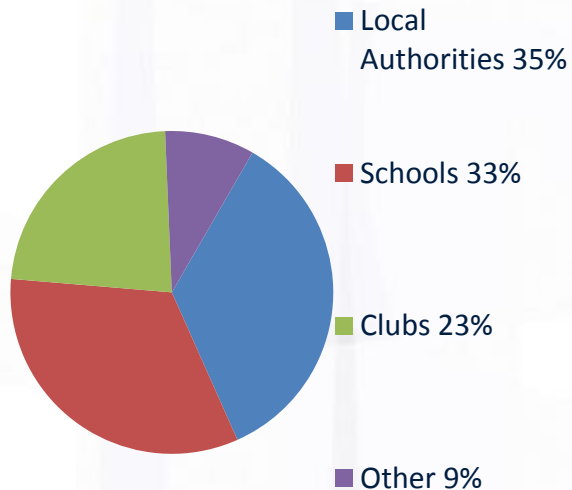


IMPROVEMENT of GRASS PITCHES

Who operates grass pitches



Not a 'one size fits all' solution across the country for LA, Clubs and Education operators

Each operator has different pressures facing them in the current climate

No Quality Standard which all Operators can use to assess pitch quality

Low engagement with digital technology by the grass pitch industry

Need to test different approaches and solutions first to see what works

IMPROVEMENT of GRASS PITCHES

3 POINT PLAN

1

- **Identify priority sites for investment – linked to LFFP's**

2

- **a) Digital assessment tool – self assessment and central support**
- **b) Single quality standard – address the decline in pitch quality**

3

- **Fit for purpose maintenance solutions**
 - a) Online community to share best practice and promote self help - Hive
 - b) 'Pitchmark' to incentivise quality standards and increase income
 - c) Connect service providers and pitch operators to deliver performance based low cost maintenance



Pitch Improvement Pilots

Pilot	Approach
<p>Weed and Feed programme at club and education sites</p>	<p>Analyse existing practices to see if a Weed/feed and aeration programme across 6 sites increase pitch quality and number of games across a season</p> <p><u>Long term</u> - A national weed/feed solution to operators</p>
<p>External grounds maintenance contract review in partnership with local Football and LA</p>	<p>Analyse contract and improve maintenance practices – concentrate on large 3+ sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership approach with contractor ‘Top up’ improves quality • Improved pitch quality by focusing on 3+ sites <p><u>Long term</u> – increase in income covers ‘Top up’ costs</p>
<p>‘Top up’ maintenance services for in-house LA grounds maintenance teams</p>	<p>Analyse pitch specification and carry out top up maintenance programme on key sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Top up’ improves quality <p><u>Long term</u> – increase in income covers ‘top up’ costs</p>