

**South Oxfordshire District Council**

**PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

**2023 - 2041**

**APPENDICES**

**Produced by:**



**Produced for:**



**Version record**

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Final	18 <sup>th</sup> November, 2024



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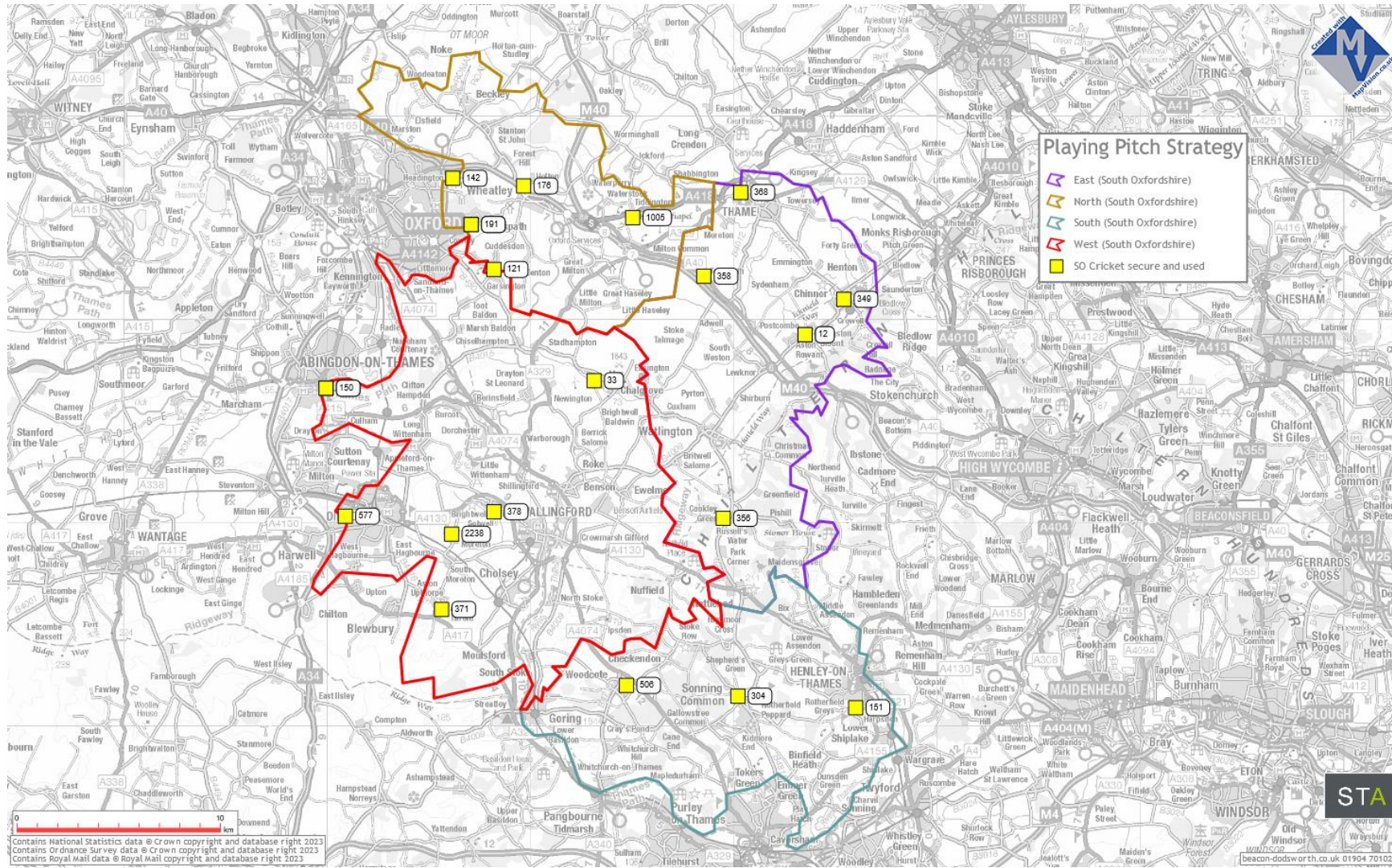
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## **Appendix 1: Location Maps**

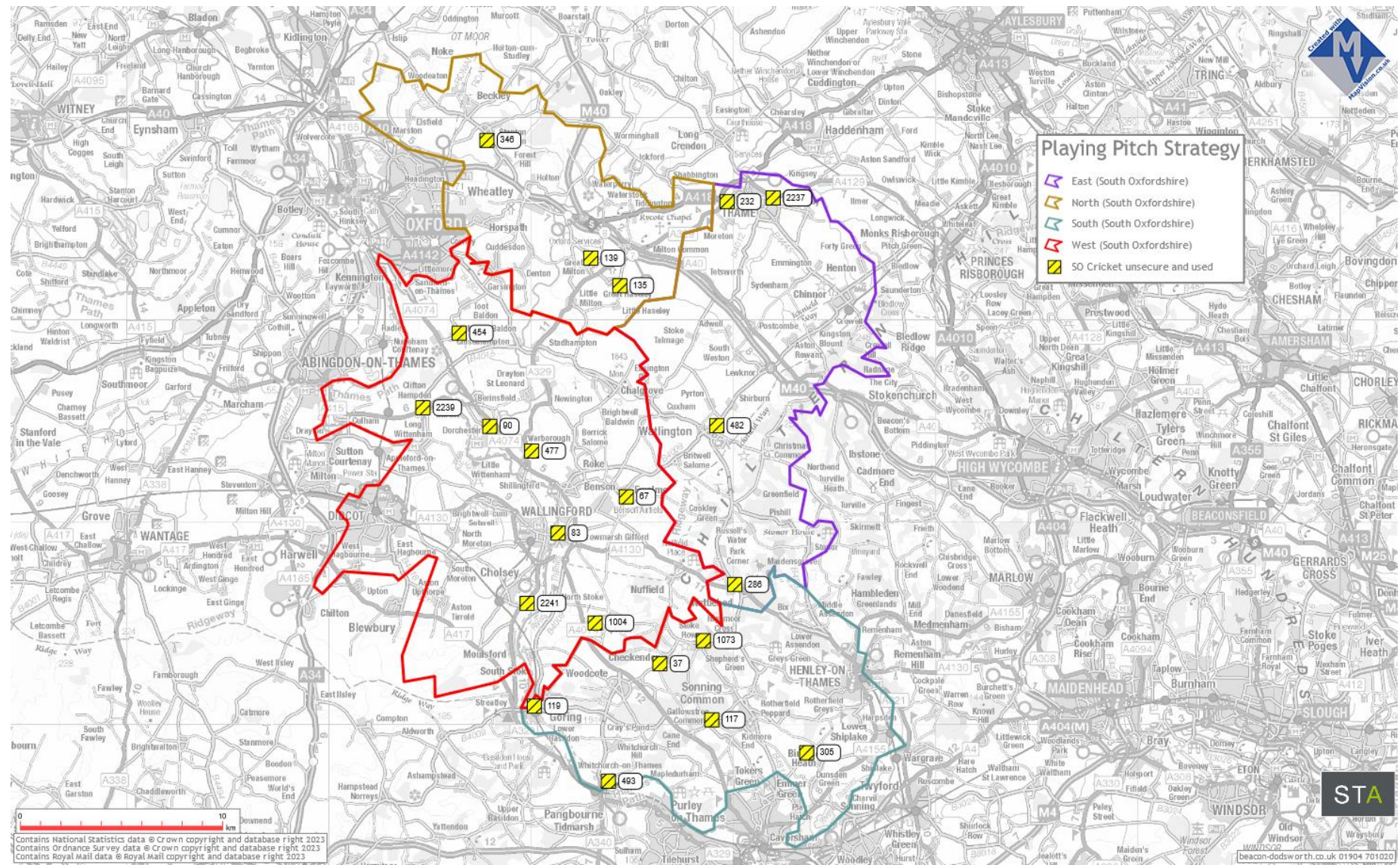
# CRICKET

## All Pitches (grass) – Secure and Used



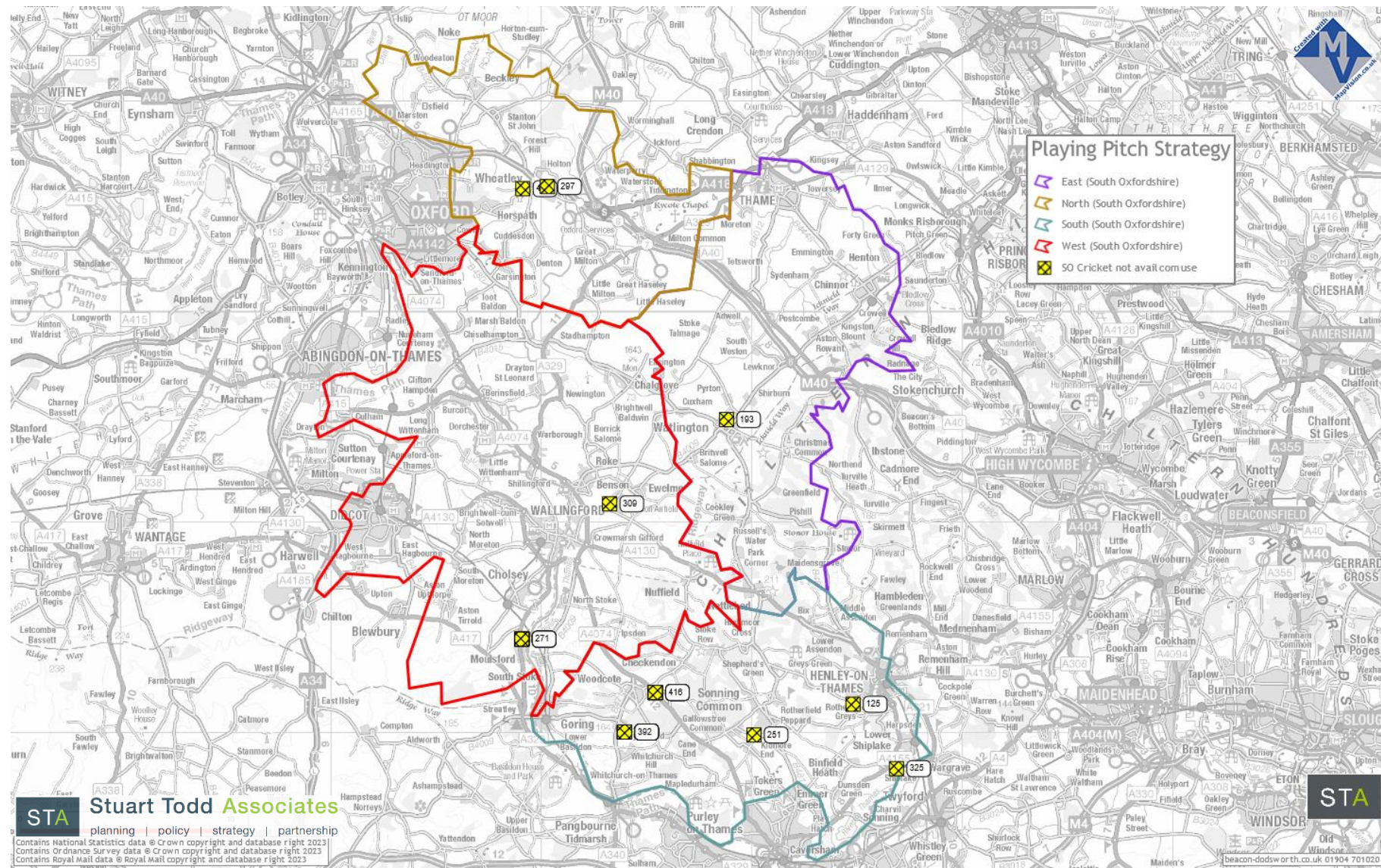


### All Pitches (grass) – Unsecured and Used



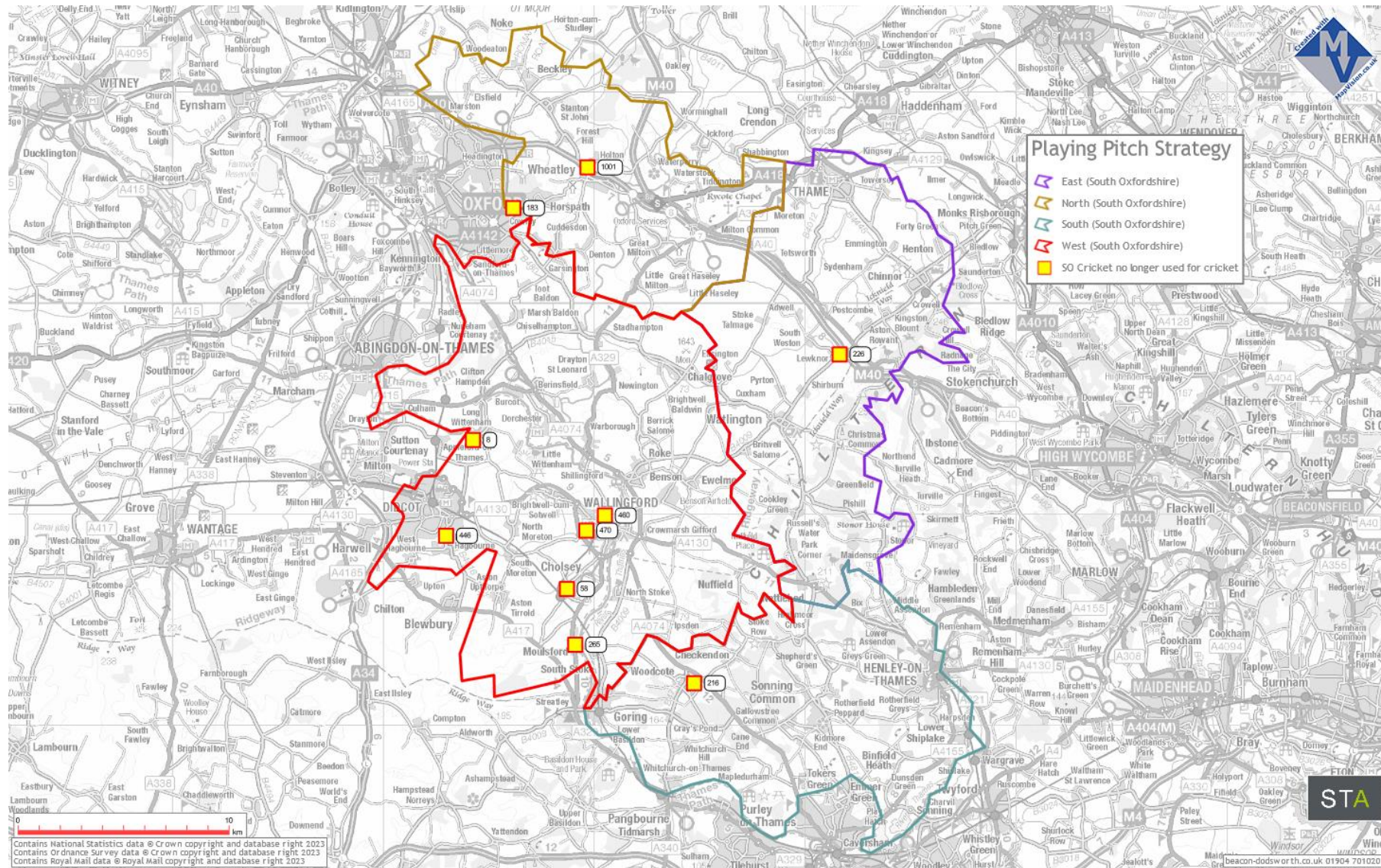


### All pitches (grass) – Not Available for Community Use





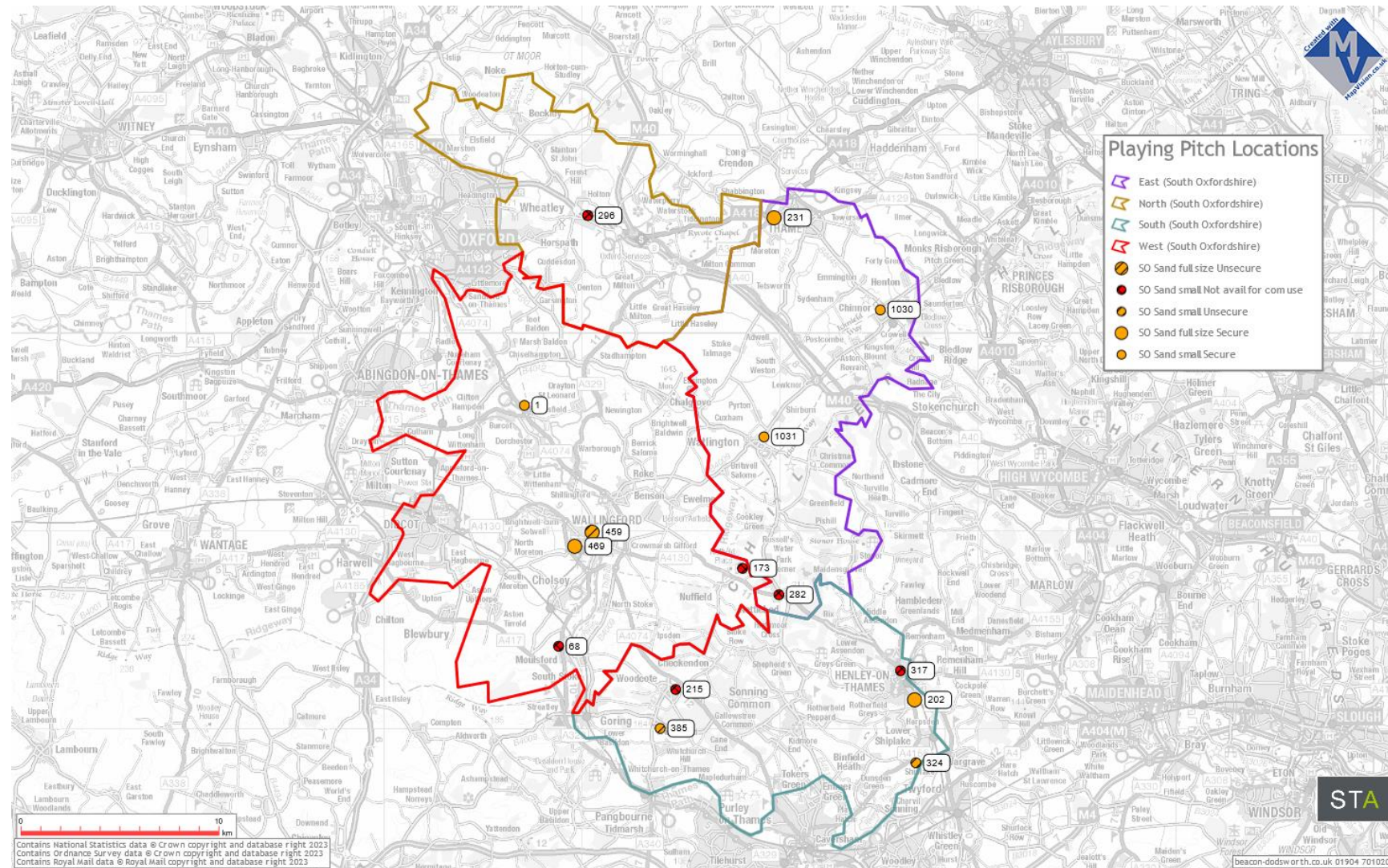
### All pitches (grass) – No longer used for Cricket





# HOCKEY

All pitches (AGP – sand/water-based)



## AGP Key

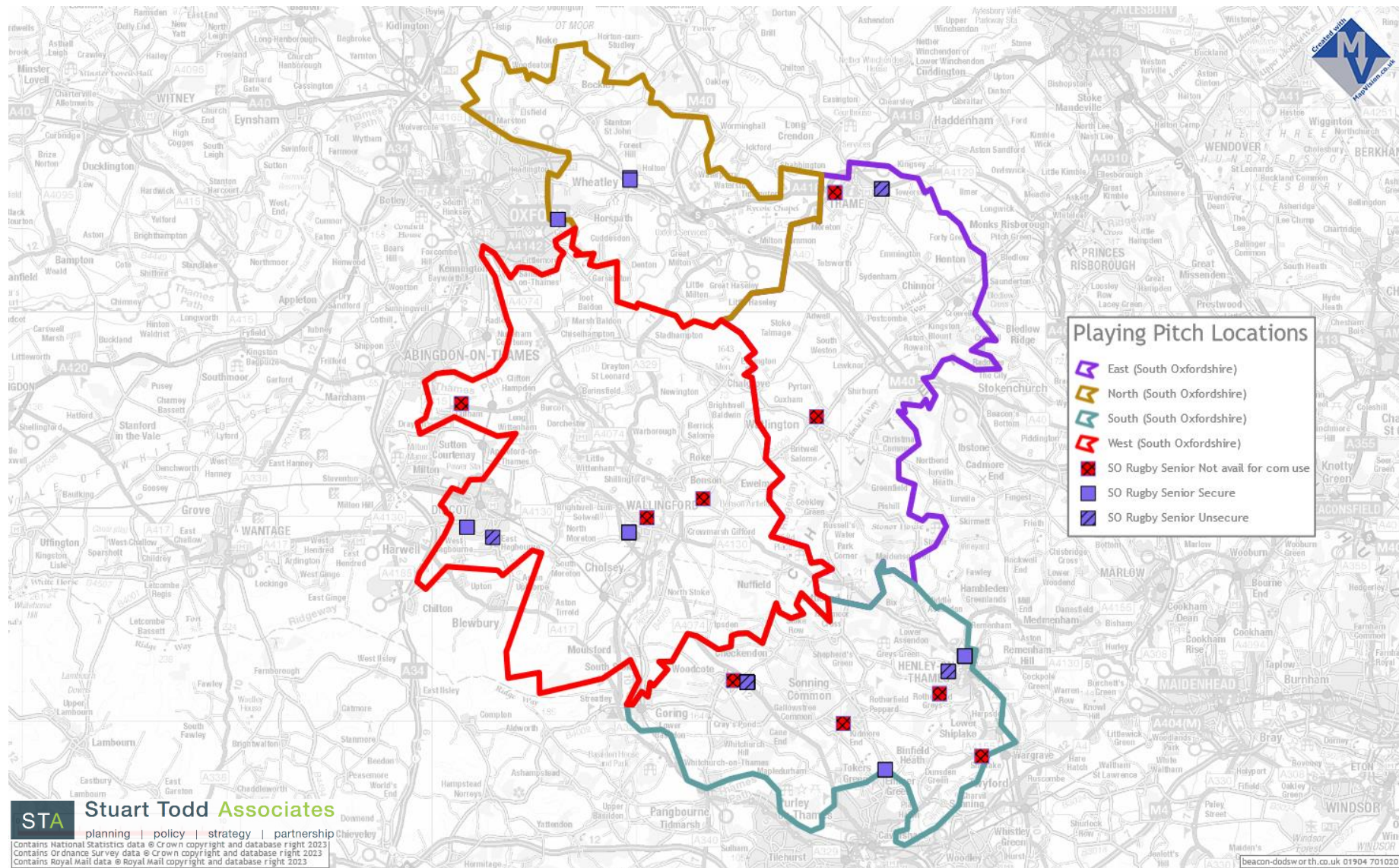
Pitch Ref No.	Pitch Name	Site Name	Also known as	Sub-area	Surface
1	ABBEY SPORTS CENTRE (BERINSFIELD)	ABBEY SPORTS CENTRE (BERINSFIELD)		West (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand filled
68	CRANFORD HOUSE SCHOOL 1	CRANFORD HOUSE SCHOOL		West (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - Sand
173	HMP HUNTERCOMBE	HMP HUNTERCOMBE		West (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand filled
202	JUBILEE PARK HENLEY 1	JUBILEE PARK HENLEY		South (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand dressed
215	LANGTREE SCHOOL 2	LANGTREE SCHOOL		South (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand dressed
231	LORD WILLIAMS'S ACADEMY (UPPER SCHOOL) 3	LORD WILLIAMS'S ACADEMY (UPPER SCHOOL)	Thame Leisure Centre	East (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand dressed
282	NETTLEBED COMMUNITY SCHOOL 1	NETTLEBED COMMUNITY SCHOOL		East (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand filled
295	OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY (WHEATLEY CAMPUS) 5	OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY (WHEATLEY CAMPUS)		North (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand filled
296	OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY (WHEATLEY CAMPUS) 6	OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY (WHEATLEY CAMPUS)		North (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand filled
317	RUPERT HOUSE SCHOOL	RUPERT HOUSE SCHOOL		South (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand filled
324	SHIPLAKE COLLEGE 2	SHIPLAKE COLLEGE		South (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand filled
385	THE ORATORY PREPARATORY SCHOOL 7	THE ORATORY PREPARATORY SCHOOL		South (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand filled

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Surface</b>
459	WALLINGFORD SCHOOL 2	WALLINGFORD SCHOOL		West (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand filled
469	WALLINGFORD SPORTS PARK 5	WALLINGFORD SPORTS PARK		West (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand dressed
1030	WHITES FIELD	WHITES FIELD		East (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand
1031	WATLINGTON SPORTS GROUND 10	WATLINGTON SPORTS GROUND	Watlington Recreation Ground	East (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - Gen2



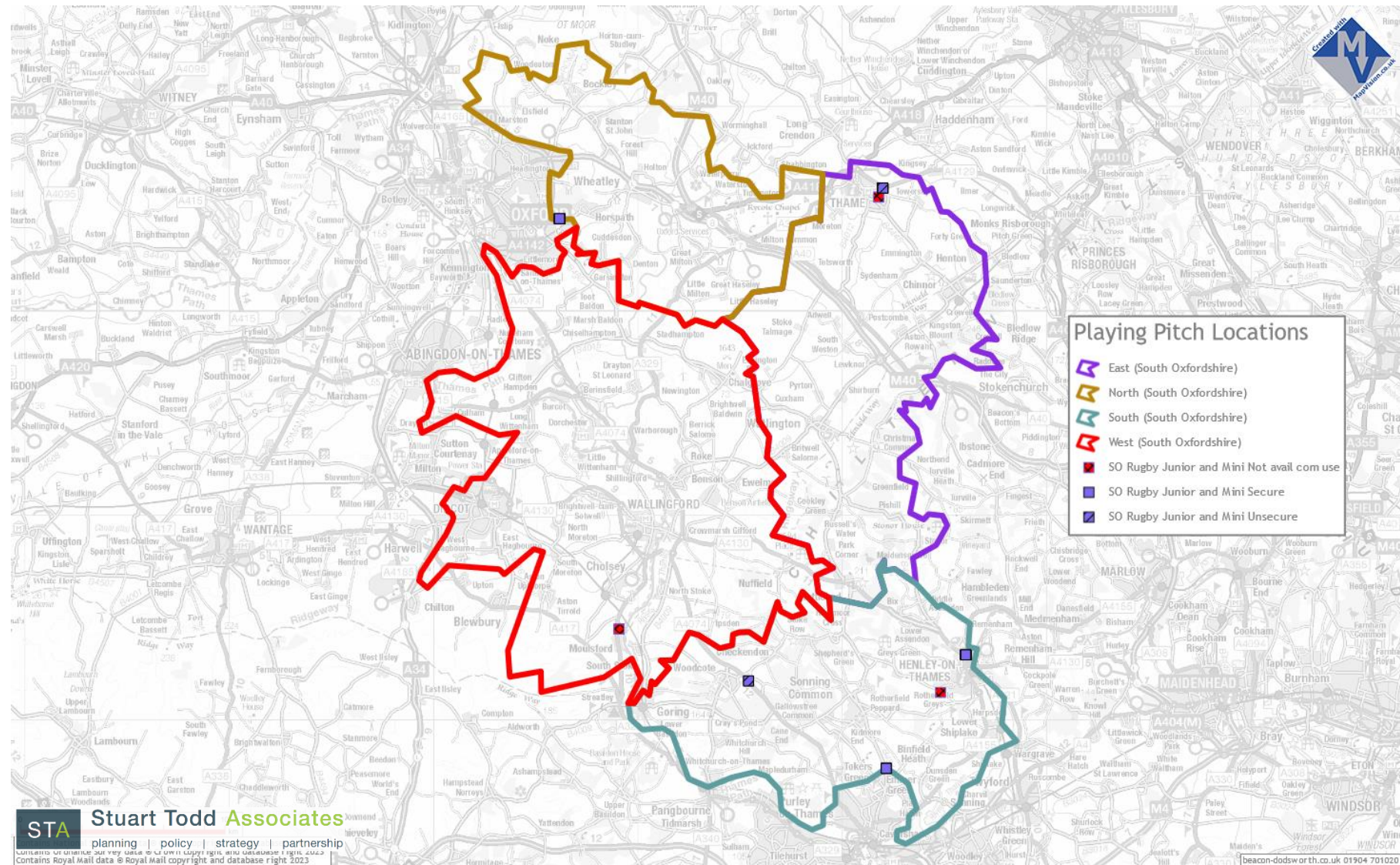
## **RUGBY UNION**

All senior / adult pitches (grass)

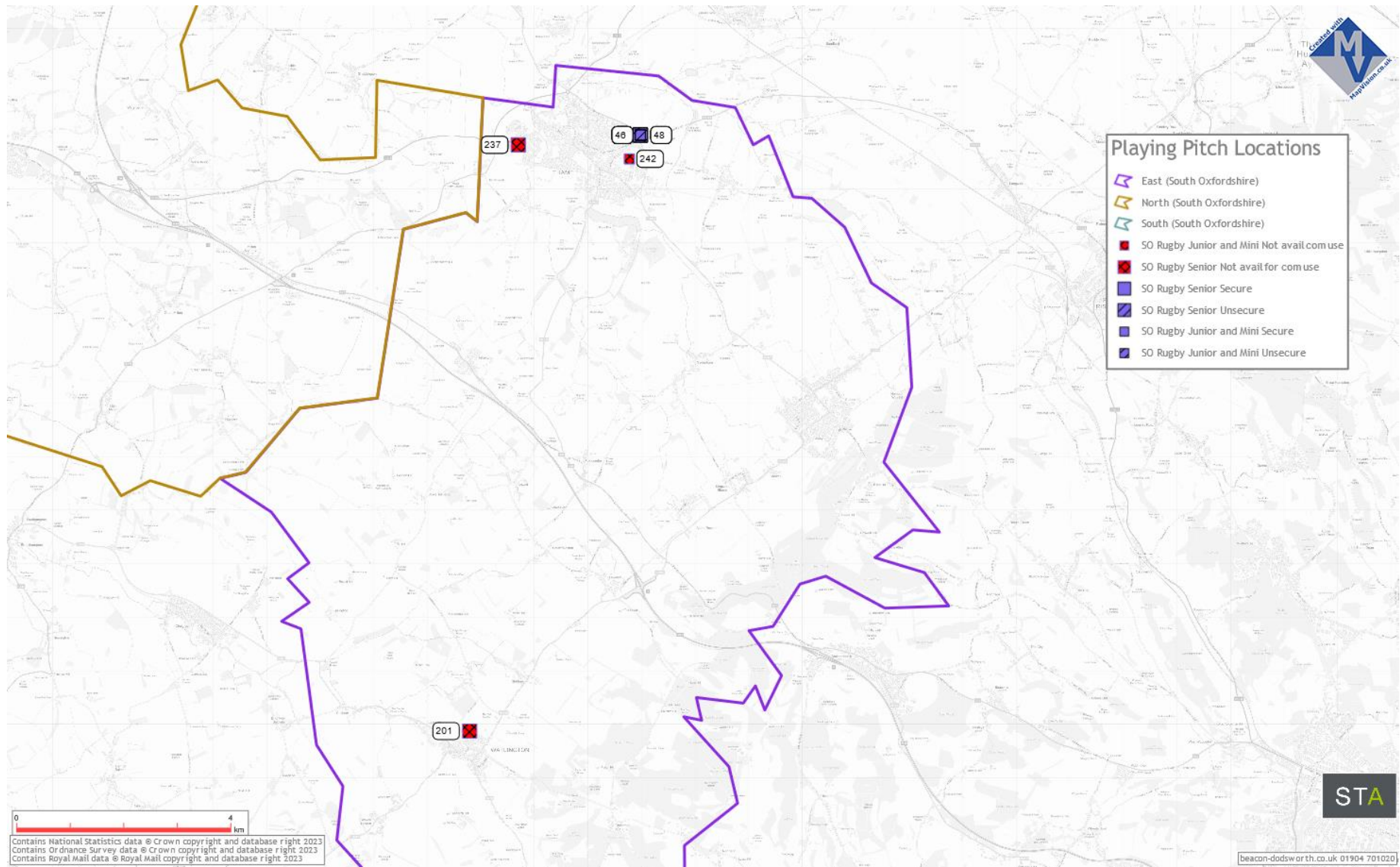




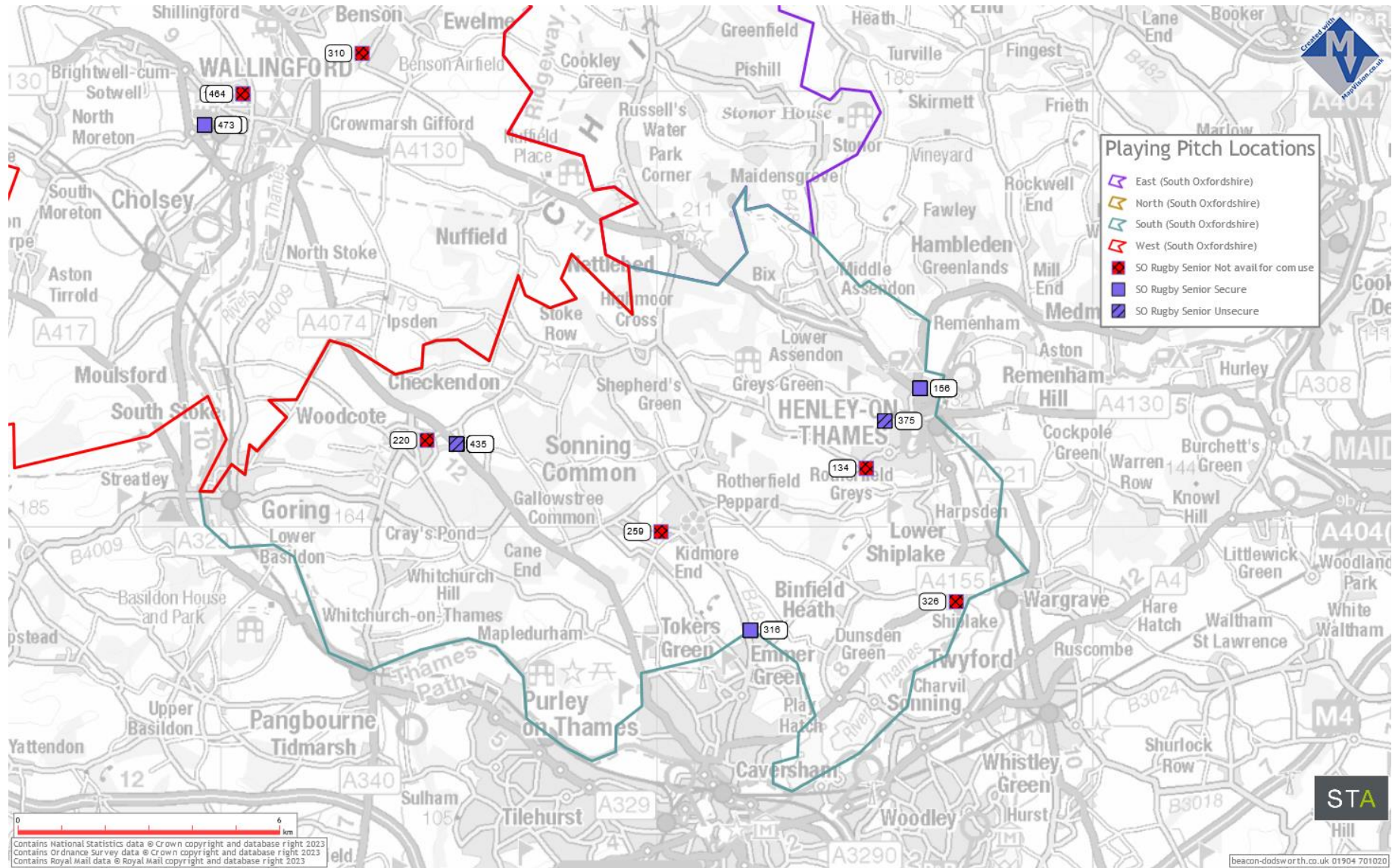
All junior / mini pitches (grass)

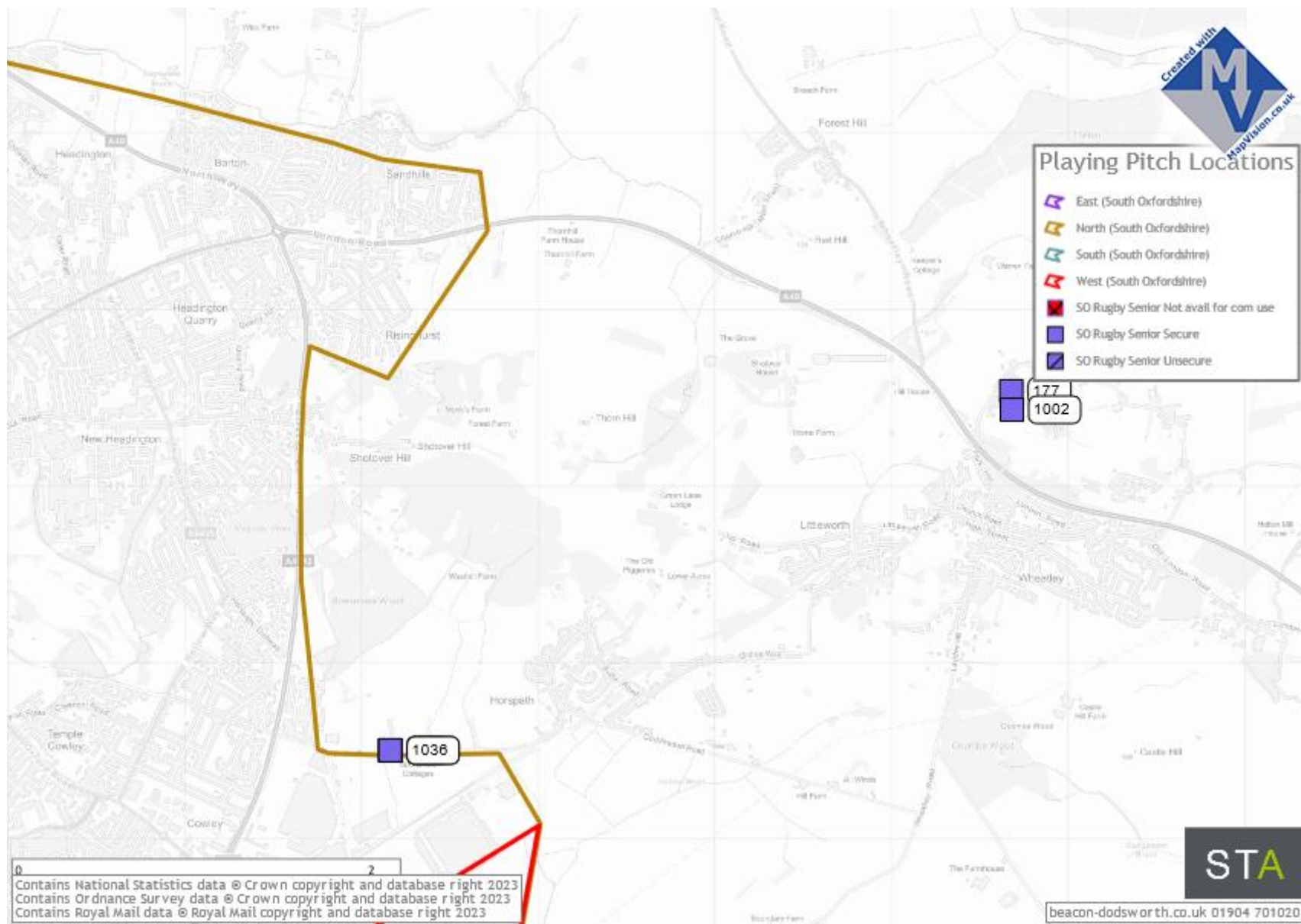


### All pitches (grass) by Sub-Area

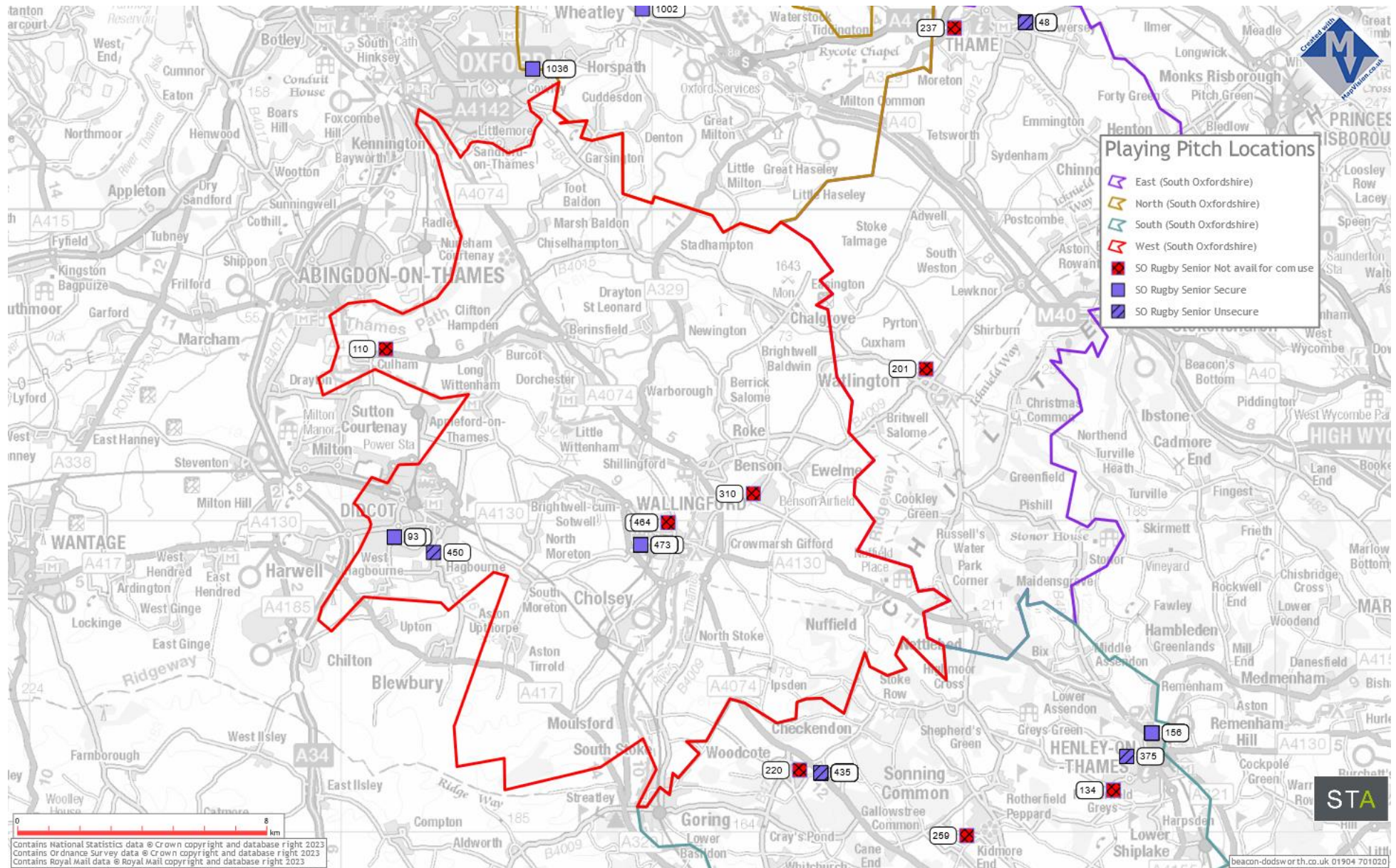


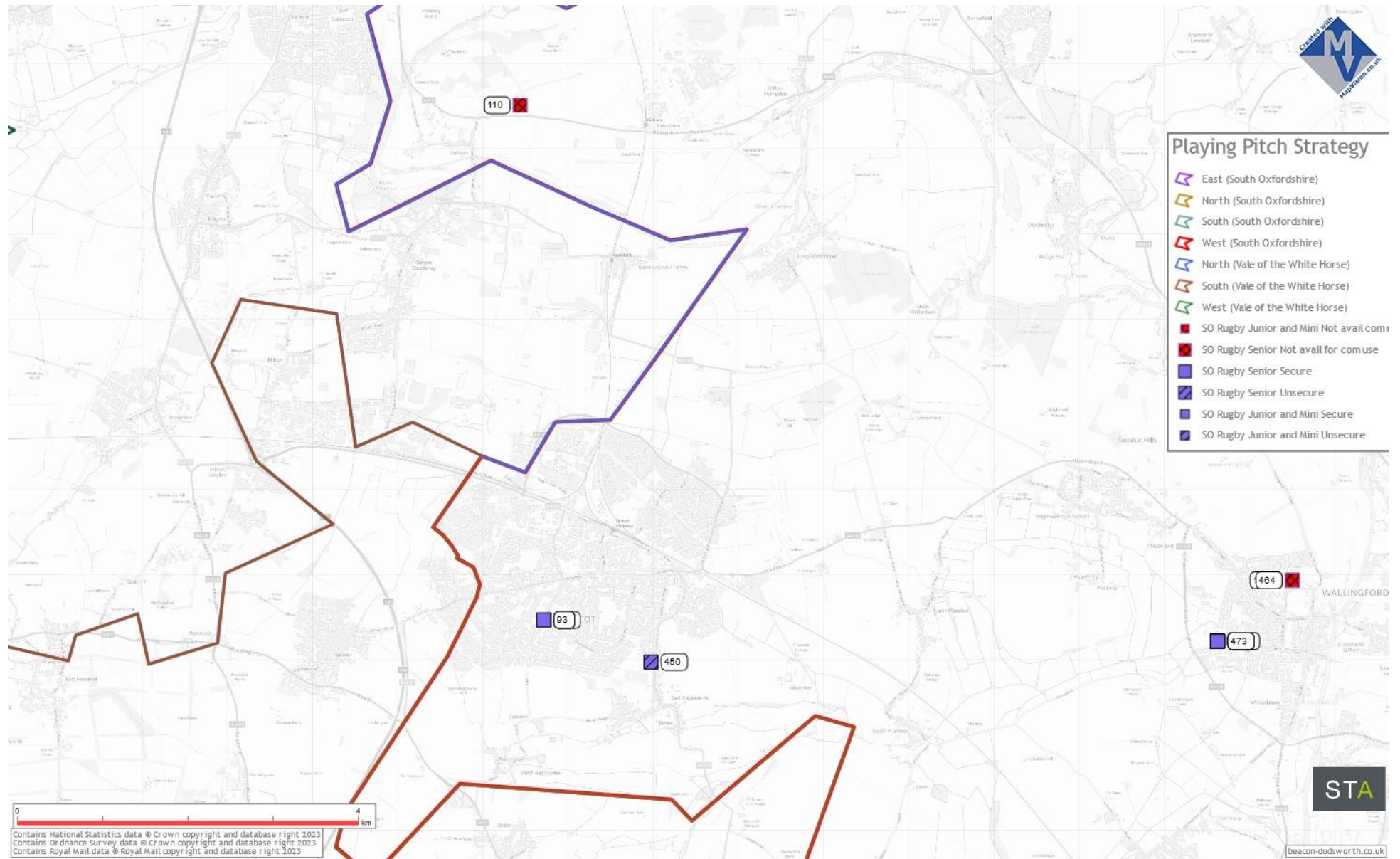




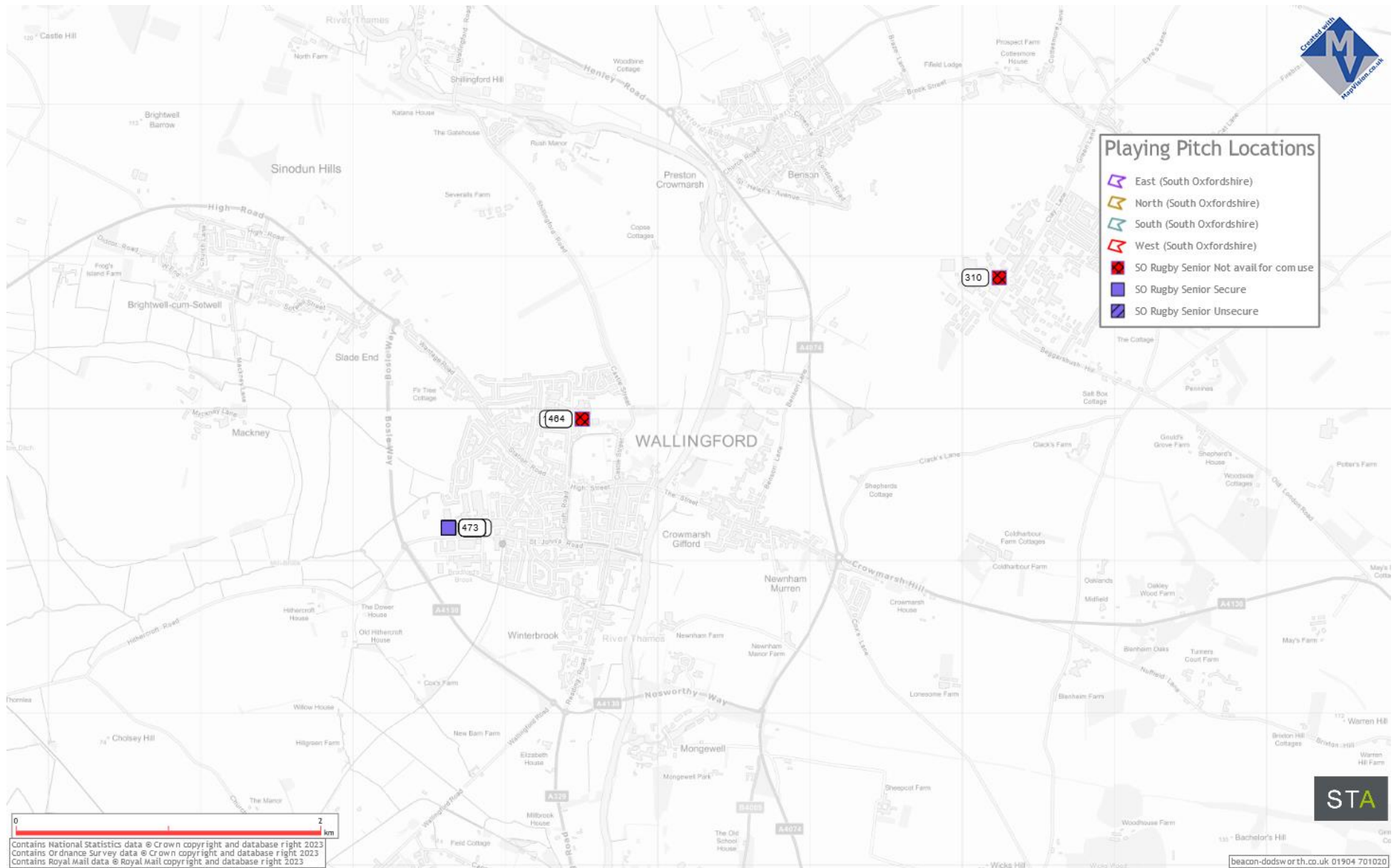












## Rugby Pitches Key

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>	<b>Surface</b>
38	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB 1	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB	Thame Showground 10	East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
39	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB 2	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB	Pitch 4	East (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
40	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB 3	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB	Thame Showground 3	East (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
41	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB 4	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB	Thame Showground 4	East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
42	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB 5	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB	Thame Showground 5	East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
43	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB 6	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB	Thame Showground 6	East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
44	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB 7	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB	Thame Showground 7	East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
45	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB 8	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB	Thame Showground 8	East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
46	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB 9	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB	Thame Showground 9	East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
47	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB 10	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB	Thame Showground 2	East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
48	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB 11	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB	Thame Showground 1	East (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
49	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB 12	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB	Pitch 1	East (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
50	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB 13	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB	Pitch 2	East (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>	<b>Surface</b>
51	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB 14	CHINNOR RUGBY CLUB	Pitch 3	East (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
93	Edmonds Park	Edmonds Park		West (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby (historic) / football (current)	Grass
201	ICKNIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE 10	ICKNIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE		East (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
236	LORD WILLIAMS'S ACADEMY(UPPER SCHOOL) 8	LORD WILLIAMS'S ACADEMY(UPPER SCHOOL)		East (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
237	LORD WILLIAMS'S ACADEMY(UPPER SCHOOL) 9	LORD WILLIAMS'S ACADEMY(UPPER SCHOOL)		East (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
241	LORD WILLIAMS'S SCHOOL (LOWER SCHOOL) 4	LORD WILLIAMS'S SCHOOL (LOWER SCHOOL)		East (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
242	LORD WILLIAMS'S SCHOOL (LOWER SCHOOL) 5	LORD WILLIAMS'S SCHOOL (LOWER SCHOOL)		East (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
177	HOLTON PLAYING FIELDS 4	HOLTON PLAYING FIELDS	Wheatley RFC Main Pitch / Wheatley Playing Fields	North (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
181	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 4	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND	Horspath Recreation Ground	North (South Oxfordshire)	AGP	AGP - 3G rubber crumb

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>	<b>Surface</b>
189	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 12	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND	Horspath Recreation Ground / Oxford Harlequins RFC Pitch 1	North (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
1002	THE PARK SPORTS CENTRE (WHEATLEY)	THE PARK SPORTS CENTRE (WHEATLEY)		North (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
1035	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 13	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND	Horspath Recreation Ground / Oxford Harlequins RFC Pitch 2	North (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
1036	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 14	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND	Horspath Recreation Ground / Oxford Harlequins RFC Pitch 3	North (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
1037	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 15	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND	Horspath Recreation Ground / Oxford Harlequins RFC	North (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
1038	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 16	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND	Horspath Recreation Ground / Oxford Harlequins RFC	North (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
1039	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 17	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND	Horspath Recreation Ground / Oxford Harlequins RFC	North (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
1040	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 18	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND	Horspath Recreation Ground / Oxford Harlequins RFC	North (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
1041	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 19	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND	Horspath Recreation Ground / Oxford Harlequins RFC	North (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>	<b>Surface</b>
1042	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 20	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND	Horspath Recreation Ground / Oxford Harlequins RFC	North (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
1043	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 21	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND	Horspath Recreation Ground / Oxford Harlequins RFC	North (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
1044	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 22	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND	Horspath Recreation Ground / Oxford Harlequins RFC	North (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
1045	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 23	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND	Horspath Recreation Ground / Oxford Harlequins RFC	North (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
1046	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 24	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND	Horspath Recreation Ground / Oxford Harlequins RFC	North (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
1047	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 25	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND	Horspath Recreation Ground / Oxford Harlequins RFC	North (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
1056	HOLTON PLAYING FIELDS 5	HOLTON PLAYING FIELDS	Wheatley RFC Training Pitch / Wheatley Playing Fields	North (South Oxfordshire)	Rugby training	Grass
129	GILLOTTS SCHOOL 7	GILLOTTS SCHOOL		South (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
133	GILLOTTS SCHOOL 11	GILLOTTS SCHOOL		South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
134	GILLOTTS SCHOOL 12	GILLOTTS SCHOOL		South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass

Pitch Ref No.	Pitch Name	Site Name	Also known as	Sub-area	Pitch Size and Type	Surface
153	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB 1	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB		South (South Oxfordshire)	AGP	AGP - 3G rubber crumb
154	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB 2	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB	Pitch 5	South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
155	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB 3	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB	Pitch 3	South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
156	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB 4	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB	Pitch 4	South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
157	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB 5	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB		South (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
158	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB 6	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB	Pitch 6 - NO GOALPOSTS	South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
159	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB 7	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB	Pitch 7 - NO GOALPOSTS	South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
160	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB 8	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB	Pitch 8 - NO GOALPOSTS	South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
161	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB 9	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB	Pitch 9 - NO GOALPOSTS	South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
162	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB 10	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
163	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB 11	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
164	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB 12	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
165	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB 13	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass

Pitch Ref No.	Pitch Name	Site Name	Also known as	Sub-area	Pitch Size and Type	Surface
166	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB 14	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB	Pitch 10 - NO GOALPOSTS	South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
167	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB 15	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB	Pitch 11 - NO GOALPOSTS	South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
168	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB 16	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB	Pitch 1	South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
169	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB 17	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB	Pitch 2	South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
220	LANGTREE SCHOOL 7	LANGTREE SCHOOL		South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
259	MAIDEN ERLEGH CHILTERN EDGE SCHOOL 9	MAIDEN ERLEGH CHILTERN EDGE SCHOOL		South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
311	ROSE HILL 1	ROSE HILL	Reading Abbey RFC 3	South (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
312	ROSE HILL 2	ROSE HILL	Reading Abbey RFC 2	South (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
313	ROSE HILL 3	ROSE HILL	Reading Abbey RFC 5	South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
314	ROSE HILL 4	ROSE HILL	Reading Abbey RFC 6	South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
315	ROSE HILL 5	ROSE HILL	Reading Abbey RFC 1	South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
316	ROSE HILL 6	ROSE HILL	Reading Abbey RFC 4	South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
326	SHIPLAKE COLLEGE 4	SHIPLAKE COLLEGE		South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
374	THE HENLEY COLLEGE -	THE HENLEY COLLEGE - ROTHERFIELD CAMPUS	Henley RFC training pitch	South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass

Pitch Ref No.	Pitch Name	Site Name	Also known as	Sub-area	Pitch Size and Type	Surface
	ROTHERFIELD CAMPUS GRASS PITC					
375	THE HENLEY COLLEGE - ROTHERFIELD CAMPUS GRASS PITC	THE HENLEY COLLEGE - ROTHERFIELD CAMPUS	Henley RFC training pitch	South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
426	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 26	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE		South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
427	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 27	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE		South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
428	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 28	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE		South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
429	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 29	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE		South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
430	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 30	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE		South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
431	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 31	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE		South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
432	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 32	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE		South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
433	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 33	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE		South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
434	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 34	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE		South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
435	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 35	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE		South (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
1048	ROSE HILL 7	ROSE HILL		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass

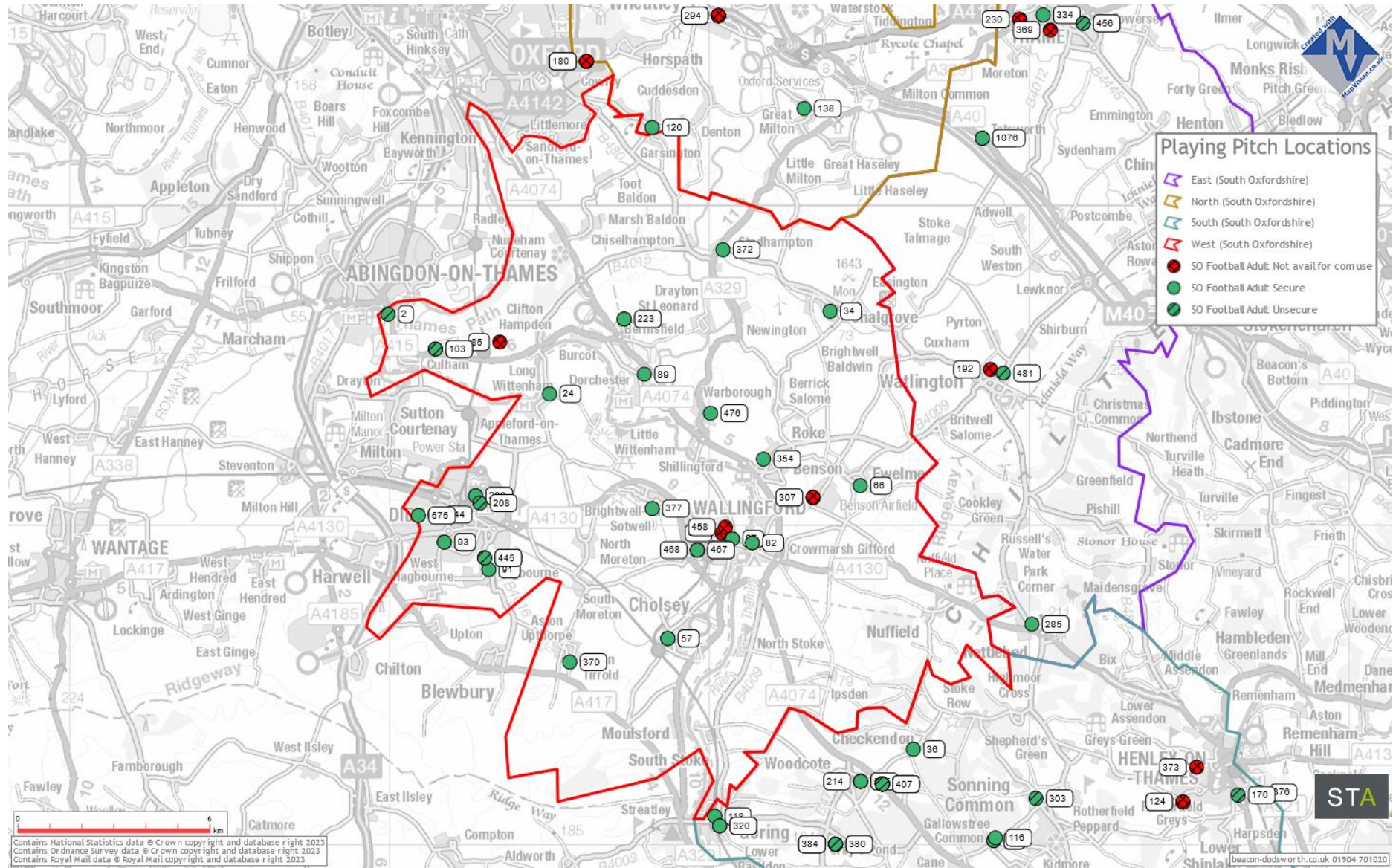


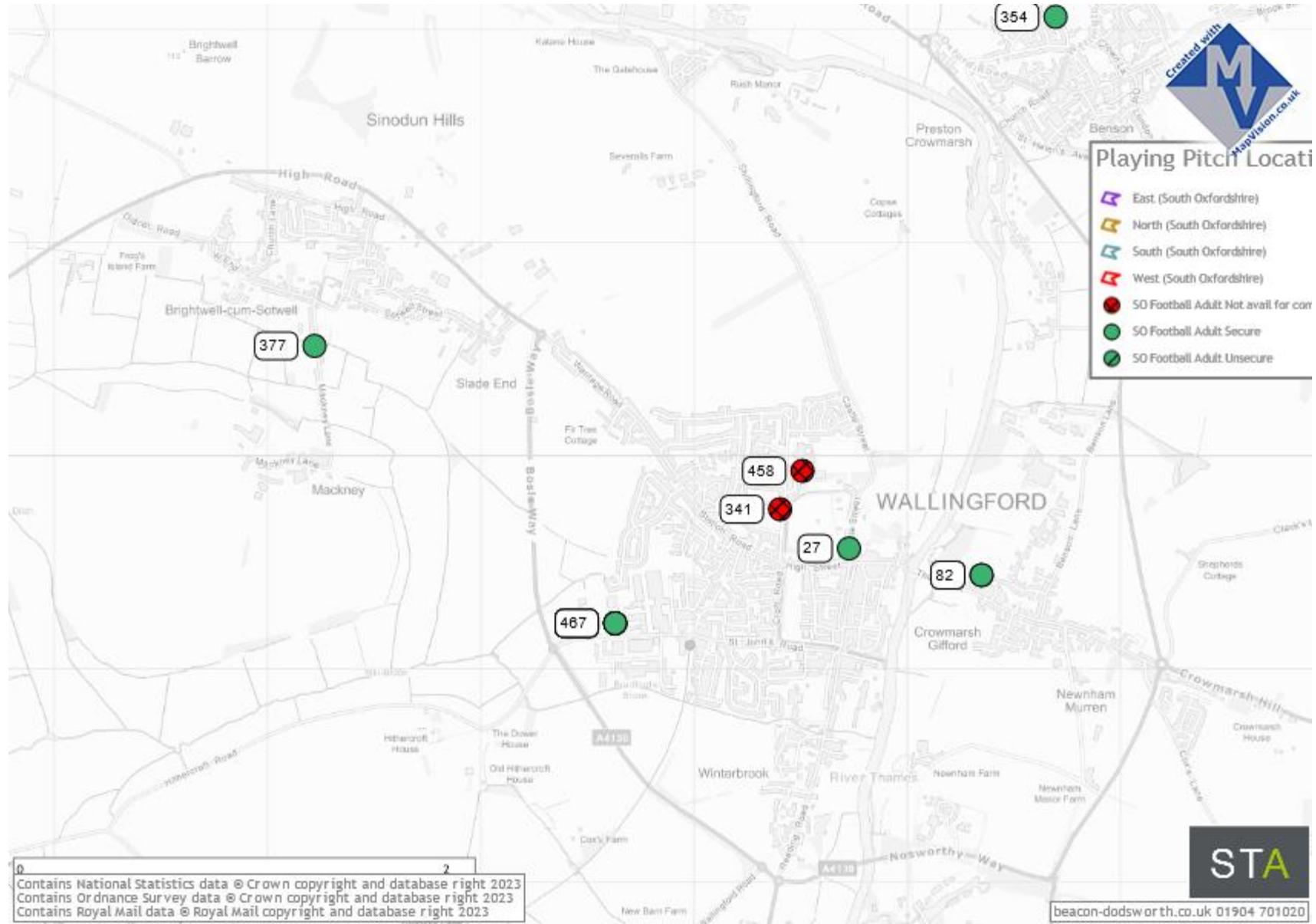
Pitch Ref No.	Pitch Name	Site Name	Also known as	Sub-area	Pitch Size and Type	Surface
1049	ROSE HILL 8	ROSE HILL		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini rugby	Grass
101	EDMONDS PARK 10	EDMONDS PARK		West (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
110	EUROPA SCHOOL UK 9	EUROPA SCHOOL UK		West (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
277	MOULSFORD SCHOOL 11	MOULSFORD SCHOOL		West (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
278	MOULSFORD SCHOOL 12	MOULSFORD SCHOOL		West (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
279	MOULSFORD SCHOOL 13	MOULSFORD SCHOOL		West (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
280	MOULSFORD SCHOOL 14	MOULSFORD SCHOOL		West (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
281	MOULSFORD SCHOOL 15	MOULSFORD SCHOOL		West (South Oxfordshire)	Junior rugby	Grass
310	RAF BENSON 5	RAF BENSON		West (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
450	THE TRIANGLE - ST BIRINUS SCHOOL 7	THE TRIANGLE - ST BIRINUS SCHOOL		West (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
464	WALLINGFORD SCHOOL 7	WALLINGFORD SCHOOL		West (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
471	WALLINGFORD SPORTS PARK 7	WALLINGFORD SPORTS PARK	Wallingford RFC Pitch 6 Junior 2	West (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
472	WALLINGFORD SPORTS PARK 8	WALLINGFORD SPORTS PARK	Wallingford RFC Pitch 5 Junior 3	West (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
473	WALLINGFORD SPORTS PARK 9	WALLINGFORD SPORTS PARK	Wallingford RFC Pitch 4 Junior 4	West (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>	<b>Surface</b>
474	WALLINGFORD SPORTS PARK 10	WALLINGFORD SPORTS PARK	Wallingford RFC Main Pitch 1	West (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
475	WALLINGFORD SPORTS PARK 11	WALLINGFORD SPORTS PARK	Wallingford RFC Pitch 3 Junior 1	West (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
1032	WALLINGFORD SPORTS PARK 12	WALLINGFORD SPORTS PARK	Wallingford RFC Pitch 2 Training	West (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass
1033	WALLINGFORD SCHOOL 8	WALLINGFORD SCHOOL		West (South Oxfordshire)	Senior rugby	Grass

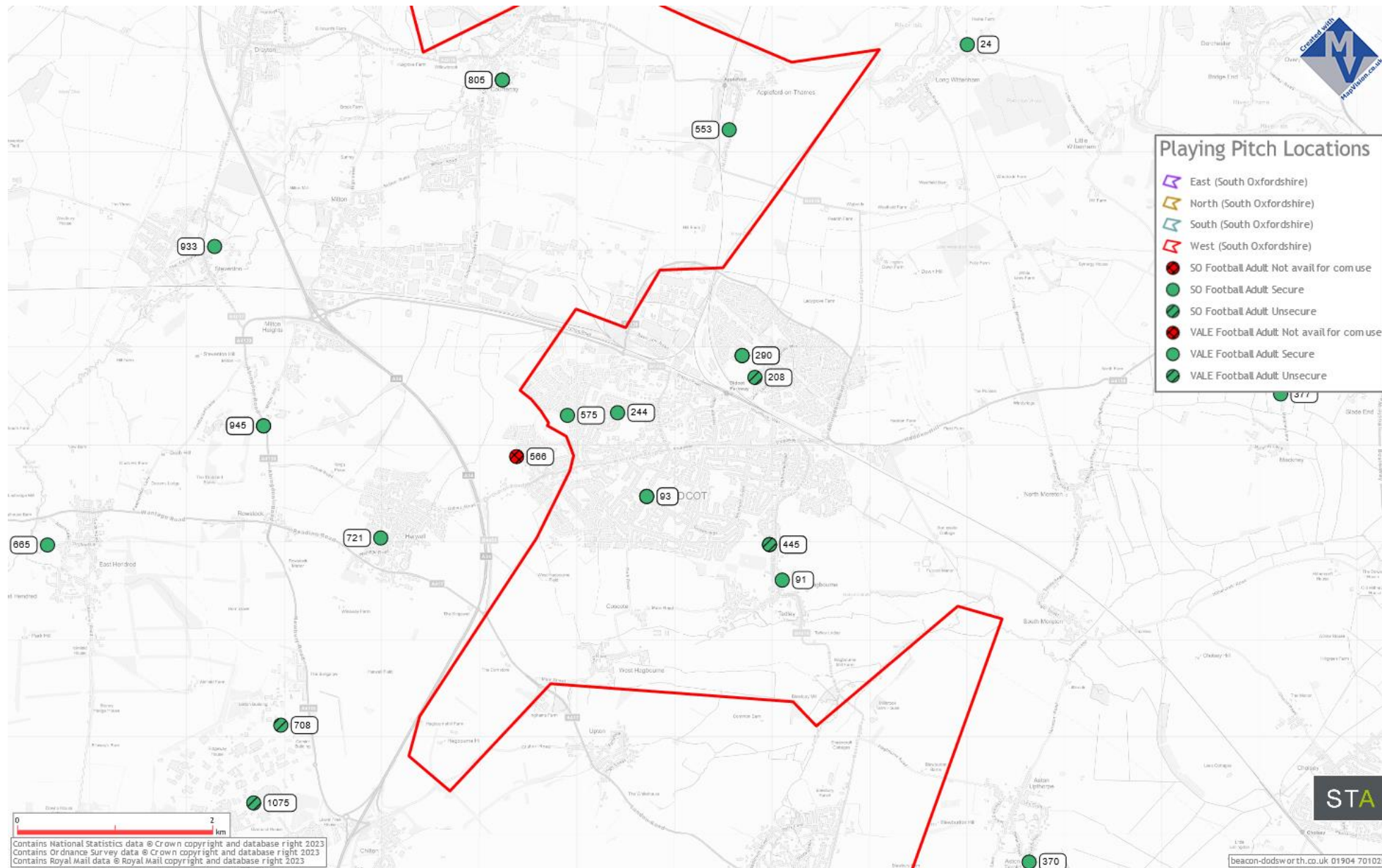
## **FOOTBALL**

### Grass Pitches (Adult 11v11)

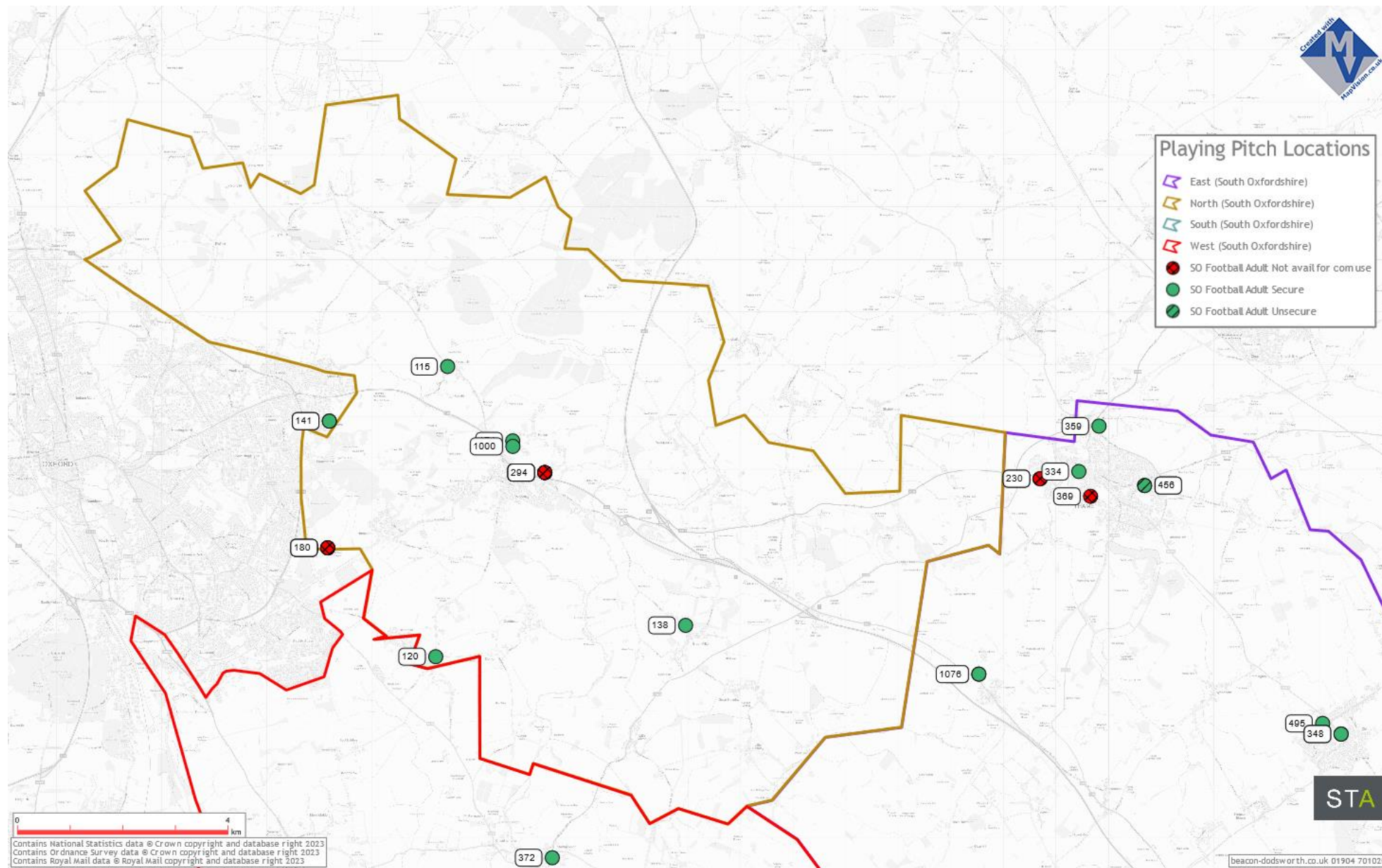




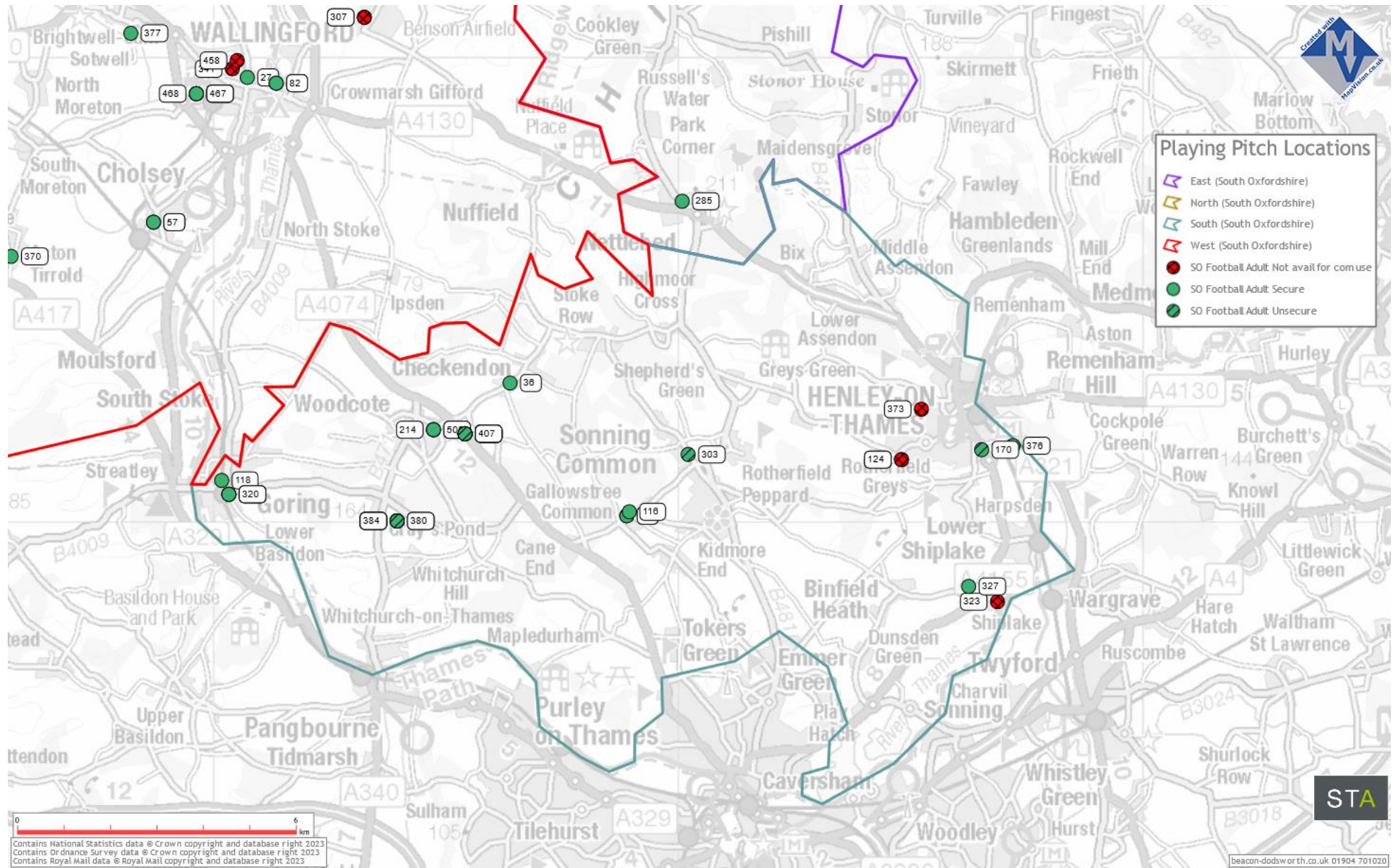




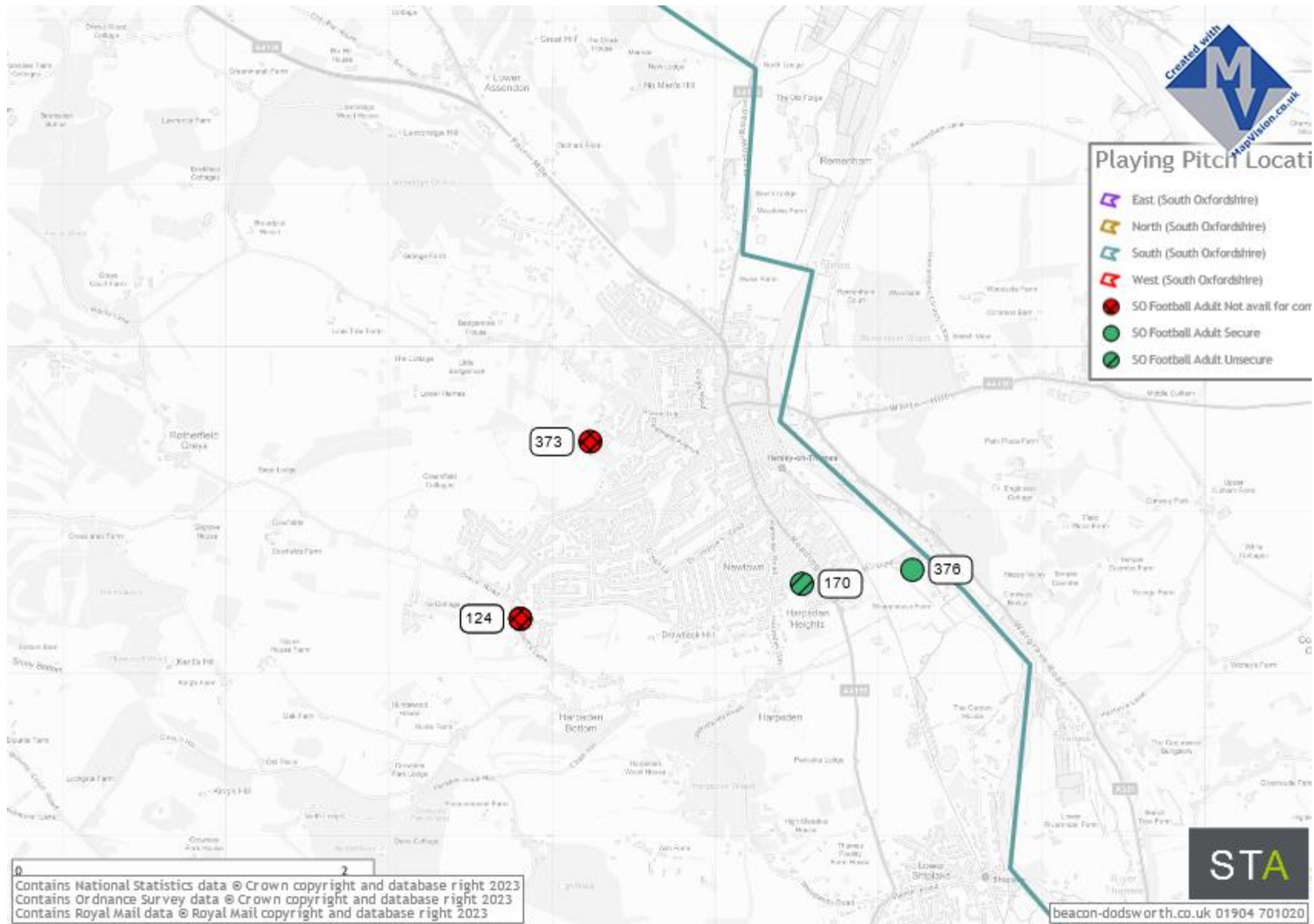
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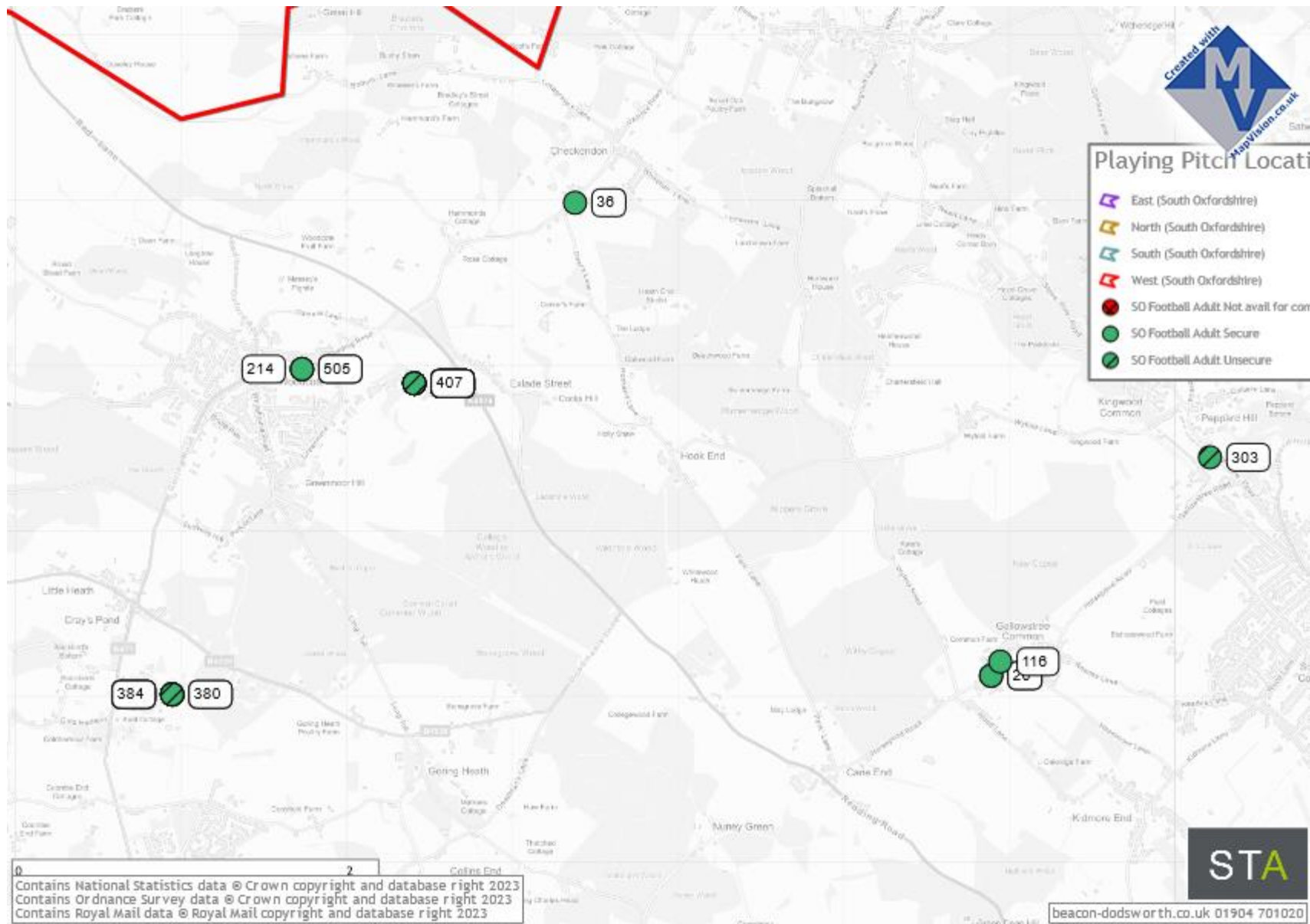




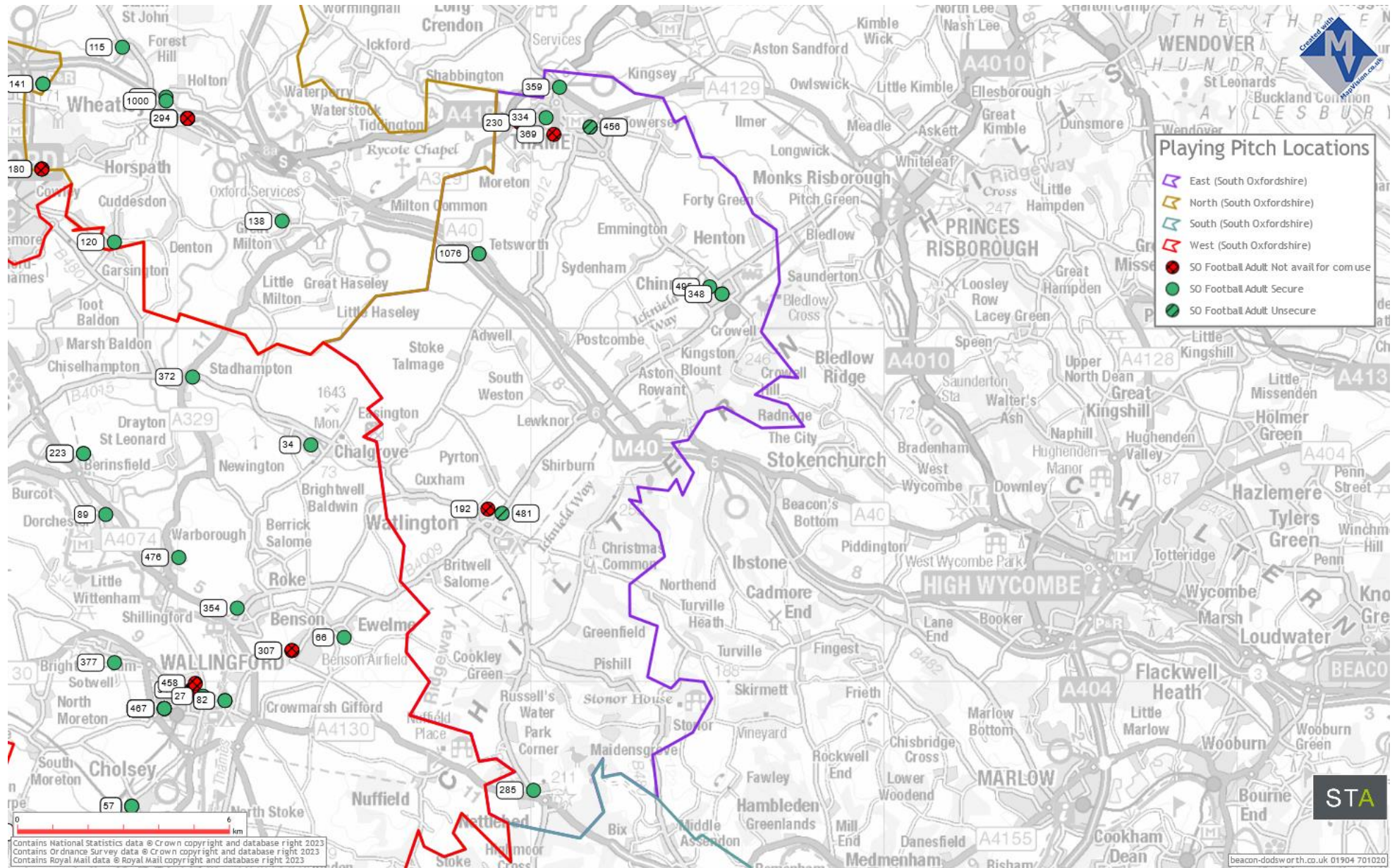




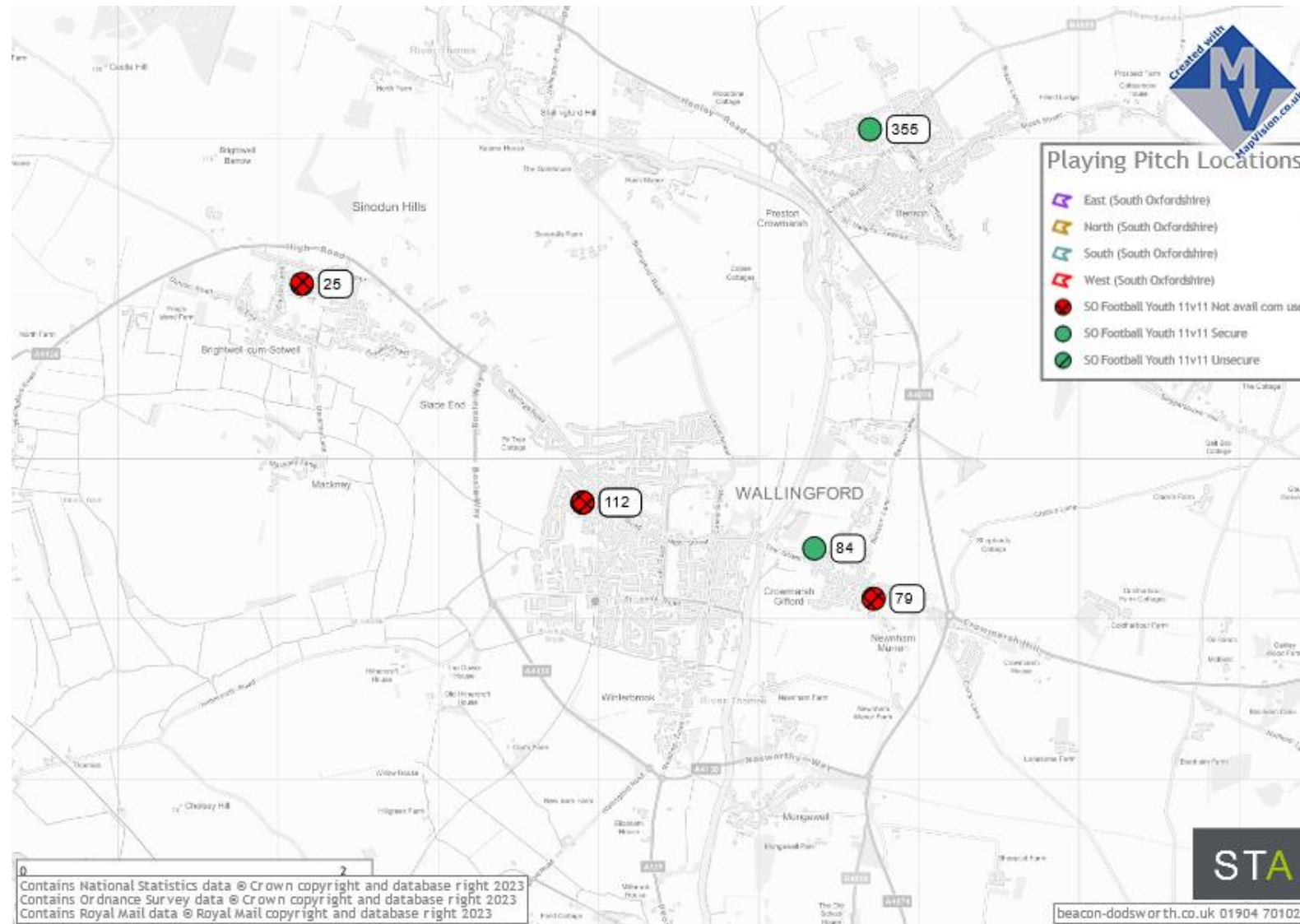




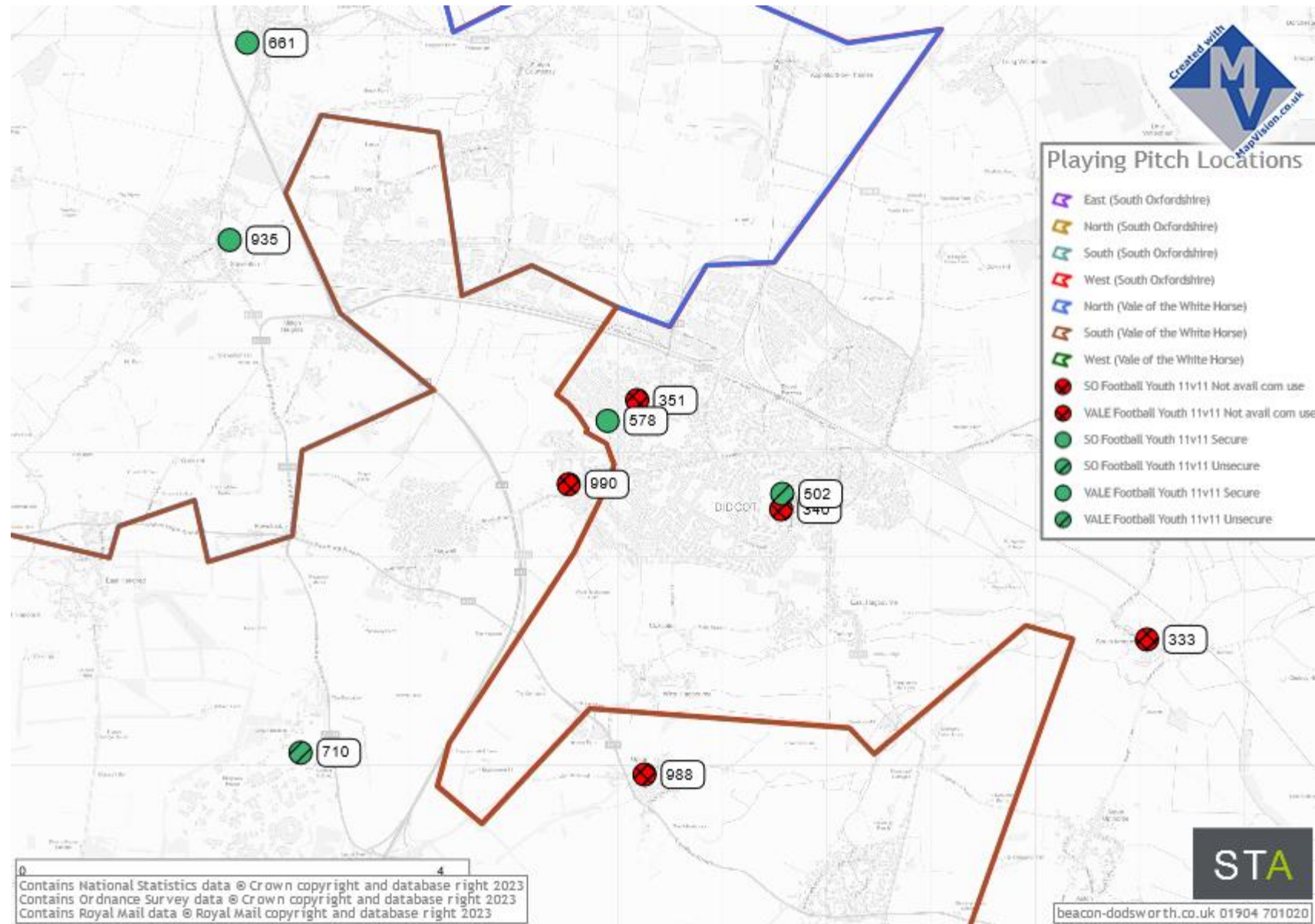


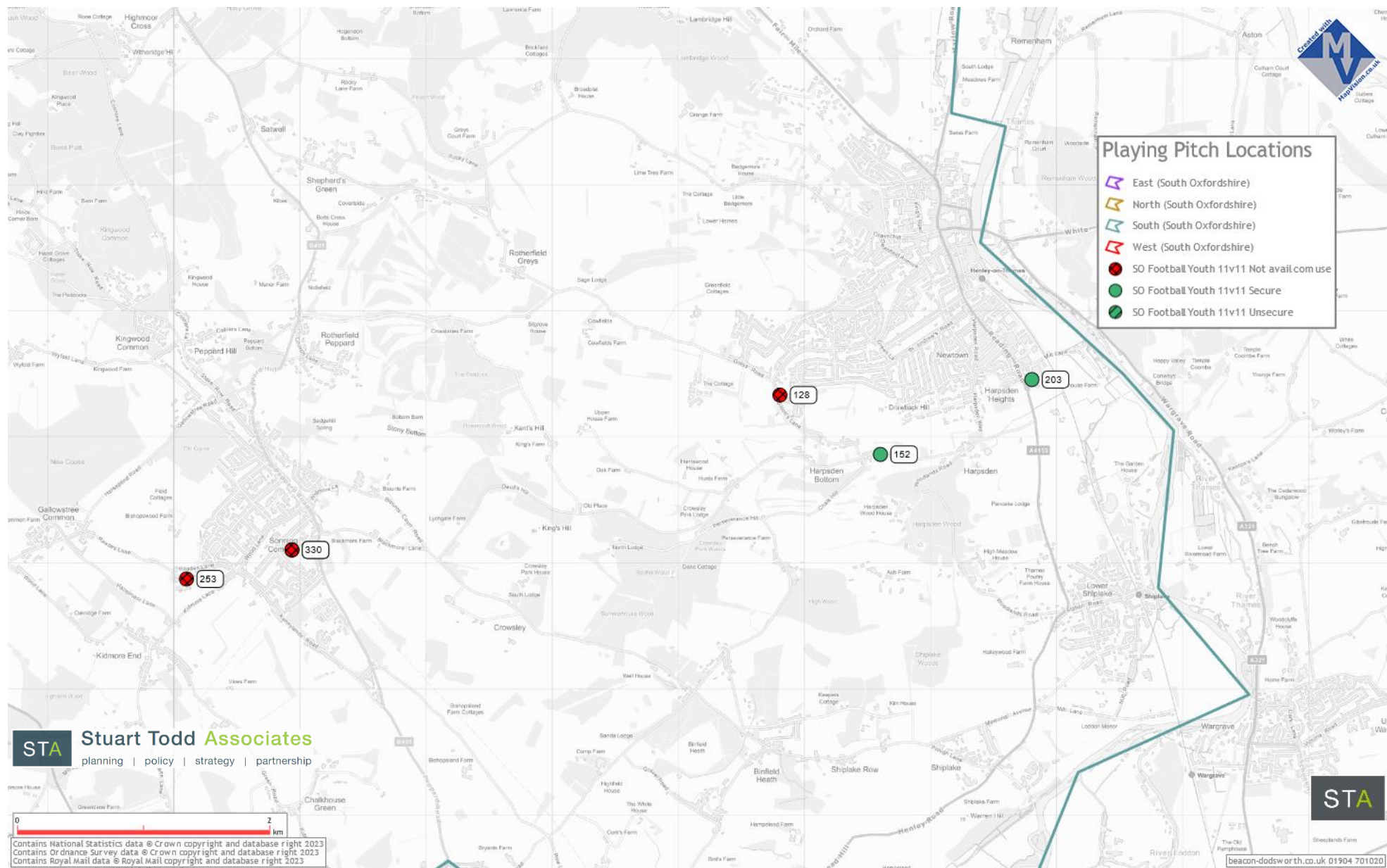


### Grass Pitches by Sub Area (Youth 11v11)



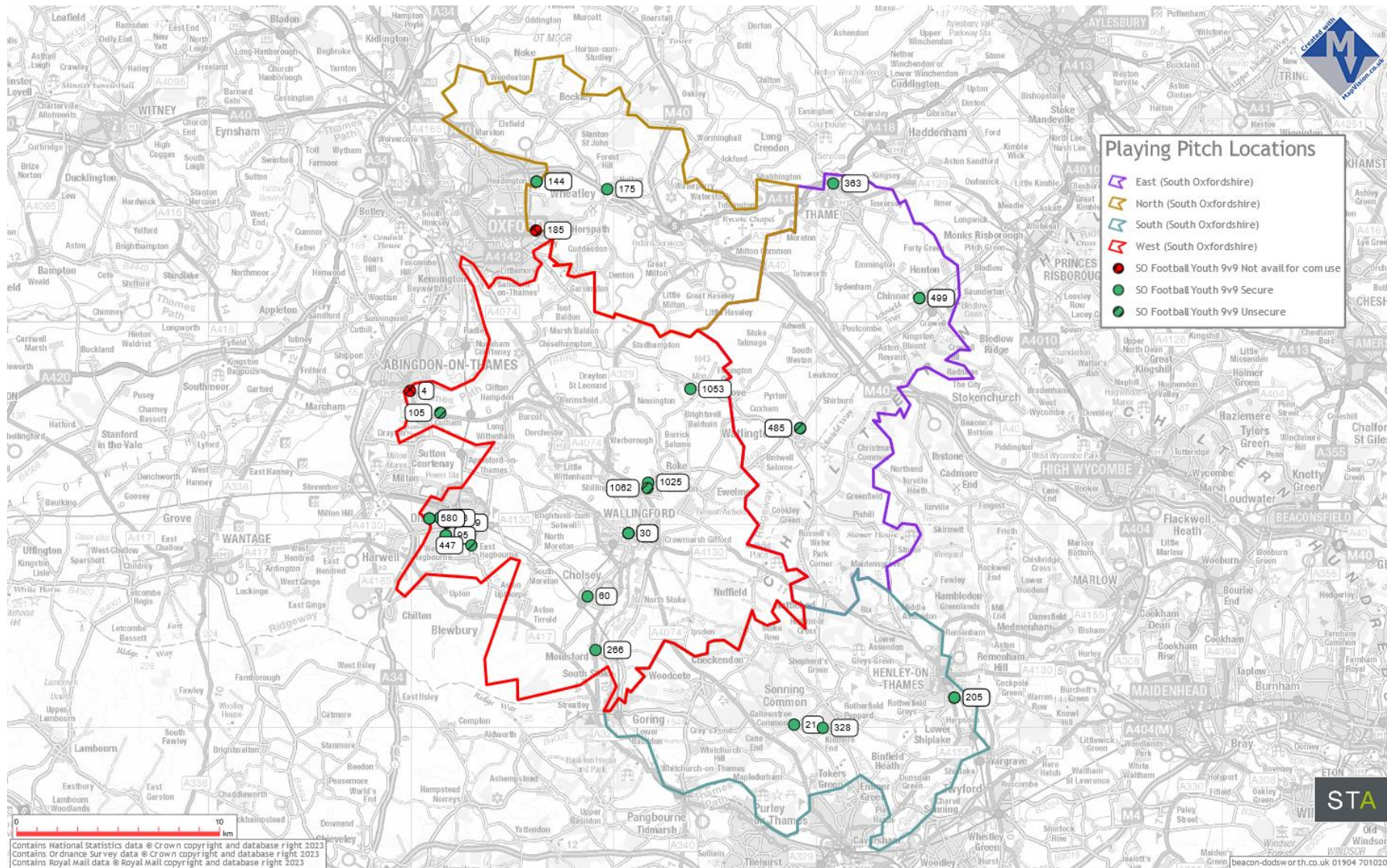


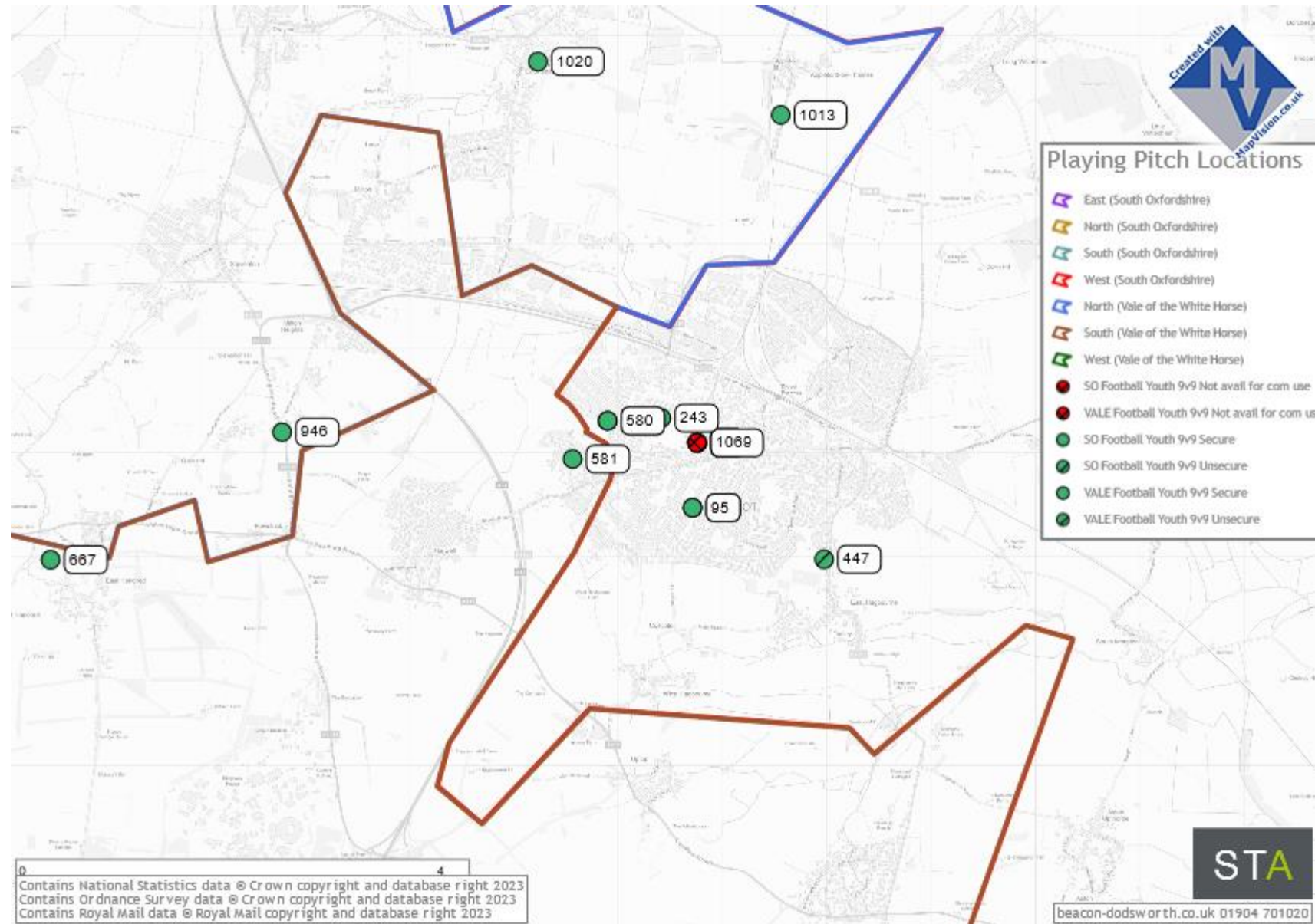






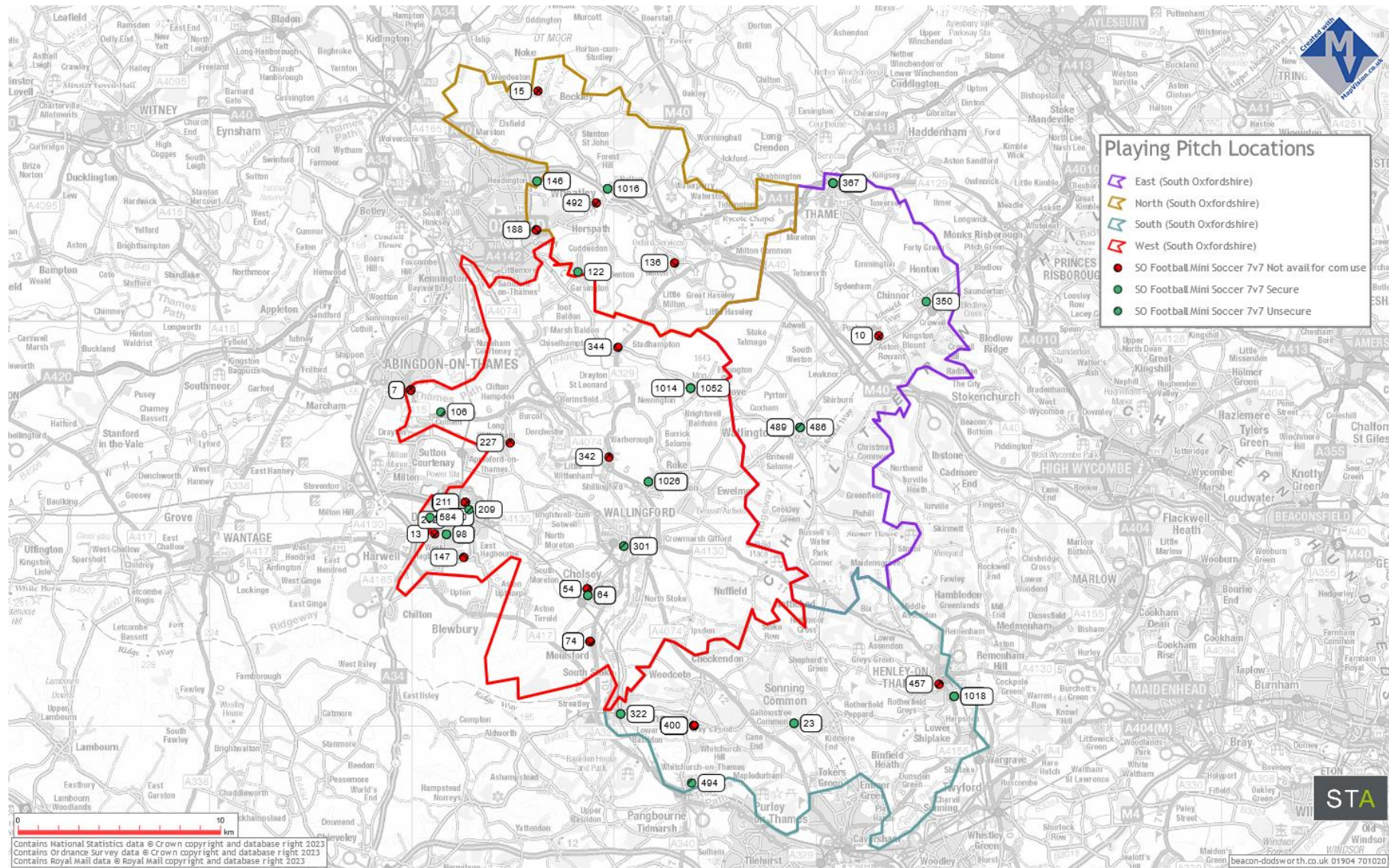
### Grass Pitches (Youth 9v9)

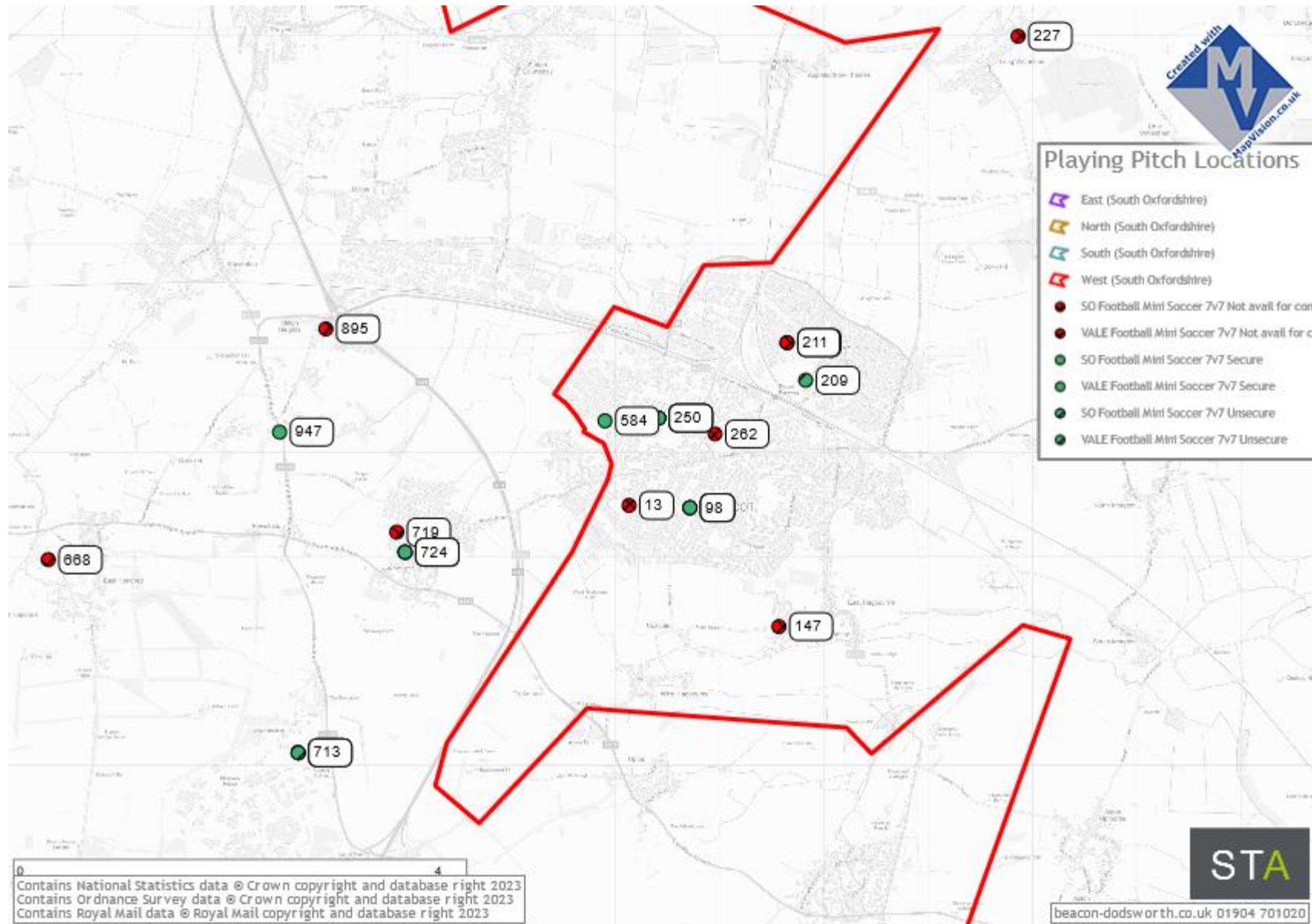






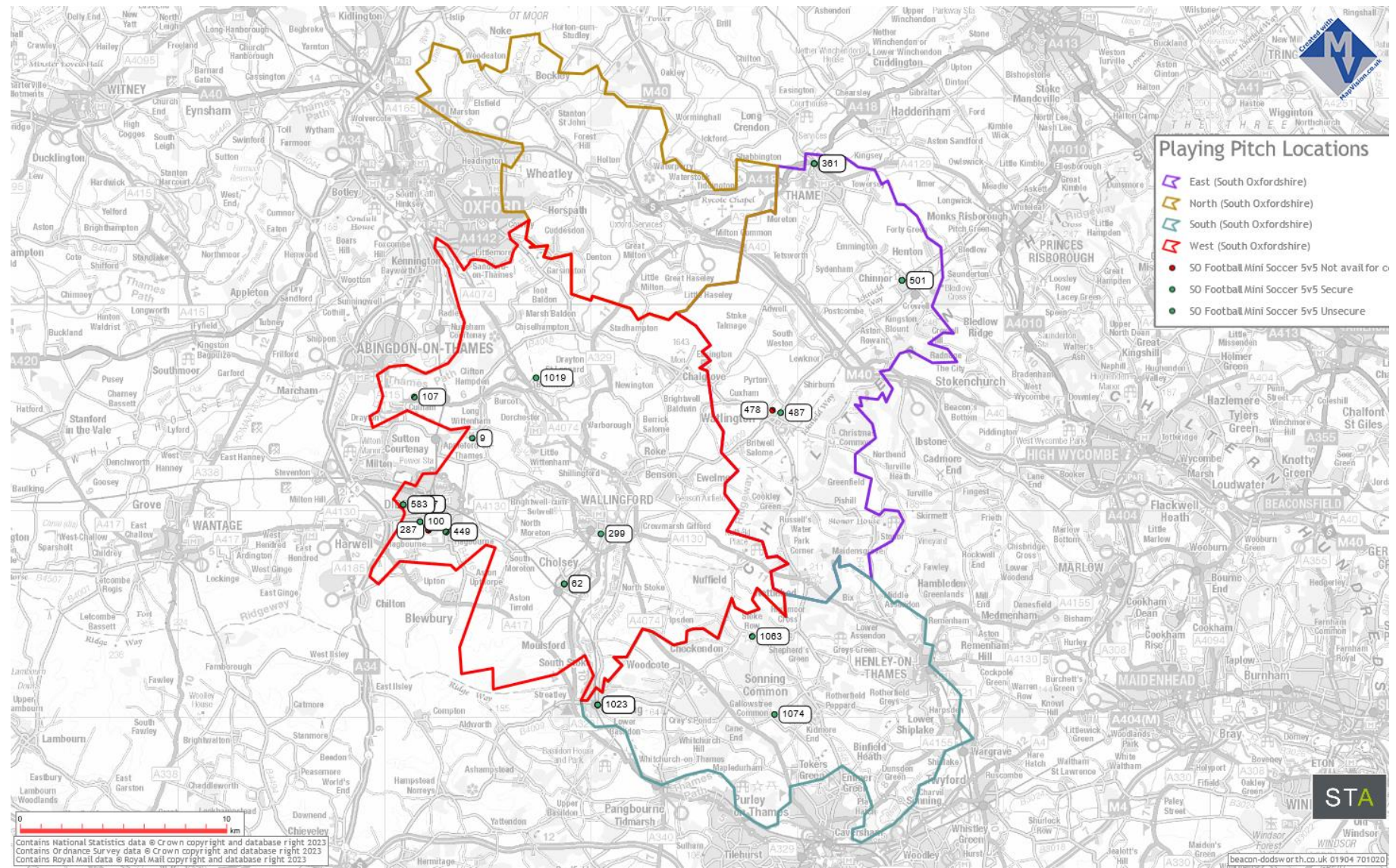
### Grass Pitches (Mini 7v7)



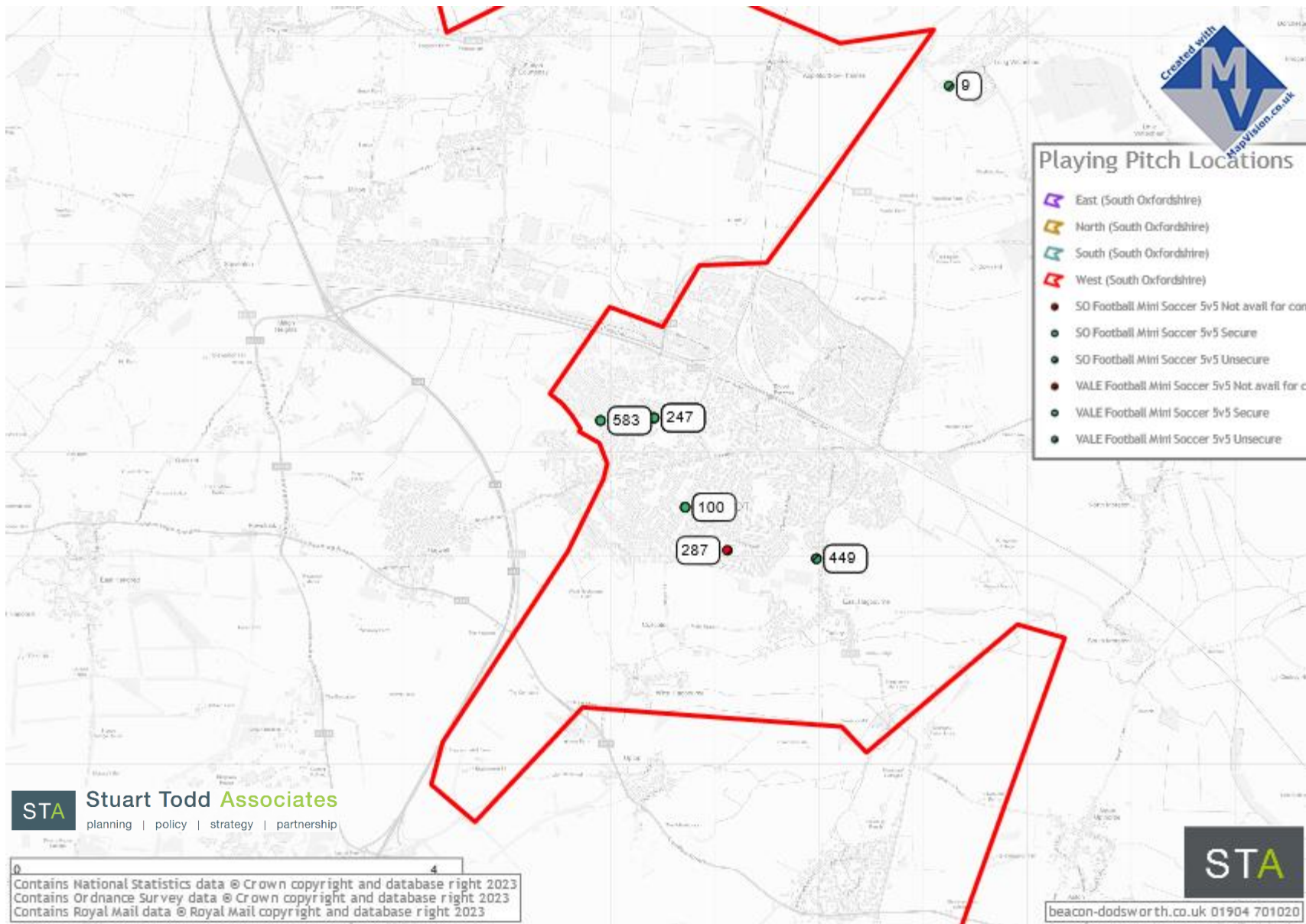




### Grass Pitches (Mini 5v5)







## Grass Pitches Key

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
2	ABINGDON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
3	HALES MEADOW 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
4	HALES MEADOW 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
5	HALES MEADOW 3		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
6	HALES MEADOW 4		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
7	HALES MEADOW 5		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
9	ACKLINGS SPORTS FIELD 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
10	ASTON ROWANT C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL		East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
13	AUREUS PRIMARY SCHOOL		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
14	BARLEY HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL		East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
15	BECKLEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL 1		North (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
19	BISHOPSWOOD SPORTS GROUND (ROTHERFIELD UNITED) 1		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
20	BISHOPSWOOD SPORTS GROUND (ROTHERFIELD UNITED) 2		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
21	BISHOPSWOOD SPORTS GROUND (ROTHERFIELD UNITED) 3		South (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
22	BISHOPSWOOD SPORTS GROUND (ROTHERFIELD UNITED) 4		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
23	BISHOPSWOOD SPORTS GROUND (ROTHERFIELD UNITED) 5		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
24	BODKINS SPORTS FIELD		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
25	BRIGHTWELL C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
27	BULLCROFT PARK 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
28	BULLCROFT PARK 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
29	BULLCROFT PARK 3		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
30	BULLCROFT PARK 4		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
31	CHALGROVE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
34	CHALGROVE RECREATION GROUND 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
35	CHALGROVE RECREATION GROUND 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
36	CHECKENDON PLAYING FIELD 1		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
52	CHOLSEY COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7



Pitch Ref No.	Pitch Name	Also known as	Sub-area	Pitch Size and Type
53	CHOLSEY COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
54	CHOLSEY COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL 3		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
56	CHOLSEY RECREATION GROUND 1 (not marked out)		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
57	CHOLSEY RECREATION GROUND 2	Main adult pitch	West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
59	CHOLSEY RECREATION GROUND 4	Club Pitch 6	West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
60	CHOLSEY RECREATION GROUND 5	Club Pitch 5	West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
61	CHOLSEY RECREATION GROUND 6	Club Pitch 1	West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
62	CHOLSEY RECREATION GROUND 7	Club Pitch 2	West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
63	CHOLSEY RECREATION GROUND 8	Pitch 3	West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
64	CHOLSEY RECREATION GROUND 9	Pitch 4	West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
65	CHOLSEY RECREATION GROUND 10 (not marked out)		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
66	COW COMMON 1	Ewelme Recreation Ground	West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
71	CRANFORD HOUSE SCHOOL 4		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
72	CRANFORD HOUSE SCHOOL 5		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
73	CRANFORD HOUSE SCHOOL 6		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
74	CRANFORD HOUSE SCHOOL 7		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
79	CROWMARSH GIFFORD CE SCHOOL 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
81	CROWMARSH RECREATION GROUND 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
82	CROWMARSH RECREATION GROUND 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
84	CROWMARSH RECREATION GROUND 4		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
85	CULHAM SCIENCE CENTRE		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
86	DIDCOT GIRLS SCHOOL 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9/Rounders
87	DIDCOT GIRLS SCHOOL 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9/Rounders
88	DIDCOT GIRLS SCHOOL 3		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9/Rounders
89	DORCHESTER-ON-THAMES RECREATION GROUND 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
91	EAST HAGBOURNE RECREATION GROUND	Great Mead	West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
92	EDMONDS PARK 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football / Senior rugby

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
93	EDMONDS PARK 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football / Senior rugby union
94	EDMONDS PARK 3		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
95	EDMONDS PARK 4		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
96	EDMONDS PARK 5		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
97	EDMONDS PARK 6		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
98	EDMONDS PARK 7		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
99	EDMONDS PARK 8		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
100	EDMONDS PARK 9		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
102	EUROPA SCHOOL UK 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
103	EUROPA SCHOOL UK 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
104	EUROPA SCHOOL UK 3		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
105	EUROPA SCHOOL UK 4		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
106	EUROPA SCHOOL UK 5		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
107	EUROPA SCHOOL UK 6		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5



<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
111	FIR TREE JUNIOR SCHOOL 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
112	FIR TREE JUNIOR SCHOOL 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
115	FOREST HILL SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB		North (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
116	GALLOWSTREE COMMON RECREATION GROUND 1		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
118	GARDINER RECREATION GROUND 1		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
120	GARSINGTON SPORTS CLUB 1	Memorial Playing Field	North (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
122	GARSINGTON SPORTS CLUB 3	Memorial Playing Field	North (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
123	GILLOTTS SCHOOL 1		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
124	GILLOTTS SCHOOL 2		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
128	GILLOTTS SCHOOL 6		South (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
136	GREAT MILTON C OF E SCHOOL 1		North (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
138	GREAT MILTON RECREATION GROUND 1		North (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
140	GROVELANDS SPORTS GROUND 1		North (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
141	GROVELANDS SPORTS GROUND 2		North (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
143	GROVELANDS SPORTS GROUND 4		North (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
144	GROVELANDS SPORTS GROUND 5		North (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
145	GROVELANDS SPORTS GROUND 6		North (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
146	GROVELANDS SPORTS GROUND 7		North (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
147	HAGBOURNE PRIMARY SCHOOL 8		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
152	HARPSDEN FOOTBALL GROUND		South (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
170	HENLEY YMCA 1		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
172	HILL ROAD RECREATION GROUND		East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
174	HOLTON PLAYING FIELDS 1	Wheatley Playing Fields	North (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
175	HOLTON PLAYING FIELDS 2	Wheatley Playing Fields	North (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
178	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 1	Horspath Recreation Ground	North (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
179	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 2	Horspath Recreation Ground	North (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
180	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 3	Horspath Recreation Ground	North (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
185	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 8	Horspath Recreation Ground	North (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
187	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 10	Horspath Recreation Ground	North (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
188	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 11	Horspath Recreation Ground	North (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
192	ICKNIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE 1		East (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
195	ICKNIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE 4		East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
196	ICKNIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE 5		East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
197	ICKNIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE 6		East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
203	JUBILEE PARK HENLEY 2		South (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
204	JUBILEE PARK HENLEY 3		South (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
205	JUBILEE PARK HENLEY 4		South (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
206	JUBILEE PARK HENLEY 5		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7



<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
207	JUBILEE PARK HENLEY 6		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
208	LADY GROVE PARK 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
209	LADY GROVE PARK 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
210	LADYGROVE PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
211	LADYGROVE PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
214	LANGTREE SCHOOL 1		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
222	LAY AVENUE RECREATION GROUND 1	Berinsfield Recreation Ground	West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
223	LAY AVENUE RECREATION GROUND 2	Berinsfield Recreation Ground	West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
224	LAY AVENUE RECREATION GROUND 3	Berinsfield Recreation Ground	West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
225	LAY AVENUE RECREATION GROUND 4	Berinsfield Recreation Ground	West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
227	LONG WITTENHAM C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
229	LORD WILLIAMS'S ACADEMY (UPPER SCHOOL) 1		East (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
230	LORD WILLIAMS'S ACADEMY (UPPER SCHOOL) 2		East (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
239	LORD WILLIAMS'S SCHOOL (LOWER SCHOOL) 2		East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
240	LORD WILLIAMS'S SCHOOL (LOWER SCHOOL) 3		East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
243	LOYD RECREATION PARK 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
244	LOYD RECREATION PARK 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	
245	LOYD RECREATION PARK 3		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
246	LOYD RECREATION PARK 4		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
247	LOYD RECREATION PARK 5		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
248	LOYD RECREATION PARK 6		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
249	LOYD RECREATION PARK 7		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
250	LOYD RECREATION PARK 8		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
253	MAIDEN ERLEGH CHILTERN EDGE SCHOOL 3		South (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
262	MANOR PRIMARY SCHOOL 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
266	MOULSFORD RECREATION GROUND 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
272	MOULSFORD SCHOOL 6		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
273	MOULSFORD SCHOOL 7		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
274	MOULSFORD SCHOOL 8		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
275	MOULSFORD SCHOOL 9		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
276	MOULSFORD SCHOOL 10		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
283	NETTLEBED COMMUNITY SCHOOL 2		East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
285	NETTLEBED SPORTS GROUND 1		East (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
287	NORTHBOURNE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
289	NPOWER LOOP MEADOW STADIUM 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
290	NPOWER LOOP MEADOW STADIUM 2 (TRAINING PITCH)		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
291	OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY (WHEATLEY CAMPUS) 1		North (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
292	OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY (WHEATLEY CAMPUS) 2		North (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
293	OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY (WHEATLEY CAMPUS) 3		North (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
294	OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY (WHEATLEY CAMPUS) 4		North (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
299	PADDOCKS PLAYING FIELDS 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5



<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
300	PADDOCKS PLAYING FIELDS 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
301	PADDOCKS PLAYING FIELDS 3		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
303	PEPPARD COMMON 1		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
306	RAF BENSON 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
307	RAF BENSON 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
318	SHEEPCOT RECREATION GROUND 1		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
319	SHEEPCOT RECREATION GROUND 2		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
320	SHEEPCOT RECREATION GROUND 3		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
321	SHEEPCOT RECREATION GROUND 4		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
322	SHEEPCOT RECREATION GROUND 5		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
323	SHIPLAKE COLLEGE 1		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
327	SHIPLAKE MEMORIAL GROUND		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
328	SONNING COMMON MEMORIAL PARK		South (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
329	SONNING COMMON PRIMARY SCHOOL 1		South (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
330	SONNING COMMON PRIMARY SCHOOL 2		South (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
333	SOUTH MORETON SCHOOL		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
334	SOUTHERN ROAD RECREATION GROUND 1		East (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
335	SOUTHERN ROAD RECREATION GROUND 2		East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
336	SOUTHERN ROAD RECREATION GROUND 3		East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
337	ST ANDREWS C E PRIMARY SCHOOL 1		East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
338	ST ANDREWS C E PRIMARY SCHOOL 2		East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
340	ST BIRINUS SCHOOL		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
341	ST GEORGE'S PLAYING FIELD		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
342	ST LAWRENCES CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
344	STADHAMPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
347	STATION ROAD PLAYING FIELDS (CHINNOR) 1	Chinnor Playing Fields	East (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
348	STATION ROAD PLAYING FIELDS (CHINNOR) 2	Chinnor Playing Fields	East (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
350	STATION ROAD PLAYING FIELDS (CHINNOR) 4	Chinnor Playing Fields	East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
351	STEPHEN FREEMAN PRIMARY SCHOOL 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
354	SUNNYSIDE 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
355	SUNNYSIDE 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
357	TETSWORTH SPORT & SOCIAL CLUB 1		East (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
359	THAME FOOTBALL (MEADOW VIEW PARK) 1	ASM Stadium	East (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
360	THAME FOOTBALL (MEADOW VIEW PARK) 2		East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
361	THAME FOOTBALL (MEADOW VIEW PARK) 3		East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
363	THAME FOOTBALL (MEADOW VIEW PARK) 5		East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
364	THAME FOOTBALL (MEADOW VIEW PARK) 6		East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
365	THAME FOOTBALL (MEADOW VIEW PARK) 7		East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
366	THAME FOOTBALL (MEADOW VIEW PARK) 8		East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
367	THAME FOOTBALL (MEADOW VIEW PARK) 9		East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
369	THAME UTD (CLOSED)		East (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
370	THE ASTONS RECREATION GROUND 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
372	THE GREEN		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
373	THE HENLEY COLLEGE - ROTHERFIELD CAMPUS GRASS PITC		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
376	THE INVESCO PERPETURAL TRIANGLE GROUND		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
377	THE JUBILEE PAVILLION AND RECREATION GROUND 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football



<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
379	THE ORATORY PREPARATORY SCHOOL 1		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
380	THE ORATORY PREPARATORY SCHOOL 2		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
381	THE ORATORY PREPARATORY SCHOOL 3		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
382	THE ORATORY PREPARATORY SCHOOL 4		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
383	THE ORATORY PREPARATORY SCHOOL 5		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
384	THE ORATORY PREPARATORY SCHOOL 6		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
393	THE ORATORY PREPARATORY SCHOOL 15		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
394	THE ORATORY PREPARATORY SCHOOL 16		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
395	THE ORATORY PREPARATORY SCHOOL 17		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
396	THE ORATORY PREPARATORY SCHOOL 18		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
397	THE ORATORY PREPARATORY SCHOOL 19		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
398	THE ORATORY PREPARATORY SCHOOL 20		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
399	THE ORATORY PREPARATORY SCHOOL 21		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
400	THE ORATORY PREPARATORY SCHOOL 22		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
401	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 1		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
402	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 2		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
403	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 3		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
404	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 4		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
405	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 5		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
406	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 6		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
407	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 7		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
408	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 8		South (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
409	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 9		South (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
410	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 10		South (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
417	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 17		South (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
418	THE ORATORY SPORTS CENTRE 18		South (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
444	THE TRIANGLE - ST BIRINUS SCHOOL 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
445	THE TRIANGLE - ST BIRINUS SCHOOL 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
447	THE TRIANGLE - ST BIRINUS SCHOOL 4		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
448	THE TRIANGLE - ST BIRINUS SCHOOL 5		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
449	THE TRIANGLE - ST BIRINUS SCHOOL 6		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
455	TOWERSEY PLAYING FIELDS 1		East (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
456	TOWERSEY PLAYING FIELDS 2		East (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
457	TRINITY PRIMARY SCHOOL		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
458	WALLINGFORD SCHOOL 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
465	WALLINGFORD SPORTS PARK 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
466	WALLINGFORD SPORTS PARK 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
467	WALLINGFORD SPORTS PARK 3	Training	West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
476	WARBOROUGH VILLAGE GREEN 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
478	WATLINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL 1		East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
481	WATLINGTON SPORTS GROUND 1	Watlington Recreation Ground	East (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
483	WATLINGTON SPORTS GROUND 3	Watlington Recreation Ground	East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
484	WATLINGTON SPORTS GROUND 4	Watlington Recreation Ground	East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
485	WATLINGTON SPORTS GROUND 5	Watlington Recreation Ground	East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
486	WATLINGTON SPORTS GROUND 6	Watlington Recreation Ground	East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
487	WATLINGTON SPORTS GROUND 7	Watlington Recreation Ground	East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
491	WHEATLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL 2		North (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
492	WHEATLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL 3		North (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
2231	WHEATLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL 4		North (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
2232	WHEATLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL 5		North (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
2233	WHEATLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL 6		North (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
2234	WHEATLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL 7		North (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
2235	WHEATLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL 8		North (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
494	WHITCHURCH ON THAMES CRICKET CLUB 2		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7

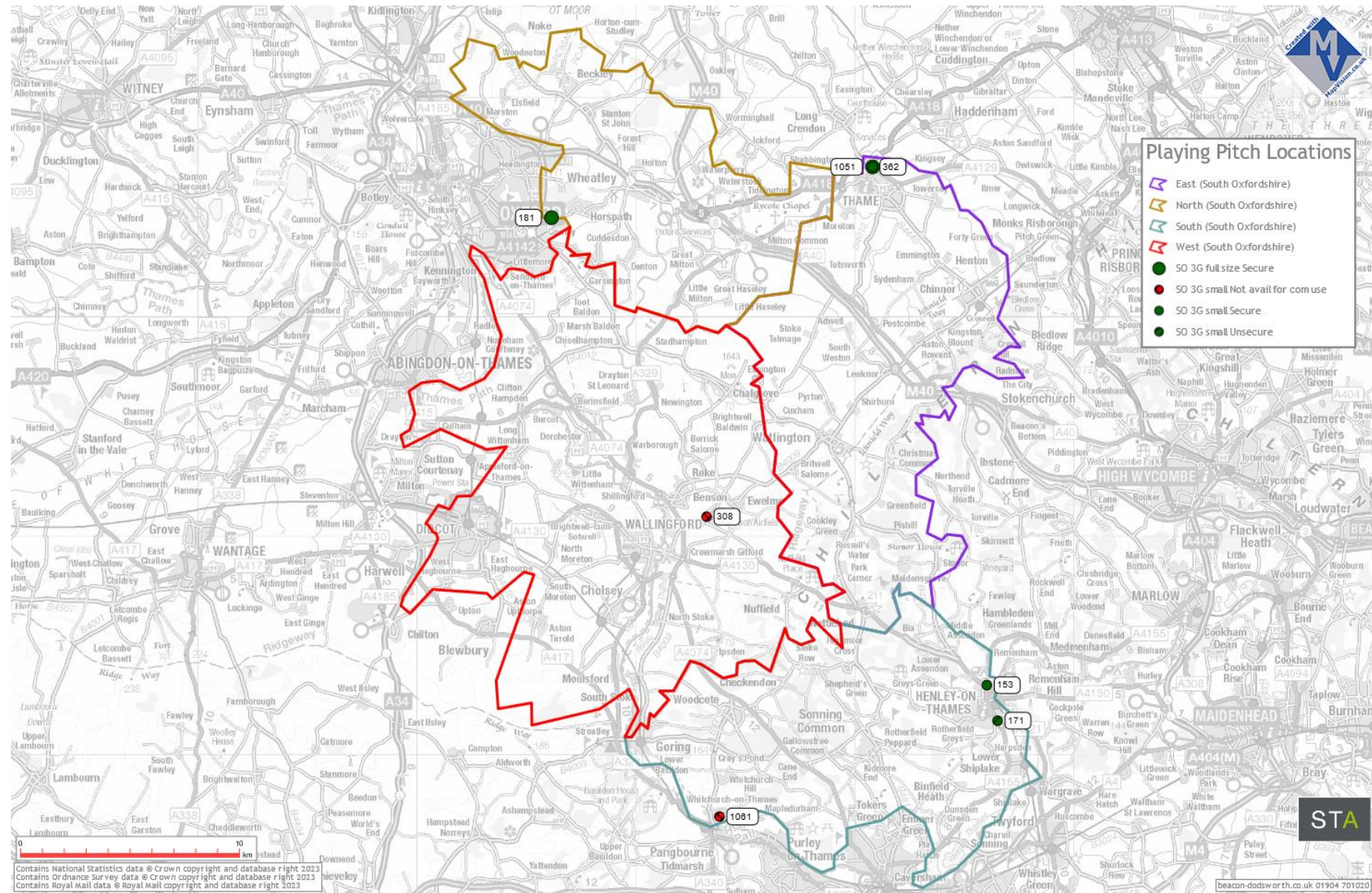


<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
495	WHITES FIELD 1		East (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
496	WHITES FIELD 2		East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
497	WHITES FIELD 3		East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
498	WHITES FIELD 4		East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
499	WHITES FIELD 5		East (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
500	WHITES FIELD 6		East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
501	WHITES FIELD 7		East (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
502	WILLOWCROFT COMMUNITY SCHOOL 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
504	WOODCOTE RECREATION GROUND 1		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
505	WOODCOTE RECREATION GROUND 2		South (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
507	WOODEATON MANOR SCHOOL 1		North (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
575	BOUNDARY PARK (HARWELL) 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
578	BOUNDARY PARK (HARWELL) 4		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
579	BOUNDARY PARK (HARWELL) 5		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
580	BOUNDARY PARK (HARWELL) 6		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
581	BOUNDARY PARK (HARWELL) 7		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9

<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
582	BOUNDARY PARK (HARWELL) 8		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
583	BOUNDARY PARK (HARWELL) 9		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
584	BOUNDARY PARK (HARWELL) 10		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
1000	THE PARK SPORTS CENTRE (WHEATLEY)	The Park Sports Centre	North (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football
1003	Wheatley Park Sixth Form		North (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 11v11
1014	CHALGROVE RECREATION GROUND 5		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
1015	HOLTON PLAYING FIELDS 6	Wheatley Playing Fields	North (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
1016	HOLTON PLAYING FIELDS 7	Wheatley Playing Fields	North (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
1017	HOLTON PLAYING FIELDS 8	Wheatley Playing Fields	North (South Oxfordshire)	Training Grids
1018	JUBILEE PARK HENLEY 7		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
1019	LAY AVENUE RECREATION GROUND 5	Berinsfield Recreation Ground	West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
1021	SHEEPCOT RECREATION GROUND 6		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
1022	SHEEPCOT RECREATION GROUND 7		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5

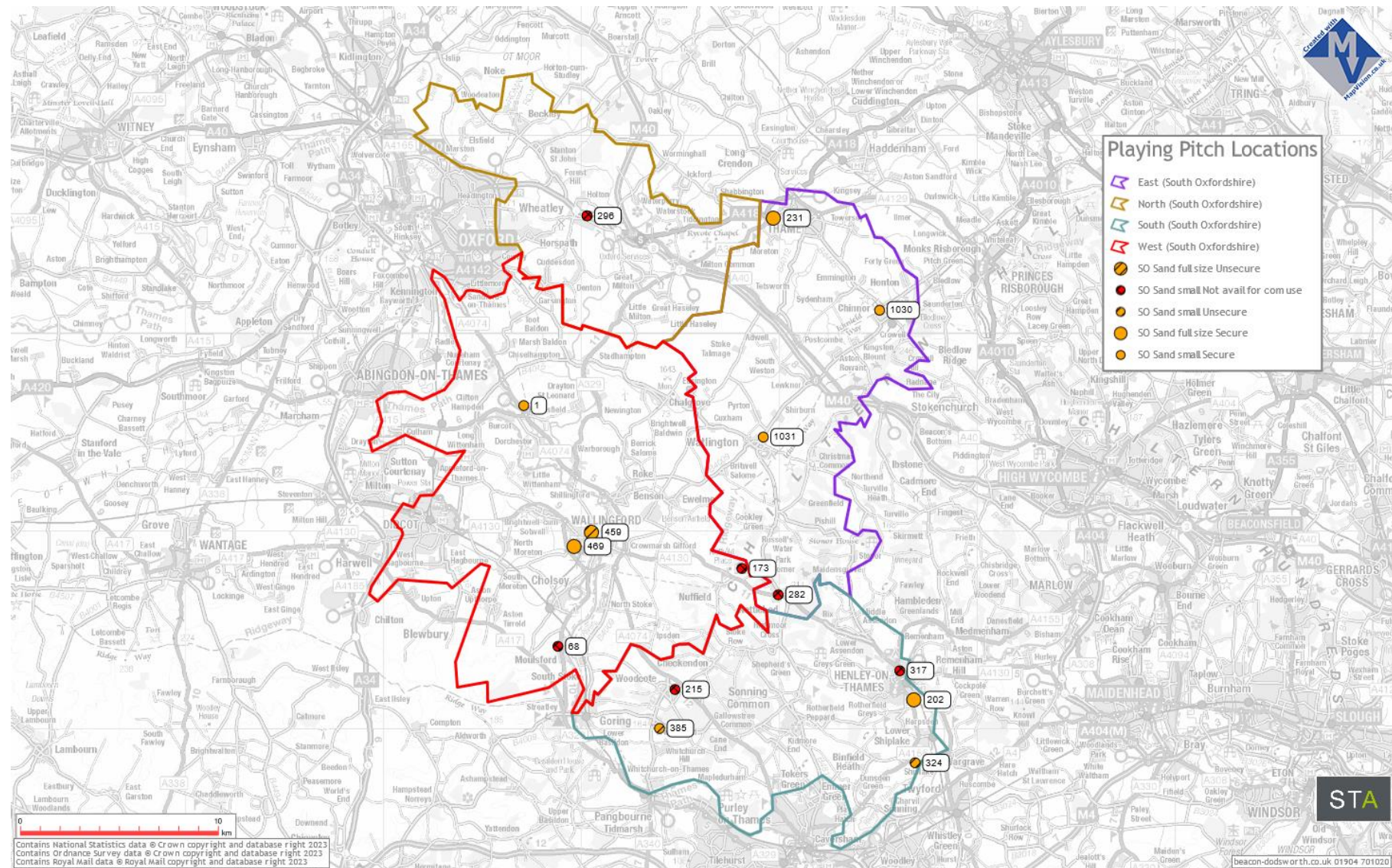
<b>Pitch Ref No.</b>	<b>Pitch Name</b>	<b>Also known as</b>	<b>Sub-area</b>	<b>Pitch Size and Type</b>
1023	SHEEPCOT RECREATION GROUND 8		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
1025	SUNNYSIDE 3		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
1026	SUNNYSIDE 4		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
1027	SUNNYSIDE 5		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
1052	CHALGROVE RECREATION GROUND 3		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 7v7
1053	CHALGROVE RECREATION GROUND 4		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
1055	SOUTH STOKE RECREATION GROUND (Kickabout only)		West (South Oxfordshire)	Kickabout
1058	WATER LANE RECREATIONAL FIELD (KICKABOUT ONLY)		West (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
1062	BENSON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9
1069	DIDCOT GIRLS SCHOOL 4		West (South Oxfordshire)	Youth Football 9v9/Rounders
1074	BISHOPSWOOD SPORTS GROUND (ROTHERFIELD UNITED) 6		South (South Oxfordshire)	Mini Soccer 5v5
1076	TETSWORTH SPORT & SOCIAL CLUB 3		East (South Oxfordshire)	Adult Football

### 3G Pitches





(AGPs – water / sand / other based)



## AGP Key

Pitch Ref No.	Pitch Name	Also known as	Sub-area	Surface
1	ABBNEY SPORTS CENTRE (BERINSFIELD)		West (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand filled
68	CRANFORD HOUSE SCHOOL 1		West (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - Sand
153	HENLEY RUGBY CLUB 1		South (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - 3G rubber crumb
171	HENLEY YMCA 2		South (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - 3G rubber crumb
173	HMP HUNTERCOMBE		West (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand filled
181	HORSPATH SPORTS GROUND 4	Horspath Recreation Ground	North (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - 3G rubber crumb
202	JUBILEE PARK HENLEY 1		South (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand dressed
215	LANGTREE SCHOOL 2		South (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand dressed
231	LORD WILLIAMS'S ACADEMY (UPPER SCHOOL) 3	Thame Leisure Centre	East (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand dressed
282	NETTLEBED COMMUNITY SCHOOL 1		East (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand filled
295	OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY (WHEATLEY CAMPUS) 5		North (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand filled
296	OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY (WHEATLEY CAMPUS) 6		North (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand filled
308	RAF BENSON 3		West (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - 3G rubber crumb

Pitch Ref No.	Pitch Name	Also known as	Sub-area	Surface
317	RUPERT HOUSE SCHOOL		South (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand filled
324	SHIPLAKE COLLEGE 2		South (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand filled
362	THAME FOOTBALL (MEADOW VIEW PARK) 4		East (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - 3G rubber crumb
385	THE ORATORY PREPARATORY SCHOOL 7		South (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand filled
459	WALLINGFORD SCHOOL 2		West (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand filled
469	WALLINGFORD SPORTS PARK 5		West (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand dressed
1030	WHITES FIELD		East (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - sand
1031	WATLINGTON SPORTS GROUND 10	Watlington Recreation Ground	East (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - Gen2
1051	THAME FOOTBALL (MEADOW VIEW PARK) 10		East (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - 3G rubber crumb
1060	SONNING COMMON MEMORIAL PARK		South (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - polymeric
1068	TRINITY PRIMARY SCHOOL		South (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - polymeric
1071	KIDMORE END PRIMARY SCHOOL		South (South Oxfordshire)	AGP - polymeric

## Appendix 2: Summary of Other Strategies & Plans and Funding Opportunities

(What key strategies & plans and funding opportunities are relevant to the PPS?)

### National Planning Policy Framework and National Planning Practice Guidance

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)<sup>1</sup> sets out the Government's planning policies which provide, alongside various legislation, the 'rules' of the planning system. It sets out a 'golden thread' for the planning system which should respond positively to help achieve the delivery of sustainable development. Paragraph 11 states that there is "a presumption in favour of sustainable development" and implies that there is a need for local authorities to react positively to other policies in the NPPF. In relation to playing pitches, there is particular importance to respond positively to section 8 of the NPPF "Promoting Healthy and Safe Communities" which states (in paragraph 92) that planning policies and decisions should "...plan positively for the provision and use of shared spaces, community facilities (such as...meeting places, sports venues, open space...) and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments" and "guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services".

Paragraphs 96 and 97 (see box) go further in relation to sport specifically and provide the basis of and justification for an up-to-date assessment of playing pitch provision and an associated strategy. They include important reference to the role of facilities and pitches to health and wellbeing and provide the policy 'hook' on which planning policies, backed up by an up-to-date assessment of need, can be developed.

96. Access to a network of high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate.
97. Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:
- a) an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or
  - b) the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
  - c) the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.

<sup>1</sup> See <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework-2>




The Government’s Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) helps the policies in the NPPF to be interpreted and appropriately applied through a series of questions and answers for various topics. The guidance refers to Sport England guidance in relation to assessing needs for sport and offers advice on how open space should be taken into account in planning (Paragraph: 001, Reference ID: 37-001-20140306, Revision date 06-03-14 – see box below). Again, this ties in the importance of the consideration of pitches in a wider context including health, recreation and landscape.

Paragraph: 001 Reference ID: 37-001-20140306

### How should open space be taken into account in planning?

Open space should be taken into account in planning for new development and considering proposals that may affect existing open space (see [National Planning Policy Framework paragraphs 73-74](#)). Open space, which includes all open space of public value, can take many forms, from formal sports pitches to open areas within a development, linear corridors and country parks. It can provide health and recreation benefits to people living and working nearby; have an ecological value and contribute to green infrastructure (see [National Planning Policy Framework paragraph 114](#)), as well as being an important part of the landscape and setting of built development, and an important component in the achievement of sustainable development (see [National Planning Policy Framework paragraphs 6-10](#)).

It is for local planning authorities to assess the need for open space and opportunities for new provision in their areas. In carrying out this work, they should have regard to the [duty to cooperate](#) where open space serves a wider area. Guidance on Local Green Space designation, which may form part of the overall open space network within an area, can be found [here](#).

 Revision date: 06 03 2014

Against the context of the current guidance and Government policy, at the time of drafting, the Government had published a White Paper “Planning for the Future”, which proposes significant changes to the planning system. This is not reflected upon further here, as proposals are likely to continue to be shaped, but it is worth noting that the planning system is likely to change significantly during the strategy period, including how funding from development, currently gathered through s106 obligations or Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) could change (for example through a national infrastructure levy).

#### Current District-wide Adopted Planning Policies

The most relevant planning policies relating to the protection and provision of playing fields and pitches are contained within the respective “development plans” for the District, namely, the strategic policies in the adopted Local Plan<sup>2</sup> produced by the District Council and any “made” Neighbourhood Plans<sup>3</sup> developed by Parish and Town

<sup>2</sup> See <https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/south-oxfordshire-district-council/planning-and-development/local-plan-and-planning-policies/local-plan-2035/adopted-local-plan-2035/>

<sup>3</sup> See <https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/south-oxfordshire-district-council/planning-and-development/local-plan-and-planning-policies/neighbourhood-plans/>

Councils. The key (non-site-specific) strategic policies relating to playing pitches for local authority area are reproduced below.

### **Policy CF5: Open Space, Sport and Recreation in New Residential Development**

- 1. New residential development will be required to provide or contribute towards inclusive and accessible open space and play facilities having regard to the most up to date standards set out in the Open Spaces Study including:**
  - Amenity greenspace (including parks and gardens)
  - Allotments
  - Equipped children's play areas
  
- 2. New residential development will be required to provide or contribute towards accessible sport and recreation facilities, including playing pitches, having regard to the Council's most up to date Leisure Study, and Sport England guidance.**
  
- 3. The provision of open space, sport, recreation and play facilities, and playing pitches is expected to be delivered on site, unless this is demonstrated not to be feasible.**
  
- 4. Provision for the future long-term maintenance and management of the open space and facilities will be sought and must be agreed as part of the planning application.**

This policy contributes towards achieving objectives 4, 6, 7 & 8.

## Policy STRAT4: Strategic Development

1. New development will be provided within strategic allocations in order to deliver the scale and distribution of development set out in Policies STRAT1 and STRAT2 in this chapter.
2. Development proposals should enable a comprehensive scheme to be delivered within each strategic allocation. Developers must ensure that the sites provide an appropriate scale and mix of uses, in suitable locations, to create sustainable developments that support and complement the role of existing settlements and communities.
3. Proposals must be accompanied by a comprehensive masterplan for the entire strategic allocation. This should demonstrate how new development will integrate with and complement its surroundings in an appropriate manner.
4. Proposals must ensure that necessary supporting infrastructure is provided. Developers must engage with relevant infrastructure providers to ensure the implementation of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan.
5. Proposals to deliver strategic development need to be supported by:
  - i) a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment;
  - ii) a Health Impact Assessment;
  - iii) a Transport Assessment;

- iv) an Air Quality Assessment;
  - v) an Arboricultural Survey;
  - vi) an Ecological Impact Assessment;
  - vii) a site specific flood risk assessment which takes into consideration the findings and recommendations of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment;
  - viii) a Heritage Impact Assessment;
  - ix) an archaeological desk based assessment to provide an assessment of archaeological significance; and
  - x) a statement of how it is intended to achieve low carbon emissions and facilitate renewable energy generation.
6. Each development will be expected to provide:
- i) a scheme of an appropriate scale, layout and form which respects the surrounding character and setting;
  - ii) high quality public transport facilities and connections within and adjacent to the site;
  - iii) appropriate vehicular, cycle and pedestrian access including safe and attractive connections with nearby communities and employment areas;
  - iv) investigation and mitigation by the developer of any former land uses on the site which may give rise to contamination;
  - v) a Noise Assessment including noise during construction and noise insulation of development;
  - vi) a Landscape Management Plan to provide appropriate landscaping and an integrated network of Green Infrastructure;
  - vii) an Ecological and Landscape Management Plan to be provided to manage habitats onsite;
  - viii) an integrated water management plan to include proposed foul and surface water drainage strategies;
  - ix) leisure facilities and playing pitches as outlined in the Council's current Leisure Study; and
  - x) low carbon development and renewable energy.
7. This policy will also be used to determine planning applications for large scale major development.

This policy contributes towards achieving objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8.



Policies in adopted development plans have statutory (legal) weight in the planning system. It should be noted that policies within the plans should not be read or used in isolation from other policies in the plans which might be relevant to planning applications (i.e. development plans should be read as a whole).

This strategy and its recommendations can inform the review of these planning policies at the appropriate time and their interpretation and use while they remain adopted. The strategy can also inform the review of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) alongside the use of section 106 planning obligations.

The PPS methodology does not recommend the use of provision standards for pitches and standards are therefore not recommended for inclusion in the emerging new Local Plan. However, should planning officers need to understand a snapshot of provision required in relation to specific development proposals to understand the demand arising from specific developments and the level of financial contributions to seek from development, Sport England has produced a playing pitch calculator to understand requirements for pitch numbers and costs, but must not be used in isolation from this strategy's recommendations.

### Neighbourhood Plans

Neighbourhood plans are statutory development plans (when “made”, or adopted) which can be prepared by Parish and Town Councils and neighbourhood plan forums in unparished areas. They provide a layer of local detailed planning policy within the context of national and District planning policies. In SODC, the following parishes have a “made” neighbourhood plan. Those “made” at the time of drafting this strategy are noted below (according to the SODC website at the time of drafting this strategy). Others are simply classed as “in development” and individual Parish Councils’ websites should be viewed to understand the up-to-date position regarding neighbourhood plans at any point during the strategy period.

- Aston Rowant (in development)
- The Baldons (made)
- Beckley and Stowood (in development)
- Benson (made)
- Berinsfield (in development)
- Berrick Salome (made)
- Binfield Heath (in development)
- Brightwell cum Sotwell (made)
- Chalgrove (made)
- Chinnor (made)
- Cholsey (made)
- Clifton Hampden
- Crowmarsh (made)
- Cuddesdon and Denton (made)
- Culham (made)
- Dorchester on Thames (made)
- East Hagbourne (made)
- Ewelme (made)
- Eye and Dunsden (in development)
- Garsington (in development)
- Goring (made)
- Henley and Harpsden (joint) (made)
- Horspath (in development)
- Kidmore (made)
- Lewknor (in development)
- Little Milton (made)
- Long Wittenham (made)
- Pyrton (made)
- Sandford on Thames (in development)
- Shiplake (made)

- Sonning Common (made)
- South Stoke (in development)
- Stanton St John (in development)
- Sydenham (made)
- Tetsworth (made)
- Thame (made)
- Tiddington with Aldbury (made)
- Towersey
- Wallingford (made)
- Warborough and Shillingford (made)
- Watlington (made)
- Wheatley (made)
- Woodcote (made)

These plans are important to take into account in terms of how the strategy deals with pitches in those areas relative to policies in the plans. There is also an opportunity for the District Council to inform the Plans in development and made Plans being reviewed by using this strategy as evidence where it remains up-to-date. There is also a connection between the priorities that a community identifies in terms of infrastructure provision (including pitches and facilities), the recommendations made for specific sites in this strategy and any Community Infrastructure Levy payments made to the local community which should be recognised by all of those organisations and providers with an interest and / or responsibility in maintaining and delivering high quality spaces, sports pitches and ancillary / associated facilities.

Sport England: “Uniting the Movement” 2021-2031

In 2021, Sport England published their latest strategy, “Uniting the Movement”<sup>4</sup>, a 10-year vision to transform lives and communities through sport and physical activity. The strategy has three objectives: advocating for movement, sport and physical activity; joining forces on five big issues (recover and reinvent, connecting communities, positive experiences for children and young people, connecting with health & wellbeing, and active environments); and, creating the catalysts for change.

The PPS will play a clear role in helping to achieve some of these objectives in the local land-use context and there is a very clear and direct link with objectives such as supporting and delivering active environments and positive experiences for children and young people.



<sup>4</sup> See <https://www.sportengland.org/why-were-here/uniting-the-movement>

### Football Association “Strategic Plan” 2020-24, and Local Football Facility Plans

The FA’s latest strategy is its Strategic Plan 2020-24 “Time for Change”<sup>5</sup>. Its Vision is “Unite the game, inspire the nation”. The FA website states that the strategy has “six Game Changer objectives and eight Serve the Game objectives. These demonstrate our determination to substantially change the fabric of the game and address key societal issues. In England, football must be a game where the opportunities for every girl to play are the same as for every boy. A game in which, wherever you live, you have easy access to a great, affordable facility on which to play. A game run by the latest digital tools – easily administered from a phone as part of everyday life, lessening the burden on our wonderful volunteers. Football must be a game which embraces diversity and battles discrimination. Everyone must be made to feel welcome on our pitches and our terraces. Discrimination is an unacceptable societal issue that football must play a key role in tackling.”

The Football Foundation’s Local Football Facility Plans (LFFP)<sup>6</sup> set out the priority projects for delivery at grass roots level. The LFFP for the District identifies a need to deliver 6 AGPs, 29 natural grass pitches, 4 changing pavilions and 2 small-sided facilities. However, close liaison with the Football Foundation and FA during the development of the PPS means that we have a more up-to-date picture than that presented in the most recent LFFP in relation to priority projects and their delivery.

### England Hockey “Creating A Future For Our Game Together” 2023-2028

England Hockey’s strategy “Creating a Future for our Game Together”<sup>7</sup> provides the strategic direction to hockey to 2028. Its mission is to “Work together to make hockey more visible, relevant and accessible to all”, setting out four key values for the sport and sets 5 objectives for the strategy’s 5 year period. These are: lead positive change; meaningful growth; drive visible impact; responsible leadership; and, inspirational international success.

### England and Wales Cricket Board “Inspiring Generations” 2020-2024

The England and Wales Cricket Board strategy, sets out its purpose as “We connect communities and improve lives by inspiring people to discover and share their passion for cricket” and also outlines its ambition as “A generation inspired to say that ‘cricket is a game for me”.

To achieve the purpose and ambition there are 6 priorities

- Grow and Nurture the Core - Ensure that there is a thriving county network at the heart of the domestic game
- Inspire through Elite Teams - Create and celebrate the heroes at the pinnacle of the elite game
- Make Cricket Accessible - Give more people the opportunity to engage with cricket more often

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<sup>5</sup> See <https://www.thefa.com/about-football-association/what-we-do/strategy>

<sup>6</sup> See <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/local-plans>

<sup>7</sup> See <https://www.englandhockey.co.uk/governance/about-england-hockey/creating-a-future-for-our-game-together>



- Engage Children and Young People - Inspire a new generation of players and fans to develop a love for cricket
- Transform Women's and Girls' Cricket - Drive cricket's progress to becoming a truly gender-neutral sport
- Support our Communities - Use our purpose to connect communities and improve lives more broadly across society

### Rugby Football Union (England Rugby) Strategy 2021 onwards

The England Rugby Strategy 2021 onwards<sup>8</sup>, sets out its purpose to “To enrich lives, introduce more people to rugby union and develop the sport for future generations” with a vision for a “Successful and Thriving Game across England”. It establishes strategic direction for the game by capturing objectives and actions under three key principles, “Players First, “Open to All” and “Financially Strong”. The objectives, which then filter down to the PPS, are split into game objectives and driving objectives as follows:

#### Game objectives

- Enjoyment
- Winning England
- Welfare
- Flourishing rugby communities

#### Driving objectives

- Diversity and inclusion
- Understand
- Connect
- Commercial and operational excellence

### The Strategy's Relationship with Health and Wellbeing and Active Travel

The PPS has clear links to helping maintain and improve the physical and mental health and wellbeing of residents in the District through the use of pitches by both formal sports clubs and teams, informal and social use of facilities such as artificial grass pitches (AGPs) and also the use of grass pitch space where it is part of an area of open greenspace such as a park or recreation ground. The public health agenda and provision for sport is becoming more focused on provision for informal, casual and social play in addition to formal / competitive play, in order to help get people more active in their day to day lives. Coronavirus brought this into perhaps sharper focus. There is also a clear role for multi-purpose pavilion or clubhouse facilities in the promotion and use of pitch and facility space for sport and other wider health and recreation activities. It will be important, therefore, for the PPS to inform the Health and Wellbeing Board's next review of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2024-2030<sup>9</sup>. There are also close links between the provision of good quality pitches and facility

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<sup>8</sup> See <https://www.englishrugby.com/participation/running-your-club/facilities>

<sup>9</sup> See <https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/health-wellbeing>

infrastructure with the work of the Active Partnership whose Vision is “Everybody in Oxfordshire is physically active”.

The data which underpins the Health and Wellbeing Strategy is set out in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)<sup>10</sup> which, amongst other data, cites the link between levels of deprivation (identified by the Indices of Multiple Deprivation) across the District and impacts on health. Levels of deprivation will need to be considered alongside future programmes of improvement of existing pitches and facilities (where needed) in the District and how best to utilise greenspace for improvement in levels of activity, which may or may not involve playing pitches.

Many of the recommendations of the strategy link closely with some of the principles of “Active Design” supported by Sport England<sup>11</sup>, which centre around accessibility, awareness and amenity, and the appropriate provision of pitches and associated facilities (in terms of location and quality) can help contribute positively to achieving the delivery of active places “on the ground”.

Linked closely to the opportunity for more people to be more active through sport is the desire for a greater number of people to take active travel options more often. The Oxfordshire Local Transport and Connectivity Plan 5<sup>12</sup>, sets out the strategic plan for transport with a vision “to deliver a net-zero Oxfordshire transport and travel system that enables the county to thrive while protecting the environment and making Oxfordshire a better place to live for all residents”. Other plans, such as the Active Travel Strategy<sup>13</sup> and the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs) being developed across the county (for example, and related to the District, are the plan in place at Abingdon and plans to develop a LCWIP for Didcot) seek to enable active travel change through improvements to walking and cycling infrastructure.

At the District level, there is a joint South and Vale Districts Active Communities Strategy now in place. The strategy sets out how the Councils’ plan to improve the health and wellbeing of its residents and the key role that the authorities play in providing high quality active opportunities for our communities, to contribute to tackling inactivity and addressing the inequalities that challenge society. The main themes in the strategy are: enabling everyone to be active, create healthier communities through walking and cycling, maximise the potential of our natural environment, building the skills base of our communities, effective communication, promotion and consultation, and collaborative partnerships and funding advice. The PPS should play a key component part in helping the Councils deliver improving health and wellbeing, alongside a multitude of other action plans, programmes and strategies all seeking or contributing to improved health outcomes for the residents of the Districts.

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<sup>10</sup> See <https://insight.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/joint-strategic-needs-assessment>

<sup>11</sup> See <https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/active-design/> for Active Design guidance. For all other Sport England advice and guidance relating to planning for sport see <https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport>

<sup>12</sup> See <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/roads-and-transport/connecting-oxfordshire/ltcp>

<sup>13</sup> See <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/roads-and-transport/connecting-oxfordshire/active-travel-0>

## Funding Opportunities

The nature of funding for sports pitches and facilities is constantly changing and evolving, and particularly so in light of the coronavirus pandemic. This strategy, therefore, given that it covers an extensive period of time, does not seek to define what current funding opportunities are in detail due to changes which will undoubtedly occur over time. However, the list below provides a brief (but not exhaustive) summary of funding opportunities across sports. Readers should not rely on this list being either comprehensive or up-to-date and those with an interest in funding pitch maintenance, improvement or additional new provision should discuss funding opportunities available to them at the time of interest with the local authority, Sport England, Sports Governing Bodies and other relevant organisations such as the Football Foundation, Rugby Football Foundation and National Hockey Foundation.<sup>14</sup>

<p><i>Across-sports</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)<sup>15</sup></li> <li>• Section 106 planning obligations<sup>16</sup></li> </ul>	<p><i>Football</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pitch Improvement Programme<sup>22</sup></li> <li>• PlayZones Programme<sup>23</sup></li> <li>• Home Advantage Programme<sup>24</sup></li> </ul>
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<sup>14</sup> At the time of writing this strategy, the following webpages provide gateway information to understanding more about funding opportunities:

<http://www.thefa.com/get-involved/player/facilities> ,  
<https://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/> ,  
<https://www.englandrugby.com/governance/club-support/financial-management/funding/> , <http://www.rugbyfootballfoundation.org/> ,  
<http://www.englandhockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=2388&sectionTitle=Sinking+Funds> , <http://www.54408.mrsite.com/page11.htm> , <https://www.ecb.co.uk/be-involved/club-support/club-funding>

<sup>15</sup> a charge on new developments applied by the local authority to developments which meet certain criteria and is most often collected for housing schemes on a charge per square metre – see <https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/south-oxfordshire-district-council/community-support/infrastructure-to-support-communities/community-infrastructure-levy-or-cil-header-page/community-infrastructure-levy-cil-payments-and-procedures/> for more information.

<sup>16</sup> Section 106 planning obligations deliver infrastructure and site specific requirements related to a development that cannot be delivered through CIL but are necessary in order for planning permission to be granted. Contact the local authority for further information on the application of section 106 to sports facilities and pitches outside of CIL.

<sup>22</sup> See <http://www.thefa.com/get-involved/player/facilities/the-fa-pitch-improvement-programme>

<sup>23</sup> See <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/playzones-programme>

<sup>24</sup> See [https://footballfoundation.org.uk/grant/home-advantage-programme?gclid=CjwKCAjw1t2pBhAFEiwA\\_-A-NF0owM4uvCIHUUFHdnKzUadJpDUBg7jSgy pbCHGOW\\_R6r\\_pZFJy7YBoCAycQAvD\\_BwE](https://footballfoundation.org.uk/grant/home-advantage-programme?gclid=CjwKCAjw1t2pBhAFEiwA_-A-NF0owM4uvCIHUUFHdnKzUadJpDUBg7jSgy pbCHGOW_R6r_pZFJy7YBoCAycQAvD_BwE)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sport England Small Grants Programme<sup>17</sup></li> <li>• Sport England Active Together<sup>18</sup></li> <li>• Big Lottery Fund<sup>19</sup></li> <li>• Public Work Loans Board (PWLB)<sup>20</sup></li> <li>• Multi-sport Funding<sup>21</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy Support Programme<sup>25</sup></li> <li>• Shared Access (floodlights)<sup>26</sup></li> <li>• Premier League and FA Facilities Single Fund<sup>27</sup></li> <li>• Premier League Stadium Fund<sup>28</sup></li> </ul>
<p><i>Rugby Union</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For Investment support and Guidance, clubs should contact the RFU</li> </ul>	<p><i>Hockey</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See England Hockey's website for the most up-to-date funding options.<sup>29</sup></li> </ul>
<p><i>Cricket</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• County Grants Fund<sup>30</sup></li> <li>• Interest Free Loan Scheme<sup>31</sup></li> </ul>	

7.29 In addition to accessing capital funding opportunities, those providing additional pitches and facilities must take into account the long-term revenue implications of running, managing, maintaining and replacing facilities and pitches as they plan for the future. Many funders providing capital grants and loans will likely require a sustainable viability test and / or business plan to be in place (particularly where large sums of money are involved).

<sup>17</sup> See <http://www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/funding/small-grants>

<sup>18</sup> See <https://www.sportengland.org/funds-and-campaigns/our-funds>

<sup>19</sup> See <https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/>

<sup>20</sup> See <https://www.pwlb.gov.uk/responsibilities/local-authority-lending-pwlb/>

<sup>21</sup> See <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/multi-sport>

<sup>25</sup> See [https://footballfoundation.org.uk/grant/energy-support-programme?qclid=CjwKCAjw1t2pBhAFEiwA -A-NNulqozJi5-wFpFTiXBeG911fdQGsjAffsQPiak3YRT3eCRgn6C8xBoCf0gQAvD\\_BwE](https://footballfoundation.org.uk/grant/energy-support-programme?qclid=CjwKCAjw1t2pBhAFEiwA -A-NNulqozJi5-wFpFTiXBeG911fdQGsjAffsQPiak3YRT3eCRgn6C8xBoCf0gQAvD_BwE)

<sup>26</sup> See <http://www.thefa.com/get-involved/player/clubs-leagues/shared-access>

<sup>27</sup> See <https://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/funding-schemes/premier-league-the-fa-facilities-fund/>

<sup>28</sup> See <https://premierleaguestadiumfund.co.uk/>

<sup>29</sup> See <https://www.englandhockey.co.uk/deliver/facilities/funding-for-facilities>

<sup>30</sup> See <https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/club-support/club-funding/county-grant-fund>

<sup>31</sup> See <https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/club-support/club-funding/interest-free-loan-scheme>



## Appendix 3: Sport-by-Sport Recommendations

The assessment reports concluded with the findings for each sport and pitch type from the data and information gathered and analysed. These recommendations are reproduced here from the assessment reports for ease of reference. The recommendations for each sport and pitch type are responsive to the requirements set out in the PPS guidance, which suggest that recommendations are set out under the headings of “protect”, “enhance” and “provide”.

### FOOTBALL

#### PROTECT

##### District-wide

- F1) Protect the existing supply of grass pitches and AGPs identified in the assessment and their capacity (for existing known, projected and potential additional currently unidentified future demand) unless the strategy proposes their replacement or alternative re-use for sport, leisure and recreation or unless replacement equivalent capacity can be provided elsewhere to an equal or better standard (i.e. “net improvements”) reflecting the demand and type of use required “on the ground” by clubs. The PROVIDE section sets out criteria which responds to proposals where the loss of a pitch is unavoidable. Any proposals which suggest potential loss of a playing pitch or wider playing field to supply should respond appropriately to Sport England’s Playing Fields Policy<sup>32</sup>. It must not be assumed that the intensification of provision on an existing playing pitch or playing field site equates to satisfactory mitigation for loss of a grass pitch.
- F2) Where pitches are lost to formal pitch use, where appropriate, seek to ensure that there is significant policy protection through the Local Plan or Neighbourhood Plans or legal means to prevent their loss as open or green space.
- F3) Maintain the quality of existing pitches to at least current standards where they have a quality rating of “standard” or “good”.
- F4) The identified notional spare grass pitch capacity at pitches already used for matches should be retained during the strategy period to allow for “capacity headroom” and flexibility of provision to help accommodate growth to the end of the strategy period.
- F5) “Mothballed”, closed or lapsed pitches previously used for football and pitches rested or reserved on multi-pitch sites should be retained as green / open space to protect potential future long-term demand and capacity for football or other sports should demand suggest a need. It should be noted that reinstatement of pitches could require investment to ensure that they are available to a “good” standard of quality. Re-opening pitches could also have implications for ancillary facilities and the suitability or age-group of teams using

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<sup>32</sup> See [https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/planning-sport?section=playing\\_fields\\_policy](https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/planning-sport?section=playing_fields_policy)

the pitches. If such pitches are unavoidably lost, replacement should be made in line with Sport England's Playing Fields Policy<sup>33</sup> to mitigate loss.

- F6) The supply / capacity provided by existing grass pitches within a 20-minute drive-time catchment of a new 3G pitch should not be considered for loss from formal use / supply until their capacity is replaced and utilised by operational secure community use 3G capacity and they are deemed surplus over and above the identified "capacity headroom". No team should be left without its usual home grass pitch just because a 3G has been provided and transition from grass to 3G use must be well-managed.
- F7) Ensure that all existing and new pitches that are on the FA register are re-tested every three years to sustain certification.
- F8) Seek agreement between hockey (EH) and football (FA), and with providers and clubs, about which sport should have sole or priority use of sand based full size AGPs as new 3G pitches proposed are introduced.
- F9) Proposals for development which have an implication for the use of an existing pitch (such as change of land use) should take into account the recommendations of this strategy and policies of relevance in adopted Development Plans relevant to the site / pitch (i.e. Adopted Local Plans, other Development Plan Documents and Made Neighbourhood Plans).

## **Sub-Area Specific**

### **North**

- F10) Protection of grass pitch supply is particularly important for club pitches. In this sub-area, this means protecting from loss all pitches (and the entirety of the club home ground and facilities).
- F11) Protect the 3G pitch at Horspath from loss, even though there is little football use on the pitch (predominantly rugby), on the basis that plays an important role in keeping rugby demand away from football 3G pitches now and in the future.

### **South**

- F12) Protection of grass pitch supply is particularly important for club pitches. In this sub-area, this means protecting from loss all pitches (and the entirety of the club home ground and facilities).
- F13) Protect the 3G surfaces at Henley YMCA and Henley RFC with both currently providing the only 3G supply in the town.
- F14) Protect the sand-based surface at Jubilee Park, Henley from loss, on the basis that it currently plays an important role in supporting demand from clubs for training and additional demand from informal, casual and small-sided league play, despite predominant use for hockey. The pitch may continue to play an important role moving forward, subject to the ability to deliver additional and pipeline 3G pitches, for example a 3G at Jubilee Park and aspirational rugby compliant 3G at Henley College (Rotherfield site).

### **West**

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<sup>33</sup> See [https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/planning-sport?section=playing\\_fields\\_policy](https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/planning-sport?section=playing_fields_policy)

- F15) Protection of grass pitch supply is particularly important for club pitches. In this sub-area, this means protecting from loss all pitches (and the entirety of the club home ground and facilities).
- F16) Protect the newly resurfaced to 3G pitch at Abbey Sports Centre, Berinsfield, which will provide access to training to the local club and to future additional demand as it emerges from the new development.
- F17) Protect the sand-based surface at Wallingford Sports Park from loss, on the basis that it currently plays a critical role in supporting demand from clubs for training and additional demand from informal, casual and small-sided league play, despite predominant use for hockey. The pitch may continue to play an important role moving forward, subject to the ability to deliver additional and pipeline 3G pitches, for example a 3G at the Sports Park.

### **East**

- F18) Protection of grass pitch supply is particularly important for club pitches. In this sub-area, this means protecting from loss all pitches (and the entirety of the club home ground and facilities).
- F19) Protect the 3G pitches (1 x full-size and 1 x 7v7) at Thame FC (Meadow Park), which can provide access to training to the local clubs as well as to Thame FC.
- F20) Protect the sand-based surfaces at Whites Field (Chinnor) and Nettlebed Community School, which host a small amount of demand, on the basis they play an important role locally in supporting demand from clubs for training and additional demand from informal, casual and small-sided league play.

## **ENHANCE**

### **District-wide**

- F21) Gain the secure use of clubs' and teams' home grounds / pitches which do not currently have secure community use, to provide certainty of future supply and enable clubs and users to access necessary funding to invest in improvements. This includes club or team use of pitches on education sites and any newly marked out pitches on any site. This could be through a secure community use agreement (where the local authority or other body is identified to enforce the agreement), long-term lease or long-term tenure of the ground, extending to ancillary facilities if possible.
- F22) Gain secure community use of unsecure 3G pitches.
- F23) Gain secure community use of unsecure sand based pitches where they are currently in use for football training and social / small-sided games to maintain security of supply until additional 3G pitches are delivered to accommodate training and informal / small-sided game demand.
- F24) Prioritise pitch quality improvements at secure community use grounds over unsecure community use grounds. Enhance capacity on existing pitches by improving quality, and improve maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. There should be a focus on improving secure use pitches rated as "poor" and "standard", where feasible.
- F25) Improvement of unsecure community use pitches should be a second priority after secure use pitch improvements. Where unsecure use pitches are

secured, they should be added to the programme of improvement set out in the sub-area sections below.

- F26) To inform fully, the specific programme of improvements to be made to a pitch to enhance quality, delivery must be informed by an independent GROUNDS MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION / Pitch Power report or equivalent, instructed by the NGB, local authority or club.
- F27) Enhance the quality of existing secure community use pitches or consider replacement where flooding / waterlogging is known to be a consistent issue over several seasons and is preventing consistency and certainty of play by improving drainage (where viable / subject to funding and a business plan being in place to ensure maintenance costs are catered for in the long-term).
- F28) Enhance the quality of existing pitches where they are subject to dog fouling by considering the introduction of open fencing and / or signage where cost effective to do so, where shared uses allow and practical to do so (in view of the available space outside the pitch for recreational use and where shared pitch sites can be fenced without compromising the quality of summer sports' areas of play).
- F29) Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities where necessary to help ensure the quality of the experience for the sport is enhanced. Particular focus should be on supporting the growth of girls' and women's football through improvements which enhance the quality and accessibility of facilities.
- F30) Enhance where necessary, outside of the sites named in sub-area sections below, the quality of toilets and storage facilities, where improvements are required as a priority.
- F31) NGBs and the local authority should work with clubs, operators and providers, on sites where facilities and / or pitch areas are shared between sports, to ensure that management, maintenance and access is shared appropriately between sports, for example, through establishment of multi-sport site Trusts or other management bodies.
- F32) Improve the current use of existing pitches, where physically and logistically possible, by considering flexibility of when matches take place.
- F33) Support proposals for improved energy efficiency and localised renewable and low carbon energy generation at facilities and grounds through measures such as LED directional lighting, solar pv, heat pumps and building insulation.
- F34) Work with partners and key stakeholders to improve sustainable travel options to grounds, pitches and facilities.
- F35) Support provision of secure cycle stands and ev vehicle charge points at club and other providers' grounds and facilities to enhance provision for low carbon forms of travel.
- F36) Clubs should be encouraged to open-up facilities and pitches that they own and manage to other local clubs where there is capacity for them to do so (rather than allowing only their own teams to use their facilities and pitches).



## Sub-Area Specific

### North

F37) Enhance capacity on existing pitches by improving quality and improve maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. There should be a focus, where feasible, on improving the following pitches rated as “poor” to “standard” as a priority, and then secure use “standard” pitches to “good”, where there are known pressures on demand identified by clubs. Pitches with secure community use should be prioritised:

#### *Standard*

- Grovelands Sports Ground 4 (1 x 9v9 pitch);
- Garsington Sports Club 1 (1 x 11v11 pitch); and,
- Wheatley FC (Holton Playing Fields).

Explore re-commencement of formal use of the adult 11v11 pitch at Little Milton, if there is confirmed demand by a local club.

### South

F38) Gain the secure use of unsecure community use pitch sites through clubs and relevant authorities working with pitch providers / owners to seek a long-term secure use agreement to provide certainty of supply and reduce the need for additional secure use new pitches (where desirable by the club and provider). These include:

- Henley YMCA grass pitch (if not lost to development and replaced through mitigation);
- Maiden Erleigh Chiltern Edge School pitch<sup>34</sup>; and,
- The Oratory Preparatory School pitches.

F39) Enhance capacity on existing pitches by improving quality and improve maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. There should be a focus, where feasible, on improving the following pitches rated as “poor” to “standard” as a priority, and then secure use “standard” pitches to “good”, where there are known pressures on demand identified by clubs. Pitches with secure community use should be prioritised:

#### *Poor*

- Henley YMCA 1 (1 x 11v11 pitch), if not lost to or replaced as a result of development; and,
- Bishopswood Sports Ground (Rotherfield Utd) 5 (1 x 7v7 pitch) (improve to “good” quality).

#### *Standard*

- Sheepcot Recreation Ground (3 x 11v11, 2 x 7v7, 3 x 5v5 pitches);

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<sup>34</sup> if not replaced or satisfactorily mitigated as a result of loss, in line with other relevant recommendations, development plan policies and Sport England’s Playing Fields Policy, should the current planning application for development on the site receive planning consent. Any replacement pitch should have secure community use.

- Gardiner Recreation Ground, Goring;
- Jubilee Park, Henley 2 (1 x 11v11 youth pitch); and,
- Bishopswood Sports Ground (Rotherfield Utd) (all pitches to be improved to a “good” quality).

F40) Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities where possible to help ensure the quality of the experience for the sport is enhanced (with a focus on those of “poor” quality listed below, and then those with “standard” quality). Pitches with secure community use should be prioritised:

*Poor*

- Bishopswood Sports Ground (Rotherfield Utd);
- Harpsden Football Ground.

Such improvements are particularly important to help grow participation in the women’s game and pitches hosting women’s teams should be prioritised where improvements are required. Improvement of unsecure community use pitch changing and other ancillary facilities should be a second priority after secure use site improvements. Where unsecure use pitches are secured, sites should be added to the programme of improvement set out in the list above.

**West**

F41) Gain the secure use of unsecure community use pitch sites through clubs and relevant authorities working with pitch providers / owners to seek a long-term secure use agreement to provide certainty of supply and reduce the need for additional secure use new pitches (where desirable by the club and provider). These include:

- Europa School;
- Paddocks Playing Fields;
- Willowcroft Community School; and,
- The Triangle (St Birinus School).

F42) Enhance capacity on existing pitches by improving quality and improve maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. There should be a focus, where feasible, on improving the following pitches rated as “poor” to “standard” as a priority, and then secure use “standard” pitches to “good”, where there are known pressures on demand identified by clubs. Pitches with secure community use should be prioritised:

*Poor*

- Chalgrove Recreation Ground;
- Cholsey Bluebirds FC (Cholsey Recreation Ground);
- The Triangle 1 (St Birinus School) (1 x 11v11 pitch);
- The Triangle 2 (St Birinus School) (1 x 11v11 pitch); and,
- The Triangle 4 (St Birinus School) (1 x 9v9 pitch).

*Standard*

- Boundary Park 4 (1 x 11v11 youth pitch) (to “good”, if possible);

- Edmonds Park 1 (Didcot) (1 x 11v11 pitch);
- Edmonds Park 2 (Didcot) (1 x 11v11 pitch);
- Chalgrove Recreation Ground;
- Npower Loop Meadow Stadium 2 (training pitch) (1 x 11v11 pitch);
- Loyd Recreation Park;
- Bodkins Sports Field (1 x 11v11 pitch);
- Europa School UK 3 (1 x 11v11 pitch);
- Europa School UK 4 (1 x 9v9 pitch);
- Europa School UK 5 (1 x 7v7 pitch);
- Wallingford Sports Park 1 (1 x 11v11 pitch);
- Wallingford Sports Park 2 (1 x 11v11 pitch); and,
- Bullcroft Park 1 (Wallingford) (1 x 11v11, 3 x 9v9 pitches).

F43) Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities where possible to help ensure the quality of the experience for the sport is enhanced (with a focus on those of “poor” quality listed below, and then those with “standard” quality). Pitches with secure community use should be prioritised:

*Poor*

- Cow Common;
- The Green (Stadhampton);
- Cholsey Bluebirds FC (Cholsey Recreation Ground);
- Loyd Recreation Park.

Such improvements are particularly important to help grow participation in the women’s game and pitches hosting women’s teams should be prioritised where improvements are required. Improvement of unsecure community use pitch changing and other ancillary facilities should be a second priority after secure use site improvements. Where unsecure use pitches are secured, sites should be added to the programme of improvement set out in the list above.

**East**

F44) Gain the secure use of unsecure community use pitch sites through clubs and relevant authorities working with pitch providers / owners to seek a long-term secure use agreement to provide certainty of supply and reduce the need for additional secure use new pitches (where desirable by the club and provider). These include:

- Watlington Sports Ground.

F45) Enhance capacity on existing pitches by improving quality and improve maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. There should be a focus, where feasible, on improving the following pitches rated as “poor” to “standard” as a priority, and then secure use “standard” pitches to “good”, where there are known pressures on demand identified by clubs. Pitches with secure community use should be prioritised:

*Poor*

- Thame Football (Meadow View Park) 1 (1 x 11v11 pitch); and,
- Thame Football (Meadow View Park) 5 (1 x 9v9 pitch).

#### *Standard*

- Station Road Playing Fields (Chinnor) 1 (1 x 11v11 pitch); and,
- Watlington Sports Ground 3 (1 x 11v11 youth pitch).

F46) Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities where possible to help ensure the quality of the experience for the sport is enhanced (with a focus on those of “poor” quality listed below, and then those with “standard” quality). Pitches with secure community use should be prioritised:

#### *Poor*

- Hill Road Recreation Ground.

Such improvements are particularly important to help grow participation in the women’s game and pitches hosting women’s teams should be prioritised where improvements are required. Improvement of unsecure community use pitch changing and other ancillary facilities should be a second priority after secure use site improvements. Where unsecure use pitches are secured, sites should be added to the programme of improvement set out in the list above.

## **PROVIDE**

### **District-wide**

F47) Where the loss of an existing pitch is unavoidable, ensure that replacement pitch capacity and associated facilities are provided to a good quality standard in a location appropriate to demand to mitigate loss. Opportunities should be taken to replace pitches to a better quality than the provision they are replacing.

F48) Ensure that proposals for new pitches, both grass and 3G, and ancillary facilities, are provided outside of flood risk zones, or provision can be satisfactorily tested through the sequential and exceptions tests to mitigate satisfactorily against adverse impact and risk.

F49) Ensure that proposals for new and resurfaced 3G pitches:

provide satisfactory protection and mitigation to minimise rubber crumb and other infill loss (retrofitting containment where necessary) ;

- a. provide satisfactory protection and mitigation to minimise rubber crumb and other infill loss (retrofitting containment if necessary);
- b. are constructed to meet FA and / or RFU recommended quality performance standards (subject to the demand the pitch is catering for) to meet performance testing criteria;
- c. provide energy efficient directional LED sports-lighting; and,
- d. satisfy tests applied by the local authority in relation to carbon emissions, whole lifecycle of materials and requirements for net gains in biodiversity;
- e. for new pitches, explore the provision on multi-pitch sites where demand can be demonstrated.



- F50) Ensure that the provision of any new pitches and facilities meet the most up-to-date quality design standards and dimensions supported by the FA and Sport England. Provision must ensure that all sexes, genders and age groups are supported and catered for. Any new grass pitches provided by a developer must be signed-off by an agronomist prior to “handover”.
- F51) Ensure that new 3G pitches are marked out to cater for quarter pitch segregation and capable of hosting 11v11, 9v9, 7v7 and 5v5 matches. Essentially however, markings and design should be prepared aligned to an intended programme of use to ensure the pitch is best able to meet local demand.
- F52) Ensure that delivery of additional 3G pitch capacity takes into account use of non 3G based pitches by teams for training and is introduced in-step with demand required by hockey teams for additional sand based pitches.
- F53) Ensure that any new facilities and other associated pitch infrastructure are provided to meet the most up-to-date Building Regulations, including, but not restricted to, those relating to accessibility.
- F54) Ensure that any new pitches and facilities have a sustainable long-term business and financial management plan in place to ensure long-term viability which includes usage plans. This includes, for 3G pitches in particular, the need for a sinking fund to retain funds during use for refurbishment or replacement of the surface and for recycling of the carpet and infill, a maintenance programme agreed between the provider, local authority and the FA, and the provider must report to the local authority, Sport England and the FA on an annual basis on the state of the sinking fund and statement of availability and use during the agreed peak period hours. Sinking funds established should be monitored to ensure that collection is taking place. The costs of hiring 3G pitch time and space will need to be competitive to help ensure future viability but it is important that, to help enable transition from use of grass for matches to maximise use of capacity on 3Gs at weekends, match play charges reflect those paid for grass pitch use.
- F55) Ensure that all new 3G pitches and facilities have a secure community use agreement in place for the long-term (preferably in perpetuity) for community access for a 38 hour peak period<sup>35</sup> where feasible and that the appropriate body is identified to monitor and enforce such agreements. Providers should ensure that provision is made for different user groups during the peak period including clubs, pay and play, informal use and casual leagues.
- F56) Ensure, as far as possible, that any proposed new grass pitches have certainty of users (clubs / teams) committed to them and that commitments to the management and maintenance of the ground are in place prior to delivery. The management and operation of new pitches and facilities should rest with a single operator if possible.
- F57) Ensure that all new pitches and facilities have a secure community use agreement in place for the long-term (preferably in perpetuity) and that the appropriate body is identified to monitor and enforce such agreements.
- F58) Support opportunities to utilise sites not currently available for community use where the provider has indicated a desire to do so, where they fill a spatial gap

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<sup>35</sup> The peak period is Mon-Thurs 5pm-9pm, Fri 5pm-7pm and Sat and Sun 9am-5pm.

in supply, address a local team's demand not already catered for locally and where secure use can be agreed.

F59) Ensure that the supply of grass pitches can accommodate existing and future demand for matches in sync with the provision of additional 3G capacity. At no time should the total supply of grass pitches not be able to accommodate demand for play outwith 3G capacity and "on the ground" demand for match play by each age group within the structure of the game. The role of grass pitches is particularly important should the additional 3G capacity not be delivered.

F60) Where needed, increased capacity and / or use of grass pitches to meet demand could come from a combination of:

- a) Increasing reliability of pitches through improved quality, drainage and maintenance;
- b) Considering better grouping of age groups (and therefore pitch types and sizes) on multi-pitch sites;
- c) Making better use of pitches which are available for community use but not yet currently used by teams, where additional community use on those pitches would not result in unacceptable wear which significantly reduces a pitch's ability to cope with the additional demand / use placed upon it (for example, careful consideration must be given to use of education site pitches if those pitches are already well-used by students during the week);
- d) Re-opening "mothballed", lapsed or closed pitches, where they provide supply in a location which can respond to demand. If such pitches are unavoidably lost, replacement should be made in line with Sport England's Playing Fields Policy<sup>36</sup> to mitigate loss; and,
- e) Provision of additional pitches in appropriate locations as demand requires during the strategy period to:
  - i. respond to growth in demand (as a result of club unmet and latent demand, club growth, growth in social / informal and non-club participation, increased population and spatial gaps in provision) where this cannot be catered for on existing pitches; and / or,
  - ii. provide new additional capacity on strategic housing allocation sites where a new club can be formed to fully utilise pitches provided, where such provision responds to demand arising from the new residents, and / or responds to insufficient supply locally to respond to demand, enabling an existing club to make the new pitches their home ground or an additional home ground. Such sites, if providing sufficient pitch capacity, could form new home grounds for nomadic clubs which currently play across more than one site and are looking to consolidate club activity in one location; and / or,
  - iii. replace and increase the capacity of existing pitches of poor or standard quality; or, which prove uneconomical to manage and

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<sup>36</sup> See [https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/planning-sport?section=playing\\_fields\\_policy](https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/planning-sport?section=playing_fields_policy)

maintain; or, are unattractive to club use due to quality and / or cost.

- F61) Suggested provision of pitch sizes in the sub-area sections which follow needs to be considered flexibly as calculator outputs for future provision are projections and do not reflect specificity of team composition on the ground. Therefore, provision could be made, for example, for 1 x 11v11 instead of 4 x 5v5 pitches to ensure that flexibility is there in the long-term for clubs to adapt pitch sizes and markings to the needs of teams they have at any given point in time.
- F62) New grass pitches should be secure and, where feasible, be resistant to dog fouling and vandalism.
- F63) New grass pitches should be provided to a “good” quality, with programmes put in place and managed to help ensure that this quality is retained into the future.
- F64) Provision of new additional pitches which increase net capacity / supply will need to respond to demonstrable demand “on the ground”. This is particularly important in the latter part of the strategy period to ensure that supply responds to demand which has actually or will come forward.
- F65) For development detailed in the adopted Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule / infrastructure list, CIL monies could be secured towards the upgrade and management of existing strategic outdoor sports and recreation provision and creation of new provision and associated facilities (this includes playing pitches as identified in the PPS). However, it is recommended that local authority officers consider the benefits of bringing forward new and improved facilities related to development through s106 planning obligations as the most appropriate mechanism to understand and apply requirements generated for sports pitches and ancillary facilities by a given population.
- F66) Support provision of or contributions to fund new full-size sports-lit 3G pitches where certainty of delivery of the intended new 3G is or can be put in place (for example, planning permission secured) and mitigation of loss of the existing grass pitch on which the 3G would be built is considered satisfactory.
- F67) Enable opportunity for club progression up the FA pyramid by ensuring that one or more pitches can meet FA requirements for progression to the next step.
- F68) The provision of additional pitches and / or facilities should be closely co-ordinated between NGBs, clubs, leagues, Sport England, the local authority, and the land owner (where not one of the aforementioned bodies).
- F69) Ensure that usage plans are developed for new 3Gs and include agreement on the balance of use between rugby and other sports where relevant.
- F70) In cases where mitigation is required as the result of a loss of a pitch to development, and that mitigation is in the form of off-site contributions, to ensure certainty that the contributions can be used to deliver the intended provision in part or in full (and in turn help to address any “knock-on” mitigation required on the site to which the contribution applies), the Local Planning Authority should consider introducing a Grampian condition<sup>37</sup> on permission to

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<sup>37</sup> See <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/use-of-planning-conditions#application-of-the-six-tests> for further details on use of Grampian conditions. Section - “when can conditions be used relating to land not in control of the applicant?” Paragraph: 009

ensure that mitigation is delivered as intended (and therefore certainty of delivery is guaranteed).

F71) A “plan, deliver, monitor, manage” approach should therefore be taken to the management and any necessary “re-packaging” of existing supply (if necessary) and the provision of additional capacity.

F72) Given the nature of demand, provision set out in the sub-area sections below may require adjustment during the strategy period, and provision should be considered in a flexible way to allow provision of additional supply in one area to respond to demand which arises in another, in other words, reflecting spatial need across sub-area boundaries and likely travel times to the nearest pitch.

## **Sub-Area Specific**

### **North**

F73) Within this sub-area, the following measures should be taken to address the current and projected demand:

- a. Should quality improvements be achievable to improve the quality and capacity of existing pitches on club grounds to “standard” quality from “poor” and to improve “standard” quality pitches to “good” where indicated in “ENHANCE”, deliver 1x 11v11, 4 x 9v9, 2 x 7v7 and 2 x 5v5 good quality pitches in one or more of the following locations, to respond to demand:
  - i. Wheatley;
  - ii. Holton;
  - iii. Edge of Oxford locations;
  - iv. responding to demand at Wheatley FC.

F74) Provide an additional 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G in the Wheatley / Holton / Edge of Oxford area (location to be determined, but possibly on the Wheatley Playing Fields as part mitigation for loss on Oxford Brookes Wheatley development site).

F75) Provide an additional 0.5 x full-size sports-lit 3G, possibly provided in conjunction with the need to provide for demand for rugby (see rugby recommendations). Exported demand from Oxford City could increase demand to provision of a full-size sports-lit pitch during the strategy period.

### **South**

F76) Deliver proposed pitches “in the pipeline” to meet demand arising in those locations. This means the pitches at:

- a. Land at Highlands Farm, Henley, to deliver 2 x 9v9 pitches and associated necessary ancillary facilities;

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reference id: 21a-009-20140306. The NPPG states that Grampian conditions are conditions which are “prohibiting development authorised by the planning permission or other aspects linked to the planning permission (eg occupation of premises) until a specified action has been taken (such as the provision of supporting infrastructure)”.



- b. Sheepcot Recreation Ground, to deliver 1 x 7v7 3G sports-lit pitch and associated ancillary facilities;
- c. Jubilee Park, Henley, where proposals for a new full-size sports-lit 3G should be supported; and,
- d. 1 x 9v9 at Sonning Common Memorial Park.

F77) Support provision of or contributions to fund a new full-size sports-lit 3G pitch at the Rotherfield Utd (Bishopswood) home ground where certainty of delivery of the new 3G is or can be put in place (for example, planning permission secured) and mitigation of loss of the existing grass pitch on which the 3G would be built is considered satisfactory.

## **West**

F78) Deliver pitches to respond to additional demand arising from growth in population from the strategic housing allocations:

- a. From demand arising from Culham Science Centre, deliver 2 x 11v11, 4 x 9v9, 2 x 7v7 and 2 x 5v5 pitches and associated necessary ancillary facilities. To ensure their use, identify either an existing club or clubs which can relocate to the pitches as a new home ground, an existing club which will use the pitches at a home ground in addition to its existing home ground, or that capacity and support exists to create a new club. Option to respond to 3G demand from development, use contribution from development of 0.49 x 3G pitch and top-up to deliver 1 x sports-lit 3G pitch at Culham.
- b. From demand arising from Berinsfield, deliver 1 x 11v11, 2 x 9v9, 1 x 7v7 and 1 x 5v5 pitches and associated necessary ancillary facilities. To ensure their use, identify either an existing club or clubs which can relocate to the pitches as a new home ground, an existing club which will use the pitches at a home ground in addition to its existing home ground, or that capacity and support exists to create a new club. Option to respond to 3G demand from development, extend existing 3G to half size 3G. Consider the mix and location of provision for football – either retaining existing provision and providing new pitches on the development site, or moving all football onto the new development site.
- c. From demand arising from Grenoble Road, deliver 2 x 11v11, 4 x 9v9, 2 x 7v7 and 1 x 5v5 pitches and associated necessary ancillary facilities. To ensure their use, identify either an existing club or clubs which can relocate to the pitches as a new home ground, an existing club which will use the pitches at a home ground in addition to its existing home ground, or that capacity and support exists to create a new club. To respond to 3G demand from development, add 0.25 x 3G full-size pitch of demand arising from Northfield development to the 0.42 x 3G demand from Grenoble Road and top-up to 1 x full-size 3G sports-lit pitch to be provided on this site.
- d. From demand arising from Northfield, deliver 1 x 11v11, 3 x 9v9, 1 x 7v7 and 1 5v5 pitches and associated necessary ancillary facilities. To ensure their use, identify either an existing club or clubs which can relocate to the pitches as a new home ground, an existing club which will use the pitches at a home ground in addition to its existing home ground, or that capacity and support exists to create a new club. To respond to 3G demand from

development, add 0.25 x 3G full-size pitch to provision to be made on Grenoble Road development.

- e. From demand arising from Chalgrove Airfield, should the development come forward<sup>38</sup>, deliver 2 x 11v11, 4 x 9v9, 3 x 7v7 / 5v5 pitches and associated necessary ancillary facilities. To ensure their use, identify either an existing club or clubs which can relocate to the pitches as a new home ground, an existing club which will use the pitches at a home ground in addition to its existing home ground, or that capacity and support exists to create a new club. Option to respond to 3G demand from development to take 3G demand contributions and use to extend the 3G pitch at Berinsfield, with timing subject to viability.

F79) Deliver proposed pitches “in the pipeline” to meet demand arising in those locations. This means that pitches at:

- Land at Didcot North-east, to deliver 3 x 11v11 pitches and 5 x Youth 7v7 pitches and associated necessary ancillary facilities;
- Land West of Wallingford (north of and adjacent to Wallingford Sports Park), to deliver 2 x 9v9 pitches;
- Resurfacing of the Abbey Sports Centre, Berinsfield - 1 x 3G 5v5 (quality improvement, replacement of sand surface, to be delivered in 2023).

F80) Provide an additional 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G in Didcot, as part of a strategic consolidation plan for provision for sport in the town and within the context of timing of when the 3G at Valley Park (Common Park site) will be delivered. Should enough demand arise in the middle to late part of the period for an additional 3G, a 3G could be considered to serve a wider catchment at, for example, The Heights, Milton United (in Vale of White Horse).

F81) Provide an additional 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G in Wallingford, within the context of improvements at Wallingford Sports Park (also see hockey and rugby assessment reports and Facilities Assessment report). The local authority, NGBs, Sport England and Wallingford Sports Trust should work together on a preferred masterplan for the Sports Park site which either:

- a. Best accommodates all of the growing clubs’ needs on the site and resolves the current parking issues for the site; or,
- b. Finds an alternative new strategic sports hub site which can accommodate growth for all clubs to 2041; or,

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<sup>38</sup> The adopted South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035 allocates Land at Chalgrove Airfield for 3,000 homes. As of January 2024, there is no live planning application for this site. The emerging Joint Local Plan proposes to de-allocate this site for residential development. However, for the purposes of this strategy we have assessed the need generated by this allocation as it currently forms part of the development plan, and may be needed if the council receives a planning application on this site prior to the adoption of the Joint Local Plan. If the Joint Local Plan is adopted on the basis of removing the allocation, and no planning permission is in place, then the requirements for Chalgrove Airfield will not be implemented. If the site does not come forward for development, ensure, through monitoring, that sufficient pitch capacity is provided elsewhere in the sub-area, within the context of the overall strategy of provision in the sub-area, to cater for demand arising from the estimated population.

- c. Finds an additional location for a sports hub in the town, consolidating two sports on the existing site and providing a new home location for one or more sports on an additional site. Consideration would also need to be given with regard to where and how best to accommodate other sports on the site such as tennis and archery (also see Facilities Assessment).

F82) Provide an additional 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G in the sub-area, subject to where demand arises, in the middle to latter part of the strategy period, perhaps in response to demand arising on the edge of Oxford, Wallingford or Didcot, or through provision of 2 x 0.5 size pitches in two locations.

### **East**

F83) Within this sub-area, the following measures should be taken to address the current and projected demand:

- a. Should quality improvements be achievable to improve the quality and capacity of existing pitches on club grounds to “standard” quality from “poor” and to improve “standard” quality pitches to “good” where indicated in “ENHANCE”, deliver 3 x 11v11 and 5 x 9v9 good quality pitches in one or more of the following locations, to respond to demand:
  - i. Thame (for example, at Southern Road Recreation Ground);
  - ii. Watlington (for example, considering Watlington Parish Councils ambitions for additional pitches);
  - iii. Chinnor.

F84) Provide an additional 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G should demand arise in the middle part of the strategy period, in the Thame, Watlington or Chinnor areas.

F85) Support delivery of replacement changing facilities at Southern Road Recreation Ground, Thame.

## HOCKEY

### PROTECT

#### District-wide

- H1) Protect the existing supply of pitches (and the capacity they provide) identified in the assessment (for existing known, projected and potential additional currently unidentified future demand) unless replacement capacity is provided.
- H2) Maintain all AGP surfaces and lighting to the appropriate quality standard.
- H3) Protect the capacity available for hockey use on England Hockey Category 1, 2 and 3 surfaces. Consultation should take place between providers, clubs, England Hockey, Football Association and the Football Foundation prior to any change in surface type is introduced (for example, from sand to 3G). A change of surface type (or carpet) will require planning application and applicants will have to show that there is sufficient AGP provision available for hockey within the demand catchment if the surface is changed. Advice from Sport England and England Hockey should be sought prior to any planning application being submitted. In the event of any proposed replacement of an AGP pitch used for hockey with a 3G pitch, to ensure protection of capacity for hockey, any replacement capacity must be provided for hockey clubs at the same site or an alternative site convenient for the club to access within the same settlement or wider sub-area if not feasible.
- H4) For the future long-term sustainability of hockey clubs (with regard to financial viability and maximising the availability of volunteer / coaches' time) a "one site model" for focusing club activity on one central site for each club should be followed.
- H5) Protect the current number of hours used by hockey in the peak period as a minimum (i.e. seek to prevent use by additional football training on pitches used for hockey).
- H6) Seek agreement between hockey (England Hockey) and football (Football Association), and with providers and clubs, about timely sole or priority use of sand based full size secure use AGPs within the context of the football assessment conclusions and recommendations.
- H7) Proposals for development which have an implication for the use of an existing pitch (such as change of land use) should take into account the recommendations of this strategy and policies of relevance in adopted Development Plans relevant to the site / pitch (i.e. Adopted Local Plans, other Development Plan Documents and Made Neighbourhood Plans).

#### Sub-Area Specific

##### South

- H8) There is sufficient demand at the current time and projected during the strategy period to 2041 to warrant protection of the sand-based surface at Jubilee Park, Henley for use by Henley HC. Existing slots used by the club should be protected for hockey use.

##### West



- H9) There is sufficient demand at the current time and projected during the strategy period to 2041 to warrant protection of the sand-based surface at Wallingford Sports Park for use by Wallingford HC. Existing slots used by the club should be protected for hockey use.

### **East**

- H10) There is sufficient demand at the current time and projected during the strategy period to 2041 to warrant protection of the sand-based surface at Lord Williams' Academy, used by Thame HC. Existing slots used by the club should be protected for hockey use.

## **ENHANCE**

### **District-wide**

- H11) Gain formal agreement or security of use of the unsecure pitches used by clubs to provide certainty of supply for hockey.
- H12) Support proposals for improved energy efficiency and localised renewable and low carbon energy generation at facilities and grounds through measures such as LED lighting, solar pv, heat pumps and building insulation.
- H13) Work with partners and key stakeholders to improve sustainable travel options to grounds, pitches and facilities at times when players are most likely to travel to and from the sites.
- H14) Support provision of secure cycle stands and ev vehicle charge points at club and other providers' grounds and facilities to enhance provision for low carbon forms of travel.

### **Sub-Area Specific**

#### **South**

- H15) Support the Henley HC to gain a more secure agreement with Henley Town Council to retain use of the pitch in the long-term. Also support enhancements to changing facilities and protect the club's lease and use of the changing facilities, including if and when the changing room facilities are relocated.
- H16) Until a new 3G is provided at Jubilee Park, work with the club to help ensure that hockey time slots are protected for hockey use. When the new 3G is delivered, NGBs, the local authority and clubs should work with the Town Council to help ensure that football demand migrates from the sand based pitch to the 3G pitch to free-up much needed capacity for the hockey club.

#### **West**

- H17) Support the club to gain a more secure agreement with one or more of the local school sites they have previously used (e.g. Wallingford School) to accommodate overspill in demand for matches. These could play an important role moving forward, and until a 3G is delivered in Wallingford for football use to migrate to, capacity will continue to be an issue on the Sports Park site. However, this does not help with evening training due to sports-lighting restrictions at the school.

## **East**

- H18) Gain formal agreement or security of use of the unsecure pitch at Lord Williams' Academy, used by Thame HC, to provide certainty of supply for hockey club use. Ensure that the agreement is monitored and enforced.
- H19) Seek improvements to the quality of the lighting at Lord Williams' Academy, taking the opportunity to provide low energy directional LED lighting to acceptable standards for hockey match play and training. Support provision of a Gen2 / other sand based surface for hockey when the current surface is due to be resurfaced.

## **PROVIDE**

### **District-wide**

- H20) Where the loss of an existing pitch is unavoidable, provide replacement pitch capacity on a surface compliant for hockey use to good quality standard in a single site / location appropriate to demand to mitigate loss.
- H21) Ensure that proposals for new AGPs, and ancillary facilities, are provided outside of flood risk zones, or provision can be satisfactorily tested through the sequential and exceptions tests to mitigate satisfactorily against adverse impact and risk.
- H22) Ensure that proposals for new AGPs:
  - a. satisfy tests applied by the local authority in relation to carbon emissions, whole lifecycle of materials and requirements for net gains in biodiversity.
- H23) Ensure that the provision of any new pitches and facilities meet the most up-to-date quality design standards and dimensions supported by the NGB and Sport England and include directional energy efficient LED sports lighting with a minimum of 350 lux.
- H24) Ensure that any new facilities and other associated pitch infrastructure are provided to meet the most up-to-date Building Regulations, including, but not restricted to, those relating to accessibility. Pitches should be secure; be easily and safely accessible by cycle, foot and public transport; have secure cycle storage / parking; electric vehicle charge points; and, have sufficient car parking spaces to accommodate demand for the use of the facility and any associated shared uses and comply with the most up-to-date Highways Authority, Local Planning Authority and Sport England requirements / guidance.
- H25) Ensure that any new pitches and facilities have a sustainable long-term business and financial management plan in place to ensure long-term viability. This must include arrangements for a sinking fund to ensure that the replacement or refurbishment of the pitch surface is viable when renewal is likely to be required. Sink funds established should be monitored to ensure that collection is taking place. It should also include a management and maintenance regime appropriate for the surface and level of use agreed with the appropriate bodies (for example, the District Council, England Hockey and / or Sport England).
- H26) Ensure that all new pitches and facilities have a secure community use agreement in place for the long-term (preferably in perpetuity) for peak period

use and that the appropriate body or bodies are identified to monitor and enforce such agreements. Pitches should be available for 38 peak period hours (Mon – Thurs 5pm-10pm, Fri 5pm-7pm and Sat – Sun 9am-5pm).

- H27) The provision of additional pitches and / or facilities should be closely co-ordinated between NGBs, clubs, leagues, Sport England, the District Council, and the land owner (where the latter is not one of the aforementioned bodies).
- H28) For development detailed in the adopted Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), CIL monies could be secured towards the upgrade and management of existing strategic outdoor sports and recreation provision and creation of new provision and associated facilities (this includes playing pitches as identified in the PPS). However, it is recommended that local authority officers consider the benefits of bringing forward new and improved facilities related to development through s106 planning obligations as the most appropriate mechanism to understand and apply requirements generated for sports pitches and ancillary facilities by a given population.
- H29) Monitor closely the change in demand to map against projected demand and understand the real demand “on the ground” for additional match and training time. Additional new pitch provision, if required, should be provided only in response to demonstrable demand “on the ground”, together with a full understanding of feasibility and viability. The delivery of additional pitches should be made in a timely fashion, i.e. co-ordinated in alignment with demand, availability of supply and risk of loss of existing supply on unsecure sites. A “plan, deliver, monitor, manage” approach should therefore be taken to the provision of additional capacity.
- H30) New AGP pitches will be considered as “development” and the local authority should consider applying requirements to proposals, through planning policy, for future new AGPs, which assess impact in relation to carbon emissions from development through to the long-term use of the pitch, sports lighting and ancillary facilities, the impact of travel to and from the site and how the local authority and other partners will help to mitigate the impact of travel by private car and encourage active travel, the life of the surface and recycling at the end of its life, confirmation of maintenance regimes and viability of funding for them in the long-term to ensure longevity of the surface, and how net gains in biodiversity will be achieved.
- H31) New AGPs should be located on a managed site hosted by a provider which will: adhere to the recommendations for pitches above; and, not rely on third party management of the pitch and ancillary facilities.

## **Sub-Area Specific**

### **South**

- H32) Should the new proposed 3G pitch be delivered in Henley at Jubilee Park for football use, migration of football use of the existing sand based AGP will free-up capacity for Henley HC to accommodate current demand and some future provision. Some additional pitch capacity could be necessary later in the strategy period to 2041 to accommodate growth. This cannot be accommodated on a small AGP as England Hockey does not support provision of small (less than full-sized) AGPs for club use. It will be important, therefore, that if additional supply is required, viability of an additional new full-

size pitch is fully tested and assured. A Gen2 or alternative surface which can accommodate more sports than just hockey could provide a solution. Demand should be monitored “on the ground” so that a response to demand can be made if necessary on this basis.

### **West**

- H33) Support provision of a full-size sports-lit 3G pitch on the Wallingford Sports Park site, or elsewhere, to accommodate football demand and enable migration of evening play to free-up time for the hockey club to fully use the sand based AGP.
- H34) Support provision of an additional full-size sports-lit sand based or Gen2 surface AGP on the site (or elsewhere in the town if part of a new hockey or sports hub – see below).
- H35) The local authority, NGBs, Sport England and Wallingford Sports Trust should work together on a preferred masterplan for the Sports Park site which either:
- a. Best accommodates all of the growing clubs’ needs on the site and resolves the current parking issues for the site; or,
  - b. Finds an alternative new replacement strategic sports hub site which can accommodate growth for all clubs to 2041; or,
  - c. Finds an additional location for a sports hub in the town, consolidating two pitch sports on the existing site and providing a new home location for one or more sports on an additional site. Consideration would also need to be given with regard to where and how best to accommodate other sports on the site such as tennis and archery (also see Facilities Assessment).
- H36) Consider provision of an additional new full-size sports-lit sand based or Gen2 surface towards the latter part of the strategy period to accommodate growth by that point, if appropriate, feasible and viable. Provision must only be made subject to demand being demonstrated “on the ground” in Didcot and the logistics being in place for an existing club (for example, Abingdon or Wallingford) to run a satellite site in the town (if there is appetite and volunteer capacity), for example, for juniors residing in Didcot.

### **East**

- H37) Work with hockey and cricket clubs in Thame to seek access to the cricket club pavilion for HC use.

### **North**

- H38) The appropriate level of off-site contributions for hockey sought from any new developments in this sub-area should be discussed between the local authority and England Hockey, given that the playing pitch calculator can only be used based on a baseline number of teams and club members (which in this sub-area is zero). Contributions should be focused on making improvements in existing provision at the clubs most likely to receive additional players from the location of the new development.

## **CRICKET**



## PROTECT

### District-wide

- C1) Protect the existing supply of pitches (and their capacity) identified in the assessment (for existing known, projected and potential additional currently unidentified future demand) unless replacement equivalent capacity can be provided elsewhere to an equal or better standard (i.e. “net improvements”) reflecting the demand and type of use required “on the ground” by clubs (also see PROVIDE recommendations).
- C2) Protection from loss also extends to where a club folds, as additional capacity on a lost ground and previously used for cricket may be required by other clubs and this should be explored in relation to potential demand where this scenario happens. Such sites also need protection for future supply as the anticipated growth in junior age groups moves through into the adult game towards during the strategy period.
- C3) Protect pitches by seeking to establish security of tenure for grounds / pitches currently considered as unsecure and explore community use on those not currently available (also see **Enhance** below). The implications of any changes to security of use will need to be understood and factored into planning for delivery during the strategy period.
- C4) Regular monitoring of the balance between supply and demand should take place to ensure that appropriate use of any available capacity is being made and confirm that any spare “headroom” capacity to accommodate growth is not considered as “surplus” to cricket use.
- C5) Proposals for development which have an implication for the use of an existing pitch (such as change of land use) should take into account the recommendations of this strategy and policies of relevance in adopted Development Plans relevant to the site / pitch (i.e. Adopted Local Plans, other Development Plan Documents and Made Neighbourhood Plans).
- C6) Where pitches are lost to formal pitch use, where appropriate, the Local Planning Authority should seek to ensure that there is significant policy protection through the Local Plan or Neighbourhood Plans or legal means to prevent their loss as open or green space.

### Sub-Area Specific

#### North

- C7) Protection of pitch supply is particularly important for all club pitches as the sub area is broadly at capacity.
- C8) Protect the currently “mothballed” pitch sites (at Horspath Sports Ground and The Parks Sports Centre (Wheatley) from development, holding in reserve to ensure that headroom capacity could be available to respond to potential demand if no other suitable site with existing use and headroom capacity is available.

## **South**

- C9) Protection of pitch supply is particularly important for all club pitches as the sub area is broadly at capacity.
- C10) Protect the currently “mothballed” pitch sites (at Langtree School) from development, holding in reserve to ensure that headroom capacity could be available to respond to potential demand if no other suitable site with existing use and headroom capacity is available.

## **West**

- C11) Protection of pitch supply is particularly important for all club pitches. Although there is some spare capacity at a couple of sites, all sites are in use by local clubs who provide cricket opportunities to their local communities.
- C12) Protect the currently “mothballed” pitch sites (at Acklings Sports Field, Cholsey Recreation Ground, Moulsoford Recreation Ground, St Birinus School, Wallingford School and Wallingford Sports Park) from development, holding in reserve to ensure that headroom capacity could be available to respond to potential demand if no other suitable site with existing use and headroom capacity is available.

## **East**

- C13) Protection of pitch supply is particularly important for all club pitches as the sub area is broadly at capacity.
- C14) Protect the currently “mothballed” pitch sites (at Lewknor Recreation Ground) from development, holding in reserve to ensure that headroom capacity could be available to respond to potential demand if no other suitable site with existing use and headroom capacity is available.

## **ENHANCE**

### **District-wide**

- C15) Gain the secure use of clubs’ pitches which do not currently have secure community use, to provide certainty of future supply and enable clubs and users to access necessary funding to invest in improvements.
- C16) Consider increasing the current use of existing pitches where spare capacity notionally exists, where physically, practically and logistically possible.
- C17) Support projected growth in the women’s and junior games by ensuring that the quality of pitches and ancillary facilities meets their needs (i.e. that they are fit for purpose) where junior and women’s teams play and train.
- C18) Support the training needs of clubs by providing in-situ practice nets where necessary to improve the capacity for training which can help retain the quality of pitches on the main square.
- C19) Support proposals for improved energy efficiency and localised renewable and low carbon energy generation at facilities and grounds through measures such as LED directional lighting, solar pv, heat pumps and building insulation.
- C20) Support the continual improvement of facilities, and the workforce that prepare them, to a good quality to help attract and retain players.

- C21) Work with partners and key stakeholders to improve sustainable travel options to grounds, pitches and facilities.
- C22) Support provision of secure cycle stands and ev vehicle charge points at club and other providers' grounds and facilities to enhance provision for low carbon forms of travel.
- C23) NGBs and the local authority should work with clubs, operators and providers, on sites where facilities and / or pitch areas are shared between sports, to ensure that management, maintenance and access is shared evenly and appropriately between sports, for example, through establishment of multi-sport site Trusts or other management bodies.

## **Sub-Area Specific**

### **North**

- C24) Gain the secure use of pitches which currently have unsecure community use at Great Haseley Playing Field and Stanton Road St John Recreation Ground to provide certainty of future supply.
- C25) Consider increasing the current use of existing pitches where spare capacity notionally exists, where physically, practically and logistically possible at Holton Playing Fields (Chinnor) and Stanton Road St John Recreation Ground.
- C26) Seek to address overplay at Tiddington Cricket Ground and Great Haseley Playing Field if overplay is causing reduction in pitch quality, through improved maintenance, replacement of surfaces (at artificial pitches), provision of in situ practice nets for training and / or provision of additional grass or artificial pitches.
- C27) Support the improvement of club ancillary facilities to provide fit for purpose facilities, to service current membership and the growth in the Women & Girls game at Tiddington Cricket Ground, Great Haseley Playing Field, Horspath Village Recreation Ground and Garsington Sports Club. This list will need to be monitored as more and more clubs establish new women & girls' sections.

### **South**

- C28) Gain the secure use of pitches which currently have unsecure community use at Checkendon Playing Field, Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground, Gardiner Recreation Ground, Prestcold Cricket Club, Whitchurch-on-Thames Cricket Club and Stoke Row Sports & Leisure Club to provide certainty of future supply.
- C29) Consider increasing the current use of existing pitches where spare capacity notionally exists, where physically, practically and logistically possible at Prestcold Cricket Club, Swyncombe Cricket Club and Whitchurch-on-Thames Cricket Club.
- C30) Seek to address overplay at Gallowstree Recreation Ground, Gardiner Recreation Ground, Peppard Common and Stoke Row Sports & Leisure Club if overplay is causing reduction in pitch quality, through improved maintenance, replacement of surfaces (at artificial pitches), provision of in situ practice nets for training and / or provision of additional grass or artificial pitches.

- C31) Support the improvement of club ancillary facilities to provide fit for purpose facilities, to service current membership and the growth in the Women & Girls game at Gardiner Recreation Ground and Stoke Row Pavilion. This list will need to be monitored as more and more clubs establish new women & girls' sections.

### **West**

- C32) Gain the secure use of pitches which currently have unsecure community use at Cow Common (Ewelme), Dorchester-on-Thames Recreation Ground, The Village Green (Marsh Baldon), Warborough Village Green, Ipsden Cricket Ground, The Recreation Ground Clifton Hampden and Cholsey Cricket Club to provide certainty of future supply.
- C33) Consider increasing the current use of existing pitches where spare capacity notionally exists, where physically, practically and logistically possible at Chalgrove Cricket Club, Cow Common (Ewelme), Dorchester-on-Thames Recreation Ground, The Astons Recreation Ground, The Village Green (Marsh Baldon), Ipsden Cricket Ground and The Recreation Ground Clifton Hampden.
- C34) Seek to address overplay at Crowmarsh Recreation Ground, Hales & Hayes Meadow, Warborough Village Green and Boundary Park if overplay is causing reduction in pitch quality, through improved maintenance, replacement of surfaces (at artificial pitches), provision of in situ practice nets for training and / or provision of additional grass or artificial pitches.
- C35) Support the improvement of club ancillary facilities to provide fit for purpose facilities, to service current membership and the growth in the Women & Girls game at Warborough Village Green, The Jubilee Pavilion & Recreation Ground, Chalgrove Cricket Club, The Village Green (Marsh Baldon) and Moreton Cricket Club. This list will need to be monitored as more and more clubs establish new women & girls' sections.

### **East**

- C36) Gain the secure use of pitches which currently have unsecure community use at Lord Williams' Academy (Upper School), Nettlebed Sports Ground, Watlington Sports Ground and MP Cricket Academy Sports Ground to provide certainty of future supply.
- C37) Consider increasing the current use of existing pitches where spare capacity notionally exists, where physically, practically and logistically possible at Station Road Playing Fields (Chinnor) and MP Cricket Academy Sports Ground.
- C38) Seek to address overplay at Aston Rowant CC and Nettlebed Sports Ground if overplay is causing reduction in pitch quality, through improved maintenance, replacement of surfaces (at artificial pitches), provision of in situ practice nets for training and / or provision of additional grass or artificial pitches.
- C39) Support the improvement of club ancillary facilities to provide fit for purpose facilities, to service current membership and the growth in the Women & Girls game at Aston Rowant CC, Thame Town CC, Tetsworth Sport & Social Club and MP Cricket Academy Sports Ground. This list will need to be monitored as more and more clubs establish new women & girls' sections.

## PROVIDE

### District-wide

- C40) Assuming that unsecure sites can be secured for community use and other measures to improve existing capacity have been taken, consider providing 81 additional grass pitches capacity, or 7 additional artificial pitches, or a combination of both grass and artificial is more realistic. This could be provided (on existing grounds rather than a new ground where feasible and where the provision of additional capacity equates to real availability on the days demand requires, the majority of which is likely to occur in sub-area North and South, followed by sub-area West. Where the additional demand is for capacity at existing club home grounds and there is no additional capacity on days when new teams require pitch use, an additional new ground may be required should the team generating the demand not be willing to play at sites where there may be available capacity when it is required.
- C41) Where the loss of an existing pitch or practice nets is unavoidable, provide replacement pitch capacity with secure community use to good quality standard in a location appropriate to demand to mitigate loss.
- C42) Ensure that the provision of any new pitches and facilities meet the most up-to-date quality design standards and dimensions supported by the NGB and Sport England.
- C43) Ensure that any new facilities and other associated pitch infrastructure are provided to meet the most up-to-date Building Regulations, including, but not restricted to, those relating to accessibility.
- C44) Ensure that any new pitches and facilities have a sustainable long-term business and financial management plan in place to ensure long-term viability.
- C45) Ensure that all new pitches and facilities have a secure community use agreement in place for the long-term (preferably in perpetuity) and that the appropriate body is identified to monitor and enforce such agreements.
- C46) Seek to provide additional capacity, where needed, at (or, if this is not possible, within close proximity to) existing club home grounds as a preference over sites far from home grounds, where physical, ownership and planning constraints do not prevent such change. This will help to ensure the long-term financial stability of clubs given the social tradition and culture of the sport.
- C47) For development detailed in the adopted Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulation 123 Infrastructure list, CIL monies could be secured towards the upgrade and management of existing strategic outdoor sports and recreation provision and creation of new provision and associated facilities (this includes playing pitches as identified in the PPS). However, it is recommended that local authority officers consider the benefits of bringing forward new and improved facilities related to development through s106 planning obligations as the most appropriate mechanism to understand and apply requirements generated for sports pitches and ancillary facilities by a given population.
- C48) In cases where mitigation is required as the result of a loss of a pitch to development, and that mitigation is in the form of off-site contributions, to



ensure certainty that the contributions can be used to deliver the intended provision in part or in full (and in turn help to address any “knock-on” mitigation required on the site to which the contribution applies), the Local Planning Authority should consider introducing a Grampian condition<sup>1</sup> on permission to ensure that mitigation is delivered as intended (and therefore certainty of delivery is guaranteed).

- C49) The total amount of additional supply should come from a variety of sources, i.e. the projected demand is unlikely to need to be delivered solely through additional, new, grass pitches. Increased capacity to this amount will come from a combination of:
- Improved maintenance on sites that are rated as poor which will increase the number of match equivalents that the pitch can sustain.
  - Provide replacement of surfaces (at artificial pitches) which will increase the number of match equivalents that the pitch can sustain.
  - Provide in situ practice nets for training to move the usage for training from the match pitches to the practice nets.
  - Provide additional grass or artificial pitches on existing sites to increase capacity, where feasible to do so.
  - Bringing “mothballed” pitches back into use where and when necessary, provided they are in close proximity to the identified demand (i.e. providing additional capacity on sites where grass pitches are not currently in use but where there have been pitches before);
  - Provision of new additional grass pitches at new grounds provided they are in close proximity to the identified demand.
- C50) The use of hybrid pitches in cricket is a new innovative technology but is currently not fully endorsed by the ECB. Research is ongoing in the recreational game and it will be sometime before the ECB will have detailed outcomes. This may change over the lifetime of the strategy and provide another option to increase capacity of existing sites.
- C51) A “plan, deliver, monitor, manage” approach should be taken to the provision of additional capacity. The combination of provision between grass and artificial pitches will also need to be provided to fit with real demand (for example, to match increased participation in the junior and women’s game should it materialise as projected / targeted by the ECB / the County Cricket Board)<sup>2</sup>.
- C52) The management of existing supply and the balance between supply and demand should be closely monitored and provision managed to ensure that supply (i.e. grounds) is best suited to the type and format of the game played and when matches take place. The provision of additional pitches and / or facilities should also be closely co-ordinated between the NGB, clubs, league administrators, Sport England, the local authority, and the landowner (where the latter is not one of the aforementioned bodies) to ensure that additional supply responds to required demand.

## **Sub-Area Specific**

### **North**

- C53) Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand to a total equivalent capacity of 18 additional grass pitch capacity, or 2 additional artificial pitches, or a combination of both grass and artificial is more realistic, across this sub-area.
- C54) Oxford Brookes University (Wheatley Campus) development to provide on-site cricket ground to mitigate the loss of the existing pitches and accommodate future additional demand from the development. The Section 106 has been agreed and the site will provide an adult cricket pitch with 8 pitch square and a two-lane practice net facility.
- C55) Providing for additional supply should come, broadly sequentially, following the process set out in the district-wide recommendation above in PROVIDE, bullet point ix).
- C56) If additional pitches are required, capacity increases should be concentrated at the following sites as these clubs are continuing to grow and require additional facilities to service this growth. It should be noted these sites are already at or close to capacity so securing access to existing grounds with spare capacity or providing new grounds should be considered as a priority. Each site needs to undertake an assessment to identify exactly how much and where additional capacity can be provided.
- Tiddington Cricket Ground
  - Great Haseley Playing Field
  - Horspath Village Recreation Ground

## **South**

- C57) Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand to a total equivalent capacity of 1 additional grass pitch capacity, or 1 additional artificial pitch, or a combination of both grass and artificial is more realistic, across this sub-area.
- C58) Providing for additional supply should come, broadly sequentially, following the process set out in the district-wide recommendation above in PROVIDE, bullet point ix).
- C59) If additional pitches are required, capacity increases should be concentrated at the following sites as these clubs are continuing to grow and require additional facilities to service this growth. It should be noted these sites are already at or close to capacity so securing access to existing grounds with spare capacity or providing new grounds should be considered as a priority. Each site needs to undertake an assessment to identify exactly how much and where additional capacity can be provided.
- Checkendon Playing Field
  - Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground
  - Gardiner Recreation Ground
  - Peppard Common
  - Stoke Row Sports & Leisure Club

## **West**

- C60) Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand to a total equivalent capacity of 34 additional grass pitch capacity, or 3 additional artificial pitches, or a combination of both grass and artificial is more realistic, across this sub-area.
- C61) Providing for additional supply should come, broadly sequentially, following the process set out in the district-wide recommendation above in PROVIDE, bullet point ix).
- C62) Didcot Northeast development will provide new on-site cricket ground to accommodate additional demand for cricket from the development. The final number of cricket pitches on the ground to be agreed.
- C63) Culham Science Centre Housing allocation will generate demand for around 8 grass cricket pitches. Demand arising from this site will probably be best dealt with a new ground to be constructed as part of the development. However, this should be in consultation with a local club so that an anchor tenant can be found from the outset and ensure the site is fully utilised as intended
- C64) Grenoble Road development and the Northfield development will provide demand for and additional 12 pitches. This demand is best dealt with by providing a new cricket ground on Grenoble Road utilising contributions from both Grenoble Road and the Northfield development. However, this should be in consultation with a local club so that an anchor tenant can be found from the outset and ensure the site is fully utilised as intended.
- C65) If the Chalgrove Airfield development is delivered, then it should be delivered by improvements to Chalgrove CC site which is adjacent to the potential development.
- C66) If additional pitches are required, capacity increases should be concentrated at the following sites as these clubs are continuing to grow and require additional facilities to service this growth. It should be noted these sites are already at or close to capacity so securing access to existing grounds with spare capacity or providing new grounds should be considered as a priority. Each site needs to undertake an assessment to identify exactly how much and where additional capacity can be provided.
- Crowmarsh Recreation Ground
  - Hales & Hayes Meadow
  - Warborough Village Green
  - Boundary Park
  - Cholsey Cricket Club

## **East**

- C67) Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand to a total equivalent capacity of 28 additional grass pitch capacity, or 3 additional artificial pitches, or a combination of both grass and artificial is more realistic, across this sub-area.
- C68) Providing for additional supply should come, broadly sequentially, following the process set out in the district-wide recommendation above in PROVIDE, bullet point ix).

- C69) If additional pitches are required, capacity increases should be concentrated at the following sites as these clubs are continuing to grow and require additional facilities to service this growth. It should be noted these sites are already at or close to capacity so securing access to existing grounds with spare capacity or providing new grounds should be considered as a priority. Each site needs to undertake an assessment to identify exactly how much and where additional capacity can be provided.
- Aston Rowant CC
  - Nettlebed Sports Ground
  - Thame Town CC

## RUGBY UNION

### PROTECT

#### District-wide

- R1) Protect the existing supply of pitches (and their capacity) identified in the assessment (for existing known, projected and potential additional currently unidentified future demand) unless replacement equivalent capacity can be provided elsewhere to an equal or better standard (i.e. “net improvements”) reflecting the demand and type of use required “on the ground” by clubs (also see PROVIDE recommendations).
- R2) Monitor the position in relation to clubs which have rolling annual, short and medium term leases or rental / hire arrangements for their home ground during the strategy period to ensure in advance of their expiry that they are renewed to provide certainty into a new period, preferably for the long-term.
- R3) Regular monitoring of the balance between supply and demand should take place to ensure that appropriate use of any available capacity is being made and confirm that any spare “headroom” capacity to accommodate growth is not considered as “surplus” to rugby union use.
- R4) Protect the quality of changing facilities through formal agreements to maintain the quality to a standard quality, at least, and improve to a “good” quality where possible.
- R5) Ensure that all existing and new pitches that are World Rugby 22 compliant are re-tested every two years to sustain certification.
- R6) Proposals for development which have an implication for the use of an existing pitch (such as change of land use) should take into account the recommendations of this strategy and policies of relevance in adopted Development Plans relevant to the site / pitch (i.e. Adopted Local Plans, other Development Plan Documents and Made Neighbourhood Plans).

#### Sub-Area Specific

##### North

- R7) Protection of pitch supply is particularly important for club pitches. In this sub-area, this means protecting from loss all pitches (and the entirety of the club home ground and facilities) used by Oxford Harlequins RFC (Horspath) (and others including Oxford Brookes University, Oxford University and Oxfordshire RFU, and Eire Og Oxford gaelic football club and Oxford Softball League in the summer months) and Wheatley RFC (Holton Playing Fields).
- R8) Protect the WR22 compliant 3G surface at Horspath from loss on the basis that it plays an important role in supporting demand from Oxford Harlequins RFC (and others including Oxford Brookes University, Oxford University and Oxfordshire RFU).

##### South

- R9) Protection of pitch supply is particularly important for club pitches. In this sub-area, this means protecting from loss all pitches (and the entirety of the club



home ground and facilities) used by Henley RFC and Reading Abbey RFC (Rose Hill).

R10) Protect the 3G at Henley RFC from loss given the use / capacity for training that it provides for the club.

### **West**

R11) Protection of pitch supply is particularly important for club pitches. In this sub-area, this means protecting from loss all pitches (and the entirety of the club home ground and facilities) used by Wallingford RFC (Wallingford Sports Park).

### **East**

R12) Protection of pitch supply is particularly important for club pitches. In this sub-area, this means protecting from loss all pitches (and the entirety of the club home ground and facilities) used by Chinnor RFC.

## **ENHANCE**

### **District-wide**

R13) Prioritise pitch quality improvements at secure community use grounds over unsecure community use grounds. Improving the carrying capacity of pitches should be aligned with provision of sports-lighting to ensure that additional capacity provided by pitch improvements can be practically utilised on weekday evenings. The specific programme of works required to improve a pitch's quality must be informed by an independent GMA / Pitch Power report instructed by the NGB, local authority or club. 2023 GMA report recommendations are captured in the data tables report for rugby.

R14) Gain the secure use of clubs' pitches which do not currently have secure community use, to provide certainty of future supply and enable clubs and users to access necessary funding to invest in improvements.

R15) Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities where necessary to help ensure the quality of the experience for the sport is enhanced.

R16) Improve the current use of existing pitches, where physically and logistically possible, by considering flexibility of when matches take place.

R17) NGBs and the local authority should work with clubs, operators and providers, on sites where facilities and / or pitch areas are shared between sports, to ensure that management, maintenance and access is shared appropriately between sports, for example, through establishment of multi-sport site Trusts or other management bodies.

R18) Support proposals for improved energy efficiency and localised renewable and low carbon energy generation at facilities and grounds through measures such as LED directional lighting, solar pv, heat pumps and building insulation.

R19) Work with partners and key stakeholders to improve sustainable travel options to grounds, pitches and facilities.

R20) Support provision of secure cycle stands and ev vehicle charge points at club and other providers' grounds and facilities to enhance provision for low carbon forms of travel.

## **Sub-Area Specific**

### **North**

R21) Enhance capacity on pitches used by Wheatley RFC and Oxford Harlequins by improving quality through improved drainage (where viable / subject to funding and a business plan being in place to ensure maintenance costs are catered for in the long-term), by introducing sports-lights where necessary and feasible and by improving surface maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. Pitch improvements should be made to enhance capacity to at least 3.25 match equivalents (D2/M2 rating) and improvements should follow the recommendations made in the most up-to-date GMA pitch assessment report.

### **South**

R22) Gain the secure community use of the pitches at Henley College (Rotherfield) used by Henley RFC for additional demand, to provide certainty of future supply.

R23) Enhance capacity on pitches at Henley RFC and Reading Abbey RFC by improving quality through improved drainage (where viable / subject to funding and a business plan being in place to ensure maintenance costs are catered for in the long-term), by introducing sports-lights where necessary and feasible and by improving surface maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. Pitch improvements should be made to enhance capacity to at least 3.25 match equivalents (D2/M2 rating) and improvements should follow the recommendations made in the most up-to-date GMA pitch assessment report.

### **West**

R24) Enhance capacity on pitches at Wallingford Sports Park used by Wallingford RFC by improving quality through improved drainage (where viable / subject to funding and a business plan being in place to ensure maintenance costs are catered for in the long-term), by introducing sports-lights where necessary and feasible and by improving surface maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. Pitch improvements should be made to enhance capacity to at least 3.25 match equivalents (D2/M2 rating) and improvements should follow the recommendations made in the most up-to-date GMA pitch assessment report.

### **East**

R25) Gain the secure community use of the pitch 4 at Chinnor RFC used by the club for additional demand, to provide certainty of future supply and enable improvements in quality to be achieved, and also gain secure community use of the pitches used by the club at Thame Showground.

R26) Enhance capacity on pitches at Chinnor RFC by improving quality through improved drainage (where viable / subject to funding and a business plan being in place to ensure maintenance costs are catered for in the long-term), by introducing sports-lights where necessary and feasible and by improving surface maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. Pitch improvements should be made to enhance capacity to at least 3.25 match equivalents (D2/M2 rating) and improvements should follow the recommendations made in the most up-to-date GMA pitch assessment report.

## PROVIDE

### District-wide

- R27) Where the loss of an existing pitch is unavoidable, provide replacement pitches or capacity to good quality standard in a location appropriate to demand to mitigate loss.
- R28) Ensure that proposals for new pitches, both grass and 3G, and ancillary facilities, are provided outside of flood risk zones, or provision can be satisfactorily tested through the sequential and exceptions tests to mitigate satisfactorily against adverse impact and risk.
- R29) Ensure that proposals for new and resurfaced 3G pitches:
- provide satisfactory protection and mitigation to minimise rubber crumb and other infill loss (retrofitting containment if necessary);
  - are constructed to meet FA and / or RFU recommended quality performance standards (subject to the demand the pitch is catering for) to meet performance testing criteria; and,
  - provide energy efficient directional LED sports-lighting;
  - satisfy tests applied by the local authority in relation to carbon emissions, whole lifecycle of materials and requirements for net gains in biodiversity.
- R30) Ensure that the provision of any new pitches and facilities meet the most up-to-date quality design standards and dimensions supported by the Rugby Football Union and Sport England.
- R31) Ensure that any new facilities and other associated pitch infrastructure are provided to meet the most up-to-date Building Regulations, including, but not restricted to, those relating to accessibility.
- R32) Ensure that any new pitches and facilities have a sustainable long-term business and financial management plan in place to ensure long-term viability, which includes usage plans. This includes, for 3G pitches in particular, the need for a sinking fund to retain funds during use for refurbishment or replacement of the surface and for recycling of the carpet and infill, a maintenance programme agreed between the provider, local authority and the RFU, and the provider must report to the local authority, Sport England and the RFU on an annual basis on the state of the sinking fund and statement of availability and use during the agreed peak period hours. Sinking funds established should be monitored to ensure that collection is taking place. The costs of hiring 3G pitch time and space will need to be competitive to help ensure future viability but it is important that, to help enable transition from use of grass for matches to maximise use of capacity on 3Gs at weekends, match play charges reflect those paid for grass pitch use.
- R33) Ensure that all new pitches and facilities have a secure community use agreement in place for the long-term (preferably in perpetuity), including secure tenure, and that the appropriate body is identified to monitor and enforce such agreements.
- R34) Seek to provide additional capacity, where needed, at (or, if this is not possible, within close proximity to) existing club home grounds as a preference over sites far from home grounds, where physical, ownership and planning constraints do not prevent such change. This will help to ensure the long-term financial

stability of clubs given the social tradition and culture of the sport. Developer contributions sought for pitch provision / improvements for rugby should (for example, from the Community Infrastructure Levy or section 106 planning obligations) where feasible within planning regulations be considered first as contributions towards existing rugby club sites given the nature of how and where rugby is played (as a club on-site based sport). This could help to avoid contributions being sought or spent inappropriately on sites which may be remote from existing club home grounds and infrastructure and help to ensure any new provision or additional capacity provided through development is used (and in the most effective way). Additional capacity could be provided through grass, hybrid or 3G pitches.

- R35) For development detailed in the adopted Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Infrastructure list, CIL monies could be secured towards the upgrade and management of existing strategic outdoor sports and recreation provision and creation of new provision and associated facilities (this includes playing pitches as identified in the PPS). However, it is recommended that local authority officers consider the benefits of bringing forward new and improved facilities related to development through s106 planning obligations as the most appropriate mechanism to understand and apply requirements generated for sports pitches and ancillary facilities by a given population.
- R36) Support provision of or contributions to fund new full-size sports-lit 3G pitches where certainty of delivery of the intended new 3G is or can be put in place (for example, planning permission secured) and mitigation of loss of the existing grass pitch on which the 3G would be built is considered satisfactory.
- R37) Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand.
- R38) The total amount of additional supply should come from a variety of sources, i.e. the projected demand is unlikely to need to be delivered solely through additional, new, grass pitches. Increased capacity to this amount will come from a combination of:
- a. Increase reliability of pitch use and improving the quality and / or maintenance regimes of existing pitches to improve quality to a D2/M2 rating to accommodate 3.25 match equivalents per week (where viable / subject to funding and a business plan being in place to ensure maintenance costs are catered for in the long-term) (see **Enhance**);
  - b. providing sports lighting to increase evening training capacity (see **Enhance**);
  - c. securing community use and security of tenure on current non-club unsecure sites if possible and feasible for club use, for example on education or other provider sites;
  - d. new additional pitches at existing club grounds where feasible, for example, through reconfiguration of existing pitch layouts to accommodate additional pitches, or provision adjacent or close to existing club sites; and / or,
  - e. WR22 compliant 3G pitch(es) to serve as strategic provision if other provision to accommodate overplay and additional demand cannot be catered for through the above measures. (If a shared rugby and football

3G is seen as a solution for both sports, a programme of use and certainty of availability for each sport should be agreed.)

- R39) New additional pitches required should be provided as close to existing club grounds or provided on new sites which accommodate all club needs. Where this cannot be achieved and provision of s106 or CIL monies are not provided to enhance capacity at existing clubs sites, satellite grounds could be explored, but practical use will be dependent upon a club's ability to adequately run (and maintain) a satellite ground. Volunteer capacity must feature as one of the tests to assess viability and feasibility, amongst others, and other risks to the club's long-term sustainability and viability must be mitigated. An alternative option, subject to financial viability and critical masses required to ensure viability both at start-up and in the long-term could be the establishment of a new club at a new ground. All off-club site provision must take into account the RFU position on provision of pitch capacity and facilities away from existing club sites.
- R40) In cases where mitigation is required as the result of a loss of a pitch to development, and that mitigation is in the form of off-site contributions, to ensure certainty that the contributions can be used to deliver the intended provision in part or in full (and in turn help to address any "knock-on" mitigation required on the site to which the contribution applies), the Local Planning Authority should consider introducing a Grampian condition<sup>39</sup> on permission to ensure that mitigation is delivered as intended (and therefore certainty of delivery is guaranteed).
- R41) Provision of new additional pitches will need to respond to demonstrable demand "on the ground". This is particularly important in the latter part of the strategy period to ensure that projected demand has actually come forward. A "plan, deliver, monitor, manage" approach should therefore be taken to the provision of additional capacity.
- R42) The provision of additional pitches and / or facilities should be closely co-ordinated between the club, RFU, Sport England, the local authority, and the land owner (where not one of the aforementioned bodies).
- R43) Ensure that usage plans are developed for new 3Gs and include agreement on the balance of use between rugby and other sports where relevant.

## Sub-Area Specific

### North

- R44) Within this sub-area, the following measures should be taken to address the current and projected demand:
- a. Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand to a total equivalent capacity of 31.5 match

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<sup>39</sup> See <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/use-of-planning-conditions#Application-of-the-six-tests> for further details on use of Grampian Conditions. Section - "When can conditions be used relating to land not in control of the applicant?" Paragraph: 009 Reference ID: 21a-009-20140306. The NPPG states that Grampian Conditions are conditions which are "prohibiting development authorised by the planning permission or other aspects linked to the planning permission (eg occupation of premises) until a specified action has been taken (such as the provision of supporting infrastructure)".



equivalents across this sub-area with demand likely to arise at Oxford Harlequins RFC and at Wheatley RFC.

- b. Providing for additional supply should come, broadly sequentially, following the process set out in the district-wide recommendation above in PROVIDE.
- c. Should quality improvements be achievable to improve the quality and capacity of existing pitches on club grounds to accommodate 3.25 match equivalents per pitch, additional capacity should be provided to the following scale at the following clubs:
  - i. Oxford Harlequins RFC – provision to support a net additional demand of around 6-7 grass pitches with sports lighting, unless sufficient and appropriate capacity which meets the clubs needs for training and / or matches can be guaranteed for the club through provision of a WR22 compliant sports-lit 3G pitch. Given the club’s location, additional adjacent land to the north of the site could be considered as an area into which the current site could extend to provide additional grass and / or 3G pitch capacity.
  - ii. Wheatley RFC – provision to support a net additional demand of around 1 additional grass pitch.

Should pitch quality improvements not be deliverable on the existing pitches at these club sites, the additional carry capacity which would have been provided by the quality improvements should instead be provided on additional pitches over and above the net additional demand set out above.

- d. Consider how best to respond to the demand generated by the strategic allocation development at Oxford Brookes (Wheatley) following options set out in this assessment report.

R45) Provide additional changing facility capacity at Oxford Harlequins RFC and Wheatley RFC home grounds.

### **South**

R46) Within this sub-area, the following measures should be taken to address the current and projected demand:

- a. Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand to a total equivalent capacity of 35.25 match equivalents across this sub-area with demand likely to arise at Henley RFC and Reading Abbey RFC.
- b. Providing for additional supply should come, broadly sequentially, following the process set out in the district-wide recommendation above in PROVIDE.
- c. Should quality improvements be achievable to improve the quality and capacity of existing pitches on club grounds to accommodate 3.25 match equivalents per pitch, additional capacity should be provided to the following scale at the following clubs:
  - i. Henley RFC – provision to support a net additional demand of 1 grass pitch with sports lighting, unless sufficient capacity can be guaranteed for the club at the Henley College (Rotherfield site on grass or a

potential 3G pitch, through security of community use and hire / tenure (see ENHANCE).

- ii. Reading Abbey RFC – provision to support a net additional demand of around 2-4 grass pitches, unless additional capacity can be accessed through development of any 3G pitches which can cater for rugby training, for example, at Rotherfield Utd (Bishopswood).

R47) Support provision of enough changing facilities to support growth in the women's and girls' game at Reading Abbey RFC.

### **West**

R48) Within this sub-area, the following measures should be taken to address the current and projected demand:

- a. Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand to a total equivalent capacity of 13.25 match equivalents across this sub-area with demand likely to arise at Wallingford RFC.
- b. Providing for additional supply should come, broadly sequentially, following the process set out in the district-wide recommendation above in PROVIDE.
- c. Should quality improvements be achievable to improve the quality and capacity of existing pitches on club grounds to accommodate 3.25 match equivalents per pitch, additional capacity should be provided to the following scale at the following clubs:
  - i. Wallingford RFC – provision to support a net additional demand of 1 additional grass pitch with sports lighting, unless sufficient additional capacity can be achieved through access to a 3G which can cater for rugby training on the Wallingford Sports Park site, or elsewhere in the town if not feasible due to land constraints and other sports' use on the site.
- d. Consider how best to respond to the demand generated by the strategic allocation developments at Berinsfield and Culham, in relation to anticipated growth in demand at Abingdon RFC, and at the developments at Chalgrove Airfield (if it is delivered), Grenoble Road and Northfield, for all, following options set out in this assessment report.

R49) The local authority, NGBs, Sport England and Wallingford Sports Trust should work together on a preferred masterplan for the Sports Park site which either:

- a. Best accommodates all of the growing clubs' needs on the site and resolves the current parking issues for the site; or,
- b. Finds an alternative new strategic sports hub site which can accommodate growth for all clubs to 2041; or,
- c. Finds an additional location for a sports hub in the town, consolidating two sports on the existing site and providing a new home location for one or more sports on an additional site. Consideration would also need to be given with regard to where and how best to accommodate other sports on the site such as tennis and archery (also see Facilities Assessment).

R50) Provide additional changing facility capacity at Wallingford Sports Park for Wallingford RFC if necessary.

## **East**

R51) Within this sub-area, the following measures should be taken to address the current and projected demand:

- a. Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand to a total equivalent capacity of 24.35 match equivalents across this sub-area with demand likely to arise at Chinnor RFC.
- b. Providing for additional supply should come, broadly sequentially, following the process set out in the district-wide recommendation above in PROVIDE.
- c. Should quality improvements be achievable to improve the quality and capacity of existing pitches on club grounds to accommodate 3.25 match equivalents per pitch, additional capacity should be provided to the following scale at the following club:
  - i. Chinnor RFC – provision to support a net additional demand of around 5-7 grass pitches with sports lighting, unless sufficient capacity can be guaranteed for the club by securing community use and tenure / long-term hire of the pitches owned by Thame Showground. Should a 3G pitch be provided during the strategy period to support the recommendations in the football assessment (in the Thame / Chinnor / Watlington area), if provided in the Chinnor area, it could useful provide some capacity to support training for Chinnor RFC.

R52) Provide additional changing facility capacity at Chinnor RFC.

## Appendix 4: Recommendations Split by Sub-area

### DISTRICT-WIDE

#### PROTECT

##### Football

- F1) Protect the existing supply of grass pitches and AGPs identified in the assessment and their capacity (for existing known, projected and potential additional currently unidentified future demand) unless the strategy proposes their replacement or alternative re-use for sport, leisure and recreation or unless replacement equivalent capacity can be provided elsewhere to an equal or better standard (i.e. “net improvements”) reflecting the demand and type of use required “on the ground” by clubs. The PROVIDE section sets out criteria which responds to proposals where the loss of a pitch is unavoidable. Any proposals which suggest potential loss of a playing pitch or wider playing field to supply should respond appropriately to Sport England’s Playing Fields Policy<sup>40</sup>. It must not be assumed that the intensification of provision on an existing playing pitch or playing field site equates to satisfactory mitigation for loss of a grass pitch.
- F2) Where pitches are lost to formal pitch use, where appropriate, seek to ensure that there is significant policy protection through the Local Plan or Neighbourhood Plans or legal means to prevent their loss as open or green space.
- F3) Maintain the quality of existing pitches to at least current standards where they have a quality rating of “standard” or “good”.
- F4) The identified notional spare grass pitch capacity at pitches already used for matches should be retained during the strategy period to allow for “capacity headroom” and flexibility of provision to help accommodate growth to the end of the strategy period.
- F5) “Mothballed”, closed or lapsed pitches previously used for football and pitches rested or reserved on multi-pitch sites should be retained as green / open space to protect potential future long-term demand and capacity for football or other sports should demand suggest a need. It should be noted that reinstatement of pitches could require investment to ensure that they are available to a “good” standard of quality. Re-opening pitches could also have implications for ancillary facilities and the suitability or age-group of teams using the pitches. If such pitches are unavoidably lost, replacement should be made in line with Sport England’s Playing Fields Policy<sup>41</sup> to mitigate loss.
- F6) The supply / capacity provided by existing grass pitches within a 20-minute drive-time catchment of a new 3G pitch should not be considered for loss from formal use / supply until their capacity is replaced and utilised by operational secure community use 3G capacity and they are deemed surplus over and

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<sup>40</sup> See [https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/planning-sport?section=playing\\_fields\\_policy](https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/planning-sport?section=playing_fields_policy)

<sup>41</sup> See [https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/planning-sport?section=playing\\_fields\\_policy](https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/planning-sport?section=playing_fields_policy)

above the identified “capacity headroom”. No team should be left without its usual home grass pitch just because a 3G has been provided and transition from grass to 3G use must be well-managed.

- F7) Ensure that all existing and new pitches that are on the FA register are re-tested every three years to sustain certification.
- F8) Seek agreement between hockey (EH) and football (FA), and with providers and clubs, about which sport should have sole or priority use of sand based full size AGPs as new 3G pitches proposed are introduced.
- F9) Proposals for development which have an implication for the use of an existing pitch (such as change of land use) should take into account the recommendations of this strategy and policies of relevance in adopted Development Plans relevant to the site / pitch (i.e. Adopted Local Plans, other Development Plan Documents and Made Neighbourhood Plans).

## **Hockey**

- H1) Protect the existing supply of pitches (and the capacity they provide) identified in the assessment (for existing known, projected and potential additional currently unidentified future demand) unless replacement capacity is provided.
- H2) Maintain all AGP surfaces and lighting to the appropriate quality standard.
- H3) Protect the capacity available for hockey use on England Hockey Category 1, 2 and 3 surfaces. Consultation should take place between providers, clubs, England Hockey, Football Association and the Football Foundation prior to any change in surface type is introduced (for example, from sand to 3G). A change of surface type (or carpet) will require planning application and applicants will have to show that there is sufficient AGP provision available for hockey within the demand catchment if the surface is changed. Advice from Sport England and England Hockey should be sought prior to any planning application being submitted. In the event of any proposed replacement of an AGP pitch used for hockey with a 3G pitch, to ensure protection of capacity for hockey, any replacement capacity must be provided for hockey clubs at the same site or an alternative site convenient for the club to access within the same settlement or wider sub-area if not feasible.
- H4) For the future long-term sustainability of hockey clubs (with regard to financial viability and maximising the availability of volunteer / coaches’ time) a “one site model” for focusing club activity on one central site for each club should be followed.
- H5) Protect the current number of hours used by hockey in the peak period as a minimum (i.e. seek to prevent use by additional football training on pitches used for hockey).
- H6) Seek agreement between hockey (England Hockey) and football (Football Association), and with providers and clubs, about timely sole or priority use of sand based full size secure use AGPs within the context of the football assessment conclusions and recommendations.
- H7) Proposals for development which have an implication for the use of an existing pitch (such as change of land use) should take into account the recommendations of this strategy and policies of relevance in adopted Development Plans relevant to the site / pitch (i.e. Adopted Local Plans, other Development Plan Documents and Made Neighbourhood Plans).



## Cricket

- C1) Protect the existing supply of pitches (and their capacity) identified in the assessment (for existing known, projected and potential additional currently unidentified future demand) unless replacement equivalent capacity can be provided elsewhere to an equal or better standard (i.e. “net improvements”) reflecting the demand and type of use required “on the ground” by clubs (also see PROVIDE recommendations).
- C2) Protection from loss also extends to where a club folds, as additional capacity on a lost ground and previously used for cricket may be required by other clubs and this should be explored in relation to potential demand where this scenario happens. Such sites also need protection for future supply as the anticipated growth in junior age groups moves through into the adult game towards during the strategy period.
- C3) Protect pitches by seeking to establish security of tenure for grounds / pitches currently considered as unsecure and explore community use on those not currently available (also see **Enhance** below). The implications of any changes to security of use will need to be understood and factored into planning for delivery during the strategy period.
- C4) Regular monitoring of the balance between supply and demand should take place to ensure that appropriate use of any available capacity is being made and confirm that any spare “headroom” capacity to accommodate growth is not considered as “surplus” to cricket use.
- C5) Proposals for development which have an implication for the use of an existing pitch (such as change of land use) should take into account the recommendations of this strategy and policies of relevance in adopted Development Plans relevant to the site / pitch (i.e. Adopted Local Plans, other Development Plan Documents and Made Neighbourhood Plans).
- C6) Where pitches are lost to formal pitch use, where appropriate, the Local Planning Authority should seek to ensure that there is significant policy protection through the Local Plan or Neighbourhood Plans or legal means to prevent their loss as open or green space.

## Rugby

- R1) Protect the existing supply of pitches (and their capacity) identified in the assessment (for existing known, projected and potential additional currently unidentified future demand) unless replacement equivalent capacity can be provided elsewhere to an equal or better standard (i.e. “net improvements”) reflecting the demand and type of use required “on the ground” by clubs (also see PROVIDE recommendations).
- R2) Monitor the position in relation to clubs which have rolling annual, short and medium term leases or rental / hire arrangements for their home ground during the strategy period to ensure in advance of their expiry that they are renewed to provide certainty into a new period, preferably for the long-term.
- R3) Regular monitoring of the balance between supply and demand should take place to ensure that appropriate use of any available capacity is being made and confirm that any spare “headroom” capacity to accommodate growth is not considered as “surplus” to rugby union use.

- R4) Protect the quality of changing facilities through formal agreements to maintain the quality to a standard quality, at least, and improve to a “good” quality where possible.
- R5) Ensure that all existing and new pitches that are World Rugby 22 compliant are re-tested every two years to sustain certification.
- R6) Proposals for development which have an implication for the use of an existing pitch (such as change of land use) should take into account the recommendations of this strategy and policies of relevance in adopted Development Plans relevant to the site / pitch (i.e. Adopted Local Plans, other Development Plan Documents and Made Neighbourhood Plans).

## ENHANCE

### Football

- F21) Gain the secure use of clubs’ and teams’ home grounds / pitches which do not currently have secure community use, to provide certainty of future supply and enable clubs and users to access necessary funding to invest in improvements. This includes club or team use of pitches on education sites and any newly marked out pitches on any site. This could be through a secure community use agreement (where the local authority or other body is identified to enforce the agreement), long-term lease or long-term tenure of the ground, extending to ancillary facilities if possible.
- F22) Gain secure community use of unsecure 3G pitches.
- F23) Gain secure community use of unsecure sand based pitches where they are currently in use for football training and social / small-sided games to maintain security of supply until additional 3G pitches are delivered to accommodate training and informal / small-sided game demand.
- F24) Prioritise pitch quality improvements at secure community use grounds over unsecure community use grounds. Enhance capacity on existing pitches by improving quality, and improve maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. There should be a focus on improving secure use pitches rated as “poor” and “standard”, where feasible.
- F25) Improvement of unsecure community use pitches should be a second priority after secure use pitch improvements. Where unsecure use pitches are secured, they should be added to the programme of improvement set out in the sub-area sections below.
- F26) To inform fully, the specific programme of improvements to be made to a pitch to enhance quality, delivery must be informed by an independent GROUNDS MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION / Pitch Power report or equivalent, instructed by the NGB, local authority or club.
- F27) Enhance the quality of existing secure community use pitches or consider replacement where flooding / waterlogging is known to be a consistent issue over several seasons and is preventing consistency and certainty of play by improving drainage (where viable / subject to funding and a business plan being in place to ensure maintenance costs are catered for in the long-term).
- F28) Enhance the quality of existing pitches where they are subject to dog fouling by considering the introduction of open fencing and / or signage where cost effective to do so, where shared uses allow and practical to do so (in view of

the available space outside the pitch for recreational use and where shared pitch sites can be fenced without compromising the quality of summer sports' areas of play).

- F29) Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities where necessary to help ensure the quality of the experience for the sport is enhanced. Particular focus should be on supporting the growth of girls' and women's football through improvements which enhance the quality and accessibility of facilities.
- F30) Enhance where necessary, outside of the sites named in sub-area sections below, the quality of toilets and storage facilities, where improvements are required as a priority.
- F31) NGBs and the local authority should work with clubs, operators and providers, on sites where facilities and / or pitch areas are shared between sports, to ensure that management, maintenance and access is shared appropriately between sports, for example, through establishment of multi-sport site Trusts or other management bodies.
- F32) Improve the current use of existing pitches, where physically and logistically possible, by considering flexibility of when matches take place.
- F33) Support proposals for improved energy efficiency and localised renewable and low carbon energy generation at facilities and grounds through measures such as LED directional lighting, solar pv, heat pumps and building insulation.
- F34) Work with partners and key stakeholders to improve sustainable travel options to grounds, pitches and facilities.
- F35) Support provision of secure cycle stands and ev vehicle charge points at club and other providers' grounds and facilities to enhance provision for low carbon forms of travel.
- F36) Clubs should be encouraged to open-up facilities and pitches that they own and manage to other local clubs where there is capacity for them to do so (rather than allowing only their own teams to use their facilities and pitches).

## **Hockey**

- H11) Gain formal agreement or security of use of the unsecure pitches used by clubs to provide certainty of supply for hockey.
- H12) Support proposals for improved energy efficiency and localised renewable and low carbon energy generation at facilities and grounds through measures such as LED lighting, solar pv, heat pumps and building insulation.
- H13) Work with partners and key stakeholders to improve sustainable travel options to grounds, pitches and facilities at times when players are most likely to travel to and from the sites.
- H14) Support provision of secure cycle stands and ev vehicle charge points at club and other providers' grounds and facilities to enhance provision for low carbon forms of travel.

## **Cricket**

- C15) Gain the secure use of clubs' pitches which do not currently have secure community use, to provide certainty of future supply and enable clubs and users to access necessary funding to invest in improvements.

- C16) Consider increasing the current use of existing pitches where spare capacity notionally exists, where physically, practically and logistically possible.
- C17) Support projected growth in the women's and junior games by ensuring that the quality of pitches and ancillary facilities meets their needs (i.e. that they are fit for purpose) where junior and women's teams play and train.
- C18) Support the training needs of clubs by providing in-situ practice nets where necessary to improve the capacity for training which can help retain the quality of pitches on the main square.
- C19) Support proposals for improved energy efficiency and localised renewable and low carbon energy generation at facilities and grounds through measures such as LED directional lighting, solar pv, heat pumps and building insulation.
- C20) Support the continual improvement of facilities, and the workforce that prepare them, to a good quality to help attract and retain players.
- C21) Work with partners and key stakeholders to improve sustainable travel options to grounds, pitches and facilities.
- C22) Support provision of secure cycle stands and ev vehicle charge points at club and other providers' grounds and facilities to enhance provision for low carbon forms of travel.
- C23) NGBs and the local authority should work with clubs, operators and providers, on sites where facilities and / or pitch areas are shared between sports, to ensure that management, maintenance and access is shared evenly and appropriately between sports, for example, through establishment of multi-sport site Trusts or other management bodies.

## **Rugby**

- R13) Prioritise pitch quality improvements at secure community use grounds over unsecure community use grounds. Improving the carrying capacity of pitches should be aligned with provision of sports-lighting to ensure that additional capacity provided by pitch improvements can be practically utilised on weekday evenings. The specific programme of works required to improve a pitch's quality must be informed by an independent GMA / Pitch Power report instructed by the NGB, local authority or club. 2023 GMA report recommendations are captured in the data tables report for rugby.
- R14) Gain the secure use of clubs' pitches which do not currently have secure community use, to provide certainty of future supply and enable clubs and users to access necessary funding to invest in improvements.
- R15) Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities where necessary to help ensure the quality of the experience for the sport is enhanced.
- R16) Improve the current use of existing pitches, where physically and logistically possible, by considering flexibility of when matches take place.
- R17) NGBs and the local authority should work with clubs, operators and providers, on sites where facilities and / or pitch areas are shared between sports, to ensure that management, maintenance and access is shared appropriately between sports, for example, through establishment of multi-sport site Trusts or other management bodies.

- R18) Support proposals for improved energy efficiency and localised renewable and low carbon energy generation at facilities and grounds through measures such as LED directional lighting, solar pv, heat pumps and building insulation.
- R19) Work with partners and key stakeholders to improve sustainable travel options to grounds, pitches and facilities.
- R20) Support provision of secure cycle stands and ev vehicle charge points at club and other providers' grounds and facilities to enhance provision for low carbon forms of travel.

## PROVIDE

### Football

- F47) Where the loss of an existing pitch is unavoidable, ensure that replacement pitch capacity and associated facilities are provided to a good quality standard in a location appropriate to demand to mitigate loss. Opportunities should be taken to replace pitches to a better quality than the provision they are replacing.
- F48) Ensure that proposals for new pitches, both grass and 3G, and ancillary facilities, are provided outside of flood risk zones, or provision can be satisfactorily tested through the sequential and exceptions tests to mitigate satisfactorily against adverse impact and risk.
- F49) Ensure that proposals for new and resurfaced 3G pitches:
- provide satisfactory protection and mitigation to minimise rubber crumb and other infill loss (retrofitting containment where necessary) ;
  - are constructed to meet FA and / or RFU recommended quality performance standards (subject to the demand the pitch is catering for) to meet performance testing criteria;
  - provide energy efficient directional LED sports-lighting; and,
  - satisfy tests applied by the local authority in relation to carbon emissions, whole lifecycle of materials and requirements for net gains in biodiversity;
  - for new pitches, explore the provision on multi-pitch sites where demand can be demonstrated.
- F50) Ensure that the provision of any new pitches and facilities meet the most up-to-date quality design standards and dimensions supported by the FA and Sport England. Provision must ensure that all sexes, genders and age groups are supported and catered for. Any new grass pitches provided by a developer must be signed-off by an agronomist prior to "handover".
- F51) Ensure that new 3G pitches are marked out to cater for quarter pitch segregation and capable of hosting 11v11, 9v9, 7v7 and 5v5 matches. Essentially however, markings and design should be prepared aligned to an intended programme of use to ensure the pitch is best able to meet local demand.
- F52) Ensure that delivery of additional 3G pitch capacity takes into account use of non 3G based pitches by teams for training and is introduced in-step with demand required by hockey teams for additional sand based pitches.



- F53) Ensure that any new facilities and other associated pitch infrastructure are provided to meet the most up-to-date Building Regulations, including, but not restricted to, those relating to accessibility.
- F54) Ensure that any new pitches and facilities have a sustainable long-term business and financial management plan in place to ensure long-term viability which includes usage plans. This includes, for 3G pitches in particular, the need for a sinking fund to retain funds during use for refurbishment or replacement of the surface and for recycling of the carpet and infill, a maintenance programme agreed between the provider, local authority and the FA, and the provider must report to the local authority, Sport England and the FA on an annual basis on the state of the sinking fund and statement of availability and use during the agreed peak period hours. Sinking funds established should be monitored to ensure that collection is taking place. The costs of hiring 3G pitch time and space will need to be competitive to help ensure future viability but it is important that, to help enable transition from use of grass for matches to maximise use of capacity on 3Gs at weekends, match play charges reflect those paid for grass pitch use.
- F55) Ensure that all new 3G pitches and facilities have a secure community use agreement in place for the long-term (preferably in perpetuity) for community access for a 38 hour peak period<sup>42</sup> where feasible and that the appropriate body is identified to monitor and enforce such agreements. Providers should ensure that provision is made for different user groups during the peak period including clubs, pay and play, informal use and casual leagues.
- F56) Ensure, as far as possible, that any proposed new grass pitches have certainty of users (clubs / teams) committed to them and that commitments to the management and maintenance of the ground are in place prior to delivery. The management and operation of new pitches and facilities should rest with a single operator if possible.
- F57) Ensure that all new pitches and facilities have a secure community use agreement in place for the long-term (preferably in perpetuity) and that the appropriate body is identified to monitor and enforce such agreements.
- F58) Support opportunities to utilise sites not currently available for community use where the provider has indicated a desire to do so, where they fill a spatial gap in supply, address a local team's demand not already catered for locally and where secure use can be agreed.
- F59) Ensure that the supply of grass pitches can accommodate existing and future demand for matches in sync with the provision of additional 3G capacity. At no time should the total supply of grass pitches not be able to accommodate demand for play outwith 3G capacity and "on the ground" demand for match play by each age group within the structure of the game. The role of grass pitches is particularly important should the additional 3G capacity not be delivered.
- F60) Where needed, increased capacity and / or use of grass pitches to meet demand could come from a combination of:
- a) Increasing reliability of pitches through improved quality, drainage and maintenance;

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<sup>42</sup> The peak period is Mon-Thurs 5pm-9pm, Fri 5pm-7pm and Sat and Sun 9am-5pm.

- b) Considering better grouping of age groups (and therefore pitch types and sizes) on multi-pitch sites;
- c) Making better use of pitches which are available for community use but not yet currently used by teams, where additional community use on those pitches would not result in unacceptable wear which significantly reduces a pitch's ability to cope with the additional demand / use placed upon it (for example, careful consideration must be given to use of education site pitches if those pitches are already well-used by students during the week);
- d) Re-opening "mothballed", lapsed or closed pitches, where they provide supply in a location which can respond to demand. If such pitches are unavoidably lost, replacement should be made in line with Sport England's Playing Fields Policy<sup>43</sup> to mitigate loss; and,
- e) Provision of additional pitches in appropriate locations as demand requires during the strategy period to:
  - i. respond to growth in demand (as a result of club unmet and latent demand, club growth, growth in social / informal and non-club participation, increased population and spatial gaps in provision) where this cannot be catered for on existing pitches; and / or,
  - ii. provide new additional capacity on strategic housing allocation sites where a new club can be formed to fully utilise pitches provided, where such provision responds to demand arising from the new residents, and / or responds to insufficient supply locally to respond to demand, enabling an existing club to make the new pitches their home ground or an additional home ground. Such sites, if providing sufficient pitch capacity, could form new home grounds for nomadic clubs which currently play across more than one site and are looking to consolidate club activity in one location; and / or,
  - iii. replace and increase the capacity of existing pitches of poor or standard quality; or, which prove uneconomical to manage and maintain; or, are unattractive to club use due to quality and / or cost.

F61) Suggested provision of pitch sizes in the sub-area sections which follow needs to be considered flexibly as calculator outputs for future provision are projections and do not reflect specificity of team composition on the ground. Therefore, provision could be made, for example, for 1 x 11v11 instead of 4 x 5v5 pitches to ensure that flexibility is there in the long-term for clubs to adapt pitch sizes and markings to the needs of teams they have at any given point in time.

F62) New grass pitches should be secure and, where feasible, be resistant to dog fouling and vandalism.

F63) New grass pitches should be provided to a "good" quality, with programmes put in place and managed to help ensure that this quality is retained into the future.

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<sup>43</sup> See [https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/planning-sport?section=playing\\_fields\\_policy](https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/planning-sport?section=playing_fields_policy)

- F64) Provision of new additional pitches which increase net capacity / supply will need to respond to demonstrable demand “on the ground”. This is particularly important in the latter part of the strategy period to ensure that supply responds to demand which has actually or will come forward.
- F65) For development detailed in the adopted Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule / infrastructure list, CIL monies could be secured towards the upgrade and management of existing strategic outdoor sports and recreation provision and creation of new provision and associated facilities (this includes playing pitches as identified in the PPS). However, it is recommended that local authority officers consider the benefits of bringing forward new and improved facilities related to development through s106 planning obligations as the most appropriate mechanism to understand and apply requirements generated for sports pitches and ancillary facilities by a given population.
- F66) Support provision of or contributions to fund new full-size sports-lit 3G pitches where certainty of delivery of the intended new 3G is or can be put in place (for example, planning permission secured) and mitigation of loss of the existing grass pitch on which the 3G would be built is considered satisfactory.
- F67) Enable opportunity for club progression up the FA pyramid by ensuring that one or more pitches can meet FA requirements for progression to the next step.
- F68) The provision of additional pitches and / or facilities should be closely coordinated between NGBs, clubs, leagues, Sport England, the local authority, and the land owner (where not one of the aforementioned bodies).
- F69) Ensure that usage plans are developed for new 3Gs and include agreement on the balance of use between rugby and other sports where relevant.
- F70) In cases where mitigation is required as the result of a loss of a pitch to development, and that mitigation is in the form of off-site contributions, to ensure certainty that the contributions can be used to deliver the intended provision in part or in full (and in turn help to address any “knock-on” mitigation required on the site to which the contribution applies), the Local Planning Authority should consider introducing a Grampian condition<sup>44</sup> on permission to ensure that mitigation is delivered as intended (and therefore certainty of delivery is guaranteed).
- F71) A “plan, deliver, monitor, manage” approach should therefore be taken to the management and any necessary “re-packaging” of existing supply (if necessary) and the provision of additional capacity.
- F72) Given the nature of demand, provision set out in the sub-area sections below may require adjustment during the strategy period, and provision should be considered in a flexible way to allow provision of additional supply in one area to respond to demand which arises in another, in other words, reflecting spatial need across sub-area boundaries and likely travel times to the nearest pitch.

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<sup>44</sup> See <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/use-of-planning-conditions#application-of-the-six-tests> for further details on use of Grampian conditions. Section - “when can conditions be used relating to land not in control of the applicant?” Paragraph: 009 reference id: 21a-009-20140306. The NPPG states that Grampian conditions are conditions which are “prohibiting development authorised by the planning permission or other aspects linked to the planning permission (eg occupation of premises) until a specified action has been taken (such as the provision of supporting infrastructure)”.

## Hockey

- H20) Where the loss of an existing pitch is unavoidable, provide replacement pitch capacity on a surface compliant for hockey use to good quality standard in a single site / location appropriate to demand to mitigate loss.
- H21) Ensure that proposals for new AGPs, and ancillary facilities, are provided outside of flood risk zones, or provision can be satisfactorily tested through the sequential and exceptions tests to mitigate satisfactorily against adverse impact and risk.
- H22) Ensure that proposals for new AGPs:
- satisfy tests applied by the local authority in relation to carbon emissions, whole lifecycle of materials and requirements for net gains in biodiversity.
- H23) Ensure that the provision of any new pitches and facilities meet the most up-to-date quality design standards and dimensions supported by the NGB and Sport England and include directional energy efficient LED sports lighting with a minimum of 350 lux.
- H24) Ensure that any new facilities and other associated pitch infrastructure are provided to meet the most up-to-date Building Regulations, including, but not restricted to, those relating to accessibility. Pitches should be secure; be easily and safely accessible by cycle, foot and public transport; have secure cycle storage / parking; electric vehicle charge points; and, have sufficient car parking spaces to accommodate demand for the use of the facility and any associated shared uses and comply with the most up-to-date Highways Authority, Local Planning Authority and Sport England requirements / guidance.
- H25) Ensure that any new pitches and facilities have a sustainable long-term business and financial management plan in place to ensure long-term viability. This must include arrangements for a sinking fund to ensure that the replacement or refurbishment of the pitch surface is viable when renewal is likely to be required. Sink funds established should be monitored to ensure that collection is taking place. It should also include a management and maintenance regime appropriate for the surface and level of use agreed with the appropriate bodies (for example, the District Council, England Hockey and / or Sport England).
- H26) Ensure that all new pitches and facilities have a secure community use agreement in place for the long-term (preferably in perpetuity) for peak period use and that the appropriate body or bodies are identified to monitor and enforce such agreements. Pitches should be available for 38 peak period hours (Mon – Thurs 5pm-10pm, Fri 5pm-7pm and Sat – Sun 9am-5pm).
- H27) The provision of additional pitches and / or facilities should be closely co-ordinated between NGBs, clubs, leagues, Sport England, the District Council, and the land owner (where the latter is not one of the aforementioned bodies).
- H28) For development detailed in the adopted Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), CIL monies could be secured towards the upgrade and management of existing strategic outdoor sports and recreation provision and creation of new provision and associated facilities (this includes playing pitches as identified in the PPS). However, it is recommended that local authority officers consider the benefits of bringing forward new and improved facilities related to development through s106 planning obligations as the most appropriate

mechanism to understand and apply requirements generated for sports pitches and ancillary facilities by a given population.

- H29) Monitor closely the change in demand to map against projected demand and understand the real demand “on the ground” for additional match and training time. Additional new pitch provision, if required, should be provided only in response to demonstrable demand “on the ground”, together with a full understanding of feasibility and viability. The delivery of additional pitches should be made in a timely fashion, i.e. co-ordinated in alignment with demand, availability of supply and risk of loss of existing supply on unsecure sites. A “plan, deliver, monitor, manage” approach should therefore be taken to the provision of additional capacity.
- H30) New AGP pitches will be considered as “development” and the local authority should consider applying requirements to proposals, through planning policy, for future new AGPs, which assess impact in relation to carbon emissions from development through to the long-term use of the pitch, sports lighting and ancillary facilities, the impact of travel to and from the site and how the local authority and other partners will help to mitigate the impact of travel by private car and encourage active travel, the life of the surface and recycling at the end of its life, confirmation of maintenance regimes and viability of funding for them in the long-term to ensure longevity of the surface, and how net gains in biodiversity will be achieved.
- H31) New AGPs should be located on a managed site hosted by a provider which will: adhere to the recommendations for pitches above; and, not rely on third party management of the pitch and ancillary facilities.

## **Cricket**

- C40) Assuming that unsecure sites can be secured for community use and other measures to improve existing capacity have been taken, consider providing 81 additional grass pitches capacity, or 7 additional artificial pitches, or a combination of both grass and artificial is more realistic. This could be provided (on existing grounds rather than a new ground where feasible and where the provision of additional capacity equates to real availability on the days demand requires, the majority of which is likely to occur in sub-area North and South, followed by sub-area West. Where the additional demand is for capacity at existing club home grounds and there is no additional capacity on days when new teams require pitch use, an additional new ground may be required should the team generating the demand not be willing to play at sites where there may be available capacity when it is required.
- C41) Where the loss of an existing pitch or practice nets is unavoidable, provide replacement pitch capacity with secure community use to good quality standard in a location appropriate to demand to mitigate loss.
- C42) Ensure that the provision of any new pitches and facilities meet the most up-to-date quality design standards and dimensions supported by the NGB and Sport England.
- C43) Ensure that any new facilities and other associated pitch infrastructure are provided to meet the most up-to-date Building Regulations, including, but not restricted to, those relating to accessibility.



- C44) Ensure that any new pitches and facilities have a sustainable long-term business and financial management plan in place to ensure long-term viability.
- C45) Ensure that all new pitches and facilities have a secure community use agreement in place for the long-term (preferably in perpetuity) and that the appropriate body is identified to monitor and enforce such agreements.
- C46) Seek to provide additional capacity, where needed, at (or, if this is not possible, within close proximity to) existing club home grounds as a preference over sites far from home grounds, where physical, ownership and planning constraints do not prevent such change. This will help to ensure the long-term financial stability of clubs given the social tradition and culture of the sport.
- C47) For development detailed in the adopted Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulation 123 Infrastructure list, CIL monies could be secured towards the upgrade and management of existing strategic outdoor sports and recreation provision and creation of new provision and associated facilities (this includes playing pitches as identified in the PPS). However, it is recommended that local authority officers consider the benefits of bringing forward new and improved facilities related to development through s106 planning obligations as the most appropriate mechanism to understand and apply requirements generated for sports pitches and ancillary facilities by a given population.
- C48) In cases where mitigation is required as the result of a loss of a pitch to development, and that mitigation is in the form of off-site contributions, to ensure certainty that the contributions can be used to deliver the intended provision in part or in full (and in turn help to address any “knock-on” mitigation required on the site to which the contribution applies), the Local Planning Authority should consider introducing a Grampian condition<sup>1</sup> on permission to ensure that mitigation is delivered as intended (and therefore certainty of delivery is guaranteed).
- C49) The total amount of additional supply should come from a variety of sources, i.e. the projected demand is unlikely to need to be delivered solely through additional, new, grass pitches. Increased capacity to this amount will come from a combination of:
- Improved maintenance on sites that are rated as poor which will increase the number of match equivalents that the pitch can sustain.
  - Provide replacement of surfaces (at artificial pitches) which will increase the number of match equivalents that the pitch can sustain.
  - Provide in situ practice nets for training to move the usage for training from the match pitches to the practice nets.
  - Provide additional grass or artificial pitches on existing sites to increase capacity, where feasible to do so.
  - Bringing “mothballed” pitches back into use where and when necessary, provided they are in close proximity to the identified demand (i.e. providing additional capacity on sites where grass pitches are not currently in use but where there have been pitches before);
  - Provision of new additional grass pitches at new grounds provided they are in close proximity to the identified demand.

- C50) The use of hybrid pitches in cricket is a new innovative technology but is currently not fully endorsed by the ECB. Research is ongoing in the recreational game and it will be sometime before the ECB will have detailed outcomes. This may change over the lifetime of the strategy and provide another option to increase capacity of existing sites.
- C51) A “plan, deliver, monitor, manage” approach should be taken to the provision of additional capacity. The combination of provision between grass and artificial pitches will also need to be provided to fit with real demand (for example, to match increased participation in the junior and women’s game should it materialise as projected / targeted by the ECB / the County Cricket Board)<sup>2</sup>.
- C52) The management of existing supply and the balance between supply and demand should be closely monitored and provision managed to ensure that supply (i.e. grounds) is best suited to the type and format of the game played and when matches take place. The provision of additional pitches and / or facilities should also be closely co-ordinated between the NGB, clubs, league administrators, Sport England, the local authority, and the landowner (where the latter is not one of the aforementioned bodies) to ensure that additional supply responds to required demand.

## **Rugby**

- R27) Where the loss of an existing pitch is unavoidable, provide replacement pitches or capacity to good quality standard in a location appropriate to demand to mitigate loss.
- R28) Ensure that proposals for new pitches, both grass and 3G, and ancillary facilities, are provided outside of flood risk zones, or provision can be satisfactorily tested through the sequential and exceptions tests to mitigate satisfactorily against adverse impact and risk.
- R29) Ensure that proposals for new and resurfaced 3G pitches:
- a) provide satisfactory protection and mitigation to minimise rubber crumb and other infill loss (retrofitting containment if necessary);
  - b) are constructed to meet FA and / or RFU recommended quality performance standards (subject to the demand the pitch is catering for) to meet performance testing criteria; and,
  - c) provide energy efficient directional LED sports-lighting;
  - d) satisfy tests applied by the local authority in relation to carbon emissions, whole lifecycle of materials and requirements for net gains in biodiversity.
- R30) Ensure that the provision of any new pitches and facilities meet the most up-to-date quality design standards and dimensions supported by the Rugby Football Union and Sport England.
- R31) Ensure that any new facilities and other associated pitch infrastructure are provided to meet the most up-to-date Building Regulations, including, but not restricted to, those relating to accessibility.
- R32) Ensure that any new pitches and facilities have a sustainable long-term business and financial management plan in place to ensure long-term viability. which includes usage plans. This includes, for 3G pitches in particular, the need for a sinking fund to retain funds during use for refurbishment or replacement of the surface and for recycling of the carpet and infill, a maintenance programme

agreed between the provider, local authority and the RFU, and the provider must report to the local authority, Sport England and the RFU on an annual basis on the state of the sinking fund and statement of availability and use during the agreed peak period hours. Sinking funds established should be monitored to ensure that collection is taking place. The costs of hiring 3G pitch time and space will need to be competitive to help ensure future viability but it is important that, to help enable transition from use of grass for matches to maximise use of capacity on 3Gs at weekends, match play charges reflect those paid for grass pitch use.

- R33) Ensure that all new pitches and facilities have a secure community use agreement in place for the long-term (preferably in perpetuity), including secure tenure, and that the appropriate body is identified to monitor and enforce such agreements.
- R34) Seek to provide additional capacity, where needed, at (or, if this is not possible, within close proximity to) existing club home grounds as a preference over sites far from home grounds, where physical, ownership and planning constraints do not prevent such change. This will help to ensure the long-term financial stability of clubs given the social tradition and culture of the sport. Developer contributions sought for pitch provision / improvements for rugby should (for example, from the Community Infrastructure Levy or section 106 planning obligations) where feasible within planning regulations be considered first as contributions towards existing rugby club sites given the nature of how and where rugby is played (as a club on-site based sport). This could help to avoid contributions being sought or spent inappropriately on sites which may be remote from existing club home grounds and infrastructure and help to ensure any new provision or additional capacity provided through development is used (and in the most effective way). Additional capacity could be provided through grass, hybrid or 3G pitches.
- R35) For development detailed in the adopted Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Infrastructure list, CIL monies could be secured towards the upgrade and management of existing strategic outdoor sports and recreation provision and creation of new provision and associated facilities (this includes playing pitches as identified in the PPS). However, it is recommended that local authority officers consider the benefits of bringing forward new and improved facilities related to development through s106 planning obligations as the most appropriate mechanism to understand and apply requirements generated for sports pitches and ancillary facilities by a given population.
- R36) Support provision of or contributions to fund new full-size sports-lit 3G pitches where certainty of delivery of the intended new 3G is or can be put in place (for example, planning permission secured) and mitigation of loss of the existing grass pitch on which the 3G would be built is considered satisfactory.
- R37) Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand.
- R38) The total amount of additional supply should come from a variety of sources, i.e. the projected demand is unlikely to need to be delivered solely through additional, new, grass pitches. Increased capacity to this amount will come from a combination of:
- a. Increase reliability of pitch use and improving the quality and / or maintenance regimes of existing pitches to improve quality to a D2/M2

- rating to accommodate 3.25 match equivalents per week (where viable / subject to funding and a business plan being in place to ensure maintenance costs are catered for in the long-term) (see **Enhance**);
- b. providing sports lighting to increase evening training capacity (see **Enhance**);
  - c. securing community use and security of tenure on current non-club unsecure sites if possible and feasible for club use, for example on education or other provider sites;
  - d. new additional pitches at existing club grounds where feasible, for example, through reconfiguration of existing pitch layouts to accommodate additional pitches, or provision adjacent or close to existing club sites; and / or,
  - e. WR22 compliant 3G pitch(es) to serve as strategic provision if other provision to accommodate overplay and additional demand cannot be catered for through the above measures. (If a shared rugby and football 3G is seen as a solution for both sports, a programme of use and certainty of availability for each sport should be agreed.)
- R39) New additional pitches required should be provided as close to existing club grounds or provided on new sites which accommodate all club needs. Where this cannot be achieved and provision of s106 or CIL monies are not provided to enhance capacity at existing clubs sites, satellite grounds could be explored, but practical use will be dependent upon a club's ability to adequately run (and maintain) a satellite ground. Volunteer capacity must feature as one of the tests to assess viability and feasibility, amongst others, and other risks to the club's long-term sustainability and viability must be mitigated. An alternative option, subject to financial viability and critical masses required to ensure viability both at start-up and in the long-term could be the establishment of a new club at a new ground. All off-club site provision must take into account the RFU position on provision of pitch capacity and facilities away from existing club sites.
- R40) In cases where mitigation is required as the result of a loss of a pitch to development, and that mitigation is in the form of off-site contributions, to ensure certainty that the contributions can be used to deliver the intended provision in part or in full (and in turn help to address any "knock-on" mitigation required on the site to which the contribution applies), the Local Planning Authority should consider introducing a Grampian condition<sup>45</sup> on permission to ensure that mitigation is delivered as intended (and therefore certainty of delivery is guaranteed).
- R41) Provision of new additional pitches will need to respond to demonstrable demand "on the ground". This is particularly important in the latter part of the strategy period to ensure that projected demand has actually come forward. A

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<sup>45</sup> See <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/use-of-planning-conditions#Application-of-the-six-tests> for further details on use of Grampian Conditions. Section - "When can conditions be used relating to land not in control of the applicant?" Paragraph: 009 Reference ID: 21a-009-20140306. The NPPG states that Grampian Conditions are conditions which are "prohibiting development authorised by the planning permission or other aspects linked to the planning permission (eg occupation of premises) until a specified action has been taken (such as the provision of supporting infrastructure)".

“plan, deliver, monitor, manage” approach should therefore be taken to the provision of additional capacity.

- R42) The provision of additional pitches and / or facilities should be closely co-ordinated between the club, RFU, Sport England, the local authority, and the land owner (where not one of the aforementioned bodies).
- R43) Ensure that usage plans are developed for new 3Gs and include agreement on the balance of use between rugby and other sports where relevant.

## NORTH

### PROTECT

#### Football

- F10) Protection of grass pitch supply is particularly important for club pitches. In this sub-area, this means protecting from loss all pitches (and the entirety of the club home ground and facilities).
- F11) Protect the 3G pitch at Horspath from loss, even though there is little football use on the pitch (predominantly rugby), on the basis that plays an important role in keeping rugby demand away from football 3G pitches now and in the future.

#### Cricket

- C7) Protection of pitch supply is particularly important for all club pitches as the sub area is broadly at capacity.
- C8) Protect the currently “mothballed” pitch sites (at Horspath Sports Ground and The Parks Sports Centre (Wheatley) from development, holding in reserve to ensure that headroom capacity could be available to respond to potential demand if no other suitable site with existing use and headroom capacity is available.

#### Rugby

- R7) Protection of pitch supply is particularly important for club pitches. In this sub-area, this means protecting from loss all pitches (and the entirety of the club home ground and facilities) used by Oxford Harlequins RFC (Horspath) (and others including Oxford Brookes University, Oxford University and Oxfordshire RFU, and Eire Og Oxford gaelic football club and Oxford Softball League in the summer months) and Wheatley RFC (Holton Playing Fields).
- R8) Protect the WR22 compliant 3G surface at Horspath from loss on the basis that it plays an important role in supporting demand from Oxford Harlequins RFC (and others including Oxford Brookes University, Oxford University and Oxfordshire RFU).

### ENHANCE

#### Football

- F37) Enhance capacity on existing pitches by improving quality and improve maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. There should be a focus, where feasible, on improving the following pitches



rated as “poor” to “standard” as a priority, and then secure use “standard” pitches to “good”, where there are known pressures on demand identified by clubs. Pitches with secure community use should be prioritised:

#### *Standard*

- Grovelands Sports Ground 4 (1 x 9v9 pitch);
- Garsington Sports Club 1 (1 x 11v11 pitch); and,
- Wheatley FC (Holton Playing Fields).

Explore re-commencement of formal use of the adult 11v11 pitch at Little Milton, if there is confirmed demand by a local club.

### **Cricket**

- C24) Gain the secure use of pitches which currently have unsecure community use at Great Haseley Playing Field and Stanton Road St John Recreation Ground to provide certainty of future supply.
- C25) Consider increasing the current use of existing pitches where spare capacity notionally exists, where physically, practically and logistically possible at Holton Playing Fields (Chinnor) and Stanton Road St John Recreation Ground.
- C26) Seek to address overplay at Tiddington Cricket Ground and Great Haseley Playing Field if overplay is causing reduction in pitch quality, through improved maintenance, replacement of surfaces (at artificial pitches), provision of in situ practice nets for training and / or provision of additional grass or artificial pitches.
- C27) Support the improvement of club ancillary facilities to provide fit for purpose facilities, to service current membership and the growth in the Women & Girls game at Tiddington Cricket Ground, Great Haseley Playing Field, Horspath Village Recreation Ground and Garsington Sports Club. This list will need to be monitored as more and more clubs establish new women & girls’ sections.

### **Rugby**

- R21) Enhance capacity on pitches used by Wheatley RFC and Oxford Harlequins by improving quality through improved drainage (where viable / subject to funding and a business plan being in place to ensure maintenance costs are catered for in the long-term), by introducing sports-lights where necessary and feasible and by improving surface maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. Pitch improvements should be made to enhance capacity to at least 3.25 match equivalents (D2/M2 rating) and improvements should follow the recommendations made in the most up-to-date GMA pitch assessment report.

## **PROVIDE**

### **Football**

- F73) Within this sub-area, the following measures should be taken to address the current and projected demand:
- a. Should quality improvements be achievable to improve the quality and capacity of existing pitches on club grounds to “standard” quality from “poor” and to improve “standard” quality pitches to “good” where indicated

in “ENHANCE”, deliver 1x 11v11, 4 x 9v9, 2 x 7v7 and 2 x 5v5 good quality pitches in one or more of the following locations, to respond to demand:

- i. Wheatley;
- ii. Holton;
- iii. Edge of Oxford locations;
- iv. responding to demand at Wheatley FC.

F75) Provide an additional 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G in the Wheatley / Holton / Edge of Oxford area (location to be determined, but possibly on the Wheatley Playing Fields as part mitigation for loss on Oxford Brookes Wheatley development site).

F76) Provide an additional 0.5 x full-size sports-lit 3G, possibly provided in conjunction with the need to provide for demand for rugby (see rugby recommendations). Exported demand from Oxford City could increase demand to provision of a full-size sports-lit pitch during the strategy period.

### **Cricket**

C52) Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand to a total equivalent capacity of 18 additional grass pitch capacity, or 2 additional artificial pitches, or a combination of both grass and artificial is more realistic, across this sub-area.

C53) Oxford Brookes University (Wheatley Campus) development to provide on-site cricket ground to mitigate the loss of the existing pitches and accommodate future additional demand from the development. The Section 106 has been agreed and the site will provide an adult cricket pitch with 8 pitch square and a two-lane practice net facility.

C54) Providing for additional supply should come, broadly sequentially, following the process set out in the district-wide recommendation above in PROVIDE, bullet point ix).

C55) If additional pitches are required, capacity increases should be concentrated at the following sites as these clubs are continuing to grow and require additional facilities to service this growth. It should be noted these sites are already at or close to capacity so securing access to existing grounds with spare capacity or providing new grounds should be considered as a priority. Each site needs to undertake an assessment to identify exactly how much and where additional capacity can be provided.

- Tiddington Cricket Ground
- Great Haseley Playing Field
- Horspath Village Recreation Ground

### **Rugby**

R44) Within this sub-area, the following measures should be taken to address the current and projected demand:

- a. Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand to a total equivalent capacity of 31.5 match equivalents across this sub-area with demand likely to arise at Oxford Harlequins RFC and at Wheatley RFC.

- b. Providing for additional supply should come, broadly sequentially, following the process set out in the district-wide recommendation above in PROVIDE.
- c. Should quality improvements be achievable to improve the quality and capacity of existing pitches on club grounds to accommodate 3.25 match equivalents per pitch, additional capacity should be provided to the following scale at the following clubs:
  - i. Oxford Harlequins RFC – provision to support a net additional demand of around 6-7 grass pitches with sports lighting, unless sufficient and appropriate capacity which meets the clubs needs for training and / or matches can be guaranteed for the club through provision of a WR22 compliant sports-lit 3G pitch. Given the club's location, additional adjacent land to the north of the site could be considered as an area into which the current site could extend to provide additional grass and / or 3G pitch capacity.
  - ii. Wheatley RFC – provision to support a net additional demand of around 1 additional grass pitch.

Should pitch quality improvements not be deliverable on the existing pitches at these club sites, the additional carry capacity which would have been provided by the quality improvements should instead be provided on additional pitches over and above the net additional demand set out above.

- d. Consider how best to respond to the demand generated by the strategic allocation development at Oxford Brookes (Wheatley) following options set out in this assessment report.

R45) Provide additional changing facility capacity at Oxford Harlequins RFC and Wheatley RFC home grounds.

## **Hockey**

- H39) The appropriate level of off-site contributions for hockey sought from any new developments in this sub-area should be discussed between the local authority and England Hockey, given that the playing pitch calculator can only be used based on a baseline number of teams and club members (which in this sub-area is zero). Contributions should be focused on making improvements in existing provision at the clubs most likely to receive additional players from the location of the new development.

## SOUTH

### PROTECT

#### Football

- F12) Protection of grass pitch supply is particularly important for club pitches. In this sub-area, this means protecting from loss all pitches (and the entirety of the club home ground and facilities).
- F13) Protect the 3G surfaces at Henley YMCA and Henley RFC with both currently providing the only 3G supply in the town.
- F14) Protect the sand-based surface at Jubilee Park, Henley from loss, on the basis that it currently plays an important role in supporting demand from clubs for training and additional demand from informal, casual and small-sided league play, despite predominant use for hockey. The pitch may continue to play an important role moving forward, subject to the ability to deliver additional and pipeline 3G pitches, for example a 3G at Jubilee Park and aspirational rugby compliant 3G at Henley College (Rotherfield site).

#### Hockey

- H15) There is sufficient demand at the current time and projected during the strategy period to 2041 to warrant protection of the sand-based surface at Jubilee Park, Henley for use by Henley HC. Existing slots used by the club should be protected for hockey use.

#### Cricket

- C9) Protection of pitch supply is particularly important for all club pitches as the sub area is broadly at capacity.
- C10) Protect the currently “mothballed” pitch sites (at Langtree School) from development, holding in reserve to ensure that headroom capacity could be available to respond to potential demand if no other suitable site with existing use and headroom capacity is available.

#### Rugby

- R9) Protection of pitch supply is particularly important for club pitches. In this sub-area, this means protecting from loss all pitches (and the entirety of the club home ground and facilities) used by Henley RFC and Reading Abbey RFC (Rose Hill).
- R10) Protect the 3G at Henley RFC from loss given the use / capacity for training that it provides for the club.

### ENHANCE

#### Football

- F38) Gain the secure use of unsecure community use pitch sites through clubs and relevant authorities working with pitch providers / owners to seek a long-term secure use agreement to provide certainty of supply and reduce the need for additional secure use new pitches (where desirable by the club and provider). These include:

- Henley YMCA grass pitch (if not lost to development and replaced through mitigation);
- Maiden Erleigh Chiltern Edge School pitch<sup>46</sup>; and,
- The Oratory Preparatory School pitches.

F39) Enhance capacity on existing pitches by improving quality and improve maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. There should be a focus, where feasible, on improving the following pitches rated as “poor” to “standard” as a priority, and then secure use “standard” pitches to “good”, where there are known pressures on demand identified by clubs. Pitches with secure community use should be prioritised:

*Poor*

- Henley YMCA 1 (1 x 11v11 pitch), if not lost to or replaced as a result of development; and,
- Bishopswood Sports Ground (Rotherfield Utd) 5 (1 x 7v7 pitch) (improve to “good” quality).

*Standard*

- Sheepcot Recreation Ground (3 x 11v11, 2 x 7v7, 3 x 5v5 pitches);
- Gardiner Recreation Ground, Goring;
- Jubilee Park, Henley 2 (1 x 11v11 youth pitch); and,
- Bishopswood Sports Ground (Rotherfield Utd) (all pitches to be improved to a “good” quality).

F40) Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities where possible to help ensure the quality of the experience for the sport is enhanced (with a focus on those of “poor” quality listed below, and then those with “standard” quality). Pitches with secure community use should be prioritised:

*Poor*

- Bishopswood Sports Ground (Rotherfield Utd);
- Harpsden Football Ground.

Such improvements are particularly important to help grow participation in the women’s game and pitches hosting women’s teams should be prioritised where improvements are required. Improvement of unsecure community use pitch changing and other ancillary facilities should be a second priority after secure use site improvements. Where unsecure use pitches are secured, sites should be added to the programme of improvement set out in the list above.

## **Hockey**

H15) Support Henley HC to gain a more secure agreement with Henley Town Council to retain use of the pitch in the long-term. Also support enhancements to changing facilities and protect the club’s lease and use of

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<sup>46</sup> if not replaced or satisfactorily mitigated as a result of loss, in line with other relevant recommendations, development plan policies and Sport England’s Playing Fields Policy, should the current planning application for development on the site receive planning consent. Any replacement pitch should have secure community use.



the changing facilities, including if and when the changing room facilities are relocated.

- H16) Until a new 3G is provided at Jubilee Park, work with the club to help ensure that hockey time slots are protected for hockey use. When the new 3G is delivered, NGBs, the local authority and clubs should work with Henley Town Council to help ensure that football demand migrates from the sand based pitch to the 3G pitch to free-up much needed capacity for the hockey club.

### **Cricket**

- C28) Gain the secure use of pitches which currently have unsecure community use at Checkendon Playing Field, Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground, Gardiner Recreation Ground, Prestcold Cricket Club, Whitchurch-on-Thames Cricket Club and Stoke Row Sports & Leisure Club to provide certainty of future supply.
- C29) Consider increasing the current use of existing pitches where spare capacity notionally exists, where physically, practically and logistically possible at Prestcold Cricket Club, Swyncombe Cricket Club and Whitchurch-on-Thames Cricket Club.
- C30) Seek to address overplay at Gallowstree Recreation Ground, Gardiner Recreation Ground, Peppard Common and Stoke Row Sports & Leisure Club if overplay is causing reduction in pitch quality, through improved maintenance, replacement of surfaces (at artificial pitches), provision of in situ practice nets for training and / or provision of additional grass or artificial pitches.
- C31) Support the improvement of club ancillary facilities to provide fit for purpose facilities, to service current membership and the growth in the Women & Girls game at Gardiner Recreation Ground and Stoke Row Pavilion. This list will need to be monitored as more and more clubs establish new women & girls' sections.

### **Rugby**

- R22) Gain the secure community use of the pitches at Henley College (Rotherfield) used by Henley RFC for additional demand, to provide certainty of future supply.
- R23) Enhance capacity on pitches at Henley RFC and Reading Abbey RFC by improving quality through improved drainage (where viable / subject to funding and a business plan being in place to ensure maintenance costs are catered for in the long-term), by introducing sports-lights where necessary and feasible and by improving surface maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. Pitch improvements should be made to enhance capacity to at least 3.25 match equivalents (D2/M2 rating) and improvements should follow the recommendations made in the most up-to-date GMA pitch assessment report.

## **PROVIDE**

### **Football**

- F76) Deliver proposed pitches "in the pipeline" to meet demand arising in those locations. This means the pitches at:

- a. Land at Highlands Farm, Henley, to deliver 2 x 9v9 pitches and associated necessary ancillary facilities;
- b. Sheepcot Recreation Ground, to deliver 1 x 7v7 3G sports-lit pitch and associated ancillary facilities;
- c. Jubilee Park, Henley, where proposals for a new full-size sports-lit 3G should be supported; and,
- d. 1 x 9v9 at Sonning Common Memorial Park.

F77) Support provision of or contributions to fund a new full-size sports-lit 3G pitch at the Rotherfield Utd (Bishopswood) home ground where certainty of delivery of the new 3G is or can be put in place (for example, planning permission secured) and mitigation of loss of the existing grass pitch on which the 3G would be built is considered satisfactory.

### **Hockey**

H33) Should the new proposed 3G pitch be delivered in Henley at Jubilee Park for football use, migration of football use of the existing sand based AGP will free-up capacity for Henley HC to accommodate current demand and some future provision. Some additional pitch capacity could be necessary later in the strategy period to 2041 to accommodate growth. This cannot be accommodated on a small AGP as England Hockey does not support provision of small (less than full-sized) AGPs for club use. It will be important, therefore, that if additional supply is required, viability of an additional new full-size pitch is fully tested and assured. A Gen2 or alternative surface which can accommodate more sports than just hockey could provide a solution. Demand should be monitored “on the ground” so that a response to demand can be made if necessary on this basis.

### **Cricket**

C57) Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand to a total equivalent capacity of 1 additional grass pitch capacity, or 1 additional artificial pitch, or a combination of both grass and artificial is more realistic, across this sub-area.

C58) Providing for additional supply should come, broadly sequentially, following the process set out in the district-wide recommendation above in PROVIDE, bullet point ix).

C59) If additional pitches are required, capacity increases should be concentrated at the following sites as these clubs are continuing to grow and require additional facilities to service this growth. It should be noted these sites are already at or close to capacity so securing access to existing grounds with spare capacity or providing new grounds should be considered as a priority. Each site needs to undertake an assessment to identify exactly how much and where additional capacity can be provided.

- Checkendon Playing Field
- Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground
- Gardiner Recreation Ground
- Peppard Common

## Rugby

R46) Within this sub-area, the following measures should be taken to address the current and projected demand:

- a. Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand to a total equivalent capacity of 35.25 match equivalents across this sub-area with demand likely to arise at Henley RFC and Reading Abbey RFC.
- b. Providing for additional supply should come, broadly sequentially, following the process set out in the district-wide recommendation above in PROVIDE.
- c. Should quality improvements be achievable to improve the quality and capacity of existing pitches on club grounds to accommodate 3.25 match equivalents per pitch, additional capacity should be provided to the following scale at the following clubs:
  - i. Henley RFC – provision to support a net additional demand of 1 grass pitch with sports lighting, unless sufficient capacity can be guaranteed for the club at the Henley College (Rotherfield site on grass or a potential 3G pitch, through security of community use and hire / tenure (see ENHANCE).
  - ii. Reading Abbey RFC – provision to support a net additional demand of around 2-4 grass pitches, unless additional capacity can be accessed through development of any 3G pitches which can cater for rugby training, for example, at Rotherfield Utd (Bishopswood).

R47) Support provision of enough changing facilities to support growth in the women's and girls' game at Reading Abbey RFC.

## EAST

### PROTECT

#### Football

F15) Protection of grass pitch supply is particularly important for club pitches. In this sub-area, this means protecting from loss all pitches (and the entirety of the club home ground and facilities).

F16) Protect the 3G pitches (1 x full-size and 1 x 7v7) at Thame FC (Meadow Park), which can provide access to training to the local clubs as well as to Thame FC.

F17) Protect the sand-based surfaces at Whites Field (Chinnor) and Nettlebed Community School, which host a small amount of demand, on the basis they play an important role locally in supporting demand from clubs for training and additional demand from informal, casual and small-sided league play.

#### Hockey

H16) There is sufficient demand at the current time and projected during the strategy period to 2041 to warrant protection of the sand-based surface at Lord Williams' Academy, used by Thame HC. Existing slots used by the club should be protected for hockey use.

## Cricket

- C13) Protection of pitch supply is particularly important for all club pitches as the sub area is broadly at capacity.
- C14) Protect the currently “mothballed” pitch sites (at Lewknor Recreation Ground) from development, holding in reserve to ensure that headroom capacity could be available to respond to potential demand if no other suitable site with existing use and headroom capacity is available.

## Rugby

- R12) Protection of pitch supply is particularly important for club pitches. In this sub-area, this means protecting from loss all pitches (and the entirety of the club home ground and facilities) used by Chinnor RFC.

## ENHANCE

### Football

- F44) Gain the secure use of unsecure community use pitch sites through clubs and relevant authorities working with pitch providers / owners to seek a long-term secure use agreement to provide certainty of supply and reduce the need for additional secure use new pitches (where desirable by the club and provider). These include:

- Watlington Sports Ground.

- F45) Enhance capacity on existing pitches by improving quality and improve maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. There should be a focus, where feasible, on improving the following pitches rated as “poor” to “standard” as a priority, and then secure use “standard” pitches to “good”, where there are known pressures on demand identified by clubs. Pitches with secure community use should be prioritised:

#### *Poor*

- Thame Football (Meadow View Park) 1 (1 x 11v11 pitch); and,
- Thame Football (Meadow View Park) 5 (1 x 9v9 pitch).

#### *Standard*

- Station Road Playing Fields (Chinnor) 1 (1 x 11v11 pitch); and,
- Watlington Sports Ground 3 (1 x 11v11 youth pitch).

- F46) Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities where possible to help ensure the quality of the experience for the sport is enhanced (with a focus on those of “poor” quality listed below, and then those with “standard” quality). Pitches with secure community use should be prioritised:

#### *Poor*

- Hill Road Recreation Ground.

Such improvements are particularly important to help grow participation in the women’s game and pitches hosting women’s teams should be prioritised where improvements are required. Improvement of unsecure community use pitch changing and other ancillary facilities should be a second priority after secure

use site improvements. Where unsecure use pitches are secured, sites should be added to the programme of improvement set out in the list above.

## **Hockey**

- H18) Gain formal agreement or security of use of the unsecure pitch at Lord Williams' Academy, used by Thame HC, to provide certainty of supply for hockey club use. Ensure that the agreement is monitored and enforced.
- H19) Seek improvements to the quality of the lighting at Lord Williams' Academy, taking the opportunity to provide low energy directional LED lighting to acceptable standards for hockey match play and training. Support provision of a Gen2 / other sand based surface for hockey when the current surface is due to be resurfaced.

## **Cricket**

- C36) Gain the secure use of pitches which currently have unsecure community use at Lord Williams' Academy (Upper School), Nettlebed Sports Ground, Watlington Sports Ground and MP Cricket Academy Sports Ground to provide certainty of future supply.
- C37) Consider increasing the current use of existing pitches where spare capacity notionally exists, where physically, practically and logistically possible at Station Road Playing Fields (Chinnor) and MP Cricket Academy Sports Ground.
- C38) Seek to address overplay at Aston Rowant CC and Nettlebed Sports Ground if overplay is causing reduction in pitch quality, through improved maintenance, replacement of surfaces (at artificial pitches), provision of in situ practice nets for training and / or provision of additional grass or artificial pitches.
- C39) Support the improvement of club ancillary facilities to provide fit for purpose facilities, to service current membership and the growth in the Women & Girls game at Aston Rowant CC, Thame Town CC, Tetsworth Sport & Social Club and MP Cricket Academy Sports Ground. This list will need to be monitored as more and more clubs establish new women & girls' sections.

## **Rugby**

- R25) Gain the secure community use of the pitch 4 at Chinnor RFC used by the club for additional demand, to provide certainty of future supply and enable improvements in quality to be achieved, and also gain secure community use of the pitches used by the club at Thame Showground.
- R26) Enhance capacity on pitches at Chinnor RFC by improving quality through improved drainage (where viable / subject to funding and a business plan being in place to ensure maintenance costs are catered for in the long-term), by introducing sports-lights where necessary and feasible and by improving surface maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. Pitch improvements should be made to enhance capacity to at least 3.25 match equivalents (D2/M2 rating) and improvements should follow the recommendations made in the most up-to-date GMA pitch assessment report.



## PROVIDE

### Football

F83) Within this sub-area, the following measures should be taken to address the current and projected demand:

- a. Should quality improvements be achievable to improve the quality and capacity of existing pitches on club grounds to “standard” quality from “poor” and to improve “standard” quality pitches to “good” where indicated in “ENHANCE”, deliver 3 x 11v11 and 5 x 9v9 good quality pitches in one or more of the following locations, to respond to demand:
  - i. Thame (for example, at Southern Road Recreation Ground);
  - ii. Watlington (for example, considering Watlington Parish Councils ambitions for additional pitches);
  - iii. Chinnor.

F84) Provide an additional 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G should demand arise in the middle part of the strategy period, in the Thame, Watlington or Chinnor areas.

F85) Support delivery of replacement changing facilities at Southern Road Recreation Ground, Thame.

### Hockey

H38) Work with hockey and cricket clubs in Thame to seek access to the cricket club pavilion for HC use.

### Cricket

C64) Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand to a total equivalent capacity of 28 additional grass pitch capacity, or 3 additional artificial pitches, or a combination of both grass and artificial is more realistic, across this sub-area.

C65) Providing for additional supply should come, broadly sequentially, following the process set out in the district-wide recommendation above in PROVIDE, bullet point ix).

C66) If additional pitches are required, capacity increases should be concentrated at the following sites as these clubs are continuing to grow and require additional facilities to service this growth. It should be noted these sites are already at or close to capacity so securing access to existing grounds with spare capacity or providing new grounds should be considered as a priority. Each site needs to undertake an assessment to identify exactly how much and where additional capacity can be provided.

- Aston Rowant CC
- Nettlebed Sports Ground
- Thame Town CC

### Rugby

R51) Within this sub-area, the following measures should be taken to address the current and projected demand:

- a. Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand to a total equivalent capacity of 24.35 match equivalents across this sub-area with demand likely to arise at Chinnor RFC.
- b. Providing for additional supply should come, broadly sequentially, following the process set out in the district-wide recommendation above in PROVIDE.
- c. Should quality improvements be achievable to improve the quality and capacity of existing pitches on club grounds to accommodate 3.25 match equivalents per pitch, additional capacity should be provided to the following scale at the following club:
  - i. Chinnor RFC – provision to support a net additional demand of around 5-7 grass pitches with sports lighting, unless sufficient capacity can be guaranteed for the club by securing community use and tenure / long-term hire of the pitches owned by Thame Showground. Should a 3G pitch be provided during the strategy period to support the recommendations in the football assessment (in the Thame / Chinnor / Watlington area), if provided in the Chinnor area, it could useful provide some capacity to support training for Chinnor RFC.

R52) Provide additional changing facility capacity at Chinnor RFC.

## WEST

### PROTECT

#### Football

- F18) Protection of grass pitch supply is particularly important for club pitches. In this sub-area, this means protecting from loss all pitches (and the entirety of the club home ground and facilities).
- F19) Protect the newly resurfaced to 3G pitch at Abbey Sports Centre, Berinsfield, which will provide access to training to the local club and to future additional demand as it emerges from the new development.
- F20) Protect the sand-based surface at Wallingford Sports Park from loss, on the basis that it currently plays a critical role in supporting demand from clubs for training and additional demand from informal, casual and small-sided league play, despite predominant use for hockey. The pitch may continue to play an important role moving forward, subject to the ability to deliver additional and pipeline 3G pitches, for example a 3G at the Sports Park.

#### Hockey

- H17) There is sufficient demand at the current time and projected during the strategy period to 2041 to warrant protection of the sand-based surface at Wallingford Sports Park for use by Wallingford HC. Existing slots used by the club should be protected for hockey use.

#### Cricket

- C11) Protection of pitch supply is particularly important for all club pitches. Although there is some spare capacity at a couple of sites, all sites are in use by local clubs who provide cricket opportunities to their local communities.
- C12) Protect the currently “mothballed” pitch sites (at Acklings Sports Field, Cholsey Recreation Ground, Moulsoford Recreation Ground, St Birinus School, Wallingford School and Wallingford Sports Park) from development, holding in reserve to ensure that headroom capacity could be available to respond to potential demand if no other suitable site with existing use and headroom capacity is available.

## Rugby

- R11) Protection of pitch supply is particularly important for club pitches. In this sub-area, this means protecting from loss all pitches (and the entirety of the club home ground and facilities) used by Wallingford RFC (Wallingford Sports Park).

## ENHANCE

### Football

- F41) Gain the secure use of unsecure community use pitch sites through clubs and relevant authorities working with pitch providers / owners to seek a long-term secure use agreement to provide certainty of supply and reduce the need for additional secure use new pitches (where desirable by the club and provider). These include:

- Europa School;
- Paddocks Playing Fields;
- Willowcroft Community School; and,
- The Triangle (St Birinus School).

- F42) Enhance capacity on existing pitches by improving quality and improve maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. There should be a focus, where feasible, on improving the following pitches rated as “poor” to “standard” as a priority, and then secure use “standard” pitches to “good”, where there are known pressures on demand identified by clubs. Pitches with secure community use should be prioritised:

#### *Poor*

- The Triangle 1 (St Birinus School) (1 x 11v11 pitch);
- The Triangle 2 (St Birinus School) (1 x 11v11 pitch); and,
- The Triangle 4 (St Birinus School) (1 x 9v9 pitch).

#### *Standard*

- Boundary Park 4 (1 x 11v11 youth pitch) (to “good”, if possible);
- Edmonds Park 1 (Didcot) (1 x 11v11 pitch);
- Edmonds Park 2 (Didcot) (1 x 11v11 pitch);
- Cholsey Bluebirds FC (Cholsey Recreation Ground);
- Chalgrove Recreation Ground, 1 x 11v11, 1 x 7v7;
- Npower Loop Meadow Stadium 2 (training pitch) (1 x 11v11 pitch);

- Loyd Recreation Park;
- Bodkins Sports Field (1 x 11v11 pitch);
- Europa School UK 3 (1 x 11v11 pitch);
- Europa School UK 4 (1 x 9v9 pitch);
- Europa School UK 5 (1 x 7v7 pitch);
- Wallingford Sports Park 1 (1 x 11v11 pitch);
- Wallingford Sports Park 2 (1 x 11v11 pitch); and,
- Bullcroft Park 1 (Wallingford) (1 x 11v11, 3 x 9v9 pitches).

F43) Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities where possible to help ensure the quality of the experience for the sport is enhanced (with a focus on those of “poor” quality listed below, and then those with “standard” quality). Pitches with secure community use should be prioritised:

*Poor*

- Cow Common;
- The Green (Stadhampton);
- Loyd Recreation Park.

Such improvements are particularly important to help grow participation in the women’s game and pitches hosting women’s teams should be prioritised where improvements are required. Improvement of unsecure community use pitch changing and other ancillary facilities should be a second priority after secure use site improvements. Where unsecure use pitches are secured, sites should be added to the programme of improvement set out in the list above.

## **Hockey**

H17) Support the club to gain a more secure agreement with one or more of the local school sites they have previously used (e.g. Wallingford School) to accommodate overspill in demand for matches. These could play an important role moving forward, and until a 3G is delivered in Wallingford for football use to migrate to, capacity will continue to be an issue on the Sports Park site. However, this does not help with evening training due to sports-lighting restrictions at the school.

## **Cricket**

- C32) Gain the secure use of pitches which currently have unsecure community use at Cow Common (Ewelme), Dorchester-on-Thames Recreation Ground, The Village Green (Marsh Baldon), Warborough Village Green, Ipsden Cricket Ground, The Recreation Ground Clifton Hampden and Cholsey Cricket Club to provide certainty of future supply.
- C33) Consider increasing the current use of existing pitches where spare capacity notionally exists, where physically, practically and logistically possible at Chalgrove Cricket Club, Cow Common (Ewelme), Dorchester-on-Thames Recreation Ground, The Astons Recreation Ground, The Village Green (Marsh Baldon), Ipsden Cricket Ground and The Recreation Ground Clifton Hampden.

- C34) Seek to address overplay at Crowmarsh Recreation Ground, Hales & Hayes Meadow, Warborough Village Green and Boundary Park if overplay is causing reduction in pitch quality, through improved maintenance, replacement of surfaces (at artificial pitches), provision of in situ practice nets for training and / or provision of additional grass or artificial pitches.
- C35) Support the improvement of club ancillary facilities to provide fit for purpose facilities, to service current membership and the growth in the Women & Girls game at Warborough Village Green, The Jubilee Pavilion & Recreation Ground, Chalgrove Cricket Club, The Village Green (Marsh Baldon) and Moreton Cricket Club. This list will need to be monitored as more and more clubs establish new women & girls' sections.

## Rugby

- R24) Enhance capacity on pitches at Wallingford Sports Park used by Wallingford RFC by improving quality through improved drainage (where viable / subject to funding and a business plan being in place to ensure maintenance costs are catered for in the long-term), by introducing sports-lights where necessary and feasible and by improving surface maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term. Pitch improvements should be made to enhance capacity to at least 3.25 match equivalents (D2/M2 rating) and improvements should follow the recommendations made in the most up-to-date GMA pitch assessment report.

## PROVIDE

### Football

- F78) Deliver pitches to respond to additional demand arising from growth from population at the strategic housing allocations. Options to respond to estimated demand include:
- From demand arising from Culham Science Centre, deliver 2 x 11v11, 4 x 9v9, 2 x 7v7 and 2 x 5v5 pitches and associated necessary ancillary facilities. To ensure their use, identify either an existing club or clubs which can relocate to the pitches as a new home ground, an existing club which will use the pitches at a home ground in addition to its existing home ground, or that capacity and support exists to create a new club. Option to respond to 3G demand from development, use contribution from development of 0.49 x 3G pitch and top-up to deliver 1 x sports-lit 3G pitch at Culham.
  - From demand arising from Berinsfield, deliver 1 x 11v11, 2 x 9v9, 1 x 7v7 and 1 x 5v5 pitches and associated necessary ancillary facilities. To ensure their use, identify either an existing club or clubs which can relocate to the pitches as a new home ground, an existing club which will use the pitches at a home ground in addition to its existing home ground, or that capacity and support exists to create a new club. Option to respond to 3G demand from development, extend existing 3G to half size 3G. Consider the mix and location of provision for football – either retaining existing provision and providing new pitches on the development site, or moving all football onto the new development site.



- c. From demand arising from Grenoble Road, deliver 2 x 11v11, 4 x 9v9, 2 x 7v7 and 1 x 5v5 pitches and associated necessary ancillary facilities. To ensure their use, identify either an existing club or clubs which can relocate to the pitches as a new home ground, an existing club which will use the pitches at a home ground in addition to its existing home ground, or that capacity and support exists to create a new club. To respond to 3G demand from development, add 0.25 x 3G full-size pitch of demand arising from Northfield development to the 0.42 x 3G demand from Grenoble Road and top-up to 1 x full-size 3G sports-lit pitch to be provided on this site.
- d. From demand arising from Northfield, deliver 1 x 11v11, 3 x 9v9, 1 x 7v7 and 1 5v5 pitches and associated necessary ancillary facilities. To ensure their use, identify either an existing club or clubs which can relocate to the pitches as a new home ground, an existing club which will use the pitches at a home ground in addition to its existing home ground, or that capacity and support exists to create a new club. To respond to 3G demand from development, add 0.25 x 3G full-size pitch to provision to be made on Grenoble Road development.
- e. From demand arising from Chalgrove Airfield, should the development come forward<sup>47</sup>, deliver 2 x 11v11, 4 x 9v9, 3 x 7v7 / 5v5 pitches and associated necessary ancillary facilities. To ensure their use, identify either an existing club or clubs which can relocate to the pitches as a new home ground, an existing club which will use the pitches at a home ground in addition to its existing home ground, or that capacity and support exists to create a new club. Option to respond to 3G demand from development to take 3G demand contributions and use to extend the 3G pitch at Berinsfield, with timing subject to viability.

F79) Deliver proposed pitches “in the pipeline” to meet demand arising in those locations. This means that pitches at:

- Land at Didcot North-east, to deliver 3 x 11v11 pitches and 5 x Youth 7v7 pitches and associated necessary ancillary facilities;
- Land West of Wallingford (north of and adjacent to Wallingford Sports Park), to deliver 2 x 9v9 pitches;
- Resurfacing of the Abbey Sports Centre, Berinsfield - 1 x 3G 5v5 (quality improvement, replacement of sand surface, to be delivered in 2023).

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<sup>47</sup> The adopted South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035 allocates Land at Chalgrove Airfield for 3,000 homes. As of January 2024, there is no live planning application for this site. The emerging Joint Local Plan proposes to de-allocate this site for residential development. However, for the purposes of this strategy we have assessed the need generated by this allocation as it currently forms part of the development plan, and may be needed if the council receives a planning application on this site prior to the adoption of the Joint Local Plan. If the Joint Local Plan is adopted on the basis of removing the allocation, and no planning permission is in place, then the requirements for Chalgrove Airfield will not be implemented. If the site does not come forward for development, ensure, through monitoring, that sufficient pitch capacity is provided elsewhere in the sub-area, within the context of the overall strategy of provision in the sub-area, to cater for demand arising from the estimated population.

- F80) Provide an additional 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G in Didcot, as part of a strategic consolidation plan for provision for sport in the town and within the context of timing of when the 3G at Valley Park (Common Park site) will be delivered. Should enough demand arise in the middle to late part of the period for an additional 3G, a 3G could be considered to serve a wider catchment at, for example, The Heights, Milton United (in Vale of White Horse).
- F81) Provide an additional 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G in Wallingford, within the context of improvements at Wallingford Sports Park (also see hockey and rugby assessment reports and Facilities Assessment report). The local authority, NGBs, Sport England and Wallingford Sports Trust should work together on a preferred masterplan for the Sports Park site which either:
- Best accommodates all of the growing clubs' needs on the site and resolves the current parking issues for the site; or,
  - Finds an alternative new strategic sports hub site which can accommodate growth for all clubs to 2041; or,
  - Finds an additional location for a sports hub in the town, consolidating two sports on the existing site and providing a new home location for one or more sports on an additional site. Consideration would also need to be given with regard to where and how best to accommodate other sports on the site such as tennis and archery (also see Facilities Assessment).
- F82) Provide an additional 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G in the sub-area, subject to where demand arises, in the middle to latter part of the strategy period, perhaps in response to demand arising on the edge of Oxford, Wallingford or Didcot, or through provision of 2 x 0.5 size pitches in two locations.

## Hockey

- H34) Support provision of a full-size sports-lit 3G pitch on the Wallingford Sports Park site, or elsewhere, to accommodate football demand and enable migration of evening play to free-up time for the hockey club to fully use the sand based AGP.
- H35) Support provision of an additional full-size sports-lit sand based or Gen2 surface AGP on the site (or elsewhere in the town if part of a new hockey or sports hub – see below).
- H36) The local authority, NGBs, Sport England and Wallingford Sports Trust should work together on a preferred masterplan for the Sports Park site which either:
- Best accommodates all of the growing clubs' needs on the site and resolves the current parking issues for the site; or,
  - Finds an alternative new replacement strategic sports hub site which can accommodate growth for all clubs to 2041; or,
  - Finds an additional location for a sports hub in the town, consolidating two pitch sports on the existing site and providing a new home location for one or more sports on an additional site. Consideration would also need to be given with regard to where and how best to accommodate other sports on the site such as tennis and archery (also see Facilities Assessment).
- H37) Consider provision of an additional new full-size sports-lit sand based or Gen2 surface towards the latter part of the strategy period to accommodate growth by that point, if appropriate, feasible and viable. Provision must only be made subject to demand being demonstrated "on the ground" in Didcot and the

logistics being in place for an existing club (for example, Abingdon or Wallingford) to run a satellite site in the town (if there is appetite and volunteer capacity), for example, for juniors residing in Didcot.

## **Cricket**

- C60) Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand to a total equivalent capacity of 34 additional grass pitch capacity, or 3 additional artificial pitches, or a combination of both grass and artificial is more realistic, across this sub-area.
- C61) Providing for additional supply should come, broadly sequentially, following the process set out in the district-wide recommendation above in PROVIDE, bullet point ix).
- C62) Didcot Northeast development will provide new on-site cricket ground to accommodate additional demand for cricket from the development. The final number of cricket pitches on the ground to be agreed.
- C63) Culham Science Centre Housing allocation will generate demand for around 8 grass cricket pitches. Demand arising from this site will probably be best dealt with a new ground to be constructed as part of the development. However, this should be in consultation with a local club so that an anchor tenant can be found from the outset and ensure the site is fully utilised as intended.
- C64) Grenoble Road development and the Northfield development will provide demand for an additional 12 pitches. This demand is best dealt with by providing a new cricket ground on Grenoble Road utilising contributions from both Grenoble Road and the Northfield development. However, this should be in consultation with a local club so that an anchor tenant can be found from the outset and ensure the site is fully utilised as intended.
- C65) If the Chalgrove Airfield development is delivered, then it should be delivered by improvements to Chalgrove CC site which is adjacent to the potential development.
- C66) If additional pitches are required, capacity increases should be concentrated at the following sites as these clubs are continuing to grow and require additional facilities to service this growth. It should be noted these sites are already at or close to capacity so securing access to existing grounds with spare capacity or providing new grounds should be considered as a priority. Each site needs to undertake an assessment to identify exactly how much and where additional capacity can be provided.
- Crowmarsh Recreation Ground
  - Hales & Hayes Meadow
  - Warborough Village Green
  - Boundary Park
  - Cholsey Cricket Club

## **Rugby**

- R48) Within this sub-area, the following measures should be taken to address the current and projected demand:
- a. Enable the supply of additional pitch capacity to accommodate existing overplay and future demand to a total equivalent capacity of 13.25 match

- equivalents across this sub-area with demand likely to arise at Wallingford RFC.
- b. Providing for additional supply should come, broadly sequentially, following the process set out in the district-wide recommendation above in PROVIDE.
  - c. Should quality improvements be achievable to improve the quality and capacity of existing pitches on club grounds to accommodate 3.25 match equivalents per pitch, additional capacity should be provided to the following scale at the following clubs:
    - i. Wallingford RFC – provision to support a net additional demand of 1 additional grass pitch with sports lighting, unless sufficient additional capacity can be achieved through access to a 3G which can cater for rugby training on the Wallingford Sports Park site, or elsewhere in the town if not feasible due to land constraints and other sports' use on the site.
  - d. Consider how best to respond to the demand generated by the strategic allocation developments at Berinsfield and Culham, in relation to anticipated growth in demand at Abingdon RFC, and at the developments at Chalgrove Airfield (if it is delivered), Grenoble Road and Northfield, for all, following options set out in this assessment report.
- R49) The local authority, NGBs, Sport England and Wallingford Sports Trust should work together on a preferred masterplan for the Sports Park site which either:
- a. Best accommodates all of the growing clubs' needs on the site and resolves the current parking issues for the site; or,
  - b. Finds an alternative new strategic sports hub site which can accommodate growth for all clubs to 2041; or,
  - c. Finds an additional location for a sports hub in the town, consolidating two sports on the existing site and providing a new home location for one or more sports on an additional site. Consideration would also need to be given with regard to where and how best to accommodate other sports on the site such as tennis and archery (also see Facilities Assessment).
- R50) Provide additional changing facility capacity at Wallingford Sports Park for Wallingford RFC if necessary.

## Appendix 5: Action Plan

A detailed Action Plan and delivery monitor spreadsheet will be provided to the District Council for use with the PPS steering group to track and monitor change and delivery of the actions and priorities during the strategy period. The table below provides a high-level summary of the main priorities identified by NGBs in that Action Plan, most of which are actionable in the earlier parts of the strategy period. The list of priorities are not set out in area priority order.

Key:

LA - Local Authority

OCCB – Oxfordshire County Cricket Board

ECB – England and Wales Cricket Board

EH – England Hockey

RFU – Rugby Football Union

FF – Football Foundation

OFA – Oxfordshire Football Association

BBFA – Berks and Bucks Football Association



Priority Ref.	Priority Project	Whose priority?	Sport	Sub Area(s)	Main partners	When			
						2023-27	2028-32	2033-37	2038-41
<b>PROTECT</b>									
P1	Hockey: Protect the sand-based surface at Jubilee Park, Henley from loss.	EH	Hockey	South	LA, EH, Club, Town Council				
P2	Hockey: Protect the sand-based surface at Wallingford Sports Park from loss.	EH	Hockey	West	LA, EH, Club, Sports Park Trust				
P3	Rugby: Protect from loss the pitches (and the entirety of the club home ground and facilities) used by Wallingford RFC (Wallingford Sports Park).	RFU	Rugby	West	LA, RFU, Club, Sports Park Trust				
P4	Hockey: Protect the sand-based surface at Lord Williams' Academy, used by Thame HC. Existing slots used by the club should be protected for hockey use.	EH	Hockey	East	LA, EH, Club, Academy				
P5	Rugby: Protect from loss all pitches (and the entirety of the club home ground and facilities) used by Chinnor RFC (Thame).	RFU	Rugby	East	LA, RFU, Club, Owners				
<b>ENHANCE</b>									
P6	Cricket: Address overplay through improved maintenance, new NTPs and enhanced practice facilities at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tiddington Cricket Ground and,</li> </ul>	ECB, OCCB	Cricket	North	LA, ECB, OCCB, Clubs				

Priority Ref.	Priority Project	Whose priority?	Sport	Sub Area(s)	Main partners	When			
						2023-27	2028-32	2033-37	2038-41
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Great Haseley Playing Field.</li> </ul>								
P7	<p>Cricket: Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tiddington Cricket Ground;</li> <li>Great Haseley Playing Field;</li> <li>Horspath Village Recreation Ground; and,</li> <li>Garsington Sports Club.</li> </ul>	ECB, OCCB	Cricket	North	LA, ECB, OCCB, Clubs				
P8	<p>Cricket: Gain the secure use / tenure of the ground at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Haseley Road Playing Field and,</li> <li>Stanton Road St John Recreation Ground.</li> </ul>	ECB, OCCB	Cricket	North	LA, ECB, OCCB, Clubs				
P9	<p>Football: Enhance capacity on existing pitches by improving quality and improve maintenance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grovelands Sports Ground;</li> <li>Garsington Sports Club 1; and,</li> <li>Wheatley FC (Holton Playing Fields).</li> </ul>	OFA	Football	North	LA, FA, FF, Clubs				
P10	<p>Football: Enhance capacity on existing pitches by improving quality and improve maintenance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Henley YMCA, if not lost to or replaced as a result of development;</li> <li>Bishopswood Sports Ground (Rotherfield Utd);</li> <li>Sheepcot Recreation Ground;</li> <li>Gardiner Recreation Ground, Goring;</li> <li>Jubilee Park, Henley; and,</li> </ul>	OFA	Football	South	LA, FA, FF, Clubs				

Priority Ref.	Priority Project	Whose priority?	Sport	Sub Area(s)	Main partners	When			
						2023-27	2028-32	2033-37	2038-41
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bishopswood Sports Ground (Rotherfield Utd).</li> </ul>								
P11	Football: Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bishopswood Sports Ground (Rotherfield Utd);</li> <li>Harpsden Football Ground.</li> </ul>	OFA	Football	South	LA, FA, FF, Clubs				
P12	Hockey: Support Henley HC to gain a more secure agreement with Henley Town Council to retain use of the pitch in the long-term. Also support enhancements to changing facilities and protect the club's lease and use of the changing facilities, including if and when the changing room facilities are relocated.	EH	Hockey	South	LA, EH, Club, Town Council				
P13	Rugby: Gain the secure community use of the pitches at Henley College (Rotherfield) used by Henley RFC.	RFU	Rugby	South	LA, RFU, College, Club				
P14	Cricket: Address overplay through improved maintenance, new NTPs and enhanced practice facilities at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gallowstree Recreation Ground;</li> <li>Gardiner Recreation Ground;</li> <li>Peppard Common; and,</li> <li>Stoke Row Sports &amp; Leisure Club.</li> </ul>	ECB, OCCB	Cricket	South	LA, ECB, OCCB, Clubs				

Priority Ref.	Priority Project	Whose priority?	Sport	Sub Area(s)	Main partners	When			
						2023-27	2028-32	2033-37	2038-41
P15	Cricket: Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gardiner Recreation Ground.</li> </ul>	ECB, OCCB	Cricket	South	LA, ECB, OCCB, Clubs				
P16	Cricket: Gain the secure use / tenure of the ground at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Checkendon Playing Field;</li> <li>Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground;</li> <li>Gardiner Recreation Ground;</li> <li>Prestcold Cricket Club;</li> <li>Whitchurch-on-Thames Cricket Club; and, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stoke Row Sports &amp; Leisure Club.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	ECB, OCCB	Cricket	South	LA, ECB, OCCB, Clubs				
P17	Football: Enhance capacity on existing pitches by improving quality and improve maintenance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Triangle (St Birinus School);</li> <li>Boundary Park (if possible);</li> <li>Edmonds Park (Didcot);</li> <li>Cholsey Recreation Ground;</li> <li>Chalgrove Recreation Ground;</li> <li>Loyd Recreation Park;</li> <li>Bodkins Sports Field;</li> <li>Wallingford Sports Park;</li> <li>Bullcroft Park.</li> </ul>	BBFA	Football	West	LA, FA, FF, Clubs				
P18	Football: Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cow Common;</li> <li>The Green (Stadhampton);</li> </ul>	BBFA	Football	West	LA, FA, FF, Clubs				

Priority Ref.	Priority Project	Whose priority?	Sport	Sub Area(s)	Main partners	When			
						2023-27	2028-32	2033-37	2038-41
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loyd Recreation Park.</li> </ul>								
P19	Rugby: Enhance capacity on pitches at Wallingford Sports Park used by Wallingford RFC by improving quality through improved drainage (where viable / subject to funding and a business plan being in place to ensure maintenance costs are catered for in the long-term), by introducing sports-lights where necessary and feasible and by improving surface maintenance to ensure that the better quality is sustained in the long-term.	RFU	Rugby	West	LA, RFU, Club, Sport Park Trust				
P20	Cricket: Address overplay through improved maintenance, new NTPs and enhanced practice facilities at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crowmarsh Recreation Ground;</li> <li>Hales &amp; Hayes Meadow;</li> <li>Warborough Village Green; and,</li> <li>Boundary Park.</li> </ul>	ECB, OCC	Cricket	West	LA, ECB, OCCB, Clubs				
P21	Cricket: Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Warborough Village Green;</li> <li>The Jubilee Pavilion &amp; Recreation Ground;</li> <li>Chalgrove Cricket Club; and,</li> <li>Moreton Cricket Club.</li> </ul>	ECB, OCCB	Cricket	West	LA, ECB, OCCB, Clubs				
P22	Cricket: Gain the secure use / tenure of the ground at;	ECB, OCCB	Cricket	West					



Priority Ref.	Priority Project	Whose priority?	Sport	Sub Area(s)	Main partners	When			
						2023-27	2028-32	2033-37	2038-41
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cow Common;</li> <li>• Dorchester-on-Thames Recreation Ground;</li> <li>• The Village Green (Marsh Baldon);</li> <li>• Warborough Village Green</li> <li>• Ipsden Cricket Ground</li> <li>• The Recreation Ground Clifton Hampden; and,</li> <li>• Cholsey Cricket Club.</li> </ul>								
P23	Football: Enhance capacity on existing pitches by improving quality and improve maintenance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thame Football Club - Meadow View Park;</li> <li>• Station Road Playing Fields (Chinnor);</li> <li>• Watlington Sports Ground.</li> </ul>	OFA	Football	East	LA, FA, FF, Clubs				
P24	Football: Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hill Road Recreation Ground.</li> </ul>	OFA	Football	East	LA, FA, FF, Club				
P25	Rugby: Gain the secure community use of the pitch 4 at Chinnor RFC used by the club for additional demand, to provide certainty of future supply and enable improvements in quality to be achieved, and also gain secure community use of the pitches used by the club at Thame Showground.	RFU	Rugby	East	LA, RFU, Club				
P26	Hockey: Gain formal agreement or security of use of the unsecure pitch at Lord Williams' Academy, used by Thame HC.	EH	Hockey	East	LA, EH, Club, Academy				

Priority Ref.	Priority Project	Whose priority?	Sport	Sub Area(s)	Main partners	When			
						2023-27	2028-32	2033-37	2038-41
P27	Hockey: Seek improvements to the quality of the lighting at Lord Williams' Academy, taking the opportunity to provide low energy directional LED lighting to acceptable standards for hockey match play and training.	EH	Hockey	East	LA, EH, Club, Academy				
P28	Cricket: Address overplay through improved maintenance, new NTPs and enhanced practice facilities at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aston Rowant CC; and,</li> <li>Nettlebed Sports Ground.</li> </ul>	ECB, OCCB	Cricket	East	LA, ECB, OCCB, Clubs				
P29	Cricket: Enhance the quality of changing and other ancillary facilities at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aston Rowant CC;</li> <li>Thame Town CC;</li> <li>Tetsworth Sport &amp; Social Club; and,</li> <li>MP Cricket Academy Sports Ground.</li> </ul>	ECB, OCCB	Cricket	East	LA, ECB, OCCB, Clubs				
P30	Cricket: Gain the secure use / tenure of the ground at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lord Williams' Academy (Upper School);</li> <li>Nettlebed Sports Ground;</li> <li>Watlington Sports Ground; and,</li> <li>MP Cricket Academy Sports Ground.</li> </ul>	ECB, OCCB	Cricket	East	LA, ECB, OCCB, Clubs				
<b>PROVIDE</b>									
P31	Rugby: Wheatley 1 x grass full-size pitch (to serve Wheatley RFC)	RFU	Rugby	North	LA, RFU, Club				

Priority Ref.	Priority Project	Whose priority?	Sport	Sub Area(s)	Main partners	When			
						2023-27	2028-32	2033-37	2038-41
P32	Rugby: Horspath / Oxford Harlequins RFC 6-7 grass full-size pitches with sports lighting, or WR22 compliant 3G if this satisfies demand, or a combination of the two to satisfy club specific match and training demands	RFU	Rugby	North	LA, RFU, Club				
P33	Cricket: Wheatley (Brookes campus development) New cricket ground (“pipeline” / commitment)	LA, ECB, OCCB	Cricket	North	LA, ECB, OCCB				
P34	Cricket: Secure access to additional grounds or provide more capacity in existing site, where feasible, at; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tiddington Cricket Ground;</li> <li>Great Haseley Playing Field; and,</li> <li>Horspath Village Recreation Ground.</li> </ul>	ECB, OCCB	Cricket	North	LA, ECB, OCCB				
P35	Football (grass): Wheatley (Brookes campus development) Utilise new cricket outfield for 2 x 5v5 and 2 x 7v7 pitches, marked out to respond to demand	OFA	Football	North	LA, FF, FA				
P36	Football (3G): Provide an additional 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G in the Wheatley / Holton / Edge of Oxford area (location to be determined, but possibly on the Wheatley Playing Fields as part mitigation for loss on Oxford Brookes Wheatley development site).	OFA	Football	North	LA, FF, FA				
P37	Rugby: Henley 1 x grass full-size pitch (to serve Henley RFC, if secure community use cannot be	RFU	Rugby	South	LA, RFU				

Priority Ref.	Priority Project	Whose priority?	Sport	Sub Area(s)	Main partners	When			
						2023-27	2028-32	2033-37	2038-41
	achieved at Rotherfield College site (or WR22 compliant 3G does not come forward in the town)								
P38	Hockey: Jubilee Park, Henley 1 x Gen2 / Sand AGP (full-sized) to support additional training capacity subject to demand demonstrated “on the ground”, viability demonstrated and after football demand has migrated to the new 3G pitch if it is delivered.	EH	Hockey	South	LA, EH				
P39	Rugby: Chalkhouse Green 2-4 x grass full-size pitches (to serve Reading Abbey RFC) unless required additional capacity in whole or in part can be accessed as part of provision of 3G in Sonning Common.	RFU	Rugby	South	LA, RFU				
P40	Rugby: Chalkhouse Green Additional changing facilities to support growth in girls’ and women’s game at Reading Abbey RFC.	RFU	Rugby	South	LA, RFU				
P41	Football (3G): Jubilee Park, Henley 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G (“pipeline” / commitment)	OFA	Football	South	LA, FF, FA				
P42	Football (3G): Sheepcot Recreation Ground, to deliver 1 x 7v7 3G sports-lit pitch and associated ancillary facilities	OFA	Football	South	LA, FF, FA				
P43	Football (grass): Land at Highlands Farm, Henley 2 x 9v9 (“pipeline” / commitment)	OFA	Football	South	LA, FF, FA				
P44	Football (grass): Memorial Park, Sonning Common 1 x 9v9 (“pipeline” / commitment)	OFA	Football	South	LA, FF, FA				

Priority Ref.	Priority Project	Whose priority?	Sport	Sub Area(s)	Main partners	When			
						2023-27	2028-32	2033-37	2038-41
P45	Football (3G): Sonning Common 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G (Rotherfield Utd / Bishopswood) if certainty of delivery is in place	OFA	Football	South	LA, FF, FA				
P46	Cricket: Secure access to additional grounds or provide more capacity in existing site, where feasible, at; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Checkendon Playing Field;</li> <li>• Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground;</li> <li>• Gardiner Recreation Ground;</li> <li>• Peppard Common; and,</li> <li>• Stoke Row Sports &amp; Leisure Club.</li> </ul>	ECB, OCCB	Cricket	South	LA, ECB, OCCB				
P47	Hockey: Explore access for Thame HC to use of cricket pavilion at the Cricket Club's home ground.	EH	Hockey	East	LA, EH				
P48	Rugby: Thame Support provision of 5-7 additional grass full-size pitches if long-term lease or hire of Thame Showground pitches cannot be secured for Chinnor RFC.	RFU	Rugby	East	LA, RFU, Club				
P49	Rugby: Thame If additional 3G capacity is delivered in Chinnor for football, consider provision of some training capacity for rugby if delivered to WR22 standard.	RFU	Rugby	East	LA, RFU				
P50	Rugby: Thame Provide additional changing capacity at Chinnor RFC.	RFU	Rugby	East	LA, RFU, Club				

Priority Ref.	Priority Project	Whose priority?	Sport	Sub Area(s)	Main partners	When			
						2023-27	2028-32	2033-37	2038-41
P51	Cricket: Secure access to additional grounds or provide more capacity in existing site, where feasible, at; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aston Rowant CC;</li> <li>Nettlebed Sports Ground; and,</li> <li>Thame Town CC.</li> </ul>	ECB, OCCB	Cricket	East	LA, ECB, OCCB				
P52	Football (grass): Thame / Chinnor / Watlington 3 x 11v11, 5 x 9v9, to respond to demand across one or more of these locations	OFA	Football	East	LA, FA, FF				
P53	Football (3G): Thame / Chinnor / Watlington 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G in one of these locations, dependent on where demand arises in mid-latter part of strategy period (and subject to consideration of rugby need for 3G use in Thame for Chinnor RFC)	OFA	Football	East	LA, FA, FF				
P54	Rugby: Wallingford 1 x grass full-size, unless demand can be accommodated on the 3G (if WR22 compliant).	RFU	Rugby	West	LA, RFU, Club, Sports Park Trust				
P55	Rugby: Wallingford Additional changing facilities for the RFC.	RFU	Rugby	West	LA, RFU, Club, Sports Park Trust				
P56	Cricket: Didcot North East Development, to provide 1 x new cricket ground on this site.	LA, ECB, OCCB	Cricket	West	LA, ECB, OCCB				



Priority Ref.	Priority Project	Whose priority?	Sport	Sub Area(s)	Main partners	When			
						2023-27	2028-32	2033-37	2038-41
P57	Cricket: Secure access to additional grounds or provide more capacity in existing site, where feasible, at; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crowmarsh Recreation Ground;</li> <li>• Hales &amp; Hayes Meadow;</li> <li>• Warborough Village Green;</li> <li>• Boundary Park; and,</li> <li>• Cholsey Cricket Club.</li> </ul>	ECB, OCCB	Cricket	West	LA, ECB, OCCB				
P58	Hockey: Wallingford 1 x Gen2 / Sand sports-lit AGP	EH, LA	Hockey	West	LA, EH, Sports Park Trust				
P59	Football (3G): Didcot 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G (delivered sequentially before or after Valley Park (Common Park) 3G (Vale)	LA, BBFA	Football	West	LA, FF, FA, Boundary Park Trust				
P60	Football (grass): Didcot 3 x 11v11, 5 x 7v7, Didcot North-east (“pipeline” / commitment)	LA, BBFA	Football	West	LA, FF, FA				
P61	Football (3G): Wallingford 1 x full-size sports-lit 3G	LA, BBFA	Football	West	LA, FF, FA, Sports Park Trust				
P62	Football (grass): West of Wallingford 2 x 9v9 (“pipeline” / commitment)	LA, BBFA	Football	West	LA, FF, FA				

## Stuart Todd **Associates**

planning | policy | strategy | partnership

e: [stuart@stuarttoddassociates.co.uk](mailto:stuart@stuarttoddassociates.co.uk)

w: [www.stuarttoddassociates.co.uk](http://www.stuarttoddassociates.co.uk)