Artificial Turf Pitch Replacement Options

Surface Option	Sport suitability	Environmental impact considerations/mitigations	Cost	Other Points to Note
Revert back to grass football pitch	Football only – no training or other sports permitted on bookable football pitch unless booking and paying for pitch hire	 Deconstruction of pitch surface and basework - low carbon footprint request within procurement conditions Disposal of existing artificial turf pitch surface – essential within procurement process to ensure safe disposal Ongoing maintenance issues with grass pitch – fertiliser, grass cutting etc 	£280k	 Duration to revert surface back to grass – pressure on remaining grass pitches in Buckie due to transfer of existing synthetic pitch activity onto these pitches (unsustainable) Reduced income generation for Council Reduced usage levels for community clubs
3G to 2G surface (sand based)	Hockey Tennis Recreational football (no affiliated football training or matches permitted)	Disposal of existing artificial turf pitch surface – essential within procurement process to ensure safe disposal	£290 - £320k	 Significant negative impact on income generation and volume of bookings of pitch as not compliant for football usage (this is evident with the Milnes facility which is 2G surface) Due to the above – the ability to relocate all the existing synthetic pitch bookings onto a grass pitch in the area may be unachievable
3G replacement with similar surface replacement	Football Rugby Union & League Lacrosse American Football	 Disposal of existing artificial turf pitch surface – essential within procurement process to ensure safe disposal Shorter pile carpet and reduced infill material required 	£230k	 Adheres to FIFA standards and World Rugby standards No change to usage and income generation levels

Surface Option	Sport suitability	Environmental impact considerations/mitigations	Cost	Other Points to Note
	Recreational hockey Shinty	Additional mitigation measures – perimeter kickboards and gate detox areas		
3G with sandfill material	Football Rugby Union & League Lacrosse American Football Recreational hockey Shinty	 Disposal of existing artificial turf pitch surface – essential within procurement process to ensure safe disposal No polymeric infill material required 	£235k	 Does not meet FIFA and World Rugby standards at this time Due to the above – the ability to relocate all the existing synthetic pitch bookings onto a grass pitch in the area may be unachievable Reduced income generation for Council
3G with olive pip infill, grills and boards	Football Rugby Union & League Lacrosse American Football Recreational hockey Shinty	 Disposal of existing artificial turf pitch surface – essential within procurement process to ensure safe disposal Environmentally friendly infill material 100% plant-based turf infill solution that produces zero waste 	£260k	 Does not meet FIFA and World Rugby standards at this time Due to the above – the ability to relocate all the existing synthetic pitch bookings onto a grass pitch in the area may be unachievable Reduced income generation for Council There are also trials using cork and walnut infill however these are unlikely to be suitable for the wet Scottish climate as these materials would likely float on the surface
4G	As a minimum all the sports mentioned in above	Do not require infill material	N/A	 Technology beyond 3G have not yet been recognised by sports governing bodies Relatively new innovation to the market which struggles to meet

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				 performance testing and safety standards at this current time Not currently available to Local Authorities or on the general market