3G ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCH

REMOVAL & RECYCLING STRATEGY

Discharge of Planning Condition 17

Project	Abraham Moss Community School
Site	Crescent Road, Manchester, M8 5UF
Planning Permission	145498/FO/2026
Local Planning Authority	Manchester City Council
Principal Contractor	S&C Slatter
Proposed Recycling Facility	Sportex Group, Grangemouth, Scotland
Document Status	For discharge of Condition 17
Date	September 2026

Prepared to demonstrate a controlled, traceable and recycling-led route for the existing 3G pitch system, with disposal used only as a last resort.

Document Control

Revision	Date	Status / Purpose	Prepared by
P01	September 2026	Planning condition discharge	S&C Slatter

1. Introduction and Purpose

This 3G Artificial Grass Pitch Removal and Recycling Strategy has been prepared to support the discharge of Condition 17 attached to planning permission 145498/FO/2026 at Abraham Moss Community School, Crescent Road, Manchester, M8 5UF.

Condition 17 requires that, prior to removal and replacement of the 3G pitch and associated materials, details of the strategy for their removal and disposal are submitted to and approved in writing by Manchester City Council. The condition requires the subsequent removal works to be undertaken in accordance with the approved strategy.

The purpose of this document is to demonstrate that the existing artificial turf system will be removed in a controlled manner and that its constituent materials will, wherever technically practicable, be reused, recovered or recycled rather than disposed of to landfill. The principal recycling route is proposed to be Sportex Group's specialist artificial-turf recycling facility in Grangemouth, Scotland.

2. Condition 17

> *"Prior to the removal and replacement of the 3G pitch and any associated materials hereby approved, details of the strategy to be used for its removal and disposal shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the City Council as local planning authority. The removal of the pitches shall be undertaken in accordance with the agreed strategy."*

Reason: to ensure that end-of-life materials are managed in accordance with best practice, reducing the quantity requiring disposal to landfill, pursuant to Policy EN19 of the Core Strategy.

3. Waste Management Principles

The works will apply the statutory waste hierarchy. The preferred management route is therefore:

PREVENTION → PREPARING FOR REUSE → RECYCLING → OTHER RECOVERY → DISPOSAL

The existing pitch materials will be segregated and directed towards reuse and recycling wherever technically, environmentally and economically practicable. Disposal will be treated as the last resort. This approach is consistent with the waste Duty of Care requirements applying in England.

4. Existing Pitch Materials

The existing 3G artificial pitch is anticipated to comprise the following principal material streams:

- Artificial turf carpet and backing.
- Silica sand stabilising infill.
- Rubber or other polymeric performance infill.
- Shockpad, where present.
- Jointing tapes, adhesives and minor ancillary synthetic materials.
- Other minor associated materials arising from the removal operation.

Before material leaves site, the waste streams will be assessed and appropriately classified. The final List of Waste / EWC code(s) will be determined from the actual composition and condition of the materials rather than assumed in advance.

5. Proposed Recycling Route - Sportex Group

The principal recycling route for the artificial turf carpet and associated infill will be Sportex Group's specialist artificial-turf recycling operation at Grangemouth, Scotland.

Sportex states that its bespoke Grangemouth plant can process up to 500,000 m² of synthetic turf each year. Its published process separates rubber granules from the infill system for cleaning and grading; isolates sand for cleaning, drying, grading and reuse; and shreds, cleans and processes the depleted turf carpet using plastic agglomeration technology for manufacture into recycled plastic products.

Prior to removal, S&C Slatter will obtain/retain confirmation that the relevant materials from this project are acceptable at the proposed receiving facility and will verify the relevant carrier and receiving-site authorisations.

6. Removal Methodology

Stage	Method
Site set-up	The pitch will be taken out of use and the working area secured. Adjacent drainage features will be identified and protected where there is a foreseeable risk of loose infill entering the drainage system.
Infill recovery	Where practicable, specialist mechanical equipment will be used to extract or separate loose sand and performance infill. Recovered material will be contained in suitable sealed or covered containers or bulk bags.
Turf removal	The artificial turf will be cut into manageable strips and carefully lifted. Turf will be rolled, tied or otherwise securely contained in a form suitable for handling and transportation.
Housekeeping	Loose infill and turf fibres will be recovered by sweeping or vacuuming. Material will not be washed into surface-water drainage.
Loading	Turf rolls and contained infill will be loaded in a controlled manner. Loads will be secured and, where required, sheeted or enclosed to prevent escape during transport.

7. Temporary Storage and Pollution Prevention

- Removed materials will be stored only within the designated compound/loading area pending collection.
- Turf rolls will be stacked securely to prevent movement, collapse or uncontrolled loss of material.
- Loose infill will be kept in suitable sealed or covered containers/bulk bags.
- Waste will be protected from contamination and unauthorised access.
- Any accidental release of infill will be contained and recovered promptly; it will not be washed into drains.
- Plant will be maintained to minimise fuel or oil leakage and suitable spill-response materials will be available.

8. Material Management Routes

Material	Proposed management route
Artificial turf carpet	Transport to Sportex for separation, cleaning, processing and recycling.
Silica sand infill	Recovery and, subject to suitability, cleaning/grading for reuse.
Rubber/polymeric performance infill	Recovery and, subject to suitability, cleaning/grading for reuse or recycling.
Shockpad	Assess for reuse/recycling where practicable; otherwise transfer to an appropriately authorised recovery or disposal route.
Metals / recyclable ancillary	Segregate and send to an appropriately authorised recycling facility.

materials	
Non-recyclable residues	Transfer to an appropriately authorised recovery/disposal facility only where reuse or recycling is not technically practicable.

9. Transportation, Duty of Care and Waste Documentation

Waste will only be transferred to an appropriately authorised carrier and receiving facility. S&C Slatter will make reasonable checks of the relevant authorisations before transfer.

The waste will be accurately described and classified and the appropriate Waste Transfer Note or other legally required documentation will be completed. Documentation will identify the material, quantity, origin, carrier and destination as applicable.

Vehicles and containers will be suitable for the material carried. Loads will be secured and covered or enclosed where necessary to prevent escape.

Because the proposed recycling facility is in Scotland, the waste will be managed in accordance with the applicable cross-border Duty of Care requirements, with the English Duty of Care applying while the waste is managed in England and the applicable Scottish requirements applying to the receiving operation.

10. Verification and Audit Trail

S&C Slatter will retain an auditable record of the removal and recycling route. The project record will include, where applicable:

- Photographic record of removal and segregation.
- Waste Transfer Notes and waste descriptions/classification.
- Waste carrier registration details.
- Receiving-facility acceptance/authorisation details.
- Load, delivery or weighbridge records.
- Quantities or weights removed.
- Recycling/recovery confirmation supplied by Sportex or other authorised receiving facilities.

11. Commitments for Condition Discharge

The removal and management of the existing 3G pitch at Abraham Moss Community School will be undertaken in accordance with this strategy.

The principal pitch materials will be directed to Sportex Group's specialist artificial-turf recycling facility at Grangemouth, subject to final acceptance and confirmation of the applicable waste authorisations. Reuse and recycling will be prioritised over disposal. Only residual material that cannot technically or practicably be reused, recycled or otherwise recovered will be sent to an appropriately authorised disposal route.

The strategy therefore provides a defined and traceable end-of-life route for the existing pitch materials and is intended to minimise the quantity requiring landfill in accordance with the stated reason for Condition 17.

12. References

1. DEFRA / Environment Agency, Waste duty of care: code of practice, issued under section 34 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.
2. Environment Agency / DEFRA, Construction and demolition waste: how to classify (updated 13 August 2025).
3. Environment Agency / DEFRA, Classify different types of waste: your legal responsibilities (published 1 May 2025).
4. Environment Agency, Waste Classification Technical Guidance (WM3).
5. Sportex Group, Recycling - published description of the Grangemouth artificial-turf recycling process.

Appendix A - Pre-Removal Verification Checklist

Check	Required record
Confirm Sportex acceptance of project materials	Email / letter / booking confirmation
Verify proposed waste carrier registration	Registration check / copy
Verify receiving facility authorisation for relevant waste	Permit / licence / authorisation check
Confirm waste classification and code(s)	Waste classification record
Confirm containment and loading arrangements	Site inspection / RAMS
Retain transfer and delivery evidence	WTNs, weighbridge tickets, recycling confirmation