

Oldham

Local

Development

Framework

**Open Space Study
Steps One and Two**

September 2006



Oldham
Council

Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council

PPG 17 Local Needs Assessment and Audit

A Final Report
by PMP
September 2006

strategy finance delivery



OLDHAM 
Metropolitan Borough 

OLDHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL

OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STUDY



A

FINAL REPORT

BY

PMP

SEPTEMBER 2006

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background

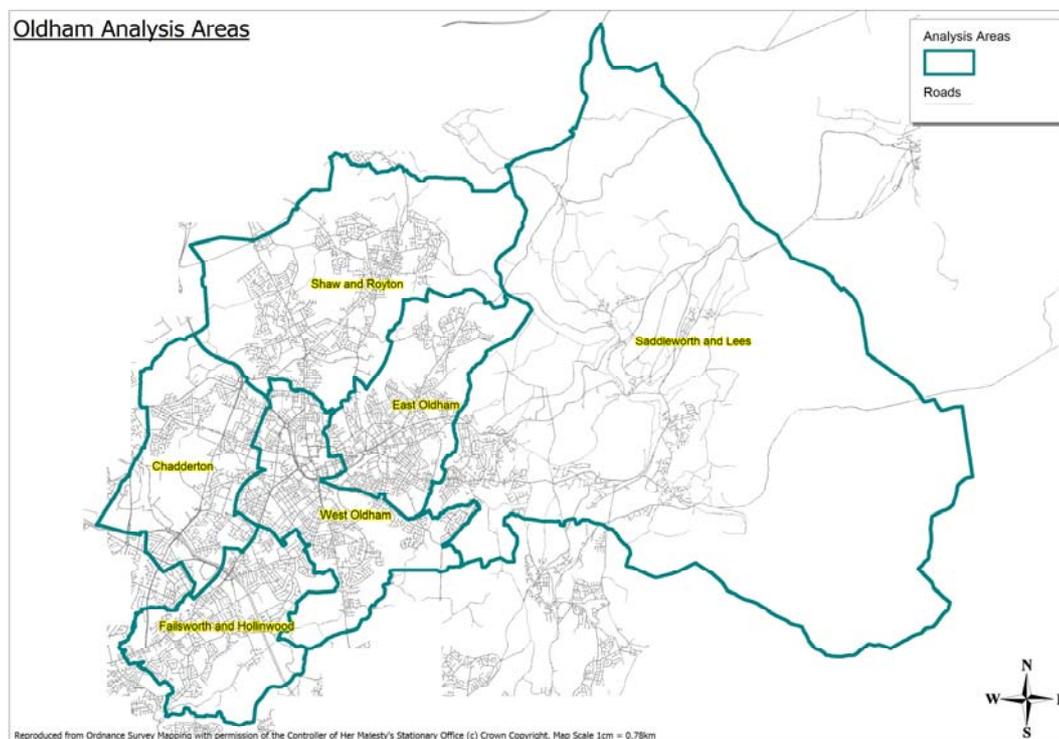
- i. PMP were appointed to undertake a local needs assessment and audit of open space, sport and recreation facilities across the Borough of Oldham in accordance with the requirements of the latest Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 (Planning for Open Space Sport and Recreation, July 2002) and its Companion Guide (September 2002).
- ii. The Council commissioned PMP to undertake steps one and two of the five-step process outlined in the Companion Guide (and below). Recommendations for local provision standards (step 3) have also been provided. The steps of PPG17 are specifically:
 - Step 1 – Identifying Local Needs;
 - Step 2 – Auditing Local Provision;
 - Step 3 – Setting Provision Standards;
 - Step 4 – Applying Provision Standards; and
 - Step 5 – Drafting Policies – recommendations and strategic priorities.
- iii. It is the intention that the Council will then use the recommended local standards of provision to identify surpluses and deficiencies, draw up strategic options and prepare policies to be incorporated into the Local Development Framework.
- iv. The study considers nine typologies of open space, including:
 - parks and gardens;
 - natural and semi natural urban green spaces;
 - green corridors;
 - outdoor sports;
 - amenity greenspace;
 - provision for children and teenagers;
 - allotments and community gardens;
 - cemeteries and churchyards; and
 - civic spaces.
- v. The analysis has therefore been undertaken by type of open space looking at different areas across the local authority boundary. These are referred to as analysis areas. The use of analysis areas allows examination of data at a more detailed local level, and provides a geographical background to the analysis.
- vi. The analysis areas are based on the wards that make up the Borough of Oldham. The wards have been amalgamated into six analysis areas. These have been highlighted in the table overleaf:



Table i - Analysis areas and relevant wards

Area Number	Ward Name	Population	Analysis Area
2	Chadderton Central	10,784	Chadderton
	Chadderton North	10,269	Chadderton
	Chadderton South	10,061	Chadderton
	Area TOTAL	31,114	
5	St. James	9,684	East Oldham
	St. Marys	10,785	East Oldham
	Waterhead	12,876	East Oldham
	Area TOTAL	33,345	
3	Failsworth East	10,728	Failsworth
	Failsworth West	9,827	Failsworth
	Hollinwood	9,910	Failsworth
	Area TOTAL	30,465	
4	Crompton	11,066	Royton
	Royton North	10,588	Royton
	Royton South	10,373	Royton
	Shaw	10,655	Royton
	Area TOTAL	42,682	
1	Lees	10,132	Saddleworth
	Saddleworth East	13,042	Saddleworth
	Saddleworth West	11,309	Saddleworth
	Area TOTAL	34,483	
6	Alexandra	11,159	West Oldham
	Coldhurst	11,935	West Oldham
	St. Pauls	10,496	West Oldham
	Werneth	11,594	West Oldham
	Area TOTAL	45,184	
TOTAL		217,273	

Map i.i – Analysis area map



- vii. The study includes an audit of all accessible open spaces of these typologies (regardless of ownership) throughout the settlement boundaries in Oldham, providing a robust baseline of data, indicating priorities for future open space,

recreation and sport provision and assisting the future development of appropriate strategies and planning policies.

- viii. The key elements of the study include:
- to provide a comprehensive audit of existing provision of all types of open space, sporting and recreational facilities in terms of quantity, quality, accessibility and wider value to the community;
 - identify local needs and aspirations through a series of consultations, strategic reviews at a national, regional and local level and review of existing provision standards; and
 - recommend standards of provision (quantity, quality and accessibility) in accordance with Planning Policy Guidance Note17 (PPG17) Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation (2002).
- ix. Full details of the methodology and standard setting process can be found in sections 2 – 15 of the report. The recommended local standards, key issues and recommendations for each typology are summarised below.

Parks and gardens

Standards

Quantity Standard	0.26 ha per 1000 population
Accessibility Standard	15 minute walk time - (720 metres) 20 minute walk time for parks above 15ha - (960 metres)
Quality Vision	A welcoming, clean and litter free site providing a one-stop community facility, which is accessible to all and has a range of leisure, recreational and enriched play opportunities for an appropriate range of ages. Parks and gardens should be well maintained, providing varied vegetation, clear pathways, appropriate lighting and ancillary accommodation (including seating, toilets and litter bins) and well-signed to and within the site. Sites should be safe and secure and were appropriate have ranger / warden presence to further improve the security of the facilities
Quality Benchmark	80%

Key issues

- x. The key issues emerging from the review of the provision of parks and gardens across Oldham Borough and the assessment of local needs can be summarised as:
- the **quality of parks and garden** in Oldham is higher than other types of open space in the Borough, in general the quality of this type of provision is consistent across all areas. An exception to this are sites within Failsworth and Hollinwood and West Oldham, consultation suggesting that these are varied in quality;
 - consultation with residents highlights the importance of good quality parks and is often the key determinant for the level of use. Cleanliness and maintenance is perceived to be the critical factor in determining the quality of a park, whilst some residents have sites experienced vandalism and litter at parks in the Borough, contributing to quality factors that need to be considered for this type of open space;
 - significant improvements made to the stock of parks and gardens in recent years are valued by local residents;
 - the **quantity of parks and gardens** are evenly distributed across the Borough although there is a higher level of provision in Royton and Shaw, given the size of the population;
 - consultation suggests that the quality and accessibility of sites is more important than the level of provision;

- consideration of providing **accessible parks** that are near-by is under pinned through the preferred method of travel to this open space site (walking), highlighting the importance of an even distribution; and
- poor consideration for people with disabilities and a lack of signage to and within sites was highlighted as key issues with regard to the accessibility of sites.

Natural and Semi Natural Open Space

Standards

Quantity Standard	1.80 ha per 1000 population
Accessibility Standard	15 minute walk (720m)
Quality Vision	A spacious, clean, well vegetated, litter free site with clear pathways and natural features that encourages wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental awareness. Management of local sites should involve the community if at all possible and a ranger presence should be encouraged to embrace community safety
Quality Benchmark	72%

Key issues

- xi. The key issues emerging from the review of the provision of natural and semi-natural provision across Oldham Borough and the assessment of local needs can be summarised as:
- the overall **quality of natural and semi-natural areas** is poor with a significant number of sites scoring poor or very poor;
 - key problem areas relating to quality are poor maintenance, litter problems and general mis-use of the areas. Given the overall quality of this type of open space and comparison to the quality of other typologies, this may be an area for improvement;
 - the quantity of **provision of natural areas** in Oldham is very good with several large sites within the Borough;
 - quality is perceived to be a more significant issue than quantity;
 - the majority of residents would **expect to walk to natural areas** highlighting the importance of an even distribution across the Borough, however, people are willing to travel further to reach larger, better quality sites such as the Peak District National Park; and
 - poor consideration for people with disabilities and a lack of signage to and within sites were considered important accessibility factors for this type of open space.

Amenity Green Space

Standards

Quantity Standard	0.46ha per 1000 population
Accessibility Standard	10 minute walk (480m)
Quality Vision	A clean and well-maintained greenspace site. Sites should have appropriate ancillary furniture (dog and litter bins etc), pathways and landscaping in the right places providing a safe secure site with spacious outlook which enhances the appearance of the local environment. Larger sites should be suitable for informal play opportunities and should be enhanced to encourage the site to become a community focus
Quality Benchmark	75%

Key issues

- xii. The key issues emerging from the review of the provision amenity greenspace provision across Oldham Borough and the assessment of local needs can be summarised as:
- cleanliness and on-going maintenance are perceived to be the critical factors in determining the **quality of amenity areas**. Vandalism and anti-social behaviour are the key issues experienced at sites;
 - general quality of sites varies considerably across the Borough, Failsworth and Hollinwood, Chadderton and East Oldham have less quality sites than the other areas in Oldham. Their visual amenity function makes quality factors an important factor for this type of open space;
 - the **provision and size of amenity greenspace** varies considerably over the Borough, where in some instances there are a high proportion of sites that are smaller and less significant;
 - maintenance and quality of spaces is considered more important than number of sites. These areas are valued by local people and pressure for housing development on these sites is a key concern;
 - **access to amenity greenspace** sites is a key issue, particularly within the inner wards of Oldham, due to the high density of terraced housing;
 - residents would expect to access these spaces by walking, again, highlighting the significance of having an even distribution through out the Borough, which is evident from the current level of provision; and
 - issues relating to access are predominantly qualitative, where people would not want to use sites that are poorly maintained or litter strewn.

Children and Young People

Standard

Quantity Standard:	<p>Children – 0.37 play facilities per 1,000 population (includes all play areas irrespective of owner-ship)</p> <p>Young People – 0.10 young people facilities per 1,000 population</p>
Accessibility Standard:	10 minute walk time for both provision for children and provision for young people - (480 metres)
Quality Vision:	<p>Children - A site providing a mix of well-maintained formal equipment and enriched play environment in a safe and secure convenient location which is accessible to all. The site should have clear boundaries, be clean, litter and dog free and be appropriately lit</p> <p>Young People - A site providing a robust yet imaginative play environment for older children in a safe, secure location that promotes a sense of ownership and is accessible to all. The site should include clean, litter and dog free areas for more informal play and areas of shelter (with seating) and where appropriate sites should be well lit</p>
Quality Benchmark:	Children and young people provision – 82%

Key issues

- xiii. The key issues emerging from the review of provision for children and young people across Oldham Borough and the assessment of local needs can be summarised as:
- the **quality range of provision for children and young people** highlights clearly the significant variation in the quality of play provision across the Borough. Although all areas have at least one site that is rated in the poor quality, all areas also have at least one site considered to be good or very good;
 - the lowest average quality score can be found in West Oldham, where the largest quantity of provision occurs, indicating that there are a number of poor quality play areas despite the high quantity of provision;
 - improvements made to the stock of play facilities in the main parks in recent years are valued by local residents;
 - with regard to **provision of facilities for children young people** there is deemed to be a shortage across the Borough, however qualitative issues, such as vandalism and mis-use of facilities detracts further from what is there already;
 - Failsworth and Hollinwood have no provision for young people whilst East and West Oldham have an high number, although the quality of these facilities is poor affecting the perceived level of provision; and

- residents expect to **walk to play areas and young people facilities**, highlighting the importance of the even distribution and local provision; however access to younger children’s play areas is often affected by them being used by older children due to a lack of facilities for their own age group.

Outdoor Sports Facilities

Quantity Standard:	1.35ha per 1000 population
Accessibility Standard:	15 minute walk time for pitches, tennis and bowls facilities - (720 metres) A 20 minute drive for golf courses and synthetic turf pitches
Quality Vision:	A well-planned, clean, litter and dog fouling free sports facility site, with level and well-drained good quality surfaces with appropriate good quality ancillary accommodation including changing accommodation, toilets and car parking. The site should have appropriate management ensuring community safety and include lighting and the use of mobile CCTV where appropriate to address anti-social behaviour
Quality Benchmark:	82%

Key issues

- xiv. The key issues emerging from the review of outdoor sports facilities across Oldham Borough and the assessment of local needs can be summarised as:
- the **quality of outdoor sports facilities** is particularly important and is the key determinant of the level of use, improvements are needed to improve the drainage at main pitch sites across the Borough as well as improvements to ancillary accommodation;
 - ancillary accommodation is identified as being poor and suffering through problems with vandalism and graffiti, whilst pitch maintenance should be increased to gain better quality of surfaces;
 - the **provision of outdoor sports facilities** are evenly distributed across the Borough although provision in Chadderton and Failsworth and Hollinwood is higher than in other areas, given the size of the population;
 - a perceived under supply of pitches is worsened by qualitative issues such as poor drainage or lack of ancillary accommodation. The re-designation of pitch types at sites as well as increasing school pitch access could assist this problem;
 - majority of residents expect to **drive to outdoor sports facilities**, recognising people are prepared to travel further to use the site of their choice; a sustainable method of transport should be encouraged for local outdoor sports facilities; and

- access to school sites is limited and would be able to help meet demand should it be required.

Allotments

Quantity Standard:	0.06ha per 1000 population
Accessibility Standard:	15 minute walk (720m)
Quality Vision:	A clean and well-kept site that encourages sustainable development, bio-diversity, healthy living and education objectives with appropriate ancillary facilities (e.g. litter bins) to meet local needs, clearly marked pathways and good quality soils. The site should be spacious providing appropriate access and clear boundaries
Quality Benchmark:	82%

Key issues

- xv. The key issues emerging from the review of outdoor sports facilities across Oldham Borough and the assessment of local needs can be summarised as:
- the average **quality of allotments** across the Borough is good with only a small number of sites scoring below 60%. The average for sites in Failsworth and Hollinwood is 83%, indicating a high level pride in ownership;
 - problems with vandalism, dog fouling, litter and safety were highlighted by residents as key issues experienced at these types of open spaces;
 - allotments are a **demand led typology** and there are currently waiting lists in Royton and Shaw and Chadderton, highlighting demand in these areas, however the general distribution across the Borough is varied; and
 - allotment users prefer to **walk to their allotment**, highlighting the importance of the even distribution.

Cemeteries and Churchyards

Quantity Standard:	No Standard Set (as recommended by PPG17)
Accessibility Standard:	No Standard Set (as recommended by PPG17)
Quality Vision:	A clean and well-maintained site providing long-term burial capacity, an area of quiet contemplation and a sanctuary for wildlife. Sites should have clear pathways, seating where appropriate and varied vegetation and landscaping. The site must have a well defined boundary and appropriate lighting to discourage misuse and encourage management of the site through the involvement of the community if at all possible
Quality Benchmark:	76%

xvi. The key issues emerging from the review of churchyards and cemeteries in Oldham Borough and the assessment of local needs can be summarised as:

- PPG17 Annex recommends that only a quality vision is established for cemeteries and churchyards stating "*many historic churchyards provide important places for quiet contemplation, especially in busy urban areas, and often support biodiversity and interesting geological features. As such many can also be viewed as amenity greenspaces. Unfortunately, many are also run-down and therefore it may be desirable to enhance them. As churchyards can only exist where there is a church, the only form of provision standard which will be required is a qualitative one*";
- Oldham Borough Council is committed to a programme of restoration of headstones including restoring to safe standard approximately 10,000 headstones. The programme, which commenced in August 2006, is due to last for six years; and
- site visits indicated that cemeteries are generally well kept and well maintained, drop in sessions highlighted the lack of respect shown to these sites suffering from increased vandalism and reduced maintenance.

Green Corridors

Quantity Standard:	No Standard Set (as recommended by PPG17)
Accessibility Standard:	No Standard Set (as recommended by PPG17)
Quality Vision:	A clean, well-maintained, safe and secure corridor with clear pathways and fencing where appropriate, linking major open spaces together and providing ancillary facilities such as bins, seating and lighting in appropriate places and signage. The corridor should also encourage biodiversity and wildlife habitats, enabling the movement of both wildlife and people between open spaces

xvii. The key issues emerging from the review of green corridors in Oldham Borough and the assessment of local needs can be summarised as:

- PPG17 states, "*planning policies should promote the use of green corridors to link housing areas to the Sustrans national cycle network, town and city centres, places of employment and community facilities such as schools, shops, community centres and sports facilities. In this sense green corridors are demand-led. However, planning authorities should also take opportunities to use established linear routes, such as disused railway lines, roads or canal and river banks, as green corridors, and supplement them by proposals to 'plug in' access to them from as wide an area as possible*";
- similar to other types of open space in the Borough, issues with vandalism, antisocial behaviour and litter have been identified, however green corridors remain a well-valued type of open space that is reflected in the high level of use; and

- there are a number of opportunities for the further development of the green infrastructure in Oldham, linking in with the regeneration agenda driven by Oldham Beyond and the Public Rights of Way Improvement plan and cycling strategy.

Civic Spaces

Quantity Standard:	No Standard Set (as recommended by PPG17)
Accessibility Standard:	No Standard Set (as recommended by PPG17)
Quality Vision:	A clean and well-maintained visual amenity site that is suitable for its intended use such as a meeting place, setting to a building, as a functional space and as a visual amenity. Appropriate ancillary accommodation (eg seating, toilets and car parking), lighting and CCTV should be provided where appropriate

xviii. The key issues emerging from the review of civic spaces in Oldham Borough and the assessment of local needs can be summarised as:

- **quality of civic spaces** is generally good although there are some sites where a lack of respect is evident; and
- opportunities at some civic spaces within the Borough to providing meeting places so that community cohesion can be enhanced.

SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Introduction and background

The study

- 1.1 In August 2005, Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council (the Council) appointed PMP to undertake a local needs assessment and audit of open space, sport and recreation facilities across the Borough. The study, an assessment of local needs and audit of open space, sport and recreational facilities, will result in recommendations for local standards, enabling the Council to adopt a **clear vision, priorities for the future (based on local need) and a direction for the allocation of resources**. It is important to understand that additional work is required for the Council to achieve this and this study as it stands at present represents the starting point.
- 1.2 The study is underpinned by three key overall objectives, which are:
- to provide a comprehensive audit of existing provision of all types of open space, sporting and recreational facilities in terms of quantity, quality, accessibility and wider value to the community
 - identify local needs and aspirations through a series of consultations, strategic reviews at a national, regional and local level and review of existing provision standards; and
 - recommend standards of provision (quantity, quality and accessibility) in accordance with Planning Policy Guidance Note17 (PPG17) Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation (2002).
- 1.3 In accordance with PPG17 Step 3, PMP have made recommendations for local standards. It is then the intention that the Council will then use these recommended local standards of provision to identify surpluses and deficiencies, draw up strategic options and prepare policies to be incorporated into the Local Development Framework.
- 1.4 The study is undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the updated PPG17, and its Companion Guide published in September 2002. Further details of these documents are set out later in this section.

Why open space, sport and recreation?

- 1.5 PPG17 states that well designed and implemented planning policies for open space, sport and recreation are fundamental to delivering broader Government objectives, which include:
- supporting an urban renaissance;
 - supporting a rural renewal;
 - promotion of social inclusion and community cohesion;
 - health and well being; and
 - promoting more sustainable development.
- 1.6 In addition to the role open space and recreation provision can play in supporting the achievement of objectives on the national agenda, open spaces play a key role in the achievement of local priorities in Oldham.

SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

Functions of open space

- 1.7 Open spaces can provide a number of functions within the urban fabric of cities, towns and villages, for example, the provision for play and informal recreation, a landscaping buffer within and between the built environment and a habitat for the promotion of biodiversity.
- 1.8 Each type of open space has various benefits, which depend on the type of open space. For example, allotments for the growing of one's own produce, play areas for children's play and pitches for formal sports events. In addition to its primary purpose, open spaces may perform secondary functions. Outdoor sports facilities frequently have an amenity value in addition to providing for sport and recreation on a more formal basis.
- 1.9 There is a need to provide a balance between different types of open space to meet local needs and it is important to ensure resident's views are taken into account. Some areas will have specific local demand for green corridors such as nature walks or bridleways.
- 1.10 Changing social and economic circumstances, changing work and leisure practices, more sophisticated consumer tastes and higher public expectations have placed new demands on open spaces. They have to serve more diverse communities and face competition from various developers including sport and leisure. Open spaces can also promote community cohesion, encourage community development and stimulate partnerships between the public and private sector.

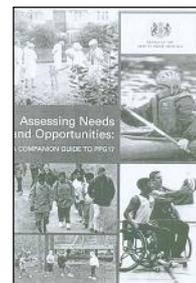
Benefits of open space

- 1.11 Open spaces; including parks, playgrounds, amenity green space, nature reserves and accessible countryside are diverse locations that provide opportunities for a range of formal and informal leisure, passive and active sport, recreation and play.
- 1.12 Parks and open spaces are more accessible to a wider range of people than some sport and leisure facilities and are better able to realise the aims of social inclusion and equality of opportunity. The provision of open spaces and recreation provision is also key to an ideal, sustainable and thriving community.
- 1.13 It is widely recognised that the provision of high quality 'public realm' facilities such as parks and open spaces can assist in the promotion of an area as an attractive place to live, and can result in a number of wider benefits. These are highlighted in Appendix A.

National policy context

“Assessing Needs & Opportunities”- National Planning Policy Background

- 1.14 PPG17 states “the government expects all local authorities to carry out assessments of needs and audits of open space and sports and recreational facilities.”



SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

- 1.15 The major change in the policy guidance from the previous version (published in 1991) is the requirement for local authority decisions regarding open space, to be **informed by local needs assessments and an audit of existing provision**. Such audits should incorporate qualitative, quantitative and accessibility considerations as well as the overall non-monetary value of the land including the level of use. National standards are no longer considered to meet local needs, although they may be used as benchmarks.
- 1.16 Other changes in this planning policy document are:
- a greater emphasis is placed on qualitative considerations – this is particularly important as it will allow local authorities to identify potential for increased use through better design, management and/or maintenance of open space
 - it advocates the setting of local standards appropriate to the local area rather than assessment by national standards although these can be used as benchmarks. The Government believes that national standards are inappropriate, as they do not take into account the demographics of an area, the specific needs of residents and the extent of built development
 - it provides further guidance on the constituent elements of open space typologies; and
 - it clearly acknowledges the multiple functions that open spaces can perform.
- 1.17 The policy guidance sets out priorities for local authorities in terms of:
- assessing needs and opportunities – undertaking audits of open space, sport and recreational facilities
 - setting local standards
 - maintaining an adequate supply of open space, sport and recreation facilities; and
 - planning for new open space.
- 1.18 The companion guide sets out the process for undertaking local assessments of needs and audits of provision. It also:
- indicates how councils can establish the needs of local communities and apply provision standards; and
 - promotes a consistent approach across varying types of open space, sport and recreation facilities.
- 1.19 PMP have followed the recommendations of PPG17 throughout the study. By following these recommendations, this study has the potential to make a real difference to the quantity, quality and accessibility of green spaces in Oldham Borough and ensure a robust evidence base for the protection of open spaces through the Local Development Framework.
- 1.20 This report provides justification for the local standards recommended, detailing current provision and setting out local community need.

Structure of the report

- 1.21 The report is split into 14 sections. Section 2 sets out the methodology for undertaking the study and the processes involved for setting local standards. Section 3 sets out the strategic context providing background and context for the study and discusses the key demographic issues influencing open space provision in Oldham. Section 4 provides a brief summary of the consultation undertaken and the Borough wide and area specific issues emerging.
- 1.22 Sections 5 –13 relate to the individual typologies identified within the scope of the report. Each typology chapter sets out the strategic context to that particular typology, an analysis of the current level and spread of distribution of provision across the Borough, an understanding of the local needs specific to that typology and the recommended local standards. The next steps for the Council are outlined in brief in section 14, the way forward.

SECTION 2
UNDERTAKING THE STUDY

Undertaking the study

Introduction

- 2.1 The PPG17 companion guide is a guidance process suggesting ways and means of undertaking a local needs assessment. It emphasises the importance of considering local demand and need, as opposed to following national trends and guidelines. The four guiding principles in undertaking a local assessment are:
- local needs will vary even within local authority areas according to socio-demographic and cultural characteristics
 - the provision of good quality and effective open space relies on effective planning but also on creative design, landscape management and maintenance
 - delivering high quality and sustainable open spaces may depend much more on improving and enhancing existing open space rather than new provision; and
 - the value of open space depends primarily on meeting identified local needs and the wider benefits they generate for people, wildlife and the environment.
- 2.2 PPG17 recognises that the approach needs to be adopted to meet the needs of each authority to accurately reflect the different structures and characteristics. The resulting conclusions and recommendations of this study therefore represent local needs specific to Oldham Borough.

Types of open space

- 2.3 PPG17 identifies ten typologies of open space. These categories include nine types of green space and one category of urban open space. This study focuses on spaces within settlements only and therefore includes the assessment of:
- parks and gardens;
 - natural and semi natural open space;
 - amenity greenspace;
 - provision for children and young people;
 - outdoor sports facilities;
 - allotments and community gardens;
 - green corridors;
 - churchyards and cemeteries; and
 - civic spaces

- 2.4 While accessible countryside in urban fringe areas are not assessed as a typology within their own right, their contribution to the green space network is recognised. The study encompasses all publicly accessible open space

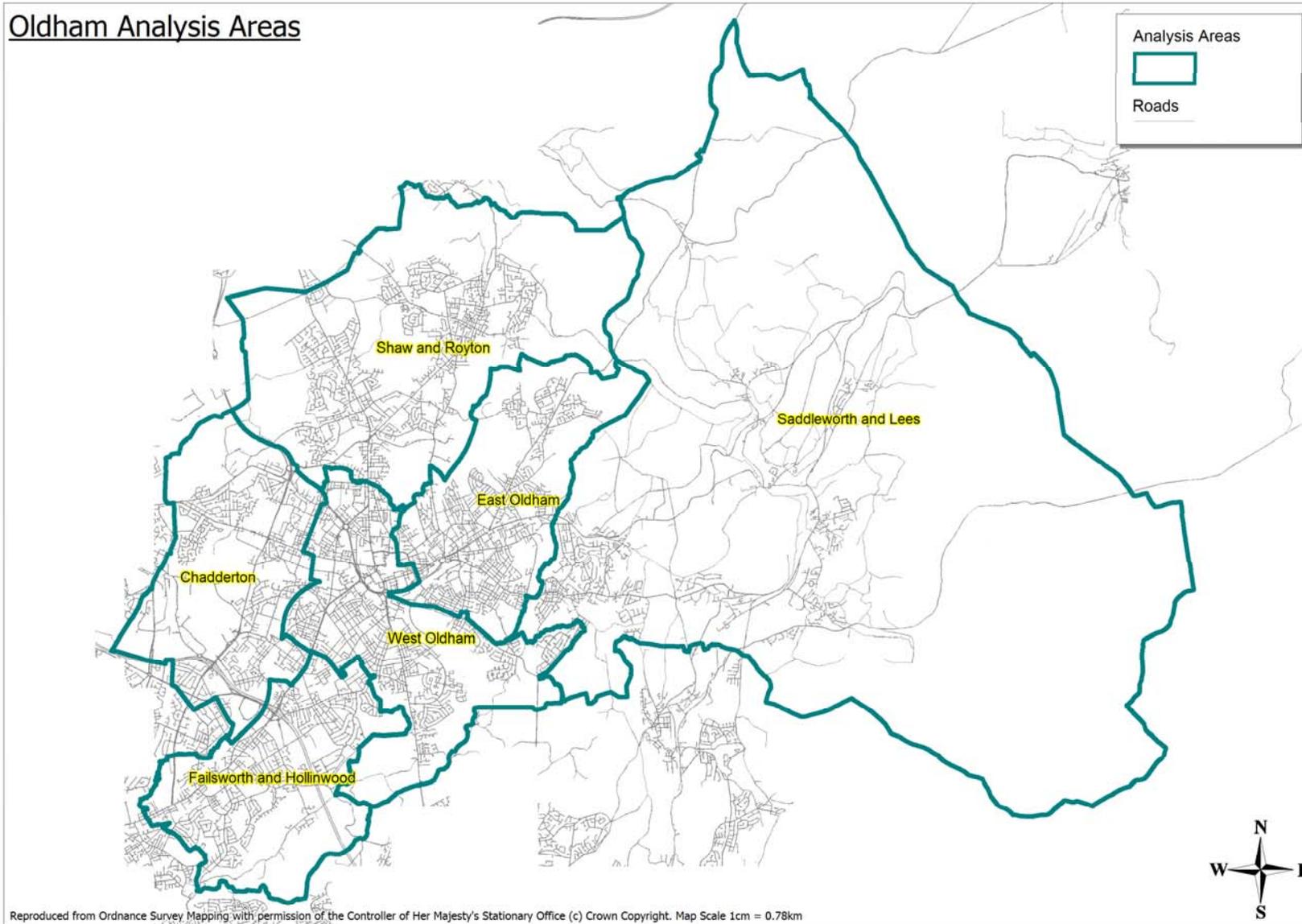
including spaces not in the ownership of the Council. Full details of the typologies included, their definitions and their primary purpose are outlined in Appendix B.

- 2.5 Indoor sports facilities have also been considered but are discussed separately as part of the Facilities Strategy for Oldham Borough Council – which will provide detailed guidance on the future delivery of indoor sports facilities in Oldham Borough. The methodology for Facilities Strategy follows PPG17 guidance and therefore links strongly and should be integrated with the findings of this study.

The geographical area

- 2.6 Analysis of the open space across the Borough has been undertaken by type of open space looking at different areas across the local authority boundary (referred to as analysis areas in this report). These areas were discussed and agreed with the Council.
- 2.7 The use of analysis areas allows examination of data at a more detailed local level, enabling an understanding of the geographical distribution of open spaces and ensuring that differences in perception and opinion of open spaces across the district are understood.
- 2.8 The Borough has been split into six areas using administrative ward boundaries. These boundaries can be seen in map 2.1 overleaf and are referred to throughout the report as analysis areas. Analysis of different areas can be undertaken using the GIS system and applying the recommended local standards.

Map 2.1 – Analysis areas in Oldham Borough



PPG17 – 5 step process

- 2.9 The PPG17 Companion Guide sets out a logical five-step process for undertaking a local assessment of open space. This study covers steps 1 to 2 as set out below. PMP have also set out recommendations to inform the standard setting process. The Council will complete steps 4 and 5 as part of the development of the Green Space Strategy for Oldham Borough.
- 2.10 The 5 step process is as follows:
- Step 1 – Identifying Local Needs
 - Step 2 – Auditing Local Provision
 - Step 3 – Recommendations for Local Standards
 - Step 4 – Applying Provision Standards; and
 - Step 5 – Drafting Policies – recommendations and strategic priorities.

Our process

- 2.11 The following steps indicate how the study has been undertaken in accordance with PPG17 and provide an overview of the methodology undertaken.

Step 1 - Identifying local needs

- 2.12 In order to identify local community need a series of consultations have been undertaken. The information gained from these consultations has been used to inform the study and to help understand:
- the key issues/problems facing different Council departments and agencies
 - the needs and requirements of local residents
 - the attitudes and expectations for open space
 - good and bad points about the existing provision; and
 - existing open space, sport and recreation provision at a strategic level.
- 2.13 The resulting picture of local needs is invaluable and forms the basis of the recommended local standards. The results of the application of these recommended local standards therefore reflect local community need.
- 2.14 Below is a summary of how consultations have been used to inform the study and where the information and statistics can be found relevant to quality, quantity and accessibility. A summary of the key emerging themes is then provided in section 4, giving an overview of local community need both across the Borough as a whole but also within each specific analysis area. The consultation findings specific to each open space typology are set out in sections 5 – 13. Key consultations undertaken as part of this study for Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council include:
- Household Survey
 - Drop in sessions

- Workshops
- IT for young people questionnaire; and
- Sports club questionnaire.

2.15 The methodology used to administer each consultation technique is described briefly in the sections that follow. A short summary of the profile of respondents to the household survey and other consultees can be found in appendix E.

Household survey

- 2.16 The household survey provides an opportunity for a number of randomly selected households to comment on provision, quality and accessibility of open space, sport and recreation facilities as well as being given the opportunity to comment on any site-specific issues.
- 2.17 5000 questionnaires were distributed to households across Oldham Borough in order to capture the views of both users and non-users of open spaces. Officers at the Council provided a database of addresses from the electoral register and PMP then randomly selected 5,000 addresses across the six analysis areas.
- 2.18 Random distribution of questionnaires to a geographically representative sample (based on the populations living each of the identified analysis areas) of households across the authority ensures that representatives from all age groups, ethnic groups and gender were given the opportunity to participate. In order to promote an even response rate across ages and gender, residents with the next birthday were asked to complete the questionnaire. A copy of the household survey and accompanying covering letter can be found in Appendix C.
- 2.19 426 postal surveys were returned, providing a statistically sound sample that can be used to assume responses for the remaining population within the Borough. Obtaining more than 400 responses means that the results are accurate to around +/- 5% at the 95% confidence interval. .
- 2.20 Specific questions in the household questionnaire directly input into the standard setting process, for example, whether residents consider there to be sufficient provision of each typology of open space and the reason for their views. The responses provide a statistically sound basis for the setting standards process, enabling full justification and robust evidence to reinforce decisions taken.

IT young people survey

- 2.21 The IT young people survey offers young people the chance to comment on open space and sports facilities within the Borough. A guidance pack and letter were sent to all the secondary and primary schools, enabling children to complete the questionnaires over the Internet. The IT Young People Survey can be found in Appendix C.
- 2.22 Almost 400 children and young people responded to this opportunity, providing a good statistical evidence base to further supplement the statistics gained through the implementation of the household survey. The results of these surveys provide both an overview of the needs of young people and also contribute to the setting of local standards, particularly with regards to facilities for children and young people.

2.23 The results and analysis from this consultation can be found in the specific typology sections (Sections 5-13), particularly in Section 7: Provision for Children and Young People, as well as the justification of standards in the appendices (Appendices H, I and J).

Drop-in sessions

2.24 Drop-in sessions provide the chance for members of the public within Oldham Borough to comment on open space within their local area, with the intention of gauging informal views and qualitative comments to support the statistical analysis provided by the surveys.

2.25 Drop in sessions were held across Oldham Borough and were advertised in the local newspaper and on posters in leisure centres, libraries, community centres and the civic centres. Specifically, drop in sessions were held in:

- Chadderton (Asda)
- Royton Market
- Shaw Market
- Werneth Lifelong Learning Centre
- Hollinwood - Walker Road Tenants Association
- Spindles Shopping Centre
- Failsworth Health Centre
- Saddleworth Museum, Uppermill
- Lees Co-op; and
- East Oldham (Tesco).

2.26 The geographical spread of venues ensured that everyone had the opportunity to comment.

2.27 Comments and views received are used to inform the recommended local standards (Appendices H, I and J) and also to provide an overview of local community need and views in each area of the Borough.

Workshops

2.28 Workshops provide key stakeholders with the opportunity to become involved in the study, resulting in information and views on the quality, quantity and accessibility of open space, sport and recreation facilities from an informed viewpoint.

2.29 Five workshop sessions / discussion forums were held with key stakeholders identified by the Council. Following an introduction and presentation from PMP, these sessions were encouraged to be interactive, enabling people to give their opinions on the quality, quantity and accessibility of open space sites across the Borough. Workshops were held with: -

- Friends of Parks

- Access for All
- Area Committees and Overview and Scrutiny
- Area Committee Managers; and
- Oldham Partnership.

2.30 The key findings and themes emerging from the workshops contribute both to the recommended local standards and provide an overview and understanding of community views and perceptions.

Sports club survey

2.31 Sports club surveys were sent to all clubs identified by the Council residing and playing within Oldham Borough in order to ascertain their perceptions of the quality of sports facilities in Oldham Borough, and any issues surrounding the provision of these facilities. All clubs listed on the database held by the Sports Development team were given the opportunity to comment through a postal questionnaire. Copy can be found in Appendix C.

2.32 The sports club surveys help inform standards and recommendations on outdoor sports facilities. 29 completed surveys were received.

Internal officers

2.33 Internal consultations with Council officers were undertaken in order to understand the work, focus and key priorities of the Council

2.34 In addition to providing a detailed strategic and practical overview, views of internal officers contribute to recommended local standards where appropriate.

2.35 The findings of these consultations also feed into the separate sections of the report (Sections 5-12) and setting of recommended local standards (Appendices H, I and J).

External agencies

2.36 Questionnaires were distributed to external agencies to understand their current work and ongoing priorities. The findings of these consultations have fed into the separate sections of the report (Sections 5-12) and setting of local standards.

2.37 Agencies consulted include:

- Sustrans
- Environment Agency
- English Heritage
- English Partnerships
- Northwest Development Agency
- Countryside Agency; and
- English Nature.

Text Messaging / Freepost / E mail address

- 2.38 In addition to the consultation techniques highlighted above, a freepost address, e-mail address, telephone number and text message service were established providing local residents with the opportunity to submit their views.
- 2.39 Similar to comments made at drop in sessions, comments and views received were used to inform the recommended local standards and provide an overview of local community need and opinion.

Summary of Step 1

- 2.40 A variety of consultation methods have been used to establish local community need within Oldham Metropolitan Borough. This has resulted in an excellent overall response ensuring confidence in the statistical information analysed. Copies of the surveys and further details regarding the consultation are provided in Appendix C.
- 2.41 The findings of the consultation feed directly into the standard setting process which can be found within the explanation for each of the quantity, quality and accessibility standards within Sections 5 -12 and Appendices H, I and J.
- 2.42 In addition to taking account of the key findings emerging through consultations, the importance of taking into account other developed both locally within Oldham Borough, regionally in the North West of England and nationally highlighting the way forward for the development of green spaces, sport and recreation facilities and the contribution such facilities can make towards achieving other objectives was highlighted. A number of other documents are currently being developed.
- 2.43 Consultations that have been undertaken as part of other work, such as NDC, UPD and the community strategy have also been considered and feed into the recommended local standards.

Step 2 - Auditing local provision

- 2.44 A comprehensive audit of local provision was undertaken, building on work already completed by the Council.
- 2.45 In order to ensure that the audit is as comprehensive and inclusive as possible a variety of sources have been used including:
- existing GIS information
 - UDP map and proposals maps
 - existing documents, strategies and reviews
 - aerial photography
 - landline / Mastermap data
 - local knowledge; and
 - site visits.

SECTION 2 – UNDERTAKING THE STUDY

- 2.46 Following the completion of the audit, site assessments were undertaken at each site identified as part of the audit and sites were classified into one of the PPG17 typologies. Photographs were also taken at each site.
- 2.47 Site assessments were undertaken using a matrix developed with Council Officers enabling comparisons between sites in the same typology and across typologies. For consistency purposes, the same person assessed all sites. Sites were rated against the following categories:
- (i) accessibility (7 factors)
 - (ii) quality (17 factors); and
 - (iii) wider benefits (7 factors).
- 2.48 The site assessment process resulted in an overall quality and accessibility score for each site in addition to ratings for each individual factor. A full list of sites and their scores can be found in appendix E. The site assessment matrix can be found in appendix G.
- 2.49 As part of the site assessments, a cross checking exercise was undertaken to ensure the audit was comprehensive. This included ensuring consistency of categorisation of open space sites into the PPG17 typologies used for this study. A meeting was also held with Council officers to review and sign off the completed audit.
- 2.50 Following site assessments, each open space site was then digitised and the associated ratings and characteristics were recorded on a linked Access database.
- 2.51 This report is supplemented by the Access database, which will enable further updates of open spaces and varying forms of analysis, including the application of local standards to be undertaken. This allows a dynamic reporting and assessment mechanism and enables individual sites or specific geographical locations to be examined in detail where necessary.
- 2.52 The Access database also contains a set of predefined queries enabling the Council to analyse the data provided and to continually update the data provided.

Steps 3 Setting provision standards

- 2.53 PPG17 advocates that planning policies for open space, including playing fields, should be based upon local standards derived from a robust assessment of local need.
- 2.54 Key themes emerging from consultations in addition to the findings of the open space audit and site assessments were therefore used as a basis to determine provision standards for each type of open space in terms of quality, quantity and accessibility.
- 2.55 The methods used to determine standards are outlined in brief below. The full justification for each recommended standard for Oldham Borough, following this process can be found in appendices H, I and J.
- 2.56 The application of these robust local standards based on assessments of need and existing provision will form the basis for addressing quantitative and qualitative needs through the planning process.

2.57 The application of local standards should consider the future requirement for open space (based on future population projections) as well as the current level of provision. The application of the current provision against future populations is provided in appendix H.

Quantity

2.58 The open space audit developed enables an understanding of the quantity of provision of each type of open space in each area of Oldham Borough. The collection of this level of detail enables the calculation of the provision of each type of open space per 1000 population. This information is provided within typology specific sections 5 – 9, and is also summarised within appendix H1.

2.59 In order to ensure that any standards set are reflective of local community needs and opinions, key themes emerging from consultations in each geographical area relating to the quantity of each type are analysed. Key messages are summarised in section 4, and the key issues for each type of open space are assessed within sections 5 – 9.

2.60 Local standards are subsequently set taking into account the current level of provision compared to the perceived community need.

2.61 The overall aim of the quantity assessment is to:

- provide an understanding of the adequacy of existing provision for each type of open space in the Borough
- establish areas of the Borough suffering from deficiency of provision of each type of open space; and
- provide a guide to developers as to the amount of open space expected to be provided in conjunction with new development.

2.62 Provision standards should then be applied, in conjunction with accessibility and quality standards to determine shortfalls, surpluses and priority areas for investment and improvement.

2.63 Table 2.1 overleaf summarises the process undertaken to set local quantity standards. The application of this process for each type of open space in the Borough can be found in appendix H.

Table 2.1 – The key stages of the setting local quantity standards

Process Stage	Methodology
National Standards	Analysis of any existing national standards for each typology. These are usually provided by national organisations e.g. National Playing Fields Association for playing pitches. It is important to ensure that national standards are taken into account as part of determination of local standards.
Existing Local Standards	Consideration of existing local standards for each typology that are currently applied by Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council. These include standards set out in the UDP and in other strategies and documents.
Current Provision (per 1,000 population)	Assessment of the current quantity of provision within the local authority area as a whole and within each of the 6 analysis areas.
Benchmarking	Figures detailing actual provision and subsequent local standards set by PMP within other green space and open space projects to provide a comparison benchmark when setting local standards.
Consultation (household survey)	Consideration of the findings of the household survey with regards the quantity of provision for each type of open space. This analysis provides a robust indication (at the Borough wide 95% confidence level) of public perception of the existing level of provision of all different types of open spaces.
Consultation Comments (Quantity)	PPG 17 indicates that where local provision is regarded as inadequate it is important to establish why this is the case. A feeling of deficiency can sometimes be due to qualitative issues of existing open space sites rather than actual quantity issues. It is therefore important to assess findings of both the household survey in addition to the emerging issues from the more qualitative consultations such as workshops and drop in sessions in order to gain a thorough understanding of local community need and perception.
PMP Recommendation	PMP recommendation of a local standard. The standard is based on an assessment of the local community need and perceptions of the adequacy of existing levels of provision across the Borough.
PMP Justification	Full justification for the recommended local standard based on qualitative and quantitative consultations are provided for each typology.

Accessibility

2.64 Accessibility is a key assessment of open space sites. Without accessibility for the public the provision of good quality or good quantity of open space sites would be of very limited value. The overall aim of accessibility standards should be to identify:

- how accessible sites are
- how far people are willing to travel to reach open space; and
- areas of the Borough deficient in provision (identified through the application of local standards).

SECTION 2 – UNDERTAKING THE STUDY

- 2.65 Similar to quantity standards, accessibility standards should be derived from an understanding of the community views, particularly with regards to the maximum distance that members of the public are willing to travel.
- 2.66 Distance thresholds (i.e. the maximum distance that typical users can reasonably be expected to travel to each type of provision using different modes of transport) are a very useful planning tool especially when used in association with a Geographical Information System (GIS). PPG17 encourages any new open space sites or enhancement of existing sites to be accessible by environmentally friendly forms of transport such as walking, cycling and public transport. There is a real desire to move away from reliability on the car.
- 2.67 Accessibility standards are set in the form of a distance in metres where walking is considered to be the most appropriate mode of travel, and a drive time where driving to the open space site would be more appropriate.
- 2.68 Table 2.2 below outlines the key stages in setting local accessibility standards.

Table 2.2 – Key stages in setting an accessibility standard

Process Stage	Methodology
National Standards	Analysis of any existing accessibility standards for each typology.
Existing Local Standards	Consideration of existing local standards for each typology that are currently applied by Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council. These include standards set out in the UDP and in other strategies and documents.
Benchmarking	Figures detailing local standards set by PMP within other green space and open space projects to provide a comparison benchmark when setting local standards.
Consultation (household survey)	Consideration of the findings of the household survey with regards the distance expected to travel to each type of open space and the 75% threshold. The use of the 75% threshold is consistent with recommendations in PPG17– it represents the distance that 75% of the population is willing to travel and is used to ensure that extreme responses are discounted.
Consultation Comments (Accessibility)	Findings of qualitative consultations regarding access to open space sites and the distances people expect to travel to reach open space sites.
PMP Recommendation	PMP recommendation for a local accessibility standard. The standard is based on an assessment of the local community need and perceptions of the adequacy of existing levels of provision across the Borough.
PMP Justification	Full justification for the recommended local standard based on consultations and local expectations are provided for each typology.

Quality

- 2.69 Quality and value of open space are fundamentally different and can sometimes be completely unrelated. An example of this could be:
- a high quality open space is provided but is completely inaccessible. Its usage is therefore restricted and its value to the public limited; or
 - a low quality open space may be used every day by the public or have some significant wider benefit such as biodiversity or educational use and therefore has a relatively high value to the public.
- 2.70 The overall aim of a quality assessment should be to identify deficiencies in quality and key quality factors that need to be improved within:
- the geographical areas of the Borough; and
 - specific types of open space
- 2.71 The quality standards set as part of the study are intended as an aspirational vision that reflect what the community want. The vision should be applied to existing open spaces in addition to providing a benchmark when designing and creating new areas of open space.
- 2.72 Sites are given a score for a range of factors including:
- cleanliness and maintenance;
 - security and safety;
 - vegetation; and
 - ancillary accommodation.
- 2.73 These scores are then weighted (multiplied either by 3, 2 or 1) to reflect the perceived importance of the factors. Factors which are given higher weightings (e.g. cleanliness and maintenance – 3) are perceived to be the most important and to have the largest impact on the quality of the site. Factors with a higher weighting will therefore influence the total score more than factors with lower weightings.
- 2.74 Scores for each factor, taking into account the weighting, can then be translated into a percentage or quality index. Where the site assessor considered a particular factor to be “not applicable”, the percentage does not take account of this factor and the overall score is therefore not biased by these factors.
- 2.75 This enables resources to be concentrated on areas that need to be improved.
- 2.76 In line with PPG17, quality visions for each type of open space have been set. These visions should represent an ideal quality of provision for each space within that category and should be the target for future improvement. They have been based on the key aspirations of the local communities that emerged through the consultation process.

- 2.77 The quality vision it is reflective of both local community needs and desires. The key steps to setting a quality vision are set out in table 2.3 overleaf:

Table 2.3 – Setting a quality vision

Process Stage	Methodology
National Standards	Analysis of any existing qualitative standards for each typology.
Existing Local Standards	Consideration of existing local standards for each typology that are currently applied by Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council. These include standards set out in the UDP and in other strategies and documents.
Consultation (household survey)	Consideration of the findings of the household survey with regards the key quality features expected in each type of open space and consideration of the key issues experienced at existing open space sites
Consultation Comments (Quality)	Findings of qualitative consultations regarding the importance of different quality features at each site, in addition to problems experienced at current sites used
PMP Recommendation	PMP recommendation for a local quality vision. The standard is based on an assessment of the local community need and the key features that people like to see for each different type of open space.
PMP Justification	Full justification for the recommended local standard based on consultations and local expectations are provided for each typology.

- 2.78 The site assessment matrices completed for the open spaces across the Borough provide a score for quality, site access and an assessment of any wider benefits such as educational benefits.
- 2.79 Each element of quality is rated on a scale of very good (5 points) to poor (1 point) and a total percentage score is then calculated. Where an element of provision (such as toilets) is considered to be not applicable, this will not be taken into account in the calculation of the percentage score.
- 2.80 In order to link the quality vision to the site assessments that have been undertaken, a quality benchmarking system has been established, enabling comparisons both between sites in one typology and across typologies.
- 2.81 Scores achieved during site visits are translated into percentages and can then be benchmarked against each other. The aspirational quality vision can be used to set a minimum benchmark score for each typology, setting out an appropriate score for each factor assessed on the site visit if the quality vision is to be met. This can be translated into a target percentage score for each typology. Full details of the process can be found in appendix K. The application of the process for each typology, along with the agreed benchmark score for Oldham Borough can be found in typology specific sections 5 – 11.

SECTION 3
STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Strategic context

- 3.1 It is important to consider the findings of the local needs assessment and audit within both the local, regional and national context.
- 3.2 Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 (2002) and the Companion Guide, Assessing Needs and Opportunities are the key overarching documents which have informed and directed this study. These documents were discussed in detail in section 1 and further information is provided in appendix F.
- 3.3 In addition, there are a large number of other national documents and agencies that shape the strategic context to open spaces, sport and recreation facilities across the country and as such should influence the provision of facilities in the Borough of Oldham and the findings of this report.
- 3.4 Appendix F sets out the national strategic context, including Living Spaces: Cleaner, Safer Greener which was produced by the ODPM in 2002 and led to the creation of CAGE Space, a national government agency which has the overall aim *“to bring excellence to the design, management and maintenance of parks and public space in towns and cities”*.
- 3.5 Key messages arising from a review of the national context for open space include:

- the significance of green space is recognised at national level and is reflected in Government funding priorities
- research confirms the importance of urban green spaces - it is estimated that, in England, over 33 million people make over 2.5 billion visits to urban green spaces each year
- there is a recognition of the role that open spaces can play in urban renaissance and regeneration and it is important to recognise the cross cutting role that open spaces can play in the delivery of local priorities
- provision of open spaces has numerous wider benefits, contributing to the achievement of national government priorities including:
 - contribution to local economy;
 - increased health and well being;
 - social interaction and development; and
 - improved community cohesion.
- there is real concern regarding the state of parks and open spaces within the country particularly due to lack of investment. It is important to ensure that sites are of sufficient quality to encourage people to use them, and barriers to usage should be addressed.

- Key barriers to usage of open space sites include:
 - lack of/poor condition of facilities (including play facilities for children);
 - other users (including anti-social behaviour);
 - concerns about dogs and mess;
 - safety and other psychological issues (eg feelings of vulnerability and inertia); and
 - environmental quality issues such as litter, graffiti and vandalism
- any development of open spaces (either new or enhancement of existing areas) should take into account the biodiversity and nature conservation
- partnership working is essential to make the best use of resources. There appears to be a general consensus that involving the community in managing and designing open space sites creates a sense of ownership and assists in maintaining the quality and maximising the usage of open space sites
- innovative practice and high quality standards do not necessarily equate to high budget spend

3.6 Some external agencies have an influence and interest in the provision of open spaces and some of the key issues and objectives of these agencies are relevant to this study. These have been referenced where appropriate throughout this study.

3.7 The local context and strategic framework for Oldham is set out in the remainder of this section and should be considered throughout the setting and application of local standards and the subsequent development of policies and action plans.

Local context

3.8 Oldham Metropolitan Borough is located within Greater Manchester and is bordered by other Greater Manchester authorities; Manchester City, Tameside and Rochdale. It is also bordered by West Yorkshire areas of Calderdale and Kirklees to the North / North East of the Borough and High Peak in Derbyshire to the South East.

3.9 Open space provision in these areas is therefore also important to residents of Oldham as many may travel outside of the Borough to use sites in other authorities, as well as to areas of nearby countryside. The location of Oldham Borough means that areas of nearby countryside are particularly important to residents, with many choosing to travel into the countryside frequently to visit natural open space sites. It is important that formal open space provision is considered in the context of this accessible countryside.

3.10 Oldham's foundation was traditionally built on textile spinning and textile machinery, however this industry had all but disappeared by the early 1980's. Although the manufacturing sector is decreasing it is still the highest employer with around a quarter of the workforce. There has been a growth in construction and services industries.

3.11 The Borough is predominantly urban, with a population of 217,273 at the time of the 2001 census which is due to increase to 219,850 by 2016. This increase in population is likely to generate pressures on open spaces in the Borough, both in terms of increased demand for open spaces, and development pressures on existing

SECTION 3 – STRATEGIC CONTEXT

sites. Despite the relatively high density population, the Saddleworth area of the Borough is significantly more rural than other areas, and encompasses wide expanses of the Saddleworth Moors.

- 3.12 The breakdown of the age population within Oldham is as follows: -

Table 3.1 – Age breakdown

Age	% of population	National average
Under 18	25.84	22.66
18 – 29	14.11	15.06
30 – 44	21.96	22.65
45 – 59	18.82	18.88
Over 60	19.27	20.76

- 3.13 As can be seen in table 3.2 below, the population of Oldham Borough is diverse, with high levels of the population from ethnic minority backgrounds in comparison to other areas of Britain. This highlights the particular importance of ensuring that open spaces, sport and recreation facilities meet the needs of all communities in the Borough. The proportion of residents in Oldham of Asian origin is particularly high.

Table 3.2 – Ethnicity breakdown

Ethnic Origin	% of population
White British and Other	86.14
Mixed	1.13
Asian – Indian	0.72
Asian – Pakistani	6.33
Asian – Bangladeshi	4.52
Asian – Other	0.31
Black	0.57
Black - Caribbean	0.43
Black – African	0.08
Black – Other	0.06
Chinese or Other	0.28

- 3.14 Unemployment in Oldham Borough is higher than the national average, equivalent to 3.7% of the population compared to the national average of 3.4%. This reinforces the importance of the provision of local accessible facilities ensuring that all residents can access amenities.
- 3.15 The Indices of Deprivation 2004 (IMD 2004) ranked Oldham 43rd out of 354 local authorities in England (where one was the most deprived area), once again highlighting the importance of local accessible facilities. This rank is derived from the average deprivation score across all local authorities.
- 3.16 The characteristics of each area vary significantly – and the IMD 2004 used Super Output Areas (SOAs) to split Oldham into 144 areas. SOAs are used instead of electoral wards to enable analysis areas to be consistent in size and make it easier to provide nationwide comparisons of areas of similar composition. This also enables an understanding of demographics and needs at a very local level.

- 3.17 Over two-fifths (43%) of the 144 SOAs in Oldham are in the 20% of most deprived SOAs in England. A total of 19 (13%) are in the most deprived 5% of SOAs nationally. These include parts of Lees and Hollinwood wards in analysis areas one (Saddleworth and Lees) and analysis area three (Failsworth and Hollinwood) respectively. All wards (St James, St Marys and Waterhead) in analysis area five (East Oldham) and all wards (Alexandra, Coldhurst, St Pauls and Werneth) in analysis area six (West Oldham) fall within the most deprived 5%.

Decision making process

- 3.18 In addition to the formal municipal decision making process, area committees have been set up across the Borough, ensuring that as far as possible, all residents are able to input democratically into the decision making process.
- 3.19 Area committees are made up of Ward Councillors and co-opted members of the community, offering a forum for residents to comment on issues affecting the local community. The area committees are split into:
- Saddleworth and Lees;
 - Chadderton;
 - Failsworth and Hollinwood;
 - Royton and Shaw;
 - East Oldham; and
 - West Oldham.
- 3.20 Area committees offer a significant local input into the democratic process, ensuring that the needs of the local communities are understood and met as far as possible.
- 3.21 Although this study, in line with PPG17, results in the establishment of recommended borough wide standards, the local needs in each of the area committees have driven the local standards, ensuring that the application of standards is relevant to each area of the Borough.

Local strategic context

- 3.22 The following sections review the local strategic context within Oldham, highlighting the key objectives the Council and its strategic partners are trying to achieve.

Oldham Corporate Plan (2005-2008)

- 3.23 The main aim of the Corporate Plan is to regenerate the Borough in a way that achieves greater community cohesion.
- 3.24 To achieve this aim, the Council has identified a number of key corporate strategic themes notably:
- community cohesion
 - realising the potential of children, young people and families

- improved environment
- prosperous borough
- healthy and well-cared for people; and
- improving council striving for excellence.

3.25 The provision of green spaces can play a particular role in the achievement of these key objectives. As noted in PPG17, open spaces, sport and recreation facilities have a vital role to play in promoting healthy living and preventing illness, and in the social development of children of all ages through play, sporting activities and interaction with others.

3.26 The Council has identified an improvement programme, supporting the delivery of the 6 corporate themes. Areas identified within the improvement plan that are those most relevant to open space, sport and recreation include:

- improving the quality and accessibility of parks and countryside areas; and
- providing improved facilities for youth sport and recreation.

Oldham’s Community Strategy: Planning for Sustainable Communities 2005-2012

3.27 The Oldham Community Strategy sets out a vision for the future and an action plan for achieving this vision. It aims to build on previous achievements and produce a lasting impact on the lives of the Borough’s residents. The following values drive the strategy to build a better future for Oldham:

- a good, safe, living environment for everyone
- an inclusive and openly democratic community, in which all should benefit equally
- opposition to all forms of unfair discrimination in a multi-faith, multi-cultural and multi-racial society; and
- each and every individual has a worth.

3.28 The key themes set out that are most relevant to this open space, sport and recreation study include:

- health and well being for all
- an improved and valued environment; and
- community cohesion.

3.29 Open spaces, sport and recreation provision can therefore play a key role in the achievement and delivery of the community strategy.

Oldham Unitary Development Plan (2001-2016)

- 3.30 The Oldham Metropolitan Borough Unitary Development Plan (UDP) was adopted July 2006 and sets out the policies the council will follow when adopted and when considering applications from prospective developers of land. This will eventually be superseded by the Local Development Framework, which will be informed by the findings of this study.
- 3.31 The key objectives of the UDP are to:
- support communities and social inclusion
 - promote economic well being in which all can share
 - conserve and make efficient use of natural resources such as fossil fuels and minerals, and improve quality of natural resources ie. air, water soil
 - protect and conserve the Borough's natural, historical and cultural assets including landscapes, parks and gardens, trees and woodlands; and
 - regenerate the older urban areas of the Borough and supporting wider urban areas.
- 3.32 The specific policy areas of open space, sport and recreation facilities (refer to chapter 10) and open environment (refer to chapter 11) are of particular relevance to this study.

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities

- 3.33 This section highlights the importance of sport and recreation for quality of life, health and well being. It also recognises the importance of maintaining, developing and enhancing the quality of facilities. The importance of open space is evident as those used for recreation and non-recreational functions often have the most public value.
- 3.34 Policies R1-R2 relate to leisure and recreation. Those of specific relevance to this study include:
- prevent loss of or inappropriate development on open spaces and/or sports facilities
 - require provision and improvement of existing open spaces and sport or recreation facilities through new development
 - ensure open space provision is considered within new housing developments; and
 - ensure new open space, outdoor or indoor or sport recreation facilities follow certain guidelines including accessibility, social inclusion and local needs.

Open Environment

- 3.35 This section of the plan aims to protect and enhance the open environment and prevent unrestricted development that may threaten its character.

- 3.36 Policies OE1-OE2 relate to open spaces. Those of particular relevance include:
- green belts, other protected open land and land reserved for development are protected from inappropriate development, however, within green belts new buildings are permitted if essential for outdoor sport or recreation facilities and cemeteries; and
 - land and natural environment in the Borough will be conserved and protected, by the council, from inappropriate development.
- 3.37 The application of local standards emerging from this study will inform the development of policies as part of the Local Development Framework and will enable the Council to take decisions as to the appropriateness and effectiveness of policies outlined in the adopted UDP.

Section 106 Planning Obligations: Good Practice Guide (2005)

- 3.38 This good practise guidance note explains the use and procedures of section 106 planning obligations in Oldham. It is essential to ensure planning obligations are operated in a way that is deemed fair, open and reasonable.
- 3.39 In the case of public open spaces the monetary contribution depends upon whether the developer is providing the open space themselves with maintenance, if they are providing the open space but wishing for the council to maintain it, or if the council is going to build and maintain the open space themselves.

Oldham Local Area Agreement 2006-9

- 3.40 The Local Area Agreement represents a new relationship between central government, local authorities and their delivery partners. It links funding streams with an agreed set of outcomes that combine local and national priorities. They are based around 5 blocks:
- children and young people
 - safer and strong communities
 - healthier communities and younger people
 - economic development and enterprise; and
 - housing.
- 3.41 Under the “safer and stronger communities” block outcomes include having cleaner, greener and safety public spaces and targets for the number of Green Flag parks. The open space, sport and recreation study can be utilised to ensure that the funding streams available to deliver these LAA objectives are maximised in terms of prioritising improvements to the quality of provision. The consultation will help identify what the local perception is as to safe green spaces.
- 3.42 Under the “children and young people” block a key priority of the LAA is improving the health of children and young people. A key determinant in achieving this goal will be in achieving an appropriate mix of high quality children and young play facilities that are appropriately located. The application of the study will help to ensure that the available funding streams can be appropriately targeted.

A Cultural Strategy for Oldham (2003-2006)

- 3.43 This strategy and action plan is intended to ensure that culture and creativity become central to the lives of the people in the communities of Oldham.
- 3.44 The approach will enhance the ability to plan, target and adapt mainstream services, projects and programmes to local needs. The objectives of this strategy are to: -
- promote community cohesion creating a Borough with common vision and a sense of belonging for all communities;
 - develop training, work and business opportunities to create a prosperous Borough
 - contribute to a healthy and nurtured community through using cultural activities to aid community safety and promote physical and mental health by increasing levels of fitness self-esteem and confidence
 - continue the improving environment by promoting sustainability, creating, developing, maintaining, enhancing and protecting public open space in town and country
 - widen participation in lifelong learning contributing to the development of well educated, highly skilled people; and
 - promote the reputation of Oldham as a creative Borough with a stimulating and vibrant cultural life.
- 3.45 The key strategy and priorities set out in this document that are most relevant to this study include: -
- utilising sporting activities in the pivotal role they offer in developing community cohesion through the skills inherent in these activities
 - attracting inward investment aimed at regeneration through the refurbishment of Alexandra Park
 - provide affordable access to sporting and recreational activities
 - promote benefits of engaging in horticulture such as allotment cultivation to aid fitness and healthy living
 - improve access and refurbish countryside areas, parks and open spaces to promote their benefit for health; and
 - protect playing field provision and enhance sporting facility provision.
- 3.46 All of these priorities reinforce the commitment of the Council and other partners in the provision of high quality opportunities and facilities.

Oldham's Cycling Strategy

- 3.47 The Oldham Cycling Strategy was developed in line with the National Cycling Strategy (1996) and addresses the needs of cyclists in Oldham. It aims to increase cycle usage through increasing awareness, infrastructure and safety.
- 3.48 The strategy objectives encompass those recommended in the National Cycling Strategy: -
- maximise the role of cycling as a transport mode reducing the use of private cars
 - develop a safe, convenient, efficient and attractive transport infrastructure which encourages and facilitates the use of walking, cycling and public transport; and
 - ensure policies to increase cycling and meet needs of cyclists are fully integrated into complementary strategies.
- 3.49 Cycling to work benefits the environment and is a health-promoting form of transport.
- 3.50 Alternatives to the traditional cycle routes can include disused railway lines, converted into combined cycle paths and bridleways. Additional alternatives include utilising wide canal paths. These provide a safer and healthier way for cyclists away from transport and its associated fumes.
- 3.51 This cycling strategy will be instrumental in the development of the provision of green corridors, ensuring maximum usage of these pathways whilst promoting environmentally friendly transport.

The Oldham Agenda 21 Plan: A Vision for the 21st Century (1999)

- 3.52 The Agenda 21 Plan is a strategy for achieving economic and social development for all the world's people, while protecting the natural environment on which all life depends. It emphasises that participation at a local level is essential to create a sustainable future.
- 3.53 From a series of consultations with the citizens of Oldham the key points identified relating specifically to open space, sport and recreation in Oldham include: -
- lack of recreation facilities, particularly for young people with broken equipment in parks, was a pressing problem for the Borough
 - gardening and allotment clubs could be expanded, offering people a chance to grow their own food
 - need to improve and expand open space access perhaps by linking village greens and paying fields with 'green corridors'; and
 - develop greater community participation in recreation through greater awareness of the benefits among citizens.

Tourism Development Strategy for Oldham Borough (2004)

- 3.54 This strategy has been developed to maximise the economic, social and environmental benefits tourism can bring to residents and businesses in the Oldham Borough, ensuring the industry develops in a sustainable way.
- 3.55 The strategy's objectives are to: -
- improve the visitor economy
 - improve the Borough's image
 - improve the tourism product offering, infrastructure and visitor services
 - maximise the quality and quantity of resources available for tourism
 - facilitate the creation and maintenance of employment for local people
 - encourage local businesses and residents to participate in tourism.
- 3.56 There are currently some excellent natural tourist attractions, for example, part of Saddleworth falls within the Peak District National Park. Oldham Borough markets these as part of the tourism strategy.
- 3.57 Promoting the use of bridleways and overnight stays by Pennine bridleway users through developing businesses to provide facilities for horses, riders and cyclists is a key element of this strategy.
- 3.58 The strategy reinforces the value placed on the natural resources and the nearby countryside in Oldham, highlighting the importance of these sites to local residents.

Oldham's Greenspace Strategy (2004)

- 3.59 The Greenspace strategy aims to promote a better understanding of the benefits of green space as a basis for closer community consultation and involvement and provide an achievable framework for action.
- 3.60 This strategy sets four key objectives: -
- securing the understanding and support of the people and communities of Oldham for a common vision for greenspace
 - establishing a 'Green Estate' in the form of well planned, accessible, dedicated and protected open land, infrastructure, buildings, and other asset
 - creating partnerships and increasing financial support and investment; and
 - ensuring the process of strategy development and implementation is undertaken by dedicated organisations capable of working together to achieve efficient delivery at a high standard.
- 3.61 Within Oldham there are challenges that need addressing in the provision of greenspaces. The following are the most relevant to the open space, sport and recreation study: -

- removing the element of fear that prevents many people from using their local greenspace, for example, through tackling anti-social behaviour
- declining quality in structures (ie Bridges), countryside areas, playing pitches, parks, ancillary facilities and children’s playgrounds affect local greenspace provision
- currently the demand for good quality outdoor sports facilities (eg. Well-drained pitches, parking and changing facilities) greatly exceeds supply. This reduces the number of fixtures and consequently club development; and
- Oldham’s cemeteries suffer from age, neglect and vandalism, leading to dangerous headstones posing a serious threat to those who work in or visit cemeteries.

3.62 The Greenspace strategy sets out series of timescales for the various objectives it wishes to achieve, included in this is completing a PPG17 Local Assessment of Need within two years. This PPG17 should provide a robust evidence base for the development of the green space strategy for Oldham Borough Council.

Oldham Beyond: A Vision for the Borough of Oldham (2004)

3.63 This document was commissioned to develop a vision and strategy for the Renaissance of the Borough of Oldham. It aims to begin the circle of recovery, whereby each part of the strategy fuels the next.

3.64 The strategy groups 82 recommendations under eight categories: -

- Oldham Renaissance
- Wealth Creation
- Liveability
- A Learning Community
- Sustainable Oldham
- Common Ground; and
- New Oldham.

3.65 From these categories the most relevant actions, in relation to this study are:

- development of high profile projects in public spaces at the heart of communities across the Borough; and
- encourage a feeling of community cohesion.

Oldham Beyond: The Heart of Oldham, A Masterplan for Oldham Town Centre (2004)

- 3.66 The masterplan for the town centre illustrates a clear strategy and vision for Oldham town centre, setting out actions that can be implemented immediately to improve the centre and address its weaknesses.
- 3.67 The strategy identifies there is very little open space in the town centre, apart from St Mary's Churchyard and an area of greenery around the leisure centre, which is mainly used on hot sunny days. Additionally the college also has no space for outdoor recreation.
- 3.68 To link the gap evident around the centre it is proposed 'corridors of understanding' will be developed to create a link utilising green corridors. These green areas are designed to break down barriers between different groups of people.
- 3.69 The findings of this study can inform the future development of the town centre masterplan.

Oldham Beyond: The Oldham Net, Ideas for Transformation (2004)

- 3.70 This plan's main aim is to provide a practical route forward towards the possible implementation of scenarios and plans.
- 3.71 The document sets out various opportunities for development, those most relevant to this study include: -
- Oldham Athletic Football Club to capitalise on the accessibility, visibility and image of the Club to create new facilities, and improve the access to football grounds; and
 - the opportunity to develop the Robert Fletcher site for recreation, leisure and tourism development in a prime location adjacent to a National Park.

New Deal for Communities

- 3.72 New Deal is government funded and is a resident led regeneration programme. There are currently 39 programmes across the country and for Oldham it is based in Hathershaw and Fitton Hill (West Oldham) and has £53million of funding. The vision for the New Deal for Communities programme in Hathershaw and Fitton Hill is: -

"to be a place where people choose to live and work, with a community to which they are proud to belong".

- 3.73 The programme was started in 2001 and encompasses a wide range of projects under the following six key themes: -
- children, education and lifelong learning;
 - housing and the environment;
 - health and wellbeing;
 - community cohesion;
 - crime; and
 - employment and enterprise.

- 3.74 The application of the open space study in Hathershaw and Fitton Hill will identify all qualitative and quantitative deficiencies in open space provision and the local consultation will ensure that local needs are at the centre of open space delivery objectives. This will help to ensure that the available funding through New Deal for Communities for open space is delivered to maximum effect.

The Scheme Update for Oldham Rochdale Housing Market Renewal Pathfinder (2005)

- 3.75 The overall aim of this strategy is to deliver a transformation in the housing markets in the area, which will create sustainable communities and promote community cohesion.
- 3.76 The challenges faced by the Council in housing supply problems and dysfunctional housing market are characterised by: -
- too many poor quality terraced houses, particularly in Oldham
 - large single tenure estates with concentrations of voids and inappropriate house types; and
 - range of existing houses of a size and type that does not fit existing requirements, and will not meet future demands.
- 3.77 To provide for choice, quality and affordability, the long term strategy is to: -
- focus activity in areas that address both the greatest housing dysfunction and supports regeneration and economic objectives
 - create development opportunities by assembling sites in inner areas and peripheral social estates in advance of major clearance
 - build new houses to suit modern needs and accommodate household growth; and
 - demolish outdated terraced stock.
- 3.78 Open spaces can play a key role in the regeneration of the housing stock for Oldham. As noted in the PPG17 companion guide, areas where comprehensive redevelopment is proposed offer a significant opportunity for new open space provision. The application of the open space study will reveal accessibility deficiencies across all typologies; in some areas these may reveal that outdated terraced housing due for demolition are in an open space deficient area. In these circumstances, demolition could be considered as an opportunity to create space to meet open space, sport and recreation needs in the areas

Playing Pitch Strategy: Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council (2004)

- 3.79 The strategy was developed based on research conducted for the Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council Playing Pitch Assessment Report.
- 3.80 The vision of the strategy is that by 2020 Oldham MBC will have provided an appropriate range and distribution of high quality playing pitches and associated

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facilities, providing opportunities for participation and competition in pitch sports by all residents of the community.

- 3.81 Implementation of the following objectives will assist in achieving this aim: -
- ensure suitable provision and distribution of good quality playing pitches and associated facilities
 - improve quality and capacity of existing outdoor sports facilities to meet the aspirations of various bodies
 - meet geographical shortfalls
 - deliver cost effective pitch stock through rationalisation and sustainability
 - support sport development programmes and address identified latent demand
 - provide useable, accessible and viable outdoor sports facilities within the Borough
 - encourage participation and support local voluntary sector contributions to sport
 - ensure adequate financial provision for the long term maintenance and development of pitch sites to provide financially stable good quality pitches; and
 - improve residents' health and well-being through improved opportunities to access high quality sporting activity.
- 3.82 Further quantitative, qualitative and site-specific information attained within the playing pitch strategy will be incorporated within Outdoor Sports Facilities in section 9.

Summary

- 3.83 Table 3.3 below summarises the key documents and highlights the priorities of relevance to the provision of open space, sport and recreation in the Borough of Oldham.

Table 3.3 – Strategic Review Summary

Strategy Name	Key Priorities	How this study will help deliver priorities
<i>Corporate plan</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improving the quality and accessibility of parks and countryside areas • providing improved facilities for youth sport and recreation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assessments of site quality will help pinpoint investment priorities • application of accessibility and quantity standards will show where to locate future provision of parks, youth sport and recreation
<i>Oldham Unitary Development Plan Review (2001-2016)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protect and conserve the Borough's natural, historical and cultural assets including landscapes, parks and gardens, trees and woodlands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the application of the recommended local standards will help ensure the protection of all open spaces, unless it can be

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<p><i>Policies R1 and R2</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prevent loss of or inappropriate development on open spaces and/or sports facilities • require provision and improvement of existing open spaces and sport or recreation facilities through new development • ensure open space provision is considered within new housing developments • ensure new open space, outdoor or indoor or sport recreation facilities follow certain guidelines including accessibility, social inclusion and local needs 	<p>clearly demonstrated that the site is not required or cannot be re-used to satisfy other open space needs in the area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • future developer contributions should be driven by the local standards, ensuring local deficiencies are addressed where appropriate • the application of accessibility catchments (alongside quantity standards) will help ensure the right level of provision is required from new development
<p><i>A Cultural Strategy for Oldham (2003-2006)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continue the improving of the environment by promoting sustainability, creating, developing, maintaining, enhancing and protecting public open space in town and country 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the application of local standards will show where improvements to open spaces are needed most, which sites are crucial to local people and where new open spaces are needed.
<p><i>Oldham's Cycling Strategy</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop a safe, convenient, efficient and attractive transport infrastructure which encourages and facilitates the use of walking, cycling and public transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of green corridors and other open spaces will support the findings of the cycling strategy, highlighting key opportunities and reinforcing public support
<p><i>Oldham's Greenspace Strategy (2004)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • removing the element of fear that prevents many people from using their local greenspace, for example, through tackling anti-social behaviour • declining quality in structures (ie Bridges), countryside areas, playing pitches, park ancillary facilities and children's playgrounds affect local green space provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the establishment of appropriate quality visions for open space typologies based on local consultation, and delivery of improvements against these targets should ensure issues such as fear and declining quality are addressed through appropriate remedies
<p><i>Playing Pitch Strategy: Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council (2004)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure adequate financial provision for the long term maintenance and development of pitch sites to provide financially stable good quality pitches • ensure suitable provision and distribution of good quality playing pitches and associated facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the study will help the council implement developer contributions in accordance with national guidance in a fair and transparent way, maximise funding for future provision as appropriate.

SECTION 4
CONSULTATION

Consultation

Introduction

- 4.1 As outlined in Section 2, a series of consultations were carried out as part of the local needs assessments to establish the views on open space, sport and recreation provision amongst both users and non-users across the Borough.
- 4.2 The key consultations included:
- household survey
 - sports club survey
 - IT young people survey
 - drop in sessions
 - external agencies
 - workshops; and
 - internal consultations with Council officers.
- 4.3 The key themes and strategic issues emerging from consultations undertaken across the Borough are summarised below, providing a context of open space, sport and recreation provision in Oldham. Detailed findings in relation to each of the open space typologies are discussed in the typology specific sections.

Local Community Need – Borough Wide Consultation

- 4.4 Key issues emerging through internal consultations, discussed primarily at a Borough wide perspective include:
- historically, open space has been important in the Borough, and derelict land and former tips have been cleared to provide open space. In addition, there are a number of recreation grounds developed in the early 20th century that remain open space amenities today. There is now perceived to be a wide range of varied open space provision across Oldham. The Council is a key provider of open space sites and has significantly improved the quality of many of the open space sites over the past few years. Additional key providers of open spaces include United Utilities and Housing Associations although the Council maintain many open space sites on behalf of these providers
 - the Council, along with other providers and facilitators of outdoor recreational provision, realise that in an era of reduced funding, increased maintenance and higher public expectations, future planning and provision will only succeed when working within identified and committed partnerships. There will need to be a strategic approach within partnerships. A number of key partnerships have already been developed, and there are strong relationships with Friends Groups and other interested parties. Groundwork Oldham reinforced the ethos of community partnership working and stated that they would be keen to further develop their partnership with the Council to drive improvements in open spaces across the Borough

- there are significant opportunities to improve the open space in the area through a combination of both local regeneration initiatives and national, regional and local funding streams. Open spaces can be a vehicle to the achievement of many of the wider aims and objectives highlighted in the community plan, an issue reflected by the focus on using sport as a means to an end rather than increasing participation in sport for its own sake; and
- open spaces are perceived to be key to improving the quality of life of residents of Oldham Borough in addition to enhancing the natural landscape and perception of the area for visitors. The significance, value and benefits open space can bring is recognised locally and benefits for both biodiversity and people are highlighted and valued. The environment is a key element of the regeneration programme of the Borough and the work undertaken by the Council and Oldham Beyond underpins the work of the Council as a whole.

Quantity

- in general terms, Officers felt that the total level of open space provision across the majority of different typologies was currently adequate but that there is potential for the development and enhancement of some sites. This study provides the basis for this to happen and achieve this vision. The stock of open spaces varies across the Borough and there is perceived to be significantly less in the more densely populated areas of the Borough, particularly East and West Oldham
- the increasing open space stock in the face of declining budgets provides challenges for the Council in terms of maintenance. Given the large number of sites, maintenance is reactive not proactive and the overall level has reduced over the years. There is a perception that the quality of open space sites is suffering as a result of the quantity of sites. This is further exacerbated by changing weather patterns generating a need for maintenance to extend across seasons; and
- there are large areas of land within housing estates that rely on high maintenance. Temporary landscapes have been created on many of these sites and there is now a public expectation that these sites will remain. Rationalising these sites and hence reducing the public open space stock would enable qualitative improvements to other sites. Implementation of a minimum size component may be critical if developer contributions are to be effective for the future improvements to the open space.

Quality

- the quality of many open space sites in the Borough is high and the strategic policy of targeting key sites for quality improvements has achieved significant success with both regional and national acclaim. There are now five parks with green flag awards, the national benchmark for quality. Rolling programmes of improvement of these sites has ensured that they are highly valued assets to the community and reflects positively on the quality of provision. Despite the positive perception surrounding some of the larger spaces, the reduction of the maintenance programme has been perceived to have a negative impact on the quality of some of the smaller sites in the Borough

- issues of vandalism, litter and off road motorcycles were highlighted as the key issues impacting on the quality of spaces and sport and recreation facilities across the Borough. Off road motorcycling was highlighted as being a particular problem in the urban fringe countryside, impacting on both the quality and the access to open space sites. There was felt to be a Borough wide lack of respect for parks and open spaces
- a perception of community safety was also highlighted as a key determinant of the quality of open space provision in the Borough and the ranger programme operating at larger park sites was considered to be have been a particular success; and
- in terms of regeneration, significant value is placed on improving the quality of existing open spaces within the Borough, ensuring that community needs are met.

Accessibility

- it is important to consider the open spaces in the context of the demographics of the Borough. Limited mobility generates a requirement for local open spaces and local facilities
- extended access to facilities was also raised as a key issue as many parks and larger open space sites are inaccessible at night. The provision of lighting at these facilities, enabling evening usage was highlighted as an opportunity to reduce pressures at leisure centres
- although there is an abundance of accessible countryside within the Oldham area, access and awareness to these areas is not high. The importance of natural and semi natural open space and the benefits that this can bring is rising up the agenda. Although there is only one nature reserve there are opportunities for the development of further sites. Plans to increase access to these sites include raising awareness through the development of publicity and education maps. Additionally, the creation of identity for areas of countryside was perceived to be a key factor in increasing the number of visitors to these areas. River valleys and disused railways are to be similarly targeted in future years. Country Parks also provide a key visitor attraction in the countryside areas of the Borough; and
- the importance of ensuring that open space sites are accessible to all sections of the community was highlighted. Reclamation of land plays an important role in regeneration and the importance of ensuring that spaces are developed to facilitate the integration of communities rather than act as a barrier between them was reinforced. Although access on the whole is perceived to be relatively good, specific examples where access is more restricted were highlighted.

4.5 In addition to highlighting some of the pertinent issues regarding open spaces across Oldham Borough, a number of opportunities for future enhancement and improvement of existing open spaces were highlighted including:

- in light of the location of the Eastern side of the Borough on the fringes of the Peak District National Park there are significant opportunities to improve and enhance this natural resource and encourage residents to visit and enjoy the natural countryside. Specific opportunities include the Pennine Edge Forest.

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The development of a network of green corridors linking both key urban areas, green space and countryside offers further opportunities and would be instrumental in meeting aims and objectives of the health agenda

- the concept of district centres, which aims to ensure that all small urban neighbourhoods have a specific centre. These centres should be the focus of local amenities. This offers the opportunity to change the face of open space provision, ensuring that sufficient provision is made in the areas which will be attracting a substantial amount of daily users; and
- there is opportunity to increase the benefit that open spaces can bring through further encouraging community involvement and ownership of sites. Where the community have been involved at an early stage in the procurement, design and function of specific open spaces, these sites have been particularly successful as a result of the creation of a high level of ownership and respect for the site.

4.6 While the key issues emerging from the assessment of local needs are discussed in the typology specific sections that follow, tables 4.1 to 4.7 below provide an overview of the Borough wide perceptions, and the perceptions of residents in each of the specific analysis areas. In reality, little difference was evident between the perceptions of residents living in different areas of the Borough.

4.7 These findings have informed the recommended local standards and hence will be reflected in the subsequent application of these standards. Further detailed findings can be found in appendices H, I and J.

Table 4.1 – Key issues and findings – Borough Wide Consultation

Borough Wide Consultation	
Consultation Technique	Key Issues and Findings
Household Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 42% of people use parks most frequently reinforcing the importance of these sites to residents. 24% use natural areas • residents indicated that the provision of all types of open space were important to them, with less than 10% of residents indicating that open spaces were not important • the primary reasons for using open spaces are for 'fresh air', 'take exercise' and 'to walk', highlighting the importance of the provision of local informal recreation opportunities • the main barrier to the use of open spaces in the Borough was a feeling of insecurity, highlighting the need to enhance the safety of sites where possible. Many residents indicated that they had a lack of interest in using open spaces, perhaps indicating that people value visual benefits offered by open spaces in addition to the recreational amenity; and

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 61% of people walk to the open space they use most often, indicating that on the whole people are using local open spaces as opposed to travelling to the more strategic sites.
IT for Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 46% of children or young people use parks most frequently of which 58% of these go there to use the playground/ play equipment, highlighting the important role parks have in providing facilities for the young after using play equipment, the most popular reasons for using open space are, 'to meet friends', 'for a kickabout/ informal play' and 'to get some fresh air' highlighting the importance of the provision of local informal recreation opportunities; and 83% travel less than 15 minutes to reach the open space they use most frequently, emphasising the need for accessible local facilities.
Drop In Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> concerns over the level of development and loss of open space – again reinforcing the value placed on the provision of open spaces issues surrounding the quality of maintenance on some sites problems with vandalism and anti social behaviour perception of safety – reinforcing issues highlighted in the household survey; and the ongoing regeneration of open space sites was commended.
Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> recurring problems with a perceived lack of regular maintenance vandalism and antisocial behaviour impacting on the quality of provision and reducing the use and enjoyment of the open space sites significant dog fouling and litter problems, especially the larger formal open spaces within housing estates; and problems with burnt out cars and fly tipping.
Internal Consultations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a focus on the creation of partnership working and the involvement of the local community to ensure that high quality facilities meet local community needs the quantity of sites in the Borough places high demands in terms of maintenance

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• significant and increasing open space stock in the face of declining budgets provides challenges for the Council in terms of maintenance; and• a recognition of the benefits and values that open space, sport and recreation facilities can bring to the achievement of Council priorities and the wider agenda.
Sports Club Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• over half of sports clubs who responded to the survey were either working towards or had achieved an accreditation mark for quality• the majority of respondents felt that the quality, quantity and accessibility of leisure facilities within Oldham was currently average; and• the greatest perceived demand was for sports halls, synthetic turf pitches and grass pitches.
External Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Groundwork Oldham and Rochdale highlighted the importance of targeting their environmental improvement programmes in deprived areas due to the perceived regeneration benefits. They were concerned over the lack of open space maintenance budget and difficulties in sustaining small incidental open spaces; and• Groundwork Oldham and Rochdale suggest targeting environmental improvements on proposed development allocations prior to building work starting.

Table 4.2 – Key issues and findings - Saddleworth and Lees

Analysis Area One – Saddleworth and Lees	
Consultation Technique	Key Issues and Findings
Household Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 87% travel less than 15 minutes to reach open spaces, highlighting the emphasis placed on local facilities • residents of Saddleworth and Lees placed particular emphasis on the maintenance and cleanliness of open spaces; and • over 75% of respondents highlighted issues with vandalism and dog fouling, indicating that this is particularly prevalent in this area.
Drop In Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • residents highlight a lack of formal open space and suggest that there is a misconception that there is an abundance of open space when in reality the surrounding countryside is largely inaccessible • overwhelming opinion that the infrastructure and open space cannot sustain the amount of development ongoing in the area. There are very strong concerns about the amount of development in this area • residents would like to see more varied facilities in Saddleworth and Lees to increase the functionality; and • general opinion that maintenance could be improved.
Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there are identified deficiencies of accessible sporting provision in the Saddleworth and Lees Area. There are also perceptions of other shortfalls of provision. • positive investment in facilities through 'Watch this Space' initiative (achieved by working with the young people in the parks and open spaces) should be continued to produce further examples of good practice • general lack of regular maintenance; and • vandalism and anti social behaviour.

Table 4.3 – Key issues and findings - Chadderton

Analysis Area Two - Chadderton	
Consultation Technique	Key Issues and Findings
Household Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the main reasons for non usage of open spaces in the area were lack of time and lack of interest. Poor quality sites was considered the third most popular barrier to participation, highlighting the concerns of residents. Chadderton was the only area in the Borough where poor quality open spaces was considered to be significantly preventing participation residents highlighted anti social behaviour, litter and dog fouling as key causes of the perceived poor quality of open space sites; and 71% walk to reach the open space of their choice again highlighting a reliance on local open spaces.
Drop In Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> with regard to some typologies there is a perception of poor maintenance - this reflects the findings of the household survey; there are concerns over security at many sites especially when dark. The household survey highlighted that residents would be keen to see increased lighting and staff on site; and work on regenerating open space in the area was commended.
Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> recent developments under funding initiatives, such as 'Fair Share' initiative have proved positive and should be continued. Fair Share is a strategic grants programme designed to complement existing initiatives. A key objective of 'Fair Share' is to help improve the local environment, to make it safer, greener, healthier, better designed and more welcoming and accessible for all antisocial behaviour and off road biking were perceived to be significant issues; and a lack of parking at certain open spaces causes problems with accessibility.

Table 4.4 – Key issues and findings –Failsworth & Hollinwood

Analysis Area Three – Failsworth & Hollinwood	
Consultation Technique	Key Issues and Findings
Household Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 71% walk to reach open space, highlighting that similar to other areas people expect to use facilities in their locality • over 75% of people think there is a problem with vandalism, dog fouling, litter and anti-social behaviour; and • the main reasons for not using open spaces include a lack of interest and fears over safety. Additionally, the other key barrier to participation highlighted by residents of Failsworth and Hollinwood was the perception that there are insufficient facilities. This was reflective of the findings of the drop in sessions and the particular focus placed on a lack of open space in the area and the need to protect what is there.
Drop In Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • general problem with litter and fly tipping • concerns over the amount of development; and • maintenance cutbacks have affected the overall quality of sites in the area and reduced the functionality of them.
Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • general feeling that there is a shortage of open space in this area – echoing the perceptions of residents, particularly in terms of sports facilities, youth facilities and children’s areas • problems with burnt out cars and fly tipping.

Table 4.5 – Key issues and findings – Royton and Shaw

Analysis Area Four – Royton and Shaw	
Consultation Technique	Key Issues and Findings
Household Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the barriers to the use of open space include a fear of safety, ‘lack of interest’ and ‘lack of time’ • only 53% walk to open spaces and 44% use their car indicating a lower reliance on local open space than in other areas of the Borough; and • similar to all other areas, over 75% think there is a problem with litter and dog fouling.
Drop In Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concern regarding the amount of land being taken away through development. There is a perception that changes to the infrastructure have not matched population growth • access issues through poor maintenance at certain sites; and • issues with vandalism and anti-social behaviour.
Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there was perceived to be good quality provision in Royton and Shaw in comparison to other areas, particularly when taking into account the improvements that have been made to open space sites • certain areas suffer anti-social behaviour and mis-use; and • lack of facilities for the young.

Table 4.6 – Key issues and findings – East Oldham

Analysis Area Five – East Oldham	
Consultation Technique	Key Issues and Findings
Household Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reflecting the views of residents across the Borough as a whole, the main reasons for using open spaces are for ‘fresh air’, ‘take exercise’ and ‘to walk’ indicating the reliance on open space sites for informal recreational opportunities • like Failsworth and Hollinwood and Royton and Shaw the main reason for not using open spaces is the perception of a lack of safety • 13% of people (more than any other area) use the bus to access the open space they use most often – this is perhaps reflective of the higher urban density and lower levels of car ownership in this area. This reinforces the need for local open space provision; and • 31% of respondents travel longer than 15 minutes to reach their chosen area (greater than all the other areas) – this may indicate a lack of provision within East Oldham but may also be reflective of the longer time to travel by bus.
Drop In Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • problems with vandalism, particularly to equipment for young people and children; and • general concerns with the maintenance.
Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • too many small pockets of land that are no longer maintained as open space and are now unsafe. There is also a lack of regular long term maintenance and investment due to lack of funding • school sites should have greater community access, especially for sports; and • vandalism of equipment and antisocial behaviour at play facilities.

Table 4.7 – Key issues and findings – Analysis Area Six – West Oldham

Analysis Area Six – West Oldham	
Consultation Technique	Key Issues and Findings
Household Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • key barriers inhibiting the use of open space in the Borough include a perception of insecurity, suggestions that the time taken to travel is too great and a feeling that there are no appropriate facilities in West Oldham; and • in line with all other areas, 75% think there is a problem with vandalism, dog fouling, safety, anti social behaviour and litter.
Drop In Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • people believed that open spaces should be promoted so local people appreciate the benefits and take ownership of facilities • there is a feeling that there is an overall shortage of open space and concerns over any further development • too many incidental areas of open space that are unusable and attract anti social behaviour; and • very positive response to development plans at Werneth Park.
Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexandra Park should be used to increase local aspirations as it is exemplary • there are a lot of poor sites in need of investment; and • there are significant dog fouling and litter problems, particularly on the larger sites within the housing estates.

4.8 The tables above highlight the key issues raised in each area of the Borough. These feed into the typology specific sections and have also been taken into account during the standard setting process.

4.9 The application of the recommended local standards will provide an understanding of the specific needs in each area of the Borough (reinforcing the consultation process) and will enable the targeting of resources and future investment.

SECTION 5

PARKS AND GARDENS

Parks and gardens

Definition

- 5.1 This type of open space includes urban parks, formal gardens and country parks that provide opportunities for various informal recreation and community events, within settlement boundaries.
- 5.2 This typology also has many wider benefits as supported by the site assessments. Parks provide a sense of place for the local community, help to address social inclusion issues within wider society and also provide some form of structural and landscaping benefits to the surrounding local area. They also frequently offer ecological benefits, particularly in more urban areas.
- 5.3 From the site assessments 88% of parks and gardens were believed to have both social inclusion and health benefits as well as structural and landscape benefits.

Figure 5.1 - Alexandra Park (site ID 76)



Strategic context and consultation

Strategic context

- 5.4 A national survey commissioned by Sport England, the Countryside Agency and English Heritage was undertaken during 2003, studying the provision of parks within England. The aims of the survey were to establish:
 - how many adults in England use parks?
 - what activities people take part in when visiting parks?
 - the reasons why people visit particular parks;
 - the levels of satisfaction with the amenities on offer; or

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- why non-users do not use parks?
- 5.5 The definition of a park used in the survey was very broad and included both formal provision such as town parks, country parks, recreation grounds and also less formal provision such as village greens and common land.
- 5.6 The findings of the study were:
- just under two thirds of adults in England had visited a public park during the previous 12 months
 - there is a distinct bias in the use of parks by social groups, with almost three quarters of adults from the higher social group visiting a park compared with only half of those from the lower social group
 - people from black and ethnic minority communities also have relatively low participation as well as those adults with a disability
 - over 8 in 10 adults who had used a park in the previous 12 months did so at least once a month during the spring and summer with almost two thirds visiting a park at least once a week, and women tended to visit parks more often than men
 - it is estimated that the 24.3 million adults who use parks make approximately 1.2 billion visits to parks during the spring and summer months and 600 million visits during the autumn and winter months – a total of 1.8 billion visits a year; and
 - the most popular type of park visited was an urban or city park.

Current position

- 5.7 The Green Flag Award is the National Standard for parks and greenspaces, therefore creating a benchmark of excellence in recreational green areas. Alexandra Park, Brownhills Centre Nature Garden, Coalshaw Green Park, High Crompton Park and Stoneleigh Park have all been accredited with Green Flag Awards for 2005/2006, and these should be exemplified as sites of good practice and provide a benchmark for other parks in the Borough.
- 5.8 Parks and gardens aim to provide accessible opportunities for a range of informal recreation and have been a key focus for improvement in Oldham over the past few years. This is reflected in the recent redevelopment of Alexandra Park, a £3m investment programme.
- 5.9 There are a total number of 37 parks and gardens in the Borough varying in size from large country parks to small local urban parks. A network of Local Friends Groups contribute to the ongoing development of these amenities across Oldham and continue to drive ongoing improvements and use of the parks by the local communities. The involvement of these community groups installs a sense of ownership into the local community and increases the respect and value placed on the site. The Friends Group at Coalshaw Green have been particularly active in recent years, managing a staffed pavilion all year round and employing a full time gardener to improve the site. A particularly positive outcome of the Friends of Parks workshop was a commitment from attendees representing each park to meet up on a regular basis in order that they can share good practice examples and experiences.

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- 5.10 The importance of parks and gardens is highlighted in the UDP, with specific policies relating to the Borough's open spaces, stating the importance of protecting and conserving the Borough's natural, historical and cultural assets including landscapes, parks and gardens, trees and woodlands.
- 5.11 Parks are open spaces that contain a variety of amenities, including provision for children, young people and outdoor sports facilities, fulfil a variety of functions and provide a valuable asset to the community. Parkland sites in Oldham are generally large in nature and feature a number of attractions. These sites are considered as strategic sites and are considered as a Borough-wide provision.
- 5.12 Alexandra Park is a particular example of a strategic site, attracting people from both within the Borough and outside. Larger Country Parks such as Tandle Hill Country Park and Daisy Nook Country Park also serve residents from outside the Borough and can be considered to be strategic sites. Attendees at workshops, in particular the LSP workshop and area committee workshop highlighted the importance of the parks and gardens in the Borough and the value they add to the character of the Borough as a whole. Internal consultees reinforced this viewpoint, stating how the improvement of the quality of parks has defined and regenerated the urban landscape.
- 5.13 Council Officers and stakeholders view the increased use of parks as a significant opportunity in Oldham, and suggested that parks should be used to host more public events. The Saddleworth Festival was highlighted as a good example of this.
- 5.14 Parks and Gardens are the most important type of open space to the residents of Oldham. 93% of those responding to the household survey believe they are important. This highlights the need to continue improving and maintaining the quality of these key strategic sites.
- 5.15 The current provision of parks and gardens in terms of quality, quantity and accessibility is discussed below. Further details are provided within the linked Access database and GIS system.

Quantity

- 5.16 Table 5.1 overleaf illustrates the current distribution of parks and gardens across the Borough:

Table 5.1: Distribution of Parks and Gardens across Oldham Borough.

Analysis Area	Population	Number of sites	Hectares	Hectares per 1000	Key sites in the area
1 – Saddleworth and Lees	34,483	4	26.46	0.77	Strinesdale Park
2 - Chadderton	31,114	5	13.51	0.43	Chadderton Hall Park, Coalshaw Green Park & Foxdenton Park
3 – Failsworth and Hollinwood	30,465	6	15.01	0.49	Daisy Nook Country Park
4 – Royton and Shaw	42,682	9	73.55	1.72	Tandle Hill Park, Dunwood Park. High Crompton Park & Royton Park
5 – East Oldham	33,345	7	35.99	1.08	Bishops Park, Waterhead Park & Stoneleigh Park
6 – West Oldham	45,184	6	31.42	0.70	Alexandra Park & Werneth Park

- the distribution of parks and gardens across the Borough is good, particularly when the larger strategic sites are excluded, with all areas having a minimum of one site
- sites over 15 hectares in Oldham are Bishops Park, Alexandra Park, Strinesdale Park and Tandle Hill Park
- the highest level of provision is in analysis area four (Royton and Shaw), both in terms of the number of sites and site area, although Tandle Hill Country Park accounts for 2/3 of provision in this area. This high level of provision suggests that residents in this area are well served for formal parks facilities in comparison to other areas. This is reflected when looking at the provision per 1000 population, where Royton and Shaw has 1.72ha parks and gardens per 1000 population in comparison to other areas. East Oldham is the only other area that exceeds one hectare of provision per 1000 population when taking into account all provision.
- although Chadderton has the lowest quantity provision in the Borough in hectareage terms, all three sites in the area are of good size and provide a variety of amenities for local residents; and
- although there are 26 hectares of provision across Saddleworth and Lees, Strinesdale Park accounts for over 95% of the total provision, indicating the other sites (the smallest quantity of sites in the Borough) are small in nature. This is the most rural area of the Borough where nearby countryside is of almost equivalent importance to parks.

SECTION 5 – PARKS AND GARDENS

- 5.17 The key points relating to the quantity of parks and gardens ascertained from the consultation undertaken are: -
- in general, the results of the household survey suggest that opinions regarding the quantity of provision in the Borough is evenly split with 50% suggesting that there is enough and 50% feeling there to be insufficient
 - interestingly, residents in Chadderton were happy with the level of provision although it has the lowest amount of park and garden space. Further analysis of this response indicated that the perceived quality of provision in this area has influenced this response, with the majority of residents enjoying their local parks and gardens. Many comments were received from residents living in Failsworth and Hollinwood, particularly with regard to the perceived lack of quantity of formal open space in this area in comparison to other areas of the Borough
 - on the whole, qualitative consultations indicated that provision of parks and gardens was sufficient in quantitative terms and that the quality of provision was more important. Friends of Parks Groups focused particularly on quality of facilities, again suggesting that quantity is more important than quality and numerous people attending drop in sessions highlighted that they would rather see qualitative improvements at sites as opposed to the development of additional parks and gardens; and
 - although there was overall satisfaction on the whole with the quantity of parks and gardens in Oldham, strong opinions were voiced regarding the need to protect local and strategic parks and gardens from development, further reinforcing their value to the community.

Quality

- 5.18 The quality of each site has been assessed through a detailed site visit and the completion of a detailed pro forma described in section two and provided in detail in appendix K. It is important to note that the quality score represents a snapshot in time and records only the quality of the site at the time of the site visit. The average quality range for sites in each area can be seen in table 5.2 below:

Table 5.2 – The quality of parks and gardens sites in Oldham Borough

Analysis Area	Number of sites	Quality Range	Average Score	Highest Quality Sites
1 – Saddleworth and Lees	4	55% - 74%	68%	Strinesdale Park
2 - Chadderton	5	70% - 84%	79%	Foxdenton Park
3 – Failsworth and Hollinwood	6	48% - 88%	65%	High Memorial Park
4 – Royton and Shaw	9	52% - 84%	67%	High Crompton Park
5 – East Oldham	7	45% - 84%	66%	Afghan Street Park
6 – West Oldham	6	42% - 87%	63%	Alexandra Park

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- as can be seen from the average score detailed above, quality is relatively even across the Borough, with the exception of Chadderton, where the average score is significantly higher than in other areas. The minimum score of 70% in this area highlights the good quality of provision. Despite having the lowest level of provision per 1000 population, within this analysis area there is a perception that there is sufficient amount of parks and gardens. This serves to illustrate that in many instances high quality provision can mitigate the desire for further quantitative provision
- although quality is relatively even across the Borough, the average score can disguise the fact that there remain some sites rated as poor, particularly in the Failsworth and Hollinwood and West Oldham areas. Although the biggest range can be seen in West Oldham, this area is home to the flagship facility of the Borough, Alexandra Park
- all of the key strategic sites were rated highly through the site assessments, recognising the improvement and work undertaken within these parks. In addition to this recognition through the site visits, many residents both attending drop in sessions and workshops commended the work undertaken by the Council in recent years regarding the quality improvements to parks in the area. Alexandra Park was continually referred to as the best practice open space facility in Oldham, whilst High Crompton Park was praised by Royton residents and Stoneleigh Park highlighted as a good practice site. Tandle Hill Country Park was also highlighted as an excellent and well maintained open space facility used by residents across Oldham. All of these parks also scored highly on site assessments, reinforcing the perception of high quality provision
- maintenance and cleanliness of parks and gardens is of particular importance to residents of Oldham, and this has a particular impact on the perceived quality of sites. The majority of residents from the drop-in sessions and household survey thought the quality of parks in Oldham was good, although some residents indicated that there has been a deterioration in quality in parks that have not received any funding. It is likely that this perception has arisen as a result of rising expectations due to the investment and improvement in some facilities across the Borough. Maintenance at Foxdenton Park was raised as a specific issue although the site has actually seen investment and poor quality was not evident at the time of the site visit, with Foxdenton Park perceived to be the highest quality site in the Chadderton area
- the two key themes of vandalism and litter problems emerged consistently at every drop in session and every workshop held as part of the study and were also reinforced through internal consultations. Site-specific issues raised included the decline in quality of Royton Park due to litter, vandalism and increased anti-social behaviour; vandalism or new/ re-furbished facilities at Waterhead Park; and extensive graffiti at Werneth Park. Friends of Parks Groups also highlighted problems they had experienced in terms of vandalism and graffiti
- although the use of motorbikes at parks and other green spaces emerged as a key issue during internal consultation and subsequent meetings, this was not reflected to a high degree in community consultation. Despite this, Friends of Coalshaw Green Park did highlight bad experiences with motorbikes and many residents indicated that dedicated provision should be provided in order to keep young people off the streets

- in addition to the issue of vandalism and litter, safety was also a key concern with suggestions that adequate lighting, staff on site and CCTV as being key to providing safe parks. Despite this, the overall perception emerging from qualitative consultations appeared to be that parks are safer and more welcoming than other types of open space in the Borough. Area Committee representatives in Chadderton were particularly concerned about safety issues surrounding the parks and gardens in the area; and
- residents responding to the household survey highlighted a desire for parks to be clean and litter free, with well kept grass, flowered areas, trees and shrubs, toilets and on-site security, re-iterating the need for on-going maintenance and the expectation of cleanliness.

Accessibility

- 5.19 Accessibility at each site was also assessed through a detailed site visit and the completion of a detailed pro forma and takes into account issues including whether the entrance to the site is easily accessible, the condition of roads, paths and cycleways, whether there is disabled access, how accessible the site is by public transport, bicycle or walking, and whether there are clear and appropriate signs to the site.
- 5.20 Key issues arising from the assessment of site specific accessibility in Oldham include:
- no sites were considered to have good access by cycleways, with 25% of sites rated as poor and the remainder as average. This is of particular significance in the context of the Cycling Strategy. The majority of people (65%) responding to the household survey indicated that they expect to walk to a park and garden, illustrating the expectation that these should be local sites. Despite this, many residents (both in the household survey and at drop in session) travel to the larger sites, particularly Daisy Nook Country Park and Tandle Hill Country Park, illustrating the wider catchment that these strategic sites serve
 - although the majority of people expect to walk to open space sites, parking was highlighted as a key issue at some sites. Area Committee managers felt this to be particularly problematic in East Oldham
 - the location of Failsworth Lower Park was also considered to be a barrier as it is inaccessible to many residents living just on the periphery of the site
 - 59% of sites were highlighted as average or below for access by people with disabilities; and
 - 33% of sites were scored as poor or very poor with regard to the signage to and on the site.
- 5.21 The view from the stakeholder workshops and drop-in sessions was that the majority of people would choose to walk to their local park. This was re-iterated through the household survey with 80% of respondents saying they would prefer to walk, although only 65% actually do walk, with 30% travelling by car. Given the apparent poor access by cycleway and public transport, there are significant opportunities for the development of access routes into open spaces.

- 5.22 Reinforcing the issues highlighted through site visits regarding access for people with disabilities, members of the Access for All Team highlighted a number of key issues regarding access to parks and gardens in the Borough, identifying the need for further focus on these issues to ensure that they were accessible for all. Issues identified included the provision of appropriate gates, braille signage and appropriately surfaced paths ensuring the safe negotiation for all through the site. Site specific assessments at some sites had been undertaken by the group and they expressed a keen interest to carry out this work at all major parks in the Borough, ensuring that all parks would be accessible to all.

Setting provision standards

- 5.23 In setting local standards for parks and gardens there is a need to take into account any national or existing local standards, current provision, other Local Authority standards for appropriate comparison and consultation on local needs.
- 5.24 A full assessment of local needs both Borough wide and within each area has been undertaken for Oldham, and the key messages emerging from this assessment, coupled with an evaluation of the existing audit have been used to determine provision standards required to meet local needs.
- 5.25 A summary of the key messages emerging from the analysis of existing provision and local need is provided at the end of this section.
- 5.26 The process for setting each type of standard is outlined in section two. The rationale for each recommendation, including assessment of local need, existing provision and consultation is provided in Appendix H, I and J. The recommended local standards have been summarised overleaf.

Quantity Standard (see appendix H – standards and justification, worksheet and calculator)

Existing level of provision	Recommended standard
0.90 ha (0.27ha excluding parks over 15ha in size)	0.26ha per 1000 popn
Justification	
<p>The current level of provision is equivalent to 0.90 ha per 1,000 population in the Borough. Excluding the large sites over 15ha in size, provision decreases to 0.27ha per 1000 population. The overall consensus from residents across the Borough responding to the household survey is that the quantity of provision is about right (50%). Although 46% indicated that there is not enough, qualitative consultation highlights a significant focus on improving the quality of parks. While people wish to guard existing parks against development, there was little evidence to suggest that additional parks were required. The spread of parks across the Borough is relatively even.</p>	
<p>Of those people who felt there to be insufficient provision, reasons behind their perceptions tended to be related to a lack of quality or to fears sites would be lost to development, rather than a perceived absolute deficiency of provision. The overriding theme emerging through all consultations suggests that the current level of provision is adequate and residents feel that parks and gardens are highly valued. Maintaining the current level of provision enables the continuation of a focus on quality and ensures that people continue to value the parks and gardens in the area. Desires for quality improvements at parks were highlighted specifically by Friends of Parks Groups.</p>	
<p>A standard of 0.26 has been recommended reflecting the current level of provision in the Borough but taking into account the likely consequence of a small decrease in park space, following the implementation of facilities for children in parks. This reflects the perception that provision should be maintained at the current level, enabling a focus on quality. Although the standard should be viewed as a Borough wide standard, it enables the identification of localised deficiencies, particularly in Failsworth and Hollinwood and West Oldham which were identified as the most deficient areas by residents both in terms of household survey and drop in consultations. Deficient areas will be highlighted through the application of the quantity and accessibility standards. Larger parks have been excluded from this standard, recognising their Borough wide function and the inappropriateness of providing this level of provision locally.</p>	

Accessibility Standard (see appendix J)

Recommended standard
15 minute walk time - (720 metres). 20 minute walk time for parks above 15ha - (960 metres)
Justification
<p>Both residents attending drop in sessions and respondents to the household survey felt that people should walk to open spaces. This mirrored current user patterns, with 65% of current users walking. Members of the Friends Groups also suggested that most people walk to their local park reinforcing a walking distance as the most appropriate means of reaching a park. In line with the PPG17 methodology, analysis of the 75 percentile indicates that residents across the Borough expect to walk up to 15 minutes.</p>
<p>Breaking the Borough into six analysis areas, the 75 percentile remains 15 minutes in each area, inferring that there is a consensus of opinion. Although evidence indicates that young</p>

people expect to walk slightly less to a park, a standard of 15 minutes walk is considered appropriate as it is set in line with PPG17 methodology of taking the 75% threshold level and reflects local opinions gathered in drop in sessions and workshops.

This standard is similar to findings in similar local authorities. Given the findings of the consultations (drop in sessions and workshops) which indicate that people are more willing to travel further to reach a larger park and garden, a catchment of 20 minutes walk time should be set for parks above 15 hectares in size.

Quality Standard (see appendix I)

Recommended standard
<i>"A welcoming, clean and litter free site providing a one-stop community facility which is accessible to all and has a range of leisure, recreational and enriched play opportunities for an appropriate range of ages. Parks and gardens should be well maintained, providing varied vegetation, clear pathways, appropriate lighting and ancillary accommodation (including seating, toilets and litter bins) and well-signed to and within the site. Sites should be safe and secure and were appropriate have ranger / warden presence to further improve the security of the facilities."</i>
Justification
With an existing aim of improving the quality of Parks in Oldham and emphasis placed on retaining Green Flag status and achieving this accreditation at other sites it is essential that the Council implement a quality standard. The recommended standard incorporates the National Green Flag Award criteria for quality, safety, recreation benefit and facility mix. However, owing to the nature of PPG17 it is important that local community aspirations form the basis of the recommended local standards. Therefore, it is suggested that parks should be clean and litter free and provide a mix of appropriate recreational and ancillary facilities. The standard has been formulated to ensure that park provision is sustainable, balanced and ultimately achievable. The improvement of quality and accessibility to parks and the promotion of best practice sites such as Alexandra Park and Coalshaw Green Park should increase local aspirations and encourage usage of parks. The achievement of this vision is less relevant for country parks, where a target of the vision and associated benchmarking score aimed at natural sites is more appropriate.

Quality Benchmarking

- 5.27 The application of the quality benchmarking standard (set at a score of 80% on the site assessment for parks and gardens) provides an indication of the desired level of quality suggested at each site and enables a comparison at sites across the Borough. As described in Appendix K, it highlights sites, which currently meet the visionary standard, and those sites falling below and consequently where improvement is required. A full list of site scores can be found in the parks and gardens section of Appendix L.
- 5.28 The 5 highest and 5 lowest scoring sites are highlighted in figure 5.2 overleaf:

Fig 5.2 – Highest and lowest parks and gardens quality scores

V good	90% to 100%		
Good	70% to 90%		Site ID 17 – High Memorial Park (88%) Site ID 76 – Alexandra Park (87%) Site ID 1735 – Foxdenton Park (84%) Site ID 2651 – Westway Park & Garden (84%) Site ID 699 – Tandle Hill Park – (84%)
Average	50% to 70%	↑	Site ID 886 - Broadway Park (52%)
Poor	30% to 50%	↑	Site ID 66 – Limeside Recreation Ground (48%) Site ID 1993 - Ash Square (45%) Site ID 44 - Westhulme Park (44%) Site ID 1786 - Werneth Gardens (42%)
V poor	Below 30%		

Applying provision standards – identifying geographical areas

- 5.29 In order to identify geographical areas of importance and those areas with required local needs the quantitative provision of parks and gardens in Oldham should be considered alongside the recommended local standard for accessibility. The quantity standards enable the identification of areas that do not meet the minimum provision standards, while the accessibility standards will help determine where those deficiencies are of high importance. Applying the standards together is a much more meaningful method of analysis than applying the standards separately and therefore helps with the prioritisation of sites.

SECTION 5 – PARKS AND GARDENS

Summary

5.30 The key issues emerging from the review of the provision of parks and gardens across Oldham Borough and the assessment of local needs can be summarised as:

	Current Provision	Local Needs
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> although on the whole the quality of parks and gardens is good and evenly distributed, quality particularly in Failsworth and Hollinwood and West Oldham is varied; and quality of parks and gardens is higher than the quality of other types of open space. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> significant improvements made to the stock of parks and gardens in recent years are valued by local residents; cleanliness and maintenance is perceived to be the critical factor in determining the quality of a park. Vandalism and litter are the key issues experienced at sites; and quality of sites is particularly important and is the key determinant of the level of use.
Quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> although parks are evenly distributed across the Borough, provision in Royton and Shaw is higher than in other areas, given the size of the population. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> although, linking with accessibility the importance of having local parks and gardens is highlighted, quality is perceived to be a more significant issue than quantity.
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> key issues in terms of access include poor consideration for people with disabilities and a lack of signage to and within sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> residents expect to walk to local parks and gardens, highlighting the importance of the even distribution.
Overall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> parks are particularly well used in Oldham Borough and are perceived to be critical in defining the character of the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> parks and gardens are the most highly valued type of open space; and parks and gardens can play a key role in the achievement of Council objectives and the integration of local communities.

SECTION 6

NATURAL AND SEMI NATURAL OPEN SPACES

Natural and semi-natural open space

Definition

- 6.1 This type of open space includes woodlands, urban forestry, scrubland, grasslands (eg downlands, commons, meadows), wetlands, nature reserves and wastelands with a primary purpose of wildlife conservation and bio-diversity within the settlement boundaries.
- 6.2 Natural and semi natural sites have many wider benefits as supported by the site assessments. 71% of sites across Oldham were deemed to have ecological benefits whilst 57% had structural and landscape benefits.

Figure 6.1 – Diggle Fields, Ward Lane (site ID 486)



Current Position

- 6.3 The Unitary Development Plan policies recognise the importance of the protection of nature conservation sites and highlight the need to consider the nature value even of those sites which do not have official designation. The UDP also recognises the importance of links with the Biodiversity Action Plan and policies ensure that species will not be harmed. The importance and significance of natural, semi-natural and nature conservation areas are reinforced throughout the Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan which highlights key actions for trees, woodlands and dry grasslands and heaths.
- 6.4 There are a number of areas of nature conservation importance within Oldham, including five sites declared as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – Lowside Brickworks, Standedge Road Cuttings, Ladcastle and Den Quarries, Rochdale Canal and part of the South Pennines Moor. In addition there is a Local Nature Reserve (LNR) in the Borough – Glodwick Lows. Other sites that have a significant nature conservation interest have also been identified in order to ensure their protection.

SECTION 6 – NATURAL AND SEMI-NATURAL OPEN SPACE

6.5 The overall level of provision of natural and semi-natural areas is 701 hectares, spread over a total of 230 sites at an average size of 3.05 hectares. This equates to 3.23 per 1000 population overall. This compares favourably to the English Nature Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt) that recommends at least 2 hectares of accessible natural greenspace per 1000 people. However, this is skewed significantly by the presence of some very large sites (over 20 hectares) that serve residents across the Borough. These sites include Brushes Quarry, Dovestone Reservoir, Oldham Edge and Cutler Bridge. Excluding these sites has a dramatic impact on the quantity provision, reducing it to 1.92 ha per 1000.

Quantity

- 6.6 Within the Borough, there are 230 natural areas. Some of the wildlife sites, SSSIs and LNRs have not been audited and assessed due to their large nature, or the fact that they are outside of the main settlement boundaries, but these sites should be accounted for when applying the recommended local standards and making the recommendations for this typology.
- 6.7 In light of the proximity of the Borough to extensive areas of nearby accessible countryside it is important to consider the provision of natural open space sites in the context of this countryside.
- 6.8 Provision of natural and semi natural sites in terms of quality, quantity and accessibility is discussed below. Further details are provided within the linked Access database and GIS system.
- 6.9 Table 6.1 below illustrates the current distribution of natural and semi natural open spaces across the Borough:

Table 6.1 – Distribution of natural and semi-natural areas

Analysis Area	Population	Number of sites	Hectares	Key sites in the area
1 – Saddleworth and Lees	34,483	51	158.43	Dovestones Reservoir Medlock Valley
2 - Chadderton	31,114	30	45.74	Mill Brow
3 – Failsworth and Hollinwood	30,465	25	86.46	Cutler Bridge
4 – Royton and Shaw	42,682	39	182.59	Brushes Quarry Oldham Edge
5 – East Oldham	33,345	31	103.22	Glodwick Lows Medlock Valley
6 – West Oldham	45,184	54	124.61	Deanshot Clough Bankfield Clough

SECTION 6 – NATURAL AND SEMI-NATURAL OPEN SPACE

- the spread of natural and semi natural provision across the Borough varies. The highest levels perhaps unsurprisingly are found in the most rural area – Saddleworth and Lees (analysis area 1), and even when the large sites are removed, provision is still highest in this area. A third of the provision in Saddleworth and Lees is accounted for by Dovestones Reservoir which is 48.34 hectares. Given the size of this site, the significance of it to local residents cannot be underestimated
- Chadderton has the lowest quantity of natural and semi natural open space provision in the Borough with only two sites over 5 hectares in size. Provision in this area is significantly lower than that in other areas including large sites, and it is the only area where the quantity per 1000 population falls below 2 hectares; and
- West Oldham has the greatest number of natural and semi natural open space sites although there are few large sites in this area. This is also reflective of the provision of amenity green space in West Oldham where once again, there are large numbers of very small sites. This is characteristic of the dense urban environment, where much greenspace is used for landscaping purposes.

6.10 The key points relating to the quantity of natural and semi natural open space ascertained from the consultation undertaken are: -

- 41% of all respondents to the household survey stated that the provision was “about right”. Just over a third of respondents (35%) said that they felt provision was 'not enough' and 13% 'nearly enough' indicating that residents would potentially value some additional natural and semi natural sites
- Failsworth / Hollinwood and Saddleworth and Lees have a higher percentage of people who consider there to be 'not enough' or 'nearly enough' with 59% and 56% respectively. This is surprising given that provision in Saddleworth and Lees is the highest in the Borough, and taking into the rural nature of the area. This viewpoint was not reflected in the Saddleworth drop in session, where the emphasis was placed on the protection of existing open space although the inaccessibility of some of the nearby countryside was highlighted
- residents in East Oldham have the highest levels of satisfaction with only 34% indicating that there is insufficient provision
- the main concerns regarding the quantity of natural and semi natural open space relate to the fear of losing these sites to development. This further reinforces the value of greenspace to residents; and
- similar to other types of open space, consultations highlighted that Failsworth and Hollinwood lacks natural and semi natural provision. The apparent shortfall of provision in this area emerged consistently as a key issue although this is not always supported in terms of the level of provision in comparison to other areas. In the instance of natural and semi natural open space sites, although in area terms provision in Failsworth and Hollinwood is above other areas, this analysis area has the fewest number of sites in the Borough. This suggests that there may be localised deficiencies in open spaces (this will become evident through the application of provision standards) which will support the resident viewpoint.

Quality

6.11 The quality of each site has been assessed through a detailed site visit and the completion of a detailed pro forma described in section two and provided in detail in appendix K. It is important to note that the quality score represents a snapshot in time and records only the quality of the site at the time of the site visit. The average quality range for sites in each area include: -

Table 6.2 – Quality analysis

Analysis Area	Quality Range	Average Score	Highest quality sites
1 – Saddleworth and Lees	44% - 75%	58%	Brownhill Visitor Centre Diggle Fields / Ward Lane Friezland Scheme
2 - Chadderton	30% - 68%	47%	All sites scored average or below. Mill Brow scored highest
3 – Failsworth and Hollinwood	36% - 65%	45%	All sites scored average or below Sammy’s Basin scored highest
4 – Royton and Shaw	40% - 73%	54%	Coalshaw
5 – East Oldham	39% - 72%	48%	Huddersfield Road
6 – West Oldham	34% - 67%	46%	All sites scored average or below Middleton Road Reservoir scored highest

- whilst there is significant provision of natural and semi natural open space in the Borough there are clear issues over the quality of sites across all analysis areas, with a significant number of sites scoring poorly or very poorly
- it can be seen that the average score across the entire Borough is significantly below that of other typologies indicating that the quality of natural and semi natural sites is poorer and may therefore warrant improvement; and
- the highest average score is achieved in Saddleworth and Lees, where the highest scoring site, Brownhill Visitor Centre is located. Further reinforcing the viewpoint of residents in Failsworth and Hollinwood, this is the area with the lowest average score.

6.12 The key points relating to the quality of natural and semi natural open space ascertained from the comprehensive consultation undertaken are: -

- internal consultations highlight the Council vision of well-maintained naturalised open space which is functional and safe. Safety was highlighted as a key issue for some residents, particularly surrounding the use of these sites for anti social behaviour. Off road motor biking was also perceived to be particularly threatening, with sites such as Oldham Edge, Crossley Fields and Granby Street mentioned

SECTION 6 – NATURAL AND SEMI-NATURAL OPEN SPACE

- in a similar vein to the emerging issues of misuse and neglect, litter and fly tipping were also seen as problematic. This was perceived to significantly reduce the value of the open space, particularly in relation to wider landscape and wildlife. Attendees at workshops discussed natural open space sites, highlighting that there were some excellent natural open spaces which were not fulfilling their potential owing to a lack of maintenance and hence low usage
- the opportunities created through the provision of natural areas were recognised, particularly in terms of walking and wildlife. Dovestones Reservoir was highlighted as an example of a site with huge potential. Further development and enhancement of the site would add value and increase resident's enjoyment; and
- the aspirations of the local community reflect the current issues experienced and include clean and litter free, flower, trees and shrubs, clear footpaths, nature features and nature conservation areas. Respondents to the household survey indicated that staff on-site, adequate lighting, reputation of open space, other users and clear routes to open space are important to help people feel safe in open space, again highlighting the importance of security. Dog fouling and litter problems are currently considered to be the worst quality issues in natural open space sites by users.

Accessibility

- 6.13 Accessibility at each site was also assessed through a detailed site visit and the completion of a detailed pro forma.
- 6.14 Key issues arising from the assessment of site specific accessibility in Oldham include:
- 78% of sites scored either poorly or very poorly when considering access for people who were not on foot. Improvements to key features such as paths, cycleways and accesses offer the opportunity to encourage local residents to participate in physical activities whilst simultaneously enhancing the usage and value of the natural and semi natural sites. Some sites scored poorly in these areas as they were perceived to be overgrown at the time of the site visit
 - 86% of sites scored very poorly in terms information and signage – this may be reflective of a lack of interpretation boards in addition to a lack of signage to the site. Poor signage may impact on the awareness of the site for local residents and reduce the level of use and consequently the value of the site to residents; and
 - responses to the household survey suggest that people in Oldham are willing to travel further to reach their nearest natural open space than is suggested by the standards produced by English Nature. This is reflective of the urban nature of the Borough and was also reinforced by qualitative consultation, with residents at drop in sessions suggesting that they would travel to reach natural open spaces, particularly the Peak District National Park. This reinforces the value of the larger natural sites and the areas of nearby accessible countryside.

Setting provision standards

- 6.15 In setting local standards for natural and semi natural areas there is a need to take into account any national or existing local standards, current provision, other Local Authority standards for appropriate comparison and consultation on local needs.
- 6.16 A full assessment of local needs both Borough wide and within each area has been undertaken for Oldham, and the key messages emerging from this assessment, coupled with an evaluation of the existing audit have been used to determine provision standards required to meet local needs.
- 6.17 The process for setting each type of standard is outlined in section two. The rationale for each recommendation, including assessment of local need, existing provision and consultation is provided in Appendix H, I and J. The recommended local standards have been summarised overleaf.

Quantity Standard (see appendix H – standards and justification, worksheet and calculator)

Existing level of provision	Recommended standard
<p>3.23 per 1000 population overall, 1.92ha per 1000 excluding large sites</p>	<p>1.95 ha per 1000 population</p>
Justification	
<p>Current provision across Oldham Borough is equivalent to 3.23ha per 1000 population. This is skewed significantly by the presence of four very large sites (over 20 hectares) which serve residents across the Borough. For the purposes of standard setting, these sites have been excluded and provision is therefore equivalent to 1.92 ha per 1000 population. The spread of natural and semi natural provision across the Borough varies. The highest levels perhaps unsurprisingly are found in the most rural area of the Borough – Saddleworth and Lees, and even when the large sites are removed, provision is still highest in this area. Despite this, residents responding to the household survey in Saddleworth perceive there to be insufficient natural space. This perception was not reflected in the drop in sessions, although there was a desire to protect existing open space. Both consultations and the household survey identified Failsworth and Hollinwood as lacking in natural and semi natural provision, although this is not reflected in the level of provision in comparison to other areas of the Borough.</p> <p>The overall split in opinion between provision being about right and insufficient is perhaps representative of the uneven distribution. Although value is placed on natural sites, qualitative consultations again placed a focus on improving the quality of provision. Given the distribution of provision and the focus on quality, a standard just above the current level is recommended. This recognises the value of these spaces and the importance of protection, offering opportunities for development of such facilities in areas perceived to be lacking. Due to the incidental nature of this type of open space and the limited opportunities for provision, a standard slightly above current levels of provision in the urban area has been set, although consideration should be given to incorporating natural areas within other typologies. The recommended standard (which should be viewed as a minimum level of provision across all urban areas) therefore meets the expectations of current users and is higher than current levels of provision in Royton and Shaw, Chadderton and West Oldham (excluding large sites).</p> <p>When taking into account the presence of the larger sites, only Chadderton remains below the minimum recommended standard. This standard will therefore protect existing levels of provision, without placing onerous demands for new provision.</p>	

Accessibility Standard (see appendix J)

Recommended standard
15 minutes walk time - (720 metres)
Justification
<p>An assessment of the 75% level Borough wide suggests that residents are willing to walk up to 15 minutes walk to a natural and semi natural open space. Only residents in East Oldham felt people should walk further (18.75 minutes), a figure which is perhaps reflective of lower levels of provision of this type of open space in this densely populated area and the breakdown of analysis areas shows that all areas support this standard. This consultation highlights that people are willing to travel further to reach their nearest natural open space than is suggested by the standards produced by English Nature. This is reflective of the urban nature of the Borough and was also reinforced by qualitative consultation, with residents at drop in sessions suggesting that they would travel to reach natural open spaces, particularly the Peak District National Park. Given the high levels of agreement from respondents to the household survey regarding the appropriateness of a 15 minutes walk time, it is recommended that the standard is set at this level. This is both in line with the PPG17 methodology and is also reflective of other consultations undertaken.</p>

Quality Standard (see appendix I)

Recommended standard
<i>‘A spacious, clean, well vegetated, litter free site with clear pathways and natural features that encourages wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental awareness. Management of local sites should involve the community if at all possible and a ranger presence should be encouraged to embrace community safety.’</i>
Justification
<p>With significant provision of natural and semi natural open space in the Borough it is of paramount importance that all such open space is governed by a local quality standard as to improve the management and maintenance of vegetation and paths. The standard incorporates the Council and public aspirations for safe, clean and functional natural open spaces which should be well used and promoted for their conservation and educational benefits. The recommended standard incorporates the public aspirations of providing clean and litter free sites and focuses on the importance of this type of open space for promoting nature features, wildlife habitats and providing environmental awareness and education opportunities for local people. To ensure that sites are well managed it is suggested that the local community are involved. The Green Flag Criteria represent a key national benchmark of quality for natural sites and the key elements of this standard are therefore included within the proposed vision.</p>

Quality Benchmarking

- 6.18 The application of the quality benchmarking standard (set at a score of 72% on the site assessment for natural and semi natural areas) provides an indication of the desired level of quality suggested at each site and enables a comparison at sites across the Borough. As described in Appendix K, it highlights sites, which currently meet the visionary standard, and those sites falling below and consequently where improvement is required. A full list of site scores can be found in the natural and semi natural section of Appendix L.

6.19 The 5 highest and 5 lowest scoring sites are highlighted in figure 6.2 below:

Fig 6.2 – Highest and lowest natural and semi natural quality scores

V good	90% to 100%		
Good	70% to 90%		Site ID 416 – Brownhill Visitor Centre (75%) Site ID 486 – Diggle Fields, Ward Lane NSN (75%) Site ID 2653 – Colishaw NSN – (73%) Site ID 265 – Huddersfield Road NSN – (72%) Site ID 432 – Friezland Scheme (72%)
Average	50% to 70%	↑	
Poor	30% to 50%	↓	Site ID 1698 – Lime Ditch Road NSN (36%) Site ID 1712 – Kingstead Avenue NSN (35%) Site ID 1931 - Oswald Street NSN (34%) Site ID 1718 – Back of Long Lane NSN (33%) Site ID 645 – Cartmel Cresent NSN (30%)
V poor	Below 30%		

Applying provision standards – identifying geographical areas

6.20 In order to identify geographical areas of importance and those areas with required local needs the quantitative provision of natural and semi natural areas in Oldham should be considered alongside the recommended local standard for accessibility. The quantity standards enable the identification of areas that do not meet the minimum provision standards, while the accessibility standards will help determine where those deficiencies are of high importance. Applying the standards together is a much more meaningful method of analysis than applying the standards separately and therefore helps with the prioritisation of sites.

SECTION 6 – NATURAL AND SEMI-NATURAL OPEN SPACE

Summary

6.21 The key issues emerging from the review of the provision of natural and semi-natural areas across Oldham Borough and the assessment of local needs can be summarised as: -

	Current Provision	Local Needs
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the overall quality of natural and semi-natural areas is poor with a significant number of sites scoring poor or very poor. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the key problem areas relating to quality are poor maintenance, litter problems and general mis-use of the areas; and the average score across the entire Borough is significantly below that of other typologies indicating that the quality of natural and semi natural sites is particularly below that of other typologies and may therefore be an area for improvement.
Quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the amount of natural space in Oldham is very good with several large sites and easy access to Saddleworth Moors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> although, linking with accessibility the importance of having natural and semi natural areas is highlighted, quality is perceived to be a more significant issue than quantity.
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> key issues in terms of access include poor consideration for people with disabilities and a lack of signage to and within sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> residents expect to walk to local natural and semi natural areas, highlighting the importance of the even distribution, however, people are willing to travel further to reach larger, better quality sites such as the Peak District National Park.
Overall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> there is significant provision of natural and semi natural areas and it is important to improve the management and maintenance of the areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> natural and semi natural areas can play a key role in promoting wildlife habitats and providing environmental awareness and educational benefits.

SECTION 7

AMENITY GREENSPACE

Amenity Greenspace

Definition

- 7.1 This type of open space is most commonly found in housing areas. It includes informal recreation spaces and greenspaces in and around housing, with a primary purpose of providing opportunities for informal activities close to home or work or enhancing the appearance of residential or other areas. It also includes town and village greens.

Figure 7.1 – Sholver Millenium Green (site ID 2618)



Strategic context and consultation

Strategic context

- 7.2 The National Playing Field Association (NPFA) guideline '6 acre standard', sets a standard for overall 'playing space' of 2.43ha per 1,000 population. Included within this it recommends there should be provision of 2 acres (ie 0.81 ha per 1,000 population) for children's playing space. This should include areas designated for children and young people and casual or informal playing space within housing areas e.g. amenity greenspace.
- 7.3 In addition, the NPFA also recommend that a Local Area of Play (LAP) of a minimum area size of 100msq should be within a 1-minute walk (60m in a straight line). These areas typically have no play equipment and could therefore be considered as amenity greenspace.
- 7.4 The Oldham UDP sets a standard is set of 1.2 hectares per 1000 people of other open space, of which 0.8 hectares should be formal or informal children's play. This standard also includes open space for non-pitch sports such as tennis and amenity greenspace.

- 7.5 Part 1 policies R1 and R2 of the UDP highlight the significance of protecting open space, sport and recreation, whilst ensuring recreational land is considered within new developments to enable social inclusion and meet local needs.

Current position

- 7.6 There are presently 365 amenity greenspace sites located across Oldham, within small and large settlements alike, although the sizes of amenity greenspace range significantly. The overall level of provision of amenity greenspace equals 98 hectares. Some sites are equivalent to just 0.01 hectares in size e.g. Torwood Drive AGS (site ID 1891) and Apple Close AGS (site ID 1580) while others are far larger pieces of land, up to 2.97 hectares (Tuns Road AGS (site ID 748).
- 7.7 Despite the small size of some sites, these spaces provide an amenity and landscape benefit in areas often otherwise devoid of greenspaces. Regeneration and housing market renewal across the Borough has resulted in the provision of many small amenity green space sites, some of which are in the ownership of housing associations. The value of some of these sites has been questioned, with consultees highlighting a preference for larger sites which have a more defined amenity function and can act as a focal point for the community.
- 7.8 Despite this, some amenity greenspaces have been highlighted as being of specific value to residents across the Borough, including Crossley Fields, Ferney Fields, Oldham Edge and Lower Lime Fields.
- 7.9 An example of working with local residents to enhance the quality of open spaces is Groundwork Oldham’s work with Sholver Millenium Green. It is hoped that the involvement of the community, alongside the provision of lighting will encourage ownership and respect for the site and consequentially reduce anti social behaviour. Groundwork are also working across Shaw and Crompton, with the aim of enhancing incidental open space to regenerate the open area and ensure that all provided space has a function. Groundwork see the enhancement of local amenity spaces as key to the achievement of the overall regeneration goals in the Borough.

Current provision of amenity greenspace

- 7.10 The current provision of amenity greenspace in terms of quality, quantity and accessibility is discussed below. Further details are provided within the linked Access database and GIS system. The key messages emerging from consultations regarding amenity green space are also highlighted.

Quantity

- 7.11 Table 7.1 below illustrates the current distribution of amenity greenspace across the Borough:

Table 7.1 – Distribution of amenity greenspace

Analysis Area	Population	Number of sites	Hectares
1 – Saddleworth and Lees	34,483	30	6.19
2 - Chadderton	31,114	56	16.03

SECTION 7 – AMENITY GREENSPACE

Analysis Area	Population	Number of sites	Hectares
3 – Failsworth and Hollinwood	30,465	64	13.00
4 – Royton and Shaw	42,682	50	17.15
5 – East Oldham	33,345	67	25.10
6 – West Oldham	45,184	98	20.61

- as can be seen in table 7.1 above, the distribution of amenity green space across the Borough is relatively uneven both in terms of the number of sites and in hectareage terms, ranging from 0.18ha per 1000 in Saddleworth and Lees to 0.75ha in West Oldham
- provision in Saddleworth and Lees is considerably lower than in other areas, and this is the only area where amenity greenspace sites equate to less than 0.4 hectares per 1000 population. This is reflective of the rural area characterised by lower density housing and hence there is a lower reliance on the provision of local amenity spaces; and
- provision is highest in East Oldham (0.75 ha per 1000 population), where there are a number of larger amenity greenspace sites (e.g. Pearly Bank AGS – 2.42ha and Beckett Meadows – 2.31ha). West Oldham also has a high level of provision, with 98 amenity greenspace sites totalling over 20 hectares, however in comparison to provision elsewhere, it is clear that sites in this area are smaller in size and may therefore be of reduced recreational value to residents. Higher levels of provision in the high density housing areas of East and West Oldham are characteristic of this type of housing and many offer visual amenity as well as recreational opportunities for residents.

7.12 Comments relating from the consultation specific to the quantity of amenity greenspace within Oldham include: -

- 53% of household survey respondents stated that they felt there was 'not enough' or 'nearly enough' provision of amenity green space. This was a consistent view across all areas except East Oldham where half of all respondents felt provision was 'about right/more than enough'. Residents in East Oldham currently have access to the highest levels of amenity greenspace provision in the Borough
- consultation highlighted that many communities place significant value on local amenity greenspaces, particularly where these spaces offer the only opportunity for children to play informally and safely. For many residents, the potential for housing development on greenspaces is a huge concern and this was reflected in drop in sessions. Internal consultations also highlighted incidences of concern expressed by residents. The value of amenity greenspace was highlighted in particular by residents of Limehurst Village near Lower Lime Fields, who oppose the potential development of housing on the site (and have completed questionnaires formally stating this); and

SECTION 7 – AMENITY GREENSPACE

- in contrast, views expressed at drop in sessions in other areas (particularly West Oldham) concur with internal consultees, suggesting that there are too many incidental pieces of amenity space and as a result they are poorly maintained contributing to degeneration of the streetscape. Area committee representatives in Oldham highlighted specific examples of sites where there are significant dog fouling and litter problems. For these residents, quality of provision is more important than quantity of amenity greenspace. This view was also expressed at the area committee managers and forum meeting, specifically in relation to East Oldham.

7.13 Table 7.2 below highlights the range in quality of amenity green space sites across the Borough:

Table 7.2 – Quality analysis

Analysis Area	Number of sites	Quality Range	Average Score	Highest Quality Sites
1 – Saddleworth and Lees	30	53% - 76%	65%	Central Avenue AGS
2 - Chadderton	56	45% - 79%	60%	Whitegate End AGS
3 – Failsworth and Hollinwood	64	44% - 79%	58%	Collier Hill AGS
4 – Royton & Shaw	50	46% - 76%	61%	Heyside AGS
5 – East Oldham	67	41% - 84%	58%	Sholver Millenium Green
6 – West Oldham	98	30% - 89%	63%	Westfield Close AGS

- the average quality score across all areas indicates a consistency in provision across the Borough. The quality of sites in Saddleworth and Lees (where the quantity is lowest) was marginally higher than in other areas, which is perhaps reflective of the affluence of the area
- analysis of the range of scores achieved demonstrates that within each area, there are a number of sites of relatively poor quality. Only within Saddleworth and Lees did sites not score below 50%
- the quality of amenity greenspace sites in West Oldham is particularly varied, with the poorest quality sites in the Borough both being located in this area (Readham Walk and Carlisle Street) and a number of sites rated below 50%. Despite this, the highest scoring site in the Borough is also located in West Oldham (Westfield Close Amenity Greenspace); and
- quality of amenity greenspace sites is of particular importance, given their important visual amenity function.

7.14 Consultation comments relating specifically to the quality of amenity green space within Oldham include: -

- many sites experience problems with litter and fly tipping, reducing the value of these open spaces. General maintenance of the quality of the paths and

grass is perceived to be declining, particularly as a result of the focus on improving the quality of parks and larger open spaces

- while internal consultees indicated that maintenance of amenity spaces is sufficient, it was clear that many amenity spaces are perceived to be so small they do not provide functions to residents. These spaces (along with maintenance of spaces not owned by the Council) put pressure on the maintenance budgets and reduce the opportunities to improve other sites. Fewer spaces with an increased focus on quantity was perceived more valuable overall; and
- there is limited public ownership of amenity greenspace sites, and many residents feel that these sites offer the opportunity for youths and teenagers to gather, degenerating the area and intimidating local people. Amenity greenspace sites also attract antisocial behaviour which was considered to be linked to a lack of provision for children and young people. This issue was raised consistently at workshops, (LSP, Area Committee and Area Managers) with representatives from areas across the Borough highlighting vandalism and antisocial behaviour as problematic. This was the most consistently recurring issue across open spaces in Oldham and is particularly prevalent on larger sites.

Accessibility

- 7.15 Accessibility at each site was also assessed through a detailed site visit and the completion of a detailed pro forma and takes into account issues including whether the entrance to the site is easily accessible, the condition of roads, paths and cycleways, whether there is disabled access, how accessible is the site by public transport, bicycle or walking, and whether there are clear and appropriate signs to the site. Given the function of the amenity greenspace and the localised nature of these spaces, access to many of these sites takes on lower levels of importance in comparison to other types of open space.
- 7.16 Key issues arising from the assessment of site specific accessibility in Oldham include: -
- 79% of respondents to the household questionnaire indicated that they would expect to walk to amenity greenspace, again reinforcing the localised concept of amenity spaces
 - although almost all residents considered this type of open space to be important, very few people across the Borough use them more frequently than other types of open space, illustrating their multipurpose functionality
 - internal consultees believed that there is a need for more accessible areas of amenity greenspace of sufficient quality within the inner wards of Oldham, due to the high density of terraced housing. Although both East and West Oldham (in particular West) have large quantities of amenity sites, as highlighted previously many are small and considered to be of only limited value to residents; and
 - area committee managers in Saddleworth and Lees highlighted issues with the rural isolation of people within the villages and stated that local public amenity space is of paramount importance.

Setting provision standards

- 7.17 In setting local standards for amenity greenspace areas there is a need to take into account any national or existing local standards, current provision, other Local Authority standards for appropriate comparison and consultation on local needs.
- 7.18 A full assessment of local needs both Borough wide and within each area has been undertaken for Oldham, and the key messages emerging from this assessment, coupled with an evaluation of the existing audit have been used to determine provision standards required to meet local needs.
- 7.19 The process for setting each type of standard is outlined in section two. The rationale for each recommendation, including assessment of local need, existing provision and consultation is provided in Appendix H, I and J. The recommended local standards have been summarised below.

Quantity Standard (see appendix H – standards and justification, worksheet and calculator)

Existing level of provision	Recommended standard
0.45 ha per 1000 population	0.46ha per 1000 population
Justification	
<p>The current level of provision is equivalent to 0.45ha per 1000 population. Consultation highlights a variety of different perspectives on amenity greenspace provision, with 53% of respondents to the household survey stating that there is not enough, contrasting with more qualitative comments, which put a higher focus on quality, and on the provision of other types of open spaces. Although the majority of people agreed on the quantitative supply of amenity greenspaces, those people feeling there were insufficient open spaces highlighted fears of housing development removing opportunities for informal recreation. This comment, which was heard at consultations, workshops and was also a common response in the household survey has strong links with the perceived lack of spaces for children and young people. Given these overlaps, it appears that provision of amenity greenspaces is about right.</p> <p>Consulation highlights the importance of these sites for recreational and landscape purposes in breaking up the urban texture and providing greenspace in what would otherwise be a built up area. The highest levels of dissatisfaction with current levels of provision are in East Oldham and Failsworth and Hollinwood, which correspond with where provision is the lowest. Given this, the recognised importance to the community of amenity greenspaces, but also the identified overlap with provision for children and young people, a standard of 0.46 has been set. This is just above the current level of provision Borough wide, recognising the desire for more provision in Failsworth and Hollinwood and East Oldham without placing onerous demands on the Council for increased provision.</p>	

Accessibility Standard (see appendix J)

Recommended standard
10 minute walk time - (480 metres)
Justification
<p>The 75% threshold level from the household survey of 10 minutes walk is higher than the modal response (5 minutes). Although on the whole the perception at other consultations suggested that amenity greenspaces should be localised facilities within easy reach of residential areas, when breaking down the responses in the Borough, the 10 minute standard is mirrored in all areas, with the exception of residents in East Oldham, who are willing to walk further.</p> <p>The expressed desire for local amenity greenspace supports the perception that a standard based on travelling on foot is most appropriate and indeed, while some residents responding to the household survey indicated that they would travel by car, all residents attending drop in sessions referring to amenity greenspaces were talking about very localised facilities. Despite this, a standard of 10 minutes is both reflective of the 75th percentile according to the PPG17 methodology whilst simultaneously reinforcing other comments made with regards to quality, where people indicated that they would prefer to travel to larger well maintained sites than to small incidental pieces of land. This standard therefore reflects the perceptions of users and is similar to those set for other authorities. This figure should be considered the maximum effective catchment for new provision. Setting the standard at a lower level may have been appropriate if there is clear evidence that a significant proportion of local people do not use existing provision because they regard it as inaccessible, but can result in an unnecessarily high and uneconomic level of provision. In this instance the catchment has been set at a higher level to correspond to local aspirations and provide greater flexibility to achieve a balance between qualitative and quantitative improvements rather than onerous demands for new provision.</p>

Quality Standard (see appendix I)

Recommended standard
<i>“A clean and well-maintained greenspace site. Sites should have appropriate ancillary furniture (dog and litter bins etc), pathways and landscaping in the right places providing a safe secure site with spacious outlook which enhances the appearance of the local environment. Larger sites should be suitable for informal play opportunities and should be enhanced to encourage the site to become a community focus.”</i>
Justification
<p>It is recommended that amenity greenspace provides an important community function. The standard suggests that by increasing functionality of such open space then the community will benefit. The standard incorporates both public and council aspirations and has been designed to promote best practice encouraging informal play where sites are large enough - it is also designed to link in with the Green Flag criteria where appropriate. There are a large number of amenity greenspaces in Oldham with great variations in quality and it is important that where possible these sites help to enhance the local environment. By introducing this quality standard and quality benchmarking the Council will be able to assess the value of sites and identify the poorest quality sites which could potentially be disposed of in areas with provision above the minimum standard and in turn help improve the overall quality of open space.</p>

Quality Benchmarking

- 7.20 The application of the quality benchmarking standard (set at a score of 75% on the site assessment for amenity greenspace) provides an indication of the desired level of quality suggested at each site and enables a comparison at sites across the Borough. As described in Appendix K, it highlights sites, which currently meet the visionary standard, and those sites falling below and consequently where improvement is required. A full list of site scores can be found in the amenity greenspace section of Appendix L.
- 7.21 The 5 highest and 5 lowest scoring sites are highlighted in figure 7.2 below:

Fig 7.2 – Highest and lowest amenity greenspace quality scores

V good	90% to 100%		
Good	70% to 90%		Site ID 2500 – Westfield Close AGS (89%) Site ID 1771 – Pembroke Street AGS (84%) Site ID 2618 – Sholver Millenium Green (84%) Site ID 1670 – Woodfield Street AGS1 (80%) Site ID 1637 – Collier Hill AGS (79%)
Average	50% to 70%	↑	
Poor	30% to 50%		Site ID 1823 – Greengate AGS (42%) Site ID 1623 – Hadfield Street AGS (41%) Site ID 1789 – Lincoln Street AGS (39%) Site ID 1785 - Carlisle Street AGS (38%) Site ID 1787 – Readham Walk AGS (30%)
V poor	Below 30%		

Applying provision standards – identifying geographical areas

7.22 In order to identify geographical areas of importance and those areas with required local needs the quantitative provision of amenity greenspace in Oldham should be considered alongside the recommended local standard for accessibility. The quantity standards enable the identification of areas that do not meet the minimum provision standards, while the accessibility standards will help determine where those deficiencies are of high importance. Applying the standards together is a much more meaningful method of analysis than applying the standards separately and therefore helps with the prioritisation of sites.

Summary

7.23 The key issues emerging from the review of the provision of amenity greenspace areas across Oldham Borough and the assessment of local needs can be summarised as:

	Current Provision	Local Needs
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> although on the whole the quality range of amenity areas across the Borough is similar in each area, the overall average of sites in Failsworth and Hollinwood, Chadderton and East Oldham is lower than the other areas, indicating a greater number of lower quality sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the quality of provision in all areas varies considerably with some poor rated sites up to good rated sites. It is important these sites help enhance the local environment; cleanliness and on-going maintenance are perceived to be the critical factors in determining the quality of amenity areas. Vandalism and anti-social behaviour are the key issues experienced at sites; and quality of amenity greenspace sites is of particular importance, given their important visual amenity function.
Quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> there are a large number of amenity greenspace sites across the Borough varying considerably in size; and Saddleworth and Lees has the lowest amount of amenity space and number of sites. Although areas with a large number of sites (i.e. West Oldham and Failsworth and Hollinwood) have a high proportion of smaller less significant areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> although, linking with accessibility the importance of having local amenity space is highlighted, quality is perceived to be a more significant issue than quantity with many sites especially in streetscape areas (East and West Oldham) poorly maintained and therefore becoming increasingly unusable; and <p>these areas of land can be extremely valuable to local residents and pressure for</p>

SECTION 7 – AMENITY GREENSPACE

		residents and pressure for housing development on these sites is a key concern.
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> due to the large amount of amenity areas within Oldham the issues relating to access are predominantly qualitative. Where people would not want to use sites that are poorly maintained or litter strewn. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> residents expect to walk to local amenity greenspace, highlighting the importance of the even distribution across the Borough; and there is a need for more accessible areas of amenity greenspace of sufficient quality within the inner wards of Oldham, due to the high density of terraced housing.
Overall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> there is significant provision with regard to the number of sites in each area although the focus of issues is on the quality of these sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> amenity areas are a very valuable open space resource especially within the high density urban areas where space is limited; and the overall quality and usability of small sites requires addressing so each site adds value to the local community.

SECTION 8

PROVISION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Provision for children and young people

Definition

- 8.1 This type of open space includes areas such as equipped play areas, ball courts, skateboard areas and teenage shelters with the primary purpose of providing opportunities for play and social interaction involving both children and young people.
- 8.2 This typology also has many wider benefits as supported by the site assessments. 97% of the sites were perceived to have social inclusion and health benefits.

Figure 8.1 – Denshaw Village Hall Play Area (site ID 2615)



Figure 8.2 – George Street Skate Park (site ID 2635)



Strategic context and consultation

Strategic context

- 8.3 National Standards for provision for children and young people are set out in the NPFA 6 Acre Standard per 1000 population for “playing space” consisting of 2 acres for children’s playing space – which includes areas designated for children and young people and casual or informal playing space within housing areas.
- 8.4 In the Oldham UDP a standard is set of 1.2 hectares per 1000 people of other open space, of which 0.8 hectares should be formal or informal children’s play. This standard also includes open space for non-pitch sports such as tennis and amenity greenspace.
- 8.5 The NPFA also details recognised standards for different types of provision for children and young people, specifically NEAPS (neighbourhood areas for play), LEAPS (local equipped areas for play) and LAPs (local areas for play). These recognised standards are set out in the current UDP.

Current position

- 8.6 There are currently a total of 66 children play areas and 10 sites for young people within Oldham. Included with the young people facilities are 4 skate parks, 5 multi-use games area’s and a BMX track.
- 8.7 The Council has invested in a programme of works that has significant implications for the provision of children and young people facilities in the Borough. A number of schemes are currently being considered and include skate parks in Greenfield, Oak Colliery and Royton. A Multi Use Games Area in Royton as well as new or refurbished play areas in Werneth, Royton, Shaw, Hollinwood and Grotton are being proposed.
- 8.8 Stakeholders attending workshops highlighted the progress that has been made across Oldham Borough in recent years regarding the improvement of the provision of play facilities for children and young people across the Borough with particular relevance to the success of the Watch this Space and Fair Share Initiatives.
- 8.9 Current levels of provision in terms of quality, quantity and accessibility are discussed in the tables and text that follow, and local community need and perceptions are also evaluated. Further details are provided within the linked Access database and GIS system.

Quantity

- 8.10 Table 8.1 overleaf illustrates the current distribution of facilities for children and young people.

Table 8.1 – Distribution of children and young people facilities

Analysis Area	Population	Hectares	Number (provision for children)	Number (provision for young people)
1 – Saddleworth and Lees	34,483	1.41	12	1
2 - Chadderton	31,114	0.79	6	1
3 – Failsworth and Hollinwood	30,465	0.68	5	0
4 – Royton and Shaw	42,682	2.34	11	1
5 – East Oldham	33,345	1.95	12	2
6 – West Oldham	45,184	2.65	20	5

- as can be seen from table 8.1 above, provision for children per 1000 population is evenly spread across the Borough although provision is lower in the Chadderton and Failsworth and Hollinwood areas. This is of particular interest, as these lower levels of provision could perhaps be linked to the increased importance placed on amenity green spaces in these two areas, particularly Failsworth and Hollinwood
- surprisingly, the highest levels of provision both per 1000 population and in numerical terms can be found in the more densely populated urban areas of West and East Oldham
- West Oldham also has the highest concentration of provision for young people / teenagers with more than double the number of facilities in any other area. The audit noted one skate park and four multi-use games areas. Although provision is significantly higher in West Oldham than in all other areas of the Borough, the distribution of the other facilities can be described as even, with only Failsworth and Hollinwood devoid of any facilities
- the balance of provision between children and young people is skewed, with few facilities for young people compared to facilities for children
- 70% of respondents to the household survey commented there is a lack of provision for children. This view was consistent across residents in all areas of the Borough, particularly in Failsworth and Hollinwood (80% of residents). Residents had the same opinions regarding provision for young people. As highlighted in other sections, it was suggested that this deficiency negatively impacted on the quality of other types of open space, enforcing children and young people to misuse sites. Representatives of area committees highlighted that there is an insufficient supply of facilities for children and young people, particularly in Saddleworth and Lees, Chadderton and Royton and Shaw
- comments received at drop in sessions highlighted a contrasting opinion to residents responding to the household survey, suggesting that people believe the quantity of facilities is good. However, the problems associated with vandalism and use by young people/ teenagers mean the young children

often cannot play on the facilities so although there may in theory be enough facilities, in practice many that exist are perceived to be unusable

- the view that there are sufficient facilities for both young people and children was shared by some internal consultees, many of whom supported the view that the facilities are there, they are just misused and abused
- although there are a number of new play areas that have been provided within Oldham, many have also been taken out as they have fallen into disrepair. One of the key aims and objectives of the Council is to reduce the level of antisocial behaviour and to generate ownership and respect from residents of the Borough. There is a reluctance to put in more facilities only for them to be abused and neglected and there has been significant success and longevity of facilities where sites have been developed in consultation with the local community
- more than half, 54%, of all children and young people (predominantly between the ages of 7-11 years old) have visited play areas within the past year. This is the second most popular type of open space visited by the age range, second to parks, used by 75% of all young people responding to the IT Young People questionnaire
- respondents to the IT Young People questionnaire were asked to rate the amount of facilities available for children and young people in the Borough. The majority of respondents (34%) suggested that provision was good, 22% suggested very good provision and 24% fair; and
- stakeholder workshops (particularly area committee managers members) supported the views of residents responding to the household survey, highlighting the need for more facilities. Specifically, recent developments at Foxdenton Park, Chadderton Hall Park and Coalshaw Green Park were seen as positive steps towards increasing the amount of provision. These developments within parks were funded through the 'Fair Share' initiative. Additional facilities are due to be completed at Coalshaw Green Park in the near future.

8.11 Although there are mixed perceptions regarding the quantity of provision for children and young people, on the whole it can be concluded that there were perceived to be insufficient facilities although there is recognition of the recent efforts to increase this level of provision.

8.12 In addition to comments regarding the number of actual facilities provided, it was suggested that activities for young people and children would be beneficial and should supplement the provision of facilities for children and young people. This could perhaps be linked to schemes encouraging people back into parks and was raised at stakeholder workshops, particularly with regard to Saddleworth and Lees.

Quality

8.13 The quality of each site has been assessed through a detailed site visit and the completion of a detailed pro forma described in section two and provided in detail in appendix K. It is important to note that the quality score represents a snapshot in time and records only the quality of the site at the time of the site visit. The average quality range for sites in each area include:

Table 8.2 – Quality analysis

Analysis Area	Number of sites	Quality Range	Average Score	Highest Quality Sites
1 – Saddleworth and Lees	13	49% - 93%	72%	Denshaw Village Hall Play Area
2 - Chadderton	7	47% - 87%	73%	Foxdenton Park Play Area
3 – Failsworth and Hollinwood	5	56% - 75%	63%	High Memorial Park Play Area
4 – Royton and Shaw	12	49% - 84%	67%	High Crompton Park Play Area, Tandle Hill Park Play Area
5 – East Oldham	14	48% - 87%	63%	Greenacres Road Play Area
6 – West Oldham	25	36% - 89%	60%	Shadowbrook Close Play Area, Alexandra Park Play Area

- the average score across the Borough is consistent, indicating an even distribution of poor and good quality sites. Provision in Chadderton and Saddleworth and Lees is marginally higher quality than in other areas, with an average score of over 70%
- the lowest average quality score can be found in West Oldham, where the largest quantity of provision occurs, indicating that there are a number of poor quality play areas despite the high quantity of provision
- analysis of the quality range provides perhaps a clearer picture of provision in Oldham and highlights clearly the significant variation in the quality of provision across the Borough. Although all areas have at least one site that is rated in the poor category, all areas also have at least one site considered to be good or very good and there are a number of high quality sites, with five sites scoring 87% or above
- significantly, all sites within Council owned parks and strategic sites were considered to be of high quality, emphasising the care that it is taken at these facilities and perhaps more importantly the benefits of locking sites at night and the higher levels of safety associated with larger formal parks and multi purpose sites; and
- children and young people responding to the IT Young People questionnaire highlighted the quality of facilities in Oldham for their age range as fair (27%), other responses included 24% good, and 22% very good

8.14 As highlighted previously when discussing quantity, the assessment of local need supported the findings from the audit regarding the provision of play area facilities. The recurring theme of all consultations and research was vandalism and antisocial behaviour at sites, much of which results in the need to remove the play equipment. Residents and key stakeholders alike also highlighted that the deterioration of the quality of facilities for children, stemming from the use of these facilities by older teenagers and the consequential damage the facilities suffer. Internal consultations supported the need for improved youth facilities throughout the Borough

- 8.15 Again reflective of the emphasis placed by residents on the quality of play areas, the highest rated aspirations of residents that responded to the household survey was for facilities for children and young people to be clean and litter free and for improvements to take place on the safety on sites. Lower Memorial Park was highlighted as a particular example of this, as the site is perceived to be isolated and is therefore subjected to frequent vandalism of the children's play area.

Accessibility

- 8.16 Accessibility at each site was also assessed through a detailed site visit and the completion of a detailed pro forma and takes into account issues including whether the entrance to the site is easily accessible, the condition of roads, paths and cycleways, whether there is disabled access, how accessible is the site by public transport, bicycle or walking, and whether there are clear and appropriate signs to the site
- 8.17 Key issues arising from the assessment of site specific accessibility and the consultations undertaken in Oldham include:
- 75% of respondents believed there is good access to play facilities by walking, highlighting the good distribution of sites and suggesting that many residents have facilities in their locality. 91% of respondents to the household survey stated that they would expect to walk to a play area and 80% of respondents would expect to walk to facilities for young people
 - in particular, residents in Chadderton felt that the walking distance to the nearest facility for children is too far. This perception is supported by the audit, which suggests that the provision of facilities in Chadderton is lower than in many of the other areas of the Borough
 - 45% of sites were highlighted as average or below for access by the disabled. This was reinforced by the Access for All Group, who suggested that in reality this figure may be even lower, with few sites being suitable for people with disabilities. The need to ensure that these play areas are not only accessible, but are also suitable for use by people with disabilities was emphasised
 - 71% of sites were scored as poor or very poor with regard to the signage to and on the site. As a general principle, sites receiving poor scores were smaller local sites targeting local residents as opposed to sites located within other larger sites.

Setting provision standards

- 8.18 In setting local standards for children and young people provision there is a need to take into account any national or existing local standards, current provision, other Local Authority standards for appropriate comparison and consultation on local needs.
- 8.19 A full assessment of local needs both Borough wide and within each area has been undertaken for Oldham, and the key messages emerging from this assessment, coupled with an evaluation of the existing audit have been used to determine provision standards required to meet local needs.
- 8.20 The process for setting each type of standard is outlined in section two. The rationale for each recommendation, including assessment of local need, existing provision and consultation is provided in Appendix H, I and J. The recommended local standards have been summarised overleaf.

SECTION 8 – PROVISION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Quantity Standard (see appendix H – standards and justification, worksheet and calculator)

Existing level of provision	Recommended standard
<p>Children - 0.30 play facilities per 1,000 population.</p> <p>Young People - 0.05 young people facilities per 1,000 population</p>	<p>Children - 0.37 play facilities per 1,000 popn (includes all play areas irrespective of owner-ship)</p> <p>Young People - 0.10 young people facilities per 1,000 popn</p>
Justification	
<p><u>Children</u></p> <p>The current level of provision is spread relatively evenly across the Borough, although there are some areas with higher provision, particularly West and East Oldham. The key theme emerging through the consultation has been a shortage of provision for both young people and children. This has been compounded by complaints focusing around the quality of sites. Despite comments on the quality of sites, it is however clear that there is also perceived to be a quantitative shortfall. Application of the recommended quality standards alongside the accessibility standards should highlight priority areas of deficiency. Given the differing requirements between provision for children and young people, quantity standards have been set separately. In terms of provision for children, given that 70% of respondents to the household survey indicated that there is insufficient provision, coupled with the fact that this was a key theme at other consultations, the standard has been set above the existing level of provision. Current provision is equivalent to 0.37 sites per 1000 population.</p> <p>The highest level of satisfaction was in Royton and Shaw, which also is the area with the highest levels of provision. The standard has therefore been set to encourage small quantities of new provision in all areas. The application of this standard would result in the requirement for approximately 14 new play areas.</p> <p><u>Young People</u></p> <p>Similar to the provision for children, there are obvious quantitative deficiencies with regard to the amount of young people's facilities in Oldham. Over 75% of household survey respondents indicated that there was a deficiency, and both adults and young people made similar comments at drop in sessions around the Borough. These statistics therefore suggest that similar to provision for children, there is a priority need for more facilities for young people. A standard above the current level of provision in all areas is therefore recommended. At 0.05 facilities per 1000 population, provision is significantly below that for children. In order to increase provision proportionally across the Borough, a standard of 0.10 facilities per 1000 has been recommended. This standard encourages the development of additional teenage facilities in all areas of the Borough, even in West Oldham where despite the highest levels of provision, the highest levels of dissatisfaction were evident. It also takes into account current initiatives such as Watch this Space, which encourages teenagers to use existing open spaces such as parks.</p> <p>This standard will result in the requirement for approximately 12 additional facilities for young people</p>	

Accessibility Standard (see appendix J)

Recommended standard
10 minute walk time for both provision for children and provision for young people - (480 metres)
Justification
<p>The 75% threshold level for provision for children was a 10 minute walk time across the Borough. Again, this opinion was consistent across the Borough within each of the six areas indicating an overall consensus of opinion. The opinion that provision for children should be localised was emphasised on numerous occasions at drop in sessions, although parents did suggest that they would prefer to travel slightly further to reach a facility of a high quality, inferring that a standard of 10 minutes may perhaps be more appropriate than 5 minutes. Careful location of play facilities away from main roads was highlighted as the main concern for parents.</p> <p>A standard of 10 minutes walk therefore meets user expectations and provides a realistic target for implementation and has been set to reflect the 75% threshold level, as advocated by PPG17. Consultation highlights that there are similar expectations for provision for teenagers, with the 75% level of the household survey again being 10 minutes Borough wide. Although there is greater variation across the analysis areas than in other types of open space, findings at workshops indicated significant support for localised provision for teenage and young people, and highlighted the need for spaces where teenagers can congregate, reducing negative impacts on other spaces.</p> <p>The recommended standard of 10 minutes has therefore been set to reflect the key issues emerging from consultations and also in line with the 75% percentile from the household survey. A walk time is considered most appropriate as these facilities are for young people who would not always have access to a motorised vehicle and enables access for all ages and users. In the analysis, consideration should also be made for other open spaces that are used by children and young people, such as amenity greenspaces, parks and gardens, indoor and outdoor sports facilities.</p>

Quality Standard (see appendix I)

Recommended standard
<p><u>Children</u></p> <p><i>“A site providing a mix of well-maintained formal equipment and enriched play environment in a safe and secure convenient location which is accessible to all. The site should have clear boundaries, be clean, litter and dog free and be appropriately lit”</i></p> <p><u>Young People</u></p> <p><i>‘A site providing a robust yet imaginative play environment for older children in a safe, secure location that promotes a sense of ownership and is accessible to all. The site should include clean, litter and dog free areas for more informal play and areas of shelter (with seating) and where appropriate sites should be well lit.’</i></p>
Justification
<p><u>Children</u></p> <p>In order to address security issues at play areas, the standard states that play areas should be located in safe and convenient locations. Examples include close to housing or footpaths as an additional level of security to be provided through natural policing e.g. overlooking houses. Lighting should be provided where appropriate. The standard encompasses the need for play areas to be both sustainable in management terms but also to provide a mix of facilities and an enriched play environment and that the site is clean and safe to use. This is reflected in the aspirations for play areas and within this standard. In addition sites should include NPFA design guidelines where appropriate.</p> <p><u>Young People</u></p> <p>Vandalism and security are also major issues for young people's play areas and as such the focus of this standard is on the issue requiring robust and varied equipment and shelter. Promoting a sense of ownership with the sites may also help to reduce the level of vandalism. It is important that these sites are clean, safe and secure to use which was reflected in the consultation and within this standard. Shelter was also rated highly as an aspiration and is an important component for young people. Initiatives such as 'Watch this Space' and Groundwork Oldham's work should be encouraged and used to implement this quality standard. Consideration should also be given to the achievement of the green flag criteria, inherent within this vision.</p>

Quality Benchmarking

- 8.21 The application of the quality benchmarking standard (set at a score of 82% on the site assessment for children and young people) provides an indication of the desired level of quality suggested at each site and enables a comparison at sites across the Borough. As described in Appendix K, it highlights sites, which currently meet the visionary standard, and those sites falling below and consequently where improvement is required. A full list of site scores can be found in the parks and gardens section of Appendix L.
- 8.22 The 5 highest and 5 lowest scoring sites are highlighted in figure 8.3 overleaf:

Fig 8.3 – Highest and lowest children and young people quality scores

V good	90% to 100%	↑	Site ID 2615 – Denshaw Village Hall (93%) Site ID 2124 – Sunfield Estate Play Area (90%)
Good	70% to 90%		Site ID 2582 – Shaddowbrook Close (89%) Site ID 2563 – Greenacres Road (87%) Site ID 65 – Foxdenton Park Play Area (87%)
Average	50% to 70%		
Poor	30% to 50%	↓	Site ID 521 – Birch Hall Close (36%) Site ID 1624 – Hadfield Street Play Area (38%) Site ID 1767 – Broom Street Play Area – (43%) Site ID 2586 – Lower Bare Trees Estate (47%) Site ID 514 – Pearly Bank Multiplay Area (48%)
V poor	Below 30%		

Applying provision standards – identifying geographical areas

- 8.23 In order to identify geographical areas of importance and those areas with required local needs the quantitative provision for children and young people in Oldham should be considered alongside the recommended local standard for accessibility. The quantity standards enable the identification of areas that do not meet the minimum provision standards, while the accessibility standards will help determine where those deficiencies are of high importance. Applying the standards together is a much more meaningful method of analysis than applying the standards separately and therefore helps with the prioritisation of sites.

Summary

- 8.24 The key issues emerging from the review of the provision of children and young people areas across Oldham Borough and the assessment of local needs can be summarised as:

SECTION 8 – PROVISION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

	Current Provision	Local Needs
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • looking at the quality range of provision highlights clearly the significant variation in the quality of play provision across the Borough. Although all areas have at least one site that is rated in the poor quality, all areas also have at least one site considered to be good or very good; • overall provision in Chadderton and Saddleworth and Lees is marginally higher quality than in other areas, with a average score of over 70%; and • the lowest average quality score can be found in West Oldham, where the largest quantity of provision occurs, indicating that there are a number of poor quality play areas despite the high quantity of provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improvements made to the stock of play facilities in the main parks in recent years are valued by local residents; • vandalism and security are the key issues experienced at sites. Cleanliness and maintenance is also perceived to be critical in determining the quality of a play area or young people facility; and • quality of sites is particularly important and is the key determinant of the level of use.
Quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is deemed to be a shortage of facilities for children and young people in all areas, with Failsworth and Hollinwood having no provision at all for young people; and • East and West Oldham have an higher number of facilities however the quantity is masked by the poor quality of some of these sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • although there is deemed to be a recognised shortage of facilities across the Borough, qualitative issues, such as vandalism and mis-use of facilities detracts further from what is there already
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • very few play area sites are suitable for people with disabilities. There is a need to ensure that these play areas are not only accessible, but are also suitable for use by people with disabilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • residents expect to walk to play areas and young people facilities, highlighting the importance of the even distribution and local provision; and • access to younger childrens play areas is also affected by them being used by older

SECTION 8 – PROVISION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

		children due to a lack of facilities for their age group.
Overall	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• there is a shortage of play / youth facilities although there are qualitative issues that could address some shortfall.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• children's and young people facilities are of significant importance to the people of Oldham; and• recent improvements to play areas and equipment is well valued and should be continued. Initiatives such as 'Fairshare' should be continued to improve further facilities.

SECTION 9

OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES

Outdoor sports facilities

Definition

- 9.1 PPG 17 guidance considers the provision of both indoor and outdoor sports facilities, although these amenities are separated into two distinct typologies within the document.
- 9.2 Although indoor sports facilities have been considered as part of this study, the findings from this study will be assessed in more detail in the ongoing Facilities Strategy. The outcomes of this study, including the resulting recommended local standards should inform the further analysis of this report and the development of the Local Development Framework.
- 9.3 Outdoor sports facilities is a wide-ranging category of open space, which includes both natural and artificial surfaces for sport and recreation that are either publicly or privately owned. Examples include playing pitches, athletics tracks, bowling greens and golf courses with the primary purpose of participation in outdoor sports.
- 9.4 Outdoor sports facilities are often a focal point of a local community, functioning as a recreational and amenity resource in addition to a formal sports facility. This is particularly true of pitches, which often have a secondary function of a local dog walking and kickabout area.
- 9.5 Site assessments highlighted many wider benefits of this typology with 98% of sites deemed to have social inclusion and health benefits, whilst 52% have an economic benefit to the Borough indicating many sites are privately owned or used informally.

Figure 9.1 – Fitton Park Bowling Green (site ID 1920)



Strategic context and consultation

- 9.6 The importance of sport and recreation facilities within Oldham is highlighted through specific policies within the Unitary Development Plan (UDP). In particular policies R1-R2 that relate directly to leisure and recreation in the Borough, with policy R1.3 referring specifically to playing pitches. Consideration to the land used for outdoor sports facilities is outlined through the following statements:
- prevent loss of or inappropriate development on open spaces and/or sports facilities
 - require provision and improvement of existing open spaces and sport or recreation facilities through new development
 - ensure open space provision is considered within new housing developments; and
 - ensure new open space, outdoor or indoor or sport recreation facilities follow certain guidelines including accessibility, social inclusion and local needs.
- 9.7 The importance of sports facilities in Oldham is enhanced further within Oldham’s Cultural Strategy, which prioritises the protection of playing field provision whilst enhancing sporting facility provision. It also promotes utilising sporting activities as playing a pivotal role in developing community cohesion through the skills inherent in these activities, whilst also increasing the fitness levels and health of the community. There is a clear recognition across the Council of the role that sport can play as a vehicle to achieving the wider strategic objectives.
- 9.8 The Playing Pitch Strategy undertaken in 2004 recommended that the council should provide an appropriate range and distribution of high quality playing pitches and associated facilities, providing opportunities for participation and competition in pitch sports by all residents of the community. The following objectives were devised to reach this aim:
- ensure suitable provision and distribution of good quality playing pitches and associated facilities
 - improve quality and capacity of existing outdoor sports facilities to meet the aspirations of various bodies
 - meet geographical shortfalls
 - deliver cost effective pitch stock through rationalisation and sustainability
 - support sport development programmes and address identified latent demand
 - provide useable, accessible and viable outdoor sports facilities within the Borough
 - encourage participation and support local voluntary sector contributions to sport
 - ensure adequate financial provision for the long term maintenance and development of pitch sites to provide financially stable good quality pitches; and
 - improve residents’ health and well-being through improved opportunities to access high quality sporting activity.

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- 9.9 The strategy examines present day provision and takes into account the projected increase in population at 2020 and any sports development initiatives to provide predicted demand for pitches. It highlights a series of recommendations, which the Council are working towards implementing. The Playing Pitch Strategy should be viewed as a detailed study, sitting below this PPG17 assessment in the strategic hierarchy.

Playing Pitch Strategy summary

- 9.10 As well as a summary of the main objectives of the Playing Pitch Strategy that were mentioned earlier within this section, further detailed analysis of the study relating to pitch quality inadequacies and demand for pitches can be found below, split within each of the six analysis areas used for the PPG17 study.
- 9.11 The following table demonstrates the pitches in each area committee region that are currently inadequate and the current latent demand. Latent demand occurs in an area where participation is lower than other areas or national participation rates signalling potential for more people to participate in a given sport. Latent demand may be caused by a lack of facilities or lack of opportunities to participate.

Table 9.3 – Pitch inadequacies and latent demand

Area	Inadequate Pitches	Expressed Latent Demand for Pitches
Saddleworth and Lees	2 senior rugby league pitches 3 senior football pitches 3 junior football pitches 1 senior cricket pitches	1.5 senior football pitches 1.5 junior football pitches 0.5 cricket pitches
East Oldham	8 senior pitches 7 senior rugby league pitches 3 senior cricket pitches	0.5 junior rugby league pitches 1 senior rugby league pitch
West Oldham	10 senior football pitches 1 junior football pitch 1 senior rugby union pitch 1 junior rugby league pitch	2 junior football pitches 1.5 senior cricket pitches 0.5 junior rugby league pitches
Failsworth and Hollinwood	3 senior football pitches 2 junior football pitches 2 senior rugby league pitches 2 junior rugby league pitches 1 senior cricket pitch	4.5 junior football pitches 0.5 senior football pitches
Chadderton	3 senior cricket pitches 9 senior football pitches 3 junior football pitches	0.5 junior football pitch 1.5 junior rugby league pitches 1 senior rugby league pitch
Royton and Shaw	3 senior rugby league pitches 1 junior rugby league pitch 2 senior cricket pitches 3 junior football pitches 4 senior football pitches	1 senior football pitch 2.5 junior football pitches 1 junior rugby league pitch

- 9.12 This list should be used in conjunction with the recommended local standards detailed later in this section to understand specific local need. Pitches have also been classified into three tiers according to their quality and the required level of investment. Site assessments undertaken as part of the Playing Pitch Strategy

SECTION 9 – OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES

assess the degree to which the pitch is fit for purpose and should therefore be linked to the findings of the site assessments for this study.

Current position

- 9.13 There is a range of outdoor sports facilities within the Borough including provision for football, rugby, cricket and hockey, bowling greens, golf courses, athletics track and tennis courts. The Playing Pitch Strategy highlighted a shortage of playing pitches throughout the Borough with no areas exhibiting a surplus of provision.
- 9.14 Analysis of the current provision of sites illustrates the important role of the voluntary sector in the provision of outdoor sports facilities within Oldham, providing a range of high quality sites. Despite this important role, the council is the primary provider of outdoor sports facilities, particularly pitches, which are used extensively.
- 9.15 There are also a significant number of outdoor sports facilities at school sites, many of which are currently not accessible to the local community. This highlights the importance of community use agreements with schools to aid the provision of facilities, a philosophy which the Playing Pitch Strategy endorses as a future direction for outdoor sports facilities in Oldham. As is evident in the Playing Pitch Strategy, there is a clear hub and spoke vision for the sports facilities in Oldham and the development of school facilities is central to this vision. The provision of accessible facilities at strategically located secondary school sites would ensure a good distribution of core and specialist indoor sports facilities.
- 9.16 Attendees at the LSP workshop further highlighted the benefits of the use of school facilities, and cite the forthcoming extended schools programme as a key opportunity to enhance the value of school sites to the local community.
- 9.17 The current provision of outdoor sports facilities in terms of quality, quantity and accessibility is discussed below. Further details are provided within the linked Access database and GIS system. The key messages emerging from consultations regarding outdoor sports facilities are also highlighted.

Quantity

- 9.18 There are a total of 210 outdoor sports facilities in the Borough across public, private, voluntary and education sites. Table 9.1 overleaf illustrates the current distribution of land and facilities used for outdoor sports across the analysis areas.
- 9.19 PPG 17 classifies all outdoor sports facilities together, regardless of the type of these sports facilities. Further detailed work on Playing Pitch Strategies and Sport and Recreation Strategies should then be used to examine the specific demand for each sport in detail.

Table 9.1 – Distribution of outdoor sports facilities

Analysis Area	Population	Number of sites	Hectares	Largest sites in the area (excl golf courses and schools)
1 – Saddleworth and Lees	34,483	35	117.64 (33.24 excl golf courses)	Churchill Playing Fields (7.55ha)

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2 - Chadderton	31,114	35	48.37	Crossley Playing Fields (6.71ha)
3 – Failsworth and Hollinwood	30,465	35	117.33 (49.65 excl golf courses)	The Lancaster Club (4.75ha)
4 – Royton and Shaw	42,682	35	99.48 (61.55 excl golf courses)	Chadderton Playing Fields (8.68ha)
5 – East Oldham	33,345	30	39.68	Henshaw Street Playing Fields (6.21ha)
6 – West Oldham	45,184	40	46.03	Snipe Clough Playing Fields (2.6ha)

- 9.20 The distribution of outdoor sports facilities across the Borough is even, suggesting a good spread of facilities. Despite this there is a large difference in the amount of land dedicated to these facilities which is reflective of the type of facilities in each area. A bowling green for example is significantly smaller in size than an adult football pitch. Saddleworth and Lees has the smallest space dedicated to sports facilities (33.24 excl golf courses) whilst Royton and Shaw has the largest (61.55 excl golf courses).
- 9.21 As is perhaps to be expected given the urban density of East and West Oldham, it is these two areas that have lower levels of provision per 1000 population. People living in these areas may therefore have to travel further to participate in the sport of their choice.
- 9.22 There are five golf courses within the Borough, located in Saddleworth and Lees, Failsworth and Hollinwood and Royton and Shaw. Although the value of golf courses is recognised, due to the large expanses of land they cover they are not considered within any standards set.
- 9.23 The key points ascertained from the consultation process specific to outdoor sports facilities are:
- the majority of respondents to the household survey indicated that provision was poor for outdoor sports facilities, reflecting the findings of the Playing Pitch Strategy with 59% of people stating there was nearly enough/not enough sports facilities. Despite this, 28% indicated that provision was adequate perhaps highlighting the more specialised demand for outdoor sports facilities. 56% of people in West Oldham felt there were insufficient grass pitches in their area/
 - during consultations it became apparent that residents feel provision of sports facilities was weighted heavily towards football provision and there are identified shortfalls in other sports. A lack of sports provision in Saddleworth and Lees was highlighted
 - internal officers highlighted that in contrast to the opinion that there are too many sports pitches, there are actually insufficient facilities (a point also endorsed by the Playing Pitch Strategy) exacerbated by an imbalance between the size of pitches; and

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- area committee managers across the Borough indicated that gaining public access to school sites is a major problem, although representatives of the LSP suggested that the extended programme (and work to achieve the recommendations of the Playing Pitch Strategy) may facilitate this in forthcoming years. The missed opportunity of maximising the school sites resource was referenced specifically in Saddleworth and Lees, Chadderton, Oldham East and Oldham West.

Quality

9.24 The quality of each site has been assessed through a detailed site visit and the completion of a detailed pro forma described in section two and provided in detail in appendix K. It is important to note that the quality score represents a snapshot in time and records only the quality of the site at the time of the site visit. The quality assessment considers the site as an open space site and does not assess the degree to which the site is fit for purpose for the intended sport. The average quality range for sites in each area include:

Table 9.2 – Quality analysis

Analysis Area	Quality Range	Average Score	Highest rated quality sites
1 – Saddleworth and Lees	50% - 96%	70%	Oldham Golf Club Saddleworth Golf Club Springhead Liberal Club Bowling Green
2 - Chadderton	53% - 90%	68%	Fitton Park Bowling Green Chadderton Fold Bowling Green Radclyffe Athletics Centre
3 – Failsworth and Hollinwood	47% - 97%	62%	Brookdale Golf Club Lower Memorial Park Bowling Green High Memorial Park
4 – Royton and Shaw	40% - 96%	67%	Royton Golf Club Heyside Cricket Club Shaw Cricket Club
5 – East Oldham	48% - 82%	64%	Stoneleigh Park Tennis and Bowling Clarksfield Conservative Club Bowling Green Moorside Cricket and Bowling Club
6 – West Oldham	29% - 96%	65%	Boundary Park Werneth Bowling Green Alexandra Park Tennis Courts

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- 9.25 Similar to other types of open space provision in the Borough, the quality of facilities (measured by the average score) is consistent in all areas. Although Saddleworth and Lees has the fewest sites of all the areas, the quality of these sites is marginally better (an average of 70%) than in other areas.
- 9.26 Although the assessment of the average score presents a positive picture of the quality of the sites in the Borough, the range indicates that the quality is perhaps more varied than first appears. While some sites have achieved scores of over 90%, (Boundary Park achieved a score of 96% and is the highest rated site of any typology), there are high numbers of facilities rated below 50% indicating that there are some significant quality issues with regards outdoor sports facilities. The range in quality is particularly wide in West Oldham but this variation in quality is a characteristic across the Borough.
- 9.27 As may be expected, the quality of private and voluntary clubs, who frequently have dedicated grounds maintenance and grounds teams is significantly above that of other facilities. This significantly raises expectations of residents.
- 9.28 The key quality comments from the consultation process were: -
- reflecting the results of the site assessments, which indicated that facilities are of varying quality, many consultees suggested that the overall quality of outdoor sports facilities in Oldham is average with voluntary and private facilities better quality
 - area committee members noted problems with drainage at some sites including, High Crompton Park, Crossley and Granby Street. This problem may not have been prevalent at the time of site assessment depending on the weather. They also commented on the lack of on-going maintenance at some sites
 - residents at drop-in sessions believed that the quality of school playing pitches suffers greatly due to unofficial use. Despite this, a comment was made during the drop in session in Royton and Shaw highlighting the positive benefits that can be obtained through community use of facilities, including a reduction in the levels of vandalism and misuse as a consequence of the site being busy during the evenings
 - the poor quality of ancillary facilities on council run pitch facilities was highlighted by residents. This problem has been exacerbated through issues with vandalism and graffiti; and
 - respondents to the household survey re-iterated issues with vandalism and anti-social behaviour with 72% believing there is a problem. Litter problems and dog fouling were other areas that the majority of people were concerned about.

Accessibility

- 9.29 Accessibility at each site was also assessed through a detailed site visit and the completion of a detailed pro forma and takes into account issues including whether the entrance to the site is easily accessible, the condition of roads, paths and cycleways, whether there is disabled access, how accessible is the site by public transport, bicycle or walking, and whether there are clear and appropriate signs to the site.

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- 9.30 Key issues arising from the assessment of site specific accessibility in Oldham include:
- access by public transport at 59% of sites was considered to be average or below – this is significant as people are likely to travel further to outdoor sports facilities, and perhaps more so than for other open space types may elect to use public transport. This may be of particular significance in areas where there are higher levels of deprivation and hence lower levels of car ownership. Access by public transport was considerably worse for sites in Saddleworth and Lees than any other area with 88% of sites scoring average or poor when determining if the site is accessible by public transport
 - 62% of sites were highlighted as poor or very poor in terms of access for disabled people by residents responding to the household survey. This was reinforced by the Access for All Group, who indicated that access to outdoor sports facilities for people with disabilities is limited across the Borough. If participation in sport for disabled groups is to increase, it is critical that this element of open space provision is improved; and
 - similar to other typologies, 74% of sites were scored as average or worse with regard to the signage to and on the site.
- 9.31 Consultation with sports development officers identified deficiencies of accessible sporting provision in Saddleworth and Lees.
- 9.32 Numerous comments were made at drop-in sessions that gaining access to school pitches was a big problem and opening these up would alleviate the problems with quantitative supply of pitches.

Setting provision standards

- 9.33 In setting local standards for outdoor sports facilities there is a need to take into account any national or existing local standards, current provision, other Local Authority standards for appropriate comparison and consultation on local needs.
- 9.34 A full assessment of local needs both Borough wide and within each area has been undertaken for Oldham, and the key messages emerging from this assessment, coupled with an evaluation of the existing audit have been used to determine provision standards required to meet local needs.
- 9.35 The process for setting each type of standard is outlined in section two. The rationale for each recommendation, including assessment of local need, existing provision and consultation is provided in Appendix H, I and J. The recommended local standards have been summarised below.

Quantity Standard (see appendix H – standards and justification, worksheet and calculator)

Existing level of provision	Recommended standard
2.16 ha, 1.28 ha excluding golf courses. If school sites which are not available to the community are also excluded, provision decreases to	1.35 ha per 1,000 popn

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0.76 ha per 1000 population	
Justification	
<p>Due to the broad nature of this typology, this standard should be applied for planning need only. Further research into the demand for specific sporting facilities should be undertaken. Golf courses have been removed from these figures due to their size and subsequent tendency to skew figures. Consultation indicates that there is demand for increased provision of outdoor sports facilities, in particular tennis courts. The Playing Pitch Strategy also identifies latent demand in all areas, reinforcing this perception. Although many school sports sites are not accessible at the current time, they are identified as important resources in both the Playing Pitch Strategy and through other consultations, specifically the area forums workshop. The Council has a policy of encouraging dual use and the extended schools programme is likely to increase the future community use of schools. Furthermore, use of school sites was highlighted as good practice by residents attending drop in sessions who stated that schools who permit community use suffer from less vandalism and antisocial behaviour.</p> <p>For the above reasons, school facilities have been included within the calculation, to ensure that they are protected. In reflecting the demands placed on outdoor sports, and the nature of this standard, it has been recommended that it is set above the current level of provision (1.28ha) at 1.35ha per 1,000 population. Additional consultation should enhance where this demand is needed most, however results from the household survey suggest there are demands being placed on tennis courts in addition to the shortfalls of pitches identified in the Playing Pitch Strategy. The increase in outdoor sports provision equates to an additional 17 full-size football pitches.</p>	

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Accessibility Standard (see appendix J)

Recommended standard
15 minute walk time for pitches, tennis and bowls facilities - (720 metres). A 20 minute drive for golf courses and synthetic turf pitches
Justification
<p>There are several factors to consider in setting a standard for outdoor sports facilities. In particular, the range of facilities that lie within this typology makes it difficult to set a meaningful standard that can be applied across the board as per PPG17 requirements. Consultations from drop in sessions and workshops highlighted these differences, with people expecting sports pitches to be local facilities, but conceding that it may be appropriate to travel further to other facility types, in particular golf courses and synthetic pitches. Given that the results from the household survey mirror the opinions heard at the more qualitative consultations, it is suggested appropriate to set two standards, one for grass pitches, tennis courts and bowling greens and a separate standard for golf courses and synthetic turf pitches (STP's). Based on user expectations, it is considered appropriate to set a walking standard for local outdoor sports facilities, grass pitches, tennis courts and bowling greens and a drive time for golf and STP's.</p> <p>Given that analysis of the 75 percentile for outdoor sports facilities suggests that people expect to reach an outdoor sports facility within a 15 minute walk time overall, and more specifically, to reach bowling greens, tennis courts and pitches, a 15 minute walk time is recommended for these elements. Not only does this meet user expectations, but it is also in line with the 75% threshold level for the separate outdoor sports facilities and the Borough as a whole, as per PPG17 standards. Given the lower expectations to reach golf courses and STPs and the more specialist nature of these facilities, in line with the 75% threshold and user expectations, a 20-minute drive time has been set. A drive time is considered more appropriate for these facilities as a result of the requirement for equipment and the specialised nature of the facilities.</p>

Quality Standard (see appendix I)

Recommended standard
<i>'A well-planned, clean, litter and dog fouling free sports facility site, with level and well-drained good quality surfaces with appropriate good quality ancillary accommodation including changing accommodation, toilets and car parking. The site should have appropriate management ensuring community safety and include lighting and the use of mobile CCTV where appropriate to address anti-social behaviour.'</i>
Justification
<p>The public consultation responses to the quality of outdoor sports facilities tend to centre around poor drainage, safety, dog fouling issues and anti-social behaviour problems. These are therefore reflected in the quality standards. In addition, ancillary facilities such as changing facilities, car parking and toilets were also highly rated aspirations. It is also important that outdoor sports facility sites are well-drained and good quality. The consultations also indicated that Sports Clubs and users had issues with drainage and poor ancillary accommodation. The standard incorporates "appropriate management" to ensure that this continues and that where management is an issue, it should be addressed. Community safety is also incorporated to reflect NPFA design guidelines.</p>

Quality Benchmarking

- 9.36 The application of the quality benchmarking standard (set at a score of 82% on the site assessment for outdoor sports facilities) provides an indication of the desired level of quality suggested at each site and enables a comparison at sites across the Borough. As described in Appendix K, it highlights sites, which currently meet the visionary standard, and those sites falling below and consequently where improvement is required. A full list of site scores can be found in the outdoor sports facilities section of Appendix L.
- 9.37 The 5 highest and 5 lowest scoring sites are highlighted in figure 9.1 below:

Fig 9.1 – Highest and lowest outdoor sports facilities quality scores

V good	90% to 100%	↑	Site ID 1539 – Brookdale Golf Club (97%) Site ID 1937 – Boundary Park (96%) Site ID 2074 – Royton Golf Club (96%) Site ID 1553 – Oldham Golf Club (96%) Site ID 2013 – Saddleworth Golf Club (95%)
Good	70% to 90%		
Average	50% to 70%		
Poor	30% to 50%	↓	Site ID 2581 – Broadway Park OSF (46%) Site ID 1633 - Limeside Recreation OSF (45%) Site ID 2575 – Paddock Tip Site OSF (40%) Site ID 518 – Boundary Gardens Games Court (38%)
V poor	Below 30%		

Applying provision standards – identifying geographical areas

- 9.38 In order to identify geographical areas of importance and those areas with required local needs the quantitative provision of outdoor sports facilities in Oldham should be considered alongside the recommended local standard for accessibility. The quantity standards enable the identification of areas that do not meet the minimum provision standards, while the accessibility standards will help determine where those

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deficiencies are of high importance. Applying the standards together is a much more meaningful method of analysis than applying the standards separately and therefore helps with the prioritisation of sites.

Summary

9.39 The key issues emerging from the review of the provision of outdoor sports facilities across Oldham Borough and the assessment of local needs can be summarised as:

	Current Provision	Local Needs
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the range in quality of outdoor sports facilities across the Borough is very wide. Private and voluntary sector facilities are generally of better quality with publicly accessible facilities of lesser quality; and; ancillary accommodation is identified as being poor and suffering through problems with vandalism and graffiti. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> improvements are needed to improve the drainage at main pitch sites across the Borough as well as improvements to ancillary accommodation; general maintenance on pitches should be increased to attain better quality surfaces; and quality of sites is particularly important and is the key determinant of the level of use.
Quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> although outdoor sports facilities are evenly distributed across the Borough, provision in Chadderton and Failsworth and Hollinwood is higher than in other areas, given the size of the population. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a perceived under supply of pitches is worsened by qualitative issues such as poor drainage or lack of ancillary accommodation. The re-designation of pitch types at sites as well as increasing school pitch access would assist this problem.
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> key issues in terms of access include poor consideration for people with disabilities and poor access by public transport, especially in Saddleworth and Lees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the majority of residents expect to drive to outdoor sports facilities, recognising people are prepared to travel further to use the site of their choice; and access to school sites is limited and would be able to help meet demand should it be required
Overall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> there is an even split of facilities across the Borough, however, the main concerns are of qualitative nature, with poor ancillary accommodation and pitch maintenance; and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> outdoor sports facilities are a highly valued type of open space but there are issues with maintenance, drainage, vandalism and insufficient ancillary accommodation; and; the development of good

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• the voluntary sector facilities provide a valuable resource to Oldham and are crucial to the provision of sporting facilities and opportunities in Oldham.	quality and accessible facilities will help to provide opportunities for participation and competition by the community.
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SECTION 10

ALLOTMENTS AND COMMUNITY GARDENS

Allotments and community gardens

Definition

- 10.1 This includes all forms of allotments with a primary purpose to provide opportunities for people to grow their own produce as part of the long-term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion. This type of open space may also include urban farms.

Figure 10.1 – Fernhurst Street Allotments (site ID 1925)



Strategic context and consultation

Strategic context

- 10.2 Like other open space types, allotments can provide a number of wider benefits to the community as well as the primary use of growing produce. These include: -
- bringing together different cultural backgrounds;
 - improving physical and mental health;
 - providing a source of recreation; and
 - wider contribution to green and open space.
- 10.3 The Strategic Objectives of Oldham's Cultural Strategy 2003 – 2006 show a specific link supporting the provision of allotments across the Borough, with one of the key aims being:
- promoting the benefits of engaging in horticulture, such as gardening and allotment cultivation as an aid to fitness and healthy living

Current position

- 10.4 There are 29 allotment sites across Oldham, 19 of which are managed by Environmental Services. Each site has an allotment site secretary.

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- 10.5 At the last count, there was only one site under the remit of Oldham Council with any vacant plots, and there were waiting lists at ten sites.
- 10.6 Key messages arising from consultations include:
- responses to the household survey, and the overriding theme from the majority of other consultations, indicate that there is perceived to be an adequate supply of allotments in Oldham, although the issue of waiting lists at a number of sites was raised by residents who wish to have an allotment plot but are currently unable to access a plot on the site they desire. This was a particularly apparent issue in Saddleworth and Lees and Royton and Shaw
 - although some respondents indicated that they would like to have an allotment plot, many residents were uninterested in having allotments themselves but were keen to emphasise the importance of the protection of these sites against development. Concerns were raised that there have been a number of allotment sites lost to development across the Borough
 - while local residents focused almost solely on the demand for allotments, members attending the workshops and internal consultees were able to view the benefits of allotments from a more strategic direction, highlighting the potential to use allotments as a vehicle to drive the healthy living agenda in addition to providing an alternative physical activity to sport; and
 - 32% of people responding to the household survey indicated that they have “no opinion” with regard to the provision of allotments, reflecting the fact that allotment sites are very much a demand led typology and need to be quantified in the context of existing provision, waiting lists and proven local demand.
- 10.7 The existing provision in the context of quality, quantity and accessibility is discussed below. Further detail on each site can be found in the Access Database and the linked GIS system provided to the Council as part of this report.

Quantity

Table 10.1 – Distribution of allotments

Analysis Area	Population	Number of sites	Hectares
1 – Saddleworth and Lees	34,483	4	1.93
2 - Chadderton	31,114	5	4.03
3 – Failsworth and Hollinwood	30,465	3	2.02
4 – Royton and Shaw	42,682	7	1.85
5 – East Oldham	33,345	2	1.11
6 – West Oldham	45,184	8	3.01

- as can be seen by the number of sites located in each area of the Borough, although each area contains a minimum of two allotments, distribution is varying, with provision particularly high in West Oldham. This is perhaps reflective of the demand in the Borough, as West Oldham has one of the highest population densities hence the size of gardens is likely to be lower. Despite this, when

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examining population per 1000 population provision in West Oldham is significantly lower than in other areas of the Borough; and

- despite the high levels of provision in terms of number of sites in West Oldham, the quantity of provision (in terms of hectares) is higher in Chadderton. Provision in this area (0.12 hectares per 1000) is significantly higher than in all other areas of the Borough. This is reflective of the presence of larger sites with higher numbers of plots. Larger sites can often be perceived to be safer and are therefore more attractive to local residents.

Quality

10.8 The quality of the allotment sites within Oldham Borough is outlined in table 10.2 below: -

Table 10.2 – Quality analysis

Analysis Area	Number of Sites	Quality Range	Average Score
1 – Saddleworth and Lees	4	69% - 77%	73%
2 - Chadderton	5	60% - 83%	71%
3 – Failsworth and Hollinwood	3	81% - 85%	83%
4 – Royton and Shaw	7	50% - 83%	71%
5 – East Oldham	2	74% - 75%	74%
6 – West Oldham	8	50% - 85%	68%

- analysis of the average quality scores achieved highlights a variation in the quality of allotment sites across the Borough, with the highest quality provision being in Failsworth and Hollinwood. This is reinforced by the range of provision, with the lowest scoring site scoring 81%, falling into the good category
- reiterating again the variation in the quality of sites across the Borough, the range of scores is wide, particularly in Royton and Shaw and West Oldham. This suggests that there are some sites of significantly inferior quality to other sites where quality improvements may be required; and
- despite the high numbers of sites in West Oldham, provision is of poorest quality in this area (average score of 68%).

10.9 The key points relating to the quality of allotments ascertained during consultation are: -

- 57% of people responding to the household survey believed that there was a problem with vandalism at allotment sites, whilst a further 67% highlighted problems with anti-social behaviour. 66% indicated that there are litter problems at allotment sites. Although site visits highlight a variation in the quality of allotment provision across the Borough, the proportion of people identifying quality issues at allotment sites is potentially higher than may be expected given the relatively large proportions of sites considered to be good during the site assessments

- the highest rated aspirations according to respondents of the household survey were for allotments to be clean and litter free and to include flowers, trees, and quality soils. Toilets were also highlighted as a key aspiration at each site, ensuring that plot holders are able to spend long periods of time at the sites
- security at allotments sites was also perceived to be important, with allotment holders feeling safer in sites where there is CCTV
- some residents at drop in sessions reinforced the views of respondents to the household survey, with problems highlighted including dog fouling, vandalism and litter problems. Security and safety at certain allotment sites was also highlighted at drop in sessions although it was not perceived to be a key deterrent to the use of allotment sites; and
- stakeholders attending workshops highlighted opportunities to enhance the use and value of allotment sites across the Borough. A valuable suggestion emerging from the LSP workshop was the opportunity to improve the quality and use of allotment sites through links with schools to enable the education of children in areas such as gardening and environmental issues. Allotments were also viewed as an alternative option for sporting and physical activity, enhancing the fitness of children. It was hoped that encouraging children to participate and use allotments would create a sense of ownership, reducing vandalism and misuse and fostering increased participation in future years.

Accessibility

- 10.10 The key issues arising from the site assessments in terms of site accessibility mirrored those issues found in other typologies. Access for those people who wished to cycle to allotment sites was considered to be poor at 65% of sites while 69% of sites were perceived to be poor in terms of information and signage. Improvements to the information and signage of allotments may increase the awareness of allotment sites across the Borough and have a consequential impact on the future take up of allotment plots.
- 10.11 Despite the poor access to allotment sites in the Borough by cycleway, the small sample of people who responded to the household survey indicating that allotments where there most frequently used type of space indicated that walking was their preferred mode of reaching the site, with 66% travelling under 10 minutes.
- 10.12 Rather than highlighting physical issues regarding the access of allotments, residents at drop in sessions focused on the lack of access to allotment sites of their choice as a result of waiting lists. This has already been discussed as a key element of the quantity of provision and will also feed into the recommended local standards.
- 10.13 Some responses at drop in sessions focused on not being able to gain access to an allotment as there were not enough and there are waiting lists.

Setting provision standards

- 10.14 In setting local standards for allotments there is a need to take into account any national or existing local standards, current provision, other Local Authority standards for appropriate comparison and consultation on local needs
- 10.15 A full assessment of local needs both Borough wide and within each area has been undertaken for Oldham, and the key messages emerging from this assessment,

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coupled with an evaluation of the existing audit have been used to determine provision standards required to meet local needs

- 10.16 The process for setting each type of standard is outlined in section two. The rationale for each recommendation, including assessment of local need, existing provision and consultation is provided in Appendix H, I and J. The recommended local standards have been summarised below.

Quantity Standard (see appendix H – standards and justification, worksheet and calculator)

Existing level of provision	Recommended standard
0.06 ha per 1000 population	0.06ha per 1,000 popn
Justification	
<p>Allotments are very much a demand led-typology and the recommended standard should be treated as a minimum standard. Consultations indicate an adequate supply of allotments in Oldham, although there are some sites within the Borough that have waiting lists. Household consultation also highlights that there is a lack of interest in allotments, with nearly half, 48% indicating that they have no opinion. Despite this, there were a lot of comments from residents attending drop in sessions regarding allotment sites, and waiting lists at sites across the Borough. Allotment provision is evenly spread, with the highest levels evident in Chadderton. Given that there are waiting lists at some sites and allotments are a demand led typology, a standard equivalent to the current level of provision has been set - enabling the identification of locational deficiencies. Analysis of waiting lists indicate that the majority of people waiting are concentrated in Royton and Lees and Chadderton. With the exception of Chadderton, the application of this standard supports the need for additional allotments in these areas.</p>	

Accessibility Standard (see appendix J)

Recommended standard
15 minutes walk time - (720 metres)
Justification
<p>The provision of allotments is very much a demand led typology which should be reflected in the application of the accessibility and quantity standards. As such any deficiencies that are highlighted through the application of the study should be assessed further to indicate if there is any demand in that area. Consultation highlights that people expect to find local allotments, however in many circumstances there are currently waiting lists. However, as a guide a standard has been set at 15 minutes walk time using the 75% threshold level and the majority responses from the household survey. This in line with findings from other consultations, although given the specialist nature of allotments, there were relatively few residents providing feedback on this issue. Residents responding to the household survey indicated that they would expect to walk to allotments and a walk time has therefore been used in line with living a healthy lifestyle and targets to reduce the reliance on private transport.</p>

Quality Standard (see appendix I)

Recommended standard
<i>‘A clean and well-kept site that encourages sustainable development, bio-diversity, healthy living and education objectives with appropriate ancillary facilities (eg litter bins) to meet local needs, clearly marked pathways and good quality soils. The site should be spacious providing appropriate access and clear boundaries.’</i>
Justification
<p>Provision of allotments is demand driven. However, in times when the wider health agenda is important such sites need to be promoted. Good quality allotments with appropriate ancillary facilities which promote sustainable development will help attract more people to allotment sites and in turn make sure that the allotment sites within Oldham are being operated at capacity. The aspirations indicated through the household questionnaire are also reflected, in particular the provision of clean sites (covering aspirations for dog free areas, clean/litter free areas), access issues and the provision of litter bins.</p>

Quality Benchmarking

- 10.17 The application of the quality benchmarking standard (set at a score of 82% on the site assessment for Allotments and Community Gardens) provides an indication of the desired level of quality suggested at each site and enables a comparison at sites across the Borough. As described in Appendix K, it highlights sites, which currently meet the visionary standard, and those sites falling below and consequently where improvement is required. A full list of site scores can be found in the allotment section of Appendix L
- 10.18 The 5 highest and 5 lowest scoring sites are highlighted in figure 10.2 overleaf: -

Fig 10.2 – Highest and lowest allotment quality scores

V good	90% to 100%		
Good	70% to 90%		Site ID 1537 – Stott Lane Allotments (85%) Site ID 1680 – Ashton Road East Allotments (84%) Site ID 1925 – Fernhurst Street Allotments (83%) Site ID 2630 – Hope Street Allotments (83%) Site ID 1673 – Broadway Allotments (81%)
Average	50% to 70%	↑	Site ID 1644 – Eve Street Allotments (67%) Site ID 1529 – Levington Drive Allotments (62%) Site ID 1885 – Middleton Road Allotments (60%) Site ID 1729 – Allotments off Eaves Lane (57%) Site ID 1954 – Haworth Street Allotments (50%)
Poor	30% to 50%		
V poor	Below 30%		

Summary

10.19 The key issues emerging from the review of the provision of allotment areas across Oldham Borough and the assessment of local needs can be summarised as:

	Current Provision	Local Needs
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the average quality of allotments across the Borough is good with only a small number of sites scoring below 60%. The average for sites in Failsworth and Hollinwood is 83%. Indicating a high level pride in ownership. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> problems with vandalism, dog fouling, litter and safety were highlighted by residents as key issues experienced at sites; and quality of sites is particularly important and is a key determinant of the level of demand and use.
Quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> distribution of allotment sites is varied across the Borough ranging from two sites in East Oldham to eight sites in West Oldham. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> allotments are a demand led typology and there are currently waiting lists in Royton and Shaw and Chadderton, highlighting demand in these areas.
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> key issues in terms of access include poor consideration for people with disabilities and a lack of signage to and within sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> allotment users prefer to walk to their allotment, highlighting the importance of the even distribution.
Overall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> allotments are particularly well used in Oldham Borough and are critical, especially in the dense urban areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> allotments can play a key role in enabling residents to have a sense of place and ownership; and they can assist in achieving Oldham’s Cultural Strategy aim to promote the health benefits of engaging in horticulture to aid fitness and healthy living.

SECTION 11

CEMETERIES AND CHURCHYARDS

Cemeteries and churchyards

Definition

- 11.1 Churchyards are encompassed within the walled boundary of a church while cemeteries are burial grounds outside the confines of a church. According to PPG17, this typology includes private burial grounds, local authority burial grounds and disused churchyards. While the recognised primary purpose of this type of open space is for burial of the dead and quiet contemplation, the amenity and visual benefits should also be recognised, in addition to the opportunities to promote wildlife conservation and biodiversity.

Figure 11.1 – Greenacres Cemetery (site ID 901)



Strategic context and consultation

- 11.2 Cemeteries and churchyards can be a significant open space provider in some areas particularly in rural areas. In other areas they can represent a relatively minor resource in terms of the land, but are able to provide areas of nature conservation importance. In urban areas or town centres, churchyards may be one of the only accessible open spaces in the vicinity.
- 11.3 Some churchyards retain areas of unimproved grasslands and other various habitats. They can make a significant contribution to the provision of urban green space sometimes providing a sanctuary for wildlife in the urban settlements and often providing some historic value to the more rural landscapes.
- 11.4 Cemeteries and churchyards are important assets and the value to the families of the deceased must not be forgotten. Oldham Borough Council is committed to a programme of restoration of headstones including restoring to safe standard approximately 10,000 headstones. The programme, which commenced in August 2006, is due to last for six years. The work is being carried out in Hollinwood, Greenacres, Crompton, Chadderton, Failsworth, Lees and Royton Cemeteries.

SECTION 11 – CEMETERIES AND CHURCHYARDS

11.5 Cemeteries and churchyards offer peaceful areas for contemplation, a 'piece of history' and a sanctuary for wildlife. These values were recognised within consultations across Oldham and a number of sites were highlighted as examples of good practice including Greenacres Cemetery, Royton Cemetery and The Church of St Anne (Saddleworth and Lees).

Current position

11.6 There are 35 cemetery and churchyard sites of varying size located across the Borough. The largest sites are Greenacres Cemetery (site ID 901) covering an area of 16.02 hectares, Chadderton Cemetery (site ID 761) at 12.14ha and Hollinwood Cemetery (site ID 723) at 10.91ha.

11.7 The quality of the cemetery and churchyard sites within Oldham Borough are outlined in table 11.1 below: -

Table 11.1 – Quality analysis

Analysis Area	Number of Sites	Quality Range	Average Score
1 – Saddleworth and Lees	10	46% - 90%	66%
2 - Chadderton	4	58% - 78%	66%
3 – Failsworth and Hollinwood	5	60% - 80%	71%
4 – Royton and Shaw	5	67% - 85%	77%
5 – East Oldham	4	57% - 86%	71%
6 – West Oldham	8	49% - 75%	61%

- the range of scores across the Borough is wide, particularly in Saddleworth and Lees. This suggests that there are some sites of significantly inferior quality to other sites where quality improvements may be required
- despite the high numbers of sites in West Oldham (highest apart from Saddleworth and Lees), provision is of poorest quality in this area (average score of 61%).

11.8 Although site visits indicated that cemeteries are generally well kept and well maintained, drop in sessions highlighted the lack of respect shown to these sites. Royton Cemetery, Middleton Road Cemetery and Chadderton Cemetery were perceived to be suffering from increased vandalism and reduced maintenance.

11.9 In contrast, Greenacres Cemetery, which has been the target of vandalism and misuse in the past, was commended for the quality and maintenance of the site following the instances of vandalism and is now perceived to be a safer and more pleasant open space.

11.10 Respondents to the household survey echo concerns at drop in sessions, highlighting that the main issues affecting the quality of these sites stem from misuse and a lack of care and respect. While 74% feel there are problems with vandalism and graffiti, 67% and 63% felt there to be litter and antisocial behavioural problems

SECTION 11 – CEMETERIES AND CHURCHYARDS

respectively. Only 59% felt that poor maintenance was to blame for the quality issues experienced at some sites.

Setting provision standards

- 11.11 The process for setting standards is outlined in section two. Whereas provision standards for quality, quantity and accessibility are set for other open space typologies, PPG17 Annex recommends that only a quality vision is established for cemeteries and churchyards stating "*many historic churchyards provide important places for quiet contemplation, especially in busy urban areas, and often support biodiversity and interesting geological features. As such many can also be viewed as amenity greenspaces. Unfortunately, many are also run-down and therefore it may be desirable to enhance them. As churchyards can only exist where there is a church, the only form of provision standard which will be required is a qualitative one.*"
- 11.12 PPG 17 Annex also states "*every individual cemetery has a finite capacity and therefore there is steady need for more of them. Indeed, many areas face a shortage of ground for burials. The need for graves, for all religious faiths, can be calculated from population estimates, coupled with details of the average proportion of deaths which result in a burial, and converted into a quantitative population-based provision standard.*"
- 11.13 In line with PPG17 and the Companion Guide, only a quality vision has therefore been set.

Quantity Standard (see appendix H – standards and justification, worksheet and calculator)

Existing level of provision	Recommended standard
No Local Standard to be set	
Justification	
No quantity standard has been set in line with PPG17. The appropriate level of provision should be calculated taking into account population estimates, birth and death rates. This does not equate to a standard per 1000 population.	

Accessibility Standard (see appendix J)

Recommended standard
No Local Standard to be set
Justification
There is no realistic requirement to set catchments for such typologies as they cannot easily be influenced through planning policy and implementation.

Quality Standard (see appendix I)

Recommended standard
<i>“A clean and well-maintained site providing long-term burial capacity, an area of quiet contemplation and a sanctuary for wildlife. Sites should have clear pathways, seating where appropriate and varied vegetation and landscaping. The site must have a well defined boundary and appropriate lighting to discourage misuse and encourage management of the site through the involvement of the community if at all possible”.</i>
Justification
It is important for the Council and the public to acknowledge the important open space function that churchyards and cemeteries provide. However, it is essential that sites are regularly maintained with clear footpaths so as to increase the ease of access and safety for those who visit the sites. It is important that good practice is promoted throughout the Borough.

Quality Benchmarking

- 11.14 In order to further understand the quality of cemeteries and churchyards and the issues they face, the quality benchmarking standard (set at a score of 76% on the site assessment for cemeteries and churchyards) can be applied to provide an indication of the quality suggested at each site, enabling site by site comparisons. As described in Appendix K, it highlights sites, which currently meet the visionary standard, and those sites falling below and consequently where improvement is required. A full list of site scores can be found in the cemeteries and churchyard section of Appendix L.
- 11.15 The five sites achieving the highest scores are illustrated overleaf on figure 11.2. The five sites that experience the highest level of quality issues are also illustrated.

Fig 11.2 – Highest and lowest cemetery and churchyard quality scores

V good	90% to 100%	↑	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site ID 1881 - The Church of St Anne (90%)
Good	70% to 90%		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site ID 901 – Greenacres Cemetery (86%) Site ID 852 – Royton Cemetery (85%) Site ID 879 – Crompton Cemetery (83%) Site ID 869 – Shaw Church Cemetery (83%)
Average	50% to 70%		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site ID 896 – St James Church (57%) Site ID 1604 – St Cuthberts Churchyard (54%)
Poor	30% to 50%		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site ID 1775 – St Thomas Church (49%) Site ID 1853 – St Johns Churchyard (47%) Site ID 2121 – Delph Church and Cemetery (46%)
V poor	Below 30%		

Summary

11.16 The key issues emerging from the review of the provision of cemeteries and churchyards across Oldham Borough and the assessment of local needs can be summarised as:

	Current Provision	Local Needs
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the quality of cemeteries and churchyards is good although there are some sites where a lack of respect is evident; and there are particular issues with vandalism, graffiti, litter and antisocial behaviour across cemeteries and churchyards. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> cleanliness and maintenance is perceived to be particularly important in creating the right environment. The importance of cemeteries and churchyards in terms of biodiversity and conversation is also recognised and valued; and restoration of Greenacres Cemetery following incidents of vandalism has been recognised by local residents.

SECTION 12
GREEN CORRIDORS

Green corridors

Definition

- 12.1 The Green Corridors typology encompasses towpaths along canals and riverbanks, cycleways, rights of way and disused railway lines. Green corridors have a primary purpose of providing opportunities for walking, cycling and horse riding whether for leisure purposes or travel and opportunities for wildlife migration.

PPG17 – the role of green corridors

- 12.2 With regards to green corridors the emphasis of PPG17 is on urban areas. It uses the typology from the Urban Green Spaces Taskforce Report that is an ‘urban typology’.
- 12.3 Furthermore, elements of PPG17 are contradictory to the companion guide on this issue, where despite PPG17 suggesting that all corridors, including those in remote rural settlements should be included, the Companion Guide suggests that unless a green corridor is used as a transport link between facilities i.e. home and school, town and sports facility etc, it should not be included within an audit.
- 12.4 Although the role that all green corridors play in the provision of open space and recreation within local authority areas is recognised, the focus is on important urban corridors and public rights of way (PROW).
- 12.5 In addition to providing recreational routes in their own right, green corridors play an important role in linking open spaces together, providing a green infrastructure network across the District. Green corridors are an important resource linking the urban areas with accessible countryside.

Strategic context and consultation

Strategic context

- 12.6 The Council are in the process of developing a Rights of Way Improvement Plan to contribute to the delivery of a key priority, to provide a comprehensive network of footpaths, cycleways and bridleways that are well maintained, safe, accessible to all and which link communities.
- 12.7 The plan will be designed to meet community needs through extensive community consultation and also link to economic and community strategies. Importantly for the future provision of open space the plan should help regenerate open space sites with a PROW running through.
- 12.8 The cycling strategy already links into cycling networks through some of the larger parks including Alexandra Park. It also links into the national cycle network propositions, promoting safer cycle routes through communities and to schools and Sustrans to create accessible cycling facilities throughout Oldham. This is of particular importance in Oldham in the context of findings from site assessments of open space sites across the Borough, which indicated that at the current time many of the sites are inaccessible by cycleway.
- 12.9 Consultations highlighted numerous examples of further opportunities to extend the green corridor network in Oldham Borough, specifically targeting disused railways and the river valleys. Internal consultation comments noted a lack of green linkages and green infrastructure within Oldham and it was believed if the network was to

improve usage of larger open space sites would potentially increase owing to the increased accessibility generated through these extra linkages. This was re-iterated within the results of the household survey with 49% of respondents believing there to be not enough or nearly enough.

- 12.10 88% of people responding to the household survey felt that green corridors were important. This is further supported by the usage of green corridors with 23% of residents using them on a weekly basis and a further 13% on a daily basis.
- 12.11 Similar to other types of open spaces, issues of litter, dog fouling, poor maintenance and vandalism and graffiti were perceived to occur along green corridors. These responses were re-iterated at all drop-in sessions, with residents particularly highlighting maintenance problems in some areas and reinforcing fears regarding antisocial behaviour. Verification of these issues was not possible as site visits to green corridors were not undertaken as part of this study to the length of the corridors and hence the unreliability of the assessment.
- 12.12 The investment made to the canal at Uppermill was deemed to be a success due to good levels of ongoing maintenance. Despite this, some consultees highlighted that parking needs to be improved in order to maximise the economic impact. In contrast, residents referring to the canal in Failsworth indicated that despite investment in and positive development, a subsequent lack of ongoing maintenance has seen condition of the quality deteriorate again.
- 12.13 Oldham Beyond proposes the development of a green corridor across the urban area leading to Alexandra Park, which represents a positive step in enhancing the public environment and improving the linkages between green spaces. Such developments will also discourage the reliance on travelling by car.

Setting provision standards

- 12.14 In light of the nature of green corridors it is inappropriate to set quantity and accessibility standards for green corridors. Annex A of PPG17 supports this, stating that there is no sensible way of setting an appropriate provision standard.
- 12.15 PPG17 goes onto to state that:
“instead planning policies should promote the use of green corridors to link housing areas to the Sustrans national cycle network, town and city centres, places of employment and community facilities such as schools, shops, community centres and sports facilities. In this sense green corridors are demand-led. However, planning authorities should also take opportunities to use established linear routes, such as disused railway lines, roads or canal and river banks, as green corridors, and supplement them by proposals to ‘plug in’ access to them from as wide an area as possible”.
- 12.16 Only a quality vision has therefore been set for green corridors. Further enhancement of the green corridor network should be undertaken through the development of a green infrastructure strategy, linking with the ongoing Rights of Way Improvement Plan. Enhancements to the green infrastructure will provide opportunities to more efficiently link the district centres both with other district centres and with green spaces across the Borough, encouraging people to use healthier means of transport and promoting the healthy living agenda.

SECTION 12 – GREEN CORRIDORS

- 12.17 The rationale surrounding the development of recommended local standards for green corridors is set out below.

Quantity Standard (see appendix H – standards and justification, worksheet and calculator)

Existing level of provision	Recommended standard
No Local Standard Set	
Justification	
<p>The Annex A of PPG17 – Open Space Typology states:</p> <p><i>“the need for Green Corridors arises from the need to promote environmentally sustainable forms of transport such as walking and cycling within urban areas. This means that there is no sensible way of stating a provision standard, just as there is no way of having a standard for the proportion of land in an area which it will be desirable to allocate for roads”.</i></p>	

Accessibility Standard (see appendix J)

Recommended standard
No Local Standard Set
Justification
<p>There is no realistic requirement to set catchments for such an open space typology as they cannot be easily influenced through planning policy and implementation and are very much opportunity-led rather than demand-led.</p>

Quality Standard (see appendix I)

Recommended standard
“A clean, well-maintained, safe and secure corridor with clear pathways, linking major open spaces together, enhancing natural features and wildlife corridors. Corridors should provide ancillary facilities such as bins, seating and lighting in appropriate places and signage.”
Justification
<p>Green corridors play an important role in linking communities and provide an opportunity for exercise for local residents. It is therefore important that any new provision meets this local quality standard, which incorporates the Council’s visions and public aspirations. Ultimately sites need to be safe with clear pathways and well maintained to encourage usage. Major routes also need to be well lit and secure.</p>

Summary

- 12.18 Green corridors provide opportunities close to peoples homes for informal recreation, particularly walking and cycling, as part of every day routines, for example, travel to work or shops. The development of a linked green corridor network will help to provide opportunities for informal recreation and improve the health and well-being of the local community. Green corridors are key to the achievement of increased participation targets.
- 12.19 There are already a large number of footpaths and green corridor networks within the study area and consultation indicates that they are well-used. Further promotion of these networks was highlighted during consultation as essential. The Council are in the process of developing a Rights of Way Improvement Plan as to deliver the main strategic aim, which is to provide a comprehensive network of footpaths, cycleways and bridleways which are well maintained, safe, accessible to all and which link communities.
- 12.20 Future development needs to encompass linkage provision between large areas of open space, create opportunities to develop the green corridor network and utilise potential development sites such as dismantled railway lines and cross country nature trails that already exist across Oldham. Development should consider both the needs of wildlife and humans.
- 12.21 A network of multi-functional greenspace will contribute to the high quality natural and built environment required for existing and new sustainable communities in the future. An integrated network of high quality green corridors will link open spaces together to help alleviate other open space deficiencies and provide opportunities for informal recreation and alternative means of transport.

Summary

- 12.22 The key issues emerging from the review of the provision of green corridors across Oldham Borough and the assessment of local needs can be summarised as:

	Current Provision	Local Needs
Overall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • similar to other types of open space in the Borough, issues with vandalism, antisocial behaviour and litter have been identified; and • there are a number of opportunities for the further development of the green infrastructure in Oldham, linking in with the regeneration agenda driven by Oldham Beyond and the Public Rights of Way Improvement plan and cycling strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • residents highlight the importance of green corridors. This perceived importance is also reflected in the frequency of use; • the importance of ongoing maintenance was reinforced, highlighting the emphasis on provision that is clean and well maintained; and • the enhancement of green corridors offers the opportunity to increase linkages between green spaces and to promote the healthy living agenda.

SECTION 13
CIVIC SPACES

Civic spaces

Definition

- 13.1 Civic spaces include civic and market squares and other hard surfaced community areas designed for pedestrians with the primary purpose of providing a setting for civic buildings, public demonstrations and community events.

Figure 13.1 – George Square Civic Space (site ID 1805)



Strategic context and consultation

- 13.2 Civic spaces can be important open space particularly in urban areas and town centres.
- 13.3 As PPG 17 states *“the purpose of civic spaces, mainly in town and city centres, is to provide a setting for civic buildings, and opportunities for open air markets, demonstrations and civic events. They are normally provided on an opportunistic and urban design led basis. Accordingly it is for planning authorities to promote urban design frameworks for their town and city centre areas.”*
- 13.4 Civic spaces need to be considered as an important asset as an area of open space for the residents across Oldham and is the only open space type that is not considered as greenspace. Recently completed schemes include Failsworth Pole Gardens.
- 13.5 The Replacement UDP states that civic and market squares will be protected from inappropriate development which are considered to be of public value, or are potentially publicly valuable. 67% of respondents from the household survey thought that this type of open space is important.

Current position

- 13.6 Of the Civic Spaces audited and assessed, there are currently 15 civic space of varying size located across the Borough, ranging from market squares to war memorials.

13.7 The quality of the civic space within Oldham Borough are outlined in table 14.1 below:

Table 14.1 – Quality analysis

Analysis Area	Number of Sites	Quality Range	Average Score
1 – Saddleworth and Lees	2	80% - 84%	82%
2 - Chadderton	0	N/A	N/A
3 – Failsworth and Hollinwood	2	70% - 72%	71%
4 – Royton and Shaw	3	58% - 86%	74%
5 – East Oldham	2	77% - 86%	81%
6 – West Oldham	6	43% - 92%	72%

- the average quality of civic spaces within Oldham highlight a consistent quality across each analysis area with the average scores ranging from 71% - 82%; and
- the lowest score is exhibited in West Oldham, which in turn has the largest number of civic spaces in the Borough, despite this it also has the highest score of all civic spaces. This wide range in scores for West Oldham suggests that there are some sites of high quality to other sites where quality improvements may be required.

13.8 A high percentage (67%) of people responding to the household questionnaire indicated that these types of space are important, however they rated as one of the least important type of open space (allotments rated the least important) when compared against other typologies.

13.9 Consultation suggested that the inner wards are lacking in all types of open space including civic spaces and private gardens, owing to the high-density terrace housing. This highlights the importance of providing good quality, accessible open space, including civic space, providing meeting places so that community cohesion can be enhanced.

13.10 Quality issues raised through frequent users of this type of open space commented that anti-social behaviour was the biggest problem and thus owing to the unsafe nature of the types of places. General quality aspirations centred around spaces being clean and litter free.

Setting provision standards

13.11 It is not possible to make a reasoned judgement in setting provision standards for civic spaces across the local authority area due to the limited amount of civic space provision. Furthermore, PPG17 suggests that it is not realistic to set a quantity standard for civic spaces, however, it is important to recognise that there may be circumstances in which is it more appropriate for a developer to provide or contribute towards civic space provision rather than make on-site greenspace provision.

13.12 In line with PPG17 and the Companion Guide, only a quality vision has therefore been set.

Quantity Standard (see appendix H – standards and justification, worksheet and calculator)

Existing level of provision	Recommended standard
No Local Standard to be set	
Justification	
No quantity standard has been set in line with PPG17. The appropriate level of provision should be calculated taking into account population estimates, birth and death rates. This does not equate to a standard per 1000 population.	

Accessibility Standard (see appendix J)

Recommended standard
No Local Standard to be set
Justification
There is no realistic requirement to set catchments for such typologies as they cannot easily be influenced through planning policy and implementation.

Quality Standard (see appendix I)

Recommended standard
<i>“A clean and well-maintained visual amenity site that is suitable for its intended use such as a meeting place, setting to a building, as a functional space and as a visual amenity. Appropriate ancillary accommodation (eg seating, toilets and car parking), lighting and CCTV should be provided where appropriate”.</i>
Justification
The standard reflects the need for sites to be clean and well maintained. The function of civic spaces will vary and the standard is intended to reflect this and enhance where possible this use. It will not always be appropriate to provide a variety of facilities on these sites as per the highest rated aspirations.

Quality Benchmarking

- 13.13 In order to further understand the quality of civic spaces and the issues they face, the quality benchmarking standard (set at a score of 79% on the site assessment for civic spaces) can be applied to provide an indication of the quality suggested at each site, enabling site by site comparisons. As described in Appendix K, it highlights sites, which currently meet the visionary standard, and those sites falling below and consequently where improvement is required. A full list of site scores can be found in the civic spaces section of Appendix L.
- 13.14 The five sites achieving the highest scores are illustrated overleaf on figure 13.2. The five sites that experience the highest level of quality issues are also illustrated.

Fig 13.2 – Highest and lowest cemetery and churchyard quality scores

V good	90% to 100%		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site ID 2557 – Alexandra Park Monuments (92%)
Good	70% to 90%		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site ID 2570 – Tandle Hill Park War Memorial (86%) Site ID 2566– Lees Cemetery War Memorial (84%) Site ID 1805 – George Square Civic Space (83%) Site ID 2602 – Uppermill Park War Memorial (80%)
Average	50% to 70%	↑	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site ID 2713 - Waterhead War Memorial (77%) Site ID 2544 - Pole Lane Memorial (70%) Site ID 2556 – Wernerth Park Monument (60%) Site ID 2650 – Westway Marketplace (58%)
Poor	30% to 50%		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site ID - 2583 Crompton Street War Memorial (43%)
V poor	Below 30%		

Summary and recommendations

13.15 The key issues emerging from the review of the provision of civic spaces across Oldham Borough and the assessment of local needs can be summarised as:

	Current Provision	Local Needs
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the quality of civic spaces is generally good although there are some sites where a lack of respect is evident; and opportunities at some civic spaces within the Borough to providing meeting places so that community cohesion can be enhanced. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> cleanliness and maintenance is perceived to be particularly important in creating the right environment; and there are particular concerns with anti-social behaviour at these sites, in particular those spaces that are quite open.

SECTION 14

THE WAY FORWARD

The Way Forward – PPG17 steps 4 and 5

Background

- 14.1 The PPG17 Companion Guide sets out a logical five-step process for undertaking a local assessment of open space. This study covers steps 1 to 2 as set out below.
- Step 1 – Identifying Local Needs;
 - Step 2 – Auditing Local Provision.
- 14.2 PMP have also made recommendations to inform local standards of provision as set out in Step 3 of the PPG17 and the companion guide.
- 14.3 The recommended local provision standards, detailed in typology specific sections 5 – 12, have been derived from a detailed assessment of current provision and local needs. In order to understand the current provision in detail and to take decisions to drive future open spaces in the Borough, the Council will carry out steps 4 and 5 of the PPG17 process, specifically:
- Step 4 – Applying Provision Standards; and
 - Step 5 – Drafting Policies – recommendations and strategic priorities.

Applying the recommended local standards

- 14.4 Local standards have been recommended for quality, quantity and accessibility. The Council should use the application of the local standards to determine:
- the value of specific sites;
 - areas of deficiency and the most appropriate type of provision to rectify this deficiency; and
 - areas where open spaces may be surplus to requirement, offering opportunities for disposal and redesignation.
- 14.5 In order to identify geographical areas of importance and areas where local needs are not met, quantity and accessibility standards should be applied together. The application of quantity standards enables the identification of areas that do not meet the minimum provision standards whilst the accessibility standards will help to determine where those deficiencies are of high importance. Applying the standards together is a much more meaningful method of analysis than applying the standards separately and helps with the prioritisation of sites.
- 14.6 It is important however that the appropriate weight is afforded to identified deficiencies. For example, where a significant quantitative and accessibility deficiency is identified, it is a priority to identify sites to meet this deficiency. However, where there is a lower level of deficiency or there is either a quantitative or accessibility deficiency but not the other, if sites can be identified they should be considered to meet this deficiency.

SECTION 14 – THE WAY FORWARD

- 14.7 Where there is sufficient provision, enhancement of existing provision (where sites do not meet the quality benchmark) should be considered. By introducing the quality standard and quality benchmarking the Council will be able to assess the value of sites and identify the poorest quality sites which could potentially be disposed of in areas with provision above the minimum standard and in turn help improve the overall quality of open space.
- 14.8 The example below provides an overview of the provision of parks and gardens across Oldham Borough, highlighting geographical areas of priority and illustrating the approach to the application of standards. The Council should follow a similar approach for each typology and can undertake both overview assessments (as in this example) or look in more detail at specific areas)).

Example – Provision of parks and gardens across Oldham Borough

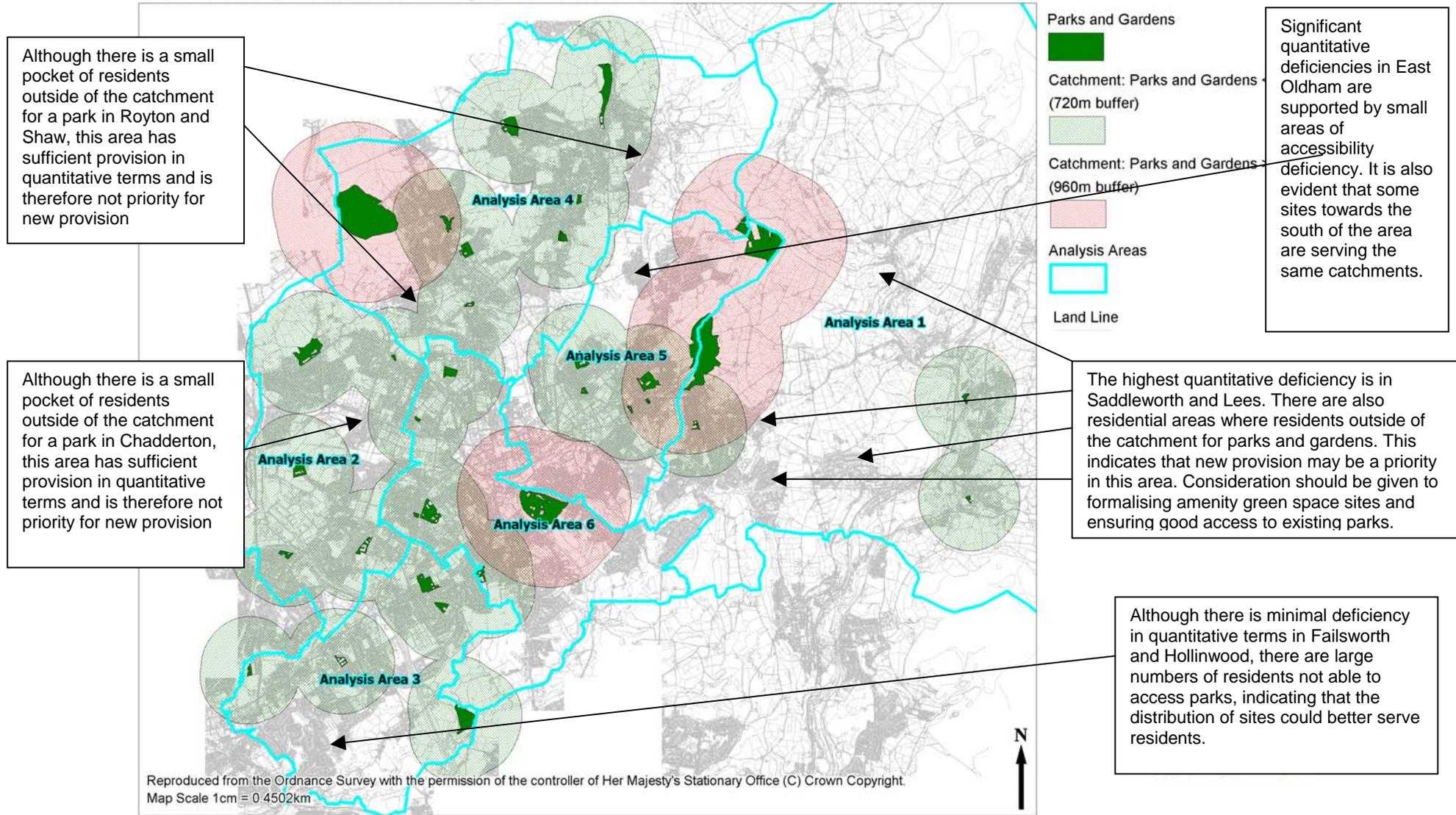
- 14.9 Table 14.1 below illustrates the current level of provision measured against the recommended local standard. When linked with analysis of the geographical distribution of provision for parks and gardens, this enables the prioritisation of any new provision and an understanding of areas where deficiencies are of importance.

Table 14.1 – Provision of Parks and Gardens in Oldham Borough

Analysis Area	Current Provision (per 1000 population)	Local Standard (per 1000 population)	Shortfall or Surplus (hectares)
Saddleworth and Lees	0.05	0.26	-7.20
Chadderton	0.43	0.26	5.43
Failsworth and Hollinwood	0.26	0.26	-0.03
Royton and Shaw	0.55	0.26	12.31
East Oldham	0.03	0.26	-7.68
West Oldham	0.23	0.26	-1.18

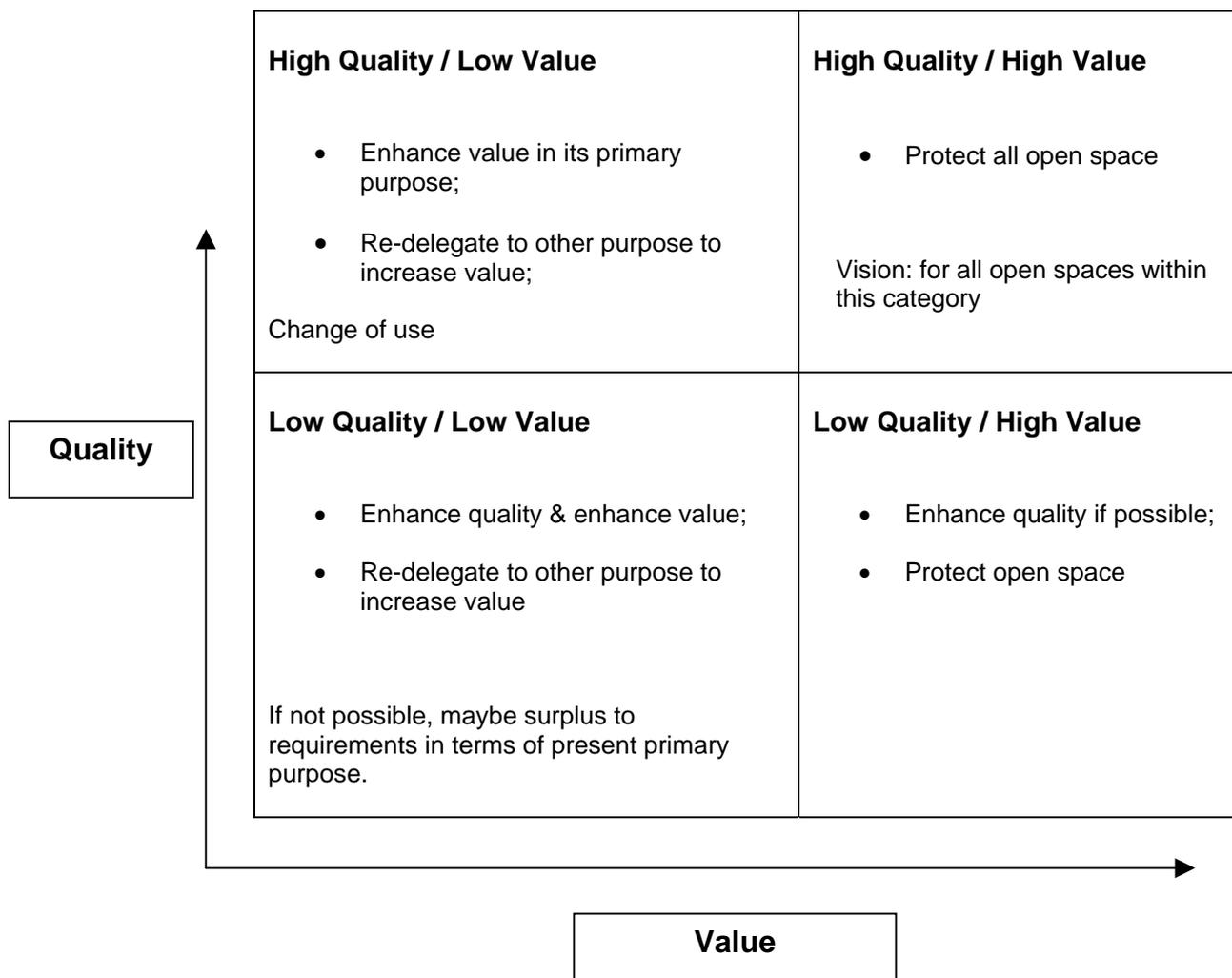
- 14.10 When applying only the quantitative standard, it can be seen that the highest areas of deficiency are Saddleworth and Lees and East Oldham. Based on the quantitative standard only, there appears to be sufficient provision in both Chadderton and Royton and Shaw.
- 14.11 The key issues emerging when analysing the spatial distribution of parks and gardens alongside the quantitative standards can be seen in map 14.1 overleaf.
- 14.12 To further understand access and quantity of provision of open spaces across the Borough, it may also be necessary to consider access to amenity green spaces and natural and semi natural sites, in order to identify those residents without access to any formal recreational space.

Open Space Catchment Type: Parks and Gardens



14.13 When taking decisions about specific sites, consideration should be given to the value of the individual site. Value is a function of the quality, accessibility and usage of a site. Where quality and accessibility is high, usage is usually also high. Consideration should be given to the need for the site to meet the needs of residents in that area. If the site is deemed to be surplus to requirements in terms of its existing function or typology, consideration should be given to other policy options before the site is deemed to be surplus to requirements. This is highlighted in figure 14.1 below.

Figure 14.1 – Assessing the Value of Open Space Sites



14.14 The application of the standards enables both the identification of strategic priorities and the assessment of specific sites within the Borough.

14.15 Findings resulting from the application of local standards should influence policies in the Core Strategy of the Local Development Framework and any subsequent Local Development Documents should link strongly with the policies in the Core Strategy.

14.16 Outdoor sports facilities is a wide-ranging category of open space, which includes both natural and artificial surfaces for sport and recreation that are either publicly or privately owned. Examples include playing pitches, athletics tracks, bowling greens and golf courses with the primary purpose of participation in outdoor sports. For this reason a quantity standard set for broad planning need only. The application for surpluses and deficiencies would be meaningless. The application of the

accessibility standard provides an overview of sports provision in the area as a whole and provides an indication of where facilities are lacking.

- 14.17 The playing pitch strategy considers the quantitative supply of pitches in more detail, examining the geographical distribution and the adequacy of the overall supply of pitches in the context of community demand.

Drafting Policies

- 14.18 Having identified deficiencies in accessibility, quality and quantity it is recommended to plot existing unmet needs on a base map to set out the starting point for the an open space, sport and recreation strategy in accordance with guidance in PPG17.

- 14.19 The standard setting process has been undertaken based on an assessment of existing local needs of the current population. However to provide a further level of demographic analysis the local standards have been applied to 2021 to show the implications if the level of provision does not change. This can be seen in appendix H. This has been based on a University of Manchester study – “Population forecasts for Oldham Borough, with an ethnic group dimension” –, which suggests that Oldham’s population growth is expected to be steady overall, reaching 221,650 by 2021. This level of growth has been apportioned across the analysis areas.

- 14.20 Should this study be developed into an open space, sport and recreation strategy it is recommended that detailed work is undertaken on forecasting future need to produce figures that are reflective of;

- future socio-demographic characteristic of the population
- trends in the relative popularity of different activities; and
- the impact of open space policies and planned changes in provision.

- 14.21 Key socio-demographic characteristics of the population outlined in the 2005 population forecasts that need to be considered include:

- the steady total population will continue to be accompanied by greater ethnic diversity, in the context of a large majority white population
- 25% of Oldham’s population will have ethnic origins other than White by 2021
- the very elderly population aged 85 and over is likely to increase steadily, reaching 5000 by about 2021; and
- the number of children, aged under 16, is expected to increase to 33% of the total by 2021, and the number of all ethnic minority children to 39%.

- 14.22 A strategic framework for the planning, delivery, management and monitoring of open space, sport and recreation facilities should have four basic components in accordance with the PPG17 Companion Guide;

- existing provision to be protected
- existing provision to be enhanced
- existing provision to be relocated in order to meet local needs more effectively or make better overall use of land; and

- proposals for new provision.
- 14.23 In addition to this study, the strategic framework should review and update the existing strategic framework including:
- the Greenspace Strategy
 - the Parks Strategy
 - the Cemeteries Strategy; and
 - the Playing Pitch Strategy.
- 14.24 In relation to existing provision to be protected, all open space typologies where the existing level of provision is below or the same as the acceptable quantity standard should as a matter of course protect all existing spaces to ensure that the situation is not made worse over time whilst remedial action is planned.
- 14.25 Existing provision should be enhanced in two discrete ways. In areas within the accessibility catchments of existing provision but where there is a quantitative deficiency of provision one of the options to the council is to increase the capacity of existing provision. The council should estimate the populations within these catchments to draw up a list of those spaces that are currently too small for the area they should be serving. Within these areas, consideration should be given to the feasibility of extending these sites. Alternatively, in areas where facilities or spaces do not meet the relevant quality standards, enhancements will be required. Priorities for qualitative improvements should be decided with reference to the site assessments undertaken as part of this study.
- 14.26 In terms of proposals for new provision, these should be located in areas within the accessibility catchments of existing provision but where there is a quantitative deficiency of provision or in areas outside of catchments. Significant opportunities include housing market renewal areas where comprehensive redevelopment is proposed and urban capacity sites.
- 14.27 More generally, the Council should deliver a plan led approach to significant housing growth and open space and test potential housing locations against the findings of the open space, sport and recreation study and any subsequent green space strategy.
- 14.28 Moreover, having clearly identified targets for enhancements, locations for new provision and also existing provision to be relocated in a strategy document will enable for a more transparent approach to the pooling of developer contributions. Where the combined impact of a number of developments creates the need for infrastructure, it may be reasonable for the associated developer contributions to be pooled. In addition, where individual development will have some impact but is not sufficient to justify the need for a discrete piece of infrastructure, local planning authorities may seek contributions to specific future provision. This can be determined through the application of the quantity standards and the agreed accessibility thresholds developed in the study. However, a degree of certainty is needed that cumulatively sufficient developments will come forward in that locality within an agreed time frame or else the contributions will need to be returned to the developer. This should be closed linked to emerging Local Development Framework work on site specific allocations and know areas of significant development.

14.29 Alternatively, in cases where an item of infrastructure necessitated by the cumulative impact of a series of developments is provided by a local authority before all the developments have come forward, the later developers may still be required to contribute the relevant proportion of costs. Therefore it is recommended that the council develops a strategy for the provision of new open space, sport and recreation as required ensuring contributions are maximised in areas which are known to have a quantitative shortfall and where housing growth is expected.

Funding opportunities – developer contributions

- 14.30 It is recommended that the Council continue to ensure that revenue is maximised through funding for greenspace from **developer contributions**.
- 14.31 Where contributions are secured through planning obligations that are predominantly for the benefit of users of the associated development, it may be appropriate for the development to make provision for subsequent *maintenance*. Such provision may be required in perpetuity. (for example, children’s play areas to serve a new housing development)
- 14.32 However, when an asset is intended for wider public use, the costs of subsequent maintenance should normally be borne by the authority. Where contributions to the initial support are necessary, maintenance sums should be time limited and should not be required in perpetuity (such as outdoor sports facilities, which will serve a wider area)
- 14.33 The level of developer contributions required on a case-by-case basis should be based on any quantitative, qualitative and accessibility deficiency within the area of the development. For each open space typology, it is recommended that the following process should be followed to discover where contributions are required:
- estimate the number of residents living in the proposed development (being explicit about assumed occupation rates)
 - calculate the existing amount of open space within the agreed accessibility threshold of the new development. For example, there may be an existing quantitative undersupply of parks and gardens, provision for young people and children and allotments in the area of the development site
 - estimate the existing population within the relevant accessibility threshold and combine this with the estimated population of the new development; and
 - compare the existing amount of open space and the total population with the quantity standards developed for that typology in the PPG17 study to decide if after the development there will be sufficient quantity within recommended distances of the development site to meet local needs.
- 14.34 If when assessed against the relevant PPG17 quantity standards, there is a sufficient amount of that type of open space in the local areas to meet the needs of the total population, the Council may expect developer contributions to enhance the quality of open spaces within that accessibility threshold. If there will not be sufficient open space, the new provision will be required either on site or off site (dependant on the scale of the development and any assumptions about minimum sizes of provision)

Other funding opportunities

Use of redundant buildings

- 14.35 Sympathetic use of redundant facilities for leisure and recreational purposes is also a possibility. This could include the establishment of small commercial sports facilities (e.g. tennis) in parks. Another example could be the use of a redundant sports pavilion as a children's crèche or nursery.

Business funding/sponsorships

- 14.36 Examples from other boroughs include sponsorship of Cardiff City Council's events and festivals programme, and the Body Shop Playground Project in Auchinlea Park, Glasgow.

Partnership arrangements with the voluntary sector

- 14.37 This could include an expansion of parks 'friends' groups. An example is that of Rossmere Park, Hartlepool, where the community was encouraged to take ownership. The park was promoted and became heavily used, attracting investment from funding bodies.

Lottery funding

- 14.38 This could include the Heritage Fund if works are carried out which are of outstanding interest and importance to the national heritage. Funding is provided for whole park projects, the conservation of park features or park activities. Grants are available from £50,000 to £5 million for a period of up to five years. Projects must be designed to involve all stakeholders, must demonstrate sustainability, and must demonstrate the heritage value of the park in question.
- 14.39 The Young People's Fund aims to support projects that will improve local communities and offer more opportunities to young people. The scheme involves young people coming up with ideas for projects and to be involved in making them happen.

The Big Lottery Fund

- 14.40 The Big Lottery Fund will bring together the work of two National Lottery distributors: the Community Fund, which provides funding for charities and the voluntary and community sectors, and the New Opportunities Fund, which provides funding for health, education and environment projects. There are several different funding sources available. Those relating to open space, sport, play and recreation facilities include:

- changing spaces – between 2006 and 2009, £234 million is available to help communities in England improve the environment. The programmes has 3 priorities, including community spaces and access to the natural environment; and
- children's play – £124 million has been made available to local authorities from March 2006 with four deadlines for applications through until September 2007. Local authorities are invited to submit their play strategy and a portfolio of project proposals as the basis for their application, submitted only by a play partnership which is led by the local authority.

Young People's Fund

14.41 The Young People's Fund aims to support projects that will improve local communities and offer more opportunities to young people. Grants are available for individuals, to help them make a difference in their community; grants to voluntary groups and community organisations to run local projects with and for young people and national grants.

Review of pricing

14.42 This needs to cover all charges where a significant income is obtained, including outdoor sports, allotments and burials. The review needs to consider:

- charges for similar provision in other local authorities;
- the quality of provision;
- whether the service can be improved to justify a price increase;
- the extent to which the market will bear any future increase;
- whether differential pricing can be used to encourage off-peak usage;
- concessions for minority groups, or those which the Council particularly wishes to encourage;
- pricing at a level which does not deny access; and
- lower and/or more favourable charges for South Northamptonshire residents.

The Landfill Tax Credit Scheme

14.43 This was revised in April 2003, and allows registered landfill operators to contribute 6.5% of their annual landfill tax liability to environmental bodies approved by the organisation ENTRUST.

14.44 The scheme must be used for social, environmental and community based projects complying with specific "approved objects." These objects are the provision and maintenance of public amenity, and restoration and repair of buildings open to the public with historical or architectural significance.

14.45 The project must be within 10 miles of a landfill/extraction operation.

Local Heritage Initiatives

14.46 Local Heritage Initiatives are to assist local communities in the preservation of their environment, landmarks and traditions including archaeological, natural, built and industrial heritage. A community group could investigate and celebrate a historic park, prepare a public exhibition in a park, and repair a feature. Up to 100% of project costs between values of £3,000 and £25,000 are payable.

14.47 Your Heritage Grants are available from the Heritage Lottery Fund, and are for projects of between £5,000 and £50,000 in value, however it was announced at the end of last year that this initiative will cease to operate from September 2006, the final date for applications will be 30th June 2006.

Lottery Small Grants Scheme

- 14.48 The Lottery Small Grants Scheme offers Awards for All grants of between £500 and £5,000 for small projects, which involve people in their community, and can include local environmental work and community park projects.

Barclays Sitesavers

- 14.49 Barclays Sitesavers is a grant mechanism for community projects, which transform derelict land into community leisure and recreation facilities. Between £4,000 and £10,000 per project is available.

The Tree Council

- 14.50 The Tree Council supports the Community Trees Fund which funds up to 75% of all expenditure on tree planting schemes having a value of £100 to £700.

The Esmee Fairburn Foundation

- 14.51 The Esmee Fairburn Foundation aims to improve quality of life, particularly for people who face disadvantage. Eligible activities include the preservation and enhancement of open space, and good management of woodlands, gardens and allotments. The size of grant is not limited, with the average award for the year 2002 being £33,500. In 2006 they expect to make grants of £26 million across the UK.

Further detailed information regarding grants can be found in 'Claiming Your Share: A Guide to External Funding for Parks and Green Space Community Groups', obtainable from <http://www.greenspace.org.uk>.

SECTION 15
POLICY REVIEW

Local Plan Policy Assessment

- 15.1 Through the review of policies as part of the Local Development Framework process, Oldham Metropolitan Borough will be able to feed the results and analysis of this study into the preparation of policies. The following policy assessment section sets out some key considerations based on existing policies in the Unitary Development Plan.

Policy name and number	Description of policy	Comments and recommendations
Oldham Metropolitan Borough Unitary Development Plan		
<p>R1 Maintaining supply through the protection and improvement of existing open space, sport and recreation facilities</p>	<p>The Council will protect from inappropriate development a range of open space land, buildings and routes which are used for sport and recreation purposes which are considered to be of public value or are potentially publicly valuable, and will where appropriate require the improvement of existing facilities which perform an open space, sport or recreation function.</p> <p>The Council will seek to maintain a supply of open space, sport and recreation facilities through new and improved provision, in accordance with identified standards</p> <p>Criteria based policy as to when the Council will permit development that would result in the loss of an open space as defined in R1.</p> <p>The policy includes a number of exceptions such as being dependent on the value to the local community.</p> <p>This policy does not apply to playing fields, or land, which is allocated for built development, or proposals that relate to cleared sites on previously developed land where there is a clear intention for future development.</p> <p>In respect on or off site replacement or enhanced open space and / or recreational facilities...</p>	<p>The presumption in favour of protect open spaces (as defined by PPG17) is supported.</p> <p>When taking decisions about specific sites, consideration should be given to the value of the individual site. Value is a function of the quality, accessibility and usage of a site. Where quality and accessibility is high, usage is usually also high. Consideration should be given to the need for the site to meet the needs of residents in that area. If the site is deemed to be surplus to requirements in terms of its existing function or typology, consideration should be given to other policy options before the site is deemed to be surplus to requirements.</p> <p>The desire to provide new and improved provision is accordance with identified standards is also supported. The review of policies for the LDF should consider the implementation of the new recommended standards and existing provision should be enhanced in two discrete ways. In areas within the accessibility catchments of existing provision but where there is a quantitative deficiency of provision one of the options to the council is to increase the capacity of existing provision. The council should estimate the populations within these catchments to draw up a list of those spaces that are currently too small for the area they should be serving. Within these areas, consideration should be given to the feasibility of extending these sites. Alternatively, in areas where facilities or spaces do not meet the relevant quality standards, enhancements will be required.</p>

Policy name and number	Description of policy	Comments and recommendations
	facilities, a range of criteria will apply.	<p>Priorities for qualitative improvements should be decided with reference to the site assessments undertaken as part of this study.</p> <p>In terms of proposals for new provision, these should be located in areas within the accessibility catchments of existing provision but where there is a quantitative deficiency of provision or in areas outside of catchments. Significant opportunities include housing market renewal areas where comprehensive redevelopment is proposed and urban capacity sites. Whilst the policy does not apply to land that has been allocated for development, it is important to consider the open space requirements as a consequence of the level of growth in accordance with the local standards.</p>
R1.3 The protection of playing fields	The Council will not permit the development of playing fields. Exceptions are outlined to this policy including compliance with the adopted playing pitch strategy.	The existing policies for playing fields are in line with the standard set for outdoor sport facilities as it protects the existing level of provision. It is not appropriate to include the standard for outdoor sport facilities, as this is only appropriate for the application of the standards through developer contributions rather than applying to existing provision. Any local standards set in the PPS should inform decisions to protect playing fields.
R2 The Provision and Improvement of Open Spaces, Sport and Recreation Facilities	The Council will – where appropriate – require the provision of new and / or the improvement of existing open spaces and sport or recreation facilities through new developments.	This policy is in accordance with PPG17. The additional demand as a result of new developments should be tested against each typology's local standards to determine the requirements for either new and / or improved facilities.
R2.1 Requirement for New and Improved Open space, sport and recreation facilities and	For developments of 5 to 29 dwellings, there will be a requirement for on-site provision unless there are exceptional circumstances in which case alternatives are identified.	Setting a minimum threshold of 5 dwellings is supported. Every new development (including those under the threshold) will have an impact on the achievement of the local standards in terms of incremental increase in pressure on facilities that is acknowledged in the supplementary

Policy name and number	Description of policy	Comments and recommendations
<p>residential developments</p>	<p>For developments of 30 or more dwellings there will be a requirement for the on-site provision of public open space and / or outdoor sport and recreation facilities, examples of which are listed in policy R1.</p> <p>The amount of provision shall be calculated in accordance with the Council’s standards set out in the greenspace strategy or other locally approved</p> <p>Includes provision of maintenance for an agreed period and this will be secured through s106 obligations.</p>	<p>text. However, smaller development will carry with them less development value and more onerous obligations could detract from proposals coming forward. Giving the time implications of processing minor planning applications, the Council should have in place standard agreement pro-formas for open space.</p> <p>Furthermore, as long as the standards are applied to every development, any deficiencies that currently existing or result as a consequence of developments of less than 5 dwellings can be legitimately absorbed within the requirements of larger developments. The policy stating that the amount of provision shall be calculated in accordance with the Council’s standard ensures that this approach is transparent.</p> <p>As part of the review of policies for the LDF, the desire to achieve on-site provision for smaller developments unless there are exceptional circumstances should be reconsidered. A development of 5 houses would only produce a requirement for a small amount of open space. The difficulties in terms of maintaining such spaces have already been raised as a problem through local consultation. The application of the quantity standards and accessibility standards should be applied on a case-by-case basis to determine the appropriateness of commuted sums as approved to on site provision is there is an open space site close by.</p>

Policy name and number	Description of policy	Comments and recommendations
<p>R2.2 General Criteria Relating to New, or Improved Open Space, Outdoor and Indoor Sport and recreation facilities</p>	<p>The Council will only permit new, or improvements to, open spaces, or outdoor or indoor sport or recreation facilities subject to a range of criteria.</p>	<p>The provision of good quality open space is fundamental to creating a good environment for people to live in. As such the principles of this policy are strongly supported.</p> <p>Ensuring the provision of open space in new development is accessible by non-car modes of transport is supported on the basis that the majority of accessibility standards in line with the consultations and sustainable development objectives are set at a walk time.</p>

APPENDIX A

BENEFITS OF OPEN SPACE

Wider Benefits of Open Space

<p>Social</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing safe outdoor areas that are available to all ages of the local population to mix and socialise • social cohesion - potential to engender a sense of community ownership and pride • providing opportunities for community events, voluntary activities and charitable fund raising • providing opportunities to improve health and take part in a wide range of outdoor sports and activities.
<p>Recreational</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing easily accessible recreation areas as an alternative to other more chargeable leisure pursuits • offers wide range of leisure opportunities from informal leisure and play to formal events, activities and games. • open spaces, particularly parks, are the first areas where children come into contact with the natural world • play opportunities are a vital factor in the development of children.
<p>Environmental</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reducing motor car dependence to access specific facilities • providing habitats for wildlife as an aid to local biodiversity • helping to stabilise urban temperatures and humidity • providing opportunities for the recycling of organic materials • providing opportunities to reduce transport use through the provision of local facilities.
<p>Educational</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • valuable educational role in promoting an understanding of nature and the opportunity to learn about the environment • open spaces can be used to demonstrate virtues of sustainable development and health awareness.
<p>Economic</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adding value to surrounding property, both commercial and residential, thus increasing local tax revenues • contribution to urban regeneration and renewal projects • contributing to attracting visitors and tourism, including using the parks as venues for major events • encouraging employment and inward investment • complementing new development with a landscape that enhances its value.

APPENDIX B

OPEN SPACE TYPOLOGY - DEFINITIONS

OPEN SPACE TYPES AND DESCRIPTIONS – APPENDIX B

Type	Definition	Primary Purpose/Examples
Parks and Gardens	Includes urban parks, formal gardens and country parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • informal recreation • community events.
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspaces	Includes publicly accessible woodlands, urban forestry, scrub, grasslands (e.g. downlands, commons, meadows), wetlands, open and running water and wastelands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wildlife conservation, • biodiversity • environmental education and awareness.
Amenity Greenspace	Most commonly but not exclusively found in housing areas. Includes informal recreation green spaces and village greens.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • informal activities close to home or work • enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas
Provision for Children and Young People	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • equipped play areas • ball courts • outdoor basketball hoop areas • skateboard areas • teenage shelters and 'hangouts'
Outdoor Sports Facilities	Natural or artificial surfaces either publicly or privately owned used for sport and recreation. Includes school playing fields.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • outdoor sports pitches • tennis and bowls • golf courses • athletics • playing fields (including school playing fields) • water sports
Allotments	Opportunities for those people who wish to do so to grow their own produce as part of the long-term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion. May also include urban farms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • growing vegetables and other root crops <p>N.B. does not include private gardens</p>
Cemeteries & Churchyards	Cemeteries and churchyards including disused churchyards and other burial grounds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • quiet contemplation • burial of the dead • wildlife conservation • promotion of biodiversity
Green Corridors	Includes towpaths along canals and riverbanks, cycle ways, rights of way and disused railway lines.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • walking, cycling or horse riding • leisure purposes or travel • opportunities for wildlife migration.
Indoor Sport and Recreation	Opportunities for participation in indoor sport and recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sports halls • swimming pools • health and fitness facilities
Civic Spaces	Areas designed to provide a setting for civic buildings, public demonstrations and opportunities for civic events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • civicsquares • market squares • other hard surfaces areas for pedestrians

There are a number of types of land use that have not been included in this assessment of open space in conjunction with PPG17, namely:

- grass verges on the side of roads
- small insignificant areas of grassland or trees – for example on the corner of the junction of 2 roads
- SLOAP (space left over after planning i.e. in and around a block of flats)
- farmland and farm tracks
- private roads and private gardens.
- accessible countryside in the urban fringe. The countryside is a valuable resource for the provision of sport and recreation, and the council should encourage the creation of facilities in such areas where appropriate. However, they have not been included in this assessment as the focus is spaces within settlements.

As a result of the multifunctionality of open spaces there is a requirement to classify each open space by its 'primary purpose' as recommended in PPG17 so that it is counted only once in the audit.

This should be taken into account when considering additional provision. For example - in areas of deficiency of amenity greenspace, playing pitches may exist that provide the function of required amenity greenspace but its primary purpose is as an outdoor sports facility.

APPENDIX C

SURVEYS

What do you think of parks, areas, play areas, sport and recreational facilities and other open spaces in Oldham Borough?

Dear Resident,

Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council is working in partnership with PMP, a specialist sport and leisure consultancy to undertake an assessment of open space across the Borough. The study is a requirement of government planning guidance and will look at how open spaces, sport and recreation facilities are currently being used and if they meet the needs of residents both now and in the future. The study is partly funded through the Government's Neighbourhood Renewal Unit Fund.

We very much **hope you can spare 15 minutes to complete the attached survey**. It will be used to help us to continue to improve our existing open spaces, sport and recreation facilities and make sure future provision is based on your needs and views. The study will look at the quantity, quality and accessibility of sport and recreation facilities in Oldham and will include both public and private facilities.

Your household is one of 5000 randomly selected to provide us with an insight into resident's opinions. Even if you don't use open spaces or sport and recreation facilities we are keen to hear your views. All the answers you give will be treated as confidential. When completing the survey please answer the questions in relation to the open spaces near to your home.

The survey is quick and easy to answer. Please try to answer as many questions as possible by placing a tick in the boxes or write your answer in the space provided. Please return your survey even if you are unable to answer all of the questions, as any information you provide will be of great use to us.

Who should complete the survey?

You will notice that the survey has not been addressed to any particular individual in your household. This is because we would like to hear the views of the widest possible range of people. Therefore **please ask the person in your household who will next have their birthday to complete the survey**. This includes children aged 10 and over.

If you have any questions or need any help completing the questionnaire please phone Daniel Isherwood, Gary Grocock or myself at PMP on 01606 49582. Alternatively, you can email your views to openspaceinoldham@pmpconsult.com.

Please return your completed survey in the pre-paid envelope provided by Friday 25th November 2005. Many thanks for your help with this important study.

Yours sincerely

Carolyn Basnett
Consultant
PMP

Open Space, Sport and Recreation in Oldham Borough

How to fill in this questionnaire:

PMP are working for Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council to produce an assessment of local needs for open spaces (park, public gardens, outdoor sports areas etc) in the area. This will help the Council to improve existing open spaces, sport and recreation facilities and plan for the future.

As part of this study we are keen to obtain the views of children and young people about the open spaces and sports facilities in Oldham Borough. This on-line questionnaire is designed for you to complete to enable you to have your say on this important issue.

a. Please read each question carefully

b. Most questions can be answered by clicking the box next to the answer that applies to you

c. For some questions you can click more than one answer

d. Please make sure you continue to the end of the questionnaire and press "submit" once you have finished all your answers

e. It should not take more than 15 minutes to complete

Q1 Which school do you attend?

Q2

How old are you now:

- 6 years old
- 7 years old
- 8 years old
- 9 years old
- 10 years old
- 11 years old
- 12 years old
- 13 years old
- 14 years old
- 15 years old
- 16 years old
- 17 years old
- 18 years old

Q3

Are you a boy or a girl?

- Boy
- Girl

Q4

Have you visited any of the following places in Oldham Borough in the last year? (feel free to tick more than one box)

- Parks
- Woodland, meadows, grassland
- Grassy areas or a village green near houses
- Play areas
- Teenage facility/ youth shelter
- Footpaths, cycleways
- Outdoor sports facilities (eg. sports pitches, basketball courts, tennis courts)
- Allotments
- Churchyards and/or cemeteries
- Indoor sports facilities (e.g Sports halls, swimming pools)
- None

Other:

Q5

Please indicate the type of open space you visit most often (tick ONE box only):

- Parks
- Woodland, meadows, grassland
- Grassy areas within a housing development
- Play areas or youth shelters
- Footpaths, cycleways
- Outdoor sports facilities (eg. sports pitches, basketball courts, tennis courts)
- Allotments
- churchyards and/or cemeteries
- Indoor sports facilities (e.g swimming pool, sports hall)
- None.....

Q6

Please tell us the name of the place which you use most often, or the road it is on:

Q7

How often do you visit this place?

- Once per week.....
- Twice per week.....
- Three times in a week.....
- Four times in a week.....
- Five times in a week.....
- Monthly.....
- Occasionally.....

Q8

How do you normally get there?

- Walk.....
- Car.....
- Bus.....
- Train.....
- Cycle
- Skate.....
- Other

Q9

How long does it take you to get there?

- Less than 5 minutes
- Between 5-10 minutes
- Between 10-15 minutes
- Between 15-20 minutes
- Between 20-30 minutes
- Over 30 minutes

Q10

How long do you usually spend once you get there?

- Less than 15 minutes
- 15 - 30 minutes
- 30 - 60 minutes
- Between one hour and two hour
- Over two hours

Q11

What are your main reasons for visiting this place? (feel free to tick more than one box)

- To use the playground/play equipment
- To play on the sports pitches/courts (outdoor) for a team
- To take part in indoor sports
- For a kickabout/informal play
- To meet friends
- To go for a walk
- To take the dog for a walk
- To get some fresh air
- To get some exercise
- As a short cut
- To picnic/eat
- To sit and relax
- To read
- To look at scenery
- For educational purposes
- To go cycling
- To go horseriding
- Other:

Q17

Please rate the following about outdoor sports facilities in Oldham Borough:

	very good	good	fair	poor	very poor	don't know
Amount of sports facilities available	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Overall quality of sports facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>					

Q18

Please rate the following about indoor sports facilities in Oldham Borough:

	very good	good	fair	poor	very poor	don't know
Amount of sports facilities available	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Overall quality of sports facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>					

Q19

Do you think open spaces are well maintained- for example, litter free and safe?

Yes

No

Don't know

Q20

What is the one thing you would most like to see improved or provided in terms of open spaces, play areas and sports facilities where you live?

Q21

If you have any other comments about open spaces or sport and recreation facilities, please type them in the box below:

Thank you for your time

Oldham Sport and Recreation Survey

Please spare a few moments of your time to complete this questionnaire on behalf of your club/organisation. Please tick boxes as appropriate. Thank You.

Profile

Q1 Please state the name of your club/organisation:

Q2 Which of these activities does your club participate in?

Football..... Rugby..... Swimming..... Badminton Cycling.....
Cricket Hockey..... Netball Squash Walking.....
Other (please specify)

Q3 Which of the following groups does your club cater for?

Primary Age Children Families.....
Young people/Teenagers Older people (50+)
Adults

Q4 In which town/village do most of your members reside?

Q5 How often does your club/organisation play/practice?

More than twice a week..... weekly once a month
twice a week..... fortnightly.....

Q6 Does your club work with local schools?

Yes..... No.....

Q7 If yes, which schools do you work with and what activities do you carry out?

Q8 Is your club working towards/has it achieved an accreditation mark for quality standards?

Yes..... No.....
If yes, please provide details

Leisure Facility Usage

Q9 Which leisure facilities (indoor and/or outdoor) does your club/organisation use?

Facility name

Location (town /village)

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Q10 For each of the facilities you use, please rate the following aspects by ticking the appropriate boxes below. Two sets of boxes have been provided to enable the rating of 2 different facilities. Please name the facility that you are rating in the spaces provided.

	<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Poor</i>	<i>Very Poor</i>	<i>No opinion</i>
Location	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Range of Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Appearance	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Ease of booking	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Pricing	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Accessibility by public transport	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Helpfulness of staff	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Opening hours	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Overall	<input type="checkbox"/>					

Which facility?

--

Location	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Range of facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Appearance	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Ease of booking	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Pricing	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Accessibility by public transport	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Helpfulness of staff	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Opening hours	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Overall	<input type="checkbox"/>					

Which facility?

--

Meeting Your Needs

Q11 How would you rate the overall provision of leisure facilities in terms of QUANTITY within the borough of Oldham?

Very good *Poor*

Good *Very Poor*

Average

Please explain the reason for this choice:

--

Q12 How would you rate the overall provision of leisure facilities in terms of **QUALITY** within the borough of Oldham?

Very good..... Poor.....
Good..... Very Poor.....
Average.....

Please explain the reason for this choice:

Q13 How would you rate the overall provision of leisure facilities in terms of **ACCESSIBILITY** within the borough of Oldham?

Very good..... Poor.....
Good..... Very Poor.....
Average.....

Please explain the reason for this choice:

Q14 Do the existing leisure facilities you use meet all the needs of your club/organisation?

Yes..... No.....

Q15 If no, please explain the main reasons why not:

Q16 What types of leisure facilities would you like to see more of, and/or think there is a demand for in the borough of Oldham?

Swimming Pool (Lane swimming)..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Health and Fitness Gym..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Grass Pitches..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Leisure Pools..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Synthetic Turf / All Weather pitches..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Squash Courts..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Sports Halls..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Multi Use Games Area..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Youth facilities..... <input type="checkbox"/>
		Tennis Courts..... <input type="checkbox"/>

Other

Q17 If new leisure facilities were developed, where would you prefer to see them located within the borough of Oldham?

Q18 If one thing could be done to improve the provision of leisure facilities what would that be?

Q19 If you have any general comments that you would like to make us aware of regarding the provision of leisure facilities in the borough of Oldham, please use the space provided below:

**Please return your completed questionnaire in the prepaid envelope provided by
Friday 9th December 2005
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.**

Open Spaces, Sport and Recreation in Oldham Borough

Section 1 - General

When answering the questions in this section please relate to your local area

Q1 Please tell us HOW IMPORTANT each of the following types of open space, sport and recreation facilities are to you:

	Important	Not Important	No opinion
Parks and Gardens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Natural and semi natural greenspaces (e.g. woodland, scrubland)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Green corridors (e.g. footpaths, river and canal banks, cycleways)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Amenity greenspace (e.g. grass areas in housing estates, village greens)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Play spaces for children (e.g. play areas)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Play spaces young people and teenagers (e.g. skate parks)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor Sports Facilities (e.g. pitches, bowling greens, tennis courts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Allotments, community gardens & urban farms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Churchyards and Cemeteries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor Sports Facilities (e.g. Sports Halls, Swimming Pools)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Civic Spaces (civic and market squares)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Quantity

Q2 Please tick below whether you feel there is ENOUGH OR NOT ENOUGH provision for each type of open space, sport and recreation facility within the borough and if possible, explain briefly the reason for your answer.

	More than enough	About right	Nearly enough	Not enough	No opinion
Parks and Gardens	<input type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Reason for answer</i>	<input type="text"/>				
Natural and semi natural greenspaces	<input type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Reason for answer</i>	<input type="text"/>				
Green corridors	<input type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Reason for answer</i>	<input type="text"/>				
Amenity greenspace	<input type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Reason for answer</i>	<input type="text"/>				
Play spaces for children	<input type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Reason for answer</i>	<input type="text"/>				
Play spaces for young people and teenagers	<input type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Reason for answer</i>	<input type="text"/>				
Outdoor sports facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Reason for answer</i>	<input type="text"/>				
Allotments, community gardens and urban farms	<input type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Reason for answer</i>	<input type="text"/>				
Cemeteries and churchyards	<input type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Reason for answer</i>	<input type="text"/>				
Civic Spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Reason for answer</i>	<input type="text"/>				

Travel Time

Q3 How long do you think you should be expected to travel to each type of open space, sport and recreation facility? Please write the **TIME** you would expect to travel (in minutes) and tick the **MODE** of transport you would expect to use.

	Travel Time -				
	Minutes	Walk	Cycle	Bus	Car
Parks and Gardens	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Natural and semi natural greenspaces	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Green corridors	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Amenity greenspace	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Play spaces for children	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Play spaces for young people and teenagers	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Outdoor sports facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Allotments, community gardens and urban farms	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Cemeteries and churchyards	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Civic Spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Usage

Q4 HOW OFTEN have you visited each of the following types of open space, sport and recreation facility in the borough in the last 12 months?

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Occasionally	Don't use
Parks and Gardens	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Natural and semi natural greenspaces	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Green corridors	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Amenity greenspace	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Play spaces for children	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Play spaces young people and teenagers	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Outdoor sports facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Allotments, community gardens and urban farms	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Cemeteries and churchyards	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Civic Spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Q5 For those open space, sport and recreation facilities that you **DO USE** in the borough, what are your main reasons for using these sites? (you may tick as many boxes as required)

To walk	<input type="checkbox"/>	To picnic / eat	<input type="checkbox"/>	To see events / entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/>
To cycle	<input type="checkbox"/>	To play sport on courts / pitches	<input type="checkbox"/>	As a meeting place	<input type="checkbox"/>
To horseride	<input type="checkbox"/>	For a kickabout / informal play	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shortcut / easiest route	<input type="checkbox"/>
To walk the dog	<input type="checkbox"/>	To sit and relax or read	<input type="checkbox"/>	To use children's play equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>
For fresh air	<input type="checkbox"/>	To look at floral displays or scenery	<input type="checkbox"/>	Educational reasons	<input type="checkbox"/>
To take exercise	<input type="checkbox"/>	To observe wildlife	<input type="checkbox"/>	To take children out	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify)	<input type="text"/>				

Q6 For those open space, sport and recreation facilities that you **DON'T USE** in the borough, please tell us why? (You may tick as many boxes as required)

Lack of time	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of cycle/ bridle/ walking access	<input type="checkbox"/>	Feels unsafe	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of interest	<input type="checkbox"/>	Car access / parking	<input type="checkbox"/>	Use open spaces outside the borough/ district	<input type="checkbox"/>
Too far from home	<input type="checkbox"/>	Close to busy road / railway	<input type="checkbox"/>	I am not allowed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public transport not available / difficult route	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	There aren't any	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify)	<input type="text"/>				
		Unsuitable facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Inconvenient public transport	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION TWO - SPECIFIC TO THE TYPE OF OPEN SPACE YOU MOST FREQUENTLY USE

Q7

Please indicate which open space, sport and recreation facility TYPE you use MOST FREQUENTLY in the borough? (PLEASE TICK ONLY ONE)

Parks and public gardens

Natural and semi natural.....

Green corridors

Amenity greenspace

Play spaces for children

Play spaces young people and teenagers

Outdoor sports facilities

Allotments, community gardens and urban farms.....

Cemeteries and churchyards

Civic Spaces.....

Q8 Please name the SITE you use MOST FREQUENTLY?

PLEASE RELATE THE FOLLOWING TO THE TYPE YOU MOST FREQUENTLY USE AS INDICATED IN QUESTION 7

Travel

Q9 How do you normally TRAVEL there? (please tick one box only)

Walk	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bus	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cycle	<input type="checkbox"/>
Private car	<input type="checkbox"/>	Train	<input type="checkbox"/>	Skate	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q10 How LONG does it take you to reach this open space, sport and recreation facility?(please tick one box only)

Less than 5 minutes.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Between 10-15 minutes.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Between 20-30 minutes.....	<input type="checkbox"/>
Between 5-10 minutes.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Between 15-20 minutes.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Over 30 minutes.....	<input type="checkbox"/>

Aspirations

Q11 If you were describing your ideal features within this type of open space, sport and recreation facility what would be the TOP FIVE FEATURES you think should be provided? (please tick only FIVE)

Well kept grass	<input type="checkbox"/>	Events eg music	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pond / lake /water features.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Good access within the site (cycle/walk/bridle)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clean / litter free.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Toilets	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nature conservation area	<input type="checkbox"/>	On site security (eg warden/CCTV)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flowers/trees and shrubs.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cafe	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dog walking facilities... ..	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lighting	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changing facilities.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Seating	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dog free area.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Art / Sculptures	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ease of parking.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Picnic area.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Litter bins	<input type="checkbox"/>	Information boards.....	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clear Footpaths	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shelter	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quality soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	Variety of facilities.....	<input type="checkbox"/>
Level surface/ good drainage.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spacious layout	<input type="checkbox"/>	Facilities for young people	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ease of booking (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Entertainment facility ..	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nature features (eg wildlife).....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Good access to site ...	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Other (please specify)

Quality

Q12 Please indicate whether you experience any of the following PROBLEMS at the open space type you visit most frequently as indicated in Q7 by rating the seriousness of the problem in the boxes below:

	Significant Problem	Minor Problem	No problem
Vandalism and graffiti	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poor Maintenance (overgrown vegetation, waterlogging)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Litter problems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Anti-social behaviour	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dog Fouling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safety	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(please specify)

Q13 Which of the following factors would make you feel SAFER using this type of open space (please tick one or more)

Adequate lighting.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCTV.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Boundaries (eg railings, fencing etc)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clear route to open space.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Staff-on-site	<input type="checkbox"/>	Landscaping (open aspect of the open space).....	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adequate car parking.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reputation of area / space.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other users.....	<input type="checkbox"/>

Site Access

Q14 Please give an indication of your level of satisfaction with the following **SITE ACCESS** factors for the open space type, sport and recreation type you visit most frequently in the borough.

	<i>Very satisfied</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Unsatisfied</i>	<i>Very unsatisfied</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>
Visibility of site entrance	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Accessibility by walking	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Accessibility by pushchairs and wheelchairs	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Accessibility by public transport	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Accessibility by cycleways / bridleways	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Opening Times	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Signage	<input type="checkbox"/>				

SECTION THREE- OUTDOOR SPORTS

Q15 How would you rate the overall provision of outdoor sport facilities within Oldham Borough?

Very good Average Very Poor
 Good Poor

Please explain the reason for this choice:

Q16 Please tick below whether you feel there is **ENOUGH OR NOT ENOUGH** provision for each type of outdoor sport facility in your local area and if possible, explain briefly the reason for your answer.

	<i>More than enough</i>	<i>About right</i>	<i>Nearly enough</i>	<i>Not enough</i>	<i>No opinion</i>
Grass Pitches <i>Reason for answer</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Synthetic turf pitch/ all weather pitch <i>Reason for answer</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Multi use games area (basketball etc) <i>Reason for answer</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Tennis Courts <i>Reason for answer</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Bowling Greens <i>Reason for answer</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Golf Courses <i>Reason for answer</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Q17 How long do you think you should be expected to travel to each type of outdoor sport facility? Please write the **TIME** you would expect to travel (in minutes) and tick the **MODE** of transport you would expect to use.

	<i>Travel Time - Minutes</i>	<i>Walk</i>	<i>Cycle</i>	<i>Bus</i>	<i>Car</i>
Grass Pitches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Synthetic Turf Pitch (all weather)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tennis Courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Multi use games area (basketball etc)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bowling Greens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Golf Courses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION FOUR - INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES

Q18

How would you rate the overall provision of indoor leisure facilities within Oldham Borough?

Very good Average Very Poor
 good Poor Don't know

Please explain the reason for this choice:

Q19

If you were describing your ideal features for indoor sports facilities, what would be the TOP FIVE FEATURES you think should be provided? (please tick only FIVE)

Accessible routes to leisure facilities (public transport/ green corridors) Range of activities Ease/security of parking
 Welcoming staff Information available Child care facilities
 Ease of booking Cleanliness of changing rooms Affordability
 Maintenance of facility/equipment Disabled access
 Refreshments/vending

Other (please specify)

Q20

Please tick below whether you feel there is ENOUGH OR NOT ENOUGH provision for each type of indoor facility in Oldham Borough and if possible, explain briefly the reason for your answer.

	More than enough	About right	Nearly enough	Not enough	No opinion
Swimming Pools	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Reason for answer					
Sports Halls	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Reason for answer					
Health and Fitness Suite	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Reason for answer					
Dance Studio	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Reason for answer					
Courts for racket sports	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Reason for answer					

Q21

How long do you think you should be expected to travel to each type of indoor facility? Please write the TIME you would expect to travel (in minutes) and tick the MODE of transport you would expect to use.

	Travel Time - Minutes	Walk	Cycle	Bus	Car
Swimming Pools	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Sports Halls	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Health and Fitness Suite	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Dance Studio (areas for exercise classes)	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Courts for racket sports (squash, tennis, badminton etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>				

General

Q22

If you have any other COMMENTS that you would like to make regarding open space, sport and recreation facilities in Oldham Borough, please write them in the box below and continue on a separate sheet of paper if required.

Q23 Are you;
 Male..... Female

Q24 How old are you?
 Under 16..... 25-39 60-75
 16-24 40-59 75+

Q25 Which of the following best describes your ethnic origin?
 White British Black Other Mixed White and Black Caribbean
 White Irish Asian British Mixed White and Black African
 White Other Asian Pakistani Mixed Black and White and Asian
 Black British Asian Indian Mixed Other
 Black African Asian Bangladesh Chinese
 Black Caribbean Asian Other
 Other (please specify)

Q26 Are there any children aged under 16 years in the house?
 Yes No

Q27 Please state your postcode:

Thank you for completing this questionnaire, please return it in the prepaid envelope provided by November 25th 2005
PMP Consultancy is registered under the Data Protection Act 1998 with the Notification Department of the Information Commission.

APPENDIX D

DEFINITIONS

QUALITY SCORING ASSESSMENT (Definitions)

		Very Good (5)	Good (4)	Average (3)	Poor (2)	Very Poor (1)
Cleanliness and Maintenance	Vandalism and Graffiti	No evidence of vandalism or graffiti	Limited evidence of vandalism or graffiti	Some evidence of vandalism or graffiti but doesn't really detract from the cleanliness or attraction of the area	Increasing evidence of vandalism and graffiti which would probably deter some users	Clear evidence of vandalism and graffiti which would probably deter any usage of the open space site
	Litter problems (including broken glass)	No evidence of litter	Limited evidence of litter	Some evidence of litter but doesn't really detract from the cleanliness or attraction of the area	Increasing evidence of litter which would probably deter some users	Clear evidence of litter which would probably deter any usage of the open space site
	Dog Fouling	No evidence of dog fouling; specific dog fouling wastage bins provided where appropriate; with appropriate signage	Limited evidence of dog fouling; bins provided where appropriate	Some evidence of dog fouling but doesn't really detract from the cleanliness or attraction of the area; bins provided	Increasing evidence of dog fouling which would probably deter some users; no specific bins provided in appropriate areas	Clear evidence of dog fouling which would probably deter any usage of the open space site; no bins provided
	Noise	Very quiet and peaceful site; no intrusion by any noise	Limited intrusion by noise; i.e. site located away from roads, railways, works sites etc	Little intrusion by noise (e.g. busy road, railway nearby) but wouldn't really deter usage of the site	Noise intrusion apparent; may have some affect on potential usage	Noise intrusion clearly apparent by a number of sources and would probably deter some usage
	Equipment (e.g. condition and maintenance of equipment in play areas or recreation provision)	Equipment in excellent condition and provides an attraction for users;	Equipment in good condition	Equipment in reasonable condition; some potential improvements but not a necessity at this stage	Some equipment in poor condition and obvious that improvements could be made	Majority of equipment in poor condition and in a state of disrepair; no signs of the issue being addressed
	Smells (unattractive)	No unattractive smells	Limited unattractive smells	Little unattractive smells or some smells that would be a one-off; shouldn't deter any usage	Some unattractive more permanent smells; may deter some users	Clearly apparent unattractive permanent smells; would deter some potential users
	Maintenance and Management	Clean and tidy; well-maintained site that is inviting to users; possibly an example of good practice	Clean and tidy site; good maintenance	Reasonably clean and tidy site; some potential improvements	Some questions regarding the cleanliness of the site; some obvious improvements could be made	Poor cleanliness; clear evidence of a lack of maintenance
Security and Safety	Lighting	Appropriate lighting that promotes the safety of the open space; well-maintained	Appropriate lighting; well-maintained	Some lighting; some general improvements could be made	Limited lighting; or appropriate lighting in poor condition	Limited lighting in poor condition; or no lighting in places required
	Equipment (e.g. protection of equipment and appropriate flooring and surfaces)	Equipment in excellent condition; excellent surfaces provided throughout the site; appropriate fencing of site to protect equipment and/or ensure safety of users	Equipment in good condition; appropriate and suitable surfaces provided throughout the majority of the site; sufficient measures provided to protect equipment and/or ensure safety of users	Equipment in reasonable condition; appropriate surfaces provided but some potential improvements; some measures provided to protect equipment and/or ensure safety of users	Equipment in poor condition; some questions regarding safety of use; appropriate surfaces provided but in poor condition or some clear concerns regarding surfaces; limited measures to protect equipment of users	Equipment in very poor condition; clear questions regarding safety of use; inappropriate surfaces; no measures to protect equipment of users
	Boundaries (including hedges, fencing, gates, trees, shrubs and mixed vegetative cover)	Clearly defined and well-maintained to a high standard; vegetation and trees pruned appropriately	Clearly defined and maintained to a reasonable standard; vegetation and trees pruned appropriately	Mostly clearly defined, vegetation trim and low hanging branches removed, but possibly improvements to be made to the standard and condition	Poorly defined and some questions regarding the standard and condition; overgrown vegetation, trees present safety hazard	Poorly defined and in a state of disrepair; overgrown vegetation, trees present safety hazard
Vegetation	Planted areas	Numerous planting, with appropriate mix of plants, installed and maintained to a very high standard; no weeds	Numerous planting, with appropriate mix of plants, installed and maintained to a reasonable standard; very few weeds	Appropriate range of vegetation and plants but with some patchy maintenance	Limited range of vegetation and plants but reasonable maintenance	Limited range of vegetation and plants; poor maintenance with some areas clearly suffering
	Grass areas	Full grass cover throughout; cleanly cut and in excellent colour and condition	Full grass cover throughout and cleanly cut; few weeds but generally in good condition	Grass cover throughout but with some thin patches or excessive growth in some areas; some bald areas and a few weeds; but generally in good condition	General grass cover but some significant areas thin, saturated and/or poorly maintained; cut infrequently with obvious clippings still in existence	General grass cover but with some serious wear and tear and/or limited grass cover in many areas; little or no serious attempt to correct the problem
Ancillary Accommodation	Toilets	Provided where appropriate; easy to access; signed and well-maintained	Provided where appropriate; easy to access; some minor improvements could be made (e.g. cleanliness)	Provided where appropriate; reasonable access; generally not very well maintained;	Insufficient toilets provided; or those provided are in poor condition and likely to be generally avoided by open space users; uninviting	No toilets in a place that should be provided; or some provided but in a state of disrepair that are unlikely to be used
	Parking (related to open spaces)	On-site parking provided; adequate number; clean and in good condition; well signposted	On-site or appropriate off-site parking provided; adequate number; generally clean but some improvements could be made;	Appropriate off-site parking provided; some limit in terms of spaces; generally clean	No on-site and limited off-site parking provided; or adequate number of spaces but in poor condition	Parking provision limited and in poor condition
	Provision of bins for rubbish/litter	Numerous bins provided and in good condition; in right locations and clearly labeled for appropriate purpose	Numerous bins provided and in average condition; clearly visible and in appropriate locations	Adequate number provided and in average condition; some signs of overuse/ damage etc	Insufficient number provided but in average/good condition; or appropriate number but with significant signs of damage or limited maintenance	Insufficient number provided and in poor condition;
	Seats / Benches	Numerous for the size of site and in good condition	Numerous for the size of site and in average condition	Adequate number for the size of site and in good condition	Insufficient number but in good condition; or adequate number but in poor condition	Insufficient number and in poor condition
	Pathways (within the open space sites)	Suitable materials, level for safe use, edges well defined; surfaces clean, debris and weed free and in excellent condition;	Suitable materials, level for safe use, edges well defined; little debris and/or weeds but overall in good condition; good disabled access in most areas	Suitable materials, level for safe use, edges reasonably well defined; some debris and/or weeds but doesn't detract too much from overall appearance; disabled access in some areas	Suitable materials but some faults; some difficulty with defined edges; debris and/or weeds detract slightly from appearance; some difficulties with disabled access	Inappropriate materials and/or significant faults; edges not clearly defined; significant debris and/or weeds; limited disabled access or very restricted

SITE ACCESS SCORING ASSESSMENT (Definitions)

		Very Good (5)	Good (4)	Average (3)	Poor (2)	Very Poor (1)
General	Entrance to the sites (i.e. are the entrances to sites easily seen, easily accessible etc)	Easy to find, with a welcoming sign; appropriate size, clean and inviting and easily accessible for all users including less able bodied people.	Clear entrance and well-maintained, appropriate size and clean.	Fairly obvious entrance that is maintained to a reasonable level and which is clean and accessible to most potential users	Apparent as an entrance but no clear signage; not as well-maintained as it could be; some users may have difficulty with access	Poor or limited entrance; no signage; difficulty with access and not maintained appropriately
	Roads, pathways, cycleways and/or accesses	Suitable materials, level for safe use and in excellent condition; cycle stands provided and separate clearly marked routes for cycles, pedestrians and other traffic etc	Suitable materials and overall in good condition; some cycle stands provided where appropriate and easy and safe access within the site for cycles, pedestrians and other traffic etc	Suitable materials; reasonable access for pedestrians and cycles etc but no real separate defined areas where appropriate	Some potential improvements to some surfaces; some difficulty with general access within the site	Inappropriate surfaces and/or significant faults; limited restrictions of access for pedestrians and cycles; usage would be clearly affected
	Disabled Access	Good disabled access throughout; specific facilities and pathways provided	Good disabled access in most areas	Disabled access in some areas; some improvements could be made	Some difficulties with disabled access	Limited disabled access or very restricted
Transport	Accessible by public transport	Excellent public transport links provided where appropriate; bus stop located at the site and/or train station in very close proximity	Good public transport links; bus stop located nearby; and/or train station within reasonable walking distance	Reasonable public transport links but would not be first choice of accessible transport; bus stop located within reasonable walking distance;	Limited public transport links; bus stop located a significant walking distance away (more than 10-15minutes);	No public transport links within any reasonable walking distance of the site
	Accessible by cycleways	Clear separated cycle routes to and within the site; cycle stands provided in appropriate places	Some cycle routes to and/or within the site; local roads quiet and safe for cyclists; cycle stands provided in some places	Easy access for cyclists although no specific routes provided; local roads fairly quiet and safe; cycle stands provided or suitable areas to lock cycles are evident	Limited access for cyclists; not really encouraged by design and/or location of site; no cycle stands provided but some areas to lock cycles	No real access for cyclists; not really encouraged by design and/or location of site; access via busy dangerous roads; no cycle stands provided and/or no clearly evident areas to lock cycles
	Accessible by walking	Clearly defined pathways / walkways to and within the open space site; pedestrian crossings provided where appropriate	Pathways / walkways provided to and within the open space site; some crossing of roads required without assistance but no real safety issues regarding access for pedestrians	Some pathways / walkways provided to and/or within the open space site; some crossing of roads required without assistance; some potential for improvements	Limited pathways / walkways provided to and/or within the open space site or pathways provided not clearly defined; some safety issues regarding access for pedestrians	No clear pathways / walkways provided to and/or within the open space site; significant safety issues regarding access for pedestrians
Information & Signage	Information & Signage (i.e. is the signage to the open spaces appropriate where required and clear to see and easy to follow)	Site clearly signposted outside the site; signage in good condition; signage within site easy to follow and understand; information clearly displayed in various formats (e.g. noticeboards, leaflets etc);	Site is signposted with signage in good condition; some signage within the site; information mostly clear and displayed in appropriate format; signage in relatively good condition	Signage provided within or outside the site; some improvements could be made; condition of signage reasonable	Site not signposted and/or signage that is provided in poor condition and uninviting; limited information displayed;	No information displayed in appropriate areas; no signage / No information displayed in appropriate areas; no signage;

WIDER BENEFITS SCORING ASSESSMENT (Definitions)

		Yes	No	Definition	Factors
Wider Benefits	Structural and landscape benefits	Yes	No	The landscape framework of open spaces can contribute to the study of environmental quality. Well-located, high quality greenspaces help to define the identity and character of an area, and separate it from other areas nearby.	buffer between roads and houses greenbelt land edge of settlement forming local landscape
	Ecological benefits	Yes	No	Greenspaces support local biodiversity and some provide habitats for local wildlife and may exhibit some geological features. Some may help to alleviate the extremes of urban climates such as noise and water pollution.	designations - e.g. SSSI's, LNR's diverse and rich habitats site includes rivers, ponds, lakes that encourage local wildlife habitats local biodiversity studies
	Education benefits	Yes	No	Seen as 'outdoor classrooms' ; some greenspaces offer educational opportunities in science, history, ecological and environmental activities.	nature walks interpretational material provided opportunities for volunteers in practical conservation outdoor educational facilities
	Social inclusion and health benefits	Yes	No	Greenspaces , including sport and recreation facilities can promote some civic pride, community ownership and a sense of belonging; they are also one of the very few publicly accessible facilities equally available to everyone irrespective of personal circumstances	range of age groups use by community groups organised community activities social, cultural or community facilities specific walking/jogging trails and/or sports facilities central location to be accessed by majority
	Cultural and heritage benefits	Yes	No	Some greenspaces have a historical value and some provided a setting listed buildings; also can be high profile symbols of towns and cities	historic buildings historic gardens symbol of the area conservation area monuments and/or memorials
	Amenity benefits and a "sense of place"	Yes	No	The network of greenspaces can contribute to the visual amenity of an urban landscape and make them a more attractive place to live, work and play. They can be appreciated both visually and passively - not just through the active use of facilities provided.	helps to create specific neighbourhood provides important landmark clearly visible from most areas softens urban texture
	Economic benefits	Yes	No	greenspaces can promote economic development and regeneration; can also help to enhance property values	local tourist site income from sports facilities enhancing or devaluing housing within estates potential hosting of major events offers employment opportunities regeneration

APPENDIX E
LIST OF SITES

SiteID	SiteName	OpenSpaceType	AnalysisArea	Area Size (ha)	QualityS core	Quality Percentage	AccessibilitySc ore	Accessibility Percentage
57	uppermill park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 1	0.78	134	74.4	46	57.5
58	lees park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 1	0.54	96	54.9	48	60
1011	ladhill road park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 1	0.45	118	65.6	49	61.2
2002	strinesdale p&g	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 1	24.69	115	76.7	56	70
1735	foxdenton park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 2	2.53	152	84.4	58	72.5
10	coalshaw green park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 2	1.61	142	78.9	59	73.8
32	princess park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 2	1.28	138	76.7	60	75
35	chadderton hall park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 2	7.75	126	70	56	70
56	fitton park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 2	0.34	124	82.7	53	66.2
17	high memorial park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 3	0.65	159	88.3	62	77.5
38	copster hill park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 3	0.04	130	72.2	59	73.8
66	limeside recreation ground	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 3	1.65	89	48.1	49	61.2
720	hollins road recreation ground	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 3	4.78	115	62.2	51	63.8
1514	daisy nook country park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 3	7.12	77	55	32	40
1684	lower memorial park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 3	0.77	115	63.9	50	62.5
8	royton park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 4	2.79	138	76.7	58	72.5
20	dogford park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 4	1.93	117	65	52	65
71	high crompton park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 4	5.13	142	78.9	41	63.1
74	dunwood park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 4	7.86	119	66.1	45	56.2
243	shawside park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 4	1.57	78	57.8	45	56.2
699	tandle hill park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 4	50.14	151	83.9	44	55
886	broadway park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 4	0.57	89	52.4	24	48
970	bishops park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 4	2.82	107	59.4	39	48.8
2651	westway p+g	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 4	0.74	122	84.1	54	67.5
9	waterhead park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 5	4.72	108	60	51	63.8
73	stoneleigh park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 5	2.93	129	71.7	53	66.2
970	bishops park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 5	19.12	107	59.4	39	48.8
1976	afghan street park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 5	0.63	128	73.1	39	60
1993	ash square p&g	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 5	0.3	63	45	33	50.8
1995	beresford street park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 5	0.33	100	55.6	39	60
2002	strinesdale p&g	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 5	7.96	115	76.7	56	70
1758	mars street park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 6	0.37	85	58.6	41	51.2
1786	werneth gardens	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 6	0.41	61	42.1	31	47.7
38	copster hill park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 6	1.76	130	72.2	59	73.8
43	wernerth park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 6	5.57	129	71.7	47	58.8
44	westhulme park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 6	2.46	80	44.4	44	55
76	alexandra park	Parks and Gardens	Analysis Area 6	20.85	160	86.5	57	71.2

SiteID	SiteName	OpenSpaceType	AnalysisArea	Area Size (ha)	Quality Score	Quality Percentage	AccessibilityS core	Accessibility Percentage
1858	ashes lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.26	58	55.2	18	45
1863	thornley brook nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	9.72	57	49.6	18	45
262	medlock valley nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	6.34	59	43.7	28	40
279	victoria street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.13	60	52.2	28	50.9
280	walkers lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.19	67	51.5	30	54.5
283	old mill lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.95	72	60	18	45
291	railway reclamation	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	1.75	66	57.4	20	50
292	thornlea brook nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	4.33	74	56.9	24	43.6
294	st john street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	1.37	63	45	33	60
302	cutler bridge nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.96	55	47.8	16	40
350	friezland scheme 1	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.2	82	63.1	39	48.8
351	friezland scheme 2	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	7.5	90	66.7	59	73.8
364	mossley road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.03	80	57.1	14	35
370	arthurs lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	2.79	84	64.6	30	54.5
371	sykes close nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.23	78	55.7	21	52.5
416	brownhill visitor centre	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	3.06	112	74.7	43	53.8
431	mossley road nsn 2	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.25	60	57.1	14	35
432	friezland scheme 3	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.22	94	72.3	57	71.2
439	holland close apb, nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.87	67	53.6	18	45
486	diggle fields, ward lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	8.85	108	74.5	35	63.6
933	waterworks road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.02	68	59.1	18	45
935	stoneleigh quarry nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.81	60	46.2	31	38.8
1549	caif lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	1.17	70	60.9	18	45
1550	caif lane nsn 2	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	1.89	72	62.6	29	44.6
1551	mossley road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	7.85	64	55.7	22	40
2006	huddersfield road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.19	63	50.4	14	35
2007	huddersfield road 2 nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.17	54	47	14	35
2014	wall hall road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.44	66	57.4	18	45
2015	millpond nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	3.68	76	58.5	27	49.1
2025	church road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.14	72	68.6	18	45
2032	church bank clough nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	1.54	63	60	18	45
2077	oldham road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.66	63	52.5	16	40
2078	beecefield nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.36	62	59	20	50
2079	nsn off mossley road	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.12	66	62.9	16	40
2083	oak view road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.38	60	57.1	18	45
2089	chew valley road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.3	55	68.8	14	35
2123	standedge road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	3.13	63	52.5	19	34.5
2523	medlock valley nsn "breeze hill"	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	11.77	75	53.6	44	55
2526	hollins nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.3	66	57.4	27	49.1
2589	raddcliffe road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	9.62	65	56.5	18	45
2603	swan meadow nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.42	87	66.9	29	52.7
2605	shaw hall bank road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	1.02	57	49.6	16	40
2608	chew brook drive nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.07	69	65.7	20	50
2698	Local Green Gap 19	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	2.79				
2700	Diggle Junction	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.9				
2709	Greenfield Bowling Club Site	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.57				
2741	Moorgate Quarry	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	7.95				
2742	Pringle Lane	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.87				
2743	Pickhill Reservoir	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	0.92				
2744	Dovestones Reservoir	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 1	48.34				
1708	derby street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	0.07	58	41.4	14	35
1709	higher house close nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	0.33	50	47.6	22	40
1710	butler green nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	0.13	48	41.7	14	35
1712	kingstead avenue nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	0.68	44	35.2	27	49.1
1715	houseley avenue nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	0.13	50	47.6	14	35
1718	back of long lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	0.82	46	32.9	22	40
1731	foxdenton lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	1.97	59	56.2	14	35
1739	stockbrook nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	2.02	51	48.6	16	40
1746	hamilton street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	0.35	70	56	16	40
1747	off millard street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	2.27	50	47.6	14	35
1748	ferneyfield road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	4.1	60	46.2	27	49.1
1757	bernice avenue nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	0.27	74	52.9	25	45.5
1886	partridge way nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	1.38	53	44.2	25	35.7
1900	burnley lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	0.15	49	42.6	14	35
87	land around canal	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	3.29	58	44.6	22	40
101	greengate nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	0.84	53	42.4	16	40
103	side 223, foxdenton lane	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	0.57	67	53.6	14	35
124	mill brow nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	8.49	92	68.1	31	56.4
148	rchmond hill estate nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	0.31	50	47.6	14	35
167	land adjacent to broadway	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	5.26	53	44.2	17	30.9
170	chadderton fc nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	0.68	76	56.3	36	65.5
644	granby street plying fields nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	3.07	45	39.1	22	40
645	cartmel crescent nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	0.41	34	29.6	19	34.5
762	broadway side of fire station	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	2.72	49	46.7	18	45
1668	top of th' green nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	0.09	73	56.2	29	52.7
1923	burnley lane nsn 2	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	1.24	44	41.9	24	43.6
1927	burnley lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	0.13	68	54.4	14	35
1929	brook street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	0.08	40	38.1	18	45

2567	granby street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	0.28	46	40	16	40
2572	hunt lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 2	3.61	63	60	12	30
1698	lime ditch road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	0.11	41	35.7	22	40
1834	jericho clough	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	7.75	56	50.9	14	35
1836	ely crescent nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	1.07	55	47.8	16	40
1840	off coronation road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	0.16	51	48.6	16	40
2	warwick road field	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	2.8	57	49.6	20	40
87	land around canal	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	15.83	58	44.6	22	40
129	drury lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	0.06	52	49.5	12	30
646	moston brook nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	3.6	58	50.4	14	35
704	lower lime road - limeside nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	0.36	55	42.3	19	34.5
725	higher lime recreation ground nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	3.98	54	41.5	31	44.3
728	sammy's basin daisy nook	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	0.46	84	64.6	32	49.2
1502	Cutler Bridge	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	24.53				
1534	wiltshire road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	2.89	63	54.8	18	45
1535	lords brook nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	1.31	61	53	16	40
1536	melock vale	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	5.75	74	52.9	20	36.4
1611	medlock vale west nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	10.23	61	46.9	14	35
1612	stockburn drive nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	0.74	56	48.7	16	40
1663	balmouth walk nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	0.49	55	40.7	28	50.9
1681	new croft ags	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	0.21	50	43.5	15	60
1688	land of marlbrough drive nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	0.58	42	36.5	16	40
2532	rowan tree road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	1.21	51	44.3	25	45.5
2533	accacia road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	0.3	56	43.1	19	34.5
2535	whitebank road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	1.53	63	48.5	31	56.4
2536	whitebank road nsn2	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	0.35	49	42.6	16	40
2543	booth street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 3	0.16	44	38.3	14	35
216	irk valley, mill lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	5.94	59	49.2	21	38.2
222	harry street open space	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.66	52	45.2	18	45
238	queensgate drive nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.01	72	57.6	18	45
239	oldham edge nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	39.09	55	45.8	18	45
508	fraser street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.16	57	63.3	14	35
691	twingates community nature area	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	4.08	70	50	31	44.3
856	land off bamford street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.31	71	56.8	16	40
882	edward street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	2.18	57	49.6	18	45
1934	water mill clough nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.74	58	50.4	18	45
1958	jones stret nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.1	84	60	19	47.5
2042	connington close nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.03	56	53.3	14	35
2044	cotswold drive nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.94	59	45.4	16	40
2045	holden fold nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.21	82	65.6	22	55
2052	rochdale road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	1.07	48	40	16	40
2054	brotherdale close nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.52	42	40	12	30
2061	bamford street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.06	72	55.4	26	47.3
2068	salmon fields nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	5.31	66	45.5	27	49.1
2076	st annes avenue nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	1.37	53	46.1	25	45.5
2093	heyside playingfields nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	1.11	49	42.6	18	45
2095	hebron street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.08	47	52.2	16	40
2620	valley rise nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	2.13	83	69.2	25	45.5
2634	small brook nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.34	49	61.2	14	35
2640	hillside avenue nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.38	53	66.2	14	35
2642	Rossendale Close	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.27				
2643	off millbrook close nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.28	63	54.8	16	40
2645	mill croft nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.94	58	64.4	16	40
2648	moss hey stret recreation ground nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	1.99	57	49.6	14	35
2649	off beal lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.65	60	52.2	14	35
2653	colshaw nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	2.02	116	72.5	41	58.6
2659	hanging chadder lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	2.3	52	45.2	18	45
2664	rochdale road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.13	79	56.4	17	42.5
2667	capesthorne drive nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.2	53	50.5	16	40
2670	thornam road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.17	67	53.6	17	42.5
2674	milnrow road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.61	60	52.2	14	35
2679	brushes quarry nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	87.58	80	59.3	29	44.6
2690	Shore Edge	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	0.03				
2691	Jubilee Colliery	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	2.25				
2735	Oozewood Clough	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	14.18				
2736	Calf Hey Nab	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 4	2.17				
1814	cranbrook place nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	0.49	56	43.1	29	52.7
1833	whitehouse avenue nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	0.09	46	40	22	40
195	beever street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	1.06	51	48.6	14	35
239	oldham edge nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	3.04	55	45.8	18	45
248	roundthorn nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	5.56	59	45.4	26	37.1
249	railway rec nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	2.87	55	45.8	42	60
262	medlock valley nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	14.73	59	43.7	28	40
264	greenacres lodge nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	0.62	70	60.9	32	58.2
265	huddesfield road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	0.17	94	72.3	22	55
277	heywood street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	0.8	50	43.5	18	45
302	cutler bridge nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	0.27	55	47.8	16	40
327	crowley lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	1.9	62	47.7	24	43.6
333	wilkes street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	11.79	54	47	14	35
505	higginshaw road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	2.66	75	53.6	27	49.1

799	risley street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	0.31	45	39.1	14	35
809	mortimer street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	0.5	48	41.7	18	45
893	glodwick street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	0.46	58	50.4	14	35
895	vineyard street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	0.24	51	44.3	12	30
933	waterworks road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	1.94	68	59.1	18	45
949	broadbent road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	3.9	65	50	27	49.1
955	counthill nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	0.97	46	43.8	15	42.9
960	shoveler lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	1.6	61	46.9	19	34.5
978	pearly bank nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	4.26	48	41.7	18	45
979	shoveler hey lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	11.03	55	47.8	16	40
1966	shaw road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	0.62	58	41.4	27	49.1
1970	off chepstow drive nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	2.24	52	43.3	18	45
1985	off rippondon road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	0.65	52	49.5	18	45
2565	glodwick lows nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	17.46	74	52.9	24	43.6
2593	bartlemoor street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	0.06	74	52.9	18	45
2601	towers street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	0.67	72	62.6	4	20
2697	Beason Hill Quarry	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 5	10.26				
1761	daintry street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.06	44	38.3	16	40
1762	washington stret nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.28	55	52.4	14	35
1765	middleton road resevoir (covered)	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.81	77	67	14	35
1778	wernerth cricket club nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.26	57	54.3	16	40
1797	hathersedge street play area	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.03	56	48.7	20	50
1798	alfred street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.33	56	40	14	35
1806	king street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.09	63	54.8	16	40
1863	thornley brook nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	4.61	57	49.6	18	45
1867	off birch hall close nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.06	44	41.9	20	50
154	wellington road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.17	61	45.2	31	44.3
173	firdale road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.17	46	43.8	16	40
176	middleton road/ featherstall road nsn 1	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.48	57	43.8	17	30.9
177	westboorn street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.09	60	42.9	28	50.9
182	westwood track nsn 2	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.34	52	49.5	14	35
190	kings road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	2.99	73	52.1	48	68.6
539	pearl mill close nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	1.72	61	40.7	28	40
572	snipe clough playingfields nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	6.13	74	46.2	39	48.8
740	ashton road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	1.79	50	43.5	22	44
749	rosary road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	3.88	90	54.5	22	40
750	tuns road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.86	46	40	14	35
771	middleton road/ featherstall road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.39	38	36.2	14	35
773	middleton road/ featherstall road nsn 2	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	1.12	58	44.6	22	40
782	westwood track nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.71	49	46.7	16	40
798	coldhurst street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	1.59	45	39.1	18	45
1516	woodpark clough nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	5.95	60	46.2	21	30
1519	danister lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.12	54	45	12	30
1526	bardsley public open space	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	4.08	79	49.4	22	40
1528	bardsley vale avenue nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	6.03	58	50.4	14	35
1530	bankfield clough nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	16.9	62	47.7	28	43.1
1552	lees new road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.93	53	46.1	16	40
1554	near birches park nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.13	48	41.7	34	61.8
1574	medlock valley nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	16.38	65	48.1	33	41.2
1588	furness avenue nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.84	60	52.2	24	43.6
1589	deanshot clough nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	20.57	61	46.9	16	40
1592	brook lane nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	4.86	52	49.5	16	40
1597	groby street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.15	41	39	11	31.4
1628	wilson stret nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.09	47	36.2	14	35
1671	netherfield close nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.25	68	52.3	21	52.5
1931	oswald street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.37	36	34.3	20	50
1932	brierley walk nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.13	58	50.4	18	45
1936	plumpton clough nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	2.6	51	48.6	16	40
1944	martha street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.38	64	45.7	23	41.8
1948	rochdale road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.39	63	50.4	18	45
1951	eden street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.23	90	62.1	37	67.3
2504	copster park nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	1.37	80	55.2	48	60
2505	ashton road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.29	60	40	14	35
2507	greenhurst crescent nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.19	68	50.4	22	40
2510	woodpark close nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.3	53	40.8	19	47.5
2515	deanhurst road nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.53	43	37.4	16	40
2519	lawn close nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.12	49	42.6	18	45
2521	cherry avenue nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.16	49	42.6	16	40
2523	medlock valley nsn "breeze hill"	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	10.96	75	53.6	44	55
2585	ellen street nsn	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.1	41	39	20	50
2707	Edward Street	Natural and semi natural green space	Analysis Area 6	0.25				

SiteID	SiteName	OpenSpaceType	AnalysisArea	Area Size (ha)	Quality Score	Quality Percentage	AccessibilitySc ore	Accessibility Percentage
1856	hey crescent ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.06	71	54.6	33	60
1859	vaughan grove ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.07	74	64.3	25	62.5
1870	cross street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.08	79	68.7	21	52.5
1871	radcliffe street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.15	66	57.4	16	40
282	railway reclamation 2 ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	1.53	80	59.3	30	54.5
301	heywood fold road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.34	84	64.6	31	47.7
925	fairhaven aph, lees new road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.22	67	58.3	18	45
1013	shaw street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.5	67	58.3	21	52.5
2005	dovecote lane ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.03	73	63.5	21	52.5
2009	north nook ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.07	83	66.4	23	57.5
2011	brownhill drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.04	69	60	20	50
2022	woods lane ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.05	77	67	18	45
2023	briar fields road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.05	77	67	23	57.5
2024	brook avenue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.08	74	64.3	23	57.5
2082	chew brook drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.08	79	68.7	23	57.5
2086	queensway ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.09	73	63.5	21	52.5
2087	carr lane ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.29	91	70	23	57.5
2088	central avenue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.07	107	76.4	25	45.5
2117	denshaw road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.28	61	53	17	42.5
2118	ainley wood ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.17	89	71.2	21	52.5
2590	furtherhey close ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.06	91	70	37	67.3
2604	brookway ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.04	77	67	19	47.5
2613	harrop green ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.04	89	71.2	19	47.5
2704	Durham Street	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.03				
2706	Brownhill 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.59				
2710	Dunfries Drive AGS	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.04	62	47.7		
2715	Spring Meadow Lane	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.06				
2717	St.Annes Crescent	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	1.01				
2718	Hartshead Street Corner	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.07				
2719	County End	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 1	0.04				
1706	richmond hill estate ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.27	84	57.9	42	60
1707	raymond avenue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.06	70	60.9	18	45
1713	whitegate road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	2.75	53	46.1	18	45
1716	eli street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.41	64	55.7	17	42.5
1717	sycamore street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.15	69	60	18	45
1719	yew trees ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.14	64	55.7	19	47.5
1721	st georges square ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.07	99	70.7	39	55.7
1722	whitegate end ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.18	110	78.6	39	55.7
1726	priory grove ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.19	76	58.5	19	34.5
1727	whitegate lane ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.05	81	62.3	17	42.5
1729	broadway ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.13	73	63.5	15	37.5
1737	springs road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.51	76	66.1	14	35
1738	crossley playingfields ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.36	64	55.7	17	42.5
1743	kempsey street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.09	66	57.4	19	47.5
1744	melbourne street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.23	74	64.3	19	47.5
1745	ags off middleton road	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.14	62	47.7	25	45.5
1749	crawley way ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.22	63	54.8	21	52.5
1750	kent avenue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.09	63	54.8	18	45
1752	fourth avenue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.17	77	59.2	23	41.8
1753	appleore wlk ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.29	92	63.4	23	41.8
1754	romney walk ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.04	61	46.9	28	50.9
1755	woodchurch walk ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.03	67	51.5	30	54.5
1756	cranbrook walk ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.04	71	61.7	18	45
1889	firwood park ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.03	90	64.3	25	45.5
1890	middleton road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.05	89	63.6	17	42.5
1891	torwood drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.01	79	68.7	20	50
1895	oakbank centre ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.18	86	68.8	28	50.9
1897	cairnwell road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.22	95	67.9	25	45.5
1898	back of challum drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	1.62	81	64.8	18	45
1902	park view ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.54	85	63	34	61.8
1903	clevedon road ags 1	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.02	76	66.1	25	62.5
1904	clevedon road ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.02	78	67.8	23	57.5
1907	ash walk ags 1	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.09	83	66.4	33	60
1908	ash walk ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.24	73	56.2	33	60
1909	poplar walk ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.05	90	72	30	54.5
1910	frederick street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.06	90	69.2	23	57.5
1911	willow grove ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.08	60	52.2	20	50
1912	hawthorne grove ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.06	75	65.2	23	57.5
1914	cedar crescent ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.17	75	65.2	23	57.5
1915	eustace road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.1	69	60	18	45
1916	rosewood crescent ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.17	69	60	18	45

1917	maple road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.35	82	58.6	16	40
1918	laburnum avenue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.21	74	64.3	19	47.5
1921	burnley lane ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.89	52	45.2	35	63.6
654	broadway, whitegate, argyll road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.98	79	58.5	40	72.7
660	nimble nook ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.28	66	57.4	15	37.5
751	butler green ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	1.21	64	49.2	37	52.9
759	cowhill estate, whitstable road	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.28	62	53.9	17	42.5
767	lower bare trees estate ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.26	104	63	45	64.3
1665	derby street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.41	63	48.5	32	58.2
1666	engine street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.06	71	54.6	16	35.6
1667	old lane ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.14	66	50.8	37	67.3
1926	laburnum avenue ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.12	63	54.8	23	57.5
1928	brook street ags 1	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.17	71	61.7	23	57.5
2733	Chadderton Fold	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.28				
2745	Gulvain Place	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 2	0.09				
1695	clough road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.01	59	51.3	17	42.5
1697	cormallen grove ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.08	62	47.7	25	45.5
1700	holt lane ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.03	65	50	23	41.8
1835	alan avenue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.06	80	64	21	52.5
1837	day drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.08	72	62.6	24	60
1838	ogden road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.07	73	63.5	22	55
1839	cosgrove crescent ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.07	75	65.2	21	52.5
1841	marlbrough drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.09	62	49.6	21	52.5
1842	greaves avenue ags 1	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.12	69	55.2	16	40
1843	brooks drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.06	57	43.8	25	45.5
1844	greaves avenues ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.03	62	49.6	16	40
1845	poplar street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.12	70	60.9	14	35
126	failsworth road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.09	62	53.9	19	47.5
130	hawthorn road ags 1	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.22	76	56.3	25	45.5
131	hawthorn road ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.09	69	53.1	26	52
630	norfolk crescent, failsworth ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.2	81	62.3	33	60
633	somerset road landscaped area	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	2.47	54	47	19	47.5
706	irving stret ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.28	79	60.8	36	65.5
716	blackthorn road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.12	71	61.7	21	52.5
717	limehurst court ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.14	72	62.6	16	40
743	limeside post war estate	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.79	57	49.6	16	40
1506	lulworth crescent ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.26	53	46.1	22	40
1614	lowerlime ags 1	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.09	54	47	16	40
1615	lowerlime ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.08	58	50.4	16	40
1616	laburnum road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.2	74	54.8	33	60
1617	lime green ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.1	86	66.2	31	56.4
1619	whitebank road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.05	59	51.3	18	45
1620	pasture road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.13	54	47	16	40
1621	whitebank road ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.03	55	47.8	16	40
1631	poplar avenue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.14	84	64.6	33	60
1637	collier hill ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.19	111	79.3	47	67.1
1640	chapel road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.22	69	53.1	28	40
1648	hollins road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.04	81	64.8	19	47.5
1649	elm road noth ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.05	82	63.1	26	65
1651	whitebank road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.08	88	65.2	30	60
1652	elm road south ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.05	69	60	18	45
1653	pinetree road ag	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.06	74	54.8	16	40
1655	walkers street ags 1	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.03	94	69.6	38	69.1
1656	walkers road ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.04	96	71.1	33	60
1657	walkers road ags3	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.05	92	68.1	35	63.6
1658	timber avenue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.45	86	61.4	36	51.4
1659	argus stret ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.21	88	62.9	34	61.8
1660	the edge ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.07	94	67.1	33	66
1661	brecon walk ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.76	59	45.4	26	47.3
1664	corwen close ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.12	62	45.9	30	54.5
1669	may street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.07	86	66.2	24	60
1687	barons court ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.01	107	76.4	31	56.4
1689	brown street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.24	66	47.1	31	56.4
1690	ward street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.25	64	55.7	31	56.4
1692	hibbert crescent ags 1	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.28	68	59.1	16	40
1693	nursery road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.02	64	55.7	20	50
1694	paulden drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.02	63	50.4	22	40
2528	lime green road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.03	77	67	33	60
2529	lower lime ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.81	57	49.6	15	42.9
2530	limehurst residents hall ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	1.43	92	52.6	35	63.6
2531	higher lime road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.05	71	61.7	24	60
2538	ashton road east ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.06	77	59.2	25	45.5
2539	clough road ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.03	67	58.3	18	45

2540	props hall drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.05	66	57.4	19	47.5
2541	marlbrough drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.16	85	68	22	55
2545	grange street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.15	65	50	23	41.8
2547	coronation road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.19	78	67.8	24	60
2725	Hollins Road	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.25				
2730	Wrigley Head	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 3	0.17				
517	padock tip site/thorp road	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	2.23	80	45.7	28	43.1
529	westminster ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.7	71	54.6	21	52.5
855	gravel hole ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.28	91	65	32	58.2
857	land off turfton avenue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	2.67	70	60.9	18	45
865	ravenstondale drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.42	76	66.1	20	50
883	lancaster square estate as	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.6	75	60	21	52.5
885	hall street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.49	71	54.6	18	45
1957	carrbrook drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.11	71	56.8	20	50
2038	cemetery road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.11	79	68.7	17	68
2048	birchenlee avenue 2 ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.22	77	67	21	52.5
2049	birchenlee avenue 1 ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.16	74	64.3	23	57.5
2050	richmond avenue estate ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	1.72	81	62.3	35	63.6
2051	all saints close ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.07	88	67.7	32	58.2
2055	lowe green ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.04	64	55.7	20	50
2056	chaucer street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.06	73	63.5	20	50
2059	park street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.11	88	62.9	16	40
2060	croft head ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.51	77	59.2	19	47.5
2062	bamford street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.32	73	56.2	27	49.1
2063	crompton street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.13	79	60.8	20	36.4
2064	roman road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.04	86	66.2	30	54.5
2067	valley new road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.07	67	58.3	18	45
2069	penthorpe drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.06	77	59.2	28	50.9
2070	percival walk ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.79	83	57.2	35	63.6
2075	shaw road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.07	80	64	22	55
2091	walter street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.19	79	60.8	17	42.5
2096	heyside ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.16	107	76.4	26	47.3
2097	higginshaw lane ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.12	92	65.7	19	47.5
2621	derwent drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.34	82	63.1	21	52.5
2623	langden close ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.14	79	68.7	18	45
2624	duchess street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.1	77	67	19	47.5
2628	duchess park close ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.63	85	60.7	23	41.8
2631	copley street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.15	83	59.3	19	47.5
2633	milnrow road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.18	74	64.3	14	35
2657	grisedale avenue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.35	67	58.3	28	50.9
2658	castleton road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.14	73	58.4	19	47.5
2662	bromley avenue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.15	70	60.9	19	47.5
2663	queensgate drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.13	70	60.9	23	57.5
2669	assheton road estate ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.22	69	55.2	23	57.5
2675	dunwood park courts ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.69	89	63.6	27	49.1
2676	turf lane ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.34	72	62.6	19	47.5
2680	milnrow road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.18	63	54.8	17	42.5
2681	victoria gardens ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.4	87	66.9	21	52.5
2682	glebe street car park ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.08	62	49.6	17	42.5
2685	longfield road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.08	80	69.6	21	52.5
2693	Alpine Drive	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.01				
2695	Brownlow 1	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.09				
2696	Brownlow 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.02				
2701	Long Sight	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.04				
2737	Springfield Lane	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.18				
2738	Maple Close	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 4	0.06				
1804	park road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.28	101	72.1	20	50
1807	lord street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.74	73	58.4	14	35
1819	arundel stret ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.32	79	56.4	28	50.9
1821	victoria street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.31	85	54.8	37	52.9
1822	east hill stret ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.02	68	52.3	25	45.5
1823	greengate ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.05	54	41.5	25	45.5
1824	chief street ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.03	56	43.1	25	45.5
1825	chief street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.08	67	51.5	25	45.5
1826	sickle street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.28	89	68.5	26	47.3
1832	new earth street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.02	78	67.8	16	40
23	watergate milne court ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.04	82	63.1	33	60
511	pitch street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.15	59	45.4	24	48
797	st marys estate, horsedge street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.26	66	57.4	18	45
801	st marys estate grass ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.79	60	52.2	16	40
802	rock street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.53	85	65.4	25	45.5
806	edge lane ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.66	63	54.8	18	45
807	shaw road estate ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.52	68	48.6	27	49.1

808	shaw road open space ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	1.05	70	56	16	40
811	st marys estate grass	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.84	67	58.3	14	35
812	malby street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.32	64	55.7	18	45
814	egerton street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.25	60	52.2	16	40
897	beckett meadows	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	2.31	61	45.2	38	47.5
899	heap street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	1.52	85	65.4	29	52.7
947	whetstone hill road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.47	84	64.6	21	52.5
956	shoveler lane ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	1.37	67	51.5	29	52.7
965	swift road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	1.01	58	50.4	19	47.5
966	shovler estate ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.75	55	47.8	23	57.5
983	shaw road, boundary inn ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.85	105	75	33	60
986	bolton street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.24	110	64.7	30	54.5
1961	sidney street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.14	67	53.6	21	52.5
1962	wimpole street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.25	74	56.9	32	58.2
1964	thames street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.13	70	60.9	21	52.5
1967	frances street 1 ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.47	59	51.3	18	45
1968	frances street ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.07	73	63.5	21	52.5
1975	waverley road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.07	62	49.6	18	45
1977	derker street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.07	100	71.4	25	45.5
1984	shakespeare road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.03	65	56.5	20	50
1986	rand street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.07	66	52.8	21	52.5
1987	counthill road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.07	79	56.4	19	47.5
1988	longfield crescent ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.06	67	58.3	23	57.5
1989	longfield crescent ags2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.12	73	63.5	23	57.5
1990	talbot close ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.05	80	61.5	21	52.5
1991	equitabl street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.17	84	64.6	23	57.5
1997	spring street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.18	72	62.6	21	52.5
1998	lynwood drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.08	63	54.8	22	55
1999	leach walk ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.07	75	60	25	62.5
2001	howard street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.34	78	55.7	20	50
2099	longfellow crescent ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.22	70	60.9	19	47.5
2101	bronte close ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.13	71	61.7	21	52.5
2102	coleridge road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.19	73	63.5	19	47.5
2104	higher fulwood ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.23	75	65.2	21	52.5
2105	off higher fulwood ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.06	60	48	21	52.5
2106	rembrandt walk ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.07	71	54.6	21	52.5
2107	belvedere rise ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.04	53	46.1	16	40
2109	wells road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.28	74	64.3	21	52.5
2110	verne drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.27	68	59.1	17	42.5
2111	mackenzie walk ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.08	85	65.4	29	52.7
2114	arncliffe rise ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.46	71	61.7	19	47.5
2595	vincent avenue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.1	83	63.8	23	57.5
2618	shoveler millenium green	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.2	117	83.6	47	67.1
2619	pearly bank ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	2.42	65	50	19	47.5
2689	egerton street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.34	82	56.6	26	47.3
2702	Counthill Road	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.04				
2703	Shrewsbury Street	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.04				
2711	Hodge Clough	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.96				
2714	Haven Lane	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.31				
2721	Pitt Street	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 5	0.11				
1759	sylvian street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.09	79	60.8	28	50.9
1760	westwood drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.11	59	47.2	28	50.9
1763	westwood drive south ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.14	88	62.9	29	52.7
1764	harold street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.07	52	45.2	21	52.5
1769	bankside close ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.05	89	63.6	28	50.9
1771	pembroke street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.05	117	83.6	36	65.5
1774	stuart street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.11	80	57.1	19	47.5
1780	larch street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.55	68	52.3	28	50.9
1785	carlise street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.07	47	37.6	19	47.5
1787	readham walk ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.16	38	30.4	17	42.5
1788	cornwall street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.02	59	47.2	16	40
1789	lincoln street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.04	55	39.3	22	40
1792	berkshire place ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.11	78	55.7	23	57.5
1793	tamworth stret ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.02	70	50	22	55
1794	naseley walk ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.03	76	52.4	31	56.4
1795	edward street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.2	73	52.1	31	56.4
1801	foundry street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.2	64	55.7	12	30
1802	john street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.19	81	64.8	20	50
1865	birch hall close ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.51	85	47.2	30	54.5
1866	crow hill view ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.04	93	66.4	35	63.6
181	bush road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.19	68	50.4	44	80
194	boundary gardens ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.63	72	42.4	22	40
739	hill farm close ags 1	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.25	62	53.9	18	45

745	hill farm close ags 3	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.29	60	52.2	18	45
746	hill farm close ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.34	54	47	18	45
748	tuns road ags 1	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	2.97	59	51.3	16	40
770	west street estate ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.63	68	52.3	23	41.8
774	garforth street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	1.27	100	58.8	36	51.4
779	chadderton way by-pass ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.52	75	51.7	51	72.9
787	sheraton road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.72	65	56.5	19	47.5
788	north croft ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.24	86	68.8	21	52.5
796	barker street estate ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.39	65	56.5	9	36
800	crompton street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.22	71	56.8	18	45
925	fairhaven aph, lees new road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.01	67	58.3	18	45
937	holts estate phase 6	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.35	82	63.1	27	49.1
1006	alt estate ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.37	109	68.1	33	60
1523	wetherley close ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.3	66	50.8	22	40
1524	sutherland close ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.15	57	49.6	14	35
1558	arbour road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.03	74	52.9	25	45.5
1559	brown road ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.04	69	55.2	21	52.5
1560	wildmoor avenue north ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.03	86	66.2	27	49.1
1563	holts ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.02	57	45.6	16	40
1564	carnation road ags 1	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.03	58	46.4	16	40
1565	carnation road ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.05	82	63.1	31	56.4
1566	wildmoor avenue south ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.15	83	63.8	29	52.7
1567	covert road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.06	81	62.3	38	69.1
1569	wildmoor avenue central ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.05	98	70	31	56.4
1570	brown edge road ags 3	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.05	80	61.5	22	55
1571	carlew road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.05	75	53.6	28	50.9
1573	alt lane ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.11	69	60	18	45
1575	lawn close ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.04	62	53.9	18	45
1576	age croft ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.06	69	60	16	40
1577	gorse avenue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.1	60	52.2	17	42.5
1578	cherry avenue ags 1	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.04	62	53.9	18	45
1579	cherry avenue ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.04	56	48.7	16	40
1580	apple close ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.01	63	54.8	16	40
1581	furness avenue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.04	56	48.7	16	40
1582	lawn close ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.07	62	53.9	16	40
1583	age croft ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.04	65	56.5	17	42.5
1584		1584 Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.06	59	51.3	16	40
1594	south croft ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.23	69	53.1	18	45
1599	belgrave avnue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.03	77	67	19	47.5
1600	sportsman drive ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.12	65	56.5	21	52.5
1601	dowry street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.2	63	54.8	28	50.9
1602	the spur ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.19	56	48.7	21	52.5
1603	wildbrook crescent ags 1	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.11	77	59.2	32	58.2
1606	reinslee avenue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.09	84	62.2	33	60
1607	rosary road ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.12	70	60.9	16	40
1623	hadfield street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.31	69	40.6	31	44.3
1643	kelso close ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.1	67	58.3	21	52.5
1645	hathershaw ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.2	76	52.4	30	54.5
1647	estate street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.06	57	49.6	21	52.5
1670	woodfield stret ags 1	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.04	104	80	33	60
1933	cottam street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.34	73	56.2	27	49.1
1938	Fountain GDNS	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.18				
1939	Oak View	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.22				
1942	Step Toe Drive	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.11				
1945	ward street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.11	52	45.2	18	45
1947	dunbar street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.08	86	55.5	23	57.5
1949	franklin close ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.35	70	60.9	18	45
1950	flora street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.18	60	52.2	20	50
1952	nile street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.17	68	54.4	18	45
1956	aster street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.17	89	63.6	25	62.5
2500	westfield close ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.09	129	89	34	61.8
2506	rosary close ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.11	70	60.9	21	52.5
2508	marland avenue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.1	79	60.8	24	60
2509	wildbrook crescent ags 2	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.05	65	56.5	18	45
2514	brook lane ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.1	70	60.9	21	52.5
2516	broad oak crescent ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.68	114	71.2	36	65.5
2520	the orchard ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.19	76	56.3	35	50
2524	wildmoor avenue ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.8	91	56.9	41	58.6
2527	keb lane ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.12	61	53	21	52.5
2549	widdop stret ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.13	76	58.5	28	50.9
2550	richmond walk ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.21	61	46.9	17	30.9
2553	ashbourne square ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.23	93	58.1	34	52.3
2584	henshaw street ags	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.26	74	64.3	23	57.5

2728	Alt Lane Corner	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.04
2732	Everglade	Amenity Greenspace	Analysis Area 6	0.04

SiteID	SiteName	OpenSpaceType	AnalysisArea	Area Size (ha)	QualityScore	Quality Percentage	AccessibilityScore	Accessibility Percentage
1848	lees park basketball, football and bmx track	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 1	0.29	71	49	25	50
1849	sunhill playground	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 1	0.08	92	63.4	40	61.5
289	wood brook playground	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 1	0.07	87	62.1	36	55.4
438	swan meadow, delph, cyp	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 1	0.05	76	56.3	29	58
2017	woolpack play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 1	0.04	98	72.6	23	46
2019	uppermill park play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 1	0.03	125	80.6	49	61.2
2115	denshaw road play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 1	0.27	128	82.6	38	58.5
2124	sunfield estate play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 1	0.1	122	90.4	42	64.6
2591	lees park play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 1	0.02	83	61.5	35	53.8
2607	ladhill road park cyp	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 1	0.31	109	70.3	31	62
2612	ward lane play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 1	0.04	125	86.2	42	64.6
2615	denshaw village hall cyp	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 1	0.02	125	92.6	38	58.5
2712	Diggle Field Play Area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 1	0.08				
1701	princess park play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 2	0.12	123	82	49	75.4
1702	coalshaw green park play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 2	0.23	119	74.4	53	66.2
1892	chadderton hall park play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 2	0.1	101	69.7	49	61.2
65	foxdenton park play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 2	0.17	117	86.7	42	64.6
2569	coalshaw green park skate park	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 2	0.08	103	76.3	57	71.2
2586	lower bare trees estate cyp	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 2	0.07	68	46.9	18	45
2734	Ridgewood Play Area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 2	0.02				
509	stamford drive play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 3	0.25	121	67.2	39	60
1682	high memorial park cyp	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 3	0.15	131	74.9	54	67.5
1685	lower memorial park play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 3	0.2	99	61.9	37	56.9
2501	irving street playground	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 3	0.02	90	56.2	45	64.3
2503	hollins road recreation playground	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 3	0.07	84	56	21	52.5
2043	thorp road play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 4	0.31	73	48.7	31	62
2053	dogford park play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 4	0.09	88	65.2	44	67.7
2057	royton park play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 4	0.11	127	79.4	44	67.7
2578	royton park skate park	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 4	0.01	80	66.7	29	58
2580	broadway park cyp	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 4	0.18	74	54.8	27	54
2635	george street playing fields play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 4	0.36	82	58.6	27	54
2655	kings road cyp	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 4	0.03	109	77.9	44	67.7
2677	bulcote park play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 4	0.58	117	70.9	28	56
2678	wendlebury green cyp	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 4	0.08	89	65.9	23	57.5
2684	dunwood park cyp	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 4	0.27	76	50.7	30	60
2687	high crompton park cyp	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 4	0.21	118	84.3	40	61.5
2688	tandle hill country park cyp	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 4	0.09	121	80.7	40	50
1827	sickle street play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 5	0.03	92	57.5	39	60
28	coalshaw green park skate park	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 5	0.01				
514	pearly bank multiplay area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 5	0.53	69	47.6	22	55
516	afghan road play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 5	0.05	84	62.2	45	69.2
1972	stoneleigh park playground	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 5	0.29	105	72.4	44	67.7
2100	conrad close play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 5	0.07	73	54.1	42	64.6
2108	angelico rise cyp	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 5	0.16	78	57.8	37	56.9
2112	whitehall lane playing fields play areas	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 5	0.29	109	77.9	44	67.7
2563	greenacres road cyp	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 5	0.09	135	87.1	49	75.4
2564	bolton street cyp	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 5	0.07	96	71.1	40	61.5
2592	wastwater street cyp	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 5	0.08	69	51.1	41	63.1
2597	waterhead park cyp 1	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 5	0.18	90	66.7	42	64.6
2598	waterhead park cyp 2	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 5	0.1	81	60	42	64.6
2599	waterhead park cyp 3	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 5	0.02	79	54.5	23	51.1
1767	broom street play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.04	58	43	20	50
1782	wernerth park playground	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.32	114	71.2	48	73.8
1790	monmouth street play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.07	99	66	44	55
1796	edward street play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.08	120	75	42	64.6
1864	birch hall close play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.1	78	52	29	58
19	lynn street playground	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.01	124	77.5	30	66.7
510	play area dunbar street	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.02	76	56.3	44	67.7
513	kempton way games court	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.03	84	62.2	31	62
519	primrose multiplay area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.06	71	52.6	37	56.9
521	birch hall close	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.06	51	36.4	35	70
524	multi play games court	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.16	107	69	45	69.2
1532	bardsley play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.11	77	53.1	30	37.5
1562	wildmoor avenue play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.14	90	56.2	45	56.2
1595	fiton hill play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.05	102	68	49	70
1624	hadfield street play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.07	51	37.8	36	55.4
1627	copster park playground	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.1	126	78.8	56	70
1940	westhulme park play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.31	75	50	37	56.9
1946	congreave street play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.1	87	64.4	29	58
2517	rosary road nsn skate park and basketball court	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.13	105	67.7	37	46.2
2522	ait estate ags basketball and football court	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.07	99	73.3	42	64.6
2548	newbury walk cyp	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.01	83	61.5	35	53.8
2554	ashbourne square cyp	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.04	86	63.7	43	66.2
2560	alexandra park play area	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.42	134	83.8	52	80
2582	shaddowbrook close cyp	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.06	142	88.8	41	74.5
2723	Eldon Street	Young People and Children	Analysis Area 6	0.09				

SiteID	SiteName	OpenSpaceType	AnalysisArea	Area Size (ha)	QualityS core	Quality Percentage	AccessibilitySc ore	Accessibility Percentage
1830	warrington street bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.08	116	72.5	31	47.7
1846	lees park bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.14	57	49.6	25	50
1850	st edwards primary school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	1.02	99	68.3	41	63.1
1861	the mills playingfields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	1.17	86	57.3	24	48
1869	springhead liberal club bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.13	124	85.5	38	58.5
1872	springhead school playing fields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.66	121	71.2	35	53.8
1876	springhead cricket club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.68	66	55	27	41.5
1877	knowsley junior school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	1.06	66	57.4	33	41.2
1883	norbury avenue primary school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.24	102	75.6	37	56.9
551	woolpack playing fields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.49	103	68.7	23	46
558	churchill playingfields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	7.55	104	67.1	36	55.4
587	saddleworth pool osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.49	101	69.7	43	66.2
594	ashfield crescent playing fields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	1.88	64	53.3	31	47.7
1544	hollins football ground	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.94	91	60.7	25	38.5
1553	oldham golf club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	40.28	67	95.7	45	69.2
1672	saddleworth cricket, tennis and bowling club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	1.34	139	81.8	43	53.8
2008	austerlands cricket club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	1.51	100	64.5	38	58.5
2013	sadleworth golf club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	44.12	81	95.3	36	55.4
2016	dobcross social club bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.1	110	88	39	60
2021	uppermill sports club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	2.48	134	76.6	45	56.2
2027	saddleworth school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	1.39	96	66.2	35	53.8
2028	rhodes avenue school playing fields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	1.79	107	73.8	34	52.3
2081	friezland primary school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.22	92	70.8	38	58.5
2084	tame valley tennis and squash club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.24	123	84.8	43	66.2
2085	saddleworth rangers a.r.i.f.c	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	1.26	135	79.4	43	66.2
2116	delph primary school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.64	86	66.2	37	56.9
2120	delph and dobcross cricket and bowling club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	1.17	130	76.5	36	55.4
2126	huddersfield road bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.13	96	76.8	25	50
2127	framere cricket club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	1.54	110	73.3	29	44.6
2525	friezland horse schooling area	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.12	115	82.1	45	69.2
2606	greenfield cricket club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.77	113	75.3	35	53.8
2609	friezland bowling club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.2	95	76	36	55.4
2610	greenfield primary school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.49	83	72.2	33	50.8
2614	diggle primary school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.93	106	73.1	34	52.3
2705	Dogcross School	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 1	0.39				
1703	coalshaw green park football pitch	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	1.49	80	55.2	26	52
1704	coalshaw green park bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.58	150	88.2	40	61.5
1705	coalshaw green park tennis club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.19	101	74.8	59	73.8
1714	whitegate school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.82	100	74.1	41	63.1
1723	whitegate end primary school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.46	86	68.8	36	55.4
1725	hollinwood arffc	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	3.04	82	52.9	38	58.5
1730	nimble nook working mans club bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.19	150	85.7	40	61.5
1733	foxdenton park tennis courts	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.1	103	76.3	45	69.2
1734	foxdenton park bowling greens	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.36	137	80.6	30	60
1736	taylor recreation ground	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	2.01	89	61.4	34	52.3
1740	st lukes playing fields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	1.62	92	73.6	34	52.3
1741	albion street bowling club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.13	140	80	43	66.2
1751	christchurch c of e school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.88	93	74.4	35	53.8
1888	millswood primary school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	1.38	100	69	39	60
1893	chadderton hall park osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.49	125	78.1	41	63.1
1901	chadderton comprehensive school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.18	69	60	35	53.8
1905	st herberts primary school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.86	77	67	35	53.8
1906	chaderton football club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.77	103	64.4	44	67.7
1913	bare trees school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	1.43	60	60	20	40
1919	north chadderton social and bowling club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.13	108	86.4	46	70.8
1920	fitton park bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.11	104	90.4	26	52
544	south chadderton school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	3.16	106	68.4	41	63.1
546	radclyffe athletics centre	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	4.64	142	88.8	47	72.3
554	crossley playingfields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	6.71	85	58.6	37	46.2
609	st georges square bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.13	159	88.3	36	55.4
655	the radclyffe lower school playing fields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	4.99	97	62.6	36	55.4
700	chadderton upper school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	5.51	87	60	33	50.8
701	cathedral road playing fields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	3.6	86	57.3	36	55.4
1641	stanley road club bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.13	110	78.6	52	65
1642	corpus christi primary school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.64	78	65	43	66.2
1924	Fern Lea Tennis Club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.17				
2571	chadderton hall park osf2	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.03	110	75.9	28	56
2573	chadderton st matthews cricket club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.67	68	56.7	33	50.8
2574	chaderton fold bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.14	135	90	37	56.9
2724	Stanley Raod Primary School	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 2	0.63				
1	failsworth sports centre	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	0.93	109	75.2	44	67.7
59	lower memorial park osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	0.13	68	50.4	36	55.4
520	limehurst residents hall sports court	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	0.06	81	54	45	69.2
564	failsworth school (lower)	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	5.58	87	52.7	42	52.5
565	merton avenue playing fields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	4.9	105	70	48	60
575	lord lane playing fields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	1.85	72	46.5	36	55.4
703	failsworth school (upper)	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	2.21	101	65.2	43	66.2

1004	mabel road playing fields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	1.27	83	53.5	36	55.4
1500	woodhouses trotting track	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	2.28	63	52.5	26	40
1501	woodhouses primary school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	0.52	82	65.6	45	69.2
1504	failsworth macedonia cricket club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	1.09	107	76.4	42	64.6
1507	kashenmoor school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	4.15	96	60	53	66.2
1508	hollinwood sports ground	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	1.8	92	59.4	42	64.6
1509	hollinwood bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	0.12	101	69.7	37	56.9
1511	holy family r.c. primary school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	0.61	83	66.4	44	67.7
1520	wernerth golf club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	24.09			45	56.2
1533	south failsworth school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	2.01	79	65.8	44	67.7
1538	woodhouses cricket club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	0.9	149	82.8	54	67.5
1539	brookdale golf club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	43.59	68	97.1	51	63.8
1540	woodhouses bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	0.14	96	68.6	36	55.4
1630	lyndhurst primary school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	1.33	92	61.3	52	65
1632	oldham town football club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	2.66	135	77.1		
1633	limeside recreation osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	1.45	79	45.1	48	60
1638	byron street bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	0.19	103	76.3	38	58.5
1639	failsworth school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	2.42	130	76.5	54	67.5
1674	the lancaster club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	4.75	127	81.9	40	50
1675	props hall road osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	2.36	70	50	31	47.7
1676	oldham road bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	0.14	115	71.9	30	46.2
1683	high memorial park osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	0.34	141	85.5	57	71.2
2502	hollins road recreation area football pitch	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	0.16	100	66.7	44	55
2534	limehurst primary school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	0.93	109	77.9	53	66.2
2537	high memorial park osf 2	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	0.42	126	76.4	36	55.4
2546	lower memorial park bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	0.37	64	91.4	23	46
2729	Dean School/Mather Street	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	1.17				
2731	St. John's C of E School	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 3	0.41				
47	our ladys RC school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	5.29	95	59.4	43	53.8
60	bulcote park recreation ground	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.67	115	85.2	25	50
210	irk valley, mill lane osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	1.36	64	53.3	24	48
537	george street playingfields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	5.22	133	80.6	33	50.8
570	chadderton playing fields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	8.68	98	63.2	26	52
849	new barn playing fields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	3.69	110	71	29	58
860	royton and crompton school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	7.31	103	68.7	36	55.4
863	heyside playingfields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	3.52	87	56.1	34	52.3
870	crompton house c.e school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	4.55	103	68.7	36	55.4
1955	west hulme playing field	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.69	85	50	24	48
1959	st annes arlfc	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	2.6	112	72.3	38	58.5
2040	thorp primary school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	1	88	70.4	34	52.3
2041	royton cricket, bowling and tennis club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	2.31	150	83.3	43	66.2
2047	st pauls primary school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.85	81	70.4	42	64.6
2058	royton park osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.18	130	76.5	37	56.9
2065	specialist school in mathematic and computing c	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.33	98	72.6	35	53.8
2072	high barn county junior school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	1.52	79	68.7	34	52.3
2074	royton colf club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	37.93	67	95.7	47	58.8
2092	heyside cricket club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.88	140	84.8	42	64.6
2575	padock tip site osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.13	60	40	20	40
2576	royton park tennis and basketball court	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.38	81	60	44	67.7
2579	royton park football pitch	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.14	73	50.3	26	52
2581	broadway park osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.19	66	45.5	23	51.1
2616	bishops park golf course	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.09	95	76	24	48
2626	crompton cricket club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	3.02	125	73.5	36	55.4
2627	Tent Road	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.79				
2629	glebe street school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.71	73	63.5	34	52.3
2637	delamere avenue osf (buckstones primary schoo	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	1.22	87	72.5	36	55.4
2639	st georges school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.64	96	71.1	34	52.3
2646	shaw cricket club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	1.24	127	84.7	35	53.8
2652	victoria street bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.14	101	80.8	36	55.4
2654	longfield road school osf (crompton primary sch	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.62	84	70	38	58.5
2671	st marys primary school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.81	85	70.8	34	52.3
2683	dunwood park osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.43	110	71	32	64
2686	high crompton park osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 4	0.35	120	80	37	56.9
1813	roundthorn school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	4.66	112	72.3	40	61.5
1816	clarksfield tennis club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.11	118	81.4	44	67.7
1817	clarksfield primary school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.57	92	63.4	37	56.9
1831	clarksfield conservative club bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.15	131	81.9	30	60
522	beresford street park sports court	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.07	80	59.3	45	69.2
550	rock street osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.17	72	48	27	41.5
803	the bluecoats school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.45	83	72.2	42	64.6
967	whitehall lane playingfields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	1.72	96	61.9	29	58
980	counthill school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	5.81	85	58.6	31	62
981	our ladys r.c school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.37	80	69.6	36	55.4
1953	henshaw street playing fields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	6.21	94	55.3	35	53.8
1965	beever primary school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.74	84	73	40	61.5
1971	stoneleigh park osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	4.84	99	66	32	64
1973	stoneleigh park tennis and bowling	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.44	136	82.4	38	76
1974	waverley street school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.62	89	68.5	38	58.5
1978	greenacres school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.7	73	63.5	37	56.9

1979	oakwod primary school ofs	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.85	78	67.8	40	61.5
1980	ambrose nook nursery	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.21	101	69.7	38	58.5
1981	watersheddings school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	1.21	104	71.7	38	58.5
1982	oldham cricket club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	1.49	115	76.7	38	58.5
1983	broadbent road football pitch	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.65	97	66.9	16	40
2103	shoveler primary school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.64	104	71.7	36	55.4
2113	moorside cricket and bowling club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	1.43	126	81.3	39	60
2562	greenacres primary school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.26	89	65.9	31	47.7
2594	stoneleigh park circuit training stations	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.08	107	69	29	58
2600	waterhead park osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.34	106	73.1	23	46
2616	bishops park golf course	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	3.33	95	76	24	48
2617	bishops park football pitch	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.49	86	59.3	22	44
2720	Greenacres	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.76				
2722	Greenhill School STP	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 5	0.31				
1768	richmond primary school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.97	101	65.2	34	52.3
1770	werneth school playing fields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	1.12	106	68.4	36	55.4
1773	st thomas primary school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.52	98	70	37	56.9
1776	wernerth cricket club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	1.18	137	80.6	44	67.7
1777	wernerth bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.13	148	84.6	44	67.7
1779	coppice infant school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.21	81	73.6	24	48
1781	wernerth park tennis courts	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.21	77	57	42	64.6
1783	wernerth park bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.14	127	79.4	39	60
1808	north moor osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.69	126	78.8	43	66.2
1809	Brook Lane PF	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	1.47				
41	hathershaw technology college	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	9.52	116	68.2	42	64.6
45	grange school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	1.33	136	77.7	58	72.5
518	boundary gardens games court	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.06	51	37.8	39	60
570	chadderton playing fields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.23	98	63.2	26	52
1513	limehurst angling club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	2.12	90	69.2	41	63.1
1515	bardsley park golf centre	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	3.54	151	81.6	40	61.5
1517	oldham rufc	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	5.16	139	79.4	51	63.8
1561	holts school	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.51	98	78.4	54	67.5
1591	glodwick cricket club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	1.44	71	59.2	31	47.7
1596	st martins school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.88	126	76.4	51	63.8
1605	holy rosary R.C primary school football pitch	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.29	94	62.7	43	66.2
1609	bardsley school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.6	99	70.7	58	72.5
1622	phoenix bar bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.1	129	78.2	41	63.1
1625	st pauls conservative club bowling green	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.12	123	70.3	54	67.5
1626	copster park osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.76	119	72.1	50	62.5
1629	hulme grammar school playing fields	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	2.39	133	80.6	59	73.8
1635	st augustine of canterbury school osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.38	104	80	42	64.6
1636	westen bowling club	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.15	82	60.7	50	62.5
1937	boundary park - o.a.f.c	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.79	168	96	48	73.8
1941	westhulme park osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.35	97	74.6	25	50
2511	snipe clough plyingfields osf	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	2.6	87	58	34	52.3
2512	gravel football pitch within pearl mill close nsn	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.44	39	28.9	20	40
2513	grass football pitches within pearl mill close nsn	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.89	68	46.9	29	44.6
2555	wernerth park 5 a side football pitch	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.17	73	54.1	24	48
2558	alexandra park bowling greens	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.49	153	90	45	69.2
2559	alexandra park tennis courts	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.27	114	84.4	45	69.2
2587	westhulme park osf 2	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.11	73	50.3	22	44
2588	o.a.f.c training pitch	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.96	95	76	41	63.1
2708	Freehold School	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	0.88				
2726	Medlock Valley Junior School	Outdoor Sports Facilities	Analysis Area 6	1.86				

SiteID	SiteName	OpenSpaceType	AnalysisArea	Area Size (ha)	QualityS core	Quality Percentage	AccessibilityScore	Accessibility Percentage
1852	little oak close allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 1	0.35	108	77.1	39	60
1860	hillmore street allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 1	0.57	93	68.9	26	40
2122	holland close allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 1	0.43	97	74.6	36	55.4
2125	huersfield road allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 1	0.58	85	70.8	34	52.3
1728	allotments off eaves lane	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 2	0.86	77	57	31	47.7
1885	middleton road allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 2	0.1	72	60	30	46.2
1887	partridge way allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 2	0.99	99	73.3	36	55.4
1925	fernhurst street allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 2	1.52	112	83	38	58.5
2568	granby street allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 2	0.56	113	80.7	34	52.3
1537	stott lane allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 3	1.3	119	85	42	64.6
1673	broadway allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 3	0.39	109	80.7	40	61.5
1680	ashton road east allotment society	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 3	0.33	118	84.3	46	70.8
1954	haworth street allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 4	0.01	58	50.4	25	38.5
2073	cocker mill lane allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 4	0.22	96	71.1	34	52.3
2090	wendlebury green allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 4	0.84	105	77.8	35	53.8
2098	sumner street allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 4	0.27	91	67.4	29	44.6
2625	off fraser street allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 4	0.21	103	76.3	31	47.7
2630	hope street allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 4	0.09	99	82.5	37	56.9
2673	high crompton allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 4	0.21	86	71.7	36	55.4
1829	constantine street allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 5	0.65	101	74.8	35	53.8
2596	peach road allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 5	0.46	100	74.1	38	58.5
1784	allotments off frederick street	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 6	0.72	103	76.3	34	52.3
1811	Eastbourne Street allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 6	0.15				
1529	levington drive allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 6	0.14	84	62.2	35	43.8
1593	allotments off brook lane	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 6	0.27	92	68.1	42	52.5
1644	eve street allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 6	0.21	90	66.7	48	60
1646	plymouth street community gardens	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 6	0.14	145	85.3	29	72.5
1954	haworth street allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 6	0.79	58	50.4	25	38.5
2727	Hathewrshaw Allotments	Allotments and Community Gardens	Analysis Area 6	0.59				

SiteID	SiteName	OpenSpaceType	AnalysisArea	Area Size (ha)	QualityScore	Quality Percentage	AccessibilityScore	Accessibility Percentage
2566	lees cemetery war memorial	Civic Spaces	Analysis Area 1	0.1	113	83.7	43	66.2
2602	uppermill park war memorial	Civic Spaces	Analysis Area 1	0.02	116	80	40	61.5
2716	Pots and Pans	Civic Spaces	Analysis Area 1	0.03				
2542	oldham rod war memorial	Civic Spaces	Analysis Area 3	0.06	105	72.4	52	65
2544	pole lane memorial	Civic Spaces	Analysis Area 3	0.08	105	70	45	69.2
2570	tandle hill park war memorial	Civic Spaces	Analysis Area 4	0.01	90	85.7	25	38.5
2577	royton park war memorial	Civic Spaces	Analysis Area 4	0.01	102	78.5	34	68
2650	westway marketplace	Civic Spaces	Analysis Area 4	0.35	73	58.4	40	61.5
2552	high stret pedestrianisation	Civic Spaces	Analysis Area 5	0.06	120	85.7	45	69.2
2713	Waterhead War Memorial	Civic Spaces	Analysis Area 5	0.04				
1805	george square civic space	Civic Spaces	Analysis Area 6	0.3	113	80.7	44	67.7
1522	bardsley war memorial	Civic Spaces	Analysis Area 6	0.24	101	72.1	54	67.5
2552	high stret pedestrianisation	Civic Spaces	Analysis Area 6	0.58	120	85.7	45	69.2
2556	wernerth park monument	Civic Spaces	Analysis Area 6	0.26	84	60	54	67.5
2557	alexandra park monuments	Civic Spaces	Analysis Area 6	0.71	119	91.5	57	71.2
2583	crompton street war memorial	Civic Spaces	Analysis Area 6	0.02	56	43.1	37	56.9

SiteID	SiteName	OpenSpaceType	AnalysisArea	Area Size (ha)	QualityS core	Quality Percentage	Accessibility Score	Accessibility Percentage
1853	st johns churchyard	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 1	0.51	49	46.7	29	44.6
1855	st john the baptist churchyard	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 1	0.07	77	59.2	43	66.2
1881	the church of st anne	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 1	0.41	122	90.4	39	60
894	lees cemetery	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 1	2.52	118	78.7	52	65
2029	saddleworth council cemetery	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 1	2.41	90	66.7	36	55.4
2031	st chads churchyard	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 1	0.77	86	63.7	31	47.7
2080	christ church friezland	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 1	0.52	100	69	39	60
2119	burial ground on dale lane	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 1	0.12	95	70.4	29	44.6
2121	delph church and cemetery	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 1	0.34	60	46.2	28	43.1
2611	st marys churchyard	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 1	0.16	95	73.1	31	47.7
2739	Nether Lees Burial Ground	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 1	1.29				
1742	st lukes churchyard	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 2	0.15	88	62.9	37	56.9
1899	chadderton hall cemetery	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 2	1.59	75	57.7	38	58.5
761	chadderton cemetery	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 2	12.14	109	77.9	54	67.5
2034	healds green church	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 2	0.48	89	63.6	37	46.2
642	failsworth cemetery	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 3	5.98	120	80	57	71.2
643	st johns churchyard	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 3	0.2	87	60	51	63.8
707	st margrets church churchyard	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 3	0.76	93	77.5	51	63.8
723	hollinwood cemetery	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 3	10.91	113	77.9	57	71.2
1618	pinetree road churchyard	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 3	0.05	83	61.5	46	57.5
852	royton cemetery	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 4	3.14	127	84.7	57	71.2
869	shaw church churchyard	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 4	0.75	111	82.2	38	58.5
879	crompton cemetery	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 4	5.26	112	83	50	62.5
2632	st james churchyard	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 4	0.19	92	68.1	41	63.1
2672	st marys churchyard	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 4	0.11	87	66.9	34	52.3
2692	St. Paul's Churchyard	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 4	0.19				
2694	Quaker Burial Drive	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 4	0.04				
896	st james church	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 5	0.56	82	56.6	46	70.8
901	greenacres cemetery	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 5	16.02	124	85.5	53	66.2
2000	waterhead parish church, churchyard	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 5	0.78	81	60	29	58
2551	oldham parish church	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 5	0.58	119	82.1	48	73.8
1775	st thomas church	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 6	0.21	66	48.9	27	41.5
1521	bardsley churchyard	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 6	0.69	87	64.4	42	52.5
1604	st cuthberts churchyard	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 6	0.11	78	53.8	56	70
2518	st micheals churchyard	Cemeteries and Churchyards	Analysis Area 6	0.2	113	75.3	51	63.8

APPENDIX F
NATIONAL STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 - Planning for Open Space Sport and Recreation, July 2002 and its Companion Guide (September 2002).

This is the most important strategic document that this study relates to (and is also referred to in section one). It sets out policies that will need to be taken into account by regional planning bodies in the preparation of regional planning guidance notes and by Local Authorities in the preparation of development plans.

It aims to support the wider government objectives of:

- supporting an urban renaissance
- supporting urban renewal
- promotion of social inclusion and community cohesion
- health and well-being
- promoting more sustainable development.

It goes on to state that the *“the government expects all local authorities to carry out assessments of needs and audits of open space and sports and recreational facilities”*.

Its associated companion guide sets out the process for undertaking local assessments of needs and audits of provision. It also:

- indicates how councils can establish the needs of local communities and apply provision standards
- promotes as consistent an approach as possible across varying types of open space.

Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 1: Delivering Sustainable Development

The key aim and objective of PPS 1 is to ensure that the development plans and decisions taken on planning applications contribute to the delivery of sustainable development.

This includes the protection and enhancement of the environment, stating that a high level of protection should be given to the most valued townscapes and landscapes, wildlife habitats and natural resources. PPS1 recognises the importance of the quality of the local environment stating; *“the condition of our surroundings has a direct impact on quality of life and the conservation and improvement of the natural and built environment brings social and economic benefit for local communities.”*

This supports the importance of the provision of good quality open spaces and the need to identify and protect areas of environmental importance. As previously identified, in section 1 and further in Appendix A, there are a number of wider benefits with the provision of high quality open spaces which contribute to wider sustainable development objectives.

To integrate sustainable development into the development plan process, PPS1 provides a range of factors to take into consideration, stating that considering

sustainable development in an integrated manner when preparing development plans, and ensuring that policies in plans reflect this integrated approach are the key factors.

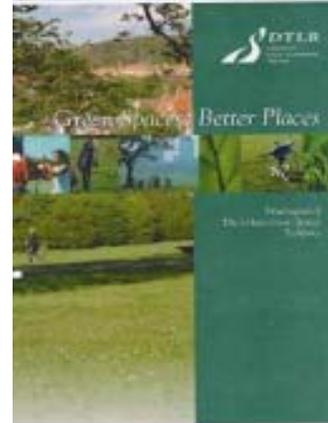
Community development is also a key element of sustainable development. As part of the PPG17 Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study, public consultation has been an essential component in setting local open space standards.

DLTR

Green Spaces, Better Places - The Final Report of the Urban Green Spaces Taskforce, DTLR (2002)

The main messages to emerge from Green Spaces, Better Places are:

- urban parks and open spaces remain popular, despite a decline in the quality as well as quantitative elements
- open spaces make an important contribution to the quality of life in many areas and help to deliver wider social, economic and environmental benefits
- planners and planning mechanisms need to take better account of the need for parks and open spaces including related management and maintenance issues
- parks and open spaces should be central to any vision of sustainable modern towns and cities
- strong civic and local pride and responsibility are necessary to achieve the vision reinforced by a successful green spaces strategy
- there is a need for a more co-ordinated approach at the national level to guide local strategies.



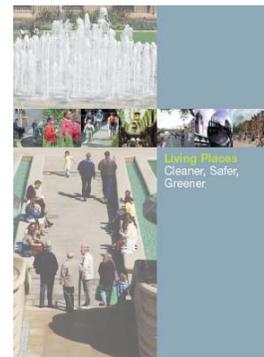
Living Places: Cleaner, Safer, Greener ODPM (October 2002)

The Government stated that parks and green spaces need more visible champions and clearer structures for co-ordinating policy and action better at all levels.

Several existing national bodies have responsibilities or programmes with impact on various aspects of urban green spaces including English Heritage, Sport England, Groundwork, English Nature, the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE), the Countryside Agency and the Forestry Commission.

Instead of setting up a new body, the Government stated it would take action on three levels to improve co-ordination of policy and action for urban parks and green spaces. It will:

- provide a clearer national policy framework
- invite CABE to set up a new unit for urban spaces (CABE Space)

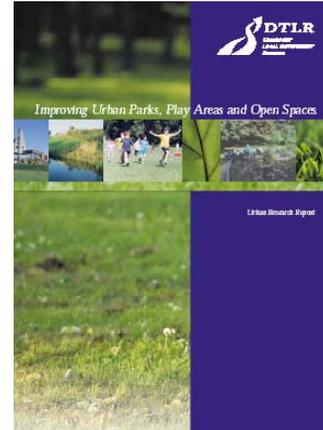


- encourage a strategic partnership to support the work of the new unit and inform national policy and local delivery.

Improving urban parks, play areas and green space, DTLR (May 2002)

In May 2002 the DTLR produced this linked research report to Green Spaces, Better Places which looked at patterns of use, barriers to open space and the wider role of open space in urban regeneration.

The vital importance of parks and other urban green spaces in enhancing the urban environment and the quality of city life has been recognised in both the Urban Taskforce report and the Urban White Paper.



Wider Value of Open Space

There are clear links demonstrating how parks and other green spaces meet wider council policy objectives linked to other agendas, like education, diversity, health, safety, environment, jobs and regeneration can help raise the political profile and commitment of an authority to green space issues. In particular they:

- contribute significantly to social inclusion because they are free and accessible to all
- can become a centre of community spirit
- contribute to child development through scope for outdoor, energetic and imaginative play
- offer numerous educational opportunities
- provide a range of health, environmental and economic benefits.

The report also highlights major issues in the management, funding and integration of open spaces into the wider context of urban renewal and planning:

Community Involvement - Community involvement in local parks can lead to increased use, enhancement of quality and richness of experience and, in particular, can ensure that the facilities are suited to local needs.

Resources - The acknowledged decline in the quality of care of the urban green space resource in England can be linked to declining local authority green space budgets but in terms of different external sources for capital development, the Heritage Lottery Fund and Section 106 Agreements are seen as the most valuable.

Partnerships - between a local authority and community groups, funding agencies and business can result in significant added value, both in terms of finances and quality of green space.

Urban Renewal - Four levels of integration of urban green space into urban renewal can be identified, characterised by an increasing strategic synergy between environment, economy and community. They are:

- attracting inward economic investment through the provision of attractive urban landscapes
- unforeseen spin-offs from grassroots green space initiatives
- parks as flagships in neighbourhood renewal
- strategic, multi-agency area based regeneration, linking environment and economy.

Sport England

Planning for Open Space, Sport England (Sept 2002)

The main messages from Sport England within this document are:

- Sport England’s policy on planning applications for development of playing fields (A Sporting Future for the Playing Fields of England) provides 5 exceptions to its normal stance of opposing any loss of all or part of such facilities and are reflected in PPG 17 (paragraphs 10-15)
- Sport England must be consulted on development proposals affecting playing fields at any time in the previous 5 years or is identified as a playing field in a development plan
- it is highly likely that planning inspectors will no longer accept a Six Acre Standard approach in emerging development plans and therefore increasing the importance of setting local standards
- in undertaking a playing pitch assessment as part of an overall open space assessment, local authorities will need to consider the revised advice and methodology *‘Towards a Level Playing Field: A manual for the production of Playing Pitch Strategies’*.



A Sporting Future for the Playing Fields of England / Playing Fields for Sport Revisited, Sport England (2000)

These documents provide Sport England’s planning policy statement on playing fields. It acknowledges that playing fields:

- are one of the most important resources for sport in England as they provide the space which is required for the playing of team sports on outdoor pitches
- as open space particularly in urban areas are becoming an increasingly scarce resource
- can provide an important landscape function, perform the function of a strategic gap or provide a resource for other community activities and informal recreation.



CABE Space

CABE Space is part of the Commission for the Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) and is publicly funded by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM). CABE Space aims :

“to bring excellence to the design, management and maintenance of parks and public space in towns and cities.”



Through their work, they encourage people to think holistically about green space, and what it means for the health and well being of communities, routes to school and work, and recreation through play and sport. Their ultimate goal is to ensure that people in England have easy access to well designed and well looked after public space.

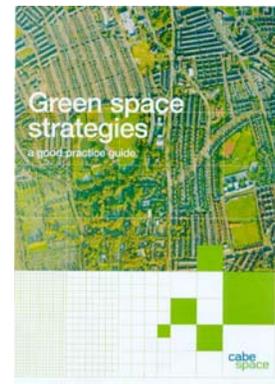
Lessons learnt for some of CABE Space's case studies include:

- strategic vision is essential
- political commitment is essential
- think long-term
- start by making the case for high quality green spaces in-house (persuading other departments is key – high priority)
- a need to market parks and green spaces
- a need to manage resources more efficiently
- work with others - projects are partnerships
- keep good records: monitor investments and outcomes
- consult widely and get public support for your work

Green Space Strategies – a good practice guide CABE Space (May 2004)

The guidance draws on the principles of the Government's Planning Policy Guidance Note 17 and will help contribute to national objectives for better public spaces, focusing on three broad stages in producing a greenspace strategy which are:

- **Stage 1: Preliminary activities**
 - provides the foundation of a successful strategy
- **Stage 2: Information gathering and analysis**
 - provides the objective and subjective data necessary to make informed judgements



- **Stage 3: Strategy production**

- preparing a consultation draft and final strategy drawing on consultation responses

The document demonstrates why a green space strategy is important and the potential opportunity and benefits that it can provide, including:

- reinforcing local identity and enhancing the physical character of an area, so shaping existing and future development
- maintaining the visual amenity and increasing the attractiveness of a locality to create a sense of civic pride
- securing external funding and focusing capital and revenue expenditure cost-effectively
- improving physical and social inclusion including accessibility, particularly for young, disabled and older people
- protecting and enhancing levels of biodiversity and ecological habitats

Is the grass greener...? Learning from the international innovations in urban green space management, CABE Space (July 2004)

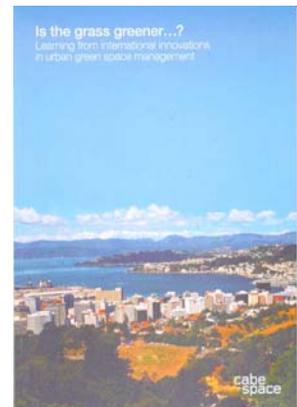
This is an international perspective using examples of good and bad practice that demonstrate the many issues common to English local authorities that international cities also face and providing practical solutions that have been used to combat the problems overseas.

The guide focuses in particular on aspects of management and maintenance practice, providing a series of challenging and inspiring solutions to common issues that are not dissimilar to current English practice.

The problem in England!

The document describes the problems faced by green space and how English towns and cities are often criticised for:

- **being poorly maintained** – uncoordinated development and maintenance activities
- **being insecure** – the hostile nature of many green spaces
- **lacking a coherent approach to their management** – conflicting interventions by a multitude of agencies, without clear overall responsibility
- **offering little to their users** – lacking in facilities and amenities and being a haven for anti-social behaviour
- **being poorly designed** – unwelcoming to people, created with poor quality materials



Manifesto for better public spaces, CABE Space (2003)

There is huge national demand for better quality parks and public spaces. Surveys repeatedly show how much the public values them, while research reveals how closely the quality of public spaces links to levels of health, crime and the quality of life in every neighbourhood. CABE Space 'manifesto for better public spaces' explains the 10 things we must do to achieve this:



- 1) ensure that creating and caring for well-designed parks, streets and other public spaces is a national and local political priority
- 2) encourage people of all ages – including children, young people and retired people – to play and active role in deciding what our parks and public spaces should be like and how they should be looked after
- 3) ensure that everyone understands the importance of good design to the vitality of our cities, towns and suburbs and that designers, planners and managers all have the right skills to create high quality public spaces
- 4) ensure that the care of parks and public spaces is acknowledged to be an essential service
- 5) work to increase public debate about the issue of risk in outside spaces, and will encourage people to make decisions that give more weight to the benefits of interesting spaces, rather than to the perceived risks
- 6) work to ensure that national and local health policy recognises the role of high quality parks and public space in helping people to become physically active, to recover from illness, and to increase their general health and well-being
- 7) work to ensure that good paths and seating, play opportunities, signs in local languages, cultural events and art are understood to be essential elements of great places – not optional extras that can be cut from the budget
- 8) encourage people who are designing and managing parks and public spaces to protect and enhance biodiversity and to promote its enjoyment to local people
- 9) seek to ensure that public spaces feel safe to use by encouraging councils to adopt a positive approach to crime prevention through investment in good design and management of the whole network or urban green spaces
- 10) encourage people from all sectors of the community to give time to improving their local environment. If we work together we can transform our public spaces and help to improve everyone's quality of life.

The Value of Public Space, CABE Space (March 2004)

CABE Space market how high quality parks and public spaces create economic, social and environmental value, as well as being beneficial to physical and mental health, children and young people and a variety of other external issues.

Specific examples are used to illustrate the benefits and highlight the issues arising on the value of public space :

- (a) The economic value of public spaces - A high quality public environment is an essential part of any regeneration strategy and can impact positively on the local economy. For example - property prices
- (b) The impact on physical and mental health - Research has shown that well maintained public spaces can help to improve physical and mental health encouraging more people to become active.
- (c) Benefits and children and young people - Good quality public spaces encourage children to play freely outdoors and experience the natural environment, providing children with opportunities for fun, exercise and learning.
- (d) Reducing crime and fear of crime - Better management of public spaces can help to reduce crime rates and help to allay fears of crime, especially in open spaces.
- (e) Social dimension of public space - Well-designed and maintained open spaces can help bring communities together, providing meeting places in the right context and fostering social ties.
- (f) Movement in and between spaces - One of the fundamental functions of public space is to allow people to move around with the challenge of reconciling the needs of different modes of transport.
- (g) Value from biodiversity and nature - Public spaces and gardens helps to bring important environmental benefits to urban areas, as well as providing an opportunity for people to be close to nature.



A Guide to Producing Park and Green Space Management Plans, CABI Space (May 2004)

A primary intention of the guide is to encourage wider use of management plans by dispelling the myth that the creation of a site management plan is an exceptionally difficult task that can be undertaken only by an expert.

The guide presents ideas on benefits of management plans identifying steps to be taken to writing the plan. It also provides a list of subject areas that need to be addressed in any comprehensive management plan. The document has been split into two sections, providing a logical explanation of the management process:



Part 1: Planning the plan

- Who, what, when, where and how questions that may arise in the preparation of a park and green space management plan.

Part 2: Content and structure of the plan

- What information needs to be contained in the final management plan and how should that information be presented?

Decent parks? Decent behaviour? – The link between the quality of parks and user behaviour, CABE space (May 2005)

Based on research that supports public consultation that poor maintenance of parks, in turn, attracts anti-social behaviour. Encouragingly it provides examples of places where a combination of good design, management and maintenance has transformed no-go areas back into popular community spaces.



There are nine case studies explored in the report. Below are some of the key elements that have made these parks a better place to be:

- take advantage of the potential for buildings within parks for natural surveillance e.g. from cafes, flats and offices;
- involve the community early in the process and continually;
- involve 'problem' groups as part of the solution where possible and work hard to avoid single group dominance in the park; and
- provide activities and facilities to ensure young people feel a sense of ownership. Address young peoples fear of crime as well as that if adults

The evidence in this report suggests that parks were in decline and failing to meet customer expectations long before anti-social behaviour started to become the dominant characteristic, however investing and creating good-quality parks and green spaces, which are staffed and provide a range of attractive facilities for the local community, can be an effective use of resource.

APPENDIX G
SITE ASSESSMENT MATRIX

SITE ACCESS SCORING ASSESSMENT

Site ID

Site Name

Address / Street Name

Date of Visit

Specific Facilities

OS Type (tick) Parks & Gardens Natural & Semi Natural Green Corridors Outdoor Sports Facilities Amenity Greenspace Young People/Children Allotments/Community Gardens Cemeteris/Churchyards Civic Spaces

Scoring (5=Highest)

		Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	Not Applicable	Weighting
General	Entrance to the sites (i.e. are the entrances to sites easily seen, easily accessible etc)	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	x3
	Roads, paths and cycleways and accesses	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	x3
	Disabled Access	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	x3
Transport	Accessible by public transport	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	x2
	Accessible by cycleways	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	x2
	Accessible by walking	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	x2
Information & Signage	Information & Signage (i.e. is the signage to the open spaces appropriate where required and clear to see and easy to follow)	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	x1

Assessor's Comments

WIDER BENEFITS SCORING ASSESSMENT

Site ID

Date of Visit

Site Name

Specific Facilities

Address / Street Name

OS Type (tick)

Parks & Gardens

Natural & Semi Natural

Green Corridors

Outdoor Sports Facilities

Amenity Greenspace

Young People/Children

Allotments/Community Gardens

Cemeteries/Churchyards

Civic Spaces

PMP Audit Codes

		Yes	No	Assessor's Comments
Wider Benefits	Structural and landscape benefits	Yes	No	
	Ecological benefits	Yes	No	
	Education benefits	Yes	No	
	Social inclusion and health benefits	Yes	No	
	Cultural and heritage benefits	Yes	No	
	Amenity benefits and a "sense of place"	Yes	No	
	Economic benefits	Yes	No	

APPENDIX H
QUANTITY STANDARDS

Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council - Open Space Calculations (Quantity)

Category	Populations	Parks & Gardens (in hectares)	Parks (excluding large sites over 15ha)	Nat & Semi Nat Open Space (in hectares)	Natural and semi natural open space (excluding large sites)	Amenity Greenspace (in hectares)	Provision for Children and Young People (hectares)	Provision for children (number)	Provision for young people (number)	Allotments (in hectares)	Outdoor Sports Facilities (in hectares)	
Total Provision - Existing Open Space (ha)												without golf courses
Saddleworth	34,483	26.46	1.77	158.42	110.08	6.19	1.41	12	1	1.92	117.61	33.21
Chadderton	31,114	13.52	13.52	45.72	45.72	16.03	0.79	6	1	4.02	48.39	48.39
Failsworth	30,465	15.01	7.89	86.47	61.94	13	0.68	5	0	2.01	117.36	49.68
Royton	42,682	73.55	23.41	182.61	59.94	17.15	2.34	11	1	1.86	99.49	61.56
East Oldham	33,345	36.01	0.99	103.19	103.19	25.1	1.95	12	2	3.01	46.01	46.01
West Oldham	45,184	31.42	10.57	124.6	4.03	20.61	2.65	20	5	1.1	39.67	39.67
Overall	217,273	195.97	58.15	701.01	384.90	98.08	10	66	10	13.92	468.53	278.52
Existing Open Space (ha per 1000 Population)												
Saddleworth	34,483	0.77	0.05	4.59	3.19	0.18	0.04	0.35	0.03	0.06	3.41	0.96
Chadderton	31,114	0.43	0.43	1.47	1.47	0.52	0.03	0.19	0.03	0.13	1.56	1.56
Failsworth	30,465	0.49	0.26	2.84	2.03	0.43	0.02	0.16	0.00	0.07	3.85	1.63
Royton	42,682	1.72	0.55	4.28	1.40	0.40	0.05	0.26	0.02	0.04	2.33	1.44
East Oldham	33,345	1.08	0.03	3.09	3.09	0.75	0.06	0.36	0.06	0.09	1.38	1.38
West Oldham	45,184	0.70	0.23	2.76	0.09	0.46	0.06	0.44	0.11	0.02	0.88	0.88
Overall	217,273	0.90	0.27	3.23	1.77	0.45	0.05	0.30	0.05	0.06	2.16	1.28
Future Open Space (ha per 1000 Population) 2021												
Saddleworth	35,176	0.75	0.05	4.50	3.13	0.18	0.04	0.34	0.03	0.05	3.34	0.94
Chadderton	31,740	0.43	0.43	1.44	1.44	0.51	0.02	0.19	0.03	0.13	1.52	1.52
Failsworth	31,075	0.48	0.25	2.78	1.99	0.42	0.02	0.16	0.00	0.06	3.78	1.60
Royton	43,532	1.69	0.54	4.19	1.38	0.39	0.05	0.25	0.02	0.04	2.29	1.41
East Oldham	34,023	1.06	0.03	3.03	3.03	0.74	0.06	0.35	0.06	0.09	1.35	1.35
West Oldham	46,081	0.68	0.23	2.70	0.09	0.45	0.06	0.43	0.11	0.02	0.86	0.86
Overall	221,627	0.88	0.26	3.16	1.74	0.44	0.04	0.30	0.05	0.06	2.11	1.26
Consultation (%)												
More than Enough		3		5		4	3	3	4	2	2	
About Right		47		41		29	18	18	8	22	28	
Nearly Enough		13		13		16	12	12	7	9	14	
Not Enough		33		35		36	59	59	69	35	45	
No Opinion		3		6		14	9	9	12	32	11	
RECOMMENDED PROVISION STANDARD		0.9	0.26		1.8	0.46		0.37	0.1	0.06	1.35	
Balance												
Saddleworth	34,483	-4.57	-7.20	158.42	48.01	-9.67	1.41	-0.76	-2.45	-0.15		
Chadderton	31,114	-14.48	5.43	45.72	-10.29	1.72	0.79	-5.51	-2.11	2.15		
Failsworth	30,465	-12.41	-0.03	86.47	7.10	-1.01	0.68	-6.27	-3.05	0.18		
Royton	42,682	35.14	12.31	182.61	-16.89	-2.48	2.34	-4.79	-3.27	-0.70		
East Oldham	33,345	6.00	-7.68	103.19	43.17	9.76	1.95	-0.34	-1.33	1.01		
West Oldham	45,184	-9.25	-1.18	124.60	-77.30	-0.17	2.65	3.28	0.48	-1.61		
Overall	217,273	0.42	1.66	701.01	-6.19	-1.87	9.82	-14.39	-11.73	0.88		
Future Balance 2021												
Saddleworth	35,176	-5.20	1.77	158.42	46.76	-9.99	0.04	-12.67	-3.49	-0.19		
Chadderton	31,740	-15.05	13.52	45.72	-11.41	1.43	0.03	-11.55	-3.14	2.12		
Failsworth	31,075	-12.96	7.89	86.47	6.01	-1.29	0.02	-11.33	-3.11	0.15		
Royton	43,532	34.37	23.41	182.61	-18.42	-2.87	0.05	0.25	-4.33	-0.75		
East Oldham	34,023	5.39	0.99	103.19	41.95	9.45	0.06	-12.23	-3.34	0.97		
West Oldham	46,081	-10.05	10.57	124.60	-78.92	20.61	0.06	-16.61	-4.50	-1.66		
Overall	221,627	16.75	42.86	496.87	-49.38	25.89	0.19	-39.92	-15.28	-1.30		
											Standard set for broad planning need only - application for sur/def would be meaningless	
											Standard set for broad planning need only - application for sur/def would be meaningless	

Quantity Calculations

Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council - Quantity v Local Needs (by area and typology)

AREA	Area Name	Parks & Gardens					Natural & Semi Natural					Amenity Greenspace					Provision for Children & Young People up to 6 years					Provision for Children & Young People 7 years +					Outdoor Sports Facilities (without golf courses)					Allotments				
		More than Enough	About Right	Nearly Enough	Not Enough	No Opinion	More than Enough	About Right	Nearly Enough	Not Enough	No Opinion	More than Enough	About Right	Nearly Enough	Not Enough	No Opinion	More than Enough	About Right	Nearly Enough	Not Enough	No Opinion	More than Enough	About Right	Nearly Enough	Not Enough	No Opinion	More than Enough	About Right	Nearly Enough	Not Enough	No Opinion					
1	Saddleworth	5%	35%	14%	33%	14%	7%	26%	21%	29%	17%	9%	23%	19%	26%	23%	0%	14%	18%	52%	16%	2%	5%	7%	69%	17%	0%	17%	10%	52%	21%	5%	5%	7%	39%	45%
2	Chadderton	2%	50%	20%	26%	2%	6%	39%	20%	32%	2%	4%	32%	20%	30%	15%	1%	19%	10%	62%	8%	5%	7%	6%	73%	10%	1%	31%	14%	42%	11%	4%	24%	8%	28%	37%
3	Failsforth	1%	39%	11%	48%	1%	4%	36%	7%	52%	1%	2%	27%	15%	47%	9%	4%	13%	9%	71%	4%	6%	6%	4%	72%	12%	5%	40%	15%	33%	7%	1%	24%	9%	43%	23%
4	Royton	4%	61%	12%	22%	1%	4%	44%	11%	34%	7%	1%	32%	18%	37%	12%	4%	26%	13%	49%	8%	3%	12%	7%	67%	11%	0%	29%	15%	47%	10%	1%	29%	9%	33%	27%
5	East Oldham	9%	52%	6%	30%	3%	6%	50%	9%	25%	9%	11%	39%	11%	21%	18%	7%	14%	24%	41%	14%	6%	10%	23%	48%	13%	3%	19%	13%	45%	19%	3%	20%	7%	33%	37%
6	West Oldham	4%	33%	13%	48%	2%	4%	39%	12%	35%	10%	6%	23%	13%	44%	15%	2%	13%	6%	69%	10%	0%	10%	2%	73%	15%	4%	17%	13%	60%	6%	0%	14%	14%	34%	38%
ALL	ALL AREAS	3%	47%	13%	33%	3%	5%	41%	13%	35%	6%	4%	29%	16%	36%	14%	3%	18%	12%	59%	9%	4%	8%	7%	69%	12%	2%	22%	9%	35%	32%	2%	28%	14%	45%	11%

Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council - Setting Quantity Standards

Field	Comment
National Standards	Details of any existing national standards for each typology usually provided by national organisations e.g. National Playing Fields Association for playing pitches
Current Provision (per 1,000 population)	This is the current provision in hectares per 1,000 population within the Local Authority area
Existing Local Standards	There maybe some existing local standards that will need to be taken into account and used as a guidance benchmark when setting new local standards
Benchmarking	These are figures detailing actual provision and local standards set by PMP within other green space and open space projects and provide another comparison benchmark when setting local standards for other Local Authorities. This is provided as a separate sheet.
Consultation (too much / about right / not enough)	Some statistical information that will come from the household questionnaire and needs to be applied and reported per analysis area to provide some detailed local analysis.
Consultation Comments (Quantity)	A summary of reasons behind peoples choices of whether they feel there provision is about right or not enough in some areas. PPG 17 indicates that where local provision is regarded as inadequate it is important to establish why this is the case. The a feeling of deficiency can sometimes be due to qualitative issues of existing open space sites rather than actual quantity issues. Any other qualitative consultation / information that has been extracted on local needs in terms of quantity of provision e.g. from neighbourhood drop-in sessions and local strategic documents
PMP Recommendation	PMP recommendation of a local standard for discussion and approval by the client - standard should be in hectares per 1,000 population
PMP Justification	PMP reasoning and justification for the local standard that has been recommended
CLIENT APPROVAL	Client to approve local standard before analysis undertaken - any changes in standards at a later date during the project will impact on re-doing calculations, analysis and report - the standards drive the analysis

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS
PARKS AND GARDENS**

National Standards	No National Standards
Current Provision ha per 1,000 population (ha)	0.90 ha (0.27ha excluding parks over 15ha in size)
Existing Local Standards	No existing local standards
BENCHMARKING	See attached sheet
Consultation (too much / about right / not enough)	3% - More than enough 47% - About Right 13% - Nearly Enough 33% - Not Enough
'Consultation Comments (quantity)	<p>The responses from the household questionnaire suggest that there is an even split between people who think provision is about right or above (50%) and those that think there is not enough or nearly enough (46%). However, a high proportion of Failsworth (59%) and West Oldham (61%) believe there is not enough provision, whilst a high number of East Oldham (56%) and Royton (65%) think there is enough or higher of provision in their area. The main parks in Oldham (Alexandra Park particularly) are highly appreciated and are considered excellent quality across the Borough and was mentioned consistently throughout all the aspects of consultation. The specific theme from the comments relates their being good enough provision but quality issues and safety make the usage of some sites difficult.</p> <p>Other Consultation: The general consensus at drop-in sessions mirrors that of the household survey with the residents believing the overall provision is adequate, but concerns were raised over any further development on these sites as they would have a detrimental effect on the local people. The one exception was in Hollinwood, where residents suggested that there was no open space. Residents within Royton expressed the importance of Dogford Park to their local community amid reports of development. There was a significant focus on the quality of parks, with most residents believing that improvements to the quality of parks were of significantly higher priority than increased quantity. Recent improvements to the quality of parks across the borough were recognised and there was a desire for this to continue.</p>
'PMP Recommendation (per 1,000 population)	0.26ha per 1000 popn
PMP Justification	The current level of provision is equivalent to 0.90 ha per 1,000 population in the borough. Excluding the large sites over 15ha in size, provision decreases to 0.27ha per 1000 population. The overall consensus from residents across the borough responding to the household survey is that the quantity of provision is about right (50%). Although 46% indicated that there is not enough, qualitative consultation highlights a significant focus on improving the quality of parks. While people wish to guard existing parks against development, there was little evidence to suggest that

	<p>additional parks were required. The spread of parks across the borough is relatively even.</p> <p>Of those people who felt there to be insufficient provision, reasons behind their perceptions tended to be related to a lack of quality or to fears sites would be lost to development, rather than a perceived absolute deficiency of provision. The overriding theme emerging through all consultations suggests that the current level of provision is adequate and residents feel that parks and gardens are highly valued. Maintaining the current level of provision enables the continuation of a focus on quality and ensures that people continue to value the parks and gardens in the area. Desires for quality improvements at parks were highlighted specifically by Friends of Parks Groups.</p> <p>A standard of 0.26 has been recommended reflecting the current level of provision in the borough but taking into account the likely consequence of a small decrease in park space, following the implementation of facilities for children in parks. This reflects the perception that provision should be maintained at the current level, enabling a focus on quality. Although the standard should be viewed as a borough wide standard, it enables the identification of localised deficiencies, particularly in Failsworth (which includes Hollinwood) and West Oldham, which were identified as the most deficient areas by residents both in terms of household survey and drop in consultations. Deficient areas will be highlighted through the application of the quantity and accessibility standards. Larger parks have been excluded from this standard, recognising their borough wide function and the inappropriateness of providing this level of provision locally.</p>
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Client Approval	Local Quantity Standard

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS
NATURAL AND SEMI-NATURAL**

National Standards	<p>English Nature Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt) recommends at least 2 ha of accessible natural greenspace per 1,000 people based on no-one living more than: 300m from nearest natural greenspace / 2km from a site of 20ha / 5km from a site of 100ha / 10km from a site of 500ha</p> <p>English Nature Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt) recommends 1 ha of LNR per 1,000 population</p>
Current Provision ha per 1,000 population (ha)	3.23 per 1000 population overall, 1.92 ha per 1000 excluding large sites
Existing Local Standards	No existing standards
BENCHMARKING	See attached sheet
Consultation (too much / about right / not enough)	<p>5% - More than enough 41% - About Right 13% - Nearly Enough 33% - Not Enough</p>
'Consultation Comments (quantity)	<p>41% of all respondents stated that provision was 'about right'. Just over a third of respondents (35%) said that they felt provision was 'not enough' and 13% 'nearly enough'. Failsworth and Saddleworth have a higher percentage of people who consider there to be 'not enough' or 'nearly enough' with 59% and 56% respectively. East Oldham has a high satisfaction rate with the quantity with 56% considering provision to be 'about right' or 'more than enough' compared to 34% who believe there is 'not enough'. Residents believe the main reason there is a lack of natural open space is due to the amount of new housing development taking away the land and not replacing it.</p>
'PMP Recommendation (per 1,000 population)	1.95 ha per 1000 population
PMP Justification	<p>Current provision across Oldham Borough is equivalent to 3.23ha per 1000 population. This is skewed significantly by the presence of some very large sites (over 20 hectares), which serve residents across the borough. For the purposes of standard setting, these sites have been excluded and provision is therefore equivalent to 1.92 ha per 1000 population. The spread of natural and semi natural provision across the borough varies. The highest levels perhaps unsurprisingly are found in the most rural area of the borough - Saddleworth, and even when the large sites are removed, provision is still highest in this area. Despite this, residents responding to the household survey in Saddleworth perceive there to be insufficient natural space. This perception was not reflected in the drop in sessions, although there was a desire to protect existing open space. Both consultations and the household survey identified Failsworth as lacking in natural and semi natural provision, although this is not reflected in the level of provision in comparison to other areas of the borough.</p>

	<p>The overall split in opinion between provision being about right and insufficient is perhaps representative of the uneven distribution. Although value is placed on natural sites, qualitative consultations again placed a focus on improving the quality of provision. Given the distribution of provision and the focus on quality, a standard just above the current level is recommended. This recognises the value of these spaces and the importance of protection, offering opportunities for development of such facilities in areas perceived to be lacking. Due to the incidental nature of this type of open space and the limited opportunities for provision, a standard slightly above current levels of provision in the urban area has been set, although consideration should be given to incorporating natural areas within other typologies. The recommended standard (which should be viewed as a minimum level of provision across all urban areas) therefore meets the expectations of current users and is higher than current levels of provision in Chadderton, Royton and West Oldham (excluding large sites).</p> <p>When taking into account the presence of the larger sites, only Chadderton remains below the minimum recommended standard. This standard will therefore protect existing levels of provision, without placing onerous demands for new provision.</p>
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Client Approval	Local Quantity Standard

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS
AMENITY GREENSPACE**

National Standards	<p>NPFA - 6 acre standard (2.43ha) per 1,000 population for 'playing space' consisting of 2 acres (i.e. 0.81 ha per 1,000 population) for children's playing space - includes areas designated for children and young people and casual or informal playing space within housing areas</p> <p>NPFA - in the past some LA's have added 1 acre (0.4ha) arbitrary to cover 'amenity areas' and 'leisure areas' or something similar that may not be covered within the NPFA standard. In almost all cases, this additional requirement are intended for residential areas and do not cover open spaces such as parks or allotments</p> <p>LAPs - aged 4-6 ; 1 min walk or 100m (60m in a straight line) ; min area size 100msq ; LAPs typically have no play equipment and therefore could be considered as amenity greenspace</p>
Current Provision ha per 1,000 population (ha)	0.45 ha per 1000 population
Existing Local Standards	UDP: 1.2 ha per 1000 people of other open space, of which 0.8 ha should be suitable for formal or informal children's play. This standard also includes open space for non-pitch sports such as tennis, and amenity green space
BENCHMARKING	See attached sheet
Consultation (too much / about right / not enough)	<p>4% - More than enough 29% - About Right 16% - Nearly Enough 36% - Not Enough</p>
'Consultation Comments (quantity)	The majority of people (53%) stated that they felt there was 'not enough' or 'nearly enough' provision of amenity greenspace. This was a consistent view across all areas except East Oldham where half of all respondents felt provision was 'about right/more than enough'. The main concerns raised centred around new housing developments taking away little pieces of valuable amenity open space and the lack of space for children to play informally but most importantly safely.
'PMP Recommendation (per 1,000 population)	0.46ha per 1000 population
PMP Justification	The current level of provision is equivalent to 0.45ha per 1000 population. Consultation highlights a variety of different perspectives on amenity green space provision, with 53% of respondents to the household survey stating that there is not enough, contrasting with more qualitative comments, which put a higher focus on quality, and on the provision of other types of open spaces. Although the majority of people agreed on the quantitative supply of amenity greenspaces. Those people feeling there were insufficient open spaces highlighted fears of housing development removing opportunities for informal recreation. This comment, which was heard at consultations, workshops and was also a common response in the household survey, has strong links with the perceived lack of spaces for children and

	<p>young people. Given these overlaps, it appears that provision of amenity green spaces is about right.</p> <p>Consultation highlights the importance of these sites for recreational and landscape purposes in breaking up the urban texture and providing greenspace in what would otherwise be a built up area. The highest levels of dissatisfaction with current levels of provision are in East Oldham and Failsworth, which corresponds with where provision is the lowest. Given this, the recognised importance to the community of amenity greenspaces, but also the identified overlap with provision for children and young people, a standard of 0.46 has been set. This is just above the current level of provision borough wide, recognising the desire for more provision in Failsworth and East Oldham without placing onerous demands on the Council for increased provision.</p>

Client Approval	Local Quantity Standard

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS
PROVISION FOR CHILDREN**

<p>National Standards</p>	<p>NPFA - 6 acre standard (2.43ha) per 1,000 population for 'playing space' consisting of 2 acres (ie 0.81 ha per 1,000 population) for children's playing space - includes areas designated for children and young people and casual or informal playing space within housing areas</p> <p>NPFA - in the past some LA's have added 1 acre (0.4ha) arbitrary to cover 'amenity areas' and 'leisure areas' or something similar that may not be covered within the NPFA standard. In almost all cases, this additional requirement are intended for residential areas and do not cover open spaces such as parks or allotments</p> <p>1) LAPs - aged 4-6; 1 min walk or 100m (60m in a straight line); min area size 100msq; LAPs typically have no play equipment and therefore could be considered as amenity greenspace</p> <p>(2) LEAPs - aged min 5; min area size 400msq; should be located 400 metres or 5 minutes walking time along pedestrian routes (240 metres in a straight line)</p>
<p>Current Provision ha per 1,000 population (ha)</p>	<p>0.30 play facilities per 1,000 population.</p>
<p>Existing Local Standards</p>	<p>UDP: 1.2 ha per 1000 people of other open space, of which 0.8 ha should be suitable for formal or informal children's play. This standard also includes open space for non-pitch sports such as tennis, and amenity green space</p>
<p>BENCHMARKING</p>	<p>See attached sheet</p>
<p>Consultation (too much / about right / not enough)</p>	<p>3% - More than enough 18% - About Right 12% - Nearly Enough 59% - Not Enough</p>
<p>Consultation Comments (quantity)</p>	<p>Play areas for children - The majority of people that responded to the household survey (70%) commented there is a lack of provision for children. All areas showed a high level of perceived deficiency. Drop-in session comments highlighted a difference in opinion to the household survey where people believe the actual quantity of facilities is quite good. However, the problems associated with vandalism and them being used by young people/ teenagers mean the young children often cannot play on the facilities so although there may in theory be enough facilities, in practice many that exist are unuseable. Examples of good practice sites included Waterhead Park and Beresford Street Play Area. Stakeholder workshops highlighted the need for more facilities and highlighted recent developments at Foxdenton Park, Chadderton Hall Park and Coalshaw Green Park as a positive step in the amount of provision. These developments within parks were funded through the 'Fair Share' initiative</p>
<p>'PMP Recommendation (per 1,000 population)</p>	<p>0.37 play facilities per 1,000 popn (includes all play areas irrespective of owner-ship)</p>

<p>PMP Justification</p>	<p>The current level of provision is spread relatively evenly across the Borough, although there are some areas with higher provision, particularly West and East Oldham. The key theme emerging through the consultation has been a shortage of provision for both young people and children. This has been compounded by complaints focusing around the quality of sites. Despite comments on the quality of sites, it is however clear that there is also perceived to be a quantitative shortfall. Application of the recommended quality standards alongside the accessibility standards should highlight priority areas of deficiency. Given the differing requirements between provision for children and young people, quantity standards have been set separately. In terms of provision for children, given that 70% of respondents to the household survey indicated that there is insufficient provision, coupled with the fact that this was a key theme at other consultations, the standard has been set above the existing level of provision. Current provision is equivalent to 0.35 sites per 1000 population.</p> <p>The highest level of satisfaction was in Royton and Shaw, which also is the area with the highest levels of provision. The standard has therefore been set to encourage small quantities of new provision in all areas. The application of this standard would result in the requirement for approximately 14 new play areas.</p>
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Client Approval	Local Quantity Standard

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS
PROVISION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

National Standards	<p>NPFA - 6 acre standard (2.43ha) per 1,000 population for 'playing space' consisting of 2 acres (ie 0.81 ha per 1,000 population) for children's playing space - includes areas designated for children and young people and casual or informal playing space within housing areas</p> <p>NPFA - in the past some LA's have added 1 acre (0.4ha) arbitrary to cover 'amenity areas' and 'leisure areas' or something similar that mat not be covered within the NPFA standard. In almost all cases, this additional requirement are intended for residential areas and do not cover open spaces such as parks or allotments</p> <p>1) LAPs - aged 4-6; 1 min walk or 100m (60m in a straight line); min area size 100msq; LAPs typically have no play equipment and therefore could be considered as amenity greenspace</p> <p>(2) LEAPs - aged min 5; min area size 400msq; should be located 400 metres or 5 minutes walking time along pedestrian routes (240 metres in a straight line)</p>
Current Provision ha per 1,000 population (ha)	0.05 young people facilities per 1,000 population
Existing Local Standards	UDP: 1.2 ha per 1000 people of other open space, of which 0.8 ha should be suitable for formal or informal children's play. This standard also includes open space for non-pitch sports such as tennis, and amenity green space. UDP: the 1.2 ha per 1000 people of non pitch open space provision is also applied to new residential development
BENCHMARKING	See attached sheet
Consultation (too much / about right / not enough)	<p>4% - More than enough 8% - About Right 7% - Nearly Enough 69% - Not Enough</p>
'Consultation Comments (quantity)	<p>Play Areas for young people and teenagers - 3/4 of all residents indicated that there were insufficient facilities for young people and teenagers. This is consistent for all analysis areas. This view was echoed from drop-in sessions across the Borough, in particular the need for more skate parks, BMX facilities, informal kickabout facilities (floodlit where possible as there is no where to play once it gets dark) and teen shelters. Residents suggested that greater provision would assist in curbing anti-social behaviour across the Borough. Many people commented on the need to provide provision indoor provision for young people/teenagers so it gets them off the streets, especially when there are dark nights. Consultation suggests that this is a priority area for Oldham.</p>
'PMP Recommendation (per 1,000 population)	0.10 young people facilities per 1,000 popn
PMP Justification	<p>Similar to the provision for children, there are obvious quantitative deficiencies with regard to the amount of young people's facilities in Oldham. Over 75% of household survey respondents indicated that there was a deficiency, and</p>

	<p>both adults and young people made similar comments at drop in sessions around the borough. These statistics therefore suggest that similar to provision for children, there is a priority need for more facilities for young people. A standard above the current level of provision in all areas is therefore recommended. At 0.05 facilities per 1000 population, provision is significantly below that for children. In order to increase provision proportionally across the borough, a standard of 0.10 facilities per 1000 has been recommended. This standard encourages the development of additional teenage facilities in all areas of the borough, even in West Oldham where despite the highest levels of provision, the highest levels of dissatisfaction were evident. It also takes into account current initiatives such as Watch this Space, which encourages teenagers to use existing open spaces such as parks.</p> <p>This standard will result in the requirement for approximately 10 additional facilities for children and young people</p>
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Client Approval	Local Quantity Standard

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS
OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES**

National Standards	<p>NPFA - 6 acre standard (2.43ha) per 1,000 population for 'playing space' consisting of 4 acres (ie 1.62 per 1,000 population) for outdoor sport - includes pitches, athletics tracks, bowling greens, tennis courts training areas and croquet lawns</p> <p>'NPFA - in the past some LA's have added 1 acre (0.4ha) arbitrary to cover 'amenity areas' and 'leisure areas' or something similar that mat not be covered within the NPFA standard. In almost all cases, this additional requirement are intended for residential areas and do not cover open spaces such as parks or allotments</p>
Current Provision ha per 1,000 population (ha)	2.16 ha, 1.28 ha excluding golf courses. If school sites which are not available to the community are also excluded, provision decreases to 0.76 ha per 1000 population
Existing Local Standards	<p>UDP: The Council's standards for open space, sports and recreation provision are based on the NPFA of 2,4 ha per 1000 people, but differ in including amenity open space</p> <p>UDP: 1.2 ha of sports pitches per 1,000 population, equivalent to 7 football or rugby pitches and 3.5 cricket pitches per 12,000 people.</p> <p>UDP: 1.2 ha per 1000 people of other open space, of which0.8 ha should be suitable for formal or informal children's play. This standard also includes open space for non-pitch sports such as tennis, and amenity open space</p>
BENCHMARKING	See attached sheet
Consultation (too much / about right / not enough)	<p>General Outdoor Sports Facilities:</p> <p>More than enough - 2%</p> <p>About Right - 28%</p> <p>Nearly Enough - 14%</p> <p>Not enough - 45%</p> <p>No Opinion - 11%</p> <p>Specific types of outdoor sports facilities:</p> <p>Grass pitches - 35% about right</p> <p>STP's - 99% no response</p> <p>Tennis Courts - 39% Not Enough</p> <p>Bowling Greens - 34% about right</p> <p>Golf Courses - 32% about right</p>
'Consultation Comments (quantity)	The majority of respondents to the household survey indicated that provision was poor for outdoor sports facilities. 59% of people stated there was Nearly Enough/Not Enough provision of this typology, However, a good percentage

	<p>also suggested provision was adequate (28%). When asked where there were specific deficiencies for the different types of facilities (eg. bowling greens, tennis courts.), residents suggested that the provision of sports facilities was weighted heavily towards football provision with a lack of all other types. Area committee managers across the borough highlighted a problem with gaining public access to school sites as a major problem as they are a resource that could be used to increase supply. This problem is most prevalent in Saddleworth, Chadderton, Oldham East and Oldham West</p> <p>In 2004, the Council commissioned work on a playing pitch strategy (PPS) and the conclusions drawn from the PPS report and Open Space Report will dovetail for any future recommendations about sports pitches provision. This study highlighted a shortage of playing pitches throughout the Borough with no areas having a surplus of provision. It was noted within the report that some undersupply could be rectified with improvement in quality at certain sites. Internal Council Officers highlighted a number of key issues regarding outdoor sports facilities, including drainage problems at a number of sites, high level of demand for pitches, some sites have poor ancillary accommodation and there is an imbalance of size of pitches (e.g. need for more junior pitches).</p>
<p>'PMP Recommendation (per 1,000 population)</p>	<p>1.35 ha per 1,000 popn</p>
<p>PMP Justification</p>	<p>Due to the broad nature of this typology, this standard should be applied for planning need only. Further research into the demand for specific sporting facilities should be undertaken. Golf courses have been removed from these figures due to their size and subsequent tendency to skew figures. Consultation indicates that there is demand for increased provision of outdoor sports facilities, in particular tennis courts. The playing pitch strategy also identifies latent demand in all areas, reinforcing this perception. Although many school sports sites are not accessible at the current time, they are identified as important resources in both the playing pitch strategy and through other consultations, specifically the area forums workshop. The Council has a policy of encouraging dual use and the extended schools programme is likely to increase the future community use of schools. Furthermore, use of school sites was highlighted as good practice by residents attending drop in sessions who stated that schools who permit community use suffer from less vandalism and antisocial behaviour.</p> <p>For the above reasons, school facilities have been included within the calculation, to ensure that they are protected. In reflecting the demands placed on outdoor sports, and the nature of this standard, it has been recommended that it is set above the current level of provision (1.28ha) at 1.35ha per 1,000 population. Additional consultation should enhance where this demand is needed most, however results from the household survey suggest there are demands being placed on tennis courts in addition to the shortfalls of pitches identified in the playing pitch strategy. The increase in outdoor sports provision equates to an additional 17 full-size football pitches.</p>
<p>Client Approval</p>	<p>Local Quantity Standard</p>

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING QUANTITY STANDARDS
ALLOTMENTS**

National Standards	National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners - 20 allotment plots per 1,000 households (ie 20 allotments plots per 2,200 people (2.2 people per house) or 1 allotment plot per 200 people. With an average allotment plot of 250 sq/m this equates to 0.125 ha per 1,000 population 1970 Thorpe Report suggested 0.2 ha per 1,000 population
Current Provision ha per 1,000 population (ha)	0.06 ha per 1000 population
Existing Local Standards	No existing standards
BENCHMARKING	See attached sheet
Consultation (too much / about right / not enough)	2% - More than enough 22% - About Right 9% - Nearly Enough 35% - Not Enough 32% - No opinion
'Consultation Comments (quantity)	Allotment sites are very much a demand-led typology and need to be quantified in the context of existing provision, waiting lists and local demand etc. The analysis of the household questionnaire reflects this, where 32% of people stated that they have 'no opinion' with regard to this open space type. General themes emerging from the responses by those people who highlighted 'not enough' include none in the locality, unsure of exact location of plots and realising the potential demand in line with living a healthy lifestyle etc. In addition to survey responses residents at drop-in sessions also believe allotments across the Borough (especially Royton and Lees) are over subscribed and therefore highlighting demand is outweighing supply. Concerns were raised that there have been a number of allotment sites lost to development
'PMP Recommendation (per 1,000 population)	0.06ha per 1,000 popn
PMP Justification	Allotments are very much a demand led-typology and the recommended standard should be treated as a minimum standard. Consultations indicate an adequate supply of allotments in Oldham, although there are some sites within the borough that have waiting lists. Household consultation also highlights that there is a lack of interest in allotments, with nearly half, 48% indicating that they have no opinion. Despite this, there were a lot of comments from residents attending drop in sessions regarding allotment sites, and waiting lists at sites across the borough. Allotment provision is evenly spread, with the highest levels evident in Chadderton. Given that there are waiting lists at some sites and allotments are a demand led typology, a standard equivalent to the current level of provision has been set - enabling the identification of locational deficiencies. Analysis of waiting lists indicates that the majority of people waiting are concentrated in Royton and Lees and Chadderton. With the exception of Chadderton, the application of this standard supports the need for additional allotments in these areas.

Client Approval	Local Quantity Standard

APPENDIX I
QUALITY STANDARDS

Setting Quality Standards / Vision - Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council

Field	Comment
National Standards and/or Benchmarks	Details of any existing national standards for each typology usually provided by national organisations e.g. Green Flag criteria for parks produced by Civic Trust
Existing Local Quality Standards	There maybe some existing local standards that will need to be taken into account and used as a guidance benchmark when setting new local standards
Consultation (Household Survey - aspirations)	Results from the household survey with regards to users of each typology in relation to their aspirations and needs and existing quality experiences
Consultation (other)	Results from all the consultations undertaken with regards the quality issues for each typology
PMP Recommendation	PMP recommendation of a local quality standard for discussion and approval by the client
PMP Justification	PMP reasoning and justification for the locals standard that has been recommended
CLIENT APPROVAL	Client to approve local standard before analysis undertaken

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS / VISION
PARKS AND GARDENS**

National Standards and/or Benchmarks	GREEN FLAG CRITERIA - Welcoming Place / Healthy, Safe and Secure / Clean and Well-maintained / Sustainable / Conservation and Heritage / Community Involvement / Marketing / Management
Existing Local Quality Standards	No existing quality standards
Consultation (Household Survey - aspirations) (Of those that rated parks and gardens as their most frequently used open space)	Highest rated aspirations: clean and litter free, well kept grass, flower, trees and shrubs, toilets and on-site security. Respondents to the survey highlighted specifically adequate lighting, staff on site and CCTV as being key to providing safe open spaces. Dog fouling and anti-social problems are considered to be the worst current quality issues in parks in Oldham.
Consultation (Other)	<p>Consultations highlighted the importance of maintaining the quality of parks, indicating that this is more important than quantity. Residents at the drop-in sessions across the borough considered the quality of parks and gardens to be good and of a relatively high quality and commended the improvements that have been made in recent years, with only residents from Hollinwood focusing on quantity. However, concerns were expressed regarding the decline in quality of parks in certain areas. Critically, residents in all areas highlighted the importance of the quality of local parks.</p> <p>Site specific issues focused primarily on problems generated through antisocial behaviour and included the decline in quality of Royton Park, due to litter, vandalism and increased anti-social behaviour; vandalism or new/ re-furbished facilities at Waterhead Park; Poor maintenance at Fox Denton Park although the site has seen investment and extensive graffiti at Werneth Park. Alexandra Park was continually mentioned as the best practice open space facility in Oldham, whilst High Crompton Park was praised by Royton residents and Stoneleigh Park s good practice site. Tandhills Country Park was also highlighted as an excellent and well maintained open space facility for the whole of Oldham. Quality issues relating to vandalism and anti social behaviour in parks were raised at every drop in session and every workshop held as part of the study.</p> <p>Many residents and attendees at stakeholder workshops commented that the provision of more seats and benches within the parks would encourage more families to use the facilities. Residents across the borough highlighted the same quality features they like to see, prioritising cleanliness and maintenance and a variety of facilities. Attendees at workshops acknowledged that the range of facilities provided should be dependent on the size of the park although in a similar vein to those attending the drop in sessions, felt that cleanliness and maintenance is important at all sites regardless of size. A consultation workshop with friends groups reinforced the work put in to maintaining and improving parks in Oldham, and highlighted some of the issues faced by volunteers, including antisocial behaviour and motorcycles.</p>

PMP Recommendation	<i>"A welcoming, clean and litter free site providing a one-stop community facility which is accessible to all and has a range of leisure, recreational and enriched play opportunities for an appropriate range of ages. Parks and gardens should be well maintained, providing varied vegetation, clear pathways, appropriate lighting and ancillary accommodation (including seating, toilets and litter bins) and well-signed to and within the site. Sites should be safe and secure and were appropriate have ranger / warden presence to further improve the security of the facilities."</i>
PMP Justification	With an existing aim of improving the quality of Parks in Oldham and emphasis placed on retaining Green Flag status and achieving this accreditation at other sites it is essential that the Council implement a quality standard. The recommended standard incorporates the National Green Flag Award criteria for quality, safety, recreation benefit and facility mix. However, owing to the nature of PPG17 it is important that local community aspirations form the basis of the local standards. Therefore, it is suggested that parks should be clean and litter free and provide a mix of appropriate recreational and ancillary facilities. The standard has been formulated to ensure that park provision is sustainable, balanced and ultimately achievable. The improvement of quality and accessibility to parks and the promotion of best practice sites such as Alexandra Park and Coalshaw Green Park should increase local aspirations and encourage usage of parks. The achievement of this vision is less relevant for country parks, where a target of the vision and associated benchmarking score aimed at natural and semi-natural open spaces is more appropriate.

Client Approval	Local Quality Standard

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS / VISION
NATURAL AND SEMI-NATURAL**

National Standards and/or Benchmarks	Countryside Agency - land should be managed to conserve or enhance its rich landscape, biodiversity, heritage and local customs. GREEN FLAG CRITERIA - Welcoming Place / Healthy, Safe and Secure / Clean and Well-maintained / Sustainable / Conservation and Heritage / Community Involvement / Marketing / Management
Existing Local Quality Standards	No existing quality standards
Consultation (Household Survey - aspirations) (Of those that rated natural and semi-natural as their most frequently used open space)	Highest rated aspirations from the household survey include clean and litter free, flower, trees and shrubs, clear footpaths, nature features and nature conservation areas. Respondents to the household survey indicated that staff on-site, adequate lighting, reputation of open space, other users and clear route to open space are important to help people feel safe in open space. Dog fouling and litter problems are currently considered to be the worst quality issues in natural open space sites.
Consultation (Other)	Internal consultations provided the Council vision of well-maintained naturalised open space, which is functional and safe. General comments from the drop-in sessions included the need for better provision of more natural areas especially for walking and wildlife, with the focus on general maintenance issues, such as litter and mis-use of sites for fly tipping. This was perceived to significantly reduce the value of the open space, particularly in relation to wider landscape and wildlife. It was suggested throughout consultation that there were some excellent natural open spaces, which were not fulfilling their potential owing to a lack of maintenance and hence low usage. The value of sites should be analysed and strategic investment provided thereafter.
PMP Recommendation	<i>A spacious, clean, well vegetated, litter free site with clear pathways and natural features that encourages wildlife conservation, biodiversity and environmental awareness. Management of local sites should involve the community if at all possible and a ranger presence should be encouraged to embrace community safety.</i>
PMP Justification	With significant provision of natural and semi natural open space in the borough it is of paramount importance that all such open space is governed by a local quality standard as to improve the management and maintenance of vegetation and paths. The standard incorporates the Council and public aspirations for safe, clean and functional natural open spaces, which should be well used and promoted for their conservation and educational benefits. The recommended standard incorporates the public aspirations of providing clean and litter free sites and focuses on the importance of this type of open space for promoting nature features, wildlife habitats and providing environmental awareness and education opportunities for local people. To ensure that sites are well managed it is suggested that the local community are involved. The Green Flag Criteria represent a key national benchmark of quality for natural sites and the key elements of this standard are therefore included within the proposed vision.

Client Approval	Local Quality Standard

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS / VISION
AMENITY GREENSPACE**

National Standards and/or Benchmarks	GREEN FLAG CRITERIA - Welcoming Place / Healthy, Safe and Secure / Clean and Well-maintained / Sustainable / Conservation and Heritage / Community Involvement / Marketing / Management
Existing Local Quality Standards	No existing quality standards
Consultation (Household Survey - aspirations) (Of those that rated amenity greenspace as their most frequently used open space)	Highest rated aspirations: clean and litter free, clear footpaths and flowers, trees and shrubs. Similar to other open space types, anti social behaviour, safety concerns and vandalism/graffiti problems were considered to be the worst quality issues at the current time.
Consultation (Other)	Consultation with Council officers suggested that there are too many small, incidental open spaces, which provide no local function owing to poor maintenance and litter. The overgrown nature of these sites creates dens of inequity and antisocial behaviour in addition to contributing to degeneration of the streetscape. Concerns raised at drop in sessions focused on the maintenance and misuse of amenity green space sites. Fly tipping was highlighted in many areas. This was perceived to significantly reduce the value of the open space, particularly in relation to wider landscape benefits. Residents indicated that the landscape benefit of amenity green space sites is important, and that the recreational value of these sites is lower. Stakeholder workshops highlighted problems with litter and dog fouling and problems with antisocial behaviour in spaces across the borough, particularly on the larger formal open space sites within housing estates.
PMP Recommendation	<i>“A clean and well-maintained greenspace site. Sites should have appropriate ancillary furniture (dog and litter bins etc), pathways and landscaping in the right places providing a safe secure site with spacious outlook which enhances the appearance of the local environment. Larger sites should be suitable for informal play opportunities and should be enhanced to encourage the site to become a community focus.”</i>
PMP Justification	It is recommended that amenity greenspace provides an important community function. The standard suggests that by increasing functionality of such open space then the community will benefit. The standard incorporates both public and council aspirations and has been designed to promote best practice encouraging informal play where sites are large enough - it is also designed to link in with the Green Flag criteria where appropriate. There are a large number of amenity greenspaces in Oldham with great variations in quality and it is important that where possible these sites help to enhance the local environment.

Client Approval	Local Quantity Standard

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS / VISION
PROVISION FOR CHILDREN**

National Standards and/or Benchmarks	LAPs, LEAPs and NEAPs indicate some quality aspirations in terms of needing seating for adults, varied range of equipment and teenager meeting place. GREEN FLAG CRITERIA - Welcoming Place / Healthy, Safe and Secure / Clean and Well-maintained / Sustainable / Conservation and Heritage / Community Involvement / Marketing / Management
Existing Local Quality Standards	No existing quality standards
Consultation (Household survey - aspirations) (of those that rated children facilities as their most frequently used open space)	Highest rated aspirations: clean and litter free, facilities for children, toilets and variety of facilities. Staff on-site, other users, CCTV coverage and reputation of the area are suggested as ways of improving the safety of such sites. Vandalism and graffiti, dog fouling and anti-social behaviour were considered to be the worst quality issues at present.
Consultation (Other)	Residents attending drop in sessions were aware of recent investment in play areas, however, concerns were made to the on-going maintenance and the level of vandalism on certain sites. The household survey re-iterated problems with vandalism, but most noticeably, everyone that uses children's play areas most frequently believes there is some form of problem with anti-social behaviour and dog fouling. Concerns were raised about play area sites being misused by older children and teenagers, as they don't have enough facilities for themselves. This is having a detrimental effect on the quality of many play areas. Stakeholder workshop comments and internal consultations re-iterated the problems with anti-social behaviour and vandalism.
PMP Recommendation	<i>"A site providing a mix of well-maintained formal equipment and enriched play environment in a safe and secure convenient location which is accessible to all. The site should have clear boundaries, be clean, litter and dog free, be appropriately lit"</i>
PMP Justification	In order to address security issues at play areas, the standard states that play areas should be located close to housing or footpaths as an additional level of security to be provided through natural policing e.g. overlooking houses. Lighting should be provided where appropriate. The standard encompasses the need for play areas to be both sustainable in management terms but also to provide a mix of facilities and an enriched play environment and that the site is clean and safe to use. This is reflected in the aspirations for play areas and within this standard. In addition sites should include NPFA design guidelines where appropriate.

Client Approval	Local Quality Standard

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS / VISION
PROVISION FOR TEENAGERS AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

National Standards and/or Benchmarks	LAPs, LEAPs and NEAPs indicate some quality aspirations in terms of needing seating for adults, varied range of equipment and teenager meeting place. GREEN FLAG CRITERIA - Welcoming Place / Healthy, Safe and Secure / Clean and Well-maintained / Sustainable / Conservation and Heritage / Community Involvement / Marketing / Management
Existing Local Quality Standards	No existing quality standards
Consultation (Household survey - aspirations) (of those that rated children facilities as their most frequently used open space)	Highest rated aspirations: varied facilities for young people and clean and litter free. People would also like to see staff on site,
Consultation (Other)	The drop in sessions replicated the issues with vandalism and also the misuse of the facilities. Young people responding to the IT Young Peoples on-line survey stated that they use parks and gardens in the main however the main reason for using this type of open space for (58% of the young people) was the play area. Other responses from the IT Young Peoples on-line survey indicated that they use open spaces to, meet friends, to get some fresh air and to have a kickabout/informal play. Area committee managers in Saddleworth and Lees highlighted the 'Watch this space' initiative as an example of good practice teen facilities such as the skate park in Greenfield. Internal consultations supported the need for improved youth facilities throughout the Borough.
PMP Recommendation	<i>'A site providing a robust yet imaginative play environment for older children in a safe, secure location that promotes a sense of ownership and is accessible to all. The site should include clean, litter and dog free areas for more informal play and areas of shelter (with seating) and where appropriate sites should be well lit.'</i>
PMP Justification	Vandalism and security are also major issues for young people's play areas and as such the focus of this standard is on the issue requiring robust and varied equipment and shelter. Promoting a sense of ownership with the sites may also help to reduce the level of vandalism. It is important that these sites are clean, safe and secure to use, which was reflected in the consultation and within this standard. Shelter was also rated highly as an aspiration and is an important component for young people. Initiatives such as 'Watch this Space' and Groundwork Oldham's work should be encouraged and used to implement this quality standard. Consideration should also be given to the achievement of the green flag criteria, inherent within this vision.

Client Approval	Local Quality Standard

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS / VISION
OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES**

National Standards and/or Benchmarks	NPFA - quality of provision could include gradients, orientation, ancillary accommodation, planting and community safety. GREEN FLAG CRITERIA - Welcoming Place / Healthy, Safe and Secure / Clean and Well-maintained / Sustainable / Conservation and Heritage / Community Involvement / Marketing / Management
Existing Local Quality Standards	No existing local standards
Consultation (Household Survey - aspirations)	Highest rated aspirations: clean and litter free, toilets, ease of parking, well kept grass and changing facilities Highest rated safety factors included staff on site, adequate lighting, CCTV and car parking. Vandalism, poor maintenance and dog fouling were considered to be the worst quality issues at the present time.
Consultation (Other)	Internal consultations with Council officers highlighted outdoor sports facilities as priority spaces to improve in terms of quality. It was commented that the quality issues were caused by over use of public pitches due to a lack of community access to school facilities. Consultations at drop-in sessions highlighted a number of key issues including drainage problems at a number of sites, poor maintenance, poor ancillary accommodation at many sites and unofficial use at school sites affecting formal play. Stakeholder groups also picked up drainage issues at certain sites, including: Crossley Fields and Ferney Fields in Chadderton as well as anti social problems on sites such as; Limesditch football pitch in Failsworth and Hollinwood
PMP Recommendation	<i>'A well-planned, clean, litter and dog fouling free sports facility site, with level and well-drained good quality surfaces with appropriate good quality ancillary accommodation including changing accommodation, toilets and car parking . The site should have appropriate management ensuring community safety and include lighting and the use of mobile CCTV where appropriate to address anti-social behaviour.'</i>
PMP Justification	The public consultation responses to the quality of outdoor sports facilities tend to centre around poor drainage, safety, dog fouling issues and anti-social behaviour problems. These are therefore reflected in the quality standards. In addition, ancillary facilities such as changing facilities, car parking and toilets were also highly rated aspirations. It is also important that outdoor sports facility sites are well drained and good quality. The consultations also indicated that Sports Clubs and users had issues with drainage and poor ancillary accommodation. The standard incorporates "appropriate management" to ensure that this continues and that where management is an issue, it should be addressed. Community safety is also incorporated to reflect NPFA design guidelines.

Client Approval	Local Quality Standard

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS / VISION
ALLOTMENTS**

National Standards and/or Benchmarks	NONE
Existing Local Quality Standards	No existing quality standards
Consultation (Household Survey - aspirations)	Highest rated aspirations: clean and litter free, flowers, trees and shrubs, toilets and quality soils. Security at allotment sites is also important, with allotment holders feeling safer in areas where there is CCTV. Dog fouling, vandalism and litter problems were considered to be poor in current allotment sites by residents, highlighting that these sites are perhaps misused.
Consultation (Other)	57% of people responding to the household survey believed there was a problem with vandalism at allotment sites, whilst a further 67% problems with anti-social behaviour and 66% litter problems. Other consultation: concerns with regard to security and safety at certain allotment sites were highlighted at drop-in sessions. Stakeholders felt that the quality at allotment sites could be improved by providing links with schools to enable school children to be educated about gardening and the environmental benefits associated with allotments. This would hopefully create a sense of ownership and reduce vandalism
PMP Recommendation	<i>'A clean and well-kept site that encourages sustainable development, bio-diversity, healthy living and education objectives with appropriate ancillary facilities (eg litter bins) to meet local needs, clearly marked pathways and good quality soils. The site should be spacious providing appropriate access and clear boundaries.'</i>
PMP Justification	Provision of allotments is demand driven. However, in times when the wider health agenda is important such sites need to be promoted. Good quality allotments with appropriate ancillary facilities, which promote sustainable development, will help attract more people to allotment sites and in turn make sure that the allotment sites within Oldham are being operated at capacity. The aspirations indicated through the household questionnaire are also reflected, in particular the provision of clean sites (covering aspirations for dog free areas, clean/litter free areas), access issues and the provision of litter bins.

Client Approval	Local Quality Standard

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS / VISION
CEMETERIES AND CHURCHYARDS**

National Standards and/or Benchmarks	NONE
Existing Local Quality Standards	No existing quality standards
Consultation (Household Survey - aspirations)	Highest rated aspirations: clean and litter free, well kept grass, flower, trees and shrubs, toilets and on-site security. The highest rated safety measure: adequate lighting, CCTV, provision of car parking and staff on site. Litter problems and vandalism and graffiti and anti-social behaviour were considered the worst quality factors at present.
Consultation (Other)	Drop-in session comments replicated the views of the household survey with concerns over vandalism and maintenance at many sites. Sites of particular concern were Royton Cemetery and Middleton Road Cemetery due to the vandalism and being neglected. Residents in Lees commended the maintenance of Greenacres Cemetery following vandalism and poor maintenance in the past, making it a safer and pleasant open space.
PMP Recommendation	<i>“A clean and well-maintained site providing long-term burial capacity, an area of quiet contemplation and a sanctuary for wildlife. Sites should have clear pathways, seating where appropriate and varied vegetation and landscaping. The site must have a well defined boundary and appropriate lighting to discourage misuse and encourage management of the site through the involvement of the community if at all possible”.</i>
PMP Justification	It is important for the Council and the public to acknowledge the important open space function that churchyards and cemeteries provide. However, it is essential that sites are regularly maintained with clear footpaths so as to increase the ease of access and safety for those who visit the sites. It is important that good practice is promoted throughout the Borough.

Client Approval	Local Quantity Standard

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS / VISION
GREEN CORRIDORS**

National Standards and/or Benchmarks	Countryside Agency - what the user should expect to find is i) a path provided by the protection and reinforcement of existing vegetation; ii) ground not soft enough to allow a horse or cycle to sink into it; iii) a path on unvegetated natural surfaces.
Existing Local Quality Standards	No existing quality standards
Consultation (Household Survey - aspirations)	Highest rated aspirations: clean and litter free, clear footpaths and nature features, Highest rated safety factors included adequate lighting, clear route to open spaces and reputation of area / open space. Dog fouling, litter problems and poor maintenance were considered to be the worst quality issues at the current time.
Consultation (Other)	The general view of residents that the green corridors suffer from vandalism and poor maintenance although acknowledgement was made over investment in this area. One problem area highlighted was the tow path network which has seen widespread investment but where subsequent maintenance has been poor and has increased litter problems and are susceptible to anti-social behavioural problems .The Council are in the process of developing a Rights of Way Improvement Plan as to deliver the main strategic aim, which is to provide a comprehensive network of footpaths, cycle ways and bridleways which are well maintained, safe, accessible to all and which link communities.
PMP Recommendation	<i>“A clean, well-maintained, safe and secure corridor with clear pathways and fencing where appropriate, linking major open spaces together and providing ancillary facilities such as bins, seating and lighting in appropriate places and signage. The corridor should also encourage biodiversity and wildlife habitats, enabling the movement of both wildlife and people between open spaces.”</i>
PMP Justification	The Council have a key strategic aim of improving the Public Rights of Way Network. It is therefore important that any new provision meets this local quality standard, which incorporates all Council visions and public aspirations. Ultimately sites need to be safe with clear pathways and well maintained to encourage usage. These routes also need to be well lit and secure and follow green flag principles.

Client Approval	Local Quantity Standard

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING QUALITY STANDARDS / VISION
CIVIC SPACES**

National Standards and/or Benchmarks	NONE
Existing Local Quality Standards	No existing quality standards
Consultation (Household Survey - aspirations)	Highest rated aspirations: clean and litter free, provision of toilets and ease of parking
Consultation (Other)	Highest rated safety aspirations included adequate lighting, CCTV and staff monitoring the site. Anti social behaviour was considered the biggest quality issue.
PMP Recommendation	<i>"A clean and well-maintained visual amenity site that is suitable for its intended use such as a meeting place, setting to a building, as a functional space and as a visual amenity. Appropriate ancillary accommodation (eg seating, toilets and car parking), lighting and CCTV should be provided where appropriate. The provision of defining features such as artwork and sculptures should also be considered where appropriate".</i>
PMP Justification	The standard reflects the need for sites to be clean and well maintained. The function of civic spaces will vary and the standard is intended to reflect this and enhance where possible this use. It will not always be appropriate to provide a variety of facilities on these sites as per the highest rated aspirations.

Client Approval	Local Quantity Standard

APPENDIX J
ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS

Setting Accessibility Standards - Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council

Field	Comment
National Standards and/or Benchmarks	Details of any existing national standards for each typology usually provided by national organisations e.g. English Nature make recommendations of access for 'Natural Greenspace'
Existing Local Accessibility Standards	There maybe some existing local standards that will need to be taken into account and used as a guidance benchmark when setting new local standards
Other Local Authorities Standards within Northamptonshire (by PMP)	These are figures detailing other local standards set by PMP within other green space and open space projects and provide another comparison benchmark when setting local standards for other Local Authorities.
Consultation (Household Survey - establish 75% threshold catchments)	Some statistical information that will come from the household questionnaire - need to take the 75% level as recommended by PPG 17 Companion Guide (ie from a list of responses - what is the time 75% are willing to travel)
PMP Recommendation	PMP recommendation of a local standard for discussion and approval by the client - standard should be in time and/or distance
PMP Justification	PMP reasoning and justification for the locals standard that has been recommended
CLIENT APPROVAL	Client to approve local standard before analysis undertaken - any changes in standards at a later date during the project will impact on re-doing calculations, analysis and report - the standards drive the analysis
LOCAL ACCESSIBILITY STANDARD	Final Local Standard agreed and approved that will be stated in the report and used for analysis purposes - standard should be in time and/or distance

Accessibility standards - assumptions

Walking	All areas	Average of 3mph
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Conversion (walking)

Time (mins)	Miles	Metres	Factor Reduction	Metres (straight line to be mapped)
5	0.25	400	40%	240
10	0.5	800	40%	480
15	0.75	1200	40%	720
20	1	1600	40%	960
25	1.25	2000	40%	1200
30	1.5	2400	40%	1440

Assumption

National Guidelines reduce actual distances into straight-line distances by a 40% reduction. This is to allow for the fact that routes to open spaces are not straight-line distances but more complex. The 40% reduction is based on robust research by the NPFA in numerous areas using a representative sample of pedestrian routes.

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS
PARKS AND GARDENS**

National Standards and/or Benchmarks	No national standards		
Existing Local Accessibility Standards	No existing local standards		
Other Local Authorities Standards (by PMP)	Harborough DC – 10 min (drive)	Corby BC – 10-15 min (walk)	Wellingborough - 15 min (walk)
	Kirklees – 10-15 min (drive)	Halton BC - 15 min (walk)	East Northamptonshire – 15 min (walk)
Consultation	<p>Household Questionnaire: 80% of respondents to the household questionnaire indicated that they would prefer to walk to parks and gardens. Despite this, of those respondents who use parks and gardens most frequently, only 65% walk and 30% use private cars, suggesting that parks and gardens in Oldham may not be accessible to all. The 75% quartile for the borough as a whole has been calculated as a 15 minute (walk time). When considering the views of residents in each of the analysis areas separately, this viewpoint is reflected, with the 75 percentile being 15 minutes in each area. Current behaviour of residents who currently use parks and gardens most frequently further reinforces this point, with 60% of users travelling up to 10 minutes, and 78% travelling up to 15 minutes. The model answer differs from the 75 percentile at 10 minutes both on a borough wide basis, and in four of the six individual analysis areas.</p> <p>Other consultations: 46% of young people responding to the IT Young people survey visit parks most frequently and 56% of these young people walk. 71% of regular parks and garden users walk less than 10 minutes to access their chosen park. This view was also made by members of the friends groups who believe most people walk to their local park. Residents at drop in sessions, particularly those attending the Spindles session highlighted that although they use their local park frequently, they are also willing to travel further to the larger parks such as Tandle Hill Country Park and Alexandra Park on a less frequent basis.</p>		
PMP Recommendation	15 minute walk time - (720 metres). 20 minute walk time for parks above 15ha - (960 metres)		

<p>PMP Justification</p>	<p>Both residents attending drop in sessions and respondents to the household survey felt that people should walk to open spaces. This mirrored current user patterns, with 65% of current users walking. Members of the Friends Groups also suggested that most people walk to their local park reinforcing a walking distance as the most appropriate means of reaching a park. In line with the PPG17 methodology, analysis of the 75 percentile indicates that residents across the borough expect to walk up to 15 minutes.</p> <p>Breaking the borough into six analysis areas, the 75 percentile remains 15 minutes in each area, inferring that there is a consensus of opinion. Although evidence indicates that young people expect to walk slightly less to a park, a standard of 15 minutes walk is considered appropriate as it is set in line with PPG17 methodology of taking the 75% threshold level and reflects local opinions gathered in drop in sessions and workshops.</p> <p>This standard is similar to findings in similar local authorities. Given the findings of the consultations (drop in sessions and workshops) which indicate that people are more willing to travel further to reach a larger park and garden, a catchment of 20 minutes walk time should be set for parks above 15 hectares in size.</p>
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<p>Client Approval</p>	<p>Local Accessibility Standard</p>

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS
NATURAL AND SEMI-NATURAL**

National Standards and/or Benchmarks	English Nature Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard (ANGSt) recommends at least 2 ha of accessible natural greenspace per 1,000 people based on no-one living more than: 300m from nearest natural greenspace / 2km from a site of 20ha / 5km from a site of 100ha / 10km from a site of 500ha. Woodland Trust Access Standard recommend that no person should live more than 500m from at least one area of accessible woodland of no less than 2ha in size and that there should also be at least one area of accessible woodland of no less than 20ha within 4km (8km round-trip) of people's homes		
Existing Local Accessibility Standards	No existing standards		
Other Local Authorities Standards (by PMP)	Harborough DC – 20 min (walk)	Corby BC – 15 min (walk)	Wellingborough - 20 min (walk) urban / 15 minute (walk) rural
	Kirklees – 10 min (drive) - urban / 10 min (walk) - rural	Halton BC - 15 min (walk)	East Northamptonshire – 15 min (walk)
Consultation	<p>Household Questionnaire: Overall, the majority of people borough wide would prefer to walk to this type of open space (68%), although private car remains important to many (33%) in reaching natural and semi natural open spaces. Analysis of current users of natural and semi natural open spaces suggests that 61% currently walk. Calculations of the 75 percentile for the borough indicate that people expect to walk up to 15 minutes to a natural and semi natural open space. This viewpoint is mirrored by residents in all areas with the exception of residents in analysis area two. The modal response across the borough suggests that most people expect to reach a natural and semi natural open space site within ten minutes.</p> <p>Other Consultations: The Wildlife Trust are keen to see English Nature's "Access to Natural Greenspace targets" (ANGSt) met in Oldham Borough (see National Standards). Residents attending the drop-in sessions highlighted that natural greenspaces should be used for walking, amongst other things, suggesting that these sites should be highly accessible and considered alongside green corridors as another source of natural open space. Many people highlighted that they occasionally travel outside of the borough to access natural areas such as the Peak District.</p>		
PMP Recommendation	15 minutes walk time - (720 metres)		

PMP Justification	<p>An assessment of the 75% level borough wide suggests that residents are willing to walk up to 15 minutes walk to a natural and semi natural open space. Only residents in East Oldham felt people should walk further (18.75 minutes), a figure which is perhaps reflective of lower levels of provision of this type of open space in this densely populated area and the breakdown of analysis areas shows that all areas support this standard. This consultation highlights that people are willing to travel further to reach there nearest natural open space than is suggested by the standards produced by English Nature. This is reflective of the urban nature of the borough and was also reinforced by qualitative consultation, with residents at drop in sessions suggesting that they would travel to reach natural open spaces, particularly the Peak District National Park. Given the high levels of agreement from respondents to the household survey regarding the appropriateness of a 15 minutes walk time, it is recommended that the standard is set at this level. This is both in line with the PPG17 methodology and is also reflective of other consultations undertaken.</p>
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Client Approval	Local Accessibility Standard

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS
AMENITY GREENSPACE**

National Standards and/or Benchmarks	No national standards		
Existing Local Accessibility Standards	No existing standards		
Other Local Authorities Standards (by PMP)	Harborough DC – 10 min (walk)	Corby BC – 5 min (walk)	Wellingborough - 10 min (walk)
	Kirklees – 5 min (walk)	Halton BC - 5 min (walk)	East Northamptonshire – 5 min (walk)
Consultation	<p>Household questionnaire: 79% of respondents indicated that they would expect to walk to amenity green space. Although almost all residents considered this type of open space to be important, only 7 people across the borough use them more frequently than other types of open space. The 75% threshold level borough wide is a 10 minute walk time, although residents in analysis area two are willing to walk up to 15 minutes. Although borough wide, the modal answer was lower than the 75th percentile at 5 minutes, residents in two areas suggested that a 10 minute walk time was most appropriate.</p> <p>Other Consultation: Consultation with stakeholders suggested that there was a large amount of 'small' insignificant patches of amenity greenspaces and the provision of larger more significant areas of amenity greenspace holds more value and use. Area committee managers in Saddleworth highlighted issues with the rural isolation of people within the villages of Saddleworth and stated the importance of local public amenity space as paramount.</p>		
PMP Recommendation	10 minute walk time - (480 metres)		
PMP Justification	<p>The 75% threshold level from the household survey of 10 minutes walk is higher than the modal response (5 minutes). Although on the whole the perception at other consultations suggested that amenity green spaces should be localised facilities within easy reach of residential areas, when breaking down the responses in the borough, the 10 minute standard is mirrored in all areas, with the exception of residents in East Oldham, who are willing to walk further.</p> <p>The expressed desire for local amenity green space supports the perception that a standard based on travelling on foot is most appropriate and indeed, while some residents responding to the household survey indicated that they would travel by car, all residents attending drop in sessions referring to amenity green spaces were talking about very localised facilities. Despite this, a standard of 10 minutes is both reflective of the 75th percentile according to the PPG17 methodology whilst simultaneously reinforcing other comments made with regards to quality, where people indicated that they would prefer to travel to larger well maintained sites than to small incidental pieces of land. This standard therefore reflects the perceptions of users and is similar to those set for other authorities.</p>		

Client Approval	Local Accessibility Standard

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS
PROVISION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

National Standards and/or Benchmarks	<p>(1) LAPs - aged 4-6; 1 min walk or 100m (60m in a straight line); min area size 100msq; LAPs typically have no play equipment and therefore could be considered as amenity greenspace</p> <p>(2) LEAPs - aged min 5; min area size 400msq; should be located 400 metres or 5 minutes walking time along pedestrian routes (240 metres in a straight line)</p> <p>(3) NEAPs aged min 8; min area size 1000msq; should be located 1,000 metres or 15 minutes walking time along pedestrian routes (600 metres in a straight line)</p>		
Existing Local Accessibility Standards	UDP: The UDP adopts the national standards outlined		
Other Local Authorities Standards (by PMP)	Harborough DC – 5-10 min (walk)	Corby BC – Children - 8 min (walk) and Young People 10 min (walk)	Wellingborough - 10 min (walk)
	Kirklees – 5-10 min (walk)	Halton BC - 10 min (walk)	East Northamptonshire – 10 min (walk)
Consultation	<p>Household Questionnaire: 91% of respondents to the household survey stated that they would expect to walk to a play area and 80% of respondents would expect to walk to facilities for young people. The 75% percentile borough wide is 10 minutes, an opinion which is reflected across each of the six analysis areas. Evidence shows that there is a similar expectation for provision for young people, where borough wide both the mode and the 75th percentile indicate that people are willing to walk up to 10 minutes. Viewpoints vary across the analysis areas, with some residents expecting to walk further than this.</p> <p>Other Consultation: The IT Young people survey showed the majority of respondents used parks and gardens most frequently and then stated that they used these sites for their play areas (58% of respondents). Some children expressed concern that older children 'take over' the use of their facilities and are intimidated by them. Drop-in session comments stated there is a lack of accessible places for older children to play especially in the winter. In Chadderton people believed that the walking distances to the nearest facilities is unacceptable. Workshop comments focused the need for spaces where teenagers can congregate (like a teen shelter) so as not to effect other open spaces.</p>		

PMP Recommendation	10 minute walk time for both provision for children and provision for young people - (480 metres)
PMP Justification	<p>The 75% threshold level for provision for children was a 10 minute walk time across the borough. Again, this opinion was consistent across the borough within each of the six areas indicating an overall consensus of opinion. The opinion that provision for children should be localised was emphasised on numerous occasions at drop in sessions, although parents did suggest that they would prefer to travel slightly further to reach a facility of a high quality, inferring that a standard of 10 minutes may perhaps be more appropriate than 5 minutes. Careful location of play facilities away from main roads was highlighted as the main concern for parents.</p> <p>A standard of 10 minutes walk therefore meets user expectations and provides a realistic target for implementation and has been set to reflect the 75% threshold level, as advocated by PPG17. Consultation highlights that there are similar expectations for provision for teenagers, with the 75% level of the household survey again being 10 minutes borough wide. Although there is greater variation across the analysis areas than in other types of open space, findings at workshops indicated significant support for localised provision for teenage and young people, and highlighted the need for spaces where teenagers can congregate, reducing negative impacts on other spaces.</p> <p>The recommended standard of 10 minutes has therefore been set to reflect the key issues emerging from consultations and also in line with the 75% percentile from the household survey. A walk time is considered most appropriate as these facilities are for young people who would not always have access to a motorised vehicle and enables access for all ages and users. In the analysis, consideration should also be made for other open spaces that are used by children and young people, such as amenity greenspaces, parks and gardens, indoor and outdoor sports facilities.</p>

Client Approval	Local Accessibility Standard

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS
OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES**

National Standards and/or Benchmarks	No national standards		
Existing Local Accessibility Standards (includes any past surveys)	No existing standards		
Other Local Authorities Standards (by PMP)	Harborough DC – 10 min (drive)	Corby BC – 15 min (walk)	Wellingborough - 15 min (drive)
	Kirklees – 10-15 min (drive) - urban / 15-20 min (drive) - rural	Halton BC - 15 min (walk)	East Northamptonshire – 15 min (drive)
Consultation	<p>Household Questionnaire: Similarly to other types of open space, the majority of respondents stated that they would prefer to walk to an outdoor sports facility. Contradicting this slightly are the current behaviour patterns of users of outdoor sports facilities, where 71% of users currently drive and 29% currently walk, however only 21 respondents indicated that this was their most commonly used facility type. Borough wide, residents indicated that they would expect to walk 15 minutes to outdoor sports facilities (75th percentile), although the modal response across the borough was 10 minutes. There was little deviation between respondents in each of the analysis areas. Some of the comments made as to how far people were willing to travel depended on what facility they wanted to use. If it was a golf course or a synthetic turf pitch they stated they would expect to travel further.</p> <p>Other consultations: Results taken from the IT Young people questionnaire highlight 9% of young people use outdoor sports facilities as their most frequently visited type of open space. From these responses 32% said that access due to cost or having to book was something they liked least about Outdoor sports facilities. 48% stated that they travel by car, with a further 40% by walking. 85% of them travel 10 minutes or less to reach the site they use most often. Area committee managers across the borough highlighted a major problem with gaining public access to school sites as they are a resource that could be used to increase supply and reduce travel times to suitable facilities.</p>		
PMP Recommendation	<p>15 minute walk time for pitches, tennis and bowls facilities - (720 metres). A 20 minute drive for golf courses and synthetic turf pitches</p>		

<p>PMP Justification</p>	<p>There are several factors to consider in setting a standard for outdoor sports facilities. In particular, the range of facilities that lie within this typology makes it difficult to set a meaningful standard that can be applied across the board as per PPG17 requirements. Consultations from drop in sessions and workshops highlighted these differences, with people expecting sports pitches to be local facilities, but conceding that it may be appropriate to travel further to other facility types, in particular golf courses and synthetic pitches. Given that the results from the household survey mirror the opinions heard at the more qualitative consultations, it is suggested appropriate to set two standards, one for grass pitches, tennis courts and bowling greens and a separate standard for golf courses and synthetic turf pitches (STP's). Based on user expectations, it is considered appropriate to set a walking standard for local outdoor sports facilities, grass pitches, tennis courts and bowling greens and a drive time for golf and STP's.</p> <p>Given that analysis of the 75 percentile for outdoor sports facilities suggests that people expect to reach an outdoor sports facility within a 15 minute walk time overall, and more specifically, to reach bowling greens, tennis courts and pitches, a 15 minute walk time is recommended for these elements. Not only does this meet user expectations, but it is also in line with the 75% threshold level for the separate outdoor sports facilities and the borough as a whole, as per PPG17 standards. Given the lower expectations to reach golf courses and STPs and the more specialist nature of these facilities, in line with the 75% threshold and user expectations, a 20 minute drive time has been set. A drive time is considered more appropriate for these facilities as a result of the requirement for equipment and the specialised nature of the facilities.</p>
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Client Approval	Local Accessibility Standard

**OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL – SETTING ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS
ALLOTMENTS**

National Standards and/or Benchmarks	No national standards		
Existing Local Accessibility Standards (includes any past surveys)	No existing standards		
Other Local Authorities Standards (by PMP)	Harborough DC – 10 min (drive)	Corby BC – 15 min (walk)	Wellingborough - 20 min (walk)- urban / 10 min (walk) rural
	Kirklees – 10-15 min (drive)	Halton BC - 20 min (walk)	East Northamptonshire – 15 min (walk)
Consultation	Household questionnaire: There was a small response to the household questionnaire, but from the responses given 50% of the respondents stated that walking was their preferred choice of travel to get to allotments. 66% of the total allotment users travel 10 minutes or less to their chosen allotment. Some responses at drop-in sessions focused on not being able to gain access to an allotment as there were not enough and there are waiting lists.		
PMP Recommendation	15 minutes walk time - (720 metres)		
PMP Justification	The provision of allotments is very much a demand led typology, which should be reflected in the application of the accessibility and quantity standards. As such any deficiencies that are highlighted through the application of the study should be assessed further to indicate if there is any demand in that area. Consultation highlights that people expect to find local allotments, however in many circumstances there are currently waiting lists. However, as a guide a standard has been set at 15 minutes walk time using the 75% threshold level and the majority responses from the household survey. This in line with findings from other consultations, although given the specialist nature of allotments, there were relatively few residents providing feedback on this issue. Residents responding to the household survey indicated that they would expect to walk to allotments and a walk time has therefore been used in line with living a healthy lifestyle and targets to reduce the reliance on private transport.		

Client Approval	Local Accessibility Standard

Typology	Comments
Green Corridors	As per PPG 17, no realistic requirement to set catchments for such typology as cannot be easily influenced through planning policy and implementation
Cemeteries / Churchyards	As per PPG 17, no realistic requirement to set catchments for such typology as cannot be easily influenced through planning policy and implementation
Civic Spaces	As per PPG 17, no realistic requirement to set catchments for such typology as cannot be easily influenced through planning policy and implementation

APPENDIX K

QUALITY BENCHMARKING

Quality benchmarking

Introduction

The quality visions set are intended as an aspirational target, reflecting the key quality features that the community wants. The vision should be applied both to existing open spaces and also as a benchmark when designing and creating new areas of open space.

Methodology

Site assessment benchmark

The site assessment matrices completed for the open spaces across the Borough provide a score for quality, site access and an assessment of any wider benefits such as educational benefits.

The quality scores are broken down to reflect the factors of:

- cleanliness and maintenance (seven elements),
- security and safety (three elements),
- vegetation (two elements) and
- ancillary accommodation (five elements).

These scores are then weighted to reflect the importance of each of the factors.

These scores are then translated into a percentage. Where the site assessor considered a particular factor to be “not applicable”, the percentage does not take account of this factor and is therefore not biased by these factors. The weighting assigned to each category and feature is shown below. The maximum possible score is a rating of very good (5 points) multiplied by the weighting for each site.

Quality Category	Quality Feature	Weighting	Maximum Possible Score
Cleanliness and Maintenance	Vandalism and Graffiti	3	15
	Litter problems	3	15
	Dog Fouling	3	15
	Noise	1	5
	Equipment	3	15
	Smells	1	5
	Maintenance and Management	3	15
Security and Safety	Lighting	1	5
	Equipment	3	15
	Boundaries	2	10

Quality Category	Quality Feature	Weighting	Maximum Possible Score
Vegetation	Planted areas	2	10
	Grass areas	2	10
	Toilets	1	5
	Parking	1	5
Ancillary Facilities	Provision of bins for rubbish/litter	3	15
	Seats/Benches	2	10
	Pathways	3	15

The total possible score is 185 (assuming that all features are applicable). The score achieved can then be translated into a percentage. By using the percentage score, the quality of sites can be benchmarked against each other and against the site assessment matrix to provide a ranking of the quality of sites. This translates to:

Percentage Score Band	Score Rating	Details
90% - 100%	Very good/excellent	
70% - 90%	Good	(All factors good – 80%)
50% - 70%	Average	All factors average (60%)
30% - 50%	Poor	All factors poor (40%)
0% - 30%	Very poor	All factors very poor (20%)

Quality Vision benchmark

The aspirational quality vision can be used to set a minimum benchmark score for each typology, setting out an appropriate score for each factor on the site assessment matrix if the site is to meet the quality vision. An overall aspirational quality vision percentage can then be set.

The following example is provided below:

Parks and gardens

“A welcoming, clean and litter free site providing a one-stop community facility with a wide range of leisure, recreational and enriched play opportunities for all ages. Parks and gardens should be well maintained, providing varied vegetation, clear pathways, appropriate lighting and ancillary accommodation (including seating, toilets and litter bins) and well-signed to and within the site. The site should have continued ranger/warden presence. to improve the security of the facilities.”

QUALITY BENCHMARKING – APPENDIX K

Quality scores

Quality Category	Quality Feature	Weighting	Maximum Possible Score	Importance to residents of Oldham	Score Required	Contribution to overall quality
Cleanliness and Maintenance	Vandalism and Graffiti	3	15	Clean	4	12
	Litter problems	3	15	Litter free	5	15
	Dog Fouling	3	15	Clean	4	12
	Noise	1	5		3	3
	Equipment	3	15	Mix of appropriate facilities	5	15
	Smells	1	5		3	3
	Maintenance and Management	3	15	Well maintained and well kept	4	12
Security and Safety	Lighting	1	5	Lighting, ranger and warden presence	5	5
	Equipment	3	15		4	12
	Boundaries	2	10		3	6
Vegetation	Planted areas	2	10		4	8
	Grass areas	2	10		4	8
Ancillary Facilities	Toilets	1	5	Provision of toilets where appropriate	4	4
	Parking	1	5		4	4
	Provision of bins for rubbish/litter	3	15	Litter bins	5	15
	Seats/Benches	2	10	Appropriate seating	5	10
	Pathways	3	15		3	9