

PROJECT DETAILS	
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ASSIGNMENT TITLE	Sevenoaks Council Playing Pitch Strategy
DATE OF REPORT	24/02/2017
PURPOSE OF REPORT	ENGLAND HOCKEY DATA COLLECTION SUMMARY AND SIGN OFF

Summary update:

- All hockey sites visited and assessed by the 4 global
- Received responses from 2 out of 2 hockey club (100%)
- Information gathered in 4 global online platform www.playingpitch.com
- Raw site assessment and demand consultation data is presented in the accompanying excel file.
- All supply and demand data in this datasheet is required to be signed off by the NGB before Stage B can be completed

Sign-off Process:

This datasheet is split into two sections;

- **Stage B Data** – Supply and demand data captured through site assessments and club consultations, to be signed off before Stage B is complete.
- **Stage C Data and site by site analysis** – This is the analysis undertaken per site showing capacity, key issues and club requirements. This version issue of the data sheet will include a basic capacity analysis of all football sites, with further detail to be added prior to Stage C sign-off.

STAGE B DATA

Pitch supply

Quantity overview

The table below provides a detailed breakdown of the Artificial Ground Hockey Pitches available across Sevenoaks. This table only includes sand-dressed AGP's as 3G surfaces are not appropriate for hockey. For supply and demand analysis, any AGP's that are not full size (at least 100x60m) will not be included as they are not the required size for competitive hockey use.

Table 1: Sites with Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs) that provide community use.

Site Name	Sub Area	Sand Based / Water based	Ownership	Management	Availability of community use / Security of community use	Size
Edenbridge Leisure Centre	Sevenoaks and Surrounds	Sand Filled	District Council	Leisure Centre	Available / Secured	100x60
Orchards Academy	North West	Sand Dressed	Council	ACADEMY	Available / Secured	100x60
Sennocke Centre	Sevenoaks and Surrounds	Sand Dressed	Private	School	Available / Secured	110x70
Sennocke Centre	Sevenoaks and Surrounds	Sand Dressed	Private	School	Available / Secured	110x70
Sevenoaks Hockey Club	Sevenoaks and Surrounds	Sand Dressed	Council	Club	Available / Secured	100x65
The New Beacon School	Sevenoaks and Surrounds	Sand Dressed	Private	Education	Available / Secured	80x65
Trinity School	Sevenoaks and Surrounds	Sand Dressed	Council	Education	Available / Secured	100x60

The table below provides a summary of the scores provided to each site following the 4 global site assessment. The assessment of Artificial Grass Pitches was carried out in line with the England Hockey non-technical quality assessment aligned with the Sport England Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance.

Table 2: Overview of quality ratings

Quality rating	AGP
Good (80-100%)	1
Standard (50-79.9%)	4
Poor (0-49.9%)	2

Table 3 below shows the detail behind Table 2 above, with the site assessment information for each pitch, as well as their additional facility and age.

Table 3: Detailed quality ratings for hockey AGP's in Sevenoaks

Site Name	Sub area	Sand Based / Water based	Size	Floodlit	Age of playing surface	Condition (Quality score)
Edenbridge Leisure Centre	Edenbridge and the South	Sand Filled	100x60	Yes	over 10 years	55 - Standard
Orchards Academy	North West	Sand Dressed	100x60	Yes	over 10 years	40 - Poor
Sennocke Centre	Sevenoaks and Surrounds	Sand Dressed	110x70	No	over 10 years	62 - Standard
Sennocke Centre	Sevenoaks and Surrounds	Sand Dressed	110x70	No	over 10 years	62 - Standard
Sevenoaks Hockey Club	Sevenoaks and Surrounds	Sand Dressed	100x65	Yes	over 10 years	85 - Good
The New Beacon School	Sevenoaks and Surrounds	Sand Dressed	80x65	Yes	over 10 years	58 - Standard
Trinity School	Sevenoaks and Surrounds	Sand Dressed	100x60	Yes	over 10 years	41 - Poor

Table 4 below details the availability of AGPs at sites where they are utilised for hockey club use. This has been presented in the form of match slots (= c.2 hours AGP use). Although mid-week demand is mainly for training purposes, some matches may take place therefore in the demand section of this paper, training has been converted to match slots to allow for consistent measures. The availability of AGPs at hockey sites requires sign off from England Hockey.

This table includes only those facilities that are currently available for community use and are of a suitable size for competitive hockey to be played.

Table 4: AGP availability at Hockey club sites

Site name	AGP type	Weekday peak hours available	Saturday match slots available	Sunday match slots available
Edenbridge Leisure Centre	Sand Filled	20	10	10
Orchards Academy	Sand Dressed	20	10	10
Sennocke Centre	Sand Dressed	0	10	10
Sennocke Centre	Sand Dressed	0	10	10
Sevenoaks Hockey Club	Sand Dressed	20	10	10
The New Beacon School	Sand Dressed	0	10	10
Trinity School	Sand Dressed	20	10	10

Key Site Summary

Edenbridge Leisure Centre: Very old AGP in need of refurbishment. The pitch suffers from large holes in turf, poor grip and some vandalism issues.

Sennocke Centre: 2 AGPs in good condition that are hired out regularly but do not have floodlights. There are changing facilities available in the centre.

Sevenoaks Hockey Club: Site is the home of Sevenoaks Hockey Club, who are the major hockey club in the area, with around 600 junior members and 850 members in total. The current AGP on the site is almost 30 years old, with a refurbishment 11 years ago, which is of good quality. In 2015 it was used for around 1,700 hours. The club would like another AGP on the site, which they believe there would be space to the east of the site beyond the Cafe. Club would like to relocate the dugouts across to the other side of the pitch, although this would need to move the fencing. The floodlight pylons will need replacing in the near future, and the club would ideally like to fully relay the surface as well (The pitch is used for multiple sports, including lacrosse and football, and they have links with local school and provide them with usage of the pitch) The club are only allowed 14 advertisement boards, which limits the club’s ability to maximize potential advertisement revenue. There is an unused bowling green within the park, which could also be utilised for hockey provision. There is currently no proper clubhouse facilities on the site, only 2 poor changing rooms that are underneath the parks cafe.

New Beacon School: Good site with very well maintained pitches and well maintained AGP (not full sized), which is hired out every weekend. Changing facility is good but small.

Trinity School: A brand new school that opened in Sep 2016, providing a very good new build. The AGP provision is of poor quality and in need of refurbishment.

Pitch demand

Club/Team profile

There are 2 hockey club that operates within the Sevenoaks area. The breakdown of teams in these clubs has been provided below.

Table 5: Club analysis

CLUB NAME	ADULT TEAMS			JUNIORS		TOTAL
	SENIOR MEN	SENIOR WOMEN	MIXED	Boys	Girls	
Sevenoaks Hockey Club	11	8	0	6	6	31
Edenbridge Hockey Club	0	1	0	0	0	1

The table below highlights how the profile of Hockey teams across Sevenoaks creates demand for competitive matches throughout the week.

Table 6: Competitive match demand

	Number of teams	Competitive hours required		
		Weekday	Saturday	Sunday
Senior teams (16-65)	19	0	15	4
Junior teams (11-15)	20	0	0	10

The table below highlights how the profile of hockey teams across Sevenoaks creates demand for AGP training hours throughout the week. Senior teams train midweek however some junior teams/development centres may train on weekends. It is important to understand that this will impact on capacity analysis when considered with the competitive match slots required above.

Table 7: Training hours required

	Number of teams	Training hours required
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		Weekday	Saturday	Sunday
Senior teams (16-65)	19	12	0	0
Junior teams (11-15)	20	4	0	0

Key Club Consultation Summaries

The following is a summary of the consultation undertaken with Sevenoaks Hockey Club, focussing on their key issues and future plans. All pitch-rating comments are the opinions of the club and may differ from the impartial rating given by the site assessor.

Table 8: Summary of demand consultations from hockey clubs in Sevenoaks

Club	Consultation Summary
Sevenoaks Hockey Club	<p>850+ members and a total of 31 teams, with 11 men’s, 8 ladies and a large junior section with boys and girls’ teams ranging from U10s to U18s. The club have no current plans to add any new teams as they are currently working at capacity and have stated that it is currently proving very difficult logistically to allocate a pitch to every team on weekends.</p> <p>The club’s main pitch is the AGP on Holly Bush Lane and they use the changing facilities and clubhouse at The Vine Pavilion, but they also access several other venues in the area in order to accommodate matches and training for all teams: Sennocke Centre, The New Beacon School (training only as it’s not full size), Trinity School and Tonbridge School (outside the study area).</p> <p>The pitch at Holly Bush Lane is the most heavily used one, with bookings for Saturday all day and Sunday 9am-6pm, as well as every weekday evening (except Fridays) for training. Sennocke centre is used for approx. 5-10 hours per week, and Trinity for approx. 4-6 hours.</p> <p>They have rated the quality of pitches as good, except for Trinity School, which they have described as in terrible condition – the club has no choice but to use it due to high demand and lack of availability at other sites. A major need for additional pitches in the area was identified: the club has over 600 members and at some age groups they cannot accept any more players as they are at capacity. They would largely benefit from the development of new pitches as this would allow the club to keep growing.</p> <p>Changing facilities at The Vine Pavilion were deemed good and of a high standard, and the club have no immediate plans to develop them any further.</p>

STAGE C SITE-BY-SITE ANALYSIS

Site-by-site capacity analysis

The table below provides capacity analysis for all hockey club AGPs in Sevenoaks. This table contains demand (in hours) from competitive matches as well as training required by local clubs.

Table 9: AGP capacity analysis

Site name	Supply (hours)			Demand (Hours required – for training and matches)			Balance (Hours)		
	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday
Sevenoaks Hockey Club	20	10	10	12	10	8	8	At Capacity	3
Sennocke Centre	0	10	10	0	4	4	No Capacity	6	6
Edenbridge Leisure Centre	20	10	10	1	1	0	19	9	10
Total	60	40	40	13	17	14	47	23	27

* Sevenoaks Hockey club also utilise the pitch at Tonbridge School (outside study area) for some matches and approximately 4 hours or adult training per week.

Table 9 show shows that although there is currently some spare capacity at key sites, key sites, including Sevenoaks Hockey Club and Sennocke are either at capacity or have no capacity at peak times. During the consultation, Sevenoaks HC identified that they are at capacity during the week and are having to limit their intake of new members as no more teams can be created to accommodate them. Although the table says that there is some spare capacity on their site at mid-week or on Sundays, it should be considered that these are not necessarily ‘peak hours’ as they are either too late or early in the evening to be considered convenient or appealing by current or future players.

Future Demand Analysis

This section helps to forecast the estimated future demand for pitches in Sevenoaks based on the existing demand produced by the current population. This is known as a Team Generation Rate (TGR). The forecasted number of teams up until 2035 is forecasted using TGR in Table 9.

Table 9: Team Generation Rate for Sevenoaks

Sevenoaks TGR Analysis						
Age group	Current popn. Within age group	Current no. Of teams	TGR	Estimated future population	Predicted future number of teams	Additional provision needed to accommodate new teams
Adult – M (16-45)	98,728	11.0	0.1	107,886	12.0	1
Adult – F (16-45)	103,954	9.0	0.1	109,706	10	1
Junior hockey – boys	17,000	6.0	0.4	21,362	8	2
Junior hockey – girls	16,739	6.0	0.4	20,888	8	2
Total		32.0		259,842	38	6

The TGR calculation shows that there will be an estimated 6 additional teams in the area with the growth relatively evenly split between the genders. The largest growth will be in junior teams with 4 of the 6 additional teams expected to be in this category. Despite this growth, demand for adult male teams will continue to represent the largest group for hockey demand (32%).

Total Capacity Analysis

This section presents the supply and demand balance findings hockey appropriate AGPS (both for current and future scenarios) for Sevenoaks and its sub-areas. Analysis and key findings have also been identified for each of the sub-areas.

Table 10: Overall Hockey balance figures for Sevenoaks

Balance per Pitch Type	Weekday (hrs)	Saturday (hrs)	Sunday (Hrs)	Total
Supply – pitch capacity in match equivalents (For available sites only)	60	40	40	140
Demand – match equivalents for matches and training	13	17	14	44
Current Balance for all available sites only	+57	+23	+26	+96
Future additional latent demand	-	-	-	0
Future additional demand (from TGR)	3*	3**	6**	12
Future balance for all available, secured sites	+54	+20	+20	+102

*Calculation based on current relationship between the number of senior and junior teams and the number of training hours required (approximately 2 midweek training hours for every senior team and approximately 1 midweek training hour for every 5 junior teams)

**Based on new teams requiring c.2hr match slots every fortnight (due to playing home and away fixtures in a structured league)

Table 10 has presented key balances but should be viewed with the following in mind:

- Compared to the other two sub-areas, the Sevenoaks and Surrounds has the largest supply and demand for hockey
- Although the table shows there is a surplus of hours, the club has identified the need for sites local and available at sociable hours and local to the club
- The club considers its home pitch to be at capacity
- Only other floodlit training facilities available are at Trinity School which the club has rated as poor to use for hockey and has been as scored poor in our site assessments, therefore, although the hours are available for use, this is far from a favourable situation
- The clubs preferred alternative training pitches, at Sennocke Centre, score significantly better than Trinity School but do not have floodlights so cannot be used for midweek training or for very many hours during the winter period.

Table 11: Hockey balance figures for Sevenoaks and Surrounds

Balance per Pitch Type	Weekdays	Saturdays	Sundays	Total
Supply – pitch capacity in match equivalents (For available sites only)	40	30	30	120
Demand – match equivalents for matches and training	12	16	14	42
Current Balance for all available sites only	28	14	16	58
Current Balance for secured sites only	28	14	16	58
Future additional latent demand	-	-	-	-
Future additional demand (from TGR)	3*	3*	6*	12
Future balance for all available, secured sites	25	11	10	46

*100% of future demand given to this subarea.

As 95% of hockey demand in Sevenoaks is located in Sevenoaks and Surrounds, much of the above commentary for Table 10 applies to Table 11. Table 11 does allow a slightly clearer vision of the supply and demand in the town of Sevenoaks as Table 10 is slightly distorted by the balance figures for Edenbridge and the South.

Table 11 provides the following insights:

- Given that Trinity School, which has been categorised as poor by both the club and the site assessment scores, provides 10 hours of capacity on both Saturdays and Sundays, Table 11 shows a balanced picture of hockey supply and demand in Sevenoaks and Surrounds
- With these hours removed there appears to be 10hour spare capacity on weekends.
- Bearing in mind that the lack of floodlighting at the Sennocke Centre limits the amount it can be used in the winter, Table 11 begins to show how supply for hockey pitches on the weekend is reaching if not at capacity on pitches of appropriate quality.
- When the additional teams produced by the TGR calculations it is beginning to become clear that unless additional pitches are added, Sevenoaks and Surrounds will be at capacity by 2035
- It should also be considered that Trinity School accounts for 20hours of mid-week training demand for the sub-area. Given that this is not considered appropriate by the club for hockey use, the mid-week balance without Trinity School is reduced to a much smaller surplus of just 8hours per week.

Table 12: Hockey balance figures for Edenbridge and the South

Balance per Pitch Type	Weekdays	Saturdays	Sundays	Total
Supply – pitch capacity in match equivalents (For available sites only)	20	10	10	40
Demand – match equivalents for matches and training	1	1	0	2
Current Balance for all available sites only	19	9	10	38
Current Balance for secured sites only	19	9	10	38
Future additional latent demand	-	-	-	-
Future additional demand (from TGR)	-	-	-	-
Future balance for all available sites	19	9	10	38

Table 12 shows that there is significant surplus for hockey demand at the Edenbridge Leisure Centre. The centre reported that the majority of its capacity is taken up by informal football so the centre is occupied at other times. The table shows that there is significant capacity for the hockey club to expand and as this is the only hockey appropriate facility outside of the Sevenoaks and Surrounds, it is important for hockey’s scope for progression outside of this area that it remains a facility capable of hosting competitive hockey.

Site-by-site Analysis

This section take a more detailed view and analyse each site individually. This includes providing recommendations on how to protect, enhance and provide for the sites in order to ensure their continued use (where appropriate) and what actions should be prioritised to improve the quality of the site for its users.

Site by Site Summary

Site Name	Sub Area	Total No. of Pitches	Ownership	Pitch assessment score	Current Operational Balance	Justification for Protection (PR), Enhancement (E) or Provision (PV)
Edenbridge Leisure Centre	Edenbridge and the South	1 x 100x60 Sand Filled AGP	Council	55 - Standard	38 hrs	PV: The site should be protected as playing pitches in the Local Plan. The site is home to Edenbridge HC who play and train at the site.
						E: The age of the surface is over 10 years old. It is recommended that this is replaced imminently. Edenbridge HC is the only club in the south of the district. Therefore, EHB should support the replacement of the surface for hockey use.
						PR: No further provision has been identified for this site
Orchards Academy	North West	1x 100x60 Sand Dressed AGP	Council	40 - Poor	40 hrs	PR: The site should be protected as playing pitches in the Local Plan.
						E: The pitch is poor, over 10years old and requires replacement. The site has no recorded use for hockey. Due to the shortfall of football ready AGPs in the area it is recommended this pitch be imminently re-surfaced as a 3G AGP.
						PV: No further provision has been identified for this site
Sennocke Centre	Sevenoaks and Surrounds	2x 110x70 Sand Dressed	Private	62 - Standard	12 hrs	PR: The site should be protected as playing pitches in the Local Plan. The site is currently ell used by the Sevenoaks Hockey Club.

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		AGPs				<p>E: Both pitches are over 10 years old. As this site is important for hockey in the area the EHB should support the replacing of one of the sand-dressed surfaces within the next 5 years.</p> <p>PV: It is recommended one of these surfaces is replaced with a 3G within the next 5 years and that the other is retained for hockey.</p> <p>The site cannot be used for mid-week training or match play after 4pm during the winter months. Therefore, it is recommended floodlight must be installed on both pitches to make this option viable. it is recommended the EHB support the Council when it comes to replacing this surface within the next 5 years.</p>
Sevenoaks Hockey Club	Sevenoaks and Surrounds	1x 100x65 Sand Dressed AGP	Council	85 – Good	11 hrs	<p>PR: The site should be protected as playing pitches in the Local Plan. The site is used by Sevenoaks Hockey Club and hosts 19 teams. The site is currently operating at or near capacity on Saturdays and at peak times throughout the rest of the week.</p> <p>E: The pitch is well cared for and therefore remains in a good condition but is over 10 years old. As this site is very important for hockey in the area it is important the EHB support the club when it comes to replacing this surface within the next 5 years.</p>

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						PV: The site has reported being at capacity during peak hours and has currently suspended adding additional teams due to a lack of pitch availability. Although the pitches the club currently uses are showing an over-supply in capacity, unless more of these hours can be designated for hockey use the club may need to have an additional pitch added to the Holly Bush site. This would be especially important if planning permission to install floodlighting on the remaining hockey appropriate AGP at the Sennocke Centre is not granted (as proposed in the Football section of this report).
The New Beacon School	Sevenoaks and Surrounds	1x 80x65 Sand Dressed AGP	Private	58 - Standard	20 hrs	PR: The site should be protected as playing pitches in the Local Plan. The site is used by Sevenoaks HC for training.
						E: The pitch is over 10 years old and in a condition which is approaching a poor rating. It is recommended that, should the installation of floodlights at the Sennocke Centre is not possible, nor an improvement in the quality of the surface at Trinity School, or even a new pitch at Holly Bush, then this site should be considered a priority by EHB and work should be done to guarantee good access for Sevenoaks HC training sessions.
						PV: If no other scenarios are available, it is recommended that the EHB, with the support of the Council, explore the possibility of enlarging the AGP here to full size to support the growth of the Sevenoaks Hockey Club.
Trinity School	Edenbridge and the South	1x 100x60 Sand Dressed	Council	41 - Poor	36 hrs	PR: The site should be protected as playing pitches in the Local Plan. The site is used by Sevenoaks HC as a last resort due to its poor condition.

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		AGP				<p>E: The age of the surface is over 10 years old. It is recommended that this is replaced imminently. As Sevenoaks HC reported they may be more inclined to use this site if the quality is improved. EHB should support the replacement of the surface in exchange or guarantees around the availability and pricing of the facility for hockey use. This should be a priority if installing floodlights at the Sennocke Centre is not a possibility.</p>
						<p>PV: No further provision has been identified for this site</p>