

## DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

**REPORT TO:** Leisure, Arts and Communities Committee - 9 May 2011

**REPORT ON:** Pitch Strategy 2, 2011-2016

**REPORT BY:** Director of Leisure and Communities

**REPORT NO:** 227-2011

### 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To gain the Committee's agreement to the contents of the updated Pitch Strategy and approval to take the Strategy forwards via its Action Plan.

### 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

2.1 approves the content of Dundee's Pitch Strategy 2, 2011-2016

2.2 remit the Director of Leisure and Communities to take forward the recommendations of the strategy and establish a steering group to oversee its implementation.

### 3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Proposals within the Pitch Strategy will either be contained within existing revenue and capital budgets or be the subject of external funding applications.

### 4.0 MAIN TEXT

4.1 Reference is made to Item II of the Leisure and Arts Service Committee of the 22 August 2005 where the committee approved Dundee's first Pitch Strategy from 2005 to 2011.

4.2 The Leisure and Communities Department has undertaken a review of the previous Pitch Strategy, as well as the current provision of outdoor pitches, to provide the second Pitch Strategy to run from 2011 till 2016. This has been drafted in association with Dundee Sport & Physical Activity Strategy 2010-2015 which was approved by the Policy and Resources Committee of the 8 March 2010.

4.3 Some of the outdoor provision that was in the first Pitch Strategy is now in the Facilities Strategy. This was approved by the Leisure, Arts and Communities Committee of 13 September 2010 as part of the Dundee Games Legacy Plan 2009-2019.

4.4 The Pitch Strategy seeks to maximise the potential of Dundee's Pitches. In partnership with key agencies. It sets out to

- Provide appropriate and accessible pitches that meet the City's sporting, educational and recreational needs.
- Promote and encourage the development of sports and recreational play on Dundee's pitches to encourage increased participation and subsequently healthy lifestyles in the City.
- Continue to enhance the quality of the existing pitches through a programme of improved management and maintenance within existing budgets.

- Contribute to the economic viability of the City by attracting external investments to improve the existing provision so that the City can host events and promote Dundee as a regional centre of sporting excellence.
- 4.5 Extensive consultation was undertaken with users of the pitches as well as associated national sporting organisations.
- 4.6 Dundee's Pitch Strategy 2 will provide a basis for the future development of pitches in the city for the next 5 years via its Action Plan, the framework for which is in the strategy. Each sport is discussed separately, as each has its own issues and recommendations. The strategy is based on a supply and demand model, assessing the current supply of pitches against the future demand of each sport.
- 4.7 Key findings of the strategy were.
- **Supply and demand of pitches**  
There are issues around the quantity of the pitches in Dundee especially with an increasing level of sport development work being undertaken in the city creating higher standards of play that need quality pitches for them to play upon.
  - **Maintenance**  
This requires to be assessed to create a Pitch Maintenance Plan for each location that maximises the pitches potential usage, while continuing to reduce the costs of maintenance.
  - **Quality**  
As part of the Pitch Maintenance Plans, the quality of each pitch needs to be reassessed, as they are not at present meeting the standards expected and required by the users across the city.
  - **Floodlighting**  
Floodlighting to provide training throughout the winter has become a desirable aspiration for many of the users and the viability of providing this in appropriate locations requires to be examined.
  - **Artificial Pitches**  
The users of the pitches in Dundee have expressed a desire for greater access to artificial pitches for training in conjunction with floodlighting. The Sports Development Officers have also expressed this as a need for the priority sports.
  - **Community Access to Schools**  
With the additional provision of facilities in the new school estate, there is an expectation by sports users that they should be able to gain greater access to these facilities. This requires to be managed so the maximum potential access is provided.
  - **Focus Sports**  
There is a desire by clubs and Sports Development Officers for Focus Sports to have prioritised access to the most appropriate pitches for their specific sports.
  - **Cost of Pitches**  
The cost of pitch hire is felt to be a major issue for many of the sports club users especially football.

- 4.8 The committee is asked to approve the Pitch Strategy so the Action Plan can be implemented. It is proposed that a Steering Group is established to oversee the implementation of the 5 year Action Plan with annual updates based on the supply and demand issues of each sport as they arise. It is further proposed that the responsibility for implementation transfers to the Director of Environment Services designate once this post is established in July 2011.

## **5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. No major issues have been identified.
- 5.2 An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and will be made available on the Council website at <http://www.dundee.gov.uk/equanddiv/equimpact/>

## **6.0 CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Assistant Chief Executive, Director of Finance and Director of Dundee Contract Services have all been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

Consultation have also been undertaken with sportscotland, Fields in Trust, Scottish Football Association, Scottish Hockey, Dundee University and local sports groups and associations that use the pitches in the city.

## **7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 7.1 Equality Impact Assessment

**STEWART MURDOCH**  
**DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND COMMUNITIES**

**25 APRIL 2011**

**DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL**

**PITCH STRATEGY II**

**2011-2016**

**January 2011**

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## 1. DUNDEE'S PITCH STRATEGY

### 1.1 Introduction

The original pitch strategy was written to establish what pitches Dundee required up until 2011. How they should be managed, maintained and where they should be located. Also prioritisation of their continued development and improvement.

This second Pitch Strategy continues on this same philosophy but updates the Issues and Recommendation and provides an Action Plan to adapt to the present situation and future requirements. Appendix 1 provides a list of all the actions recommended in the First Pitch Strategy that have been completed and not completed.

This Pitch Strategy is written as an extension of the updated Dundee Public Open Space Strategy and as part of the Sports and Physical Recreation Strategy for Dundee. With the development of the Dundee Sport Facility Action Plan, it has been decided that the Pitch Strategy will concentrate on outdoor pitches and, therefore, the tennis courts, bowling greens, athletic tracks and cycling tracks as well as basketball, will all now be reviewed, discussed and developed via the Facility Action Plan. The Golf Courses were not included in the first Pitch Strategy as they had their own development plans and are now in the Dundee Facility Action Plan. This second Pitch Strategy therefore covers Football, Hockey, Rugby, American Football, Shinty and Gaelic Football pitches as well as Cricket Wickets. It continues to survey the existing provision, analysis the present supply with the issues surrounding them and provides recommendations how to provide for future demand, all based on **sportscotland's** Guide to the preparation of Sports Pitches Strategies. It goes on to provide an Action Plan for the next 5 years.

In this strategy pitches are defined as:

“Any area of space, designated for recreational or organised sport within the city area, which is either publicly owned or maintained for public use on behalf of others.” *sportscotland*

### 1.2 Why the Continuing Need for a Pitch Strategy

Outdoor pitches cover a large area of public open space within the City. They have a high intrinsic value and need to be well utilised to provide the greatest benefit to the City. Under utilisation of existing provision or the future lack of provision are going to limit the development of sport and physical activity in the City and impact on the City's land use planning. This updated Pitch Strategy, in parallel to the Dundee Sports Facility Action Plan, attempts to marry these sometimes conflicting demands and considers the most appropriate provision for the future based on an existing supply and a projected demand model. In association with demand it also looks at the principles of management, maintenance and budgets. The principals of pitch provision in the city will contribute to the development of the City's Statutory Local Plans.

### 1.3 The Benefits of Pitch Provision

Outdoor playing pitches have 2 main functions:

- To provide quality playing venues
- To increase the number of participants and subsequent sporting success in the City.

These in turn can provide both health, social and economic benefits. They can encourage a healthier lifestyle, promote physical activity and subsequently improve both physical and mental wellbeing. They can provide social interaction by bringing people together and by encouraging and increasing participation in group activities and interaction. They also support social inclusion by providing local accessible facilities that all members of the public can participate on. A comprehensive provision of outdoor pitches can also enhance Dundee's role as a Regional Centre, hosting sporting events and major competitions and subsequently encourage local economic growth through increased participation rates. This will be taken forward in association with the Dundee Sports Facility Action Plan so there is no duplication or loss of the possibility of co-location.

#### **1.4 Vision**

The continuing vision for pitches in Dundee is to meet future public demands for sport at all skill levels by ensuring the pitches in the City are appropriate to the needs of the sporting community and are best value for its citizens.

#### **1.5 Aims**

Dundee City Council wishes to continue to work in partnership with key agencies to achieve the vision by implementing the following four aims:

- Provide appropriate and accessible pitches that meet the City's sporting, educational and recreational needs.
- Promote and encourage the development of sports and recreational play on Dundee's pitches to encourage increased participation and subsequently healthy lifestyles in the City.
- Continue to enhance the quality of the existing pitches through a programme of improved management and maintenance within existing budgets.
- Contribute to the economic viability of the City by attracting external investments to improve the existing provision so that the City can host events and promote Dundee as a regional centre of sporting excellence.

## **2.0 PRINCIPLES OF THE PITCH STRATEGY**

### **2.1 Preparation**

This second Pitch Strategy has been developed utilising **sportscotland's** Guide to the Preparation of Sports Pitch Strategies, as well as the analysis of other reports and pitch strategies published by other Councils in Scotland to provide background information and establish appropriate benchmarking.

### **2.2 Model Utilised**

The principles of supply and demand continue to be used as the basic model for this second pitch strategy. The previous survey that was undertaken of existing pitches in the City, their quality and maintenance regimes, to provide the supply side of the model as well as existing sports clubs and user statistics (bookings), has been updated. This has been set against future projections both in terms of demographics, sports development and national strategy as well as available funding on both a local and national level, to provide the demand side of the model. Comparisons between the two as well as the issues surrounding each individual sport are then used as the basis for the future recommendations and the Action Plan.

### **2.3 Scope of the Strategy**

7 Sports are considered within this Pitch Strategy.

- Football
- Hockey
- Rugby
- Cricket
- American Football
- Shinty
- Gaelic Football

Dundee United's training surface at Gussie Park, Forthill Sports Club facilities, Dundee High School's pitches and the artificial pitch at Michelin have also been excluded in the supply model due to their limited public access. Although by their existence they do contribute to meeting local needs as the teams using them might otherwise require additional public pitches. Dundee University's pitches at Riverside Drive have recently been developed to a high standard and are extensively used by the students. Public access is provided but limited.

### **2.4 Consultation**

A central element of the production of the strategy has been the consultation with sports clubs in the City, the Regional Sporting Partnership and the relevant National Governing Bodies as well as **sportscotland**.



### 3.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – KEY FINDINGS

The following report provides details of the information gathered in regards to the seven sports that have pitches in the City. Each is assessed individually as they have different influences and issues. Each then has its own recommendations to be taken forward into an action plan.

Below are the Key Findings:

- **Supply and demand of pitches**  
There are issues around the quantity of the pitches in Dundee especially with an increasing level of sport development work being undertaken creating higher standards of play that need a quality pitch for them to play on.
- **Maintenance**  
This requires to be assessed to create a Pitch Maintenance Plan for each location that maximises the pitches potential usage, while continuing to reduce costs of maintenance.
- **Quality**  
As part of the Pitch Maintenance Plans, the quality of the pitches needs to be reassessed as they are not at present meeting the standards expected and required by the users across the city.
- **Floodlighting**  
Floodlighting to provide training throughout the winter has become a desirable aspiration for many of the users and the viability of providing this in appropriate locations requires to be examined.
- **Artificial Pitches**  
The users of the pitches in Dundee have expressed a desire for greater access to artificial pitches for training in conjunction with floodlighting. The Development Officers have also expressed this as a need in regard to the priority sports.
- **Community Access to Schools**  
With the additional provision of facilities in the new school estate, there is an expectation by sports users that they should be able to gain greater access to these facilities. This requires to be managed so the maximum potential access is provided.
- **Focus Sports**  
There is a desire by clubs and sports development officers for Focus Sports to have prioritised access to the most appropriate pitches for their specific sports.
- **Cost of Pitches**  
The cost of pitch hire is felt to be a major issue for many of the sports club users, especially football.

## **4.0 PITCH PROVISION IN DUNDEE**

### **4.1 Current Provision**

There are 7 main outdoor sports that are used variously by leagues for development initiatives or purely for recreational purposes, within the City. There are over 60 sites that facilitate these sports, such as public parks, school sites, University Playing Fields or private organisations.

Appendix 2 has a table to illustrate the current football pitches in Dundee and their capacity for levels of use.

Appendix 3 lists all the Hockey pitches in Dundee.

Appendix 4 lists all the Rugby Pitches in Dundee.

Appendix 5 lists all the Cricket Wickets in Dundee

Appendix 6 lists all the American Football Pitches in Dundee.

Appendix 7 lists all the Shinty and Gaelic Football Pitches in Dundee.

Appendix 8 lists all the Outdoor Basketball Courts in Dundee.

Appendix 9 provides map of all Football Pitches in Dundee.

### **4.2 Demographic Influences**

One of the major influences on future provision will be the demographic changes predicted in the City up until 2016.

Dundee's projected population in 2016 is 142,054 from the present population of 142,799 in 2011, a reduction of 0.3% (General Register Office for Scotland). This is broken down into:

0 to 11 year old at 19,451	13.7%
12 to 17 years at 8,272	5.8%
18 to 25 years at 16,333	11.5%
26 to 34 years at 19,196	13.5%
35 years and above at 78,802	55.5%

The population is also ageing. This decrease in population creates a reduction in demand of 0.3%. The Student population in Dundee in 2009 was 20,860, which is 14.7% of the overall population.

This will have a varying impact on the future provision requirements of the different sports and is factored into the calculations for each one individually. There is also the issue of Dundee still having a regional centre catchment area of population of around 400,000. This affects each sport in different ways.

### **4.3 Development of Sports**

Another major factor affecting the future provision requirements of outdoor pitches is the development of sporting initiatives within the City. Overall there is a desire within the City and Scotland, to increase the present low levels of physical activity within the general population. Cross reference is made to the Sports & Physical Recreation Strategy where this is itemised in more detail.

The Regional Sporting Partnership project has three strategic developments, which will increase demand in the use of pitch sports:

- Sportscotland's commitment to creating a new Regional Sporting Partnership to focus all its national programmes at a regional and local authority level within the Tayside & Fife region. The regional sports partnership will continue the prioritisation of sports with club development programmes on a national and local level. Those covered by the Pitch Strategy are Football, Hockey and Rugby.
- The national programmes and strategies of the regional development sports will increase demand. In particular the strong network of Regional Managers, in partnership with local sports specific and generic sports development officers and club development officers being established throughout Tayside & Fife.
- The development of Community Sports Hubs.

The Dundee City Council Sports Development Section has 2 strategic aims, which target priority sports and physical activity levels, which will increase demand in the use of pitches across the city:

- Ensure opportunities exist for regular, life-long participation in physical activity and sport, for every person in Dundee.
- Ensure opportunities exist for every individual to enter sport and reach their highest potential, limited only by their ability, drive and ambition.

The Sports Development Section operates the ClubDundee club development and accreditation programme in conjunction with various Scottish Governing Bodies accreditation schemes. Many of the clubs accessing Dundee pitches will have been awarded a development status, which results in them receiving priority access to a range of facilities. It is intended to extend this process to identified pitches within this strategy. In 2009, a comprehensive audit and analysis of the existing sports was undertaken and the following sports were identified as a "priority" for the next 5 years: Athletics, Basketball, Football, Gymnastics, Hockey, Swimming (Aquatics), Rugby, Dance and Disability Sport (Athletics, Football, Swimming, Bowling, Gymnastics and Boccia). The purpose of identifying focus sports was to prioritise resources in relation to the development of new initiatives.

There is also the Legacy from the Commonwealth Games in 2014. "A major games legacy plan, with health as the central theme, is being developed by the Scottish Government and a wide range of delivery partners to harness the power and excitement of London 2012 and Glasgow 2014 and motivate everyone to improve their health by getting active." **sportscotland**. This will influence the demand for pitches in the future especially around the times of the Games.

#### **4.4 Financial Considerations**

The existing pitches within the City are a major asset in terms of their inherent land value and the maintenance budgets that are required to keep them to a quality level. Any future alterations to provision will therefore have a financial implication. The financing of the proposals within this strategy will be undertaken in three different ways.

- Capital expenditure on pitch provision will be undertaken as funds become available by external funding applications and future Council capital allocations.

- Revenue expenditure will be via re-prioritisation of the existing maintenance budgets. A more efficient process to maintain the current pitches by rationalising layouts, prioritising usage and subsequently reducing wear and tear will be considered. This will allow increased maintenance on the sites that most need it, to improve the quality of the playing experience and allow them to cope with higher usage levels.
- The provision of long term (25 year) leases to sports clubs and associations to allow them to access external funding to improve the pitches and development their sports and clubs.

The cost of access to pitches on a regular basis by individual users and different sports clubs is an issue for their continued viability and the amount of developmental work that can happen within the city. In the future, under the Corporate Booking System, all pitches of similar quality will be the same price, whoever provides them, within the public provision.

## **4.5 Maintenance**

### **4.5.1 Grass Pitch Maintenance**

While undertaking the survey of existing outdoor pitches within the City, a detailed recording of the quality of each pitch and its ancillary provisions were drawn up. This original survey undertaken for the first Pitch Strategy is now being utilised in the development of an annual maintenance programme. Each summer, during the off season, each pitch is again surveyed to create a list of maintenance work required based on the quality of the pitches and its level of usage. These are then prioritised to create a maintenance plan. This is done on a rating system so that prioritisation can be given to those pitches which need the greatest amount of improvement but also balanced with their usage and capacity to create an overall quality provision across the city.

This annual maintenance programme undertakes basic remedial work during the season and intensive repairs and upgrades during the summer closed season. This process has developed from the previous Pitch Strategy and is different to what was undertaken before, as it is now on a more planned, prioritised basis. The underlying principal is to improve the quality of the pitches and replace as much maintenance equipment as possible within the budgets available. It has moved on from just cutting the grass.

There is also the potential through Community Sports Hubs to see clubs becoming involved in the maintenance regimes of the City Council's pitches.

### **4.5.2 Sand Based Pitch**

At the present time the sand based pitches are drag-brushed once a week by the Parks Operations Section (small tractor and large brush). There are ad hoc repairs carried out to the stitching of the carpet, with these becoming more regular as the pitch becomes older.

It is proposed that Weekly Pitch Maintenance Plans are developed for each pitch with pitch standards established based on recognised national criteria for the various sports that use the pitches.

### **4.5.3 Water Based Pitch**

Hockey and football lines are presently painted each year. A deep pressure clean is carried out each year when reinstatement of seams and rucking is addressed.

The development of weekly Pitch Maintenance Plan as mentioned above is to be developed specifically for Hockey to Federation International de Hockey (FIH) standards.

#### **4.6 Management**

##### **4.6.1 Rating**

Each pitch was given a rating as to its capacity to undertake the required number of games, its quality of playing provision and its ancillary facilities. This list helped to identify the quality of pitch provision within the City and those areas that need an upgrade. This is being translated into a priority rating that clarifies which pitches are able to provide the required number of match play per week and those which are better suited to a training venue. This will influence future allocation of pitches.

There are user conflicts with regard to different sports and level of user groups within each priority sport desiring prioritisation of access to the artificial and quality pitches. Also access to changing facilities, club buildings etc. There are also issues around programming and prioritisation of access within the sports. Priority access for Scottish Governing Body accredited clubs and Club Dundee clubs at accreditation and Development levels is planned, however the City Council has a commitment to meet general club usage and all prioritisation will be targeted to avoid confusion and priority clubs dominating lets.

##### **4.6.2. Marketing**

It was also determined from analysis of provision and use that there is capacity within the existing provision for higher levels of utilisation and that more active marketing in order to advertise the times of bookings available, cost and the location of the pitches and ancillary facilities would result in an increased usage of pitches. With the work being undertaken regarding bookings, (see below), there is capacity for increased marketing of the available pitches and this will be built into the Parks Marketing Plan for future years.

##### **4.6.3 Bookings**

To improve customer service an internet based corporate booking system has been proposed for installation in 2011. This ICT based system will provide more information to potential users including teams clubs and sports development, on availability and the playing ability of each pitch throughout the whole season as well as streamlining their booking and payment processes. Parks Section has been discussing with the Football Associations in the city, a realistic list of their booking requirements making the provision more accurate.

##### **4.6.4 Changing Facilities**

At the present time over 75% of the outdoor pitches have changing rooms with showers and toilet facilities. The issues are around their quality and outdated design. These are unfortunately also limited in their capacity due to only being able to accommodate one sex at a time, mainly due to layout and the type of accommodation provided. There are also Child Protection issues with senior players sharing changing facilities with junior players.

The proposal is to have a grading system based on usage and the City Council's asset management plan to instigate a programme of improvements. This is part of the Dundee Sports Facility Action Plan.

There are also issues around the access to Sports Centres and Schools for Changing Facilities by the outdoor pitch users and the need for facilities at those locations that have none.

#### **4.6.5 Multi Pitch Sites**

The City Council has been working towards the rationalisation of the current provision of pitches to create multi pitch sites associated with one particular sport to help to reduce maintenance costs while also increasing the quality of the playing experience and in some circumstances increase the season available to the particular sport. For example, the pitches at Downfield Playing Fields are now football and rugby only and the cricket wicket moved to Dawson Park so there are now no restrictions on their season of use. The proposal is to expand existing multi pitch sites and to provide more via the community Sports Hubs and Football Community Clubs.

#### **4.6.7 Floodlighting Provision**

There is a lack of floodlighting at Pitches for training purposes and mid winter matches in Dundee at this present time. There is also the need for floodlighting at events. Standards need to be established for each sport to meet match and training requirements based on lux levels. Suggestions have been made to provide coin operated floodlighting where users would pay individually via coin payments to continue floodlighting up to a designated cut off time based on planning permission. This will be reviewed and considered for future provision if financially viable. There are issues around security and non-regulated use.

#### **4.6.8 Consultation with Sports Groups**

Dundee City Council presently has a co-ordinated approach to the consultation with football leagues in the City with two meetings per year with all the league representatives. This will be developed into a Football Forum to help develop the sport. There is the intension to expand to Dundee Hockey and Rugby Development Groups in the future.

Consultation with Sport Dundee on the pitches in the city will be undertaken on an annual basis in association with the Dundee Facility Action Plan.

## **5.0 FUTURE PITCH PROVISION VIA INDIVIDUAL SPORTS**

The following is an itemised consideration of each sport in its current provision, issues surrounding that provision, and future development and recommendations to be taken forward into the Action Plan.

### **5.1 FOOTBALL PITCHES**

#### **5.1.1 Pitches - Supply**

Football is the most popular sport in the City. The City Council developed an inventory of all the public owned pitches in the City for the first Pitch Strategy in 2005. This has been subsequently updated and will be used in the completion of future Maintenance Plans.

##### **11 a-side Pitches**

There are 61 11-a-side football pitches in parks, (one is being installed at Caird Park and will be available next season). This is the same number as the previous Pitch Strategy with a loss of 5 pitches from Kirkton Park and the gain of 1 at Caird Park and 4 at St Saviours.

A new Roman Catholic Secondary school, (St Paul's Academy), was built on Kirkton Park which resulted in the removal of five 11-a-side pitches. To replace them one new public access pitch was provided in the grounds of St. Saviours School, the conversion of an existing blaes pitch to grass. One new pitch was incorporated into the Downfield Playing Fields, utilising the adjacent previous Lawside Academy playing fields, no longer used by the closed school, by removing the intervening hedge. The other 11 a-side pitches at Balfield Playing fields were to be the rest of the replacement pitches after they have ceased to be the temporary replacement for the Ardlar Pitches while they were being re-developments in 2005. As the Balfield site has now been built on for a special needs school, the replacement football pitches for this site, and by default for the Kirkton Park site, are provided as additional pitches at the St. Saviours site, which now has 5, 11 a-side football pitches and 2, 7 a-side pitches. St. Saviours RC Secondary School has ceased to be an educational establishment and will remain as a permanent football pitch site with new portacabin changing facilities provided. See Appendix 10 for a table to show the movement of pitches since the introduction of the Pitch Strategy in 2006.

There are 10, 11 a-side pitches in Secondary school grounds. This is a reduction of 1 overall from the last Pitch Strategy with the loss of 1 at Lawside Academy & 2 at St Saviours and the introduction of 2 pitches at St Paul's, 1 of which is artificial.

This gives 193 potential 11-a-side pitch uses per week for football based on an average of 3 per week for pitches in parks and 1 per week for pitches in school grounds for the football season.

There are also 6 new grass 11 a-side pitches at Dundee University Riverside Playing Fields. There is open access to the public as and when available, after University use, mainly in the evenings and weekends.

The City Council has signed up to the Queen Elizabeth Fields Challenge being organised by Fields in Trust for the Queens Jubilee in 2012. It is proposed that 7 playing field areas within parks in the City are put forward for the public to vote on. The winner becoming a Queen Elizabeth Field. See Appendix 12 for a list of the possible locations submitted for the public vote. The designation will be permanent and provide status to the playing Fields as well as potential funds for developmental work.

### **7 a-side Pitches**

There are 26 7-a-side football pitches in parks, which are 4 more than the previous pitch strategy, being a gain of 1 in Downfield Park, 1 in South Road Park and 2 at St Saviours. There are 23 pitches in school grounds. There is consideration being given of providing one school 7 a-side pitch, in each of the 8 ward areas of the city, for public use, once a week.

This gives 86 potential 7-a-side pitch uses per week for football, based on an average of 3 per week in parks and 1 per week in 8 of the Primary Schools.

Dundee University have 1, 7 a-side pitch at their Riverside Playing Fields.

### **Artificial Pitches**

Currently there are 6, 11 a-side artificial football pitches in the city.

1 in Dawson Park, with floodlighting.

2 at Dundee International Sports Centre, with floodlighting. Once reconfigured it will be 1 for Football and 1 for Hockey.

1 at St.Paul's PPP RC Secondary School. This is only suitable for training and not match play due to its construction of rubber crumb.

Dundee University have 1 multi purpose floodlight 11 a-side pitch at their Riverside Playing Fields.

Dundee United Football Club has 1, 11 a-side artificial pitch at Gussie Park with floodlighting.

### **5.1.2 Football Teams - Demands**

There are 229 amateur 11-a-side football teams in the City at the present time. All 11 a- side matches will remain Aug – June for the time being. In the 2008/2009 season (August 2008 to June 2009), 1,735 regular bookings were made giving an average over the 40 week season of 44 bookings per week with 425 ad-hoc bookings increasing the average to 54 bookings per week. There were 59 bookings made by the Education Department for School use of 11 a -side pitches over the season.

There were 93 amateur 7-a-side football teams in the city at Feb 2010. 377 regular bookings were made for parks 7 a-side pitches during the 2008/2009 season, with 121 ad-hoc, giving an average of 13 bookings per week. There were 107 bookings made by the Education Department for School use of 7 a-side pitches over the season.

There has been an increase in club and team numbers over the last 5 years

A survey of Youth Football Club Development was undertaken in February 2008 by PMR Leisure Ltd on behalf of Dundee City Council and the Scottish Football Association. It was undertaken through a written survey and focus group evening with youth football clubs in the city. Key findings were that there were just over 2,500 youngsters playing football in February 2008 on a regular basis in Dundee within Youth Clubs. 8 clubs (40%) have over 100 players of which 4 have over 150 players and 1 has over 200. 650 youngsters are playing soccer sevens from the clubs surveyed. Lack of Training venues was seen as difficulty



It is seen as unlikely by the Football associations in Dundee that there will be any increase in team numbers in the near future for the 11 a-side amateur teams but there is projected by the clubs an increase of girls teams and teams in the Boys Brigade Saturday leagues which are in the main ad-hoc bookings. There might also be a change in team numbers due to the SFA stipulation that under 12s must only play on 7 a-side pitches but this may also level itself out and not actually increase numbers. There has been an increase in youth football teams of 9% between 2007 and 2009 as assessed by the Scottish Football Association's bi-annual survey of youth players in the City. Through the Scottish FA Quality mark scheme teams are creating robust pathways and transitions from youth to adult football. This will have a positive impact on the number playing adult football and reduce the drop off in participation during the move from youth to adult football.

The percentage of the adult population (16 and above) playing 11 a-side football at least once in the most popular 4-week period of the year is 19% men and 2% women as calculated by Sportscotland in March 2010.

There is also demand for the 4 a side game for the ages of 6, 7 & 8, with part areas of pitches dedicated to this.

### 5.1.3 Quantative Comparison

The projected reduction in population of Dundee of 0.3% by 2016 will result in no reduction of demand for football pitches. If, as predicted the increase in football teams and players continues due to the development work being undertaken in the City it would require additional pitches by 2016. The proposed public use of the 10 school 11 a-side pitches, at one booking per week per pitch, will increase capacity by 10 per week. This equates to 3 additional pitches available for public use. The previous pitch strategy projected a reduction in demand by 2011 of 5 pitches. This has not materialised to date and in fact an increase in demand has been experienced.

The proposed usage of 8 Primary School 7-a-side grass pitches available once a week for public use will cater for any future increased requirements of 7-a-side pitches in the city by providing the equivalent of 2 new pitches.

### 5.1.4 Football Issues & Recommendations

#### 11-a-side Pitches

- **Training Sites** - The provision of training sites needs is being addressed in order to give pitches rest time from the prior season during the summer months, and reduce wear and tear during the season. Football pitches are still being over-used and part of this usage is for training, which does not have to be on a full size grass football pitch. The proposal is to provide pitches designated for matches or for training. They would be booked as separate provision through the Corporate Booking System. Distribution would be even across the city. Pitches designated to match play pitches will have the highest level of maintenance and improvements to increase their capacity and quality and non match play pitches, which will be used mainly for training due to location or drainage problems. The issue is around how the training pitches would be policed as they are not presently charged for.
- **Pitch Maintenance Plans** - Consideration of all the maintenance regimes across the city to determine appropriate procedures and expenditure to create maintenance plans for each pitch is to be undertaken utilising Sportscotland's recommended pitch survey checklist. See Appendix 11 for the checklist. Re-assessment of layouts is also to be undertaken as part of the detailed maintenance plans. This is to allow more appropriate

orientation and ease of maintenance as well as connections with public access through the sites and association with changing facilities and the provision of car parking. Consideration to be given of a scoring proforma for Pitch Development Proposals, as used by other Councils in Scotland.

- **Access to School Facilities** - The new St. Paul's Roman Catholic Secondary school at the previous Kirkton Park site could provide a training venue for community use on an artificial surface 11-a-side pitch while providing changing facilities in the school buildings. This will allow more training to be undertaken in the City, including summer leagues for youth football. As this pitch does not have floodlighting it cannot provide training all year. The potential to provide floodlighting to be investigated in consultation with the Education Department and Robertson FM, the school provider. Consideration is also to be given to increase access to other school pitches.
- **Part Size Pitches** - The football clubs have requested current artificial surface pitches are made available to hire as half, third or quarter sized pitches. This will be built into the proposed Corporate Letting System to be installed in 2011.
- **Artificial Surface Pitches** - The aspiration for youth and club development within the City is the provision of third generation (3g) rubber crumb artificial surface pitches distributed across the City with associated floodlighting. Each of these pitches would have a capital cost of approximately £300,000 - £400,000. Non are at this present time itemised in the City Council's 3 year Capital Plan so the action will be to determine appropriate locations, planning permission etc. and research into possible external funding that may be available and if future capital allocation from the City Council could be made available.
- **Football Forum** - The existing cooperation between football leagues, teams, the Scottish Football Association and the City Council has continued to be encouraged in order to sustain capacity playing levels, while highlighting areas, times, and restrictions for training, prior to the season starting, so retaining the capability of the pitches to support 3 times a week usage levels. Continued dialogue with the football leagues, community clubs and football associations will all be taken forward in the form of a Football Forum with discussions on potential developments and programming of Pitches.

#### **7-a-Side Pitches**

- **Corporate Booking System** - The SFA requires those 12 and under to be limited to 7 a-side bookings only. Future football development is to move towards more summer football. All 4 and 7 a side football will take place from March – November from March 2011. with the plan being for all youth football, especially for women, to move to March – Nov. All girls/women's football is played from Mar – Nov. This will have an impact upon the booking of pitches and in part the future maintenance and will be actioned as part of the Corporate Booking System and the Pitch Maintenance Plans
- **Summer Football** - Future football development is to move towards more summer football, March to November especially for women. This will need careful consideration of configuration and conditions of pitches through out the year. It will also have an impact upon the booking of pitches and will be actioned as part of the Corporate Booking System and the Pitch Maintenance Plans.

- **Part Size Pitches** - The idea of 7-a-side layouts across 11-a-side pitches with portable goals will be developed with half pitch bookings. There is also the desire to develop 4 a-side pitches with no goalmouths or marking on the 7 a-side pitches for 6,7&8 year olds. This will be incorporated where appropriate.
- **Artificial Surface Pitches** - There is also within Scotland the potential to hire 3G 7-a-side artificial pitch coverings. This will be actioned by considering their financial viability and whether one could be provided within the City.

#### **5-a- Side Pitches**

- **Private Provision** - The private sector and Dundee Leisure will be the source to cater for the majority of football 5-a-side future recreational developments which are in the vast majority indoor. Soccer World on Old Glamis Road has recently opened providing 8 indoor 5-a-side pitches.
- **Multi Use Games Areas** - The development of 7 multi use games areas to replace tennis courts has provided 7 additional informal public outdoor 5 a-side pitches. This is included in the Dundee Sport Facility Action Plan.

#### **Leased Junior Football Clubs**

At the present time there are 7 leases for Junior Football Clubs and 2 leases for Amateur Clubs. Access by the community is to be discussed with the clubs.

#### **Informal Football**

Consideration is to be given to parks throughout the City, that do not have any football pitches at this present time, to introduce informal football games areas with goal posts. This is in an attempt to remove training from match play pitches so increasing their playing capacity.

## 5.2 HOCKEY PITCHES

Hockey is the second largest pitch sport within the city. It is currently located at the Dundee International Sports Complex (DISC) managed and maintained by Dundee Leisure, at Dawson Artificial pitch managed and maintained by the Parks Operations Section and at the Riverside Dundee University Playing fields. DISC houses 2 artificial surfaces, one water-based, and the other sand. Both are used for other sports apart from Hockey and both are in need of reconfiguration. The Dawson Park Artificial Pitch is suitable for school and hockey use. It has an expected lifespan of 10 more years. All clubs in Dundee use the DISC artificial pitches to some degree and it presently functions as a regional centre. The University Riverside Playing Fields have 1 sand dressed pitch and a 3g multi purpose floodlit pitch. There is open access to the public as and when available after University use, mainly in the evenings and weekends. Blaes pitches still exist at Craigie High School, Menzieshill High School and Whitfield Central Core.

Scottish Hockey aim to increase membership by 5% by 2014. the figures for 2005-2007 hockey participation indicate that hockey is played at least once a month (excluding PE) by 3% of Scottish 8-15 year olds (4% in girls).

A Hockey Development Group is now well established in Dundee and this will be the first point of reference for future pitch development work.

### Hockey Issues & Recommendations

- **Pitches at DISC** - The water based synthetic pitch at D.I.S.C has issues around its present wear and tear and future lifespan, which is projected at less than 1 year. Reconfiguration of this artificial pitch is the first priority for hockey pitch provision in Dundee. The City Council is proposing to reconfigure this pitch in 2011. The Sand based pitch is also to be reconfigured within the next financial year. The issue in the future will be the exclusion of other sports apart from Hockey using it once reconfigured and the prioritisation for SIS, AIS, National League Division 1 clubs and hockey performance squads. There is also the desire for the Hockey clubs to have an input into the running of it.
- **Artificial Pitch Maintenance Plans** - The maintenance regime of the artificial pitches in the city is to be reconsidered and improvements made where appropriate. The suggestion is that all hockey pitches be maintained to Federation International de Hockey (FIH) standard in future. This is as recommended in the Hunter Report. There is the potential for **sportscotland** to pay for FIH test to be done by registered companies which includes standard quality tests and quantifies problems
- **Changing and Coaching Rooms** - Additional and/or improved changing and coaching rooms need to be provided as funding becomes available at firstly DISC and secondly Dawson Park to develop Hockey in the future. See Dundee Facility Action Plan.
- **Part Size Pitches** – As with other sports there is a need to provide half pitch bookings to allow training and developmental work. This will be built into the Corporate Booking System.

### 5.3 RUGBY PITCHES

Rugby is one of the largest sports within Scotland. Dundee currently has only one public pitch at Downfield Playing Fields where Stobswell Rugby Club is based. A leased school site is the base for Morgan Rugby Club. Panmure Rugby Club is based at Forthill Sports Club and Dundee High School Former pupils Rugby Club use the High School pitches. Harris FP Rugby Club use Harris Academy's rugby playing fields on the school site at Elliot Road.

A competition structure with all the Dundee Secondary Schools has been introduced with all schools now playing rugby. The existing rugby clubs within the City are providing a host provision with associated school visits. The Harris Academy development work will result in the desire for another rugby pitch. Floodlighting is a major issue for schools rugby usage between November and February.

Stobswell Rugby Club's establishment at Downfield Playing Fields is a replacement of existing provision due to displacement. It includes the provision of second hand floodlighting that has become available within the City. This will provide additional training venues between October and February and there will be discussions with football clubs at the Downfield Playing Fields site to allow their usage as well. There is also potential lease of the pavilion for training purposes.

Morgan Rugby club wishes to develop its successful youth teams and women's rugby team but have issues around the ability to expand at their present site. They are developing plans with the adjacent Morrison Superstore for a third Rugby Pitch adjacent to their playing fields. The area around the Morgan Rugby Clubs playing fields, which is on the Education Department's account, is the subject of a planning brief for development, limiting their potential for introducing additional rugby pitches. They have also expanded their coaching activities to Morgan Academy's feeder primaries. They have developed a facility vision.

Harris Former Pupils Rugby Club play out of the school grounds at Elliot Road. This is adequate for their needs at this present time. The Harris FP Rugby Club are presently attempting to fund raise to install flood lighting at the school pitch they use at Elliot Road.

Rugby as a sport requires grass to undertake matches where contact is an integral part of the sport. There is much discussion around the appropriate usage of artificial pitches for training.

The present provision with the large amount of Rugby developmental work that is being expanded across the City will only provide 2 - 3 years before it reaches capacity.

The Regional Sporting Partnership, Rugby Strategy, Dundee Action Plan, does not require an increase in the provision of rugby pitches but is looking for:

- Create links to ensure that the rugby community make best use of both new and existing facilities
- Enable clubs to make best use of their existing facilities
- Ensure that the rugby community has appropriate access to facilities at times and at a cost which is appropriate
- Create links to allow clubs to upgrade, improve or renew their facilities.

## **Rugby Issues & Recommendations**

- **Floodlighting** – The need for additional flood lighting is the major issue for Rugby in the city.
- **Part Size Pitches** – These are required to allow affordable training sessions and the development of junior players.
- **Morgan Rugby Club Site** – The capacity issues of the site need to be resolved.
- **Rugby Pitches usage in 3 years time** - Potential for additional rugby pitch sites need to be considered to compensate for the projected increase in demand in future years as development work results in more rugby players.

### **5.4 CRICKET WICKETS**

Cricket demand within Dundee is provided for, as there are only two clubs that use the Dundee City Council facilities. This however, is in light of there being over 5 clubs based in the city, which either play outside the city or are accommodated for by the private sector. There are no school site facilities. There are wickets at Dundee University Pitches Riverside and Forthill Sports Club. Dundee previously had over 4 sites for the sport, but has reduced to solely one venue, which is still under used. Cricket provision has been successfully transferred from Downfield Playing fields to Dawson Park. The net area has been upgraded.

#### **Cricket Issues & Recommendations**

- **Artificial wickets and covers** - Future desires for cricket is to provide upgrades at Dawson Park where cricket is to be based in the future, with the potential of artificial wickets and covers considered.

### **5.5 AMERICAN FOOTBALL PITCH**

American Football is located in Dawson Park and the pitches are used only when the sporting season is in play. Both the current and proposed future needs of the sports are catered for with this one pitch and a training pitch. The long term vision for the sport is to be included in the Community Sports Hubs sharing with other sports and benefiting from their facilities.

The American Football changing facilities at Dawson Park will remain the same but a general coaching room for use by American Football and other sports is to be developed.

#### **American Football Issues & Recommendations**

- **Coaching Rooms** - Coaching facilities could be built to accommodate the development of the sport in the future at Dawson Park as funds become available. See Dundee Sport Facility Action Plan.

## 5.6 SHINTY AND GAELIC FOOTBALL PITCHES

Shinty and Gaelic Football are both located on the same pitch 2 pitches at Dawson Park with only 3 matches played weekly on average. It is University teams within the city that mainly play these sports and the one pitch currently caters for their needs. No increase in participation levels is expected. Therefore Dundee City Council currently caters for the existing and future demands of these two sports.

Maintenance levels and quality of playing surfaces have been improved in order to develop the quality of sport that can be played on the pitches. This will continue in the future.

### **Shinty and Gaelic Football Issues & Recommendations**

- **Pitch Maintenance Plans** - The Shinty and Gaelic Football pitches will be part of the wider review and development of pitch maintenance plans.

## 5.7 OUTDOOR BASKETBALL

The 7 Multiple Use Games Areas that have been provided across the City are presently taking outdoor basketball forward in Dundee. Any future development of outdoor basketball will be via the future provision of any new Multi use Games Areas. See 5 a-sides Football and Dundee Sport Facility Action Plan.

## 6.0 ACTION PLAN

6.1 An action plan has been drawn up based on the individual sports and their issues and recommendations.

### 6.2 Steering Group

A Steering Group to over see the implementation of the action plan will be established and made up of:

- Gary Robertson (Chair), Head of Parks, Sport & Leisure
- Regional Sporting Partnership Manager
- Audrey White, Sports Development Manager
- Ally Lawson, Parks Operations Manager
- Representative from **sportscotland**
- Dave Nicol, Education Department
- Representatives from individual sports as and when required

The Action Plan will be broken down into annual action plans and the group will meet on a quarterly basis to monitor its implementation. An annual review will be undertaken that will inform the updating of the Action Plan and the production of the following years annual action plan.



## 6.0 ACTION PLAN - SUMMARY

Ref.	Action	Timescale			Lead Officer
		SHORT TERM - 2011	MEDIUM TERM - 2011/2013	LONG TERM - 2013 ONWARDS	
5.1	<b>FOOTBALL</b>				
	<b>11 a-side pitches</b>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training Sites</li> <li>• Pitch Maintenance Plans</li> <li>• Access to School Facilities</li> <li>• Corporate Booking System</li> <li>• Artificial Surface Pitches</li> </ul>	<p>All pitched designated as training or match play.</p> <p>Proposals for plan completed.</p> <p>Discussion on public usage of St. Paul's artificial pitch.</p> <p>Discussion on increased access to other school pitches.</p> <p>Phased introduction of Corporate Booking System.</p>	<p>Policing of training pitches resolved.</p> <p>Plan instigated for new season. Associated costings to be calculated.</p> <p>Funding sources for floodlighting to be researched. Approx. capital cost £50k.</p> <p>Research into external funding. Potential locations established.</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p>A new artificial pitch within the city or in association with the Universities. Approx. Capital cost.</p>	<p>Ally Lawson</p> <p>Ally Lawson</p> <p>Gary Robertson</p> <p>Gary Robertson</p> <p>Merrill Smith</p> <p>Gary Robertson</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Football Forum</li> </ul>	Football Forum to start meeting on a regular basis	Further development of the Forum in scope and organisations involved.	£300k to £400k	Gary Robertson
	<b>7 a-side pitches</b>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Corporate Booking System</li> <li>Summer Football</li> <li>Pitch Sizes</li> <li>Artificial Surface Pitches</li> </ul>	<p>Phased introduction of Corporate Booking System.</p> <p>Pitch Maintenance Plan.</p> <p>Consideration of the allocation of School Pitches for public use.</p> <p>Half Pitch bookings provided in the Corporate Booking System.</p> <p>4 a-side provision designated</p> <p>Financial analysis of 3G 7 a-side artificial pitch coverings.</p>	<p>Plan instigated for new season.</p> <p>Hiring of pitches if finance is available.</p>		<p>Merrill Smith</p> <p>Ally Lawson</p> <p>Dave Nicoll</p> <p>Merrill Smith</p> <p>Gary Robertson</p>
	<b>5 a-side pitches</b>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Private Provision</li> <li>MUGAs</li> </ul>	<p>City Council to continue support of private sector developments.</p> <p>See Dundee Sport Facility Action Plan for development of MUGAs.</p>			<p>Gary Robertson</p> <p>Gary Robertson</p>
	<b>Leased Junior Football Clubs</b>				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Access</li> </ul>	Discussion with the clubs on public access.			Gary Robertson
	<b>Informal Football</b>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Informal football games areas</li> </ul>	List of parks where informal play is to be established drawn up.	Informal play areas with portable goals established. Approx. Capital Cost £10k each.		Ally Lawson
<b>5.2</b>	<b>HOCKEY</b>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pitches at DISC</li> <li>Pitch Maintenance Plans</li> <li>Changing and Coaching Rooms.</li> <li>Half Pitch Bookings</li> </ul>	<p>Reconfigure water based and sand based pitch within the year. Capital Cost £600k.</p> <p>See Dundee Sport Facility Action Plan.</p> <p>Dundee Facility Action Plan proposals for improvements to ancillary facilities.</p> <p>Introduction of Corporate Booking System.</p>	<p>Prioritisation of use to Hockey only and preference to SIS, AIS, National League Division 1 clubs and hockey performance squads.</p> <p>FIH testing to be adopted for ongoing maintenance.</p> <p>DISC is the priority site for action.</p>		<p>Gary Robertson</p> <p>Ally Lawson</p> <p>Gary Robertson</p> <p>Merrill Smith</p>
<b>5.3</b>	<b>RUGBY</b>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Floodlighting</li> </ul>	Second hand floodlights installed at Downfield Playing Fields.	Capital funds or grants accessed for additional floodlighting. Approx. capital costs £55k each		Gary Robertson

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Half Pitch Bookings</li> <li>• Morgan FP Rugby Club Site</li> <li>• Future Rugby Pitches</li> </ul>	Introduction of Corporate Booking System.	<p>City Council will work with Morgan FP Rugby Club to help develop their site as funds become available.</p> <p>Determination of an appropriate site for additional rugby pitch undertaken.</p>	Potential funding for new Rugby Pitch to be determined. Approx. capital cost of £100k.	<p>Merrill Smith</p> <p>Audrey White</p> <p>Gary Robertson</p>
<b>5.4</b>	<b>CRICKET</b>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Artificial wickets and covers</li> </ul>		Artificial wickets and covers to be installed as funds become available. Approx. capital cost £60k.		Ally Lawson
<b>5.5</b>	<b>AMERICAN FOOTBALL</b>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coaching Rooms</li> </ul>		See Dundee Sport Facility Action Plan for development of Coaching rooms.		Gary Robertson
<b>5.6</b>	<b>SHINTY &amp; GAELIC FOOTBALL</b>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pitch Maintenance Plans</li> </ul>	See 5.1.4, 11 a- side Football for Pitch Maintenance Plan.			Ally Lawson

5.7	<b>OUTDOOR BASKETBALL</b>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MUGAs</li> </ul>	See Dundee Sport Facility Action Plan for development of MUGAs.			Gary Robertson

## 7 LIST OF APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 Actions completed, and not completed, from the first Dundee Pitch Strategy.
- Appendix 2 Location of all Public Access Football Pitches in Dundee.
- Appendix 3 Location of all Hockey Pitches in Dundee.
- Appendix 4 Location of all Rugby Pitches in Dundee.
- Appendix 5 Location of all Cricket Wickets in Dundee.
- Appendix 6 Location of all American Football Pitches in Dundee.
- Appendix 7 Location of all Shinty and Gaelic Football Pitches in Dundee.
- Appendix 8 Location of all Outdoor Basketball Courts in Dundee.
- Appendix 9 Map of all Football Pitches in Dundee.
- Appendix 10 Football Pitch Site Location Movements.
- Appendix 11 Pitch Survey Checklist

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **Actions completed from the first Dundee Pitch Strategy - 2005-2011**

1. Blaes Pitches were removed as proposed
2. 4 MUGAs were installed
3. The pitches at Downfield Playing Fields are now only football and rugby
4. The movement of the cricket wicket to Dawson Park was completed
5. The maintenance and quality of the football pitches was improved
6. New football Pitches were provided to replace the ones lost at Kirkton Park
7. Quality Mark Awards for Football Clubs has been completed for the majority of Football clubs in the City

### **Actions not completed from the first Dundee Pitch Strategy - 2005-2011**

1. Trim Tracks for football fitness development were not established
2. Small areas of synthetic surfaces for football training were not provided
3. Small scale floodlighting for football training purposes was not provided
4. Higher level performing football teams were not allocated to the best football pitches
5. Football Training was not provided on the artificial pitch at St. Paul's Secondary School
6. Pitch booking web page was not developed
7. Education pitches made available to the public via the booking system
8. Limiting under 12's to 7 a side bookings has not happened yet
9. Moveable goal posts were not provided in parks for informal kick-about
10. DISC artificial hockey pitches were not reconfigured.
11. A video platform was not provided at DISC for notational analysis of Hockey
12. Rugby Academy at Morgan's Former Pupils Rugby Club was not established

## APPENDIX 2

### Location of all public football pitches in Dundee.

Popularity is based on the 2008/2009 season usage

High  
Medium  
Low

Average more than 60 bookings per season  
Average more than 30 bookings per season  
Average less than 30 bookings per season

### Public Parks

Ref	Location	7-a-side	11-a-side	11 a-side Popularity
1	Ardler	1	2	1. Medium 2. Low
2	Broughty Ferry Esplanade	0	1	High (Most popular pitch)
3	Caird Park	1	4 (1 in construction)	1. Low 2. Medium 3. Medium
4	Camperdown Park	0	2	1. Low 2. Low
5	Claypotts Park	1	5	1. Medium 2. High 3. Medium 4. High 5. Medium
6	Dawson Park	2	3 (1 Artificial)	1. Medium 2. High 3. Low
7	DISC	2	0	
8	Downfield Park	2	4	1. High 2. Medium 3. Medium 4. Low
9	Drumgeith Park	0	7	1. Medium 2. Medium 3. Medium 4. Low 5. Medium 6. Low 7. Low



<b>Ref</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>7-a-side</b>	<b>11-a-side</b>	<b>11 a-side Popularity</b>
10	Fairmuir Park	0	5	1. High 2. High 3. Medium 4. Low 5. Medium
11	Finlathen Park	1	3	1. High 2. Low 3. Low
12	Fintry Park	1	1	Low
13	Gillies Park	1	0	
14	Lochee Park	2	5	1. High 2. Medium 3. High 4. High 5. Medium
15	Mill O Mains	1	0	
16	Monymusk	0	4	1. Medium 2. Medium 3. Medium 4. Medium
17	Myrekirk	1	0	
18	Orchar Park	1	0	
19	Riverside Park	2	7	1. Low 2. Medium 3. Medium 4. Medium 5. Medium 6. Medium 7. Low
20	South Road Park	1	3	1. Medium 2. Medium 3. Medium
21	St Leonards	1	0	
22	Whitfield	1	0	
23	St Saviours	2	5	Low usage as yet as only just started being booked by the public.
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>61</b>	

## Secondary Schools

		<b>7 a side</b>	<b>11 a side</b>
<b>24</b>	Baldragon Academy	1	2
<b>25</b>	Braeview Academy	0	1
<b>26</b>	Craigie High	2	1
<b>27</b>	Harris Academy	1	2
<b>28</b>	Menzieshill	0	1
<b>29</b>	St Johns High	1	2
<b>30</b>	St Paul's	0	2
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>

## Primary Schools

		<b>7 a side</b>	<b>11 a side</b>
<b>31</b>	Barnhill	1	0
<b>32</b>	Charleston	1	0
<b>33</b>	Claypotts	1	0
<b>34</b>	Craigowl	1	0
<b>35</b>	Downfield	1	0
<b>36</b>	Fintry	1	0
<b>37</b>	Forthill	1	0
<b>38</b>	Gowriehill	1	0
<b>39</b>	Hillside	1	0
<b>40</b>	Longhaugh	1	0
<b>41</b>	Mill O Mains	1	0
<b>42</b>	Newfields	1	0
<b>43</b>	Rowan	1 (synthetic)	0
<b>44</b>	Sidlaw view	1	0
<b>45</b>	St Andrews	1	0
<b>46</b>	St Lukes & St Mathews RC	1	0
<b>47</b>	St Ninians RC	1	0
<b>48</b>	St Vincents RC	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>

### Blaes Pitches

		7 a side	11 a side
49	Whitfield	0	1
50	Craigie High School	0	1
51	Menzieshill High School	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>

### Others (limited access to the public)

		7 a side	11 a side
	<b>Junior Football Clubs</b>		
52	Broughty Athletics Football Club at Claypotts Park		1
53	Dundee Violet in Balfield Road		1
54	Downfield Junior Football Club in Balgown Road Kirkton		1
55	East Craigie Junior Football Club at Old Craigie Road		1
56	Lochee Harps in Kingscross Road		1
57	Lochee United at Napier Drive		1
58	Northend Junior Football Club at Fairmuir		1
	<b>Amateur Football Clubs</b>		
59	NCR lease Caird Park Velodrome Pitch		1
60	Fairfield Sports and Leisure Club at Fairfield Park		1
61	Michelin Sports Ground		1
	<b>Other Football Pitch Locations</b>		
62	Dundee University - grass - artificial	1	6 1
63	Gussie Park Artificial Pitch - Dundee United Football Park		1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>18</b>

### School Use of Public Football Pitches

SCHOOL	LOCATION
Morgan Academy	Dundee International Sports Centre
Grove Academy	Dawson Park

### APPENDIX 3

#### Location of all Hockey Pitches in Dundee

Location	Numbers	Usage
DISC	2 artificial surfaced pitches, one water-based, and the other sand	Both are used for other sports apart from Hockey and both are in need of reconfiguration. All clubs in Dundee use the D.I.S.C artificial pitches to some degree and it presently functions as a regional centre.
Dawson Park Artificial Pitch	1 full sized artificial pitch	It is suitable for school and hockey use. It has an expected lifespan of 10 more years.
University Riverside Playing Fields	1 sand dressed pitch and a 3g multi purpose floodlit pitch	Dundee University and there is open access to the public as and when available after University use, mainly in the evenings and weekends.
Craigie High School	1 Blaes pitch	School use only.
Menzieshill High School	1 Blaes pitch	School use only.
Whitfield Central Core	1 Blaes pitch	Minimal usage by the public. Mainly informal sports by local people.
Dundee High School	1 artificial Pitch (Tennis Court size)	School plus Former Pupils groups
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	

### APPENDIX 4

#### Location of all Rugby Pitches in Dundee

Location	Numbers	Usage
Downfield Playing Fields	1 full size Pitch	Stobswell Rugby Club
Morgan FP Rugby Club Playing Fields	2 full size Pitches	Morgan FP Rugby Club
Elliot Road School Playing Fields	1 full size Pitch	School and Harris Academy FP Rugby Club
Forthill Sports Club	1 full size Pitch	Panmure Rugby Club
Dundee High School Playing Fields	4 full size Pitches	School and Dundee High School FP Rugby Club

University Riverside Playing Fields	2 full size Pitches	Dundee University and there is open access to the public as and when available after University use, mainly in the evenings and weekends.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	

## APPENDIX 5

### Location of all Cricket Wickets in Dundee

Location	Numbers	Usage
Dawson Park	1 wicket	All cricket teams who play on public wickets in the city.
Dundee High School	1 wicket	Use by School
Forthill Sports Club	1 wicket	Use by members of the sports club
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	

## APPENDIX 6

### Location of all American Football Pitches in Dundee

Location	Numbers	Usage
Dawson Park	1 full size	American Football Team in the city

## APPENDIX 7

### Location of all Shinty and Gaelic Football Pitches in Dundee

Location	Numbers	Usage
Dawson Park	2 Full Size Pitches	Usage alternates between the 2 pitches dependent on requirements. Most usage is from the University students.

## APPENDIX 8

Location of all Outdoor Basketball Courts in Dundee. All are Multiple Use Games Areas and also used for informal Football.

Location	Numbers	Usage
South Road	1 MUGA	Open public Access. No booking or charge. Managed by Parks Operations Section.
Dudhope Park	1 MUGA	Open public Access. No booking or charge. Managed by Parks Operations Section.
Mill o Mains	1 MUGA	Open public Access. No booking or charge. Managed by Parks Operations Section.
Pitleavie Road	1 MUGA	Open public Access. No booking or charge. Managed by Dundee Contract Services.
Cheviot Crescent	1 MUGA	Open public Access. No booking or charge. Managed by Dundee Contract Services.
Whitfield Central Core	1 MUGA	Open public Access. No booking or charge. Managed by Dundee Contract Services.
Mains Road Hiltown	1 MUGA	Open public Access. No booking or charge. Managed by Dundee Contract Services.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>	

# APPENDIX 9

Maps of all Football Pitch Locations following pages

## FOOTBALL PITCHES WITHIN LOCHEE AREA

**Dundee** CHANGING  
FOR THE FUTURE  
Floor 3, Central Library,  
The Velligate, Dundee, DD1 1DB

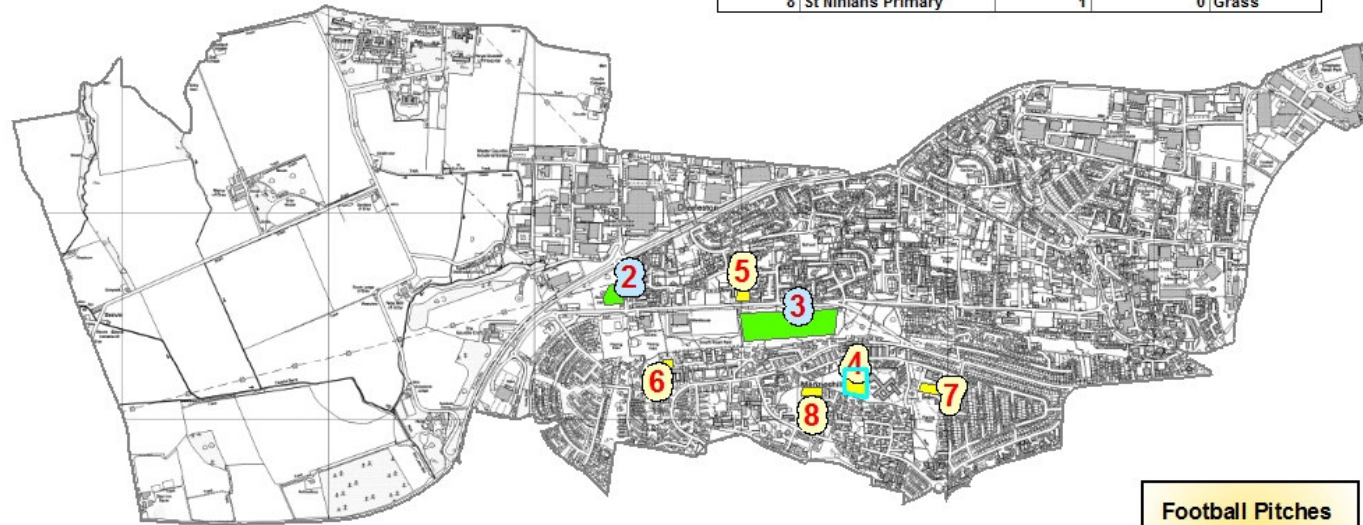


### LEISURE & COMMUNITIES

ID *	Location	7 A Side	Full Size	Surface
1	Lochee Park	2	5	Grass
2	MyreKirk	1	0	Grass
3	South Road Park	1	3	Grass

### EDUCATION

ID *	Location	7 A Side	Full Size	Surface
4	Menzieshill HS	0	1	Grass
5	Charleston Secondary	1	0	Grass
6	Gowriehill Primary	1	0	Grass
7	Hillside Primary	1	0	Grass
8	St Ninians Primary	1	0	Grass



**Football Pitches**

- Education Pitches
- L&C Pitches

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Originator: Dave Stewart

Department: Leisure and Communities

Created on: 31/12/10

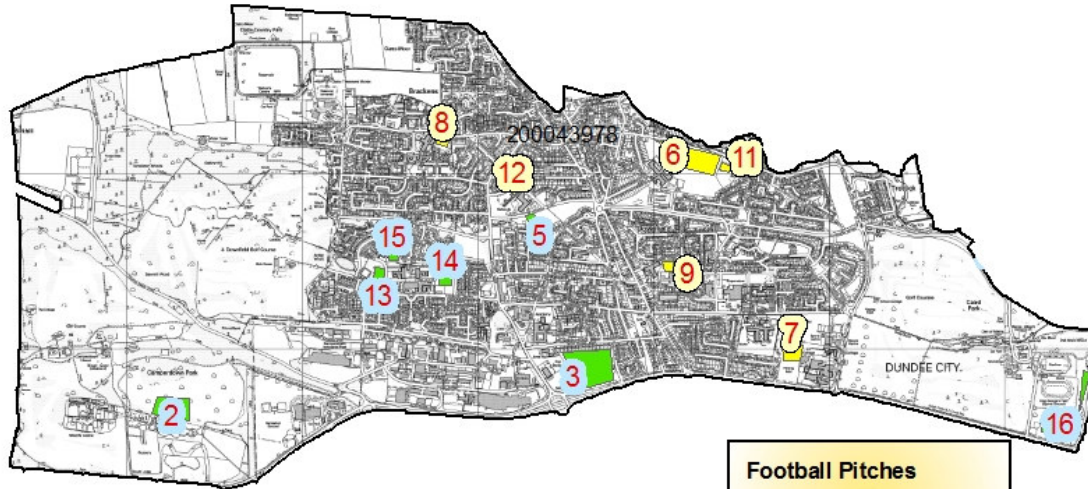
# FOOTBALL PITCHES WITHIN THE STRATHMARTINE AREA

## LEISURE & COMMUNITIES

ID #	Location	7 A Side	Full Size	Surface
2	Camperdown Park	0	2	Grass
3	Downfield Park	2	4	Grass
4	Mill O Mains Park	1	0	Grass
5	St Leonards Park	1	0	Grass
13	Ardler 1	0	1	Grass
14	Ardler 2	0	1	Grass
15	Ardler 3	1	0	Grass
16	Caird Park	1	2	Grass

## EDUCATION

ID #	Location	7 A Side	Full Size	Surface
6	Baldrigon Academy	1	2	Grass
7	St Pauls Academy	0	2	Grass
8	Craigowl Primary	1	0	Grass
9	Downfield Primary	1	0	Grass
10	Mill O Mains Primar	1	0	Grass
11	Sidlaw View Primar	1	0	Grass
12	St Andrews Primar	1	0	Grass



**Football Pitches**

- Education
- Leisure & Communities

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**APPENDIX 10**  
**Football Pitch site Location Movements over the last 6 years**

<b>Original Location of Pitch</b>	<b>Number and Size</b>	<b>Eventual Locations of Pitches</b>	<b>Reasons</b>	<b>Date</b>
Ardler Football Pitches	2no. 11 a-side pitches	Temporarily at Balfield Playing Fields then returned to Ardler permanently	Development works at Ardler required a temporary replacement while works were done to relocate one pitch and upgrade the other.	2005
Kirkton Park Football Pitches	5 no. 11 a-side pitches	2 in St. Saviours School Grounds.  1 new one in Downfield Playing fields.  2 at Balfield Playing Fields.	A Blaes pitch was converted to grass and a new grass pitch was established paid for by the Education Department.  The adjacent Lawside Academy Playing Fields, no longer used by the closed school, were utilising by removing the intervening hedge and enlarging the playing fields.  Once the 2 no. 11 a-side pitches were reopened in Ardler there was no need for the replacement pitches at Balfield. They reverted back to being additional school provision. The replacement 3 were then located at Balfield Playing Fields on a permanent basis and the playing field area transferred to Leisure and Communities Department management from Education Department.	2008
Balfield Playing Fields	3 no. 11 a-side and 2 no. 7 a-side pitches	3 no. 11 a-side pitches at St.Saviours site 2 no. 7 a-side pitches at St.Saviours site	The Balfield Playing Fields site was required to build a Special Needs School requiring the replacement of the 5 pitches. St. Saviours RC Secondary School has been demolished and the school site is now designated as a Playing field. It has the previous 2 no. 11 a-side pitch previously established there, as well as the new 3 no. 11 a-side pitches and the 2 no. 7 a-side pitches	2010

## **APPENDIX 11**

### **Pitch Survey Checklist**

- Name of Pitch or Playing Field.
- Address and location map.
- National Grid Reference.
- Ownership and tenure.
- The home club or team using the pitch or pitches.
- Details of the body responsible for management (including lettings or bookings) and maintenance.
- Details of each pitch (sport, type and condition of surface and size) and any improvements required.
- Total area of land on each site.
- Access (e.g. public, voluntary club, school etc.)
- Details of on-site changing accommodation including the number and size of team and match official changing rooms, toilets, showers, potential for mixed sex use and accessibility for people with disability; and appraisal of the quality of the facilities and any improvements required.
- The maximum number of bookings allowed per day or per week.
- Details of on-site parking and any improvements required.
- Availability (e.g. are club owned pitches available for booking by other clubs for training or matches?).
- The availability of floodlighting and any improvements required.
- Other constraints on use e.g. potential nuisance to neighbours when pitch is in use, dog fouling etc.

## **APPENDIX 12**

### **Queen Elizabeth Fields Challenge**

Pitches were chosen for their popularity, quality and distribution across the city.

Caird Park	four 11 a-side pitches.
Camperdown Park	two 11 a-side pitches.
Dawson Park	three 11 a-side pitches plus one artificial pitch
Downfield Park	two 7 a-side pitches plus four 11 a-side pitches.
Drumgeith Park	seven 11 a-side pitches.
Lochee Park	two 7 a-side pitches plus five 11 a-side pitches.
Riverside Park	two 7 a-side pitches plus seven 11 a-side pitches.