

Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance

An approach to developing and delivering a playing pitch strategy

Appendix 1a



Sport England's Offer of Support

This offer of support seeks to help Local Authorities (LAs) develop and deliver a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) and ensure a collaborative approach from the start.

The offer is subject to a LA reading the guidance document and then contacting Sport England to discuss any points of clarification and the key principles of the approach.

This initial engagement with Sport England should take place as soon as a LA is thinking of developing a PPS, with appropriate notice and before a brief is drafted and any external support is secured. This being the case Sport England will seek to provide the following offer of support to LAs during each stage of the work.

Please note the need for early engagement. Should a situation arise where a significant amount of PPSs are being undertaken at the same time within the same area of the country this may lead to some capacity issues with Sport England providing elements of its offer.

Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach (Step 1)

- Highlight key messages with preparing and tailoring the approach (e.g. setting realistic timescales, ensuring the project team has adequate resources, knowledge and skills)
- Respond to points of clarification in relation to a LAs understanding of the 10 step approach
- Help to facilitate early NGB engagement
- Engage, if possible, with an initial scoping meeting (attend or via telephone/video conference)
- Highlight examples of good practice across the 10 steps (as these develop using the new guidance)
- Assist with queries regarding the use of its strategic planning tools
- Provide knowledge of any issues with provision in the area including those related to its statutory consultee status on planning applications affecting playing field land
- Respond to any points of clarification regarding the use of its Strategic Planning Framework

For particular areas and where resources allow Sport England may also be able to:

- Engage with and support some steering group meetings
- Provide key findings for Artificial Grass Pitches from the latest national run of its Facilities Planning Model
- Review and provide comments on a draft tailored brief for the work

Stage B: Gather supply and demand information and views (Steps 2 & 3)

- If required assist with downloading data from Active Places Power and feeding back any amendments

Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views (Steps 4, 5 & 6)

- Respond to specific queries relating to the assessment work
- Review and provide comments on the draft assessment details/report

For particular areas or where resources allow Sport England may also be able to:

- Help with analysing the supply and demand information and views

Stage D: Develop the strategy (Steps 7 & 8)

- Review and provide comments on a draft strategy document
- Where appropriate provide confirmation that a PPS has been developed in line with the guidance

For particular areas or where resources allow Sport England may also be able to:

- Assist with developing the recommendations and action plan

Stage E: Deliver the strategy and maintain its robustness (Steps 9 & 10)

- Use the PPS to help guide its assessment of any relevant planning application consultations
- Promote the use of the PPS and the delivery of its recommendations and action plan to relevant parties

For particular areas or where resources allow Sport England may also be able to:

- Engage at agreed points with the steering group to help them review the PPS, including its delivery and application, and agree the nature and extent of any required update.

Contacting Sport England

The delivery of Sport England's offer will be led by its Facilities and Planning Team. The best way to contact the team is to send an email to the relevant address below or call its Planning Administration Team on 020 7273 1777.

planning.north@sportengland.org (North West, North East & Yorkshire)

planning.central@sportengland.org (East, West Midlands & East Midlands)

planning.south@sportengland.org (London, South East & South West)