

ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCH FRAMEWORK APPLICANT GUIDE

2024 – 2028





Contents

1. Introduction

2. The Framework Process

[Stage 1 – Project Brief](#)

[Stage 2 – Desktop Review, DC Site Visit and Topographical Survey](#)

[Stage 3 – Feasibility](#)

[Stage 4 – Design Development and Planning](#)

[Stage 5 – Tender](#)

[Stage 6 – Grant Application / Value Engineering](#)

[Stage 7 – Grant Award / Finalised Design / Contract Award](#)

[Stage 8 – Construction](#)

[Stage 9 – Handover](#)

[Stage 10 – Defects Liability Period](#)

3. General

[FAQs](#)

[Glossary of All Terms \(G.O.A.T\)](#)



1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this guidance is to introduce the Football Foundation Framework for delivering 3G Artificial Grass Pitches (3G AGP's). This document explains what the Framework is and an overview of the process of using it, a more detailed step by step guide can be found in the AGP Suite of Documents within the document titled End to End Process.

The Framework is in its fourth iteration having first been established in 2011 and has been developed as a turn-key package to ensure best value, efficiency and to deliver the level of quality required of grant funded projects. To achieve this the Football Foundation has procured two separate Frameworks, the first for Consultants and the second for the Artificial Grass Pitch Providers (AGPP) which together create the "Framework" and provide the following services to support the delivery of AGP's:

- Design consultancy services;
- Management consultant services;
- Independent testing services;
- Pitch construction

Each Framework is fully compliant and has been procured in accordance with UK Public Sector Procurement Regulations, the contract award notices for each can be found in the AGP Framework Suite of Documents.

The Framework is a collaborative approach to delivering 3G AGP's which is underpinned by the use of the Framework Alliance Contract (FAC-1) and requires all parties to sign up as Alliance Members. It is important to note within the contract that the Football Foundation is referred to as "The Client" and you will join the contract as an "Additional Client" which will enable you to access the Framework.

In terms of your direct contractual links this will be done via Collateral Warranties for the Consultants and via the Call-Off Contract which is the JCT Design and Build Contract including amendments for the AGPP's.

In summary the service that is provided by the Framework is comprehensive and complete, it will take your project from inception to completion, utilising experienced Consultants and Providers to deliver an AGP that is fit for purpose, is certified to FIFA Quality standards and will benefit from a robust performance and materials Framework Warranty provided by the AGPP.

The full suite of AGP Documents to accompany this guide can be found [here](#).



2. THE FRAMEWORK PROCESS

Stage 1 – Preparation & Brief

The Football Foundation's Delivery Manager (DM) will undertake an initial meeting to discuss your project and determine its viability. Once the viability of the project is determined and you have confirmed that you are happy to proceed following review of this guidance you will be introduced to your Football Foundation Technical Project Manager (TPM).

The TPM will undertake their own initial desktop review of the project ensuring that we have all the required information for this stage and that the project is ready to be entered into the AGP Framework.

The TPM will then issue the Project Information Document (PID) along with the Framework Joining Agreement and Framework Fee Undertaking Agreement for your execution/signature.

Please note that until these documents are returned the project cannot be entered into the AGP Framework.

Framework Joining Agreement (JA) – This is a requirement of the [FAC-1](#) which is collaborative contract that all parties sign up to as Alliance Members. It is important to note that within the contract the Football Foundation is referred to as “The Client” and you will join the contract for the duration of the project as an “Additional Client” which will enable you to award a contract to an AGP Provider.

Framework Fee Undertaking Agreement (FUA) – This is a legally enforceable document which sets out that the Foundation agrees to incur framework project development costs up to a maximum of £35k excluding VAT on the understanding that these costs will be promptly repaid should an event occur as outlined in the FUA.

The purpose of the above agreement is to protect the Football Foundation as a Charity, as we need to ensure that our funding is spent appropriately and that we only expend costs in relation to applications by Organisations committed to delivering the planned 3G AGP.

Please be aware that the agreement will only come into effect for an event that is within the control of your Organisation, as we fully appreciate that there are many external factors that can impact the progress of your 3G AGP.

It should also be noted that these costs are usually incurred upfront by the Applicant prior to an application to the Football Foundation, we have however taken this approach in good faith to create efficiencies and a better experience for our Applicants.



Following receipt of the above documentation you will be invited to host an initial meeting at your site with the TPM, this is an important meeting as it establishes the project brief. The TPM will also discuss with you:

- Principal terms and conditions of any funding arrangements
- Scope of your requirements and the requirements of a Framework Project
- Potential site constraints
- The terms of reference for the Design Consultant (DC), Framework Managing Consultant (FMC) and the Specialist Testing Consultant (STC) including duties and forms of appointment
- The standard contractual arrangements and processes to be followed
- An understanding of what makes up the total project costs
- The high-level programme / likely delivery timescales
- Any queries you have on the JA or FUA

Once in receipt of the signed Joining Agreement and Framework Fee Undertaking Agreement the TPM will instruct one of the two Design Consultants (DC) and the Framework Managing Consultant (FMC).

The DC will then carry out a Desk Top Review and Utility Search of the site as part of the feasibility and provide an indicative fee proposal for the project survey and design development costs.

Who is the DC?

The Football Foundation has procured two design consultants to provide survey, design and planning services.

The two appointed consultants are Surfacing Standards Limited (SSL) and Labosport Limited, both are specialist sports pitch design consultants with a wealth of experience in the design and delivery of sports pitches.

The DC your pitch. The DC will take your project from initial feasibility, through design and submission of the planning application.

Once planning permission has been approved the project will be handed over to the FMC to tender the project to the six AGPP's.

The TPM will be responsible for the appointment of the DC to ensure equality and efficiencies but please do let your TPM know if you have previously appointed one of the DC's to undertake works in relation to the proposed AGP. As they may be best placed to take the project forward.



Stage 2 – Desktop Review, DC Site Visit and Topographical Survey

The DC will share with the project team the completed Desktop Review and Utility Search which will provide a brief assessment on project viability.

It is important to note at this point that there is a budgeted amount covered by the FUA of £30,891 for site surveys which will be paid for directly by the Football Foundation. On rare occasions the fee proposal will exceed this allowance which indicates that there are either abnormal ground conditions or site constraints which require further consideration/investigation over and above what is usually expected to deliver a 3G AGP.

Please see breakdown below in relation to the survey work and services of the DC:

Item	Cost
Site Investigation Surveys	£12,500
Site Specific Surveys	£10,000
Frameworks Design Consultant Fee	£8,391
Framework Managing Consultant Fee	£4,109

Any recommendation for additional survey works will be reviewed by the TPM and discussed with you in order to agree the best way forward. If it is agreed that the project is still viable the TPM will require written confirmation that you are happy to pay the proposed extra over cost before providing further instruction to the DC.

To limit the cost risk to the Football Foundation ground investigation works will be carried out prior to any site-specific surveys to confirm buildability and ensure that no unnecessary costs are incurred should the survey conclude that the project is undeliverable due to ground conditions.

Once the above review has been completed the TPM will instruct the DC to carry out a site visit and undertake a topographical survey of the proposed location of the 3G AGP.

The site visit is the first point that you will meet the DC and is an important step in the process to discuss your project. Please prepare for this meeting so that you can share your knowledge of the site with the DC.



Stage 3 – Feasibility

The first part of the feasibility will see the DC arrange an initial design review meeting which will be held online. The DC will then share and discuss their initial design proposals with the project team. The meeting will be attended by DC, TPM, FMC, Additional Client and minutes of the meeting will distributed by the DC.

The meeting should cover the design layout, any alternate solutions, construction approaches, cost implications and programme with the purpose being to agree the scope of works and location of the pitch.

Once agreement has been reached by all parties the DC will provide an updated fee proposal to undertake the feasibility and design stage including the cost of the ground investigation and site-specific surveys.

On completion of the surveys the feasibility report will be shared with the project team. The report will include the interpretation of surveys, site/layout plan(s), design considerations and development of the specification.

You will then be asked to review the feasibility report and agree with the TPM on the preferred proposal. Once agreed the TPM will instruct the DC to proceed with the - detailed -design and planning application.

It is at the stage that the FMC will undertake a review of the design proposal as part of their Principal Designer Risk Review.



Stage 4 – Design Development and Planning

The DC will undertake the site-specific surveys, complete the detailed design and prepare the planning application for submission to the Local Planning Authority (LPA). Once the application is ready this will be shared with the project team for final sign off prior to submission to the LPA.

A bespoke programme for completion will be provided for your project by the DC.

The DC will submit the planning application and advise the project team of validation by the LPA and the proposed determination date. During this period the DC will respond to any planning queries for further information and provide regular updates to the project team.

Please note that it is the responsibility of the Applicant to pay the planning application fee.

The FMC will also provide notification to the AGPP's allowing them to contact yourselves to undertake a site visit ahead of the tender issue at Stage 5.

Once planning permission is granted the DC will begin the process of discharging any pre-commencement conditions excluding those that can only be discharged by the AGPP such as the Construction Phase Plan.

The FMC will begin drafting the tender documentation ahead of the instruction of the tender exercise at Stage 5.

The DC will notify the project team once the planning conditions have discharged and provide the project documentation to the FMC for incorporation into the tender pack.

It is at this point that the services of the DC are complete, and a project feedback form will be issued to you for completion and return within 15 working days.

The Football Foundation would really appreciate your feedback to monitor the performance of the DC, enabling us to identify improvements to the Framework and provide the best experience for our Applicants.



Stage 5 – Tender

It is at this point the project is essentially handed over from the DC to the FMC. The FMC will work collaboratively with the project team to identify the most cost-effective design solution, track/monitor the progress of the project and perform the role of Principal Designer.

Who is the FMC?

The Football Foundation has appointed one Framework Managing Consultant to provide cost consultant, contract administration, employers agent and principal designer services to projects procured via the AGP Framework.

The FMC is Mark G. Anderson Consultants (MGAC) a national construction and property consultant and has worked on four successive AGP frameworks over a twelve-year period, with a dedicated AGP Framework team based in its offices in Birmingham.

The FMC is responsible for managing the project through the process in conjunction with the TPM and will also perform the role of principal designer. The FMC's main responsibility will be for taking your project from the procurement (tender) stage right through to the end of defects where they will provide the services mentioned above and ensure the project meets the requirements of the Framework.

It should be noted that the FMC role does not provide a project management role as this is not required to successfully deliver a project via the Framework, their role does take into account some aspects of this role, but their main focus and service agreement is to provide cost consultant, employers agent services and Principal Designer Construction Design and Management (CDM) duties to you the Additional Client.

Please also note that the role of the FMC is only in relation to the delivery of the 3G AGP and ancillary works that are of similar nature, any works outside of this scope of service such as building works will require the appointment of an alternate Consultant.

A "Single Stage Design & Build" Approach

All awards of work will involve a "Competitive Award" procedure and competition will take place once the FMC has issued the tender pack which will incorporate the documentation provided by the DC to the six AGPP's.

Each AGPP shall respond to the "Invitation to Tender", submit a lump sum as a "Guaranteed Maximum Price" (GMP) and will adopt the design provided by the DC.

On receipt of the tender returns the FMC will undertake a tender evaluation based on the Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT) criteria and issue a tender report and their recommendation for approval by the Additional Client and TPM.

The Fixed Price is based on the AGPP receiving a contract award no later than 60 days post the proposed Grant Award Decision Date. It is therefore important that you liaise



with the TPM to ensure the project is ready to go by this date, to avoid any unnecessary cost uplifts which, post award will need to met in full by yourselves as the Additional Client.

Who is the AGPP?

The Football Foundation has appointed six Artificial Grass Pitch Providers (AGPP's) to construct pitches procured via the AGP Framework.

The AGPP's are specialist synthetic turf manufacturers who embody the values of the Football Foundation and will work as part of an integrated project team to deliver mutual objectives for successful project outcomes. Most of the AGPP's on the Framework have a contracting partner to deliver the construction works. Your contract will be with one of the synthetic turf manufacturers. The six AGPP's are:

- Field Turf (with S&C Slatter)
- Lano Sports (with Cleveland Land Services)
- Saltex Oy (with PST Sport)
- Sports and Leisure Group NV (with Hunts Contractors and Tony Patterson Sports Grounds)
- Support In Sport
- Tiger Turf (with McArdle Sport-Tec)

Each AGPP is also expected to work collaboratively with each other, in achieving a number of Framework Objectives, those being:

- Environmental Considerations
- Training & Employment
- Local Supply Chain Engagement
- Commitment to Framework Initiatives
- Commitment to Framework Collaboration
- Social Value

The AGPP is the Alliance Member that you will enter into a contract with and who is ultimately responsible for the design, manufacture and installation of the AGP in accordance with the requirements of the Framework and Design & Build Contract.



Stage 6 – Grant Application / Value Engineering

The FMC will- notify the preferred AGPP within 30 days of tender submission of the proposed contract award which is subject to grant approval by the Football Foundation.

It is at this point your grant application from a technical point of view is ready to be submitted and will be assessed before presentation to The Football Foundation Grants Panel.

The rationale behind notifying the AGPP prior to a decision on your grant application is to ensure that the project is in a position to start on site within 60 days of the proposed Panel Date.

In order to achieve this the AGPP will begin/complete the process of discharging any remaining pre-commencement conditions that couldn't be discharged by the DC and required the input of the AGPP. This will require a Letter of Intent (LOI) to be issued by you the Additional Client for the value of these works which will be drafted for signature/execution by the FMC.

It is also during this stage that the AGPP has the opportunity to engineer/amend the design prior to contract award. Please rest assured that any amendments must be approved by the Additional Client and TPM prior to the submission of a non-material planning amendment (NMA) to the LPA.

The reason why the AGPP is afforded this option is to utilise their experience of delivering AGP's and to ensure that the most cost-effective solution is being delivered. In the event a more cost-effective solution is identified then any saving will be shared 50/50 between the Additional Client/Football Foundation and AGPP.



Stage 7 – Grant Award / Finalised Design / Contract Award

Should you receive a grant offer from the Football Foundation the project can then move forward, and the construction phase can begin once any planning and grant offer conditions have been discharged. It is best practice to liaise with your TPM in relation to any proposed conditions of award pro-actively prior to award, so post award these can be discharged without delay and the LOI can be issued within 60-days to the AGPP.

Please note that any grant award will be based on the cost included within the original tender return, if a NMA is approved or there are design changes within stage 6 the cost saving will be reviewed by the FMC and incorporated into a revised proposed contract sum for agreement of the Additional Client and TPM.

Once the proposed contract sum is agreed the FMC will then prepare and issue the JCT Design & Build Contract which will include start and completion dates for execution by the Additional Client and AGPP.

This is the start of the mobilisation period for the AGPP where they place orders, arrange the workforce and plan for works ahead of the agreed start on site date. The start on site date should be within eight weeks of the contract award, if the NMA is not approved by this date, the project is to proceed as per the original Planning Permission.



Stage 8 – Construction

This is the stage where the AGPP takes the responsibility for the successful delivery of your 3G AGP and will begin with a pre-start meeting held at your site. The meeting will be chaired by the FMC, and you will be invited to attend, along with the Football Foundation and the AGPP. It is an opportunity to:

- Clarify roles, responsibilities and lines of communication
- Hand over outstanding documents and issue outstanding information
- Discuss the programme and agree start and completion dates
- Agree procedures for dealing with queries and issuing instructions
- Agree site access procedures and issues.
- Agree meeting schedules, meeting structures and attendees.

The project will then start on site on the agreed date and will be delivered in accordance with the construction programme which for a standard community 3G AGP is around 14-16 weeks.

The FMC will administer the building contract and arrange progress meetings, process monthly interim valuations, H&S audit visits and issue any contract instructions/notices.

The Specialist Testing Consultant (STC) will carry out inspections and testing during construction to ensure the pitch is being built to the requirements of the Framework.

The AGPP, DC, FMC and STC are all bound by the terms of the Framework agreement which dictates the processes that they must follow and the quality standards that they must meet to ensure the successful delivery of your AGP.

Who is the Specialist Testing Consultant?

The Foundation has appointed one specialist testing consultant to provide Key Stage Inspections (KSI) and testing services to projects procured via the AGP Framework.

The STC is Sports Labs who are leading international experts in sports surface development and testing they are fully accredited and certify hundreds of products for FIFA, World Rugby, and Fédération Internationale de Hockey in addition to countless other quality control tests.

During construction the STC will visit your site and complete KSI's to ensure the construction of your pitch is to a high standard and meets the requirements of the Framework. The AGPP cannot move onto the next stage of construction until it has successfully passed the KSI with the final test will be to certify your pitch to the FIFA Quality Standard, all visits will be arranged directly the AGPP by the STC. Please note that the fees for the services of the STC will be paid directly by the Football Foundation.



Stage 9 – Handover

This is the really exciting stage....

The AGPP will first notify the Additional Client, STC and FMC of the proposed handover date of the 3G AGP so that the final Key Stage Inspections and handover meeting can be arranged by the STC and FMC.

The STC will firstly arrange to visit the site either before or at handover to inspect the floodlight installation/lux levels and also undertake the all-important field test to certify that the pitch has achieved the required standard of FIFA Quality which will confirm that the pitch is suitable for affiliated football and can be placed on The FA 3G Register.

The FMC will arrange the handover meeting which will be undertaken on the day of handover on site and is to be attended by the AGPP, FMC, Additional Client and Football Foundation.

It is important to note that the handover meeting itself will be undertaken in two parts, the snagging inspection usually held prior to the meeting and then the handover meeting both of which are to be led by the FMC.

The AGPP will provide a on field demonstration of how to use your new maintenance equipment, which is provided as part of the Framework, this should be ideally demonstrated to as many operatives as possible at your Organisation.

The AGPP will also provide the O&M Manuals and the signed Framework Warranty for the AGP which will be reviewed by the FMC. If all is in order these will then be issued to you as the Additional Client along with the health and safety file for the project.

It is important that you review and understand the O&M Manuals which contain information relating to the construction, use, product and maintenance details to ensure the health and safety of users and the longevity of your AGP.

The meeting will then conclude and the FMC will advise if the project has reached practical completion and the pitch can be handed over which brings the construction phase of the project to an end and possession of the site will be passed back into your control, the pitch can then be used and you be able to [plan your opening event](#) to showcase your fantastic new facility.

On their return to office the FMC will issue the Practical Completion Certificate which may include a snagging items list which will need to be rectified as part of the terms of the contract by the AGPP.

It is at this point that the project feedback forms will be issued for the services of the FMC and AGPP, for completion and return within 15 working days by the Additional Client.



The Foundation would really appreciate your feedback to monitor the performance of the FMC and AGPP, to understand lessons learned and to identify improvements to the Framework to provide the best experience for our Applicants.



Stage 10 – Defects Liability Period

This stage lasts for 12 months following handover and is known as the ‘Defects Period’.

During this time should your new pitch show any defects you should notify the FMC, who will record each issue and create a defects list. If the issue needs early/urgent attention, the FMC will arrange for the AGPP to attend site and correct said defect(s), otherwise the list of issues will be addressed at the end of the defects period.

While you will be responsible for the daily/weekly maintenance of your pitch, as part of the Framework the AGPP will return to your pitch four/six times in the first year to undertake more detailed maintenance procedures. After this first year you will be responsible for putting in place a robust specialist maintenance programme to ensure the longevity of your AGP.

You will retain 2.5% of the Contract Sum for this 12-month period to ensure the AGPP returns to remedy any defects promptly. At the end of this stage the STC will return to site and do their final field performance test, and the FMC will also return to site, carry out a final inspection and issue the final making good of defects completion certificate. At this time the FMC will also certify that the retention sum should be released, and you will receive a final invoice for this amount from the AGPP.

The AGPP will continue to visit every six months from the date of handover for a period of three years to inspect the pitch and provide written reports on its condition. This advice will make sure you are in the best position to maintain the high quality of your asset and to ensure ongoing compliance with the grant award conditions.



3. General

Frequently Asked Questions?

Does my Organisation have to use the Framework?

Yes, it is a requirement of any funding application to be submitted to the Football Foundation that your 3G AGP has been procured utilising the AGP Framework.

Does my Organisation need to appoint any other Consultants?

The Framework is essentially a “turn-key” package that provides a comprehensive and complete service that will take your project from inception to completion without the need for the appointment of further Consultants by the Additional Client.

What if my Organisation does not want to sign the Joining Agreement (JA) or Framework Fee Undertaking?

In order to use the Framework then contractually your Organisation must first join the Framework as an Additional Client, if your Organisation does not want to sign the FUA then you can still proceed but the services to be provided by the DC and FMC will need to be covered in full by you.

Once the project is entered into the Framework how long will it be before work start on site?

If your project is entering at the start of the Framework process, then it will take a period of up to 18-months before your project is ready for works to start on site. Timescales are dependent on the complexity of the project and the planning process, so just to be aware that in some rare instances the process can take longer than 18-months.

My project is a refurbishment of an existing facility what will happen to the surface?

All component parts of the synthetic turf system will be disposed of utilising a Synthetic Turf Recycling Company from the Football Foundations Approved List.

All Companies on the approved list hold environmental permits for waste operation required to store and treat artificial turf as required by UK Legislation which ensures that your pitch is recycled and not disposed of in any other way or repurposed for anything other than its original intended use.



My Organisation would like to install a 3G AGP with an alternative sustainable infill can this be done via the Framework?

No. The Football Foundation is currently undertaking research to determine the viability of alternative systems. Further information on the future of 3G pitches can be found [here](#).

What is the Football Foundations position in relation to environmental concerns of 3G AGP's?

The Football Foundation has issued a joint position statement as part of a collaboration between key stakeholders in response to questions and concerns regarding 'third generation' (3G) artificial grass pitches which can be read [here](#).

Is the Football Foundation aware of EU legislation banning the future sale of rubber crumb?

Yes. Countries within the EU will no longer be able to purchase rubber infill from October 2031.

In terms of England, Scotland and Wales, the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) have commissioned an evidence project to review emissions of intentionally added microplastics in the UK, including rubber infill. The project is expected to report in spring 2025 and will inform any future regulatory actions.

Are the pitches designed to mitigate infill loss into the local environment?

Yes, the Football Foundation has taken proactive steps to mitigate infill migration, more information on these measures can be found [here](#).

Before a Football Foundation grant award what is my financial risk?

Risk is minimal as the Football Foundation has agreed to pay the framework project development costs up to a maximum of £35,000. Providing you don't pull out of the process for reasons deemed to be within your control the financial risk will be limited to the planning application fee and any costs incurred over and above the £35,000 development costs.

Deliverability is reviewed at each step to ensure that no unnecessary cost or time is expended on a project that becomes unviable at any point through the process.

What happens if my Organisation decides not to continue with the project pre-contract?

Please refer to the Framework Fee Undertaking Agreement.



How do we guarantee Best Value?

To provide you with a facility that provides both high quality and best value, the AGP Framework has been procured via a competitive process in accordance with UK Public Sector Procurement Regulations. This means:

- The services of the FMC, DC and STC were procured on an “all market” compliant tender process and the resulting fee levels are fixed at very competitive levels;
- The AGPP’s were also procured via an “all market” competitive tender process and the six AGPP’s were selected on a Most Economically Advantageous Tender criteria;
- Your project will go through a mini tender process with the six AGPP’s invited to tender, resulting in competitive fixed price returns.

Can my Organisation amend the construction contract?

At the start of the process, you need to ensure that you have reviewed the contract and are happy with its contents, as it cannot be amended. The form of contract has been specifically selected for the Framework and has been successfully used to deliver hundreds of 3G pitches.

What if there is a disagreement with the AGPP?

In the spirit and ethos of the Framework any contractual matters such as delays, variations or claims will be dealt with via discussion and agreement between parties. A formal contractual approach will only be taken as a last resort.

How long is the construction programme for a 3G AGP?

The typical construction programme of a single community 3G pitch requires a 4-week lead-in period and 14-16 weeks on site. This can vary however due to site specifics and any other ancillary works being carried out as part of the project.

What is life expectancy of a 3G pitch?

This is dependent on many factors such as usage levels, correct footwear, maintenance and climatic conditions but typically it should last 10-12 years before the surface needs to be replaced.



Why does my Organisation need to appoint a specialist pitch maintenance company?

Included within the Framework specification is a 12-months maintenance contract. This typically includes 6 visits where specialist maintenance procedures will be carried out. It is a requirement of the grant award that you continue with a specialist maintenance provider during the life of your pitch to ensure its longevity and that performance standards are sustained.

Why does my pitch have to remain on the FA 3G Pitch Register?

This is to ensure that the pitch remains fit for purpose throughout its life, is safe to use and meets expected performance standards required for affiliated football. This will mean you can continue to meet the aims and objectives of the grant awarded to you by the Football Foundation.

Will my Organisation be required recycle the surface at the end of its usable life?

Yes. At the end-of-life all elements of the artificial turf system (shock pad, stabilising infill, performance infill and carpet) should be disposed of through a recycling operator holding an environmental permit for a waste operation to store and treat artificial turf. This will be a condition of a grant award from the Football Foundation.

What is the AGP Framework Warranty?

The AGP Framework Warranty is robust and fit for purpose for a deprecating product that ensures high performing, quality products being installed on the AGP Framework.

The Warranty is in two parts:

- Pitch Performance
- Materials - which is in addition to the standard materials and construction warranty provided within the Call-Off Contract – JCT Design & Build Contract (DB2016) with amendments.

The Pitch Performance element is a depreciating warranty which is provided over an 8-year period from the installation date of the surface, this provides 100% cover for the first 24-months and after the first 24-months the liability shall be limited to a percentage based on the time remaining on the 8-year warranty.

The material element is none deprecating and covers element such as the shock pad (20 years), drainage (16 years), base and sub-base (20 years) and ancillary items (10 years) which all have to meet set requirements for the period stated under the Framework Warranty.

Should you wish to review a copy of the Framework Warranty in more detail, this can be provided on request by your Technical Project Manager.



Can my Organisation access the AGP Framework if they are not submitting a funding application to the Football Foundation?

Yes, and The AGP Framework can be accessed by the Football Foundation, The Football Association, The Rugby Football Union, The Rugby Football League, England Hockey, Applicants for Awards to Sport England, English Sports Council, Community Sports Clubs, National Governing Bodies (of Sport) and their Applicants, Central Government Bodies, Sports Councils, Local Authorities (England, Scotland, Wales & Northern Ireland), Education Bodies in the UK (Including Maintained Schools, Academies, Free Schools, University Technical Colleges, Further & Higher Education Establishments), - Cymru Football Foundation, The Scottish FA and Irish Football Association.



Glossary of All Terms

3G – Refers to ‘Third generation’ These surfaces are made up of long pile synthetic grass yarn with a mix of sand and rubber infill. This gives the unique texture of natural grass and provides even play. The “rubber crumb” has shock absorbent qualities and also helps to keep the synthetic grass upright.

Artificial Grass Pitch Provider (**AGPP**) – The AGGP is a manufacturer of artificial grass surfaces and will be the organisation that you will be contracted to for the construction of your pitch. The AGGP will utilise a contracting partner to carry out the works.

Alliance Member – Is the terminology used within the FAC-1 contract to describe the Organisations that are responsible for delivering pitches via the AGP Framework.

Design Consultant (DC) - Is the consultant that is responsible for the design of your pitch and will act in the role of Lead Designer. The DC will be responsible for taking your project from the initial feasibility stage right through to obtain planning permission and discharging the associated planning conditions.

Framework Alliance Contract (**FAC-1**) - is a versatile standard form framework alliance contract which:

- enables a client and its team to obtain better results from a framework
- helps to integrate a team into an alliance
- works in conjunction with any project contract form in any sector and in any jurisdiction.

Framework - A general phrase for agreements with providers that set out terms and conditions under which agreements for specific purchases (known as call off contracts) can be made throughout the term of the agreement in particular with regard to price, quality and the quantity envisaged.

Framework Managing Consultant (FMC) - The FMC's main responsibility will be to take your project from the tender stage through to the end of defects. They will ensure the project meets the requirements of the Framework.

FIFA Quality - The FIFA Quality Programme for Football Turf certifies artificial surfaces used in football. It evaluates durability, safety, and performance, and caters to recreational, training, and grassroots football applications. The program ensures that the turf can handle 40-60 hours of play per week, FIFA awards the FIFA QUALITY mark to pitches that meet these standards.

Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) - A guaranteed maximum price contract sets a limit, or maximum price, that the client will have to pay their supplier, regardless of the actual costs incurred. In its simplest form, a guaranteed maximum price contract simply puts a cap on the contract price that can't be exceeded.



Most Economically Advantageous Tender (M.E.A.T) - Is a method of assessment that can be used as the selection procedure, allowing the client to award the contract based on aspects of the tender submission other than just price. The AGP Framework sets out the MEAT criteria.

Principal Designer – In the UK, construction projects are governed by a comprehensive set of regulations and standards designed to ensure the health and safety of all individuals involved. One of the pivotal roles in this regulatory framework is that of the Principal Designer (PD). Introduced by the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM 2015), the Principal Designer holds the responsibility for managing and coordinating health and safety during the pre-construction phase of a project. This role is crucial in identifying, eliminating, and controlling foreseeable risks that may arise during construction, maintenance, and use of a building once completed. This role is performed on your behalf by the FMC.

Project Information Document (PID) – This is a high-level document that clearly sets out the overarching goals and requirements for the project and any special requirements or constraints that may impact on the design and management of the facility.

Project Team - You, the Football Foundation, FMC, DC, STC and the AGPP make up the Project Team.

Specialist Testing Consultant (STC) - Independent organisation that tests the construction of the pitch at key stages throughout the project and undertakes the pitch performance test.

UK Public Sector Procurement Regulations - The Framework has been procured in accordance with these regulations which establishes public procurement rules throughout the UK and apply to any public purchases above the defined thresholds.

***For more information, please email:
tom.salisbury@footballfoundation.org.uk***

