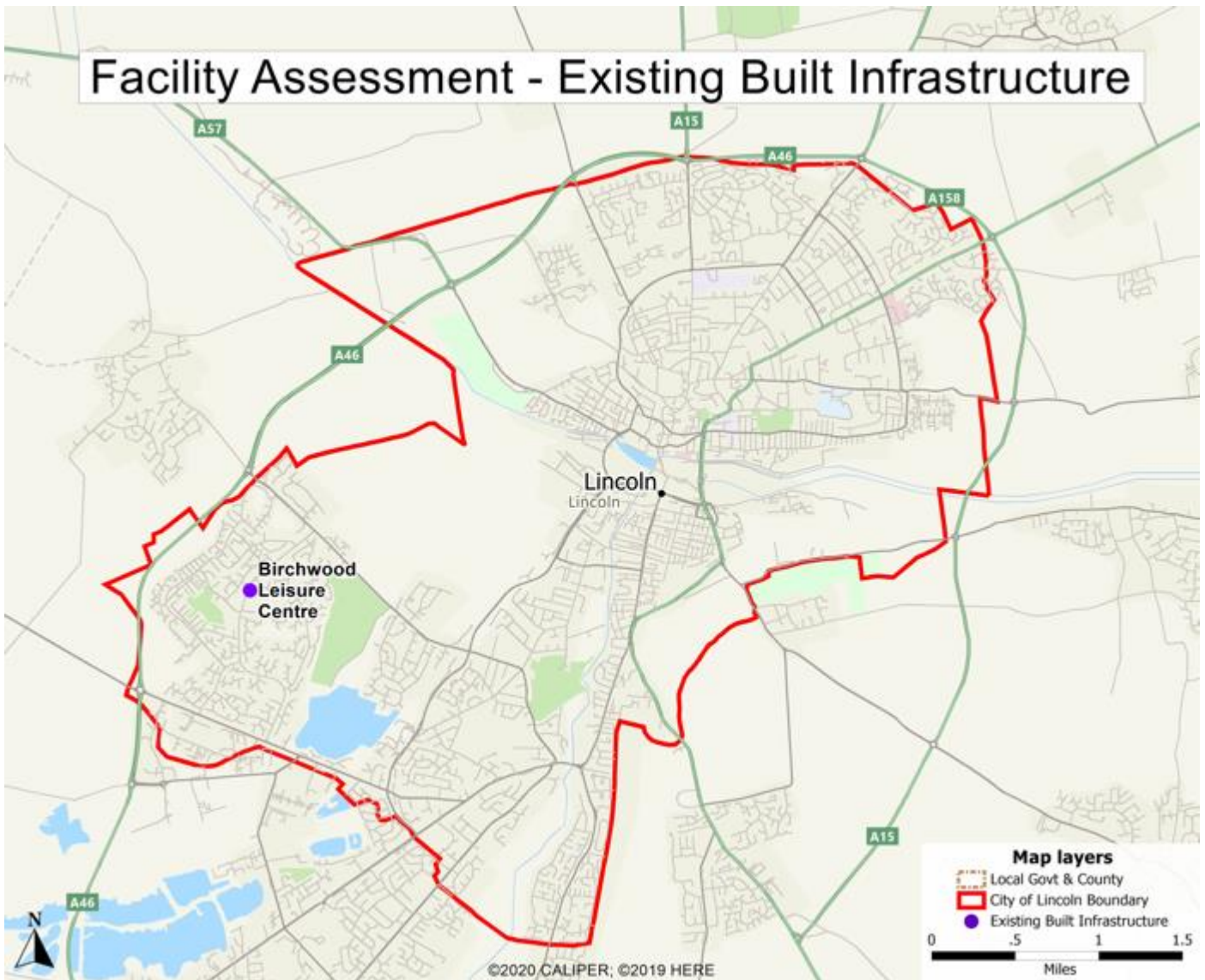
The City of Lincoln has five facilities of significant importance to this strategy in relation to the wider provision of sports and leisure (note: Lincoln College has a split provision over two locations). The map below shows the locations of these centres. The two main sports and leisure centres in the city boundary are owned by CoLC and managed in partnership with Active Nation within a long term contract, which expires in 2033.



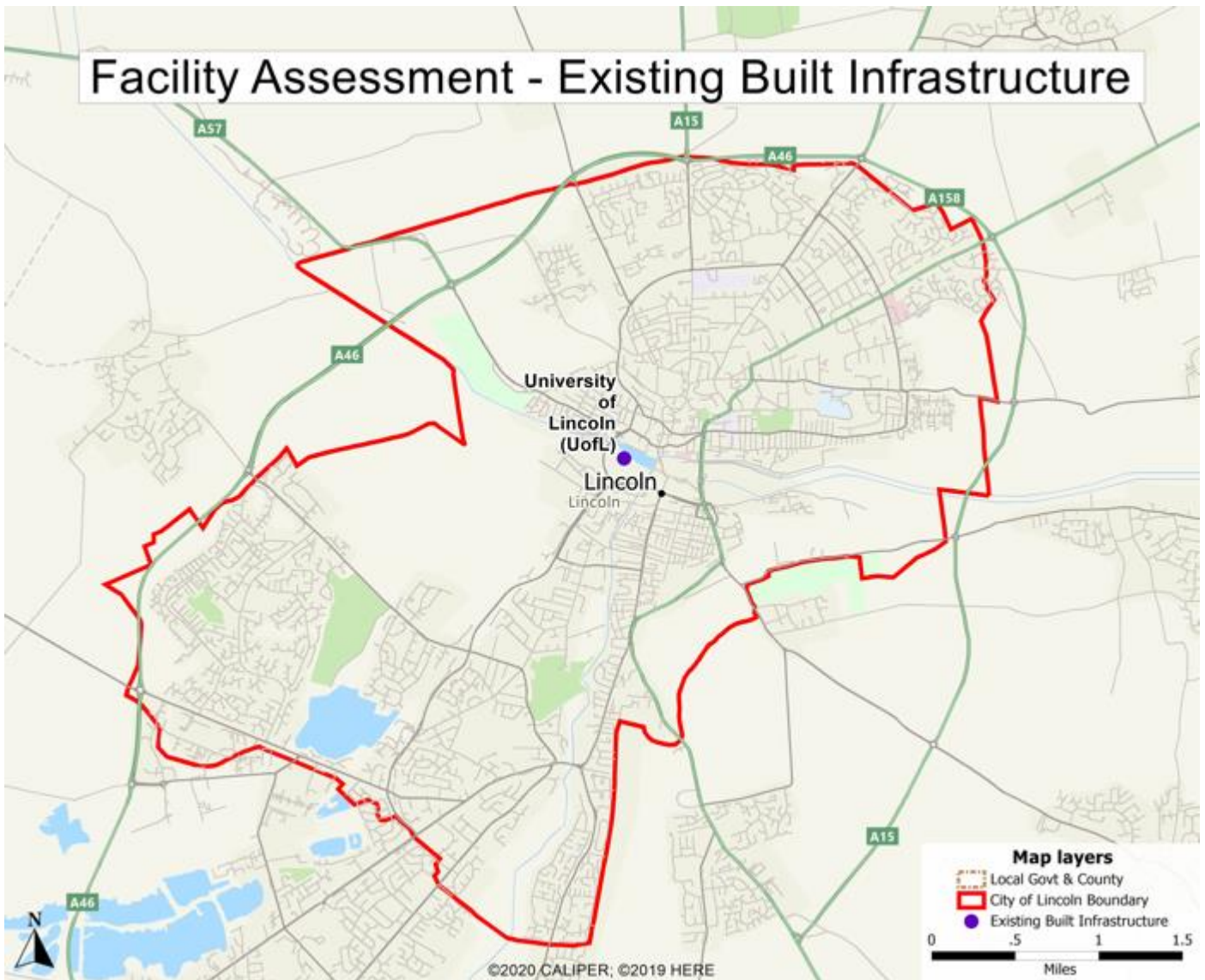
Yarborough Leisure Centre is a wet / dry leisure facility with outdoor pitches and a 3G pitch. YLC is classified as a Tier one site as it contains a wide range of sports pitches, has a floodlight training facility and associated ancillary facilities.



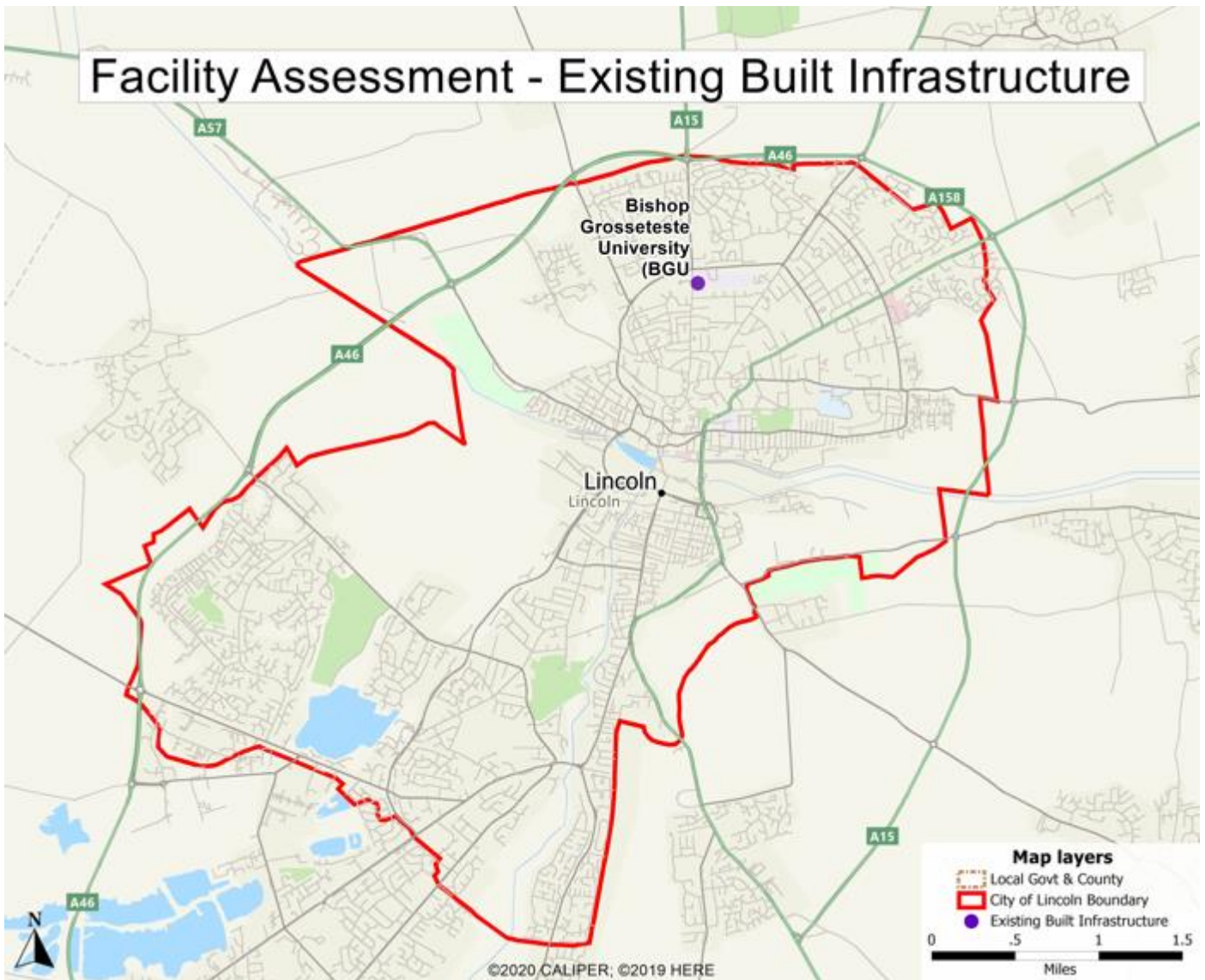
Birchwood Leisure Centre is a dry leisure facility with outdoor pitches and a 3G pitch. BLC is also classified as a Tier one site as it contains a wide range of sports pitches, has a floodlight training facility and associated ancillary facilities.



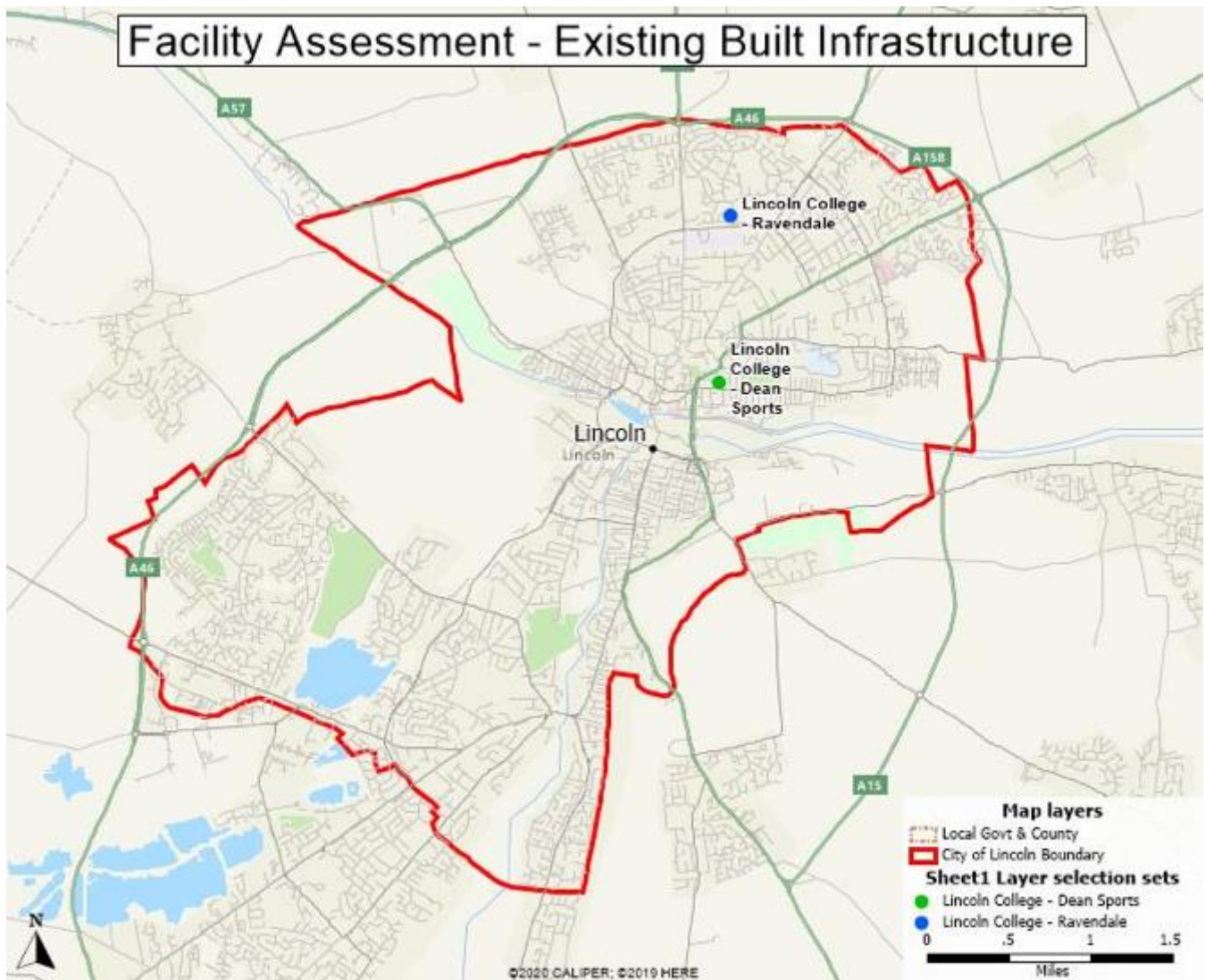
University of Lincoln (UofL) has a sports centre within the main university campus, which is in the heart of Lincoln city centre, adjacent to Brayford Pool. The sports centre provides indoor and outdoor facilities for 14,000 students and 1,600 members of staff in the academic community. Facilities include a large sports hall, squash courts, fitness suite and all-weather pitches.



Bishop Grosseteste University (BGU) has an indoor sports centre within the main university campus located to the north of Lincoln City Centre. This comprises of a sports hall, fitness suite and studios. In addition to the indoor sports facility, the University has two grass pitches located within the campus and also use nearby Ravendale drive for their sports teams.



Lincoln College has a sports centre within its main city centre campus, called Deans Sports & Leisure. The students have access to a fitness suite, studios and a sports hall. The College also owns an extensive grass pitch site at Ravendale Drive, which is located to the north of the city centre. Ravendale hosts the College representative sides, physical education activities and a number of community clubs.



13. Facility Assessment - Education Secondary Schools, Colleges and Primary Schools

Within the City of Lincoln there are additional sports pitch provision located at numerous schools located throughout the city, these range from primary to independent secondary schools and colleges. It is important to conduct a thorough review and analysis of the available provision due to many schools currently allowing both formal and informal community use to occur which can help many pitch-based sports with training and match needs. The table below highlights the supply information within the local authority in terms of what is available within the study area. It is important to note that certain schools might have changed their community use provision with the current health situation due to new regulations and restrictions.

Pitch provision for Education Establishments within the City of Lincoln

Site Name	Postcode	Pitch Types
BIRCHWOOD JUNIOR SCHOOL	LN6 0NL	2 x Junior football (11v11) and Rounders
BISHOP GROSSETESTE UNIVERSITY	LN1 3DY	1 x Junior Football (11v11)
HARTSHOLME ACADEMY	LN6 0DE	1 x Mini Soccer (7v7)
LINCOLN CARLTON ACADEMY	LN2 4AG	2 x Junior Football (11v11)
LINCOLN CHRISTS HOSPITAL SCHOOL	LN2 4PN	2 X Adult football, 1 x FTP, 1 x Cricket, 1 x Junior Football (9v9), 4 x Rounders
LINCOLN CITY FC (SINCIL BANK)	LN5 8LD	1 x Adult Football
LINCOLN COLLEGE (RAVENDALE DRIVE)	LN2 2JN	3 x Adult Football, 2 x Junior Football (11v11)
MANOR LEAS JUNIOR ACADEMY	LN6 8BE	2 x Junior Football (11v11)
PRIORY CITY OF LINCOLN ACADEMY SPORTS CENTRE	LN6 0EP	1 x Adult Football, 1 x FTP, 1 x Junior Football (11v11), 1 x Junior Football (9v9), 2 x Mini Soccer (7v7), 3 x Rounders
ST GILES ACADEMY	LN2 4LQ	1 x Adult football, 1 Junior Football (11v11)

Site Name	Postcode	Pitch Types
ST PETER & ST PAUL CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY	LN6 7SX	1 x Adult Football, 1 x Cricket Wicket, 2 x Junior Football (11v11),
THE LINCOLN ST CHRISTOPHER'S SCHOOL	LN6 8AR	1 x Junior Football (11v11)
THE PRIORY ACADEMY	LN5 8PW	2 x Adult Football, 2 x Rounders, 1 x Senior Rugby Union
THE PRIORY WITHAM ACADEMY	LN6 7DT	4 x Adult Football, 2 x Junior Football (11v11)
THE SADBROOKE DRIVE COMMUNITY CENTRE	LN2 2DS	2 x Adult Football
UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN SPORTS CENTRE (BRAYFORD)	LN6 7BP	2 x FTP

Education Demand:

As part of the demand analysis, it is important to understand the impact of school usage on the capacity of playing pitches and as to whether school demand has an impact on the supply and demand of pitch provision. During the consultation phase with each national governing body and the schools themselves we assessed what pitches were on offer to the community and what teams use each respected site. Numerous school sites are open to the community if the demand is present, some schools do not have community use due to maintenance and safeguarding issues on site.

To understand the long-term trends and potential development aims of playing pitch provision within the city it is important to understand the 'security' that is afforded to each community access on provision across the city. Decision on security of tenure should be taken on a case by case basis using industry knowledge.

As a starting point, one of the following elements typically constitutes a secure site.

- A formal community use agreement
- A leasing or management agreement requiring pitches to be available to the community
- A formal policy for community use adopted by the owner and or educational establishment
- Written confirmation from the owner and/or educational establishment

14. Strategic Direction – A way forward

The provision of sporting venues across the City is currently disparate and has been developed over the years on the basis of demand rather than strategic thinking. CoLC have always been involved in this provision, either through owning and managing buildings, or through letting service contracts with operators.

In the future, a coordinated approach to provision could dramatically improve the participation rates for sport, physical activity and health and wellbeing and maximise efficiencies particularly in maintenance, programming and financial sustainability. CoLC should be at the forefront of this by taking a different approach to provision of services and or maintaining assets.

This study has identified across the various sports the differing levels of facilities currently available in the city boundary. The study also highlights the levels of inactivity (as defined by Sport England Active Lives survey information), the level of uptake into sporting activity and the problems caused by being sport led rather than being strategic about facility provision. In order to change this approach, it is recommended that the focus is switched.

It is recommended that a tiered approach is taken across City of Lincoln's sports provision. The tiered approach would inform how to best provide multi-sport venues with high levels of throughput and how small single sites are positioned within this structure.

The tiered approach is best visualised in the table on page 77 in section 12.1. The detailed approach for each sport follows the table. However, in short, we believe, as do the organisations we have consulted with, that the sporting venues in the future should be classified as follows:



Tier one – *Large single site with multiple indoor and outdoor sport offerings with full community access.*



Tier two – *Single site with multiple sport offerings with managed or agreed community access*



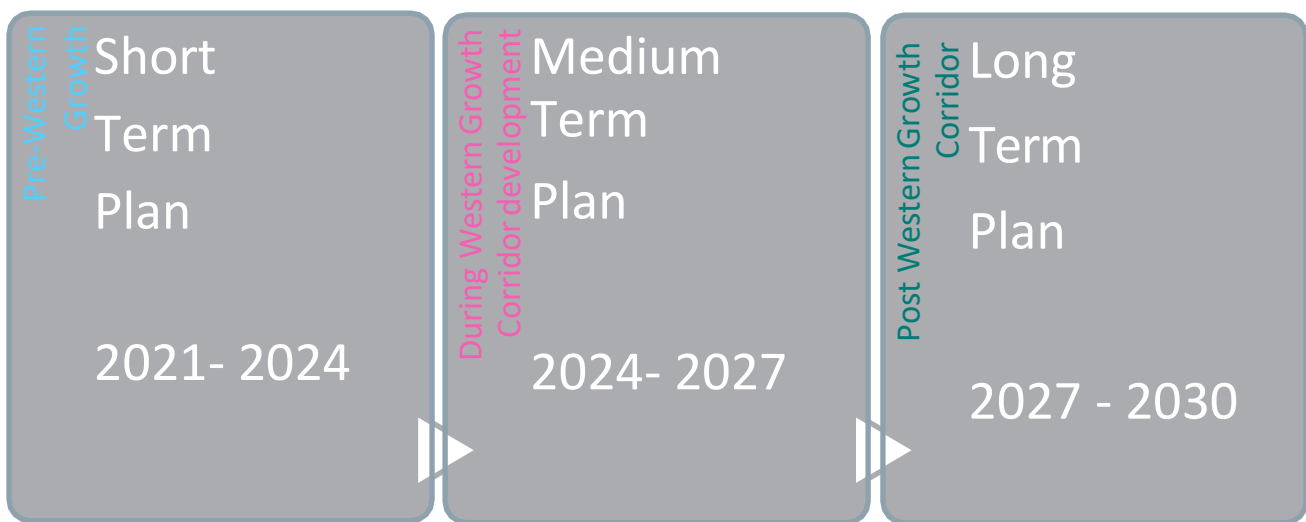
Tier three – *Small single site with separate sports / activity offerings*



Tier four – *Small single site with only one sport / activity offering.*

It is recommended that a phased approach is taken to the development of each tier and a contingency plan should be in place, should the western growth corridor not come to fruition. As part of a master planning exercise, and once the list of facilities is finalised within each tier, a detailed timeline for investment can be established.

This timeline will show immediate investment required and maintenance responsibilities in years one to three (2021-2024) and then a medium-term plan over next three years (2024-2027). The short-term plan will inform which facilities are to be closed as part of the rationalisation. The medium and long term plans will contain objectives which will be developed during and after the impact of the western growth corridor. A high level summary of the timeline is shown below.



It is recommended that a **yearly ‘snapshot’ review of facilities** and pitches is undertaken for City of Lincoln Council, to ascertain the movements of clubs and teams.

A **full detailed, strategic review** should be carried out **every 3 years**. The 3 year review points would be carried out in line with the timeline above.

It is important that the City of Lincoln Council review is considered as part of a wider Lincolnshire review, especially as has been noted in this document, that provision overlaps the CoLC boundaries, most noticeably West Lindsey and North Kesteven. It is noted that both these authorities are currently carrying out an assessment of facilities and therefore there is a need to combine this joint evidence in future works

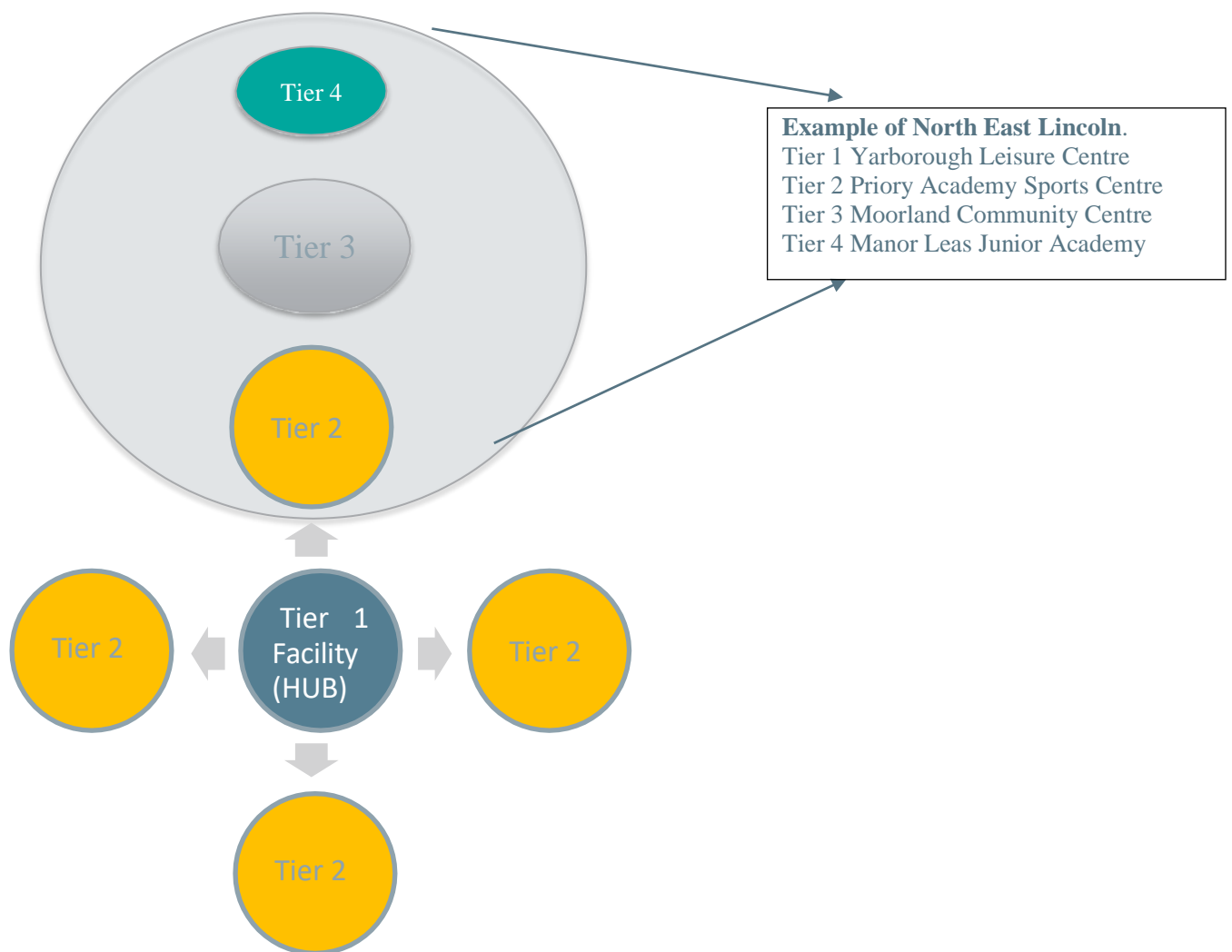
The table (over the page) highlights the proposed strategy for CoLC to adopt within each tier of facilities.

14.1 Example of a Strategic Plan for sports provision for City of Lincoln

Tier	Facility Mix	Lincoln examples	Proposed strategy
Tier One	<p>Large single site with multiple indoor and outdoor sport offerings, with full community access</p> <p>Significant indoor provision which will likely include wet & dry 3G pitch with floodlights Outdoor sports provision Grass pitches Full daytime / evening / weekend community Full management / operational structure Classified high quality provision</p>	YARBOROUGH LEISURE CENTRE	Own, manage (sub-contract), Invest, maintain and develop these facilities. Look to develop one new Tier one facility alongside western growth corridor.
Tier Two	<p>Single site with multiple sport offerings with managed / agreed community access</p> <p>Indoor / Outdoor - but small or limited offer 3G pitch with floodlights Grass pitch provision Facilities may be managed via a community use agreement Classified as 'average' quality provision</p>	PRIORY CITY OF LINCOLN ACADEMY SPORTS CENTRE	<p>Support via community use agreements to clubs/facilities.</p> <p>Invest and maintain if owned by CoLC. Are there opportunities to invest into other sports on site?</p>
Tier Three	<p>Small single site with separate sports / activity offerings</p> <p>Grass pitches Outdoor training - non-floodlight Facility is not managed or operated, often managed by volunteers Facilities are predominately for the use of a single club but spread over summer and winter seasons (i.e. Cricket and Football)</p>	MOORLAND COMMUNITY CENTRE	<p>Support via community use agreement</p> <p>Maintain if owned by CoLC</p>
Tier Four	<p>Single site with a single sport</p> <p>Single grass pitch Outdoor training - non-floodlight Facility is not managed or operated, often managed by volunteers Facilities are predominately for the use of a single club</p>	MANOR LEAS JUNIOR ACADEMY	<p>Support via community use agreement</p> <p>Maintain if owned by CoLC</p> <p>Consider closure if not financially viable following a detailed feasibility study</p>

The rationale for creating a tiered approach to facility provision is to allow the City Council to consider investment and their support to Tier one facilities, consider support to Tier 2 facilities, consider how best to manage, maintain other facilities and to establish which facilities they may no longer require in the future.

The image below shows a typical example of how the tiered system could be developed. Yarborough Leisure Centre would be a Tier 1 facility serving the north of the City. This would be the principle training and match play venue for all clubs and teams, in this part of the City. Yarborough LC would be supported by a Tier 2 facility, Priory City of Lincoln Academy Sports Centre. These venues would pick up the majority of match play for the larger clubs with multiple teams. The remaining smaller clubs or single teams would then use Tier 3 and 4 facilities for match play requirements.

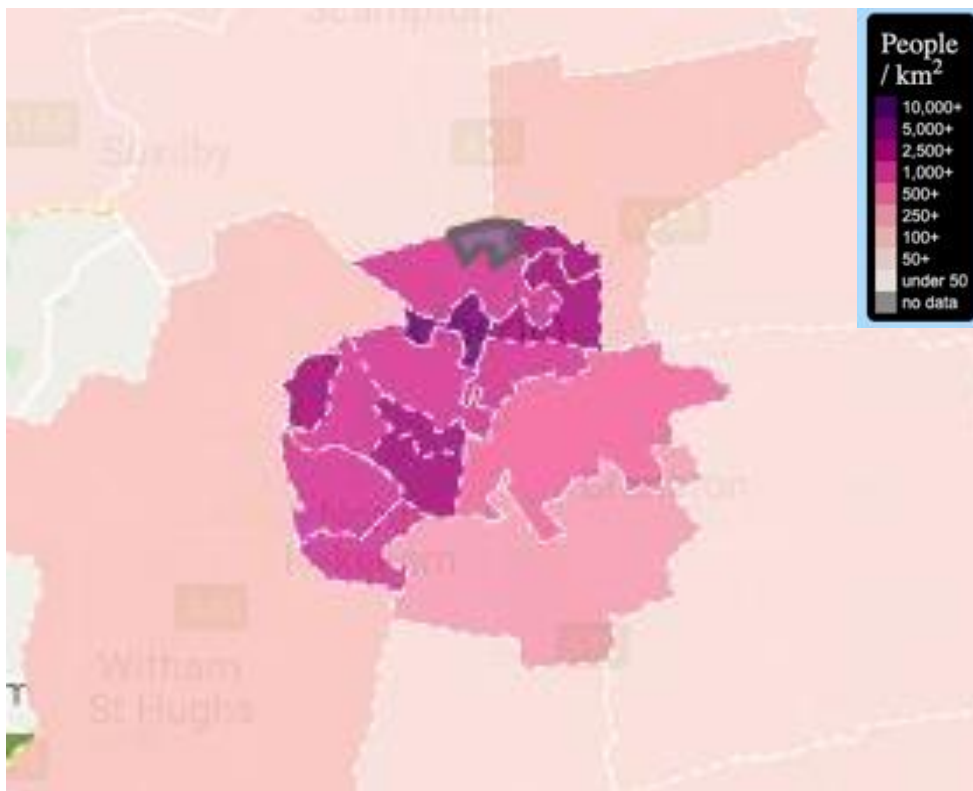


Establishing the location of Tier One Facilities

Tier one facilities should be strategically located across the City to provide a 'geographic split', for the community.

One method to establish the need for strategically located Tier one facilities is to look at population density. The greater the population density of the area, the greater need for facilities based on typical penetration rates for sport. The population density map should also be overlaid with the existing facilities in the local area. This would allow for an assessment to be made about existing infrastructure and the need to link to Tier 2, 3 and 4 provision.

The map below shows the population density of the different wards in City of Lincoln. On the basis of this, there is a clear need to have facilities located in the North, Centrally and South West.



The growth potential from the Western Growth corridor (WGC) will inevitably change the strategic plan for the city, especially given the size of population change and how the local infrastructure will be affected. At this stage, it is not known the exact nature of how the WGC will change the demographic profile of the west of Lincoln, so we have developed initial facility options with and without the influence of the WGC.

There are currently three Tier one facilities that are already in existence in City of Lincoln. These facilities will require a combination of support and continued investment.

Travel / Drive Times from Tier 1 and 2 sites within City of Lincoln

An important consideration when classifying the facilities and recommending future investment, is the consideration of current and future usage. The uptake of a facilities is influenced by the time it takes a person to get to the location. As per Sport England guidelines the drive time for a full size FTP site or leisure facility is very much dependent on the demographics of the area. (local factors and other influencing elements such as urban or rural areas). At this stage, we have utilised a 20 minute drive time analysis, as a snapshot, but recognise further scenario testing would be required within future works. The map on page 81 shows the tier 1 sites in this 20 minute drivetime area.

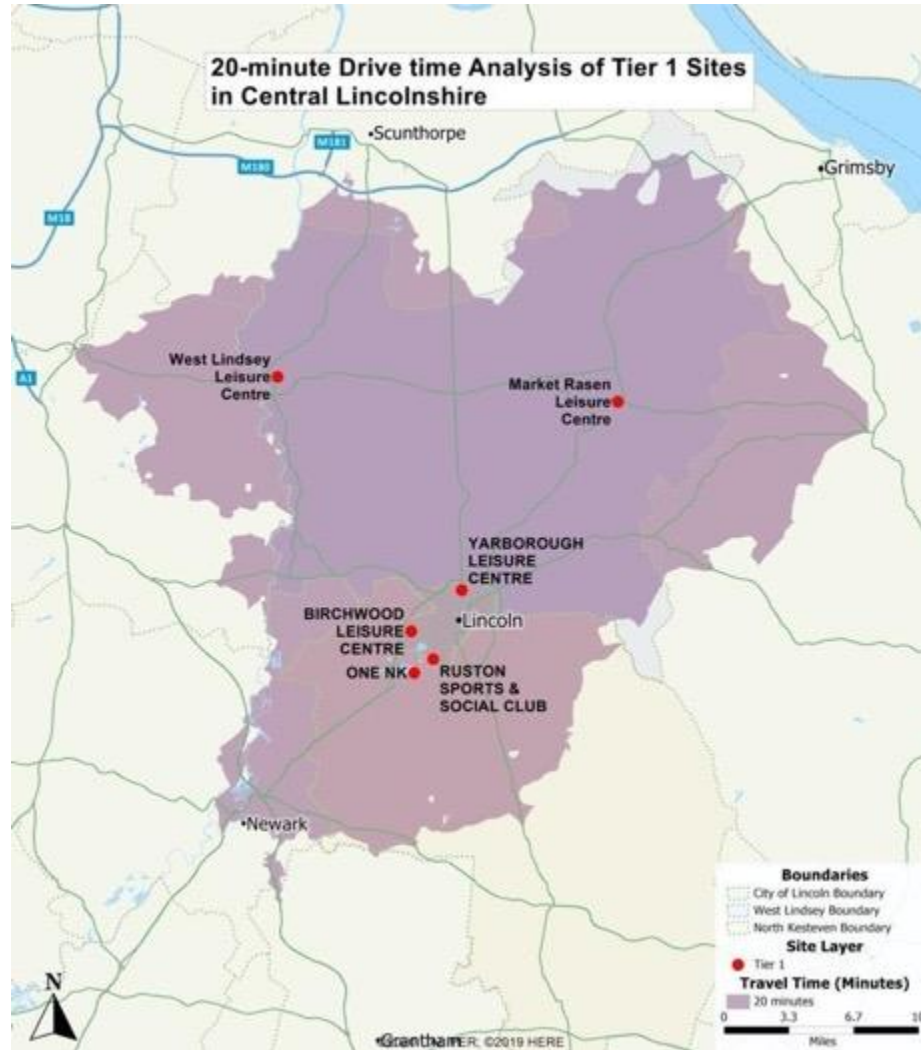
The drive time analysis of sites is important as it illustrates the potential catchment of a facility that will use a specific site for which forecasting can be made for financial information and a program of use. This analysis is typically used on sites that are strategically important within a local authority or study, such as a swimming pool, leisure centre or artificial grass pitch. Due to the nature of the remote modelling of the area they typically cross local authority boundaries, with one site typically being used by communities from a variety of areas.

Within the City of Lincoln and surrounding local authorities of North Kesteven and West Lindsey, there are a total of 6 Tier one sites that are currently used by the community, 3 within the City and one located in North Kesteven (One NK) and two in West Lindsey (West Lindsey LC and Market Rasen LC).

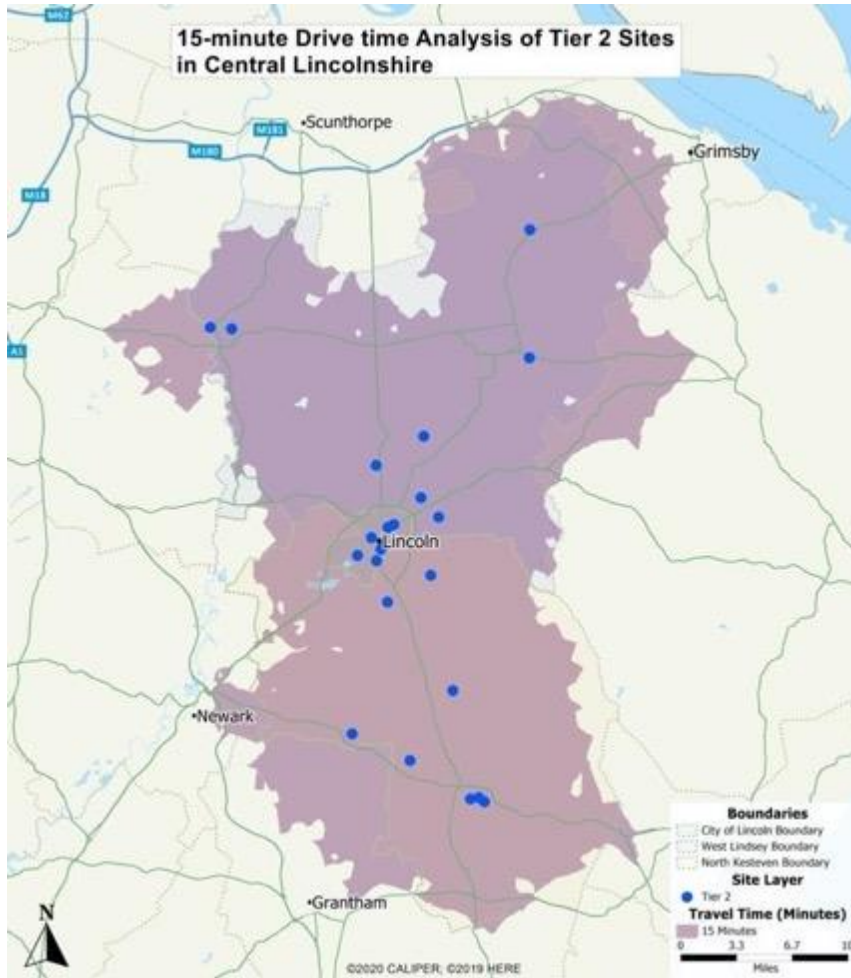
Due to the road network within the immediate area these Tier 1 sites have a catchment area that stretches towards North Kesteven to the South West and also all the area within the City of Lincoln. North Kesteven also has a limited supply of Tier 1 facilities within the local authority, as a result sections of the population in the north of the local authority might use sites located in the City of Lincoln, especially if its located close to work.

There are a greater number of Tier 2 facilities within the City of Lincoln and surrounding local authorities. This catchment area stretches from central parts of North Kesteven to central West Lindsey and also touches the Eastern part of Nottinghamshire. The map on page 82 shows a 15 minute drive time analysis for tier 2 sites.

Tier 1 Sites within the City of Lincoln and Central Lincolnshire - 20 Minute Drive Time Analysis



Tier 2 Sites within the City of Lincoln - 15 Minute Drive Time Analysis

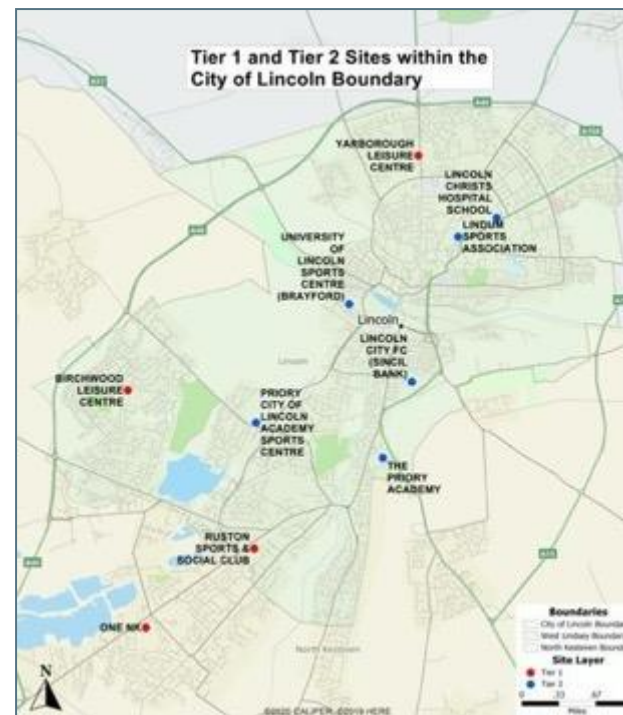


Existing Facilities

The existing facilities are geographically spread across the city boundary but there is an emphasis on sites to the North, South and South West of the city.

There are a number of strategic and therefore important sites across the city. (See map) We have ranked these sites in relation to the proposed tiered system.

In addition, we have noted the sites that are located outside of the city boundary but are still strategically important within the catchment.

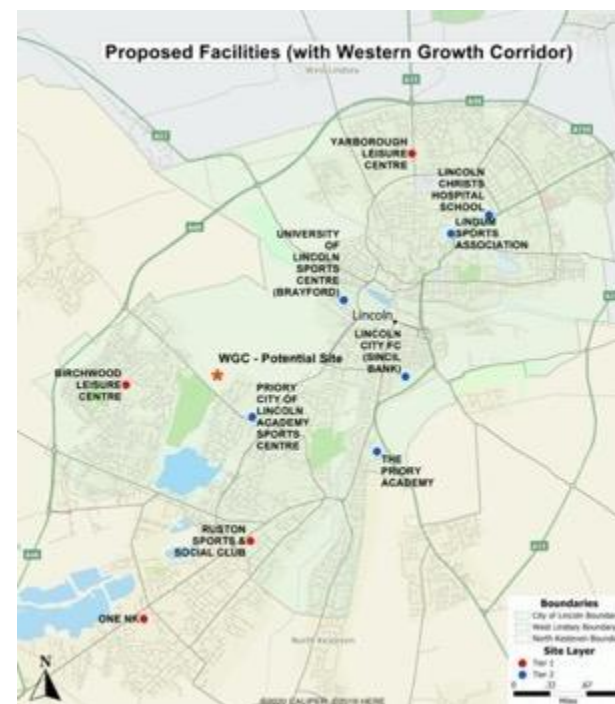


Location	Tier One	Tier Two
North	Yarborough Leisure Centre	Lincoln Christs Hospital School Lindum Sports Association
South West	Birchwood Leisure Centre	
South	Ruston Sports	The Priory City of Lincoln Academy Sports Centre
Central		Lincoln University Lincoln City FC (Sincil Bank)
Out of COLC Boundary	NK Sports Centre Market Rasen Leisure Centre West Lindsey Leisure Centre	Manor Park, Welton Mulsanne Park, Nettleham Priory Academy, Cherry Willingham

Proposed Facilities (with Western Growth Corridor)

The influence of the western growth corridor will change the emphasis of the provision in the central and western region of the city boundary.

At this stage, we have not identified a specific location within the growth area (as this will require further detailed work in line with Sport England), but we believe that a new community hub should be developed. This is due to the population increase that is expected within the local authority due to the WGC. This, partnered with the playing pitch calculator, is showing expected growth across all sports not only for match play pitches but also training demand. This training demand for football and rugby should be directed towards FTP pitches with floodlighting due to the additional supply these pitches create and the current lack of availability within the study area.



Location	Tier One	Tier Two
North	Yarborough Leisure Centre	Lincoln Christs Hospital School Lindum Sports Association
South West	Birchwood Leisure Centre	Skellingthorpe Road Pitches
South	Ruston Sports	The Priory City of Lincoln Academy Sports Centre
Central	New Tier 1 Community Hub	Lincoln University Lincoln City FC (Sincil Bank)
Out of COLC Boundary	NK Sports Centre	Manor Park, Welton Mulsanne Park, Nettleham Priory Academy, Cherry Willingham

14.2 A worked example of the application of the proposed tiering system.

In order to highlight how the tiered structure could be used, the following worked example shows how football could use the tiering to help strategically coordinate the sport provision across the City.

Worked Example – Football

Following the analysis of the playing pitches, clubs/teams and the associated provision of ancillary facilities, such as training pitches and changing pavilions we have developed a definition of how football could fit into the proposed facility tier structure.

In order to achieve this, there would be a need to categorise the current portfolio of facilities in line with the proposed tiered structure. This will help CoLC establish an appropriate strategy for each level of provision. To this end, the four distinct tiers of provision could be classified in football terms, as follows: -

Tier 1 – Football Development Hub sites

Tier 2 – Multi pitch locations including FTP and Pavilion or linked to other sports provision

Tier 3 - Multi pitch locations without FTP or pavilions

Tier 4 - Single Pitch location



Potential Segmentation of Tier One Facilities for Football

Furthermore, in relation to football, there would be a need to develop the Lincoln facilities in accordance with the growth of the game objectives. Accordingly, it is proposed that the specialisms are identified with each of the Tier one facilities. This could lead to a situation where each programme of use for a Tier one venue and associated ancillary facilities is responsible for producing new players for a particular segment of the game. This links to a shared FA and Lincolnshire FA vision to grow the game with particular emphasis on target groups.

The following segments have been identified (in the graphic below), within the tiered approach to categorising the facilities.

Facility One	Facility Two	Facility Three	Facility Four	Facility Five
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-sport hub sites • Key Focus Coach Education and Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-sport hub sites • Key Focus Matchplay 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-sport hub sites • Key Focus Women and girls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-sport hub sites • Key Focus Disability football 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-sport hub sites • Key Focus Older age football

The rationalisation of football facilities and strategic alignment for refurbishment and new builds in the City of Lincoln presents a further opportunity for sports participation through initiatives and programmes such as: -

- Recreational / Pay & Play football
- Walking football / Veterans / Over 35 football
- Commercial 5v5 football leagues

The facilities would all offer a balance of opportunity for clubs, recreational football and commercial.

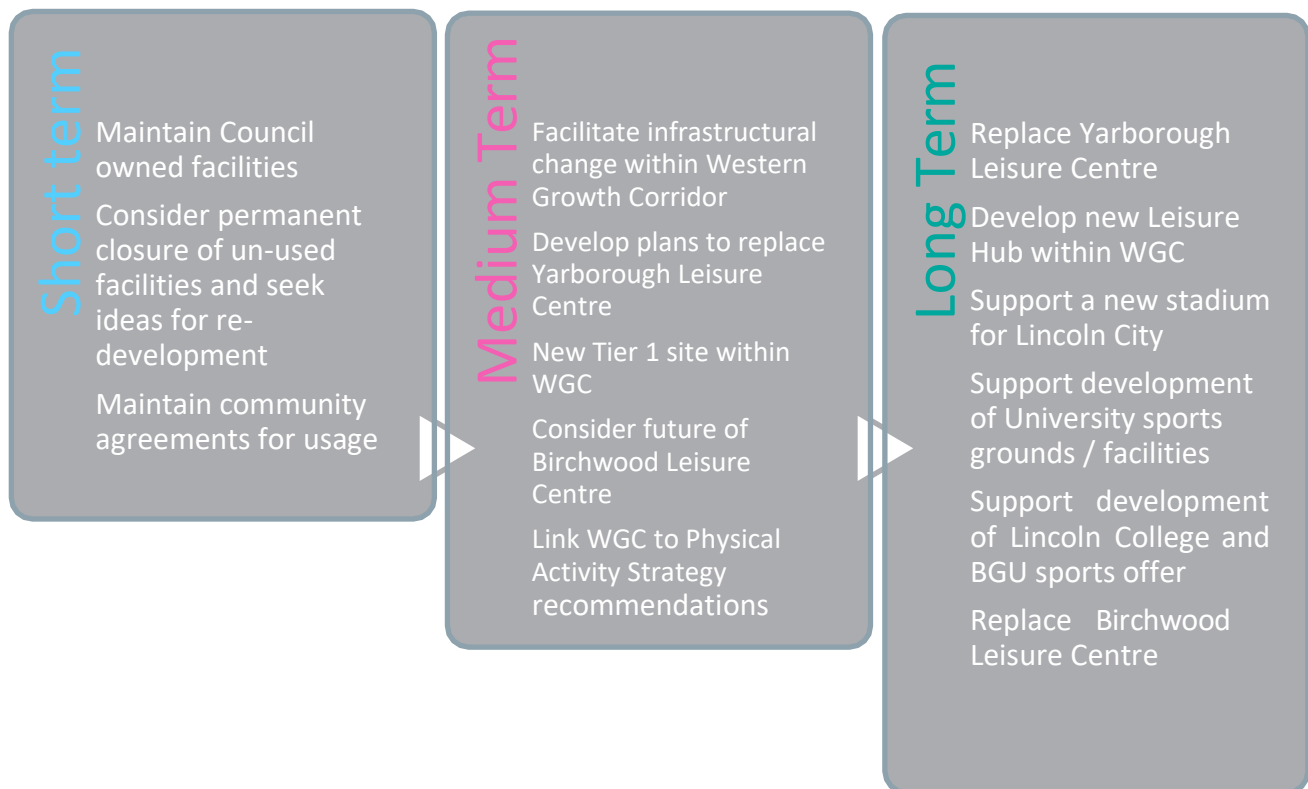
15. Assessment Recommendations

This sports facility assessment for CoLC has highlighted the evidence base for future works. It is recommended that in order to develop the findings from this report, the following objectives are considered over the short, medium and long term.

Short Term – this phase is mainly about maintaining the existing stock of facilities whilst considering the new tiered system and the completing the necessary detailed site by site feasibility assessments.

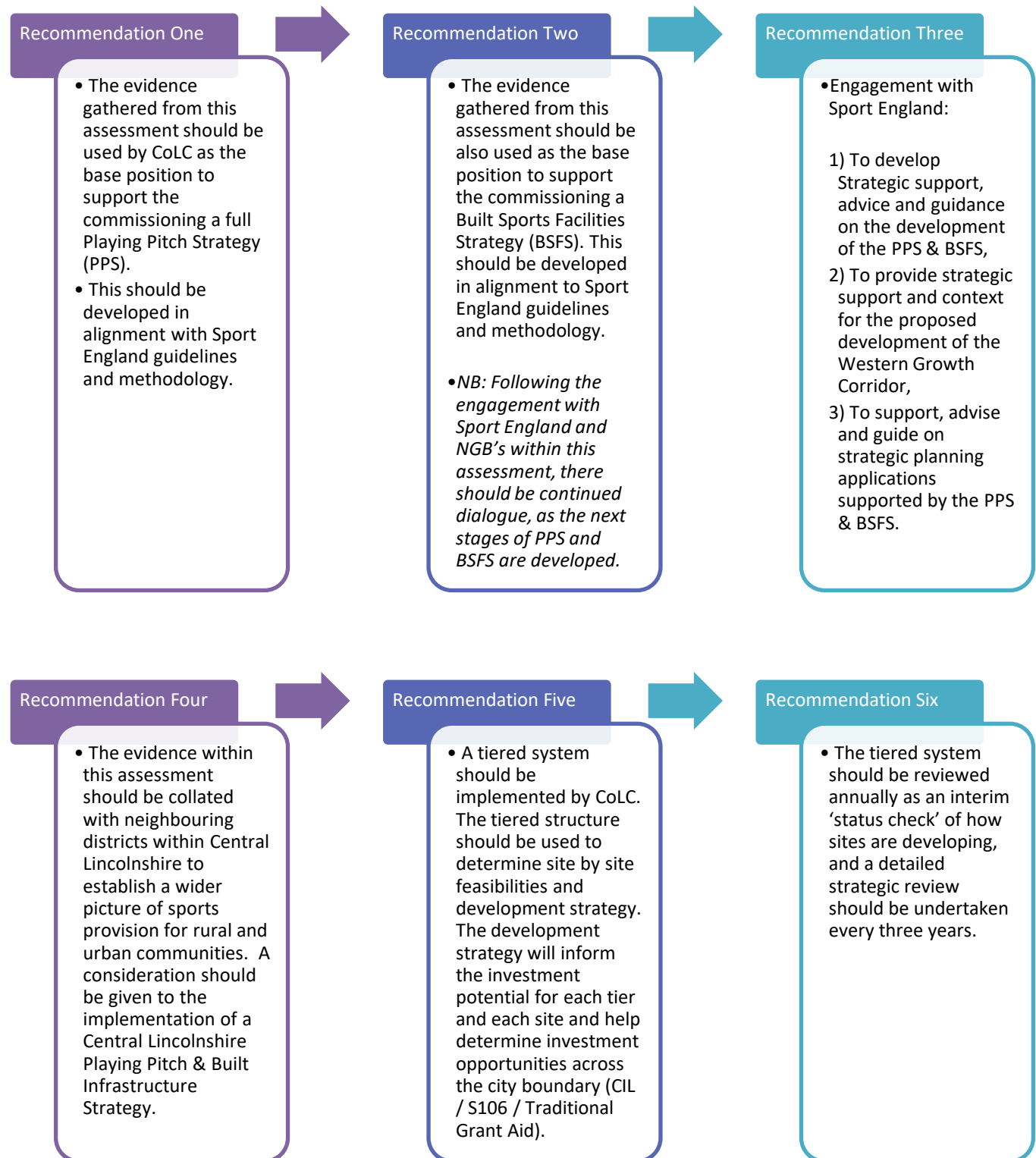
Medium Term – once the tiered system has been established, individual plans by local areas and or sites can be developed. For instance, consideration for the replacement of Yarborough Leisure Centre in the north of Lincoln should include how this might impact on other sites such as Ravendale sports ground, BGU, Sudbrooke drive and Sobraon barracks. The medium-term recommendations will be impacted by the decisions made over the western growth corridor.

Long Term – Ultimately, the long-term plan for the sports provision across the City is to replace ageing stock and provide modern sports and leisure offerings that attract high levels of participation. It is recommended that early feasibility studies are completed to understand what is possible, before selecting which plan is right for CoLC and its partners. The exact developments within western growth corridor will have a significant impact on the thinking in this phase.



Overarching Recommendations

As a consequence of considering the short, medium and long term objectives, there are a number of recommendations that will shape the nature of the actions and future works required. These should be considered alongside the development of other strategic work within the City.



16. Appendix items

Contained in separate documents.

Appendix 1 – Master List of Facilities, pitches and clubs

Appendix 2 – Active Lives data.

Appendix 3 – Market Segmentation.

Appendix 4 – Data sheets for each sport