

## Implement plans for the management of sports turf areas

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### Overview

This standard is for those who implement plans for the management of sports turf areas, including the maintenance, renovation and repair of sports turf areas.

You must carry out your work in a way which will minimise the impact on the natural environment and enhance its nature, conservation and recreational value.

If you are working with chemicals or machinery you should be trained and hold certification in accordance with relevant legislation.

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**Performance criteria**

*You must be able to:*

1. assess the risks associated with the site and the proposed works
2. maintain relevant environmental and health and safety legislation and codes of practice
3. inspect, assess and report on the condition of sports turf areas
4. confirm plans for the management of sports turf areas are consistent with the purpose and function of the sports turf, rules of the sport and the specifications
5. determine the resources required to manage sports turf areas
6. implement planned operations for managing sports turf areas
7. assess the need for protection of sports turf areas and provide suitable protection in accordance with the outcome of the assessment
8. monitor planned operations to ensure they meet the specifications
9. assess the results of planned operations confirming that agreed plans and standards have been achieved
10. minimise the risk to the public and operators
11. check the working methods are established and communicated clearly with all those involved in, or affected by the management of sports turf areas
12. maintain working relations with all those involved in, or affected by, your work
13. confirm that the site has been left in a tidy and undamaged condition following operations
14. manage the disposal of waste and excess materials to minimise environmental risk in accordance with relevant legal requirements

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### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

1. how to write and implement a risk assessment 2. the importance of inspecting, assessing and reporting on the condition of sports turf areas 3. the purpose and functions of sports turf and how these affect its management 4. understand the rules of the relevant sports and how they impact on the management of sports turf areas 5. the principles and methods relating to the choice and operation of machinery for sports turf management 6. consideration of soil types and condition in relation to sports turf management 7. the considerations relating to the timing of sports turf management 8. considerations relating to the choice of mowing regimes and other maintenance operations 9. the principles of identifying pathological and physiological disorders of sports turf 10. the principles and techniques relating to the effects, choice and application of fertilisers 11. where to find sources of information on turf treatments 12. the factors affecting the type and extent of repairs and renovation to sports turf areas 13. the methods of monitoring and assessing the effects of sports turf management through data collection 14. the principles and methods of protecting repairs and renovations 15. what risks to the public may be present during sports turf management activities and how to minimise them 16. the relevant legal and organisational requirements controlling the disposal of waste and excess materials 17. the typical problems that may arise and the action to take 18. the statutory requirements for the application of pesticides 19. the importance of maintaining communication with those involved in, or affected by, your work 20. your responsibilities under relevant health and safety legislation and codes of practice 21. the importance of following environmental and ecological best practice to help minimise the impact of your work on the environment

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### Scope/range

A. plan and implement the following sports turf management activity:

1. cutting
2. edging
3. weed
4. pest and disease control
5. fertiliser application
6. aeration
7. top dressing
8. switching/brushing
9. scarifying/verticutting
10. irrigation
11. rolling
12. over-seeding
13. repairing edges

B. implement the following repair and renovation operations:

1. over-seeding
2. inserting turf
3. repairing edges

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**Glossary**

Maintenance plan will include: cutting and edging, weeding, pest and disease control, application of fertiliser, aeration, top dressing, switching/brushing, over-seeding, inserting turf, repairing edges, scarifying/verticutting, irrigation, rolling, setting out equipment appropriate to the sport.

Specifications: drawings, schedules, method statements, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), manufacturers' guidelines, organisational policies.

Sports turf areas, include, for example: football and rugby pitches, cricket pitch, tennis or lacrosse courts, athletics tracks, golf courses, race courses.

Test to collect data: Stimpmeter holing out test, Clegg Hammer bounce test, Moisture meter reading, smoothness and firmness.

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