



Proposed Sports Development: Sports Facilities



Netball facilities to England netball category three standard suitable for local league, school, recreation and community use



Full-size synthetic grass hockey pitch with floodlighting allows intensive use daytime and evening.



Rugby league is played at a very high level at Edge Hill and new facilities will support this.



Natural grass pitches for football and rugby, constructed to a high standard to maximise use and minimise postponements due to bad weather



The University's aim is to develop outdoor sporting facilities which will make it a regional centre of excellence in sports science and provide the students and local community with a state-of-the-art complex for the 21st century.

Why the need for new facilities?

Over the last 14 years, Edge Hill has been able to provide one of the best-equipped sports complexes in West Lancashire and beyond. However, replacement and enhancement is now necessary. Many Higher Education institutions have top quality sports and leisure facilities and are now elite centres of excellence. Edge Hill University wishes to become a regional centre for excellence in at least one, or possibly more, sports to maintain its competitiveness and its record in academic excellence.

The drivers

- Academic excellence and demand
 - The departments of academic sport are rapidly increasing and this is resulting in the existing range and level of sporting facilities being outgrown.
- Student leisure & recreation
 - Edge Hill has significantly fewer sporting clubs than its University peers and the level of current facilities on offer restricts allocated time and the number of clubs in operation. Increasing the range of sporting provision will enable the University to diversify its club base to include activities such as volleyball, tennis, swimming and water-polo, and to enable more time to be allocated to its sporting clubs
 - Broadening the range and quality of sporting facilities at Edge Hill will enable the University to compete in more sports and at a higher standard. It is the University's ambition to be within the top 50 of University sporting rankings within five years and the top 30 within 10 years. Edge Hill is currently 95th out of 142 institutions
 - New and improved sporting facilities will enable and encourage more students to participate in sport during their recreational time.
- Improved community provision
 - More than 160,000 members of the public use the facilities at Sporting Edge each year. Edge Hill plays host to over 50 local community football, rugby, hockey and cricket teams. The University's fitness suite has over 250 members with total visits comprising 35,000 every year. The proposals would offer additional facilities to a higher standard to meet unmet demand and would allow further community activities to be offered.



Facilities will replace and extend those currently enjoyed by the University and will be constructed to current recommended standards of play and finish as required by relevant governing bodies of each sport.

Natural turf

All pitches built to high standards with intensive drainage and irrigation systems to sustain high levels of usage

Athletics infield area. High quality pitch construction with floodlighting, marked and set out for rugby league as replacement for current infield pitch

3nr senior football pitches (100 x 60m)

1nr senior rugby union pitch (130 x 70m)

Synthetics

Athletics. eight lane track with double 10 lane sprint tracks and full suite of field sport facilities. Porous polymeric finish with floodlighting (200 lux)

Netball. 4 nr. Category two courts intended for local league, school, recreation and community use. (Shared use space with tennis). Bitmac with acrylic painted finish, floodlighting (400 lux)

Tennis. 4 nr. Courts intended for local league, school, recreation and community use. (shared use space with netball)). Bitmac with acrylic painted finish, floodlighting (400 lux)

Five-a-side. 3nr courts (40 x 20m) with 3g synthetic carpet, floodlighting (200lux) and perimeter fencing

Hockey. Full sized pitch to F.I.H. Standards with sand-dressed carpet, floodlighting and perimeter fencing

Football. Full sized pitch to football association standards with 3rd generation synthetic carpet, floodlighting and perimeter fencing

Trim trail. 1km long surfaced track with eight exercise stations on route