NCB Facilities Strategy Executive Summary

The purpose of the Norfolk Cricket Board facility strategy is to identify the key facility challenges that prevent and deny equality of access to anyone that wishes to access cricket in Norfolk and identify priority areas for strategic investment that will seek to address the identified issues.

The strategy strives to help develop **high quality, fit for purpose, accessible facilities to meet current need and future demand** across Norfolk that create opportunities for everyone to access cricket that they can enjoy in a safe environment regardless of their race, ethnicity, age, gender, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, economic status and other diverse backgrounds.

The strategy will also follow the three overarching aims recommended by Sport England, which include Protecting Facilities, Enhancing Facilities and Providing facilities where there is demand.

We know that access to the most appropriate facilities whether it's, grass, non-turf, indoor facilities for traditional or non-traditional Cricket playing formats, or for social opportunities, available at the right time, in the right place, at a reasonable cost, underpins each and every opportunity to play Cricket in Norfolk and to be able to Volunteer in Cricket in Norfolk.

Whilst the strategy focuses on the playing game, this wouldn't be possible without the dedication and time given by thousands of volunteers in our County and beyond.

Where we provide the right facilities for the most appropriate cricket playing (and volunteering) opportunities for an individual, this can have a positive impact on their physical, personal, emotional, and social development regardless of age and physical or mental ability, including:

Physical Development – through being more active which will enable health benefits including building physical strength and resilience. And by developing playing skills.

Personal Development – through developing and improving leadership skills and self-belief and understanding how to cope with challenges.

Emotional Development – through building self-esteem, helping with stress and mental well-being and building mental resilience.

Social Development – by enabling a sense of belonging, developing an understanding of teamwork, developing communication, having empathy and respect for others and to have fun.

The Norfolk Cricket Board have identified 7 areas of focus through the 10-Year Facilities Plan.

- Cricket Compliant Indoor Facilities
- Security of Tenure for Cricket Clubs
- Women & Girls Facilities
- Welcoming Environments at Cricket Clubs
- Off-Field Training Facilities at Cricket Clubs
- Old Out-Dated Machinery at Cricket Clubs
- Lack of Fine-Turf Grass Pitches Available for use in Norwich

In summary, through consultations, data and insight, we have identified the need for:

- A new Indoor Cricket Centre in Norwich for performance and recreational cricket.
- Improved indoor facilities that are ECB compliant and serve the cricket community and provide other opportunities for casual forms of cricket.
- Work with cricket clubs to ensure that Security of Tenure agreements are in place to protect cricket clubs and ensure they have long-term security of the use of their ground.
- Improved changing rooms, toilets and sanitary facilities for women and girls. As women and girls cricket continue to grow quickly across Norfolk, recreational cricket clubs need to ensure their facilities can accommodate women and girls' cricket.
- Continuing to create and improve welcoming environments in grass-roots game to ensure that cricket clubs are inclusive environments for anyone wishing to participate in the sport.
- Improved quality (refurbished and/or replacement as appropriate) off-field practice net facilities across the county at recreational cricket clubs that will serve the local club and community.
- Work closely with clubs to identify opportunities to improve and upgrade outdated machinery which is no longer fit for purpose.
- Protect, enhance, and develop new fine-turf cricket pitches in and around the Norwich area.
- Protect, enhance and improve all cricket grounds within Norfolk as identified within the playing pitch strategy documents. This includes working with clubs regarding nearby planning developments/applications to ensure cricket is not impacted. This also includes working with clubs regarding ball strike matters as appropriate to ensure cricket activity is not impacted.
- Identify, develop and build new relationships with strategic partners and key stakeholders including local councils, parish councils, Sport England, Active Partnerships, local landowners and other influential people/groups.
- Tackling climate change challenges including:
    - Rising sea levels through monitoring the impact on Cricket Clubs close to the Norfolk coast over the next 10 years and beyond.
    - Addressing cost of living increases through the installation of energy efficient systems (heating/machinery), solar panels and rainwater harvesting to save on electricity costs.
    - Tackling climate change through the installation of more bore holes.
- Access to funding to deal with all the above and additional challenges addressed in this strategy.
- Support for everyone in Cricket in Norfolk to develop the skills and resilience to deal with all the above.

This strategy will continue to evolve and change over the next 10 years, it is a 'live document'. It is the first time we have drawn on such a broad range of insight and data to establish, not only the most pressing needs for facilities to serve Cricket in Norfolk, but also anticipate how we can best address the challenges to come in the decades beyond.

Norfolk Cricket Board Facilities Insight Detail

We have engaged with a broad range of cricket partners as we set out to understand the cricket facility needs of everyone in Norfolk whether for performance, recreational, social, educational for traditional or non-traditional formats – practise and play and identify the facilities needed now and in the future to enable equality of access for all.

This strategy identifies and considers the needs of underrepresented people in our community including disabled people and how we can make changes in our facility environments to remove barriers for people with physical, learning or hidden disabilities.

We know that we need to increase and improve facilities that women and girls playing and practising require, and the strategy provides relevant recommendations.

The strategy also considers how we can engage with people who aren't attracted to the traditional game via traditional club cricket and facilities needed for these groups.

Our Insight Sources

We have had one to one consultation with Norfolk Cricket Board Officers and Board Directors – experts in matters such as safeguarding, equality, diversity and inclusion, performance and performance pathway cricket, league cricket, participation, growth, funding, fundraising, facilities, coaching and coach education, volunteers, disability cricket and women and girls cricket.

We have consulted with Sport England's Planning Managers and Facility Managers in pitch sports including the England and Wales Cricket Board, the Football Foundation, with Further and Higher Education, Chance to Shine, Active Norfolk, the Greater Norwich Growth Board, Pitch Advisors, Local Authorities, Cricket Club, Volunteers and the Norwich City Community Sports Foundation.

Current Local Authority Playing Pitch Strategies cover six of the seven councils in Norfolk have provided crucial insight into the strategy.

We designed and disseminated a cricket club facilities survey, which has given us key insight across recreational club cricket with a fantastic response rate of 80%.

The 2021 Census confirmed what we thought we knew, that Norfolk has an aging population and if we are to attract and keep people playing into their fifties, sixties, seventies and beyond, more gentle formats will be needed and suitable facilities to accommodate these activities.

As a team we believed we had a good understanding of the challenges faced, yet consultations, insight and data let us to additional conclusions and recommendations.

We know that we mustn't stop here, but that we must continue to consult and to learn and to identify the most suitable recommendations and then work together to find the solutions.

It is no surprise that funding will be needed to address the challenges this insight provides. And our most valuable resource; People, People who are mainly dedicated volunteers in cricket will continue to be at the top of our list for support and recognition.

Facility Strategy March 2023 to 2033

Norfolk Cricket Board (NCB) exists to **INSPIRE, LEAD AND INFLUENCE** the growth, quality and accessibility of cricket in Norfolk,

Norfolk Cricket Board supports the ECB vision – We want cricket to be for everyone within Norfolk.

"A game belonging to us all, transcending age, gender, race, and ability. A sport connecting communities and improving lives by bringing people together through a shared passion"

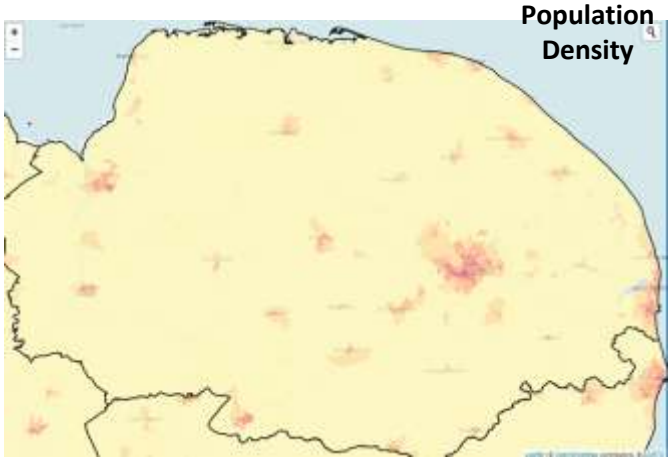
Norfolk Demographics

Population: 914,039 (2021 Census)
- Persons aged 0-15 (16.2%), Persons aged 16-64 (59.3%), Persons aged 65+ (24.4%)
Ethnicity Data (Source 2021 Census)
White 94.7 & Ethnic Minorities 5.3% (Asian/Asian British 2.1%, Black/African/Caribbean/Black British 0.9%, Mixed/multiple ethnic groups 1.6% and Other groups 0.7%.)

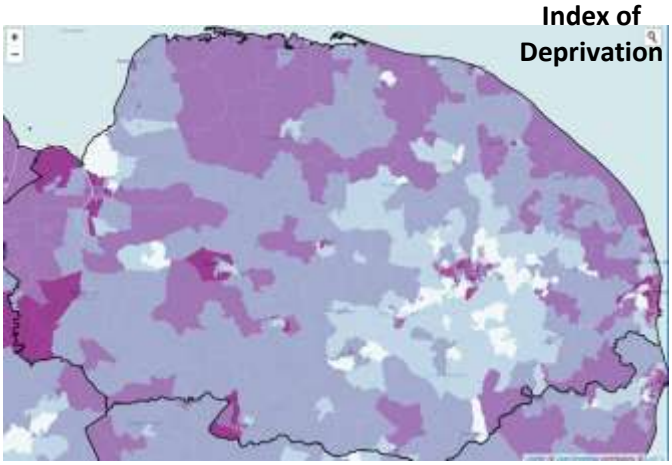
Main Language (Source 2011 Census)
- English 96.3%
Marital and civil partnership status (Source 2021 Census)
- Married 46.3%, Single 33.6%, Divorced 10.7%, Widowed 7.2%, Separated 2.2%,

Religion (Source 2011 Census)
- Has Religion 49.4% including 47% Christian, No Religion 44.2%, Not answered 6.4%
Deprivation *(Source DWP)*
- 16.1% children live in low income families 2020/21), 15.6% of households experiencing fuel poverty (2020)
Economically Active (2021 Census)
- 52.6% over 16 year olds are economically active 28% are retired and economically inactive 19.4 % are economically inactive.

Population Density



Index of Deprivation



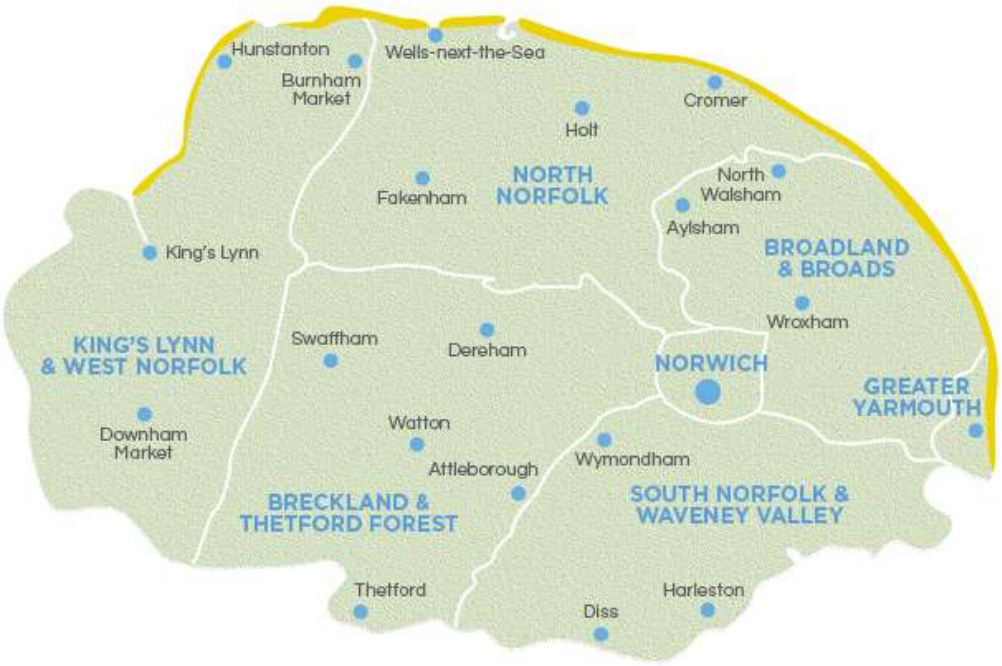
Local Government Administration

In Norfolk there is a hierarchy of County, District and Parish Councils

Norfolk County Council is responsible for larger and more costly services such as social services, trading standards, fire and rescue, transport and education.

There are 7 district/borough Councils that work closely with the Norfolk Cricket Board.

- Breckland District Council
- Broadland District Council
- Great Yarmouth Borough Council
- Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council
- Norwich City Council
- North Norfolk District Council
- South Norfolk District Council



As well as the 7 District Councils, there are 540 civil parishes within Norfolk.

- Breckland has 113 civil parishes.
- Broadland has 65 civil parishes.
- Great Yarmouth has 21 civil parishes.
- Kings Lynn and West Norfolk has 101 civil parishes.
- Norwich has been an unparished area since 1974.
- North Norfolk has 122 civil parishes.
- South Norfolk has 118 civil parishes

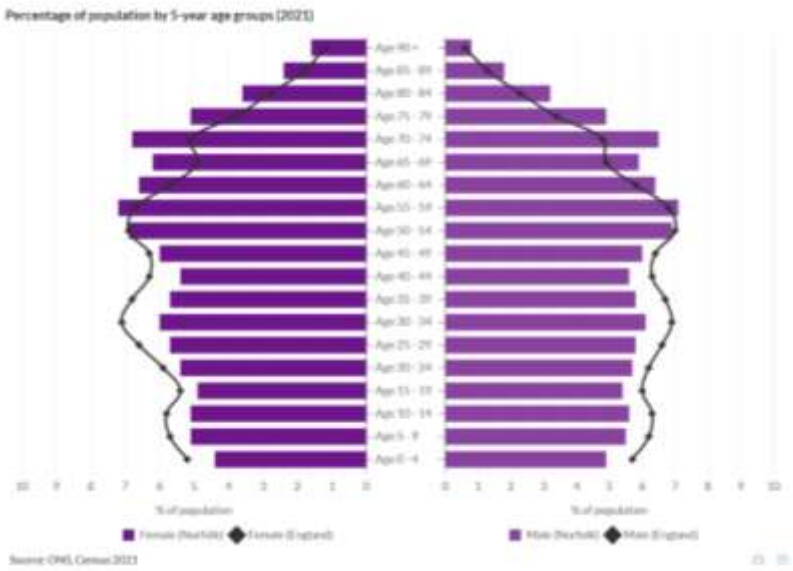
Norfolk has an aging population:
Source - Census 2021 key findings (more data in Appendix 8)

England

- Median age rose by 1 year between 2011 and 2021 from age **39 to 40**

East of England

- Median age rose by 1 year between 2011 and 2021 from age **40 to 41**



Breckland

- The number of 50 – 64-year-olds rose by 4000 – 15.3% increase
- The number of 35 – 49-year-olds fell by 2000 – 7.8% decrease
- Median age rose by 2 years between 2011 and 2021 from age **44 to 46**

Broadland

- The number of 65 – 74-year-olds rose by 2900 – 20.3% decrease
- The number of 35 – 49-year-olds fell by 3200 – 12% decrease
- Median age rose by 3 years between 2011 and 2021 from age **45 to 48**

Great Yarmouth

- The number of 65–74-year-olds rose by 1900 – 17.61% increase
- The number of 35–49-year-olds fell by 1700 – 17.7% decrease
- Median age rose by 3 years between 2011 and 2021 from age **43 to 46**

Kings Lynn and West Norfolk

- The number of 65–74-year-olds rose by 2800 – 15.7% increase
- The number of 35 – 49-year-olds fell by 2900 – 10.00% decrease
- Median age rose by 2 years between 2011 and 2021 from age **45 to 47**

North Norfolk

- The number of 65 – 74-year-olds rose by 3000 – 20% increase
- The number of 35 – 49-year-olds fell by 2900 – 16.5% decrease
- Median age rose by 3 years between 2011 and 2021 from age **51 to 54**

Norwich

- The number of 50 – 64-year-olds rose by 2600 – 13.2% increase
- The number of 4 and Under year olds fell by 1500 – 17.7% decrease
- Median age remained static between 2011 and 2021 – **age 34**

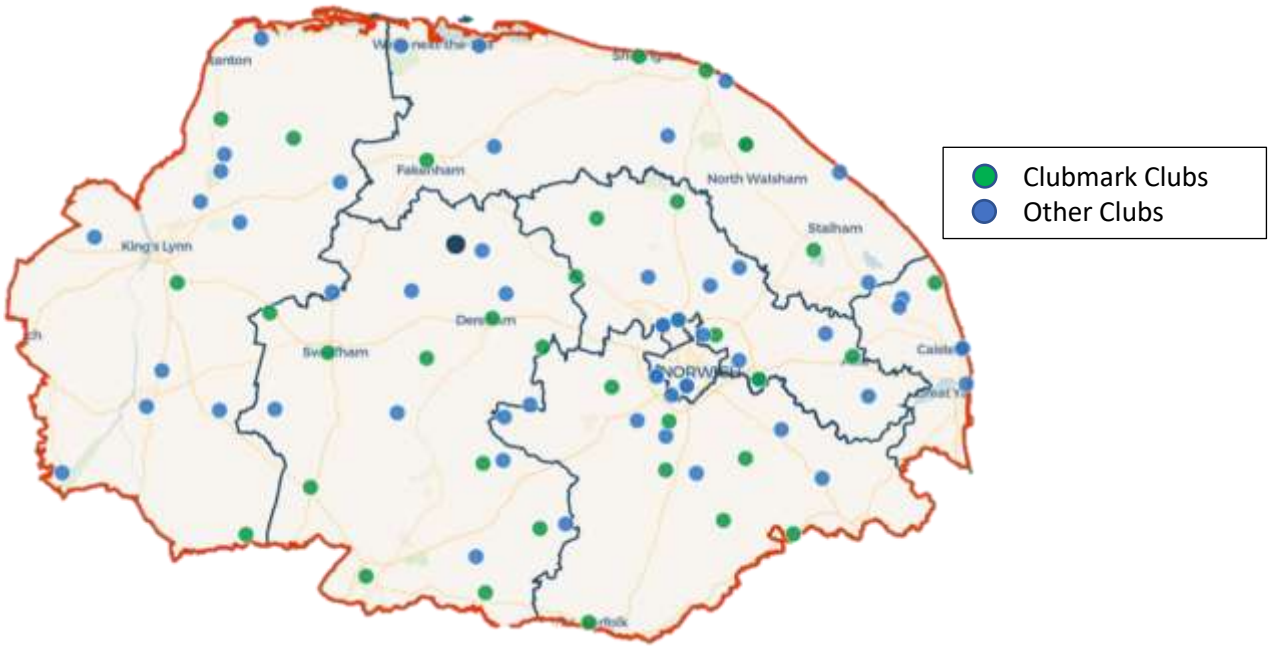
South Norfolk

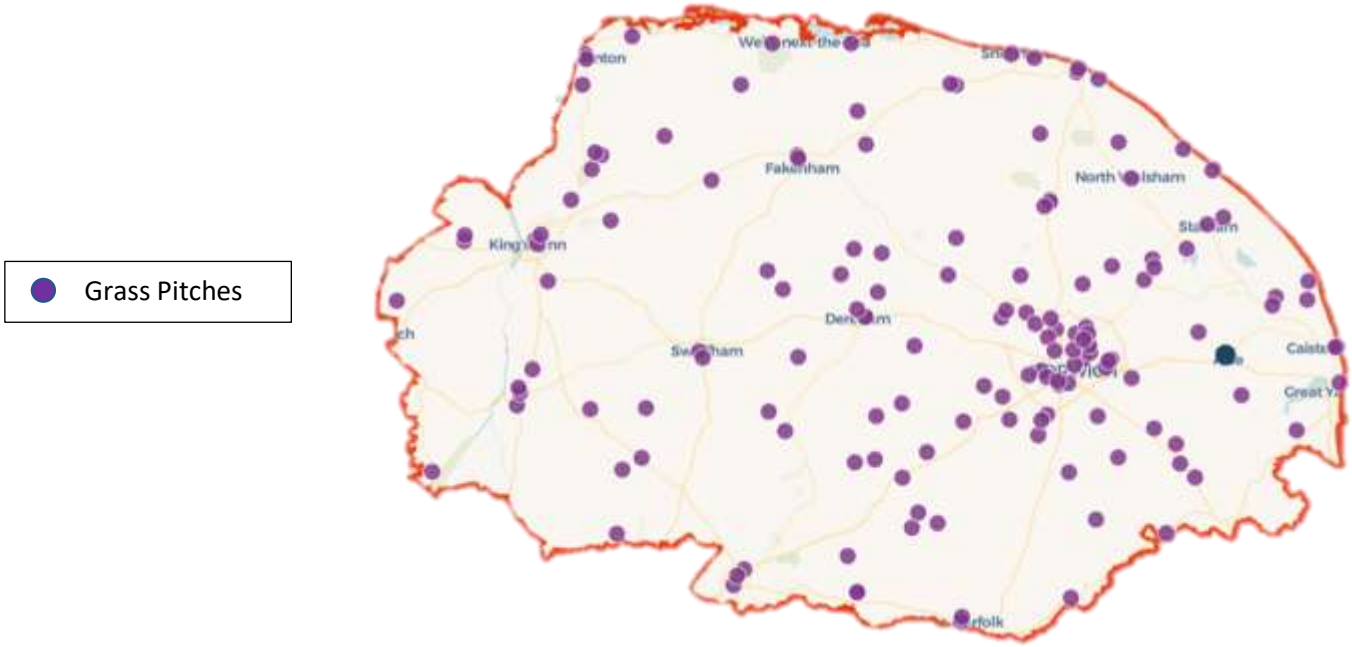
- The number of 65–74-year-olds rose by 3700 – 26.5% increase
- The number of 16–19-year-olds fell by 350 – 6.5% decrease
- Median age rose by 1 year between 2011 and 2021 from age **45 to 4**

Norfolk Cricket Demographics

NCB Directors = 11 (6 Male, 5 Female)
NCB Staff (Full-Time or Part-time) = 14 (11 Male, 3 Female)

Affiliated Cricket Clubs = 95
Clubmark Accredited Clubs = 36
Clubs playing Saturday League Cricket = 79 Clubs
Saturday Teams in 2023 = 159 Clubs
Clubs with a Junior Section = 56 Clubs
Junior Teams in 2022 = 231 Teams
Clubs with a Women &/or Girls Section = 28 Clubs
Boys CAG Pathway Players = 122
Girls CAG Pathway Players = 89





Strategy Foundations

The Foundations of our Norfolk Cricket Board's Facility Strategy is to enable **EQUALITY OF ACCESS FOR ALL**

Our facility strategy is very closely aligned to our Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Plan:

Norfolk Cricket Board are committed to action and change.

We recognise that change must happen. To attract people from different backgrounds and diverse communities, we must work together to evolve cricket's culture, structures, and governance – at all levels. To be more inclusive and welcoming, we need to be intolerant of discrimination and abuse of any kind; systematically address barriers to entry and advancement; and build a more diverse workforce and governance structure.

We are committed to:

Equity: we want no individual, or group of individuals, to be treated less favourably because of their protected characteristics. We also want to ensure that those who may be disadvantaged can get the tools they need to access the same, fair opportunities as their peers. Furthermore, in areas of under-representation we commit to positive action and application of resources to level the playing field.

Diversity: we want to recognise, respect and celebrate each other's differences. We wish to create a diverse environment, one that sees people with a wide range of backgrounds, talents and mindsets, thereby enabling an empowered culture of creativity and innovation.

Inclusion: we want to create cricketing environments where everybody feels welcome and valued, including those who already play and are satisfied with the status quo. We want to become more aware of our unconscious biases, and to learn how to manage them.

Facilities that enable Equality of Access for All in Safe Environments will drive our facility strategic aims, recommendations and action plan.

Good facilities of the right type, in the right place, open at the right time, underpins Norfolk Cricket Board's Strategic Plan Priorities, to:

- Transform Women and Girls Cricket
- Engage Children and Young People
- Optimise Club Support
- Grow the Cricket Workforce
- Retain and Increase Participation

TRANSFORM WOMEN'S & GIRLS' CRICKET	ENGAGE CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE	GROW AND NURTURE THE CORE	SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITIES	MAKE CRICKET ACCESSIBLE
Transform Women & Girls	**Engage Children & Young People**	**Optimise Club Support**	**Grow the Cricket Workforce**	**Retain and Increase Participation**
Build on existing programmes and inspire more women and girls to engage in cricket	Encourage more young people to engage with cricket on a regular basis across all aspects of the game	Deliver an innovative and proactive club development programme to create a thriving club network across Norfolk	Support our cricket community in Norfolk to grow the number of volunteers and create a new wave of officials and community coaches	Broaden cricket's appeal in Norfolk through new accessible and existing playing opportunities that improves the cricket experience in Norfolk

Underpinned by Good Governance, Strong Finance, Great Communication & Digital Engagement, Network Partnerships and Safeguarding.

Included in these priorities and to develop inclusive environments, we will address the facility needs of everyone, including;

- Women and Girls
- Disabled people
- People living in diverse communities
- People in Performance Cricket and on the Performance Pathway

To do this requires a focus on (including, but not limited to):

- Maintaining and creating welcoming environments
- Addressing the Cricket needs of an aging (and potentially less agile) population
- A new indoor facility in Norwich for indoor practise and play – traditional cricket
- A new indoor facility in Norwich for indoor urban play – non- traditional cricket

Enabling us to retain and increase participation.

NORFOLK CRICKET BOARD

Local Authority Playing Pitch Strategies (PPS) – (see Appendix)

A Playing Pitch Strategy is a technical document which includes recommendations for the provision of playing pitch facilities for the district covering all sports. The Norfolk Cricket Board work closely with each local council, Sport England and other National Governing Bodies for sport to help create these documents within Norfolk.

- North Norfolk (Final Document, 2019)
- Greater Norwich (Norwich, Broadland & South Norfolk, Final Document 2023)
- Great Yarmouth (Final Document 2023)
- Kings Lynn & West Norfolk (Stage D) March 2023
- Dereham Town (within Breckland) – September 2020
- Breckland does not have a current PPS.

Supply & Demand data from Playing Pitch Strategies

North Norfolk (North Norfolk PPS)
In total therefore, it is estimated that there could be up to an additional 28 cricket teams in the district by 2036. Match equivalent sessions for cricket will depend on the type of team and whether they play on Saturdays, Sundays and/or midweek and recognizing that adult and junior cricket is played on the same pitch. Using Sport England's Playing Pitch calculator, access to the equivalent of an additional three pitches would be needed to accommodate this demand (juniors playing on the same pitch as seniors).

Great Yarmouth Borough Council (GYBC PPS)
By 2039, there will be no additional teams generated in any age group as a result of population growth alone. This is because the growth in the population in age groups most likely to play cricket is insufficient. Demand for cricket pitches will remain constant when considering population growth (without increases to cricket participation). The potential impact of cricket development initiatives will be explored in the next section.

Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council (KLWN PPS)
The ONS 2018 sub-national population projections forecast a population of 157,689 by 2036, an increase of 3,389 (or 2.2%). A projection based on assessed housing needs predicts a population of 174,030 by 2036, an increase of 19,730 or 12.8%.

In the case of the lower population estimate there will be a small reduction in demand for cricket by 2036, equivalent to two fewer teams or 14 seasonal match equivalent sessions. In the case of the higher population estimate, there will be an increase in demand by 13 teams or 112 seasonal match equivalent sessions. There is no peak time spare capacity as present.

South Norfolk Council (GN PPS)
There are current and future shortfalls across each of the 3 peak demand periods in each of the sub analysis areas. There are no sites in South Norfolk that currently have actual spare capacity for Saturday cricket. No sites in South Norfolk currently have spare capacity for midweek cricket. There are eight sites in South Norfolk which contain overplayed wickets, these total overplay of 188 match equivalent sessions. The majority of overplay exists within the West where there are 5 sites that contain overplayed squares totalling 106 match equivalent sessions. TGR show future demand for an additional 18 cricket teams in South Norfolk.

Norwich City Council (NCC PPS)
There is no spare capacity for Saturday, Sunday or mid-week cricket currently in Norwich. The only site that provides secured cricket pitch provision is Britannia Barracks. The square is rated as poor though and therefore has no capacity. The only site in Norwich currently used for competitive fixtures is City of Norwich School, which is currently overplayed by 12 match equivalent sessions per season. TGR shows an increase of just 0.3 senior men's teams with all other age groups not recording any growth.

Broadland Council (Broadland PPS)
There are 5 sites in Broadland which contain overplayed squares, these total overplay of 23 match equivalent sessions. It should be noted that when looking at Sprowston CC on a site basis, overplay reduces from 12 to 4 match equivalent sessions due to there being spare capacity on the other squares of 8 match equivalent sessions. There is actual spare capacity for 2 Saturday teams, 6 Sunday teams and 24 midweek teams in Broadland. Team Generation Rates (TGR's) show future demand for an additional 19 teams in Broadland.

Breckland Council (No Current PPS, Local Plan and NCB Data Insight)
The ONS 2014 sub-national population projections forecast a population of 153,678 by 2036, an increase of 12,178 (or 8.6%) and therefore a significant amount of new housing will be required to cater for this increase although the biggest change is expected in the older age bands. There are 19 cricket clubs comprising of 130 teams that are located within the area which means that it is the district with the most cricket clubs. There are 6 sites that have overplayed squares. There is actual spare capacity for 5 Saturday teams and 7 Sunday Teams. Whilst team data suggests there is spare capacity for midweek teams at 13 sites, it should be noted that actual capacity is reduced due to senior and junior weekly training sessions and the fact that fine-turf wickets cannot be played every day of the week. Given the projected population increase, there will be a requirement for cricket clubs to cater for additional teams in Breckland by 2036.

PPS Summary
All the Playing Pitch Strategies have an overarching aim to protect every cricket site in Norfolk across the 7 district council areas. The strategies also outlines the key facilities that are priority areas (High, Medium or Low) to be enhanced either through improved pitch quality or improved ancillary provision to meet current demand or to provide for future identified growth.

The Playing Pitch Strategies within Norfolk highlight that within 4 of the council areas (North Norfolk, South Norfolk, Broadland and Breckland) there is a need to cater for additional teams by 2036. Given the lack of capacity for additional teams across the county at the moment, there will be a requirement to enhance existing sites capacities or develop new cricket grounds to cater for the demand.

Norfolk Cricket Board Pitch Advisor Service

The Norfolk Cricket Board work closely with the Ground Management Association 'GMA' and England and Wales Cricket Board 'ECB' to provide a pitch advisory service in Norfolk to assist cricket clubs and provide technical support and reports to help improve pitches and outfields.

As of 2023, the Norfolk Cricket Board have 1 fully trained GMA Pitch Advisor who is deployed to cricket clubs to undertake a GMA pitch advisor technical report and written report to assist clubs to improve their facilities where improvement has been identified as a need wither by the club or associations. To cater for future demand the Norfolk Cricket Board would like to increase the number of Pitch Advisors to two.

The GMA will launch a new Pitch Power app before the 2024 season to further assist cricket clubs across the country. The app is a simple self-assessment tool to help clubs inspect and improve grass pitches with the overall aim to improve the quality of fine-turf cricket pitches across Norfolk.

Norfolk Cricket Board Facilities Overview (Sources: NCB Club Survey 2022 & Playing Pitch Strategies)

Club Tenure Overview

- Freehold (10% of Clubs)
- Long Lease 10+ Years (32% of Clubs)
- Short Lease 1-9 Years (10% of Clubs)
- Annual Rental Agreement (22% of Clubs)
- Agreed Ad-Hoc Pay & Play Agreement (8% of Clubs)
- No Formal Agreement in Place (11% of Clubs)
- Other Agreements (7% of Clubs)

On-Field Club Facility Checklists Overview

- Grass Wickets (100% of Clubs, 59% rate GOOD)
- Outfield (100% of Clubs, 38% rate GOOD)
- Own Machinery / Equipment for Square (86% Clubs, 44% rate GOOD)
- Own Machinery for Outfield (65% of Clubs, 37% rate GOOD)
- Sightscreens (85% of Clubs, 54% rate GOOD)
- Roll on Covers (67% of Clubs, 80% rate GOOD)
- Flat Sheet Covers (48% of Clubs, 39% rate GOOD)
- Non-Turf Pitch (30% of Clubs, 30% rate GOOD)
- Artificial Nets (79% of Clubs, 24% rate GOOD)
- Manual Scoreboard (54% of Clubs, 21% rate GOOD)
- Electronic Scoreboard (59% of Clubs, 67% rate GOOD)
- Scorebox (42% of Clubs, 50% rate GOOD)
- Boundary Rope or Flags (100% of Clubs, 33% rate GOOD)

Off-Field Club Facility Checklists Overview

- Clubhouse (including hot water and electricity) (82% of Clubs, 45% rate GOOD)
- Clubhouse without hot water (has electricity) (8% of Clubs)
- Home & Away Changing Facilities (96% of Clubs, 39% rate Good)
- Officials Changing Facilities (53% of Clubs, 35% Good)
- Separate Women & Girls Changing Facilities (25% of Clubs, 46% rate good)
- Showers (79% of Clubs, 36% rate good)
- Male Toilets (93% of Clubs, 38% rate good)
- Female Toilets (91% of Clubs, 40% rate good)
- Accessible Toilets (51% of Clubs, 57% rate good)
- Kitchen (92% of Clubs, 41% rate good)
- Bar (55% of Clubs, 45% rate good)
- On-Site Parking (95% of Clubs, 55% rate good)
- Outside seating for players / officials (80% of Clubs, 33% rate good)
- Outside seating for spectators / members (75% of Clubs, 39% rate good)
- Wi-Fi / Internet (50% of Clubs, 68% rate good)
- BBQ / Outside Cooking Area (56% of Clubs, 41% of clubs)
- External Lighting (40% of Clubs, 33% of clubs)
- Welcome Signage (Welcome Sign) (35% of Clubs, 28% rate good)

Club Priority Projects (Sources: NCB Club Survey 2022)

As part of our club facilities survey, we requested that clubs listed their top 3 priority areas for facility development at their cricket club. The questions were open ended to allow clubs the opportunity to answer freely with their answers.

A breakdown of the individual club responses can be found within the full NCB Club Survey document (Appendix xx) but a summary of the answers has been listed below.

Facility Project	1st Priority	2nd Priority	3rd Priority	Totals
Wicket/Square/Outfield Improvements	15	6	3	24
Clubhouse Improvements	15	19	17	51
Changing Facilities/Showers	13	11	6	30
New Nets	8	7	6	21
New Pavilion	3	0	0	3
Female Specific Changing Improvements	3	3	1	7
Lease / Tenure	3	1	0	4
Covers	3	2	1	6
Climate Change	1	1	2	4
Machinery	1	3	5	9
NTP	1	3	0	4
Scorebox	1	6	9	16
Sight Screens	1	2	2	5
New Ground	0	1	1	2
Storage	0	2	2	4
Other Misc	2	3	4	9
	70	**70**	**59**	**199**

Please Note Not all clubs listed 3 priority project areas.

The top 5 facility projects that were highlighted as part of the survey included:

- Clubhouse Improvements / Welcoming Environments (51 Clubs)
- New or Upgraded Changing Facilities/Showers (30 Clubs)
- Wicket/Square/Outfield Improvements (24 Clubs)
- New Nets / Training Facilities (21 Clubs)
- New Scorebox/Scoreboard (16 Clubs)

Norfolk County-Age-Group Cricket / Player Pathway Overview *(Source: NCB Data, NCB Performance Manager Feedback and Staff Consultation)*

The Norfolk Cricket Board oversee and manage all boys and girls county-age-group cricket within Norfolk and also oversee and manage the Norfolk Ladies side. The Board have in place a Norfolk Youth Executive Committee that manage this important area of cricket in Norfolk and report directly to the NCB Board of Directors through the Cricket Development Director. Whilst the Norfolk Cricket Board are not responsible for the running and management of the Norfolk County Cricket Club, the Chair of the organisation sits on the Norfolk Cricket Board Directors as part of the NCB Code of Governance.

The Norfolk Cricket Board have an excellent partnership with the Norfolk County Cricket Club and all of the players that represent Norfolk on an annual basis have come through the boys pathway with the exception of the agreed professional cricketer.

The Norfolk Cricket Board are responsible for overseeing and managing the below teams/squads on an annual basis as part of our pathway programme:

- Boys: U10, U11, U12, U13, U14, U16 and U18 age-groups (7 Squads)
- Girls: U11, U13 Jets, U13 Blaze, U15 and U18 age-groups (5 Squads)
- Women: Norfolk Women (1 Squad)
- Boys Centre of Excellence & Girls Centre of Excellence and Boys Emerging Players Programme

The Norfolk Cricket Board have excellent links to the professional game and have formal agreed partnerships with Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club (Boys Pathway) and Sunrisers (Girls Pathway) as we strive to help produce cricketers that can go into professional cricket.

Players that have come through the Norfolk pathway and gone on to represent professional teams include:

- Boys: Robert Newton, Jaik Mickleburgh, Callum Taylor and Olly Stone
- Girls: Bethany Harmer and Emily Dack (formally Emily Woodhouse)

Indoor Training

The Norfolk Cricket Board are heavily reliant on two venues for our annual indoor training programmes. We only have 1 venue within the county which has a 4-lane facility (Langley Prep School) and 1 venue that has a 3-lane facility (Gresham's School) that meet ECB TS3 specifications. These two venues host all our indoor pathway county sessions between September and April on an annual basis. We have an excellent relationship with these two schools but we are limited with the amount of delivery we can achieve due to limited availability of the facilities. If the venues were to become unavailable or relationship breakdown, the pathway would incur some significant struggles. This is especially relevant to Langley Prep School where the vast majority of winter sessions are held.

Outdoor Training / Summer Matches

Our main outdoor training venue is Horsford Cricket Club which has an outdoor 4-lane practice facility and two cricket pitches. We have an excellent agreement with Horsford and it is also practical for the Norfolk Cricket Board with the main offices being located behind the main pavilion.

The Norfolk Cricket Board are fortunate to have good relationships with cricket clubs across Norfolk who kindly host boys, girls and women's fixtures on an annual basis that meet appropriate standards. In total we have over 25 clubs and 1 public school that kindly allow us to hire their pitches for summer matches.

NCB Facility Strategy Overview

Key findings Explored (*Source – NCB Director and Officer consultations, Club Survey 2022 and Playing Pitch Strategies)*

The Norfolk Cricket Board have identified 7 areas of focus through the 10-Year Facilities Plan.

Cricket Compliant Indoor Facilities

Security of Tenure

Women & Girls Facilities

Welcoming Environments at Cricket Clubs

Off-Field Training Facilities at Cricket Clubs

Old Out-Dated Machinery at Cricket Clubs

Lack of Fine-Turf Grass Pitches Available for use in Norwich

Other Considerations
Tackling Climate Change, Disability Cricket, External Funding, Volunteers, Cost of Living, Player Availability, Ball Strike, Non-Turf Pitches, Shared Sport Facilities.

Indoor Facilities *(Source: NCB Director and NCB Staff Consultations, Club Consultations and Playing Pitch Strategies)*

Covering Performance Pathway, Women and Girls, Disability, Urban Offer, Indoor Cricket, Schools Cricket, Walking Cricket and other recreational cricket offers.

- There is a reliance on private education and well-developed relationships with private schools for access to Indoor Nets for Norfolk County Cricket Club and Norfolk Cricket Board County Age Groups. If we were to lose access to Taverham Hall, we would not have a 4-lane facility that can accommodate our boys and girls winter County Age Group programme

- The lack of an offer for indoor 'urban' non-traditional Cricket activity for males and females of all ages means that people who are unlikely to initially connect with traditional club Cricket are not getting an opportunity to play Cricket. Not everyone wants to play Club cricket.

- Limited access to sports halls and leisure centres during the daytime limits the amount of disability cricket and walking cricket NCB can offer.

- Very limited provision for appropriate quality indoor practice net facilities in schools, local authority leisure centers and private provision at the right time of day/evening puts the professional and recreational game at risk of being appropriately prepared to start the season and leads to lack of retention of players.

- Limited provision of appropriate quality indoor facilities for softball and non-traditional cricket activity for females leads to missed delivery opportunities resulting in not being able to address demand.

- An aging population (source 2021 census) in Norfolk is likely to require a more diverse range of Cricket to be offered including a more gentler format and for more accessible facilities to be continued to be addressed

Recommendations / Action Plan

The table shows how we can address these findings. We have a significant need for an Indoor Cricket Facility in Norwich compliant with ECB TS3 specifications and Sport England's Affordable Sports Halls guidance.

In addition, insight tells us that we have a gap in provision for an Indoor Urban offer, for people who are looking for an alternative to Club Cricket or outdoor Cricket played on Non-turf-Pitches in Norwich. Somewhere to play all year round. Our County Partnership Agreement (with ECB) prioritises the need to address opportunities and programmes for those who do not have access to the game. An Urban Indoor Centre will enable us to do this.

Table x - (Indoor Cricket needs 2023 and beyond - New and Exist)

Type	Nets/No Nets/Cage	Gender	Adults/Kids	Traditional / Non Traditional	Location	New / Existing	Opportunity Location	Potential Funding
Performance Practice	Nets	All	Both	Traditional	Norwich	New	Norwich Community Foundation - The Nest	ECB NCB /Local Auth/ Foundation status funding applications
Recreational Practice	Nets	All	Both	Traditional	Norwich	New		
CAG Practice	Nets	All	Kids	Traditional	Norwich	New		
Disability	No Nets	All	Both	Non-Traditional	Norwich/Countywide	New and Existing	Norwich Community Foundation - The Nest and Yet to be identified opportunities	
Walking Cricket	No Nets	All	Adults	Non-Traditional	Norwich/Countywide			
Indoor League	No Nets	All	Both	Non-Traditional	Norwich			
Softball Practice	No Nets	W & G	Both	Non-Traditional	Norwich/Countywide			
Softball Play	No Nets	W & G	Both	Non Traditional	Norwich/Countywide			
Recreational Play – Urban Style	Cage	All	Both	Non-Traditional	Norwich	New	Norwich – Industrial Unit/Warehouse	

SMART Objectives

- By 2033, we would like to have increased indoor sports hall provision that meet ECB and Sport England technical specification that can cater for indoor cricket activity. In particular, appropriate facilities that can cater for the boys and girls performance programmes in Norfolk.
- Whilst a bespoke cricket facility is desirable, due to the associated costs, this is not to occur and therefore our over arching aim is to work with local leisure providers, schools or other organisations to enhance existing facilities when development takes place or be involved in conversations/plans where new facilities are being developed.

<u>Security of Tenure</u> *(Source - Cricket Club Survey 2022)*

There are 95 Clubs affiliated to Norfolk Cricket Board. 76 Clubs responded to a request to complete a facilities survey – an 80% response rate.

Short-term security of tenure agreements puts Cricket Clubs at risk of closing and the cost of tenure puts Cricket Clubs of risk of folding.

Clubs that do not have a formal security of tenure document in place are unable to access the majority of grants/funding opportunities including Sport England and ECB Grants/Loans.

<u>Club Tenure Overview</u>

- Freehold (10% of Clubs)
- Long Lease 10+ Years (32% of Clubs)
- Short Lease 1-9 Years (10% of Clubs)
- Annual Rental Agreement (22% of Clubs)
- Agreed Ad-Hoc Pay & Play Agreement (8% of Clubs)
- No Formal Agreement in Place (11% of Clubs)
- Other Agreements (7% of Clubs)

Recommendation / Action Plans

Continue to work with Clubs to help them develop relationships with land owners and look for opportunities for more secure tenure arrangements. Initial focus on those with no formal agreements but plan over time to get as many clubs as possible to secure a lease over 10+ years for maximum security and sustainability.

SMART Objectives

- Our immediate priority is to ensure that all cricket clubs in Norfolk have security of tenure in place at their preferred location to play cricket in the formal of a legal document/agreement which outlines expectations of each party. We will work with local cricket clubs to have conversations with landowners and start the process by the end of 2024.
- A longer-term plan over the next 5 years is to increase the number of cricket clubs with a lease/agreement of over 10 years to over 40% of cricket clubs in Norfolk and reduce the number of cricket clubs with annual agreements by half.

Women and Girls Facilities / Welcoming Environments *(Source Cricket Club Survey 2022/ EDI lead/NCB Directors)*

Lack of safe and welcoming spaces in community cricket clubs for female players, coaches and umpires to shower and change, creates inequality of opportunity for females wishing to play and support the game.

- 36% clubs said they have dedicated changing for women and girls (28% Unacceptable/Poor)
- 94% clubs said they have toilets available for women and girls (58% Acceptable/Poor)
- 64% clubs said they have dedicated changing for officials (26% Unacceptable/Poor)
- 55% clubs said they have disabled toilets (14% Rated Poor)
- 18% clubs graded their pavilions as poor.

Recommendation

To address this, with the ECB's Regional Facilities Planning Manager, we will continue to work with Clubs, providing advice on ECB and Sport England design guidance and opportunities for development for dedicated female facilities and welcoming environments.

We will encourage Clubs to identify potential projects using the ECB Welcoming Environments survey to talk to players/members at their clubs and then create a project plan including drawings/designs that are compliant with ECB specifications.

Once the plan is approved, we will work with clubs to explore funding opportunities including ECB, Sport England, Local Authority and more and encourage

Clubs with Women & Girls Sections in Norfolk have grown by 300% since 2019. The Board have also identified the need for more Female Role Models, including coaches (Source - NCB Directors and Officers, Cricket Club Survey)

More female role models are needed to engage with women and girls picking up a bat and ball for the first time. Without female role models, potential women and girls' players can be lost to the game.

- Offer female only coaching courses
- Engage with Further and Higher Education to access and encourage female coaches on Sports Coaching courses to coach in a range of Cricket environments.
- Celebrate success of Junior County Pathway players

SMART Objectives

- Work closely with cricket clubs that run women and/or girls cricket to ensure that they have dedicated female toilet provision or gender neutral toilets by the start of the 2025 season. This includes improvement to existing provision where it has been deemed poor/unacceptable by club members.
- Work with cricket clubs running women and/or girls cricket to have a dedicated changing space within two years of setting up a section. Where clubs do not currently have a dedicated facility, work with clubs to put appropriate interim measures and plans in place for the existing season and then agree an action plan with the club to have a permanent solution that meets the needs of women and girls. Where clubs run women and girls cricket and do not currently have an appropriate and dedicated changing space, work with clubs to design appropriate changes and then if funding is required, utilise the ECB County Grant Fund and other appropriate funding sources.
- Where appropriate, identify cricket clubs with no additional playing pitch capacity to consider the installation of non-turf cricket pitches which can help cater for the growth in the number of women and girls cricket matches taking place in Norfolk. This process will continue on an annual basis based on needs analysis.

Welcoming Environments at Cricket Clubs *(Source Cricket Club Survey 2022 & Playing Pitch Strategies)*

Developing inclusive and welcoming environments underpins our facilities strategy. Cricketers of all abilities should have access to environments/facilities that are welcoming and inclusive for everyone involved. In line with the ECB Welcoming Environments guide, we support the motion that it is beneficial in 5 main areas for all cricket clubs:

- **It creates an Inclusive Environment** *(All cricket clubs should aim to allow everyone to participate equally and confidently at whatever level they choose)*
- **It promotes female participation** (The biggest growth area for cricket across England and Wales and also locally in Norfolk)
- **It encourages sport and physical activity** *(The physical, emotional and social benefits of sport and physical activity are well documented yet participation rates amongst some groups are still relatively low.)*
- **It helps your club to grow** *(Encouraging more people to get involved in recreational cricket will help in creating a more sustainable future for your club.)*
- **It improves the club environment for everyone** *(The improvements made to help make clubs feel more welcoming will benefit everyone using the club. Providing updated, more contemporary and sustainable facilities can only have a positive impact on those already using the club and also attracting more people into the game.)*

Without inclusive and welcoming environments at cricket clubs, clubs will struggle progress and create a club atmosphere that caters for the needs of everyone. The three main themes for this area include first impressions/overall feel, club/spectator facilities and changing/sanitary facilities. These 3 barriers could impact on a clubs development/growth if they are not addressed.

As part of our insight, we learnt that 51 clubs out of the 76 clubs who completed the club survey, listed improving their pavilion/clubhouse as a top 3 priority facility development. *(This does not include those clubs who made special mention to changing facilities)*

An example of this within Norfolk Clubs relates to toilet provision, whilst the majority of clubs have toilets catering for males and females, only 50% of clubs have an accessible toilet. As well as this, only 38% clubs with male toilets rate them as GOOD and only 40% of clubs with female toilets rate their provision as GOOD. (More detailed information on page 8.

Recommendation

Utilising the ECB County Grant Fund and other appropriate funds, we will look to prioritise clubs that run and deliver National Programmes, Women & Girls Cricket and/or Disability Cricket as these are key focus areas for the Norfolk Cricket Board and ECB.

SMART Objectives

- Work with cricket clubs in Norfolk running women and girls, youth or disability cricket to have dedicated toilet provision as appropriate ahead of the 2025 season.
- Work with cricket clubs over the next 10 years to improve their off-field ancillary facilities. Particular focus on those facilities that have been graded as poor/unacceptable by their members and guests.
- Identify funding opportunities on an ongoing basis on top of the ECB County Grants Fund that can be used to help improve the welcoming environment themes at clubs where a need for improvements has been identified.

Off-Field Training Facilities *(Source Cricket Club Survey 2022 & Playing Pitch Strategies)*

Within the NCB playing Survey (2022) and the various Playing Pitch Strategies covering 6 out of the 7 districts within Norfolk, it is clear that whilst the majority of cricket clubs have off-field training facilities, there are very few facilities that remain in a good condition that would comply with the ECB recommended specification.

Following consultations with clubs, 79% of clubs have some kind of off-field training wicket, yet only 24% of clubs graded their facility as 'Good'. 21 Clubs included off-field training facilities in their top 3 priority project areas.

Concerns have bene raised by cricket clubs with 34% of clubs grading their artificial nets as either Poor or Unacceptable and not fit for use.

This lack of quality provision is increasingly leading to cricket clubs having to use their fine-turf wickets on the square for practice and putting additional strain on ground staff and causing additional wear on wickets during the summer months.

Some club revert to using Non-Turf Pitches to train on with a roll-on cage but only 30% of clubs have a Non-Turf Pitch and again 20% of clubs rated their Non-Turf Pitch as either Poor or Unacceptable and not fit for use.

Recommendation

An initial focus for Artificial Nets and Non-Turf Wicket installations is targeted at clubs with Women & Girls cricket who wither have a hardball section or are transitioning into hardball cricket. We will work with clubs to create appropriate projects, consulting with ECB approved suppliers, before looking for appropriate funding to bring the project to life. Funding examples includes, local council, ECB Grants/Loan, other grants/funds and club reserves/fundraising.

Smart Objectives

- Work with cricket clubs to ensure that all new non turf pitch and artificial nets are installed to ECB minumum technical specification to esnure that any new facilities will remain fit for purpose for the 10+ years.
- Identify funding opportunities on ongoing basis to improve the provision of non-turf playing and training facilities on top of the ECB County Grant Fund.
- Where cricket clubs have identified overplay on their square, work with them to consider the installation of non-turf pitches. The immediate priority being clubs running women and girls cricket and then followed by clubs running youth cricket.
- Whilst off-field nets are desirable, due to the increased costs of installation, an immediate focus with priorituse the installation of non turf pitches which can be used for matchplay and also for training puposes with an appropriate roll on cag or net.

Old Out-Dated Cricket Club Machinery *(Source: Cricket Club Survey 2022 and Club Consultation)*

Outdated machinery that isn't replaced means that the standard of grass wickets and outfields is compromised, reducing the amount of play that can take place.

Cricket clubs across Norfolk are increasingly using old and old-dated machinery, which is unreliable, costly to run, bad for the environment, takes longer to use to achieve the same outcome as modern day equipment and in cases, isn't suitable for cricket pitches and outfield ongoing maintenance.

As part of the Club Facilities Strategy 24/76 clubs identified a need/want to improve the quality of their wickets and outfield as part of their top 3 priority areas for facility development.

Recommendation

Encourage Clubs to include sinking funds to replace to maintain/repair and replace machinery in budget and to continually assess for affordability of EWCT Interest Free Loan.

Working with the NCB Grounds Association and the Grounds Management Association (GMA), we will work with clubs to adopt the use of the new Pitch Power app for cricket which is a FREE app/tool available to cricket clubs. This toll will help clubs to grade/rate their facilities and help ECB/NCB build a better picture of facilities and in particular grounds machinery across Norfolk in the hope that is may led to future investment in this key area for recreational club cricket.

Work closely with cricket clubs to explore the possibilities of sharing equipment where practically possible.

Smart Objectives

- Working with the NCB Pitch Advisors, encourage all clubs to use the GMA Pitch Power app during the first year of its rollout to help better understand the state of grounds and machinery in Norfolk and subsequently help identify areas for improvement/development.
- Carry out county pitch advisor visits on an ongoing basis at Norfolk cricket grounds as requested by leagues/clubs.
- Where machinery breaks down/fails. Work with cricket clubs to seek alterative provision. Where new machinery is required, working with clubs to seek funding opportunities or consider the use of the ECB Interest Free Loan. Considerations to include the opportunity to look at electric powered machines to reduce carbon footprint.

Lack of Fine Turf Grass Wickets *(Source: NCB Director and NCB Staff Consultations, Club Consultations and Playing Pitch Strategies)*

There is a lack of fine-turf grass wickets in and around Norwich which reduces the amount of play that can take place. A current requirement within Norfolk is that all league cricket is play on fine-turf pitches and as it currently stands all fine-turf wickets available to community use within the city are occupied.

The data analysis has highlighted that several clubs across the County, especially those located in and around the Norwich area are playing at sites which are not their preferred location and if other opportunities arose to move then they would do so.

This is particularly relevant for cricket clubs using Education and Council Owned facilities where clubs have limited on no security of tenure and are unable to seek additional investment into the facility to help improve the standard.

Since the pandemic and due to the cost-of-living increases, clubs using facilities on a 'pay per play' basis are seeing rapidly increasing costs to hire/use grounds and landowners seeks to cover ever increasing costs which in-turn is making life financially challenging for cricket clubs and further highlights the need for secure access to cricket pitches.

Recommendations

Aligned with the Greater Norwich Playing Pitch Strategy findings, improve the quality of existing grass wickets and look for green spaces to create new grass match play wickets. Consideration for appropriate space to accommodate compliant ancillary facilities to compliment new grass wickets should also be considered. It is likely that S106n monies would be the major funding opportunity.

Where new built cricket facilities may take a considerable amount of time to be built, we will continue to work closely with the Greater Norwich Growth Board to ensure that cricket is involved where major community sport facilities are identified for development within the plan.

Ongoing measures that we will continue to promote include the promotion of the County Pitch Advisor service, the Grounds Management Association Pitch Power App and associated training opportunities for clubs and ground staff to improve their existing provision. On top of this, work with clubs to agree/secure costings for a longer period of time so that there can be no sudden high increases in costs.

Smart Objectives

- As part of the Greater Norwich Growth Board (GNGB) planning processes, help to identify bits of land where development is taking place to ensure that cricket is considered in the planning process.

Additional Considerations *(Source: NCB Director and NCB Staff Consultations, Club Consultations and Playing Pitch Strategies)*

Tackling Climate Change

Drought and Rising Sea Levels (source – news reports of coastal erosion, land falling into the sea and land projected to be below annual flood level by 2030)

https://coastal.climatecentral.org/map/8/1.6785/52.8005/?theme=sea_level_rise&map_type=year&basemap=roadmap&contiguous=true&elevation_model=best_available&forecast_year=2030&pathway=ssp3rcp70&percentile=p50&refresh=true&return_level=return_level_1&rl_model=gtsr&slr_model=ipcc_2021_med

https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/20810292.next-maps-show-stark-threat-coastal-erosion-hundreds-norfolk-homes/

https://news.sky.com/story/demolition-of-houses-along-norfolk-coastline-as-erosion-takes-its-toll-12831821

Drought
East Anglia is the driest area of the UK. Whilst this hasn't yet resulted in loss of play due to large cracks in outfields, this could happen. The cost of watering squares can be significant.

https://resources.thegma.org.uk/node/834

Recommendation
With the support of ECB Recreational Facilities Manager, engage with Clubs to consider opportunities for installation of bore holes to be compliant with ECB's County Grant Fund application criteria.

Rising Sea Levels
The beginning of 2023 has seen significant coastal erosion with several homes collapsing into the sea in March 2023, in Hemsby.

The news reports above, demonstrate the ongoing struggle of the impact of rising sea levels. Anticipated sea flooding over the next 10 years and the impact on Cricket needs to be considered and planned for.

Recommendation
Continue to monitor rising sea level mapping and trends and assess for the impact on Club Cricket.

Keep abreast of government intervention plans to combat rising sea levels to assess for negative impact on (which) Clubs.

Disabled Cricket Provision

Limited access to sports halls and leisure centres during the daytime limits the amount of disability cricket and walking cricket NCB can offer.

Creating a welcoming-environment where all people, including people with learning difficulties and vulnerable people are welcomed and valued, requires access to an alcohol- free environment.

Recommendations

Continue to look for appropriate and accessible opportunities for facilities for disabled people across the County.

External Funding Opportunities and Risks

In relation to S106 and Levy Infrastructure investment into indoor facilities and multisport facilities, lack of some/any level of financial investment from Cricket reduces opportunities for cricket to be at the table when design and programming access is required.

Feedback from Sport England was that Cricket is often left out of discussions in relation to design compliance and accessibility (programming) because it's anticipated that Cricket is unable to invest and therefore we must work with clubs to build reserves and locate funding for projects.

Recommendation

Understand and anticipate every S106 opportunity on a continuous basis. Liaise with Sport England and ECB to identify/understand and plan for financial investment from Cricket/ECB that will enable Cricket to be at the table to influence compliant design and accessibility and an opportunity to generate income.

Volunteers

The ongoing protection, enhancement and provision of cricket facilities is reliant on appropriate numbers of dedicated and supported volunteers; not many clubs make financial plans for upkeep and ongoing maintenance costs.

Recommendations

Continue to support Clubs to address this. In 2022 NCB Officers and Directors completed a Gallup Clifton Super Strengths questionnaire. We have plans to combine strengths to come together in working groups to manage and deliver projects. Supporting volunteers with governance and club development matters continues to be a priority as we deliver on Norfolk Cricket Board's key priority of optimising Club support.

Cost of Living Crisis

The cost-of-living crisis presents challenges to the sustainability of clubs and facilities where membership subscriptions and income generation through the sale of refreshments to members and visitors is likely to decrease.

The development aspect of Clubmark enabled Clubs and Boards to discuss a tailored approach to ongoing opportunities for fundraising and income generation. It was an opportunity to share best practice. This is no longer a part of Clubmark. Norfolk Cricket Board offer a broad range of Club support (please expand Lewis).

Recommendation

For Norfolk Cricket Board to bring together a working group - Directors, Officers, Club Personnel using their unique skills to develop a Club Support package.

Continue to work with Clubs and to optimise the best support.

Player Availability

Within recreational Club Cricket, player availability has reduced in the last 5-10 years. This is an ongoing challenge. People are busy, they have more opportunities to spend time on a broader range of activity/life opportunities.

Recommendation

To support Clubs to understand the unique challenges related to player availability and how to overcome these challenges. Explore the opportunities of shorter formats to be played in July and August for example.

Ball Strike / Ball Strike Surveys

(Of those Clubs who responded to the Cricket Club Facilities Survey 2022) 10 Club venues in Norfolk have at least one boundary shorter than 50m.

Recommendation

Work closely with those clubs impacted by potential ball strike risk and take a proactive approach to help mitigate the associated risks of ball strike at the respective grounds. Where necessary, work closely with LaboSport to undertake a Ball Trajectory Risk Assessment and the ECB facilities team.

Non-Turf Cricket Pitches in Norwich

Norfolk was fortunate to receive money as part of an ECB pilot in 2017 to install Non-Turf Pitches in and around Norwich to help improve casual play offers. In total there are 11 pitches at 9 locations in and around the Norwich area at a variety of locations including, parks, playing fields and recreational grounds. All of the sites are managed directly by the venues where they are located.

Usage of the NTPs have varied over the last few years with excellent usage prior to the Coronavirus pandemic with pub leagues, Last Man Stands (LMS) and Casual play hiring a regular feature at a lot of the venues.

However, since the pandemic, usage has declined and the formalised Pub League and LMS have not resumed which means that only ad-hoc causal hirers are using the sites at the moment. Where the sites are used by cricket clubs, the NTPs are regularly used during the week for training, junior matches, practice, etc but this is only relevant to 3 of the sites.

As part of our strategy, we wish to increase the promotion/usage of the NTPs in and around Norwich. We will explore formal and casual play offerings. As it currently stands, league cricket with Norfolk (Saturday/Sunday) is only permitted to be played on fine-turf pitches which naturally limits the usage for NTPs for formalised league cricket.

Football/Cricket Shared Facilities

We have a very good relationship with the Norfolk FA who we work closely with regarding multi-sport facility development. Including:

- Acle CC
- Beccles CC
- Bungay CC
- Caister CC & Broadland CC
- Castle Acre CC
- Denver CC
- Dersingham CC
- East Harling CC
- Happisburgh CC
- Hingham CC
- Mattishall CC
- Mundford CC
- North Elmham CC
- Old Catton CC
- Snettisham CC
- Swardeston CC

Norfolk FA / Football Foundation Relationship

- 40% of Football Foundation funding must be spent on multi-sport developments.
- We have 16 sites in Norfolk that share football/cricket facilities.
- Current work/conversations ongoing at Hales & Loddon CC, Drayton CC (King George V Playing Field) and Mundford CC about potential multi-sport pavilion projects.
- We're working with Attleborough Sports Centre/School regarding a cricket/football development.