

Playing Pitches: Options for Future Investment

1. Context and purpose of this paper

The *Open Space Strategy 2017-27* recognised that Tower Hamlets needs more playing pitches to meet existing local demand for football, hockey, cricket and rugby. Population growth is forecast to further increase demand through higher rates of team generation for these sports.¹

The demand for playing pitches needs to be managed within the context of the findings in the *Open Space Strategy*. In particular, the strategy recognised that Tower Hamlets has an open space deficiency, which spatially constrains the scope of the council and its partners to grow the local playing pitch offer, without displacing other park users.

The *Open Space Strategy* includes a framework for prioritising investment in existing open space and identifies potential sites for new open spaces. The investment prioritisation framework is currently being applied to the council's parks and open spaces to develop a medium term capital programme to address the pressures identified through the strategy. This paper complements the overall prioritisation framework by specifically assessing the potential of existing and new open space sites to provide enhanced or additional playing pitch capacity. Together, these two assessments will form the basis of the council's capital investment programme for open spaces.

2. Key findings of the Open Space Strategy

The key findings of the *Open Space Strategy's 'External Assessment of Playing Pitches and Outdoor Sport Facilities'* were:

- The majority of sports pitches and outdoor sports facilities in Tower Hamlets are located in publicly accessible open spaces and cater for matches, training, informal play, and wider use as open space when they are not in sport use. The accessible location of many facilities and their variety of uses as open spaces creates particular challenges when maintaining the quality of playing surfaces.
- Public open space sites that are of the right dimensions to accommodate formal playing pitches or courts whilst retaining space for other open space functions and/or retaining their heritage or biodiversity value already provide at least one pitch.
- There are 22 grass football pitches in adult and youth sizes in the borough. This current supply of football pitches is insufficient to accommodate existing demand for adult and youth football. Pitches are used more intensely than recommended by the Football Association in order to address demand.
- There are 32 third generation artificial grass pitches in the borough, of which one is full sized and FIFA certified, making it suitable for competitive football. The Football Association's training model indicates that the supply of one full sized pitch is insufficient to meet demand.
- There are four non-turf and no natural turf cricket pitches in the borough. This current supply of cricket pitches is insufficient to accommodate existing demand. Pitches are used more intensely than recommended by the England Cricket Board in order to address demand.
- There is only one rugby union pitch in the borough which is insufficient to meet demand. The pitch is subject to more use than recommended by the Rugby Football Union.

¹ *Tower Hamlets Playing Pitch Needs Assessment, 2017*

- There are three hockey suitable artificial turf pitches in the borough. This current supply is insufficient to meet existing demand from clubs based within the borough.
- Tennis court capacity is sufficient. There are 24 courts currently available for community use.
- There are three bowling greens in Tower Hamlets, which provide more capacity than is currently required. Club numbers at all sites indicate that there is spare capacity. At one site the membership is particularly low, indicating that the site may not be sustainable.
- There is one athletics track and field in Tower Hamlets and this is considered sufficient to meet demand.

This briefing does not address tennis, lawn bowls and athletics, as existing provision was found to be sufficient to meet current and future demand, as outlined above.

In the context of population growth and financial pressures the *Open Space Strategy* outlines the overall need to:

- Manage the impact of population growth on the provision of open spaces.
- Attract and guide investment in parks and open spaces to the best effect for Tower Hamlets.
- Contribute to sustainable development.
- Address competing demands on parks and open spaces.
- Mitigate the revenue costs for the council of hosting parks and open spaces in Tower Hamlets.

Open Space Strategy Action Plan

The following table outlines the actions included in the *Open Spaces Strategy*, which relate to every playing pitch site (current or future) in the borough and provide the basis for the site-by-site recommendations set out in this paper.

Figure 1: Table of Open Space Strategy Strategic Actions

Aim:	Activity:	Local Plan Policy Principles:	Success factor:	Implementation Phase:	Role of this paper:
Attracting and guiding investment in parks and open spaces to the best effect for Tower Hamlets	Implement an investment prioritisation framework for parks and open spaces, including playing pitches, to ensure that investment is made in areas of need and achieves the greatest level of impact.	<p>Create – maximising opportunities for new publicly accessible open space</p> <p>Enhance – improving quality, usability and accessibility of existing publicly accessible open space</p> <p>Connect – creating new green corridors and enhancing existing ones to connect publicly accessible open spaces to main destination points</p>	<p>A detailed prioritisation process based on the principles set out in the strategy is in place.</p> <p>Use of investment prioritisation process is evidenced in decisions made and outcomes achieved.</p> <p>Delivery of improvements is planned annually alongside the budget setting process.</p> <p>A cyclical programme of reviews of sites and condition of assets is in place.</p>	<p>Short term: 2017 - 2018</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	This paper, together with the site by site application of the prioritisation criteria contained in the strategy, forms the basis of the overall prioritisation for investment in open space. This will in turn inform the council's open space investment programme

Aim:	Activity:	Local Plan Policy Principles:	Success factor:	Implementation Phase:	Role of this paper:
Attracting and guiding investment in parks and open spaces to the best effect for Tower Hamlets	Ensure that detailed design development priorities for open space sites consider playing pitches and ancillary facilities	<p>Create – maximising opportunities for new publicly accessible open space</p> <p>Enhance – improving quality, usability and accessibility of existing publicly accessible open space</p> <p>Protect – protecting and safeguarding all existing open space such that there is no net loss</p>	<p>Supply, demand and quality of playing pitches is considered when open spaces are developed or re-developed</p> <p>Playing pitch considerations are incorporated in new open space design to be developed</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Short term: 2017 - 2018</p>	This paper identifies the specific open space sites where design development needs to include consideration of playing pitch need.
Attracting and guiding investment in parks and open spaces to the best effect for Tower Hamlets Managing the impact of population growth on the provision of open spaces	Review all existing grass pitch locations to determine the extent to which these could be converted to 3G, ensuring that conversion does not result loss for sports requiring specific surface types.	<p>Create – maximising opportunities for new publicly accessible open space</p> <p>Enhance – improving quality, usability and accessibility of existing publicly accessible open space</p>	Grass pitch sites are identified for potential conversion to 3G	Medium term: 2019 - 2022	This paper assesses grass pitch locations for their potential to be converted to 3G and identifies those sites potentially suitable for conversion.
Attracting and guiding investment in parks and open spaces to the best effect for Tower Hamlets Managing the impact of population growth on the provision of open spaces	Review all artificial pitch locations to determine the extent to which these could be upgraded, ensuring that conversion does not result in loss for sports requiring specific surface types	<p>Create – maximising opportunities for new publicly accessible open space</p> <p>Enhance – improving quality, usability and accessibility of existing publicly accessible open space</p>	Sites for potential upgrade are identified	Medium term: 2019 - 2022	This paper assesses artificial pitch locations for their potential to be upgraded and identifies those sites potentially suitable for upgrade.
Attracting and guiding investment in parks and open spaces to the best effect for Tower Hamlets Managing the impact of population growth on the provision	Work with the Football Association to review all grass pitch locations and determine the extent to which the use of fibre injections or other similar systems may improve the quality of existing pitches and consider	Enhance – improving quality, usability and accessibility of existing publicly accessible open space	Quality of sections of carpets assessed for reuse prior to replacement of carpets	Ongoing	This paper identifies all grass pitch locations, including those deemed unsuitable for conversion to artificial surfaces.

Aim:	Activity:	Local Plan Policy Principles:	Success factor:	Implementation Phase:	Role of this paper:
of open spaces	application to the Pitch Improvement Programme Fund				
Attracting and guiding investment in parks and open spaces to the best effect for Tower Hamlets	Update condition and suitability surveys for all changing facilities to inform future investment decisions	Enhance – improving quality, usability and accessibility of existing publicly accessible open space	Investment prioritisation process is evidenced by completed surveys to guide decisions	Medium term: 2019 - 2022	This paper identifies all sites that could benefit from investment in ancillary facilities

3. Overview of existing playing pitch provision

The following table demonstrates, at a high level, the current local position for full size playing pitch provision. Further and more detailed analysis of the sites can be found in the *Open Space Strategy, Playing Pitch Needs Assessment*, and master plans / management plans for individual sites.

Figure 2: Table of open space sites in Tower Hamlets that are over 1 hectare (>1 ha) and have existing full size playing pitch provision

Site Name:	Turf:	Sport:	Full-Size Quantity:	Quality²:
Bartlett Park	Grass	Football	2	Standard
John Orwell Sports Centre	ATP ³	Hockey	1	Standard
Meath Gardens	Grass	Football	1	Poor
Mile End Park Leisure Centre and Stadium	Grass, ATP	Football, Hockey	2	Standard
Millwall Park	Grass	Rugby, Football	3	Poor
Millwall Park	NTP ⁴	Cricket	1	Standard
St Paul's Way Trust School	ATP	Hockey	1	Standard
Stepney Green	3G ⁵	Football	1	Standard
Victoria Park	Grass	Football	5	Poor
Victoria Park	NTP	Cricket	3	Standard
Weavers Field	Grass	Football	2	Standard

4. Existing open spaces with the potential for additional pitch provision

The following tables outline the sites that have the potential for additional formal playing pitch provision. For the creation of any new playing pitches at any of the sites below, there would be a displacement of existing non-pitch open space provision (e.g. general-use landscaped park space, or ecologically significant wildlife - which would be expected to trigger significant community interest). Feasibility analysis would be required to develop any future proposals regarding these sites. The tables include all Tower Hamlets managed open spaces which are >1 ha, the minimum size required to accommodate a full size playing pitch.

² As found in the External Assessment of Playing Pitches

³ Artificial-Turf-Pitch – Official artificial Hockey pitch

⁴ Non-Turf-Pitch – Technical term for an artificial cricket pitch/wicket

⁵ 3rd Generation – Official FA compliant artificial turf football pitch

Figure 3: Table of open space sites in Tower Hamlets that are >1 ha, currently without any playing pitch provision but which could have official pitch provision in the future

Site Name:	Detail:
Bethnal Green Gardens	Hard standing basketball/MUGA ⁶ could be re-provided as a pitch
Langdon Park	Has existing informal football pitch provision including two goals

Figure 4: Table of open space sites in Tower Hamlets that are >1ha and have existing playing pitch provision that could accommodate further additional official provision

Site Name:	Detail:
Mile End Park	Would require the relocating of trees and conversion of existing park space at 'Haverfield Green'. Any activity on this site is subject to the governance of the King George Trust.
Victoria Park	Options to add pitch provision in the north-east of the site, subject to heritage concerns relating to the former St Augustine's Church.
Weavers Field	Option to add permanent 7v7 or 9v9 playing pitch at southern end adjacent to Mape Street, which has accommodated a youth-sized football pitch intermittently.
Stepney Green	Option to add permanent grass pitch provision to the west of the existing 3G pitch. This has been marked as a summer pitch previously.

The following table outlines sites that are >1 ha in size, but for the given reasons are excluded from consideration for size playing pitch development. In general, this relates to either the shape of the site or the nature of the site as a dedicated landscaped park of significant amenity value, with the presence of trees subject to preservation orders, conservation areas or registered parks and gardens.

Figure 5: Table of existing open space sites in Tower Hamlets that are >1 ha that could not accommodate either new or further official pitch provision

Site Name:	Reason:
Allen Gardens	The shape of this site means that there is no scope for an official playing pitch to be added, either as is, or with site reconfiguration.
Bartlett Park	This site is subject to a re-development master plan that has been subject to extensive community consultation and has been agreed with works being tendered.
Grove Hall Park	The shape of this site means that there is no scope for an official playing pitch to be added, either as is, or with site reconfiguration.
Meath Gardens	The shape of this site means that there is no scope for an official playing pitch to be added, either as is, or with site reconfiguration.
Ion Square Gardens	The shape of this site means that there is no scope for an official playing pitch to be added, either as is, or with site reconfiguration.
Island Gardens	This is a high value, landscaped amenity park space with designated heritage trees / trees subject to preservation orders, and as such cannot accommodate a playing pitch.
John Orwell Sports Centre	The shape of this site means that there is no scope for an official playing pitch to be added, either as is, or with site reconfiguration.
Jolly's Green	The shape of this site means that there is no scope for an official playing pitch to be added, either as is, or with site reconfiguration.
King Edward Memorial Park	This site is subject to a re-development master plan that has been subject to extensive community consultation and as such has been agreed with works tendered.
Millwall Park	This site is at full pitch capacity and as such any further pitch development would cause over-marking.
Museum Gardens	This is a high value, landscaped amenity park space with designated heritage trees / trees subject to preservation orders, and as such cannot accommodate a formal playing pitch.
Poplar Recreation Ground	This is a high value, landscaped amenity park space with designated heritage trees / trees subject to preservation orders, and as such cannot accommodate a formal playing pitch.
Ropemaker's Field	This is a high value, landscaped amenity park space with designated heritage trees / trees subject to preservation orders, and as such cannot accommodate a formal playing pitch.

⁶ Multi Use Games Area

Site Name:	Reason:
Sir John McDougal Gardens	This is a high value, landscaped amenity park space with designated heritage trees / trees subject to preservation orders, and as such cannot accommodate a formal playing pitch.
St Dunstan's / Whitehorse Road Park	In addition to being a cemetery, this is a high value, landscaped amenity park space with designated heritage trees / trees subject to preservation orders, and as such cannot accommodate a formal playing pitch.
St Georges in the East	In addition to being a cemetery, this is a high value, landscaped amenity park space with designated heritage trees / trees subject to preservation orders, and as such cannot accommodate a formal playing pitch.
Swedenborg Gardens	This is a high value, landscaped amenity park space with designated heritage trees / trees subject to preservation orders, and as such cannot accommodate a formal playing pitch.
Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park	In addition to being a cemetery, this is a high value, landscaped amenity park space with designated heritage trees / trees subject to preservation orders, and as such cannot accommodate a formal playing pitch.
Wapping Woods	This is a high value, landscaped amenity park space with designated heritage trees / trees subject to preservation orders, and as such cannot accommodate a formal playing pitch.

5. Existing playing pitch sites with the potential for 3G conversions

The following table outlines the sites that have the potential for at least one of their pitches to be converted to 3G. 3G conversions are generally favoured by National Governing Bodies (NGBs) of sports due to their all-weather nature, drainage, durability (therefore capacity), and promotion of player skill development.⁷ The *Playing Pitch Needs Assessment* recommends the development of one additional official size 3G pitch to meet future demand.

The conversion of grass pitches to 3G can have detrimental effects on parks, such as closing off access due to fencing, undermining the landscape value of sites, increased noise pollution, and the prevention of informal recreational use of the site during the off-season. 3G pitches also have different lifespans to grass pitches, and as such, the *Playing Pitch Needs Assessment* recommends the council put in place a 'sinking fund' to meet the cost of renewal.

A further consideration to note is that if the playing surface at any of the pitch sites is changed or upgraded, this may displace existing use by a sport, possibly creating a deficit of provision for other sports. For example, if a pitch is upgraded from 2G to 3G usage it can no longer be used for hockey, or if a grass pitch is converted to 3G it may not be used for competitive match play for football and rugby, despite offering an enhanced training offer.

Figure 6: Table of open space sites in Tower Hamlets that are >1 ha that could have existing playing pitch provision converted to 3G

Site Name:	Detail:
Millwall Park	There is a youth-sized grass pitch adjacent to Millwall Park at Stebondale Street. This pitch is already fenced and as such could be converted to 3G without adversely affecting park access.
Meath Gardens	This site has historically been a red ochre playing pitch with flood lighting (flood lighting still on site) and as such could be a suitable candidate for conversion to 3G; however, redeveloping the site may trigger community opposition due to noise, light pollution, and street parking concerns in proximity to residential property.
Victoria Park	There may be a possibility for a 3G conversion or installation at the North-Eastern / St Mark's Gate corner of the park. This would be subject to the heritage concerns relating to the former St Augustine's Church and the landscaping of Victoria Park, the ancillary requirements of a 3G pitch such as flood lighting and fencing. This would also potentially displace cricket provision if the area is over-marked.

⁷ <https://www.sportengland.org/media/4536/artificial-surfaces-for-outdoor-sports-2013.pdf>

Site Name:	Detail:
Weavers Field	The parks current configuration would not sustain a 3G conversion (without a loss of wider park access due the ancillary requirements of a 3G pitch), however, if this park was re-configured there may be scope for a conversion, this would be subject to the multi-use and thoroughfare nature of this park space.

Figure 7: Table of open space sites in Tower Hamlets that are >1 ha that could not have existing playing pitch provision converted to 3G

Site Name:	Reason:
Bartlett Park	This site is subject to a re-development master plan that has been subject to extensive community consultation and has been agreed with works being tendered.
Mile End Park Leisure Centre	The existing pitch provision at this site is either already artificial (the full-size hockey pitch was recently resurfaced) or inside the athletics track. The pitch inside the athletics track is utilised by teams playing within the football pyramid and as such the grass pitch must meet standards as set by the FA.

6. Ancillary facilities with potential for improvement

The following table outlines opportunities for investment in improved ancillary facilities at the borough's pitches. Victoria Park, Mile End Leisure Centre and Stadium, John Orwell Sports Centre and Stepney Green have all been excluded due to either the ancillary facilities being recently renewed or the pitches being co-located with a leisure centre that includes the ancillary provision. St Pauls Way Trust School has also been excluded due to it being a dual-use school site.

Figure 8: Table of open space sites in Tower Hamlets that are > 1ha and have existing provision that could be prioritised for investment to improve ancillary facilities

Site Name:	Detail:
Bartlett Park	This site is subject to a master plan for its redevelopment which includes improved ancillary facilities to support the grass football pitches.
Millwall Park	Ancillary provision at Millwall Park varies in age and quality. It includes; changing rooms at the north east of the park that are rated as adequate by the local rugby club, and a space in an arch beneath the DLR line that the rugby club leases on a 10-year basis.
Weavers Field	There is no existing changing provision at Weavers Field, and if the pitch provision at the site is intensified there will be a case for investment in the supporting ancillary facilities.
Meath Gardens	This site has some limited ancillary provision for pitch users, and this could be a candidate for investment and improvement. As this site has a single pitch football offer, ancillary improvements may be of a lower priority than other multi-pitch sites.
Stepney Green	If the pitch offer at this site is increased to include a formal grass pitch then the existing ancillary facilities that support the 3G pitch may need to be expanded. Alternatively, the Council may investigate changing the development agreement to allow grass pitch users to access the 3G pitch's ancillary facilities.

7. Local Plan strategic open space site allocations with the potential to provide additional playing pitch provision

The following table outlines sites identified in the emerging *Local Plan* that should be providing a new strategic open space of >1 ha and above and therefore have the potential to provide additional open space capacity. The sites will also be subject to a number of competing demands identified within the site allocations in Part 4 of the [Local Plan](#) (Regulation 19 version). As with all developments in the borough, any future development on these sites will be negotiated through the development management process.

Figure 9: Table of future sites allocated as having >1ha of open space in Tower Hamlets that have potential to accommodate new full size pitch provision.

Site Name:	Detail:	Possible Pitch Detail:
Leven Road Gas Works	This site is adjacent to the River Lea and is publically accessible and well connected to surrounding sites and has single ownership. The emerging <i>Local Plan</i> allocates this site as 8.56 ha in total with 1 ha of open space that is usable for sport and recreation. Discussions between the council and developers are underway to determine the feasibility of a playing pitch being included in the site footprint. A masterplan approach has been suggested to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1x full size pitch

Site Name:	Detail:	Possible Pitch Detail:
	test the extent to which a playing pitch could be provided within the context of the overall infrastructure requirements for the site.	
Limeharbour	This 4.87 ha site is currently made up of high rise offices; however, the <i>Local Plan</i> identifies it as a site allocation for the development of strategic open space alongside other key infrastructure and housing. Pitch considerations will be discussed with developers as sites come forward.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1x full size pitch

Figure 10: Table of future sites allocated as having >1ha of open space in Tower Hamlets that could not accommodate new full size provision.

Site Name:	Detail:	Possible Pitch Detail:
Aspen Way	This site currently includes two FA certified 3G small sized football pitches associated with NEW City College Tower Hamlets / The Workhouse Leisure Centre. The <i>Playing Pitch Needs Assessment</i> identified this provision as being at risk should redevelopment not include the re-provision of the football offer. The total site footprint is identified in the <i>Local Plan</i> as 6.10 hectares (ha) and development should include re-provision of existing sports facilities in line with draft Local Plan (regulation 19) policies. The site is not suitable for full size pitch provision as it will need to act as a through route between Canary Wharf/North Quay and Poplar High Street. The dedication of the on-site open space for a full size pitch would not enable the development of north-south open space connections.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-provision of existing pitch provision
Bishopsgate Goods Yard	This site, adjacent to and including Shoreditch High Street Station, currently hosts temporary short pile (3G) small size football provision as the Lucozade Powerleague Soccer Centre (London City) as an interim use. This site (4.24 ha in total) is allocated in the <i>Local Plan</i> for strategic open space. However, the site has significant heritage constraints and the open space is to be brought forward as a linear site on top of the historic railway viaduct. The dimensions of the viaduct prevent the provision of a full size pitch.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1x 5-aside or 7-aside playing pitch
Bow Common Gas Works	This site is adjacent to Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park and has been identified in the emerging Local Plan for the development of strategic open space alongside a new secondary school. The site footprint is identified as 3.94 ha and as such, could accommodate playing pitch provision in the future. However, the site has the potential to address a significant open space catchment area deficiency in the Bow area, bringing significant numbers of residents within reach of a Local Park for the first time. The provision of a generic open space in this location in order to provide access to children and young people to play space is considered of greater benefit than the provision of a playing pitch with a more limited appeal to the wider population. Consideration should be given to the provision of smaller pitch provision as the site comes forward, possibly in conjunction with the school provision. Discussions with the site owners are ongoing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1x 5-aside or 7-aside playing pitch • Dual-use with new school
Marian Place Gas Works and The Oval	This site is between Prichard's Road, two heritage gas holders and is within the Regent's Canal Conservation Area. The emerging <i>Local Plan</i> allocates this site as 3.75 ha and specifies that development provide open space which is designated to be usable for sport and recreation, and from a spatial perspective this could also accommodate playing pitch provision, though it is unlikely this could be full-sized due to the desire to retain heritage assets. The ongoing presence / preservation of the gas holders may dictate feasibility of the size and type of sport provision on site. Discussions with the site owners are ongoing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1x 5-aside or 7-aside playing pitch
Westferry Printworks (secured by planning permission)	This site is between the Tiller Leisure Centre and Millwall Outer Dock. The emerging <i>Local Plan</i> allocates this site for an expanded leisure centre and secondary school, as well as 1 ha of open space. The site has planning permission for a school with sports hall and small outdoor pitches, residential uses and open space. The site is under construction and there is no scope for full size pitch provision as a consequence.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small pitch provision as per planning permission
Whitechapel South	This site incorporates the former and existing Royal London Hospital and is allocated in the <i>Local Plan</i> as 9.5 ha in total with >1 ha of open space. The open space will be linear in nature and as a consequence is unsuitable for the provision of a full size pitch. The provision of a smaller pitch at the northern end of the space (London Square adjacent to the future Tower Hamlets Civic Centre) should be considered.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1x 5-aside or 7-aside playing pitch

Site Name:	Detail:	Possible Pitch Detail:
Wood Wharf (secured through planning permission)	<p>This site is between Blackwall Basin, South Dock and the River Thames. It has been allocated for 1 ha of open space, a primary school, Idea Store and health facility. The full site footprint is 7.2 ha and may be able to accommodate playing pitch provision subject to other demands on the site and further feasibility analysis. Outline permission has been granted for the site and the open space on site (East Park) will need to cater for the wider open space needs of existing and new residents. As such, the dedication of the entire open space to playing pitch use is considered unsuitable. Consideration should be given to the provision of a small pitch as part of the school and out of hours leisure use on site.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1x 5-aside or 7-aside playing pitch

Next Steps

The following table summarises the options that have identified for investment, and the nature of that potential investment. (↑ = improvements)

No:	Site Name:	Potential Investment:	Recommendation:	Possible				
				Add Full Size Pitch:	Add Youth Pitch:	Convert to 3G:	Ancillary ↑:	Pitch Quality ↑:
1.	Bartlett Park	This site is subject to a re-development master plan . The master Plan provides for a re-configuration of the playing pitch provision at this site and new ancillary provision.	Implement the Bartlett Park Master Plan.				✓	
2.	Bethnal Green Gardens	The site footprint of Bethnal Green Gardens includes a hard standing basketball court area / multi-use-games-area (MUGA) that could be converted to playing pitch provision. In summer months the existing MUGA is popular and heavily used for basketball and other ball games.	Consider feasibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Converting basketball / MUGA at southern end of the park to grass or 3G pitch provision and potential sites for accommodating the displaced basketball courts and MUGA. 	✓		✓		
3.	Langdon Park	This site has previously accommodated a football pitch is occasionally used as an 'overflow' pitch. The site has retained two goals, which indicates ongoing community use for this purpose. Further work may be commissioned to understand whether there is space within the park footprint for conversion to official playing pitch provision.	Consider feasibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installing permanent playing field provision on the site. 	✓				
4.	Meath Gardens	Pitch quality improvements at this site can increase the overall carrying capacity (match equivalent sessions), thereby increasing the overall local pitch offer. This could include investigating a 3G conversion as there is a historical precedent for this. The ancillary provision at this site could also be considered for improvement.	Consider feasibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investing in grass pitch quality improvements or conversion to 3G. Adding and improving ancillary provision. 			✓	✓	✓
5.	Mile End Park	An increase in the playing pitch offer at this site would require the relocating of trees and conversion of existing park space at 'Haverfield Green'. Any activity on this site is subject to the governance of the King George Trust.	Consider feasibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adding a grass playing pitch provision at Haverfield Green. 	✓				
6.	Millwall Park	This site is at full capacity for pitches, as such there is very little scope for increasing the overall provision. The carrying capacity of the pitches at this site could be increased by quality improvements to the existing pitches that are heavily used and suffer from soil quality issues. There may be scope to convert the youth size pitch adjacent to Stebondale Street to 3G as it is fenced.	Consider feasibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investing in a programme of pitch quality improvements at Millwall Park. Converting Stebondale Street pitch to 3G. Improvements to ancillary facilities. 			✓	✓	✓
7.	Stepney Green	In addition to the 3G pitch at this site, there is a grass summer football pitch located on the adjacent park space. This could be upgraded to an official pitch, though this may interfere with the multi-use function of Stepney Green. This could also require further investment in ancillary changing provision, as the existing changing facilities are dedicated for the sole use of the 3G pitch as part of the development agreement.	Consider feasibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Converting the grass summer pitch to an official winter playing pitch. Adding further ancillary / changing provision or amending the development agreement to allow access to existing facilities by non-3G pitch users. 	✓			✓	
8.	Victoria Park	As the borough's only 'metropolitan open space', this site faces a variety of competing demands. While there is space for increased pitch provision, this will displace other uses. There are potential sites for further provision at the North-East of the site; however, this may be subject to heritage concerns relating to the remains of Saint Augustine's Church.	Consider feasibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adding further provision at the north-east of the site, subject to heritage concerns, as either grass or 3G. Investing in quality improvements to existing pitches to increase carrying capacity. 	✓		✓		✓
9.	Weavers Field	In the southern end of this site, adjacent to Mape Street, there has intermittently been a youth pitch. This has the potential to accommodate a formal youth playing pitch (7v7 or 9v9).	Consider feasibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adding an additional playing pitch at the southern end of the site. Adding ancillary changing facilities. 		✓		✓	
10.	Aspen Way	The footprint of the site allocation of 6.10 ha in total, the co-location with NEW City College Tower Hamlets, and the pre-existing playing pitch provision on site, makes a case for the re-provision of a 3G or grass pitch should a redevelopment take place.	Consider feasibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring the re-provision the existing playing pitches, or adding further provision at this site as part of any future re-development of the site on a dual-use basis with New City College / the Workhouse Leisure Centre. 		✓			
11.	Bow Common Gas Works	This site has been allocated for a secondary school and strategic open space. The size and shape of the site would allow playing pitch development, with the potential of it being dual-use between school and community. The costs associated with testing and remediating soil at former gas works may prove prohibitive.	Consider feasibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with future school operator to develop dual-use playing pitch provision as part of the site footprint. 		✓			
12.	Bishopsgate Goods Yard	This site (4.24 ha in total) is allocated in the <i>Local Plan</i> for strategic open space. However, the site has significant heritage constraints and the open space is to be brought forward as a linear site on top of the historic railway viaduct. The dimensions of the viaduct prevent the provision of a full size pitch.	Consider feasibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting the continuation of small size playing pitch provision. 		✓			
13.	Leven Road Gas Works	This site is adjacent to the River Lea. The emerging <i>Local Plan</i> identifies this site as 8.56 ha in total. Discussion between council and developer is underway to determine the feasibility of a playing pitch being included in the site footprint.	Continue discussions regarding the feasibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adding playing pitch provision to this site should it be redeveloped. 	✓				

14.	Marian Place Gas Works and The Oval	This site is between Prichard's Road, several heritage gas holders and Regent's Canal and is within the Regents Canal Conservation Area. The emerging <i>Local Plan</i> allocates this site as 3.75 ha in total, and from a spatial perspective this could also accommodate playing pitch provision. The ongoing presence / preservation of the gas holders may dictate on feasibility, as does the cost of soil remediation.	Consider feasibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adding playing pitch provision to this site, especially with regard to the retention of the heritage gas towers and their impact on the site footprint. 		✓			
15.	Westferry Printworks	This site is between the Tiller Leisure Centre and Millwall Outer Dock. The emerging <i>Local Plan</i> allocates this site for an expanded leisure centre and secondary school, as well as 1 ha of open space. The inclusion of playing pitch provision on this site footprint offers the opportunity for an integrated sports facilities offer.	Consider feasibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with future school operator to develop dual-use playing pitch provision as part of the site footprint. 		✓			
16.	Wood Wharf	This site is between Blackwall Basin, South Dock and the River Thames. It has been allocated for open space of 1 ha, a primary school, Idea store and health facility. The full site footprint is 7.2 ha and may be able to accommodate playing pitch provision.	Consider feasibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adding playing pitch provision to this site. 		✓			
17.	King Edward Memorial Park	This site is subject to a redevelopment masterplan that is being delivered by the Thames Tideway project. As part of the redevelopment of the park a 685m ² all weather pitch will be installed. The dimensions of this pitch are too small to be considered formal provision.	Implement Master Plan.					
18.	Limeharbour	The <i>Local Plan</i> identifies it as a site allocation for the development of strategic open space alongside other key infrastructure and housing. Pitch considerations will be discussed with developers as sites come forward, however, there may be space in the site footprint to accommodate full size playing pitch provision alongside other competing demands on the site.	Consider feasibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adding playing pitch provision to this site as sites come forward. 	✓				