



Glasgow City Council
City Administration Committee

Item 10

26th March 2026

Report by Bailie Annette Christie, City Convener for Culture, Sport and International Relations

Contact: Alan Milner, Head of Sport

GLASGOW PITCH STRATEGY 2025 – 2035

Purpose of Report:

To allow the Committee to review the draft Glasgow Pitch Strategy and make any comment/changes prior to approval.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the committee approve the Glasgow Sports Pitch Strategy 2025-35.

Ward No(s):

Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes No consulted: Yes No

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Sports Pitch Strategy and Action Plan (SPS) for Glasgow will inform facilities planning for outdoor sport in the city over the next ten years and directly contribute to the delivery of Active Glasgow: the city's Physical Activity and Sport Strategy.

1.2 The purpose of the SPS is to:

- Assess the adequacy of existing sports pitch provision to meet the long-term needs of each of the identified pitch sports, plus tennis and lawn bowls.
- Critically evaluate the content and design of existing provision.
- Set out a strategy which promotes equity of access, participation and skills development.
- Identify the scale of capital and revenue resource required to maintain the active pitch sport estate.
- Contribute towards the delivery of Active Glasgow – A Physical Activity and Sport Strategy 2025 – 2035.
- Assist Glasgow City Council in the development and implementation of City Development Plan 2.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The SPS has been developed by Glasgow Life in partnership with Glasgow City Council (Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability and Education Services), and SportsScotland. Each agency was represented on a SPS Working Group (SPSWG) which was responsible for setting the scope, objectives and expected outputs from the strategy, and for supporting, checking and contributing to the work.

Research consultants, KKP were appointed to act as a delivery partner to produce the SPS: Assessment Report (2019-20) and the SPS: Final Report (2024). These documents, which set out the details of the work, are linked in the Executive Summary of this report.

2.2 The strategy addresses the facility requirements for the following outdoor sports, across the Glasgow City Council area, including its para-sport equivalent where relevant:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| - Cricket | - Hockey |
| - Rugby union | - Football |
| - Bowls | - Tennis |
| - Croquet | - Ultimate Frisbee |
| - American Football | - Baseball/softball |
| - Gaelic Football | - Lacrosse |

- Rugby League
- Touch Rugby
- Shinty

In the production of the strategy the National Governing Bodies for these sports have been engaged with and invited to provide feedback on the draft report.

- 2.3 The SPS is set within a broader framework of national, regional, and local policies focused on increasing physical activity levels, improving health outcomes, promoting social inclusion, sustaining economic development, and ensuring environmental sustainability. Pitch sports play a central role in these efforts, offering an accessible means of improving physical, mental, and social well-being.
- 2.4 The strategy identifies the following aims, each of which are accompanied by several recommendations:
- To protect the existing supply of pitch sport facilities where it is needed to meet current and/or future needs.
 - To enhance pitch and ancillary facilities through the improvement of quality and effective maintenance of sites, with a view to meeting current and/or future needs.
 - To provide new pitch sport facilities to meet current and/or future demand.
 - To improve access to pitch sport facilities for users/clubs across the city.
 - To secure adequate levels of capital and revenue funding.
- 2.5 It is recognised the delivery of this strategy will require investment to improve quantity and quality where appropriate, together with ongoing investment in the maintenance and refurbishment of active pitch sport provision if it is to ensure that facilities remain effective in meeting community demand. This will require a regular stream of capital (and revenue) investment up to 2035 and beyond.
- 2.6 The delivery of the strategy will require the oversight of a new Steering Group comprising representatives from key stakeholders and partner agencies. The purpose of the Steering Group will be to:
- adopt responsibility for the identification and delivery of priorities for action.
 - monitor, evaluate and report on the outcomes of the SPS, as required by GCC and the Glasgow Life Board.
 - ensure that the SPS is kept up to date and refreshed up to 2035.

The Steering Group will act as a champion for pitch provision, promote the value and importance of the strategy and connecting it to the Physical Activity and Sport Strategy, the City's Open Space Strategy and City Development Plan.

3 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial:

Legal:

Personnel:

Procurement:

Council Strategic Plan: Specify which Grand Challenge (s) and Mission (s) the proposal supports. Where appropriate the relevant Commitment can also be listed.

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2025-29? Please specify.

What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?

(no significant impact, positive impact or negative impact)

Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage.

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:

What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?

Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?

Privacy and Data Protection Impacts:

Are there any potential data protection impacts as a result of this report
Y/N

If Yes, please confirm that a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) has been carried out

4 Recommendations

- 4.1 It is recommended that the committee approve the Glasgow Sports Pitch Strategy 2025-35.