

## Developing a local standard for Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs) for South Somerset

The provision of AGPs includes sand based surfaces (primarily for hockey) and third generation (3G) surfaces (primarily for football).

### (a) Current situation 2008

Based on district population of 159,003 (Experian, 2008)

In conducting the audit of AGP provision, the Authority has used the following supply parameters:

- AGPs must have secured community use
- Sand based AGPs must be full size (101.4 x 63 sq m) and floodlit
- 3G AGPs must be a minimum of 1000 sq m

The application of these parameters results in a total supply of 2 x sand based and 2 x 3G AGPs, 19,304.6 square metres for South Somerset.

**Total area of AGP provision = 19305 square metres**

**Square metres per 1,000 population = 121.41 square metres**

### (b) Previous Standard

Not applicable

### (c) Rationale

To set a quantity standard of square metres of AGP space per 1,000 population, the authority has assessed two different methodologies using a population of 159,003 (ONS, 2008):

1. Comparing the quantity of all AGP provision in the District with the current population.
2. Comparing the quantity of all AGP provision in the District with Sport England Active Places Power data

Table 1 shows the results emerging from each methodology:

Methodolgy	Size sq m	Sq m per 1,000
1. Current adjusted supply available to current population	19,305	121.41 0.02 pitches
2. Active Places Power data - England		0.03 pitches
3. Active Places Power data - South West		0.04 pitches

Based on the outcomes of this analysis and the outcomes from the local needs assessment identifying the need for more and better AGP facilities in South Somerset, it is recommended that the basis for the standard is the Active Places Power figure for the South West of 0.04 pitches per 1,000, which, for South Somerset, equates to 255.55 sq m per 1,000 population.

### (d) Recommended Standard

**South Somerset = 255.55 square metres per 1,000 population**