

Medway Council

Explanatory Note: Playing Pitch Strategy, Built Facilities Strategy & Facilities Planning Model

9 June 2026

Background

Medway Council's work on an updated Playing Pitch Strategy and Built Facilities Strategy was delayed awaiting the preparation of a best practice methodology promoted by Sport England. This matter is set out in paragraph 2.14.2 in the 'Statement of Common Ground with Prescribed Bodies' (ref: A12.1).

Supporting Evidence Documents consultation

In Appendix B of MLP/ED10, Medway Council indicated that four 'new documents' would be published for consultation on 8 June 2026.

The 'Review of updated SFRA data and implications for the Regulation 19 Sustainability Appraisal' (ref: MLP/ED12) was published for consultation on 8 June 2026.

The Playing Pitch Strategy, Built Facilities Strategy and Facilities Planning Model are to be finalised with external review and input. The Facilities Planning Model is a spatial modelling tool, with scenarios produced by Sport England to inform the Built Facilities Strategy.

The production of the Playing Pitch Strategy and the Built Facilities Strategy is dependent on receiving information from stakeholders.

The Playing Pitch Strategy and the Built Facilities Strategy are subject to change to allow for review by Sport England and the steering group. The associated action plans are being progressed through specific engagement with clubs and operators.

Therefore, Medway Council has published draft summaries of the Built Facilities Strategy (ref: MLP/ED11A), Facilities Planning Model scenarios (ref: MLP/ED11B) and Playing Pitch Strategy (ref: MLP/ED11C).

Timeline for final versions

Assuming there are no delays in receiving information from stakeholders and in the reviewing process, the final versions of the Playing Pitch Strategy, Built Facilities Strategy and associated actions plans will be sent to the Medway Local Plan 2041 Examination Programme Officer by 10 July 2026. This would allow Medway Council to consider any relevant representations on the summary documents following the end of the Supporting Evidence Documents consultation.