

## EXECUTIVE BOARD – 16<sup>th</sup> June 2015

<b>Subject:</b>	Adoption of the Playing Pitch Strategy and Sport & Physical Activity Strategy for the City		
<b>Corporate Director(s)/ Director(s):</b>	Director of Communities Director of Development		
<b>Portfolio Holder(s):</b>	<b>Leisure &amp; Culture Planning &amp; Transportation</b>		
<b>Report author and contact details:</b>	Eddie Curry – Head of Parks & Open Spaces - x64982 <a href="mailto:eddie.curry@nottinghamcity.gov.uk">eddie.curry@nottinghamcity.gov.uk</a> John Wileman – Head of Sport & Leisure – x64956 <a href="mailto:john.wileman@nottinghamcity.gov.uk">john.wileman@nottinghamcity.gov.uk</a>		
<b>Key Decision</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<b>Subject to call-in</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Reasons:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Expenditure <input type="checkbox"/> Income <input type="checkbox"/> Savings of £1,000,000 or more taking account of the overall impact of the decision			<input type="checkbox"/> Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Capital
Significant impact on communities living or working in two or more wards in the City			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Total value of the decision: Nil</b>			
<b>Wards affected: Citywide</b>	<b>Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s): Champions Group 23/03/15</b>		
<b>Relevant Council Plan Strategic Priority:</b>			
Cutting unemployment by a quarter			<input type="checkbox"/>
Cut crime and anti-social behaviour			<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensure more school leavers get a job, training or further education than any other City			<input type="checkbox"/>
Your neighbourhood as clean as the City Centre			<input type="checkbox"/>
Help keep your energy bills down			<input type="checkbox"/>
Good access to public transport			<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham has a good mix of housing			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham is a good place to do business, invest and create jobs			<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham offers a wide range of leisure activities, parks and sporting events			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Support early intervention activities			<input type="checkbox"/>
Deliver effective, value for money services to our citizens			<input type="checkbox"/>
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):			
<p>Over the last few years there has been a growing need for Nottingham City Council and Sport England (SE) to provide the Council with a robust and up-to-date assessment of the needs for the provision of outdoor sport and recreation facilities as well as an assessment of quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of sports and recreational facilities across the city.</p> <p>The Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) for Nottingham has been developed in partnership with Sport England, the National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGB's) and Sport Nottinghamshire (SN) and provides a clear, strategic framework for all to reference in regard to the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing adequate planning guidance to assess development proposals affecting playing fields and to inform the review of the Local Plan to shape policy, inform protection and provision of sports facilities and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and Section 106 planning obligations and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) (if introduced) schedules.</li> <li>• Informing land use decisions in respect of future use of existing outdoor sports areas and playing fields (capable of accommodating pitches) across the City;</li> <li>• Providing a strategic framework for the provision and management of outdoor sports across the City;</li> <li>• Supporting external funding bids and maximise support for outdoor sports facilities;</li> <li>• Providing the basis for on-going monitoring and review of the use, distribution, function,</li> </ul>			

quality and accessibility of outdoor sport. A copy of the PPS 2015 – 2020 is attached to this report at Appendix B.

Alongside the development of the Playing Pitch Strategy, NCC also in partnership with SE, the NGB's and SN have developed a Sport & Physical Activity Strategy (2015 – 2019) which sets out the strategic direction for the future provision of leisure facilities and the development and delivery of sport and physical activity. The ambition is to continue to build upon our recent success and significantly increase levels of participation in sport and physical activity, continuing to make key contributions to the City's corporate ambitions in respect of improving health, employability, economic development and community cohesion. A copy of the Sport & Physical Activity Strategy 2015 – 2019 is attached to this report at Appendix C

**Exempt information:**

**State 'None' or complete the following.**

None

**Recommendation(s):**

- 1. To adopt the Playing Pitch Strategy and its strategic recommendations. (page 52 of PPS)**
- 2. To use the document to inform the review of the Local Plan, helping to shape policy, inform on the protection and provision of sports facilities and also provide development opportunities as part of the review of the Local Plan to help address housing needs of the city.**
- 3. To note the agreed approach with Sport England and the National Governing Bodies of Sport for the disposal of the surplus sites as listed within Appendix A.**
- 4. To agree the action plan which provides a framework for the improvement, maintenance, development and, as appropriate, rationalisation of the playing pitch stock.**
- 5. To agree the focus areas as identified in the 'Emerging Areas' section of the Sport & Physical Activity Strategy (page 16) and Action Plan (page 21) for the City.**
- 6. To delegate authority to the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture and the Director of Sport and Culture to implement the action plans in the Playing Pitch Strategy and Physical Activity Strategy.**

## **1 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **1.1 Playing Pitch Strategy**

In line with the National Planning Policy Framework, the PPS provides the Council with a robust and up-to-date assessment of the needs for sport and recreation facilities as well as an assessment of quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of sports and recreational facilities across the city. It does this by auditing the City's outdoor sports provision and clubs who use them, and considers whether there are deficiencies or surpluses of pitches across the South, Central and Northern areas and how these might be addressed.

- 1.2** The document provides a clear, strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of formal outdoor sports facilities and provides an agreed approach to the release of surplus sports and recreational facilities to provide

development opportunities as part of the review of the Local Plan to help address housing needs of the city. It also reaffirms the approach within the Local Plan on securing developer contributions (subject to CIL regulations) where applicable specifying the amount and timing of the contribution(s) to be paid using the existing SPG as a starting point for negotiation. In addition the document also sets out that all new or improved playing pitches on school sites should be subject to community use agreements where applicable.

- 1.3 The Breathing Space Strategy (2011 – 2020) advocates the protection, maintenance and enhancement of an accessible network of playing pitch provision that meets the current and future anticipated demand, but also recommends that proposals to reconfigure provision through development can be acceptable provided that such developments lead to substantial enhancement in the quality and distribution of playing pitches. This protection should be afforded through the development of planning policies within the emerging Local Development Framework and the Playing Pitch Strategy is a major tool in helping to achieve this balance.
- 1.4 Physical Activity & Sports Strategy  
Nottingham has a successful and strong reputation for sport and leisure. Compared with other Core Cities Nottingham has done many of the 'hard yards' in working to fund the large-scale improvements to its facilities despite the challenging financial climate. The service has successfully delivered an ambitious £40 million leisure facilities transformation programme over the past 10 years; the last phase of which will see the completed extension and refurbishment of the flagship Harvey Hadden Sports Village in summer 2015.
- 1.5 This has resulted in the creation of a stock of predominantly modern, attractive, high quality and 'market competitive' sports facilities in the city. Nottingham also has an established tradition and strong reputation for using sport and physical activity to inspire participation, encourage regeneration and promote social inclusion, which is evidenced through the successful delivery and implementation of the previous Physical Activity and Sports Strategy.
- 1.6 The Sport, Leisure and Community Service has structured itself in a more business-focused manner which has enabled the delivery of effective facility-based services and community sport and physical activity, which has maximised social outcomes and delivered added value. This has ensured that the city's return on investment in both facilities and sport and physical activity development has impacted upon and is recognised by, residents, partners, councillors and other key stakeholders.
- 1.7 Our ambition is to continue to build upon this success and by 2019 we will have significantly increased levels of participation in sport and physical activity, continuing to make key contributions to the city's corporate ambitions in respect of improving health, employability, economic development and community cohesion.
- 1.8 The city, with its partners, is ambitious and aspires to be synonymous with excellence, innovation and success. The coming together of new documents: Setting the Pace and Building on Success documents and the subsequent summary document, Sport and Physical Activity Strategy 2015 – 19, alongside an emerging Playing Pitch Strategy and existing Community Strategy, marks our continuation on the 'good to great' journey meeting challenges, maximising opportunities and delivering meaningful outcomes.

- 1.9 The key ***Setting the Pace and Building for Success*** Strategy related outcomes for implementation through the action plan are;
- Increase levels of participation in sport and physical activity in line with the aim and objectives of the City's Sport and Physical Activity Strategy.
  - Work towards improving health in the City via, for example, supporting work to increase life expectancy, reduce levels of obesity and tackle chronic illness.
  - Ensure that Council managed, school and community sport and leisure facilities accommodate and drive increased participation and enable a range of sports and physical activities to be played and developed in the City.
  - On the back of innovative partnerships, in particular with Public Health, work specifically to encourage current non and low participants to take part in sport concurrently reducing inequalities and lowering existing barriers to participation.

## **2 BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)**

### Playing Pitch Strategy

- 2.1 The development of the revised Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) provides a natural successor for the current Outdoor Playing Pitch Strategy completed in 2009. It is a detailed tool for engagement and has involved the City's professional, agency and voluntary sectors and has set the direction on the future of the current playing pitch stock within the City.
- 2.2 Sport England recently reviewed their methodology for completing Playing Pitch Strategies. The updated / reviewed PPS has used the new methodology as part of this assessment process.
- 2.3 The updated PPS offers a strategic approach to the provision and protection of sports facilities, through the protection of existing open space, sports and recreational land and buildings, protecting existing sites from development unless an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown them to be surplus to requirements. It also includes a playing pitch analysis, which guides the future provision and management of new and existing sports pitches in the Nottingham area in the context of national policy and local sports development criteria through the development of the agreed action plan.
- 2.4 At the strategic level it links and underpins in more detail the City's approach as a Core City towards fulfilling our national and corporate targets. It also helps to inform Sport England (East Midlands) long term with regional planning and also help provide facilities to enable National Governing Bodies to deliver their working outcomes as outlined in their Whole Sport Plans.
- 2.5 It also assists in positioning ourselves locally, regionally and nationally in attempting to secure relevant funding and help address identified priorities.
- 2.6 The PPS covers the following playing pitches and outdoor pitch sports:
- Football pitches
  - Cricket pitches
  - Rugby union pitches

- Rugby league pitches
- Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs) including sand based/filled, water based and 3G
- Tennis courts
- Bowling greens

2.7 The Strategy is capable of:

- Providing adequate planning guidance to assess development proposals affecting playing fields and to informing the review of the Local Plan to shape policy, inform protection and provision of sports facilities and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and Section 106 planning obligations and CIL schedules.
- Informing land use decisions in respect of future use of existing outdoor sports areas and playing fields (capable of accommodating pitches) across the City;
- Providing a strategic framework for the provision and management of outdoor sports across the City;
- Supporting external funding bids and maximise support for outdoor sports facilities;
- Providing the basis for on-going monitoring and review of the use, distribution, function, quality and accessibility of outdoor sport.

2.8 Sport & Physical Activity Strategy

Nottingham City Council has also worked in partnership with Sport England, National Governing Bodies of Sport and Sport Nottinghamshire to complete a Sport and Physical Activity Strategy which determines its clear priorities and pathways for the future delivery of sport and leisure across the City. The summary document provides a clear rationale moving forward, based on the findings of the two assessment reports, Setting the Pace and Building on Success and an action plan to ensure delivery.

2.9 The strategy was prepared in the context of the current and increasing financial pressure faced by Nottingham City Council and the resulting necessity for all the City's facilities to both perform at its optimum level in the context of their income generation and minimising the level of subsidy required and their social contribution in addressing the aims and ambitions of the City with regard, in particular, to reducing health inequalities. This strategy provided a quantitative and qualitative audit based assessment of the need for indoor sports facilities and the opportunities for new and/or rationalised provision alongside themes and an action plan.

2.10 In order for the Sports, Culture & Parks service to be able to deliver the visions of the two strategies it has developed a hierarchy of decision making showing how our future relationships will work in order to ensure their continued productiveness. This hierarchy shows where the Sport, Culture and Parks Service sits in terms of the delivery and outputs with regard to sport and physical activity with its partners across the City and also determine what the City Council will:

- Lead on
- Deliver directly
- Broker and support.
- Influence

2.11 The City's primary role is, thus, to:

- Plan and advocate.

- Develop market insight and intelligence to establish baselines and underpin target setting
- Develop and maintain 'delivery partnerships'.
- Implement (and/or oversee and/or be aware of implementation).
- Monitor progress and achievement.

### **3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Not completing the strategy would have meant that the services would have no clear direction or linkages to the Council's or wider strategies.
- 3.2 Undertaking the strategies in this way has provided significant funding from Sport England towards their completion and provides further opportunities for future grant funding to enable the completion of the action plans.
- 3.3 The strategies also provide Sport England with crucial information for them to use in their decision making process as statutory consultees regarding development plans which include the disposal of any playing pitches in the City.

### **4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)**

- 4.1 There are no additional financial implications relating to adopting the proposed strategy. A further report would be need if any costs are identified at a later stage (Steve Ross, Financial Analyst, 1 June 2015).
- 4.2 Property has worked closely with Communities on the agreed approach with Sport England and the National Governing Bodies of Sport for the disposal of the surplus sites listed within Appendix A of the report. The agreed approach is welcomed as it will help facilitate the release of 10 long term vacant former school / playing field sites for development as envisaged by the emerging Local Plan. In addition the adoption of the Playing Pitch Strategy and the strategic recommendations will speed up future decision making in respect of potentially surplus playing pitch sites as they provide Sport England with the information they need to make a decision as statutory consultees on any development proposals affecting playing pitches in the city.
- 4.3 Property will continue to support colleagues in Communities, Sport England and the National Governing Bodies of Sport to help bring about the creation of a community sports hub site on the former Padstow School Detached Playing Fields (Beckhampton Road).  
(Rod Martin, Senior Estate Surveyor, 2 June 2015)
- 4.4 Planning officers have worked closely with the project steering group, and the completed PPS is an important part of the evidence base for the emerging Local Plan, particularly with regard to the release of former sports pitches for development and in the future development of a community sports hub on the former Padstow School Detached Playing Fields. The involvement of Sport England in the PPS should simplify and speed up planning negotiations on sites where they have an interest.  
(Matt Gregory, Policy and Research Manager, 3 June 2015)

### **5 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS)**

- 5.1 As the decision has not been delegated to a specific Committee or individual by the Constitution or Scheme of Delegation nor reserved by the Leader it is within Executive Board's remit for determination.
- 5.2 The playing pitch strategy and physical activity strategy will both provide opportunities to protect and enhance sporting provision and provide opportunities for young people to engage in sports coach training or to participate in a wide range of positive sporting diversionary activities.

## **6 SOCIAL VALUE CONSIDERATIONS**

Both strategies have social value implications linked to their delivery and have been written taken into account the City's corporate objectives. The strategies will provide opportunities for our citizens to benefit from both our indoor and outdoor sport and leisure facilities with targeted provision for them to increase their levels of sports, physical activity and recreational activities across the City.

## **7 REGARD TO THE NHS CONSTITUTION**

The strategies take regards to the NHS constitution and has recommendations developed in partnership with NHS Nottingham which address their ambitions in respect of improving health and links to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

## **8 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)**

Has the equality impact been assessed?

- (a) not needed (report does not contain proposals for new or changing policies, services or functions, financial decisions or decisions about implementation of policies development outside the Council)
- (b) No
- (c) Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached

Due regard should be given to the equality implications identified in any attached EIA.

## **9 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN WRITING THIS REPORT (NOT INCLUDING PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS OR CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION)**

None

## **10 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN THIS REPORT**

Breathing Space 2011 - 2020  
Sport & Physical Activity Strategy 2008 - 2012

## **11 OTHER COLLEAGUES WHO HAVE PROVIDED INPUT**

Matt Gregory  
Growth Point Planning & Planning Policy Manager  
[Matt.gregory@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:Matt.gregory@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)  
Tel:- 0115 8763981

Simon Peters  
Head of Property Investment  
[Simon.peters@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:Simon.peters@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)  
Tel:- 0115 8765475

Paul Seddon  
Head of Development Management  
[Paul.seddon@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:Paul.seddon@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)  
Tel:- 0115 8762797

Emma Orrock  
Community Protection Business Development Manager  
[emma.orrock6821@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:emma.orrock6821@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk)  
Tel:- 01159670999

Judith Irwin  
Senior Solicitor, Planning Environment and Leisure Team  
[judith.irwin@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:judith.irwin@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)  
Tel:- 0115 8764419

Steve Ross  
Financial Analyst  
[Steve.ross@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:Steve.ross@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)  
Tel:- 0115 8763738

Rod Martin  
Senior Estate Surveyor  
[Rod.martin@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:Rod.martin@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)  
Tel:- 0115 8763075



## Appendix A: List of sites agreed for release as part of the recommendations of the Playing Pitch Strategy

The following sites either previously accommodated or currently accommodate playing pitches and have been agreed by the partners can be released for development as part of the Local Plan Part 2: Land and Planning Policies Document (LAPP) subject to the details below. More detailed requirements for these sites will also be set out within the Development Principles of the Publication Version of the LAPP which is aimed to be published later in 2015.

Preferred Option Site ID*	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Status	Proposed development
LA24	Chingford Playing Fields	North	Football	Open Space	A proportion of the site should be retained as provision for semi-natural open space. This could be incorporated into multi-purpose green space. Nearby parks and open spaces have capacity for future increases in demand for pitches.
LA25	Clifton West	South	N/A	Open Space / Agricultural	Proposed uses – residential with a proportion of the site retained as open space as set out in the Development Principles. Future increases in demand for pitches in the area to be addressed via new community use agreements or increases in the quality and capacity of existing pitches.
LA31	Fairham Comprehensive School	South	N/A	Education & Open Space	Proposed uses - residential with a proportion of the site retained as open space. Existing playing fields offer opportunities for provision of improved green space and biodiversity with careful consideration to the character of the existing landscape. Future increases in demand for pitches in the area to be addressed via new community use agreements or increases in the quality and capacity of existing pitches.

## Appendix A

Preferred Option Site ID*	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Status	Proposed development
LA36	Former Eastglade Primary and Nursery School	North	N/A	Vacant / Open Space	Proposed uses - residential with a proportion of the site retained as open space – subject to the development of a community sports hub site in the north of the City, currently proposed at LA41 Former Padstow School Detached Playing Fields (Beckhampton Road).
LA37  SITE SOLD	Former Haywood School Site	North	N/A	Vacant	Proposed uses - residential with a proportion of the site retained as open space – subject to the development of a community sports hub site in the north of the City, currently proposed at LA41 Former Padstow School Detached Playing Fields (Beckhampton Road).
LA39	Former detached Henry Mellish School Playing Fields	North	N/A	Open Space	Proposed uses - residential
LA40	Former Padstow School	North	N/A	Open Space / Former School	Proposed uses - residential with a proportion of the site retained as open space – subject to the development of a community sports hub site in the north of the City, currently proposed at LA41 Former Padstow School Detached Playing Fields (Beckhampton Road).
LA41	Former Padstow School Detached Playing Fields (Beckhampton Road)	North	N/A	Open Space	Site allocated for creation of a community sports hub site via the creation of a Sports Association.

Appendix A

Preferred Option Site ID*	Site name	Analysis area	Pitch type	Status	Proposed development
LA42	Former Padstow School Detached Playing Fields (Ridgeway)	North	N/A	Open Space	Proposed uses - residential with a proportion of the site retained as open space – subject to the development of a community sports hub site in the north of the City, currently proposed at LA41 Former Padstow School Detached Playing Fields (Beckhampton Road).
LA43	Haywood Detached Playing Fields	North	N/A	Open Space	Proposed uses – residential with a proportion of the site retained as open space – subject to the development of a community sports hub site in the north of the City, currently proposed at LA41 Former Padstow School Detached Playing Fields (Beckhampton Road).
LA47	Lortas Road	North	N/A	N/A	Proposed uses - residential with a proportion of the site retained as open space – subject to the development of a community sports hub site in the north of the City, currently proposed at LA41 Former Padstow School Detached Playing Fields (Beckhampton Road).
LA49	Melbury School Playing Fields	North	N/A	Open Space	Proposed uses - residential -with a proportion of the site retained as open space. Nearby parks and open spaces, including redeveloped Harvey Hadden Sports Complex (Bilborough Park), have capacity for future increases in demand for pitches.

\* Site references will be updated as part of the Publication Version of the Local Plan Part 2: Land and Planning Policies Document.