

Key comments for football in the Billingham and North Stockton Sub Area

This sub area is defined by six wards. It covers the discrete community of Billingham, the northern rural fringes, and areas (formerly) populated by heavy industry much of which now lies as open urban fringe land..

Population

The total population of 40,030 can be broken down by each ward (based on ward based mid year estimates) is as follows.

Ward Name	All Ages	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+
Billingham West	6098	195	246	334	372	339	247	228	310	372	501	424	505	545	431	369	351	220	109
Billingham North	9480	460	501	668	729	591	535	569	749	898	888	723	613	508	337	330	201	114	66
Billingham Central	7068	404	386	467	486	489	461	383	463	573	499	460	390	326	280	307	287	265	142
Billingham East	7171	478	410	505	609	585	422	382	472	592	484	443	343	295	316	346	255	132	102
Billingham South	6873	432	429	502	556	440	429	382	495	514	499	433	422	361	264	224	210	139	142
Northern Parishes	3360	219	233	229	216	126	96	196	282	361	322	257	280	208	120	98	53	30	34
	40050	2188	2205	2705	2968	2570	2190	2140	2771	3310	3193	2740	2553	2243	1748	1674	1357	900	595

Teams

The following teams play in the area.

Ground	Club	Senior Teams	Junior Teams	Ladies Teams	Girls Teams	Mini Teams	League
Northfield School & Sports College (Sportsdrome)	Billingham All Stars			1			Teeside Junior Football Alliance
Billingham Community	Billingham Cons	1					Stockton Sunday

Ground	Club	Senior Teams	Junior Teams	Ladies Teams	Girls Teams	Mini Teams	League
Centre							League
High Grange Playing Fields	Billingham Crusaders	1					North East Christian Fellowship League
High Grange Playing Fields	Billingham Greenholme	1					Stockton Sunday League
Billingham Synthonia Cricket Club	Billingham Rangers	1	2			3	Stockton Sunday League, Teeside Junior Football Alliance
Billingham Synthonia Cricket Club	Billingham Synthonia	2					Northern League, Middlesbrough and District Sunday League
Rievaulx Stadium	Billingham Telstar	1					Stockton Sunday League
Rievaulx Stadium	Billingham The Kings	1					Stockton Sunday League
Rievaulx Stadium	Billingham The Merlins	1					Stockton Sunday League
Rievaulx Stadium	Billingham The Swan	1					Stockton Sunday League
Billingham Town Football Club	Billingham Town	2					Northern League, Sunderland and District Sunderland Catholic Club Over 40s League
Northfield School & Sports College (Sportsdrome)	Billingham Town Juniors		9		2	3	Teeside Junior Football Alliance
High Grange Playing Fields	Billingham Veterans	1					Sunderland and District Sunderland Catholic Club Over 40s League
Northfield School & Sports College (Sportsdrome)	Billingham Wanderers		1				Teeside Junior Football Alliance
Clarences (Bendy Rec)	Port Clarence FC	1					Stockton Sunday League
Northfield School & Sports College (Sportsdrome)	Stockton Churches - Hebron	1					North East Christian Fellowship League
Northfield School & Sports College (Sportsdrome)	Stockton Churches - Portrack	1					North East Christian Fellowship League

Ground	Club	Senior Teams	Junior Teams	Ladies Teams	Girls Teams	Mini Teams	League
Rievaulx Stadium	Stockton Traders	1					Stockton Sunday League
Metcalfe Park	Wolviston	1					Wearside Football League
Metcalfe Park	Wolviston Juniors		5				Teeside Junior Football Alliance
High Grange Playing Fields	Wolviston Wellington	1					Stockton Sunday League
Metcalfe Park	Wynyard Village		1				Teeside Junior Football Alliance

Team Generation Rates (TGRs)

TGRs can be defined as the number of people it takes within a given population to generate a 'team' based on information available about local teams and population. They can help to plan for future needs as will be explained later. The TGRs shown on **Map 3** are generalised to allow for comparison across the various sub areas, and to provide as much consistency as possible with current and future population estimates. Broadly, they are provided to cover the following age groups: 11-44 years (from which the bulk of participation is derived); and, mini soccer (6-9 years). Sport England advocates more detailed breakdowns covering both male and female age groups. However, these cannot be produced for the individual sub areas, due to the absence of population estimates/projections which fit the age groups used by the governing body. **Appendix 5** does however provide an estimate of these more detailed TGRs at local authority level to enable comparison with information from similar studies in other local authority areas.

Within the sub area the TGRs for 10-44 years is 1 team per 1,000 persons; and, for minsoccer (6-9 years) 1 team per 245 persons. These rates are best and second best respectively for all sub areas, as can be seen below.

Sub area name	TGR minisoccer	TGR full size football
Billingham & North Stockton	245	1000
Central & Western	339	1632
Eaglescliffe & Yarm	211	1538
South East	504	1740

The Map 'Sites in the Billingham and Stockton North Sub Area' shows the location of 'football venues' and their availability based on Sport England Categories (A1, A2, A3, B). Category C sites are also listed. The Category C sites are largely primary and private schools, which have very little or no community use.

Times of demand and net/supply demand

The chart 'Sub Area Billingham and North Stockton' shows the temporal demand for junior and adult football. The former is mostly played on Sunday mornings, with the remainder on Saturday mornings. The latter is largely played on Sunday mornings with the remainder being played on Saturday am/pm (including female football). The chart also shows the net supply of pitches relative to provision based on peak time calculations advocated by Sport England's Playing Pitch Assessment Method (PPAM). Only those pitches that are in secure community use (A1, A2, A3) have been included in the calculations, as advocated by the PPAM. The bar chart shows that there are currently sufficient pitches to meet peak time needs for adult football, but that there is a deficiency in junior pitches at the peak time (Sunday AM). This is largely accounted for by the fact that some games are played on adult pitches. Another issue is that the Northfield School and Sports College (Sportsdrome) caters for several junior and some adult community teams but pitches are not in secure community use.

Many mini-soccer teams will be sharing the same playing surface as older full-sided teams, the practice being that mini-soccer teams tend to play on the least worn parts of the surface, and their pitches are marked out with temporary lines and portable goals or on smaller bits of land adjacent to the main pitch. It is therefore unreasonable to apply the PPAM to assessing the adequacy of mini soccer provision. Mini soccer teams also tend not to use changing facilities as the preference is to change at home. They have little requirement for many of the ancillary facilities needed by the older age groups. For all these reasons mini-soccer's need for space and facilities is far less demanding than that of the older age groups.

Borough Council perspective

As a manager of resources the Borough Council's perceptions of the key issues in the sub area are:

- Junior pitch availability is the main issue re quantity but with an apparent surplus of senior pitches.
- Quality mixed with a number of single pitch sites having no changing facilities and on public recreation areas.
- Better access to school pitches seems to be the priority together with an improvement in quality and a consideration of rationalisation to consolidate use on a smaller range of better equipped multi pitch sites.
- Opportunities include - securing community use of school sites. Improvements to Rievaulx Stadium to address current issues of parking and quality. Improving pitch quality and securing better community use at Billingham Campus and at Northfields. This could release certain single pitch sites (such as Low Grange) for other open space uses or, where appropriate, for development.

The future

Due to the absence of very localised populations projections it is impossible to model future demand for pitches based on natural changes in the 'football playing age groups'. However, within the Borough as a whole a major determinant of demand will be any population increase in an area brought about by planned change. The Map 'Sub Area Billingham and North Stockton Access and Growth' shows proposed development already or likely to be sanctioned. This includes the following sites,

that either have planning consent, are allocated, or are identified as part of the Borough Council's 'Preferred Option':

Name	Site Capacity (not yet built)
Land Off Greenwood Road	30
St Michael's school site	50
Former Stockton And Billingham College Site, Fincdale Avenue/The Caus	135
Peacocks Yard, Land East Of Blakeston Lane, Norton	149
	364

This comes to a projected 360 + dwellings.

Compared with other urban parts parts of the Borough there is little by way of planned growth.

Assuming a) an occupancy rate of 2 persons per dwelling; b) that 45% of the new occupants fall within the age range 10-44 years; and c) that all new occupants are effectively 'new' to the sub area, new development would result in 324 residents between the age range of 10-44 years generated. Based on the existing TGR for the sub area (the best in the Borough) this would generate approaching an estimated 0.3 full size football teams. This scale of development would therefore not create a significant additional demand for pitches, assuming there needs to be at least two teams to generate sufficient demand to justify an additional full size pitch. However, developer contributions could also be collected to help towards the improvement of facilities elsewhere and within convenient reach. For example, in return for improvements at Billingham Campus and Northfield Schools they might be expected to enter into secured community use agreements relating to grass pitches, and changing accommodation. The pitches at Bedford Terrace and High Grange are also only rated as being of average quality and would benefit from additional investment. Finally, facilities at the somewhat isolated Clarences/'Bendy Rec' are rated as poor and would very much benefit from improvement.

The Map 'Sub Area Billingham and North Stockton Access and Growth' also shows a notional 10 minute walk catchment centred on existing football venues in secure community use. The Sub Area is quite remote from other major pitch facilities elsewhere and it is therefore important to recognise the need for local provision to meet local needs that would otherwise be frustrated from accessing opportunities elsewhere, due to distance and impediments presented by major road/transport infrastructure.