

East Hampshire Playing Pitch Strategy: Appendix C Hockey - Assessment of Needs (Stages B & C)

1. Introduction

This appendix to the East Hampshire Playing Pitch Strategy 2018-2028 details the current picture of facility supply and demand for the playing pitch sport of **hockey** - at individual sites, in each of the four planning sub-areas and across the district as whole.

It also sets out how this current picture of provision is likely to change over the next ten years to 2028. The likely future picture of provision is assessed based on potential changes in supply (both committed and planned projects within the district and its travel catchment), forecast changes in the resident population informed by the targets for new housing in the District Council's Joint Core Strategy, national trends in participation and the development aspirations of the clubs based in the district.

The policies, development programmes and investment priorities of the national governing body for the sport will also influence the future picture of facility supply and demand for the sport in East Hampshire. These are summarised in Section 2 below.

The final section brings together the information on supply and demand in the district and draws conclusions as to the adequacy or otherwise of the existing supply to accommodate current demand (both from within the district or, if relevant, displaced demand from neighbouring local authority areas). Conclusions are also drawn as to the likely facility needs for this playing pitch sport in the sub areas and district-wide by 2028.

2. England Hockey Facilities Strategy 2017

England Hockey adopted a facilities strategy in 2017 which sets out the following national vision, mission and objectives:

Vision	For every hockey club in England to have appropriate and sustainable facilities that provide excellent experiences for players
Mission	More, better, happier players with access to appropriate and sustainable facilities

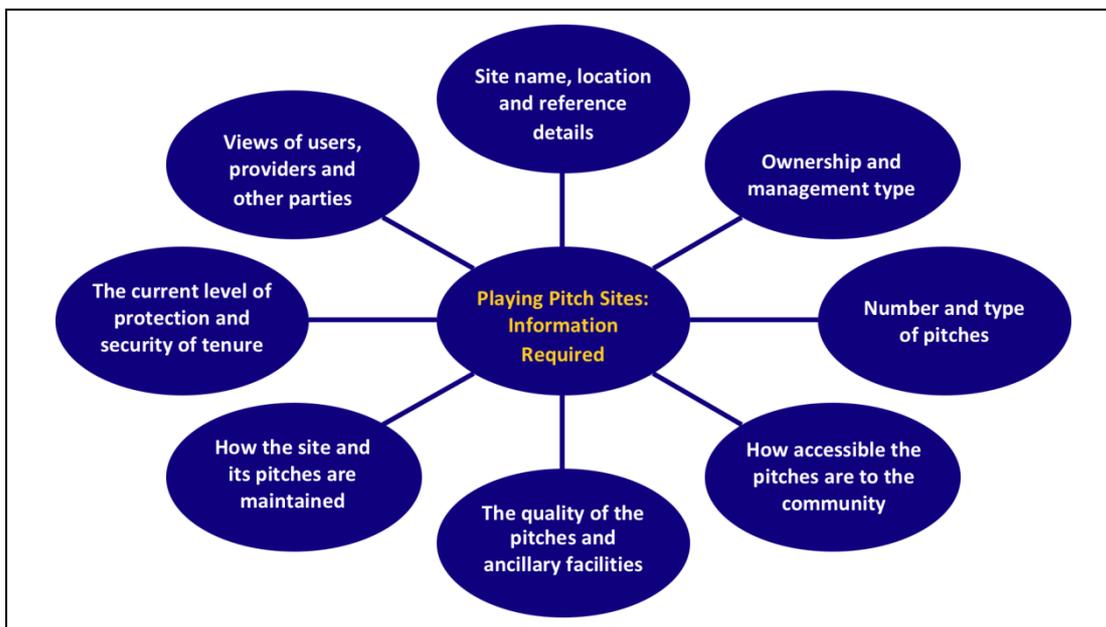
The three main objectives of the facilities strategy are:

1. **PROTECT:** To conserve the existing hockey provision.
We currently have over 800 pitches that are used by hockey clubs (club, school, universities).
2. **IMPROVE:** To improve the existing facilities stock.
The current facility stock is ageing and there needs to be a strategic investment into refurbishing the pitches and ancillary facilities. There needs to be more support to clubs to obtain better agreements with facility providers and education around owning an asset.
3. **DEVELOP:** To strategically build new hockey facilities where there is an identified need and ability to deliver and maintain. This might include consolidating hockey provision in a local area where appropriate. EH research has identified key areas across the country where there is a lack of suitable hockey provision and a need for additional pitches. There is an identified need for multi pitches in the right places to consolidate hockey and allow clubs to have all their provision catered for at one site.

3. Pitch Supply (Step 2)

For all four sports included in the PPS scope – cricket, football, hockey and rugby - the following pitch supply information, see diagram below, has been gathered, as far as possible, by a combination of data collection and review, surveys and consultations:

Pitch Supply Overview



Sources of information – The sources of information used to establish current pitch supply were: latest Sport England Active Places Power audit for playing pitches; The Sport England Facilities Planning Model National Run 2017 findings for AGPs in East Hampshire; relevant NGB, county board and club websites; NGB insight data (where available); online survey returns from sports clubs and schools.

Site visits and inspections – Visits to the hockey pitches in East Hampshire and visual, non-technical inspection.

Hockey Supply

Findings relating to hockey pitch supply, i.e. sand filled, sand dressed or water based artificial grass pitches (AGPs), in East Hampshire are summarised below.

Number and sizes of pitches

In the current season (2017/18), there are four full competition hockey sized sand-based artificial grass pitches (AGPs) in East Hampshire. A further, small floodlit AGP at Alton Sports Centre has closed and will be replaced with 2 No. 5v5 3G pitches as part of the final phase of redevelopment of this flagship sports centre in the district, subject to Reserved Matters planning approvals.

All four pitches are located on secondary school sites, two at Academy schools (**Bohunt** in Liphook and **Amery Hill** in Alton) and two at independent schools (**Dunhurst Bedales** in Steep just outside Petersfield and **Churchers College** in the centre of Petersfield). Community access to this current pitch supply for hockey is all unsecured.

Two large community hockey clubs are based in the district, **Alton Hockey Club** and **Petersfield Hockey Club**. These clubs make use of all four of the hockey pitches in the district as well as a further pitch in Hook in neighbouring Hart District. Neither club has its own clubhouse currently and make use of school changing / pavilion facilities by arrangement with the schools.

Petersfield Hockey Club bases most of its playing activity (home fixtures and midweek training) on the only sand-dressed pitch in the district located at the independent Dunhurst Bedales School in Steep on the outskirts of the town. This pitch is floodlit, although the lux levels are lower than recommended by England Hockey for match play.

The club also makes occasional use of two sand-filled AGPs in the district with floodlights, one at the Bohunt School (an Academy) in Liphook, the other at Churchers College, (an independent school) in the centre of Petersfield.

The fourth hockey pitch is in Alton at Amery Hill School. This sand-filled pitch is the home base of Alton Hockey club for match play at weekends in season. As this pitch does not have floodlighting, the club hires a floodlit pitch at Lord Wandsworth College, Hook (in Hart District) as the nearest with availability for midweek training (currently four hours a week approximately across two evenings). The playing surface was worn from heavy use when visited and successfully rejuvenated with new sand etc. in December 2017.

The Lord Wandsworth provision is approximately 8 miles (a 15 minute drive time) north of Alton. The alternative pitches in East Hampshire at Bohunt School and Churchers College have very limited availability in the peak hours and are further away than the pitch at Hook, at 11 miles and 13 miles respectively.

Summaries of the four school-based hockey pitches in East Hampshire and their access, availability and quality for community hockey use are summarised in the following table.

Hockey Pitches in East Hampshire

Site Name	Sub Area	Postcode	Access	Pitches	Quality	Availability
Amery Hill School	North West (Alton)	GU34 2BZ	School & Community (unsecured) Alton HC - seasonal hire pitch and changing. AHC Use Alton RFC pavilion as social base	Full Size / Sand Filled (EH Cat. 3)/ No Lights	2004 (patch repairs 2013) - STANDARD Since rejuvenation Dec 2017	Planning restrictions on hours of use: Monday to Friday 9am-6pm and, from 1st Sept to 30th April only, on Saturdays 9am-4pm & Sundays 10am-4pm (i.e. 13 peak hours in season)
Churchers College (Main)	SDNP (Petersfield)	GU31 4AS	School & Community (unsecured) Petersfield HC - occasional hire (Sun am) pitch and changing	Full Size / Sand Filled / (EH Cat. 3)/ Lights	2006 - STANDARD Need resurfacing in next 3 years	Planning restrictions on hours of use: 2 evenings a week until 8.30pm, Saturdays to 6pm (by school), Sunday am only (i.e. 8 peak hours in season)
Bohunt School, Liphook	North East (Liphook)	GU30 7NY	School & Community (unsecured) Petersfield HC - occasional hire pitch and changing	Full Size / Sand Filled / (EH Cat. 3)/ Lights	Resurfaced in 2014 - GOOD	All peak hours (i.e. 32 in season for football and hockey combined)
Dunhurst Bedale Schools	SDNP (Petersfield)	GU32 2DG	School & Community (unsecured) Petersfield HC - seasonal hire pitch and changing with social facility	Full Size / Sand Dressed / (EH Cat. 2)/ Lights	2009 - STANDARD Lighting lux levels too low	Peak Tues evening and weekend day time hours in winter only - pitch used by school most evenings and for tennis in summer (i.e. 16 hours in season)

Hockey is also played in the district on a floodlit AGP with a 40mm 3G playing surface (i.e. EH category 4) at **The Mill Chase Academy** in Bordon in the North East of the district. This pitch was built in 2002 and refurbished with the current playing surface in 2013. Hockey play is limited to schools. Since, June 2016, England Hockey has ceased to endorse hockey on any 3G pitch surface other than introductory level activity when no category 1-3 surface is available.

A new sand-filled AGP has also just opened at the independent Kingscourt School in Horndean in the Southern Parishes. This pitch is likely to have very limited, if any, availability for community hockey. (The school has indicated it will be used primarily by its own pupils and visiting schools for netball and tennis in summer and football and hockey in winter). However, there may be some availability of this new pitch for Portsmouth Pythons Lacrosse Club who have used the grass pitches at this school on Saturday mornings for a number of years.

The nearest large floodlit hockey AGPs in the six neighbouring local authorities with East Hampshire are summarised in the following table. The highlighted hockey AGPs are within the 20 minute drive time of at least one sub-area of East Hampshire district.

Nearest Out of District Hockey Pitches

Site	Surface & Size	Age & Quality	Travel Distance from East Hants sub areas	Community Club Access
Woolmer Hill Sports Ground, The Edge Haslemere - Haslemere Hockey Club (Waverley)	98x62m sand filled with lights x 2, plus clubhouse and sports hall (indoor hockey)	2000 Standard	3m from Liphook/Bramshott (North East)	Secured - Trust for Local Authority
Havant College - Havant Hockey Club (Havant)	97x61m water based	2003 Standard	5m from Horndean (Southern Parishes)	Secured
Lord Wandsworth College, Hook - Alton Hockey Club training (Hart)	91x54m sand filled and 58x32m sand filled	Both 1994 Standard	8m from Alton (North West)	Independent School - Unsecured
Bishop Otter Campus - Chichester Hockey Club (Chichester)	98x62m sand filled	2001 (2010 surface) Good	10m from Rowlands Castle (Southern Parishes)	University - Unsecured
Chichester College - Chichester Hockey Club (Chichester)	98x62m sand filled	1998 (2011 surface) Good	10m from Rowlands Castle (Southern Parishes)	Secured
Chichester High School, Kingsham - Chichester Hockey Club (Chichester)	95x59m sand filled	1990 (2006 surface) Good	11m from Rowlands Castle (Southern Parishes)	Unsecured
Down Grange - Basingstoke Hockey Club (Basingstoke & Deane)	Full size sand filled	2012 Good	13m from Alton (North West)	Secured
Winchester Sports Stadium, Bar End - Winchester Hockey Club & Winchester Junior Hockey Club (Winchester)	100x63m sand dressed	2010 Good	14m from Ropley (North West)	University - Secured
Kings School - Winchester Hockey Club & Winchester Junior Hockey Club (Winchester)	100x63m sand dressed	2000 (2012 surface) Good	14m from Ropley (North West)	Secured
Seaford College, Petworth - (Chichester)	100x60m sand filled	1978 (2010 surface) Good	18m from Petersfield (SDNP)	Independent School - Unsecured
Charterhouse School - Guildford Hockey Club (Waverley)	92x55m 92x55m 105x65m All sand dressed	All 2013 Good	19m from Alton (North West)	Independent School - Unsecured
Charterhouse Club - Godalming (Waverley)	100x60m sand dressed 100x60m water based	1995 (2006 surface) Good 2006 Good	19m from Alton (North West)	Commercial health & fitness club - Unsecured

Site	Surface & Size	Age & Quality	Travel Distance from East Hants sub areas	Community Club Access
Broadwater School, Godalming - Guildford Hockey Club (Waverley)	97x62m sand dressed 97x62m water based	Both 2001 Standard	20m from Alton (North West)	Secured
Cranleigh School - Cranleigh Hockey Club (Waverley)	97x60m sand filled 104x60 sand dressed 97x60 sand dressed	1990 Standard 1990 Standard 2005 Good	24m from Bramshott (North East)	Independent School - Unsecured

Proposals identified in consultation for change in the supply of hockey AGPs in East Hampshire are summarised below. The four AGP proposals promoted by secondary schools are subject to current or recent planning applications and/or external funding applications.

Proposed Hockey Pitch Supply Changes in the District

Site Name	Sub Area	Post code	Access	Proposal	Status and Comments
Amery Hill School, Alton	North West	GU34 2BZ	School & Community (secured with CUA)	To: Provide floodlights, extend hours of permitted use	No planning application at present. A funding application to the Sport England Community Asset Fund for a grant towards the project is supported in principle. The planning history of this pitch in relation to residential amenity suggests that securing consent at this site for floodlighting (linked to a further variation to the permitted hours of use in the evenings) presents a significant challenge to the school and club.
Eggers School, Alton	North West	GU34 4EQ	School & Community (secured with club capital investment)	To: Provide a new AGP 101.4m x 63m with floodlights	A planning application was submitted to EHDC in July 2017 and is not yet determined. EHDC Environmental Health recommends that, if approved, a condition should be made to restrict hours of use to 9pm on weekdays, 6pm on Saturdays and 2pm on Sundays in light of neighbour amenity and noise disturbance. The planning proposal is for a floodlit pitch suitable for hockey, football, touch rugby, tennis and netball. The playing surface specification is unclear (either EH Cat. 2 or 3). Alton HC is the proposed main community club partner. The club seeks to secure the AGP as its training base (in place of Lord Wandsworth School in Hook) and as a second home match pitch at weekends to accommodate overspill from its Amery Hill home site and team growth. Funding applications submitted to Sport England's Inspired Facilities and Community Asset Fund programmes were not supported in the context of the priority need identified by EH to enhance the existing pitch at Amery Hill School. Alton HC is actively fundraising towards a second pitch in the town and at September 2017 had raised £39,000 towards a target contribution of £50,000 by end 2017.
Alton School	North West	GU34 2NG	School & Community (secured with CUA)	To: Provide a new AGP 101.4m x 63m with floodlights (EH Cat 2)	No planning application at present. The driver for this project is the need of the School for a EH Cat 2 sand dressed AGP to accommodate hockey teaching and school team match play and training. Despite its unsuitability for hockey, the College hires daytime slots on the nearby Alton FC 3G pitch as this is the only one available in the town. As with the Eggers School proposal, this project is predicated on Alton HC using the pitch as its second pitch

Site Name	Sub Area	Post code	Access	Proposal	Status and Comments
					and training base. A funding application to the Sport England Community Asset Fund was unsuccessful.
New Mill Chase Academy, Budds Lane, Bordon	North East		School & Community (secured through planning agreement)	101.4m x 63m with Lights	Planning is secured for replacement of the existing Mill Chase School and its AGP from 2019 on a new site in Budds Lane, Bordon. In the first phase of development, this will result in replacement of the existing short-pile 3G AGP with a fully FA compliant floodlit 3G pitch on the site of the new expanded school. This pitch will be suitable for football match play to Step 7 with secured community use to include home matches for Headley FC 1st team. There are also proposals for the provision of a second sand based AGP on this site with floodlights suitable for competition hockey (EH Cat. 3) in a later phase (date to be determined subject to the release of proceeds from sale of the site of the existing AGP on closure of the school). The needs case is based on the school as opposed to community demand.

In addition to these proposed changes to hockey pitch provision, Churchers College propose to seek a planning consent for extension to the permitted hours of use of its AGP and floodlights - currently evening use is restricted to 8.30pm on just two evenings a week and weekend use is restricted to 9am to 5pm on Saturdays and Sunday mornings.

Proposed Hockey Pitch Supply Changes out of the District

There is just one current proposed change in hockey AGP supply in neighbouring local authorities that could potentially impact on the supply/demand balance in East Hampshire as it is proposed for a site within 10 miles (i.e. an approximate 20 minute drive time).

This is a joint proposal, supported in the current Playing Pitch Strategy for Hart District between Yateley Hockey Club and Eversley Sports Association on the construction of a new floodlit full size sand filled AGP in Hook. Funding and all necessary permissions have been secured and when completed this will become the new base for this club.

3. Pitch Demand (Step 3)

For all four sports included in the PPS scope, the following pitch demand information, see diagram below, has been gathered, as available, by a combination of data collection and review, surveys and consultations:

Pitch Demand Overview



Sources of information – The sources of information used to establish current hockey pitch demand were:

- Booking records of pitch providers where provided by schools (Amery Hill, Bohunt).
- Online survey returns from both the Alton and Petersfield hockey clubs re: teams, patterns of use, unmet demand.
- Sport England tools - i.e. Facilities Planning Model National Run 2017 report findings for hockey AGPs in East Hampshire and Sports Market Segmentation (SMS) trends and latent demand.
- District population forecasts and distribution by age groups relevant to hockey to estimate additional team generation in 2028.
- England Hockey - Participation Information for East Hampshire
- Club and league websites.

Hockey Demand

Findings relating to hockey pitch demand in East Hampshire are summarised below.

Clubs and Teams

East Hampshire currently has two hockey clubs based in the district, Alton Hockey Club and Petersfield Hockey Club. Both clubs currently play all their home matches in the district, although the Alton senior teams use a pitch at Lord Wandsworth school in Hook in Hart District for approximately 4 hours a week in season for training. A former club in the North East of the district, Bordon Hockey Club folded about 20 years ago.

Alton Hockey Club - The club's home base is at Avery Hill School, Alton (*North West*).

The club has steadily expanded its number of teams (to 5 men's teams and 3 women's teams) and more than doubled its numbers of registered players over the past four seasons from 164 to 367.

The scale and speed of the club's development is evidenced by the following EH affiliation data to 2015/16 and the club's own survey return to inform this needs assessment in June 2017.

Alton HC	Junior players	Men (teams)	Women (teams)	Total
2017 - Club survey	217	80 (5)	70 (3)	367
2015/16 - EH affiliation return	217	61 (4)	38 (2)	316
2014/15 - EH affiliation return	174	78	26	278
2013/14 - EH affiliation return	118	32	14	164

Petersfield Hockey Club - The club's home base is at Dunhurst Bedales School in Steep, Petersfield (*SDNP*).

The club's teams and player numbers have not changed substantially from four years ago as evidenced in the table below.

Petersfield HC	Junior players	Men (teams)	Women (teams)	Total
2017 - Club survey	152	57 (4)	45 (3)	254
2015/16 - EH affiliation return	186	57 (3)	39 (3)	282
2014/15 - EH affiliation return	186	57	39	282
2013/14 - EH affiliation return	176	52	37	265

Hampshire Hockey Player Pathway activities

The only venue in East Hampshire used for Development Centre (DC) training is the pitch at Dunhurst Bedales School on the outskirts of Petersfield which hosts hockey goalkeeper development coaching sessions.

Lord Wandsworth College hockey pitch is the main Development Centre (DC) used by Hampshire Hockey in Hampshire North. Although on the edge of the 20 minute drive time catchment of Alton and villages in the North West sub area, the demands on this pitch by the school, Hampshire Hockey and Warlock Vets HC (a single team men's club playing home matches on a Sunday), leaves no spare capacity for further use by Alton Hockey Club beyond its existing evening training slots on two evenings.

Active People Survey

The final Active People Survey 10 (Oct 2015 - Sept 2016) showed that adult (16+) participation in hockey grew by 0.02% over the previous 12 months. 0.22% of adults (16+) in England played hockey for at least 30 minutes once a week in 2015/16. Comparable data at Hampshire and District level is not available due to insufficient sample size.

England Hockey advise that nationally, participation has grown in the last two to three seasons driven in part by the success of GB teams particularly the women at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games. This would appear to be borne out in East Hampshire by the growth in female participation at the two clubs, most particularly at Alton Hockey Club.

If hockey participation in East Hampshire were at the national average, this would indicate around 125 adults (aged 16+) living in the District play hockey (out of an adult population of approximately 57,500 (male and females) in the prime 16-55yrs adult age range for hockey participation). With current adult hockey club membership of around 250 (i.e. 0.44% of resident adults in the prime hockey age group), East Hampshire has roughly twice the national adult participation rate for hockey.

Market Segmentation and Latent Demand

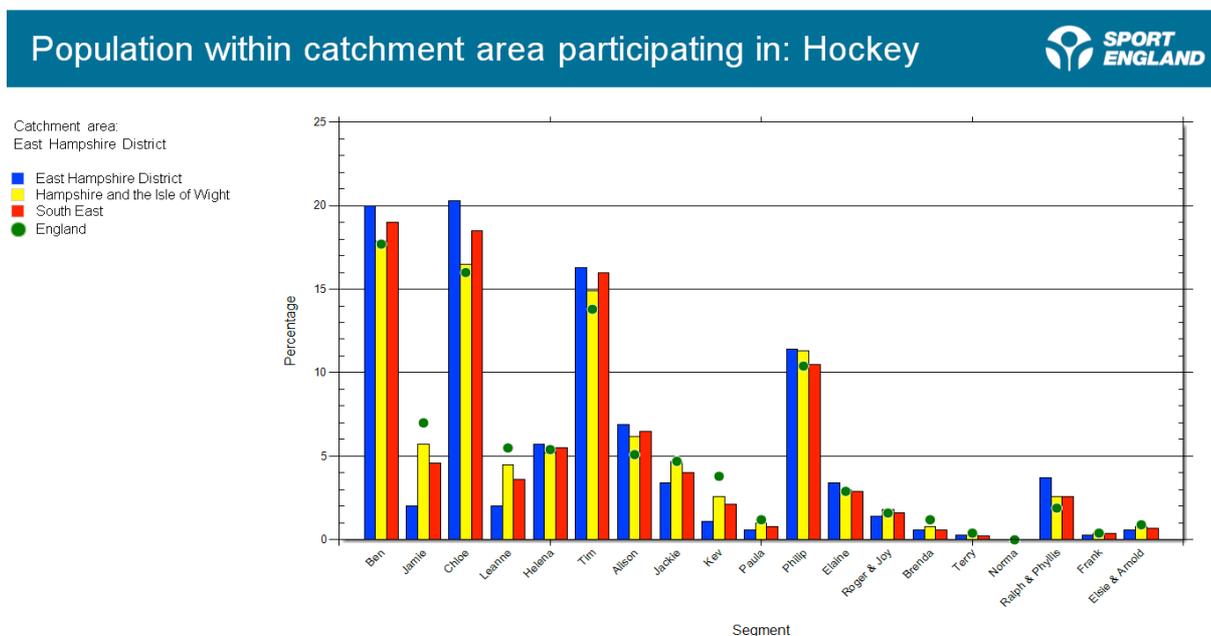
As the two graphs below illustrate, current demand to play hockey in East Hampshire is substantially greater than the average across the County Sports Partnership area (Hampshire & IoW), the South East and England as a whole in eight of the 19 Sports Market Segmentation Groups. In rank order of size of their representation in the hockey playing adult cohort in the district these eight Groups are:

- **Chloe** - young image conscious females keeping fit and trim
- **Ben** - competitive male urbanites, recent graduates with a work hard play hard attitude
- **Tim** - settling down males, sporty professionals, buying a house and settling down with a partner
- **Philip** - comfortable, midlife males, professional, sporty with older children and more time for themselves
- **Alison** - mums with a comfortable but busy lifestyle
- **Helena** - career focused professional women enjoying life in the fast lane
- **Ralph & Phyllis** - comfortable retirees enjoying active lifestyles
- **Elaine** - empty nest career ladies, mid life professionals with more time for themselves since their children left home.

In terms of adults in East Hampshire who want to play hockey (i.e. latent demand) the largest groups in rank order of size are as follows showing that young women and mums present the greatest opportunities for growing the game in the district. Latent hockey demand in all eight groups is greater than the England average:

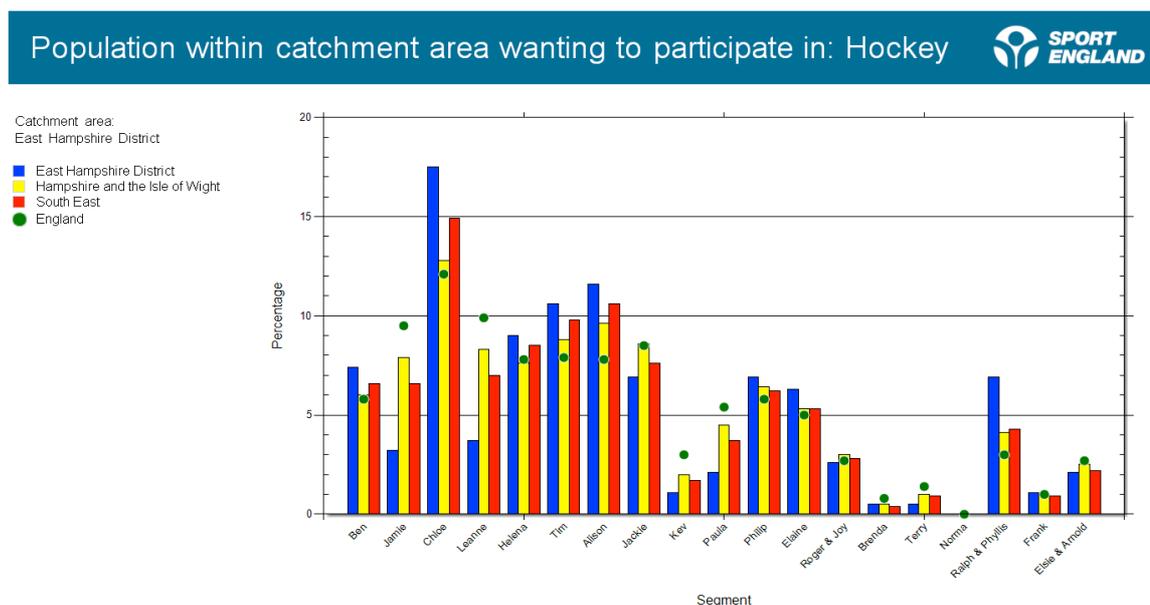
- **Chloe**
- **Alison**
- **Tim**
- **Helena**
- **Ralph**
- **Ben**
- **Philip**
- **Elaine**

Market Segmentation – currently participating in Hockey



Source: Sport England Sports Market Segmentation (September 2017)

Market Segmentation – would like to participate in Hockey



Source: Sport England Sports Market Segmentation (September 2017)

As the figures demonstrate, there is a genuine demand for the sport across the District and highlights the need for suitable AGP facilities.

In East Hampshire there is a higher than average participation rate for graduate and professional men aged 18-45 and graduate women aged 18-25. As the segmentation demonstrates there is also high latent demand for hockey from these groups and also mothers aged 36-45. Clubs and facility providers can continue to target latent demand within these groups by organising and promoting the right programmes for example Rush Hockey, Back to Hockey or Walking Hockey (aimed at older people).

Casual Demand

Hampshire Hockey is supporting the clubs and schools in East Hampshire to encourage these less formal forms of the game outside of the league structure. Regular Back to Hockey sessions are programmed under lights by the Petersfield Hockey Club at Dunhurst Bedales School. Occasional sessions are also programmed at Amery Hill School although these are constrained in the peak hours by the lack of floodlights.

Schools Hockey

A significant contributory factor to the higher than average take up of hockey by adults in East Hampshire is the extent to which hockey is taught and played competitively in the secondary schools in the district, particularly in the independent sector, for example at Alton School and at Dunhurst Bedales and Churchers College in Petersfield. Pupils from these schools feed into the two community clubs in the district. Churchers College reported in consultation that they cannot accommodate all hockey demand for school teams and PE on its single pitch despite programming fixtures back-to-back where possible. On occasion, the College hire the short pile 3G pitch at Mill Chase School for the younger age groups or travel out of the district to use one of the pitches at Woolmer Hill Sports Ground in Haslemere.

Other Hockey Activities

Both the Alton and Petersfield hockey clubs programme Open Days/Hockey Festivals at the start of each season in September.

Hockey - Expressed Club Demand

East Hants Based Hockey Clubs and Teams	2017/18 League	Home Ground	Other Grounds Used
<p>Alton Hockey Club</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Five men's sides ▪ Three ladies' sides ▪ Fifteen junior sides/squads <p>367 players 2017</p>	Hampshire League and age group boys teams in Wessex League	<p>Amery Hill School - no floodlights, restricted hours of use. AGP playing surface improved in Dec 2017 with rejuvenation works.</p> <p>Matches on Saturday and Sundays. Junior training for 6-12yr olds Saturdays 9-11am</p>	<p>Lord Wandsworth College - Weekly training from September. Mondays 6-7pm Under 14's Mondays 7-8.30pm Ladies Tuesdays 6-7pm Under 12's Wednesdays 7-8-30pm Mens</p>
<p>Petersfield Hockey Club</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Three men's sides ▪ One vets side ▪ Three ladies' sides ▪ Twelve junior sides/squads <p>254 players 2017</p>	Hampshire League and age group boys teams in Wessex League	<p>Dunhurst Bedales School - good AGP, lighting levels need enhancing.</p> <p>Matches on Saturday and Sundays. Training:</p> <p>TUESDAYS Men's 1, 2, 3, U16 boys & Vets - 7:00pm - 8:30pm Womens 1, 2, 3 & U16 girls - 8:00pm - 9:15pm</p> <p>SUNDAYS Mini's 9:30am - 10:45am U14 boys and Girls 10:30am - 11:45am</p>	<p>Churchers School - Weekly training from September. Sundays U12 boys and Girls 09:30am - 10:45am</p> <p>Bohunt School - Summer league</p>

Club aspirations for growth

Both clubs based in East Hampshire have aspirations for further growth but these are constrained by lack of availability of pitch time in the peak hours for matches and training under lights.

Alton Hockey Club would like to grow by a further two adult teams from 8 to 10 in total if more capacity becomes available. Petersfield Hockey Club would also like to grow beyond its current 7 teams and consider there is local demand but, like the Alton club, consider the potential is constrained by lack of pitch capacity in the peak hours.

England Hockey considers the current predicted growth of the two clubs is achievable (subject to more peak hour pitch capacity) based on trends and the clubs' engagement with EH development initiatives. EH also consider that the housing and population growth planned in the district, if realised, could lead to substantial further growth in demand in the period of the strategy.

4. The situation at individual sites (Step 4)

Hockey sites

The pitches were quality-assessed towards the end of the 2016/17 season. The assessments and ratings were reviewed by representatives of England Hockey and agreed.

Carrying capacity for hockey is a measure of the number of hours a week in the peak period (evenings and weekends) that the AGPs suitable for hockey use are available for community hockey use, i.e. total community hours available less hours allocated to other sports (football and tennis) during the main winter season.

The table below summarises the situation at each hockey AGP site with regard to:

1. *Pitch supply* (including the quality ratings) and conclusions reached as to the amount of play a site can accommodate (i.e. its carrying capacity for community use).

2. *The amount of play that takes place at each site* (i.e. the expressed demand) adjusted to reflect any casual or education use in addition to club use for matches and training in the peak community hours.
3. *The comparison* (shown as a RAG rating) as to whether, for each pitch type it contains, a site is:
 - **RED** - Being overplayed (current use exceeds the carrying capacity)
 - **AMBER** - Being played to the level the site can sustain (current use matches the carrying capacity), or
 - **GREEN** - Potentially able to accommodate some additional play (current use falls below the carrying capacity)

Situation at Individual Sites

Site	Pitch Rating	Size	Hours per week in peak period	Est. Use	RAG	Comments/ Assumptions
Amery Hill School, Alton (North West)	Standard	Full size Sand filled No lights	13 Sat 9-4 Sun 10-4	13	RED	No peak evening use - planning restriction and lack of floodlights. Mainly school use. Training for 4hrs a week approx displaced to Lord Wandsworth College in Hook which has no additional capacity.
Dunhurst Bedales School, Steep, Petersfield (SDNP)	Standard	Full size Sand dressed Training lights	16 Sat/Sun/ Tues eve	16	RED	Mainly school use in evenings (boarding school). Petersfield HC training for u12s displaced to Churchers College in Petersfield on Sundays. Lighting quality needs improving.
Churchers College, Petersfield (SDNP)	Standard	Full size Sand filled Lights	8 2 eves for 2hrs, Sun am	2	GREEN	Limited time available for hire to clubs - school matches on Saturdays and after school programmes run to 6.30pm during the week. Available evening slots restricted to 6.45pm to 8.15pm on 2 evenings a week is hard to fill. Petersfield HC book Sunday mornings for u12 training. Original lighting needs replacing.
Bohunt School, Liphook (North East)	Good	Full size Sand filled Lights	32	25	GREEN	Mainly football use in the peak period in season by Liphook Utd FC. After school clubs use the pitch most evenings. Imported hockey demand from Haslemere Hockey Club (based just 3 miles away). Used by Petersfield HC for summer league matches. Petersfield HC consider that the hire charges are high (relative to Dunhurst and Churchers) reducing accessibility.
East Hampshire			69	56		

Sport England Facilities Planning Model (FPM) - Hockey AGP Needs Assessment

The following findings relate to the 2017 National Run of Sport England's planning tool the Facilities Planning Model for hockey AGPs in East Hampshire (i.e. AGPs with sand or water based playing surfaces).

Hockey AGPs in East Hampshire - Summary Findings of FPM National Run 2017

- There are 5 hockey AGPs in East Hants.
- Satisfied demand is at 94.7% and is well above the national figure (75.6%). 57.9% of demand is retained with 42.1% of demand exported to other areas.
- Low unmet demand at 5.3%, well below the national figure of 24.4%.
- Used capacity is low at 57.7%, and significantly below the national figure of 87.4%.
- Local share is high at 1.80 which indicates capacity exceeds demand and significantly above the national figure (0.90).
- Aggregate unmet demand map – the level of aggregate unmet demand is consistently low across the district, although only very marginally higher in the south.

- Local share map – higher than average across the district with highest levels in and around Bordon; Petersfield and Liss, slightly lower levels of local share in Alton and Horndean.

Overall, these findings suggest a current picture of an adequate supply of hockey AGPs to meet demand with a significant amount of unused capacity. However, from checking and challenging the supply assumptions underlying the findings with the Council's sports team and England Hockey it is clear that the findings do not adequately reflect the current position. In addition, for the purposes of the Playing Pitch Strategy, future supply/demand requirements need to be considered in relation to the end date of 2028.

The supply assumptions underlying the FPM 2017 National Run findings for hockey AGPs in East Hampshire are as follows:

Hockey AGPs in East Hampshire - Supply Assumptions in FPM National Run 2017

Name of Site	Type	Size	Area	Site Year Built	Site Year Refurb	Weight Factor	Public/ Commercial	Hours in Peak Period
East Hants								
ALTON SPORTS CENTRE	FILLED SAND Floodlit	100 x 60	6000	2002		100%	P	16
AMERY HILL SCHOOL	FILLED SAND Non Floodlit	100 x 60	6000	2004	2013	100%	P	12
BEDALES SCHOOL	DRESSED SAND Floodlit	104 x 60	6240	1990	2009	100%	P	16
BOHUNT CENTRE	FILLED SAND Floodlit	100 x 60	6000	2000	2014	100%	P	16
CHURCHERS COLLEGE	FILLED SAND Floodlit	100 x 64	6400	2006		100%	P	16

The main changes in the supply assumptions of relevance to the findings relate to:

- Alton Sports Centre** - This pitch was reduced in size several years ago from 100m x 60m to 41m x 38m including run offs and, in October 2017, the pitch was closed in readiness for ground works for the replacement of the sports centre (subject to Reserved Matters planning consent). For a number of years prior to its closure, this provision - although potentially usable for small-sided informal games of hockey and training drills - was used largely for football. The reserved matters planning proposals submitted for the new Alton Leisure Centre include 2 No. 5 a side 3G football pitches in place of the existing (now closed) small sand based pitch. When this pitch is removed from the hockey supply, it reduces the available hours for hockey in peak period by more than a quarter.
- Amery Hill School** - The actual available hours of use in the peak period of this pitch are 13 per week in the winter season (Saturday 9am-4pm, Sunday 10am-4pm) due to planning restrictions and the absence of floodlighting. 16 peak hours a week are assumed in the FPM supply assumptions. This pitch has been used to capacity in the available peak hours by Alton Hockey Club in recent seasons as a result of growth in demand.
- Churchers College** - The actual available hours of community club use in the peak period of this pitch are limited to 8 per week comprising two evenings a week for 2 hours and on Sunday mornings due to planning restrictions and use of the pitch by the school. 16 peak hours a week are assumed in the FPM, twice the actual availability in practice.

5. The current and future pictures of provision (Step 5)

Hockey provision

Current

It is clear that demand for hockey is stronger across East Hampshire than the national average. This strong demand is driven by a particularly well developed base of schools hockey (largely in the independent schools sector but also at Mill Chase Academy and with growing interest at both the Petersfield School and Bohunt in Liphook) which feeds players into two well established community hockey clubs based in the two main towns in the district.

Hockey demand is similarly strong relative to the national average in the neighbouring local authority areas within Hampshire and Surrey. Of particular relevance to the picture of provision in East Hampshire are the large hockey clubs are located just to the east and south of the district: Haslemere Hockey Club and Havant Hockey Club respectively.

The club at Haslemere in Waverley Borough has access to two pitches and a sports hall suitable for indoor hockey at Woolmer Hill Sports Ground / The Edge Leisure Centre which is only a short journey time from the Whitehill & Bordon sub area. Although this club already has a playing membership of well over 400, this is a multi pitch site and there is a large supply of other hockey compliant AGPs to accommodate demand in Waverley Borough (e.g. at Charterhouse School, Charterhouse Club, Cranleigh School).

Residents of the Southern Parishes sub area of East Hampshire are much closer to Havant Hockey Club based adjacent to Havant Park than to Petersfield Hockey Club. The Havant Hockey Club is one of the most successful in the country with 6 men's teams, 5 ladies teams and 250+ juniors and plays across four pitch sites - one in Havant (Havant College, the club's main water based first team pitch), another at Southwick Park (in Winchester District) and two in Portsmouth City (Admiral Lord Nelson School and Portsmouth University). However, the water based pitch at Havant College is used as the club's main pitch and is the only hockey compliant provision in Havant Borough. As such, this pitch accessible to residents of the Southern Parishes, has no spare capacity.

The existing supply in East Hampshire of four hockey compliant full size artificial grass pitches is greater than that in Havant Borough, similar to the supply in Basingstoke & Deane and the Isle of Wight, a little below that in Hart, Winchester and Chichester and much less than in Waverley Borough which has an unusually large number of hockey pitches.

The four hockey pitches in East Hampshire are reasonably well distributed to meet demand. One is located in the North West (at Amery Hill School, Alton) one in the North East (at Bohunt School, Liphook) and two towards the south of the SDNP sub area in Steep (Dunhurst Bedales School) and in Petersfield (Churchers College).

The key findings with regard to the supply of pitches are the unsecured nature of the access and the restrictions on availability for community use in the peak hours. The restrictions are either due to lack of floodlighting (Amery Hill), imposed by planning restrictions relating to noise and/or light nuisance (Amery Hill, Churchers College, Dunhurst Bedales) or by the programming needs of the schools where the pitches are located (notably Churchers College and Dunhurst Bedales with Saturday fixtures and boarding pupils in the case of Bedales). The pitches at these schools are located in the South Downs National Park and subject to the Dark Night Skies Reserve policy of this planning authority.

It is clear that these restrictions are preventing the two clubs - most particularly the Alton Hockey Club - from accommodating existing demand on the available capacity of the hockey pitches in the district. At least four hours a week are currently displaced approximately 8 miles out of the district to Hook to accommodate existing midweek evening training needs of the Alton club. Although there is spare hockey pitch capacity

within the district - at Bohunt School - this provision is over 11 miles from Alton to the north east and the cost of hire is higher.

To address the existing need within the district, the first facility priority is floodlighting to a hockey compliant AGP in Alton. Sport England has provided in principle support to a grant application by Amery Hill School to its Community Asset Fund investment programme for the installation of floodlighting (subject to planning). A grant award will be conditional on the necessary planning consents and on securing the club's access for the long term by means of a formal Community Use Agreement (CUA).

In the event that planning consent for floodlights and extended permitted hours of use for the pitch at Amery Hill School is not granted, a new floodlit pitch will be needed on suitable, accessible site in the town. In this context, the Alton Hockey Club has been fund raising for some time towards a second pitch with floodlights to be located at Eggar's School. The school has submitted a planning application for this development. The application has still to be determined.

In the SDNP sub area centred on Petersfield, the needs case for additional hockey capacity for the community club is not as strong as in the Alton area in the North West. In this area, the existing playing and training needs of the Petersfield Hockey Club are met by the peak hours made available to the club at two independent schools, i.e. at Dunhurst Bedales School in the main, plus some access for juniors on Sunday mornings to the pitch at Churchers College.

The existing hockey facility priority project in this sub area is to upgrade the floodlights to the pitch at Bedales School to improve the quality for winter afternoon match play and for training. Extension of the permitted hours of use of the pitch at Churchers College beyond 8.30pm and for more than two evenings a week would also be beneficial in meeting the existing needs of the Petersfield Hockey Club for playing and training capacity. However, this will be contingent on the College securing the necessary planning consent in the context of the SDNP Dark Night Skies Reserve Policy.

There is no existing needs case for specialist hockey provision in the Southern Parishes sub area in view of the relatively short journey times to the pitches and club activity in Havant (both at Havant College and Southwick Park).

There is also no existing needs case for specialist hockey provision in the North East area to meet community demand given the easy access to the hockey compliant pitch with spare capacity in the peak hours at Bohunt School in Liphook, and the two pitches in Haslemere a short journey time to the east.

Future

Potential impact of committed supply changes

There are no current committed projects of relevance to the future picture of provision in East Hampshire for hockey.

Potential impact of population change

Future population growth figures have been calculated for the period of this strategy against the primary age groups for hockey participation. The population growth estimates in the table below have been provided by EHDC Planning Service and are based on the Strategic Housing Requirement Assessment (SHRA) Scenario B.

Assuming current hockey 'team generation rates' (i.e. the number of residents in the prime hockey age groups in the district population per existing hockey team), and the forecast population growth to 2028 in these age groups, it can be calculated that demand for approximately 4 additional teams will be generated by 2028 requiring additional playing capacity.

Population Projections and Hockey team Generation Rates

Age Group	No. Hockey Teams 2017	Pop in Age Group 2011	Pop in Age Group 2028	Current Team Generation Rate	Pop Change in Age Group	Potential Change in Hockey Team No's
Senior Men (16-55yrs)	9	28,278	25,287	3,142	+3,869	+1.23
Senior Women (16-55yrs)	6	29,233	25,180	4,197	+4,005	+0.95
Junior Boys (11-15yrs)	6	3,850	3,587	598	526	+0.88
Junior Girls (11-15yrs)	7	3,671	3,347	478	508	+1.06
Total	28					+4.12

Potential impact of demand trends and how pitch sports are played

National trends show a reduction in interest in taking part in sports that demand a commitment to regular attendance, in favour of a more casual involvement. However, this national picture is not reflected locally in East Hampshire where the Alton Hockey Club in particular has experienced large growth in recent seasons in both its adult teams and junior membership.

Alongside this local area growth in the traditional forms of hockey, there is also modest but steadily growing demand for less formal pay and play game formats that do not require long term commitment to a club. Weekly drop in sessions of Back to Hockey and Walking Hockey for older people are becoming popular nationally and the demand for these types of sessions is likely to grow in East Hampshire over the strategy period - via both the two clubs and secondary schools - encouraged by England Hockey.

Hockey club growth aspirations

It is highly likely that both of the locally based clubs will continue to expand in future years. Both have expressed aspirations to grow the number of regular teams.

The impact of these factors on the overall picture of pitch provision for hockey in the district will need be kept under periodic review over the ten-year period of the strategy.

Conclusions - future hockey pitch need in East Hampshire to 2028

The assessment of the likely future **community** demand for hockey supports the case for provision of one further hockey pitch in the district by 2028, with the Alton area in the North West of the district the priority location.

The strength of demand for **schools** hockey in the district may result in demand for the provision of additional pitches in the Petersfield SDNP sub-area (at Churchers College) and/or in the North East sub-area (at the new Mill Chase School).

Although justified to meet the needs of pupils, if developed, these additional pitches will have potential to accommodate community hockey demand as well as school use.

6. Key findings and issues (Step 6)

Hockey	
The main characteristics of the <u>current</u> supply of and demand for provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There has been rapid growth in participation in hockey in the Alton area (North West) within East Hampshire in recent seasons, stimulated by Alton Hockey Club and the club's strong development links with local schools, particularly Alton School. The growth in participation is most marked among women and girls - the 'Rio factor'. ○ There is also a substantial and stable base of participation in community club hockey in the Petersfield area of the district, with a well-established town hockey club, Petersfield Hockey Club. The development of community hockey in this part of the district (SDNP) also benefits from a strong tradition of hockey in the independent schools in this area (notably at Churchers College and Dunhurst Bedales School). ○ The quantity of hockey pitch supply in East Hampshire - i.e. four hockey compliant AGPs - is broadly comparable on a per capita basis to most of its neighbour local authority areas (aside from Waveley Borough). The distribution of the four pitches across the district is also reasonably good with one in the North West (Alton), one in the North East (Liphook) and two in the central part of the SDNP sub area district (in Steep and Petersfield respectively). ○ However, availability of the supply of hockey pitches to the two community clubs is greatly constrained by the demands of the schools themselves (e.g. for boarding pupils and for inter school matches and after school training). ○ Restrictions on the permitted hours of use of most of the pitches and lack of floodlights at the Amery Hill School - home pitch of Alton Hockey Club - place particular constraints on availability of the supply at times of peak demand. ○ As far as schools' demand for hockey pitches for PE and school teams, there is a deficiency in Alton for the Alton School who currently hire a non-compliant 3G pitch to deliver its hockey programme. There is a similar issue in the North East where the Mill Chase Community School currently deliver hockey on a short pile (40mm) 3G pitch. While there are proposals to replace this pitch on a new school site in Bordon, these are for a football compliant 3G although the provision of a second sand based AGP is included in the proposals for the school at a later date. Also, in Petersfield, Churchers College is not able to accommodate the entirety of its hockey programme on its single sand filled AGP.
Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet <u>current</u> demand?	<p>NO.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Current community club demand for league hockey (senior and youth) and for junior development and training is not met by current supply within East Hampshire. The Alton Club travels 8 miles to a pitch in Hook in Hart District to accommodate its weekly adult team training needs. Although there is spare capacity at the Bohunt School AGP, this provision is over 11 miles from Alton. ○ The clear sub-area of deficiency is in the Alton area (North West). The success of the Alton Hockey Club with over 360 registered players is such that the club has outgrown its home pitch at Amery Hill School where the hours of availability are restricted by the lack of floodlighting and planning restrictions on permitted hours of use. As a benchmark, England Hockey estimates that a full-sized sand filled AGP can accommodate 10 teams or 250 players with full access at weekends and midweek evening training slots. The Alton Hockey Club has substantially out-grown this benchmark. ○ While no current threats to community use have been identified in consultation, the two hockey clubs have poor security of access to the school-based hockey pitches in the district. Neither club has security of access to its home pitch for more than a season nor its own clubhouse facilities to host visiting teams and for social interaction. The clubs are therefore dependent on the continued goodwill and support of the schools.
Is the provision that is accessible of sufficient quality and appropriately maintained?	<p>YES.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Overall, the quality of the four pitches is sufficient and the pitches are appropriately maintained. However, within this overall picture, the Amery Hill School pitch will need a renewed playing surface in the lifetime of this strategy. Although partially upgraded in 2013 and rejuvenated again in December 2017, the playing surface is over 13 years old and for the last few seasons has been used to its capacity by Alton Hockey Club during the available hours at weekends in addition to heavy use by the school in term time. ○ The floodlights to the pitch at Dunhurst Bedales School also need upgrading.

<p>What are the main characteristics of the <u>future</u> supply and demand for provision?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are no committed projects for enhanced or new hockey pitches in the district although two schools in the district have proposals for which they have applied for planning consent and/or grant funding (Amery Hill School and Eggars School in Alton). ○ Churchers College in Petersfield proposes to seek consent for extended hours. ○ In addition, a new hockey pitch is proposed in a second phase of development of Mill Chase Community School and its playing pitch facilities in Bordon. ○ Based on the growth trends in participation over recent seasons, latent demand and the aspirations of the clubs, it is reasonable to assume that given additional pitch capacity, the two community clubs have potential for further growth to 2028. ○ Population growth forecasts in the district - particularly in the Southern Parishes and the North East sub areas where there are large-scale allocations for new housing - also suggest increased demand. Based on current growth forecasts and hockey team generation rates, a further four hockey teams may need to be accommodated by 2028.
<p>Is there enough accessible and secured community use provision to meet <u>future</u> demand?</p>	<p>NO.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ From the assessment, it is clear that neither hockey club in the district has sufficient <u>secured</u> community use at the school pitches they access currently. Population growth and trends in hockey in the district (including the strength of hockey in the independent schools along with growing in interest in teaching hockey in several state secondary schools) is likely to increase the deficiency in secured supply to 2028. ○ The priority need lies in the Alton area (North West) where lack of floodlighting and restrictions on availability in the peak hours at Amery Hill School are already displacing demand out of the district and constraining growth. At this site, there is potential to secure community use for the long term through a grant funding agreement and/or planning conditions. When completed, the committed project for a new hockey pitch at the Eversley Sport Association in Hook will provide additional capacity within the North West drive time catchment area although peak times will be taken up by demand from within Hart. Subject to planning and funding, there is also potential for the Alton club to secure use of a new, second hockey pitch in the town at Eggar's School. ○ In the SDNP area - Petersfield and its catchment - there is no current need for additional supply to meet the community club demand. The supply/demand balance in this area will need to be kept under review. The focus in the short term should be on seeking to secure and extend the hours available to the club at the two existing hockey pitches it uses at Dunhurst Bedales School and Churchers College (subject to planning). ○ In the Southern Parishes, while there will be new housing led population growth over the next ten years which will grow hockey demand, the proximity of accessible supply in Havant Borough (Havant College), should be sufficient to meet demand in this sub area over the strategy period. ○ Similarly, in the North East, there will be population growth driven by new housing that will increase demand in the community for hockey, particularly so if the secondary school continues to strongly support hockey within its PE and sport offer. The proposal for a hockey AGP to be provided on the new school site presents an opportunity to re-establish a community hockey club in Bordon in the life of this strategy. In the short term, there is no community hockey need for a pitch in this sub area. There are two secured hockey pitches just 3 miles away in neighbouring Waverley Borough at Woolmer Hill Sports Ground.