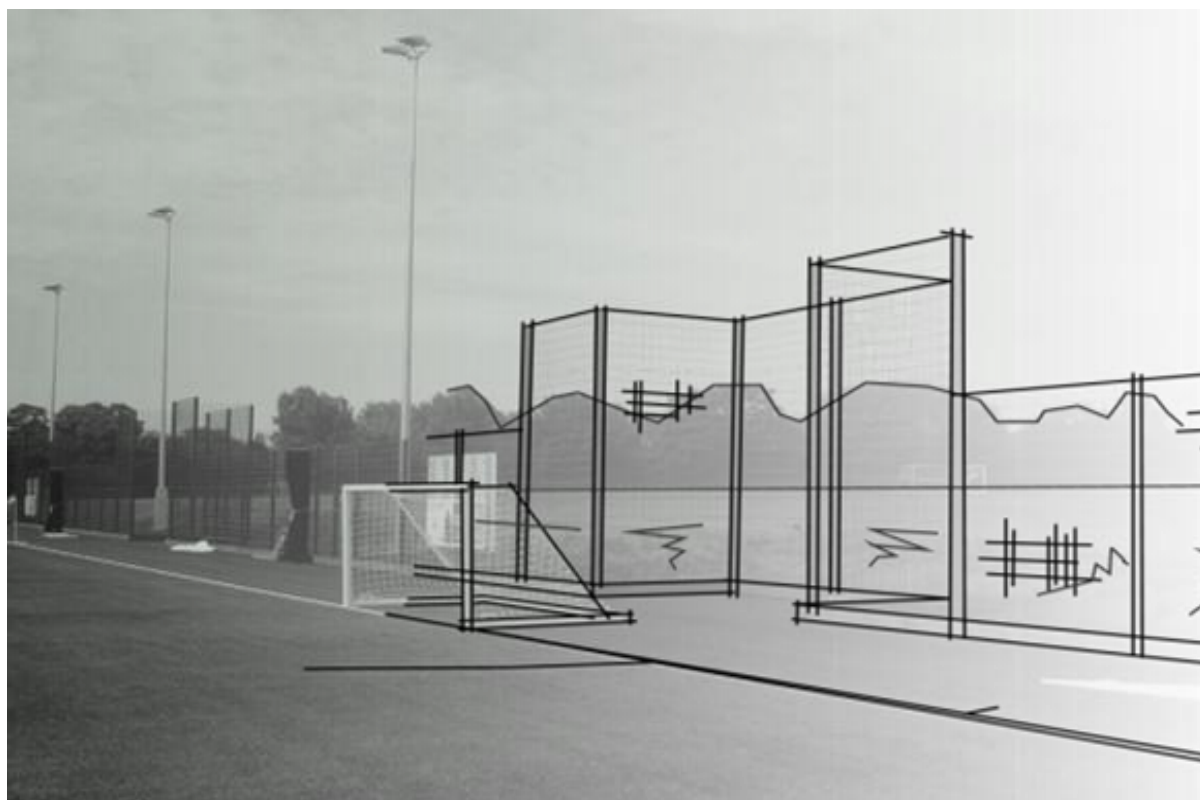


Wythenshawe Park

Creation of two 3G Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs) with perimeter fencing, hardstanding areas, storage container, floodlights and access footpaths; Creation of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) with perimeter fencing and floodlights; Amendments to the existing athletics track

Technical Information to Support Planning



Site	Wythenshawe Park Wythenshawe Manchester M23 9RQ		
Project	Creation of two 3G Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs) with perimeter fencing, hardstanding areas, storage container, floodlights and access footpaths; Creation of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) with perimeter fencing and floodlights; Amendments to the existing athletics track		
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Associated Plans and Documents

Documents

- G-208872 01 - Existing Site Plan
- G-208872 02 - Proposed Site Plan
- G-208872 03 - Floodlighting Scheme
- G-208872 04 - Proposed AGP Drainage Layout
- G-208872 05 - Proposed AGP Drainage Strategy
- G-208872 06 - Spillage Comparison

Floodlighting Performance Report Proposed

Introduction

Purpose of the report

This Design & Access with Planning Statement has been prepared by Surfacing Standards Ltd on behalf of Etec Group to accompany a full planning application for the development of new sports facilities at:

Wythenshawe Park, Wythenshawe, Manchester M23 9RQ

The proposal includes the creation of two 3G Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs) with perimeter fencing, hardstanding areas, storage container, floodlights and access footpaths; Creation of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) with perimeter fencing and floodlights; Amendments to the existing athletics track.

The development has been designed to comply with the FA and Sport England guidance, with the intention of enhancing the site's infrastructure. The scheme will provide modern, durable, and inclusive all-weather sports facilities, enabling year-round football and multi-use activity for the wider community, regardless of seasonal or weather-related constraints.

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Sports Development Description

Sports Development Outline

- 2No. 97x61m AGP with 3G artificial grass designed to accommodate a variety of youth football pitches and training areas.
 - Macadam hardstanding viewing and goal storage areas.
 - 4.5m high fencing to the perimeter of the facility with a 2.0m high and 1.2m high internal fence.
 - 12No. 13m high floodlighting columns.
 - Maintenance / sports equipment store located within the fenced facility enclosure.
 - Macadam access pathways.
- 1No. Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) following the Football Foundation layout for MUGAs
 - 4No. 8m high floodlighting columns fence mounted
 - 4.5m and 3.0m high perimeter fence line
- Relocation of the long jump and pole vault facilities for the athletics track
- Relocation of 2No. 15m high floodlighting columns for the athletics

Purpose and Use

The AGPs will deliver a significant improvement in pitch durability and availability when compared to the existing natural grass playing field, enabling extended use throughout the year. The facility is intended to serve a broad community user base through structured and pre-arranged access agreements.

Designed as a flexible and inclusive football development space, the new AGPs will accommodate a variety of pitch formats within a single enclosed playing area. In accordance with current Football Association (FA) technical guidance, multiple pitch markings will be applied to maximise both participation and training opportunities across a range of age groups.

The 97x61m AGP dimensions meet (and exceed) minimum pitch dimensions as per FA guidance and are sufficient to meet local league requirements for senior community football.

The intended programme of use is not detrimentally impacted (there is no loss of functionality, or displacement of any teams/groups as a result of the pitch being provided at 91x55m versus 100x64m).

The smaller footprint of the facility reduces the impact on the remaining playing field, allowing more space for other formal and informal activity.

The artificial pitch being provided meets the dimensions of the existing natural grass pitch, whilst also providing significantly increased capacity which supports the application in ensuring the benefits outweigh the loss.

The AGP will support the following formal pitch arrangements:

Table 1 - AGP Football Provision

Pitch Size	Colour	Age Group	Quantity
91x55m	White	Over 18 / Adult Football (11v11)	1
73x46m	Blue	U11 / U12 (9v9)	1

54.8x37m*	Yellow	U9 / U10 (7v7)	2
37x25.32m	Red	U7 / U8 (5v5)	4

Amount

The overall scale of development is summarised below:

Table 2 – Scale of the Development

Aspect	Area (m2)
3G Artificial Grass Surface	11,834
Porous Macadam MUGA	607
Porous Macadam Pathways	926

Layout

The optimum location for a proposed AGP was carefully considered. Key considerations included:

- Avoidance of impact relating to noise and lighting.
- Maximising the available playing field to accommodate natural grass pitches including athletics facilities.
- Flood risk for the facility itself and ensuring the development does not increase the flood risk to other nearby areas.
- Convenient proximity to changing facilities/welfare/site services.
- Convenient proximity of vehicular parking areas.
- Convenient proximity to transport routes.
- Minimising impact on nearby trees and ecological considerations.

The proposed location will afford pedestrian, maintenance and emergency access and providing for suitable management, supervision and security.

It was concluded the proposed location for the new 3G pitch provides the best solution for the above considerations.

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Appearance

General Appearance

The AGP is designed to have minimal visual impact, ensuring it is sympathetic to its surroundings and does not affect the visual amenity of the area, in line with local policies. The choice of materials reflects the materiality and conformity of similar AGP installations, ensuring high performance and a high-quality, enduring appearance. These materials have been selected for the following reasons:

- High performance.
- High quality enduring appearance.
- Suitability within the local character.
- Durable and robust with low maintenance.
- Energy efficient and sustainable.

3G Artificial Grass Pitch

The installed appearance of the playing surface will comprise a 3G artificial grass system featuring a 40mm pile, partially in-filled with silica sand for stability and granulated rubber for performance. The grass will be coloured grass green to replicate the look of natural grass and maintain visual consistency within the surrounding open space.

This surface will be installed over a shockpad and is recognised as the most suitable artificial playing surface for community football and youth football development.



Figure 1 - A Typical Example of a 3G Artificial Surface

LED Floodlights and Columns

The proposed floodlighting will comprise 12No. 13m high columns for the 2Nr AGPs, 4No. 8m high columns for the MUGA and 2No. existing 15m high columns for the athletics track to be relocated. All the floodlights are to be equipped with energy-efficient LED luminaires. The new floodlights will be galvanised (Z275) finish as it is acknowledged to be the most discreet in the predominantly grey UK sky.



Figure 2 - A Typical Example of Philips Luminaires and Columns

Ball Stop Fencing

The appearance of the perimeter ball stop fencing will be polyester powder coated RAL6005 Moss Green, which provides the most discrete appearance within the surrounding landscape.

All the sports fencing will be steel open mesh with a 66x50mm rebound aperture to the internal pitch perimeter barrier up to a height of 1.2m. Above this height the fencing will transition to a 200x50mm aperture, maintaining visibility while reducing visual impact.

Fence panels are insulated from the posts using neoprene washers to be fitted to every fence post / mesh fixing point to aid noise reduction and acoustic attenuation by reducing rattle and vibration from ball impacts.



Figure 3 - A Typical Example of Perimeter Ball Stop Fencing

Macadam Hardstanding

The appearance of the MUGA and the new hard standing areas including areas for pedestrian access and circulation, vehicular maintenance and emergency access, and open-air storage for portable football goals; will comprise grey black coloured porous macadam.



Figure 4 - A Typical Example of a Spectator Area

Storage Container

The new storage container will be utilised to store maintenance equipment and sports kit. The appearance of the new storage container (2.53m high x 6.06m long x 2.44m wide) within the facility enclosure will comprise high tensile profiled steel, finished polyester powder coated RAL 6005 moss green to match the perimeter fence.



Figure 5 - A Typical Example of a Storage Container

Sustainability and Environmental Considerations

Environmental Context

The AGP has been designed to minimise environmental impact through its construction and operation. Sub-base aggregates will be locally sourced to lower the facility's carbon footprint.

Cradle-to-cradle developments now allow artificial grass surfaces to be fully recycled into raw materials for new turf or secondary plastic products, eliminating their classification as single-use plastics.

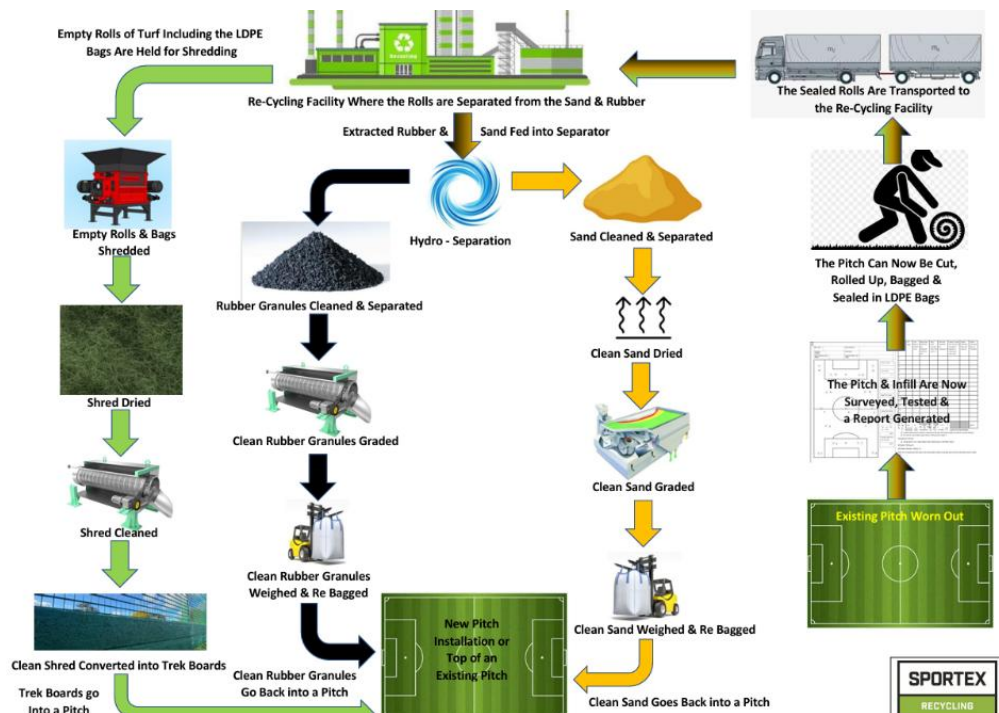


Figure 6 - Example Cradle-to-Cradle AGP Lifecycle

To minimise the migration of rubber crumb, infill containment measures including boot wipers, kickboards, and hardstanding will be installed to adhere with Football Foundation and SAPCA guidance.

In conclusion, the development will replace part of a grass playing field with a high-quality, all-weather facility that increases access to football and supports wider participation. Located in a suitable community setting, it will be managed sustainably and delivered using best-practice construction methods to minimise waste and environmental impact.

SBR (Rubber Crumb)

A range of performance infill materials were considered during the development of this proposal, including SBR, EPDM, TPE, encapsulated SBR, and organic alternatives. Currently SBR is the preferred performance infill due to its performance, durability, cost-effectiveness, fibre-free composition, and recyclability.

The SBR material will accord with the Sports and Play Construction Association (SAPCA) Quality Control Protocol for Sports Performance Infill. This protocol provides a robust

framework of obligations which suppliers and installers must follow to meet current legislation and regulatory requirements. Developed by the Football Foundation and key stakeholders, the protocol applies to the use of Sports Performance Infills. An extract from the protocol states:

“SAPCA, the UK trade body for the sports pitch industry, has developed a voluntary industry standard that will provide minimum requirements that go above and beyond what is currently required for rubber crumb under European regulation. Sport England and leading sport governing bodies all support this approach and will continue to work with the industry to provide reassurance that pitches in this country are safe.”

Further information with regards to the stance towards rubber crumb taken by the Football Foundation, Sport England and other governing bodies can be found via the following link:
<https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport/position-statement-on-3g-pitches>



Figure 7 - Example 3G pitch with Rubber Crumb