

Football teams in Islington, north London have been saved thanks to the redevelopment of local football pitches and a pavilion by architecture, sports and leisure firm LK2.

THE new £2m Islington Football Pavilion has saved 127 local teams.

The high profile scheme was delivered by LK2 for London Borough of Islington Council in a bid to provide new fit for purpose facilities.

The new facilities have already had a huge impact on the community, preventing 99 youth football teams in the area from dispersing and helped to support 28 adult teams.

The scope of works included the full redevelopment of the site to include two full size third generation football turf pitches (FTP), three new small sided 3G FTP's and the construction of a metal clad modern changing room facility for the local community.

"Islington Borough Council's investment in Market Road has resulted in a fantastic boost in the community's morale and a positive attitude to sport. We are really proud of the final outcome of the Market

Road project – not only is the building a high spec facility, but the scheme has also enabled so many local teams to continue and that is the grass roots of football and where the next generation of footballers come from so we are delighted," said Andrew Kitchen, director at LK2.

"We worked hard to look at the needs of the area, and how this facility would be a proud addition to the community. We were able to ensure that the building was both energy efficient and robust, which was an important aspect of the project and the client's brief. We are excited to see the site's future, and we hope it attracts more people locally to engage with football and positive community participation."

The project achieved a 30 per cent reduction in its carbon footprint, which was one of Islington Borough Council's priorities for the redevelopment. The project also saw LK2 replacing the first artificial pitches ever laid in London – which was a significant milestone for the firm and the region.

The project utilises the most up to date environmental efficient technologies including an underground rain water harvesting system.

The development has been designed to support the council's positive plan to encourage local people to engage with football – the council is aiming to grow the number of teams using the site to over 200.

www.lk2.co.uk